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SPORT

Local karate star out for first solo gold medal

Damián Quintero meets world number one Ryo Kiyuna in the final of the World Championships in Madrid tomorrow **P61**



WINNING BACK THE BRITS

Andalucía returns from the World Travel Market in London with positive tourism figures **P2,3&4**

Junta president, Susana Díaz, speaks to the mayors of Torremolinos and Mijas with the provincial president and regional minister. :: SALVADOR SALAS

Marbella school forced to tackle difficult issue of teen suicide

A 16-year-old boy died after he threw himself from a shopping centre roof last Friday

The tragedy of teen suicide has been forced to the forefront among the international school community this week after a 16-year-old boy threw himself from El Corte Inglés shopping centre roof in Puerto Banús last Friday. A 14-year-old girl who was apparently going to jump with him was saved. The pair had announced their plans on social media. Psychologists advise adolescents to be aware of warning signs among friends. **P6**

Remembering the fallen 100 years on. British communities around the country hold services this weekend **P26**

Doctors in Spain told not to prescribe the painkiller Nolotil to tourists after problems with British patients **P23&46**

Government moves fast to force banks to pay mortgage tax after court ruling

A royal decree has been passed after the Supreme Court said this week that the client should pay

The government has responded fast after the Supreme Court controversially ruled this week that customers must continue to pay the mortgage-loan notary tax (AJD). As consumers' groups slammed the decision, prime minister Pedro Sánchez promised swift action. By Thursday

the cabinet had passed a royal decree forcing banks to pay the fee which is due to come into force on Saturday. Treasury minister, María Jesús Montero, said that the government would be vigilant to ensure that banks do not pass on the charge to the customer in loan conditions. **P22**

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British bookings for Andalusian holidays are up this year, but Brexit casts a cloud of uncertainty

At the World Travel Market in London this week, the regional president said that Andalucía will pass the 30-million-tourist mark this year

BY PEDRO LUIS GÓMEZ / PILAR MARTÍNEZ / RACHEL HAYNES

LONDON. A fall in British tourist numbers after years of record-breaking figures, and Brexit just months away, meant that this week's World Travel Market (WTM) in London was going to be a challenging one for the Costa del Sol.

The feeling, however, among the delegations from Andalucía, the Costa del Sol and Málaga city after a busy three days at the world's biggest tourism fair, is mainly positive. Despite uncertainty and increased competition from rival destinations, the contacts made this week with tour operators, agencies and the tourists themselves have shown that British holidaymakers still love Andalucía.

30 million for Andalucía

Susana Díaz, the president of Andalucía, went to the World Travel Market, armed with statistics. Andalucía expects to reach the total figure of 30 million tourists in 2018, she announced, despite the drop in British visitors to the region.

The fair, where Andalucía joins tourist destinations from around the world in a bid to attract the British tourist market, was attended by more than 150 professionals from the region's tourism industry, all of whom with full programmes of meetings to make the most of the three-day event.

The reappearance on the market of rival Mediterranean destinations such as Turkey or Egypt is considered one of the main causes of the



Hundreds of meetings took place at the Andalucía space in the ExCel centre. BY SALVADOR SALAS

2.9% fall in British guests in Andalusian hotels in the first nine months of this year, leaving the total at 1.2 million.

Despite this fall, however, Díaz said that this year Andalucía would reach the 30 million tourist milestone in 2018, a target that was originally set for 2020.

"With these figures, Andalucía receives 3.5 times its own population," said Díaz, who praised the work of the regional tourism department, led by Francisco Javier Fernández, and the good coordination between the authorities and the private sector.

The president stressed the importance of the World Travel Market for

Andalucía as 24% of the foreign visitors to southern Spain are British. The diversity of the destination and the good communications are what she says help "keep British tourists loyal in these times of uncertainty". Despite the fall in passenger arrivals this year, the British tourists' average daily spend remains as high as 70 euros and the average score given to the region is 8.4 out of ten.

Brexit uncertainty

Taking place less than five months before the official date for the exit of the United Kingdom from the European Union, this year's WTM was inevitably marked by Brexit. How the country's move out of the

EU will affect the industry was a question brought up at most meetings and press conferences at the show.

There was little doubt that British people will still demand foreign holidays but there is uncertainty surrounding changing conditions and how these might affect airlines and other companies in the industry.

At the meeting held on Tuesday between the Andalusian tourism authorities and a group of British tour operators, Mark Tanzer, chief executive of ABTA (the Association of British Travel Agents), stressed the need for the EU to keep its "doors open" for British tourists.

"We are very hopeful that a rea-

sonable agreement will be reached over Brexit in order to maintain the flow [of tourists] not just to Andalucía but to the rest of the Spanish destinations. Now we are heading towards a new phase, we have to insist on this and trust that the traffic with Spain and Andalucía will keep moving. In fact reservations are up," added Tanzer.

The ABTA chief explained that bookings made with tour operators are higher now than they were at this time last year.

A positive note also came from the CEO of Jet2holidays-Jet2.com, Steve Heapy, at a dinner on Monday, when he revealed a growth forecast for holidays on the Costa del Sol of 12 per cent for this winter and of 15 per cent from April next year.

City breaks

Heapy also commented on the trend for British holidaymakers to break up their annual leave more, taking several smaller holidays rather than one big one. This change in habits has already been taken onboard by the regional tourism authority.

Francisco Javier Fernández, the Andalusian minister for Tourism, told the British tour operators at Tuesday's meeting that the region's intention was to gain weight in the market for holidays of just three or four days. "The city break is a great opportunity for Andalucía," said Abta chief, Tanzer.

Another concern that came up among industry representatives at the WTM was climate change. The increase in temperatures this year in the UK has worked to the benefit of the domestic tourist industry, with the UK itself appearing as a potential new rival for the Costa del Sol.

Costa and city

The president of the Costa del Sol tourist board, Elías Bendodo, joined the mayors of the main tourist des-

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tinations on the coast's own space for the first time at the WTM this year, rather than just occupying a stand in the Andalucía section.

Bendodo was optimistic about the British tourist figures, predicting an increase of 7.4% in visitor numbers over the next six months, based on the increase in seats available on flights from the UK of around 15%.

The Malaga city councillor for Tourism, María del Mar Martín Rojo, confirmed the good forecasts for British tourists visiting the city, despite the negative figures elsewhere in the region. An increase of 5% of visitors is expected this year, said the councillor.

New projects

The WTM was a showcase for new tourism projects. On Tuesday the CEO of the Meliá hotel group, Gabriel Escarrer, announced plans for a new hotel next to the future commercial and leisure centre to be built in Torremolinos by the firm Intu. Meeting with the town's mayor José Ortiz, Escarrer said that the hotel would have four stars and be equipped with state-of-the-art technology.

The Palladium hotel group also chose the WTM to announce its first hotel on the Costa del Sol. This four-star establishment will be located in Torremuelle, Benalmádena, and, with 330 rooms, open its doors in July 2019.

Sun and golf

The Spanish minister for Tourism, Reyes Maroto, was also in London



Some of the international visitors to the space devoted to southern Spain. :: S. SALAS



The Gibraltar Tourist Board at the WTM. :: S. SALAS

on Monday, visiting the stands for Spain, Andalucía, the Costa del Sol and Malaga.

The minister said that while the tourism offer in Spain was so diverse, the government was fully behind the promotion of the traditional sun, sea and sand tourism which is the main pull for British tourists.

Golf, another of the Costa del Sol's main attractions for British visitors, was what Marbella town hall's tourism delegation focused on at this year's WTM.

The mayor, Ángeles Muñoz, held meetings with specialist tour operators to promote golfing holidays and complementary attractions such as shopping and dining as well as luxury facilities.



Representatives of SUR and the provincial government on the SUR in English stand. :: SALVADOR SALAS



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Taking Andalucía to London commuters

The special SUR in English tourism supplement was distributed at the WTM and inside City A.M.

:: RACHEL HAYNES

LONDON. Once again this year this newspaper helped the Andalusian tourism authorities take their message to potential British tourists with its own stand at the WTM in London.

The special southern Spain supplement, available inside last week's SUR in English, was handed out to professionals from the industry at the three-day fair.

The message was also taken onto the streets of London, as the Southern Spain special edition was inserted in Monday morning's edition of the free business newspaper City A.M., distributed at the city's tube stations and travel hubs. Commuters were able to enjoy a little Andalusian sunshine as they travelled to work on a dull autumn morning.

Inside the ExCel centre the SUR in English stand was busy over the three days, promoting the region with the help of local products: Málaga Virgen wines, Famadesa sausages, Rioliva extra virgin olive oil from Antequera and traditional cakes and sweets from El Colmenero of Alhaurín.

Dinner

On Monday evening SUR, SUR in English and Unicaja Banco hosted the traditional dinner in honour of the tourism industry. The venue chosen for this year's event was Drapers' Hall, the home of the early London guild, the Drapers' Company, which served as the double for Buckingham Palace in films such as *The King's Speech*.

Guests included the Spanish Minister for Tourism Reyes Maroto; the regional minister for Tourism, Javier Fernández; the president of Malaga provincial government, Elías Bendodo; the Deputy Head of Mission at



Supplements and Malaga products at the SUR stand. :: S. SALAS



SUR's Southern Spain's special was inside City A.M. on Monday. :: s. s.



The SUR dinner was held at Drapers' Hall, London, and attended by top tourism authorities and professionals. :: SALVADOR SALAS

the Spanish Embassy in London, José María Fernández López de Turoso, the president of the Spanish chamber of commerce in London, Eduardo

Barrachina; directors of Unicaja Banco, Fernando Ríos and Pablo González; the Malaga baritone Carlos Álvarez; sporting director of West Ham United

football club Mario Husillos; as well as the mayors of Marbella, Torremolinos, Benalmádena, Estepona, Nerja, Torrox, Mijas, Ojén, Rincón and Frigili-

ana; Stuart Smith of Global Media; Kimberly Butler and Jeremy Slattery of City A. M.; and tourism professionals from the Costa del Sol.

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"Malaga will be the epicentre of R+D for Hyperloop in Europe"

Ryan Kelly Director of Marketing and Communication at Virgin Hyperloop One



"The capabilities of the centre at Bobadilla will help us to work with regulators to certify the systems," says the marketing director

MALAGA. "We are trying to create a new form of transport which will change the way in which people are connected and travel: our whole way of life, in other words," says Ryan Kelly, who is the Global Marketing and Communication Director for the Virgin Hyperloop One company. Kelly, who lives in Los Angeles, USA, is also a professor of digital marketing and has been with the company since September 2016. We caught up with him recently in Madrid, when he was attending the South Summit 18 conference.

-How much still needs to be done before Hyperloop becomes a reality as a means of transport?

"We have been carrying out tests in the Nevada desert for the past year, with a 'pod' (as the cabin is called), and with real infrastructure, so I suppose we could say that Hyperloop is already a means of transport. It's truly exciting: four years ago we were in a garage and now we are working with the Railway Authority in the Spanish parliament. Probably the greatest challenge we face at present is the regulatory scenario. More than two-thirds of the Hyperloop systems conform with existing standards: in the aerospace, railway and automotive sectors. For the other third, we will need a new standard. We have started the first stages of the certification process and we hope to continue our work with



Ryan Kelly, speaking at the South Summit in Madrid. :: sur

the regulators, to comply with existing legislation when appropriate and collaborate on creating new regulations where necessary. It is important for people to know that the G-force (the level of resistance which passengers' bodies will notice during the journey) is the same as that of a high-speed train.

-When will we see it in commercial service for the first time?

"We calculate that it will be in the middle of the next decade.

-Where will that be?

"We are working with organisa-

tions all over the world to study potential routes, and we are having continual conversations with governments and governmental organisations to advance the first projects. So far, our company is focusing on the highest levels of participation and involvement by governments such as the USA, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates and India. We are also working with and meeting numerous government organisations in Europe.

(During his presentation in Madrid, Ryan Kelly said the first line

MAIN POINTS

Laboratory at Bobadilla
"There they will develop, test and certify components and sub-systems of the Hyperloop"

Why in Andalucía
"It has an excellent ecosystem and an extensive base of highly qualified talent"

Public funding
"We are convinced that the benefits of this investment will far outweigh the costs"

is expected to be finished in India in 2026).

-What will the development of the Hyperloop mean for the laboratory in Bobadilla, in Malaga?

"That new centre will enable us to continue advancing our project at the fastest speed. It's where they will develop, test and certify components and sub-systems which need to be ready when the Hyperloop comes into service in the mid 2020s. The capacities of the laboratory will help us to work with the regulators to certify systems. In the end, they will allow us to fulfil our first commercial agreements and scale up production so we can satisfy future demand. That centre will act as an R+D hub in Europe, a region which is very important for us because of its own importance at global level in terms of innovation in the transport sector, and for the work in that sense which can be carried out with the authorities in the European Union.

-How many engineers will be working there?

"We estimate that there will be about 250 to 300 highly qualified engineers.

-Why did you decide to set up in Malaga, with all the other options available to you round the world?

"There were several reasons. Spain is a leader in the transport sector, so it is an ideal place for an R+D centre like this one. It operates the second biggest high-speed rail infrastructure in the world; it is the second biggest car manufacturer and has the fifth largest aerospace sector in Europe. Also, the region of Andalucía has an excellent ecosystem and an extensive base of highly qualified talent. With more than 9,000 transport and logistics companies, the second biggest aerospace cluster in Spain and 20,000 employees in R+D, Andalucía is becoming a hub for the transport and aerospace sectors at a global level. Antequera is situated in the geographical centre of Andalucía, and is also a hub for the transport sector.

-When could the laboratory in Bobadilla start operating?

"We're working on completing the facilities by the end of 2019, and then we'll be able to start carrying out the first contracts.

-What will be the role of the Railway Technology Centre, on the PTA in Malaga?

"Right now we are considering all options, but nothing has yet been decided.

-The financial assistance for which you have applied, where will that be coming from? The government, the Junta de Andalucía, the EU, or a combination?

"We are having discussions at the very highest level with all these institutions.

-Do you have guarantees that you will be able to access this public funding?

"We want to be respectful of the whole negotiating process. Although there are no guarantees, we are convinced that the benefits of this type of investment in Malaga province, and Andalucía and Spain by extension, will far outweigh the costs involved.

-If you didn't obtain this funding, would you cancel the project in Malaga?

"As we said when we announced the agreement, the total investment is contingent upon us obtaining 126 million euros in public funding. However, we are convinced that we will obtain it because, as I said, the benefits of this project are much greater than the costs in terms of the creation of wealth, employment, the driving force on the local economy, etc.

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International school community strives to deal with teenage pupil's suicide

Friends of the 16-year-old called the El Corte Inglés store in Puerto Banús to try to stop him and a girl from throwing themselves off the roof. Security guards saved the girl's life

■ SUR

MARBELLA. The expatriate community in Marbella has been coming to terms this week with the shock death of a teenager just before midday on Friday, 2 November after he jumped from the roof of the El Corte Inglés department store in Puerto Banús.

The 16-year-old boy, reported to have had British nationality, took his life after he and a 14-year-old girl made their way onto the roof through an emergency exit.

Earlier, the couple had announced on social media that they planned to jump. Friends anxiously rang El Corte Inglés to warn them while searching local streets. A mo-

ment of hesitation allowed security staff to grab hold of the girl. But it was too late to save the boy who fell about 20 metres onto some trees on the corner of the main square in Puerto Banús, an area full of shoppers and tourists at that time of day.

Panic attack

The girl was taken to hospital after suffering a subsequent panic attack. When she found out she had been trapped and the guards were restraining her, she reportedly asked them to take a photo with her mobile phone to post on social media.

The disbelief across the Costa was especially sharply felt among the pupils of Aloha College and their families. The boy was a student at the well-known private school in the Nueva Andalucía area of Marbella which follows the British curriculum. The boy had been on half term the day he jumped.

A statement from Aloha College on Wednesday read, "Aloha College Marbella is sad to report the tragic



The scene of the tragedy outside El Corte Inglés in Puerto Banús. ■ JOSELE-LANZA

loss of life, last Friday 2 November, of one of its pupils. He was a wonderful boy and a student at Aloha College for 12 years.

"The Board of Trustees, staff, parents and students of Aloha College offer their sincere condolences to his family. Aloha College continues to be focussed on the wellbeing of its pupils, to help them through this difficult time.

"He will be warmly remembered, and sorely missed."

Steps the school has taken to help

the school community emerged during the week.

Dealing with a tragedy

Once word of the tragedy spread, the school activated a plan to keep pupils and their families informed, including sending an email to parents advising them to talk about what had happened with their children.

The email said that on Monday, when the school returned from the half term break, a special assembly would be held and that a psycholo-

gist was being brought in. Subsequent messages sent out gave details of the funeral of the boy.

Speaking to SUR of how to cope with suicide risk among young people, experts said it was important to encourage pupils to look for signs of risk among friends.

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REF. H. T. R.

The elevator in the building we live in is old and makes a lot of noise. We have the extra problem that the elevator shaft is next to our baby's bedroom. Until now it was not important because the baby slept in our room with us, but now we want him to sleep in his room and it is impossible due to the noise. We

have talked to the community, but they tell us that they do not want to change anything that is not necessary. Would it be possible to change it if the other neighbours do not want to? The Community of Owners is obliged to carry out the necessary works for the maintenance of the building so that it meets the proper structural conditions, habitability, safety... Therefore, if the noise of the elevator is due to its bad condition and can affect its safety, you could demand it to be repaired or replaced.

REF. Y. A. D.

My parents bought a house in Spain forty years ago, which I inherited last year. Now I have decided to sell it in order to earn some money, and I commissioned a real estate agency to sell it. They told me that they needed a series of documents to be able to

advertise it, especially a nota simple to prove that I was the owner. When the Land Registry sent the nota simple, I was surprised by the fact that it states that the house has a mortgage, which was the one my parents asked for when they bought the house. That mortgage was paid off many years ago, and in fact the entity that lent the money does not even exist anymore. The problem is that the real estate agency tells me that in order to sell I have to cancel that mortgage, because otherwise there will not be anyone interested in buying. How can I cancel that mortgage?

The solution is to go to court, since it is necessary to start a judicial procedure in order to cancel the liens. Taking into account the time that has passed and that the financial company no longer exists, the judge will issue a resolution for the cancellation of the mortgage.

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How might the 2018/19 UK budget affect your pocket?

By David Bowers, Partner, Blevins Franks

In the last planned budget before the Brexit due date, Chancellor Phillip Hammond insisted that “austerity is coming to an end but discipline will remain”.

Choosing to spend rather than save last year’s unexpectedly high tax revenue, he pledged to increase public spending without the usual tax hikes, claiming that 32 million people would enjoy tax cuts.

So was there anything that will particularly affect expatriates?

Personal tax

Those earning UK income should benefit from an early increase in the personal allowances to the 2020 levels pledged in the Conservative manifesto.

From April 2019, the personal tax allowance increases from £11,850 to £12,500, while the threshold for the highest income tax rate of 40% rises from £46,350 to £50,000. (Scotland has a different allowance structure and is set to announce its 2018/19 budget on 12 December.)

Fortunately, personal tax allowances continue to apply for non-resident British nationals,

despite suggestions from the previous Chancellor that it should be limited to UK residents. Remember, however, that all UK-source income will usually need to be declared in your country of residence, even if it is not liable to taxation in either country.

Savings

With no relevant changes here, the band of UK savings income that can be earned tax-free remains at £5,000 and the annual ISA subscription limit stays at £20,000.

However, expatriates should note that investments like ISAs lose their tax-efficient benefits once you are no longer UK resident. Not only are non-residents ineligible to open and save into ISAs, any interest earned may become liable to taxation in Spain. Take time to explore alternative arrangements that may better suit your particular set of circumstances.

Pensions

Despite calling pensions tax relief “eye-wateringly expensive” in the lead-up to the Budget – heightening expectations that he would make cuts here – the Chancellor did not

target pensions at all.

The personal allowance remains at £40,000 and the lifetime allowance (LTA) will increase with inflation in April 2019. Currently, combined pension benefits up to £1.03 million avoid 25% or 55% LTA tax penalties – from April 2019, this threshold will be £1,055,000.

While spectators were surprised at this reprieve for pensions, many expect today’s £39 billion in pension reliefs and allowances are likely to be raided in the future. Now is therefore a good time to consider your pension options, before any rule changes.

Inheritance tax

There were no key changes to inheritance tax (IHT) rules. With the Treasury taking a record £5.2 billion in inheritance taxes last year, it is unsurprising they left things alone! Having ordered a review to simplify the IHT system in February, it is likely that Hammond is delaying any adjustments until the review concludes.

Property

Continuing last year’s concessions

to first time buyers, Hammond extended stamp duty relief to shared ownership homes valued up to £500,000.

In January 2019, the government plans to consult on an additional 1% stamp duty charge for non-residents buying residential property in England and Northern Ireland.

Also up for consultation is Hammond’s plan to limit private residence relief from April 2020 by slashing the window for capital gains tax exemption from 18 to 9 months for those selling a main home. Another proposal – that could cost most landlords £11,200 in capital gains taxes – is making “lettings relief” only available to owners who live with tenants before selling their home.

Brexit and the UK economy

Hammond outlined “resilient” growth over the next five years, revealing an upgraded forecast for GDP growth from 1.3% to 1.6% for 2019. However, growth remains relatively sluggish and is still expected to be a moving target.

While Hammond has set aside an extra £500 billion for the

government’s no-deal Brexit preparations, he said he was confident that a “double-deal dividend” would be triggered by an orderly Brexit. This economic boost would be brought on by “the end of uncertainty” from a Brexit agreement which would also free up the fiscal “buffer”.

However, the Chancellor kept his powder dry to make further adjustments next year, stating he may upgrade the Spring statement to a “full fiscal event” – an emergency budget – if required.

With so much uncertainty ahead and under five months until Brexit, it is sensible to take personalised, regulated advice. An adviser with cross-border expertise can guide you on the interaction between UK and Spanish taxation and the opportunities available to help protect your finances in these changeable times.

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A father and son die in a fire at their home in Arriate

The man, aged 52, was on the board of the Nuestra Padre Jesús religious brotherhood, and the boy, who was also a member, played in the municipal band

:: **MARÍA GARCÍA**

ARRIATE. A 52-year-old man and his young son were killed in a fire at their home in Arriate, in the Serranía de Ronda, in the early hours of Wednesday morning. Three other members of the same family (the man's 43-year-old wife and two children aged 23 and 20) and a Guardia Civil officer needed hospital treatment for smoke inhalation and were released later the same day.

The fire began shortly before 2am at the property, number 79 Calle La Habana, and firefighters, Guardia Civil and Local Police officers rushed to the scene, along with medical professionals. The blaze was apparently started by a brazier on the ground floor, and it quickly spread to the first floor, where the family were sleeping. A



The front of the house in Calle La Habana. :: **MARÍA GARCÍA**

neighbour says he was woken up by the sound of one of the family members shouting; he had managed to get out onto the terrace and was calling for help. "We gave him hose pipes and did everything we could to assist," says the neighbour.

The family are very well-known in Arriate and the nearby area. The father was on the board of the religious brotherhood of Nuestra Padre Jesús in the village, and the boy who died was also an active member. He also played with the Nuestra Señora del Rosario music band.

Both associations have expressed their shock and sadness about this tragedy.

Arriate council has declared three official days of mourning, and the mayor has expressed their sadness at the loss of "two lovely people with a very special charisma". He said the family is well-known and much-loved in Arriate, and that the town hall would be doing everything it could to help the rest of the family, including providing them with somewhere else to live.

IN BRIEF

Two arrested for 'Ronaldinho' mugging

MARBELLA

Two Algerian men aged 38 and 51 have been arrested in Marbella, accused of having robbed a tourist in Elviria on 29 October using the so-called 'Ronaldinho' method. This consists of pretending to explain to the victim how to 'dribble' a football, then grabbing him, trying to pull him to the ground and stealing anything of value he is carrying. The men were detained after

a police patrol in Elviria spotted them struggling with an elderly man, who they then pushed to the ground. One of the thieves was arrested on the spot, while the other, who was trying to run to a car parked nearby, was caught a few metres away.

The police recovered the man's mobile phone, among other belongings, and the men have been charged with carrying out a robbery with violence.

A search of the car revealed 195 euros in cash, a frequency inhibitor, caps, hats and maps of the area.

Arrested for sexually abusing his daughters

MALAGA

A man and his father have been arrested in Malaga, one for sexually abusing his two daughters for several years, telling them he would hurt their mother if they told her what had happened, and the other for knowing what was going on and doing nothing about it. The girls' mother, who is separated from her husband, went to the police after one daughter told her that she had been abused several times during a year when she was living with her father. The police say that in fact both girls were abused, over a period of several years.

Elderly man stabs his "unbearable" son

MALAGA

Police have arrested a 72-year-old man for stabbing his son during an argument because living with him was "unbearable". The son, 46, was admitted to hospital with two stab wounds to his stomach. The older man, whose face was bruised, claimed that his son is a drug addict, had punched him when he came home and that he had reacted violently because he couldn't stand the situation any more. He said his son was frequently aggressive, and made life unbearable for him and his wife, who has mental problems.

Pro Dunas rescues a griffon vulture which had landed beside the A-7 near Estepona

:: **NIEVES CASTRO**

MARBELLA. Patricia Rivas, a biologist with the Pro Dunas environmental association, was driving along the A-7 towards Estepona last Friday when she saw something very unexpected: a griffon vulture beside the road. The animal, a large adult, was perched on

the barrier on the right-hand side of the motorway, showing obvious signs of exhaustion.

Once Patricia had informed her colleagues at Pro Dunas, they decided to try to rescue the vulture, although this was no easy task and they had to bring a towel and transporter to catch and carry it.

The rescue operation was carried out by Pro Dunas members, officers from the Guardia Civil Nature Protection service (Seprona) and an environmental officer from the Junta de Andalucía.

Luckily, they were successful and the vulture is now



The vulture is now recovering at the CREA centre in Malaga. :: **SUR**

being cared for at the CREA (Centre for Recuperation of Endangered Species) in Malaga.

The vulture, who Pro Dunas has called 'Castor' after the place where it was found, near the river of the same name in Estepona, had no fractured

bones but was suffering from extreme fatigue, says Susanne Stamm, the spokeswoman for the association.

She explains that the rescue operation was difficult because they didn't want the bird to try to fly off, as it would have been dangerous for drivers on the A-7 and for the vulture itself, which is thought to have been migrating to Africa.

"People need to know that vultures are lovely creatures. We are all a bit afraid of them, but they are beautiful and by rescuing this one we have helped with their preservation," says Suzanne, proudly.

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Inland towns take flood aid protests to streets of Madrid

An emergency area has now been declared as expected, and mayors have been briefed by the government on how to apply for funds

:: FERNANDO TORRES

TEBA. The central government declared parts of inland Malaga province an official emergency area last

Friday, as had been expected. The move allows towns and villages affected by recent record rainfall to access more aid to repair damage. Other flood-affected areas in Spain were also included in the order.

The announcement came on the same day that some 400 demonstrators from the inland municipalities of Teba, Campillos and Ardales travelled to the capital to continue their campaign for more support from the authorities. The may-

ors of these districts had vowed to keep up their fight until the emergency area was officially declared.

Mayors meet government

On Tuesday and Wednesday this week, the government's representative in Malaga province met with mayors and representatives from 42 towns and villages to discuss the process to apply for relief funds. The regional government is also providing aid.



Residents from inland Malaga province protest outside the Spanish parliament last Friday. :: sur



Opposition councillors hand in their meeting request. :: sur

Mayor under threat in Alhaurín el Grande as a no-confidence vote looms

:: FERNANDO TORRES

ALHAURÍN EL GRANDE. Opposition councillors in Alhaurín el Grande have asked for a special council meeting in a bid to oust the mayor, who they say has been "illegally" exercising power for almost two years.

Presenting their submission this week for the extraordinary full council session, they said they hoped it would be the first stage towards a vote of no confidence in current mayor Antonia Ledesma.

A court recently ruled that a previous meeting of councillors aimed

at voting out the mayor back in January 2017 had been wrongly halted. At the time, the town hall decided that one suspended councillor was ineligible to vote in the chamber, a move which prevented the expected majority of councillors voting down Ledesma. Now a judge has said that that decision 21 months ago was wrong.

The mayor was previously with the X Alhaurín party in 2017, but is now back as part of the PP party where she originally started her political career. She has not yet said if she will appeal the court decision.

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Funeral takes place of popular mayor who committed suicide

Residents of El Borge joined politicians to pay their respects to the family of Salvador Fernández Marin who was found dead on Monday

:: A. PELÁEZ / J. CANO

EL BORGE. Family members, friends and residents joined the mayors of Axarquía villages on Tuesday for the funeral of Salvador Fernández Marin, the mayor of El Borge, who was found dead on Monday afternoon.

The mayor's body was found hanging from a tree on at his family's estate, after he failed to attend a council meeting which was due to take place at that time at the town hall.

An autopsy concluded that there were no signs of a struggle. It is believed that the mayor committed suicide by hanging himself.

Fernández, who had been mayor of El Borge since 2011, would have celebrated his 48th birthday on



Salvador Fernández Marin (right) on Monday. :: SUR

Wednesday. He leaves a wife and son.

The Spanish Socialist party suspended all the events scheduled for Tuesday in the province and two days of mourning were declared for Wednesday and Thursday in El Borge. Flags have been flying at half mast

in the village since news of his death broke.

Posting on Twitter, president of the Junta de Andalucía, Susana Díaz, said: "I am thinking of his family, of his neighbors in El Borge and I can't imagine how they must be feeling."

Town hall bids to attract filmmakers to Vélez-Málaga

Raquel Welch and Rupert Grint have in the past both appeared in films and series featuring the town's beaches

:: EUGENIO CABEZAS

VÉLEZ-MÁLAGA. Vélez-Málaga town hall has announced plans to attract television and film production to the town's beaches.

The idea behind the project, 'Eight Cinema Beaches' is to con-

tact companies such as Netflix to promote the diversity of Vélez-Málaga's coastline, which councillor for Tourism and Beaches and deputy mayor, Jesús Atencia, said in a press statement, "offer everything from urban locations to unspoiled beaches".

The move comes several months after filming for the new season of the series *Snatch*, starring Rupert Grint, took place in Torre del Mar as well as other locations in Malaga province.

In 1967, Raquel Welch flew over



Torre del Mar beach. :: SUR

the skies of Vélez-Málaga in the film, *Fathom*, and since then the town's coastline has appeared in a number of Spanish programmes as well as the UK's ITV and TLC, a US television channel.

IN BRIEF



Locally-produced hummus. :: A. PELÁEZ

Vélez-Málaga company launches own hummus

VÉLEZ-MÁLAGA

:: E. P. Vélez-Málaga based company Avomix, which is owned by the Reyes Gutiérrez group, has used the Fruit Attraction fair in Madrid to launch its new line of hummus.

The company is behind products such as mango sauce and guacamole which are already sold widely in supermarkets including Mercadona and Lidl across Spain.

A spokesperson for the company said that they are in talks with food retailers in and around the Madrid area with a view to start selling the hummus, which they say, does not contain additives.

Guest threatens to set fire to popular hotel

TORRE DEL MAR

:: EFE. A 57-year-old man threatened to set fire to the popular Mainake hotel in Torre del Mar last Friday when staff refused his request to stay an additional night as he was unable to pay for it. The man told staff that he was carrying a container of petrol with which he was going to set fire to the building. The container was later found to be empty and the man left the hotel in a taxi.

Studio spaces in old sugar cane factory

TORRE DEL MAR

:: A. P. The Vélez-Málaga deputy mayor's office in Torre del Mar has announced that from this Saturday a number of rooms at the Azucarera, or old sugar cane factory, to the east of the town, will be available to use as studio or study spaces. The rooms will be available from 10.30am until 2pm and from 5 to 8pm from Monday to Saturday and from 11am to 2pm on Sundays.

Carer accused of using clients' credit cards

MALAGA

:: EFE. Torrox-Algarrobo police have arrested a care worker on suspicion of fraud. The woman worked for a company which provided carers to the elderly or people with reduced mobility. She is believed to have copied the credit and debit card

numbers of her clients and made online purchases as well as paid bills totalling 2,865 euros.

Police traced the online purchases to an unnamed cosmetics company and also discovered that the woman had produced a series of video tutorials explaining how to use the products she had purchased. The carer was arrested in Malaga and is due to appear in court.

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Marbella to go green with three vertical gardens

:: MÓNICA PÉREZ

MARBELLA. Councillors in Marbella are planning to install three giant vertical gardens in prominent sites in the municipality. The aim is to improve the image of places with a lot of traffic and replace advertising hoardings with plants.

The three locations that will get the eye-catching displays of vegetation are; the bridge over the Golden Mile next to the Puente Romano Hotel; the footbridge over Avenida Cánovas del Castillo near the centre; and entrances to the road tunnel under the pedestrian Avenida del Mar near the old town.

The plant displays will be watered by a system that recycles unused irrigation water and will take two months to put up once the contract is awarded.

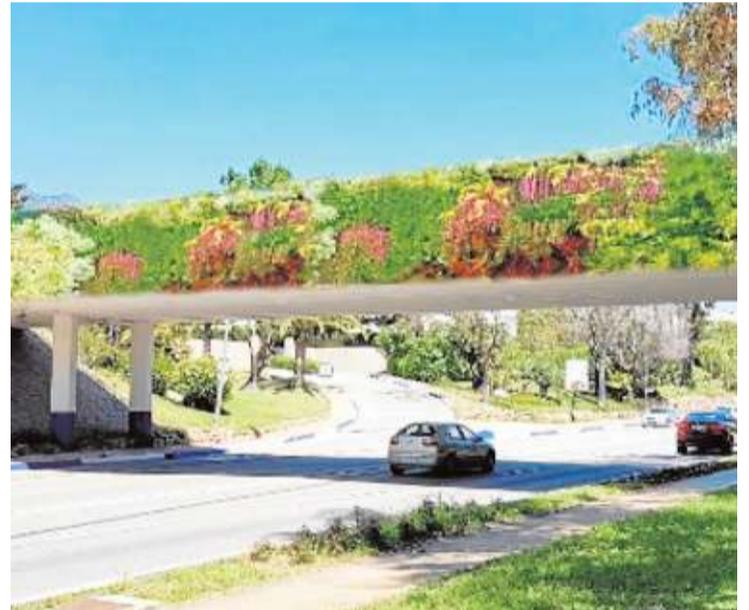
The work has been put out to tender with a budget of 150,000 euros and it is hoped that they will be installed by the spring.

BEFORE



Advertising on the bridge on the Golden Mile. :: SUR

AFTER



Artist's impression of the new vertical garden. :: SUR



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Council doesn't plan on knocking down illegal buildings, say town planning bosses

:: HÉCTOR BARBOTA

MARBELLA. The two people at the top of the Town Planning department at Marbella town hall have said that they have no plans to force the demolition of non-legalised buildings in the municipality.

Speaking at a meeting of the CIT business-leaders group in Marbella, Kika Carcuel, councillor for Planning, said that while it was impossible to offer a uniform fix for all the illegal building that went on while the GIL party was in power, the council was not aiming to demolish any of it.

Marbella is still following a master town plan from the 1980s after a 2010 master town plan was cancelled by a court in 2015. Consequently there is a lot of long-term planning uncertainty.

José María Morente, director of the department, explained that the tendering process for drawing up a new plan should begin by the end of November and the contract awarded by March.

Attendees at the meeting criticised the current 18-month average time to approve a planning application.



The rundown bullring is set for a new lease of life. :: J-L

Promoters announce project to convert Puerto Banús' bullring into a cultural auditorium

The new Marbella Arena will open in May and will host concerts and sports events and boast a selection of terraces and restaurants

:: MÓNICA PÉREZ

MARBELLA. The old bull ring in Puerto Banús, which closed its doors in 2010, will be reopening in May next year as the Marbella Arena, an auditorium for cultural events surrounded by terraces, bars

and restaurants. The project, announced on Wednesday, is being handled by Grupo Teatro Goya who are investing 30 million euros in the renovation of the building.

The new cultural centre will hold 5,000 people, 1,000 of which can be seated around the ring. There will also be 60 gallery seats in three tiers.

Dressing rooms and storage areas are also being created and over the winter the arena will be covered, although plans to do this is still being discussed according to the developers.

IN BRIEF



Current state of the building work at the north of the town. :: SUR

Athletics stadium still on track for next year

ESTEPONA

:: CHARO MÁRQUEZ. Estepona's new athletics stadium is still on course to open in the first half of next year, the town hall has said. So far 60 per cent of the building,

which includes 1,000 parking spaces beneath it, has been completed.

The site, near the feria ground and Felipe VI auditorium to the north of the town centre, covers 16,488 square metres. The stadium has been designed to a high specification so as to host official athletics events.

Extra 500,000 euros for resort flood repairs

MARBELLA

:: M.P. Despite having put aside a million euros for emergency repairs after last month's floods from its funds, Marbella town hall has had to increase the budgeted amount by a further 500,000 euros. Council inspectors have identified a further dozen significant repair works, including damage to the road to La Mairena from Elviria.

Grant agreed for fishing mooring at La Duquesa

MANILVA

:: C.M. Manilva council has received a 266,000 euro EU grant via a provincial fishing association to prepare its plan for breakwaters on the beach at La Duquesa. The aim is to provide more sheltered moorings for local fishing boats that currently have to use the leisure port, as well as ways to trap sand and prevent the beach being eroded.

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La Cala health centre will get 24-hour emergency cover at last, says councillor

No starting date has been given and the PP party has claimed that the announcement is "another cynical move" by the PSOE ahead of regional elections

IVÁN GELIBTER

MIJAS. Residents and tourists in La Cala de Mijas will be getting 24-hour cover at the local health centre at last, as well as a 7-day emergency ambulance service.

The announcement comes after years of campaigning by locals. Currently once the daytime doctors' surgeries end, patients have to travel to Las Lagunas health centre, some 10 kilometres away, for urgent treatment. In an emergency, ambulances also have to travel out from Las Lagunas.

Residents' groups took their campaign for round-the-clock cover to the Andalusian regional parliament and had gathered a petition with thousands of signatures.

Despite the good news, the announcement generated political controversy. The news wasn't released by the PSOE-party-con-



The health centre in La Cala de Mijas. :: i. e.

trolled Junta de Andalucía health department, possibly due to restrictions on announcements ahead of regional elections, but by the leader of the PSOE group on Mijas council, Josele González. The regional health service subsequently confirmed the councillor's Facebook post but couldn't say when the service would be ready. "The ambulance has to be put

out to tender and then plans drawn up for running the emergency department," sources at the Junta said.

Despite the PSOE announcement, opposition politicians have criticised the move. Esperanza Oña of the PP claimed that it was a "deceitful electoral move" and questioning whether the promise would be kept once the regional elections were over.

More family doctors' strikes for later in November are announced

JUAN SOTO

MALAGA. GPs and paediatricians in Malaga province are to step up their industrial action. Some doctors are calling for more time to see patients and better working conditions.

At a meeting on Monday, those supporting stoppages decided to change their strategy, halting the current part-time strike action and stopping work all day instead on 16, 23 and 27 November.

The doctors also voted to hold larger-scale demonstrations soon to increase the visibility of their protest.

Up to now, not all doctors have taken part in the stoppages and minimum legal service levels have also limited the impact of the action.

Mijas donkey owners protest over campaigners' "lies" about animal's death

I. GELIBTER

MIJAS. The owners of the donkey service in Mijas staged a demonstration on Tuesday, supported by the council, in protest at what they say are "lies" from PACMA, the animal rights' political party.

Last Saturday, a Mijas donkey was taken ill suddenly and died. PACMA candidate in the forthcoming regional elections, Eva Ramos, had said that "the donkey died in agony" after being ignored by the town hall, police and owners.

Owner of the donkey, Salvador Torres, strongly denied the accusations on Tuesday at the protest in Mijas Pueblo, explaining that the animal had had veterinary attention at all times but that nothing could be done to save it. "The donkeys are part of our family," he said, "They aren't work tools to us but colleagues and nobody loves them as much as us. They help us put bread on the table."

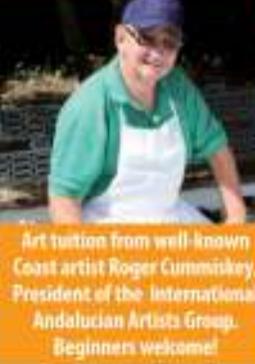
He added that a photo PACMA published of the donkey to support its ill-treatment claim was 24 hours after death and that he was considering legal action against the political group.



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 <p style="font-size: x-small; background-color: purple; color: white; padding: 2px;">Twice-daily performances by acapella singing group Reflections</p>	 <p style="font-size: x-small; background-color: orange; color: white; padding: 2px;">Art tuition from well-known Coast artist Roger Cumiskey. President of the International Andalusian Artists Group. Beginners welcome!</p>	 <p style="font-size: x-small; background-color: purple; color: white; padding: 2px;">Cooking demos!</p>	 <p style="font-size: x-small; background-color: blue; color: white; padding: 2px;">Wealth management, pensions and insurance advice from experts</p>	 <p style="font-size: x-small; background-color: green; color: white; padding: 2px;">Leading expert Mike Kelly will value coins, stamps and medals</p>	 <p style="font-size: x-small; background-color: blue; color: white; padding: 2px;">Free blood glucose & blood pressure testing from Diabetic Support Group</p>

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Benalmádena takes steps to boost links with Polish tourism sector

BY TONY BRYANT

BENALMÁDENA. A group of Polish tour operators visited Malaga last week with the aim of building new tourism links between the Costa del Sol and Poland. The young travel agents represented Rainbow Tours, a company that specialises in promoting holidays in Andalucía.

The group visited hotels, sights and leisure facilities in various resorts along the coast. The agents were met in Benalmádena by the councillor for tourism, Encarnación Cortés, who accompanied them on a guided tour of the town hall, Benalmádena Pueblo and Arroyo de la Miel.

Benalmádena has become a popular choice for Polish tourists. Between April and October of this year, more than 12,000 visited the Costa del Sol and the majority stayed in hotels in Benalmádena. According to statistics released by the Costa del Sol tourist board, in 2018, the



The Polish tour operators visited Benalmádena last week :: SUR

Polish market grew by more than 17 per cent in relation to the same period of the previous year.

Encarnación Cortés said, "The Polish tourist market has become increasingly more interested in the Costa del Sol in general, and especially Benalmádena, where increasing numbers of citizens are choos-

ing to spend their holidays. We are extremely grateful for the hard work of these dedicated tour operators and we look forward to future links with the Polish market."

Rainbow Tours has been operating for 29 years and it is currently the second largest tour operator in Poland.

EN BREVE

Council starts campaign against shisha pipes

BENALMÁDENA

BY I. GELIBTER. The excessive use of shisha pipes in bars in Benalmádena has provoked a campaign by the town's Health department to inform people of the dangers associated with them.

According to Alicia Ladagga, Health councillor, one hour using one of these 'hubble bubble' pipes is equivalent to smoking

two packets of tobacco and the combustion process "releases ten times more carbon monoxide than conventional tobacco". She adds that "there is also the risk of transmitting respiratory illnesses and diseases by sharing the mouth piece".

In order to get the message across, the town hall will be passing out a series of leaflets in schools and colleges and making visits to bars to inform people of the risks of smoking with a shisha pipe.

Demands for better health infrastructure

TORREMOLINOS

BY A. GÓMEZ. The poor condition of the Hospital Marítimo and health centres and services in Torremolinos have attracted complaints from council members. The deficiencies were recognised back in 2015 but plans to modernise were paralysed by the crisis. The Junta says it has already invested 800,000 euros in improvements.

Prosecutors seek 10 years for ex-Ronda mayor

RONDA

BY SUR. Prosecutors are asking for a ten-year jail sentence for the former mayor of Ronda.

Antonio Marín Lara is accused of suspected planning corruption and other linked possible offences. Six other people are also accused. Lara was mayor from 2007 to 2011. The trial is being prepared.

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Deal reached for use of abandoned track to bypass flood damage

Railway workers will be able to start in the next few days reinstalling the lines washed away in last month's flooding between Pedrera and Osuna

BY IGNACIO LILLO

MALAGA. The Public Works ministry and the railways administrator (ADIF) have agreed to use a section of the AVE track which was constructed between Antequera and Seville but never completed, to solve the problem caused by the severe flooding last month.

The section measures eleven kilometres and will divert the present route away from the Aguadulce area where the Rio Blanco broke its banks and destroyed the bridge. The 'bypass' will keep both the Osuna and Pedrera stations operational and re-establish the conventional track be-



The condition of the railway track after the flooding. :: NITO SALAS

tween Malaga and Seville (the high speed AVE was not affected).

ADIF suggested the possibility of this bypass using the abandoned section as soon as the damage to the line had been assessed and the process for both parties to reach an agreement was completed

quickly, scarcely three weeks after the flooding.

The work is expected to take just a few months as it is only necessary to connect up to the bypass at each end and as the trains that use the line are diesel are not electric, only a conventional track is required.

Demolition of iconic Malaga cinemas is given the go-ahead by the Junta

The authorisation does not include the archaeological excavation planned by the town hall

BY JESÚS HINOJOSA

MALAGA. The Junta de Andalucía has given the green light for the demolition of the old Astoria and Victoria cinemas in the surroundings of Plaza de la Merced in Malaga.

The demolition will enable the town hall to finish the archaeological excavations that have been started inside the Astoria.

The archaeological findings will decide whether they can go ahead with building an underground auditorium with various floors above for cultural use dedicated to the Fundación Picasso. There

will also be spaces for restaurants and other businesses.

The budget for the demolition is set at 413,790 euros and work to pull down the buildings is expected to take about two months although it is unlikely to start until spring next year.

The archaeological survey to find out what lies beneath the Astoria has still not been authorised. The 'preventative' dig which will go down five metres, will cost 346,685 euros and will take five months to complete.

Remains already uncovered under the buildings were documented in 2007 and 2008 and will be protected during the demolition process with a layer of gravel.

Once demolition works are finished the archaeological remains will have an opaque covering.

Putin awards city of Malaga with Pushkin medal in recognition of support for Russian Museum

The mayor of Malaga was at the Kremlin last Sunday to receive the prize at the annual National Unity Day event

:: RAFAEL M. MAÑUECO

MALAGA. The mayor of Malaga, Francisco de la Torre, was in Moscow last Sunday to receive the Alexander Pushkin medal on behalf of the city from Russian President, Vladimir Putin. The ceremony at the Kremlin is an annual event to celebrate Russia's National Unity Day.

The president acknowledged Malaga's support for Russian culture and congratulated the city on the success of the high-profile branch of the Russian State Museum from St Petersburg, which opened on the Costa del Sol in 2015. Since then, it has had over half a million visitors through its doors and has showcased 18 exhibitions.

De la Torre expressed his gratitude on receiving this award for the Russian Museum in Malaga, saying that the museum itself is a "home for Russian art in the Mediterra-



Vladimir Putin and Francisco de la Torre in the Kremlin last Sunday. :: EFE

nean". He added that it is the sharing of culture between Russia and Spain that means the two will always "coexist with peace, looking towards the future".

National Unity Day, a public holiday, was started in 2005 and marks the 4 November 1612 when Polish troops were expelled from Moscow.

The medal is named after Alexander Pushkin, father of modern Russian literature. De la Torre was among other recipients of the award at the prestigious event.

Last year the mayor was awarded Officer of the French Legion of Honour for his support in the opening of Paris's Pompidou Centre on the Costa.



Police and migrants outside the "caseta" this week. :: NITO SALAS

City's fairground used to house new migrant arrivals

:: Á. FRÍAS / J. CANO

MALAGA. The city council in Malaga has opened up its pavilion at the city's show ground to central government as an emergency base to temporarily accommodate migrants arriving from north Africa by boat.

Faced with a lack of space for the growing numbers reaching Spain, alternative places to house the migrants are being used. So far this year the Red Cross has taken care of 7,000 arrivals in Malaga province, when in the whole of last year the total was 2,292.

Pictures were published last

week of migrants sleeping on the ground near the port under a temporary awning, drawing criticism.

The pavilion or "caseta" on the show ground, on the outskirts of the city, is usually only used each August to host town hall events and guests during the annual Malaga Feria. There were 253 men in the first group of migrant arrivals there this week, where they are held before being moved on to formal processing centres.

Central government hopes to build a permanent migrant reception facility in Malaga port, similar to one in the Campo de Gibraltar.

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AVENIDA RICARDO SORIANO 66, MARBELLA (29601), MALAGA (SPAIN)

New book detailing Gibraltar's Menorcan connections is released



DEBBIE BARTLETT
✉ debbieb.editorial@gmail.com

Marti Crespo i Sala explains why the clergy were Menorcan in the 18th century and the links between 'Llanito' and Menorcan Catalan

GIBRALTAR. Catalan linguist and journalist Marti Crespo i Sala has recently published a fascinating book highlighting the importance of the Menorcan presence on the Rock of Gibraltar. 'Els minorkeens de Gibraltar' (The 'minorkeens' of Gibraltar) is the first study dedicated exclusively to Menorcan emigration to Gibraltar, based on a detailed analysis of Gibraltar's National Archive, as well as diocesan archives in Gibraltar, Cadiz and Menorca.

As well as the insight into the Menorcan inhabitants and workers and their contribution to Gibraltar throughout history, Crespo also sheds light on the background to the term



Gibraltar had very strong links with Menorca. :: SUR

'Llanito' or 'Yanito', which is used to refer to the people of Gibraltar as well as their language. It is usually explained as a distortion of the names John or Gianni, frequent among the Rock's inhabitants at the time. In Menorcan Catalan, the English were usually called Jan (with a similar origin), a term that could have reached Gibraltar and be used to refer to the Rock's inhabitants.

Like Yanito, Menorcan also includes numerous Anglicisms, several

of which are still commonly used: xumèquer (shoemaker), xoc (chalk), tornescrús (screwdriver), quic (quick), quep (cap), moguin (mahogany), mèrvels (marbles), blèc (black), boínder (bow window), bòtil (bottle), boi (boy, which is still used in the phrase "quatre jans i un boi" [four Johns and a boy], equivalent to the Castilian expression cuatro gatos [hardly a soul]).

The book is published by Institut Menorquí d'Estudis/Publicacions de l'Abadia de Montserrat.

IN BRIEF



Karl (left) and Paul (right) with Steven Linares. :: SUR

From the Rock to the City exhibition

GIBRALTAR

:: **D.B.** Two well-known Gibraltar artists, Paul Cosquieri and Karl Ullger, are currently exhibiting in the City of London, with Phillipa Beale and Les Williams from the Lloyd's

Art Group. Over 24 works are on display in 'From the Rock to the City', and 15 per cent of the sales will be donated to the Combe Trust charity. The exhibition at the offices of EC3 Legal was officially opened by the Minister of Culture, Steven Linares, who said he was delighted that local art was being displayed in London.

More short uni courses released this month

GIBRALTAR

:: **D.B.** Gibraltar University is offering two short courses in November; one is the Rock's first professional blockchain workshop on the 19th from 9am to 4.30pm, and the other is an Introduction to Financial and Management Accounting, from 9am to 5pm on the 22nd and 23rd. Further information can be obtained from www.unigib.edu.gi

Gender-neutral toilets in new schools

GIBRALTAR

:: **D.B.** The new secondary schools which are being built in Gibraltar will have gender-neutral lavatories, following the lead of the Gibraltar College, which has introduced these at the request of its students. The new schools will have separate toilets for males and females, a gender-neutral one and accessible facilities for people with disabilities.

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Government forces banks to pay mortgage-loan notary tax

This swift move follows this week's Supreme Court decision that overturned a ruling by one of its own judges and which said that customers still had to keep on paying the charge

:: SUR

MADRID. In a move to silence a growing public outcry and gain political advantage, the prime minister, Pedro Sánchez, held a hurriedly arranged press conference on Wednesday to announce that the government would change the law to force banks to pay a tax on mortgage loan transaction paperwork.

A royal decree to that effect was approved at a cabinet meeting on Thursday and the law change was due to be published in the official state bulletin (BOE) today, Friday, coming into force on Saturday.

The announcement came less than 24 hours after a meeting of Supreme Court judges in Madrid had narrowly voted to rule that it should be the customers taking out a mortgage who should continue to pay the increasingly controversial charge.

The widespread discontent over the tax, known as the Impuesto de Actos Jurídicos Documentados, has grown from nowhere over the last few weeks. The fee is levied on a broad range of documents processed by a notary, not just mortgage papers, and is a variable percentage charged depending on the money mentioned in the loan paperwork.

Up to now banks have been charging their customers the tax, which varies by region. Experts say it can be between 1,000 and 4,000 euros on a typical mortgage.

Court finds against banks first

A Supreme Court ruling was published last month which said that,



Protesters outside the Supreme Court this week. :: EFE

as the bank was the party in the deal asking for the documents of the loan to be registered, then it had to be the bank that paid for the tax.

The minute that first judgment was announced on 18 October, bank shares fell amid fears that refunds would be due on existing mortgages as well.

Dramatic backtracking

However, with signs of internal disagreements at the highest level of the Supreme Court, an unprecedented decision was taken to summon all the judges responsible for hearing cases linked to the public administration to meet on Monday, 5 November, to debate and then vote on whether their colleague's decision should stand or not.

By the time the judges' meeting arrived this week, public interest had grown to such an extent, with claims that the judges were trying to protect the banks' interests, that no political party had dared to show support for the banks continuing to pay.

The judges' meeting went on all

of Tuesday as well. And when the final vote came it was 15 in favour and 13 against the customer continuing to pay.

Analysts said that had the decision gone against the banks and been retrospective, the banks stood to lose up to 16 billion euros.

Consumer rights' group Facua said the verdict was "absolutely disgusting", as the debate swung from the courts to the politicians.

Government steps in

By midmorning on Wednesday, Pedro Sánchez had his response ready. "The government respects the independence of the Judiciary but as the Executive we cannot avoid feeling sorry about this situation," he said.

The opposition PP party said it would have gone further and abolished the tax altogether and that the government shouldn't "fool" Spaniards, as the banks would just put up charges elsewhere to compensate.

Shares in the banks rose between one and four per cent on the Spanish stock exchange on Wednesday.



There are high local house prices and low local incomes. :: n.s.

Malaga is one of the provinces where mortgages take up the highest share of income

:: NURIA TRIGUERO

MALAGA. A survey by a respected property valuation group has shown that Malaga province is just one place off the top of the list for relative unaffordability of homes when compared to household income.

Not only does Malaga have among the highest house prices in the country, but its inhabitants also have below average earnings.

According to the Tinsa survey, a typical Malaga family needs to spend 21% of its annual gross income on a mortgage. Only the Balearics has a higher percentage at 23.2%

Data shows that the average mortgage taken out in Malaga province is the seventh highest in the country at 126,417 euros, while annual household income is 32,077.

IN BRIEF

Unemployment went up by 5,000 in October

MALAGA

:: N. TRIGUERO. The number of registered unemployed in Malaga province, including the Costa del Sol, increased by 5,000 in October. The number registered with the Social Security department as unemployed locally is now almost 150,000.

On a year-on-year basis, the data is still positive for Malaga as there are 5,000 fewer unemployed compared to the same time last year.

Mercadona goes on hiring spree on Costa

COSTA DEL SOL

:: SUR. Supermarket chain, Mercadona has announced that it is looking for 162 new staff for Malaga province. In local supermarkets, 15 new staff are being sought in Nerja, 10 in Torrox, 10 in Rincón de la Victoria, 15 in Vélez-Málaga, 15 in Torremolinos, 15 in Marbella, 5 in Alhaurín el Grande and 5 in Álora. Some 30 people are being sought for its distribution centre in Antequera.

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Speed limit set to come down to 90km/h on single-lane main roads

The government also wants to increase the amount of points a driver can lose on their licence to six for using a mobile

|| J. LUIS ALVAREZ

MADRID. Roads between towns and cities that have just a single lane in both directions are set to see their speed limits lowered from 100 to 90 km/h at the start of 2019 thanks to an express change in the law being planned in Madrid.

The government's traffic agency, DGT, has announced the move in an attempt to reduce road deaths on this type of road. In 2017 there were 1,013 deaths on single-lane non-urban roads with no central dividing barrier. This was over three quarters of the total killed on the county's main road network. The plan is also to reduce the limit to 80 km/h for vans, buses and lor-



Tougher road-safety measures should be introduced in January. || EFE

ries. If there is a barrier between the traffic in different directions, the speed limit will stay at 100 km/h. The Spanish cabinet is expected to approve the move shortly.

The government also wants to introduce harsher penalties for motorists caught being distracted talking on mobile phone or using mes-

saging apps. Here they want to see drivers lose more of their licence, under the Spanish system of discounting penalty points from a start total.

This will mean using the phone will be as heavily penalised as erratic driving or refusing to take a breathalyser test.

Doctors told not to prescribe Nolotil pills to tourists after problems with British patients

|| SUR

MADRID. The Spanish medicines control agency, Aemps, has recommended that health care workers don't prescribe the common pain-killer metamizol (better known as Nolotil) to tourists, where it is impossible to monitor their reaction to the drug. The move follows a series of high-profile cases of severe reactions and fatalities in British patients after being legally prescribed metamizol in Spain.

Aemps said that among the possible side effects is a severe lowering of the amount of white blood cells, effectively poisoning the blood. The condition is known as agranulocytosis, and Aemps says it has seen an increase in cases in Spain in parallel to the rise in the use of Nolotil, which has doubled in the last 10 years.

It is not known why studies show that British patients are af-



The drug is sold as Nolotil. || EFE

ected more, but a genetic difference in inhabitants of northern Europe has been suggested as a reason. Now Aemp says it is better not to give Nolotil to tourists that cannot be monitored and to take extra care with older patients.

Nolotil is banned in the UK, most of the EU and the US, among other countries.

📍 For more see page 46.

IN BRIEF

Government seeks to outwit Franco's family

MADRID

|| **SUR.** The government is studying a further, last-minute amendment to its law to permit the exhumation of General Franco's body in a bid to out manoeuvre his family.

Faced with the embarrassing prospect of Franco's family burying him in the public crypt of Madrid's Almudena cathedral instead of the more isolated Valle de Los Caídos, the government is considering adding to its express reform of the Historical Memory law to stop those involved in the former dictatorship being buried in places open to the public.

THE EURO ZONE
MARK NAYLER

ABOVE THE LAW?



Spain's Supreme Court can't make up its mind about who should pay a mortgage stamp duty known as the Impuesto sobre Actos Jurídicos Documentados (AJD). In a mid-October ruling that reversed 20 years of jurisprudence, the Court ruled that banks should pay the tax; but on Tuesday that decision was reversed, and the Court decided that clients will cover the stamp duty.

Leading the criticism of this unprecedented dithering is Spanish prime minister Pedro Sánchez, who has vowed to reverse the reversal so that "the Spanish will no longer pay this fee". Is this the same politician, you might be wondering, who has repeatedly praised the independence of the Spanish judiciary and who refuses to intervene with its decisions in other areas, specifically those relating to Catalonia? Indeed, it is. Announcing his intention to challenge the AJD ruling on Wednesday, Sánchez said, "I respect the independence of the judiciary, but no power is free from criticism."

The Spanish prime minister does respect the Spanish Supreme Court's decisions – but only when he agrees with them, it seems. Speaking at a NATO summit in Brussels in July, Sánchez declared that "we do not comment on court rulings, we respect them". We can now add a caveat to that solemn declaration of trust in the judiciary: "in some cases".

At the NATO summit, Sánchez was referring to a German court's decision to extradite former Catalan president Carles Puigdemont

– orchestrator of last October's Catalan independence referendum (O-1) – to Spain for misuse of public funds. The Socialist leader has also been supportive of his own country's judiciary in its treatment of Catalan separatists. Most recently, he's refused to challenge the Spanish Supreme Court's ruling to put eighteen 'independistas' on trial for their role in O-1. Why? Because he respects the independence of the judiciary, obviously!

Sánchez's decision to challenge the Spanish Supreme Court over its latest AJD decision shouldn't be surprising. The PSOE leader is a consummate PR man, always with his eye on a trendy policy; and it looks much better, he's obviously decided, to speak out in favour of homeowners than to treat Catalan separatists with leniency.

Ironically, though, Sánchez's intention to reverse the mortgage tax ruling undermines his stance on Catalonia. If "no power is free from criticism", then the Court's decision to put politicians on trial for arranging O-1 – for "political crimes", as secessionists call them – could also be challenged, at least in principal.

Don't hold your breath for that to happen, though. Sánchez is just as opposed to Catalan independence as his Conservative predecessor Mariano Rajoy was. His choice not to intervene in the Court's treatment of Catalan separatists, then, is precisely that – a choice. What the AJD case shows is that the Spanish prime minister doesn't regard his country's judiciary as being above its own laws.

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LETTERS TO
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THERE IS A PRIZE FOR THE BEST
CONTRIBUTION TO THIS PAGE
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The problematic donkey taxis

With reference to your recent article about the Mijas donkeys (November 2nd to 8th), it is shocking that adults are still riding them in Spain. If tourists refuse to get on them then there would be no trade so educating people is key. They need to be made aware that people over 8st (50.8 kg) should not be riding them.

However, having volunteered at the donkey sanctuary in Fuente de Piedra (who do a great job of educating school children) and visited on in Devon I had questions that needed answers so I spent an afternoon with the then 90-year-old Mr Ron Mager who owns the donkeys that give rides to children on the beach at Weston-super-Mare in North Somerset, England.

He had in the past sent his older donkeys to the sanctuary in Devon but in recent years has had a change of heart.

He now keeps the retired donkeys in the same field as the

working donkeys. Most of them are related and each morning the retired donkeys have to be removed from the horse box as they want to go to the beach.

They like and miss the company, like to be doing something and they create a lot of noise when they are not allowed to go.

The working donkeys walk into the horse box of their own accord. They are not tied up at the beach and always have shade at the side of the horse box.

Donkeys are very intelligent animals and need a purpose as they like to be occupied.

If we cannot find a purpose that suits both the donkeys and humans will the only place we see them in future years be in a zoo? I sincerely hope not.

Suggestions from readers please as to what lighter tasks they could be given in Mijas in order to maintain their presence there.

ELAINE REYNOLDS
BY EMAIL

Southern Spain
supplement

What a fantastic supplement about Southern Spain! (SUR in English, November 2nd to 8th) Enjoyed reading it a lot.

I will keep this for future ref-

erence, my guests will enjoy it as well and get new ideas what to do and where to go.

Well done, thank you very much.

ARINA OLIJSLAGER
BY EMAIL

Killing with kindness

PETER EDGERTON
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There's no better way of clearing the old noggin than a brisk six-mile walk down to the sea from the village where I have a little house. The return journey is somewhat less brisk, more of a desperate melange of unseemly gasping and panting before the ceremonial quaffing a triumphant beer or six in the local bar.

Actually, I've only made it twice. Not because I fell headlong into a ditch clutching my chest and calling out for my mother - although that's always on the cards - but rather the fact that the locals are so kind hearted that they frequently stop to give me a lift. The fact is, I really need the exercise and look forward to a couple of hours or so winding my way home on foot but the people from the village are just too generous to let me.

Last week was a classic example. I'd set off, as always, full of vim and vigour when about two hundred yards into the six miles I heard a car pull alongside me honking its joyful horn.

"Pedro! (charmingly, they call me Pedro in the village). Hop in, I'll give you a lift."

It was Pepe's young daughter, recently enamored of a new car and wishing profoundly to share her boundless delight.

"Sorry! I'd rather walk. Good for clearing the old bonce and putting the world to rights, don't you know. Thanks anyway. Tooodle pip!" That, of course, is what I didn't say but probably wanted to. What I did say was more conventional.

"Er, thank you very much. That's really kind of you."

So, I jumped in and we chatted about work prospects for young people until we reached the village. Highly enjoyable.

The next day, I had to head back down to the coast and, again, resolved to walk. Here we go, then - best foot forward, three hundred yards down, lots and lots still to go.

"Toot! Toot!"

An old bloke with the happiest face in the world pulled up.

"Pedro! Hop in, etc."

I'd never seen him before in my life but got into the car, thanking him profusely through gritted teeth. We chatted about the Spain of fifty years ago and Malaga's once booming industries until we reached the sea and I disembarked. Highly enjoyable.

The next day, determined to do some bloomin' exercise if it killed me, I went for an eight mile jog along the coast, half expecting someone from the village to ride by on a bicycle.

"Pedro! Hop on - I'll give you a seater."

IDÍGORAS

After all that, how are we going to pay the tax on our mortgage? Will we pay directly or through whatever new costs the banks come up with?



SUR in English

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I haven't worked out the exact figure but I would estimate that nine out of ten British CVs that include interests at the end, give travel as one of them. Whether by travel people refer to a backpacking trip around the world or a train ride to Skegness once a year, it's an interest included to impress a potential employer. A person who travels is, at least according to CV writing advisors, more open-minded, cultured, interesting and adventurous. Does that make, therefore, anyone who would rather not move far from home, narrow-minded, uncultured, boring and cowardly? Of course not, but it's an easy interest to add just in case a potential employer might think so.

The World Travel Market in Lon-

don this week concentrated a whole world of travel opportunities all under one roof. Destinations around the world were vying for the chance to help British people, among the world's greatest travellers, live up to their CV claims to be well travelled.

Of course southern Spain includes itself among the holiday destinations that enrich the lives and minds of their visitors. City breaks

are a growing trend and Andalucía's provincial capitals certainly offer plenty of culture to soak up, in the form of history, monuments, music, gastronomy, etc.

On the other hand some might say that a holiday on the beach on the Costa del Sol does not count as CV-enhancing travel. But with its miles of coastline and sunny climate, as well as stunning countryside, Anda-

lucía can offer tourists the chance to achieve something that will increase their value to employers far more than a photo in front of a cathedral: the chance to relax, switch off and go home refreshed. Or perhaps even for some - party hard, switch off and go home tired but refreshed.

The Spanish government said this week that it had to take care of this country's tourism industry's main assets - its coastline, beaches and fine weather. Sun, sea and sand has always been the winning combination that has brought millions of visitors to Andalucía and the rest of the country over decades.

British people in search of a break, with or without CV-enhancing culture, continue to choose Andalucía and the Costa del Sol. The interest

shown this week by tour operators proves that this is unlikely to change, and Brexit is not going to interfere with the British public's search for sunshine, and their love of the Costa del Sol.

This year's hot summer in the UK, if repeated regularly enough, which is unlikely, may keep some of the country's sunseekers in Skegness, rather than Torremolinos. Prices may send some holidaymakers to rival destinations, and the industry in Andalucía is right to show concern.

The other cheaper countries, however, can't boast the same level of tourist loyalty that Andalucía enjoys.

Everyone can put travel among their personal interests on their CV, but "love of southern Spain" would be even more impressive.

Interests: travel

RACHEL HAYNES

JAVIER FERNÁNDEZ
PRESENTS



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Remembering the deadliest conflict in history

Consulates across Spain will mark the centenary of the end of WWI with several solemn acts of remembrance



TONY BRYANT

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MALAGA. Sunday 11 November will mark the centenary of the end of World War I and to commemorate the occasion, the British and German governments are promoting a special programme of bell ringing as a symbolic way of remembering the importance of peace. President Frank-Walter Steinmeier will attend the service at the Cenotaph in London, and this will be the first time a German leader has laid a wreath at the ceremony.

The British Embassy in Madrid and Consulates across Spain will also mark the centenary of the Armistice. Bells will be rung at many churches in Spain and the bilateral collaboration will be marked by several solemn acts of remembrance for the estimated 17



Rows of poppy crosses commemorate the fallen. :: SUR

million people who lost their lives in one of the deadliest conflicts in the history of the human race.

HMA Simon Manley and German ambassador Wolfgang Dold will give readings at the Remembrance Day service at St George's Church in Madrid. The British ambassador will also attend an event at the German am-

bassador's residence, during which, Dr Robert-Benjamin Gerwarth will host a talk under the banner of '100 years after. Why has Europe not found peace after the First World War?'

Simon Manley explained his delight at being able to stand alongside his German counterpart to mark reconciliation and the peace that exists

between the two nations, claiming that "all Europeans are bound together by their common aspirations for peace".

"As we remember the fallen on 11 November, it is important to reflect on the importance of reconciliation and explore how, especially at a time when some seek to provoke discord

ARMISTICE SERVICES

► **English Cemetery, Malaga.** The service will take place in St George's Church at 11am on Sunday.

► **Salon Varietés.** The 1st Fuengirola scout group will take part in the opening parade, along with senior members and standards from branches of the RBL. The service will begin at 11am.

► **Mollina.** The Mollina branch of RBL will hold a service and parade in the Parque La Viña at 11am on Saturday 10 November.

► **Coín.** The RBL in Coín will hold a service in the Cemetery Chapel on Sunday at 11am.

► **Gibraltar.** The Governor's Remembrance Parade will take place at 11am on Sunday.

and intolerance, we can build bridges where others want to build walls," the ambassador declared earlier this month.

In Barcelona, HM Consul Lloyd Milen will host a youth debate, together with his French and German counterparts, on the perspectives of European Youth over the last 100 years.



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The traditional two-minute silence will start the Armistice Day Ceremony in Gibraltar, which will include the laying of wreaths and an interdenominational service.

Veterans in their various units and members of the Gibraltar Branch of the Royal British Legion, members of the Royal Gibraltar Regiment and other military units will take part in the Governor's Remembrance Parade.

The government has also supported the publication of a book which focuses on the role that Gibraltar played during World War I. The book, Putting Cargoes Through: The US Navy at Gibraltar during the First World War 1917-1919, was written by Rear Admiral Albert Niblack and is his memoir of his time as the Commander of US Navy ships based in Gibraltar in that period.

Royal British Legion Spain South

The Royal British Legion Spain South has organised several Remembrance Day services along the Costa del Sol. Ex-military personnel and the families and friends of those who served, and still serve, will participate in parades and services in Malaga and Fuengirola. There will also be inland services in Coín and Mollina.

A Remembrance Service will be held at St George's Church in the English Cemetery in Malaga. The service, which is organised by the Royal Air Forces Association Costa del Sol, will be followed by a wreath laying ceremony at the Commonwealth War Graves. Wreaths will be laid by the British Consul to

Malaga, Charmaine Arbouin, representatives from the Royal Air Forces Association, Royal British Legion, Royal Naval Association, The English Cemetery Foundation and the Royal Antediluvian Order of Buffaloes. There will also be two representatives from the Royal Australian Air Force in attendance.

The Coín branch of the RBL will hold its Armistice Day ceremony in the Cemetery Chapel in Coín. As in previous years, the TAPAS choir will participate in the service, after which, the mayor of Coín, Fernando Fernandez, and Guardia Civil captain, Bernabé Moya Ortiz, will lay wreaths in honour of the fallen.

Several branches of the RBL will come together in the Salon Varietés Theatre in Fuengirola to mark the occasion. The 1st Fuengirola scout group will take part in the opening parade, along with senior members and standards from the Mijas Costa, Benalmádena and Marbella branches of the RBL.

The Mollina branch of the RBL will hold a service and parade in the Parque La Viña in Mollina at 11am on Saturday 10 November. Several members of the branch will also participate in the Governor's Parade in Gibraltar on Sunday.

Other Armistice Day events include a memorial brunch at La Sala Banús to raise funds for the Marbella branch of the RBL, while the Times Bar in La Cala will show the Remembrance Day celebrations live from London, followed by a free lunch for ex-service personnel and RBL members.

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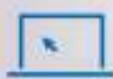
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IN THE FRAME

Five decades in the art world



James Kayll, the new chair of the Arts Society Benahavis, reflects on his upbringing and his experience of what is a demanding industry

ASH BOLTON



It was at the age of 18 that a fresh faced James Kayll first joined the world of auctioneering.

The public school boy was wandering down London's Bond Street with his father when by chance they passed Sotheby's auction house.

After asking his father if they could go in, they watched an auction together – and by the end of it James was hooked.

"I remember it very well," James told SUR in English.

"At the end of the sale I said this is what I want to do. So we managed to get an interview with one of the directors and he asked me what I could do for Sotheby's? I said very little, but I can be a porter. He told me that they didn't have public school boys as porters, as they were professional porters. I said I don't see why not, because if I'm a porter when there's a gap in one of the departments, as I'm there on the spot I can be suitable for it."

Three months later James got a letter saying that if he was still serious about becoming a porter, there was a vacancy.

James, who was born in London, said: "So I told my dad I was leaving school and I rang up the headmaster who went absolutely berserk, as I was due to go to Cambridge after I finished my A Levels. He told me that I was wasting my life and that it was ridiculous. I said in three years time after I've done Cambridge, I'll still be thoroughly well qualified to be a porter at Sotheby's, so I might as well do it now."

And so in 1960 James joined one of the world's most famous auction houses, where he worked for two years.

During this time he was privy to a number of amusing anecdotes, such as porters breaking expensive items prior to auctioning.

James, 75, whose father was a vicar, explained: "I haven't dropped any expensive items, but I've certainly been present when other people have. There was a Thomas Tompion long case clock, which had made a world record price at Sotheby's, and the porter that was carrying it unfortunately tripped up and fell on the clock. There were bits of clock all over the god damn gallery. It was the most expensive clock ever sold at auction at the time. It made 40 odd thousand pounds in 1961.

"Then there was another time when someone tripped and a whole

tray of Chelsea porcelain seals worth a fortune flew down the stairs. But they didn't fly when they hit the bottom."

Another anecdote happened after James had been at Sotheby's for a couple of months when there was an evening soiree where Christian Dior was showing off his spring collection.

James added: "For the evening large tapestries had been hung, cutting off the end of the main gallery so all the ordinary chairs could be stacked there as this was a gold chair

affair. Being a vicar's son, champagne was not my normal tippie but another porter and I purloined several bottles and hid them and ourselves behind the tapestries and proceeded to get thoroughly drunk. I was moving into new digs that day, so turned up at 2.30am. I hammered on the front door until I was admitted and was given my notice over breakfast the next morning."

James described his experience at Sotheby's as the "best training in the world".

He said: "One day you'll be handling a piece of Paul de Lamerie silver, the next day you'll be handling a piece of Ravens Cross Glass, the next day a piece of Sheraton furniture. You get to have them in your hands and that's the way to learn what things are. But after two years I decided I wanted to do pictures. They put me into the porcelain department and I couldn't see the rest of my life handling pretty little porcelain pieces and so I walked directly across the road to a company called Wildenstein's, the biggest picture dealers in the world. I said I'm at Sotheby's at the moment and I'd like a job. He said you're a bit young for us, we don't normally have 21-year-olds as sales men. But a month later I started there."

James went on to work there for four years before moving on to Frost and Reed for 14 years, one of the oldest dealerships still in operation in the UK today.

From there James became independent, before joining Richard Green, one of the biggest picture dealers in the UK. During this time James said he did "very well", working all over America in cities such as New York, Chicago and Pennsylvania.

"I was with Richard for another 12 to 13 years and that was interesting because one of my main jobs there was sourcing pictures throughout the world that we would be interested in buying. So I had to read a huge amount of periodicals and find out if auction sales were going on in distant parts of America."

Prior to moving to San Pedro in Marbella in 2011, James worked for a firm called Oakam Gallery and a company called Ackermann's, who are best known for sporting pictures.

Reflecting on his long career, James said: "I was very fortunate in that I had the best of the art world. It's changed so very much now the auctioneers have become more and more prevalent rather than the dealers since they brought in the buyer's premium. That switched the whole emphasis as they could go to a client and say we won't charge you any commission if you give us your picture, as they know they are going to get 15 per cent from the buyer. Whereas before 50 per cent would go to the dealer and 50 per cent to the auction rooms.

"It was much more fun in those days. I remember the first year I was at Sotheby's and it got to Christmas time and Peter Wilson called the staff into the main gallery, there were just

The Arts Society Benahavis

The Arts Society Benahavis – formerly Benahavis Decorative & Fine Arts Society (BDFAS) – was established in 2012. It is one of more than 385 local societies worldwide that are members of The Arts Society.

Their objective is to further the enjoyment, knowledge and awareness of the Arts Internationally and to stimulate interest in the cultural heritage of Spain.

New visitors are welcome and talks run from October through to May and cover a wide range of artistic and cultural interests.

For more information visit: theartsocietybenahavis.com

over 200 of us and he said we have actually turned over eight million pounds this year, we will probably never do it again, so we are going to have a big Christmas party for you all. Eight million pounds doesn't even buy a three quarters good picture these days. Things have just changed so, so much."

Since moving to Spain in 2011 with his wife Lynda, James has taken a step back from the art world and is now semi-retired. Apart from his love of wine, he has also recently taken the helm as the new chairman of the Arts Society Benahavis – taking over from the previous chair Betty Fooks last September.

He told SUR in English: "I'm quite keen on my wine and so that is a definite bonus being here rather than being in England where they charge you 80 per cent tax. The Spanish are a bit more enlightened on that score.

"I still try to keep an eye out for decent pictures but to keep up with the market is quite impossible unless you're on the ground there, you have to be in it every day to keep up with prices. I mean pictures such as Victorian landscapes which are one of my specialities, you can hardly give them away today, they've gone right down in price and other things have come soaring up, its swings and roundabouts."

As for his new role at the Arts Society Benahavis, James added: "I am absolutely delighted to have been asked to be the chairman of The Arts Society and I hope that my experience of the art world can be put to use to take the society forward in the years to come."



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Malaga, a map of prehistory

Archaeological sites, necropolises, caves and dolmens make this province the ideal place to find out more about the origins of man

FERNANDO TORRES



Prehistory in Malaga is undergoing a transversal revolution and knocking on the door of the scientific community all over the world. In recent months, the confirmation that the art in the Ardales Cave was the work of the Neanderthals and was done no less than 65,000 years ago (there had always been controversy about its age) has suddenly put the earliest part of Malaga's history in the news.

This important confirmation, plus other good news such as the recent approval for a new study of the formerly abandoned Cueva de la Victoria, highlights the prehistory of Malaga province: there are 13 sites of huge archaeological value (and six museums) and they are a unique opportunity to discover the origins of human beings in the Mediterranean.

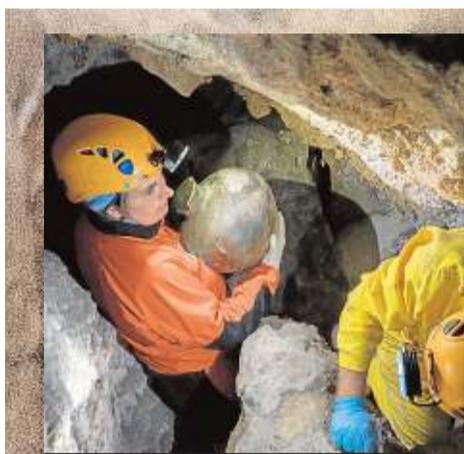
To understand the prehistory of Malaga (the long historical period which began with the appearance of the hominids and ended with the first writings, around 3,300 BC) we need to stop using terms such as 'municipality' or 'town'. Archaeologist Pedro Cantalejo, a leading figure in scientific circles in Malaga, uses a geographical division which today serves as a way of knowing where the Paleolithic and Neolithic people used to live: territories of Ronda and the Sierra de las Nieves, the rural area around the north-south axis of Antequera, which is now the Axarquía, and the rest of the coast as far as Marbella. Each of these geographical divisions has different remains from each era and is home to settlements which were connected at one time.

Central and western coast

The site situated furthest south-west in the province is known as the Poblado de Alcorrín, in Manilva. One of the researchers leading the German-funded works there, José Suárez, says it is a fine example of the period known as the Final Bronze Age, around the 8th century BC, one of the last periods of prehistory. There is a fortified settlement and a large wall with towers and pits. A few kilometres away, the dolmenic necropolis of Las Corominas (Estepona) is, beside its museum, a powerful example from the end of the Neolithic period. Some caves in Torremolinos have been dated from the same era.

Ronda and nearby

La Pileta cave, in Benaolán, has one of the largest amounts of rock art in the province and the datings range from 40,000 years ago to



Investigations in Nerja Cave. :: SUR



A mare in the Cueva de la Pileta. :: SUR



Access to Sima de las Palomas. :: SUR

4,000 (from the Paleolithic to the Neolithic periods).

José Tomás Bullón, the owner of the cave and also a guide there, explains that there are more than 20,000 symbols, between the figurative and Neolithic art. This cave has been open to the public longer than most in Europe, since 1920. Also in Benaolán, visitors can see the Cueva del Gato, a Neolithic spring which is currently being studied. The cave has been looted in the past, and very little is known about it although the mayor of the village, Soraya García Mesa, says that in the 1960s "three human skeletons were found; it seems they had been buried with some type of funerary rite".

Territory of Antequera

This extensive area is one with the highest number of sites and examples from the different stages of Malaga's prehistory. The small chasm of Sima de las Palomas, in Teba, is a real treasure. German scientist Gerd Wegner, director of the Neanderthal

The Neanderthal Museum of Germany is investigating the Sima de las Palomas

The Nerja Cave has an institute of its own to carry out the archaeological studies

Museum and coordinator of the works which are being carried out there, explains that this is a unique place for learning more about Neanderthal man.

"The oldest dating is over 50,000 years, and there is a huge amount of information being revealed from that time," he says. There are also remains from the Upper Paleolithic era which

have yet to be analysed. "It is a fascinating place to find out more about the transition from Neanderthal to modern man," says Gerd.

Very close to the chasm is the Ardales Cave, whose art includes more than 50 figures and other symbols from the Upper Paleolithic period (Solutrean - Magdalenian, 18,000 - 14,000 BC), and remains from the Epipaleolithic period (8,000 BC) and Middle to Final Neolithic period (4,000 BC) have also been found. This was also the site where the first artistic expressions of the hominids were studied; they are currently dated about 65,000 years ago, 20,000 earlier than previously believed.

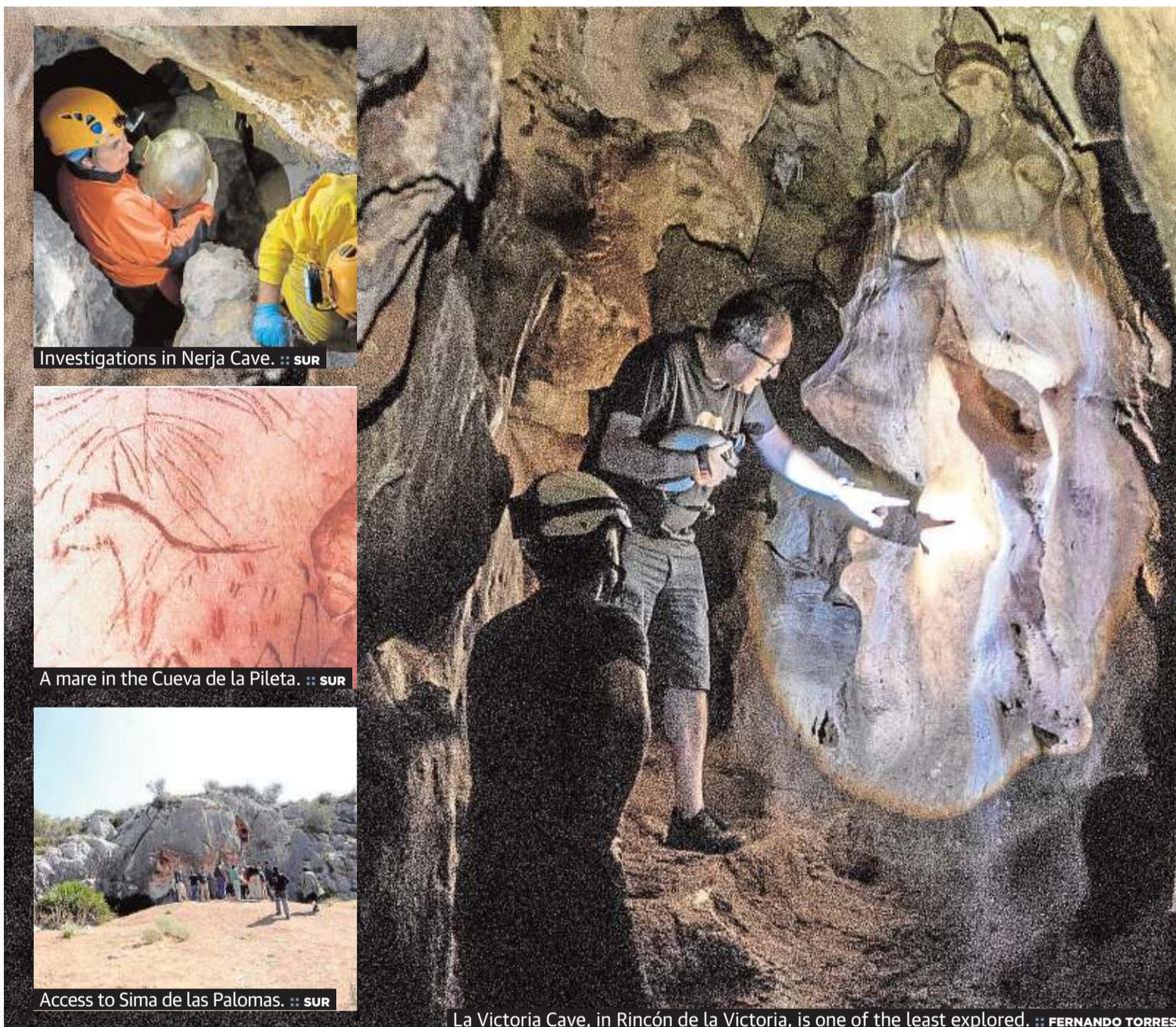
In the same area is the finest Megalithic site in Malaga province, (and the only natural monument classified by Unesco as a World Heritage site in Malaga), the Dolmens of Antequera. The complex, comprising the Menga and Viera dolmens and the Tholos of El Romeral, (together with Lovers' Rock and El Torcal), is considered one of the finest exam-

ples of the Neolithic age in southern Europe.

Bartolomé Ruiz runs this site and his work involves organising numerous information programmes; due to its cultural and historic value, this is one of the most-visited attractions in the province.

Slightly further south, in Campillos, is the Necrópolis de las Aguilillas, an excellent example of the funerary rites which were carried out in artificial caves (also in Megalithic style, like the Dolmens in Antequera). There is a circular walk around the tombs of the necropolis, a total of seven which are in an enviable state of preservation and highlight the eternal concern of human beings about the reality of what awaits them after death.

In Alameda there is a Chalcolithic necropolis which appears to have some similarities, although it is believed to have been built in the third millennium before our era.



La Victoria Cave, in Rincón de la Victoria, is one of the least explored. :: FERNANDO TORRES

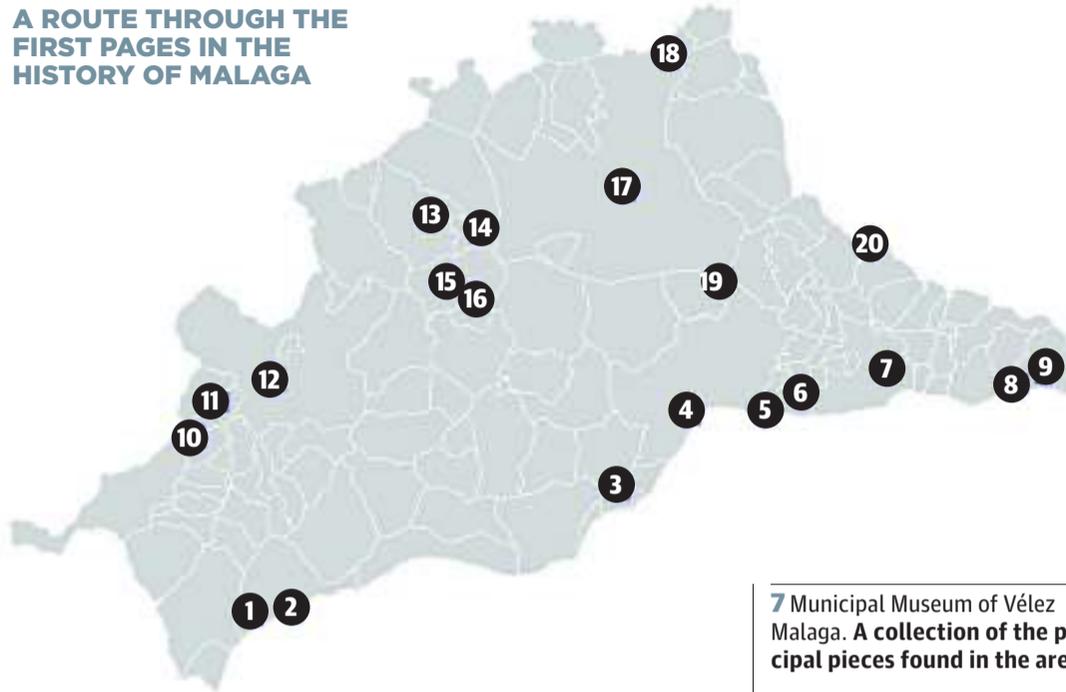
Axarquía

In what is today the region of the Axarquía, there is one of the greatest examples of cave art in Andalucía: the Nerja Cave. Luis-Efrén Fernández, who is in charge of preserving it, is well aware of its importance: "Since it was discovered in 1959, the Nerja Cave has been one of the greatest sites in Europe," he says. The archaeological sequence which has been dated by the Cueva de Nerja Research Institute ranges from the final stages of the Mid Paleolithic to the early Bronze Age. "It was a habitat during the Paleolithic period and, very evidently, a cave sanctuary," he says. Apart from several hundred graphic symbolic manifestations, "so far we have identified more than 50 figurative elements, and the animals are almost exclusively deer, goats and horses".

However the inhabitants of Nerja also left their mark during the productive periods (the Neolithic and the Copper Age). "The outside rooms of the cave were used to keep cattle, as a temporary bivouac area and, in a very major way, as a funerary space," Luis-Efrén says.

On the boundary of this area are the dozens of caves at La Araña, in which numerous hunting and gathering communities from the Paleolithic and other periods used to live. Between Nerja and La Araña are the Cueva del Tesoro and La Victoria, two very valuable sites whose differences demonstrate the importance of preservation. The first is well-known and visited annually, while the other still hides great mysteries.

A ROUTE THROUGH THE FIRST PAGES IN THE HISTORY OF MALAGA



1 Las Corominas, Estepona. **One of the most extensive examples from the Neolithic period.**

2 Alcorrín, Manilva. **Necropolis with a Phoenician influence, from the Final Bronze Age (cannot be visited).**

3 Torremolinos caves. **A group of caves dating back to Neolithic times.**

4 Malaga Museum. **Formerly the Customs building, this museum contains a great deal of information about prehistory.**

5 La Araña caves and museum. **An open-air museum with remains from different periods.**

6 Victoria and Tesoro. **Neolithic, Solutrean flint and dozens of symbols in red paint.**

7 Municipal Museum of Vélez Malaga. **A collection of the principal pieces found in the area.**

8 Municipal Museum of Nerja. **Information and documentation about the Nerja Cave.**

9 Nerja Cave. **Middle Paleolithic to Bronze Age.**

10 La Pileta Cave. **Thousands of symbols dating back between 40,000 and 4,000 years, in this cave in Benaolán.**

11 Cueva del Gato. **Quite unknown in general, but it will be possible to visit it in the future.**

12 Municipal museum of Ronda. **Contains thousands of archaeological items found in this area.**

13 Sima de las Palomas. **Neanderthal and modern man go hand in hand in this chasm in Teba (cannot be visited).**

14 Necropolis of Las Aguilillas. **Seven Neolithic tombs which can be toured in Campillos.**

15 Prehistory Museum of Ardales. **One of the most important museums of the history of Malaga.**

16 Ardales Cave. **This large cave, which can be visited, was home to the first hominids.**

17 The Dolmens of Antequera. **World Heritage Site, megaliths in their purest form.**

18 Necropolis -Museum of Alameda. **Funerary rites from the third millennium before our time.**

19 Peñas de Cabrera. **Cavities with wall paintings, from the final period of Prehistory.**

20 Zafarraya Cave. **At 1,100 metres above sea level, these caves were used as shelter by hunters in Paleolithic and Neolithic times.**



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Bridge tournament to promote Marbella and the Costa del Sol

Organisers believe that the tournament will give Marbella an opportunity to show off all it has to offer at a time when visitor numbers are lower

:: GEORGIE KENNY

MARBELLA. Marbella is playing host to the fifth International Bridge Tournament which this year, takes place in the H10 Andalucía Plaza hotel in Puerto Banús.

In total 180 people of 22 different nationalities are registered to take part in the competition with runs until tomorrow, giving the tournament a very cosmopolitan atmosphere, much like Marbella itself.

The contest, which started yesterday at 5pm, runs over three days, giving competitors the chance to visit Marbella as well as competing in the tournament.

Thursday began with the first session of game play, accompanied by a selection of tapas and a welcome cocktail. Today, the second round commences at 4.30pm, with the tournament drawing to a close tomorrow with the final.

After the winners have been announced, the contest ends with a



Players at the tournament from last year. :: SUR

prizegiving ceremony and a buffet dinner.

This year, the prize money for first place is 1,250 euros plus a trophy, and 500 euros plus a trophy for line A and line B, respectively.

Cash prizes are awarded for up to seventh place and other prizes have also been donated to the tournament by its sponsors.

Phia van Lohuizen and Geeta Siersma, organisers of this event, explain that they hope the tournament will promote not only the

game of bridge, but also Marbella and the whole of the Costa del Sol. "At this time of year, hotel occupancy is low, but initiatives like this tournament mean that the Costa del Sol, particularly Marbella, attracts a good number of visitors to enjoy the area" they explain.

They add that the game of bridge is not only "very entertaining" but is "also a challenge where reasoning and memory play an important role". For this reason, the game is attracting more and more attention.



Mayor Victor Navas with the award winners. :: SUR

Female entrepreneurs receive recognition at Benalmádena business awards ceremony

The mayor stressed that the awards aim to redress the balance between men and women in the field of labour, family and security in the town

:: TONY BRYANT

BENALMÁDENA. The mayor of Benalmádena, Victor Navas, hosted the seventeenth edition of the Premios a la Mujer Empresaria y Emprendedora de Benalmádena last week. The event, which recognises the business woman and female entrepreneur of the year, was attended by the President of the ACEB, Rosa Maria González; president of the Círculo de Mujeres Alquima, Rocío Carmona, and the president of the Asociación de Mujeres Arroyo-Benalmádena, Encarna Jiménez.

The mayor, who is also councillor for Equality, presented the awards to Lourdes Huerta Navarro, from the Gnoesis Art Academy, and to María de la Paz Suardiaz, of the Vinca veterinary clinic.

The mayor stressed that the awards are only the "echo of a current of change" that aims to redress the balance between men and women, especially in the field of labour, family and security.

"Modern society seems to be clear that now is the time for women to play a more equitable, just and prominent social role that contributes both to their empowerment and to the economic, social and political development of the municipality," the mayor said.

RONDA WELCOMES MAGICIANS AND ILLUSIONISTS

One week every year Ronda celebrates 'Ciudad Mágica', a festival organised by the culture department of the town hall and Turismo de Ronda SA. This year 18 professional magicians attended the event that which was divided into three parts: social magic, street magic and gala magic. They delighted spectators with magical tricks and illusions, performing in the old people's centre, Ronda hospital and the Cuenca gardens among other venues.



:: MARÍA GARCÍA

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Ravel takes his revenge in Malaga

In its 150th anniversary season, the Philharmonic Society is reproducing a controversial concert from 1928



REGINA SOTORRIO

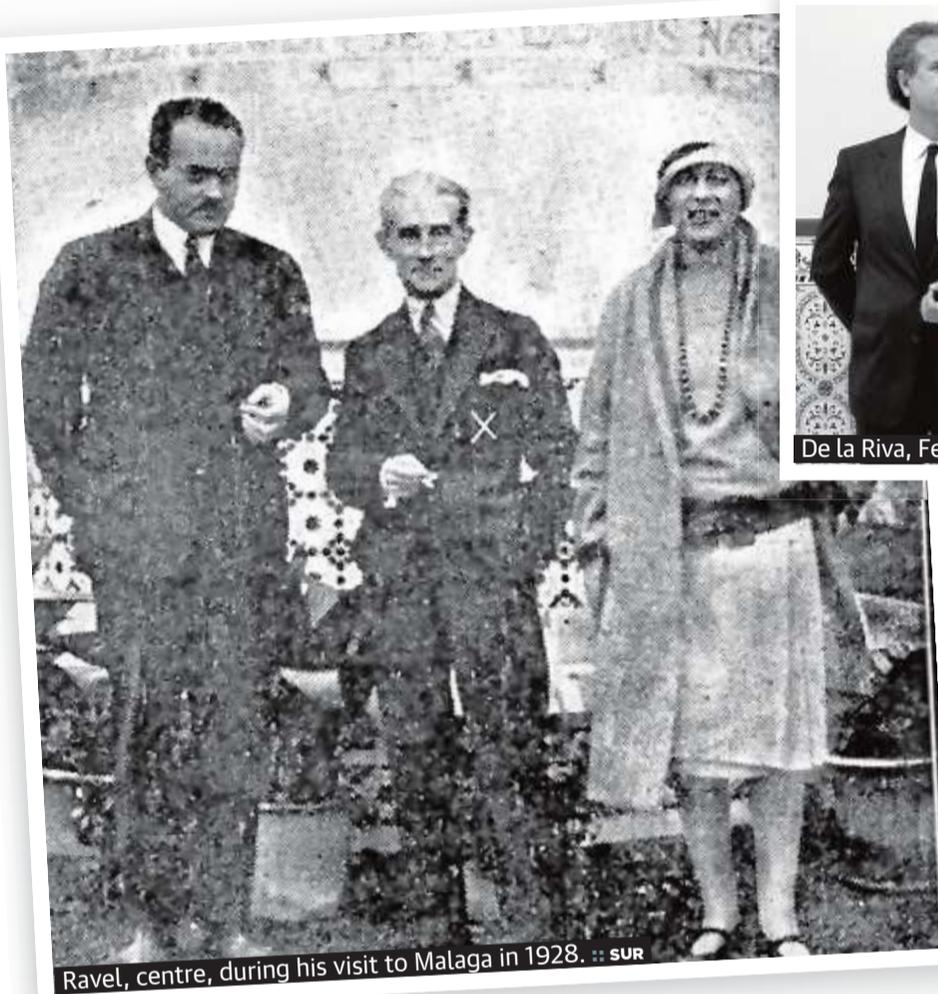
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The recital is in addition to another 18 performances, with names such as Joaquín Achúcarro, Boris Berman, Jesús Reina, Rafael Aguirre and Concerto Malaga

MALAGA. The critics of the time were expecting a “mystical” type, “with long untidy hair and oversized horn-rimmed glasses”, but what they encountered was a man who was “more like a gentleman than a musician,” according to an article by Ricardo Ansaldo in ‘La Unión Mercantil’. Maurice Ravel’s appearance completely disconcerted Malaga society, that November of 1928. Imagine the scene when he performed his impressionistic works in a crowded Sala María Cristina, at the invitation of the Philharmonic Society. Numerous people walked out, and the critiques afterwards were damning: “His music is a true work of modern engineering (...) it is a construction of the most convoluted gestation, completely oblivious to the beauty of the whole,” said one.

The most influential and important pianist of that time was a failure in Malaga just two days before performing his famous ‘Bolero’ for the first time in Paris. Now, he is taking his revenge.

The Philharmonic Society is making its peace with the composer by reproducing, point by point, that controversial concert as part of its 150th anniversary season, with the back-



Ravel, centre, during his visit to Malaga in 1928. :: SUR

ing of the Unicaja Foundation. Malaga pianist Juan Ignacio Fernández will be playing the part of Ravel on 22 November - exactly 90 years later - to demonstrate that the reaction of the public was too “severe” and was the result of prejudices among part of the musical elite. “Probably one well-known person walked out, and the rest followed suit,” he says.

The programme, he insists, “doesn’t appear to pose a genuine challenge to the patience of the audience”. He will be accompanied, as on the day

itself, by a soprano (Elena Garrido) and a violinist (Santiago de la Riva).

In this exercise of going back in time, on 21 February the Society will also be repeating the first concert ever performed in the Sala María Cristina, in 1884 (the venue has been its base since then), by cellist Pau Casals. On this occasion Trino Zurita, on cello, and Ángel Sanzo at the piano will be doing the honours.

Both recitals are part of the celebrations for the 150 years of the oldest musical institution in the city, during a season which will include



De la Riva, Fernández and Garrido will perform the concert. :: SUR

17 concerts for subscribers and an extra one by the Malaga Philharmonic Orchestra, conducted by Salvador Vázquez (22 March).

“It will reflect the way music was performed at that time, in palatial rooms similar in size to the María Cristina,” said Pablo Lamothe, accompa-

is returning to Malaga at the age of 87.

The calendar includes several local names, such as Concerto Malaga, recently nominated for a Latin Grammy award (3 March), renowned soloists like violinist Jesús Reina with Anna Nielsen (10 January), guitarist Rafael Aguirre (4 April) and pianist Paula Coronas (16 May).

Also, Boris Berman, a professor at Yale, will be performing Prokofiev, his speciality (15 November); Judith Jauregui will be back at the piano at the María Cristina (13 December); and there will be Baroque music thanks to the Capilla Maestro Iribarren, among others.

nied by the head of the Unicaja Foundation’s Scenic Arts and Cultural Venues departments, Gema Domínguez, at the presentation.

The agenda, which began on 3 October with the Malaga Brass Band paying tribute to Leonard Bernstein, ends on 13 June with Joaquín Achúcarro, “the most important living Spanish pianist,” who



Pablo Lamothe and Gema Domínguez.

:: FÉLIX PALACIOS

Conferences and a commemorative book published by the Unicaja Foundation complete a season with which the Philharmonic Society hopes to recover its position at the forefront of culture, as it was able to boast at other times.

For the moment, more members have joined and there are now 180 altogether. So far, so good.

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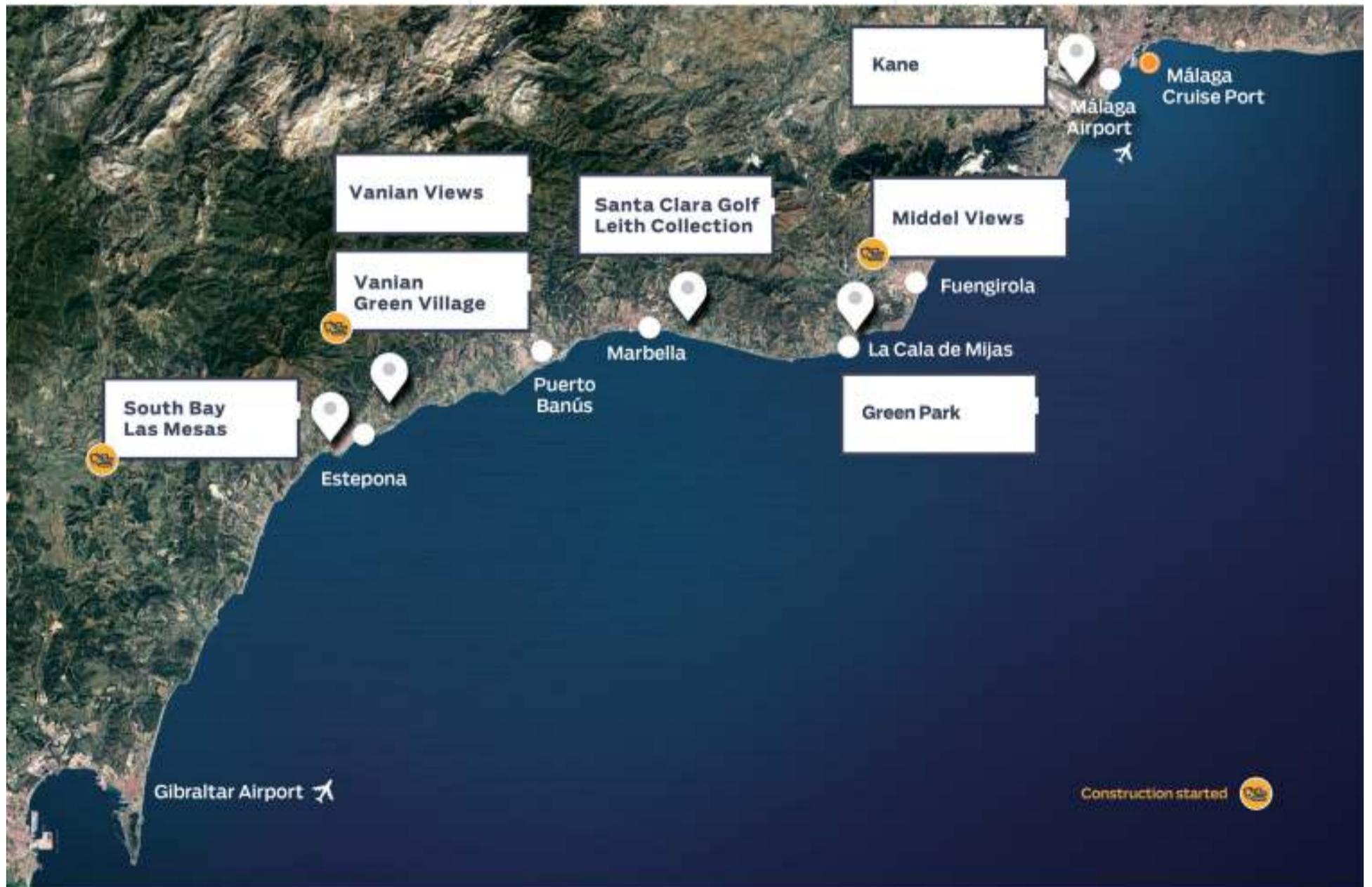
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HALLOWEEN IN PICTURES



Churriana. Witches and zombies took part in a street parade. :: SUR



Marbella. Scary characters around every corner. :: SUR



Marbella. A couple taking part in the procession. :: SUR

Belated fun on a rescheduled Halloween

The delay caused by the weather didn't dampen the fun as hundreds turned out in fancy dress to celebrate

:: SUR

Exuberant Halloween celebrations took place in towns and villages across the province last weekend as events had been rescheduled due to the previous week's bad weather.

Churriana became the 'Pueblo del Terror' on Friday evening with ghosts, zombies, witches and all types of ghoulish and diabolical beings joining in a parade through the streets.

In Marbella and San Pedro crowds of people joined the annual Halloween parade on Saturday, dressing up in terrifying outfits.

Zombies, Dracula's wives, possessed dolls and demonic clowns were some of the most popular fancy dress costumes in the procession. Maro near Nerja also celebrated on the Saturday evening.



Marbella. Demonic clowns and ghouls. :: JOSELE-LANZA



Estepona. Selwo's lemurs celebrating Halloween. :: SUR



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WHAT HAPPENED TODAY?

9 NOVEMBER 2016

Suspicious death of transsexual vedette artiste

The risqué star had received death threats after the publication of her memoirs

Speculation still surrounds the death of Cristina Ortiz Rodríguez, the transsexual vedette entertainer who died under suspicious circumstances on 9 November 2016.

Better known as La Veneno (poison), the risqué entertainer had received death threats following the publication of a 'no holds barred' autobiography published shortly before she was found unconscious in her apartment in Madrid. She was suffering from traumatic brain injury, causing some of her close friends to believe she had been mur-

dered as a "settling of scores", although the autopsy determined that the cause of death was an accidental fall.

Born José Antonio, in Almería in 1964, La Veneno noted in her memoirs that from an early age she was different from other children. She soon realised that she was transsexual, and she suffered assaults and ill-treatment by relatives and neighbours who could not accept her gender identity.

La Veneno showed early signs of talent in the fashion world and began working as a model. In a strange turn of events, Joselito, as she was known then, won the Mister Andalucía contest in 1989, but this did little to deter her determination to undergo sex reassignment surgery.

Unbeknown to her family, La Veneno began to wear female clothing in 1990 and in 1991, she decided



La Veneno during her golden days as a vedette star. :: SUR

to live in Madrid, where she began working as a prostitute. The following year she began the process of transition.

Her life changed in 1996, when she was discovered by journalist and TV presenter, Pepe Navarro. She was cast for numerous collaborations in his late night adult theme chat shows and she went on to secure a career in daytime television gossip programmes. She also recorded two records and became a popular vedette performer in Madrid. However, La Veneno's career was interrupted in 2003, when she served a three-year prison sentence for arson and fraud. She was prosecuted for deliberately setting fire to her apartment in order to claim on the insurance policy.

On leaving prison, weighing 122 kilos and suffering obvious physical deterioration, she returned to daytime television. In 2010 she suffered from bulimia and depression, but after a short break from television, she reappeared looking healthy after losing 35 kilos.

In May 2013, she appeared on the popular television programme *Salvame Deluxe*, where she presented her latest boyfriend to the world. However, a few months later, the 23-year-old toy boy disappeared with La Veneno's life savings of more than 60,000 euros.

In October 2016, La Veneno bounced back again, when she launched her long-awaited autobiography, *Hooker or Saint* (Memories of La Veneno). In her memoirs,

LANGUAGE FOOTNOTE

Cantante	Singer
Actriz	Actress
Descubrir	To Discover
Agresión	Assault
Identidad	Identity
Diseñar	To design
Transgénero	Transgender
Transexual	Transsexual
Travesti	Transvestite
Familiar	Relative
Actuación	Performance
Discoteca	Night club
Audiencia	Audience
Película	Film
Amenaza	Threat
Veneno	Poison

which sold out immediately, she confessed to having sex with famous celebrities, politicians and footballers. Approximately one month after publication of the book, La Veneno was found in her flat bleeding severely from a head wound.

She was rushed to hospital but never recovered after surgery. Rumours soon began to circulate that La Veneno was killed because she revealed her secret sex sessions with important personalities. The authorities said that her death was not treated as suspicious.

Bilingual crossword inside back page

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DENISE BUSH

GARDENING

Restio multiflorus

An architectural plant, Restio forms a fountain of arching stems tipped with brown seed heads

Restio is a genus of 88 species in the family Restioraceae which consists of annual or perennial rush-like flowering plants. It is a plant that has been around for millions (over 65) of years with remains found that date back to

the Late Cretaceous period, before the southern continents had started to drift apart.

Restio multiflorus resembles horsetail (Equisetum) but unlike horsetail, which has a hollow stem and

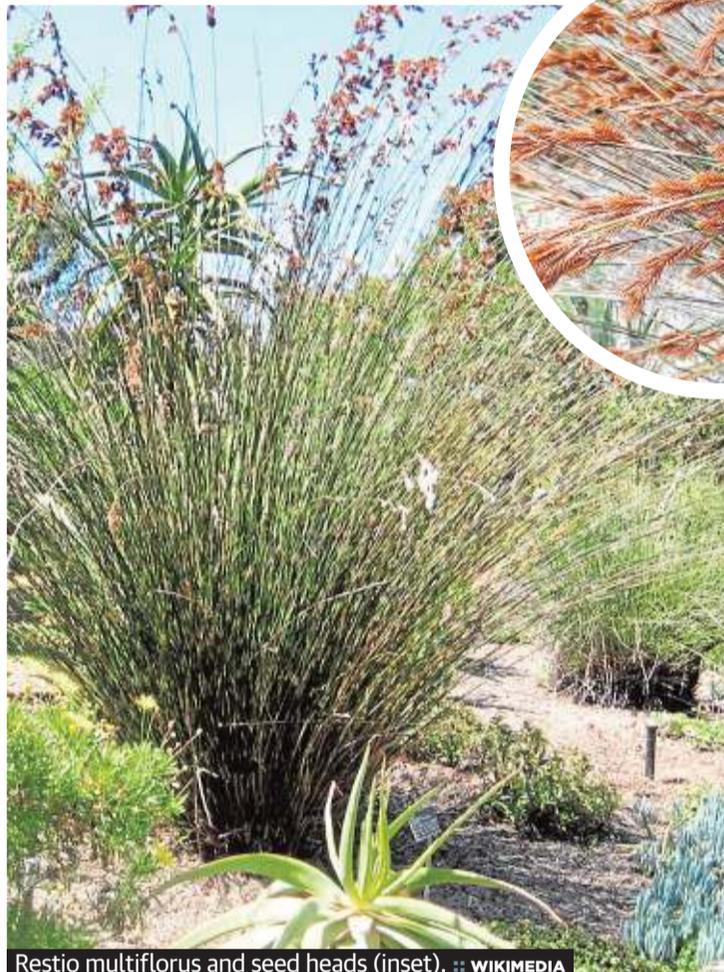
needs a lot of moisture, Restio has a solid stem and is resistant to drought. Its stiff, upright stems and attractive dark brown seed heads make it perfect for flower arranging both fresh and dried.

In the spring it will form a fluffy clump of bright-green, new growth then, as summer approaches, it will send up tall stems, up to one metre high, with dark brown flower bracts which are speckled with gold.

Restio multiflorus needs a hot, dry sunny climate to thrive. It tolerates poor soils and windy situations. Although drought resistant it will benefit from watering during the summer and if grown in a pot, an occasional liquid feed.

Dead or damaged stems should be removed regularly by cutting off close to the ground. Propagation can be carried out by dividing the rhizomous roots or by seed. To produce viable seed a male and a female plant are needed as Restios, like most rushes, are dioecious and depend on wind pollination.

Some species of Restio are used for thatching roofs or making brooms.



Restio multiflorus and seed heads (inset). :: WIKIMEDIA

READER'S PHOTO



:: DIZZY AND MORRIS BISHOP

CHANGING COLOURS

Dizzy and Morris Bishop have had their amaryllis for over ten years and say, "Previously we were lucky if we got one bloom per year. This year it bloomed in May and to our surprise during September and October we had first two red and white and then a further three blooms that were white edged with pink!"

GARDENING HINTS FOR NOVEMBER

Winter gardening guilt

As someone once said, "the amount of care you lavish on a plant is in direct proportion to its distance from your back door". This is especially true in winter when the cold and wet weather put you off venturing too far outside but the guilt of neglecting your plants then weighs heavy on your shoulders. However, by moving some of your favourite plants in pots closer to your back door, you can enjoy

their scents and colour without venturing further than the back step and, as everyone knows, too much clearing and tidying in the garden in the winter is detrimental to wild life, removing their habitats and in some cases, food sources. Even clearing out the shed or store room is not necessarily a good thing; beneficial insects such as lady birds, lacewings and butterflies could be hibernating in there.

PHOTOS

Calling all gardeners

We know that many of our readers have lovely gardens, or enjoy growing plants on their terraces or balconies, so why not share them with others?

Email your photos to english@diariosur.es or send them to SUR in English, Avda Dr Marañón 48, 29009 Malaga, with a caption and a few words of explanation. Alternatively, you can send them to us via Facebook ([surenglish](https://www.facebook.com/surenglish)) or Twitter ([@SUR_English](https://twitter.com/SUR_English))



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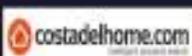


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SOCIETY SCENE

Autumn bowls and harvest thanksgiving

The autumn has brought some changes with Age Concern moving their weekly meetings and the Red Cross starting a new club for English speakers

:: SUR IN ENGLISH

**Red Cross Axarquía
A new initiative for English speakers**

As part of its programme of social inclusion, the Spanish Red Cross (Cruz Roja), is launching a new initiative in the Axarquía region this month called 'The Open Door'. The first event is being held at the Centro de Mayores on Plaza de la Constitución in Torrox Pueblo today, 9 November from 12 to 2pm. The meetings are open to any English speaking foreign residents living in and around the area who would like to meet new people.

The events will take place once a fortnight and a range of social activities will be organised, including in-

formative talks, quizzes, cookery demonstrations, films, simple Spanish lessons, training in the use of smartphones and other technology, celebrating festivals and more.

To reserve a place or for more information, email Richard Weale on 29094social@cruzroja.es

**Age Concern
A change of location**

Age Concern Fuengirola/Mijas has announced the relocation of two of its weekly meetings. The Thursday get-together in Mijas Pueblo will now be held in the Julios Bartolo bar, situated opposite the health centre in Plaza La Paz. From Friday 9 November, the meeting in La Cala de Mijas will take place in the Peña Flamenca del Sur, next to the post office.

The Los Boliches branch will continue to hold its Thursday meeting at the Asociación de Jubilados y Pensionistas. The meetings, which are held between 11am and 1pm, offer advice, support, social activities and friendship to English-speaking senior citizens.

**Club Charity and Pleasure
Thanksgiving Festival**

Club Charity and Pleasure (CAP) meets each week at the Restaurant Chilli, Benamara. They recently held their annual Harvest Thanksgiving Festival with members supplying large quantities of non-perishable food to be donated to Caritas, the San Pedro charity which provides food and support for underprivileged families in the local area.

In addition to the donations of food, members also made a collection and donated 175 euros. Details about CAP can be found on their website: www.clubcharityandpleasure.wordpress.com

**Benavista Bowls Club
Autumn classic bowls tournament**

The finalists of the pairs competition were Juan Abeal and Margaret Bicknell from Benalmádena Bowls Club and Dennis King and Neil Marshall from Benavista Bowls Club. The winners were Dennis and Neil with a score of 14-5. The Trips final was played between two Santa Maria teams with Garry Aldridge, Bill Davies and Jenny Aldridge winning the match 16-5 over Craig Lewis, Gordon Kain and Margaret Kain.

What are you up to?

If you are involved in a club or association and planning events, trips or activities that would be of interest to other readers of SUR in English, we would love to hear from you:

Email: surinenglish.su@diariosur.es



The bowls Trips winners with Elaine Green from Ibox Insurance. :: SUR



Non-perishable food collected by Club Charity and Pleasure. :: SUR

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Emilio, the 500-gramme warrior

Born after 23 weeks of pregnancy and after numerous complications, the little boy has "incredibly" survived and suffered no consequences



ANA PÉREZ-BRYAN

His parents, Emilio and Rocío, went back to the Materno hospital a month after taking him home, and told us about their 130 days of anguish beside the incubator

MALAGA. "Emilio deserves to leave here looking what he is: a little fighter and a superhero". Those words were spoken in early June at the Materno Infantil hospital, by a nurse called Dolo who had made a Superman suit for the baby who was finally going home after spending almost as much time in an incubator as he had in his

mother's womb. She hadn't been able to buy him a suit: conventional sizing doesn't take such small heroes into account.

There was a party atmosphere in the Intensive Care room at the Neonatal Unit that morning, because after more than 130 days connected to tubes and cables, Emilio was fi-

nally flying solo. His dummy, with the words "They love me a lot", is a perfect illustration of his battle on various fronts against a biological clock which brought him into the world on 31 January although he wasn't supposed to arrive until the end of May.

According to medical science, ba-

bies who are born before the 29th week of pregnancy (a normal one is around 38 weeks) and weigh less than a kilo and a half are classified as 'very premature'. Emilio was born after 23 weeks of pregnancy, and weighed just 510 grammes. "He fitted in the palm of my hand," says his father, who is also named Emilio,



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Rocío, with her baby in her arms, back at the Intensive Care unit at the hospital, where Emilio spent the first 130 days of his life. :: MIGUE FERNÁNDEZ

grey area.

"In that situation, we just don't know what will happen," says Dr Serrano, who describes Emilio's case as "incredible", not only because he has survived but because - at present, at least - he appears to have suffered no consequences. In these circumstances, there is normally little room for hope: in Spain, the Materno-Infantil is the hospital which treats the highest number of premature births under 32 weeks of gestation and a weight of less than 1.5 kilos. In 2017 there were nine births like Emilio's, at 23 weeks.

"Half of them die, and those who survive can have slight or moderate sight, hearing or motor problems," says Dr Serrano, holding little Emilio in her arms. "But look, this little lad is fantastic"!

But it hasn't been easy to get to this point. Ask Emilio's parents, Emilio Aguilar (34) and Rocío Matías (31), who a couple of weeks ago, 30 days after being able to take their little boy home, returned for the first time to the Intensive Care room which had been their base for four endless months. The difference is that this was for a routine check-up (they will continue until Emilio is two years old), and they also wanted to say thank you again and feel the warmth of this other 'family' of medical staff who supported them "at the most critical moment of our lives".

Rocío became tearful as she said this, because being able to hold this little fighter in her arms is the penultimate stop on a long road which began very much earlier. She underwent numerous IVF treatments to become pregnant and fulfil their dream of becoming parents, but none had worked. In 2015, however, this young woman from Seville moved with her husband, who is in the Army, to Melilla and became pregnant naturally. Then, in the 31st week, the doctors saw that something wasn't right.

"Emma, which is what we named our daughter, suddenly died," says Emilio, also tearful, unable to describe the feeling of entering the labour room expecting a baby and coming out with empty hands.

The couple underwent specialist therapy to overcome the experience and, with the passing of the months, they eventually recovered the strength they needed to try again. In early 2017, they consulted Dr Juana Crespo, one of the most renowned Spanish specialists in fer-

tility treatments. When Rocío and Emilio arrived at her consultancy in Valencia they had already seen several other specialists, but none had been able to tell them why their baby had died in the womb. With Dr Crespo, their doubts were resolved. She told the couple that their daughter hadn't survived because of a heart in-

fection, and that Rocío had a profound endometriosis and would need surgery if she were to become pregnant again.

Pregnant with two

The operation took six hours and was successful. Afterwards, Dr Crespo gave Emilio and Rocío a timetable: in

March, we will carry out ovarian stimulation, in June we operate and in September you'll be pregnant," she said. And that's exactly what happened. Two embryos were implanted into Rocío, although the good news also came with a warning that the parents weren't sure how to interpret until a few months



stretching his fingers to demonstrate the size of his baby at birth.

Dr María del Mar Serrano, a neonatal specialist at the Materno, explains that in Spain, babies who are born before 23 weeks of pregnancy are not normally revived.

"The possibilities of survival are very low. Ten years ago, obviously, it would never even have been suggested..." she says. "In Emilio's case, however, we decided to fight for his life. It was a joint decision made by the specialists and the parents," referring to the invisible 23-week line which separates medicine from miracles.

In fact, although at 24 weeks "there is normally no doubt about the viability, as long as no problems arise," the seven previous days are defined by specialists as a



Nurse Dolo, with her little superhero in the suit she made for him to go home in. :: SUR

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➤ later: "One of the babies will allow the other one to do well," said Dr Crespo.

Unsurprisingly, the pregnancy of little Emilio and his brother Manuel was far from being a bed of roses. "I had to stay in bed from the 12th week, and at 22 weeks and four days I was completely dilated and ready to give birth," said Rocío. The hours of anguish ended with an urgent transfer by medical plane from Melilla to the Materno hospital in Malaga, and then "everything else happened," said Emilio, referring to a race against the clock to save the babies in an almost unprecedented operation: "Manuel already had one foot outside the womb, so they proposed removing him and closing it so that Emilio could stay there a bit longer," he explained.

However, while they were making the decision and signing the consent form, the two babies were born. Manuel, "very tired" and Emilio, "energetic, he hardly stopped moving". They were together in the ICU for three days. It was like a lifetime for them, but also for their parents.

"When the doctor told us about the enormous damage the first baby had suffered and they were recommending stopping the treatment, we realised that they were now only going to fight for Emilio," said the babies' father, very quietly, remembering the moment they said goodbye to Manuel.

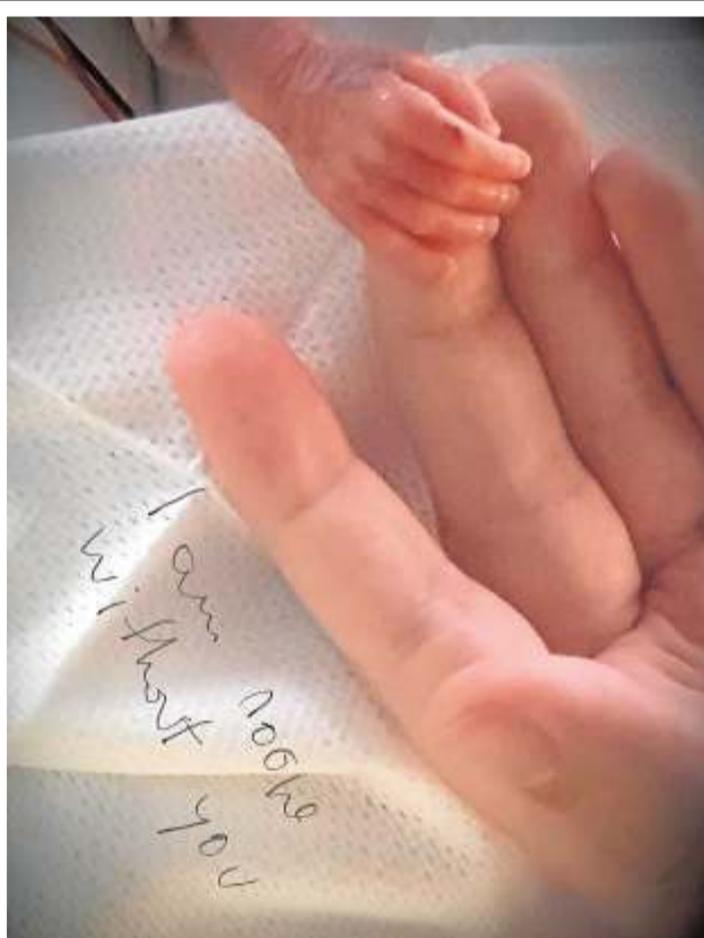
"We saw him, we cuddled him, we took photos..." One is on the screen of his mobile phone, the tiny baby, wrapped up and lying in his mother's hand. That was when they understood what Dr Crespo had meant: "One of the babies will allow the other one to do well".

With the pain of this loss and the wound they still bore from the loss of Emma, Emilio and Rocío started on the path through this "grey period", because the baby who remained and was moving about in the incubator only weighed 510 grams and still had many tests to overcome.

"It was traumatic. At one time he had five tubes. After one week they diagnosed peritonitis, but because he was so tiny they couldn't operate and he was on antibiotics for a month until the infection went away. Then came a very serious respiratory problem. And other things," said Rocío, who lost count of the days and nights



A 'family photo' of Emilio and Rocío (in the centre, wearing green gowns), with the team at the Materno, and the baby in the arms of Dr María del Mar Serrano, his neonatal specialist. :: MIGUE FERNÁNDEZ



spent with her husband beside the incubator, looking on the Internet to see "all the consequences he could suffer" and trying not to have the very human reflection on whether they had been right "to want to become parents, no matter what".

However, as the weeks went by

they began to win the battle. The fight against uncertainty, however, was far from over. "In some ways that's the worst thing; you have to just get through each day as it comes," said the couple, delighted to be a happy family of three.

When they arrived at the hospi-



▲ **Support.** Nurse Antonio Fernández, who gave up four days of his holiday to accompany the family to Melilla for a military ceremony, with the baby in his arms. :: MIGUE FERNÁNDEZ

◀ **Clinging to life.** The tiny hand of Emilio, a few days after he was born, holding his father's finger. :: SUR

tal for this check-up, their 'other family' rushed to give little Emilio kisses and take it in turns to cuddle him. Rocío will never forget the day she was able to do that for the first time. It was two months after he had been born. She cried.

"They were all so lovely to us," said Rocío, with tears in her eyes again as she remembered how the staff did so much more for them than they had to. Like Antonio the nurse, who gave up four days of his summer holiday to accompany Rocío and little Emilio (who needed constant medical attention) to Melilla so she could be there when her husband re-

ceived a military decoration. The superhero suit made by Dolo (Dolores Martínez). The nurses who sang songs to the tiny baby in the incubator every night. The support from everybody was incredible, they stressed.

However, the hospital needs more resources. "We don't have enough nurses. In fact, we can only use 18 of our 21 incubators, and when we have 15 patients we have to say no to anybody who lives outside this province. We give our all to our work, but we need so much more," says Dr Serrano. So that all the little fighters have a happy ending like Emilio. And as they all deserve.

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- OPHTHALMOLOGIST
Dr. Mariano Salvatierra
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The Hospital Civil welcomes Da Vinci, the robot surgeon

The robot, which will perform 140 operations a year, works with great precision and can reach place in the body which are difficult to reach

:: **ÁNGEL ESCALERA**

MALAGA. Greater precision and safety, faster recovery of patients, fewer scars and the possibility using fluorescence-guided surgery (using an imaging technique to examine the lymphatic system) are the main advantages of the new surgical robot 'Da Vinci'.

The robot has been at Malaga's Regional Hospital (previously Carlos Haya) since last May, replacing another that had been used since 2007, and is currently situated in the Hospital Civil. Costing two-and-a-half-million euros, it is expected to perform more than 140 surgical procedures per year.

Minister of Health, Marina Álvarez, recently visited the operating rooms where the robot is kept.

She emphasised how the robotic surgery uses the most advanced technology to perform minimally



The Health minister visited the robot in the Hospital Civil :: F. S.

invasive operations.

The minister also explained that the surgeon does not operate directly himself but by using a console placed close to the patient which allows him to have a 3D image. Da Vinci is equipped with arms that can operate with great precision and reach places in the body that are very difficult to access with other surgical techniques.

All this means improvements for the patient, who will have fewer incisions, less bleeding and postopera-

tive pain and also require less blood transfusions.

At the moment, three departments have access to the robot: urology (60% of all operations are performed by urologists), gynaecology and general and digestive surgery.

All of these departments operate on various types of cancerous tumours, as well as other conditions which require surgery such as endometriosis.

In the future, the robot will be able to work in other specialist fields.

Local orthopaedic surgeon named among the top 50 doctors in Spain

:: **JUAN SOTO**

MALAGA. Orthopaedic surgeon Vicente de la Varga Salto has been recognised by the prestigious Top Doctors board as one of the 50 best medical professionals in private medicine in Spain.

He runs the Centro Avanzado de Medicina Deportiva CAMDE (specialising in sports injuries), is head of the Cirugía Ecoguiada del Complejo Hospitalario Integral Privado Unit, the orthopaedic surgeon for Malaga football club and the consultant for the Spanish swimming federation (Real Federación Española de la Natación) and the Andalusian basketball and football federations.

These internationally-earned awards are recognition of the work of the most esteemed doctors over the last year by experts and specialists in each field. The nominations are made through a process of open surveys by professional colleagues. The Top Doctors board explains that all the doctors nominated have passed an external review, which is "the most rigorous selection process for doctors in the world".

This year, a total of 4,000 nominations were made, of which the most popular have been selected to



Vicente de la Varga. :: SUR

form the 50 Top Doctors ranking.

All the award winners have more than 15 years of experience and international recognition, as well as being highly valued by their patients.

This year Andalucía had the most top doctors out of the autonomous regions with ten doctors making the list, followed by Catalonia and Madrid with nine each.

After learning he received this prestigious award, Vicente de la Varga explained that he felt honoured. "It is a joy that I did not expect; to be recognised like this fills me with pride," he said.

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Nolotil, banned for tourists

The health authorities recommend that this drug should not be prescribed for foreign visitors after discovering that several British people suffered serious side effects. Ten died

■ SUSANA ZAMORA

She has spent over a year moving heaven and earth to try to demonstrate that what she suspected was true. After one of the patients Cristina García de Campo had helped as an interpreter at the hospital in Denia died from sepsis (a serious infection), she discovered that there had been several similar cases in the previous months. "That didn't seem normal to me," she says.

It continued to bother her for months, until one day she decided to look at the medical histories of the patients with whom she had worked, most of whom were British or from northern Europe. She found they had all been treated with Nolotil, a commonly-used analgesic which is recommended for acute pain and as an antipyretic when other alternatives were not effective.

In Spain it has been sold for the past 50 years and its use has doubled in the past decade, but the greatest increase has been in the past five years, from 14.6 million packets consumed in 2013 to 22.8 million in 2017. So Cristina wondered whether those cases of sepsis had been associated with the use of Nolotil. She did think for a moment that maybe she was seeing ghosts where there weren't any and she guessed that nobody would take any notice of her, but "I couldn't sit back and do nothing," she decided. She explained her concerns to the hospital management; "I believe we have a public health problem," she said.

The response

From then on, Cristina's life would never be the same. She began to make enquiries on her own account, and made contact with

groups of British expats on social media, asking if they had ever suffered any adverse reaction to taking metamizole (the active principle in Nolotil). She was surprised by the response.

"I was told about 100 cases and 21 deaths," she says. Recently, the British media has reported that about ten people from the UK had died after taking metamizole in Spain. Armed with that information, Cristina contacted the Spanish Medications Agency (Aemps), and met officials there last summer. She didn't have to wait long for a reaction.

The misgivings were taken into account by the Ministry of Health, which issued a serious warning about the risks of suffering one of the side effects of metamizole, known as agranulocytosis, and asked medical professionals not to give it to patients "in cases where they cannot be checked (ie the floating population)." This means that Nolotil can no longer be prescribed for tourists, because they cannot be monitored by doctors

THE DRUG

Nolotil (metamizole) is an analgesic which has been used in Spain for 50 years for acute pain or high temperature when other drugs have no effect.

Use. Its use has doubled in the past decade, especially the last five years: from 14.6 million packets in 2013 to 22.8 million in 2017.

Ban. Its sale is prohibited in some countries, such as the UK, Sweden, USA and Japan.



A woman buying medication over the counter. Right, a pack of Nolotil, the most commonly bought brand of metamizole in Spain. :: SUR

here to prevent problems arising if they were to experience symptoms of agranulocytosis. The Ministry also warned of a greater risk among older patients, and said it should only be taken by medical prescription.

"This disorder occurs when the chemical composition of a medication comes into contact with normal white blood cells and, even, the precursors of the white blood cells in the bone marrow, and causes the immune system to destroy them. It's a type of allergy to the leukocytes. The normal values can change very suddenly and fall to zero in 24 hours, and that can cause serious infections and the possibility of death," explains Isidro Jarque, a haematologist at La Fe hospital in Valencia, and a member of the Spanish Haematology and Haemotherapy Society.

He says it has been known for years that Nolotil is one of the most important causes of agranulocytosis. "It is the one most commonly used and associated with this complication, but it's by no means the only one," he stresses. With regard to prognosis, there should be no problem if it is detected on time because there are drugs which quickly recover the level of leukocytes.

"Normally, it is treated with a stimulating factor for granulocytic colonies, which considerably shortens recovery time. Antibiotics might also be used and even hospitalisation if the infection is serious, but if there are no complications a patient can be home in a week," says Jarque.

The Aemps says it had reviewed

Isidro Jarque
Haematologist

"Nolotil is not the only drug associated with agranulocytosis"

Cristina García del Campo
Interpreter

"I have worked so hard to find out why it affects British people"

Spanish Medications Agency

"We cannot confirm a greater risk of agranulocytosis in specific ethnicities"

the situation in Spain after learning of the recent notification from the Spanish Pharmacovigilance System about cases of agranulocytosis, particularly of British origin.

Cristina García says she feels that all her efforts have been rewarded. "I feel as if I had aged ten years," she admits. She had also written to the British government to ask why Nolotil is not sold in the UK.

"I believed there could be some relationship, that they would have some evidence that British people are more likely to suffer agranulocytosis, but they told me they had never sold it because of the side effects of this medication in general," she says.

Britain is not the only country to veto the sale of Nolotil; in Sweden it has been prohibited for human use since 1974, and in the USA since 1997. Over the years, Japan, Australia, Iran and some EU countries, (where it is permitted for veterinary use) have also banned it. However, in Germany (its country of origin), Spain, Russia, Brazil and Israel, among other nations, it is one of the most commonly-prescribed drugs to alleviate pain and lower temperature.

Is there a genetic predisposition? Sources at the Spanish Medications Agency say that although there have been discussions for some years about a greater susceptibility to agranulocytosis in the north-

ern European population and certain genetic factors have been studied, "with the information available we cannot confirm or rule out a higher risk among populations with specific ethnic characteristics," they say.

Isidro Jarque admits there could be a genetic predisposition to suffer agranulocytosis, "but like intolerances, having that predisposition doesn't mean you suffer it; the patient would have to come into contact with the medication. That's why people shouldn't self-medicate, because there could be unexpected side effects," he says.

Cristina García del Campo is pleased with the results of what she began to investigate a year ago. She says the Denia hospital is currently carrying out a study into the incidence of metamizole on the foreign population, which will be one of the biggest studies so far. The Costa del Sol hospital in Marbella did a study of its own ten years ago.

"They found that agranulocytosis caused by metamizole is an adverse effect which occurs more often in British people," she says.

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A new future ahead for Sarah

The family of the 18-year-old, who lost her hands and feet to sepsis, hope to raise money to buy bionic prostheses

:: MÓNICA PÉREZ

MARBELLA. Sarah Almagro Valjejo's life was turned upside down last July. The 18-year-old had suffered severe abdominal pain, vomiting and fever the night of 22 July and was taken to the emergency department early the next morning with suspected gastroenteritis.

The Costa del Sol Hospital diagnosed Sarah with sepsis, which was causing her organs to fail. She spent ten days in an induced coma. As a consequence of the sepsis, Sarah lost her hands and her feet, needs dialysis several times a week and is still an inpatient at the Hospital Regional Universitario in Malaga where she has been receiving skin grafts.

Sepsis causes more deaths each year than breast or colon cancer, with 16,000 people affected annually in the province of Malaga, according to the Sociedad Andaluza de Medicina Intensiva y Unidades Coronarias.

Social media has allowed Sarah's story to be shared, gaining support and educating people on this deadly disease. It has also raised funds for Sarah that, once she leaves the hospital and begins rehabilitation, will be used to purchase the prostheses she needs, "to give her a life as similar as



Sarah Almagro in the Hospital Regional de Málaga, and a photo of her before the sepsis. **:: sur**

possible to the one she had before," explained her father Ismael Almagro. He has promised his daughter "the most advanced prostheses on the market" as the ones provided by the health service "are made for older people, not for an 18-year-old girl."

In order to fulfill his promise, Ismael attended the international Orto Medical Care fair in Madrid, where the latest developments in prostheses are presented. He said he entered "with the world on his shoulders" and left with the solu-

tion, bionic prostheses. At around 200,000 euros for the four extremities which last for around six years, the family decided to make Sarah's story public in the hope of raising the necessary funds.

The response from the residents of Marbella was better than the family could ever have imagined and they have received 'a wave of love'. Three family friends, two solicitors and an economist, have formed 'Somos Tu Ola' (we are your wave), a group who will be responsible for raising the

funds. They aim to provide for the "real needs and problems" of people who have suffered sepsis and / or amputations on the Costa del Sol.

Marbella town hall, supported by sports clubs in the town, have organised a fundraising weekend for Sarah. Seven sporting events will take place between 15 and 16 December and will include a relay race and rhythmic gymnastics exhibition. Anyone wishing to take part can do so by purchasing a wristband for 2.50 euros.

La Cala Lions Club support group to run glucose tests across Mijas for World Diabetes Day

:: GEORGIE KENNY

MIJAS. La Cala Lions Club Diabetic Support Group have a series of events planned in the Mijas area to coincide with World Diabetes Day, 14 November.

Under the banner "better safe than sorry", the group will be offering glucose testing, free of charge, at locations across the town. There will be six different testing stations set up. On Wednesday, testing will be available outside the town hall in La Cala (11am to 2pm) and outside the sports centre in Las Lagunas (4.30 to 6.30pm).

Mijas Pueblo will host testing on Thursday outside the Folk Museum (11am to 2pm), while at the weekend, those attending the Over 50s Show at Hotel IPV Palace & Spa in Fuengirola can be tested on Saturday 17 and Sunday 18 November (11am to 5pm).

La Cala Lions, with the support of the Sports and Foreigners departments of Mijas town hall, are also organising the 'Action Against Diabetes' fun run or walk on 18 November.

A stand will be open from 10am in the square next to the Torreón watchtower on La Cala sea front. The race will start at 11am from the same location and every contestant will receive a T-shirt for taking part. Donations will be welcomed on the day.

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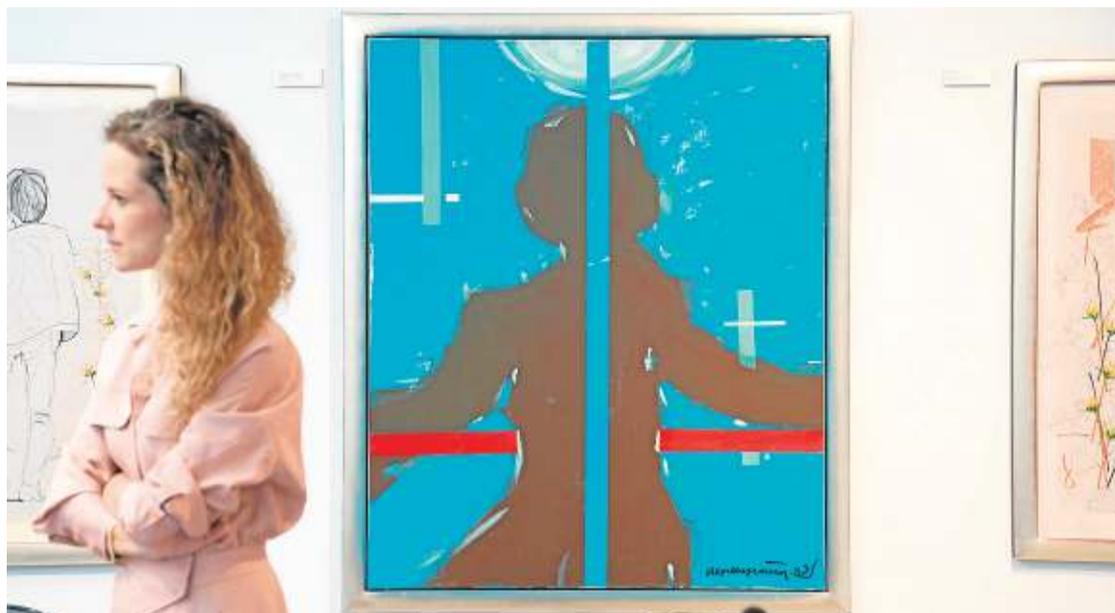


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'Personaje-Claro de luna', a work painted when he had lost 95% of his vision. :: FÉLIX PALACIOS



Some of his pen and ink portraits. :: FÉLIX PALACIOS



Andreas Röthlisberger and Virginia Díez Barriuso. :: F. PALACIOS



On the left, Pepe España's tribute to the Twin Towers after the 9/11 attack. :: FÉLIX PALACIOS

Museum Jorge Rando brings light back to Pepe España at home

REGINA SOTORRÍO

@ReginaSotorrio

An exhibition reveals the works of this painter from Malaga, a constantly evolving expressionist artist who never stopped working, even when his sight failed

MALAGA. He was a free-thinking painter who shunned commercial trends, was frantically productive and had a touch of expressionism which was to contribute to the development of avant-garde art in Spain. He painted without sketching beforehand, and would shut himself in his studio for months to give shape to whatever he had in his head. That's why he continued to pick up his paintbrush when his sight failed him: the picture was in his head, not in his eyes.

Pepe España (born Malaga, 1930-

died Biel, Switzerland, 2007) spent his final years in darkness, with shadows which also extended around his position as an artist, forgotten in major art circles. Now the Museum Jorge Rando is giving light back to Pepe España and, what is more, in his home city, a few metres from where he was born, in the Plaza de San Francisco in the centre of Malaga. It is a return to his roots, from which he never disconnected.

'Expresión y color con la vertical al espacio' inaugurates a new cycle dedicated to 'Forgotten painters from Malaga', artists condemned to ostracism for reasons other than their works. The display, which continues until 31 January, reveals somebody who was excellent at drawing and an expressionist painter in constant evolution.

"He never repeated anything; each stage brought something new," says Andreas Röthlisberger, president of the foundation which bears his name and a personal friend of España. It also brings us closer to an unusual man, who "didn't know how to sell himself, because he was so modest" and didn't like crowded artistic events. He was happy in his refuge, in the workshop in which nobody, not even the smoke from their cigar, was per-

IN DETAIL

► **The exhibition.** 'Expresión y color con la vertical al espacio', by painter Pepe España (Málaga, 1930- Biel, Switzerland, 2007).

► **Where.** Museum Jorge Rando (Calle Cruz del Molinillo, 12).

► **When.** Until 31 January.

► **Entry.** Free.

► **Opening hours.** Mondays to Saturdays 10am to 8pm.

After months of doing nothing, he would shut himself in his studio and paint frenetically for months

mitted to enter. The few videos which exist of España painting, he filmed himself.

In Switzerland, where he went with a grant in 1972, this painter al-

ternated between weeks when he focused on nothing but his work and months in which he didn't paint anything at all. However, during those times of apparent inactivity, "he was growing and creating new forms in his mind which he would later turn into ten or more paintings".

Different stages

'Expresión y color con la vertical al espacio' is a journey through his different stages. From the 'Cuenca Series' of the 1970s, works in Chinese ink and marker pen on paper which anticipated his later expressionist path, to the painting 'Personaje-Claro de luna', which he did in 2012 when he only had five per cent vision because of a serious macular degeneration. A high-impact work created from darkness which breaks with the vivid, vibrant colours which only three years earlier inundated the series from which the name of this exhibition was taken, with titles such as 'The Light! - Luminosity', 'Colour in the afternoon' and 'Luminous crack'.

This stage is a "tribute to the post-avantgarde of abstract expressionism through the genre of landscape," with an "expressive and spontaneous touch which is found with the rigid and mathematical, with pure

geometric shapes and the force of light and colour," explains the director of the Museum Jorge Rando, Virginia Díez Barriuso. 'Luto en el espacio' or 'Mourning in space' (2001), his tribute to the Twin Towers attacks in New York, marks a turning point between clarity and shadow: it was the last picture he painted when he could still see.

This exhibition also reveals him to be a great portrait artist, able to capture the "psychic expression" of the person in front of him. The series of faces on the walls of the room are impressive - some were done during his visits to Malaga. They are drawings executed with intensive pen strikes, very realistic social works which give a face to women in the countryside, farm workers, a grandfather... After those, a reflection upon "tragedy, pain, fear".

"I am convinced that the time will come when Pepe and his work will have the place they deserve," says Andreas Röthlisberger. An artist from the generation of the 50s, José Luis Jiménez España left Malaga at a young age to study in Madrid. Cuenca gave him an alternative in a time of important cultural movement with the opening of the Museum of Spanish Abstract Art, promoted by Zóbel. And it was in Switzerland that he made his name as a painter. He lived and worked there until his death and a foundation was created there to preserve his legacy. But he always maintained close links with Malaga, and his visits there made him happy. Now, this artist with a friendly expression and large moustache would undoubtedly have a big smile on his face.

EXHIBITIONS

Classic cars and motorbikes

Estepona. 17, 18 November from midday until 8pm. Palacio de Congresos. 10€. Children free.

A market, music from the era, food and drink, a children's play area and lots of classic cars and motorbikes. 10% of ticket sales donated to Duca and Alzheimer España. Email: costasurclassicos@gmail.com

Miguel Gómez Losada

Malaga. Until 25 November. Centro de Arte Contemporáneo. The first solo exhibition of this artist, 'Romanza' includes nearly twenty paintings in different formats and techniques.



A Cuatro Manos, CAC Malaga

Socios a Cuatro Manos

Malaga. Until 6 December Centro de Arte Contemporáneo. The exhibition consists of a selection of paintings and collages by Gonzalo Torné and the late Quico Rivas.

Caminos Cruzados

Nerja. Until 11 November. Museo de Nerja. Oliver and Fernando de la Rosa present their sculptures at this exhibition.

Rocinante no hay camino

Nerja. Until 18 November. Centro cultural. The first photographic exhibition of well known sea painter José Melguizo.

Photography exhibition

Mijas. 9 November opening at 8pm in Casa de La Cultura (Las Lagunas). Photography presented from the Asociación Nuevo Enfoque.

No Sé Pintar Gente

Mijas. Until 12 November. Centro



Simona Mango and María del Carmen Pérez. :: SUR

Classical music soirée comes to La Cala

:: TONY BRYANT

MIJAS. The Avanto Theatre in La Cala de Mijas is holding a classical music soirée on Tuesday 14 November. The event will present celebrated Italian mezzo soprano, Simona Mango, and Malaga pianist, María del Carmen Pérez.

Organised by Music Management, the evening will include classical scores by Verdi, Tchaikovsky, Rossini, Puccini and Bizet.

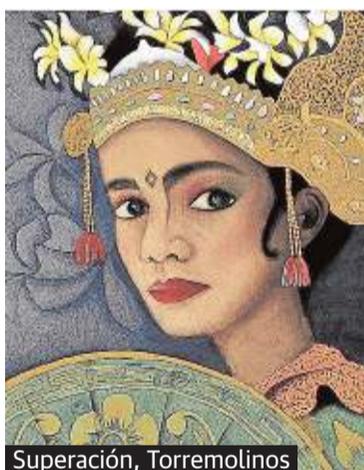
Simona Mango studied classical singing in Rome and attended master courses at the Ateneo Internazionale delle Lirica in Sulmona with the conductor, Dario Lucantoni. She has performed at opera,

classical and sacred music recitals. In 2002, she was awarded second prize at the coveted C. A. Seghizzi international chamber music competition in Gorizia and has since become one of the most sought after singers in her field.

María del Carmen Pérez has collaborated with the Malaga Philharmonic Orchestra, as well as performing solo concerts in Chicago and Berlin.

Tickets for the performance, which begins at 9pm, cost 25 euros and include a welcome drink and canapés during the interval.

Reservations can be made on pmmtickets@mail.com, or phone Anita on 644242365.



Superación, Torremolinos

Cultural de la Cala, open from 10am-2pm and 5pm-8pm. An exhibition of the works of Luis

Martínez Valcabado. The works mainly consist of nature and landscape paintings.

Arte Y Superación

Torremolinos. Until 30 November. First floor of the town hall. The association of international artists who paint using their feet or their mouths will be exhibiting 31 pieces of work created in watercolours, oils, acrylics, charcoal and mixed media.

CHARITY

Afibroma

Malaga. 10 November, 7pm. Caja Blanca, Avda del Editor Ángel Calfarena. 6€.

Presented by Ángeles Maz with performers Daniela Aguilar (Flamenco Pop), Lola García (Copla), the dance groups of Alicia Lara and a castanet concert by members of the Afibroma association for fibromyalgia and chronic fatigue sufferers. Tickets from Academia Alicia Lara or Afibroma by email: alibile@yahoo.es or info@afibroma.org

Remembrance Day walk

Ojén. 11 November, 9.30am. Meet at Refugio de Juanar. 10€. To raise money for the Royal British Legion there will be a country walk (weather permitting), from Refugio Juanar, through La Viborrilla, Macho Montes and El Corzo. More details: www.facebook.com/funandfund/ or email: funandfund@outlook.com

Armistice Remembrance Day

Mijas. 11 November, from 11.30am. Tamisa Golf Hotel. 25€. The minute silence and reflection at 12 (11am English time) will be followed by a two course lunch at 1pm. Live entertainment will be provided by 'Touch of Class' and quartet, 'Reflections Acapella'. Then at 6pm Lindsay Rose will be performing. Tel: 952 585 988 OR email: reservas@hoteltamisa-golf.com

Charity cabaret for cats

Alhaurín el Grande. 1 December, from 7pm. Venta La Recta. 10€. The "Sound Bites" are hosting a charity cabaret evening featuring Ricky Leach and Lynne Gaskell performing favourites from The Carpenters, Neil Diamond, Frank Sinatra, Amy Winehouse, Whitney Houston and many others. A two course meal costs 10 euros (pay on the night) at 7pm. The cabaret starts at 9pm. Table reservations: Cathy: 952112057. All proceeds will be donated to "Gift of Life", a cat rescue organisation based in Alhaurín el Grande. Tickets from: Martins or Cristina's paper shops.

MUSIC & DANCE

The Wall Bar

Malaga. Hotel Vincci Posada del Patio, 11pm, entry free. 10 November. Constanza & Javier Jazz duet. 17 November. Señor Blues. Jesús Aranda & Alberto Soler. Blues, country, rock and soul. 24 November. Victor Sánchez &

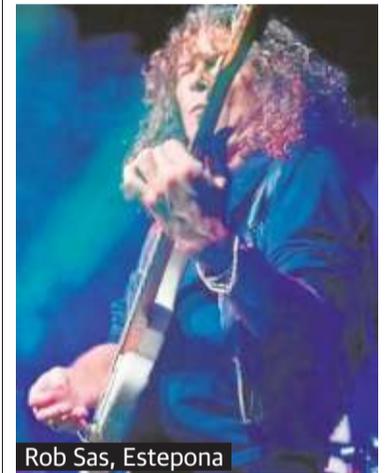
Dani Harp. Blues, rock and roll and american folk music.

Louie Louie Live

Estepona. Louie Louie Bar. 10 November, midnight. Bourbon from Sanlúcar present their new disc, Fuente Vieja. 5€. 14 November, 10pm. Robert Jon & The Wreck. 10€ in advance, 13€ on the door. 15 November, 9.30pm. Paco Javier Jimeno. 16 November, midnight. Pepe Bao. 10€. (Bass guitar masterclass at 10pm 15€.) 22 November, midnight. Super-suckers. 20€ in advance, 24€ on the door. 24 November, 11.45pm. The Rob Sas Band.

Tango show

Estepona. 9 November, 8.30pm. Centro Cultural Padre Manuel 'Una Noche en Buenos Aires' live music and ballet. Tickets 10 euros and already available at 660753246.



Rob Sas, Estepona

La Porteña Tango

Estepona. 9 November, 9pm. Centro Cultural Villa de Nerja. 'Una Noche en Buenos Aires' is performed by La Porteña Tango which is touring more than 20 countries.

Spanish/Arabic music and dance

Torremolinos. 9 November, 9.30pm. Centro Cultural Pablo Ruiz Picasso. 10 or 12 €. The association Arte y Salud Rumi are presenting 'Esencia' a performance of music and dance which combines both Spanish and Arabic culture. Tickets: www.ticketea.com/entradas-flamencoriental-esencia/

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MUSIC & DANCE

Casa de la cultura concerts
Almuñécar.

10 November, 8pm. Harley Daniels will be playing a selection of country music.

11 November, 7pm. The covers band 'Coverland' will be playing a selection of the best pop, rock and funky music.

14 November, 8pm. Dreaming Together is a blues and jazz band who play a mix of old and modern jazz and blues.

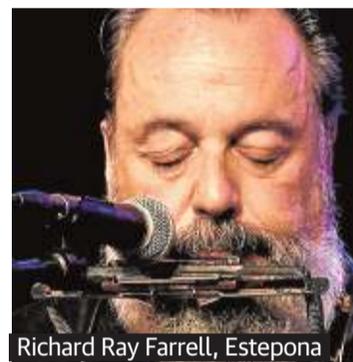
16 November, 8pm. Flamenco ballet, Callejuela de la Luna.

17 November, 8pm. Mas que Nada bossanova band.

A Touch of Class

Fuengirola. 16 November, 7pm. Casa de la Cultura. 10€

A Touch of Class presents Variety Espectacular in aid of Lux Mundi. Reservations: 952026811 or email touchofclasstickets@gmail.com.



Richard Ray Farrell, Estepona

Sleeping Beauty

Malaga. 28 November. Teatro Cervantes.

Russian National Ballet dancing to music composed by Tchaikovsky. Call 952224109 to book.

Jazz Club concert

Nerja. 23 November at 8.30pm.

Hotel Plaza Cavana. Tickets 18€ for armchair, 12 € for a stool. Includes a glass of cava. Daniel Amat (pianist), Francis Posé (double bass) and Jorge Cid (drums).

Baroque concert

Malaga. 9 November, 8pm. Sala Unicaja de Conciertos, María Cristina.

Baroque music by composers Handel, Purcell, Monteverdi, Porpora and Vivaldi performed by soprano Claudia Teruel, baritone Antonio Ariza and tenor Diego Morales.

Malu

Malaga. 9 November, 9.30pm. The Martín Carpena sports stadium. Malu will be performing tracks from her new CD Oxygen as well as some of her well known songs such as Ahora tú. Tickets: www.livenation or ticketmaster.es

Film Symphony Orchestra

Malaga. 10 November, 7.30pm.

Palacio de Ferias. 39-58€ The Film Symphony Orchestra will be paying tribute to composer and five times Oscar winner John Williams by playing soundtracks from cinema hits such as Star Wars, Memories of a Geisha, JFK, Jurassic Park, Harry Potter and Schindler's

Punk rock festival to rekindle the colourful spirit of 1977

BY TONY BRYANT

MIJAS. Those that participated in the explosive punk rock scene of the 1970s will enjoy the Punkirola 77 festival on Saturday 10 November. This exciting music festival will present several bands from the UK and Spain and will invoke the spirit of 1977, a year that the youth of the UK were revelling in safety-pins, orange Mohicans, ripped jeans and offensive T-shirts.

The festival, which begins at 6pm, will be held in the Sala Ana Marquez in Las Lagunas, Mijas Costa.

Some of the British garage and punk scene's most iconic bands will participate in the festival, including The DC Spectres, a three-piece band whose recently-released debut CD was produced by Rat Scabies, drummer of cult band, The Damned. Other groups to appear are The Anoraks, an East London punk band that has been performing for over 20 years; and Tin Fish, a



The Reinfected will perform at the Punkirola 77 festival. :: SUR

three piece new wave outfit from Birmingham. The highlight of the festival will be the performance of Jesse Lynn Dean, singer of legendary UK punk band, The Wasps. Originally formed in 1976, The Wasps perform in the style of the Velvet Underground and The Stooges and during the 70s, they were one of the principal

gigging bands of the London punk scene. Several local bands will also appear at the event, including The Reinfected, Absolut Pantz and Guiri Resort.

Tickets, which cost eight euros in advance or ten euros on the door, are available from www.ticketsource.eu

The venue capacity is limited, so early arrival is advised.

List among others. Tickets: malagaentradas.com

Richard Ray Farrell

Estepona. 16 November, 8pm. Centro Cultural Padre Manuel. 12€.

American blues musician Richard Ray Farrell has played at many major venues and with most of the greatest blues artists in the world. Tickets from Musisol Estepona, the box office or online: www.produccioneslacochera.com.

Malaga Philharmonic Orchestra

Malaga. Teatro Cervantes 9 November, 8pm.

Directed by Manuel Hernández Silva, the orchestra will be playing compositions from Dmitri Shostakovich.

Malaga. Auditorio Museo Picasso 13 November, 8pm.

Music from Mozart and Brahms by Austri Musici. https://tickets.museopicassomalaga.org

16 November, 8pm.

Rachmaninov and Tchaikovsky played by Óscar Martín Castro (piano); Jesús Reina (violin) and Tilman Mahrenholz (cello).

Boris Belman

Malaga. 15 November, 8pm. Sala Unicaja de Conciertos María Cristina.

The Sociedad Filarmónica de Málaga with guest pianist Boris Belman will be performing Hadyn's Sonatas n°50, 51 and 52 followed in the second half by Prokofiev's Sonatas n° 9 and 7.

T. I. M. S Remembrance day concert

Fuengirola. 11 November. Salon Varietés no later than 10.15am. For more information visit www.timschoir.org.

T. I. M. S 30 year anniversary concerts

Fuengirola. 22 November, 8pm. The Avanto.

The concert includes performances from Juliet Williams and Ricky Lavazza, also known as the 'Velvet Voice'.

Benalmádena. 30 November, 7pm. Castillo Bil Bil.

www.timschoir.org.

Let the Christmas spirit start

Alhaurin el Grande. 17 November at 7pm until late. Venta La Recta. Tickets are 10 euros.

The Andy Ross Singers invite you to their musical Christmas show. There will be a mix of traditional Christmas songs and musical songs. Food is also available. Bookings call 617510758 or 952112057.

Flamenco in the Museum

Malaga. Museo de Arte Flamenco



Juliet Williams, Fuengirola.

Peña Juan Brea, C/Ramón Franquelo. 8.30pm.

10 November. Susana Solera and dance group.

For information and bookings call 687 607 526 or email: info@flamenka.com

LECTURES

U3A Lectures

Fuengirola. Lux Mundi reference Library, free to members, guests 5€. Email: u3afuengirola@gmail.com

A Mixed Bag: 'Family recollections of the Great War'.

13 November, 11am.

The recollections of four families of the war.

Science and technology:

'The Spanish Flu Epidemic 1918'

14 November, 11am.

The centenary of the greatest human catastrophe of the 20th century. What were its causes, how did it spread and what was done to tackle it? Can it happen again?

Poetry Circle:

12 November, 11am.

Members of Fuengirola U3A will present readings of some of the poems of the Great War. Entrance is free to all. Donations to the Royal British Legion

The Arts Society Costa del Sol

Fuengirola. 12 November, 4.30pm. Salon Varietés Theatre. Visitors 10€. www.theartssociety-costadelsol.org

Nerja. 13 November, 6pm. Centro Cultural Villa de Nerja.

www.theartssocietynerja.com Visitors 10€

'Velázquez and the Golden Age of Spanish paintings'

Lecturer Sian Walters. The 17th century is known as the Golden Age of Spanish Art with extravagant programmes of building and painting. At the helm of the country's artistic patronage was King Philip IV, one of the greatest collectors of art throughout Europe. His well-honed instinct for talent drew him to the young, brilliant Diego Velázquez who would become his court painter for over 30 years. This lecture will trace the rise of his glittering career at one of the most illustrious courts in Europe.

Mijas. 13 November, 10.30am. The Danish Club, Haza del Algarrobo, Crta de Mijas. Visitors 10€.

'From the Depths of the Past: Rock Art from Sulawesi to Spain.'

Lecturer Helen Sijssling. Cave art was discovered at the end of the 19th and beginning of the 20th century. It is spectacular, beautiful and mysterious and can be found all over the world. www.theartssociety-costadelsol.org



Carmelilla, Malaga.

FESTIVALS

Fiesta del jamón

Campillos. 11 November from 11am.

Over fifty companies will be attending the festival which is dedicated to pork products, especially cured ham. There will be free tastings, guided tours and live music throughout the day.

Fiesta del conejo

Parauta. 10 November from midday.

The rabbit is the protagonist of this festival with tastings of rabbit with rice accompanied by the local wine. There will also be verdiales and stall selling produce and crafts.

EVENTS

Ruta de la Tapa

Villanueva del Trabuco. 9, 10 November.

Twelve bars and restaurants are participating in this tapas route around the village. A special tapas and a drink at any of the venues will cost 2€ and completed voting cards can be exchanged for a free gift. Venues open 8pm until midnight Friday, and midday until 5pm and then 8pm until midnight on Saturday.



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EVENTS

A Resounding Tinkle

Marbella. Until 11 November, 8pm. *El Paraiso Golf Club.* 'A Resounding Tinkle' is a comedy play written by N. F. Simpson and directed by Miles Rendle. The second play of the evening will be The Hand Of God by renowned playwright Alan Bennett and presented by Bobby Aaron. Tickets: www.internationaltheatrestudio.org

Quiz Night

Fuengirola. 15 November, 6.30pm. *Lux Mundi Ecumenical Centre.* Team up with your friends and pit your wits for a fun, light hearted evening. There will be a prize for the 1st and 2nd placed teams. A snack and one free drink included in ticket price of 4€. All proceeds to fund raising.

National Dog Show

Estepona 10 November, 4.30 - 6.30pm. Registration 3 - 4.30pm. *Palacio de Exposiciones*

The third Concurso nacional Canino Ciudad de Estepona is organised by the Royal Spanish Canine Association and Costa del Sol Canine Association.

Coach excursion to Gibraltar

Torre del Mar. 15 November, 20 December. Various departure points. 12€ Transport, travel insurance included. Passport necessary. Lux Mundi Torre del Mar. Tel: 952 543 334 or e-mail: luxmundi@luxmundi.org

ICE festive fair

Estepona. 17 November, 11am-2pm. *The Club House, Bahía Dorada.* A festive fair with bar skittles, hoopla, a quiz, Treasure Island, tombola, photographic competition, gifts, homemade cakes, pickles, hand knitted items, jewellery and handicrafts. Bacon and sausage butties available from the bar.

A trip to Estepa

Fuengirola. 21 November, departing 8am from Feria ground or 8.05 from bullring. 23€. Includes travel, insurance and entrance to the La Estepaña factory where the famous Christmas manecados biscuits are made. Tel 952 474 840, e-mail: luxmundif@gmail.com www.lux-mundi.org

Viveros Guzmán and Fuengirola with Lux Mundi

Torre del Mar. 21 November. Various departure points. 15€ A visit to Guzmán garden centre and then shopping trip to Fuengirola. Tel: 952 543 334 or e-mail: luxmundi@lux-mundi.org

ACE Thanksgiving party

Estepona. 22 November, from



Christmas fair, St Andrews

2pm. *ACE Club, C/San Roque.* 10€.

The American Club of Estepona are holding a Thanksgiving Party. Lots of turkey and pumpkin pie. Call: 952 793 059 (club hours), or email michaelvmoss@gmail.com

Panto Aladdin

Coín. 23, 24 November, 7pm. *El Palacio, La Trocha.* 12€ non members. 8€ under 12s. The Andalucía Performing Arts Society (TAPAS) are performing the panto Aladdin. www.tapasociety.com

CHRISTMAS EVENTS

La Cala de Mijas Lions

Mijas. 25 November, 11.30am-5pm. *Tamisa Golf Hotel.* Stalls selling bric-a-brac, crafts, jewellery and gifts etc, a fashion show and entertainment provided by A Touch Of Class and the Costa Soul Singers.

ADANA Christmas Fair

Estepona. 25 November, 10.30am *Palacio de Ferias y Congresos.* 2€. Christmas cards and gifts and lots

of stalls to browse. More information: adanaevents@gmail.com or www.adana.es

St Andrews

Fuengirola. 17 November, 11am. *St Andrews church, Los Boliches.* Crafts, tombola, bottle stall, raffle, bric-a-brac, cakes etc. www.st-andrewscofe-spain.org

TAPAS Christmas Party

Coín. 7 December. *Restaurant Las Cabaes.* Music from TAPAS choir, dancing to DJ Big Kevin and two course Christmas supper and mince pies. Tickets 14€ members 16€ non members. Tel: 678 932 284

O. V. FILM

SUR in English advises calling cinemas to check for any last minute time changes. Lunchtime and late night screenings weekends only.

Cine Albéniz

C/Alcazabilla 4, Malaga. Tel: 902 36 02 95 or visit www.cinealbeniz.com or www.unientradas.es **The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society:** 20.20, 22.30.

Bohemian rhapsody: 12.00, 16.25, 19.10, 21.50

Cinesur El Ingenio

Avda. Juan Carlos 1, Vélez-Málaga. Tel. 667 77 31 87.

Bohemian Rhapsody: 17.00, 19.45, 22.30 (every day).

Overlord: 18.05, 20.20 (every).

The Nutcracker and the Four Realms: 17.00 (every day).

The Girl In The Spider's Web: 18.30, 21.00 (every day).

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Avda. de la Encarnación, Fuengirola. Tel. 952 19 86 00.
Bohemian Rhapsody: 12.00, 16.25, 19.10, 21.50, 00.30 (everyday)
A Star is Born: 17.00, 22.25 (Fri, Sat, Sun).
The Nutcracker and the Four Realms: 12.05, 16.15 (everyday).
The Girl In The Spider's Web: 18.15, 20.40, 23.00 (every day).
Wild Strawberries: 20.00 (everyday).
A Head Full Of Dreams (Cold Play): 21.00 (Wed).
Ballet: La Sylphide: 16.00 (Sun)
Ballet: La Bayadère: 20.15 (Tues).

Cines Teatro Goya

For tickets and information call 951196665. www.cinesteatrogoya.com

Goosebumps 2: Haunted Halloween: 12.00, 18.15 (Sun); 16.15 (Sat, Sun); 17.45 (Tues); 18.30 (Mon, Wed, Thurs).
The Girl In The Spider's Web: 16.00 (Sat, Sun); 17.30, 22.15 (Mon-Thurs); 20.00 (Mon, Tues);



The Nutcracker film

22.45 (Fri, Sat, Sun).
Overlord: 16.00 (Sat); 18.15 (Fri, Sat); 18.30 (Sun); 22.30 (Mon-Thurs); 22.45 (Fri, Sat, Sun).
Hunter Killer: 15.55 (Sun).
Bohemian Rhapsody: 15.45 (Sat, Sun); 17.15, 22.10 (Mon-Thurs); 17.45, 20.15 (Fri, Sat, Sun); 19.45 (Mon, Wed, Thurs); .
The Nutcracker and the Four Realms: 11.45 (Sun); 15.50 (Sat, Sun); 17.45 (Mon-Thurs); 18.15 (Fri, Sat, Sun).
A Star is Born: 19.45 (Mon-Thurs); 20.15 (Sun).

Yelmo Cines, Plaza Mayor

Centro de Ocio Plaza Mayor, Avda. Alfonso Ponce de León. Tel: 902 902 103 or visit www.yelmocines.es

First Man: 22.30 (Tues).
Christopher Robin: 12.20 (Sat, Sun); 16.35 (Tues).
Halloween: 15.45 (Fri-Tues); 13.15 (Sat, Sun).
Bohemian Rhapsody: 12.00 (Sat, Sun); 17.00, 19.40, 22.20 (Fri-Tues).
BlackKlansmen: 12.40 (Sun); 16.15 (every day except Tues); 18.55 (Tues).
The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society: 16.45, 22.15 (Tues).
Hunter Killer: 12.55 (Sat, Sun); 21.45 (Tues).
The Nutcracker and the Four Realms: 13.30 (Sat, Sun); 21.05 (Fri, Sat).
Goosebumps 2: Haunted Halloween: 14.15 (Sat, Sun); 18.15 (Tues).

The fair for anyone over fifty returns to Fuengirola

TONY BRYANT

FUENGIROLA. The popular 50 Plus Expo, the lifestyle event for people over the age of 50, will be held at the IPV Palace Hotel and Spa in Fuengirola on Saturday 17 and Sunday 18 November. The exhibition is well established on the coast and has been catering for those enjoying the third age since 1999.

Representatives from numerous sectors specialising in activities and services for people contemplating their retirements will be on hand to offer advice on physical and financial health, and about interests and hobbies. Health and well-being will be a key element again this year, based on the premise that exercise, a sensible diet and routine monitoring slows down the ageing process.

Eric Knowles (The Antiques Road Show) will be back to give free valuations on small items and collectibles, while jewellery and watch expert, Tom Keane, (Cash In the Attic and Antiques Road Trip) will also be offering



Eric Knowles will give free valuations on small items. :: SUR

his services free. Mike Kelly will give advice about rare coins, stamps and banknotes: at last year's event, he discovered coins worth 50,000 euros.

Because the event will be held close to the beginning of the festive season, there will also be a Christmas cookery demonstration.

The Andalusian International Artists (AIA) will again be dis-

playing their new works at the show. The exhibition will include a variety of styles created by a group of professional and dedicated visual artists from around Europe who are all living and working in Andalucia.

The event, which is free, will begin at 2pm and continue until 7pm on both days.

For more information, see www.seniortimes.ie



MOVIE LISTING
 From Friday 9th
 to Thursday 15th November
 ORIGINAL VERSION SUBTITLED SPANISH



THE GIRL IN THE SPIDER'S WEB

Director Fede Alvarez
 Starring Claire Foy, Sylvia Hoeks, Lakeith Stanfield
 THRILLER - 115 min.



Friday 9: 18:00, 22:45
 Saturday 10 and Sunday 11: 16:00, 18:00, 22:45
 From Monday 12 to Thursday 15: 17:30, 22:15



OVERLORD

Director Julius Avery
 Atarring Jovan Adepo, Wyatt Russell, Mathilde Olivier
 ACTION - 110 min.



Friday 9: 18:15, 22:45
 Saturday 10: 16:00, 18:15, 22:45
 Sunday 11: 18:30, 22:45
 From Monday 12 to Thursday 15: 22:30



THE NUTCRACKER AND THE FOUR REALMS



Friday 9: 18:15
 Saturday 10: 15:50, 18:15
 Sunday 11: 11:45, 15:50, 18:15
 From Monday 12 to Thursday 15: 17:45



GOOSEBUMPS 2: HAUNTED HALLOWEEN



Saturday 10: 16:15
 Sunday 11: 12:00, 16:15, 18:15
 Monday 12, Wednesday 14 and Thursday 15: 18:30
 Tuesday 13: 17:45



BOHEMIAN RHAPSODY

Director Bryan Singer and Dexter Fletcher
 Starring Rami Malek, Lucy Boynton, Ben Hardy
 BIOGRAPHY - 134 min.



Friday 9: 17:45, 20:15
 Saturday 10 and Sunday 11: 15:45, 17:45, 20:15
 Monday 12, Wednesday 14 and Thursday 15: 17:15, 19:45, 22:10
 Tuesday 13: 17:15, 22:10



HUNTER KILLER



Sunday 11: 15:55



A STAR IS BORN



Sunday 11: 20:15
 From Monday 12 to Thursday 15: 19:45

Family cooking in a Malaga farmhouse



MARK NAYLER
✉ nombrex@xxx.com

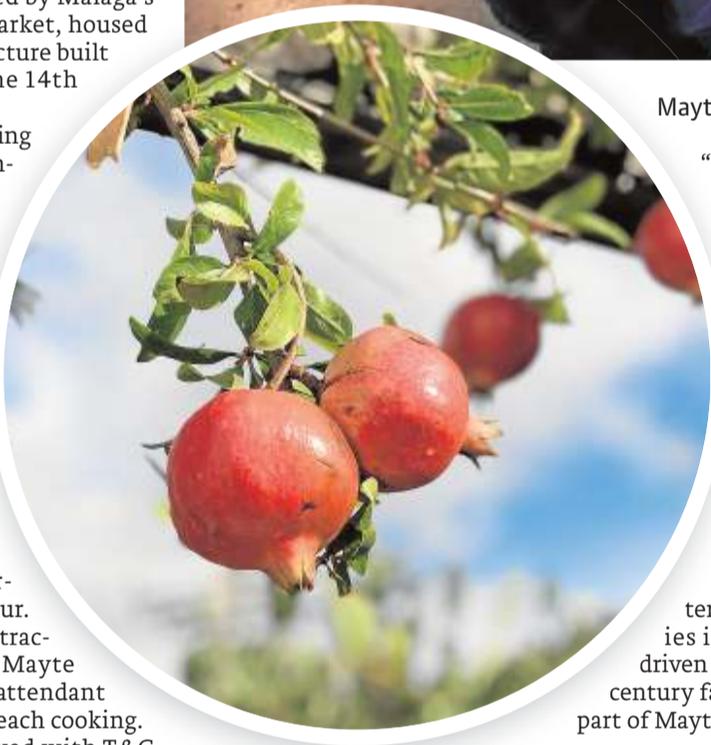
Andalusian tour operator Toma & Coe offers guests an exclusive cooking experience in a beautiful family home

MALAGA. We arrive in Malaga during a monsoon. As I hurry, crouched and swearing, from the bus station to our meeting point, people take shelter anywhere they can, caught off-guard by the heavy rain. Soon, the central nerve of Alameda Principal is a miniature river. This is my inauspicious start to a day of cooking and conviviality in an old country farmhouse – treats promised by luxury tour operator Toma & Coe (T&C) as part of its “Malaga Cooking Experience”.

Respite from the downpour is eventually provided by Malaga’s Atarazanas food market, housed in a cavernous structure built as a shipyard in the 14th century.

Led by T&C cooking guru Mayte Fernández, the small group I’m joining is taken shopping for ingredients. We’re to cook arroz caldoso: literally meaning “brothy rice”, it’s a rustic dish that can be made with fish or seafood, but today we’re doing it with chicken - free-range and wonderfully golden in colour.

Vivacious and attractive, Malaga-born Mayte worked as a flight attendant before starting to teach cooking. She became involved with T&C five years ago, when she met its English founder Manni Coe through a mutual friend. As well as now running the company’s



Pomegranates growing at the farmhouse. :: M. C.

Mayte, right, leads the tour of Atarazanas food market in Malaga. :: **MANNI COE**

“Malaga Cooking Experience”, Mayte has her own culinary school, A Cooking Day, which also introduces clients to Andalusian cuisine and customs. She says that her home, as well as a passion for food, influenced her switch from flight stewardess to cooking teacher.

You can see why. After stocking up on goodies in Atarazanas, we’re driven to the enormous 17th century farmhouse that’s been part of Mayte’s family since 1941.

The key from Harry Potter

Although just fifteen minutes out of the city, it’s surrounded by olive groves and hills, now lush from the

Biblical rain. We walk through the heavy front door – opened by a key clearly poached from the set of a Harry Potter film – into the room where Mayte holds her classes. It’s a stunning blend of traditional An-

Mayte has her own culinary school as well as running the Malaga Cooking Experience

The event is designed to be fully immersive and includes shopping and prepping

dalusian and contemporary chic, filled with light from floor-to-ceiling windows. Beyond them are the olive, almond, fig and pomegranate trees from which the family have reaped fruit for almost eighty years.

After drying our soaked feet, we’re given our individual prep stations and assigned tasks. Straight away, it feels as we’re in the house of a Spanish friend and their family - precisely the kind of behind-the-scenes experience that T&C specialises in.

“From the first moments”, explains Mayte, “[our] clients enter a real family home and say ‘hello’ to my mother or maybe my father or uncle, who might also be around”.

T&C founder Manni, who also joins us, explains that the cortijo and Mayte’s family are key to the Malaga Cooking Day: “We’ve designed this tour to be fully immersive, so guests can roll up their

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sleeves and spend the day shopping, prepping, preparing and finally enjoying their culinary creations in a family home.”

Teresa, Mayte’s 74-year-old mother, soon makes an appearance, checking on the cooking and chatting with the group. She tells us that parts of the vast cortijo are without electricity owing to the morning’s ferocious weather. But now the sun is appearing, burning off the sulky clouds and bathing the fruit trees in a watery light.

Each step of the cooking process is carefully explained to us. The chicken chunks are seasoned and browned in olive oil, after which a blend of fried-off garlic, onion and green pepper and grated tomatoes is added to the pot. Cue rich aromas and delightful sizzling. White wine, rice and water follow. Finally, a pinch of smoked paprika and a whisp of saffron are thrown in.

The rapid-fire Spanish of Mayte and Teresa provides a soundtrack to all this happy culinary activity. It’s a dynamic that you wouldn’t normally experience unless immersed in family of Spaniards - and even if you were, you’d be lucky to get as involved as we are in the cooking process. In Spain, the kitchen is a madre’s (mother’s) closely-guarded fortress, a room of culinary secrets that’s of-



Guests prep fresh ingredients on the Malaga Cooking Experience. :: M. C

ten inaccessible to outsiders.

At about 3pm, we sit down to the final stage of a process that started that morning, in a rain-swept Malaga. It turns out that the arroz caldoso con pollo was worth getting soaked for. The ricey broth,

laced with saffron and paprika, is as moreish as it is satisfying and the chicken, left on the bone for extra flavour, falls apart to the touch. We wash the hearty stew down with red wine from young, Malaga-based bodega Sedella.

After a lunch to remember, in so many ways, we say goodbye to Mayte’s Mum and lock the door behind us with the Harry Potter key. As the taxi takes us back to Malaga, now drying off in pale sunlight, I think about cooking the

caldoso myself, at home in Granada. But I doubt it’d be the same without a beautiful farmhouse overlooking olive groves, or a Spanish mother and daughter there to enthusiastically correct my mistakes.

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ANDREW J. LINN

END OF AN ERA?



Have we finally shrugged off the idea that French cuisine dominates all others? There was a time when it was as respected as a religion, and France was the church where it was worshipped. Standards were upheld by the tyranny of the Michelin Guide, and whole families from other countries would make the annual pilgrimage to the mecca of haute cuisine. On their return to Lewes, Sausalito or Reykjavik they would remember the land where the chef was king and the fat little tyre man was the king-maker.

The dogma began to dissipate with the arrival of the Common Market. Cheaper fares meant people could spread their itineraries over several countries, resulting in the 'discovery' of Italian cuisine and later Spanish and British. It soon became obvious that French cooking was not necessarily the best in the world, and that heavy sauces were not synonymous with good food.

Food critics like Anthony Bourdin and AA Gill (RIP both), rejected it in favour of new-era cooking. As long as 20 years ago, Bourdin recalled how he found himself in a simple chophouse near Smithfield market. Fergus Henderson's '200 years out of date' St John restaurant convinced him that even in Britain there was great

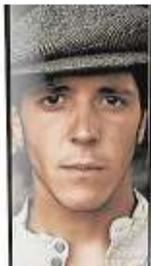
food and great chefs who did not know what 'haute cuisine' was. He described Henderson as "a walking Buddha, a total rock star. He opened the doors for people to start questioning the conventional wisdom of the restaurant business, built up over hundreds of years. He absolutely changed the world."

The food Bourdin loved and talked about on his TV shows was an anathema to lovers of French cuisine: bizarre eastern dishes, spicy offal, exotic pasta... All the more unfair therefore that he chose France as his suicide destination – or perhaps it was deliberate.

WINE OF THE WEEK

El Pícaro, Bodegas Matsu

A wholly successful exercise in making the generally-known-as strong Toro wines into a more acceptable alternative to the better-known Spanish regions. Matsu, for some illogical reason using a Japanese name, is a noteworthy bodega using biodynamic methods, etc. El Pícaro 2017, the cheapest, costs around eight euros and is very good indeed. Found at Alcampo, El Corte Inglés and others.



SOLLO INSPIRATION

Ceviche limeño

DIEGO GALLEGOS



A fish ceviche accompanied by avocado, red onions, and fried wonton macerated in yellow pepper and ponzu (a Japanese citrus sauce).

Serves four

INGREDIENTS

1 whole sea bass, 120g per person
2 litres of water
2 leeks
2 white onions
A bunch of coriander
2 carrots
2 avocados
1 red onion
1 packet of wonton sheets
1 can of yellow pepper paste

METHOD

Clean the sea bass, descale and cut the fish into fillets. Remove the skin and cut the flesh into fingers about half a centimetre thick. Keep in the fridge. Make a white fumet (stock) with the fish bones, chopped leeks, carrots and white onions. Bring to the boil and then strain, conserving just the liquid.

To this stock add the chopped coriander and the yellow pepper paste to taste (made with a particular Peruvian spicy pepper). Liquidise to make a thick sauce and chill until needed. Cut the wonton sheets into strips and fry until golden and puffed up.



Cut the avocados into fingers and the red onion julienne style.

PONZU SAUCE

INGREDIENTS

90ml natural lime juice
70ml rice vinegar
270ml soy sauce
70ml mirin
5cm strip of kombu seaweed
15g katsuobushi (flaked tuna)

METHOD

Combine all the ingredients in a bowl and leave to marinate in the fridge for at least two hours but no more than 24 hours. Drain

and reserve the liquid.

PLATING UP

Place the fish in a bowl and mix with a pinch of salt, add the red onion and marinate in the ponzu sauce. Drain and transfer the fish onto a deep plate and form a pyramid with the red onion. Pour on a little of the ponzu sauce, add the avocado and top with the fried wonton garnish.

Diego Gallegos is at the helm of the Michelin-starred restaurant Sollo and Arara bistro bar, both in the Double Tree by Hilton Hotel Resort & Spa Reserva del Hígueron, Fuengirola

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The Andalucía Costa del Sol Open attracts leading names in the golf world

Laura Davies and Trish Johnson, Beth Allen and Catriona Matthew will be joining Azahara Muñoz from 22 to 25 November at La Quinta

:: SUR

MALAGA. The presence of a number of legends in world golf - including English players Laura Davies and Trish Johnson, and Catriona Matthew from Scotland - will be an added attraction for the women's Andalucía Costa del Sol Open de España, which will take place at La Quinta Golf & Resort from Thursday 22 to Sunday 25 November. The event is sponsored by the Tourism and Sports Board of Andalucía, the Costa del Sol Tourist Board and the Mancomunidad de Municipios of the western Costa



American golfer Beth Allen. :: RFEF

del Sol, among others.

Davies, one of the best professionals of all time, is unanimously considered a golf megastar; she has

an impressive record which, of course, includes triumphs in the Open de España, which she won in 1986 and 2010.

These two titles are part of the nearly 80 on her CV, as well as more than 30 wins in different tournaments on the Ladies European Tour.

Ten times a player in the Solheim Cup, outside the European sphere, Laura Davies has also won very important titles on the American tour and in Japan, and just a few months ago, during this same season, she achieved victory in two majors on the Legends Tour, the US Senior Women's Open and the Senior LPGA Championship.

Johnson, also impressive

The same can be said of her fellow English player Trish Johnson, another of the women who can boast the most titles and fame on the Ladies European Tour.

She will be coming to La Quinta with an impressive baggage which includes other victories in Spain, such as the Tenerife Ladies Open

which she won in 2010.

From the other side of the Atlantic comes Beth Allen, looking forward to a rematch. The famous American golfer, with three victories on the Ladies European Tour and many others on the LGPA Tour, always plays well in the women's Open de España.

Last year she fought right up to the last hole against Azahara Muñoz, who achieved her second consecutive win, so this year golf lovers can look forward to yet another exciting and high-powered competition.

The list of legends is completed by Scottish player Catriona Matthew, vice-captain in the Solheim Cup in 2017 and captain of the European team for the 2019 edition. She has very good options regarding the female players who will be confronting the American team next year, and has very strong aspirations to win.

Catriona's impressive sporting history includes three wins on the LET and dozens of good results elsewhere. She was also one of the best players at the recent Estrella Damm Mediterranean Ladies Open.

The unstoppable Damián Quintero fights for his first solo gold medal

After winning in the preliminary rounds and semi-final 5-0, the karate champion meets world number one Ryo Kiyuna in the final on Saturday

:: MARINA RIVAS

MALAGA. Following his dream, and doing so with the utmost concentration. That is how Malaga karate expert Damián Quintero set off on his path to the World Championships in Madrid this week. This was a competition the young man from Torremolinos couldn't miss; he is currently ranked second in

the world and seventh in the classification for the Tokyo Olympic Games in 2020.

Hoping for his first solo gold at this international event, his challenge will not only be to win the medal, but to do everything possible to move up the ladder towards the Olympics. So far he has begun well: he has earned a place in the final of the championship, which takes place this Saturday from 6pm, when he will be up against his most challenging rival.

Quintero hasn't given anything away so far, and doesn't intend to. 'All or nothing' will be his attitude when he comes face to face with the number one in the world, who



Quintero dedicated his semi-final victory to his fans in Madrid. :: EFE

is also in the classification for Tokyo, the Japanese Ryo Kiyuna, who snatched the leadership of the ranking from Quintero a few months ago.

Although Damián knows he will walk away with a silver at the very least after a competition in which he has made no mistakes, he is determined that nothing less than gold

will do.

The road to the final

In the first round of Tuesday morning he beat Mexican Waldo Ramírez, and in the second Ali Sofoglu from Turkey, one of the most complicated rivals he could meet. It was a real battle for second or fourth place in the world ranking, which ended with

another victory for Quintero.

After that, he faced Colombian David Contreras and, in the final battle, Enzo Montarello from France. It didn't matter who his rival was, the score was always the same: 5-0. This demonstrates that he is in good physical shape, and his exclusive preparation for this event over several months has paid off. He turned down all other chances to compete, because he is focusing single-mindedly on reaching the top of the podium.

After easily winning these four earlier rounds, Quintero gained a place in the semi-final, still determined not to lose a single point. An impressive 5-0 against Venezuelan Antonio Díaz, currently number six in the world, was more than enough for him to classify.

This is his first final at this event, and just one demanding duel faces him now. Nobody should expect to see him until then. "I'm shutting myself away from the world until all this is over, focusing on my being and what lies ahead; he is a very challenging rival," he says. "My strategy has been good so far, and now I need to concentrate. For these three days I need to be relaxed, but I also have to keep training."



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Iván and match delegate Josemi try to encourage N'Diaye to leave the field after his sending off. :: AGENCIA LOF

LA LIGA 123

Results	Next match day
Albacete - Gimnástico 2-0	Cádiz - Reus
Reus - Lugo 0-0	Lugo - Alcorcón
Numancia - Tenerife 2-0	Extremadura - Osasuna
Osasuna - MALAGA 2-1	Elche - Las Palmas
Córdoba - Extremadura 4-2	Deportivo - Oviedo
Las Palmas - Deportivo 1-1	Granada - Numancia
Cádiz - Elche 5-1	R. Majadahonda - Almería
Oviedo - Mallorca 1-1	Sporting - MALAGA
Almería - Sporting 2-1	Mallorca - Córdoba
Alcorcón - R. Majadahonda 2-0	Tenerife - Albacete
Zaragoza - Granada 0-2	Gimnástico - Zaragoza

Table	TEAM	PT	P	W	D	L	GF	GA
★	1. Granada	26	12	8	2	2	20	8
★	2. MALAGA	25	12	8	1	3	15	8
■	3. Alcorcón	24	12	7	3	2	15	6
■	4. Deportivo	23	12	6	5	1	19	9
■	5. Albacete	20	12	5	5	2	19	12
■	6. Las Palmas	20	12	5	5	2	17	10
	7. Almería	17	12	5	2	5	14	11
	8. Mallorca	17	12	4	5	3	14	12
	9. Osasuna	16	12	4	4	4	13	12
	10. Oviedo	16	12	4	4	4	14	16
	11. Numancia	16	12	4	4	4	12	15
	12. Cádiz	14	12	3	5	4	13	12
	13. Sporting	14	12	3	5	4	10	9
	14. Elche	14	12	3	5	4	12	18
	15. Lugo	13	12	3	4	5	11	13
	16. Reus	13	12	3	4	5	9	13
	17. R. Majadahonda	13	12	4	1	7	9	17
	18. Tenerife	12	12	2	6	4	11	16
▼	19. Zaragoza	11	12	2	5	5	12	15
▼	20. Córdoba	11	12	2	5	5	15	24
▼	21. Extremadura	9	12	2	3	7	15	21
▼	22. Gimnástico	9	12	2	3	7	8	20

Malaga surrender top spot after incident-packed loss to Osasuna

Red cards for Blanco Leschuk and N'Diaye changed the course of the game and enabled the hosts to come back from a goal down to win



DARYL FINCH

✉ dfinch@diariosur.es

Pau Torres gave the visitors an early lead before two goals in three minutes late in the second half turned the game on its head

MALAGA. Malaga were knocked off the top of the Segunda table for the first time since August after suffering a 2-1 reversal against Osasuna at El Sadar on Saturday.

Despite a relatively tranquil first half in which Pau Torres gave Malaga the lead, the game was turned on its head in the 75th minute when Gustavo Blanco Leschuk received a second yellow card, a "clear turning point" for Malaga coach Juan Ramón Muñoz.

"It's a shame because we had the game under control. Until the sending off, our players followed the game plan perfectly."



Pau Torres celebrates giving Malaga the lead. :: AGENCIA LOF

2-1

OSASUNA-MALAGA

Osasuna: Rubén; Lillo, Aridane (David Rodríguez, 77'), Unai, Carlos Clerc; Kike Barja (Nacho Vidal, 64'), Roberto Torres, Fran Mérida, Rubén García; Juan Villar, Brandon (Xisco, 64'). Unused substitutes: Luis Perea, Imanol García, David García, Juan Pérez.

Malaga: Munir; Iván, Luis Hernández, Pau Torres, Federico Ricca; Juanpi (Ontiveros, 36'), N'Diaye, Adrián González, Dani Pacheco (Lombán, 73'); Koné (Héctor, 62'), Blanco Leschuk. Unused substitutes: Kieszek, Hicham, Lacen, Miguel Torres.

Goals: 0-1 Pau Torres (21'); 1-1 Juan Villar (80'), 2-1 Roberto Torres (83').

Referee: De la Fuente Ramos. Red cards for Blanco Leschuk (74', second yellow), Xisco and N'Diaye (both 80'). Yellow cards for Juan Villar, Iván, Munir, Lombán, Ricca, Adrián and Ontiveros.

Muñoz's side went ahead in the 21st minute when defender Pau slid to connect with Dani Pacheco's free kick from the left.

But despite the setback of losing Juanpi to injury, Malaga almost had a second goal courtesy of Mamadou Koné. The Senegalese for-





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Up next

SPORTING (A)

BY JAMES CHAPMAN

Things don't get any easier for Malaga with a trip to Asturias to take on familiar foe Sporting de Gijón.

For many years, this would have been a top-flight fixture with this Sporting's second season back in Segunda following relegation.

In fact, Sporting finished runners-up in La Liga in 1979, third in 1980 and fourth in both 1985 and 1987, placing them 15th in the all-time La Liga table.

What's more, the side from Gijón have also played in European competitions on six occasions, but got no further than the last 16 in all of them.

The Red and Whites came close to an immediate return to La Liga last season, dropping out at the playoff stages, but this year so far has proved to be a difficult one

with Rubén Baraja's men just picking up three wins so far.

Their record at home is strong, however. Sporting are unbeaten at El Molinón, recording three wins and three draws.

The stadium seats 29,000 and has been in use since 1908, making it the oldest professional football ground in Spain.

Malaga visit on Sunday, looking to get back on track after taking just seven points from the last 15 available.

Kick off is at 6pm.

ward, again deputising for Jack Harper whose injury has turned out to be worse than first thought, turned the defender on the corner of the penalty area with some quick footwork before chipping his effort over the keeper but wide of the far post.

The start of the second half continued in much the same vein with the visitors managing the game, albeit not creating many chances.

A chance fell to Osasuna striker Juan Villar when a long ball over the top bounced nicely in the penalty area but the striker hit his shot straight at Munir who fumbled the ball into the air, fortunate that there was no one following in.

However, the tide would truly turn just five minutes later when Blanco Leschuk received a surprise second yellow for a high arm when challenging for an aerial duel just inside his own half.

Out of options

Malaga, by this point with only substitute Héctor up top, were now struggling to get out of their own half with Muñiz already having gone to a back five when he brought on centre-back David Lombán for Pacheco.

The equaliser didn't take long to arrive; in the 80th minute Juan Villar shrugged off the attentions of Luis Hernández before heading home Rubén García's free kick from close to the corner flag.

This setback, though, cost Malaga in more than one way: it cost them another man, this time Alfred N'Diaye.

Celebrations ended before they could begin as a fracas broke out among the players and resulted in both N'Diaye and Xisco also being sent off.

Things went from bad to worse for Malaga three minutes later

when Roberto Torres scored a spectacular free kick from 25 yards out, getting the ball up and over the wall and into the top corner, rounding off a whirlwind ten-minute turnaround for the hosts.

Nine-man Malaga endeavoured to find the equaliser but struggled

to get enough men forward. They did, however, manage to create one last chance deep into five minutes of stoppage time when Luis Hernández's long throw fell to Héctor whose close-range volley was deflected away off the defender's knee.

Blanco Leschuk will face Sporting after having ban lifted

N'Diaye also had his ban reduced to one game, but Muñiz still has some dilemmas ahead of Sunday's trip to Gijón

BY SERGIO CORTÉS / PEDRO LUIS ALONSO

MALAGA. The selection headache for Malaga coach Juan Ramón Muñiz ahead of Sunday's trip to Gijón to take on Sporting was eased somewhat on Wednesday by the news that forward Gustavo Blanco Leschuk's second yellow card was rescinded following an appeal.

The Argentinian will be available for selection, but not Alfred N'Diaye. His red card has not been rescinded, but his ban has been reduced from two games to one. This came after the Senegalese released a statement on Monday. He said: "I offer my apologies to everyone - the fans and to the children who were in the stadium for my behaviour. It was a bad reaction to a rival player who was

provoking us and had disrespected my teammate. All I can say is that I'm sorry because it was not a good example to set for others."

N'Diaye won't travel to Gijón, but he will be available for the visit of Nàstic on Saturday 17 November having not been called up by his national team.

It was not such good news for the other players who picked up their fifth yellow card of the season in Pamplona. Adrián, Federico Ricca and Javier Ontiveros are all suspended, joining a growing list of possible absentees with Mamadou Koné, Jack Harper and Juanpi and Álex Mula all in the treatment room.

What's more, full-back Juankar has been ruled out for the season after undergoing surgery on his cruciate ligaments.

Right-back Cifu has returned to training and could be an option for Sunday, likewise youth team midfielder Keidi Baré who is being tipped for a start in the absence of first-choice holding midfielders Adrián and N'Diaye.



The players celebrate Adriana's winning goal. BY GERMÁN POZO

Femenino go into the international break with their work done

BY MARINA RIVAS

MALAGA. As they sit tenth in the Liga Iberdrola table, Malaga's women's team can be satisfied with their work so far having seemingly turned a corner since the start of the season.

Antonio Contreras' team now look comfortable in the top flight, as shown by their 2-1 victory on Sunday against Madrid CFF.

It was a lacklustre performance in the first half, characterised by sloppy play in possession and in which the visitors went ahead courtesy of Laura del Río after María Ruiz lost possession. Despite this, though, Malaga quickly re-

gained their composure in the second half and scored twice.

The first came in the 47th minute when Pamela Mascaró converted Leticia's corner with conviction.

After some quick thinking from the goal scorer, she then played in captain Adriana who bagged her first goal of the season with forty minutes still to play.

Though Malaga were comfortable, anxiety levels in Coin were raised as the seconds ticked down with the referee seemingly forgetting to bring an end to stoppage time.

League action returns in a week after the international break.



The state of works at present. BY NITO SALAS

Construction work on Academy complex hits a snag but the club denies they have stopped

BY PEDRO LUIS ALONSO

MALAGA. Works on the future Malaga CF sports complex in Aranjana are ongoing, but at a slower pace, the club has confirmed.

A number of fans had noted that works seemed to be moving very slowly, leading construction company Bilba to admit that the project had encountered problems due to the recent heavy rainfall.



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A LOOK AT LA LIGA

ROB PALMER
Commentator, Sky Sports
@robopalmer



The quiet revolution

While Real Madrid struggle to piece everything back together, at Barcelona Valverde has carefully replaced established stars with players of promise

In Barcelona there is a quiet restoration of a masterpiece. In Madrid it is like a jigsaw that has been strewn across the floor and needs someone to piece it back together.

Maybe too much has been written about what is going wrong with Real Madrid in the post-Ronaldo/Zidane era and not enough has been observed about how Barcelona are coping without Andrés Iniesta and temporarily minus Messi.

Ernesto Valverde doesn't have the style of Pep Guardiola nor the brashness of Luis Enrique but he is proving to be just as talented a manager. His revolution

has been a shrewd and silent one.

When the team left the field at the San Siro this week it struck me just how much the team has been restored with minimum fuss and with an eye on the long-term future.

The average age has dropped dramatically with the introduction of Arthur Melo (22), Clément Lenglet (23), Ousmane Dembélé (21), Malcolm (21) and Philippe Coutinho the senior signing at the age of 26.

The team has been refreshed by a series of mainly sensible signings who are crafting a career at the Camp Nou. Ok, Ousmane Dembélé cost a size-

able 105 million euros and he's yet to totally reach the expectations, but he is the exception.

Arthur wasn't fazed at taking on the number eight shirt of Andrés Iniesta and he plays the part magnificently. He's slipped into the midfield orchestrator role and looks as though he could solve the seemingly impossible conundrum of how to find the successor to Iniesta and Xavi. He has the same DNA.

Clément Lenglet belies his youth. Twenty-three is young for a central defender, especially when you have to dovetail with an institution like Gerard Piqué. I believe the young France international has forced even Piqué to raise his game. Samuel Umtiti will be a Barcelona centre-back for years to come but Piqué hasn't had any competition for his place in a decade. Once Umtiti is fit again the manager will have centre-back options, a new luxury for him.

Malcolm has required patience since signing from Bordeaux in the summer. At the time of writing he's



Arthur has taken on Iniesta's number eight with no problems. :: EFE

been on the field just 114 minutes since the 41-million-euro investment. This week he announced himself with a headline-capturing cameo at the San Siro. Within seconds of being thrown on he controlled the ball, swivelled his hips, threw the defenders and curled in the much-needed Barça goal.

The Brazilian is getting a patient introduction that wasn't afforded to Dembélé. When a club spends over 100 million euros on a player they can't drip feed him. Dembélé has been judged very quickly, maybe too quickly. He's not exactly hit

the ground running; he famously injured himself trying a trick. The thing is that he has an incredible natural talent. There are shades of Neymar who took a couple of seasons to fully establish himself.

Factor into the equation Coutinho who turned 26 in the summer and Nelson Semedo who is still 24 and you can see the bigger picture painted by Valverde.

While Real Madrid piece everything back together he's carefully replaced established stars with players of promise. Long-term planning is beginning to pay off!

Two defensive errors condemn Marbella to yet another defeat

:: OPTA

SAN FERNANDO (CADIZ). Marbella deserved a lot more from their trip to Cadiz on Sunday as they took on the division's surprise package, San Fernando. But for a lack of conviction in attack and two errors at

the back, Padilla's side could have come away with a win. However, the reality is that Marbella occupy one of the relegation spots, having fallen to their sixth defeat of the season.

The game started well for the



Mustafá under pressure. :: OPTA

Costa del Sol side, however, with Juanma missing his header from Peris' cross in the third minute, before Jürgen passed up a clear chance of his own.

San Bernardo keeper Rubén Gálvez's gloves were kept warm in the 35th minute when he kept out Elías Pérez's freekick at the second time of asking.

The first half ended with the feeling that all would be decided in the second 45, and so it proved.

Just five minutes in and Marbella were behind. Diego Simón's throw-in was flicked on by Pau Franch and a sleepy Marbella defender allowed

Pedro Ríos to latch onto the ball and give his side the lead.

Just five minutes later in an almost identical scenario, the former Getafe man doubled his tally, giving the visitors an enormous mountain to climb.

Marbella had their chances, though. They could have got a goal back in the 67th minute but Colo came to the rescue to clear off the line. A minute later an overhead kick from Elías Pérez couldn't trouble a defence who have now not conceded in 390 minutes.

Marbella receive Recreativo Huelva on Sunday (4.30pm kickoff).

IN BRIEF

Davidovich crashes out of the Shenzhen Challenger in the semis

MALAGA

:: **P. L. ALONSO.** Local tennis star Alejandro Davidovich's quest to win the Shenzhen Challenger came to a premature end on Saturday as he was defeated 5-7 4-6 in the semi-final by Slovenian Blaž Kavčič.

This was the same opponent who had brought his pursuit of the Luizhou Challenger to an end at the quarter-final stage a week previously.

Despite this, Davidovich is expected to rise to at least 230th place in the ATP rankings when they are next published.

Kavčič eventually lost to Serbian Miomir Kecmanović in the final in Shenzhen 2-6 6-2 3-6.



Vikings Fuengirola. :: SUR

Regional inline hockey league gets under way

FUENGIROLA

:: **SUR.** The Andalusian inline hockey league started last Saturday in both Fuengirola and Chiclana simultaneously. All the three Fuengirola teams (Lions, Barona and Vikings) played in Fuengirola.

The first game of the morning was an intense derby between Li-

ons and Barona, which ended up in Lions' favour (8-3) with the result flattering, given the close nature of the game.

Another derby was at 1pm between Lions and the new team Vikings; this time Vikings took the three points home, winning 7-5.

The remaining three games contested by Fuengirola teams resulted in wins: Vikings-Malaga (14-4), Barona - Marbella (11-3) and Barona - Búhos Granada (7-1).

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Pisces
February 20th - March 20th
Sometimes it seems that you have lost your sense of fun. Silliness can be part of a balanced life, you know. Use some of that magical sense of fun to charm a friend into joining you for a trip out.

Aries
March 21st - April 20th
Travel brings excitement. However, your attention is taken midweek by the problems of a relative. It does seem that this cannot wait.

Taurus
April 21st - May 21st
This week you could take the plunge and join a team effort. This could be for a charity or a sport but is sure to bring laughter and a new experience.

Gemini
May 22nd - June 21st
Although you start the week feeling a bit depleted, after a few days your energy returns. A mystery is solved involving a friend and time lost.

Cancer
June 22nd - July 23rd
Are you thinking of changing your appearance? Maybe just a healthy glow is what you are missing. Getting out and about in this crisp autumn weather could be just the tonic that you need.

Leo
July 24th - August 23rd
This is a really good week to get outdoors and look for that special someone. Perhaps a cat or dog may be preferable? Somewhere there is a pet who would love you to look after it.

Virgo
August 24th - September 23rd
Any unsuccessful forays into love and romance should not be allowed to put you off the idea. Not everyone finds a soulmate right away.

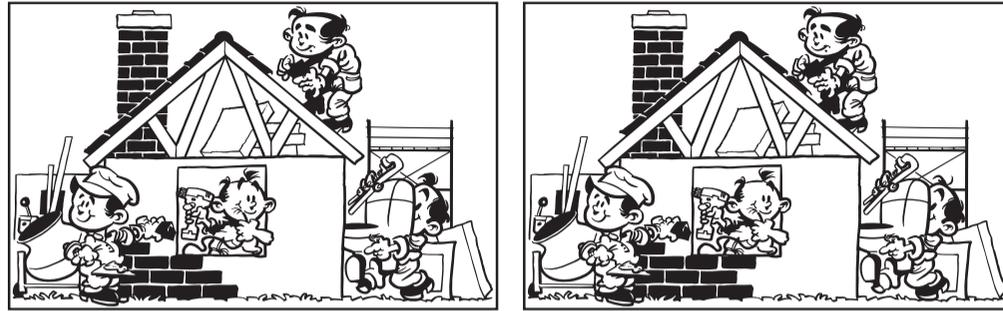
Libra
September 24th - October 23rd
A caring attitude leads you to where you should be. Being picky about who you spend your time with is fine but don't rule out someone because you haven't met anyone like them before.

Scorpio
October 24th - November 22nd
You expect so much of people that sometimes they are sure to let you down. Remember that throwaway comments are just that. Meant to be thrown away! Look for the good side.

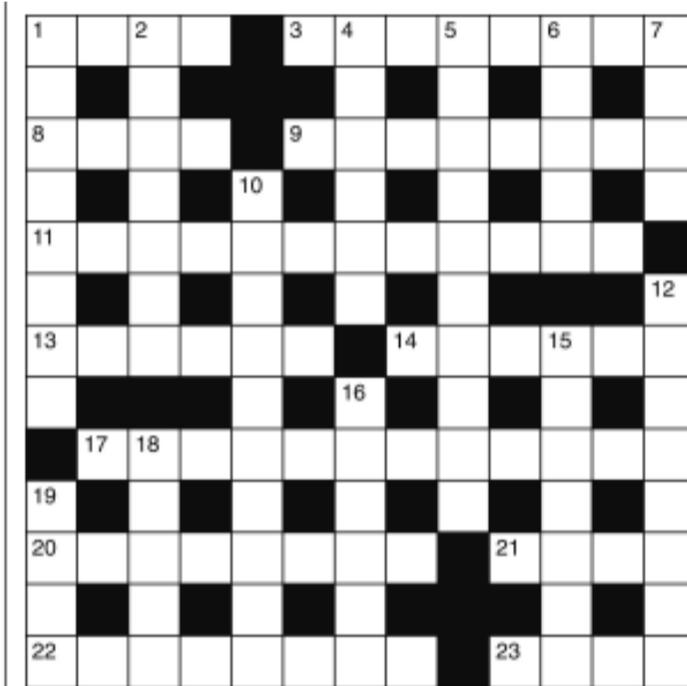
Sagittarius
November 23rd - December 21st
Spending too much time on your own may make you lose a balanced picture. Do you realise how much others enjoy your company? Probably not as you are naturally modest.

Capricorn
December 22nd - January 20th
Send out an invitation for next week based on a good feeling about someone new. Your instincts are likely to be spot on. Making an effort with someone this week could lead to a long friendship.

THE SEVEN DIFFERENCES



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Across

- 1 Fishy fingerprints? (4)
- 3 Play one's own game, not considering one division (3,5)
- 8 Have average intentions? (4)
- 9 Devotee carrying little weight in window manufacture (8)
- 11 Powder that adds spice to the soil? (6,6)
- 13 True, an altered character (6)
- 14 Go into contortions to set down remarks about hothead (6)
- 17 Go out of one's mind in sections (12)
- 20 Entering it may well mean one must be patient (8)
- 21 Completely get her to leave singer (4)
- 22 Met green, suddenly appearing (8)
- 23 Some nasty rookie or raw recruit (4)

Down

- 1 Harming reputation of mother when she's getting older (8)
- 2 Confirm animal has escaped (4,3)
- 4 Make pay for assault? (6)
- 5 The whole fraternity find everything shipshape (3,2,5)
- 6 Some fear guerrillas may want to bandy words (5)
- 7 Former European leader to see about it (4)
- 10 Getting bigger when folding (10)
- 12 My! What a fuss about being rich! (4-2-2)
- 15 To agree completely (7)
- 16 Reach an abstainer in a muddle (6)
- 18 Follow almost unseen in the confusion (5)
- 19 It needs to be a bit more than a foot long (4)

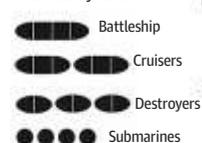
SUDOKU BY HANZO

Instructions
Complete the square making sure that every row of nine numbers includes all digits from 1 to 9, every column includes all digits from 1 to 9 and every 3 by 3 subsection includes all digits from 1 to 9

9		5			3		7	
	4		2	9	8	1		3
	8							4
	6			2		3	8	
7	5				1	2		
		8	6					
	9	1	8			6		
	7		9	1		4		8
	2		7					

BATTLESHIPS

Instructions Find where the fleet of ships (1 battleship, 2 cruisers, 3 destroyers, 4 submarines) are hidden in the grid. The numbers to the right of and below the grid indicate how many of the squares in that row are filled in with ships or parts of ships. The ships do not touch each other, even diagonally. Some have been filled in to start you off.



	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
A				■						1
B									■	1
C										3
D	■									2
E						■				2
F		■								2
G										5
H										0
I							■			4
J										0
	4	1	2	1	2	3	2	0	4	1

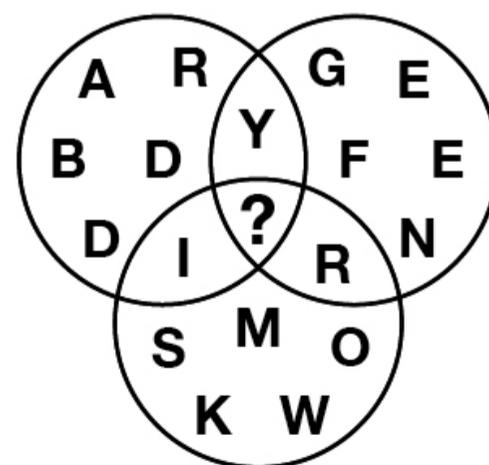
THE WORDPUZZLER

E	M	I	T	H	S	A	V	I	L
R	A	G	R	I	T	H	E	R	Y
O	N	L	O	M	E	V	N	U	R
W	R	A	O	R	E	X	T	I	B
N	A	B	S	A	L	R	O	D	E
A	D	O	T	H	S	I	L	T	L
J	A	K	E	N	D	V	D	I	F
P	Y	E	R	E	A	P	O	G	O
E	E	V	O	R	W	E	R	O	R
S	T	Y	R	O	N	I	G	H	T

Can you identify the words missing from the titles of the John Wayne films listed below?

- 1. --- The Wild Wind
- 2. Greatest Story Ever ---
- 3. Lady For A ---
- 4. --- Cogburn
- 5. --- Rider
- 6. True ---
- 7. Big ---
- 8. --- Apache
- 9. Blue ---
- 10. The Longest ---

CIRCLEGRAM



Instructions
Replace the question mark with a letter so that the letters in each circle can be arranged to form words, names or terms on a common theme. What are the three words, and the letter represented by the question mark?

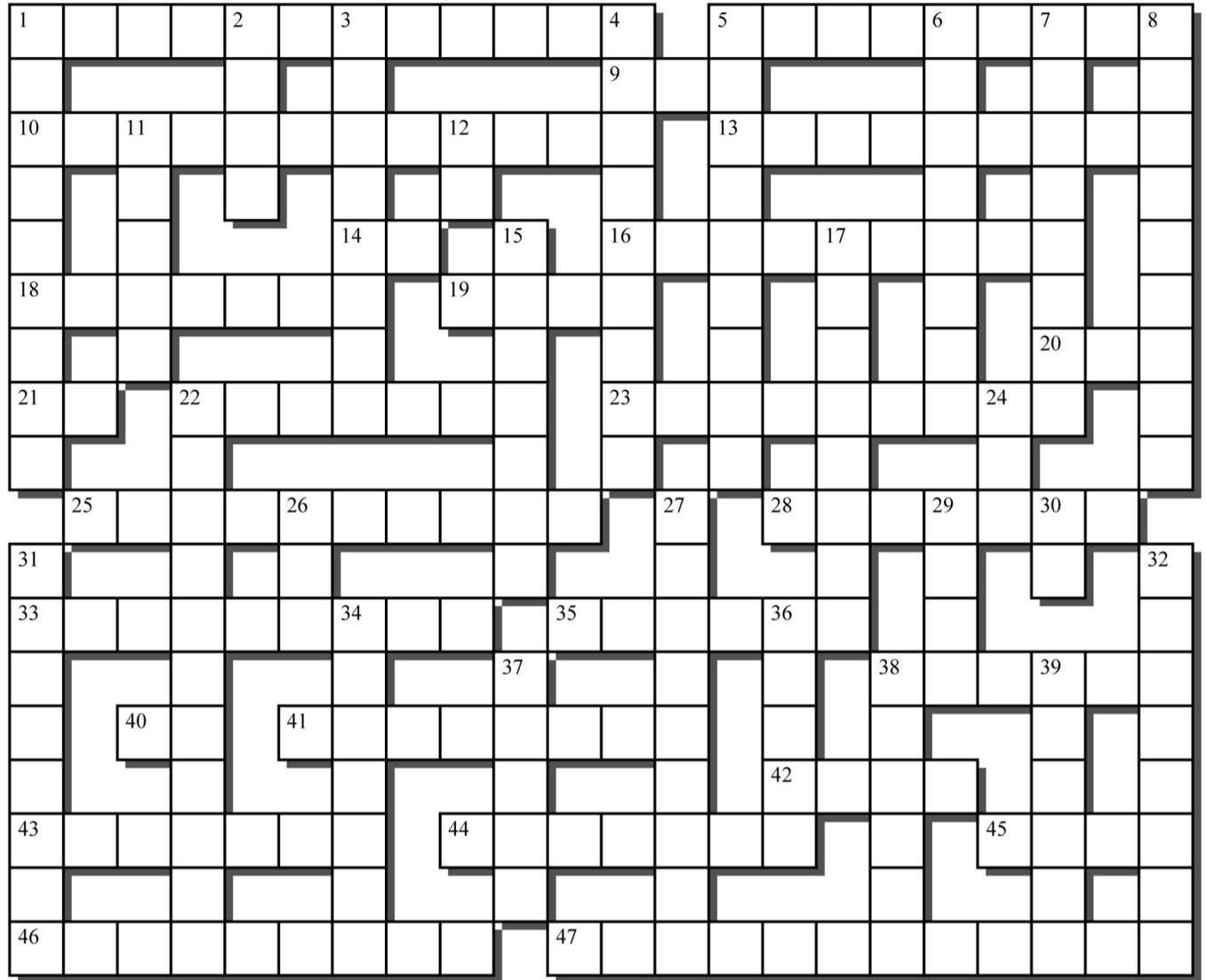
LANGUAGE CROSSWORD FILL IN THE SPANISH WORD

Across

- 1) Adolescence (12)
- 5) Identity (9)
- 9) With (3)
- 10) Discouraging (12)
- 13) Rain showers (9)
- 14) To the (2)
- 16) Night club (9)
- 18) They name (7)
- 19) Bike (4)
- 20) To hear (3)
- 21) To go (2)
- 22) Bartering (7)
- 23) Performance (9)
- 25) Transsexual (10)
- 28) Diverse (7)
- 33) Murder (9)
- 35) Village (6)
- 38) To beat (6)
- 40) Of (2)
- 41) Film (8)
- 42) Strange (4)
- 43) Naïve (f) (7)
- 44) Wild (7)
- 45) I drank (4)
- 46) Report (9)
- 47) Prostitution (12)

Down

- 1) Audience (9)
- 2) She (4)
- 3) Singer (8)
- 4) To give credit to (9)
- 5) Unceasing (9)
- 6) Transvestite (8)
- 7) They showered (8)
- 8) To discover (9)
- 11) Earthquake (5)
- 12) Ace (2)
- 15) To design (7)
- 17) Optional (8)
- 22) Transgender (11)
- 24) To hear (3)
- 26) Without (3)
- 27) Ready (9)
- 29) East (4)
- 30) If (2)
- 31) Relative (8)
- 32) Assault (8)
- 34) Threat (7)
- 36) Free (5)
- 37) To throw (5)
- 38) Vermouth (6)
- 39) I committed (6)



ANSWERS

Quiz answers

Answer : 1920s
Of interest: Marilyn Monroe
 (Norma Jeane Mortenson then Norma Jean Baker) was born in Los Angeles on June 1, 1926.
Answer : Knowledge
Of interest: Epistemology is the study of the nature of knowledge, justification, and the rationality of belief.

Language Crossword

ACROSS:
 1. ADOLESCENCIA 5. IDENTIDAD 9. CON
 10. DESALIENTADOR 13. CHUBASCOS
 14. AL 16. DISCOTECA 18. NOMBRAN
 19. BICI 20. OIR 21. R. TRUQUE
 22. ACTUACION 25. TRANSEXUAL
 28. DIVERSO 33. ASINATO 35. PUEBLO
 38. VENGER 40. DE 41. PELICULA
 42. RARO 43. INGENUA 44. SALVAJE
 45. BEBI 46. REPORTAJE
 47. PROSTITUCION

DOWN:
 1. AUDIENCIA 2. ELA 3. CANTANTE
 4. ACREDITAR 5. INCESANTE 6. TRAVESTI
 7. DUCHARON 8. DESCUBRIR 11. SISMO
 12. AS 15. DISEÑAR 17. OPTATIVO
 22. TRANSEXUAL 24. OIR 26. SIN
 27. PREPARADO 29. ESTE 30. SI
 31. FAMILIAR 32. AGRESION
 34. AMENAZA 36. LIBRE 37. CHAR
 38. VERMUT 39. COMETI

Cryptic Crossword

Solutions: Across: 1 Dabs; 3 Act apart; 8 Mean; 9 Farlight; 11 Ground ginger; 13 Nature; 14 Write; 17 Departmental; 20 Hospital; 21 Alto; 22 Emergent; 23 Tyro; Down: 1 Damaging; 2 Bear out; 4 Charge; 5 All in order; 6 Argue; 7 Tito; 10 Increasing; 12 Well-to-do; 15 Totally; 16 Attain; 18 Ensur; 19 Shoe.

Wordpuzzler solution

1. Reap
 2. Told
 3. Night
 4. Rooster
 5. Dawn
 6. Gift
 7. Lake
 8. Fort
 9. Steel
 10. Day

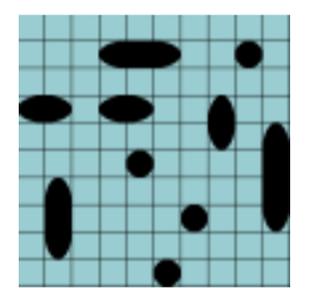
Sudoku solution

9	1	5	4	6	3	8	7	2
6	4	7	2	9	8	1	5	3
3	8	2	1	7	5	9	6	4
1	6	4	5	2	7	3	8	9
7	5	9	3	8	1	2	4	6
2	3	8	6	4	9	7	1	5
4	9	1	8	5	2	6	3	7
5	7	3	9	1	6	4	2	8
8	2	6	7	3	4	5	9	1

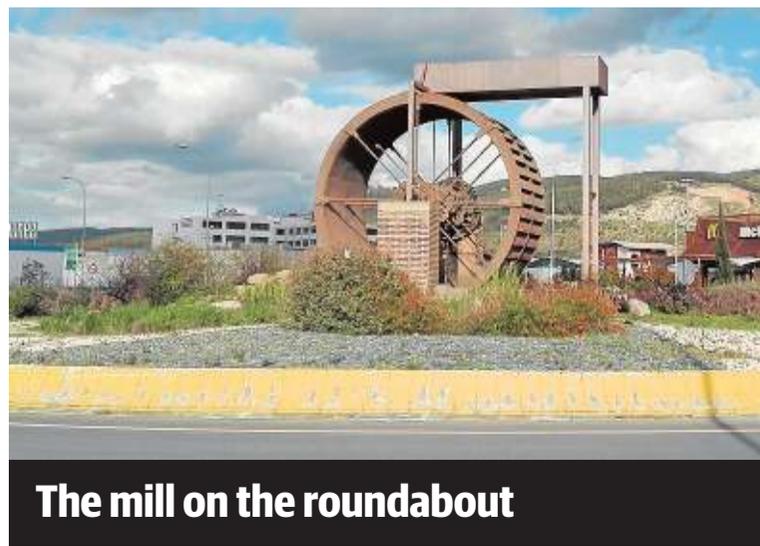
Circlegram

The letter represented by the question mark is L. Ladybird, Greenfly, Silkworm, all insects.

Battleships



WHERE HAVE YOU SEEN THIS?



The mill on the roundabout

Last week: Miguel de Molina

The sculpture featuring the smiling face of singer Miguel de Molina (known as the King of Copla) is found on the roundabout in the Capuchinos area of Malaga. He was born in a street nearby in 1908 and died in Buenos Aires in 1993.



MALAGA PORT INFORMATION

CRUISE SHIP MOVEMENTS (SOURCE: MALAGA PORT AUTHORITY)

Ship	Date	From	Next port	Docks	Sails
MSC Fantasia	09/11	Cartagena	Casablanca	07.00	18.00
Seabourn Odyssey	09/11	Barcelona	Tangier	08.00	18.00
Aegean Odyssey	10/11	Trapani	Sevilla	07.00	23.00
Queen Victoria	10/11	Cadiz	Cartagena	08.00	18.00
Horizon	11/11	Tangier	Casablanca	09.00	18.00
Zenith	12/11	-	Funchal	08.00	16.00
Star Breeze	14/11	-	-	08.00	22.00
Seven Seas Voyager	14/11	Cartagena	Funchal	08.00	17.00
Costa Favolosa	14/11	-	-	09.00	19.00
Riviera	15/11	Huelva	Alicante	08.00	18.00
Horizon	15/11	Tangier	Cartagena	09.00	18.00
Costa Pacifica	16/11	Funchal	Civitavecchia	08.00	13.00





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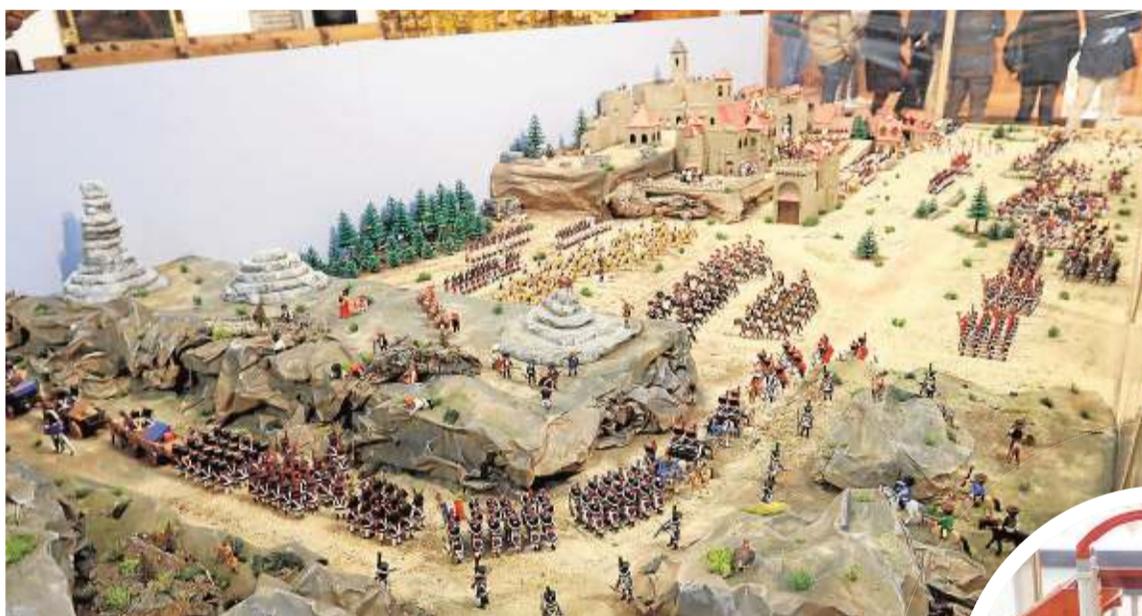
Antequera wants to be a Playmobil town

Ten venues are displaying miniature scenes until 6 January as a way of raising funds for social initiatives

:: ANTONIO J. GUERRERO

ANTEQUERA. It is already known as the 'town of churches', 'town of El Torcal' and, recently, the home of the Dolmens World Heritage Site, but Antequera has now become a Playmobil town as well. Playmobil, those little models known as 'clickys' will bring back fond memories to the parents of today, which they would undoubtedly love to share with their own children. And so they are in luck: for several more weeks, displays containing these little figures can be seen in ten different places in Antequera.

This was the idea of local businessman Juan Trujillo, and has been organised by Alberto Arana, the head of the Aventura Solidaria association. The aim is that the entrance money will be used to carry out social projects in the town. That can be achieved if enough people come (and it shouldn't be a problem, because the last exhibition in 2013 was visited by 33,759 people), and thanks are due



Three churches in the town house the displays. **:: A. J. GUERRERO**

to Antequera council, the Unicaja Foundation, Serainant and Audiolis, who have paid 80 per cent of the set-up costs for the exhibition.

For four euros, Playmobil enthusiasts can visit three churches which are participating in the first 'Ciudad de Antequera' Playmobil competition with large dioramas. From Monday to Friday between 4pm and 8pm, and weekends and public holidays

from 10am to 2pm, except 24 and 31 December, visitors can take a trip from prehistory to the present day through the different displays, and take home one of the 11 special dolls which have been made of local personalities such as Acilia Plecusa in the Roman era, the Infante Don Fernando 'El de Antequera', writer Cristobalina Fernández and hero of the War of Independence 'El Capitán Moreno'. The

ticket also gives entry to the Antequera Museum at the same times.

In churches

The San Francisco, Santa Clara and San Juan de Dios churches are

housing the displays, which include themes such as 'Embarking on the Titanic', 'Return to Virieky', 'The Cold War', 'Jurassic Island', 'Man and Nature', 'Colorado Woods', 'A day in the Graussen villa', 'Mission Mali' and 'Antequera and Capitán Moreno'. In addition, on the ground floor of the museum there are several recreations from the time of the dolmens to the Roman period, including a replica of Acilia Plecusa's tomb and a composition of Hispania.

There is also free entry to a recreation of the Battle of Flanders at the Tourist Office in Calle Encarnación, and a reproduction of the Menga dolmen in the reception centre at the archaeological complex, among other displays.



The exhibitions feature history and local characters. **:: A. J. G.**

The town's mayor, Manuel Barón, says this is a great way to see some of the town's interesting buildings as well as a trip into the Playmobil past.

<p style="font-size: 0.8em;">Frontline Aloha Golf. As project 1.495.000€ or finished 2.995.000€</p>	<p style="font-size: 0.8em;">Cabopino Villas. Walking distance to Cabopino Marina from 870.000€, just released.</p>	<p style="font-size: 0.8em;">Stunning Villa in Benalmádena. Reduced from 1.995.000€ to 1.795.000€.</p>
<p style="font-size: 0.8em;">La Cala de Mijas. Contemporary Villas from 510.000€, great value for money.</p>	<p style="font-size: 0.8em;">La Cala de Mijas. Villas walking distance to town centre and sea views from 825.000€</p>	<p style="font-size: 0.8em;">La Cerquilla, Nueva Andalucía. 3.350.000€</p>

ROC ESTATES

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