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February 10th to 16th 2017
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"We're leaving the EU; we're not leaving Europe"

British ambassador Simon Manley spoke to SUR in English after urging calm among business leaders **P12&13**



SUR FORUM MALAGA OPEN FOR INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS



The Mayor of Malaga, Francisco de la Torre, during his presentation in the City of London on Wednesday. :: NITO SALAS

Marbella fuel prices higher than provincial average

Petrol prices can be up to 12 cents a litre more expensive than anywhere else in the Malaga area

A study carried out for SUR shows that filling up with petrol in Marbella is more expensive than in Malaga city or elsewhere along the coast. According to the official figures, the average price for diesel is 1.163 euros per litre in Marbella, 1.147 in Malaga and 1.146 in Seville. Lola García, president of Facua Malaga, suggests there could be price agreements between petrol stations in the town, something which would be illegal. **P3**

SPORT

Former players Josemi and Dely Valdés return to Malaga to take up new roles on the backroom staff **P57&59**

Unicaja face a tough test in the shape of Bayern Munich in the quarter finals of the EuroCup **P61**

A British winner as more than 300 foreign athletes took part in the Torremolinos half marathon **P57**

Big firms are introduced to the business side of Malaga in London

SUR's first international forum brings together City executives

Around a hundred business leaders from London-based firms accepted the invitation extended to them this week by the SUR newspaper group to learn more about Malaga. This time, however, it wasn't Malaga as a tourist destination that the guests had gone to hear about. Malaga, Open for International Business, was the name

of the event at which the City Hall, the University of Malaga and Unicaja Bank explained why this is one of the most attractive destinations for businesses planning to move or expand abroad, in the process keeping one foot in the eurozone. The guests were given plenty of reasons for choosing Malaga, among them the excellent

communications, the international community, the modern university and the technology park. Most didn't need telling about the attractive climate and stunning location, but they were reminded of the area's cuisine with products and wines from Malaga province, served at the Hispania restaurant in central London. **P2**

A World War II hero on a second-hand market stall

A collector found a helmet thought to belong to a legendary fighter pilot among piles of junk **P18&19**



José Fernández Molina with the helmet. :: NITO SALAS

Major police operation almost brings Gibraltar to a standstill as the officers stopped an RAF plane from taking off **P23**

Direct flights to Tel Aviv from May as Turismo Costa del Sol signs an agreement with Israeli airline company Sund'or **P14**

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London business leaders discover Malaga's potential as an investment destination

The SUR group takes its business seminars overseas with the Malaga, Open for International Business meeting in London

:: PEDRO LUIS GÓMEZ

LONDON. "We've come to London to share the message of a grand and hospitable city: one that is attractive, like few in the world, to live in, to invest in and to work in." With these words the mayor of Malaga, Francisco de la Torre, opened his speech to a group of around 100 business leaders from firms based in the City who had been invited to the event at London's Hispania restaurant.

Promoting Malaga, and by extension the Costa del Sol and the rest of the province, as a place "to live, work and invest" is nothing new, however the offer has gained a new perspective since the Brexit vote.

This area has attracted people from all over the world, and especially from the UK, not just to visit, but to live and to set up businesses, however now firms are considering the option of keeping one foot, or even both feet, in the EU and Malaga wants to make sure that this area is the first choice in eurozone business destinations.

This week's event in London was organised by SUR and the City Hall with the help of Mario García, the CEO of London firm Sequel Business Solutions, who supports the bid of his hometown to encourage business investment.

The event was introduced by the editor-in-chief of the SUR newspapers, Manuel Castillo, who stressed the group's commitment to promoting the area overseas.

As well as the mayor of Malaga and Mario García, also speaking at the



It was standing room only during the presentation of Malaga, Open for International Business. :: NITO SALAS



Some of the guests at the event. :: N. SALAS



José Ángel Narváez and Sergio Corral. :: N. SALAS



Manuel Castillo and Mario García. :: N. SALAS

Big London names hear the success stories of technology firms in Malaga

While the mayor of Malaga went through his list of major firms that have already set up a base in Malaga's Parque Tecnológico - Accenture, Dekra, Ericsson, Google, Huawei, Oracle, among others - the names of firms whose executives sat among his audience were no less impressive: The Royal Bank of Scotland, Carlyle Europe Technology, Interior Lab, Thomas Millers, Guggenheim Partners, HG Capital, RCB Bank, Liberty, Accord and a long etcetera. Representatives of the Spanish embassy in London and the Spanish Tourist Board also attended. The second part of the evening took the form of a cocktail reception where guests enjoyed the best of Malaga's own cuisine with Sabor a Málaga brand products and wines.

event was the director of the Unicaja Bank Foundation, Sergio Corral, who highlighted Malaga's current socio-economic climate as an advantage.

As well as the international environment, the financial climate, the costs, the connections and of course the weather and the beautiful sea and mountainous surroundings, Malaga's great advantage to international investment is its growing hub of technology firms and its university.

During his speech, the rector of the University of Malaga, José Ángel Narváez, showed videos of directors of firms located in the PTA (the Andalusian Technology Park) talking of their experiences.

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Fuel prices in Marbella can be up to 12 cents a litre more expensive than elsewhere in the province



MÓNICA PÉREZ
IGNACIO LILLO

The control of most petrol stations by major oil companies and a lack of competition means that prices may be higher than the average

MARBELLA. Drivers who regularly travel around Malaga province are probably more aware than most of a fact which has just been confirmed by official statistics: fuel prices in Marbella are higher than elsewhere in the region, and this has become even more noticeable with the latest increases. A study carried out for SUR shows that filling up with petrol (the fuel which is most used) in Marbella is more expensive than in Malaga city or elsewhere along the coast. According to the official figures, the average price for diesel is 1.163 euros per litre in Marbella, 1.147 in Malaga and 1.146 in Seville.

It is interesting to note that in cities where people have more spending power, the fuel prices tend to be lower. Granada is one of the cheapest places in Andalucía to buy fuel, at a cost of 1.124 euros a litre; this is reflected elsewhere in Spain, too, such as Bilbao (1.126) and Zaragoza (1.127).

Perhaps the most important point

is that when comparing fuel prices in Marbella and the rest of the province or Malaga city, the difference can be as much as 12 cents a litre. In a tank which takes 50 litres it could mean a saving of six euros, depending on the petrol station.

In neighbouring municipalities such as Estepona the average price of diesel is 1.138 euros, and in Mijas, the other side of Marbella, it is 1.141. This is due to the existence of a large number of 'independent' petrol stations, which do not sell a particular brand of fuel, compared with those which exclusively sell one major brand. Recently, it has become possible to find some of the 'low-cost' petrol stations on industrial estates.

In the case of Malaga province, the entry of Oil Distribution Terminals (ODT) has also played a part. Last year, the ODT moved 103,163 tons of diesel through Malaga port for use by independent suppliers. This means "prices can be contained," says the president of the Port Authority, Paulino Plata.

Discounts and personnel

We have consulted major figures in the sector and representatives of consumers associations about these figures. Luis Calero, the vice-president of the Provincial Association of Service Stations, says that in Malaga city there are fewer independent and unattended petrol stations as in other places, where competition is greater. "There is a structure of big petrol companies, like Repsol and BP, who keep prices stable on the mar-



The Galp filling station on Las Albarizas industrial estate is cheapest, at 1.106 euros per litre of diesel. :: J-L



Repsol on the AP-7, currently charging 1.189 euros for diesel. :: J-L

ket," he explains. The same applies in Marbella.

Luis Calero admits that there can be a price difference of up to 12 cents between some filling stations and others, but points out that this does not take into account the discounts offered by each company (usually between four and five

cents per litre) in collaboration with organisations such as El Corte Inglés and Carrefour. "The difference is not as great as it seems. Consumers should not just look at the price, but consider the collaboration agreements and the fact that the petrol stations are staffed. It's not all about the price," he says.

Prices will continue to rise this year

Drivers in Malaga are now paying about 15 cents more per litre than they did a year ago, when diesel was about one euro. The blame lies with the increase in the price of a barrel of Brent, after the Organisation of Petrol Exporting Countries (OPEC) agreed to reduce production on 30 November. It now costs 56 dollars and experts warn that it could reach 60 during 2017. If so, it means that the price of fuel will continue to rise.

Lola García, president of Facua Malaga, says it is possible that there is an agreement over prices between petrol stations in the town, something which would be illegal. "We are watching the situation. The Market Competition Commission issues fines every day for cartels and monopolies," she says.

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112 REPORTS

Three French people held in drugs raid**MARBELLA**

Three French citizens, two men and a woman aged between 26 and 37, have been arrested according to a police statement. The men are the

president and manager of the association. During the search, officers seized 1.1 kilos of marijuana, 117 grammes of hashish and some cannabis resin.

Cash and a credit card machine were also found and some alleged customers were on the premises with the drugs they had just bought.

Police went on to find a room set up, ready to start growing marijuana, with illegal connections to the power supply and an ozone filter to remove the smell of the plants.

Man dies following coma after swallowing drugs**MALAGA**

The decision was taken last week to switch off the life-support machine of a Malaga man who had been in a coma for 23 days. He had choked on a bag containing drugs that he had swallowed during a police raid. During the incident on 10 January, emergency services successfully removed the bag but the man had been unconscious for too long to avoid permanent injury.

Mother bailed over teenage daughter selling sex**ALMERIA**

The mother of a 13-year-old girl has been released on charges after her daughter was discovered acting as a prostitute in order to look after her nine-year-old brother and buy food, cigarettes and drink. The daughter was offering services for 15 to 20 euros on Almeria seafront and passing the money to her mother. A 59-year-old client of the girl has been detained on child abuse charges.

Robbers of ten tonnes of copper cabling are caught**MALAGA**

Four men have been arrested in Estación de Cártama in connection with 18 robberies of copper telephone and data cables weighing ten tonnes. The men were caught red handed pulling out the cable from the phone system and rolling it into the back of a van, leaving hundreds without phone lines in the area. Damage for all the robberies has been estimated at 100,000 euros.

Homebuyer gets his 62,000-euro deposit back for unfinished flat

Properties at Viñedos del Mar in La Duquesa were incomplete after the developers collapsed and deposits were not automatically returned to the unhappy purchasers

LEANDRO PAVÓN

A buyer of one of the apartments in the Viñedos del Mar development in the La Duquesa area of Manilva has received the good news he has been waiting for since November 2007.

A court in Seville has decided he has the right to a refund on his deposit after the future home went unfinished. Abanca bank, which absorbed Novacaixagalicia, will now have to refund the 62,380 euros he paid.

The buyer bought the flat off plan from developers Duja, now part of the Lábaro group. The completion date was set for late 2007 but the moment never arrived as the company went into voluntary liquidation.

The case, which was heard in Seville (as the developer was based there), centred on the duty of Abanca to pay back the deposit. Abanca had



The Viñedos del Mar development in Manilva. :: L.P.

The judge decided that the bank holding the deposit had a duty to return the money

the obligation to protect the customers' money it received under bank guarantees for taking deposits on new developments.

This is not the only example of money being returned to disappointed buyers at the Viñedos del Mar development. In 2015 another buyer had 76,000 euros returned by Abanca after a similar court order.

Second arrest over airport death of homeless Briton

An Irish man is being held in Algeciras after Finnish police discovered a video on Facebook 'showing abuse' of Steven Alford in Malaga last October

J. CANO / A. FRÍAS

An Irish homeless man, identified as James O., has been arrested in Algeciras in connection with the death of 51-year-old Steven Alford at Malaga airport last October.

Steven, a homeless man who had been living in and around the airport for several months, was found on a bench after apparently receiving humiliating abuse and choking on his own vomit.

Police, investigating a possible negligent homicide, arrested a Finnish man, Kimmo T. N., soon afterwards. However, the search widened after police in Finland found a video on Facebook of the presumed torture of the victim prior to his death by four more men.

The man arrested last week, James O., is one of those identified on the recording, investigators said. Initially he had been interviewed as a witness but he disappeared

when the video was found.

Police sources said that they had been unable to locate him in places normally frequented by homeless people around Malaga and eventually traced him to Algeciras, where he was detained at a makeshift campsite on waste ground.

Unlike his earlier interview, where he was fully cooperative, police have said that this time he has refused to speak and a judge has ordered that he be held without bail. Three further men, one Briton and four Finns, are still being sought by police.

Possible fight over food

Steven's body was found with slices of ham on his buttocks and his genitals had been put inside a tuna tin. His trousers had been pulled down to his knees but the autopsy revealed no evidence of sexual assault.

Detectives believe that the motive for the attack could have been a fight over food. Homeless people interviewed after the incident claimed they knew Steven, who suffered from schizophrenia, and that he would often take food and drink from others but refused to share his own.

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HERE AND THERE



The memorial march sets off on Tuesday. :: ALVARO CABRERA

Malaga remembers tragedy of 1937 flight from city in Civil War by retracing victims' steps

MALAGA

:: SUR. The people of Malaga have this week been remembering the events eighty years ago in February 1937 when the Republican-held city fell to Nationalist troops in the Spanish Civil War. Fearing persecution, thousands of residents headed east on the road to Almeria, where many

were killed by shells from gunboats offshore.

As part of the commemorative acts, local authorities and groups campaigning for the victims' memory to be kept alive joined together to see off a memorial march covering the 250 kilometres from Malaga to Almeria along the original route, one which many of the 1937 refugees did not complete. The Junta de Andalucía's deputy minister for Culture, Marta Alonso, said that this march was one of the events aiming "to bring justice, compensation and dignity to those murdered".

Sterilisation programme launched to deal with problem of street cats

TORREMOLINOS

:: A. GÓMEZ. After several protests by animal associations in Torremolinos, the town hall is finally taking measures to crack down on the multiple colonies of street cats that have established themselves in the town over the years.

The town hall announced on Monday the start of a programme to capture and sterilise street cats that would be run by the environment department of the council. They will establish a working group, made up of sanitation and animal protection professionals, that would first study, evaluate and follow these cats to create a census. The animals will then be processed, using the TNR (Trap-Neuter-Return) procedure, called for by animal activists in the town.



Protesters calling for TNR. :: A.G.



Pines in Bellavista. :: A. G.

Pine trees threatened by plague of processionary caterpillars

BENALMÁDENA

:: A. G. For the last few days, residents of the Bellavista urbanisation in Benalmádena have been living alongside a plague of processionary caterpillars. Despite them being most common during spring, they have already made their presence known, leaving residents fearful of taking their pets outside.

The town hall insists that fumigation in public areas has already taken place and that an inspection has been ordered for the area.

Infestations of these caterpillars can be devastating for pine trees, but contact with them can also pose danger to animals and children.

Eviction of woman is stopped at the eleventh hour with town hall help

Carmen has been without electricity for 14 months due to a shortage of money but managed to save her home at the last moment after the council got bank to agree a rent deal

ANTONIO J. GUERRERO

ANTEQUERA. There were jubilant scenes in the García Prieto district of Antequera on Tuesday when a surprise last-minute deal stopped a retired woman from being evicted from her home.

Sixty-five-year-old Carmen had woken up on Tuesday expecting it to be one of her last days in the flat she has lived in for thirty years. On Monday, a court decision came though in favour of mortgage-lender Bankia repossessing the property.

Carmen has been unable to pay the mortgage for four years on the flat after she lost her job. Lack of funds has also meant that she has been without electricity for 14 months. She had already begun to pack her possessions fearing eviction was imminent.

However, this story was to have a happy ending as, hearing about Carmen's plight, the welfare and le-



Friends show support for Carmen outside her flat. :: A.J.G.

gal services department of Antequera council swung into action, managing to halt the final repossession order.

Mayor Manuel Barón said: "We've opened a route to reach an agreement with Bankia whose legal representative has cooperated one hundred per cent." Carmen's supporters had asked for the bank

to agree to her paying it a reduced rent that would allow her to stay living there.

To shouts of "Carmen is staying" from neighbours, the pensioner said: "I am grateful for all the support they are giving me... there has to be a more humane way". Carmen was also expected to soon get her electricity back.

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Marbella recovers one million euros from Roca in civil liabilities

The mastermind of the Marbella town planning corruption scandal owes a total of 70 million euros to the town hall

:: H. B. / AGENCIES

MARBELLA. Marbella town hall reclaimed one of 70 million euros owed to it by Juan Antonio Roca on Wednesday.

The provincial court in Malaga agreed that this sum would be taken for civil liabilities in the 'Saqueo 1' and 'Saqueo 2' cases. In the first, Roca was condemned to paying 24 millions between himself and three other convicted parties, with the figure rising to 61 million euros to include the 37 million from the second.

Roca, who at the time paid 8 million euros for the first, still owes Marbella town hall 70 million euros for other cases he has been involved in.

Given that it was only during the 'Malaya' case that assets were seized from Roca, it is the court of this case that is in charge of administering his assets and deciding where the money should go.

This one million euros was raised through sales of Roca's assets by auction through a website set up especially for the occasion.

Since being set up in February 2016, www.ventadebienes-malaya-roca.com has attracted 2.6 million visitors. So far, it has raised 4.6 million euros in properties (one in Ma-



Roca, last week, at the Ciudad de Justicia. :: NITO SALAS

drid for 495,000 euros, one in Marbella for 700,000 euros and a country house in Los Alcázares for 160,000) and a further half a million in items of furniture, artwork and other moveable assets, according to Europa Press.

Spokesman for Marbella town

hall, Javier Porcuna, said that the money would be used to clear part of a debt with Social Security and the Tax Office.

"As with most money recovered by the courts, it ends up back in the hands of the central government to clear debts," he said.

HERE AND THERE



Al-Thani, centre, attending a Málaga CF match. :: NITO SALAS

Sheikh Al-Thani appeals against decision to remove port concession

MARBELLA

:: **H. BARBOTTA.** Sheikh Al-Thani, head of the Nas Marbella group who holds the concession for the La Bajadilla port project, last week communicated by telephone, through a legal representative, his intention to appeal the decision of the Andalucía Public Port Agency

(APPA) to withdraw the concession for the project.

According to the EFE agency, it was lodged with the Dispute Tribunal in Seville and it called for the suspension of the decision taken by APPA. However, sources at Fomento (the Public Works ministry) insist that beyond the phone call, there is no record of such an appeal, nor any knowledge of its supposed contents, and that they would continue the search for a new concession holder.

Taxi driver caught seven times over the limit

MALAGA

:: **AGENCIES.** A routine alcohol checkpoint on the A-7075 road that connects Antequera with Malaga caught a taxi driver, who was on duty though not carrying passengers, seven times over the legal limit on Tuesday.

While carrying out the tests by the side of the road, the driver, 60, lost his balance, due to intoxication, and fell to the ground suffering a minor head injury.

Driver dies after being run over at taxi rank

FUENGIROLA

:: **I. GELIBTER.** A taxi driver was killed and two others injured when a car ploughed into a taxi rank in the Torreblanca area of Fuengirola at around 4.20am on Tuesday.

Investigations are being carried out by the Local Police but initial reports suggest that the driver lost control of the car after possible brake failure. The deceased, around 50, had been a taxi driver all his working life.

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Illustrious Malaga family's story is back on display in home town

Macharaviaya's Museo de los Gálvez reopened last week



JENNIE RHODES
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MACHARAVIAYA. The Gálvez museum (Museo de los Gálvez) in Macharaviaya opened its doors to the public once again on Saturday, 10 months later than planned, following an auguration ceremony which took place at the town's Jacinto church.

Mayor Antonio Campos Garín welcomed guests, who included mayors from surrounding towns. President of CAC Mijas, Javier Fructuoso Medina, who has played an integral part in curating the museum and 'Portraits of Women', the current exhibition by Pablo Picasso and Alfredo Opisso, also spoke.

Following a concert given by Concierto Málaga which included music from the era, guests were led to the museum by the Asociación de Granaderos y Damas de Macharaviaya, a cultural association which uses tra-

ditional costumes and reenactments to bring life to the Gálvez family story.

The museum, which first opened in 2005, pays tribute to the illustrious Gálvez family, who were politically influential both in Spain and the United States during the eighteenth century and who made Macharaviaya their home.

Bernardo de Gálvez, who was born in the village in 1746, was a Spanish politician and soldier who led the Battle of Pensacola during the American War of Independence, blocking the British advance into Mississippi across the port of New Orleans.

The mayor of Macharaviaya said in his speech that renovation work carried out to the museum's interior includes new rooms and exhibition space, as well as improved accessibility and audiovisual equipment.

He added that one of the rooms is dedicated to María Ángeles Rubio Argüelles, Countess of Berlanga, and her husband, Edgar Neville, who lived in Macharaviaya and played key roles in the promotion of the village and its links with the Gálvez family.

A Playmobil representation of a play by the countess, 'Los Macharavientos in seven scenes,' is on display

in the room along with artefacts belonging to her and a university thesis written by Rosa Palomo Tobias about the countess. The ground floor of the museum is dedicated to the people and artists of Macharaviaya, past and present.

The museum is in the centre of the small village and can be visited on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 11am until 2pm and from 11am until 1pm at weekends.

www.macharaviaya.es



The first visitors to the museum during the inauguration. :: SUR



:: ALVARO CABRERA

GÁLVEZ FAMILY IMMORTALISED IN BRONZE

A group of school children from Malaga, dressed in period costume, took part in the inauguration of four sculptures representing the Gálvez family, which are situated near the city's María Zambrano train station. The bronze statues have the title 'La Familia de D. Bernardo de Gálvez' and were made by sculptor Jaime Pimentel and can be found in front of the Las Americas fountain on Avenida Ingeniero José María Garnica.

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Vote of no confidence is act of "revenge" says Frigiliana mayor

Less than a year after the PP and PSOE formed a pact, councillors say there has been a "lack of leadership, objectives and ideas"

:: E. CABEZAS / A. M. ROMERO

FRIGILIANA. A vote of no confidence has been motioned against the current mayor of Frigiliana, José Antonio González and his party, the Partido Popular (PP).

Councillors from the socialist PSOE and Andalusian party, Partido Andalucista (PA), presented the motion on Monday and, if passed, on 20 February, the current PSOE spokesperson, Alejandro Herrero, will become mayor.

For his part, Mr González has said that the two parties are simply seeking, "political revenge."

In the 2015 local elections, the PP



The PSOE and PA councillors who motioned the vote. **:: SUR**

formed a coalition with the PA, which collapsed in 2016. In March 2016, the PP formed an unprecedented coalition with the PSOE, but differences between the two parties has led to "a

lack of leadership, a lack of objectives and of ideas," according to PA and PSOE representatives.

In neighbouring Nerja, rumours of a similar vote are still circulating.

Mayor faces prison sentence for falsifying documents

The case goes back to 2008 when Abdeslam Lucena publicly accused the headteacher of the local secondary school of cronyism

:: EUGENIO CABEZAS

BENAMOCARRA. The mayor of Benamocarra, Abdeslam Lucena, is to appear in court in March charged with falsifying documents, accusing a former headteacher of cronyism.

The controversy goes back to 2008, when Lucena openly accused the then headteacher of the town's secondary school and town hall spokesperson for the socialist PSOE party, Manuel Ruíz Cazoría, of cronyism. Lucena claimed that Ruíz Cazoría had been appointed head at the IES La Maroma school because of contacts he had in the regional government, the Junta de Andalucía.

At the time, the head teacher and spokesperson reported Lucena for slander and false accusations, for which the latter was fined 9,600 euros and prohibited from working in public office for six months in 2014. The sentence was later repealed and, as a result, he stood for and was reelected mayor of Benamocarra in 2015.

However, the case has been reopened by Ruíz Cazoría's lawyer, Francisco Galán Palmero, who claims that the documents Lucena presented to the first hearing "had been manipulated" in order to "acquit Lucena in the process."

The trial is due to take place on 28, 29 and 30 March and 5 April. If found guilty, Lucena could face a four-and-a-half year prison sentence as well as a 8,640-euro fine. Local police officer, Damián Gálvez del Postigo Cabello and José Enrique Alba Fortes, a town hall employee, are also facing the same sentences for their involvement in the scandal.

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Avocado growers fearful of potential Mexican imports

Local tropical fruit companies are worried about declining sales as Mexico looks to Europe for customers amid border wall speculation

:: AGUSTÍN PELÁEZ

VÉLEZ-MÁLAGA. The effects of new US president Donald Trump's Mexican border wall proposal are already being felt in the Axarquía, with the Mexico's avocado exporters looking to Europe to sell the fruit.

As a result of Trump's plan to add a 20 per cent tax to Mexican imports to pay for the wall, growers are hoping to reinstate trade with European importers, much of which ground to a halt when the Malaga province started to grow its own avocados.

Malaga's fruit importers, many of whom are located in the Axarquía, are beginning to receive phone calls from Mexican companies, with whom they traded previously and



Avocados from Malaga. **:: A. P.**

if Mexico, which is the world's biggest avocado producer, with 1,500,000 tonnes per year, exported just 10 per cent of the fruit to the European Union, Malaga province could see a significant and dangerous drop in sales.

HERE AND THERE

Residents form protest against golf course plans

MARO

:: E. C. A residents' group in the Maro area has been formed to protest against plans to build an 18-hole golf course and 680 houses on land owned by the La Sociedad Azucarera Larios S. A. (Salsa) company, which owns almost 250 hectares in the Maro area. The landowners reached an agreement with Nerja

town hall in 2015 to amend parts of the PGOU (urban plan) to include the golf course but to date nothing has been finalised. Members of the group, which calls itself, 'Otra Nerja y Maro y es posible' (another Nerja and Maro and it's possible) argue that the golf course and houses would have "an enormous environmental impact". Nerja's urban planning councillor, Anabel Iranzo, said last week that the agreement was "never actually signed" and that they are "negotiating with Larios."

Space for dogs opens in town centre park

RINCÓN DE LA VICTORIA

:: E. C. A new dog park has opened in Rincón de la Victoria. The new space measures 600 square metres, includes a fountain and seating area and is situated in the Los Almendros park in the town centre. Councillor Ezequiel Carnero said last week that "there is high demand among residents for spaces where they can take their pets".



Rincón dog park. **:: SUR**

Report shows negative impact of mussel beds

LA HERRADURA

:: SUR IN ENGLISH. Mayor of La Herradura, Trinidad Herrera, along with political and business groups in the town, presented a report to the Junta de Andalucía's fisheries and agriculture delegation in Granada on Tuesday, detailing the negative effects of installing mussel beds in the sea, off the Punta de la Mona area of the town.

The report suggests that such a project could lead to the loss of 47 million euros in income generated from different sectors in the town, highlighting in particular tourism, diving and Punta de la Mona as a desirable residential area. It is also claims that up to 748 jobs in those sectors could be lost as a result.

As she presented the findings, the mayor pointed out that collecting mussels would be "seasonal" and in the "best case scenario" would only employ 10 people, with the company itself being the chief benefactor, rather than the town as a whole.

Plan finally approved to conserve area around La Duquesa castle

Manilva council gives the green light to improve this important archaeological site, which will include the opening of a museum

:: LEANDRO PAVÓN

MANILVA. Local councillors in Manilva have given their approval to a plan to protect and enhance the coastal fort known as 'El Castillo de La Duquesa' and the area around it.

The land surrounding the eighteenth-century building was given 'asset of cultural interest' (BIC) listed status in 2005 by the Junta de Andalucía. A significant amount of archaeological remains have been discovered there.

For the last ten years the council has had a special planning document for its long-term conservation on the drawing board, which is required as part of the BIC designation. All development in the area has been on hold until the plan was agreed.

Final approval had been delayed over problems with the water supply to the area. A meeting between the former mayor and Junta water



Access to Manilva's 18th-century coastal fort is set to be improved. :: SUR

officials last year resolved the issue and succeeded in unblocking the plan.

The cost of putting the plan into action is estimated to be five million euros. Most of this will be met by the council, although 750,000 euros will come from the Junta and around 800,000 from developers.

Commenting on the vote, town planning councillor, Antonio Bar-

ragán explained that a museum will be opened in the castle to bring together the different archaeological finds, which include items from Roman villas, fish processing plants and burial sites.

The planning document clarifies where building can take place and local councillors are hoping that more social housing can now be built in the vicinity.

Estepona organises first ever international mural competition

:: LEANDRO PAVÓN

ESTEPONA. Estepona will host their inaugural international mural competition from 10 to 20 July. A jury will select 10 artists to paint their work on the façades of buildings in the town.

The event is organised by the town council and La Caixa bank's social

foundation, with artists having until 31 March to put their name forward for the competition, mayor José María García Urbano announced.

A winner and a runner-up will then be selected from the 10 candidates, with the former receiving 10,000 euros while the latter will receive half that amount.

The artists' work will take the number of murals in the town up to nearly 50 in what the council is describing as an "open-air museum".

Side events to involve young people and marginalised groups will also be taking place during the ten days of the competition, including tourist-guide training for unemployed residents of the city on the Ruta de los Murales, the route designed for visitors to take in the various different murals.

Talks from selected artists are also scheduled.

HERE AND THERE



The Museo del Grabado in Marbella. :: JOSELE-LANZA

Town council refute government claim over museum project

MARBELLA

:: **H. BARBOTA.** Marbella town council has reassured the public that the more than 1,000 euros reserved by the Ministerio de Fomento (Ministry of Development) as part of their 2016 budget for the restora-

tion and enlargement of the Museo del Grabado will be used for its original purpose.

The ministry's sources told SUR that due to the council's failure to hand the project in on time, it was not possible to begin the procedure of putting it out for tender.

However, the town council has refuted those claims, stating the problem is more a question of "political will".

Defibrillator installed in parish church for first time in province

MARBELLA

:: **N. CASTRO.** La Encarnación de Marbella church has become the first in Malaga province to install a defibrillator.

Archpriest López Solórzano took the initiative to place a defibrillator in the church following the latest report from the Instituto Nacional de Estadística (The Spanish Statistical Office), which states that heart-related illnesses are responsible for three out of every 10 deaths in Spain.

"I've seen that they have been installing defibrillators in busy areas and therefore I thought this type of building, which is also a tourist attraction in the old town, needed one," López stated.

The defibrillator has been placed in a discrete location to avoid it being stolen, while security cameras will also be used as a deterrent.



Outside the Don Carlos. :: J-L

More than 2,000 apply for Don Carlos jobs

MARBELLA

:: **N. CASTRO.** The Don Carlos Leisure Resort & Spa welcomed more than 2,000 candidates for interviews after they announced 150 vacancies for the high season between March and September.

The applicants that turned up on Tuesday and Wednesday are competing for a range of jobs, including butlers and waiters. They could each earn more than 1,000 euros net a month.

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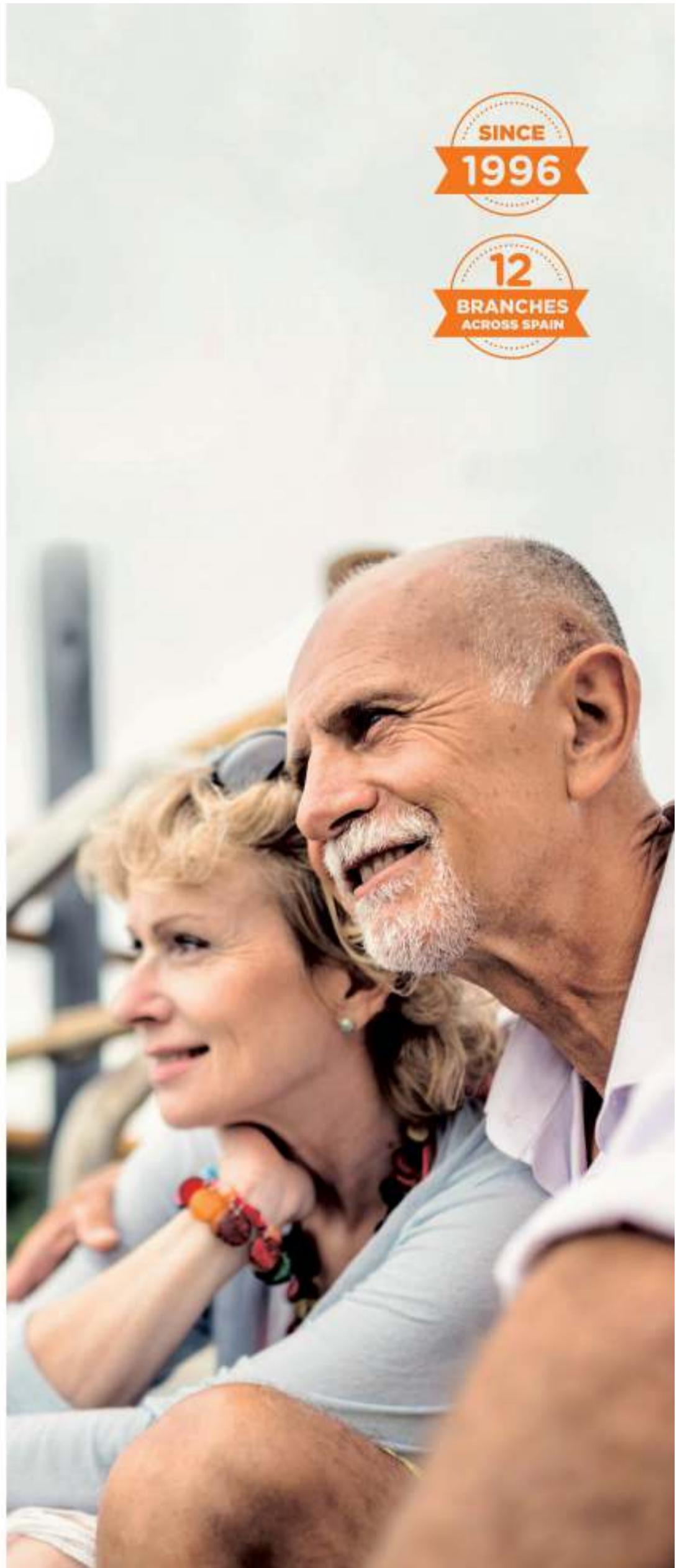
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"We want to protect and promote the rights of British nationals living across the EU"

Simon Manley British Ambassador to Spain



The UK Ambassador to Spain recognises there is still a lot of uncertainty for expats, and does not rule out bilateral agreements between Britain and Spain

MARBELLA. Simon Manley admits that since 23 June last year his workload has increased and become somewhat dominated by one single theme. "I certainly spend a lot of time talking about Brexit," he says. On Friday he was in Marbella to talk some more about Britain's exit from the EU at an event organised by the British Chamber of Commerce. With the Article 50 negotiations approaching, Manley stresses that the British government is listening to the concerns of residents in Spain and in the UK but that the final outcome will depend, not just on what Britain wants, but on "what our 27 friends across Europe want as well".

-The last time we spoke was just a

few days after the Brexit vote. What has changed since then?

-The government has spent a lot of time working out what our objectives should be in the negotiations to come with our European partners. It has done a lot of detailed work and a lot of listening. Here in Spain it has been listening to the concerns of British expats and British and Spanish businesses. Back in the UK there's been a whole process of consultation with the governments of Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland and with businesses, both British and foreign. Out of that has emerged a greater degree of clarity about what we hope for in those negotiations. I recognise you might say there's still a lot we don't know - that's true. It's partly because we're not going to reveal our negotiating position in all its detail in advance, and also because it's a negotiation with the European Union. We can define our own objectives but what the final outcome is going to be will depend upon what our 27 friends across Europe want as well.

-Now the international context has changed in the United States with the election of Trump and in Europe with the strengthening of far right groups, will that have an effect on the negotiations?

-The context always has an influence on the way people negotiate.



Simon Manley. :: JOSELE-LANZA

HIS WORDS

"We're not going to reveal our negotiating position in all its detail in advance"

"We can't say today: 'This is how you will access healthcare in 2019'."

"It would be misguided to try to give people a clarity that doesn't exist"

But some of the essentials of the context have not changed. We may be leaving the EU but we're not leaving Europe. Our geography and our history is what it is and that means that we continue to face the same strategic threats to our security as we did on 23 June last year, whether it be the threat of jihadist terrorism or the threat from Russia. It's the permanence and continuity of some of the threats to our security that propels us towards a logic that says that we must continue to work with the European Union in the years to come. - **British residents in Spain, as well as business owners, are still living with the uncertainty of what their situation will be after Brexit in terms of access to healthcare and their British pensions. Is there anything new you can tell them?**

-We've been listening to the concerns of Brits not just in Andalucía but right across Spain, which are primarily around issues such as healthcare and pensions, but they range widely. There's a diversity of issues that people have raised with us which reflects how embedded we are within the European Union after 40 years of membership. Many of the things we take for granted flow from EU legislation and what we can't do today is say, 'at the end of the process, this is what your situation is going

to be; this is how you will be able to access healthcare in 2019 or 2020'. What we can say is that we want to protect and promote the rights of British nationals living across the EU. We've said that we're ready to do a deal right now, today, with our European partners to recognise the rights of EU citizens living in the UK and UK citizens living across Europe. We understand why our European partners are saying they're not ready to do that - they don't want a pre-negotiation - but we would be ready to do that right now to address that uncertainty that Brits feel here in Spain and also that Spaniards feel in the UK. We recognise there's a mutual-ity there and we want to try and find the right solutions but it would be misguided to try to give people a clarity that doesn't exist, apart from the important point: right now nothing has changed.

Bilateral deals

- **Spain has a special relationship with the UK due to the large numbers of British residents in this country. Will this situation be reflected in the negotiations?**

-The negotiations on Article 50 will be with the European Union as a union and the EU will have to come to its positions as a union, based on consultations with the 27 member states. And they're preparing for that already; we'll have to wait and see. Possibly at the end of that process there will be aspects that need to be covered by bilateral agreements.

- **So after the agreement there could be special negotiations with Spain because Spain has more British people here than Spanish people in the UK?**

-It might happen. After all we've had bilateral agreements with Spain while we've been a member of the European Union, so it's not inconceivable that we would have additional bilateral arrangements in the future. It depends on what areas. Our suggestion was that we come to an early agreement that covers the rights and responsibilities of European citizens living in the UK and Brits living across Europe. We want something that's simple and that works for as many people as possible.

Plans for new wall for English cemetery discussed at visit

:: DARYL FINCH

MALAGA. British Ambassador to Spain, Simon Manley, visited the English Cemetery in Malaga last Friday morning as members of the cemetery's trust, led by president Bruce McIntyre, offered him a guided tour of the premises and showed him the site where the new retaining 'green' wall will be built.

Construction on this wall is due to start in two months' time after it was given the green light by Malaga

city hall which granted funds for the project. The works are expected to last three months.

At the cemetery the ambassador extended his thanks to the mayor of Malaga, Francisco de la Torre, for his support of the foundation.

The pair laid wreaths on the graves of former consul William Mark and British Hispanist Gerald Brenan.

"I'd never been to the cemetery before," said the ambassador later. "It's so pretty and fascinating."



Manley and De la Torre at the grave of William Mark. :: D. FINCH

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- The other issue that concerns a lot of people here is their British pension.

- I recognise that. Of course a lot of people here are dependent upon British state pensions. They've taken quite a hit already because of the fall in the value of sterling over the last year so there has been an immediate effect on a lot of people. There are also concerns about how this will work out in the future, but until we have that negotiation we don't quite know what the position will be at the end of it.

- But should pensioners assume they're going to have the same conditions as British pensioners in countries outside the EU?

- The government hasn't made a commitment about that as yet. We'll have to see.

- What would you say to British citizens considering taking Spanish nationality as a result of Brexit?

- It's a choice for them. I know that some people have been thinking about it. As you know, Spain doesn't recognise double nationality, so it's not just a matter of what you might gain but what you might be asked to give up.

- Is there the possibility of an agreement in the future for dual nationality?

- I don't know. I know there are people here pressing for the Spanish government to change its rules on this. We're not doing so as an embassy and I don't expect to do so.

Ambassador calls for calm among British business owners on the Costa

In a speech to the British Chamber of Commerce, Simon Manley said that the UK aimed for a new relationship based on the principles of free trade

by R. HAYNES / H. BARBOTA

MARBELLA. The British Ambassador to Spain, Simon Manley, spoke to members of the British Chamber of Commerce (BCC) in Marbella last Friday, urging calm among business leaders in the face of the uncertainty surrounding the future Brexit.

'Brexit and Beyond' was the theme of his talk, which was introduced by Derek Langley, Andalusian vice president of the BCC, and preceded by the mayor of Marbella, José Bernal.

Manley reassured British business owners in Spain that the objective of the British government in the Brexit negotiations will be to achieve the best possible result for all sides.

"It is our objective to make sure that the extraordinary relationship between the two countries continues to prosper," he said.

Manley added that Brexit posed an opportunity to "forge a new and constructive relationship" based on the principles of free trade.



Manley spoke at the Marbella Golf and Country Club. by JOSELE-LANZA

"Britain will always be global," he said, adding that the country would continue to support private enterprise and work towards a trade agreement that will give British companies "maximum freedom" to trade in the EU and vice versa.

The ambassador pointed out that the commercial relationship between Spain and Britain was worth 46 billion euros. Spain's trade surplus with the UK is ten billion, and Andalucía's one billion, he said.

On the subject of movement of people, Manley insisted that the UK

wanted to control its borders, not to impede free movement: "We want people to keep coming to study and to work in the UK and there isn't a country more open to business than ours."

The British Consul for Andalucía, Charmaine Arbouin, told the members of the BCC that the UK government was listening to the concerns of Brits in Spain through meetings organised by the local consulate.

The ambassador was thanked by the president of Marbella's CIT business association, Juan José González.

Collective for Britons abroad submits 'alternative EU white paper' to UK parliament

by JENNIE RHODES

MALAGA. A collective of 10 groups representing Britons abroad has presented an alternative white paper to the UK government. 'UK Citizens in Europe - Towards an Alternative White Paper' sets out the concerns of UK citizens living in other EU countries and vice versa, regarding rights to live, work and study.

Safeguarding rights

One of the authors of the paper, Jane Golding, stated: "Following the Supreme Court ruling, UK MPs have both the opportunity and the clear responsibility to make approval of the bill to trigger Article 50 conditional on safeguarding the rights and livelihoods of over a million UK citizens living in Europe, as well as around three million EU citizens in the UK. This should happen at the earliest opportunity."

Co-author, Jeremy Morgan QC, added that the paper "shows the complex position of individuals who have moved to another EU country."

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In October last year, his business Platinum Estates moved into its new brand-new premises in Alhaurín el Grande after the business outgrew its base in Coín, where it had been located for two years.

Originally from the UK, Matt took the leap to move to Spain to be with his family. Five years ago, he was a bank manager in the UK, then swapped the British Isles for Gibraltar. "When that bank closed I was left with a dilemma," he says. "Either stay here or head back to the UK."

"For me it was a natural step to move into property as I had plenty of experience with mortgages and repossessions in the banking world so it gave me experience I could use to help clients."

His business, through its website, platinumestatespain.es, which can be read in any language, is "reaching out to people across to world" including from the USA, the Gulf and across Europe. However, "60 per cent of the traffic comes from the UK", he admits.

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ish-speaking agents, Platinum Estates specialises in bridging the gap between foreigners and the Spanish system, offering a personalised service.

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The shop in Alhaurín el Grande. SUR

Turismo Costa del Sol teams up with Sund'or to attract visitors from Israel

Direct flights from Malaga to Tel Aviv will be operated by Sund'or, a partner of El Al, and will start running in May

PILAR MARTÍNEZ

MALAGA. Despite already boasting numerous direct flights around the globe, Turismo Costa del Sol is striving to reach out to destinations to which there are no direct flights. One such destination is Israel.

From May, the airline company Sund'or, subsidiary of Israel's national airline El Al, will start to run a service between Malaga and Tel Aviv after Turismo Costa del Sol, represented by Elías Bendodo, reached an agreement which will see the start of a mutual marketing campaign to promote tourism between Spain and Israel.

Initially, flights will run from May until October, twice a week, with



Bendodo, right, after the meeting with Sund'or directors. :: SUR

12,000 seats up for grabs from Israel's second biggest city. However, the intention is that flight numbers will increase to three times a week and will be on offer all year round, ac-

ording to the company's directors.

The deal was announced at the International Mediterranean Tourism Market in Tel Aviv which concluded on Wednesday.

HERE AND THERE

Opposition councillors at a press conference on Tuesday. :: I. G.

Opposition starts legal battle over Alhaurín no-confidence vote

ALHAURÍN EL GRANDE

IVÁN GELIBTER. Councillors from the opposition groups - PSOE, ASALH, IU and the councillor suspended from the PP - have started legal proceedings after the failure of their attempt to oust the local mayor last month.

The administrative claim states that the events of last month "vio-

lated their fundamental rights".

The case refers to the failed attempt to take control of the town hall from current mayor Antonia Ledesma (Por Alhaurín). The motion, which in theory would have prospered, never went to vote due to a dispute as to whether Mari Francis Fernández's hand would count. Fernández was the only PP councillor but was suspended from her party after she announced her support for the no-confidence vote. The case could take five or six months to go through the courts.

Manilva to return to having three fairs after public survey

MANILVA

L. PAVÓN. The first public survey carried out in Manilva has already yielded results. The vote, which took place on Sunday, decreed that the town should return to having three separate fairs at three different locations around the town, instead of one large one held in August in Sabinillas.

According to municipal sources, 1,236 people took part in the vote with 847 voting to return to the previous set-up, while 387 wanted the current configuration to remain in place.

This means that this year, the fair in honour of the Virgen del Carmen will take place on the weekend of 14-16 July in the castle. This will be followed by the Feria de Santa Ana in Manilva from 28 to 30 July and then the fair in honour of San Luis will close the festivities from 25 to 27 August in Sabinillas.

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THE WEEK IN PICTURES



DOG PROTECTION GROUPS DEMONSTRATE FOLLOWING HUNTING SEASON CLOSE

Around 300 people belonging to various groups demanding greater protection for dogs, and especially against their abandonment and mistreatment, took part in a demonstration in Malaga on Sunday morning.

ÁLVARO CABRERA



JOSELE-LANZA

CLEANING UP THE MARBELLA DUNES

18 people belonging to Aspandem, an association working with the disabled, worked this week to remove invasive species from the Real de Zaragoza beach.



CRISTINA CÉSPEDES

MUSEUM SAYS GOODBYE TO CHAGALL

The Russian Museum in Malaga held an open day, inviting visitors to say goodbye to the temporary exhibitions headed by the work of artist Marc Chagall.

LOCAL PIG PRODUCTS FESTIVAL

More than 10,000 people in Ardales turned up on Sunday to celebrate Día de la Matanza, the day which showcases local pig products. The name of the celebration derives from the slaughter of pigs at the start of the fiesta, meat which is then enjoyed by hundreds of locals and tourists alike.



FERNANDO TORRES



A.GÓMEZ

WATSON LEADS MUSIC FESTIVAL ACTS

American country singer Dale Watson performed in Torremolinos in the 23rd edition of the Rockin'Race Jamboree music festival at the weekend.

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A World War II hero in a second-hand market

A collector found a helmet which is thought to have belonged to RAF pilot John Braham at a market in Benalmádena



Francisco Griñán

The helmet, which cost 15 euros and included the oxygen mask, contained documents showing its owner's awards and medals

MALAGA. He loves markets, although he doesn't always have time to go to them. Especially on Wednesdays. That's the day that a market selling second-hand goods takes place in Benalmádena. However, a couple of weeks ago, collector José Fernández Molina did manage to get there to see if he could

find a treasure, although he realised that it would probably be full of junk.

He was wrong. Amid a pile of utensils and items which wouldn't have been out of place on a rubbish dump, he found exactly what he was looking for. "It seemed to gleam, like the sun at dawn," he says, trying to find a metaphor to describe how he felt when he saw a leather aviator's helmet which appeared to be from the Second World War. He thought it was in good condition, and it also included the pilot's oxygen mask and audio connections. They wanted 15 euros for it and he didn't think twice about buying it.

When he looked at it at home, he found another surprise: inside the helmet were some original documents relating to John Randall Daniel Braham, the most successful RAF pilot of World War II. A hero

of aviation, in other words.

The documentation José found in the military helmet included the list of medals and other distinctions awarded to its owner between 1939 and 1945.

"It was normal to give the soldiers this type of document to show the medals they had been awarded during their service," explains José who, as well as being a collector, is an accredited judicial expert in archaeology and an antiques valuer.

These credentials specified that this pilot had been awarded four campaign stars and two medals for taking part in the Battle of Britain and for combat in the Atlantic,



José Fernández Molina, with the pilot's helmet he bought for 15 euros at a

France and Germany. The certificate also includes an inscription with the initials J.R.D.B, which coincide with those of decorated pilot John Randall Daniel Braham, who brought down 29 enemy planes in World War II and was a specialist in night air battles.

With all this documentation and the helmet itself, José Fernández says he is "99 per cent sure" that it belonged to John Braham, "although we need to have that certificated and that isn't an easy task," he says.

His next step will be to contact the pilot's descendents to try to

OTHER ITEMS FROM WORLD WAR II

Pilot's helmet

Description:

Helmet of a Luftwaffe bomber pilot (Germany).

Price: 1,826 euros, on eBay.

Comment: In good condition and similar to the one found in Benalmádena, but from a German pilot rather than a British one. This helmet is not associated with any known individual.



Infantry helmet

Description:

Helmet of an unknown soldier who took part in the Normandy landings in 1944.

Price: 68,621 dollars.

Comment: The helmet was found in the 1960s in Sainte-Mère-Église (France). A collector paid the 'record' sum of over 68,000 dollars for it at an auction.



Order of Awarding	Description of Ribbon	Class of Ribbon Awarded
1. 1939-41 Star	Dark blue, and one light blue in three equal vertical stripes. The ribbon worn with the dark blue stripe facing towards the left shoulder.	Bar of Bronze
2. Atlantic Star	Blue, white and green divided into vertical stripes. The ribbon is worn with the blue stripe facing towards the left shoulder.	An Air Force Europe or Europe and Canada
3. Air Force Europe Star	Light blue with three dark blue in vertical stripes. The ribbon is worn with the light blue stripe facing towards the left shoulder.	Bar of Bronze and Canada
4. Africa Star	Gold with a central white circle and two narrow stripes, one dark blue and one light blue. The ribbon is worn with the gold stripe facing towards the left shoulder.	Bar of Bronze or Bar of Bronze and Canada
5. Pacific Star	Dark green with one white stripe, and two narrow stripes, one dark blue and one light blue. The ribbon is worn with the dark green stripe facing towards the left shoulder.	Bar of Bronze
6. Malaya Star	Dark blue with one white stripe, and two narrow stripes, one dark blue and one light blue. The ribbon is worn with the dark blue stripe facing towards the left shoulder.	Bar of Bronze
7. Italy Star	The vertical stripes of equal width, one red and one white stripe, and one green stripe, the two narrow stripes facing towards the left shoulder.	Bar of Bronze
8. France and Germany Star	The vertical stripes of equal width, one red and one white stripe, and one green stripe, the two narrow stripes facing towards the left shoulder.	Bar of Bronze
9. Defence Medal	Flare ribbon with three stripes, one dark blue and one light blue, and one narrow white stripe.	Bar of Bronze
10. War Medal 1939-45	A narrow central red stripe with a narrow white stripe on each side. A broad and deep gold stripe at each end, and the underlying ribbon is blue.	Oak leaf

The pilot

Name: John Randall Daniel 'Bob' Braham (Bath, UK, 1920-Halifax, Canada, 1974).

Military career: Joined the RAF in 1937 and went into combat in 1940 in the Second World War.

Service record: He brought down 29 German planes and led a squadron until he was shot down in 1944. He spent the rest of the time as a prisoner of war until he was freed.



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The collector is an antiques valuer and is hoping to confirm the origin of the helmet and the documents

about how it came into his hands," says José, who would love to find out how this helmet made its way from the battles of World War II to the Costa del Sol.

This antiques expert, who has experience in valuing army uniforms from the Second World War - he recently valued a jacket which had belonged to a Nazi cavalry officer - says the current value of the helmet and mask of the RAF pilot would be about 1,000 euros because of its excellent condition. However, José, who admits he has a weakness for collecting military uniforms and distinctions, doesn't intend to part with it.

"If we were able to certify that it was the property of John Braham, its value would be difficult to calculate because personal items are very much in demand and it would really depend on how much a collector was prepared to pay for it," he says.

Not in this case, however. This helmet has been acquired by a collector for whom it now has great sentimental value. It has already found its new home. It is not for sale.

complete the process of authenticating this piece, which is in such good condition. "We can tell that someone has really looked after this helmet and mask for many years," says José, who also tried to obtain information about the piece from the stall-holder at the market in Benalmádena, but without success.

"He couldn't give me any clue

second-hand market. :: NITO SALAS

George Michael's guitar to be moved to MIMMA museum

The guitar, used by the singer during his concert in the city in 1989, had been kept in a glass case in the Municipal Department for Youth

REGINA SOTORRÍO

MALAGA. The Municipal Department for Youth, the 'Área de Juventud', has announced that the guitar given by George Michael to the city of Malaga following his controversial concert nearly 28 years ago is to be permanently relocated to MIMMA, the Malaga music museum.

The vintage guitar was signed by the pop star, who died on Christmas Day, after he used it in his one-hour performance at La Rosaleda stadium in the summer of 1989.

The Gretsch Synchronatic, an acoustic guitar which was used in throughout the 1930s, 1940s and 1950s, has been kept in a glass case in the municipal Youth Department since it was given to the city by Michael, and will be the focus of a series of activities before it is moved to the museum.

One of these activities will take place in spring and will include a



George Michael handing over the guitar after his concert. :: SUR

tribute concert by those who have competed in the MalagaCrea competition, a contest to find the best artistic talents in Andalucia.

Photos of the star's own performance in the city on 3 July 1989 will also be displayed in an exhibition.

The concert itself, however, was a disaster. When the stadium gates opened, there was still no official confirmation that Michael would be performing.

The artist himself only landed in Malaga 10 minutes before midnight, and began his performance at 1.20 in the morning.

He also had to be deemed fit to perform by an ophthalmologist after suffering a detached retina while doing watersports in Ibiza the previous day.

Meanwhile, the city hall lost some 130 million pesetas (780 million euros) after an underwhelming turnout of just 12,000 people.

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Registering a non-Spanish vehicle in Spain is a complex and potentially costly procedure. However, you may be exempt from Spanish registration tax by getting Spanish number plates within one month of entering the country. But to do this, you need to become a resident. Linea Directa has been insuring expat drivers in Spain for over a decade and understands all the steps involved. Below we outline this process.

STEP 1: OBTAINING A CERTIFICATE OF CONFORMITY

This is a statement by the car's manufacturer that it conforms to EU regulations. You will need the car's chassis number to complete this straightforward process online at www.eurococ.eu/en/certificate_of_conformity. The charges for this service will vary according to type of vehicle, make and country of 1st registration.

STEP 2: CURRENT LOG BOOK

The vehicle's original log book showing your name as the owner, the vehicles age and a valid UK address. You will also need the bill of sale for the car.

STEP 3: RESIDENCY IN SPAIN

The Spanish residency certificate (Certificado de Empadronamiento) is your official proof of residency in Spain. Your local town hall can provide you with this document. You will need to take your passport and proof of Spanish address (rental contract, contract to purchase or property deeds).

STEP 4: OBTAINING A SPANISH MOT CERTIFICATE

All vehicles over 4 years old must be roadworthy and clearly display a valid ITV sticker. The ITV (Vehicle Technical Inspection) must be tested at an authorised centre, just as for an MOT test. You can find out the location of your nearest ITV centre on DGT website (equivalent to the DVLA). You can also call your local centre to make a booking. If the centre is busy, especially pre-summer, this can save a lot of time. The cost can vary but generally is around €40 for petrol-engine cars and €56 for diesel-engine cars.

Step 5: OBTAINING A SPANISH EQUIVALENT OF A TAX DISC

The Spanish Tax Agency can provide your vehicle with a valid "tax disc" for Spain, which must be carried in the car when in use. You will need to complete the relevant form online and pay the amount according to your car's tax band.

You can carry out all these procedures yourself or you can seek the assistance of an accountant to do this for you.



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We hope the information provided in this article is of interest. If you would like to contact Linea Directa please call **902 123 268**. More information on Linea Directa online at www.lineadirecta.com

British man arrested on Costa Blanca for 45 child abuse offences

COLPISA

ALICANTE. The Guardia Civil has arrested an alleged serial child sex offender from Britain in Santa Pola on the Costa Blanca. In an internationally-coordinated operation, Spanish authorities worked with Britain's National Crime Agency (NCA) and Europol.

The man, only identified as M. F. by Spanish officials, had reportedly abused more than thirty boys in the UK and Thailand and had fled to Spain and changed his identity.

According to police sources, the investigation began after another man's computer was searched in the Netherlands. On it were photos and chats with 15 boys linked to M. F.

The 70-year-old Briton had also been wanted in Thailand for abusing nine boys, whom he tricked with gifts and sweets.

In the photos he took with victims, he appeared making a heart sign while carrying out acts against the children.

The arrested man was an English teacher in the UK, and some of the



The arrested Briton. :: EFE

victims were allegedly abused in a school store room. He was also accused of attacking his adopted son.

Involvement with Scouts

In 1986 the man tried to adopt another minor but the application was turned down. He was also reportedly a Scout leader.

After being accused in Britain and jumping bail in Thailand, he sold his house and settled in Spain with his new identity. Here he lived incognito until his recent arrest and extradition to the UK for 45 supposed child abuse offences.

Trump and Rajoy enjoy 'cordial' 15-minute phone call with hidden defence request

ANDER AZPIROZ

MADRID. US president Donald Trump spoke to Spanish prime minister Mariano Rajoy for 15 minutes on Tuesday night. During the conversation, the two men discussed the current relationship between the US and Spain.

The leaders spoke of the need to quash ISIS, according to government sources, and Rajoy also offered to act as a go-between between the US and Latin America, due to Spain's "strong government and economic growth", plus its cultural ties with that area.

It was later revealed in a statement issued by the White House, however, that during the conversation, the American president had also asked Spain to increase its spending on defence. Trump has called for all his European NATO partners, not just Spain, to pay what he considers to be their "fair share" of the costs. He wants the countries' defence outlay to be 2% of their GDPs. Last year Spain's defence budget was 0.9%.



The soon-to-be-announced verdict in Rodrigo Rato's fraud trial is, for many Spaniards, imbued with a symbolic importance. Rato, former head of the International Monetary Fund and ex-deputy prime minister and economy minister in Mariano Rajoy's government, is being tried for his alleged involvement in Bankia's 'black credit card' case. Along with 64 other defendants, Rato stands accused of running up substantial bills on these 'blank' cards, which were handed out like sweets to senior Bankia officials. The cards' monthly limits were not taxed and did not count as part of the bankers' wages; accordingly, the PIN-happy board members are said to have run up a bill of about 15.5 million euros between them.

If he is found guilty in this trial, many will want to see Rato behind bars. Up until last month, there seemed little reason to think that such a punishment would actually be meted out to the once-deputy prime minister - and not just because of his spent prestige as a senior member of the Spanish government. In Spain, as in many other European countries, authorities usually favour punishing banks rather than individual bankers. But on January 16th, five board members of the former Nova-caixagalicia bank were handed two-year prison sentences for bankrupting the lender in the process of accumulating personal wealth. Their imprisonment sends out a message of hope to those who want to see individuals like Rato held to account for their role in bringing Spain's banking sector to its knees, often at the expense of the taxpayer. In 2012, Bankia required a 22-billion-euro state bailout.

Yet even if Rato is found not guilty or receives a light reprimand for his alleged role in the 'black' credit cards case, he is far from in the clear. The former IMF boss is also being investigated for tax evasion in his personal financial affairs and in connection with allegations that he accepted kickbacks from firms seeking preferential treatment while he was chairman of Bankia. On the former count, things appear very murky indeed: this Tuesday, El País revealed that a report by the National Fraud Investigation Office it has had access to indicates that Rato evaded taxes worth 6.8 million euros between 2004 and 2015. Rato is said to have evaded these taxes by a complex network of offshore 'companies' with zero tax liabilities. Again, these alleged financial misdemeanours are held by many in Spain to be allegorical: there was Rato, along with his fellow bankers and senior politicians, piling up huge personal wealth as ordinary Spaniards endured a grinding recession.

There are other precedents for trigger-happy bankers getting what they deserve; it's just that they're few and far between. In 2012, Ghanaian banker Kwaku Adoboli received seven years in prison for off-the-books trading that almost brought the Swiss behemoth UBS to its knees. At the time, Adoboli's sentence seemed to show that bankers, not just banks, would be held responsible for reckless behaviour (Adoboli was released in 2015 and lost his appeal against deportation from the UK last year).

Rato's imprisonment would send out a far more powerful message to Spaniards - namely, that corrupt politicians no longer enjoy immunity from the law.



:: JAVIER BLASCO

SPANISH INFANTAS HIT THE SLOPES WITH KING AND QUEEN

King Felipe and Queen Letizia took their daughters, Leonor (11) and Sofia (9), skiing last weekend. The royal family allowed photographers to take pictures of the girls on their winter break for the first time at the Astún resort in the Spanish Pyrenees. The family also surprised a local restaurateur by turning up to eat unexpectedly.

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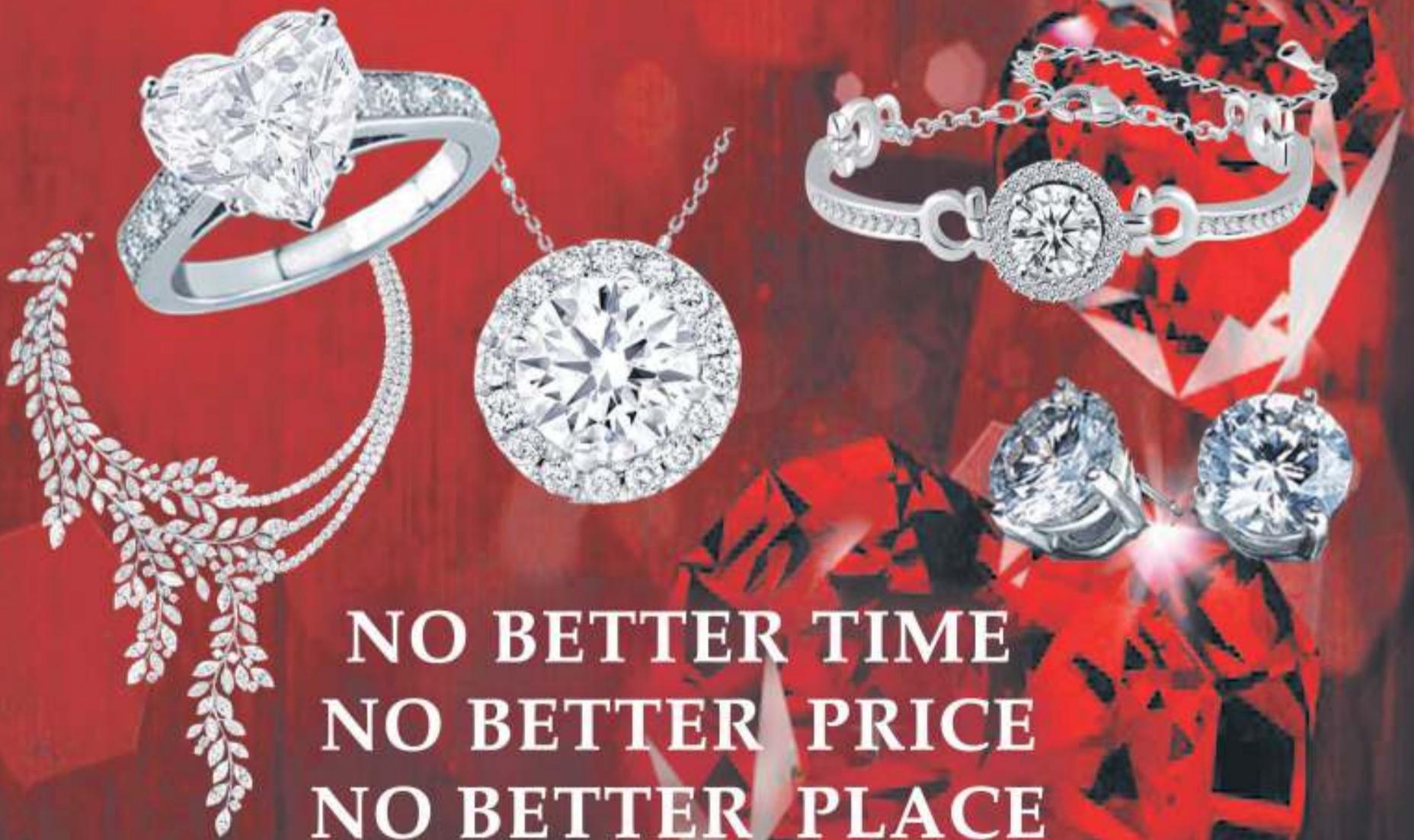


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recall my first night in Vietnam, sipping a large whisky on the terrace of a hotel which had seen better times. A relic of French colonial rule, it was now the only hotel in Saigon with a barman. It was September 1974. The few journalists that remained in the city and a handful of off-duty US Officers stood around in animated huddles at the old cocktail bar. A Napalm Surprise, the barman's special, was advertised discreetly on the bar with a guarantee "to explode on the outside and burn on the inside". A flustered voice from a local radio station broadcast what we all knew but didn't want to speak about. The Vietcong were edging ever closer to the outlying districts of the capital. It took a further seven months for Saigon to fall. Immediately in front of the hotel, shanty huts with corrugated



JEREMY BLATCH
✉ jbl@ehh.gi

THE BIGGER PICTURE

VIETNAM, FROM NAPALM TO NAPPA

iron roofs lined the roadside. A cacophony of noise came from thousands of snarling bike exhausts. The smell of burnt oil, rotting fish, and fear hung in the air. Elegant women and half-naked children dodged unconcerned between the rows of bikes ploughing through gigantic puddles throwing up a wake of mud and dirt.

The people of Vietnam are no strangers to foreign occupation, and with it political repression and economic exploitation. First by the

Chinese in 111 BC, and subsequently governing itself only to be colonised by the French for seven decades following the Treaty of Hue in 1874. After the defeat of the French at the epic battle of Dien Bien Phu in May 1954, the country only knew death and devastation until the US left ignominiously after failing to defeat the North Vietnamese Regular Army.

Unification of the country by the North in 1975 saw an industrial north devastated and an agri-

cultural south reduced to subsistence farming by a hostile US foreign policy. The economy faced near collapse through an adopted Chinese communist model. After decades of misery, a democratically-elected government established a free market economy. The last 25 years have seen Vietnam grow from one of the poorest countries in Asia, to one of the most prosperous.

Saigon is now Ho Chi Minh City. The dilapidated hotel has long disappeared and with it the Napalm Surprise. The dirt road strewn with puddles has been replaced by a modern two-lane highway. The shanty huts have given way to shopping malls, where an emerging middle class sports luxurious nappa leather attire.

Vietnam's equity market peaked at a high in 2006 and is at a 10-year high today, outperforming all

other Asian markets. Its economy grew at 6.7% in 2016 in contrast to Europe's mere 1.5%.

However, not all countries in Asia have enjoyed the same economic success as Vietnam. While sensible investors need to think globally, they place the odds of investment success over time firmly in their favour by keeping costs to the minimum, employing an investment strategy of indexing. The market can stay irrational longer than the investor can stay solvent. Risk cannot be avoided; it must be managed. Watch the signal, not the noise.

The comments and observations by the author are a reflection of his opinion and do not constitute an offer to buy and hold securities, nor does he receive any remuneration of any kind from names referred to.

Vegetable prices have increased in Malaga because of bad weather

Farmers suspect that some stores are taking advantage of the situation and are putting the prices up more than they should

✪ JUAN SOTO

MALAGA. The price of tomatoes, aubergines and courgettes has suddenly gone up, because icy weather in many parts of Europe recently has affected crops in Andalucía and

countries which supply Spanish markets such as Italy, Greece and Turkey. The price increase is basically due to the law of supply and demand, because less produce is available and so it costs more.

The regional government's Observatory of Agricultural Prices and Markets says that aubergines are now twice as expensive as at the end of last year, green beans have gone up by 64 per cent and courgettes by about 75 per cent. For example, aubergines which were 1.81 euros a kilo are now 3.28.

The Young Farmers Association (Asaja) cannot remember a situation like this occurring before, and fears that prices will remain at these levels for several weeks because the plants which were damaged by the cold will need between 20 to 30 days to begin producing again.

Benjamín Faulí, the organisation's general secretary, says that although agriculture in Spain was not as badly affected as elsewhere, it cannot meet demand. He also suspects that some stores are taking advantage of the situation to boost prices artificially.



Many vegetable prices have suddenly increased. ✪ sur

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Major police operation almost brings Gibraltar to a standstill

Traffic jams lasted for hours and flights were delayed on Wednesday when the police prevented an RAF plane from taking off

DEBBIE BARTLETT

GIBRALTAR. It is not unknown for traffic in Gibraltar to be brought to a standstill because of delays at the border with Spain, but on Wednesday this occurred for a different reason: the Royal Gibraltar Police carried out a major operation at the airport, closing the runway for two hours and preventing flights from taking off and vehicles from crossing.

Although nothing has yet been confirmed by the police, the Ministry of Defence or the Gibraltar government, the local press reported that an RGP vehicle drove onto the runway to physically prevent a Royal Air Force plane from leaving.

The police allegedly wanted to question a passenger on the RAF aircraft, who is said to be a serving member of the British forces. This passenger was reportedly the subject of an ongoing criminal investigation in Britain, although some local media have claimed that he was being investigated for possible sexual offences which may have taken place in Gibraltar.

Gibraltar police were apparently also keen to examine a computer which was being carried by the man.



The runway, which was blocked for two hours on Wednesday. :: D.B.

There are claims that the Ministry of Defence tried to stop the police from blocking the runway

After lengthy discussions, police officers took the computer equipment and escorted the man from the aircraft. The RGP says no arrests were made, but it is believed that the man in question remained in custody of the Ministry of Defence in Gibraltar while investigations continued.

The situation on Wednesday afternoon was extremely tense be-

cause it called into question the matter of who has jurisdiction in cases such as this. The Royal Gibraltar Police has priority in investigating offences which take place in Gibraltar, but some people who witnessed the incident say the MOD tried to stop the police car from blocking the runway to stop the military plane taking off.

This was an unprecedented situation, around which there is still a strong element of mystery, but those who were held up in traffic jams for several hours, and passengers whose flights were unable to take off while the incident played out, were only relieved when it was all over; they were finally on their way and Gibraltar returned to normal.

IN BRIEF

CHIEF MINISTER



Fabian Picardo and Juan Franco. :: SUR

La Línea mayor visits for talks on Brexit

GIBRALTAR

DEBBIE BARTLETT. The Mayor of La Línea, Juan Franco, paid another visit to the chief minister of Gibraltar, Fabian Picardo, on Tuesday. They discussed the latest developments with regard to Britain's withdrawal from the European Union and its effects on Gibraltar and the towns in the nearby area. Picardo and

Franco also considered ways in which Gibraltar and La Línea could cooperate after Brexit.

One major concern for both the chief minister and the mayor is the situation at the border once the UK is no longer part of the EU. As Gibraltar is British, it will automatically leave with the UK even though 96 per cent of those who voted in the EU referendum wanted to Remain. Both men insist that free movement across the border needs to be maintained somehow.

Police seize boat used for drug trafficking

GIBRALTAR

DEBBIE BARTLETT. The marine section of Gibraltar's police seized a 14m rigid hull inflatable boat from suspected drug traffickers on 3 February, after chasing it until it ran out of fuel. The occupants of the RHIB managed to escape when a similar boat came alongside, despite the fact that the RGP and GDP were in pursuit. This was the first time a vessel of this size and power has been seized by local law enforcement agencies.

"Please vote for us!" says Gibraltar airport

GIBRALTAR

DEBBIE BARTLETT. If you think coming into land at Gibraltar airport is impressive, you can vote for it to be declared the Most Scenic Airport Landing of 2017 in a poll which has been set up by PrivateFly, an online booking platform for private air charter. Voting is open at www.privatefly.com/airport-poll/PrivateFlyAirport-Poll.html throughout the month of February.

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SO PLEASE INCLUDE YOUR ADDRESS

Exodus, or not?

There is an article in SUR in English of 27 January which says "The British Costa Exodus continues."

I read in a previous Article that the real reason that British residents were removed from the official register is that, when people used to register on the padrón at the town hall they were on the register for life but now they have to reregister every three years.

Not many British residents know this so they have not returned to the UK but have simply been removed from the padrón.

Out of 10 of my friends here only one has returned to the UK and that is only because she was made redundant and couldn't get another job in Spain, but three sales jobs in the UK were advertised on the internet. The rest of them say that it is too expensive to live in the UK (35 % cheaper to live in Spain) and too cold in the winter.

With new people moving here from the UK there is probably a similar number of British people here, just fewer people registered on the padrón.

PAUL SYMONDS
BY EMAIL

Cudeca

May I also through your newspaper thank the staff at the Cudeca Hospice in Benalmádena.

My father was an in-patient at the same time as your recent correspondent and died on 5 January. I cannot express my gratitude enough for all the kind help and dedication which allowed my father to spend his last days comfortably and without pain.

ANDREW WADE
BENAHAVIS

Dogs and beds

I find Mr Harrison's comments in the issue of 3 February to be offensive to me as well as to my pet. Mr Harrison writes, "Pets tend to seek out a warm place and this may mean snuggling on armchairs or even our beds. This is certainly not a good idea. They have their place and we have ours." Really? What exactly is your place Mr Harrison and what exactly is the "place" of your pet? If your dog loves you he will want to be near you at sleeping time. My dog has her own bed and only goes there in daytime hours when I am not at home. I suggest that your belief that your pet is trying to "control" you shows how little regard you have for your pet. My

dog sleeps near my head every night and has done for seven years. I daresay you do not speak for the majority of dog owners.

GARY WILLIAMS
MIJAS COSTA

Politicians and moral ethic

Believe me please when I say this is not another attempt to get my name in SUR in English, but some things have to be said. Héctor. He is an absolute maestro of journalism with a unique capacity to stick the knife in at the most opportune time. The problem is that the politicians he's sticking the knife into in his article Trump - The Mirror, have no feelings. This doesn't detract of course, from what Héctor has said; as always, in my opinion, he's right. It's true of course, that the politicians are where they are because the public voted for them, something the public easily forget. As Héctor points out, at the end of the day the voting public are to blame for the way things are. If SUR in English devoted two pages to Héctor each week I would not complain.

What Spain and the UK need are politicians with the moral ethic of Héctor.

ED WILCOX
MANILVA

A change would do you good

PETER EDGERTON
MUSIC MAKER WWW.E-PETER.COM

Davey plonks a couple pints down on the table. "Cheers, Mike! Hey, how did you get on on Saturday?"

"Cheers, Davey! Oh my God - we lost on penalties. Couldn't believe it. Some of the players were actually crying and everything. It's all over YouTube. We should've won, of course. On paper it was a walk over. Every single person I know thought we had it in the bag. I still can't take it in."

"Wow, that's tough. What are you going to do about it? Changes to the team and new tactics, I suppose?"

"Haha - oh no, changes, no. We're really good, mate - far superior to the other teams in every way. We don't need to change anything. No, no, no. Change? Hahaha. No - actually, we're going to protest against the result and see if we can find

some technicality to have it made null and void."

"Eh?"

"Plus, in future, we're going to stop any teams coming to our ground whose style of play we don't like. You know - teams that are more direct than we are, that go straight for goal. No hit and hope or long ball games will be allowed at our place."

"Sorry? How on earth are you going to do that?"

"Well, that's the good bit. It's the gaffer's idea - we'll get all our fans out on the street to protest about the opposition's tactics any time they don't fit with how we think the game should be played - it'll be brilliant. There's one on Friday. You should come along."

"Er, no, I'm busy. Anyway, hang on a minute. Don't you think it would be better if you made changes to your own team and

tactics?"

"Oh, no - don't be daft, hahaha, we're not wrong about those, mate. Everyone knows our tactics are perfect. It's simply a question of other fans up and down the country coming to recognise that our way of playing the game is far superior to all of the other teams."

"Er, OK, right. And you're going to achieve that by protesting?"

"Too right, mate. The gaffer says we might even win the league without having to play any more matches or train or anything. Protesting against the opposition, that's the key to victory he reckons - and, actually, all the lads agree."

"Erm, right. Right, OK..OK..it's just that..well...it's just..I...oh, let's just leave it. I need a drink."

"Great. Glad you agree. My round - another pint?"

"God, no. Make it a double whisky."

IDÍGORAS

A love affair
stronger than Brexit

RACHEL HAYNES

Just over six months ago, a lot of us in Spain thought that we were in a bad dream, that something surreal was happening but that we would soon wake up and discover with relief that the UK didn't vote for Brexit after all. Then for a while perhaps we kidded ourselves that the country would see sense and everything would go back to normal.

But no, Brexit is real and one step closer this week after the Commons vote. It's going to happen, and a lot of people are happy about it.

Now Brits in Spain, and EU citizens in Britain, are waiting to see the outcome of talks that could change nothing, or could alter their

circumstances considerably. "We'll have to see," said the British ambassador in Marbella last week, almost as if we were children impatient to know whether or not we'll still be allowed to go to the party.

What Simon Manley is right about is the extraordinary relationship between our two countries. Spain has always attracted the British, with an invisible pull, luring us in, getting under our skin, bits of it clinging to those who have to leave, forcing them to come back. This pull can come in a variety of forms: sun, sea and cheap booze are enough to get many hooked, while others, from Gerald Brenan to writers and artists of today, have found something intangible that fuels their creativity.

Some are lured by the 'duende' of flamenco, others feel the need to immerse themselves in the "real" Spain, heading for the remotest of villages (inevitably only to find that another Brit got there before them) and even British fugitives still think this is a good place to hide from the law.

Now though, it's another group of Brits that the local authorities are hoping will fall for the pull of southern Spain, for a different reason altogether: to do business. Instead of leaving work at home when rushing to the sunshine, business leaders learned at the SUR event in London this week that they can bring it with them.

Add incentives, lower costs, technology and talent to the rest of the attractions and the cocktail may have been enough to ensure that some stepped out into a cold February night on Wednesday with a bit of Spain under their skin.

Brexit might complicate life for British residents in Spain, we don't know, but it is not going to mess with the love affair Britain and the British have been having with Spain for decades.

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Romantic legends for Valentine's

Daimalos, Antequera and Benadalid are among the places in the province of Malaga with their own unique love stories

:: JAVIER ALMELLONES

Loves which are impossible and misunderstood and come to tragic ends: that is the general synopsis of many lovers' legends which exist in Malaga province.

Most of these stories, which refer to the most turbulent years of Al-Andalus, predate the famous story of Romeo and Juliet and are set in places such as Antequera, Archidona, Benadalid, Periana and the Guadalhorce Valley.

Without a doubt, the most famous Malaga legend of them all is that of Tello and Tagzona, which is set between the historic towns of Antequera and Archidona. Tello was a brave soldier who was being held prisoner in the fortress at Archidona, and she was the daughter of the 'wali' Ibrahim, who was in charge of the castle. Their lives and their romance ended tragically on what is now known as the 'Peña de los Enamorados', or Lovers' Rock.

Tagzona's father, like most of society at the time, disapproved of this passion between people from opposing bands and religious beliefs. Despite this, according to popular legend, the young girl helped Tello to escape and they fled from the castle in Archidona towards Christian territory. However, they were unsuccessful. The guards discovered what had happened and set off in pursuit. Tagzona and Tello were close to the massive rock when they realised they were being chased, and they decided in desperation to throw themselves from the top so Ibrahim's troops could never separate them.



The Peña de los Enamorados, left, as seen from the Antequera alcazaba. :: J. ALMELLONES

This story is not only set around Lovers' Rock but also the castles of Antequera and Archidona, and both towns mark it in one way or another. In Antequera, for example, there is a sculpture in the Plaza de Castilla to pay tribute to that impossible love.

In Periana, local people talk about a similar story. In this case it is a beautiful Christian captive, Sara, who falls in love with a handsome Muslim. Faced with opposition to their romance the couple flee but, just as in the story of Tello and Tagzona, they took the drastic decision: to throw themselves off the Marchamonas hill, which is not far the village.

The lovers from Benadalid made a different but no less tragic decision. Because their romance, which was also between a Christian girl and a Muslim man, was impossible, they decided to run away together and find a wild rose which, according to legend, was lethal.



The Fuente del Amor in the Axarquía village of Daimalos. :: J. A.

They both decided to prick themselves with this plant in order to die together.

There are, however, some stories with much happier endings, such as the one which took place on the fertile lands of the Guadalhorce Valley, featuring Abindarráez, Jarifa and Rodrigo de Narváez. Rodrigo captured Abindarráez when he was on the way to Coin to marry his betrothed, Jarifa. Abindarráez, who was from the Abencerrajes family, pleaded with his captor to let him go so he could get married and Rodrigo did so, but only on one condition: that he would return three days later. Not only did Abindarráez return as promised, but Jarifa came with him. In view of this unconditional love, Narváez decided to let them both go.

Looking for love

In Malaga there are also stories of people who looked for love, such as the one featuring a fountain in the hamlet of Daimalos, in the municipality of Arenas. There, they say that a young woman, on the advice of a saint, drank water from the fountain several times a day. Within a short time, not only had she found a boyfriend but she also recommended the practice to her single girlfriends. Nowadays water still flows from this same fountain, which is known as the 'Fuente del Amor', or Fountain of Love.

A similar story is that of the Fuente de la Doncella, near Burriana beach in Nerja. A beautiful girl used to go there every day to try to cure an illness with its waters. Along the way, she met a handsome man who liked to drink the same water. A friendship grew between them and eventually blossomed into love. He asked her to marry him but, conscious of her illness, she turned him down. Despite that, according to legend, he remained faithful to her for the rest of his life.

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Goya awards see 'Tarde para la ira' win best film

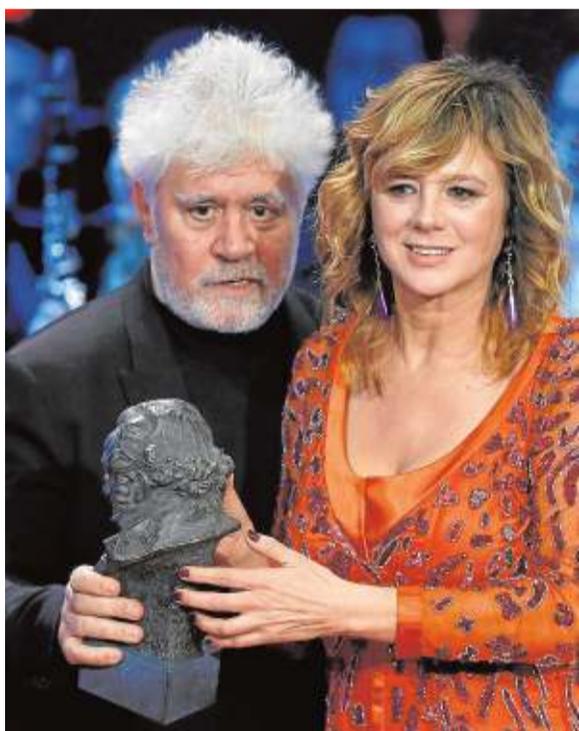
The 31st Spanish film academy ceremony, a highlight of the cultural year, was also a very good night for A Monster Calls

:: F. GRIÑAN / SUR

MADRID. The 31st Spanish film academy awards ceremony, better known as the 'Goyas', was held in Madrid last Saturday night. As the red carpet was rolled out and the best-dressed guests were subjected to the usual minuscule analysis of their choice of dress, there was widespread expectation that Spanish-produced *A Monster Calls* would do extremely well - and it did not disappoint.

The film, based on the book by Patrick Ness, swept away nine of the 28 awards, including Best Director for Juan Antonio Bayona and Best Original Soundtrack. Starring Sigourney Weaver, Felicity Jones, Toby Kebbell and Liam Neeson, it tells the story of a boy who seeks the help of a tree monster to cope with his single mother's terminal illness.

The most-coveted prizes for best picture and best screenplay went however to 'Tarde para la ira',



Pedro Almodóvar and best-actress Emma Suárez. :: EFE



Raúl Arévalo and Beatriz Bodegas :: REUTERS



British-born Yvonne Blake speaks. :: AFP

(which in English is released as *The Fury of a Patient Man*). This tells the story of a man who loses his wife during a vicious robbery and who quietly plans to exact revenge while the anger grows within him. Raúl Arévalo won the prize for best new director for his

work on the film, which he also co-wrote.

Other highlights of the evening included the award for Emma Suárez of Best Actress for Pedro Almodóvar's *Julieta* and Roberto Álamo as Best Actor for 'Que Dios nos perdone'

A UK academy president

The usual large television audience for the event were able to see the first Goyas speech by the new Spanish-film-academy president, Yvonne Blake. Oscar-winning Yvonne is unusual in that she was born and raised in the UK before finding success in

the Spanish film industry. She was awarded an Oscar in 1971 for the costume design on the film *Nicholas and Alexandra*.

Yvonne was elected by colleagues as President of 'La Academia de las Artes y las Ciencias Cinematográficas de España' in October last year.



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On 16 February Helle Hollis celebrates its 35th anniversary on the coast. The Danish car rental company, founded in 1982 by Holger Helle, is today a prosperous company with over 1,300 rental cars in peak season distributed between the Head Office at Malaga Airport and the local branch in Fuengirola.

One of the characteristics of the company's 35-year history is that Helle Hollis is always first with new initiatives in the car rental industry. "We were the first to introduce smoke-free cars after demand by our customers," says Managing Director Hans Hugo, "and last year we became the first company in Malaga to have environmentally-friendly hybrid cars in the fleet."

Another key factor of the company's success is very high customer satisfaction. "Helle Hollis

has truly service-minded staff where all employees have many years of experience. Several have been involved from the very beginning of the company. We provide personalised service and always do a little extra for the customer to get a stress-free start to their holidays," Hugo continues.

"We offer Fast Lane Service; free Wi-Fi in the waiting areas, a self-service point where customers print boarding cards and even scales if they need to weigh luggage before the return journey. With all reservations, there is no fine print."

In 1997 Helle Hollis was the first car hire company in Malaga with a website. Now, they can boast a cutting edge user-friendly site, with a mobile version. It is also still possible to reserve a car by phone or email - in either Eng-

lish, Danish, German, French, Russian or Spanish.

With so many loyal customers either regularly visiting their holiday home on the Costa del Sol or living here as residents, Helle Hollis launched their Home Owners' Club which currently has over 12,000 members. Club members enjoy a number of unique advantages - among others, earned bonuses and discounts.

In the anniversary week from the 13-19 February, all customers will receive a little "anniversary gift" with their car rental, says the Managing Director. "I would like to take this opportunity to thank all our loyal customers - without whom we wouldn't have a 35th anniversary to celebrate," he concludes.

www.hellehollis.com



Liz, with friends and former colleagues on Monday. :: SUR

Colleagues and friends come together in appreciation of former editor Liz Parry

:: SUR IN ENGLISH

MALAGA. Colleagues and directors from Prensa Malagueña, as well as friends and family, came together at the AC Malaga Palacio hotel on Monday in recognition of the work of Liz Parry, SUR in English's retired former editor.

Director general José Luis Romero, editor in chief Manuel Castillo and director of publications Pedro Luis Gómez all spoke in praise of the work carried out by Liz during more 30 years with

the company, much of which she served as editor.

In the presence of retired former colleagues, such as Eve Browne and Kate Rayner, Liz was then presented with a sculpture, a designer handbag and a specially-made SUR in English front page to mark the occasion.

Liz, who has recently been awarded a British Empire Medal (BEM) by Queen Elizabeth II, said: "There are so many much-loved people here, I've had a ball."

ADANA animal charity goes totally green

ESTEPONA. ADANA the Estepona based dog rescue and rehoming charity is now totally dependent on solar energy to power all its needs after the completion of a large scale solar installation by local company INOVIA

The installation took a month to complete and means that the charity will be able to save around 6,000 euros a year on diesel fuel for the

generators on which it had previously been reliant.

ADANA President Mary Page said that the success of the scheme was due to the expertise of the treasurer Reg Winkworth, a qualified electrician. "Because of his experience and knowledge, Reg was able to plan and supervise the whole process. We take in and rehome abandoned dogs in the Estepona and Manilva area and have always been conscious of wider environmental implications. Our kennels are situated in an area of outstanding beauty and we want to help maintain the integrity of that environment," she added.



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JENNIE RHODES



WHAT HAPPENED TODAY?

10 FEBRUARY 1997

Malaga placed on high alert as ETA strikes twice on the same day

On this day in February 1997, Malaga was on high alert as ETA carried out two terrorist attacks: one in Granada at 7.15am, followed by another in Madrid, exactly seven hours later.

The first attack took place in the form of a car bomb, which was detonated in the Zaidín neighbourhood, a short distance from Granada city centre and not far from the Armilla military base.

The target was an unmarked army van carrying Spanish air force personnel as well as civilian, 43-year-old Domingo Puente Marín, who worked as a hairdresser at the base.

Puente Marín was killed in the attack and a further eight people injured, two of them seriously. Among the injured were the 12 and 16-year-old sons of a com-

mander at the military base.

The car used in the attack had been reported as stolen in Granada one week previously and was thought to be carrying between 40 and 50 kilos of explosives before it was detonated. Witnesses described seeing "a huge ball of fire".

Exactly seven hours later, at 2.15pm, Rafael Martínez Emperador, 65, a magistrate at Madrid's supreme court, was killed by a single bullet to the neck outside his home on Calle Menorca in Madrid.

ETA is thought to have chosen 10 February as it coincided with the day that the then prime minister, José María Aznar, was to meet with José Antonio Ardanza, the Lehendakari (president of the Basque regional government), to send a new and clear message



The scene after the car bomb exploded in Zaidín, Granada. :: SUR

denouncing the terrorism of ETA and setting out a number of actions.

One of these was the appearance in the supreme court and immediate imprisonment of a number of leading members of Herri Batasuna (popular unity in Basque), a party considered to support ETA.

The murder of the magistrate was believed to be a response to that announcement along with

the recent spate of suicides of ETA and Herri Batasuna (HB) members being held in prison at the time. They included



José María Aranzamendi, who was being held in custody accused of collaborating with ETA, and of one of the HB party's leaders, Eugenio Aranburu, who was due to go on trial at the supreme court that day.

José María Aznar's government responded by saying that there

would be no dialogue while attacks continued and that it was impossible to negotiate with the terrorists.

In the same year, Malaga was at the centre of ETA activity, when in September bombs were planted under the cars of then mayor of Rincón de la Victoria, José María Gómez, and councillor José Francisco Robles. Neither was hurt as both attempts were thwarted.

i Bilingual crossword inside back page

LANGUAGE FOOTNOTE

Terrorismo	Terrorism
Coche	Car
Bomba	Bomb
País	Country
Vasco	Basque
Peluquero	Hairdresser
Herido	Injured
Furgón	Large van
Detonar	To detonate
Cabo	Corporal
Comandante	Commander
Testigo	Witness
Preso	Prisoner
Juzgado	Court
Comparecencia	Appearance
Apoyar	To support
Diálogo	Dialogue
Negociar	To negotiate
Anuncio	Announcement

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From gypsy jazz to La Voz and back

Manu Gonzalez Musician, singer and composer

Manu decided that he would not be sidetracked by anything that would affect his music

A successful career in the music business is something that most musicians can only dream about, but 37 year-old Manu Gonzalez believes that simple determination and passion is the key to success.

Born in Malaga in 1979, Manu Gonzalez knew from an early age that music was his calling.

Fascinated by the music of Tony Bennett, Sting, Stevie Wonder and Cyndi Lauper, Manu acquired his first guitar at the age of thirteen.

His biggest influence has been George Benson, and this is evident in Manu's West Coast jazz style, but he also attributes much of his early inspiration to his cousin, Ricky Vivar.

Manu doesn't descend from a musical background; in fact, the only other musician in the family is Ricky - one half of a popular duet called Gypsy and Dixie.

Manu loved the feel of the New Orleans Gypsy swing music that his cousin performs and he soon became engrossed in the music.

"When I went to my cousin's house and heard him play the guitar, it was something special, it was like magic," Manu says with excitement in his eyes.



Manu Gonzalez has dedicated his life to music. :: SUR

A career back on track

:: TONY BRYANT

MALAGA Now La Voz is behind him, Manu is back on the gig circuit of the Costa del Sol.

He also has a few projects in the pipeline that could change the course of his career.

He has been working on two musical ventures that he hopes

to release later this year.

The project comprises of two CDs - one in Spanish, the other in English - containing a collection of his own compositions.

Until then, Manu will continue playing his smooth jazz and funk every week at La Sala in Marbella.

"To have a voice, is like having a very expensive guitar, you need to know how to use it"

Manu decided at a very young age that he would concentrate on his passion and not be sidetracked by anything that would affect his music.

"Obviously there are good times and bad times, but if you have another job to fall back on, then your art will suffer," Manu explains in his Mediterranean-tinted English accent.

He began securing work in some of the glitzy clubs of Marbella and he was soon making his living doing what he loved most.

Although he finds stability performing in the classy venues of Marbella, he would obviously prefer to sing his own compositions, instead of singing what the audience want to hear.

Manu believes that a voice is a remarkable instrument. His voice has incredible range and adapts well to soul, blues and jazz: when he rearranges a well-known song, it almost becomes his own composition.

"To have a voice, is like having a very expensive guitar, you need to know how to use it. I always try to change the covers that I do, because I think to be a copycat is too easy," he says with modesty.

Manu has become one of the most popular performers on the coast, and aside from his solo act,

he also performs with a 24-piece big band.

One of the big challenges of his career came in 2016, when he was selected to appear on the popular television show, La Voz.

At first he was not too interested, because he didn't have much faith in talent shows.

"A contest cannot choose the best musician, because music is not a competition," Manu points out respectfully.

After being approached several times, Manu decided to participate; although he was still not completely convinced it would be a good career move. Following the initial video casting, off screen interviews and studio auditions, Manu joined the team of Alejandro Sanz; one of Spain's most popular performers.

Usually contestants spend about ten minutes per show with the captain of their team, but Manu claims that Alejandro Sanz was more personal with his group. He even invited them into his private quarters to have lunch.

Manu demonstrated his respect for his team's captain by saying, "Alejandro Sanz is the kind of person you instantly feel comfortable with and it was a great experience being with him. He was incredible."

Manu made it through to the quarter finals of the show, but, as he astutely points out, it is not only about winning.

"I had lots of fun, because it's a big stage, a big band, and great people, but it could be a little nerve-racking at times," says the musician with a radiant smile.

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REF. P.L.S.

Ten years ago I bought a house, but I was dismissed from work and had to transfer the property to the bank in lieu of payment because I could not pay the mortgage. However, they did not remove my name from the cadastral records, and I have been paying taxes because I did not know what they were for.

Now, the town hall has charged me 187 euros, supposedly for the IBI. What can I do? The payment of the IBI corresponds to the owner, so first of all it would be necessary to ask for a nota simple at the Land Registry, to check who is the current owner and from when. Once the nota simple is obtained, it would be necessary to draw up a brief for the cadastral office, establishing that you are not obliged to pay, since you are not the owner anymore, and attaching the nota simple so that they can check your assertion.

REF. G.L.A.

I live in a rented apartment, and two weeks ago there was a small fire. The insurance took charge of the repairs that had to be done, and they told us that they would also take charge of cleaning the curtains, our clothes that smelled of smoke and refund the amount that we had had

to pay to stay in a hotel for the two nights. However, now the insurance says that they will not pay because the policy does not cover inhabitability of the property, and because what is inside (clothes, curtains, etc.) does not belong to the owner. My question is, should they take charge of my expenses in concept of damages to a third party?

In this case, they shouldn't, as in order to be considered as a third party, the fire would have had to have happened in the property of a neighbour, causing damage to your belongings. In that case, the neighbour's insurance would have to cover it, as you would be an affected third party. However, as you are living in the property you are not considered as a third party, and that is why it is usual that tenants take out their own insurance to cover the damage to contents.

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Some of the cars with a scenic background. :: SUR

Big cats round the rugged rocks

:: SUR IN ENGLISH

Members of the Jaguar Enthusiasts' Club met recently, parading an array of quality and pristine cars.

They started their run with a route from Trapiche to Viñuela before winding their way towards Periana, taking in stunning views of the mountainous countryside and the reservoir.

Jenny Wray of the club told SUR in English that the stream of cars twisted their way through the craggy mountains towards Alfarate and saw groups of hunters on the hillsides hunting for wild boar, rabbits and partridge.

A little further and they reached the ancient Venta de Alfarate, where they stopped for a coffee.

They then continued through the white-grey mountains above the tree line before again dropping gradually downwards past quarries of white stone and into the Zafarraya plateau.

They stopped at El Pantano Restaurant on the edge of the Viñuela reservoir where members enjoyed a four-course meal.

If you have a Jaguar or have an interest in Jaguars, contact Philip Wray by email on JEC.CostaDelSol@gmail.com to register your interest.

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Unique, affordable and inspiring jewellery at Joyería Rafael Martín

MALAGA

Established in 1973, Joyería Rafael Martín is one of the few family businesses still standing on Malaga's emblematic Calle Larios. For more than 40 years, they have created scores of pieces, and can now offer today a vast variety of jewellery at very attractive prices.

"We have a wide selection of beautiful pieces for all budgets and occasions from weddings and parties, to Valentine's Day. We specialise in creating pieces from scratch, whether conceived by the customer or ourselves, so you can be confident when buying a piece from us you are acquiring something truly unique," says Rafael.

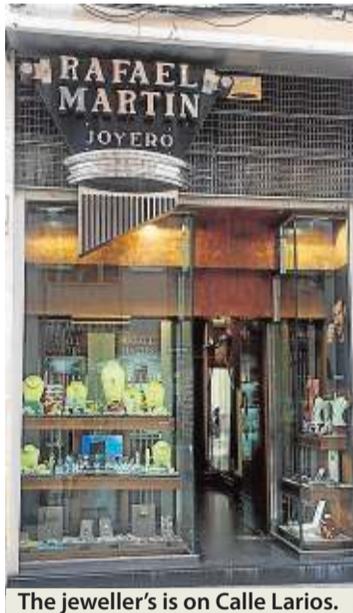
When asked about the creative process, he explains: "Firstly, it is important to remark we only work with 18 carat gold and that the majority of our stock is conceived, developed and made by us - something very few do. Secondly, we take a deliberately long time in the gem's selection as well as in the creation process to ensure each piece is special and unique. Thirdly, we pay a lot of attention in the craftsmanship process; we check a piece several times before we consider it appropriate to be sold."

"Finally, after acquiring a jewel we provide a warranty letter detailing the technical components of the piece such as weight, colour and purity."

As the whole process is overseen by Joyería Rafael Martín, they are able to cut out the middle men and offer a fair price, affordable for almost any budget.

WATCHES

In addition to jewellery, Joyería Rafael Martín also boasts a vast selection of watches. They are official retailers of Seiko and Tissot and you can also find other



The jeweller's is on Calle Larios.

brands such as Majórica and Vintage, a beautiful handmade collection from Italy and found exclusively in the store.

FOREIGN CLIENTELE

So how many foreign customers come to Joyería Rafael Martín?

"Almost as many as local Spaniards," says Rafael. "We find that it's important to tell customers the specifications of each piece to ensure they understand what they are buying. That's why we serve customers in fluent Spanish, English and German and we try to adapt to their schedules by opening Monday to Friday from 10.30am to 8.30pm and on Saturday from 10.30am to 2pm."

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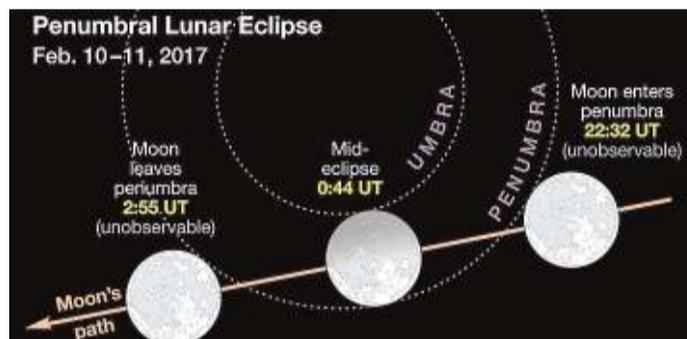


ALHAURÍN RBL RAISES FUNDS FOR POPPY APPEAL

The Alhaurín el Grande branch of the Royal British Legion recently held a "Bring and Buy Sale" which was well attended by members. The sales raised 75 euros towards this year's Poppy Appeal.

THE NIGHT SKY

KEN CAMPBELL



A penumbral eclipse

An eclipse of the Sun occurs when the Moon passes between the Earth and the Sun, the Moon covers the face of the Sun and its shadow falls upon the Earth. By coincidence the Sun is 400 times bigger than the Moon but the Moon is 400 times closer to the Earth and so the two bodies appear almost exactly the same size. The Moon just about manages to cover the whole face of the Sun and the eclipse lasts for just a few minutes and can only be viewed from a very narrow band across the Earth's surface. Anybody standing above or below this narrow

band would only see part of the Sun covered by the Moon in a partial eclipse.

An eclipse of the Moon occurs at full Moon when the Moon is on the opposite side of the Earth from the Sun. As the Moon passes through the shadow cast by the Earth, the Moon is thrown into darkness. The Earth's shadow is much bigger than the Moon's shadow and so during a lunar eclipse the Earth's shadow is large enough to cover the whole of the Moon and a lunar eclipse can last for several hours. But sometimes the Earth

doesn't quite line up with the Sun and only part of the Moon will witness the eclipse, this is a partial lunar eclipse. Viewed from the Earth only part of the Earth's shadow will be seen covering part of the Moon. You don't need to be in a special place to view a lunar eclipse, anybody who can see the Moon at the time of the eclipse will see it.

Tonight (Friday 10th February) there will be a penumbral eclipse of the Moon. Viewed from anywhere on the Moon the Earth will only cover part of the Sun. Beginning at 22.40 the Earth's shadow will start to cover the Moon. The effect will be very subtle and to the naked eye you will hardly notice anything at all. But by around about midnight you will definitely see a darkening of the upper part of the Moon. The maximum eclipse happens at about 00.45 when the Earth's shadow just skims across the very top part of the Moon. The whole eclipse will be over by about 3.00 Saturday morning.

More information :
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A passion for Morocco and the Sahara

Ray Monteith has been exploring the Atlas Mountains for more than 35 years

BY TONY BRYANT

ALHAURÍN EL GRANDE. Ray Monteith Smith has always been a traveler, although his passion cost him his first marriage because he was never at home.

Originally from Canada, Ray was a freelance journalist, working as a travel writer for the Inland Magazine.

During the 1980s, he would be sent on missions to faraway places, to seek out unusual destinations like Morocco, Afghanistan and India.

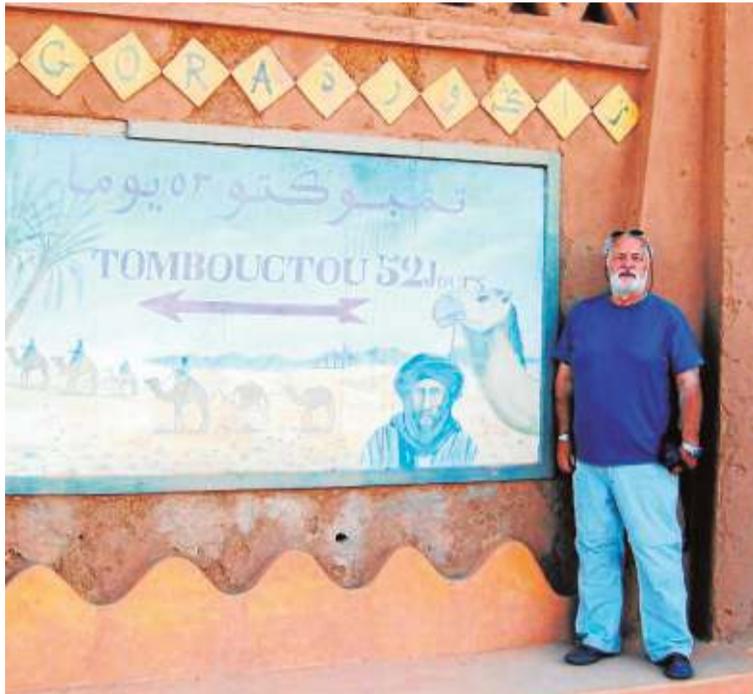
He became a feature writer for numerous magazines and he also wrote travel articles for The Mail on Sunday.

Ray built up quite a following of readers who were keen to visit some of the places he had covered. He went to East Germany before the wall came down, to Afghanistan while it was still relatively safe, and he drove across India in a jeep.

One of the things that caught the attention of the British public was an article Ray had written about an ancient tribal wedding festival that takes place in the Atlas Mountains.

The magazines became inundated with requests and inquiries concerning information about the places that Ray had visited.

Ray became so involved in help-



Ray introduces tourists to lesser known areas of North Africa . :: SUR

ing other people with travel plans, visas and paperwork; he had little to for anything else.

This is when he suddenly realized that there was a gap in the market for this type of tourism. He quit journalism and set up a small company of-

fering the kind of holidays he had been writing about.

"Nobody was catering for trips to these faraway places, because most people wanted to go to sunny Spain, Greece or Cyprus. However, there was, and still is, a huge market for the

off the beaten track holidays," Ray told SUR in English.

He founded an adventure travel company called Trailmasters and concentrated on North Africa and the parts of Europe that other companies did not offer.

"I put a few adverts in adventure magazines and newspapers and we hit the ground running," Ray explains.

He offered to introduce customers to the rural side of these countries, staying at farms, mountain campsites or sleeping under the stars in the desert.

He became the first company in the UK to offer trips to owners of four-wheel drive vehicles, although Ray had to supply backup vehicles with medics, mechanics and guides.

"Many people had brought Land Rovers and four-wheel drive vehicles, but they had nothing to do with them, other than taking the kids to school and shopping. Then we came along," Ray says proudly.

The business went from strength to strength and it became the leader in its field.

After selling the company in 2000, Ray and wife, Debbie, came to Spain with the intention of retiring, but Ray could not settle and he was soon making plans to re-embark on his

travels.

This time would be different though, because he aimed the business at the motor home owners.

Ray advertised his new company in motor home magazines and "the phone never stopped ringing".

Desert Detours is a professional holiday organization that specialises in small group, self-drive motor home, caravan and camping tours of Morocco. "Morocco is blessed with endless contrast and offers no compromise to its relentless assault on your senses," he says with a look of glee.

Ray loves navigating narrow gorges that lead to mountain passes that twist higher than the clouds and venturing into the less visited regions of the High Atlas.

"Morocco offers everything. You can leave modern Europe and an hour later you'll think you've landed on a different planet. You will see the Rif tribes, the cedar forests, the Atlas Mountains and the Sahara," Ray explains with a passion.

Ray, who lives in Alhaurín el Grande, loves Morocco, and this is why he was drawn to Andalucía's Arabic ambience.

He owns a small house in the Ziz Valley, on the very edge of the Sahara Desert. He also initiated and funded the building of a small infant's school in the village.

The school was established about 13 years ago and accommodates 60 pupils from four to ten years old.

"My next project is to establish a mother and baby unit in the village; my remaining time willing, Ray says enthusiastically.

THE ISLAND
BY OSIM

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DENISE BUSH



GARDENING

The cup and saucer vine

Cobaea scandens is an exotic looking vine with lush foliage and whose large scented flowers may appear all year round in temperate climates

Cobaea scandens is a rampant climbing vine native to Mexico. It is an evergreen perennial with hooked tendrils and pinnate leaves 8cm long and a member of the Polemoniaceae family (Phlox / Jacob's Ladder family). Common names include Cup and Saucer Vine, Cathe-

dral Bells and Mexican ivy.

The pale greenish-white buds open from May until October and will continue until the weather becomes cold. In warm climates Cobaea scandens may flower all year round. The flowers form on long

stalks and each cup shaped bloom has a ruff of bracts around the base making the 'saucer.' The blooms are about 5cm long and turn purple as they mature. The scent also increases as the flower ages. There is a white form, 'Alba', but it is not as striking as the more common, purple flowered varieties.

To maximise flowering it should be grown in full sun. It will tolerate most soils but does need regular watering, especially if grown in a container.

The vine clings using tendrils which have small hooks so a support or frame of some kind is necessary. Once fully mature (about two years) it will reach between three to four metres tall if given sufficient space and support, however it may swamp other climbers growing near it. Cobaea scandens grown in containers will probably not reach over two metres tall and pinching out the growing tips will encourage side shoots to form.

It is easily propagated from seed. Allow the pods to dry on the plant before breaking them open and extracting the seeds. Sow the seeds in late winter or early spring.

Cobaea scandens can be cut back by a third in February, leaving the main framework of the vine intact. Some of the new shoots that appear in spring can be removed and used as cuttings for new plants.

The blooms can be used in flower arrangements or floated in shallow bowls of water.



Cobaea scandens and a white variety (inset). :: SUR

READER'S PHOTO



FASCINATING FETID FUNGUS

Reader Col sent in this photo of a Clathrus ruber or latticed stinkhorn fungus. She says "With the rains, this amazing fragile specimen came up in the humus beneath indigenous growth, including a big Algarrobo - one of several manifestations, tho' the others were grouped in sticky, stinky patches which subsided quite rapidly."

GARDENING HINTS FOR FEBRUARY

Taking cuttings

It's not too late to increase your stock of plants by taking hard wood cuttings now. Hard wood cuttings are taken from deciduous trees and shrubs when the stock plant has lost its leaves and is dormant in the winter. Take cuttings that are approximately pencil thick, from mature wood, not soft and green. Cut off any unripened green growth at the tip. Take the cutting as close as

possible to the main stem, this point on the plant contains hormones which will encourage roots to form on the cutting. To increase rooting chances 'wounding' may be necessary. It sounds a bit barbaric but in plant terms all this means is scraping or cutting the side of the stem at the base to expose cambium (the light green layer you can see under the bark).

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, or send them via Twitter @SUR_English or Facebook @surenglish and we'll do the rest!



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The Carlos Haya aims to become a leading centre for epilepsy surgery and treat 50 patients a year

Surgery is the alternative for patients who have refractory epilepsy, whose condition does not respond to any type of medication

ÁNGEL ESCALERA

MALAGA. The Carlos Haya regional hospital has set itself the challenge of becoming a national benchmark in surgery for epilepsy, operating on about 50 patients who suffer from refractory epilepsy (the type which does not respond to medication) a year. This was announced earlier this week by the head of neurology at the hospital, Pedro Serrano, who is a recognised researcher into this type of condition. In Malaga province there are about 24,000 patients with epilepsy, of whom about 8,000 are ac-

tive epileptics (they have had at least one fit in the past five years), and 2,500 to 3,000 are refractory (treatment with drugs is ineffective). Out of these, between 800 and 1,000 could benefit from surgery. The operation involves locating the area of the brain in which the epileptic crises occur and then removing it to stop the epilepsy.

A total of 60 patients with refractory epilepsy (two of them children) have undergone surgery at the Carlos Haya since the first operation of this type was carried out in 2009. The hospital wants to become a leader in surgery for epilepsy with special attention being paid to the most complex cases of this neurological illness. At the moment, the only centre of this type in Andalucía is in Granada.

Dr Serrano is confident that within no more than five years, the Carlos Haya will have achieved



The head of neurology at the Carlos Haya regional hospital, Pedro Serrano. :: SUR

its objective and will be operating on patients not only from Malaga but also from elsewhere in Andalucía and other parts of Spain. He explains that a centre of this type is needed for every four million people, so two are needed to cover the needs of the population of Andalucía.

In 80 per cent of cases of patients who undergo surgery, they have no more epileptic fits, and in the 20 per cent who are not cured there is a major improvement because the medication which had no effect be-

fore the operation may prove effective afterwards.

Dr Serrano held a press conference this week accompanied by the medical assistant director of the hospital, Ángeles Gertrudis, to coincide with the International Epilepsy Day. Epilepsy is one of the most common chronic illnesses and one of those which most affects quality of life. At present there are about 20 drugs available to control epilepsy.

Dr Serrano told the press that

this type of surgery is suitable for those whose crises cannot be controlled by drugs. He also pointed out that the diagnosis and treatment of epilepsy needs the work of a multidisciplinary team, including neurologists, neurosurgeons, neurophysiologists, neuropsychologists, neuroradiologists and specialists in nuclear medicine.

i The connection between St Valentine and epilepsy : See page 42

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“I chose to be a person with an illness, not an ill person”

At the age of 17, Hodgkin's lymphoma changed Verónica Díaz's life. She taught herself to have a positive mental attitude, ate organic foods and says these played a part in her 'miracle cure'

RUBÉN CAÑIZARES

There cannot be a single student who doesn't have wonderful memories of the summer that began when their final school exams were over and lasted until they started at university.

Those three months of transformation from adolescence to adulthood mark a before and an after in everyone's life. However, the summer of 2008 will remain forever in the memory of Verónica Díaz, for reasons which are very different to those of which she had always dreamed.

“I started my second year studying for the Baccalaureate like everyone else of my age. I was really excited at the thought of passing my exams and going on to study

psychology, but soon all my plans were ruined,” she says.

For Verónica, adolescence ended on a lovely spring day, 15 May, several months earlier than expected, when “the sweet poison called chemotherapy” entered her veins for the first time.

“That was the moment when the woman I am today was born; another version of myself,” she says. That was the first of the 12 sessions she would receive over a four-month period. She had Hodgkin's Disease, a nodular sclerosis type, in its second stage. A cancer of the lymphatic glands, specifically in the mediastinum. A cancer in a child who had not yet reached the age of maturity.

In her book 'Diecisiete. Cuando desperté, el dinosaurio estaba allí' (Seventeen. When I woke up, the



Verónica Díaz. :: JENNIFER SIMÓN

dinosaur was there), she talks about her illness in a transparent and clear manner, although she didn't used to be like that.

“I was studying with my career in mind. Until they discovered my cancer, I had a C-type personality. I was a person who wanted things, but it meant I was accumulating negative emotions. I was full of thorns inside. Because I never wanted to create conflict I was always trying to generate a positive atmosphere but that brought with it a constant stress in my organism. Now I don't have that type of personality. I'm brutally honest. I never keep quiet about things. But I am absolutely sure that that way of being played a part in the appearance of my cancer,” she says.

This young woman from Almeria, with her staunchly supportive parents Juani and Antonio, spent seven months in hospital fighting to find a solution to the ganglios in Verónica's neck which had 'kidnapped' her life: “The vomiting, the high temperature, the tiredness and weight loss were getting worse week after week, month after month. It wasn't normal. I couldn't even go to school. And then in April, they discovered the cancer,” says Verónica.

Despite these problems, Verónica had completed two terms and obtained good results, and the school decided to pass her. And, with the chemotherapy still in her body, she gathered her strength and went on to pass her next exams and achieve the results she needed.

“As I always had a vocation for



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psychology, I treated the cancer as an experiment with me as the guinea pig. Darwin used to say that it was not the most intelligent or the strongest that survived, it was the ones who were best able to adapt to change. The cancer gave my life a real meaning. It gave me a compass that guided me to what I have really always wanted to be: a person who helps others," she explains.

Her cancer treatment was due to be 12 cycles, with 24 sessions of chemotherapy but that plan was unexpectedly shortened by half. On 16 September 2008, four months after the first session, she had her final one.

"I was cured early. My oncologist said he had never seen anything like it, it was so miraculous and quick," she says. Her positive attitude helped - "I chose to be a person with an illness, not an ill person," she says,

"The cancer gave my life a real meaning. It gave me a compass that guided me to what I have really always wanted to be, a person who helps others"

proudly - but there were two key factors. "I touched all the aspects that you need to touch to create within myself a scenario where there was no place for the cancer. Organic food and natural medicine made all the difference," she says. Her parents even took out a loan, but investment in health has no price. Carrots, beetroot, artichokes, radishes, celery, cabbage, leeks, squash, broccoli, turnips, seaweed, miso... this was Verónica's medicine cabinet, supplemented by berries and goji syrup, agaricus, ovine calostrum, elixir of rasamrita, tonidiet and evening primrose oil.

"My mother has given me life for the second time. She has done everything, since the first symptom of the illness appeared. She consulted the right sort of professionals and specialists and every day she would prepare the things in they way they had explained. I believe that explains

my miracle cure," she says..

Oriental medicine

Oriental medicine also played its part. "I began to practise Chi Kung, a technique of meditation in movement which increases internal energy and re-establishes balance. Chinese medicine considers it one of the most powerful tools for curing. And I also did Reiki, which helped to channel my energy. Both techniques are recognised by the World Health Organisation," she explains.

And what lies ahead for a 17-year-old girl who has had cancer? Everything, and nothing. Verónica Díaz admits in her book that, strange though it may seem, she suffered from post-cancer depression. Yes, she was cured, but that wasn't enough.

"I didn't know how to apply everything I had learned while I had cancer to my new life afterwards. It was

as if I had used all my energy in curing myself. I wasn't ill any more, but the days seemed endlessly long. It was partly because I couldn't go to university, because they still wouldn't let me, and my brothers and sisters and friends, who had all been so important during my illness, went off to study. I was on my own, in a village where in winter there is nobody. Those were months of learning, of understanding that you shouldn't live so fast, you have to learn to be patient and keep calm about everything," she says.

Eight years later, Verónica Díaz is qualified in psychology and specialises in therapy for children and adolescents. She is completely healthy and now she sees the sun come up each day in the company of her husband, Miguel Ángel, and David, her fifteen-month-old son. Of the dinosaur, there is no sign at all.

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Emotion, the fifth dimension

With the new 5D ultrasound scans the view of the unborn baby is more realistic than ever before. Rather than diagnostics, they focus on the emotional experience

▄▄ RUBÉN CAÑIZARES

Pregnancy is one of the most wonderful parts of life. Mothers (and fathers) feel very excited as they follow the growth of a new member of the family, and as few things are as important as the health and wellbeing of human beings, especially that of a newborn baby, medicine has been trying for decades to reach perfection in the form of ultrasound scans.

Ultrasounds are still the most common way of following the progress of the foetus during the 40 weeks of a pregnancy.

At first, these used to be 2D images, black and white on a flat background. Then came the 3D images, obtained by sweeping and producing an image thanks to the three axes of the space: X, Y and Z. After that came 4D, in which the time was added. In other words, an image in three dimensions but in real time. This type of ultrasound was an important step because it has the ability to capture volumes. Recently, the 5D has emerged with force: the emotional ultrasound which delights the future mothers and fathers.

“Thanks to the play of lights and shadows which is applied by the new equipment, you can see the baby with 3D imaging in high definition. In other words, imagine that you are looking at a vase and you decide to focus the light on one side of it. The light will appear on one side and shadows on the other. Well, that is exactly what a 5D ultrasound does. De-

pending on where the light is focused, some things will stand out, and all with excellent visibility,” explains Dr Enrique Tomás, a gynaecologist from Alicante with more than 25 years’ experience and one of the professionals at ECOX, a pioneer centre in Spain for the latest 4D and 5D technology.

This new type of ultrasound achieves a realism which has never been seen before. It captures the baby’s images and movements from a different point of view. “I always tell people they should try to enjoy their pregnancy. We don’t have to live in the ignorance that we used to. Emotional ultrasound helps to form bonds from the very first moment, with all the benefits that brings. We have to maintain and perfect the many and good advances that we have achieved so far in medicalising pregnancy and birth, but now we have to humanise it,” explains Dr Tomás.

Bárbara Sánchez, a 34 year old first-time mother who is expecting a little girl who she plans to call April, couldn’t agree more.

“I took the whole family with me for the 5D ultrasound. My husband, my sister, my parents and parents-in-law. We have been for so many that we weren’t expecting anything different, but we were totally wrong. We all ended up in tears. It was like watching a documentary on National Geographic. It was the first time I really felt that I was pregnant. It changes your perception completely. We were able to see things about her which are like me and like her father, such as her lips. We watched her sucking on the umbilical cord and playing with it. We also touched the part of my stomach where her bottom was and we could see that she didn’t like it and it made her cross, because she frowned. It was really exciting. You could even see her wrinkles. It was as if she had already been born and was with us,” she says.

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Image of a foetus in a 5D ultrasound. :: S.R.

special and unique way, because the images have more depth and texture, and a much more defined clarity than 4D ultrasound: "Thanks to the volume and play of lights and shadows we are venturing into a type of species of documentary about the uterine life of the baby in which you can interact and be more aware of what it is like for it inside its mother's womb," says Marta Benito, director of the ECOX centre in Alberto Aguilera (Madrid).

Emotional ultrasound can be carried out on two occasions during the pregnancy. Firstly between weeks 15 and 16 to learn the sex of the baby and then, especially, between weeks 26 and 32.

"I think the second option is the best, because the faces are fatter. If you do it much earlier, it is not as well formed. I always say it looks more like a velociraptor than a baby. But from week 26 you can already see its little body better, its face, and many of its movements," says Dr Tomas, who also points out that these ultrasounds can help to detect anomalies.

"The 5Ds are 99 per cent emotional, but that doesn't mean that they can't help to perfect diagnostic ability. In fact, they already do, because they can already detect some superficial problems or alterations such as cleft lips or tumors in the back," he explains.

Pregnant women should never 'eat for two' these days

Experts link obesity during pregnancy with higher risks of miscarriage and a Caesarean birth, among other problems for mother and child

:: **ÁLVARO SOTO**

For pregnant women, it is not a good idea to follow granny's advice. "When people used to say you should eat for two when you're pregnant, that was a consequence of the post-war period. Things aren't like that now," says Felipe Casanueva, acting president of the Spanish Society for the Study of Obesity (SEEDO). In fact, gynaecologists are becoming seriously concerned about obesity in their pregnant patients.

At present, 23 per cent of pregnant women in Spain are overweight and 22.2 per cent are obese. This is a serious health problem which can result in illnesses for the mother and the child in the future.

Doctors say that on average pregnant women should put on between 10 and 12 kilos, but no more than that.

Dr Luis Ortiz Quintana, a

member of the Spanish Society of Gynaecology and Obstetrics (SEGO), stresses that when a woman puts on more than that the pregnancy becomes a "lottery": they have twice as high a risk of miscarriage; are twice as likely to have a Caesarean delivery; have three times more risk of perinatal mortality; three times more risk of gestational diabetes; three times more risk that the baby will be excessively large at birth; five times more risk of arterial hypertension; nine times more risk of pre-eclampsia; and three times more risk of being an obese child and adult.

Experts agree that it is not only women who are already obese when they become pregnant who are at risk, but also women who put on too much weight during pregnancy. In these cases epigenetic changes occur, which the child will have to live with forever.

The metabolic environment in which the foetus develops, they say, has a decisive influence in what will become the metabolism of the child and the composition of its microbiota (its intestinal flora) and, therefore, in the future risk that as an adult he or she will suffer from diabetes or hypertension.



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The Grand Masters present the cheque to president of DEBRA Nieves Montero and young Luis Lima. :: SUR

Masons aim high for DEBRA

Lodges in Andalucía have been raising funds for the charity that helps children suffering from butterfly skin disease and their families

:: SUR IN ENGLISH

MALAGA. At the Masons of Andalucía annual assembly meeting the Grand Master of Spain, Alfonso Ortega, and the Grand Master of Andalucía, Giles Crawford, presented Nieves Montero the president of DE-

BRA the Butterfly Children Charity, and young sufferer Luis Lima, a cheque for 20,000 euros. This brings the total funds raised by the Masons over two years to 40,000 euros.

All of the 25 Masonic lodges contributed by organising various events

in their local areas. On an individual level, Keith Spitalnick ran 1,500km to raise 2,000 euros for the charity.

As they enter the final year of their commitment Giles Crawford remains positive: "We hope to raise a further 20,000 euros increasing our target amount to 60,000 euros." Nieves Montero stressed the significance of the role that the Masons have played in raising awareness of the illness.

La Paz University Hospital trial to aid Butterfly Skin research

The hospital will carry out a clinical trial attempting to use stem cells to treat the disease

:: SUR IN ENGLISH

MARBELLA La Paz University Hospital will carry out a clinical trial this year to determine how mesenchymal stem cells derived from bone marrow can be used to heal wounds caused by recessive dystrophic Epidermolysis bullosa (RDEB), a type of Butterfly Skin.

The trial will be carried out by

the Department of Haematology and Dermatology at La Paz University Hospital in collaboration with CIBERER (Centro de Investigación Biomédica en Red de Enfermedades Raras), CIEMAT, UC3M and IIS-FJD. It is being led by Dr Raúl de Lucas (La Paz Hospital) and Dr María José Escámez.

The project has a budget of 308,000 euros of which the association "DEBRA" will be contributing 80,000 euros. At present the trial is being approved by the Spanish Agency of Medicines and Sanitary Products.



The hands of a child with Butterfly Skin in school. :: MARÍA CANO

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Quirón hospital offers free tests to detect colorectal tumours

The centre's digestive system screening programme, directed by Dr Pedro Rosón, is carrying out tests on people aged 50 to 70

ÁNGEL ESCALERA

MÁLAGA. With much greater emphasis now being placed on prevention when it comes to the treatment of cancer, the Quirón hospital in Málaga is running a free programme, aimed at those aged 50 to 70, to detect colorectal tumours.

This prevention programme, run by Dr Pedro Rosón, involves a medical consultation and the testing of a stool sample from which traces of blood, if detected, can help to identify lesions or damage to the colon or rectum. Once identified, they can be treated before they develop or turn into a tumour.

Dr Rosón advises that anyone over the age of 50 should take some kind of test to rule out bowel cancer, whether it be through giving a stool sample, or

having a colonoscopy.

Symptoms of bowel cancer include changes to digestive habits and having a constantly upset stomach. The disease often has no symptoms in the early stages which makes this test even more important.

The most prevalent in Spain

Bowel cancer is most prevalent among the over 50s, and in Spain is the most common cancer affecting both sexes. For men, it falls behind only prostate and lung cancer, while it is only second behind breast cancer for women.

The risk of developing this type of cancer grows with age.

Head of Oncology at Quirón Málaga, José Antonio Ortega, reiterated that the best way to fight cancer is through prevention and advises avoiding a sedentary lifestyle, and excesses of tobacco, alcohol and sun exposure.

He added that contracting the HPV virus puts you at higher risk of cancer, but that Quirón had recently started using a new drug that could stop the symptoms of the virus and, in some cases, eliminate it completely.

ADVERTORIAL A new clinic opens in Elviria

Clínica Estética Contur

MARBELLA

Clínica Estética Contur celebrated its official opening recently by welcoming guests to an inauguration evening.

The event took place last Saturday, 4 February, and was attended by nearly 100 guests, who were extremely impressed with the excellent facilities and latest technology equipment.

Guests enjoyed cava and appetisers while touring the new clinic.

Clínica Estética Contur is located in the Contur commercial centre in Elviria.

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Lorena Ajo, Aurora Balsera, Dr Carlos López and Kim Wehmeyer.



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Saint Valentine, patron saint of epilepsy

Saint Valentine is thought to have been an Italian priest who was beheaded in 270 AD for not renouncing Christianity

BY DENISE BUSH

MALAGA. February 14th, Valentine's Day, is traditionally known as a day for lovers with cards, chocolates and red roses exchanged.

Less well known is that St Valentine is also the patron saint of epilepsy sufferers.

In ancient times, when there was very little medical knowledge, epilepsy was regarded with fear and suspicion and was thought to be caused by supernatural forces, retribution by the gods or evidence of being possessed by evil spirits.

In the bible there are various references to physical ailments that have all the hallmarks of being epilepsy. The apostle Paul talked about his own illness in letters in the book of Corinthians which led to the neurological disorder being called St Paul's disease in Catholic

Ireland.

By the middle ages people were praying to around 40 different saints for relief from epilepsy, only beaten by the number of saints (60) prayed to for relief during the plague.

Besides St Valentine, St Vitus was also believed to help epilepsy sufferers and spawned the term 'St

The Nuremberg Chronicle of 1693 has a representation of St Valentine curing a boy having a seizure

Vitus' Dance' for the condition.

It is possible that there was more than one Saint Valentine; it is known that there was a Valentine who was a priest and a physician in Roman times. When he refused to renounce Christianity he was beheaded by Claudius II on 14 February 270AD. Another Valentine was Bishop of Interramna (now called Terni) in Umbria, Italy. He prayed for the sick to be cured and was thrown into prison and later beheaded.

The similarities between the two stories have led historians to believe they were possibly one and the same person.

Some believe that the link between Valentine and epilepsy, which was also known as the falling sickness, could be due to the similarity between the German verb 'fallen' and the first part of the saint's name.

The Nuremberg Chronicle printed in 1693, has a representation of Saint Valentine curing a boy having a seizure, echoing stories in the bible where Jesus heals a boy with epilepsy by driving out an evil spirit.



St Valentine blessing an epileptic man. :: WELLCOMEIMAGES.ORG

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Me speak

Queen Letizia combines sexy with elegant for a Valentine's look

The Queen of Spain slayed the sultry look with a stunning updo, sexy red lipstick and smoky eyes

ARACELI NICOLÁS

MADRID. Queen Letizia always draws admiring glances, whatever she is wearing, but she certainly managed to turn all heads earlier this week. She attended the 30th anniversary of the financial newspaper 'Expansión' and looked stunning with her choice of smart black dress, deep red lipstick and an ele-

gant updo.

It is a well known fact that Letizia is a fan of hair-plaiting; her daughters Leonor and Sofía are often seen with their hair in intricate plaits completed by their mother.

On this occasion she opted for her own hair to be styled with two tight plaits along one side of her head which carried around the back to end in a low bun on the other side of her neck.

She enhanced the look with deep raspberry-red lipstick finished with a slick of gloss. Black eyeliner was used to outline her eyes and her eyelashes were made XXL with lashings of mascara. A smudge of smoky brown eyeshadow across her eyelids finished the sultry look.

The elegant image would be perfect for a romantic dinner with your partner to celebrate St Valentine's day and would be an easy look to copy.



Queen Letizia looked extremely elegant at the 'Expansión' newspaper's anniversary. :: EFE

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The rosada of Malaga comes from further afield

The popular white fish that has been sold in fish markets in Malaga for many years is not native to the Mediterranean

by **AGUSTÍN PELÁEZ**

MALAGA. Rosada (*Genypterus capensis* or kingklip), fried or grilled, can be found on menus in restaurants and bars all over the Costa del Sol. It can also be found in the chilled cabinets and freezers of many supermarkets and at wet fish markets. It has been a staple food for people in Malaga for decades. However it is not found off the coast of southern Spain, nor is it on the list of the catches brought in by local the fishing fleet.

The rosada consumed in Malaga actually comes from New Zealand, Namibia, South Africa, Argentina or Chile and is practically unknown outside Malaga and the province of Cadiz. It has started to be sold in Seville and Huelva but try to ask for this fish any further afield and you may as well be speaking Chinese.

More than one species is available in Malaga, the rosada from Namibia and South Africa is *Genypterus capensis* and that from Chile and Argentina is *Genypterus blacodes*.

The pioneer company which introduced this fish in 1979 is Sanamar (previously called Machuca-Gutiérrez) who brought it in frozen.



Kingklip is a foreign fish. by **ÁLVARO CABRERA**

It is often defrosted and sold on wet fish counters which leads customers to think it is freshly caught

This was a revelation for consumers who were used to eating fresh fish caught along the coast. It had to be introduced via the catering sector at first and has since become a favourite for locals and tourists alike.

According to the head of the Sanamar brand, José Manuel Lanza, "It is easy to cook, has scarcely any

bones, is tasty and is very nutritious."

Rosada arrives in Malaga cleaned and with head and tail removed. The skin is removed and it is transformed into fillets or steaks although it is sometimes sold whole as well.

Lanza explains that "in winter, people prefer it grilled, usually with minced garlic and chopped parsley. In summer it is normally fried and served with alioli or lemon, or marinated."

The majority is sold frozen but it is also defrosted and sold on wet fish counters which leads many customers to think that it is freshly caught in local waters.

by **A.J.LINN**

PREDICTABLE BOCUSE



Last month I heard for the first time about the so-called 'Gastronomic Olympics', a biannual competition known as the Bocuse d'Or. Started in 1987 by the great French chef Paul Bocuse, the more I looked into it the more it seemed to be a commercial carve-up masquerading as a world-beating cookery challenge.

There are three stages, the first being to choose the chef who will represent his country. In the latest contest, Juan Manuel Salgado Domínguez, of Restaurant La Plassohla (Hotel Ohla, Barcelona) beat all other Spanish comers with two typical national dishes involving trout and roast lamb.

It is worth mentioning that Spanish competitors for this mega-cook-off have always complained about lack of support at national and regional level. While cooks from other countries get all their expenses covered, and in some cases even receive payment for taking part, Spanish contenders have to find their own sponsors and frequently have had trouble paying for the ingredients they use.

Salgado went on to the European phase in Budapest, where, in deference to the host country, the dishes to be judged were sturgeon

with its caviar and red deer. Salgado was fortunate in finding a backer who paid for the caviar he used! The chef from the host country won (surprise!), and runners-up were Sweden, France, Singapore, Germany, China, Belgium, Switzerland, Canada, Finland, Denmark, Australia, Brazil, Japan, Norway, USA, Morocco and Iceland. Spain, as always, was nowhere.

At the final last month, held customarily in Bocuse's Lyon, the designated dish was Bresse chicken with shellfish, hardly the most imaginative gastronomic creation, but typical of the region and sponsored by the Bresse chicken producers' consortium. USA, Norway and Iceland got the prizes, in that order. Worth mentioning is that in the 15 versions of the Bocuse d'Or, Norway has won five times and France eight. Spain has never made the final. Perhaps with sponsors like Pommery, San Pellegrino, Wagyu, Dubouef, Laroche, Villeroy & Bosch, Renault and Nespresso etc, Spain is not exactly the country that the organisers want to see on the winner's podium.



Founder Paul Bocuse. by **SUR**

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Andalucía

Eastern Andalucía's Moorish past

The Ibn al-Jatib route passes through towns and villages in the provinces of Granada and Almería

✪ JAVIER ALMELLONES

MALAGA. Andalucía looks after the remains of its Moorish past. Examples of these are to be found in every province in the region, but one interesting option is the 'Legado Andalusi', which consists of historic and cultural routes dating back to the Middle Ages in Southern Spain.

Among these routes, one stands out in particular: that of Ibn al-Jatib, one of the most important characters of the 14th century, which was one of the last periods of splendour for the Nasrid kingdom of Granada.

By following this, travellers will take a journey from the city of Granada to Murcia, a route which takes them not only through the province of Granada but into neighbouring Almería.

This itinerary recalls the journey made by Ibn al-Jatib, who was born in 1313 in the town of Loja in Granada province. He was one of the most influential people of the time, although this created such jealousy that he ended up in exile in the Moroccan city of Fez, where he died in 1375.

Ibn al-Jatib, who was one of the great writers of the era, did this journey and then wrote about it. He travelled in the company of his king, Yusuf I, to inspect the condition of the different defences on the eastern frontier of the Nasrid kingdom.

Although the first part runs through the Murcia region, the most interesting section of this route passes through towns and villages which still have important remains from that period of history, such as Vélez Blanco, Baza, Castril, Guadix and Vélez Rubio.

The latter, which is in Almería, is considered the capital of the 'Vélezs', in the northern part of the province. This is where the stretch begins, linking the Murcian region with what was the capital of the Nasrid kingdom, Granada.

Vélez Rubio, which was known as Velad al-Ahmar by the Moors, was on the frontier between the kingdoms of Murcia and Granada. However, the current location is not the same as the one which was seized by Christian troops in 1488. That enclave was abandoned and all that now remains as a reminder of it are the ruins of a castle.

Meanwhile, there is still a fortress in the neighbouring town of Vélez Blanco, and at one time it played an essential defensive role. Known as the Castillo de Los Fajardo, it is now one of the historic emblems of the eastern region of Andalucía.

Although part of its structure dates



The castle of Vélez Blanco, in Almería, is one of the most important on this tourism route. ✪ T.A.



La Peña de Castril es un excelente mirador de la zona. ✪ TURISMO ANDALUZ



The fortress in Guadix has wonderful views of the town. ✪ T. ANDALUZ

founded in 1595, has fantastic views. On one side you can see a large part of the Granada plain, and on the other the omnipresent Sierra Nevada mountain range. Nowadays this is an excellent viewing point, but centuries ago it was a fundamental bastion to preserve the security of the Nasrid kingdom.

The town of Guadix also has some old districts which date back to the Andalusian era, such as La Judería, or Jewish quarter, and La Alcaicería, the market district, situated one beside the other in what was once a prosperous 'medina'.

There are also other interesting remains in other towns along this historical route. For example in the town of Huéscar, in Granada, which is well-known for its extensive and varied historical remains, you can see what was once a Moorish homage tower. It stands in Calle Alhóndiga, in the heart of the oldest part of the town, which now contains several impressive mansions but has never forgotten its Moorish past.

Another historic enclave which is thought to have been a fortress at one time stands on a rock known as the Peña de Castril. On this dizzying rock formation, which towers above this town in Granada, you can see the remains of what was once a large Moorish building.

This route through the Legado Andalusi also includes other Andalusian towns and villages such as Gor, Huéscar, Huétor de Santillán, María, Orce, Purullena, Puebla de Don Fadrique, Galera and Diezma. Between them, they take travellers not only on a journey through history but also through the natural diversity of the northern part of the provinces of Granada and Almería.

In this area you can enjoy some very unexpected landscapes

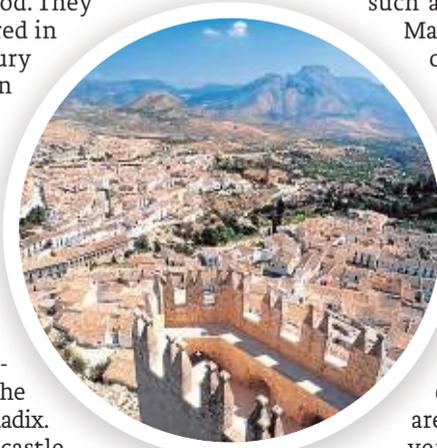
such as the Sierra de María, to the north of Vélez Rubio and Vélez Blanco, the mountains of Baza and the Sierra de Huétor Natural Park, among other important mountainous enclaves, which are home to some very impressive gorges and many remarkable woodland areas.

back to Moorish times, it was later remodelled in an elegant Renaissance style by the Marquis of Los Vélez. Inside, you can also see Mudejar and late Gothic features. Thanks to this fusion of civilisations, this walled castle is now one of the most important in southern Spain.

Another fortress which was very relevant in this region in the Middle Ages was that in the town of Baza, in Granada province. Although not much of it remains today, this fortress was considered almost impregnable at the time. From its now decrepit walls you can look over the oldest part of the town, which during the Moorish period used to be the 'medina'.

This is not the only trace of Al-Andalus to be seen in this municipality. In its emblematic Santiago district there are some interesting Moorish baths which date back to the Almohad period. They were discovered in the 19th century and have been restored, including part of the structure and the principal rooms.

Another town in Granada province can boast its own magnificent fortress: the Alcazaba de Guadix. This walled castle, which was the headquarters of the Seminary which was



This route tours ancient Moorish castles in the east of Andalucía. ✪ T.A.

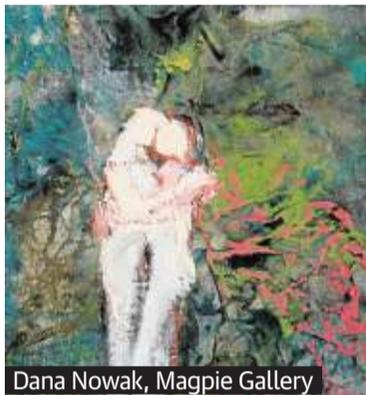
EXHIBITIONS

Chagall and his contemporaries
Malaga. Edificio Tabacalera, Avda Sor Teresa Prat. Tues-Sun 9.30am - 10pm.

The new exhibition from the 21 February until July will be by 'Kandinsky Russia'.

New Longman's

Estepona. From 18 February until 5 March, Plaza de Manilva, 6
An exhibition of acrylic and water-colour paintings by Emmanuel Janvier. The inauguration evening on 18th starts at 7pm and will be accompanied by a concert by mezzo-soprano Clarice Williams.



Dana Nowak, Magpie Gallery

'Under 35'

Malaga. Until 25 February, Galería GACMA, C/Fidias, 48.

Thirty artists under the age of 35 and with links to Malaga will be presenting their work in this exhibition aimed at promoting emerging new talent.

38 Picassos

Malaga. Until 26 March, Museo Picasso Málaga

This exhibition features a selection of the works by Pablo Picasso that have enriched the museum's permanent collection over the last six years courtesy of FABA, now exhibited together and independently for the first time.

María Vera

Malaga Until 11 February, Columna JM, Duquesa de Parcent. An exhibition entitled 'Luz Silenciosa'. galeria@galeriajm.com

Francisco Peinado

Malaga Until 18 February, Columna JM, Duquesa de Parcent. An exhibition entitled 'The Greatest Story'. The painting is a huge mural consisting of five panels depicting a complete series of Bible

Torremolinos goes chic

BY TONY BRYANT

TORREMOLINOS. An exhibition called Torremolinos Chic has opened in one of the town's most emblematic buildings.

The photographic exhibition, which presents 20 images of Torremolinos during the 1950s, '60s and '70s, is housed in the Casa de los Navajas - a lavish neo-Mudéjar palace situated in Bajondillo.

The exhibition was organised by José Luis Cabrera and Lutz Petry, coordinators of Torremolinos Chic, an online magazine that records the town's golden age.

The photographs present a look back at the beach and nightlife of the town during its heyday; a time when Torremolinos was the principle tourist destination of the rich and famous.

During the inauguration last Friday, Lutz Petry said, "We have been collecting photos and information that relates to the town, because we realised that this was historical heritage that was being lost."

"Today we have photographs from tourists that visited Torremolinos from Germany, Scandinavia, the UK and America, and they have been so willing to share



Torremolinos Chic. BY T. BRYANT

INFORMATION

► **When:** Permanent exhibition. 11am -2pm/6pm -8pm. Wednesday - Sunday.

► **Where.** Casa de los Navajas, Bajondillo, Torremolinos.

► **Web page:** www.torremolinos.es

them with us," he continued.

The photographs include old images of Calle San Miguel when it was little more than a residential street.

Some of the photographs show

a postcard image of Torremolinos when it was merely a fishing village. Others show a more free-spirited town and the bohemian lifestyle that existed during its beatnik days of the 1970s.

The Plaza Costa del Sol was once the epitome of nightlife in Torremolinos, and several nostalgic pictures show old establishments like Bar Pedro, Tina's Pub and Bar Sirena - some of the town's most popular haunts during this era.

There are also several pictures of Hollywood legends, like Kirk Douglas, who enjoyed a night in Tiffany's nightclub during a visit in the 1970s.

Another picture shows James Coburn and Lee Remick frolicking on the beach in Bajondillo. The pair visited Torremolinos during the filming of the movie Hard Contact in 1969. José Luis Cabrera said, "People who visit the exhibition can enjoy images that reflect a festive, almost mythical, Torremolinos."

This permanent exhibition can be visited free of charge from Wednesday until Sunday, between the hours of 11am and 2pm, and 6pm and 8pm.

stories. It is on display for only a short time before being shipped to the Congregational Church in Aarhus, Denmark.

Fernando Robles

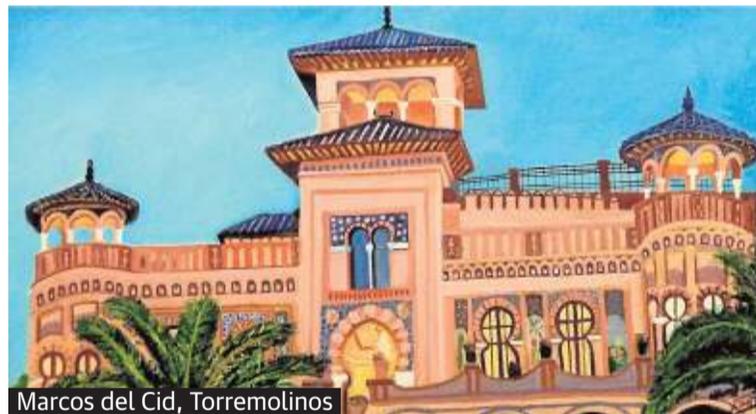
Malaga Until 27 February, Alfajar Galería C/Cister 1. 'Suite para cielo -infierno' is an exhibition by Madrid artist Fernando Robles Vásquez.

Jesús González de la Torre

Malaga. Until 28 February, Sala Unicaja Siglo, Plaza del Siglo, first floor. 'A no entender entendiendo' is an exhibition of paintings in large format by recognised Madrid artist Jesús González de la Torre.

Mark Ryden

Malaga. Until 5 March, Centro de Arte Contemporáneo. 'Cámara de las Maravillas' is the name of the surreal exhibition by Mark Ryden. His art features an-



Marcos del Cid, Torremolinos

gelic faces with macabre undertones.'

'From city to museum'

Malaga. Until 5 March, Centro Pompidou
The new exhibit at the Pompidou consists of 40 models of buildings in Paris built in the last 70 years. It is entitled 'De la ciudad al museo. Arquitecturas parisinas 1945-2015'.

Lawrence Weiner

Malaga. Until 12 March, Centro de Arte Contemporáneo. Lawrence Weiner first exhibited in the CAC Malaga in 2009. He returns with four works entitled 'There are Things that Move Outside of Motion, 2001'

Marcel Van Eeden

Malaga. Until 26 March, Centro de



Beatriz Ros, Marbella

Arte Contemporáneo.

Dutch artist Marcel Van Eeden is displaying around 250 works in charcoal, watercolour and pastel which depict scenes from the 16th century.

La Térmica

Malaga. Until March, La Térmica, Av de los Guindos.

A collection of 40 photos in an exhibition entitled 'Retratos' (portraits) taken by Swiss photographer and film maker Michael Comte.

Travis Somerville

Malaga. From 17 February until 7 May, Centro de Arte Contemporáneo.

American artist Travis Somerville gives voice to the immigrants in the US and also stands up for the indigenous Indians with powerful art works that incorporates disturbing images such as the capes of the Klu Klux Klan.

Magpie International Gallery.

Marbella. Until 23 February, C/Virgen del Pilar. 200m from port.

An exhibition of art work entitled 'Relaciones' (Relations) by Austrian artist Dana Nowak.

Cecilia Noriega-Bozovich

Marbella. Until 13 February, Cortijo Miraflores, C/San Pedro Alcántara
'Kuu: Poéticas de la luna' is the title of the exhibition by Peruvian artist Cecilia Noriega-Bozovich, It comprises 21 canvases.

Beatriz Ros

Marbella. Until 25 March. La Galería Yusto-Giner, C/Madera. The exhibition 'La Boca' is by Malaga artist Beatriz Ros.

Benezra Gallery

Marbella. Until 31 March. La Quinta, between Marbella and San Pedro.

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This new gallery specialises in contemporary art and sculpture as well as fine art and impressionist sales. It also supports emerging artists. The opening exhibit highlights the works of eight contemporary artists

Arne Haugen Sørensen

Vélez-Málaga Until 15 February, Centro de Artes Contemporáneo. An exhibition entitled 'La Gran Narración' (The Greatest Story). The painting is a huge mural consisting of five panels depicting a series of Bible stories.



Galería GACMA, Malaga

Derek Worthington

Rincón de la Victoria Until 17 February, Casa Fuerte Bezmiliana, Av Mediterráneo. The exhibition 'Reality, Fantasy, Abstraction' is by British artist Derek Worthington.

Economistas en el Arte

Nerja. Until 5 March, Museo de Nerja. The exhibition comprises works by different arts that combine a disparate theme, art and economy.

Picasso and Opisso

Macharaviaya. Museo de los Gálvez. Until 17 April. The exhibition consists of 31 portraits of women by Pablo Picasso and Alfredo Opisso.

Marcos del Cid

Torremolinos. Until 17 February, Centro Cultural Pablo Ruiz Picasso. An exhibition of colourful paintings by local artist Marcos del Cid.

Richard Wood

Mijas. Until 13 February, Casa Museo de Mijas. Exhibition of paintings by this local artist.

Mercedes Llamazares

Los Bolichos. Until 23 February. Sala de Exposiciones, Los Bolichos town hall. A selection of water colour paintings by Mercedes Llamazares.

Happy Artists

Mijas Costa. Until 28 February Hotel Carmen, Boulevard La Cala. This exhibition by local artist Joy Fahey comprises of watercolour and acrylic paintings.

Santini Gravini

Mijas. Until 6 March, Centro Cultural de La Cala. An exhibition by sisters Hana and Gabriela Santini Gravini.

'The Edge of Forever'

Granada. Until 18 February, Biblioteca de Andalucía, C/Profesor Sainz Cantero, 6. International art photographer Tariq Dajani is exhibiting a collection of his work inspired by the ancient muslim civilisation of Al-Ándalus.

CHARITY

Cudeca Valentine's Market

Marbella. 19 February, 11am - 5pm. Farmacy Yoga centre, Centro Comercial El Capricho. *Date changed* Health products, soaps and creams, natural food products, fruit and vegetables, vintage clothes and accessories, handmade jewellery, vegan food and cakes etc. Tel: 650

848 956 / 674 298 823 for stand information or email: nfo@farmacy-marbella.com

Sunday markets for Cudeca

Los Boliches. 12 February. From 11am. Ilunion Hotel, Plaza San Rafael. Everything from quality bric-a-brac to antiques as well as art. To book a stall tel: Tom Allan of the Cudeca Goldies 661402134

Triple A Valentine dinner

Marbella. 11 February, 7pm. Conrad's Restaurante, Nueva Andalucía. Chef Renee Conrad, whose food earned a Michelin star, is preparing the three course meal. Live entertainment will be provided by 'Miss Thang' one of the great performers on the coast. There will also be a raffle with many excellent prizes. Reservations: events@tripleamarbella.org / info@conrads-ristorante.com or tel: 622910214 / 951 319554

Greg Peck Memorial Trophy

Marbella. 17 February, 9.30am. Marbella Country Club. Shotgun start, Individual Stableford. 100% funds to Cudeca Cancer Hospice. MGCC Members 25€, Non Members 65€, just lunch 15€. reservas@marbellagolf.com or tel: 952 830 500 www.marbellagolf.com

MUSIC & DANCE

Camino de Nómadas

Torremolinos. 10 February, 8.30pm. Centro Cultural Pablo Ruiz Picasso The Camino de Nómadas Jazz



Joy Fahey, Happy Artists

group will be performing a concert of Jazz fusion. Free entry.

Chamber Jazz

Nerja. 11 February, 9pm. Centro Cultural Villa de Nerja. 10€ Pure jazz by the Chamber Jazz duo, piano and double bass.

Triology jazz

Nerja. 11 February, 8pm. Lounge of the Hotel Plaza Cavana. Traditional jazz by the Triology Jazz group performing music made famous by Johnny Green, Thad Jones, Sonny Rollins and Cole Porter. Chair 12€, stool 10€. Tickets from www.ventana-abierta.es Tel: 690073871

Pablo Alcázar

Nerja. 11 February, 9pm. Centro Cultural Villa de Nerja. 10€ Classical guitarist Pablo Alcázar will be in concert playing pieces by Tárrega, Albéniz, Villalobos and Carlo Dominiconi.

Joven Orquesta Sur de España

Almuñécar. 12 February, 8pm. Audi-

torium of the Casa de la Cultura. Conducted by Michael Thomas the orchestra will be playing Schubert's symphony n°8 and Beethoven's symphony n° 6.

JJMM seasonal concerts

Almuñécar. 13 February, 8pm. Centro Cultural Villa de Nerja. 10€ Carlos Gil on the clarinet and Ana Galindo on the piano.

Malaga Philharmonic Orchestra

Malaga. Teatro Cervantes 10 February, 8pm. Concerto n°1 for piano and orchestra in E minor by Chopin, Symphony n° 36 in C major 'Linz' by Mozart. Der Rosenkavalier by Strauss www.orquestaafilarmonicademalaga.com 19 February, 12 midday. Magic and adventure at the hands of John Williams. The concert will include sound tracks from Indiana Jones and Harry Potter.

Auditorio Museo Picasso de Malaga.

14 February 8pm. The Mainake quartet and Luis Pacetti (tenor) will be performing Letters to Juliet by Elvis Costello.

St Valentine's Concert

Fuengirola. 14 February, 7.30pm. Lux Mundi Ecumenical Centre. 5€ A romantic concert by A Touch of Class. price includes tapa and a drink. Tel: 952 474 840, e-mail luxmundif@gmail.com Web. www.lux-mundi.org



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Noches de Burriana

Nerja. 17 February, 24 March. *Playa & Sol Restaurant, Burriana beach*
A new season of opera on Burriana beach. Tel: 690073871 or email: ventana.abierta.acp@gmail.com

Atarfe symphonic orchestra

Torremolinos. 18 February, 8pm. *Iglesia de la Encarnación*
Mozart's Coronation mass and Mendelssohn's Violin concerto with the Manuel de Falla, Almuñécar and 'Los Arcos' choirs. Conducted by José Antonio Guerrero.

Champagne Jam

Calahonda. 18 February, 10pm. *Millemium Music Bar.*
Champagne Jam is an international group playing 50 years of rock, blues and rhythm and blues.



Rob Sas band, Coín

Tangos de Siempre

Torremolinos. 19 February, 9pm. *La Casa de Los Navajas.*
The most famous tango music performed by Gabriela Loria and Juan Seles.

Amaranto quartet

Torremolinos. 19 February, 9pm. *Auditorium Casa de la Cultura.*
'Noches de Boleros' with the Cuarteto Amaranto.

Rob Sas Band

Coín. 25 February 9pm. *Coín Sports and Show Bar*

The Rob Sas band are in concert.

Música Con Encanto

Marbella. 23 February, 7pm. *Auditorium Trapiche de Guadiza, Av Oriental, San Pedro de Alcántara*
Gabiella Montero, winner of a Grammy Latino, will be holding a piano recital. Tel: 689 000 944 www.musicaconencanto.org

John Mayall

Malaga. 11 February, 8pm. *Teatro Cervantes.*
'Livin' and lovin' the Blues Tour 2017' with the 84 year old Blues legend, John Mayall who will be presenting his new album, 'Talk about that'. Tickets 14 - 42€ from www.unientradas.es.

FLAMENCO

Kika Quesada

Nerja. 10 February, 9pm. *Centro Cultural Villa de Nerja.* 10€
The Kika Quesada flamenco company will be performing.

Martinete

Almuñécar. 17 February, 8pm. *Auditorium Casa de la Cultura*
'Sounds of my guitar' Flamenco and dance performance.

LECTURES

U3A Lectures

Fuengirola. *Lux Mundi reference Library, free to members, guests*

5€. www.u3acostadelsol.org

History and all that. Part 4. 10 February, 11am-12.30pm. The Battle of Hastings: Kay White.

History and all that. Part 5. 17 February, 11am-12.30pm. The Bayeux tapestry. Course Leader: Kay White.

Debating and Discussion group: Nature or Nurture? 15 February, 1 - 2.30pm. Which has the greatest influence on the type of person we become? Teacher Marie Victoria Beattie leads this discursive debate.

China. 14 February, 11am-12.30pm. The last of the series of DVD films. Presenter: Kay White.

Banana paper and mini art

|| JENNIE RHODES

ALMUÑÉCAR. English artist and paper-maker, Annabel Keatley, will be holding an exhibition and paper making workshops in her gallery-cum-shop, Espacio Creativo, in Almuñécar from Monday 13 February, following the inauguration tomorrow evening.

A total of 24 artists from Spain, the UK, the Netherlands and Argentina will be exhibiting work made especially for the exhibition, titled 'mini cuadros', in which each piece is no bigger than 12 x12 centimetres. Among the artists is a ceramist, a sculptor and a budding 15-year-old from London, who Annabel says "is very talented and I know how important it is at that age to get your work noticed".

During the three-week exhibition, Annabel will also be running two paper-making courses. The first, on Sunday 19 February will focus on making paper from esparto and banana leaves, and the second, on 26 February will teach participants about making decorative paper. Places are limited to five people so booking is essential. Annabel, 50, has lived in Spain



Examples of Annabel Keatley's paper. || SUR

for 20 years, having studied art and printmaking in Edinburgh and then the Chelsea School of Art. She has won a number of arts awards which have allowed her to travel to Spain and Russia in the past.

She has held many exhibitions in the two countries as well as in the UK, where she still has gallery space in London and Somerset. She now lives in Almuñécar and has a partner and two children.

INFORMATION

► **When:** Until 3 March. Monday to Saturday, 11am to 2pm.

► **Where:** Espacio Creativo, Calle Baja del Mar 14, Almuñécar.

► **Further info:** Facebook: Annabel Keatley. Phone 699 801 613 (for paper workshops).

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Art and Artists: Renoir. 15 February, 11am-12.30pm. Illustrated talk about one of the great impressionists. Speaker: Liz Cochrane.

Freethinkers

Fuengirola. *Café Manila, Paseo Marítimo Rey de España, 77, Los Boliches.*
Worldwide chaos and confusion ahead - Is there a solution? 10 February, 6.30-8pm. Introduced by Alan Jones. www.facebook.com/groups/costadelsolfreethinkers/

Science and Christian Faith

Estepona. *Anglican chaplaincy house, C/Juan de Fuca, Beverley Hill.* 6-7.30pm. www.costachurch.com
Quantum mechanics and the activity of God. 10 February.
Fractals and chaos, a window on infinity. 17 February.

DFAS lectures

The Secret Language of Sacred Spaces: Religious Architecture of the World
Lecturer John Cannon explains each of the major faith traditions, revealing how it is shaped by rituals and beliefs.
Fuengirola. 13 February, 4.30pm. *Salon Varietés Theatre.* Guests 10€ www.costadelsoldfas.com

Nerja. 14 February, 6pm, *Centro Cultural de Villa de Nerja.* Guests 10€ www.nerjanadfas.org

FESTIVALS

Carnaval



Tianten, DFAS

Malaga. *Until 26 February.* The main attractions are the fancy dress competition and parade on the 19 February, the battle of the flowers and more fancy dress on 25th and finally the burying of the anchovy on the 26th. www.carnavaldemalaga.es/

Día de los Polvos

Tolex. 27 February. The tradition of throwing flour is believed to have started in the nineteenth century when young men used this unusual method to declare their love for a girl. Another story is that a Moor and a Christian girl, both of whom worked in a bakery, fell in love with the same man and had a flour fight. Nowadays anyone is 'fair game', not just lovers.

EVENTS

Malaga Theatre Festival

Malaga. *Until 12 February, various venues*
The 34 Festival de Teatro de Málaga consists of a huge variety of theatre

performances in venues around the city including Teatro Cervantes and Echegaray, and the Hotel Vincci Selección Posada del Patio. <http://www.teatrocervantes.com/>

St Valentine's Day Dinner and Dance

Torre del Mar. 14 February, 7pm. *Salon del Mar, C/Los Fenicios.* 32€ Lux Mundi, the Royal British Legion and other groups are having a combined event to raise funds. Price includes meal and live entertainment from Hector Bannon. Tickets from: 952 543 334 www.lux-mundi.org/lux-mundi@lux-mundi.org or the RBL

Special St Valentine's show

Alhaurín el Grande. 11 February, 8pm. *Alhaurín Golf.* 35€ with dinner. 8€ show only. A romantic evening with tribute acts by Dave Parker, 'Sinatra to Buble' and Vicki with a tribute to Whitney Houston. Booking essential tel: 609488572 after midday.

Painting workshop

Torremolinos. 11 February, 10am - 2pm. *Plaza Costa del Sol.* 10€ La Térmica Malaga has an open air painting workshop with artists Cristina Céspedes y Marta Bustos demonstrating rapid painting. Register at info@artmuseum.es or tel: 635 823 692 Materials 3€.

Conservatives Abroad lunch

Cabopino. 17, 18 February, 1.30pm. *Albert's, in the port.* 35€ The event includes cava and a three course lunch with wine and water. Tickets from Maggie tel: 952 590 867 or maggiemijas@yahoo.co.uk

Oboist Albrecht Meyer in concert

SUR IN ENGLISH

GIBRALTAR. The Gibraltar Philharmonic Society will be presenting the principal oboist of the Berlin Philharmonic, Albrecht Meyer, at a recital with pianist Alexander Schmalcz on Thursday 16 February 2017. The show, sponsored by the Parasol Foundation, starts at 8pm in the Convent Ballroom.

Albrecht Meyer first started singing as a child in the cathedral choir of his home city of Bamberg. He began his professional career in 1990 as principal oboist of the Bamberg Symphony Orchestra. Since 1992 he has occupied the same position with the Berliner Philharmoniker, despite his growing renown as a concert soloist. Among the most sought-after oboists of our time, he has appeared as a soloist with Claudio Abbado, Sir Simon Rattle and Nikolaus Harnoncourt. In 2007, he made his Carnegie Hall debut with the Orpheus Chamber Orchestra.

He was awarded the ETA-Hoffmann Prize in December 2006 and has been honoured with the Echo Prize by the German Phono-Akademie three times. In 2013, he was in-



Albrecht Meyer. :: H. HOFFMANN

INFORMATION

► **What.** A recital by oboist Albrecht Meyer.

► **When.** 16 February, 8pm.

► **Where.** The Convent Ballroom, Gibraltar.

ducted into the Gramophone "Hall of Fame" and also awarded the Bavarian Culture Prize.

Accompanying him on piano is Alexander Schmalcz, who can be heard regularly in the most impor-

tant cultural centres of Europe, the Americas and Japan and in international festivals and concert halls such as Wigmore Hall in London, the Schubertiade in Schwarzenberg, the Concertgebouw in Amsterdam, the Royal Opera House in Covent Garden, the Liederhalle in Stuttgart and the Kennedy Center in Washington DC.

He has won numerous prizes, including the Gerald Moore Award in 1996 and the Megan Foster accompanist Prize. In 1995, together with his piano trio, he won the Nederlands Impresariaat competition.

The programme will feature compositions for oboe and piano by Mozart, Beethoven, Hummel, Brahms and Strauss.

Tickets priced at £20 are available from Sacarello's coffee shop-restaurant in Irish Town and The Silver Shop at 222 Main Street or online at www.buytickets.gi

A limited number of tickets at £10 are available to senior citizens and students via the John Mackintosh Hall at 308 Main Street.

www.philharmonic.gi

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EVENTS

Rombosol Family Fun Day

Marbella. 17 February, 4-8pm and 18 February 10am-2pm. Rombosol Marbella.

The Renault dealer Rombosol Marbella is holding two days of fun to celebrate the release of the new Renault Scenic. There will be story telling, workshops, balloon modelling, badge making, giveaways and much more. Suitable for all the family. Reservations www.rombosol.com

Concesol open days

Fuengirola. 16 / 17 February, Nissan Concesol.

Nissan dealer Concesol is presenting the new Micra. Reservations: marketing@concesol.com

Trip to Casares and Estepona

From Torre del Mar. 23 February. Various departure points. 20€

Coach trip to Casares and Estepona. Tel. 952 543 334 or e-mail: luxmundi@lux-mundi.org. Web-

page: www.lux-mundi.org

Trip to 'Stars of the West End'

Mijas Costa. 24 March, Las Lagunas Theatre. Various departure points. 32€

Price includes concert ticket, coach fare and driver's gratuity. Payment on booking please. Tel Gail on 951067723, email phoenixsocialclub@yahoo.co.uk or go to www.phoenixsocialclub.co.uk.

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Lonely are the Brave: 20.00

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Casares, Lux Mundi

mercial El Ingenio, Vélez-Málaga. Tel. 667 77 31 87.

Resident Evil: The Final Chapter: 16.00 (Mon-Thurs)

Hidden Figures: 19.00 (Tues)

50 Shades Darker: 12.00, 16.30, 18.50

Lion: 20.05 (Tues)

La La Land: 12.15, 15.50

Ballerina: 20.00 (Tues)

Split: 16.30, 18.45 (Mon-Thurs)

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La La Land: 12.15, 16.00, 18.30

Split: 21.00, 23.30 (every day except Thurs), 22.30 (Thur)

Sing: 15.45 (Tues)

Ballerina: 16.05 (Mon-Thurs)

Lion: 20.05, 22.30 (Tues)

Hidden Figures: 22.05 (Tues)

Resident Evil: The Final Chapter:

16.00, 18.05 (Tues)

Manchester by the Sea: 16.10,

18.45, 21.25 (Tues)

50 Shades Darker: 12.00, 16.30,

18.50, 21.15, 23.40

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50 Shades Darker: 11.45 (Sun);

15.45, 21.30, 22.30 (Sat, Sun);

17.30 (Sat-Thurs); 18.00, 20.30,

(Frid); 19.00 (every day); 20.00

(Mon-Thurs); 22.00 (Frid, Wed); 22.15 (Thurs)

Resident Evil: The Final Chapter:

17.30 (Sat, Sun); 17.50 (Mon-Wed)

La La Land: 15.45 (Sat, Sun),

20.00 (Mon, Tues)

Split: 19.45 (Sat, Sun); 21.45

(Thurs); 22.00 (Frid); 22.15 (Wed);

22.25 (Mon, Tues)

Ballerina: 12.00 Sun); 15.20 (Sat,

Sun); 17.45 (Mon, Tues); 18.00

(Frid, Thurs); 19.30 (Wed)

Hidden Figures: 21.45 (Mon,

Tues); 22.15 (Sat, Sun);

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Ballerina: 14.15 (Sat, Sun)

50 Shades Darker: 12.30 (Sat,

Sun); 16.15, 18.45, 21.15 (every

day); 23.45 (Frid, Sat)

Manchester by the Sea: 16.50

(Mon-Thurs)

Split: 16.45 (every day)

La La Land: 12.10 (Sat, Sun), 16.10

(every day)

Lion: 14.00 (Sat, Sun)

Marking Finnish independence

TONY BRYANT

FUENGIROLA. Finnish communities along the Costa del Sol are preparing a series of events to commemorate the centenary of Finland's Declaration of Independence.

The State Council of Finland has approved and coordinated a series of activities that are being organised all over the world to mark the occasion.

One of the approved projects is called 'Finland 100 years on the Costa del Sol of Spain', and this will take place throughout the year, reaching its climax on 6 December.

The Finnish Declaration of Independence was adopted by the Parliament of Finland on 6 December 1917. It declared Finland an independent nation among nations, ending its self-governing status within Russia as a Grand Duchy.

The centenary celebrations will begin with a series of piano concerts that have been organised at different venues along the coast.

The concerts are presented un-

INFORMATION

► **When:** At various locations along the coast.

► **Where.** 18 February - Museo de Vidrio, Malaga. 19 February - Casa de Cultura, Fuengirola. 20 February - Castillo Bil Bil, Benalmádena Costa.

► **Tickets:** Entrance is free.

der the banner of '100 years of Finnish Piano Music' and will be performed by the Youth Piano Academy of Finland.

Operating under the patronage of the Sibelius Academy (the National Conservatory of Finland) and supported by the Finnish Cultural Foundation, the Youth Piano Academy was founded in 2013.

Four members of the academy will come to the Costa del Sol to present a programme consisting of a representative sample of Fin-



The Youth Piano Academy of Finland will perform on the Costa del Sol during February. :: SUR

nish piano music.

These will include compositions from the celebrated Finnish composer, Jean Sibelius, to Tarmo Pelto-koski, one of the young virtuosos performing in the concerts.

The recitals will take place at the Museo de Vidrio at 8pm, on Saturday 18; at the Casa de Cultura in Fuengirola at 5pm on Sunday 19, and in the Castillo Bil Bil,

Benalmádena Costa, at 7pm on Monday 20 February.

There will also be a conference about the life and work of Jean Sibelius in the Casa de Cultura in Fuengirola at 7pm on Monday 20 February.

The concerts, which are free, have been organised by the Fuengirola town hall and the Museo de Vidrio in Malaga.

Other events incorporated into the year-long celebrations include exhibitions, tertulias, sports events, cooking classes, choral concerts and festivals.

There are about 6,000 permanent Finnish residents on Costa del Sol. Another 15,000 spend six months of the year here, making them the one of the largest foreign communities on the coast.

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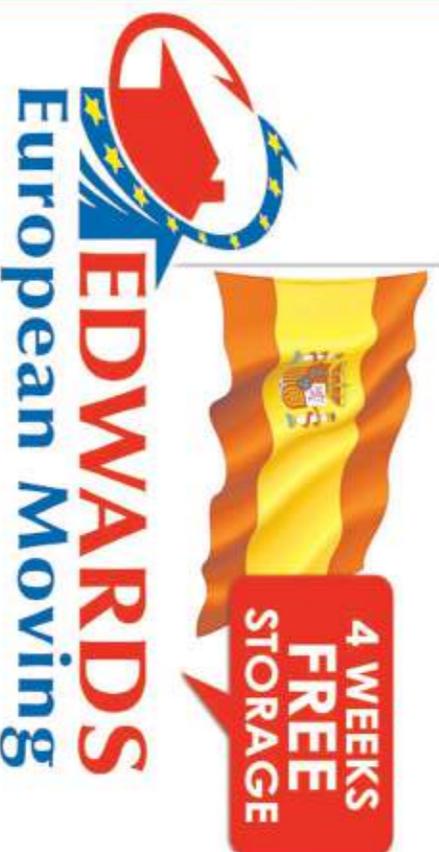
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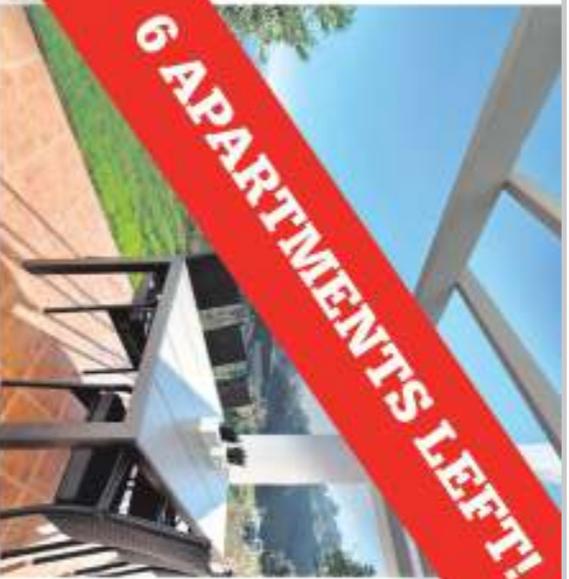
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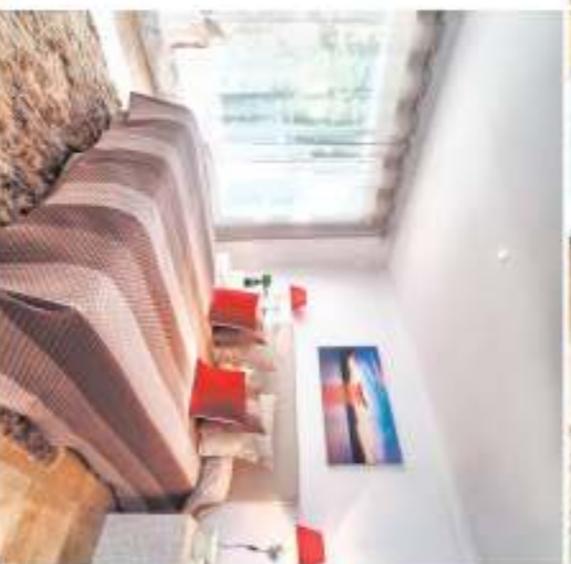
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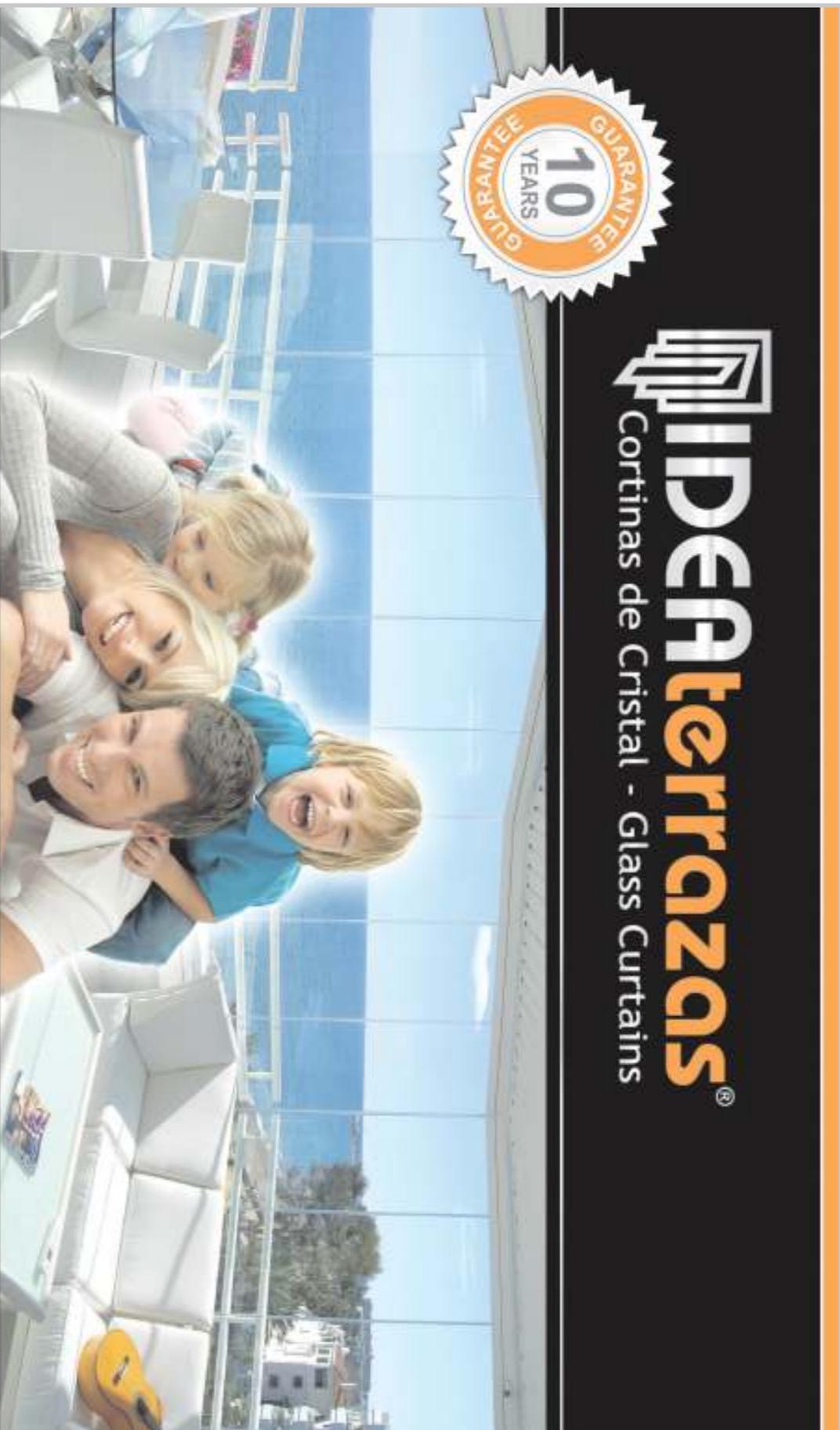
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More than 300 foreign athletes take part in the Torremolinos half marathon

British runner Lesley Chisholm was the first female runner to cross the line at the event last weekend

TONY BRYANT

TORREMOLINOS. The twenty-eighth edition of the Media Maratón de Torremolinos, took place last weekend, with over 1,500 runners embarking on a 21-kilometre race through the streets of the town.

The Mayor of Torremolinos, José Ortiz, fired the starting pistol, for the event organised by the sports delegation of Torremolinos town hall.

First across the line in the men's category was Moroccan athlete, Lacen El Hattachi, while Lesley Chisholm, a British runner, was the first-placed female

César Carrasco, councillor for Sport, who was also present, thanked all of the organisations involved in the event, especially the 120 volunteers who had offered their services on the day of the race.

He also expressed his gratitude to Almas Industries, whom he applauded for supplying four manually-operated defibrillators.

These devices, used for the first time in the half-marathon in Torremolinos, allow medical personnel to offer guided resuscitation in the event of cardiac problems.

Runners from all over Andalucía participated in the event. These included serious athletes, fundraisers, and those out to simply enjoy a strenuous run on a blustery, but sunny, morning.

Approximately 20 per cent of the participants were foreign athletes and there was a large presence of British runners in attendance.

One group of 34 runners, known



The runners set off from the municipal sports complex. :: TONY BRYANT

as the 'Purple Army', had travelled from the UK especially to take part in the race.

The Cheltenham-based group has participated in the competition for the last four years, although they were not looking to gain any trophies.

"We love to come to Spain to participate in this event, although we only run for our own satisfaction. I doubt any of us will break any records today," Sarah, one of the group, told SUR in English.

As well as the trophies, there was also a cash initiative of up to 300 euros for the winners of each different category.

Lacen El Hattachi, was first over the finishing line with a time of 01:14:02. In second place in the



Lesley Chisholm (centre) was the fastest female on the day. :: SUR

male category was local triathlete, Javier Salcedo, who completed the route in 01:15:06. Third position was claimed by Malaga runner, David Moreno, with a time of 01:15:15.

The fastest woman was British runner Lesley Chisholm, who completed the run in 01:24:57. Second place went to Marbella athlete, Janine Lima Rodriguez, with a time of 01:29:33.

The wheelchair category was won by Joaquín García Díaz, from Seville, who completed the route in 01:15:02.

The award ceremony was followed by a celebration party in the bullring, where food and refreshments were offered to all the participating runners.

Former player Josemi returns to Malaga to take up role as first team delegate

ANTONIO GÓNGORA

MALAGA. There were very few names in the hat of candidates to replace the outgoing Carlos López, sacked as first team delegate by Sheikh Al-Thani earlier this week. However, one name that had unanimous support was that of Josemi, who returns to the club almost 13 years after joining Liverpool.

The former full-back, 37, has hung up his boots for good after spells in Greece and India. He is a former teammate of head coach Marcelo Romero and sporting director Francesc Arnau, who put his name forward for the post.

After his spell in England, during which time he won the Champions League, Josemi speaks English so will be able to bridge the gap between the first team and the owners in his new role as first team delegate.

Known as a hard worker, his appointment has gone down well not only with the squad, but in other departments of the club, according to SUR sources.



Josemi, as a player. :: S. SALAS

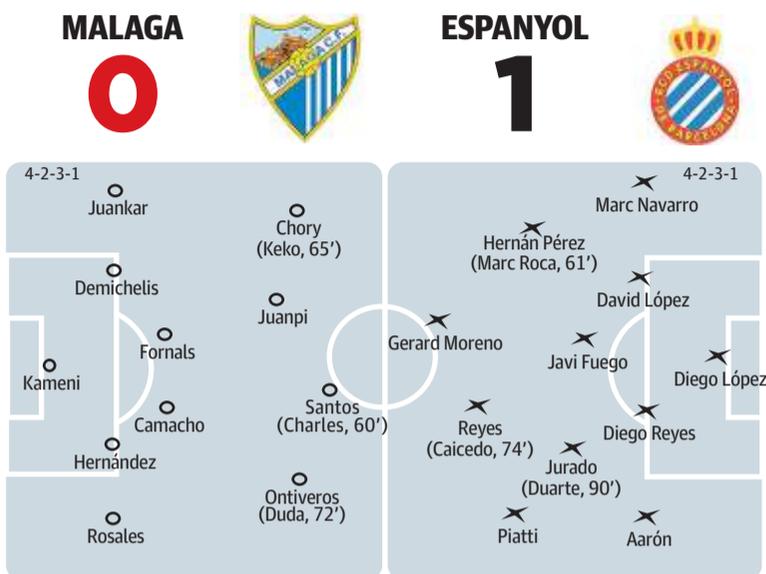
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Unused substitutes: Boyko (GK), Mikel, Jony, José Rodríguez

Unused substitutes: Roberto (GK), Víctor, Salva Sevilla, Óscar Melendo

STATISTICS

BALL POSSESSION

67% / **33%**

MALAGA **ESPANYOL**

0	Goals	1
20	Total shots	3
10	On target	2
10	Off target	1
17	Corners	2
2	Offsides	1
9	Fouls committed	15
1	Yellow cards	4
0	Red cards	0

Goals: 0-1 Piatti (17').

Referee: Daniel Ocón Arráiz. **Yellows** for Hernán Pérez, Demichelis, Piatti, Marc Roca and Diego López.

Venue: La Rosaleda (21,546 spectators).

TABLE & FIXTURES

MATCHDAY

21

LEAGUE TABLE

★ Champions League ■ Europa League ▼ Relegation

TEAM	PT	P	W	D	L	GF	GA
★ 1. R. Madrid	46	19	14	4	1	51	17
★ 2. Barcelona	45	21	13	6	2	55	18
★ 3. Sevilla	43	21	13	4	4	43	28
★ 4. At. Madrid	39	21	11	6	4	36	16
■ 5. Real Sociedad	38	21	12	2	7	34	30
■ 6. Villarreal	35	21	9	8	4	28	14
7. Eibar	32	21	9	5	7	32	29
8. Espanyol	32	21	8	8	5	29	27
9. Athletic	32	21	9	5	7	26	25
10. Celta	30	20	9	3	8	31	33
11. Las Palmas	28	21	7	7	7	31	32
12. Alavés	27	21	6	9	6	21	22
13. Betis	23	20	6	5	9	21	31
14. MALAGA	22	21	5	7	9	28	35
15. Deportivo	19	20	4	7	9	25	32
16. Valencia	19	20	5	4	11	29	40
17. Leganés	18	21	4	6	11	15	35
▼ 18. Sporting	13	21	3	4	14	22	43
▼ 19. Granada	13	21	2	7	12	17	44
▼ 20. Osasuna	10	21	1	7	13	23	46

Results

At. Madrid - Leganés	2-0
Valencia - Eibar	0-4
Real Sociedad - Osasuna	3-2
Sevilla - Villarreal	0-0
MALAGA - Espanyol	0-1
Barcelona - Athletic	3-0
Sporting - Alavés	2-4
Celta - R. Madrid	(Post.)
Deportivo - Betis	(Post.)
Granada - Las Palmas	1-0

Fixtures

Eibar - Granada
Leganés - Sporting
Betis - Valencia
Espanyol - Real Sociedad
Osasuna - R. Madrid
Villarreal - MALAGA
Athletic - Deportivo
Las Palmas - Sevilla
Alavés - Barcelona
At. Madrid - Celta

Malaga left looking over their shoulders



DARYL FINCH

✉ dfinch@diariosur.es

The Blue and Whites face being dragged into a relegation battle after their latest home defeat at the hands of Espanyol

MALAGA. It's now eight games without a win for Malaga after a fortunate Espanyol side escaped with all three points at La Rosaleda on Saturday afternoon.

In the weekend's early kickoff, Malaga started the brightest. Unfortunately for them, Michael Santos hadn't brought his shooting boots with him and squandered three good chances in the opening exchanges.

By contrast, Espanyol's Pablo Piatti only needed one. With just 16 minutes on the clock, he was given the freedom of the park so tried his luck from thirty metres and the ball nestled into the side netting to give his side an unexpected lead. The bounce wasn't kind to Carlos



Charles' overhead kick was the closest Malaga came to a winner on Saturday. :: NIÑO SALAS

Kameni who will wish he could have done better from that range.

With the visitors in the ascendancy, the game turned a lot more scrappy, with Malaga struggling to refine the rhythm with which they

started the game, committing needless fouls.

The best chance before the break fell to Martín Demichelis who volleyed over the bar after a mêlée in the penalty area.

The second half continued with Malaga on the front foot but Marcelo Romero's side only succeeded in increasing the corner count, failing to register any meaningful efforts on goal.

It wasn't until the introduction of Charles in the 60th minute that Malaga started to threaten Diego López between the sticks. The veteran keeper pulled off a world-class save to deny the Brazilian forward, returning from injury, who attempted a speculative overhead kick from just inside the area.

He had to be on hand again to tip over Juanpi's dinked cross which threatened to dip under the crossbar.

But while Malaga sent men forward, Espanyol's defence and keeper shut out the space and were clearly intent on winding the clock down.

There was a final chance in stoppage time as Charles latched onto a long ball into the area, but he could only flick the ball at López's thigh.

Malaga finished the matchday in 14th place, but with both Deportivo and Valencia, in 15th and 16th respectively, having games in hand, the Blue and Whites could soon be dragged into a dangerous position if there isn't a turnaround in fortunes.

Romero's team currently have a nine-point cushion on the relegation places, though, and the return to the first team of both Charles and Keko are huge positives.



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Joselu, on the Malaga radar

The Blue and Whites are already assessing their options for next season with the Lugo striker's contract set to expire at the end of the season

ANTONIO GÓNGORA

MALAGA. The winter window may have only just slammed shut, but Malaga already have eyes on summer business. While the squad is full at present, the club's sporting director, Francesc Arnau, is already planning for when loan agreements come to an end and when players' contracts expire.

The striking department is one area set to be affected, with Charles' contract up in June and speculation surrounding the future of Sandro Ramírez. For that reason, the club are looking at Lugo striker Joselu, the current top scorer in the second division with 16 goals.

The 25-year-old is enjoying the best season of his career so far, leading Lugo to playoff contention. The former Villarreal academy graduate made 11 appearances for



Joselu, centre, celebrates scoring for Lugo. :: SUR

the top-flight side, before dropping down a division to find more regular football. After spells with Cordoba, Recreativo and Mallorca, he joined Lugo in 2015 and has scored 21 goals in 43 appearances.

Known for his pace and trickery, Joselu is equally adept at play-

ing as a number 10 or as a more conventional number nine.

His contract is also up this summer, so Malaga are looking to steal a march on their rivals by moving quickly for his signature, much in the same way they did to sign Jony from Sporting at this time last year.

IN BRIEF

Weligton joins first team coaching set-up during recovery from injury

MALAGA

:: P. L. ALONSO. Club captain Weligton, who in January gave up his spot in the first-team squad to Adalberto Peñaranda as he recovers from injury, has joined Marcelo Romero's coaching staff, the club announced on Monday.

The 37-year-old Brazilian, who has been training for his coaching badges, has remained an active presence in the changing room and around the training ground since Romero took over from Juande Ramos at the turn of the year.

His new role has now been formalised by the club which views the role of its veterans, including Duda and Martín Demichelis as vital in supporting the rookie manager and his assistant manager Sergio Pellicer.



Marcus. :: MALAGACF.COM

Malaga youth called up by Ireland under 17s

MALAGA

:: SUR. Marcus Thomas Rowley, who represents Malaga's 'juveniles', has earned himself a call-up for the Ireland under-17 side for their training camp in Valencia.

'Marcus', who has an Irish father, has previously represented Ireland in the prestigious Victory Shield at under-16 level.

Dely Valdés takes reigns as youth team coach

MALAGA

:: S. CORTÉS. Former Malaga forward Dely Valdés has returned to the club to take over as youth team head coach after the promotion of Sergio Pellicer.

The 49-year-old has previous coaching experience with the club, assisting both Antonio Tapia and Juan Ramón Muñoz in their stints as head coach in the 2008-2009 and 2009-2010 seasons, respectively.



Dely Valdés, file photo. :: SUR

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A LOOK AT LA LIGA

ROB PALMER
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Resisting temptation

Florentino Pérez likes to splash the cash but has stopped himself during the Zidane era so far. Could that be about to change?

They used to be known as the 'Galácticos', but the nib of president's pen has hardly touched the Real Madrid cheque book during the Zinedine Zidane revolution.

I'm predicting a raid on the Premier League as Florentino Pérez still has a desire to splash the cash and pose with the latest platinum addition to the Bernabéu collection.

A world-class goalkeeper appears to be at the top of his summer shopping list. Of course David De Gea could have been the club's number one if the fax machines in Manchester and Madrid had managed to connect with each other on a dramatic deadline day in 2015.

Keylor Navas has done a more than adequate job, as indeed Clau-

dio Bravo did for Barcelona, but the key to evolution is to improve and progress.

De Gea is the obvious replacement as he is Spain's number one, a Madrid native, and at the age of twenty-six, only just approaching the peak years of his career. The fact that he started at city rivals Atlético means little when you are searching for quality.

Indeed, the alternative to De Gea is also an Atlético old boy – Thibaut Courtois - who is a main component is Chelsea's tilt at the English title. He's a giant of a goalkeeper and still only twenty-four. The stories linking him with Real seem to originate from the UK, though, and they appear timely as he approaches his last 18 months of his contract. I think

this is more agent talk than a reality, though.

I'd throw Sergio Asenjo into the equation as he has been the most outstanding goalkeeper in La Liga this season, backed up by the fact that unfashionable Villarreal have the best defensive statistics. Although he has a great back story of overcoming three career-threatening operations, I'd expect that the Real mandate is glitz over grit.

The signing Sergio Agüero may well be an attention-grabbing acquisition that appeals to the Real Madrid hierarchy, though. It appears that Pep Guardiola doesn't see him as a central figure in his plans for Manchester City and nobody doubts his world class talents. Agüero could head to China but surely he must feel that he can



Courtois or De Gea could be keeping goal at the Bernabéu next year. :: EFE

accomplish more in his career and a move to the capital would prove a worthy stage. Crikey, another former Atlético connection!

And let me throw one more Premier League name into the frame. Often players are hyped beyond their true abilities in England but I think Dele Alli could be the exception. Both Gareth

Bale and Luka Modric took their game to a new level when moving from Tottenham to Real Madrid and I think that Alli could do the same. Zidane likes to develop players so that box is ticked and President Pérez likes to sign the next big thing, so there's another box ticked.

Watch this space.

Añón goal puts Marbella one point off top spot

The midfielder's second goal of the season put Marbella just one point behind leaders Cartagena

EL EJIDO 0 MARBELLA 1

:: OPTASPORTS

ALMERIA. Añón's second goal of the season gave Marbella a narrow 1-0 victory over El Ejido at the Estadio Santo Domingo on Sunday.

The 30-year-old midfielder was a constant threat to the El Ejido defence throughout the match, and decisively put the visitors ahead after just eight minutes.

The goal forced the dogged home side to play through the lines in search of an equaliser, but a lack of precision in the final third and a solid Marbella rearguard prevented any opportunities arising for the home side.

At the other end the visitors could have extended their lead before the break, but they spurned the couple of good opportunities



Añón celebrates scoring the winner. :: JULIO RODRÍGUEZ

that they created.

The flow of the game did not alter after the break, with El Ejido attempting to force the issue while Marbella defended deeply and broke when the opportunity arose.

Just as in the first half, it was the visitors who enjoyed the better chances in the second. Añón's direct free-kick was dealt with by El Ejido goalkeeper García, before the 25-year-old was forced into action again to turn Okoye's fierce shot from inside the area behind for a corner.

El Ejido could have levelled right at the death, but Emilio Cubo could only direct his volley over the bar from the edge of the penalty area.

The result strengthened Marbella's position in third place and leaves them trailing Lorca FC and leaders Cartagena by just one point after the former beat Granada B 2-1, while the latter could only manage a 1-1 draw away at La Roda.

Next up for Marbella is the visit of La Roda to the Municipal next Sunday at 5pm.



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Unicaja wave goodbye to the Top 16 with loss in Zagreb

The Malaga outfit have set up a clash with German side Bayern Munich in a 'best-of-three' quarterfinal

BY JUAN CALDERÓN

MALAGA. Unicaja's final game of the Top 16 ended in defeat after they lost 74-71 to Cedevita in Zagreb. The Croatian side, who rested American stars James and Boatright, showed more desire from the start and went 10-5 up within the first five minutes of the first quarter.

The quintet of Lafayette, Smith, Díez, Suárez and Omic failed to match their Croatian counterparts' intensity, with Lafayette managing just seven minutes before he was hauled off by a disgruntled Joan Plaza.

Nevertheless, Unicaja fought their way back before the end of the first quarter, with Omic playing a huge hand in ensuring a one-point lead for the visitors heading into the second quarter.

The second quarter saw 17-year-old Musa and Arapovic cause the Unicaja defence all sorts of problems, scoring several points, but Musli kept the Malaga outfit in the hunt with his shooting as the quarter ended 42-41 to the home side.

The third quarter is where Unicaja lost the game, as they crumbled in defence and conceded 10 points without reply within the first five min-



Suárez finds his path blocked by two Cedevita players. BY MARIN SUŠIĆ

utes. They shot from too far out and without any accuracy. Plaza demanded his team to get closer to the basket, and it paid dividends as they managed to cut the deficit after baskets from Nedovic and Fogg. Unicaja finally showed urgency and with two minutes to go they trailed by just three points. However, Marko Tomas' basket delivered the final blow to Unicaja and ensured victory for the hosts.

The Malaga outfit will now face German side Bayern Munich in a best of three quarter-final.

Unicaja will face their German counterparts twice in Munich, with

the first encounter taking place on 28 February.

Joan Plaza's side will therefore have to improve their away record in Europe, having won only two matches away from Malaga, the second of which came this season against Alba Berlin.

The two sides met in the first round of this year's tournament, with Bayern Munich emerging victorious from both encounters.

Bayern took the first match 74-62 in late October before a 72-69 win in south Germany a little over a month later.



Díez tries to break through against Planinic, Paulí and Báez. BY LOF

Unpredictable Unicaja fall in the Canaries

In a match that should have propelled their season, the Malaga side succumbed to a defeat that was entirely avoidable

BY ENRIQUE MIRANDA

MALAGA. After three consecutive league victories and progressing to the quarter finals of the Euro-Cup, Unicaja was more showed their unpredictability by falling to a disappointing 76-71 defeat to Gran Canaria on Saturday night.

The visitors were not outclassed on the day, nor was victory ever out of reach, but their downfall was by their own doing gifting possession to their direct rivals on 16 occasions in the first half alone.

In fact, at the end of the first half,

Unicaja were counting their blessings as Gran Canaria had only opened up a 35-31 lead, in spite of the away side's wastefulness and a period of nearly seven minutes without scoring a single point during the bridge from the first to the second quarter.

The break helped Unicaja to re-gather and in the third quarter, Musli helped his side to retain possession better and supplied Waczynski and Nedovic who put points on the board. The problem, however, was stopping points at the other end. As a result, the difference didn't stray too far from three or four points for the rest of the game, going into the final quarter at 57-54.

It was the combination of Mac-Calebb and Pasecniks, though, that helped Gran Canaria, who were generally more solid, over the line.

Trocadero Marbella on brink of safety with victory in Almeria

RUGBY

Two tries from Enrique González inspired a comfortable win for the hosts, who have consolidated their grip on sixth

MARBELLA 30 CISNEROS 28

BY HÉCTOR BARBOTA

MARBELLA. Trocadero Marbella secured their ninth win of the season after beating Unión Rugby Almeria 33-21.

The victory all but guarantees Marbella's status as a División de Honor B side next season, with five games of the season still to play.

Almeria, who initially made life hard for the hosts, are a team now seriously threatened with relegation



The crowd roared the home side on to a 33-21 victory. BY J-LANZA

as they languish in second-to-last place in the table.

Although the adverse weather conditions created handling errors aplenty on both sides in the first half, it was the hosts who began the match the brighter.

After an initial penalty had put the Marbella outfit ahead, a handling error from Almeria allowed the quick feet of full-back Enrique González to collect the ball and score the first try of the game. The 30-year-old capitalised on another mistake in the visitors' defence 12 minutes later to give the Marbella side a convincing 15-0 lead.

The Trocadero defence had so far held firm, not allowing the visitors

to convert their domination into points. González's second score had exerted further pressure on the visitors, but they duly responded and eventually broke down the resilient home defence to score two converted tries and put the game very much back in the balance.

Nevertheless, the hosts regained control in the second half and added two further tries while conceding another one to secure a bonus-point victory which consolidated their place in sixth position in the table.

Next up for Marbella is a trip to fifth-placed CR Cisneros B and an opportunity to close the seven-point gap between the sides currently. The match will take place on 19 February.

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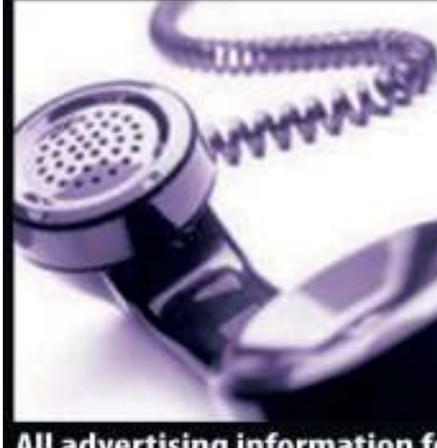
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BENALMADENA: Sexy Vicky, petite European. Fluent English. In/ Outcalls. 605382376

BENALMADENA: Young lady 35, attractive, sexy, educated. For gentlemen. 30 Euros. 634209427

BENALMADENA. Samantha, escort, blonde, European, nice boobs, good English. 633010663

NVA ANDALUCIA: Beautiful blonde, big tits, superb body, lingerie, sexual toys, 69, French watersports, massage. Discreet apartment. Visits. 645898573 Juliana

MARBELLA Centre. Villa with 12 precious girls (+18), 30 minutes: 50 euros, 1 hour: 100 euros. Open 24 hours. Call 620366817

TORREMOLINOS center, 30euros, Russian, Spanish girls, 24h. Outcalls. 682455959

BENALMADENA. New, young horny Russian girls(+18). From 30 euros. 650835615

ASIAN masseuse. Marbella. Gina erotic, sensual. Thai body2body massage. Happy ending. 24 hours. Send photos. Outcalls. Visa. Amex. 672420027

PUERTO Banus. Marina: Stunning latina 21 years, sculptural body, 120 breast, natural French, Greek without, Couples. 24 hours. Visa. Amex. Outcalls. 617791644

MARBELLA. New: Young students, Mary 21, Isabel 22, vicious, erotic games, kisses with tongue, French without, deep Greek. Visits. 24 hrs. 617791644

NEW IN Marbella. Angela 18 years old, 120 breast, 1.72, stunning brunette. All services. I send photos. Outcalls. Visa/Amex. 617791644

PTO BANUS: Rubi Brazilian nymphomaniac, brunette, French till end, Greek, toys. 24 hours. I send photos. Visa/Amex. 672420027

STUNNING girl(+18). Tantra massage. Skandinavisk velkommen. Marbella centre. www.annatantra.com 633060678

MARBELLA. Open minded young woman. Educated gentlemen. Sexy experience. 603223295

SABINILLAS sensual blonde. In/outcalls. Discretion. Pleasure guarantee 100%. Only mornings. 602617318

NEW. BEAUTIFUL, busty, superb body, pleasing, discreet. Visits. Costa. 602451846

44 Year old blonde. Natural French. Toys. No limits. Secluded facilities. Call 663265150 sashapassion.com

JAPANESE Stunning goddess. Tantric and sexual body/to/body massage. Very good sexual services. Hotel and home visiting. Luxury private discreet apartment. Fuengirola. 673253870

THAI beautiful sexy lady to provide you with the latest erotic services. Enjoy comfort Body/to/body massage, Tantric massage, chest massage, happy end. Private apartment. Opposite Hotel Las Palmeras Fuengirola. Visits. 602382363

BEAUTIFUL Lady 4FemDom Lovers. Beginners. Experienced. Own dungeon. www.MistressUrsulaDominatrix.com. 672870066

COMPLIANT Genuine couple (willing wife and knowing husband) offer an incredibly sexual and unique experience to ladies, couples and gentlemen. Indulge your fantasy, be a voyeur, or simply enjoy very special pleasures with us. Private apartment in Nueva Andalucía or out calls 685189518

TORREMOLINOS: Mature Brazilian 40, blonde, pert ass, 50 Euros. 645464781

ESTEPONA, 2 beautiful girls(+18) +transvestite, no limits, outcalls. Visa. 680966710

BENALMADENA. Sensual blonde, pleasing, luscious. Specialist prostatic massage. 658547999

QUALIFIED blonde masseuse, 120 breast: Visits with massage table. Nva.Andalucía. Sharon 602401362

FUENGIROLA: Oriental young beautiful Japanese. Complete services. Outcalls. 24hrs. 693988340



FUENGIROLA PORT THE FAMOUS SEVEN YEARS ESTABLISHED 5 STAR APARTMENT. ONLY ONE MINUTE WALK FROM THE LONDON PUB. WE HAVE THE ONLY GENUINE NO HIDDEN EXTRAS GUARANTEE ON THE COAST. YOU GET EXACTLY WHAT YOU PAY FOR. OUR PUSSIES GIVE THE FULL TIME. YOU DON'T LEAVE EARLY! THIS IS WHAT YOU RECEIVE ALL INCLUSIVE. STEP ONE MIND-BLOWING ORAL SEX. STEP TWO ANY POSITION STEAMY SEX, CUM TWICE IF YOU CAN. STEP THREE FULL BODY2BODY MASSAGE. PRICES INCLUDING A DRINK. 30.MINS/40.EUROS. RECOMMENDED THE HOUSE SPECIAL 45.MINS ONLY 50.EUROS OR THE FULL HOUR JUST 70 EUROS. MAYBE TWO GIRL COMBINATION. SEE A CHOICE OF PUSSIES IN OUR UNIQUE LOUNGE, DRESSED IN HEELS AND EXOTIC UNDIES. THEN ENTER ONE OF OUR FULLY EQUIPPED BOUDOIRS CONTAINING PORN DVDS, TOYS, DRAPED BEDS, ON HAND SHOWERS HOT AND COLD RUNNING PUSSIES. ENJOY THE RIDE! OPEN MON TO FRI 11AM TO 8.00 NIGHT. NOW OPEN SAT 11AM TO 5PM. CLOSED SUN. ALL CALLS ANSWERED IN ENGLISH. PUSSIE PHONE NUMBERS 661064376/600878610. FUENGIROLA PORT OFTEN COPIED BUT NEVER NEVER EQUALLED! YOUR BUSINESS IS OUR PLEASURE, CUM SOON. ALWAYS LOOKING FOR NEW GIRLS!!

MELANYW 34. Dutch. Natural blonde. Mistress. In/ Outcalls. Fuengirola. 667407779

MARBELLA Centre. Andrea. Pretty, sexy... Erotic masseuse. Nuru, body2body, happy ending tantra. Total luscious. 697232876

BEAUTIFUL slim, model, tantra massage. Safe and clean place. English speaker. www.annatantra.com 633060678

OPEN minded couple. She 40. 36DD Nymph looking for generous men voyeur/ participant. Riviera. Phone, text, whatsapp 602539075

PETITE brunette. I love sex do you? Call me now! Couples welcome! Lia, Fuengirola 634168441 English spoken

PRETTY woman, Nikita, 1,65cm/ 45kgs. 84/60/84 Fantastic skills. Couples. Domination. Speak English. To feel good call Fuengirola 604235410

MARY erotic, sensitive massage, happy ending. 40 Euros. 697441387 Fuengirola center

SQUIRTINGGIRL with special ability squirting. Hotel, home visits. skill@gmx.us 622269947

ARROYO Miel. Patricia 30-ish, Spanish, big breast. Receive alone with appointment. C/ Piscis, 2. 662477023

FUENGIROLA. INSATIABLE GIRLS. DRINKABLE FRENCH. BLACK KISS. GREEK. KISSERS. FETISHISM. GOLDEN RAIN. 24H. PASEO MARITIMO, 61-3D 664015278



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- MARBELLA, Leandro 952 776 040, Julius Frankel 629 588 964
- SAN PEDRO DE ALCANTARA, Traducciones San Pedro 952 789 204 / 654 613 094
- FUENGIROLA, Diana 952 580 142 / 635 716 285
- BENALMADENA, Publi Ocio del Sur 670 886 299, Graham 605 022 121
- MIJAS, Carrefour Mijas 952 580 726 / 678 536 863
- MIJAS COSTA, Sonja Bryce 626 539 290
- ESTEPONA, Carmen 609 569 878
- SOTOGRADE/GIBRALTAR 616 263 607
- COIN, Rocío 951 315 113 / 600 513 343
- NERJA, Debbie 952 649 674
- RINCÓN DE LA VICTORIA, Virginia 952 403 611



DUNGEON, roll play, domination, fantasies, squirting. Secluded facilities. www.lailalynch1.com 662913428

HUGE bust, Lina XL 37, relaxing massage, all services. Fluent English. Also outcalls. Fuengirola. 634163056

RAQUEL Young Brazilian brunette, sexy. P9 Maritimo, N°23 Fuengirola 626039574

NVA. ANDALUCIA: Black Brazilian girl, big boobs, sexy body, 69, lingerie. Malu 603208873

MARBELLA: Pretty, passionate, submissive, ebony 28 years. Come for your best deep throat, natural French. CIM. Massage, 69, GFE, kissing, penetration. Incalls/outcalls. 603226217

BENALMADENA Costa (Windmill roundabout): Sabrina from New York City. Full body massage. Call me and tell me your fantasies! 9am-9pm 7 days. Senior Citizens discount. 658189191

FUENGIROLA Anne, beautiful face, Barbie body, sweet little girl(22), I'm independent, in my own flat, fluent English. Only 45 euros. Whatsapp to see my photos, 631314945

LA MANSION Beautiful, sexy, very erotic señoritas! Torreblanca Fuengirola. 605158101

OBSESSED with sex? Help is available. Sex Addicts Anonymous (SAA) For information, call 654066901. Email saamarbella@gmail.com, or go to facebook.com/saamarbella or saa-recovery.org

NATALI (18) Turkish. Lovely photo -model. Out-calls/ 24H 611237548

MELISA 18 yrs. Hungarian very pretty. 24h Out-calls. 611238013

TINA from Bulgaria. All kind of services. Work 24 hours 611237884

RUSSIAN 27... blue eyes, brunette. Try my professional massage + all other services... 611238013.

JESSICA ...espectacular Colombian doll. I work 24 hours... Call me: 611238013

SWEET DREAMS Riviera. Open 24 hours. With 7 unforgettable ladies. Discreet and beautiful location. Come to meet us. Free drinks. 611237548

NEW ESTEPONA: Mulata, stunning body, pert ass, superbust. Complete massages. 662303121

PARTIES with no limits! Place yourself in the hands of the best escorts. Dreaming of a crazy night? Whatever you want! 8 spectacular girls. 24h. VISA. www.butterflygirls.es <http://www.butterflygirls.es> 951274723, 616368985

RIVIERA, wild Brazilian lover, affectionate and compliant. Vicky, 26, blonde. Amazing body. 50 € 650237102

CALAHONDA, Laura, mature Spanish lady with perfect curves. A woman who'll drive you crazy. 650237145

MIRAFLORES, Natacha, black Colombian girl, beautiful, horny and wild. Fantastic legs, pert bottom. 24h. 608949543

NEAR Elviria, Mónica, Spanish, beautiful body, slim with natural tits. I'll make you feel like a king. www.butterflygirls.es <http://www.butterflygirls.es> 616368985

MIJAS, blonde Brazilian, pretty, sensual and very hot. A stylish lady who'll make you enjoy it more than anybody. 50 € 650237102

CRISTAL, a lady without limits, long dark hair, uninhibited in bed. Couples, lesbian, Greek, French without. 24 h. 608949543

SADOMASOCHISM. Totally equipped dungeon. Leather and latex clothing, toys, fancy dress, very wild and passionate. 648814653

ESTEPONA/ San Pedro Alexia Brazilian 27, caring, friendly, pleasing. 24h Escort. 604109768

CANCELADA Brazilian, attractive, pleasing, very horny. 24h Escort. Discreet. 602891749

BENAJARAFE: Beautiful hot girl-friends, loving, kisser, threesome, toys. Discretion. 652082748

ESTEPONA: Brazilian masseuse, sexy, elegant, caring. Discreet. Private apartment. 622152511

MARBELLA beautiful lady. Elegant brunette. Outcalls hotels 698329112

PUERTO Banús next to Casino. Unforgettable experience for nice gentlemen with beautiful girl from Poland. 617700999

DOMINATRIX from broad is demanding you let yourself go and fulfil your fantasies! Discretion works both ways. 691533101 Benalmadena Costa

WWW.TANTRAMARBELLA.COM Rani Goddess Awake your senses & multiply pleasure just adding sensual & erotic real tantra by qualified hindu masseuse. 659331890

40 EUROS: Divorced charming, sexy lady (30yrs). Superbody. Kiss, 69. Massage. Sex. Visits. Fuengirola 625912315

CANCELADA English busty blonde!! Massage. Roleplay. Luxury private apartment. 647231042

BIG LADY for gentleman in Benalmadena. Very attractive. Call 678113501

BENALMADENA: Bianca sexy blonde, big tits. Private discreet apartment. Hotel visits. 631146080

ENGLISH Stephanie 33: Fuengirola (next to bus station). Size 8, 32GG very busty, long dark hair. No hidden extras, no upper age limit. Oral w/o, cim, passionate sex, massage. I love wearing heels and suspenders. Toys, shower. 30 mins 40E, 45 mins 50E, 1hr 70E. Avail Mon-Sat 10.30am - 7pm. Call, text, whatsapp 602636606. www.escortinmarbella.com

MARBELLA: Blonde Brazilian.. Do you want to taste a sweet inside my pussy? Massages. 619442117

BENALMADENA Costa: Nice couple available for guys, ladies and couples. Private apartment. Outcalls. 631146803

TRY SOMETHING different, Asian, European amazing pleasure, multiorgasmic, luxury, San Pedro/ Banús. 618448131

ASIAN attractive lady, simpathic, body-body, multiorgasmic, massage, stress free, luxury atmosphere, no rush. 604143788 Marbella.

NEW Argentinian, Asian, Russian multiorgasmic, sexy. Luxury atmosphere. Near Banús. 618448131

ASIAN Maria Polish, Latin. Authentic exotic massage, multiorgasmic, kissing, friends, friendly services, luxury atmosphere. New Marbella. 679126231

NEW Marbella. Polish, blonde, sexy, beautiful, enjoy erotic fashioned, sensual services. Luxury atmosphere. 604309812

FUENGIROLA: Nina is back! Mature blonde Scandinavian (55), slim & fit. (5.2ft/ 130lb), happy & horny. Discrete. Hotel visits only. 649181051

DANIELA Mature busty, thin Brazilian. The best French and anal. Fantastic black, crazy delicious tongue kisses, you'll enjoy so much pleasure. Private/discreet apartment. Appointments only by Whatsapp. Nva. Andalusia. 634817450

NEW TO MARBELLA Hot Blonde. Incalls & outcalls. Tanned, toned & tight. Perfect 34DD-24-34. Best GFE in Marbella. Get me and come boys! Call Honey 603300099

MARBELLA- Mijas. Exotic mature, petit, sexy, no rush. Call in/ out. 658039189

ESTEPONA. Pamela, Paraguaya, all services, sexy, discreet, vicious. 622243076

ESTEPONA, Cristal, 19 years, tall, slim, brunette, very pleasant. 633487004

ENGLISH slim, gym toned brunette 39 y.o. 36F bust. True girlfriend experience, or naughty porn star experience. Outcall only. (Range from 15 minutes OWO 60 Euros upwards) 12-8pm Whatsapp 651521485 Marbella/ San Pedro and surrounding area

FUENGIROLA: Anne 22, sweet little girl, beautiful face, Barbie body. I'm independent, own flat. Fluent English. Only 45 Euros. WhatsApp to see my photos. 631314945

FUENGIROLA: Lisa 45, Brazilian blonde, 120 breast, loving. Discreet. 604141920

NERJA Dulce, young erotic masseur... here to make your most pleasant dreams. 642022387 http://dulce-sensual-massage-relax.webnode.es/

MARBELLA. Caribbean, young, discreet. All services, own apartment. Outcalls. 722520777

ONLINE adult model/ actress. Become an online personality, full training and studios available, expected earnings 2,500 Euros, hours to suit, please send email to: auditions@eurocam.club quoting Qa1254

ROLE player partners wanted, B&D, D/s, S&M, Fem Dom actors required for online work. Studio work full promotional support & active clients. Email introduction to: auditions@eurocam.club Quote BD291

VICKY blond, big nipples, beautiful body. Full service. 632118018 Fuengirola center

NEW Marbella, Lisa, 27, high standing, beautiful, very horny charming smile and fit athletic body, 1.67 - 52 kg, long brown curly hair, sexy, erotic, full massage, body to body, blowjob, deep throat and more, outcalls, incalls, speak English et parle francais. 632948212

MARBELLA Carmen, Mature 602475138, kissing, big ass, Greek, French till end. Avenida Arias Maldonado 1, Iberest 1, apt 3-G

NEW ESTEPONA: 2 Transvestites and girls. Independent. Luscious. Pleasing. 691030985

Male

TONY young guy, giant cock, vicious, good sex. Torremolinos 697765432

ALEJANDRO 24 years, sexual massage with happy ending. Own apartment. Outcalls. 24 hrs. 665344158

MARBELLA. Novelty. Santiago handsome Venezuelan boy, 22 cms, active/pasive, powerful endowment. 24 hours. www.boysantiago.com 630810339

ASIAN boy, 19, skinny and toned, mind blowing massage. Fuengirola area. In/out. 24hrs. 602595649

MALE to male, full body massage, Mijas Pueblo. 609321958

FUENGIROLA Male to male full body massage. Very discreet, private villa. 634004512

LAS CHAPAS Handsome boy, superendowed. If you want unlimited sex and company, call me 603202758

DISSOLUTE submissive healthy older gentleman WLTM a dominant similar peer who has a suitable private venue where debauchery will rule. outrefun1@yahoo.co.uk

MARBELLA centre. Sexy man, hard big banana for your sexual desires. In/ outcalls. 657328140

Transvestites

TRANSSEXUAL Sophia, beautiful brunette, active/ passive, great bust, well hung. 662045252. www.escortswow.es/sofiabiagg

MARBELLA. Novelty. Beautiful Venezuelan shemale Melany, very hot, active/pasive, 23 cms endowment. 24 hours. 625739759

ESTEPONA. Beautiful, busty endowed, milky transvestite. Aitana. Outcalls. Visa. 660874904

NVA ANDALUCIA. VICTORIA FEMINE, BIG BOOBS, LUXURY, MASSAGE PARTY, PRIVATE APARTMENT. ALONE. PICTURES WHATSAPP 603100027

MARBELLA centre. Pretty, slim Thai ladyboy, kissable lips. Massage and more. 663612830

SHEMALE Gorgoues ladyboy sexy bitch, top and bottom very Milky. Taste me +34602648925

Massage

WWW.TANTRACENTER.ES PLEASURE WITHOUT LIMITS, SPEC-TACULAR MASSEUSE. MESSAGE EROTIC... WITH!!!SHOCKING END! 952216145/ 644452369

SAYAN. Tantra massage for ladies, gentlemen & couples. Ultimate bliss at a very nice place. Fuengirola. 952586339 / 608977260 www.masajessayan.es

MARBELLA. Monik, sexy lady. Titled chiropractor,relaxing, therapeutic, Chinese techniques, magic hands, portable massage bed. Private apartment. Hotel Visits. 686740661



DISCOVER the benefits of tantric massages! Feel the pleasure in your skin...635290724

MARBELLA. Luciana, 22 years, University, sensitive, relaxing massage. Full body. Hawaiana techniques. Private apartment. Hotel Visits. 602605697

MIAH, Fuengirola. Erotic, professional massage, body2body, happy ending. Miah, 647101046

KEEP your mind relax your body satisfied. Erotic-tantra Massage. relaxingtouche.es 602448534

FUENGIROLA. Rent room in Massage center by hours/days. 652290206

44 YEAR old brunette, slender, natural French, Greek, toys, squirting, no limits, dungeon. Secluded facilities. Call 662913428 Check me out at: www.lailalynch1.com

PURE ecstasy in Nueva Andalusia with young pretty independent masseuse. Erotic body, tantric and other completely relaxing massages in private apartment. 656350401

MASSEUSE professional Russian. Relaxing, therapeutic massage. Private. 722783578/ 634307345

www.masajesbudamalaga.com Luxury Tantra Spa with the best erotic massage and installations in the Coast. Relax & pleasure with beautiful girls. Tlf & Whatsapp 605265433

MARBELLA centre. New. Luxury center with wide selection of expert masseuse... Sensual, erotic. Nuru erotic tantra, body to body lingam and prostatic. Unique experience 4 hands, pleasant and exciting, double stimulation. Massage for couples. Open: 9:00am/9:00pm. Appointment: 952867663/ 690046233

JAPANESE Hottie gay massage exclusive for men with amazing ending. Also outcalls. Marbella. 664177216

MARBELLA. Mary, great body, super tits, best happy ending. 666291699

FUENGIROLA: Erotic Massage. For a mere 80 Euros/ hour enjoy a sensual experience with a delightful finalé, from one of our attractive masseuses. 602570272

EXCLUSIVE masseuse, 47 years, 120 bust, wonderful curves. All services. Benalmadena. 658763505

PAULA brunette, big boobs. Tantric massages, body to body, and much more... Fuengirola 622486034

MARBELLA Camila, Professional, elegant, simpathic, beautiful, sexy, magic hands, complete massage. 603169139

VICTORIA, Marbella, dark skin, long hair. Beautiful shape, horny, sweet, sensual erotic massage, toys. Discreet place. 604229713

VALERIA: Erotic relaxing, prostatic massage. Happy ending. In/outcalls. Fuengirola. 625912315

DUSKY lady! Nice massage on bed! Only afternoons. Calahonda 612257309

40 EUROS Tantra, body2body massage by beautiful lady. Fuengirola 645131273

MATURE man, qualified masseur. Excellent massages for men. Torremolinos, Carhuela. 639040128

touch4men.com Torremolinos: Erotic massage service for men. Ask for new girl massage. 628746407

ASIAN qualified offer an authentic professional massage relieve, pain and stress, luxury, private. Marbella center. 604143788

FUENGIROLA Carolina, blonde, elegant, relaxing massage, full erotic massage. Whatsapp. Message: 634797230

MARBELLA-Mijas. Monica, mature, busty, pretty, all type massage with lovely ending. No rush. Call in/ out. 658039189

RELAXING therapy. No sex. Seriousness. By appointment. Lucy. 677158226

NW Open MM Massage therapy, 10 years experience, relaxing and sport massage. San Pedro. Tel: 604393547/ 951482585

FILIPINA, Transgender, elegant, pretty slim, massage with lovely ending. Marbella centre. 602493030

ESTEPONA Cancelada, Sandra, wonderful massages. Unforgettable, tantric, young, pretty. Discreet. 645334459

EVA Jamaica and friend, professionals massage every part of your body, soft or strong, clean environment. San Pedro near Banús. 672994555

MARBELLA. Elegant masseuse, horny, nice dress, full erotic massage. Whatsupp. Outcalls. 691927847

Various

MALE/ female Viagra, kamagra jelllys, cialis, delivered or mail order viagra4you19@gmail.com. 672883205

VIAGRA (Kamagra) 100 mg, Cialis (Tadalafil) 20 mg, Jellies 100 mg. Wholesale & retail. Free delivery all areas. For the best products & service. 617740250.24 hrs.

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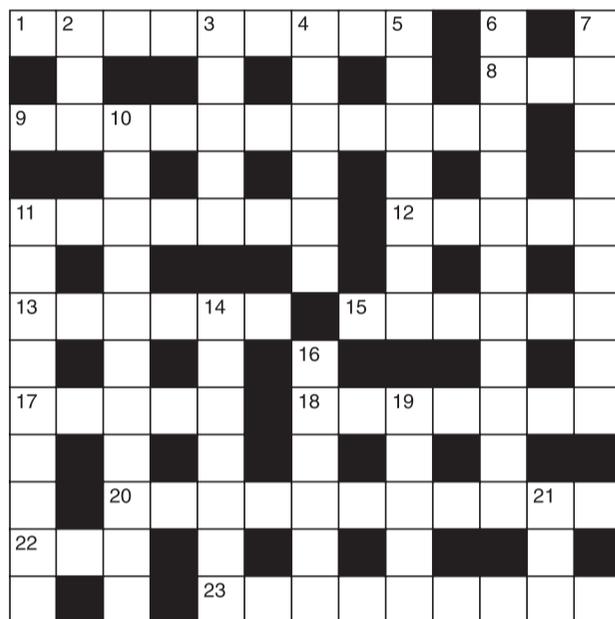
THE SEVEN DIFFERENCES



THE STARS

- Aquarius**
January 21 - February 19
Much as you may decide to hide in the shadows at times, someone wants to meet and appreciate you!
- Pisces**
February 20th - March 20th
It may be possible to combine a business matter with meeting someone whom you greatly admire.
- Aries**
March 21st - April 20th
Bringing a shot of romance into your daily life can be both exciting and unsettling.
- Taurus**
April 21st - May 21st
Passions and friendships are stronger than ever in this romantic week. Being kind and thoughtful builds on existing relationships.
- Gemini**
May 22nd - June 21st
This week gives you an excuse (as if you needed one!) to make your romantic feelings known.
- Cancer**
June 22nd - July 23rd
A special place can be shared with a loved one this weekend. Making their live magical brings you closer together.
- Leo**
July 24th - August 23rd
If someone at work attracts your attention, maybe going through a friend will take the anxiety away?
- Virgo**
August 24th - September 23rd
A strong desire to change or supercharge your love life will lead you to make declarations.
- Libra**
September 24th - October 23rd
Showing your softer side in this romantic week can mean the difference between success and a damp squid.
- Scorpio**
October 24th - November 22nd
Someone who inspires you wants to get closer this week. So many good things are coming your way. Just be ready to make the most of them.
- Sagittarius**
November 23rd - December 21st
A loving exchange on Tuesday really brings something home to you. Any doubts that you have had about a partner should dissolve.
- Capricorn**
December 22nd - January 20th
Give a special someone a surprise that shows how much you thought about it, not the cost.

CRYPTIC CROSSWORD N° 11228



- Across**
- 1 A little hurt when one decided not to compete (9)
 - 8 I personally leave the Orient first (3)
 - 9 Advantageously provided for - as a spa will be (4-7)
 - 11 Stop at sea (5,2)
 - 12 Official we'd be lost without (5)
 - 13 Shoots descendants (6)
 - 15 It's fearfully ugly (6)
 - 17 The strength of possibility? (5)
 - 18 Mischief-maker spoke deceitfully and made insinuations (7)
 - 20 His part is noted on stage (5,6)
 - 22 Slippery part of the elm (3)
 - 23 Reluctant to give credit (9)
- Down**
- 2 A tip for a player (3)
 - 3 The rent is halved in that place (5)
 - 4 The bay of the hounds? (6)
 - 5 Do have a flutter, old lady! (7)
 - 6 Special band for the match (7,4)
 - 7 Persecuted fellows caught in legal wrongs (9)
 - 10 The part of the conductor? (7,4)
 - 11 The price of silence? (4,5)
 - 14 Spicy little things, crazy about Margaret! (7)
 - 16 Very good speed for a very bad sailor (6)
 - 19 The essential part of decimals (5)
 - 21 Time to get out of the rat race (3)

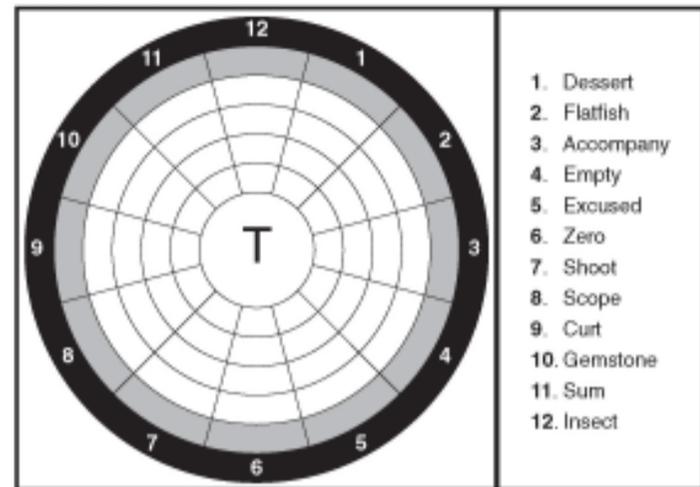
SUDOKU BY HANZO

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

					6			4
1			5		7			
	4	6				7	3	
9		2					6	1
			1	9		2		
4			6		3			5
	8	1			2			9
			3					6
		5	7	8				3

CLOCKWORD

The solutions from 1 to 12 are all six-letter words ending with the letter T in the centre. Moving clockwise from 1, the letters in the outer circle will spell out the name of a U.S. actor.



1. Dessert
2. Flatfish
3. Accompany
4. Empty
5. Excused
6. Zero
7. Shoot
8. Scope
9. Curt
10. Gemstone
11. Sum
12. Insect

THE WORDPUZZLER

O	B	E	E	G	U	M	A	N	D
H	E	A	D	D	R	E	Z	M	A
S	D	H	R	E	D	Z	I	I	L
C	I	D	A	L	I	E	L	L	O
A	S	E	W	U	N	L	E	W	R
N	O	L	I	V	I	N	G	A	P
T	R	I	N	K	N	O	R	R	A
E	M	P	G	A	G	R	E	E	N
M	A	F	E	T	U	I	N	S	C
P	G	O	R	E	M	B	A	T	H

- CAN you identify the words that may precede room from the anagrams listed below?
1. Invigl
 2. Erst
 3. Neat
 4. Ragwind
 5. Genre
 6. Edlha
 7. Tahb
 8. Gindin
 9. Gel
 10. Deb

INTERNATIONAL RADIO

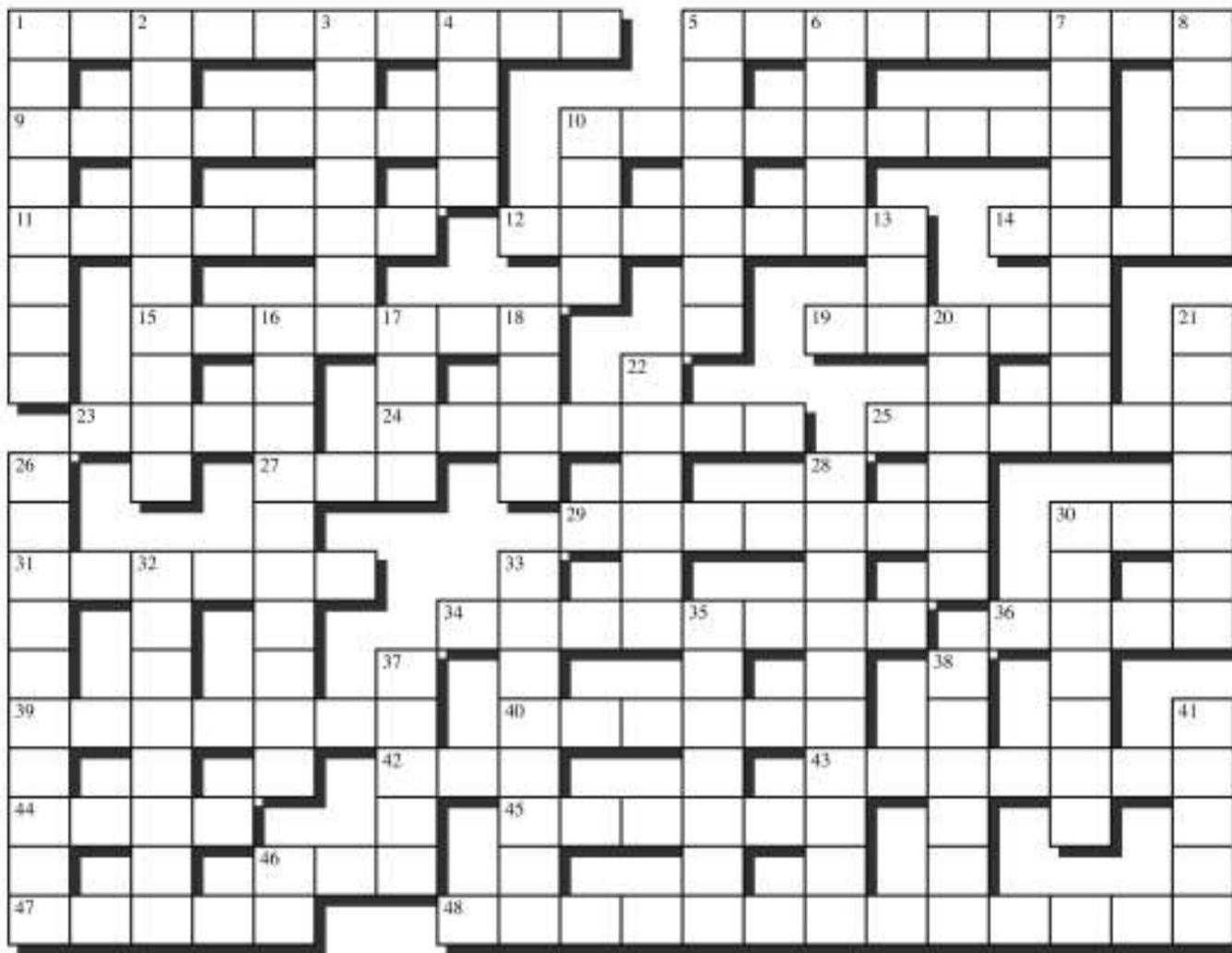
- Talk Radio Europe**
105.5 Axarquía
91.5 Costa del Sol East
91.9 Costa del Sol West
98.7 Gibraltar/Sotogrande
News, interviews, lifestyle, sport and BBC World Service.
- Global** (93.6 and 96.4FM)
All week round the clock music and entertainment
- Radio Radio Network** (96 and 98.3 FM). Music 24 hours.
- Central FM** (98.6 FM, 103.8)
All week, classic tracks and today's music broadcast to the Costa del Sol
- ACE FM** (106.8 FM)
Inland radio, news and music
The Beat fm (106 FM)
24 hours, music and entertainment
- Spectrum** (105.5 FM, Costa Almeria/Mojácar 92.6 FM)
24 hour music and entertainment
- Radio Mijas** (107.7 FM)
3 p.m. News, views and music
- Radio Sol Almirajara** (99.1 FM)
Nerja radio in English and German and night time World Radio Network
- HeartfmSpain** (88.5 FM Costa, 96.1 FM inland) Music, entertainment, news
- Lick FM** (103.6 FM Marbella)
Urban music broadcast between Gibraltar and Calahonda
- Rtv Puebla** (107.7 FM)
Monday evenings, Rock music memories. 7 - 9pm. email: radiopuebla.musicmemories@yahoo.com
Fb: Radiotelevision Peubla de Cazalla

QUIZ

- QUESTION 1**
- Who are Valentine and Proteus collectively known as?
1. Brothers Grimm
 2. The Blues Brothers
 3. Two Gentlemen of Verona
 4. Jedward
- QUESTION 2**
- "Tread softly because you tread on my...?"
1. Toes
 2. Dreams
 3. Heart
 4. Hopes

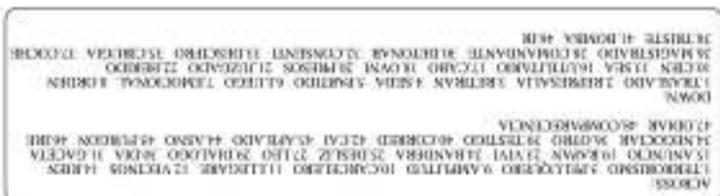
LANGUAGE CROSSWORD FILL IN THE SPANISH WORD

- Across**
1. Terrorism (10)
 5. Hairdresser (9)
 9. Space (8)
 10. Jailer (9)
 11. I will arrive (7)
 12. Neighbours (7)
 14. They laugh (4)
 15. Announcement (7)
 19. They shave (heads) (5)
 23. I lived (4)
 24. Flag (7)
 25. Slip-up (6)
 27. I read (3)
 29. Dialogue (7)
 30. Day (3)
 31. Gazette (6)
 34. To negotiate (8)
 36. Other (4)
 39. Witness (7)
 40. Run! (pl) (6)
 42. I fell (3)
 43. Sharp (7)
 44. Donkey (4)
 45. Large van (6)
 46. I will go (3)
 47. To hate (5)
 48. Appearance (13)
- Down**
1. Transfer (8)
 2. Reprisal (10)
 3. They withdraw (7)
 4. Silk (4)
 5. Party (7)
 6. Then (5)
 7. Emotional (9)
 8. Order (5)
 10. A hundred (4)
 13. Is (subj) (3)
 16. Small car (10)
 17. Corporal (4)
 18. UFO (4)
 20. Prisoners (6)
 21. Court (7)
 22. Injured (6)
 26. Magistrate (10)
 28. Commander (10)
 30. To detonate (7)
 32. I allowed (8)
 33. I decipher (8)
 35. Surgery (7)
 37. Car (5)
 38. Sad (6)
 41. Bomb (5)
 46. To go (2)



ANSWERS

Language Crossword



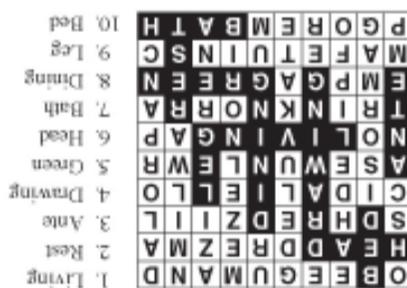
Cryptic Crossword

Solutions: Across: 1 Scratched; 8 Ego; 9 Well-endowed; 11 Heave to; 12 Guide; 13 Scions; 15 Fright; 17 Might; 18 Implied; 20 Opera singer; 22 Eel; 23 Sceptical. Down: 2 Cue; 3 There; 4 Hudson; 5 Dowager; 6 Wedding ring; 7 Tormented; 10 Leading role; 11 Hush money; 14 Nutmegs; 16 Pirate; 19 Point; 21 Era.

Clockword solution

SOLUTION: 1 Sorbet, 2 Turbo, 3 Escort, 4 Vacant, 5 Exempt, 6 Naught, 7 Sprout, 8 Extent, 9 Abrupt, 10 Garnet, 11 Amount, 12 Loust. CELEBRITY: Steven Seagal.

Wordpuzzler solution



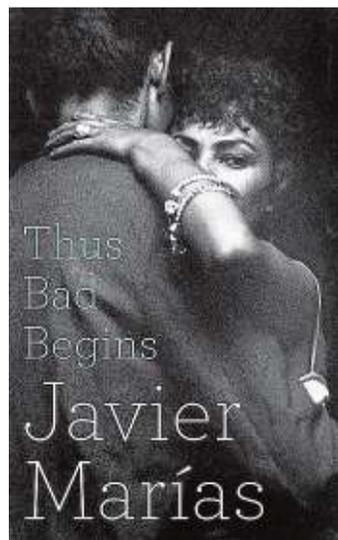
Sudoku solution

8	7	9	2	3	6	1	5	4
1	2	3	5	4	7	6	9	8
5	4	6	9	1	8	7	3	2
9	5	2	8	7	4	3	6	1
6	3	8	1	9	5	2	4	7
4	1	7	6	2	3	9	8	5
3	8	1	4	6	2	5	7	9
7	9	4	3	5	1	8	2	6
2	6	5	7	8	9	4	1	3

Quiz answers

Answer 1: The Two Gentlemen of Verona
Of interest: The play written by William Shakespeare is a comedy about two close friends, Valentine and Proteus. When Proteus falls in love with his best friend's girlfriend, the guys find themselves torn between the bonds of male friendship and love.
Answer 2: Dreams
Of interest: "Tread softly because you tread on my dreams" is a verse from William Butler Yeats' poem 'Aedh Wishes for The Cloths of Heaven'.

BOOK OF THE WEEK



Thus Bad Begins
Javier Mariás

Eduardo Muriel is a famous film director - urbane, discreet, irreproachable - an irresistible idol to young Juan de Vere. Muriel's wife Beatriz slips through her husband's home like an unwanted ghost, finding solace in other beds. On the periphery of all their lives stands Dr Jorge Van Vechten, a shadowy family friend implicated in unsavoury rumours - rumours he asks Juan to investigate instead. But as Juan draws closer to the truth, he uncovers more questions, ones his employer has not asked and would rather not answer.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

We cannot solve our problems with the same thinking we used to create them

ALBERT EINSTEIN

THE SUR IN ENGLISH CORNER

The Feast of Saint Valentine

Love and romance are in the air with the approach of Valentine's day but there are lots more events to look forward to this month such as Carnival in Malaga which lasts until February 26th. Expect flamboyant fancy dress parades and the symbolic 'burying of the anchovy'. Semana Blanca, (white week) when schoolchildren in Spain have a week off, starts on February 27th, the day before Andalucía Day (a public holiday). Andalucía Day is also

Shrove Tuesday, so don't forget to stock up on the ingredients to make the obligatory pancakes. You can now write to us and send us your photos on our new website via the 'Your News' section. Access the new portal at www.surinenglish.com and click on the 'i' symbol. Alternatively, you can email us at surinenglish.su@diariosur.es or send photos and information to us on either Twitter (@SUR_English) or Facebook (@surenglish).





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Youngsters bring Banksy to Benahavís

An afternoon of live music, face painting and pottery demonstrations last weekend as the town's Decorative & Fine Arts Society held its annual exhibition

MARBELLA. BDFAS played host to its fifth Art in Action on Sunday at the Gran Hotel Benahavís, with around 30 artists exhibiting their work.

Ceramics, artisan bags, photography and sculpture were just some of the creations on display for visitors. There was also the opportunity for audience members to get involved and chat to local writers in the Author's Corner - a new addition to the event this year - or try their hand at a Picasso-esque doodle.



RACHEL ARMSTRONG

The Young Artist's competition is always a highlight for the organisers as it provides youngsters with the chance to illustrate the lecture themes for the coming BDFAS season. This year saw students from Laude International College in San Pedro, Mayfair Academy and Swans International School Marbella take part, with British graffiti artist Banksy proving to be the most popular theme among the kids, followed by Stonehenge.

Jane Norrie, BDFAS secretary, was impressed by the quality and imagination behind the competition entries submitted by the 11 to 14 year olds. She said:

"They were very perceptive in taking on the irony and wit in Banksy's work. One girl, whom we commended, chose a different tack and produced an excellent poster-style image on the theme of Charles Rennie Macintosh."

Rod Friend, an English stained glass artist who now lives in the South of Spain was one of three



Winning artists beside a car from the F Immo Car Gallery. :: SUR

judges for the competition. He announced the winners with cash prizes donated by Walter Fischer of F Immo Car Gallery going to the top three entrants. Freya White, 11, from Swans International School scooped the first prize for her interpretation on Stonehenge

which will be printed on the front cover of the BDFAS 2017-2018 lecture programme.

Jane Norrie told SUR in English: "We had a great day; there was the usual hub of activity and excitement.

"The [Young Artist's] competi-

tion attracted a great deal of attention and we were particularly pleased that a number of students turned up to support their friends."

The BDFAS secretary revealed that the idea behind the Art in Action exhibition came back in 2013 from one of their sponsors, Terry Wayne of Blevins Franks.

"He reckoned there are a host of talented artists around and also a real interest in art among the public. He was proved right as nearly 1,000 people attended the first exhibition in the Villa Padierna."

Jane said it was so successful that the Fine Art Society decided to make it an annual event and since then they have held it in the Gran Hotel Benahavís, "as something we can give back to the village". She hailed the event, which attracts people of all ages from young children to grandparents, as a "good opportunity for dialogue between artists and their audience".

Benahavís Decorative & Fine Arts Society is a member society of NADFAS (National Association of Decorative & Fine Arts) that provides lectures and organised trips for art enthusiasts in the Marbella to Estepona region. For more information visit <http://www.benahavisdfas.com>

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