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Unstoppable Malaga set sights on a top half finish

The Blue and Whites have now won five out of the last six with Sevilla their latest scalp (4-2) **P56**



Local lawyers lead push for harsher animal abuse penalties

The process to get the law changed in Spain has been initiated in Malaga

Malaga's lawyers association and an environmental prosecutor are leading the campaign to introduce much harsher sentences in particularly serious cases of animal cruelty in Spain. A local MP and senator will set the

parliamentary wheels turning, however the process is expected to be a long one. The move follows the sentence given out in the recent Parque Animal case which was considered too lenient. **P2**



Hundreds flock to Benalnatura to get a closer look. :: S. SALAS

Washed-up platform causes a stir in Benalmádena **P4**

Plans for a sports car and kart racing complex including an indoor pool in La Cala de Mijas are being studied by the local authority **P14**

Revisiting the Costa del Sol of the 1950s. A new book reveals the experiences of an American expat child in Torremolinos **P31**



SAFE AND SOUND

The couple at the centre of a terrifying cross-border ordeal have announced they will be getting married in Torrox "very soon" **P5**

Jimena and Shaza kiss outside Torrox town hall where they gave a press conference. :: EUGENIO CABEZAS

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Local lawyers lead national campaign to bring in harsher sentences for animal cruelty in Spain

The Malaga lawyers association and a green prosecutor want a clause added to the criminal code for cases such as that of Torremolinos's Parque Animal

:: IGNACIO LILLO

MALAGA. The Malaga Colegio de Abogados - the official association of local lawyers - and environmental prosecutor, Fernando Benítez, are trying to change the law so that judges are able to impose harsher sentences in particularly serious cases of ill-treatment of animals, such as the recent one involving the Parque Animal association in Torremolinos.

The president of that association was recently given a prison sentence of three years and nine months, but only one of those years was actually for continued cruelty to domestic animals (under the previous criminal code before it was reformed). The remainder of the sentence was for falsifying documents.



The recent trial of the president of Parque Animal. :: SUR

The proposal has already been presented to Avelino Barrionuevo, a Partido Popular MP for Malaga and member of the parliamentary justice committee, and Joaquín Ramírez, also PP, who represents Malaga on Spain's Se-

nado and sits on the corresponding committee. They have agreed to start the process of trying to have the change enshrined into law.

Lawyer Rosario Monter, the coordinator of the animal-wellbeing sec-

MPs and senators from Malaga are going to start the process to get the law changed

tion of the Colegio de Abogados and president of the Tidus animal welfare federation, is involved in this project. She says they are asking for the Spanish penal code to include a new aggravated subtype in article 337. This would apply in cases of continued ill-treatment of animals, those with a large number of victims and for entities which are supposed to protect animals. In all these cases, the prosecution would be able to ask for a longer prison sentence than the present 18 months, which only applies to cases of cruelty resulting in an animal's death. The maximum sentence which would apply after the modification has yet to be determined.

"Cases such as that of the Torremolinos animal association are not isolated. They have happened elsewhere and people want severer pen-

alties to be applied. There is a greater sensitivity towards animals nowadays," said Rosario. Malaga's Colegio de Abogados plans to hold meetings with other lawyers associations in Spain and with animal welfare societies, to enlist them in the cause. "Supporters of animals have to be more united than ever to make this proposal become reality and pass the necessary legal and parliamentary processes. It means that our criminal code will show that the justice system is, in the end, fair," she said.

Complicated change

Rosario wanted to dedicate this work to Tidus, the dog from which the federation took its name, that was burned alive in Valencia in December 2012. "I will never forget him, because his ill-treatment showed in his eyes and shows in the eyes of many others, and that has to change," she added.

Ramírez said the proposal is interesting, but the process will be complicated because it requires a change to an organic law, with a qualified majority. "It won't happen immediately, but we will do what we can to get it through," he said.

The province has the highest number of registered pets in Andalucía

Most of the domestic animals on the register are dogs, including those deemed to be breeds which are potentially dangerous

:: I. LILLO

MALAGA. Animal awareness in Malaga is reflected in the official statistics. Figures from the central domestic animal register, which is managed by the Junta de Andalucía, show that 46,173 pets were registered in Malaga in 2016, the highest in the region, followed by Seville and Cadiz. In Andalucía as a whole, 205,857 were registered, so nearly a quarter (22.5

per cent) were in Malaga.

There are about 3,800 new entries a month in Malaga. Of the total last year, 39,748 were dogs (2,208 considered potentially dangerous breeds), 6,145 were cats, 139 ferrets and 141 other species. During 2016, 14,131 animals were taken off the register. The total number of pets on the register is 549,195, which is an increase of nearly 10 per cent compared with

ANIMAL REGISTRATIONS

▶ **Malaga province (2016):** 46,173 new entries, nearly a quarter (22.5%) of all those in Andalucía.

▶ **Dogs (2016):** 39,748, of which 2,208 were potentially dangerous breeds.

▶ **Cats (2016):** 6,145.

▶ **Ferrets (2016):** 139.

▶ **Malaga province (total):** 549,195 pets were registered, nearly 10 per cent more than in 2015.

2015. The vast majority are dogs.

It is obligatory for owners to register their pets, as this enables the authorities to put preventive or urgent sanitary measures in place in case of illness which can be passed to humans and other animals, and makes it easier to recover pets which have been lost or stolen, and to intervene in cases of cruelty.

Register

Of all the registered dogs, 14,001 (2.8 per cent of the total) are potentially dangerous. This means they are of a breed which, because of its aggressive character, size or powerful jaw, could cause injury to humans.



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Number of planned new homes on coast shoots up by over 250 per cent in a year

In Malaga province overall, the figures have more than doubled in the first three months of this year, although inland areas are showing sluggish growth

:: JESÚS HINOJOSA

MALAGA. The Costa's real estate sector has got off to a strong start this year, new data shows.

In figures released this week by the Colegio Oficial de Arquitectos - the official body in Malaga that certifies architects' plans for new buildings - its experts approved 1,397 new flats or houses in Malaga province from January to March. This was an increase of 121 per cent on the same period in 2016.

The biggest rise in architects' plans presented for approval has come from the coastal resort areas. On the western Costa del Sol, covering areas such as Fuengirola, Estepona and Marbella - where the town is still waiting for a new master town plan to speed up planning decisions - 589 new homes were planned in the first quarter of this year. This is an increase of 250 per cent on January to March last year.

The recent recovery reported on the western side of the Costa appears to have now spread eastwards. Here the number of new homes that got the architects' seal of approval rose from 69 in the first quarter of 2016 to 252 in the first quarter of this year, an increase of 265 per cent.

Inland Malaga has seen no growth in new projects, with only 45 new homes having their architectural plans approved in the first quarter of this year.

The value of architects' projects approved by the Colegio de Arquitectos in January to March was 419 million euros. Notably, only ten of the properties planned in the whole province are destined for social housing.



Plans for 1,397 new homes were approved between January and March. :: SUR

For the head of the Malaga developers and builders association, Violeta Aragón, the increase in the figures is "very positive". "We're seeing an upward trend. It's slow, but it's something at least," explained Aragón, also highlighting that the growth had reached the eastern coast. Here 235 new homes have been certified in Rincón de la Victoria alone in four different projects. "We just need this increase to spread into the inland parts of the province," she continued.

Spare homes running out

According to the constructors' association, the stock of available, empty housing built before the 2008 financial crisis is running out, spurring new projects into life.

The head of the Colegio de Arquitectos, which prepared the report, Francisco Sarabia, said he was "mildly satisfied" with the figures but thought it unlikely that there would be such strong percentage growth next year. He also urged the Junta de Andalucía to move to reform regional planning law to speed up the building of new homes.

APPROVED HOMES, 1ST QUARTER

Number of homes Source: Colegio de Arquitectos de Málaga

MUNICIPALITY	2016	2017	% CHANGE
MALAGA CITY	254	376	+48
Torremolinos	-	1	-
Benalmádena	14	4	-71
Fuengirola	2	127	+6250
Mijas	100	100	-
Marbella	46	52	+13
Estepona	4	238	+5850
Manilva	2	67	+3250
WEST COSTA DEL SOL	168	589	+250
Rincón de la V.	30	235	+683
Vélez-Málaga	30	4	-86
Torrox	3	4	+33
Nerja	6	9	+50
EAST COSTA DEL SOL	69	252	+265
Antequera	4	8	+100
Campillos	1	-	-
Cártama	-	4	-
Pízarra	-	1	-
Alora	1	-	-
Coín	2	2	-
Ronda	24	14	-41
Alh. de la Torre	12	11	-8
Alh. El Grande	1	-	-
Archidona	-	3	-
INLAND	45	43	-4
REST	95	137	+44
MALAGA PROVINCE TOTAL	631	1,397	+121

Marbella train line should be top priority for Spain says influential association

:: IGNACIO LILLO

MALAGA. The association of Spanish construction companies and infrastructure operators, Seopan, has placed the long-hoped-for train line extension from Fuengirola to Marbella at the top of a list of the most urgent infrastructure projects in Spain.

The positive evaluation is a big boost to local people's campaigns to have the national government allocate a budget for the extension to the Malaga coastal railway.

Two separate studies conducted with the association's support have said that the construction of the line would mean cost savings of 295 million euros a year, in terms of reduced travelling times for users.

This places the scheme at the top of a list of 814 infrastructure projects that would bring public benefits. Other priorities include suburban rail improvements in Madrid and Barcelona and work on Madrid's M-50 outer ring road.

Business leaders and associations on the Costa are increasingly lobbying for the Marbella line.



The existing Malaga line. :: SUR

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Huge storm forces floating industrial platform aground in Benalmádena

The twenty-metre-high structure washed up in a nudist cove after the tow boat lost control in gale-force winds

:: IGNACIO LILLO / ALBERTO GÓMEZ / ÁLVARO FRÍAS

BENALMÁDENA. Benalmádena residents were greeted with an unusual sight on Friday afternoon after the inclement weather caused a floating industrial platform to wash up close to Benalnatura nudist beach.

The platform, 43 metres in length and 32 metres wide, was being towed from Cartagena towards Cadiz. However, the rough seas and gale-force winds saw the steel cables used for towing to break, and control of the structure to be lost.

The Portuguese towing boat reported needing assistance at 11.36am. Despite a number of boats being scrambled by Maritime Rescue to assist, none were able to steer the platform away, instead controlling its movements until it finally washed up on rocks in the



Intrigued onlookers flocked in high numbers to Benalnatura beach to catch a glimpse. :: SALVADOR SALAS

cove at 2.18pm.

There was no crew aboard the platform at the time, which is carrying machinery used for installing concrete blocks in docks.

It has also been confirmed that

it is carrying minimal fuel and it poses no risk to either human life or the environment.

A real scare

Miguel Nevado, owner of the beach's

only 'chiringuito', admitted that for several minutes he feared the worst - that the platform was going to collide with his beach bar. "It would have been terrible," he said.

At the same time, workers at the

nearby Puerto Marina were anxious after being warned that a collision there was a possibility.

Internet sensation

Mayor of Benalmádena, Víctor Navas, said that he hoped that the structure would be removed "as soon as possible to avoid any damage to the town's image".

However, the presence of a twenty-metre-tall structure in the small nudist cove naturally caused a huge commotion in the local area, with hundreds flocking to the beach to witness it first hand, despite initial uncertainty as to whether it was a threat to public safety.

Quickly, more than 20 media outlets, (some of which were international), were present at the scene and the incident captured the imagination of those on social media, with the town becoming a trending topic on Twitter and the platform the subject of several memes.

Increased security

Despite a cordon on the surrounding area, onlookers continue to defy the authorities, as well as "no photos" and "nudists only" signs, to catch a closer look.

On Sunday morning, one man, equipped with a selfie stick, mounted the platform and climbed one of its towers to take a photo of himself. If identified, the man faces a fine.

This incident intensified calls for greater controls to keep onlookers at bay while solutions are found.

The platform is expected to be removed next week.

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Star-crossed lovers get their happy ending



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Jimena Rico's and Shaza Ismail's terrifying Middle Eastern ordeal is over and they will get married "very soon"

TORROX. An epic journey across three countries, fleeing discrimination for their sexual orientation, will have a happy ending. Hispano-Argentinian María Jimena Rico, 28, and Egyptian Shaza Ismail, 21, will be getting married "very soon" in Torrox, the town where the former moved in 2001, and where her father Francisco, 69, is from.

The pair are already planning the big day and say they wouldn't mind if the town's mayor, Óscar Medina (PP), officiated. Medina welcomed them to the town hall on Tuesday and accompanied them to a press conference where they gave details of the ordeal they faced.

"Every second, something new came up; a new emotion, a new fear," said Jimena Rico who was advised not to disclose every detail given that Shaza's legal situation in Spain still needed to be resolved.

The whole episode began on 14 April when the couple flew from London, where they lived, to Dubai, where they had been tricked



The couple flanked by family members and council members at Torrox town hall. :: E. CABEZAS

into going by Shaza's father who said that her mother was ill. It proved to be a rouse as he had reported their relationship to the authorities - in a country where homosexuality is punishable by 14 years in prison.

When they felt their life "was in danger", they fled to Georgia where they had friends.

After staying there for three days, they were about to catch a flight back to London when Shaza's father intercepted them at Tiflis airport. "He faked having a heart attack, de-

stroyed our documentation and threatened to kill us," she said.

After this altercation, in which the police intervened, Shaza's father was arrested and the couple were escorted to the border with Turkey, where they entered "legally" having secured replacement documents.

Despite this, though, they were detained as "suspected members of ISIS", something the couple suspect was the doing of Shaza's father's lawyer. What's more, they were required to sign a document, in Turk-

ish, which would relinquish their right to consular assistance.

They were detained for three days - the first two without being given anything to eat - and on being transferred, Jimena Rico got hold of a phone and raised the alarm with her family. This is when the search began, "because up until that point, Turkey had denied that they were in the country," she said.

"The worst moment was when they separated us and they made Shaza believe that I had gone and left her there," she said, adding: "I

The couple have filed a complaint over their mistreatment by the Turkish authorities

"Every second, something new came up; a new emotion, a new fear"

would never have left without her because if I had, she would never have got out of there."

The level of distrust that was created meant that even when they were at the airport to be deported, they didn't believe it would actually happen.

For her part, Shaza Ismail confessed that she expected her parents' reaction "to a certain extent" because they are very religious people, but also hoped that "with time they will come to accept it".

She was less forgiving about the treatment they received in Turkey, however, calling it "unexpected, inhumane and horrible". The couple have officially filed a complaint over their mistreatment at the hands of the Turkish authorities.

Asked whether she thought their story would have any repercussions in the Arab world, Jimena Rico said that she hoped it would help "a lot of people who live in repression because of their sexuality".

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IN BRIEF

'Gestor' arrested for scamming clients

MALAGA

•• **SUR.** The National Police have arrested the head of a 'gestoría' (administration consultancy) in Estepona for allegedly defrauding three customers of more than 10,500 euros.

The adviser carried out services such as processing tax returns and once he had gained their trust, retained funds transferred to him, leaving their debts unpaid and writing cheques from bank accounts with insufficient funds to pay them back.

Charity loses power back-up in break-in

ESTEPONA

•• **SUR.** Staff and volunteers at the ADANA animal shelter in Estepona's Parque de los Pedregales arrived at the shelter on Monday morning to find that during the night thieves had broken into the compound and stolen equipment, including a portable generator and an extension cable.

President Mary Page appealed to anyone who might have information that could help to recover these items to get in touch with the Estepona police.



SUR editor-in-chief Manuel Castillo speaks during Wednesday's seminar. •• **ÁLVARO CABRERA**

Forum underlines continuing struggle for equality in the workplace

Les Roches, in partnership with SUR, organised a seminar in which leading female businesswomen outlined where progress needs to be made

•• **CHARO MÁRQUEZ**

MARBELLA. Les Roches hospitality college in Marbella played host

to a seminar led by SUR on Wednesday in which the role of women in leadership was the focus of debate.

The all-female panel was made up of Rosa del Mar Rodríguez, coordinator of the Andalusian Institute for Women in Malaga; María Paz Hurtado, president and founder of Hutesa; Brita Hektoen, chair for Women and Business at the San Telmo International Institute; and Tamara Cordero, director of Hotel

Meliá Marbella Banús.

The discussion, chaired by SUR journalist Ana Pérez-Bryan, covered various themes, from the style of leadership shown by women to the challenges still faced in achieving equality throughout business.

There was agreement across the floor that changes needed to be made to work patterns, with less focus on physical attendance, and more consideration for family time.

British man with 345,000 euros in his car detained for suspected money laundering•• **EFE**

MIJAS. A British national, resident in Gibraltar, has been arrested by the Guardia Civil on suspicion of money laundering and attempted bribery after 345,000 euros in cash was found in the vehicle he was driving in the Mijas area.

The arrest took place several days ago when officers were carrying out routine checks in Riviera del Sol, Mijas. They stopped the car, which was occupied by the arrested man, identified by the initials S. M. L., and two others, one Spanish and the other British.

According to a statement released by the Guardia Civil, 345,100 euros in cash was found in the boot of the car, a sum that the man claimed was to pay for a property in the area. He was unable to prove the origin of the money.

When he realised that he was going to be arrested, "he tried on repeated occasions to bribe the Guardia Civil officers," said the statement, and was detained for suspected money laundering and attempted bribery. The cash and the vehicle were confiscated.

Severe blow dealt to large drug-trafficking network•• **M. D. TORTOSA**

SEVILLE. The National Police have inflicted a major blow to drug traffickers in the Campo de Gibraltar area after arresting 30 members of the notorious 'Los Castañas' gang, which has an extensive network of collaborators across Andalucía and Morocco.

Working in collaboration with Moroccan police, officers were able to arrest the individuals, including one in Rabat, as well as seizing a

tonne of hashish, 350,000 euros in cash, 16 vehicles, three boats, various firearms and 17 properties to the value of three million euros, as well as block 24 bank accounts linked to money laundering.

The investigation, ongoing since 2015, also found that the gang would bribe families without a previous criminal history with cars and houses if they would cooperate with hiding the drugs.



Boats used for trafficking seized by police in Cadiz. •• **RAGEL.EFE**

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Light aircraft crash in Axarquía leaves three German occupants dead

An inquiry has begun into the reasons behind the accident, which killed the pilot and two passengers on impact in the Sierra Tejada area

SUR

MÁLAGA. The second fatal light aircraft crash so far this year in the Axarquía area happened last Saturday afternoon.

An investigation has been launched into the reasons behind the accident, after a married couple in their 60s and a 45 year old woman, who were participating in an air rally to Morocco, are believed to have died instantly as the aircraft crashed in the Los Pradillos area of Sierra Tejada.

The plane's occupants began the rally in Germany, their native country, with six other light aircraft, and headed to the south of France in the first phase of the rally.

Granada airport was the destination of the second stage. After stopping off at Alicante, the aircraft returned to the sky for the last stretch of its journey along the coast.

However, at around 4.30pm, af-



The light aircraft was completely destroyed. :: JOSÉ LUIS ROMERO

ter the pilot had begun a descent into Granada over Nerja, the air traffic control centre that was tracking the flight lost contact with the aircraft before it had reached Granada.

After it emerged that the aircraft had not landed at any of the airfields in Granada province, air traffic control informed the emergency services at 8pm.

The destroyed aircraft was found by a Guardia Civil helicopter at an

altitude of 1,600 metres in very rough terrain later that day. However, due to thick fog and ground conditions, Guardia Civil officers were unable to retrieve the bodies of the three onboard until the following morning.

The bodies are now undergoing a post-mortem and civil aviation authorities are working in conjunction with the Guardia Civil in an investigation to discover the exact reasons for the crash.

112 REPORTS



The hotel was back to normal very quickly. :: J.-L.

Fire in hotel sauna sees 300 guests evacuated

MARBELLA

NIEVES CASTRO. The sauna of four-star Hotel Iberostar Marbella Coral Beach was set alight on Sunday, forcing the evacuation of up to 300 guests.

Fortunately, 11 firefighters were able to stop the fire spreading, extinguishing it within 30 minutes and all guests were able to return to the hotel completely unharmed.

The cause of the fire has not yet been uncovered and the hotel has refused to make any comment in relation to the incident.

Woman injured at Fuengirola hotel

FUENGIROLA

SUR. A woman's leg was injured at a hotel in Fuengirola last weekend after part of an overhead balcony came away and fell on her. Emergency services were called as the woman needed medical attention. The area was cordoned off while firefighters made it safe again.

Brit wanted by Marbella court is arrested

LAS PALMAS

EUROPA PRESS. The National Police have arrested a 50-year-old British man, wanted for assaulting a Marbella judge, at Gran Canaria airport. The man was identified after his passport was checked as he tried to board a flight to Gambia. He is now in custody awaiting trial.

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Restful sleep is vital. When we don't rest properly because of respiratory problems, our health can be seriously affected and so can our quality of life.

According to the Spanish Society of Pneumology and Thoracic Surgery (SEPAR), 25 per cent of the adult population and six per cent of Spanish children may be affected by sleep apnea. It can be prevented by losing weight, eating a balanced diet, avoiding alcohol and tobacco, and with physical exercise.

Local boy lands starring role in new Billy Elliot musical

The 11-year-old actor from Benjarafe is now rehearsing for the show that will run at the Alcalá theatre in Madrid

|| EUGENIO CABEZAS

VÉLEZ-MÁLAGA. A young actor from Benjarafe has secured the leading role in Billy Elliot the musical, which will premiere in Madrid in October.

Eleven-year-old Cristian López Zamanillo, who lives with his mum, 34-year-old Soraya Zamanillo and grandmother, Arganda del Rey, had been playing the part of the young Simba in Madrid's The Lion King, but had to give up the role as he got older and his voice changed.

He is now preparing to be Billy Elliot, the character played by Jamie Bell in the 2000 film set in Newcastle during the miners' strike in the 1980s. The young Billy Elliot achieves his ambition of becoming a professional ballerina with a London dance academy, despite the odds.

Cristian says that he is, "very excited" about landing the role, for which he is rehearsing four hours a day from Monday to Friday and says that some of the steps are "very complicated" and need to be "very polished".

The young actor likes the "rebelliousness" of the character he will be playing, as well as his "will power" which sends out the message that "if you resolve to do something you can achieve it without worrying what others say."

Cristian was trained in Malaga at the Escuela de Artes Escénicas ESAEM, but sees his future in Madrid "where the big musicals are".

Peter Darling's original film choreography is being used for this Spanish version of the show, for which tickets are already on sale.

The first performance will be in the Alcalá theatre in the Spanish capital on 5 October. Producers say that the theatre has had to undergo works to accommodate the show and therefore Billy Elliot is expected to run there for several years and will not be going on tour around the country.



Cristian on the promenade at Benjarafe during Easter Week. || E. C.

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Dogs get top marks in schools for helping children with the 'three Rs'

|| EUGENIO CABEZAS

RINCÓN DE LA VICTORIA. Alicia Martín Cruz and two of her three dogs, eight-year-old Lima and nine-year-old India, help children and adults in the Axarquía region to overcome difficulties with reading, writing, maths and general emotional development.

Schools and centres in both Rincón de la Victoria and Colmenar, as well as Malaga city, have benefited from the service that the trio provides.

Alicia, who has a Masters degree in animal assisted therapy, started her business, CanUman, five years ago. "Lima is a calmer dog so she helps with the indoor sessions, while India is a more agile and active dog, so she helps out with games and mobility," she says.

The therapist explains that it is scientifically proven that when a



Each session lasts for about one hour. || EUGENIO CABEZAS

child is with an animal, the child is more relaxed and more likely to be interested in reading.

It reduces stress and lowers the heart rate. "Learning to read tends to be stressful for children and when we play games with Lima they are more relaxed and motivated. "I tell them a story and she forms part of it," Alicia says.

Development aid

The Virgen de la Candelaria primary school in Colmenar and a residence for elderly people in Rincón de la Victoria have reported great success and improvements in the children's and residents' development respectively, as has the Caracola school in Malaga city.

Alicia admits that she got the idea for her assisted therapy sessions from her own experience with dyslexia.

"I found it really difficult to enjoy words and be able to show that I was an intelligent person. I had certain difficulties, but I beat them," she said, adding, "Dogs give emotional support; they give a lot of love."

HERE AND THERE

Man arrested in petrol bomb incident

VÉLEZ-MÁLAGA

|| **A. C.** Police have arrested a middle-aged Spanish man who they believe ran from the San Francisco church in Vélez-Málaga's old town after allegedly throwing a Molotov cocktail at an image of Our Lady of the Abandoned. Friar Isidore, who was in the church just before midday on Tuesday, said he "went outside after hearing a noise to see a young person running away from the church". Sources say petrol seeped into the image but there was no explosion.

New health centre to open early next week

TORRE DE BENAGALBÓN

|| **E. C.** The new doctors' surgery in Torre de Benagalbón, which belongs to Rincón de la Victoria, will start operating from Monday 8 May, according to the government's equality, social services and health representatives, José Luis Ruiz Espejo and Ana Isabel González, who visited the centre earlier this week. Some 600 patients, previously using the Rincón de la Victoria surgery, have so far registered at the new facility, which is one of 24 new health centres to be opened in Andalucía since 2008.

Alcohol test councillor readmitted to PSOE

VÉLEZ-MÁLAGA

|| **A. P.** The Vélez-Málaga councillor expelled from the Ciudadanos party in 2015 for testing positive during a breath test has now joined the PSOE party at Vélez-Málaga town hall, giving the PSOE, PA and GIPMTM coalition an overall majority. This is the second time that José Antonio Moreno Ocón has joined the tripartite administration, having been forced out after doing so last August. Opposition spokesperson, Francisco Delgado Bonilla, has said that he plans to, "take the case to the anti-defection commission."

Promenade protest signatures reach 6,000

TORRE DE BENAGALBÓN

|| **SUR.** The residents group, Plataforma Lirios de Mar, which is campaigning against the construction of a promenade in Torre de Benagalbón, took advantage of the Labour Day bank holiday to collect more signatures against the plan. They have so far got 6,000 names on the petition through Change.org and say that the recent spell of bad weather and high tides has proved that "a natural beach like that regenerates itself within hours without the need for intervention with bricks."

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La Zagaleta expects just ten luxury homes to be built each year until 2035

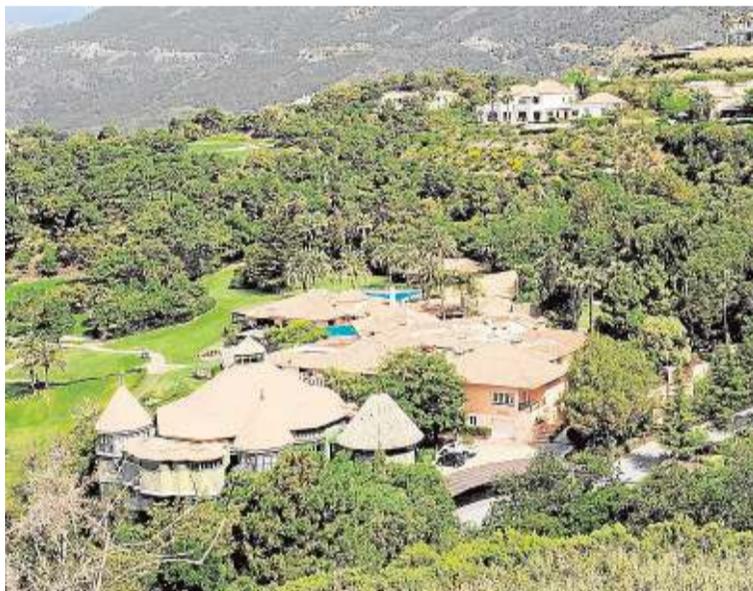
The Costa's most exclusive estate is reviewing its business model in order to adapt to changing buyers' needs, including using new technology

:: **HÉCTOR BARBOTA**

MARBELLA. Just ten houses per year are expected to be built up to 2035 on the La Zagaleta residential estate, near Benahavís, explained the head of business development at the company that owns La Zagaleta, Ignacio Pérez Díaz.

The estate is considered to be the most luxurious in Europe, comprising 900 hectares of land. Properties in the area usually change hands at between five and 25 million euros each. However, only 240 of the 420 available plots for houses have been built on since the estate's creation in 1991.

Pérez Díaz explained that the company is currently working on refreshing its business model to attract a new generation of wealthy property buyers, including adding technological innovation to what



Some of the villas that make up the high-class estate. :: J.-L.

is already on offer.

Speaking to SUR, he said that despite 20 per cent of the market that the company works with being British, Brexit will not have a negative influence on business. Instead, he said that the political uncertainty in Spain last year had had more of a downward impact in sales.

Despite the high purchasing power of potential clients, the recent world

financial crisis also had a big negative effect on the market and sales dropped for a while before eventually rising again in recent years.

In 2016, the company purchased the Valderrama housing development, near Sotogrande, and adjoining land for 40 million euros, which they plan to develop in the same fashion as La Zagaleta over the next ten years.

HERE AND THERE



Drivers want a solution to Marbella's road chaos. :: J.-L.

Road accidents and tailbacks mar May Day

MARBELLA

:: **MÓNICA PÉREZ.** Taxi drivers, transport companies and private motorists have urged the authorities to reach an agreement to solve the fresh wave of traffic jams hitting Marbella at the start of the tour-

ist season.

Four accidents on the A-7 around Marbella on the last day of the May Day long weekend caused lengthy tailbacks at different points this week. In the morning, an accident in the Elviria area caused queues of seven kilometres and in the afternoon, three more bumps added to the chaos. Drivers want access roads from the A-7 to be improved.

Six million euros for new athletics stadium

ESTEPONA

:: **L. PAVÓN.** Estepona town council has awarded the 6.1-million-euro contract for a new athletics stadium in the municipality.

This is the second attempt to award the contract, after the council was forced to increase the construction budget. The stadium will be built to the north of the town.

Eleven sea scum boats for western Costa

MARBELLA

:: **SUR.** The association of local councils on the western Costa del Sol, (Mancomunidad de Municipios), has announced that a total of eleven boats will be used along the beaches in the areas it covers this summer to remove floating debris and scum from the sea to improve water quality for swimmers.

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Private firm submits plans for kart and sports car racing complex in Mijas



IVÁN GELIBTER

✉ Twitter: @IvanGelibter

MIJAS

The proposal, affecting land in La Cala, includes the construction of a semi-Olympic-sized indoor pool paid for by the contract holders

A private firm's proposal could lead to Mijas becoming home to a motor racing circuit. Land in La Cala has been earmarked for the venture which would involve the construction of circuits, pits and spectator



A computer-generated image of the project, which includes two racing circuits. :: SUR

stands, as well as a semi-Olympic-sized swimming pool in order to meet local residents' demands.

According to sources connected

with the project, the so-called 'Ciudad del Motor', (Motor City), would be built in La Cala on 200,000 square metres of land.

The idea has already been submitted to the town hall, which has started a consultation process to gauge the opinion of local residents,

a step that municipal sources say is "essential" to getting project approval.

The construction of the racing complex would cost around four million euros, while the indoor 25-metre pool would cost 1.4 million euros. According to the study, the racing complex and the pool would create 25 jobs and boost business activity in the area.

The complex would be used for activities similar to the Ascari circuit in Ronda. It would include a track for GT motor racing and a karting circuit four kilometres long, the longest in the province, as well as pit facilities and spectator stands. This would enable the complex to host commercial launches of vehicles and prototype tests on an international level.

The construction of the swimming pool by the firm with the contract to build the racing complex will save the town hall a "considerable expense" said sources, referring to repeated demands from local people for a pool facility.

No fixed dates have been provided but the development firm already has the full plans drawn up and is waiting for the next step in the process to award the contract.

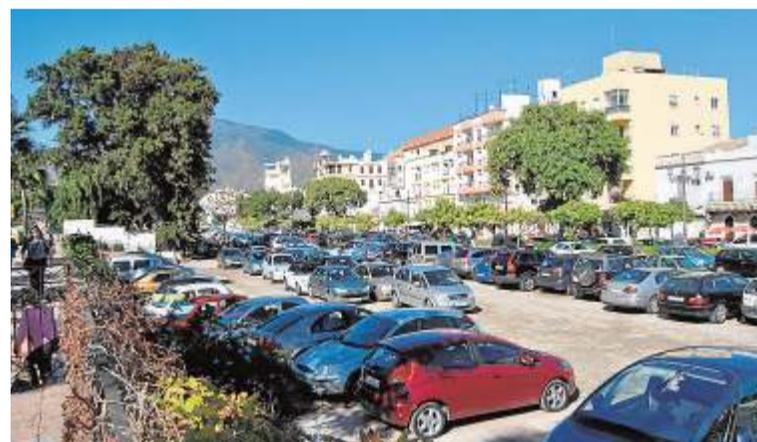
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THREE THOUSAND PARTICIPANTS IN MAY DAY RALLY

The traditional May Day march in Malaga organised by two major trade unions saw a turnout of around 3,000 people. They demanded "stable jobs, fairer wages, worthwhile pensions and better social protection for the working class" in light of the country's economic recovery.

:: NITO SALAS



The temporary parking area will get proper road markings. :: L. PAVÓN

Car park to be surfaced as wait continues for boulevard decision

:: LEANDRO PAVÓN

ESTEPONA. The town council in Estepona is to tarmac the land currently used as a car park in the Avenida San Lorenzo area of Estepona. The local authority is still waiting for approval from the regional government for its plans to turn the area into a new boulevard, a project that stalled in February 2014.

The project includes knocking down trade union and school buildings and new construction. However, the controversial height of one of the new buildings is causing a delay.

The council will also paint markings to ensure smooth movement of traffic on the land where they still hope to build the boulevard.

Club Med to reopen Marbella's landmark Don Miguel Hotel in 2019

Arab investors, who bought the 466-room hotel in 2013, have partnered with the French luxury family holiday operator, who will now rename the property

:: MÓNICA PÉREZ

MARBELLA. One of Marbella's original hotels from the 1970s is set for a 70-million renovation after being closed for over ten years.

The Hotel Don Miguel, behind the resort's old town near the bus station, is set to reopen in 2019 after Arab investors, who bought the abandoned property in 2013 under the name Magna Hotels & Resorts, reached a deal with top French hotel operator, Club Med.

Club Med specialises in high-end all-inclusive family holidays and is ironically the same brand that op-



The Don Miguel first opened in 1975 near the town. :: JOSELE-LANZA

erated the hotel until 2000, before eventually pulling out of the country. The hotel will now be renamed.

The reopening will mark Club Med's return to Spain, explained the operator's project director, Gregory Lanter at a presentation in front of Marbella's mayor José Bernal on

Wednesday.

Magna Hotels invited 23 different operators to bid for the running of their empty property before finally choosing Club Med. A full refurbishment will soon get under way and the opening will create some 300 new jobs.



The Pez Espada Hotel was an icon in Torremolinos' heyday. :: A. G.

Residents' outrage over new wing on listed historic hotel

:: ALBERTO GÓMEZ

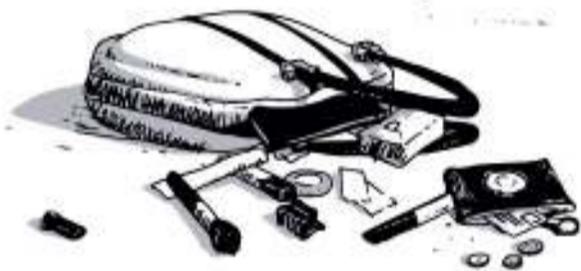
TORREMOLINOS. The Asociación Ciudadana para la Defensa de Torremolinos, a residents' action group, has started a legal challenge against a new extension on the resort's Pez Espada Hotel.

They claim that the six-storey wing of suites damages views of the

listed property from the southeast.

The iconic hotel was seen as a pioneer of luxury tourism on the Costa del Sol when it opened in 1959.

Owners Med Playa say that they have all the necessary planning permission, claiming they were always sensitive about its special status.



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Atalaya Park will become part of Meliá group next year after 18-million refit

:: PILAR MARTÍNEZ

ESTEPONA. The Meliá hotel group will take over the running of the Atalaya Park Hotel, located between Estepona and Marbella, from next year.

The group will invest 18 million euros in refitting the building and will operate the hotel under its Sol by Meliá brand.

It will have 468 bedrooms, six restaurants and bars as well other facilities including a golf practice range. With the country's tourism sector reporting another record year so far in 2017, it marks continued expansion for the group in its Spanish base.

Speaking about Estepona, a Meliá statement said, "This is one of the most popular destinations in the Mediterranean... the area offers real variety for tourists and is also a golf-lover's paradise."

Freedom of the Seas enters Med for first time on busy day in Malaga's port

The huge vessel was one of four cruise ships that docked in the Costa del Sol capital on Thursday, bringing with them a total of 10,500 passengers

:: PILAR MARTÍNEZ

MALAGA. The cruise ship Freedom of the Seas, one of the giants in the fleet of cruise-operators Royal Caribbean, was in Malaga yesterday [Thursday] after crossing the Atlantic and reaching the Mediterranean for the first time.

The ship, which has space for 4,300 passengers, was launched in 2006 and until now has operated cruise routes around the Caribbean. This summer it will be based in Barcelona where it will sail week-long routes around the western Med. It will return to Malaga in October when it sails back to the Caribbean again for the win-



The ship's large swimming pool deck during its stop in Malaga :: F. G.

ter season.

Speaking on board the ship, president of Malaga's port authority, Paulino Plata, explained that in 2017 Royal Caribbean would dock its ships 16 times in Malaga, showing the city to be the link point on an Atlantic-Mediterranean axis.

Four cruise ships were in Malaga yesterday bringing with them some 10,500 passengers on a visit to the capital of the Costa del Sol. Plata also explained that, over the spring, "passenger movements will increase 48 per cent on the same time last year, thanks also to Thomson and Pullmantur choosing Malaga as a home port".

Tesla to increase the number of charging points for electric cars after rise in demand

:: MÓNICA PÉREZ

MARBELLA. American car company Tesla has increased the number of charging points for their electric cars on the Costa del Sol. The company now has six stations in Malaga province, including four in hotels in Marbella, while the other two are situated at Malaga's Hotel Vincci Posada del Patio and the city's car museum.

Hotels across the province are looking to improve services they offer with regards to electric cars, with demand increasing all the time. As part of a plan to expand in Spain, the company is looking to create a private network of electric supply points all over the country and reduce waiting times.

Tesla also confirmed to SUR that they are working on installing a 'supercharger' in the Antequera area.



MARK NAYLER
markanayler@gmail.com

THE EURO ZONE

READ WITH CAUTION

For the Spanish economists I wrote about here last week, the phrase “official statistics” is little more than a synonym for “invented statistics” when it applies to Spain’s economy. They will therefore be deeply sceptical of the latest “official” indicator of Spain’s economic health - namely that in the first quarter of 2017, the country’s GDP expanded by 0.8%, up 0.1% from most predictions for the period. Yet the furious letter these economists sent to the EU recently is not the only reason why we should read such figures with caution.

Miniscule macroeconomic differences like this mean absolutely

nothing for the vast majority of Spaniards. This is not just because GDP expansion of 0.1% is so small that it won’t register in Spanish households; it’s also because the real problem for the Spanish economy is unemployment - a problem for which the solution is still a work in progress, if that.

The 2017 Q1 growth statistic came out at the same time as data showing that Spain’s unemployment level rose slightly in the same period and is now about 18.8% - a slight increase from the end of 2016. Though you could say that this, too, is a fairly small increase, it translates into real, tangible effects for hundreds of thousands of work-

ing Spaniards.

The fact that this year’s late Easter fell outside the first quarter - and not boosting the Q1 figures with holiday jobs - highlights the key problem for the Spanish labour market: temporary contracts. Recent data from Spain’s Ministry of Labour shows that the number of workers who sign more than ten employment contracts every year increased from 150,000 in 2012 to 270,000 in 2016. Healthy GDP statistics divert attention from a labour market beset by insecurity.

The Q1 growth figures also fail to speak of the danger of further political uncertainty in Spain. This week’s parliamentary debate over the government’s proposed 2017 budget highlighted the difficulties Mariano Rajoy has in leading a minority administration. If Pedro Sánchez takes back leadership of the Socialists later this month, the PP veteran’s problems will only get worse. And if Spanish politicians once again turn to squabbling among themselves then Spain’s unemployment problem will wait even longer for a lasting solution.

Biggest ever drop in unemployment in April

Spain saw a 129,281 fall in registered jobless last month, according to data from government employment offices across the country

■ SUR

MADRID. Data released on Thursday by the Spanish employment ministry showed a record fall in the number of registered unemployed across the country in April.

The number of registered unemployed fell in Spain by 129,281 in April to 3,573,036. Compared to April last year, the figure is down by 438,135.

A late Easter this year, combined with the start of the main tourist season, caused a big rise in the number of jobs in the hotel, catering and tourism sectors.

Adjusting for seasonal differ-

ences and the change in Easter, the monthly fall was 70,777.

On a regional level, in Andalucía, the number of registered unemployed fell by almost 34,000 people in April, leaving the total at 852,182.

Within Malaga and the Costa del Sol, there were 7,452 registered unemployed fewer, a drop of 4.52 per cent on the previous month, bringing the total unemployed to 157,582. Most of this fall was in the services and tourism sectors.

The monthly figures released this week differ from the government statistics institute’s quarterly active population survey (EPA). The employment ministry data is based on figures from the ministry’s employment offices, while the EPA data, used by the EU, is based on a national questionnaire. Typically the quarterly EPA survey shows higher unemployment levels and its April data will be released in July.

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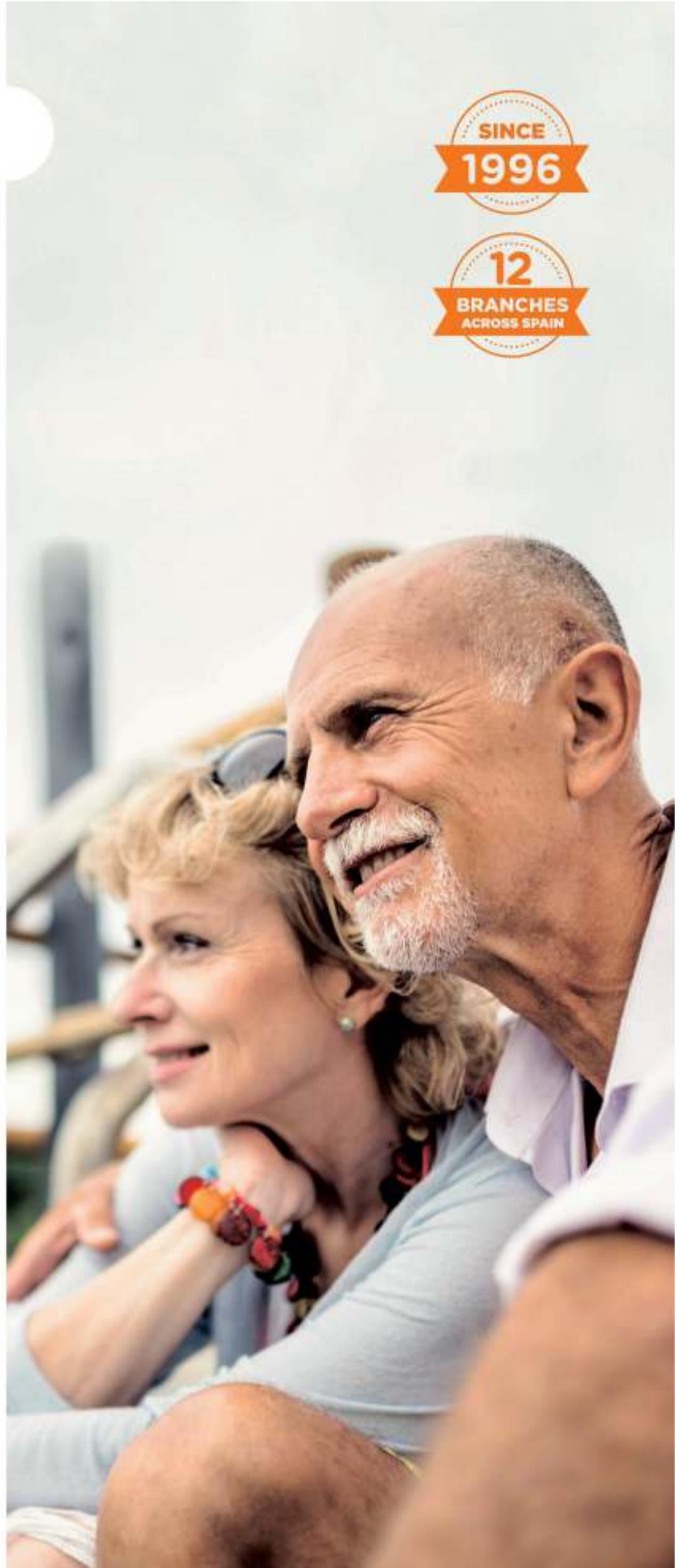
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Eligible voters urged to register despite 'votes for life' setback

Britons living abroad and Europeans living in the UK are suffering prolonged uncertainty while the snap election focuses on negotiations

by JENNIE RHODES

MALAGA. With just a month to go before the UK's snap election on 8 June, Britons on the Costa del Sol who are still eligible to vote are being reminded to register to do so before 22 May.

The organisation Bremain in Spain has put together a fact sheet with links on its website (www.bremaininspain.com).

The group is one of many representing Britons living in EU countries that have complained at the current Conservative government's failure to bring in the 'votes for life' bill, which previous prime minister, David Cameron, made as an election promise in 2015.

Under current UK law, any Briton who has lived outside of the country for over 15 years is unable to vote in general elections or a referendum, an issue which led to thousands of disaffected Britons not being able to vote in last June's in-out ballot.

No time for votes for life

Bremain in Spain said this week, "The prime minister has called a general election on a date that disables people who have lived overseas for over 15 years from voting, despite the Tories' 2015 manifesto promises to provide 'votes for life' in subsequent elections." The organisation added that June 8 "does not allow enough time to enable votes for life through an Act of Parliament".

In the Queen's speech to Parliament on 27 May 2015, reference was made to the Votes for Life Bill,



May on Wednesday. :: REUTERS

in which the Queen said the bill would "scrap the current 15-year time limit on the voting rights of British citizens living overseas for UK parliamentary and European parliamentary elections, including provisions relating to the registration of overseas electors".

However, with a change of prime minister and Brexit top of the agenda since this manifesto, the bill has not been passed, once again leaving thousands without a voice in what some say is the most important general election for Britons living abroad in many years.

Bremain in Spain member Mar-

garet King told the group, "All British citizens, including those who live outside the UK, were promised votes for life before the next general election. We now have a general election looming and still no votes for us. This election will culminate in the decision to leave the EU, or not, and will affect those of us living in the EU as much as anybody living in the UK. I want my vote that was promised."

Brexit theme

Brexit remains at the core of June's general election, with politicians from all parties using it in their campaigns. In a speech given outside 10 Downing Street on Wednesday, prime minister Theresa May accused European officials of "hardening" their stance on a Brexit deal and spoke of "threats" by European politicians, which she believes have been timed to "influence the polls."

Using words which chimed with those used by David Cameron before the 2016 referendum, she addressed voters saying, "The choice you now face is all about the future," referring to the winning party's responsibility to get the best deal out of Brexit for "this United Kingdom".

May also claimed in her speech, "Britain's negotiating position in Europe has been misrepresented in the continental press."

Opposition leaders immediately hit back, with Nicola Sturgeon of the Scottish National Party saying, "She is, it appears, almost wilfully sabotaging the prospects of getting the best possible deal."

Groups representing EU nationals living in the UK and Britons living in other European countries have shown their concerns after Wednesday's speech, suggesting that this stance could potentially lead to more difficult negotiations over guaranteeing rights of EU citizens post Brexit.

MESSAGE FROM THE CONSUL

CHARMAINE ARBOUIN



Are you surviving or thriving?

I'm sure you will have read and seen a lot about mental health in the media recently, everything from Prince Harry recounting his personal reflections, to the many events and campaigns advertised to raise awareness. We are led to believe that mental health problems are on the increase and that we can all be affected by it; for many of us, at first glance, that may not always ring true. But if we take the time to sit down and have a good think about the stresses and challenges everyday life brings there will almost certainly be times when we have felt anxious, down or just not quite ourselves.

That's not a problem of course, that's life, but just as a heart murmur or high cholesterol readings can be warning triggers to do something about your physical health, then it could be that certain feelings or circumstances are starting to tip you off that your mental health might need recharging.

Next week, 8 to 14 May, is Mental Health Awareness Week and this year the Mental Health Foundation wants us all to take a different approach. Rather than asking why so many people are struggling with mental health problems think about why too few of us are enjoying good mental health.

Are you surviving rather than thriving? And if so, what steps can you take to change that? What help is available to you or what help can you offer others?

How can we build resilience to protect ourselves against slipping downhill and continue thriving and improving?

All next week and beyond, the Mental Health Foundation will be encouraging debate and discussion on whether we are surviving or thriving and what we can do to bring about change.

To find out more check the website www.mentalhealth.org.uk/campaigns/mental-health-awareness-week where you will find all you need to know about getting involved and info on the social media channels.

This is a monthly message from Charmaine Arbouin at the British Consulate in Malaga. Charmaine is the Consul for Andalucia and the Canary Islands. Her team help thousands of British nationals in distress every year.

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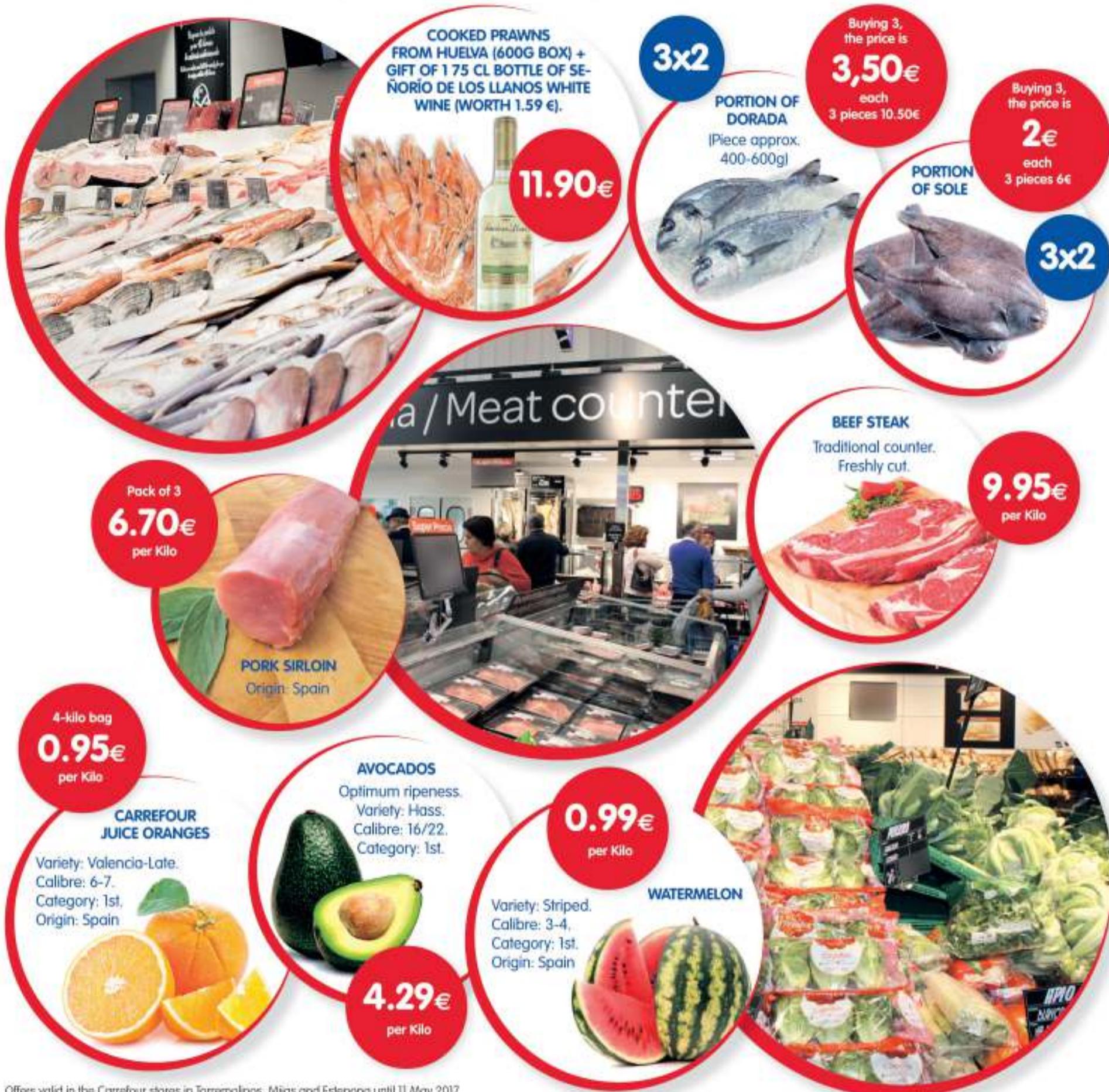
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 Category: 1st.
 Origin: Spain

Optimum ripeness. Variety: Hass. Calibre: 16/22. Category: 1st.
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 Variety: Striped.
 Calibre: 3-4.
 Category: 1st.
 Origin: Spain

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Exhaustion. A carrier is doubled over under the weight of the pack she is carrying

BY JORGE GUERRERO

The burden of living

For ten euros, they cross the border from Ceuta to Morocco with packs weighing up to 90 kilos on their backs. Some of them die in the attempt

BY JAVIER GUILLENEA

When the packs are put on their backs, the weight means they have to run. If someone falls over in front of them, they have no choice but to keep going and run over them. They can't stop; it is pure inertia. Sooner or later a woman will stop and be trapped among hundreds of people with heavy packs on their backs. She will try to move forward, but will fall onto the floor and won't get up again; she will die, trampled by a stampede of bodies and merchandise. All for ten euros and all happening just across the Strait of Gibraltar from the Costa del Sol.

That's what happened recently to Batul, a 40-year-old Moroccan woman who died in a stampede of carriers when she was trying to cross the Tarajal II border, between Ceuta, the

Spanish town on the north African coast, and neighbouring Morocco. She suffered the same fate as Soad, a 22-year-old who lost her life in March, and Zhora and Bushra, who died in 2009. People also talk about Karima. They say she died in hospital after being trampled. And another woman, Lubna, broke both her legs on the same day. Those two cases, however, have not been officially recorded. It's possible that there have been more fatalities, and certain that many more women have been injured in their desperate race to earn some money, but the numbers are not known. If nobody does anything about it, there will be more deaths.

Every day several thousand Moroccan citizens, most of them women, cross the border and head for the Tarajal industrial estate in Ceuta, to load large packs of merchandise weighing

between 60 and 90 kilos on their backs. They then return across the border and deposit what they are carrying in what is known as 'the parking area', where it is collected by men from the same companies who prepared the packs in Spain.

The merchandise - new and used clothing, boxes of crisps, toilet paper, nappies, household products - is taken to the Moroccan town of Castillejos (or Fnideq), where it is sold or distributed all over the country and even elsewhere on the continent.

"You can find plastic bags from Lidl, Mercadona and Eroski in numerous places in Africa," says Ana Rosado, a member of the southern border team of the Association of Human Rights of Andalucía.

The Spanish authorities call it "un-usual commerce", but in reality it is contraband. Products which arrive in

Ceuta port are taken to industrial estates close to the border and put into packs which are large but can be carried. It is a way of exporting goods without paying taxes. In Morocco, anything which a person can carry across the border is considered hand luggage; a huge amount of this 'hand luggage' is taken across every day.

This is nothing new, but there has been a notable increase in the number of carriers since the economic crisis began. A year ago there were as many as 14,000 a day, which caused serious security problems. In an attempt to bring order to the chaos, on 27 February a new border channel was opened at Tarajal II, and the Spanish authorities introduced a ticket system to limit the number of carriers a day to 4,000. The only thing this has achieved is to increase the risk of stampedes.

"The real situation is much worse than the photos," says Reduan Mohamed, from an NGO which assists migrants. "The queues of people carrying packages are incredible, and if it's bad now then just imagine what it is going to be like in the summer. People are injured every day, and the way things are going there are bound to be more deaths."

The day begins at 6am around Tarajal II. By then, a long queue of carriers has already formed. Most are women, although the number of men is increasing, and they are waiting for the tickets which they will have to show at the border when they come back into Morocco with a package on their back. Many of the women have spent all night there to ensure that they will be able to cross, and others will fight to obtain a ticket.

"Like the Middle Ages"

The opening of the new border channel has meant that around 10,000 Moroccans have gathered in recent days to try to obtain a ticket from the Spanish police or from the people who resell them because they would rather earn a little less money than have to spend an exhausting and humiliating day. The queues, in which men and women are separated in the last few metres before the border but together during the long hours of waiting, are very tense and any incident could have serious consequences.

"It's like a frontier in the Middle Ages. There are no scanners to check the packs, no identification systems; anybody could come through here carrying anything, even weapons," says Iván Ramos, the spokesman in Ceuta of the Central Independent and Civil Service Union (CSIF).

The Tarajal II crossing point is very close to the industrial estate where the merchandise is kept, but there is a fence which means that those who manage to cross the border, running, shoving and trying to avoid blows from the 'majaznis' (members of a security force similar to the Guardia Civil), have to go round it, a distance of about four kilometres, to reach their destination. Later they will have to return along the same route with tens of kilos on their shoulders, but before that they will have to wait again until they are called by the peo-

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The exception is because of Schengen

The Moroccan government decided to temporarily close the border at Tarajal II until 2 May to prevent more stampedes, much to the dissatisfaction of the growing numbers of people who make a living as carriers. They are able to do so thanks to the Schengen exception, an agreement signed in 1992 between the authorities in Spain and Morocco to allow the border with Ceuta to be crossed from Tétouan without a visa. This meant that Moroccan citizens with a passport issued in that province didn't need any other documents to enter the Spanish town, although they would need a visa if they were to continue on to the European continent. When the agreement was signed, 200,000 people lived in Tétouan. Now the population has risen to one million.

ple who distribute the packages.

"The men wait on the industrial estate, but the women have to go to the beach and wait there in an enormous queue," says Ana Rosado. With no shade, no public lavatories and no way of leaving the queue without losing their place, the female carriers are exposed to conditions which are inhumane in summer. "The heat is unbearable, especially for them be-



All the packs are marked so the companies can recognise them the other side of the border . :: J.G.



The burial of Batul, the carrier crushed to death. :: EFE

cause they wear several layers of clothes so the blows from the police don't hurt as much."

When it's their turn, the stevedores from the Tarajal place the packs

on their backs. They have been prepared by some powerful companies in the "unusual commerce" sector, including some from Casablanca, Tangier, Madrid, Barcelona, Brussels

and Shanghai, using this as an entry point to Africa without paying customs duties. The Chinese buy cheap clothes and shoes in different international markets and sell them for a slightly higher price on the other side of the border. They prepare the packs in warehouses in Madrid.

The companies save money and the carriers die in stampedes. If they are lucky they'll cross the border without injury, carrying tens of kilos on their backs. However, almost as a reminder of the difficult lives they lead, and that they will be doing it all over again the following day, a new obstacle awaits them once they're across: the last stretch of road to the place where they can put their heavy load down is uphill.

A BORDER BETWEEN TWO WORLDS

9,000

Although there are no definitive figures, it is calculated that before the ticket system was introduced - 2,000 for men and the rest for women - between 7,000 and 9,000 carriers crossed the border with Ceuta every day. Some sources, however, talk of 20,000.

10

euros is the average amount earned for carrying a pack weighing between 60 and 90 kilos, although the money can vary depending on the weight and the quality of the materials contained in the packs. Years ago, people could do several trips a day; these days, they are lucky if they manage one.

45,000

Moroccans - 75% of them women - live on money earned directly from "unusual commerce" and another 40,000 do so indirectly, according to the American Chamber of Commerce in Casablanca. It has been calculated that 90 million euros a year are spent on bribing police officers at the borders.

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IN BRIEF

Crowdfunding initiative for a biodome in Alameda gardens

GIBRALTAR

∴ **D. B.** The team at Alameda botanical gardens have come up with an interesting idea to raise funds for a biodome, as part of their education programme. Under the slogan "Buy a plaque, build a future", they are asking people to donate money for different-sized plaques, perhaps

to commemorate a loved one or a special event, or they can be bought by corporate sponsors.

The plaques start at £50 and they will be permanently displayed in the Education area of the gardens.

The biodome will benefit children from schools in Gibraltar, gardening clubs and other local community groups.

Further information can be obtained by emailing BioDome@gibraltargardens.gi or on the Facebook page.



A biodome. ∴ SUR

Anonymous hotline for health service complaints

GIBRALTAR

∴ **D. B.** An anonymous hotline has been set up by the Ministry of Health and the Gibraltar Health Authority so that local residents and staff members can report any concerns about the local health service. The number to call is 20007919, and callers will be able to record a short voicemail message after a recorded greeting. Genuine grievances will be investigated and resolved.

EU stands firm in its Brexit negotiating guidelines and the clause regarding Gibraltar remains

The infamous 'Clause 22' giving Spain a veto over any UK/EU deals which affect Gibraltar has become 'Clause 24' but the text is the same

∴ **DEBBIE BARTLETT**

GIBRALTAR. At a meeting on 29 April the European Council unanimously adopted the proposed guidelines for its negotiations with regard to the UK's withdrawal from the EU. Many in Gibraltar had hoped that the infamous 'Clause 22' which appeared in the initial draft would have been removed after pressure from the Gibraltar and UK governments, but it still features, with the same wording, although it has now become 'Clause 24'.

The clause reads: "After the United Kingdom leaves the Union, no agreement between the EU and the United Kingdom may apply to the territory of Gibraltar without agreement between the Kingdom of Spain and the United Kingdom."

The Gibraltar government issued



EC president Donald Tusk. ∴ SUR

May Day celebrations this week, chief minister Fabian Picardo said that his government would "respond with reciprocity" to any discrimination or prejudice by the European Union against the people of Gibraltar.

Opposition leader Daniel Feetham also had strong criticism of the EU after the announcement that the guidelines had been endorsed, tweeting "Clause 24 epitomises everything that is wrong with the EU. Political expediency over people. People who voted to remain. #Betrayal #Gibraltar."

En last year's referendum, Gibraltar voted 96 per cent in favour of the UK remaining in the European Union. As the only British Overseas Territory in Europe, it has no choice but to leave the EU alongside the UK. The chief minister insists that Gibraltar can prosper after Brexit despite the challenges, and since the EU negotiating guidelines are perceived to favour Spain and discriminate against the Rock, more Gibraltarians are now feeling that they will be better off out of the European Union after all.

a press release after the announcement that the guidelines had been adopted, saying that the clause is "discriminatory and unfair. It flies in the face of the principle of sincere cooperation which the EU is committed to and which it repeats elsewhere in the guidelines."

Nor is Gibraltar prepared to take such perceived discrimination lying down. In his speech during the



Pallid swifts are regular visitors to Gibraltar. ∴ AJDH

Live-feed cameras now showing swift nests

Following the success of the underwater cameras showing Gibraltar's wealth of marine life, the focus is now on the Rock's birds

∴ **D. BARTLETT**

GIBRALTAR. Two live-feed cameras have just been installed to show the nests of one of the Rock's best-known visitors, the pallid swift. The Ministry of the Environment hopes

the cameras will help raise awareness of the fascinating lives of these birds, and encourage people to protect them and their nest sites. Swifts fly all the way down to tropical Africa and back every single year, and once they leave the nest as youngsters are known to spend several years continuously on the wing.

The images can be seen online from the website www.thinking-green.gov.gi. Additional cameras showcasing Gibraltar's rich wildlife, such as birds of prey, will be launched later this spring.

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Finding the good eggs

Congratulations to Rachel Haynes for her excellent editorial ('A thought for the good eggs', SUR in English April 28th) and for her optimism in thinking that working alongside the rotten eggs there must be hundreds of honest politicians trying to do a good job for their communities.

She is spot on when she laments that members of the public are more surprised when corrupt politicians are caught out than shocked at

the stealing of said public's money. Perhaps if it was more regularly called 'stealing' instead of the legal-sounding 'misappropriation of funds' or 'embezzlement' the public would be more indignant.

The answer must be to find those good eggs and vote for them. How? Where are they? If only it was just a matter of dropping them all into water and seeing which ones float....

MEGAN JONES
BY EMAIL

Recycling - old vehilces

Your 21-27 April issue had another interesting article on urban waste which proves for Andalucía so difficult to deal with, especially when it is about efficient recycling. I wonder if the hundreds of abandoned cars that pollute streets, neighbourhoods and the countryside may be included in this problem. My experience is that the authorities aren't organised and lack permanent interest.

Last February I returned from abroad and noticed a clearly abandoned Renault Espace next to the entrance of our urbanisation; it had smashed windows, front and sides. As it has number plates from Gibraltar on it, I first mailed the police there and asked if this car and number was reported stolen or missing to them. They said no and advised me to contact the local police which I've done. They gave me the telephone number of the abandoned vehicles department.

At the end of February I reported this abandoned car with

the man who answered my phone call. His answer was that they were very busy. I was promised that someone would have a look and the removal arranged. Since then I have called the department every week, talked with and pleaded to the same man, got promised that action would be taken in that week. Unsurprisingly, it's the start of May now and nothing has happened.

When I reported this wreckage I made a point that it is harmful, not only to the environment, but also possibly to playing children there and passing people and dogs because of glass from broken windows and sticking-out metal.

This apparently doesn't make any difference, although it is said that security is a high stake for the police here.

Strangely, someone who deals with cars told me that when one reports an abandoned car that has no number plates on it, they will come to pick it up within two days... I wonder why that is.

EMILE THYSSEN
SAN PEDRO

THIS WEEK'S WINNING LETTER

The marry marry month of May

PETER EDGERTON
MUSIC MAKER WWW.E-PETER.COM

Not long ago, I scribbled something on these hallowed pages about how, far from being a romantic gesture, asking your girlfriend to marry you in public, is actually a heavy-handed emotional manipulation.

Well, guess what happened to me last night? No - nobody asked me to marry them, thank heavens. What did occur, though, was that a bloke - let's call him Juan - approached me during a packed pub quiz to ask if I'd propose to his girlfriend (on his behalf, obviously) over the microphone. Oh, God, what a dilemma. No-one wants to be a party-pooper but, at the same time, the idea of putting some poor woman on the spot was complete anathema to me.

In the end, after much frantic internal debate, I resolved to do the dirty deed but without drawing direct attention to where the couple were sitting so that she could leg it with the minimum of fuss if she

decided she didn't want to spend the rest of her days with an emotional blackmailer. (I'm being harsh, I know, but the whole shebang had me in quite a spin.)

The big moment arrived. "And now, before the quiz results, a message from Juan to María... Will you marry me?"

A collective gasp. Everyone stared at María. People climbed on stools to get a glimpse of the poor woman as she hesitated for what felt like an eternity. Everybody glanced nervously at each other, then at her, then at Juan and then at me as if it were all my fault. She blinked nervously and her lips parted as she prepared to respond. The whole room held its breath.

"Sí! Sí! I'll marry you!!" Thank God for that. The place erupted as total strangers embraced in disproportionate joy. Meanwhile, everyone completely ignored me as I tried in vain to announce the winners of the quiz, including the winners of the quiz.

Two hours later, the crowds had dispersed and I spied the happy couple taking their leave of the premises.

Hang on a minute - were they arguing? Oh, no. Oh, dear - her mascara was smudged and she was jabbing an accusing finger at his chest and he was doing that gumming thing that men do when they don't want to show their anger in public. And that was the last I saw of them. I really hope that it was a tiff about the possible colours of the best man's tie but, sadly, it looked a lot more serious than that.

An eventful evening all round, then, which, in the end, did nothing to shift my long-held opinion that if you're going to propose to your girlfriend, it's best to do it in private, on the sofa, munching on a take-away while the adverts are on.

Studies show that marriages based on this style of proposal last a damn sight longer than any other. Well, possibly.

IDÍGORAS

Benalmádena



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Talented acoustic duo take their unique style from Fuengirola to cities around Europe



TONY BRYANT

✉ tonysureng@gmail.com

Fronted by Danish singer and songwriter, Sandie Nielsen, Auralyn Waves have become popular on busking scenes in London, Amsterdam and Berlin

FUENGIROLA. A singer who once preferred to sing to cows rather than to a human audience and a nervous guitarist who played with his back to the crowd are not the usual ingredients of a rock and roll success story.

They are, however, two musicians who are now making quite a name for themselves both in, and outside, Spain.

Fronted by Danish singer and songwriter, Sandie Nielsen, Auralyn Waves have become popular on the busking scenes in London, Amsterdam and Berlin, and they are currently planning a road trip to Chicago.

Sandie came to Spain on a one-way ticket in 2008, arriving at Malaga airport with a suitcase and no idea of where she was going to live. She was no stranger to the country, having visited many times during family summer holidays.

Sandie settled in Malaga in order



Auralyn Waves have performed in several European capitals. :: SUR

to fulfil her dream of making a living from her music.

She soon found her way onto the music scene in Malaga and after studying music in the city in 2010, she began gigging at live music venues along the coast.

However, Sandie suffered from severe stage fright in the early days and much of this was instigated by her obsessive self-criticism.

"I felt totally naked, because my music lets people into my soul and I

didn't think my songs were good enough. Thankfully my friends gave me confidence and I finally overcame my inhibitions," the 30-year-old singer explains.

Her life, and her musical career, would take a drastic turn in 2013, when, during a jam session in Fuengirola, she met Dario, a handsome Spanish musician who would sweep her off her feet.

The couple have now been together for almost four years and their indi-

vidual musical cultures have melded perfectly to create Auralyn Waves' incredibly distinctive sound.

Dario Merino is a 29-year-old guitarist from Fuengirola who comes from a flamenco background, although he does not share his family's love of the orthodox side of the art.

His father brought him a Spanish guitar when he was a child and he became a competent acoustic guitarist, but Dario soon went on to discover the electric guitar.

Debut recording

Auralyn Waves began performing at the regular music venues, like Pogs in Fuengirola and La Sala in Puerto Banús. They have also become popular at wedding celebrations along the coast, although they are required to play cover versions of popular hit songs at this type of booking, but they obviously prefer to play their own compositions.

They recently made their self-titled debut CD, and had plans to promote the disc with a series of gigs along the coast, but their plans were derailed after tragedy struck.

Sandie's life was shattered following the death of her father during the recording of the CD, but she used her music to overcome her grief.

"My father's death really upset me and I needed to get away for a while, so we decided to busk our way around Europe for a month," Sandie says emotionally.

They headed first to London, and while busking on London Bridge, the

couple had a lucky break.

"We were approached by a man in a suit who asked if he could video us playing. He contacted us later and offered us two gigs in a venue just off Trafalgar Square. We earned 100 euros a night, it was amazing," Dario explains excitedly.

Staying with friends, or booking into cheap hostels, the couple visited Amsterdam, Berlin and Copenhagen, and it was a trip that helped ease Sandie's grief.

It was also a trip that made the couple realise that their music was appreciated by people other than friends in Fuengirola.

Shortly after returning from their busking tour, the duo were invited to Ecuador, where they played a series of gigs that had been organised by Dario's cousin.

They are currently planning a road trip to Chicago in the early part of next year, where they will play several gigs during the dark hours, and busk during the day.

Prior to this, they will be heading to Denmark to honour a series of private wedding bookings. The duo also have several gigs lined up along the coast during the summer and they will appear at La Sala in Puerto Banús on alternate Saturdays throughout May.

The future looks good and the band are looking forward to an exciting musical career, which is quite an achievement for a singer who once tested her songs out on the cows at the bottom of her garden.

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Janet Pywell Author of Culture Crime Series books

The holiday rep turned author has travelled extensively and uses her experience to write

The author of the Culture Crime Series of novels, Janet Pywell, has recently launched her latest offering, *Book of Hours*, which starts off during a Semana Santa procession in Malaga. The book describes in detail the “pomp and pageantry” of the religious festival and Janet says of this ambitious start, “I wanted to write about Malaga and I needed a dramatic opening. The pageantry and solemnity of the Easter Procession is ideal... I hope this gives enough frisson and excitement to lead the reader on.”

Recognising that Spain’s Semana Santa traditions may be difficult for readers who are not familiar with the country, Janet says that she talked to friends on the coast about the word ‘tronos’ and says that the alternatives just didn’t translate right. “Thrones for English people would be something the Queen sits on - and floats are used in carnivals,” she explains. “I think, or at least I hope, I described the scene with the right balance of detail so the readers will understand or, if not, they will be curious enough to Google it!”

The third book in the Culture Crime Series, *Book of Hours* is set

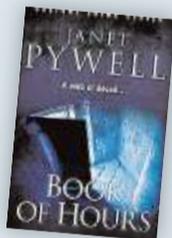


Janet Pywell at the launch of her latest book. :: SUR

“Flying back to Malaga is like going home”

JENNIE RHODES

MALAGA. For Janet Pywell, “flying back to Malaga is like going home” and many of its landmarks are mentioned in *Book of Hours*. For example, protagonist Mikky dos Santos has breakfast in Café Central before visiting her friend Carmen at the Picasso Museum. She also talks about Russian influences on the coast and the Russian Art Museum (Museo



Ruso). Muelle Uno, the Alcazaba Fortress, Gibralfaro Castle and Malaga Cathedral are featured, as is the Parador on the hillside near the Gibralfaro where Mikky flies a drone over the city. Tarifa is the setting for the opening and closing scenes of the book and one of Janet’s “most favourite places in the world”. She hints that it could be the setting for another book.

in Malaga, Bruges and Canterbury. Janet says that she had always wanted to incorporate Malaga into a novel, having lived in the province for 20 years.

In 1983, after finishing a Travel and Tourism with Business Studies course in London, she was offered a season with Club 18-30s in the Costa Brava and over time worked for a number of other tour operators on the Costa del Sol, before moving into the timeshare industry and eventually working for Club La Costa in Mijas Costa. During this time Janet lived in Benalmádena and would often visit Malaga city, eating in the chiringuitos of Pedregalego and “going to flamenco bars and clubs tucked away in the back streets with my Spanish friends”, says the author, adding, “I loved immersing myself in Spanish culture and life. I remember a lovely fishing restaurant in Huelin before the promenade was all developed; it was like stepping into a fisherman’s cottage and eating with a large family.”

Janet says that she still returns to Malaga and that she still has many friends here. Speaking of the development that Malaga has witnessed since she first came in the 1980s, Janet says, “I’m delighted to see the amazing changes in Malaga city. When I lived there people came out of the airport and headed to Torremolinos and Marbella or Nerja. Now Malaga is ideal for a holiday or even for a weekend city break.”

Having worked in the industry for 30 years Janet says that she is “confident that my readers will

understand the detail and it will not detract from the plot, characters or storyline.”

The author believes that people are very well-travelled now compared to the past, suggesting that ‘no-frills’ airlines have changed how we travel as well as how often.

The book doesn’t just focus on the older traditions of Malaga, as the female protagonist, Mikky dos Santos, is a competent kite surfer and she uses a drone over the city, mixing the old historic and Moorish past with the modern Muelle Uno, which Janet says she “finds very exciting”.

Having spent time in Ireland and continuing to work in the travel industry since leaving the Costa del Sol, Janet now lives in Whitstable in Kent, where she has been for three years and says she loves it. “On a warm day in summer it reminds me of how Spain used to be in the spring,” she says.

Each of Janet’s books is set in different locations, reflecting the experience of this well-travelled former holiday rep. “I hope to set more books in Spain in the future and one of my favourite cities is Cordoba. I used to ski in the Sierra Nevada and I think I might feature this as one of my locations,” she says.

As for the change from the travel industry to becoming a writer, Janet says that as an avid reader she had always wanted to write, so while living in Belfast she did a MA in Creative Writing. From there she has used her vast experience and knowledge to write five books in total tackling themes such as female bullfighters, divorce and of course Spain’s Easter week traditions.

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REF. G. O. O.

My girlfriend and I want to get married in a civil ceremony. We are both single and have never been married and have lived in Spain for five years. What paperwork do we need to submit and where would the ceremony take place?

You have to go to the Civil Registry and fill in and sign

an application form, providing the original and photocopy of your passports and residency cards, birth certificates, register certificate (certificado de empadronamiento) accrediting your address for the last two years (this certificate is provided by the Town Hall), as well as an affidavit of your marital status. You will also need to appear with a couple of witnesses who know you (they can be relatives or friends) and who will also have to sign a form. It is important to take into account that if you provide documents obtained abroad, they will have to attach a special stamp called the "Apostille of The Hague", as well as a sworn translation of those documents. Once you complete this step and the Civil Registry approves the paperwork, they will contact you to choose a date for the wedding, which can take place at Court or the Town

Hall. For the ceremony, you will also need two witnesses (not necessarily the same who signed the form), and the judge will provide the family book, which is the document that proves your marriage.

REF. D. P. R.

A few days ago I left my car double parked while I collected a letter from the post office. When I came back, the car had been towed and I had to pay the parking fine and the cost of the tow truck. However, my car was not blocking traffic. In which cases can the car be towed away?

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FACTS AND FACES



The students visited the cities of Brussels, Bruges and Ghent. :: SUR

Marbella students give lessons in Belgium

MARBELLA

Students from the Profesor Pablo del Saz secondary school have spent

a week at a Belgian school as part of an Erasmus+ programme. The Spanish students taught a Maths lesson on Pythagoras' theorem to their Belgian counterparts as part of the "Teaching: an effective key to self-learning" programme.



The Coín A team with the Michael Taylor Trophy. :: SUR

Coín victorious at RBL Spain South annual quiz

COÍN

:: SUR. Six members of the Coín branch of the Royal British Legion

emerged victorious from the Spain South annual quiz a week ago.

They saw off competition from teams from Loja, Torre del Mar, Molina and Mijas Costa to claim the trophy back from Loja.

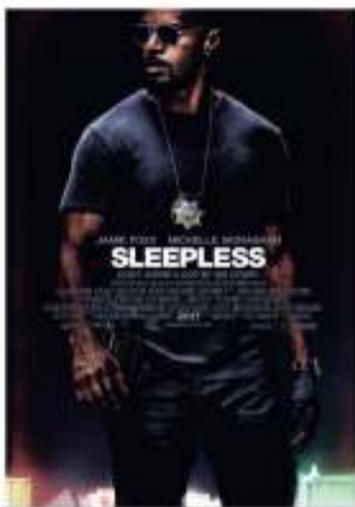
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SLEEPLESS

Director Baran bo Odar
Starring Jamie Foxx and Michelle Monaghan
ACTION - 95 min.

+16

A cop with a connection to the criminal underworld scours a nightclub in search of his kidnapped son.

Friday 5: 18:15
Saturday 6 and Sunday 7: 16:00
From Monday 8 to Thursday 11: 18:15



GUARDIANS OF THE GALAXY VOL. 2

Director James Gunn
Starring Chris Pratt and Zoe Saldana
ACTION - 137 min.

+12

Set to the backdrop of Awesome Mixtape 2, 'Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 2' continues the team's adventures as they unravel the mystery of Peter Quill's true parentage.

Friday 5: 19:45, 22:30
Saturday 6 and Sunday 7: 16:30, 20:10, 22:00
From Monday 8 to Thursday 11: 19:45, 22:30



JOHN WICK, CHAPTER TWO

Director Chad Stahelski - Starring Keanu Reeves and Common
ACTION - 123 min.

+18

Saturday 6 and Sunday 7: 16:00



GOING IN STYLE

Director Zach Braff - Starring Michael Caine and Morgan Freeman
COMEDY - 96 min.

+7

Friday 5: 17:45
Saturday 6 and Sunday 7: 16:15
From Monday 8 to Wednesday 10: 17:45
Thursday 11: 17:45, 22:30



THE BOSS BABY

Director Tom McGrath - Starring Alec Baldwin and Steve Buscemi
ANIMATION - 97 min.

Fit

Friday 5: 17:45
Saturday 6 and Sunday 7: 16:00, 18:00
From Monday 8 to Thursday 11: 17:45



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The covers can increase water temperature by up to seven degrees. SUR

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THE NIGHT SKY

KEN CAMPBELL



So close and yet...

If the sky is clear on Sunday 7 May then there will be a very close conjunction between the moon and the planet Jupiter. They will be so close that they will almost touch and will make a fine view in binoculars or a small telescope. Jupiter will be just below the almost full moon.

The moon travels around the Earth at an amazing 2,288mph and so can travel its own diameter in less than an hour. If you can observe the moon and Jupiter at intervals during the evening you will be amazed to see just how quickly the moon travels as it passes by Jupiter. The closest point that the two will come together will occur at around midnight.

If you have a telescope then as you look at Jupiter you will be able to see its four largest moons. Callisto, Europa and Io are to the left of the planet with Ganymede, the largest moon in the solar system, to the right. Our moon takes about 28 days to

make one orbit; Io travels around Jupiter in just under two days.

During the course of an evening the moons can be seen moving in relation to each other and to the planet. Through a modest-sized telescope the shadows cast by the four moons can also be seen travelling across the face of Jupiter.

Our moon is the only one in the solar system that doesn't have a name; all of the others have either a name or at least a number. In ancient times the year was divided up into full moons and as there are usually twelve full moons in each year this was an easy, but not very accurate, way of measuring the seasons. Some of these names are still in use today; most people have heard of the 'harvest moon' occurring in September and the 'Hunter's moon' in October.

More information : www.costadelstars.com

ELITE

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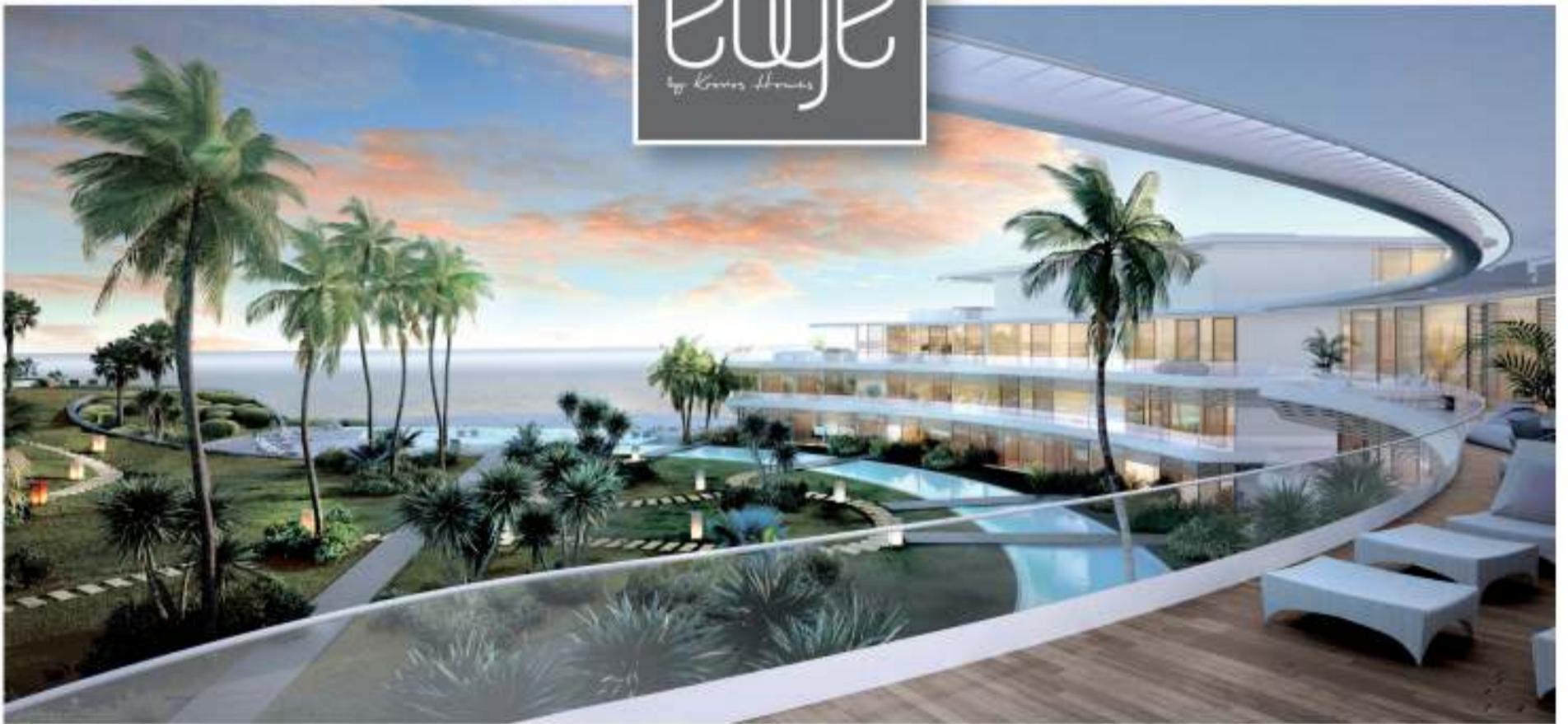
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GARDENING

Creeping Boobialla

This unassuming little plant with dainty foliage and white or pink star shaped flowers can cover a lot of ground in a short space of time

Myoporum parvifolium is also known as Creeping Boobialla, a name given to a similar-looking plant by the aboriginal people of Australia but adopted for this dwarf shrub. It is a member of the Scrophulariaceae family (figworts) which includes around 62 genera and nearly 2,000 different species including Buddleia, Verbascum and Nemesia.

Myoporum parvifolium is a low

growing evergreen shrub with long trailing stems and white or pink, star-shaped flowers. The small leaves are fleshy with serrated edges and raised wart like growths on the surface. The star-shaped flowers form in clusters on short stalks and are about 3cm across. They are usually white

or pale pink with purple spots. After flowering has finished small purple drupes (berries) form.

Creeping Boobialla needs a well-drained, sunny position although it will tolerate some shade. It is also resistant to frost, salt winds, hot sun and fire. The name

Myoporum means

'closed pores' and refers

to the warty-looking

oil glands on the

leaves which are believed

to attract pollinating

insects and deter

pests. The oil, which

does not smell very nice, is

secreted in tiny amounts. It

does not burn and this

plant is recommended for

fire prone areas. Parvifolium

means 'small leaves'.

Once established, Creeping Boobialla will form a dense mat approximately 25cm high with a spread of up to three metres. It is a perfect ground cover plant, suppressing weeds and helping to prevent soil erosion especially on dry slopes. It can trail along the ground or cascade down and looks stunning growing over low stone wall or the edge of a container. Clipping it back every year will keep it neat.

Propagation is from cuttings taken at any time of the year.



Myoporum parvifolium and flowers (inset). :: SUR

READER'S PHOTO

DROUGHT AND HEAT TOLERANT

Frances Knowles from Coín sent in this photo of a Euphorbia. She says it is a member of the Spurge family and is drought and heat tolerant.



:: FRANCES KNOWLES

GARDENING HINTS FOR MAY

Bugs and beasties part II

Last week I mentioned using an insecticide called Bt spray. It contains Bacillus thuringiensis which is toxic to pests but won't harm bees; they're immune according to planet-bee.org. Most shop-bought chemical sprays, even some of the ones purporting to be organic, kill bees. Homemade insecticides can sometimes be harmful too so what is the solution? Well planetbee.org recommends using a solution of kaolin clay sprayed onto the stems and leaves (avoiding the flowers) which dries to form a film. Kaolin clay (also called China clay or White clay) is available on some online shop-

ping sites. Neem oil is highly effective at repelling a variety of pests such as aphids and greenfly as well as some fungal diseases. Epsom salts are completely safe, nontoxic and bee-friendly in addition to being rich in magnesium. Sprinkled around the base of plants, they are effective at keeping slugs and snails away, or mixed with water and used as a spray they will deter beetles. Pure soap (also called Castile soap) is a very effective pesticide when mixed with water and some essential oils such as rosemary, eucalyptus or peppermint in a solution will also deter hungry insects.

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?

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Revisiting the Costa del Sol of the 1950s

A new book reveals the experiences of an expat child adrift in Torremolinos

BY TONY BRYANT

TORREMOLINOS. Torremolinos is considered to be the town that started the tourism boom on the Costa del Sol, and it was once the preferred destination of the wealthy, the famous, and money-rich expats who arrived from all corners of the globe. But what was the town like before the tourists arrived?

The author of new book about Torremolinos has returned to his youth to reveal what it was like for an all-American kid growing up in a 1950s Spanish seaside village.

David Mathis Johnson was happily looking forward to being part of the American dream - going to high school, playing baseball and dating a pretty cheerleader.

His plans were shattered when his mother decided to spend a summer vacation in Spain, an event that would seemingly change his life forever.

David was just nine years old at the time and he had only ever heard of the country in a Disney cartoon about Ferdinand the Friendly Bull.

The youngster reluctantly accepted that he would be spending the next few months in Spain, but he was blissfully oblivious of the fact that he would not return to the USA for ten years.



David, second from left, in Torremolinos. :: SUR

David's parents had separated and so the holiday was a means of getting away until the dust had settled.

David's mother originally intended to head to Marbella when they arrived in the port of Algeciras in 1957, but unimpressed with the "dusty, poor town", she decided to take her three children to a small fishing village called Torremolinos.

David, along with his older brother and sister were due to spend just one summer in Spain, but their mother

fell into the incipient wild expat scene of Torremolinos.

At the end of the summer the three siblings were horrified when informed of their mother's plans to stay in Torremolinos, and David quickly realised that he would lose any real contact with his father and his friends in America.

David's first impressions of Torremolinos were not too good. He re-

calls being beaten up for being American, and his fear of some of the town's crazy characters. The fact there were no Christmas trees, hamburgers or television also bewildered the youngster.

In his memoirs, the author has reached back in his memory to a time and place long gone by, and he reveals amusing anecdotes of the local people, the customs, and the sudden influx of hard-partying expats who began arriving in the town during this period.

The book introduces some of the town's most popular characters, like El Titi, a man who bounded around the town on a make-believe motorcycle.

El Titi was known and tolerated by everyone in Torremolinos, and the local police would occasionally pull him over to issue a fake ticket. He is still fondly remembered in the town today and has been immortalised with a street bearing his name.

"People who were a trifle odd were not shut away or secluded; they were just part of the tapestry of life in Torremolinos," David astutely points out in the book.

The author also describes in great detail some of the bohemian expats

who arrived in the town towards the end of the 1950s.

He refers to one American couple as the "Zelda and F. Scott Fitzgerald of Torremolinos", due to their fondness of alcohol and love of partying, which inevitably landed them in all sorts of scrapes with the locals.

Above all, however, the book explains the simple daily lives of the people of Torremolinos, a town that was about to be turned upside down by the tourism industry.

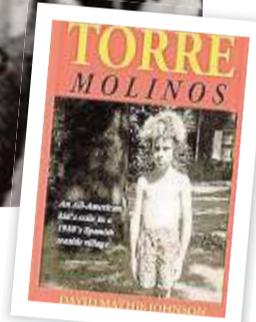
David was 13 when his family left Torremolinos, although they did not return to America. Instead, they went to Madrid.

In 1964, David graduated from the American School of Madrid and three years later, he returned to the USA and obtained a Bachelor's degree in Journalism. However, he soon returned to Madrid, working for the EFE news agency and Lookout magazine. He is now retired and lives in Baltimore.

His memoirs, simply entitled 'Torremolinos', recall an era when Spain was at the dawn of a new age. The author tells the story of his forced exile in Spain and he gives an amusing, yet honest, account of what life was like for an American child living in an unusually strange land.

David returned to Torremolinos nearly 40 years after he had first set eyes on it, but time and tourism had completely erased that simple place where he had spent part of his youth.

The book, which is an interesting read for anyone wanting to find out more about the history of the Costa del Sol, is available from Amazon.



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WHAT HAPPENED TODAY?

5 MAY 1808

Carlos IV of Spain abdicates for the second time



Charles IV of Spain, or to give him his full name, Carlos Antonio Pascual Francisco Javier Juan Nepomuceno José Januario Serafín Diego, was born in November 1748 and was king for 20 years, from 14 December 1778, when his father died, until his abdication in favour of his son Ferdinand on 18 March 1808.

He was the second son of Charles III, the king of Naples and Sicily, but his elder brother Philip suffered from learning difficulties and epilepsy so the throne passed to Charles.

Ruling a country did not come easily to him, as he preferred to spend his time on leisure pursuits such as hunting, so he took a back seat and left matters of estate to his wife, María Luisa, and prime minister, the Count of Floridablanca, until the latter was forced out of office by political opponents and replaced by Pedro Pablo Abarca de Bolea, the Count of Aranda. Following the war against republican France, Aranda was replaced by Manuel de Godoy, a close friend of the king and widely believed to have been the queen's lover.

Those were troubled years, with France first of all declaring war on Spain in 1793, and then entering into an alliance with the country to declare war on Great Britain in 1795. That alliance continued until the Battle of Trafalgar, when Spain decided to ally itself with Britain,



A print of the people's revolt at Aranjuez in 1808. :: SUR

but then after Napoleon's victory over Prussia in 1807, under Godoy's guidance, it once again joined forces with France.

As a result of these regular changes, the monarchy and Godoy lost their reputation and there was a growing movement in favour of Charles IV's son Ferdinand, who wanted an alliance with Britain again. Amid an atmosphere of dissatisfaction and unease, the Crown Prince made



Charles IV of Spain. :: SUR

an unsuccessful attempt to overthrow his father in 1807. By March 1808, after riots and a popular revolt at the Aranjuez palace, Charles IV was under such pressure that he decided to abdicate in favour of Ferdinand, but then regretted it almost immediately and asked Napoleon to help him regain his throne. On 5 May the same year, Napoleon forced both Charles and Ferdinand to abdicate, and ap-

pointed his brother, Joseph Bonaparte, as king instead.

This was an unpopular move in Spain, and in 1813, having been kept under guard in France for several years, Ferdinand was restored to the throne, but had to rule under the liberal Constitution of 1812.

LANGUAGE FOOTNOTE

Rey de España	King of Spain
Hermano	Brother
Epilepsia	Epilepsy
Trono	Throne
Cazar	To hunt
Reinar	To reign
Reina	Queen
Amante	Lover
Guerra	War
Alianza	Alliance
Francia	France
Batalla	Battle
Monarquía	Monarchy
Palacio	Palace
Disturbios	Riots
Abdicar	Abdicate
Arrepentirse	To regret
Ayuda	Help
Constitución	Constitution
Liberal	Liberal
Victoria	Victory

Bilingual crossword inside back page

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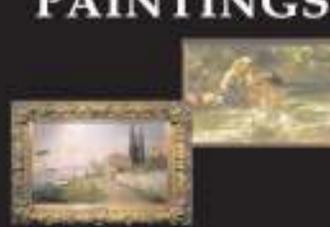
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IT'S YOUR BUSINESS Atelier E boutique, La Cala de Mijas

Fabulous fashion for ladies of all sizes



The colourful interior of Atelier E in La Cala. sur

MIJAS

Exciting! That's the only word to describe Atelier E, a fashion boutique which opened only a month ago in La Cala de Mijas. This new venture by Eva Nuyens is already attracting a loyal clientele as well as first-time customers because her stock is exclusive, reasonably priced and, perhaps most important of all for many ladies, there are beautiful clothes for all sizes.

"I want Atelier E to become famous because the fashions here range from extra small sizes to extra large - and beyond!" says Eva, a bubbly Belgian lady whose enthusiasm for her clothing and accessories is obvious.

It's not surprising. Entering Atelier E is like going into Aladdin's cave, filled with colour and treasures of all types. Beachwear, evening wear, dresses, separates, bags, jewellery, shoes.... this is a one-stop shop for anyone who loves fashion, and Eva plans to introduce lingerie and swimwear sections in the near future.

"My shop is for everybody," says Eva, "but I know how difficult it is for people who need small sizes or large sizes to find decent clothes. So often they are disappointed when they go shopping, and go home empty-

handed because they don't like any of the clothes in their size. That's why I decided to make that a focal point: to open a shop where every lady can find beautiful fashion items which will suit her and make her feel wonderful, no matter what size she needs."

The clothes at Atelier E are unusual (there is very little chance that you will bump into somebody wearing the same thing), good quality, and from Spanish, French and Belgian designers, among others.

The accessories are also very special. They include jewellery by the 'Papoly' brand, bags, belts, hats, scarves, shoes, sunglasses, and much more, and many of the items are hand made.

From boho to bling, simple to smart, easy to elegant, the bright and airy Atelier E boutique in La Cala is a delightful place to shop, and is very easy to find as it is just behind the Post Office.

The opening hours at present are from Tuesday to Friday, from 10am to 2pm and 5pm to 8pm, and on Saturdays from 3pm to 8pm. For more information, please phone 645513714.

SPONSORED FEATURE

CAC gallery director Fernando Francés receives honorary OBE

The director of Malaga's Contemporary Art Centre was awarded the honour by the British ambassador for his efforts in bringing British art to an international stage

by ANTONIO JAVIER LÓPEZ

MALAGA. Last Friday the Hall of Mirrors at Malaga city hall filled with artists and politicians, from both the national and international arena, to witness the presentation of an honorary OBE to Fernando Francés, the director of the CAC (Malaga's Contemporary Art Centre.)

British ambassador Simon Manley presented Francés with the honorary OBE medal, after praising the CAC for helping to strengthen ties between the two countries and uniting the two cultures. He added that Francés has also made the CAC "a launch pad for British art" in the way that it has helped raise its international profile.

Indeed, over the last 14 years in which he has been director of one of Spain's most influential museums, Francés has overseen the installation of a diverse range of exhibitions by British artists. Sculptor Tony Cragg, painter Peter Doig and Turner Prize winner Tracey Emin are just some of the names on a long list of British artists who have had their work cele-



Simon Manley presents Francés with his medal :: ÁLVARO CABRERA

brated at the CAC.

It was clear from Francés' speech that he has great admiration for British artists and their work. He described how he is "captivated" by the boldness and "non-politically correct nature" of British art, and has therefore promoted it in a concerted effort "to bring the most innovative, influential and risky art" to the Malaga museum.

The director's affiliation to Britain perhaps extends further than his appreciation of the country's

artists, as a pair of Union Jack flag socks peeped out from under the hem of his trousers.

Francés also made sure to stress his view of art as a hugely important influencer in society, particularly during the current period of political and social turmoil, and that it should always seek to provoke a reaction in the viewer.



Francés' Union Flag socks.

"All forms of art have the duty to engage people to help combat these troubling times," he stated.



LA CALA LIONS HELP KNITTED KNOCKERS

La Cala de Mijas Lions Club has raised 250 euros to donate to Knitted Knockers, a charity based in Los Boliches whose members knit prostheses of all sizes for women who have had mastectomies or other breast surgery. With this donation more wool will be purchased to knit greatly needed light prostheses. President Paul Butler presented the cheque.

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Andalucía

A celebration of red tuna

Towns and villages on the Cadiz coast organise gastronomic festivals at this time of year

✪ JAVIER ALMELLONES

MALAGA. May is known all over Andalucía as the month of flowers, with traditions such as the May Crosses, the Cordoba patios and the festivities to celebrate San Isidro Labrador. The one exception is on the coast of Cadiz province, where the focus is on fish, not flowers, and especially tuna caught 'a la almadraba', as it has been for the past two thousand years.

When May begins, fishermen start catching red tuna off the Atlantic coast of Cadiz. This is the time of year when the fish come close to the shore before spawning in the Mediterranean. For those in the know, this is when they are in peak condition for eating.

The tuna is so important in this region that numerous gastronomic events are organised in Zahara de los Atunes, Barbate, Conil de la Frontera and Tarifa every year, to celebrate the catch. Many of the activities organised to coincide are also based on culture and traditions.

In Barbate, visitors will be able to sample the freshly-caught tuna from this weekend, as the Gastronomic Tuna Week has already begun, and continue to do so for the whole month via different events, including in Conil, where the 21st Tuna Route is taking place until Monday 5 June.

These events in Barbate and Conil are the biggest, but there will also be other celebrations in Zahara de los Atunes and Tarifa in the forthcoming weeks.

Barbate aims to set the standard high with its aforementioned gastronomic festival, which is taking place until Sunday. There are numerous complementary activities, including cookery demonstrations, master classes and tastings at very reasonable prices. This is the perfect opportunity to sample this fish when it is at its very best.

Many of the activities will take place in the building on the fishing wharf, the Lonja de Barbate. One of the most popular attractions is bound to be the 'tuna tapas fair', in which about 30 bars and restaurants will be taking part. This is the chance to try some very interesting tapas based on red tuna, but also to find out more about this type of fish, from its versatility as a food to the 'almadraba' fishing technique.

Meanwhile, several restaurants will be taking part in the 21st Tuna Route of Conil, which begins today. Each of them will be offering tapas made with 'atún de almadraba', as



In May, the tuna is caught via a fishing method which has been used for 2,000 years. ✪ TURISMO ANDALUZ



A ship in the Tuna Information Centre (Barbate). ✪ T. A.

local restaurants from 29 May to 4 June.

Together with La Línea de la Concepción, all these towns and villages form part of the so-called Ruta Milenaria del Atún, which provides information about the ethnographic wealth and history which lies behind every dish prepared with locally-caught tuna.

Among the places which can be visited on this Tuna Route is the Almadraba Tuna Information Centre, a permanent exhibition where you can find out all about tuna fishing, but in an entertaining and educational manner.

This information centre is in the marina in Barbate, and it explains how the 2,000-year-old fishing technique is still used today to catch red tuna.

The visit could finish with a trip on board the Francisco Varo, a ship which is about 50 years old. In its day, it used to be a support ship for tuna fishing off Zahara de los Atunes, and this makes it ideal for learning more about this fishing tradition, because it has now been restored and converted into a passenger vessel.

Also in Barbate, you can visit different canning and packing factories and buy a wide variety of tuna products from them. They include La Chanca, El Rey de Oros, Gádira, Conservas de Cádiz and Herpac, among others. Some of them even provide the opportunity of seeing a 'ronqueo' as it takes place.

Meanwhile, if you visit the village of Zahara de los Atunes you can also see the Castillo de las Almadrabas, a castle built by the Dukes of Medina Sidonia to preserve this type of fishing technique in this coastal area.

Conil de la Frontera also has a magnificent museum, where you can see tools and other items related to this type of fishing. It is called the 'Museo Municipal de Raíces Conileñas', and also includes items related to everyday life in the countryside.

The town of Tarifa has an important historical heritage thanks to its strategic location by the Straits of Gibraltar. Its most important monument, the castle of Guzmán El Bueno, is open to the public. A few kilometres away, on the idyllic Bolognia beach, you can also see the Roman town of Baelo Claudia.

These days in spring are also an ideal time of year to enjoy the fabulous beaches all along the Atlantic coast of Cadiz.

While most of the region associates the month of May with flowers, in Cadiz the focus is on tuna fishing

it is called, as a seasonal special. For a whole month, residents and visitors to Conil can enjoy the unique pleasure of trying this remarkable product in different ways, ranging from traditional recipes to the extreme avant-garde.

In Zahara de los Atunes, an outlying village in the municipality of Barbate, people will have to wait until the second half of this month to enjoy a similar event, as its ninth Tuna Route is scheduled to take place from 16 to 21 May.

This will not only be another great opportunity to try different tuna dishes, but also to discover more about the local fishing tradition. Activities which have been planned include guided tours of the fish wharves to see the 'ronqueo': in other words, how the tuna is cut up after being caught.

The final event of this month on the Atlantic coast in Cadiz province will take place in Tarifa, which is organising its own tapas route around

Fragile but determined

The parents of a girl with osteogenesis imperfecta are organising a walk on 6 May

Paula Barahona is nine years old and has had 36 bone fractures and seven operations; she suffers from a condition called 'brittle bone disease'

CHARO MÁRQUEZ

MARBELLA. In her nine short years of life, little Paula Barahona has suffered 36 fractures (not counting continually breaking her hands and feet) and undergone seven operations. Even in the womb, she had a fractured femur and humerus, although the doctor who was performing the ultrasound told her mother, Laura Agenjo, that what he was seeing could have been "distorsions on the screen".

Unfortunately that wasn't the case, and Paula was diagnosed with osteogenesis imperfecta, a rare condition known as 'brittle bone disease' because for those who suffer from it, even a graze can cause a fracture. It is a congenital disorder, characterised by excessively fragile bones, and is caused by a deficiency in the formation of a protein, type 1 collagen.

Laura says the birth was natural, which was surprising, but at the time



Paula's father carried her in a backpack for part of the way . :: SUR

the doctors were not aware of Paula's condition. Now that technology has advanced so much and ultrasound images are much clearer, such babies are always delivered by Caesarian section.

When Paula was born, both knees were dislocated; when she was two

On 6 May, the 'yellow wave' walk will take place, starting from the Refugio de Juanar

For 10 euros, those taking part will be given a bag with a T-shirt, sandwich and water

months old she broke a femur; she has had surgery on her navel because the weakness of her skeleton also caused hernias. For her, fractures and operations began before she was even born.

However, far from staying at home, Paula wants to enjoy life like any other child. She goes to school and tries not to miss any of the activities. She attends a private school, the Atalaya, where her family pay for her to be assisted by a carer.

"She can't go to a state school because there is only one carer for two or three children with special needs and Paula needs somebody with her all the time, because the slightest bump can end up as a fracture," says Laura, who visited several private schools in Marbella to find the one which was most suitable for her daughter.

She is keen for Paula not to miss any event on the social calendar of a nine-year-old girl. For example, at last year's annual fair, she dressed up her wheelchair to make it look like a horse and Paula wore a traditional frilly dress. "I adapt everything for her so she can enjoy things like any other girl of her age," Laura explains.

Recently, Paula, her parents and a group of fire fighters and members of the Marbella Climbing Club (CEM) went on a walk up La Concha, the mountain behind Marbella.

"It was something Paula has been wanting to do for some time," says Laura, who admits that she couldn't relax until they reached the summit. Any brusque movement could



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have resulted in another injury for her daughter.

Paula made the trip up the mountain in a backpack which was carried by her father and the climbers in turn. "She did some small stretches alone, on foot, though," says her mother, proudly. It is a difficult route even for experienced hikers, but especially so for a young girl with this condition.

Ascent

It was three hours and 20 minutes of hard going, especially for those who carried Paula in her backpack, and another two and a half hours to return. She is very happy now, though, because she has fulfilled one of her dreams: she has climbed La Concha. Once at the top, feeling more relaxed, she rested on the seat which the Piel de Mariposa association had placed there after a fundraising walk with the Marbella fire fighters. The association also collaborates with Paula's family.

"She is incredibly determined; she is a very happy and optimistic child and she copes with the illness better than we do," says Laura.

May 6th is the Day of Osteogenesis Imperfecta, and to make the condition better known and raise funds for research, Paula's parents have organised a walk, which they are calling the "yellow wave", because that is the colour reference assigned to the condition.

The walk will be from the Refugio de Juanar to the viewing point. It will be much more comfortable than the one Paula did up La Con-



Paula in her wheelchair, ready for the fair. :: SUR

cha, and those taking part will be able to enjoy incomparable natural scenery. It costs 10 euros to take part, and in return the walkers will be given a bag with a T-shirt, sandwich and bottle of water. And, of course, the satisfaction of being able to help Paula and others with 'brittle bone disease'.

However weak she may be physically, Paula Barahona is determined to get the most out of life and enjoy it as any young girl should.

i Further information: Search 'Paula Seis Mayo' on Facebook

"The cases of fraud have affected us, but everybody knows who we are"

:: C. MÁRQUEZ

MARBELLA. The recent cases of Paco Sanz and the parents of Nadia Nerea, who are alleged to have defrauded people who were convinced that the money they donated would be used to improve their lives, have affected Paula and her cause.

Laura, her mother, even admits that she was one of those cheated by Paco Sanz. "I sent him money, and I spoke to him. It makes my blood boil to think about what he did," she says.

However, Laura insists that in Paula's case, everything is above

board. "The people know us and they know Paula. They talk to her, they know what she is fighting and the pain she suffers."

All the money received from the 'yellow wave' walk will go towards research into osteogenesis imperfecta, which is being carried out by the AHUCE Foundation. "I don't want any money going into my bank account, it will all go to the foundation," insists Laura. Luckily, she says, thanks to support from the family, she and her husband are able to pay the high costs associated with Paula's illness. "Other children aren't so

lucky and they have to stay shut indoors at home," she says.

Support

Personalities such as chef Dani García and singer Rosario Flores have joined the campaign to raise awareness of Paula's case and her yellow wave walk.

Those affected by osteogenesis (about 3,000 in Spain) are placing their hopes on gene therapy, which consists of introducing specific genes into the cells of the patient to combat the illness. There have been advances in other conditions, but in osteogenesis the studies are only just beginning.

In September, Paula will take part in clinical tests with 150 other children, which will involve them being given a derivative of chemotherapy.

Specsavers competition offers cash prizes to entrants with the most 'specs appeal'

:: RACHEL ARMSTRONG

MALAGA. Specsavers has launched its annual Spectacle Wearer of the Year competition which aims to provide a platform for people to showcase their style and personality while wearing their glasses.

The campaign will run until 11 June, with designer frames up for grabs for five semifinalists and a cash prize of 1,000 euros on offer for the winner.

Organisers are delighted to have blogger Bea Pla as the face of this year's competition.

The fashion lover from Valencia started her blog in 2013 when she decided to combine her passion for fashion with her love of photography.

Since then she has featured in various magazines, been selected as a Marie Claire IT girl and modelled in the Glamour Street Fashion Show.

"We believe that her image will inspire others to show the world how good they look in their glasses," said José Ángel Moral-Tajadura, commercial director of Specsavers Opticas.

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The debate about euthanasia begins again, ten years after Living Wills were introduced

A decade after Inmaculada Echevarría won the right to die, regulations in Andalucía are the most advanced in Spain

:: LALIA GONZÁLEZ-SANTIAGO

SEVILLE. It is now ten years since the death of Inmaculada Echevarría, the woman from Granada who demanded to be disconnected from the machines which were keeping her alive, and once again the subject of euthanasia, the right to die with dignity, has become a matter of debate.

At that time, Inmaculada's case resulted in changes being put into effect in Andalucía about one specific aspect, the Law of Dignified Death, which included the concept of a Living Will. Now, once again, something has happened which has brought the subject back into the public eye: the suicide, filmed himself, of José Antonio Arrabal on 6 April, who expressed his anger at having to die "in secret".

The impact of this recording was so strong that the Ciudadanos po-

litical party has now proposed a new law to the Spanish parliament, but its wording sidesteps the subject of euthanasia. The Unidos Podemos party has presented an alternative text, and several regional MPs have urged parliament to approve it.

Maturity

Dr Ángel Salvatierra, the head of the thoracic surgery unit at the Reina Sofía hospital in Cordoba and a member of the Bioethics Committee of Andalucía, believes that society is now sufficiently mature to tackle the debate.

"That's my opinion," he says, "but it is supported by a recent survey by the CIS which shows that only 10 per cent of the population is not in favour of opening the debate, 50.4 are in favour and 15.2 per cent think it is a good idea but are not completely certain. This means that a majority of the population agrees that it should be looked at," he says.

It is, however, a sensitive subject which "only about two per cent of the world's population" has considered, says Dr Salvatierra. At present, euthanasia is prohibited

under Spanish law. It is only authorised in five countries in the world, and the Netherlands was the first to do so, 15 years ago. In most places, the subject is still out of bounds, although as Dr Salvatierra points out, "in Spain in general and in Andalucía in particular, the idea of the right to a dignified death was quickly accepted, and I think the time has come for euthanasia to be discussed once again."

In Andalucía, the case of Inmaculada Echevarría marked a before and after in patients' rights

José Antonio Arrabal filmed himself committing suicide and was angry at having to die "in secret"

He also regrets that although ten years have passed since the new regulations were introduced in Andalucía, few people are aware of them. "There has been little publicity about the Living Will, and few people have signed one. Doctors here always inform patients about this possibility, because it is their right. It is very useful when the patient loses consciousness, and if medical staff are subject to rigid regulations," he says.

He also points out that there are differences between Andalucía and other regions, such as Galicia. "Here, some things are normal, but not elsewhere," he explains.

He recalls the case of Andrea, a 12-year-old girl with a terminal neurological condition. Doctors in Santiago de Compostela refused to remove the tubes which were keeping her alive and her parents had to fight a very hard battle until the authorities finally agreed in October 2015. "In Andalucía, it is almost normal now for medical support to be withdrawn in cases such as that, and for treatment to be rejected," he says.

As the president of the Ethics Committee of Cordoba, Dr Salva-

tierra explains that there are three ways in which these cases are considered. "Either a relative of a patient who is unconscious or restricted in making decisions comes to us, or the patients themselves do so, or the doctors. The doctors consult the ethics committees most often, to resolve doubts."

The procedure then is for a meeting to be held and the situation analysed in detail before making a decision.

These committees are normally only for consultation purposes, although in cases of donations between living people, for example if somebody donates an organ to a relative, the committee has to issue a report and authorise the donation before it can go ahead.

There are very few, if any, cases of consultations about dignified death in Andalucía, says Dr Salvatierra, "because the doctors are perfectly aware of how to restrict life support. The law has proven useful for patients, relatives and professionals."

I ask him if it is true that Andalucía is ahead of the rest of the country in this field. "In this case we are pioneers and we are quite a long way ahead of the country as a whole. It's



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Inmaculada Echevarría, who suffered from progressive muscular dystrophy, fought for the right to die. :: G. M.

fair to say it," he confirms.

Echevarría, a pioneer

The case of Inmaculada Echevarría changed a great deal. She was 51 when she died, and for nine years she had been fighting for the respirator which kept her alive to be turned off.

She had spent 20 years bedridden with muscular dystrophy. She had had a very difficult life: at the age of 11 she was diagnosed with a condition which would leave her tetraplegic; her husband died in a traffic accident, and as a result she was forced to give her eight-month-old son up

for adoption. Her battle for the right to a dignified death resulted in tremendous controversy and the opposition of the Church, but she was finally transferred from the hospital in which she had spent so much time, after a pioneering decision by the Junta de Andalucía's Ethics Commi-

tee to authorise it. The decision made it clear that restricting her treatment was in accordance with the law, and that no action could be taken against the medical professionals who disconnected the respirator.

Dr Salvatierra says that nowadays "mechanical ventilation is often

stopped without causing any ethical problems. It means not keeping a person in a situation where they have no possibility of maintaining even a half-dignified life situation."

In Andalucía, the case of Inmaculada Echevarría marked a before and after and inspired the pioneer law, Law 2/2010 of Rights and Guarantees of the Dignity of People in the Process of Death.

Living Will

One of the main features of this law is the Living Will and the Andalusian Register of Anticipated Final Wishes. This is a document, which has to comply with certain requirements, and can now be done online, in which the person, whilst in full possession of their faculties, "consciously and freely" states their options and instructions regarding health care which have to be respected in the case of clinical circumstances in which they cannot express their wishes. It cannot include instructions which contravene the law.

Registration centres

A person's living will includes their medical history in case the medical personnel need to consult it. The will can be rejected, modified or cancelled at any time.

There are 56 places in which Anticipated Final Wishes can be registered; eight are in the provincial Equality, Health and Social Policies departments, 28 in hospitals, 14 in municipal health centres, four in regional health centres and two in specialist centres.

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We speak 

PILAR MANZANARES

He was born in El Cañavate, a village in Cuenca, in 1948 and became one of the most powerful men in Spanish banking; he held various posts including president of Banco Exterior de España, and he was a director of Banco Santander until he retired in 2012. With an extremely comfortable pension, Francisco Luzón could have enjoyed a happy retirement with his family, but destiny threw him a cruel blow and in 2015 he was diagnosed with amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS). This is a terrible degenerative neuro-muscular illness of unknown origin; it leads to a selective degeneration of the motoneurons, which are responsible for innervating the muscles involved in voluntary movement.

Although the ALS is determined to stop him, literally, (in fact this interview was only possible thanks to a voice projected from his telephone which transcribes what he writes down), Luzon, who was recently awarded the Alfonso X The Wise Grand Cross of the Civil Order for his contribution to culture, education and teaching, is still an active man. He decided to stand up to the illness and make it more visible, and he has used his resources, his name and his professional skills to form a foundation which helps those suffering from the illness and funds research into it.

ALS is more common in men than women. In Spain, about 4,000 people are believed to be affected by it,



Francisco Luzón during the presentation of the Foundation which bears his name. :: ÓSCAR CHAMORRO

and its low prevalence makes it almost invisible in society. However, its effects are devastating. Life expectancy after diagnosis is only five years for 80 per cent of patients, although the way the illness evolves and affects lives can vary greatly between individuals.

–When did you start to notice the symptoms of what you were later

told was ALS?

–I noticed the first symptoms in October 2013, when I was walking from my home to the Bernabéu stadium. That was when I realised that I found it difficult to talk when I walked at a certain speed. Then, the same thing started happening when I was talking on the phone, sitting or lying down. In December that year, at a

dinner party at my house, a friend who is a neurologist said to me: “Paco, something’s not right. It’s hard to understand what you’re saying. Why don’t we do a resonance scan?” And that’s how it began.

–After those symptoms, how long did it take for them to diagnose this illness?

–As you know, this illness doesn’t

have a specific marker like TB or diabetes. How is it diagnosed? Well, they check for lots of different possible infections or illnesses. And when they have ruled out cancer or other conditions and they see how you are deteriorating physically, that’s when they end up saying: “You have ALS.” **–It must be dreadfully hard to receive news like that. How did you**

**Francisco Luzón
Economist and ALS sufferer**

Economist Francisco Luzón was one of the most powerful men in Spanish banking. Now, seriously affected by ALS, he has become one of the most tenacious fighters against an illness which needs to be made more visible

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take it?

-The diagnosis was progressive. They finally told me in January 2015, one year and three months after the first symptoms appeared. My family and I began to learn about amyotrophic lateral sclerosis gradually through that year. It was devastating. For the first two years I found it terribly hard to deal with emotionally. Now the problems are physical because, as you can see, I can't talk, or eat, or walk very well. But I have to tell you that I live with great hope. I can assure you that fighting for people who have ALS, and supporting research so that in the future nobody will suffer from it, keeps me alive.

-How did your family take the news?

-My wife always came with me; she was always at my side when they did tests and gave us the results. We were as one. We told our children and other family members bit by bit, gently and carefully. Obviously, in January 2015 the whole family knew, and it was hard for the whole family to take it in.

-Then came the moment when you decided to fight the illness and create your foundation.

-Yes, the biggest question for me during 2015 was "What am I going to do with my life now? Just sink into despair?" I have always been an active person, someone who likes transforming things. The doctors told me to relax and just enjoy my time but that didn't make any sense to me. That would have meant not being myself any more. That's why, as the

What's needed in the fight against ALS

We asked Francisco Luzón, the president of the foundation which bears his name, what he considers is needed most in the fight against ALS. This is what he said: "The Minister for Health wants to set up a National Plan against ALS, which is very positive news for those of us who suffer from it. In the name of the Luzón Foundation, I will list the five things which we believe should be a priority:

First: that every ALS patient receives the same treatment no matter which region of Spain they live in.

Second: modify the law of dependence for people with this illness, which isn't like others such as cancer or heart conditions. It often takes over a year for certain needs to be met. Some patients have died before receiving the help they need.

Third: improve treatment for patients in their home, where they spend 90 per cent of their life.

Fourth: create specialist units for ALS in a few hospitals where patients receive multidisciplinary clinical treatment.

Fifth: start investing in research now, taking advantage of the investigative talent which already exists. Spain is low down the list in this field among developed European countries."

"Fighting for ALS sufferers, and supporting research so that nobody will suffer from it in future, keeps me alive"

illness began to affect me more and I saw how much the way the treatment could be improved, and I realised there is such a lack of knowledge

"When you are loved, you live through the experience with less fear and desperation"

about it in society and the medical profession, I decided to create the Luzón Foundation later that year.

January 2015? What has happened to you?

-My ALS is bulbar, which means the neurones which send the messages from the medulla oblongata to the muscles of the throat and mouth were the first ones to start to die. That's why my first symptoms affected my speech and, at the same time but more slowly, my capacity to eat and drink. Later, towards the end of 2015, I lost my speech completely, and it was becoming more and more difficult to swallow. In July 2016 they fitted a gastric tube and they inject food and medicine through that to keep me well nourished. I don't take anything by mouth any more. And since last summer the degenerative process has begun to extend to my feet, legs, arms and hands. I'm losing muscle strength and losing weight drastically. Now I find it very difficult to walk, shave, or get dressed. In other words, I'm no longer self-sufficient.

-Have you needed psychological help?

-No. Why would I? It hasn't been necessary and I'm sure that is because of my mental strength and the strong support of my family and friends. When you are loved, you live through the experience with less fear and desperation.

-During these years, you have met other people who also suffer from ALS. What fears do you have in common? I imagine that you talked about such things to help you with the focus for your foundation.

-I have met many others, and am still doing so. Many doctors say that

most ALS sufferers are good people. Whether that is a result of the illness, I don't know. What I do know is that meeting someone with ALS is finding a friend for life. We greet each other with a big hug. Since I appeared in the media last November, and since the foundation was set up, I have noticed increasing interest in the illness and the people who suffer from it, as well as in the foundation. That is beginning to open a window for hope.

-What have you learned since you have had this illness? I imagine you have had a lot of time to think.

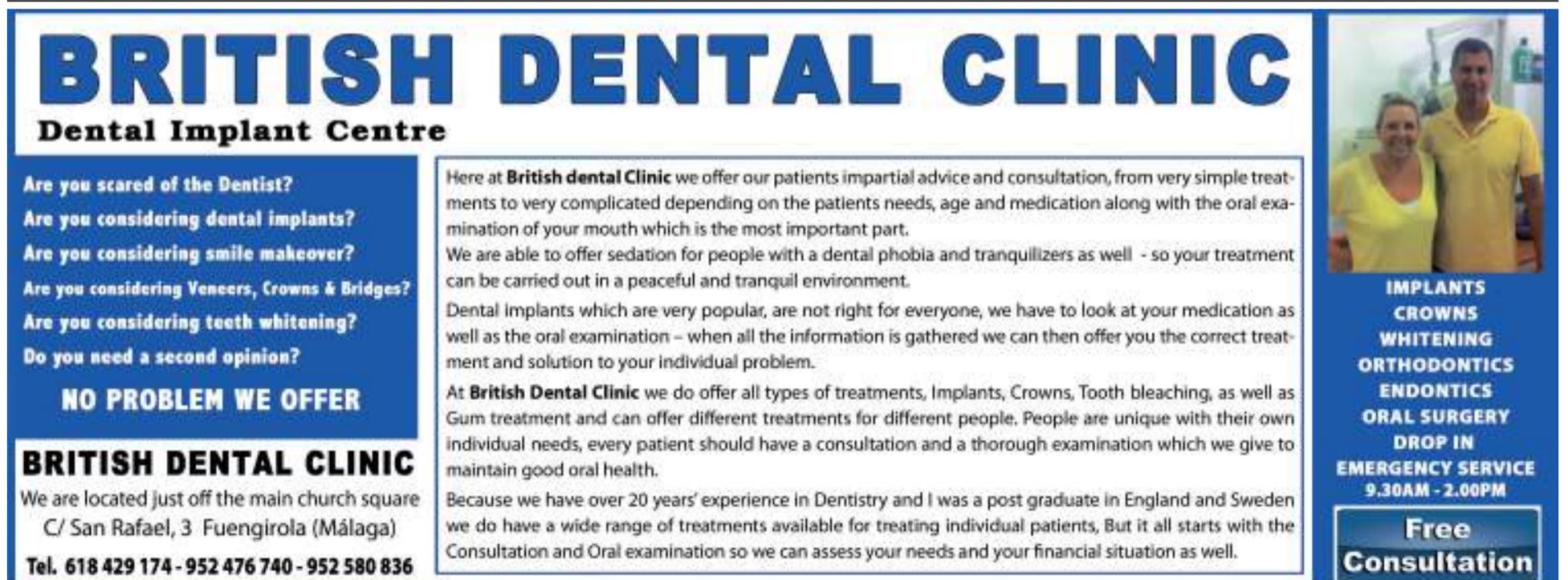
-I have learned many things, but two especially: one, that life is the most important thing we have and it is a mistake not to love it. The other is that love and affection give sense to life. Life isn't something you can buy in a supermarket or boutique. Life is yours. Don't make the mistake of selling it.

-A lesson of life...

-Death doesn't exist for human beings. What exists is life. That's why I believe that if we only realised that, the world would be very different.

-Are you afraid? Do you think much about the future, about what tomorrow might bring?

-I try to do that as little as possible. How? By being busy for as much time as I can, dedicating myself to improving treatment and research. The foundation and my family are what enable me to keep a smile on my face, because what is important to me is today and doing today what I might not be able to do tomorrow.



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Malaga specialist named president of leading American institution fighting cancer

Eduardo Fernández takes charge of an organisation which is facing the challenge of developing radiotherapy treatments in the fight against cancer

ÁNGEL ESCALERA

MALAGA. A doctor from Malaga, Eduardo Fernández, 53, has been named president of the American College of Radiation Oncology (ACRO), the professional society for specialists in radiation oncology practice in the United States.

The main focus of the organisation is on promoting the highest quality of radiotherapy care to patients with cancer, while also spreading awareness of the benefits of radiation oncology and the advanced technology used in treatments.

Fernández went to Los Olivos school before studying medicine at the University of Malaga, where he also obtained his doctorate and

became an associate lecturer of Radiology.

In the 1990s Fernández moved to the United States, spending four years in Cleveland before moving to Florida, where he has resided since 1998.

The 53-year-old is also the Medical Director of the company 21st Century Oncology.

"I have a very busy clinical practice, I see an average of 40 patients a week," he explained to SUR on Tuesday.

As recently as Monday, he had the opportunity to meet senators Marco Rubio and Bill Nelson in Washington, as part of a delegation representing radiotherapists in Florida state, but a packed schedule complicated matters and he therefore decided not to attend.

On being elected president by members of the college, the doctor stated that it was "a huge honour", having already been vice president of ACRO since 2015.

However, Fernández realises that this is just the beginning: "We have many challenges ahead such as, for example, the role of radiotherapy in modern oncology, the approach to economic and legislative issues, as well as the fight against unqualified practice," he explained to SUR.

The specialist from Malaga holds both Spanish and American passports, and is now one of the most distinguished figures in his field.

Asked about his current connections with Spain and with Malaga, Fernández added: "I keep in touch with friends and family there. I have good friends in the field of oncology in Spain in general and in Malaga in particular, but I am not involved in oncological issues over there."



Eduardo Fernández. :: SUR



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Fernández graduated and obtained his doctorate from the University of Malaga before heading to the States

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Top chefs attend Malaga's Gastronomy Festival

The festival is in its fourth year and this year combined traditional Malaga cooking with Argentine dishes

Chefs from Michelin starred restaurants all over Spain came to Malaga to take part in the festival which showcased the province's gastronomy

REGINA SOTORRÍO

MALAGA. A score of Spain's top chefs (from restaurants with a total of 30 Michelin stars between them) have been taking part in the Festival Gastronómico in Malaga this week.

Paco Pérez (Miramar, 5 stars), Mario Sandoval (Coque, 2 stars), Eneko Atxa (Azurmendi, 3 stars), Fina Puigdevall

(Le Cols, 2 stars), Paco Morales (Noor, 1 star), Andoni Luis Aduriz (Mugaritz, 2 stars) were among the chefs who strolled around the city and tasted the best of the local cuisine.

With them was the cream of Malaga's culinary scene, represented by José Carlos García (JCG), Diego Gallegos (Sollo), Mauricio Giovanini (Messina), Juan José Carmona (El Lago) and Luis Olarra (Kabuki Raw). Marbella's Dani García was unable to attend due to previous engagements, nor was Marcos Granda, of Skina (his head chef went in his place).

This, the 4th Gastronomy Festival of its kind, was organised by Apicius magazine which is celebrating fifteen

years as the spearhead of Spanish gastronomy with an exhibition in Calle Larios.

On Monday the chefs visited the display of blown-up photographs on a stroll through the city. They then headed towards the port, to the restaurant of José Carlos García (JCG) on Muelle Uno, where he had prepared them the most Malaga-styled menu possible. Razor shell clams, dogfish stew, 'ajoblanco', pickled anchovies, 'porra' and fried anchovies, the latter prepared by his mother Encarna. "I asked her because she does it better than me," admitted the chef with a laugh.

Later that evening there was a gala dinner at the Gran Hotel Miramar where the menu included dishes by eleven different chefs from across the province. The meal included Malaga mackerel ceviche from Sergio del Río of the Óleo restaurant, swordfish in brown butter from Willie Orellana of Uvedoble and prawn ravioli with razor shell clams from Juan José Carmona of El Lago. The evening was completed with tastings of products from the Sabor a Málaga brand.

Other activities included a film dedicated to Argentinian chef Francis Mallmann in the Albéniz cinema followed by a meal at JCG's in Malaga with Argentinian chef Javier Ro-



The chefs pose together in José Carlos García's restaurant in Muelle Uno.

Marina Street Food

The Gastronomy Festival continues in Malaga's Plaza de la Marina until 7 May with stalls selling street food, local wines and beers, a cocktail zone etc. There will also be workshops for adults and children, cookery classes, show cooking and live music.



José Carlos García. :: A. C.

dríguez. There were also dining experiences 'Cocinando entre amigos' in which top Spanish chefs paired with their Argentinian counterparts to prepare special menus.

Malaga Street Food is the last activity in this week's festival and is running until Sunday in the Plaza de la Marina.

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:: A. CABRERA



Albert Raurich, Paco Morales and Andoni Luis Aduriz. :: A. C.



The chefs, in their white jackets, stroll along Calle Larios. :: A. C.

A. J. LINN

LISTING AGAIN



There are too many lists that evaluate everything and anything in order of distinction, whether chain-store sandwiches, dog-walkers, or airport VIP lounges. Indeed, if you have nothing better to do, it may not be a bad idea to find something worth ranking, as it appears there is an endless demand for such pitiful information.

A particular listing/ranking that gets up a lot of foodie's noses is the '50 Best Restaurants' published by Restaurant Magazine annually. The latest edition is just out, although it is hard to identify its purpose. Michelin and TripAdvisor, both of which give rise to extreme opinions, at least come to our aid when we find ourselves far from home and on the lookout for a restaurant that suits our tastes and pockets. The '50 Best' serves no such purpose.

The latest list features, as usual, top Spanish restaurants El Celler de C'an Roca, Asador Etxebarri, Mugaritz, Arzac and Azurmendi high up the list. But you need to dig deeper to find out

that Valencia's Quique Dacosta has dropped from the '50 Best' to the 'Second 50', leaving us guessing why a 'Top 50' list features a 'Second 50'. Perhaps there are third and fourth 50s.

Who benefits from this enormous ego trip? No pretence is made of it being anything other than a publicity stunt on behalf of top chefs and upmarket eateries. Of these, 60% are located in Europe, and feature multi-course tasting menus costing an average of 300 euros plus wine. There is no doubt however that for the lucky few the listing can bring fame and fortune. When Copenhagen's Noma was nominated in 2010 as The Best Restaurant in the World, there were allegedly a hundred thousand calls to make reservations within the following 24 hours.

So the last word goes to New York chef, Anthony Bourdain, speaking a few days ago about the List in Kitchen Confidential: 'Everybody is playing along because nobody wants the party to stop,' he says. 'A lot of people benefit from it, but I think most of the chefs know its bullshit.'



Anthony Bourdain. :: SUR



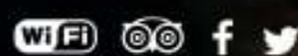
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EXHIBITIONS

The Russian museum

Malaga. Edificio Tabacalera, Avda Sor Teresa Prat. Tues-Sun 9.30am - 10pm.
The Russian museum's seasonal exhibition until 16 July is called 'Kandinsky y Rusia' and comprises 78 pieces by well known Russian artists such as Kandinsky. The annual exhibition entitled La Dinastia Románov, includes many portraits of Russian royalty before the family were assassinated in 1918.

Malaga Glass Museum

Malaga. Permanent exhibition. Plazuela Santísimo Cristo de la Sangre.
The glass museum has two restored glass panels on display which were made by the Spanish company Mauméjean.

Picasso ceramics

Mijas. Permanent exhibition. Centro de Arte Contemporáneo, Mijas, Calle Málaga, 11am - 7pm.
An exhibition of 44 ceramics created by Malaga artist, Pablo Ruiz Picasso.

Ruiz de Luna

Malaga. Museo Municipal del Patrimonio (MUPAM), Paseo de Reding.
An exhibition dedicated to the Ruiz de Luna ceramic dynasty. Around 300 pieces are on display including ceramics, drawings, watercolours and sculptures.

'Neighbours III'

Malaga. Permanent collection. Centro de Arte Contemporáneo, Calle Alemania.
Works by local Malaga artists are on display in 'Neighbours III'. Many different techniques and subjects are included.

Museum Jorge Rando

Malaga. Cruz del Molinillo, 12
The works of contemporary artist Jorge Rando are on permanent display. The museum also holds poetry and musical events.

Mercedes López Charro

Marbella. Until 31 May. Kasser Rassa Art Gallery, Blvd Principe Alfonso de Hohenloe
Mercedes works as a freelance illustrator drawing a wide range of lifestyle, fashion and food illustrations, using techniques such as watercolour and artist marker pens. www.mercedeslopezcharro.com

Magpie International Gallery.

Marbella. Until 18 May. C/Virgen del Pilar. 200m from port.
An exhibition of photographic art by British artist Ginny Aston entitled 'Reflections on Reflections'.

El Campanario

Estepona. Until 15 June, El Campanario Golf and Country House.
An joint exhibition by Sandra Winkelmann and Dana Nowak.

Ludovic Cesari

San Pedro. Until 20 June. Bhubo Decoración
French born artist/photographer Ludovic Cesari is displaying a selection of his work.

New Longman's

Estepona. Until 4 May, Plaza de Manilva, 6
An exhibition of paintings by Steven Timmermans.

Picasso's birth place

Malaga. Until 11 June, Sala de Exposiciones, Casa Natal de Picasso
Picasso's birth place houses two exhibitions, both running until June. The first, entitled 'Arte Recuperado (1916-1957)' contains a selection of works by several Spanish artists on



MAM, Malaga

loan from Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofía. The second, 'Junto al aura de Picasso', consists of works that harmonise with Picasso's style and execution such as Tàpies, Julio González and Miró.

Travis Somerville

Malaga. 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.

Fausto Velázquez

Malaga. Until 31 May, Fundación Unicaja, Plaza del Siglo.
'Frida Kahlo, La vida como obra de arte' is an exhibition of paintings by artist and collector Fausto Velázquez. The artist was inspired to recreate the photos of Frida and her life in a series of paintings.

Arte Recuperado

Malaga. Until 11 June. Casa Natal de Picasso, Plaza de la Merced.
A selection of paintings entitled 'Arte Recuperado 1916- 1957' is on temporary loan to the Casa Natal.

It includes works by Spanish masters including Josep Togores, Esteban Vicente, Alberto Sánchez and Pablo Gargallo among others.

Jia Aili

Malaga. Until 18 June, Centro de Arte Contemporáneo.
Jia Aili is an emerging Chinese artist whose works reflect the dramatic changes in Chinese society since the year 2000.

Francisco Javier Valverde

Malaga. Until 3 June, Galeria Columna JM, Duquesa de Parcent.
An exhibition of paintings by Francisco Javier Valverde entitled 'Oleoramas del Parque del Oeste'.

Faces in a family album

Malaga. Until 30 June, Sala 17, La Térmica.
A selection of photographs taken by film producer Isobel Coixet of some of the stars in the films.

Automobile museum.

Malaga. Until 20 July. Avda Sor Teresa Prat
The museum has an interesting exhibition of haute couture as well as vintage cars..

'Lo Aparencia de lo real'

Malaga. Until 10 September. Museo Carmen Thyssen, C/Compañía, 10
Three generations of Spanish artists are represented in this exhibition which reveals the artists' attempts to create illusions of reality.

Bacon, Freud and the London School

Malaga. Until 17 September. Picasso Museum
This exhibition is the result of an agreement between the Tate in London and the Picasso museum in Malaga. It features 90 works cover-



Jia Aili CAC, Malaga



Elaine Carlton, Mijas

ing eighty years by renowned artists such as Freud, Bacon, Kossof, Ronald B. Kitaj, Michael Andrews, Euan Uglow and Paula Rego. www.museopicassomalaga.org

Paula Vincenti, Inside Out
Antequera. *Until 29 May.* Centro Unicaja de Cultura, C/Cantareros. Argentinean artist Paula Vincenti exhibits a selection of her works.

Artistas Eclécticos
Mijas Pueblo. *Until 19 May.* Clínica Veterinaria, Avd México 21. Works by Sinikka Ahokas-Gröhn, Elaine Carlton and Margit Björklund. www.artistasectecticos.com

Elaine Carlton
Mijas. *Until 31 May.* Hotel TRH Mijas. An exhibition entitled 'Organic' by artist Elaine Carlton. It explores the growth of living things and is created from natural products. wool, silk, rayon, cotton and metal.

Torremolinos Chic
Torremolinos. *Permanent exhibition, Casa de los Navajas.* A permanent exhibition of photographs taken in the 60s and 70s entitled Torremolinos Chic. It features around twenty photographs.

Costa del Sol Photographic Society exhibition
Benalmádena. *Until 26 May.* Castillo Bil Bil. Open Monday 10am-1.30pm. Tues-Frid 9am-2pm and 4-10pm.

Happy Artists
Mijas Costa. *Until 1 June.* BocArte Restaurante, C/Cómpeta. Paintings by the accomplished An exhibition of works by Astrid Zehetner, a local Norwegian artist.

Graffiti Extravagance
Fuengirola. *Until 11 May.* Double Tree by Hilton, Reserva del Higuerón. A solo exhibition by internationally known street artist, Victoriano. Organised by Artmoves.

Frontera Líquida
Benalmádena. *Until 18 June.* Centro Andaluz de la Fotografía. A visual record of Andalucía and Morocco.

A. Hidalgo
Nerja. *Until 11 May.* La casa municipal de Arte, C/Almirante Ferandíz. Bright colourful paintings by A. Hidalgo. 



Michelle Peschke will give demonstrations in horsemanship. :: T. B.

Open day to raise funds for SEARCH

TONY BRYANT
COÍN. SEARCH is holding an open day and natural horse training demonstration on Saturday, 6 May.

Local horse trainer, Michelle Peschke, will be on hand to give demonstrations and she will be available to answer questions on all aspects of horsemanship.

Finca El Sueño in Coín, the equine charity's headquarters, has recently incurred severe damage caused by heavy rain.

The charity has suffered with the problem since last December and has needed to rely on the help of volunteers to repair broken fences and clear mud

and water from the property's grounds.

The open day was scheduled to take place last weekend, but the event was cancelled due to the heavy rain and wind.

Susan Barns explained the difficult situation they are faced with and she expressed the necessity to raise sufficient money to restock lost hay and repair severe damage to their property.

The event will begin at 11.30am and continue until 4pm. Tickets cost five euros and a buffet and drinks will be available.

 www.serch.es

EXHIBITIONS

Galería Krabbe

Frigiliana. Until 13 May. Galería Krabbe, C/Rosario La Joaquín. An exhibition of collective art work entitled Landscapes A4.

Robert Bell

Periana. Until 31 May. La Galería, Villa Olivia. La Galería is having a special public open day on 5 May, 5-7pm for the exhibition of photographs by Robert Bell. Reservations and for viewings after that date email: info@la-galeria.eu or call 951139153.

CHARITY

Chamber of Secrets

Torremolinos. 13 May, 8pm. Montemar Theatre. 32.95€ An evening of magic, mind reading, comedy and music. Ticket price includes Sangria, beer or refreshments. 15€ of each ticket goes to Cudeca Hospice. Limited seating tel: 663083249.



Fiesta in Jubrique

Anniversary charity concert

Benalmádena. 26 May, 9pm. Moonlight Bar, Sunset Beach Club. To celebrate their 30th birthday, the Sunset Beach Club are holding a concert presented by Rikki Lavazza with special guest Vikki Rae. They will be performing tributes to Michael Bublé, Robbie Williams and



Artist Eugenio Merino with his sculpture of Picasso. :: FERNANDO GONZÁLEZ

'Here lies Picasso'

:: ANTONIO JAVIER LÓPEZ

MALAGA. The Alianza Francesa building in Malaga is the temporary custodian of an eerily lifelike sculpture of Pablo Ruíz Picasso. The sculpture is life size and is dressed in the striped white and navy jumper which became his trademark attire.

The effigy was created by artist Eugenio Moreno who aimed to

INFORMATION

► **When.** Until 28 July.

► **Where.** Alianza Francesa, C/Beatas, Malaga.

► **Hours.** Monday to Friday, 10am-2pm and 4.30-7.30pm. Entry is free.

show how the figure of Picasso has been exploited in Malaga, and how he has become another 'souvenir' of Malaga.

This isn't the first sculpture of a body that the artist has created. In 2012 his work 'Always Franco' was shown at the Feria de Arco. It was a life-sized replica of General Franco inside a fridge.

Adele. Tickets 10€ include canapés on arrival tel: 695887366. Funds raised will go to Debra (butterfly children), Barrets Town and Make a wish charities.

Open Gardens Charity event

Granada. 27/28 May. Three stunning gardens will be opening their gates to the public to raise funds for Acompalia, Valle Verde Animal Rescue and La

Chocolatada charities. The gardens are Jardin de la Alpujarra, Orgiva Tea Garden and Jardin Nevada. Tickets which allow entry to all three gardens cost 5€, under 12s cost 2.50€. www.facebook.com/opengardensandalucia/ #opengardensandalucia

MUSIC & DANCE

The Wall Bar

Malaga. Hotel Vincci Posada del Patio, 11pm. Free.

5 May. Rosa Ruíz y Foky.

6 May. Delirium Blues Fusion. Lourdes del Pino and Javier Esteve, vocals and guitar. Blues fusion.

Concert at the dolmens

Estepona. 6 May, 8pm. Parque San Isidro Labrador. Los Pedregales. 12€.

The cello and sax duo 'Electro Experience' (TIN Fernández and Karol Marin) will be performing at the dolmens. Bookings: 675942975 / 626912311

Promúsica chamber orchestra

Malaga. 6 May, 8pm. Sala Unicaja de Conciertos María Cristina. The programme, 'From Classicism to the 20th century' includes Symphony in F by C. Ordóñez, Concerto in D major for cello by Haydn and Romanian Folk Dan-

ces by Bela Bartok.

Juventudes Musicales

Almuñécar. 8 May, 8.30pm. Casa de la Cultura. 8€ Seasonal concerts. Brahms and Beethoven sonatas.

Malaga Philharmonic Orchestra

Malaga. Auditorio Edgar Neville. 5 May 8pm. Ruy Blas overture Op 95 by Mendelssohn, Concerto in A minor Op 129 for orchestra and cello by Schumann in the first half followed by Symphony n° 5 in E minor Op 64 by Tchaikovsky. Conducted by Alejandro de Palma.

The Elvis experience



Open Gardens, Alpujarra

Fuengirola. 6, 7 May, 8pm (Sunday 7pm.) Teatro Salon Varietés Johnny G in a journey through the life and music of the "King of Rock'n'Roll". www.salonvarietestheatre.com

Atarfe Symphonic Orchestra

Almuñécar. 7 May, 9pm. Casa de la Cultura. Beethoven's greatest including: Coriolan Overture Op 62; Symphony n°5 in C minor and Piano concerto n° 4 in G major. Piano soloist is Ambrosio Valero, conductor is José Antonio Guerrero.

Concert at Ocón's house

Malaga. 10 May, 8pm. C/Marcos Zapata, 7, El Palo. A concert in tribute to Eduardo Ocón in the house in Malaga where he once lived. Sopranos Itziar Jimera and Carmen Boatella will be performing with pianists Isabel Palacios and Germán Prieto.

T.I.M.S choir

Fuengirola 6 May, midday. Plaza de la Constitución.

T.I.M.S. Choir have been asked by Lux Mundi to join the 'Coro Rociero and the choir from San José Parish Church in performing at an Ecumenical 'Churches together' service to celebrate the resurrection of Christ.

Alhaurín el Grande 14 May, Cemetery Chapel

T.I.M.S. choir will be performing four songs at a special praise service.

Fuengirola Pop

Fuengirola. From 22-25 June. Sohail castle and Pogs Bar

The legendary Beach Boys are already in the line up for this year's event. More information: www.fuengirolapop.com

FLAMENCO

Weekly flamenco shows

Malaga. Keliye Flamenco, C/Muro de Puerta Nueva 10. Every Thursday, Friday and Saturday 9.30pm. For private workshops and more information tel: 34 665 09 73 59 or email: keliye.manzano@gmail.com

Suite Española

Benalmádena. 5 May, 9pm. La sala Fortuna, Hotel Torrequebrada. The Danza Vicente Renero dance company present 'Suite Española'. Cocktail welcome drink at 9pm, performance starts at 10pm.

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Amalgama

Almuñécar. 5 May, 9pm. Casa de la Cultura.
Flamenco with Javier Martos.

De Flor en Flor

Marbella. 7 May, 11.30am. Teatro Ciudad de Marbella.
The dance company Danza Fernando Hurtado will be performing.

Museo de Arte Flamenca Peña Juan Breva

Malaga. C/Ramón Franquelo, 8pm.
11 May. Alejandro Estrada singing, Luis el Salao on guitar and Luisa Chicano dancing.
13 May. Loli Paris singing, Pepe Amaya guitar; Fernando Santiago and Remedios Cervantes dancing.

LECTURES

DFAS lectures

Faber and Faber, 90 years of excellence in cover design.

Lecturer is Toby Faber. This lecture traces the history of Faber and Faber, one of London's most important publishing houses, through its illustrations, covers and designs.
Fuengirola. 8 May, 4.30pm. Salon Varietés Theatre. Guests 10€
www.costadelsoldfas.com

Nerja. 9 May, 6pm, Centro Cultural de Villa de Nerja. Guests 10€
www.nerjanadfas.org

Talk on arthritis

Arroyo de la Miel. 15 May, 1pm. ELIM Church in Plaza Ibensa
The RAF Association Costa del Sol has organised a talk by Dr Alf Neuhaus on arthritis and what can be done to alleviate the symptoms without having to resort to pain relief. Tea and coffee available.



De Palma, Malaga

FESTIVALS

Cruces de Mayo

Benalmádena. 5, 6, 7 May
There is a guided tour of the May Crosses in Arroyo de la Miel 5 May. Meeting at the plaza of the In-

maculada church at noon. Free. Reservations email: residentest@benalmadena.es

Día del Nispero

Sayalonga. 7 May
Tastings of jams and liqueurs made with from loquats / medlars and local wines and products.

Fiesta de las Máscaras

Jubrique. Until 6 May.
The locals dress up in old, worn clothing to look like country folk from years gone by.

EVENTS

Ecological market

Mijas. Parque Andalucía. Second Sunday of the month and the last Sunday of the month in the Bulevar de La Cala.
Ecological food and environmen-

tally friendly products are on sale.

Fashion show lunch

Marbella. 5 May, from 1-4pm. Sea Grill, Puente Romano Beach resort & Spa. Buffet 75€.
The fashion show will feature the couture swimwear collection by designer Virginia Macari. DJ Vogue Williams and models Roxy horner and Rosanna Davison. Gift bags and after show party at La Plaza. Reservations 639213956 / 646637187

Torremolinos Fashion Weekend

Torremolinos. Rescheduled 5, 6 May. La Plaza Costa del Sol.
Local boutiques and six designers will be exhibiting the latest fashions and trends on the catwalk. Masculine and feminine clothing, clothing for children and babies as well as Flamenco fashions. Rescheduled due to rain.

Natural soap workshop

TONY BRYANT

ALHAURÍN EL GRANDE. A natural soap making workshop, organised by Essia Organic Body Care, will be held in Alhaurín el Grande on Saturday, 6 May.

The workshop will demonstrate the art of making hand-crafted soap using natural ingredients such as olive, coconut and almond oil, and different types of beneficial herbs.

The five-hour workshop will also cover subjects such as the history of soap and the safety aspects of using base products like sodium hydroxide, a strong irritant that is corrosive to the skin.

There will also be demonstrations of formulating soap recipes as well as classes in the healing properties of essential oils and herbs.

The amount of people adopting a more healthy and natural lifestyle today is increasing and many are becoming more aware of what they are putting in and on their bodies.

Commercial cosmetics and soaps contain large amounts of chemicals such as parabens and synthetic fragrances and these chemicals are rapidly absorbed into our skin.

Parabens, a class of widely-used preservatives in cosmetic



The workshop will demonstrate the art of making soap. :: SUR

INFORMATION

► **When:** Saturday 6 May

► **Where:** Casa de Laila, Camino Ardalejos, 7, Alhaurín El Grande,

► **Tickets:** 47.50€

products, have raised concerns about hormone disruptors, which can cause cancerous tumours, and this has led consumers and

companies to search for paraben-free alternatives.

The workshop, which will be held in the Casa de Laila, Camino Ardalejos, 7, Alhaurín El Grande, will begin at 10am and continue until 3pm.

Participants will be presented with two of the soaps they have made, as well as an information booklet to enable them to continue experimenting at home.

A fee of 47.50€ will be charged and this will include a vegetarian lunch with herbal tea.

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EVENTS

Sea Life Jurassic Oceans

Benalmádena. *Sea Life Aquarium*
The Plesiosaurs and the Megalodon lived in the oceans millions of years ago and are represented in the new exhibition at SeaLife Benalmádena. The exhibition includes an interactive activity for children which allows them to discover the skeleton of a Plesiosaurus and the tooth of a Megalodon with holgrams to help demonstrate the size of these extinct creatures and other dinosaurs.



Sardine fest, Torremolinos

Visit the patios of Cordoba

Fuengirola. 8, 9 May, various pick up points. 95€ dble, 125€ sgle
Price includes B&B accommodation in 4* Hotel Selu, bus and transfers, guided tour of the patios, travel insurance and VAT. Tel: 952 474 840, e-mail luxmundif@gmail.com or go to www.luxmundi.org

Patios of Cordoba with Nerja Lions

Nerja. 10 May, departure from

Nerja, pick up from petrol station Cajiz. 35€

Ticket price includes travel, lunch, entrance to Viana Palace and shuttle bus to Medina Azahara. Bring the 'over 65' card if you have it to avoid paying extra to get in the palace and for the Medina. Payment by 1 May. Tel: 952 526 980 (English); 639 980 001 (French), 693 706 900 (German, English, Spanish).

Visit Valencia

Lux Mundi. 8 - 12 May, various pick up points. 403€ double, 455€ single

Price includes B&B accommodation in 4* Hotel Rey Don Jaime. Tel Fuengirola: 952 474 840, e-mail: luxmundif@gmail.com or go to www.lux-mundi.org or Torre del Mar tel: 952 543 334 e-mail: luxmundi@lux-mundi.org

Sardine and music festival

Torremolinos. 13 May, from 6pm. football ground. First 500 seats 15€ then 25€.

A street market, free 'espetos' (sardines on skewers) and live music from Malaka Youth, El Kanka, Ayax y Prox, La Pompa Jonda among others. Tickets from www.canalticket.es or from: SurfTown (Arroyo de la Miel), Loco Locals, Endher (Torremolinos), Connecting People, South Urban and Disaster (Malaga).

Noche en Blanco

Malaga. 20 May. From 7pm to 2am. This year 'White night' is moving forward an hour and activities have been limited to a more cultural theme. It's slogan this year is '217 reasons not to sleep' and an app (Personal Dreamer) is available with information on the events. Details can also be found at: www.lanocheenblancomalaga.com

Istán's food festival

ISTÁN. This year's Día de la Naranja in Istán will be combined with the 23rd Muestra Gastronómica on 13 May, to offer visitors the best of both worlds.

Not only will attendees be able to sample freshly-squeezed orange juice, there will also be stalls offering a range of local and traditional dishes.

A special 'Sopa de Maiz' (sweet-corn soup) with prawns and clams is being provided by the Asociación de Personas Mayores and there will be traditional desserts at the stall run by the teachers and students of the adult education centre, SEP La Glorieta.

The bars and restaurants in the town will also have special menus for the day. What's more, a small craft market is being set up and the day will have a festive feel with live music and dancing.



Gastronomy day. :: JOSELE-LANZA

INFORMATION

► **What.** A festival of food and in particular oranges, in the town of Istán.

► **When.** 13 May, 1pm to 3.30pm.

Trip to Orgiva Tea Gardens

Torre del Mar. 19 May. Various departure points. 25€
The price of 25€ includes coach fare and driver's gratuity. Visit the beautiful tranquil garden covering about 5,000 sqm. English teas, homemade sandwiches, soups and delicious cakes are available as well as local crafts, plants and fresh produce. Payment required on booking. Information tel Gail on 951067723, email phoenixsocialclub@yahoo.co.uk or go to www.phoenixsocialclub.co.uk

Lux Mundi open day

Torre del Mar. 19 May, 11am-5pm.

Learn about the history of Lux Mundi and its founder, the development of the centre in Torre del Mar while meeting new people and enjoying coffee in the garden.

O. V. FILM

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

Cine Albéniz

C/Alcazabilla 4, Malaga. Tel: 902 36 02 95 or visit www.cinealbeniz.com or www.unientradas.es
Lady Macbeth: 18.40

Cinesur El Ingenio

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

The Lost City of Z: 12.10, 17.05 (every day); 22.30 (Thurs)

Cinesur Miramar

Avda. de la Encarnación, Fuengirola. Tel. 952 19 86 00.

The Lost City of Z: 12.15, 16.50 (every day); 19.30, 22.05 (Thurs)

Guardians of the Galaxy 2: 12.10, 15.45, 18.35, 21.25, 00.15

Lady Macbeth: 12.10, 16.00

Life: 15.55, 18.00 (Tues)

Boss Baby: 16.30 (Thurs)

Fate of the Furious 8: 16.30 (Thurs)

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Boss Baby: 16.00, 18.00 (Sat, Sun); 17.45 (Frid, Mon-Thurs)

Guardians of the Galaxy 2: 16.30, 20.10, 22.00 (Sat, Sun); 19.45, 22.30 (Frid, Mon-Thurs)

Going in Style: 16.15 (Sat, Sun); 17.45 (Frid, Mon-Thurs); 22.30 (Thurs)

John Wick Chapter 2: 16.00 (Sat, Sun)

Sleepless: 18.15 (Frid, Mon-Thurs); 16.00 (Sat, Sun)

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www.yelmocines.es

Sleepless: 12.45 (Sat, Sun)

A United England: 12.10 (Sat, Sun)

The Lost City of Z: 16.15 (every day); 12.20 (Sat, Sun)

Guardians of the Galaxy 2 3D: 13.30 (Sat, Sun).

Guardians of the Galaxy 2: 16.15, 19.00, 21.45 (every day)



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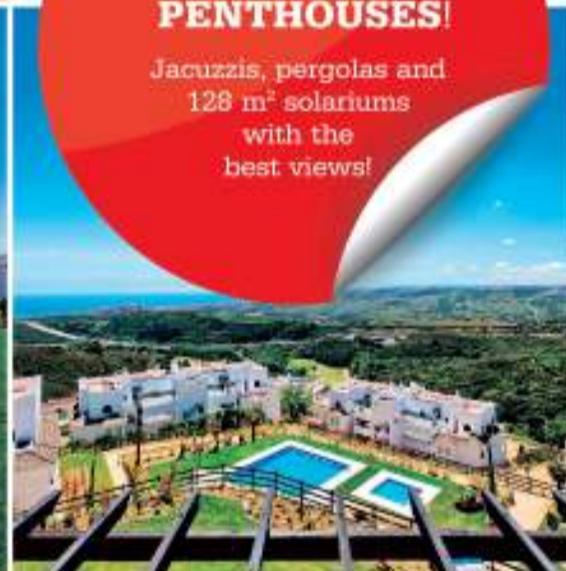
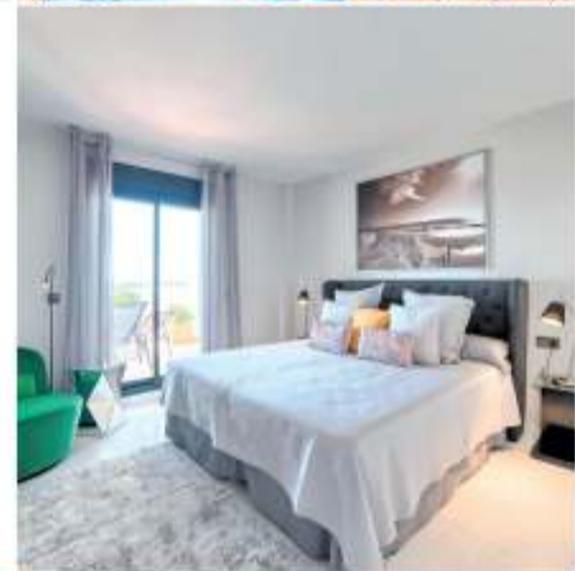
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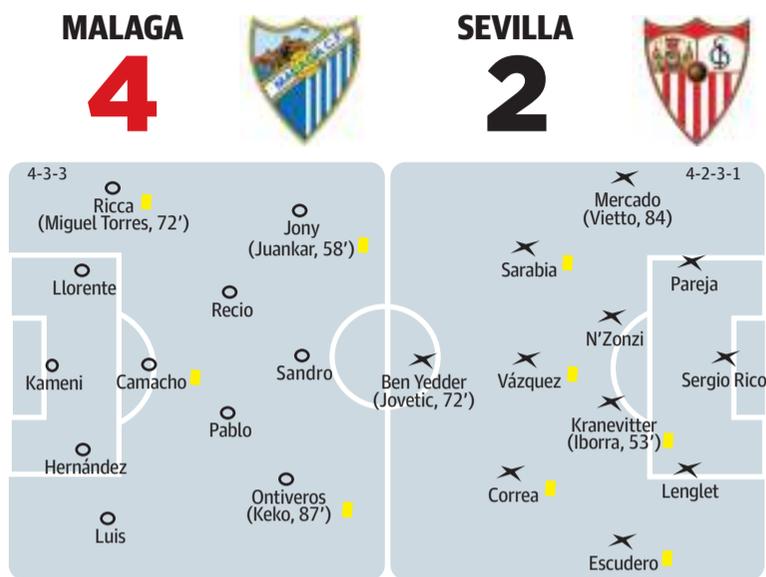
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STATISTICS

BALL POSSESSION	
39%	61%
MALAGA	SEVILLA
4	2
9	8
6	4
3	4
1	3
2	5
15	17
3	5
0	0

Goals: 0-1 Vázquez (30'); 1-1 Fornals (38'); 2-1 Sandro (51'); 2-2 Vázquez (57'); 3-2 Llorente (77'), 4-2 Juankar (89').

Referee: Juan Martinez.

Venue: La Rosaleda (22,971 spectators).

TABLE & FIXTURES

MATCHDAY
35

LEAGUE TABLE

TEAM	PT	P	W	D	L	GF	GA
★ 1. Barcelona	81	35	25	6	4	104	33
★ 2. R. Madrid	81	34	25	6	3	92	39
★ 3. At. Madrid	71	35	21	8	6	65	25
★ 4. Sevilla	68	35	20	8	7	62	44
■ 5. Villarreal	63	35	18	9	8	52	28
■ 6. Athletic	62	35	19	5	11	51	38
7. Real Sociedad	61	35	19	4	12	54	48
8. Eibar	54	35	15	9	11	54	45
9. Espanyol	50	35	13	11	11	45	47
10. Alavés	48	35	12	12	11	36	41
11. Celta	44	34	13	5	16	49	57
12. MALAGA	42	35	11	9	15	44	51
13. Valencia	40	35	11	7	17	50	61
14. Las Palmas	39	35	10	9	16	52	66
15. Betis	37	35	10	7	18	38	57
16. Deportivo	32	35	7	11	17	39	59
17. Leganés	30	35	7	9	19	30	53
▼ 18. Sporting	24	35	5	9	21	38	70
▼ 19. Granada	20	35	4	8	23	28	74
▼ 20. Osasuna	19	35	3	10	22	37	84

Results

Real Sociedad - Granada	2-1
Eibar - Leganés	2-0
Villarreal - Sporting	3-1
R. Madrid - Valencia	2-1
Osasuna - Deportivo	2-2
Espanyol - Barcelona	0-3
Las Palmas - At. Madrid	0-5
Celta - Athletic	0-3
Betis - Alavés	1-4
MALAGA - Sevilla	4-2

Fixtures

At. Madrid - Eibar
Valencia - Osasuna
Barcelona - Villarreal
Sporting - Las Palmas
Sevilla - Real Sociedad
Granada - R. Madrid
Leganés - Betis
Deportivo - Espanyol
MALAGA - Celta
Alavés - Athletic

Derby goal fest adds to Malaga's holiday cheer



DARYL FINCH

✉ dfinch@diariosur.es

Michel's side brought the curtain down on the long weekend in spectacular style as they swept aside Sevilla in the Andalusian derby

MALAGA. Malaga made it three wins on the spin with six goals shared out in an enthralling derby contest at La Rosaleda on Monday night.

The home side were the first to settle into any sort of rhythm and carved out the first chance of the game courtesy of a delicious cross from the right by Javi Ontiveros, cleared by the Sevilla defence only as far as Federico Ricca, who couldn't get his knee over his volley which sailed harmlessly over the bar.

Sevilla barely got a sniff during the first half an hour but Michel's side failed to turn their possession into goal-scoring chances, bar San-



Pablo Fornals celebrates scoring his side's first goal. :: NITO SALAS

dro's speculative effort from outside the box.

Franco Vázquez, however, had other ideas. The forward gave the home side a scare as he took a tumble in the area after Diego Llorente went in for an ill-advised lunge for the ball. Fortunately for the Blue and Whites, Vázquez received a yellow for simulation.

With the bit between his teeth, though, he wouldn't be denied minutes later as he swept home, with the help of a deflection, Wissam Ben Yedder's pullback.

The goal granted Sevilla a degree of control they hadn't enjoyed until that moment. In fact, they ought to have gained a two-goal lead when Ángel Correa was played through

on goal and lifted his effort over both Carlos Kameni and the crossbar.

Their new-found dominance was short-lived, though. Straight up the other end, Recio laid off the ball to a striding Pablo Fornals who pushed the ball into a pocket of space on the edge of the area before rifling the ball into the top corner.

Malaga could, and probably should, have gone into the break with a lead. Once more it was on the counterattack that the hosts found joy and this time Jony got in in the inside left position but his cutback was magnificently intercepted by Gabriel Mercado.

This momentum was taken into the second half and the Blue and Whites raced into a lead through the man in form, Sandro. The Canarian was allowed to burst through on goal after Nicolás Pareja misjudged the flight of the through pass; Sergio Rico then couldn't get enough of a leg on the ball to stop it nestling in the back of the net.

Malaga's lead, though, only lasted for six minutes before another defensive lapse, this time from youngster Luis at the back post, gifted Vázquez the simple task of firing past Kameni from seven yards out.

The Cameroonian would prove harder to beat on the 71-minute

mark as he pulled off a fantastic double save, first from Vicente Iborra's close-range header, then Vázquez on the follow-up from a tight angle.

The game would soon take another turn when Sandro's perfectly-floated freekick from just in front of the centre circle landed on the head of Llorente who delicately glanced the ball past the stranded keeper.

Keen not to let another lead slip, Michel introduced both Miguel Torres and Juankar and reverted to a flat back five in order to stifle Sevilla who added Luciano Vietto to their already attacking lineup.

But it would be defence that triumphed over attack as Sandro won a penalty with minutes remaining until stoppage time after another error in judgement from Pareja who tried to nip in ahead of the striker, only succeeding in upending him.

It was Sandro himself who stepped up, but Rico guessed right and despite getting two hands on the ball, Juankar followed in to convert the rebound, cueing Mexican waves and further adding to the holiday atmosphere around La Rosaleda as Malaga inflicted a blow to Sevilla's hopes of a top-three finish.

Next up for Malaga, who now sit in twelfth, is the visit of Celta Vigo on Sunday night.

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A STORM'S BREWING

La Rosaleda could well be where this year's title is decided, but a lot of factors are at play and, whatever happens, it's bound to be explosive

Prepare yourselves: an almighty storm is coming and Malaga will be the epicentre!

The forecast is that it will hit La Rosaleda on Saturday 20 or Sunday 21 May at a time yet to be confirmed (by the Spanish FA).

It is a man-made cyclone caused by a number of god-like figures in Madrid who have combined all of the components necessary - uncertain atmosphere, extreme under-currents and an unstable air.

These are the elements that may make the Malaga/Real Madrid game one of the most famous in Spanish footballing history.

If all of the equations are correct then Real will have to beat, or maybe just draw, with Malaga to become the 2017 La Liga champions. It sounds simple enough, pretty regular even.

The Spanish media have been quick to take into account some important side issues. It is a fact that Los Boquerones are managed by a Real Madrid legend in Michel. He is Madrid-born, joined the club aged 13 and spent a decade and a half in their colours.

There are similarities to the scenario with Marcelino who managed Villarreal on the final day of last season in a game against his home-town club, Sporting Gijón. Sporting needed to win to avoid relegation; Marcelino's approach was questioned and in the aftermath he lost his job.

It has also been widely reported that Malaga are due a bonus if their former player Isco wins a league title with Real Madrid. It could never have been envisaged that the deal struck in 2013, of one million euros per title, would have such a twist.

It has caused quite a stir between the Malaga president and the Catalan press.

It may not actually come down to this if Barcelona don't keep winning their games.

It may just be a guard of honour that greets Real Madrid rather than a

footballing thunder-storm at La Rosaleda.

Barcelona have

no pressure as Luis Enrique finishes off his farewell tour - it is all very chilled. They even allowed Javier Mascherano to take a penalty last week and he scored his first goal in seven years. It was like the Beatles allowing Ringo Starr the microphone.

We are in danger of allowing the side issues to cloud what could be an astronomical achievement, even for a club like Real Madrid. No club has ever won the Champions League in back-to-back years, Real haven't combined the Liga and European double since 1958.

You have been warned. The storm is brewing; as it is with the Spanish FA, we have no idea exactly when the whole thing will kick off... The time and day has yet to be decreed, but when it hits it will be spectacular.



Sheikh Al-Thani's tweets on the matter have got him in a spot of bother. :: AFP



Malaga are reportedly due a bonus payment if Isco wins the title. :: EFE

Marbella's promotion hopes come to a disappointing end

Another defensive mistake condemned Marbella to their fourth consecutive defeat

MARBELLA 0 VILLANOENSE 1

:: JULIO RODRÍGUEZ

MARBELLA. Marbella's dreams of playing in the Segunda División next year are over after a 1-0 defeat to Villanovense at the Estadio Municipal on Sunday.

Carlos Fernández's third-minute goal turned out to be the winner and saw Marbella's losing streak continue.

The visitors put the pressure on the nervous hosts from the start, and

were instantly rewarded when the lightning quick Carlos Andújar's cross from the left was tucked in at the near post by Carlos Fernández for his twelfth goal of the season.

It was a moral blow for Marbella but they reacted well, with Luis Rioja and Asier Goti causing the most problems for Villanovense in wide areas. Moreover, the hosts' best chances in the half would come from balls into the box.

Unfortunately, Emmanuel Okoye failed to get a touch on Goti's inch-perfect delivery into the six-yard box, before the Nigerian spurned another chance in the 17th minute when he fired straight at keeper Wilfred after being put through one-on-one from a long ball.

Cries of the players not deserving to wear the shirt rang out around the ground as the Marbella supporters began to vent their frustrations at their side's imprecision in possession.

That was not the only pain Marbella, and Manu Fernández in particular, would suffer in the first half, as the goalkeeper injured his right knee on his fall from claiming a high ball, and was consequently put into an ambulance on a stretcher as Bernabé replaced him.

The second half was more of the same from the hosts, with the prominent features misplaced passes and defensive chaos which could have cost them another goal.

Marbella spent more time in the opponent's half in the second period, but failed to create as many chances as they did in the first half, with Okoye the only player to test Wilfred with an effort, even though Zé Turbo's endeavour did draw applause from the disillusioned home support.

The visitors meanwhile failed to capitalise on a couple of breaks that they managed to create, but they would not be left to rue their misses as Marbella fell seven points behind the top four with just two games remaining.

Marbella, who have won just once in the previous eleven games, will now face tenth-place Jumilla CF away on Sunday.



Keeper Manu Fernández was forced off with a serious knee injury. :: J. R.

Fuengirola ladies earn third place in most successful season to date

The local women's seven-a-side league went down to the wire with Fuengirola-based Studs and Stiletos instrumental in the season's conclusion

:: RACHEL ARMSTRONG

FUENGIROLA. Studs and Stiletos Ladies FC finished third (out of twelve teams) in the Femenino LF7 - Malaga (C.D. Naturaleza y Deporte), with 51 points giving them their highest finish since the league began in 2013.

Postponed fixtures meant they faced Alhaurín de La Torre B - a team who had only been beaten once before in two seasons - in their final two games of the season.

A daunting task but the SAS ladies rose to the challenge and seized four points from the two games, with a thrilling 2-1 win at home followed by a well-fought 3-3 draw in Alhaurín last Wednesday night.

The 2-1 victory at the start of April meant the team fighting for top spot needed at least a point against SAS in their final game of the season.



SAS following the 3-3 draw against Alhaurín de La Torre B. :: R. A.

Amanda Lewis, SAS club organiser, or "soccer mum", said: "To get a win and a draw against the league winners shows our level of determination as a team. It's been a fantastic fifth year for SAS under our first ever female coach".

Elishia Hartley continues to play for the team, despite taking over as coach last year. The player-coach said it was "hard to put into words how impressed and proud" she is of the

whole team; "I asked for 100 per cent and got 110!"

SAS are now taking part in a cup competition where they will look to prepare for next season and introduce newer players to competitive games.

Training with SAS takes place at Campo Suel, Fuengirola, on Wednesday evenings from 8.15pm to 10pm. All abilities are welcome.

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Malaga, a factory of young talent

Malaga Rugby Club and Trocadero Marbella have become benchmarks for the sport in Andalucía



FÁTIMA ÁVILA-CASANOVA

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Numerous players from both clubs have gone on to compete with top-flight teams and the Spanish national team

MÁLAGA. There are two particularly important rugby clubs in Malaga province, and over time players from their junior sections have gone on to compete in the Division of Honour (first category) team and the Spanish national team.

The C.R. Malaga rugby club was founded in 1994, but its roots go back to the Club de Rugby Derecho in the 1980s; the other club is Trocadero Marbella, which has produced some exceptional work with young players throughout its 30-year history. Both clubs have become benchmarks in Andalucía.

One of the best-known players was trained by the youth section of Malaga Rugby Club: Jesús Moreno, from Rincón de la Victoria. He now plays with Aix-en-Provence in the French Second Division and is a regular with the 'XV del León' (the nickname given to the



Jesús Moreno, training with the Spanish team. :: ÁLVARO CABRERA

Spanish national team).

The tighthead prop decided eight years ago, after playing with the historic Cisneros, to move to France to try his luck in a country where rugby is the second most-followed sport. This player from Malaga says the quality of young players in the province is outstanding,

but warns that there is still a great deal of work to do: "The problem is that when they reach the age of 16 or 18, many players leave this sport. It's true that rugby here is amateur, but the clubs should do something to give the lads an incentive to stay. That could be through agreements with the uni-

versity, looking for part-time work for them, or work experience in companies. That's the way the amateur clubs do it in France, where players know very well that they won't be able to make a living from rugby, but at least it helps them to have work."

Martín Heredia, who became

Many young players leave rugby when they reach the age of 16 or 18, which is a problem

one of the bulwarks of the combined seven-a-side Spanish team, was another player who trained at the Malaga club. He was born in Buenos Aires, Argentina, and began playing there before moving to Spain, where he played for several years in the lower categories of the club which trains at Malaga University.

The De la Maza brothers, Noe Díaz, Marcos Fernández and Jorge Rodríguez, among others, are also names who have competed in the top category of national rugby or important foreign leagues. This is despite the fact that for approximately ten years, the C.R. Malaga has not had an elite team.

Trocadero Marbella, however, with its senior team in Division of Honour B, and with the aim of reaching the top of this sport in just over two years, has some very promising junior players and has trained men such as scrum half Facunda Munilla, with 12 senior international caps, and Ignacio Molina, who after eight years with the R.A.C. de Valladolid has now returned home

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Successes

The young players on the Costa del Sol have had some impressive successes in the past ten years: five Spanish championships, nine national second-place finishes, 26 gold medals in the Regionals and nine silvers.

These triumphs have enabled some of the players to compete in major foreign leagues or make their debut in the senior teams of their countries of origin. One example is Jack Davies, who has already played for Wales, and another is Joshua Peters, who currently competes in the English Premiership with the Northampton Saints.

From this talent factory which the Trocadero Marbella has become, some players are currently playing with important teams in the Division of Honour, such as Jacobo Martín (Alcobendas), Daniel Sthor, Pablo Mijimolle and Pedro de la Lastra of Valladolid R.A.C; Cisneros players Juan Boccardo and Koi Hogg, and



Tomy Munilla plays with Ciencias. :: SUR



Some of the Club de Rugby Malaga youth players. :: SUR

Tomy Munilla (Ciencias R.C.).

Nevertheless, and as the vice-president of the Marbella club Rubén Pérez Cano explained recently, there are hopes that this will change in the not-too-distant future: "For more than 25 years we have been training players who have then moved elsewhere. Now we want to be able to use our young players ourselves," he said.



Facundo Munilla, in the Spain-Uruguay match. :: JUAN C. OGAZÓN

Taekwondo exhibition day to take place in Marbella this Saturday

:: SUR IN ENGLISH

MARBELLA. Tomorrow, 6 May, around 150 Taekwondo enthusiasts from the 14 schools in the province of Malaga (including the Marbella TKD and Tang Su Do centres in Marbella and San Pedro Alcántara) will be taking part in an exhibition day at the Elena Benítez sports centre.

The event will begin at 10.30am and continue until 1.30pm, and is part of the circuit organised by the Andalusian Taekwondo Federation which began in early April in Benalmádena and will visit two further municipalities before the end of this year. The day in Marbella will consist of a circuit with various stages, each of them led by one of several trainers from the clubs which are taking part.

When this first exhibition is over, those who wish to do so can take part in a combat round or a Poomsae. This is a combination of defences and attacks against imaginary adversaries, and it shows the essence and art of Taekwondo.

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The Lions celebrate victory in the changing room. :: J.J. JURVANEN

Historic season concludes for the Fuengirola Lions

The Costa-based side sealed an impressive campaign with victory in the Liga Sur playoffs in Cartagena at the weekend

:: SUR IN ENGLISH
FUENGIROLA. The Fuengirola Lions have just completed an unprecedented campaign, becoming the first side to win the Liga Sur, the Liga Andaluza and the junior

championships in three categories, all in the same season.

The momentous achievement was rounded off this weekend as the senior side headed to Cartagena for the Liga Sur playoffs.

The Fuengirola team started very strong by beating the Sevilla Dragons 12-2 and then the local team Tiburones de Cartagena 9-2 on Saturday. By doing so, the Lions earned a place in the quarter-finals on Sunday against Diablos de Mislata, which turned out to be very intense and tight game.

Mislata won it by a narrow 5-4 margin and went directly to the final. Owing to the competition's unusual format, the Lions got another chance to reach the final, facing Sancti Petri in the semis, a

game they won 5-3, setting up a clash with Mislata once again.

In the final, Mislata were able to take a 1-0 lead into the second half after a goal in the closing stages of the first. However, two faults by the Diablos gave power play to the Lions who were able to score two goals within a minute, enough to settle the tie and seal their dominance of southern Spain.

Next season will start on home territory with Fuengirola hosting an international inline hockey tournament from 16 to 17 September with teams from all around Europe coming to compete on what organisers hope will be a new rink, which will considerably increase safety for players and spectators alike.



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Despite driving rain and gale-force winds, a British pensioner managed to complete a double-marathon sponsored walk in aid of Cudeca last weekend. Rod Andrews, 72, walked non-stop for 24 hours from Benalmádena to Sabinillas during the atrocious weather conditions, arriving at his destination at around 1pm on Saturday. The sponsored walk has raised 4,900 euros.



The playoffs took place in Cartagena at the weekend. :: J.J. JURVANEN

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SPECTACULAR ladies, pretty and compliant. Exclusive services. Unbeatable attention. Luxury chalet. Whatever you want!!! 24h. Visa. VISA. www.butterflygirls.es 951274723, 637138703

NEAR Elviria, Vicky, blonde Brazilian nymphomaniac with fire in my veins. I love sex to the limit. I'll receive you in sexy lingerie. 50 € 650237102

MIRAFLORES, Paola, mature Brazilian, passionate, wild and horny. I'm the lover you can enjoy everything you want with. 24h. 608949543

RIVIERA. Andrea, passionate Colombian. I'm always ready and horny because I love sex and enjoying it with someone new like you. I want you to come and come, till you stop me and say no more! 650237145

CALAHONDA, Valentina, 27, sex goddess, nymphomaniac, horny and multi-orgasmic. I'm a real volcano, but very friendly and understanding. Incalls and outcalls. 24h. 650237102

BEAUTIFUL woman, big natural breasts, sexy curves and lingerie. 678859715

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 PORNO 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 661064376/663645432. FUENGIROLA PORT OFTEN COPIED BUT NEVER NEVER EQUALLED! YOUR BUSINESS IS OUR PLEASURE, CUM SOON. ALWAYS LOOKING FOR NEW GIRLS!!

GERMAN Mistress Melany 42, attractive blond. Fuengirola from 10am to 6pm. 667407779

MARBELLA Centre. Andrea. Pretty, sexy... Erotic masseuse. Nuru, body2body, happy ending tantra. Total luscious. 697232876

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

www.casakinkspain.com Dungeonstudio. Massage. Fantasies. Squirting. Role play. All services. 662913428

RAQUEL Young Brazilian brunette, sexy. Pº Maritimo, Nº23 Fuengirola 626039574

TORROX Mónica 30-ish, Spanish superbrunette, big breast, massages. Opposite supermarket Dia, block 88, 1st floor, door-2. Appointments. 633527010

THAI attractive, erotic massage, happy end, prostatic, relaxing. Visits. Benalmádena Torrequebrada Golf, beach. www.mememasage.com 602428556 whatsapp

FUENGIROLA: Oriental young beautiful Japanese. Complete services. Outcalls. 24hrs. 693988340

MARY: Erotic massage, happy ending & much more! 697441387 Fuengirola Port. 40 Euros

BENALMADENA: Bianca sexy blonde, big tits. Private discreet apartment. Hotel visits. 631146080

DANIELLY Fuengirola. 30. Beautiful young, sexy Brazilian. Kisses, erotic, prostatic massages. Hot sex! French without. Perla 6. 697883690

OPEN minded couple. She 40. 36DD Nymph looking for generous men voyeur/ participant. Riviera. Phone, text, whatsapp 602539075

BENALMADENA Costa: Nice couple available for guys, ladies and couples. Private apartment. Outcalls. 631146803

ENGLISH ROSE privately educated, well spoken, well dressed, sophisticated and slim, looking to accompany business men. Lunch/ dinner optional. Discretion assured. 699859054

ESTEPONA. NANCY, 20, BEAUTIFUL, PLEASING, OUTCALLS, HOTELS. 24H. VISA. 604192305

MATURE Elegant lady. Voluptuous bust. All services. Only hotel & home visits. 687387680

40 EUROS: Divorced charming, sexy lady. Superbody. Kiss, 69. Massage. Sex. Visits. Fuengirola 625912315

MARCELA mature blonde, natural breast. Black Kiss. Erotic massage. Fuengirola. 631741591

ESTEPONA/ Benahavis Exit: 3 horny birds, slim, seductive. Tantra, prostate massage, French and more. Complete service. 602891749

LORA Cubana 22, fleshy lips, natural French. Locrimar. Nva.Andalucia. 673251634

NEW ROSSI Beautiful student. Natural French. Kisses. Massages. Nva.Andaluca 602531054

LUXURY escort. Alina, Russian, 25. With a spectacular body and wild mind, I'll offer you everything you have always desired. Sex without limit and guaranteed pleasure. 616368985

SADOMASOCHISM. Totally equipped dungeon. Leather and latex clothing, toys, outfits, really wild. 648814653

MÁLAGA Japanese. Young beauties. All services. Outcalls. 24hrs. 688181075 www.relaxenmalaga.com

MULATA 25, busty, slim, juicy French. All services. (Rodeito)Nva.Andalucia. 697219468

FUENGIROLA: Oriental young beautiful Japanese. Complete services. Outcalls. 24hrs. 693988340

FUENGIROLA: Luana 30 Euros: Beautiful Brazilian, affectionate, elegant, French without, complete sex. Relaxing, prostatic massages. Discreet apartment. Pº Maritimo. Outcalls. 602419749



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BRITISH blonde mature, slim sexy, all services incl oral CIM, Greek, GFE, over nights, great rates, let me be your guilty pleasure, service with a smile, discreet villa Coin.681614955 Zarah

NATALY (20) Pretty Turkish. Gorgeous body. Also out-calls/ 24H 611237548

TINA 19 years, Bulgarian. Very pretty, slim, big tits!! Work 24 hours. Out-calls. 652706624

ANA 25 Hungarian. Hot & horny. 24 hours. Out-calls. 611238013.

MIA (20) Dominican Republic. Pretty & sexy. Available 24 hours... 652590064

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MISS LUCY Erotic domination, bondage, footfetish, spanking, strap-on. 604104187

HOT CURVY Ebony. Oily massage, sex and more. Friendly and beautiful. Suite. Benalmádena. Whatsapp 698348739

HELLO Slim, brunette, mature, 1 hour for complete and total passion. Marbella 674946727

COSTA. New, busty, super body, pleasing. Massage. Discreet. Visits. 602451846

NVA ANDALUCIA: Malu sexy black Brazilian. Spectacular body, sexy blowjob. Discreet apartment. Visits. 677680928

CANCELADA: 2 beautiful hot girlfriends, playful. All services. 604109768

ESTEPONA area: Attractive ladies, different nationalities, sexy, flirty. Full erotic complete service. In and outcalls. 604109768

BENALMADENA: Sexy Vicky, petite European. Fluent English. In/ Outcalls. 605382376

VALERIA Explosive blonde lady, tall, slim, amazing body. Alone. Visits. Fuengirola. 645131273

NEW Marbella center, Lisa, 27, high standing georgeous, exotic, 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, kisses, deep throat and more, outcalls, incalls, speak English et parle francais. 602368719

FUENGIROLA Beautiful mature brunette, elegant, clean, horny. Discreet. 632381963 Ludi

FUENGIROLA: Jennifer Exclusive! Horny, playful sexy lady! All services. 632381963

CAMILA 26, Beautiful blonde, pert ass, complete, pleasing. Avda. Jesus Santos Rein nº21-5B Fuengirola. (Next to Fairgrounds.) 631429217

BEAUTIFUL slim, model, tantra massage. Safe and clean place. English speaker. www.annatantra.com 633060678

PUERTO Banus next to Casino. Unforgettable experience for nice gentlemen with beautiful girl from Poland. 617700999

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

DIRTY old lady speaks English. In/outcalls hotels. Fuengirola 632868590

HUGE bust, Lina XL 37, relaxing massage, all services. Fluent English. Fuengirola. 634163056

FUENGIROLA Scandinavian sweet mature blonde, slim & Fit (size10), happy horny. Hotel visits. 649181051

FUENGIROLA Center: 4 beautiful señoritas, blonde & brunette. Discreet apartment. Easy parking. 603719177

NVA ANDALUCIA: Beautiful blonde, big tits, superboddy, lingerie, sexual toys, 69, French watersports, massage. Discreet apartment. Visits. 645898573 Juliana

YOUNG beginner, caring, luscious, French without. Discreet. Marbella/ Estepona 722520777

VICKY blond, big nipples, beautiful ass. Full services. Visit. 24hrs. 632118018 Fuengirola 50 Euros

FUENGIROLA: Luxurious private villa. Beautiful friendly girls. Call 602505894 for your invitation to the Secret Garden. But shhh... don't tell anyone

MESSAGE Center: Tantric and erotic. Pleasure, elegance, discretion. The best of the Costa del Sol. www.tantranubha.com 649808695 Benalmádena Costa

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

LOVEMASSAGE Mature perfect hands, curves, breast unforgettable. All services. Benalmadena. 617695685

MARBELLA. Passionate submissive ebony 28 years, deepthroat natural french, CIM Massage. 69 GFE French kiss penetration. In call/ out calls. 612208005

MARBELLA center. Most hottest and beautiful filipina for everything. In/ outcalls. 602572579

HOT BLONDE milf likes to be wine, dined and sixtynined. 632507139

FUENGIROLA Boliches, Johana Brazilian 40 years, superboddy. Private apartment. 617818615

ASIAN Balines, Thai- Hilot massage 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

TRY SOMETHING different, Asian, European amazing pleasure, multiorgasmic, luxury, San Pedro/ Banús. 618448131

Male

ALEJANDRO 24 years, sexual massage with happy ending. Own apartment. Outcalls. 24 hrs. 665344158

LAS CHAPAS handsome boy, super-endowed. If you want unlimited sex and company, Call me 603202758

FUENGIROLA Male to male full body massage. Very discreet, private villa. 634004512

MALE to male, full body massage, Mijas Pueblo. 609321958

MARBELLA center, tall and sexy hot man for your sexual desires. In/ outcalls. 602505802

Transvestites

TRANSSEXUAL Sophia, beautiful brunette, active/ passive, great bust, well hung. 662045252. Fuengirola. www.escortsow.es/sofi-abiagg

TRANVESTITE, Partying and nailer, Amanda Taylor, Marbella centre, 24 hours. Tel 622256040

ESTEPONA. BEAUTIFUL TRANVESTITE, 20, MILKY, BUSTY, OUTCALLS, 24H. VISA 660874904

PIETRA Trans: Stunning blonde, bodybuilder, voluptuous, huge surprise 10inches superendowed, very active and dominant. Full services including outcalls throughout Costa del Sol. Want a unforgettable moment call me!! 633190467 Fuengirola

TORRE del mar: Transvestite Karina 26 years, beautiful blonde, feminine, endowed. 667846464

PUERTO Banus. Gorgeous Asian ladyboy naughty and sexy. Full of fun and pleasure. Active, passive. Incalls/outcalls 602648925

MARBELLA center, gorgeous Thai ladyboy, slim, kissable lips, name it and you have it. 663612830

Massage

WWW.TANTRACENTER.ES PLEASURE WITHOUT LIMITS, SPECTACULAR MASSEUSE. MASSAGE 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

MAIAH, Fuengirola. Erotic, professional massage, body2body, happy ending. Miah, 647101046

PROFESSIONAL masseuse: Massages till end with optional end. 666770405 Estepona

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 Andalucia with young pretty independent masseuse. Erotic body, tantric and other completely relaxing massages in private apartment. 656350401

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

ESTEPONA. Funny young latina, sex, massage. I speak English. 672536859

MATURE man, qualified masseur. Excellent massages for men. Torremolinos, Carhuela. 639040128

TANTRAZENN Fuengirola: Indulge yourself in the hands of masseuses. Stimulate your senses. Welcome to the Tantra world. www.tantrazenn.com. 608016983

40 EUROS: Sensitive, relaxing, prostatic massage. Happy ending. Fuengirola. 625912315

MARBELLA. Camila, beautiful, elegant, exotic, full body massage. Whatsapp 603169139 www.mysticmassage.es

VICTORIA, Marbella, long hair. Beautiful shape, horny, sweet, sensual erotic massage. Discreet place. 604229713

NEW Asian MM Massage therapy of fer professional therapeutic & sport massage. 604393547/951482585

FUENGIROLA Carolina, blonde, elegant, relaxing massage, full erotic massage. Whatsapp. Message: 634797230

PAOLA Beautiful masseuse. Erotic, tantric, b2b massage, happy ending. relaxingtouch.es 602448534

www.masajesbudamalaga.com Luxury Tantra Spa with the best erotic massage and installations in the Coast. Relax & pleasure with beautiful girls. Tlf & Whatsapp 605265433

FUENGIROLA: Madonna, Hot oil/horny massage with my boobs! Happy ending.632157758

TORREMOLINOS: Do you want to have fun with 2 girls, blonde/brunette? Exciting, erotic, body2body massage. 633578665

touch4men.com Professional Erotic man2man massage. Incalls Torremolinos. Outcalls Costa del Sol. 628746407

PROFESSIONAL exotic deep relaxing Yoni Tantra Massage for ladies. 602098606

FUENGIROLA: Erotic massage. For a mere 80 Euros/ hour enjoy a sensual experience with a delightful finalé from one of our attractive masseuses. 602570272

ESTEPONA Cancelada, Sandra, wonderful massages. Unforgettable, tantric, young, pretty, discreet. 645334459

ASIAN qualified offer an authentic professional massage relieve, pain and stress, luxury, private. Marbella center. 604143788

Various

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.

VIAGRA Kamagra 100 mg improve your sex life. Straight from manufacture. Delivered and posted to all areas. 634029878

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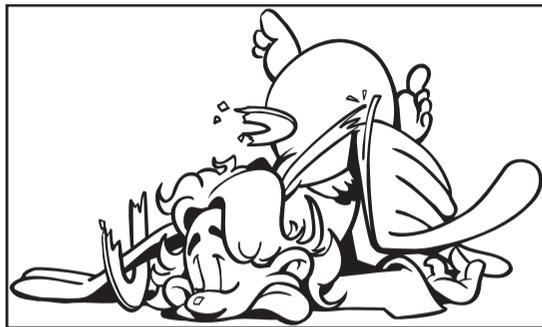
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THE SEVEN DIFFERENCES



THE STARS

Aquarius
January 21 - February 19
Zip around your social life while not spending too much cash. Romance is in the air but is it with the right person?

Pisces
February 20th - March 20th
Being determined to get what you need and want is only the beginning. Showing that you will not swerve or change your path is really important.

Aries
March 21st - April 20th
There are surprises this week when someone or something reappears. Life is more hopeful and lighter generally.

Taurus
April 21st - May 21st
A clear signal is coming through from a business contact. Being lucky takes you by surprise but you do deserve a break!

Gemini
May 22nd - June 21st
Soon you will be feeling more confident and convinced that you are on the right path. Some things just flow and feel natural.

Cancer
June 22nd - July 23rd
Working with others shows you a new dimension to your social side. It also brings out unknown talents.

Leo
July 24th - August 23rd
What is past is past. Putting that fertile imagination to work sets you on a creative course.

Virgo
August 24th - September 23rd
As you learn from travel and education you see possibilities opening up. This is the kind of situation that suits you best.

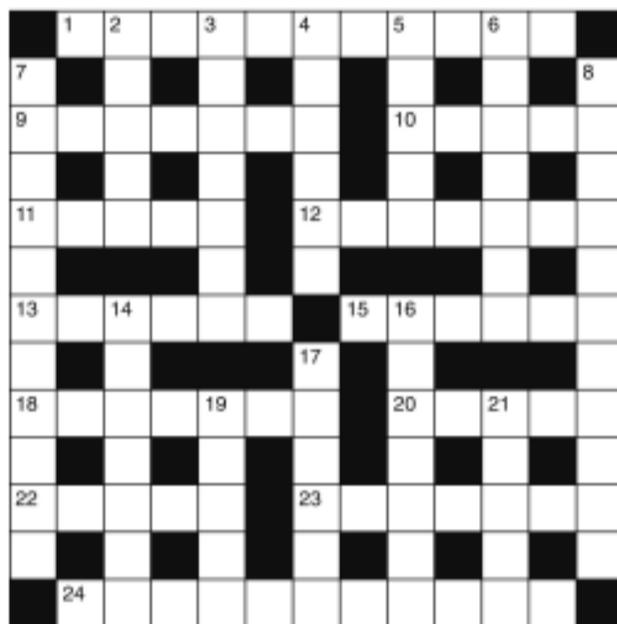
Libra
September 24th - October 23rd
Happy that an obligation has shifted to the back shelf? It may disappear altogether but be aware of what is happening.

Scorpio
October 24th - November 22nd
Relatives may be feeling a bit 'wobbly' but give your time rather than money. Fortunes can change like the weather.

Sagittarius
November 23rd - December 21st
Rebalance your home and working life. The time that you are at home should be relaxing.

Capricorn
December 22nd - January 20th
Being bold now gets the right results. Respect comes from being true to yourself and what you need.

CRYPTIC CROSSWORD N° 11240



- Across**
- 1 Didn't succeed in crossing the ice? (4,7)
 - 9 An order to sort the list (7)
 - 10 Engagement ring from one who will care, naturally! (5)
 - 11 Got us to display zest (5)
 - 12 His choice will get cross (7)
 - 13 Feel in form like a cat (6)
 - 15 Become faster? (6)
 - 18 Examine a soft-hearted insect (7)
 - 20 Pole on the run (5)
 - 22 I get shot about in the lift (5)
 - 23 It has wings and flies (7)
 - 24 You can get away with it! (6,5)
- Down**
- 2 Ways out exist, perhaps (5)
 - 3 Fail to lower (3,4)
 - 4 Took notice (6)
 - 5 Nothing to reprove or harangue (5)
 - 6 Bigger and better (7)
 - 7 A dramatic attack of nerves (5,6)
 - 8 It's fine when we get it (4,7)
 - 14 It makes little difference to these girls should I leave (7)
 - 16 One of the main dangers of war (7)
 - 17 Artistic work of astute construction (6)
 - 19 More for the bit player (5)
 - 21 Eight people who work and play together (5)

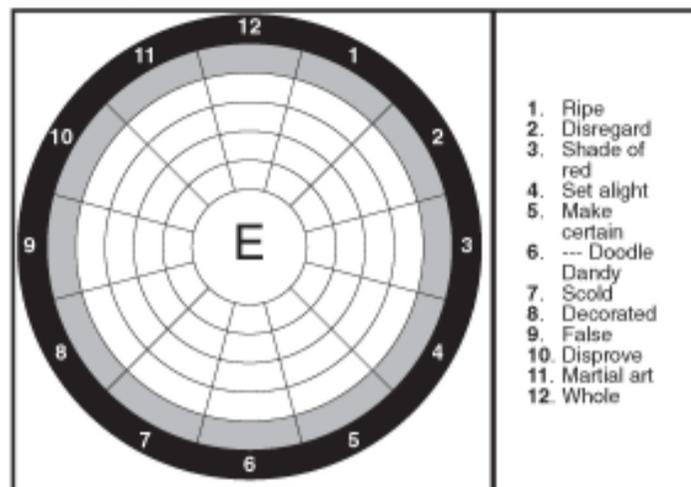
SUDOKU BY HANZO

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

2	3	4			7	6	5	
	5		6	3			1	
			2					
	9		4			1	8	
8	7	5		9			3	
			5			7		
						5	6	
		7	6	1		9	3	
	1	2	9					

CLOCKWORD

The solutions from 1 to 12 are all six-letter words ending with the letter E in the centre. Moving clockwise from 1, the letters in the outer circle will spell out the name of a U.S. actor.



- 1. Ripe
- 2. Disregard
- 3. Shade of red
- 4. Set alight
- 5. Make certain
- 6. --- Doodle Dandy
- 7. Scold
- 8. Decorated
- 9. False
- 10. Disprove
- 11. Martial art
- 12. Whole

THE WORDPUZZLER

S	A	S	P	Q	R	O	P	S	E
T	R	I	Q	U	A	R	T	E	T
R	I	G	L	I	M	C	A	X	G
I	S	N	O	N	T	H	I	T	E
O	N	O	R	T	A	E	L	E	M
N	E	N	G	E	B	S	A	T	O
O	S	E	P	T	E	T	O	T	S
D	H	T	O	E	K	R	H	E	O
U	O	F	R	S	L	A	E	L	L
O	C	T	E	T	I	M	A	P	O

- CAN you identify the musical performers from the clues listed below?
- 1. Nine-piece band
 - 2. Six-piece band
 - 3. Three-piece band
 - 4. Four-piece band
 - 5. Single performer
 - 6. Seven-piece band
 - 7. Two-piece band
 - 8. Ninety-piece band
 - 9. Five-piece band
 - 10. Eight-piece band

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.

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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 Puebla de Cazalla

QUIZ

QUESTION 1
Britain joined the EEC on 1 January in which year?

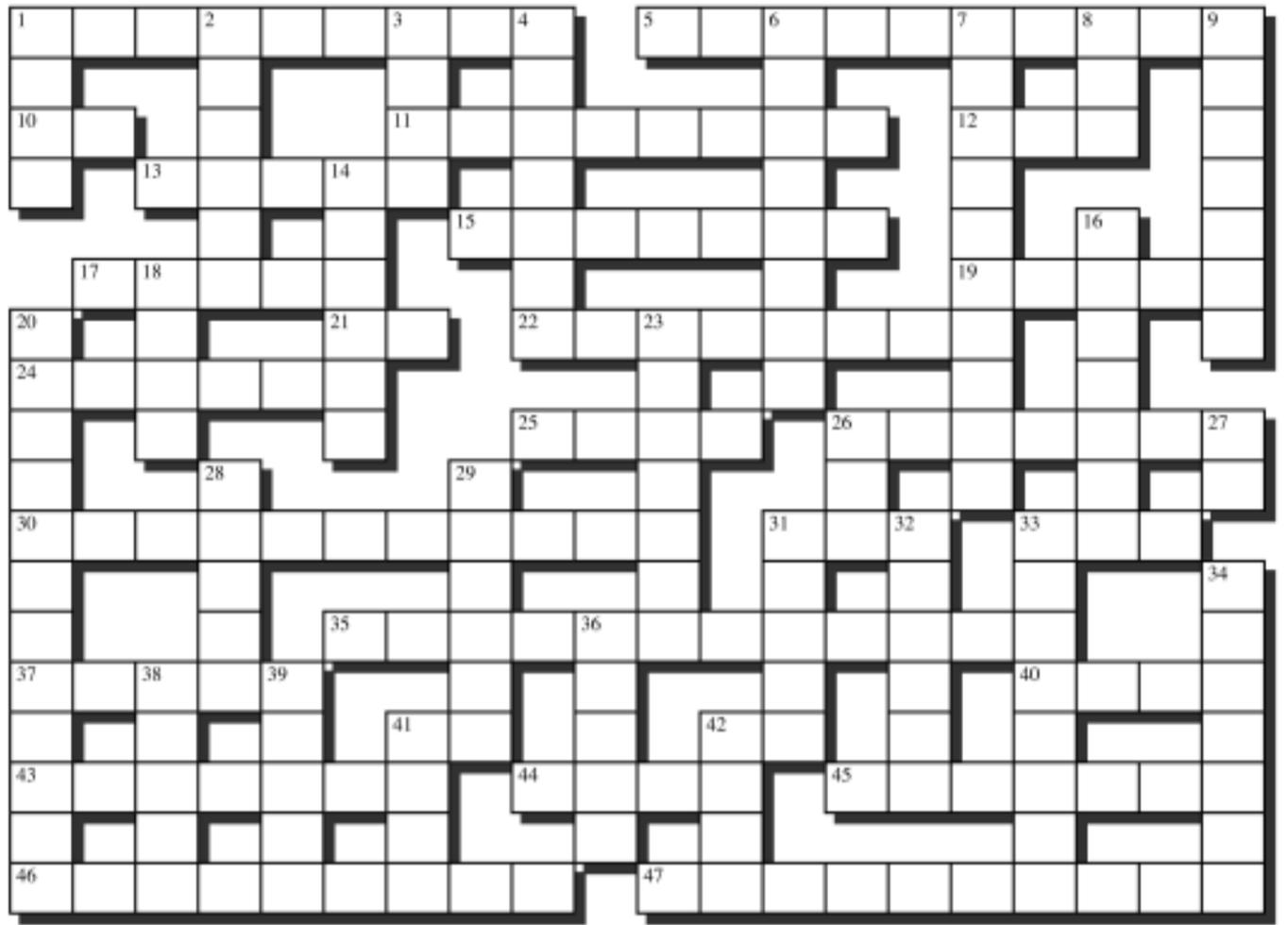
- 1. 1972
- 2. 1973
- 3. 1974
- 4. 1975

QUESTION 2
Canaan Banana was the first ever president of which country?

- 1. Botswana
- 2. Zambia
- 3. Zimbabwe
- 4. Namibia

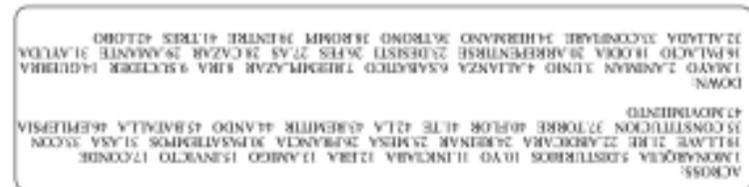
LANGUAGE CROSSWORD FILL IN THE SPANISH WORD

- | | |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| Across | Down |
| 1. Monarchy (9) | 1. May (4) |
| 5. Riots (10) | 2. They encourage (6) |
| 10. I (2) | 3. It united (4) |
| 11. She was starting (8) | 4. Alliance (7) |
| 12. It was (3) | 6. Sabbatical (8) |
| 13. Friend (5) | 7. To replace (10) |
| 15. Undefeated (7) | 8. He will go (3) |
| 17. Count (5) | 9. To follow/succeed (7) |
| 19. Key (5) | 14. War (6) |
| 21. D (musical note) (2) | 16. Palace (7) |
| 22. He will abdicate (8) | 18. He hates (4) |
| 24. To reign (6) | 20. To regret (12) |
| 25. Table (4) | 23. I gave up (7) |
| 26. France (7) | 26. Faiths (3) |
| 30. Leisure pursuits (11) | 27. Ace (2) |
| 31. Handle (3) | 28. To hunt (5) |
| 33. With (3) | 29. Lover (6) |
| 35. Constitution (12) | 31. Help (5) |
| 37. Tower (5) | 32. Ally (f) (6) |
| 40. Flower (4) | 33. I will trust (8) |
| 41. You (2) | 34. Brother (7) |
| 42. The (f) (2) | 36. Throne (5) |
| 43. To send (7) | 38. I broke (5) |
| 44. I walk (4) | 39. Between (5) |
| 45. Battle (7) | 41. Three (4) |
| 46. Epilepsy (9) | 42. Wolf (4) |
| 47. Movement (10) | |

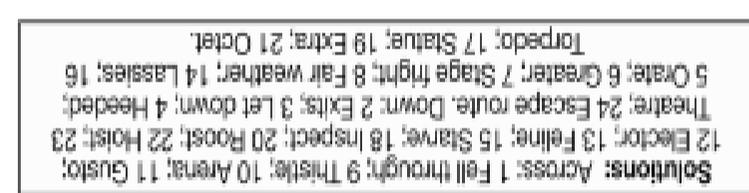


ANSWERS

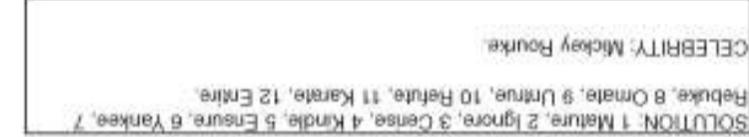
Language Crossword



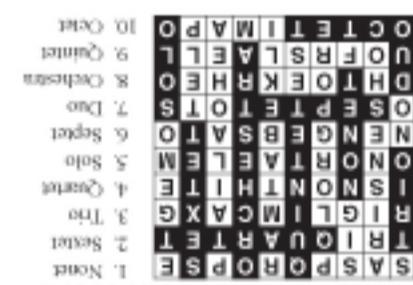
Cryptic Crossword



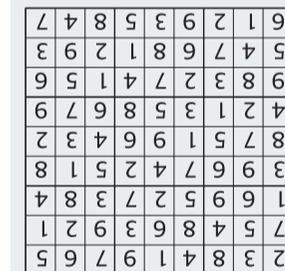
Clockword solution



Wordpuzzler solution



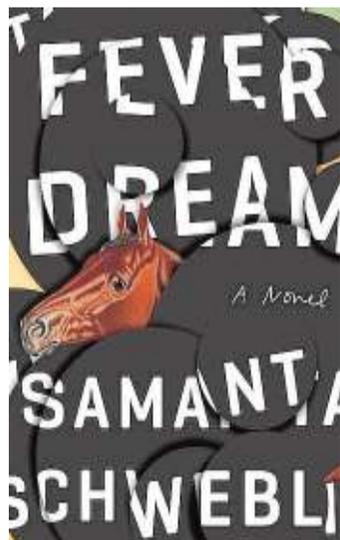
Sudoku solution



Quiz answers

Answer 1: 1973
Of interest: Britain, although not originally included in the precursor to the EU after WWII, decided to join even though opinion polls at the time showed a similar division of opinion as the referendum last June.
Answer 2: Zimbabwe
Of interest: Canaan Sodindo Banana served as the first President of Zimbabwe from 18 April 1980 until 31 December 1987. Banana, a former Methodist minister, was later convicted of 11 counts of sodomy and imprisoned for 8 months.

BOOK OF THE WEEK



Fever Dream
Samanta Schweblin

The first novel by Argentinian author Samanta Schweblin is a chilling horror story is based in rural Argentina. A holidaying mother and daughter find themselves trapped in a living nightmare. The woman, Amanda, wakes up in a rural hospital clinic. A boy named David sits beside her. He is the son of the owner of the holiday accommodation and he asks her questions about the afternoon she spent with his mother. Amanda feels she is in a feverish dream, frantically searching her memory while knowing death is nearby.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

While money can't buy happiness, it lets you choose your own form of misery

ANON

MALAGA PORT INFORMATION

CRUISE SHIP MOVEMENTS (SOURCE: MALAGA PORT AUTHORITY)

Ship	Date	From	Next port	Docks	Sails
Costa Magica	05/05	-	-	07.00	13.00
Thomson Celebration	07/05	Cartagena	Cadiz	08.00	18.00
Norwegian Spirit	07/05	Cartagena	Cagliari	08.00	18.00
Horizon	07/05	Alicante	Porto Torres	10.00	16.30
Seven Seas Explorer	08/05	Cadiz	Cartagena	09.00	18.00
Aidastella	09/05	-	-	08.00	18.00
Tui Discovery 2	11/05	Gibraltar	Cadiz	06.00	23.00
Rhapsody of Seas	11/05	Arrecife	Cartagena	08.00	18.00
Independence of Seas	11/05	Valencia	Cadiz	11.00	19.00
Silver Whisper	12/05	Cartagena	Portimao	07.00	19.00
Star Breeze	12/05	-	-	08.00	19.00





Learning Spanish with the help of Cervantes



Malaga University's International Centre for Spanish hosted 'Cervantes Week' as part of its language course for international students

MALAGA. Students from over 60 countries across the globe attending Spanish language courses at the Malaga International Centre for Spanish (CIE) had the chance last week to learn about Miguel de Cervantes and his most famous story, Don Quixote, as the school paid tribute to the legendary Spanish writer.

The week culminated in the reading of the first chapter of Don Quixote in 20 different languages at the school's centre in El Palo. European languages such as German, Swedish and Greek were intertwined with languages from further afield such as Korean, Chinese and Japanese as a number of students and teachers took to the podium in front of their peers to read extracts of the text in their native language.



A Dutch student reads an extract from Don Quixote. :: SUR

WHAT THE STUDENTS THOUGHT

Wei Gao

Chinese student

"I enjoyed the whole week, but especially having the chance to be creative in Spanish by writing my short story, Don Quixote in China."



Abdulmalik Loufi
Emirati student

"It was something different. I learned a lot about the characters of Don Quixote and about Cervantes' literature and the history of Spain too."



Qiwen Chen

Chinese student

"The week was good but difficult. I have learned a lot of new vocabulary as a result of reading Cervantes' literature and participating in discussions with my classmates."



At the end of the reading, some of the students also presented the short stories they had written in Spanish earlier in the week, as part of a task designed to help students practise their writing skills. Adaptations of the original tale, set in the students' native countries, were read out and saw the fabled Don Quixote appear in South Korea, China and the Netherlands.

In a separate Cervantes Week event, the students had also participated in a discussion about how Don Quixote was received by the public when it was first published in the 17th century, and how it is interpreted today.

A video recorded over the course of the week, which was presented at the end of the readings, showed students discussing what they had learned about Cervantes and his work, demonstrating that they had really engaged with the activities.

Abdulmalik Loufi, from the UAE, said: "It was something different. I learned a lot about the characters of Don Quixote, Cervantes' literature and Spanish history too. I would definitely recommend that other students wanting to learn Spanish participate in the Cervantes Week and attend the classes at the CIE school."



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