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**The Costa's top
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Past and future tournament
news in the English version
of the popular Costa del
Golf **INSIDE**



A HUGE STROKE OF LUCK

No one was hurt in Frigiliana when an unoccupied
4x4 plunged onto a restaurant terrace on
Wednesday **P13**



Restaurant staff attempt to clear the damage from the scene. :: E. CABEZAS

Costa del Sol gears up to attract more cycling holidaymakers

Councils on the western Costa have
launched a new website for active cyclists,
in partnership with Malaga university

Local councils and their tourism
chiefs are setting their sights on the
growing, multi-billion-euro cycling
market to increase visitor numbers
to the Costa del Sol, especially in
low season.

The western Costa del Sol town
council association has just launched
a new online service called BicycleSleep
with Malaga university to promote
active cycling routes across the area
and services for cyclists, such

as accessory shops and restaurants
en route. So far 100 businesses have
been signed up to feature on the site.

The move comes as the area invests
more in cycle infrastructure and safety,
including the regional Plan Andaluz de
la Bicicleta, focusing on the urban cycling
tourist market. However more must be
done to inform motorists of their
responsibilities to those on two wheels.
P2&3

**Philippe Starck
talks of the
creative process
at his Malaga
exhibition** **P28&29**



:: FERNANDO GONZÁLEZ

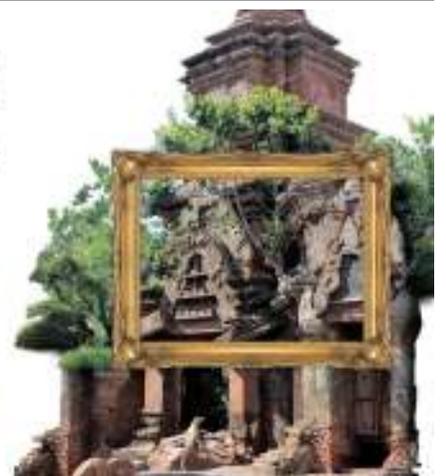
**Málaga CF are already
preparing for next
season** with the signing of
Michel's son, Adrián **P66**

**Vocento media group
picks up prestigious US
award in recognition of
support for a free press** **P26**

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A plan gets under way to attract cycle tourism to the region in the winter months

About 100 businesses are already signed up to the BicycleSleep project, which takes its first step this month with the launch of its website

■ NIEVES CASTRO

MALAGA. For the past two years the association of town councils of the western Costa del Sol (Mancomunidad) has been working on ways to encourage tourists to the area out of peak season. It has now designed a project called BicycleSleep, which starts this month with a website where cycling enthusiasts can find detailed information about routes and specific services in the 11 municipalities in the area.

These potential tourists will not only be able to find out about the roads and tracks they will be using, but also hotels, petrol stations and even repair shops and cycle hire companies.

The final touches are now being put to the website, which has been designed by the Cooperative Information Systems group at Malaga university. It has information about 100 companies who can cover the needs of tourists who will be cycling more than 170 mountain routes, 270 stretches of highway and over 200 kilometres of roads and tracks which are suitable for families.

The website, which will also be maintained by the university, is the tangible starting point of a project which is separate from the regional government's Plan Andaluz de la

Bicicleta. The project coordinator, Diego López, explains that the Junta de Andalucía's plan was designed to find a solution to urban mobility, and although the Mancomunidad's project includes information about downhill, road and mountain biking, and flat routes suitable for family trips, such as seafront promenades, it is very different. "We are talking about quiet places to cycle, adapted roads and mountain and downhill tracks which are signposted. Sport cycling, in other words, which has nothing to do with travelling around a city or town on a bike," he says.

Spending power

The Mancomunidad's challenge is to overcome seasonal tourism and attract cyclists and cycling teams to train in this area during the winter, when the climate is favourable and there are fewer tourists staying in the hotels.

"It's time for the Costa del Sol to take action and find new ways to attract visitors all year round. We have everything we need to become a benchmark for active tourism,"



Cyclists are permitted to cycle two abreast by law. ■ SUR



The authorities want car hire companies to become involved by warning their clients about the distances which drivers are obliged by law to leave between themselves and cyclists ■ SUR

said the president of the Mancomunidad, Margarita del Cid, when she presented the project at the ITB tourism fair in Berlin.

"Thousands of cycling fans and triathletes from Britain, Germany, Scandinavia and France are currently training in adverse weather conditions, and we want to get the message across to them that they can train in unbeatable conditions on the Costa del Sol. We need to focus on this segment, because cycle tourism is one of the sectors which is expected to grow the most, and it can therefore play an important role in year-round tourism," she said.

But what contribution could these tourists make to the local economy? Diego López says these sports tourists are usually aged between 45 and 55, 40 per cent are women and 60 per cent men, with a university education and good social status. They earn between 24,000 and 36,000 euros a year. Half of them usually travel in pairs, 20 per cent cycle alone and the remainder like to cycle in groups of three to five people. They spend an average of 57 euros a day, and stay for

CYCLE TOURISM IN FIGURES

2.3

billion bicycle journeys (including at least one night's stay in a hotel) are made in Europe each year.

57

euros is the average amount spent per day by cycle tourists during their trip, which normally lasts for eight days.

154

per cent is the ROI (Return of Investment) received by destinations which invest in infrastructure for cycle tourism

■ SOURCE: FUNDACIÓN VÍAS VERDES ESPAÑA

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about a week. The average spend per trip is 439 euros.

Reasons for travelling

In Europe each year there are 2.3 billion cycle journeys and the financial return, in other words the direct economic impact of these trips, is 44 billion euros. Spain earns approximately 1.62 billion euros a year from cycle tourism, according to Richard Weston, a senior analyst of these impacts at European level.

The Costa del Sol hopes to obtain a large slice of this succulent cake to boost its tourism sector in the winter months. Although the project itself is not seasonal, it is true that the high temperatures in the summer months do have an impact on sports activities, which is why other times of the year are more attractive.

According to the Eurovelo network of European cycle paths, cyclists especially appreciate safety, continuity and a variety of routes, but also lovely surroundings and villages and towns in which it is pleasant to cycle. Clear information about quality accommodation, restaurants and services are also appreciated by those who like to travel on two wheels, which is why the Mancomunidad website includes plenty of information of this type, as well as clubs, shops selling cycling accessories, massage facilities, messenger services and much more.

Jimena and Shaza finalise move to Malaga after finding work in Marbella

The couple who fled Dubai admit to having received many offers to make books or films about their ordeal

:: EUGENIO CABEZAS

TORROX. Their story has gone all around the globe and since giving a press conference at Torrox town hall a week ago, Jimena Rico and Shaza Ismail have been inundated with requests for interviews and even offers to have their story made into a book or a film.

The young couple, who fled Dubai fearing for their lives after Shaza's family refused to accept their relationship, came to Torrox, Jimena's home town, and are now finalising their move to Malaga to be closer to Marbella, where they have both found work in roles with the Funky Buddha Beach group.

Jimena will work as a mixologist, a role she took up when she moved to London in 2013, while Shaza will be employed as a hostess.

Javier Calle, one of the group's representatives, told SUR that after hearing the pair's story, they were left "impressed", and "through a mutual friend I got in contact with



Shaza (left) and Jimena (right) at Torrox town hall last week. :: EFE

them and offered them jobs".

"Their CVs are impressive and through Shaza we can reach out to more Middle Eastern clients," he concluded.

Spanish classes

The couple will shortly move to Malaga where Shaza will continue her Spanish lessons while they

work to have her papers in order.

Asked whether Shaza's parents had changed their outlook, Jimena said that they had spoken but "they still won't accept our relationship".

She added that she hoped that by continuing to give interviews, they can slowly change the perceptions of homosexuality in the Arab world.

IN BRIEF

Consumer organisation blasts toll road price hike

MARBELLA

EUROPA PRESS. The Facua Málaga consumer organisation is demanding explanations from the Fomento ministry which authorised rises in tariffs on the AP-7 for 15 days around Easter. The organisation considers the rises, of up to 65 per cent in some cases, are "abusive" and unnecessary with regard to covering costs. It has also questioned the definition of a 'frequent user' (eligible for a discount) which at this moment is fixed at 60 uses in the past four months.

Fresh tuna recall after 38 reports of food poisoning

MALAGA

SUR. Since last Friday, 38 cases of food poisoning have been reported in Andalucía after the consumption of fresh tuna distributed by Almeria company Garciden. Six batches of the fish have been recalled after high levels of histamine were detected. This can cause a tickly throat, blushing, a sweaty face, nausea and vomiting. Those who have consumed tuna bought after 25 April and who have these symptoms and are advised to seek medical help.

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Warehouse thieves get away with mobile phones worth 800,000 euros

Around 18,000 devices were stolen from a building on the Guadalhorce industrial estate in the early hours of the May Day holiday

By JUAN CANO/ ÁLVARO FRÍAS

MÁLAGA. Police are following up several lines of inquiry after 800,000 euros worth of top-of-the-range mobile phones were stolen in an unprecedented raid on a warehouse on the Guadalhorce industrial estate.

The theft took place in the early hours of Monday 1 May after the gang, thought to be made up of three or four people, broke into the warehouse through a window.

Having torn down the metal bars, which they then put back in their original position to avoid raising suspicion, they forced open a sliding door to let in a lorry which they loaded with around 18,000 devices.

It is not known how much time they spent in the warehouse; there is no security camera footage as the thieves destroyed the video surveillance system.

The possibility that they made



The warehouse where the robbery took place. :: S. SALAS

more than one journey to the warehouse with the lorry, given the quantity of items stolen, has not been ruled out by police.

The owners did not discover the robbery until the morning of 2 May, when they found that only around 100 of the cheapest mobile phones had been left behind.

The thieves are believed to have

taken more than 2,000 Nokia phones, as well as a similar number of Samsung and Huawei mobiles.

Around one hundred Apple devices, mainly of the iPhone 7 model, were also taken.

Tablets, waterproof cameras, flash drives, memory cards and external hard disks were among the other devices stolen.

112 REPORTS

Gang arrested for theft of noise barriers

MÁLAGA

By Á. FRÍAS. National Police officers have arrested members of a gang that stole two kilometres of acoustic barriers that ran along a stretch of dual carriageway between Malaga and Torremolinos.

All seven members of the gang are Spaniards aged between 21 and 34.

The barriers, installed to reduce noise pollution, were valued at more

than 80,000 euros. After being removed by thieves they were cut into pieces and then sold as scrap.

During the investigation, police found 350 kilos of iron and 16 kilos of aluminium which had come from the barriers at a scrapyard on the Guadalhorce industrial estate.

The 28-year-old in charge of the scrapyard was arrested on suspicion of receiving stolen goods.

The gang is also believed to have stolen 19 telephone cables worth around 155,000 euros, which were then also sold to scrapyards in the city.



The motorhome on fire in La Colina. :: SUR

Man dies in motorhome fire in Torremolinos

TORREMOLINOS

By J. CANO / A. GÓMEZ. A 66-year-old man died on Thursday last week in Torremolinos in a fire that broke out in a motorhome parked in Av-

enida Salvador Dali in La Colina. The body of Cristóbal D. P. was found in the cab of the vehicle.

Police sources said that the victim lived in a nearby block of flats.

The National Police suspect that the blaze was caused accidentally while the man was cleaning the motorhome's gas fittings.

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The structure was refloated on Sunday and towed to Cadiz, its destination before it went adrift. :: Á. CABRERA

Benalmádena counts the cost after grounded platform leaves for Cadiz

:: ALBERTO GÓMEZ

BENALMÁDENA. The council in Benalmádena said on Monday that it would assess the damage caused to town hall coffers by the presence of the platform that was grounded on the local nudist beach for nine days. The Agronauta, a floating construction platform, ran aground after breaking away from the vessel that was

towing it from Cartagena to Cadiz in stormy seas at the end of April.

The local authority is to draw up a report to decide whether to claim damages from the platform's insurance company. The structure required Local Police vigilance while it was stuck on the beach and a security area had to be cordoned off.

Security had to be stepped up in

the area after one man approached the platform by canoe and climbed one of its towers to take selfies.

The structure, measuring 43 by 32 metres, was refloated and moved away from the shore on Sunday and then towed to Cadiz after damage had been assessed. The owner of the local beach bar is also considering claiming lost earnings.

Bank forced to pay British buyer back for deposit placed on illegal property

A Madrid court has also ordered the bank, which had appealed an original sentence, to pay costs

:: HÉCTOR BARBOTA

The provincial administrative court in Madrid has sentenced Banco Popular to return the deposit a British buyer paid a developer for an illegal property in Marbella.

The court rejected the appeal lodged by the bank against the original sentence handed down by a Madrid 'first instance' court, which found in favour of the buyer, although awarded him a smaller amount. The appeal has added costs to the sum payable by the bank, which means the buyer is now due some 139,000 euros.

The case dates back to March 2003, when a British citizen signed a contract to buy a property that was under construction in Los Lagos, Santamaría Golf, and due to be handed over three months later.

By then, however, the property was not finished and had no

first occupancy licence. The construction had been carried out with planning permission that did not comply with the urban development plan (PGOU) of 1986 that was in force at the time.

The buyer, represented by the firm Ley 57, claimed the money he had already paid which had been deposited by the developers in their account at Banco Popular. When a sentence was handed down in his favour, the developers had declared insolvency and had gone into administration.

The claimant then took legal action against the bank, as the guarantor responsible for the sums paid, and the court found in his favour.

The bank appealed, claiming that the property was not intended to be the principal home or family residence of the claimant, a situation that the appeal stated was necessary for the bank to return the amounts.

The buyer responded by claiming a further 6,200 euros which the bank said it had no record of being paid in.

The Madrid court hearing the appeals found in favour of the buyer.

112 REPORTS

Man in custody accused of Burriana beach rape

NERJA

:: E. CABEZAS. A 25-year-old man from Granada, identified as J. A. A., has been remanded in custody in connection with the rape of a woman on Burriana beach in Nerja on Sunday afternoon. Witnesses raised the alarm, reporting seeing the man having sexual intercourse with a woman, apparently without her consent. The woman, said reports, appeared to be intoxicated

and semiconscious. Another man, J. L. M. S., 35, was reported to have been watching the scene "as if he were waiting his turn". He has been released with charges. When officers arrived on the scene the two men attempted to escape, first in their car, which had broken down, and then on foot. The woman, 37, also from Granada, had apparently travelled to Nerja with the two suspects but told police that she couldn't remember how she got there. Officers are investigating whether the victim had been given the submission drug known as 'burundanga'.

Second light aircraft crash in a week

VÉLEZ-MÁLAGA

:: A. PELÁEZ. A light aircraft left the runway and crashed into a fence on Tuesday when landing at the airfield in El Trapiche. None of its three occupants - two of them French and one Spanish - was hurt. The accident comes just days after three German nationals died when their aircraft crashed in the same area.

Family live with mother's body for a month

MALAGA

:: J. CANO. A son, a daughter and the daughter-in-law of a 77-year-old woman found dead last month are being investigated after it was found that they could have been living with her body for a month.

All three family members are suspected of potential homicide, physical abuse and fraud crimes.

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Dredger hard at work by Marbella beach

Vessel sucking sand from town's Puerto Deportivo marina is dumping it offshore at La Fontanilla beach



The sand is taken from four metres of water at the mouth of the leisure marina and discharged into the hold. :: JOSELE-LANZA



The dredger returns to the port after dumping its load. :: J-L.



Pedro Rodríguez (right) on the bridge. :: J-LANZA



The silty mix from the seabed is black in colour. :: J-L.

The experienced crew, paid for by the council, is trying a different technique to try to protect the shoreline from erosion by slowing waves about 80 metres out to sea

:: MÓNICA PÉREZ

MARBELLA. "There's quite a dangerous problem here for the boats entering and leaving the port with the silty sand accumulating at the entrance. In some places, like here near the filling station" - the captain points to the Puerto Deportivo marina in Marbella- "there's only 60 centimetres of water, or in other words, the sand is almost as high as the sea".

Pedro Rodríguez is in charge of the operation to dredge the mouth of the port, near the centre of the old town, that has been going on for over a week under town hall supervision and at a cost of 60,000 euros. Under his control, a dredger named Josefa Pérez, 60 metres long and ten metres wide, has been working non stop from seven in the morning until nightfall. "This port is small and it's difficult to work at night," he explains from the bridge, while moving around the pipe that sucks up the sand and silt like a vacuum cleaner, discharging it into the hold of the vessel through up to six separate outlets.

Pedro controls the buttons calmly. It shows that he was brought up in the world of dredging. His parents also did the same job in Chiclana, Cadiz. He bought the boat in 1993 and travels all over Spain with it.

It's years since this area of Marbella was dredged and this time there are two distinct goals. On one hand, they aim to put a stop to the problems boats have navigating into the port with the build up of sand and silt. On the other hand, they are setting out to repair the damage caused by this winter's storms on the nearby La Fontanilla beach by strategically dumping the dredged sand.

The way of working is quite different to other dredging that normally takes place in Marbella. This time the material dredged up doesn't

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In some parts of the port, the water is only 60 centimetres deep

go straight onto the beaches via the tubes. The sand is deposited out to sea up to 100 metres from the shore so that the movement of the water does the rest. The aim is for the new sand dumped at sea to form a natural bank and protect the sand already on the beach from aggressive tides. Pedro Rodríguez explains that this barrier is important so that the sea doesn't wash away so easily the other sand that is being added directly back onto the beach by coastal authorities. With several trips a day, the job can be repetitive: collect the sand at the mouth of the marina, move to nearby La Fontanilla beach, stop the vessel some 80 metres from the shore and open the hold doors to dump the sand. And back again.

Risk of running aground

The hold can store up to 689 cubic metres and takes up most of the space on the dredger.

Does he fill the hold every time? "No, we can only fill it with about 500 cubic metres as the port mouth is so shallow. We could run aground if we take on too much weight," the captain warns. The hull is designed so that the water that is dredged up with the sand can run away, reducing any environmental impact.

Only time will tell if this new way of adding sand to Marbella's beaches can stop the frequent erosion, even by a little bit.

Town moves a step closer to saving its beaches with breakwaters

Marbella council has offered to fund the work that the national government needs to carry out to protect the San Pedro shore and beaches in the centre

:: HÉCTOR BARBOTA

MARBELLA. At a meeting in Madrid last week, representatives from Marbella council discussed with environment ministry officials their plan to protect the town's shoreline from erosion and restore sand to the beaches.

During the meeting, the government's coastal authority, that is responsible for protecting this coastline, announced that work will be put out to tender this year for long-awaited schemes around Marbella.

Among the plans agreed are the stabilisation of the shore at San Pedro and the construction of a series of breakwaters to trap sand along beaches between the Nagüeles and La Bajadilla areas at the centre of the town. These parts of the coast have suffered a lot in recent storms and lack the infrastructure to automatically replenish the sand when it is swept away.

In an innovative funding offer, Marbella council has said it will put up the 11 million euros for the work, which the government would refund over time. This initial tender phase will be funded by government.



Damage to La Venus beach in Marbella after the last storm. :: JOSELE-LANZA

Mijas denies holding up project to build groyne on its beaches

:: IVÁN GELIBTER

MIJAS. Ruling councillors in Mijas have reacted angrily to accusations from the opposition PP group that they are holding up plans to build breakwaters on the area's beaches to stop sand erosion.

In a recent council meeting, the town hall had been accused of "blocking the project". The PP says that the scheme to build a 150-metre semi-submerged breakwater on

Butiplaya beach in La Cala and groyne in Calahonda (that it had proposed when in power in 2015) had gone nowhere under the new Ciudadanos and PSOE administration.

However councillor for Infrastructure, José Carlos Martín, has released documents to SUR that show that the council continues to pursue the project and is still waiting for a reaction to the plans from the environment ministry.

Costa del Sol to fly Blue Flags at twenty four beaches and seventeen marinas

:: NIEVES CASTRO / SUR

MALAGA. A total of 24 beaches on the Costa del Sol will fly the Blue Flag this summer, two more than last year.

The coveted Blue Flags are awarded to the cleanest beaches in the European Union.

Marbella is the resort with most Blue Flags on the Costa, a total of six, although it loses its top placing in Andalucía this year. That distinction now goes to Roquetas de Mar, Almería, and Rota, Cadiz, that now have seven qualifying beaches each.

Seventeen marinas on the Malaga coast have also been given the award for meeting the required quality standards, while two of the five flags given out for sustainable boating tourism in Andalucía have also been granted to the Costa del Sol.

Andalucía has been awarded 90 Blue Flags altogether, which makes up around 15 per cent of the national total.

That figure puts the region fourth in the ranking of beaches that have been awarded a flag in Spain, behind leaders Valencia, Galicia and Catalonia. In total Spain has 684 blue-flag beaches.

Andalucía is in the same fourth position for the number of marinas that will raise the flag this summer, behind Catalonia, the Balearic Islands and Galicia.

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LIBERATED US TOWN TO HAVE OWN TRIBUTE TO MALAGA HERO

The town of Pensacola in Florida, USA, is to have its own monument to Bernardo de Gálvez, the Spanish soldier who fought in the battle of Pensacola in 1781 against the British during the American War of Independence. The bronze statue will depict De Gálvez on his horse and lifting his hat as a sign of victory. The announcement coincided with 'Gálvez Day' which is celebrated on 8 May every year in the town and at which representatives from Macharaviaya and Malaga were present this year.



Málaga-Playa hotel in Torrox Costa officially reopened with an inauguration event last Saturday. :: SUR

Multi-million-euro renovation project for iconic Torrox hotel

Mallorca-based hotel chain, Iberostar, has modernised 319 rooms and 94 apartments which has lead to a four-star rating

:: EUGENIO CABEZAS

TORROX. The iconic Iberostar Málaga-Playa hotel in Torrox Costa officially reopened with an inauguration event last Saturday, having undergone a major makeover during the low season.

Both the interior and exterior of the hotel have been modernised. In addition to repainting the outside of the building, a terrace and snack bar has a new windowed area, allowing for its use during the winter months. New pools, including slides for children, have been built and the 18,000 square metres of

gardens have also been given a new look.

Inside, the carpets have been replaced with vinyl flooring, there is a spa area as well as ample fitness facilities and all 319 rooms and 94 apartments have been updated, given them a "fresher look with clear colours," according to the commercial director of the Iberostar group, Xisco Martínez.

During Saturday's inauguration, Martínez also highlighted the modernisation of the dining area, which includes a buffet-style service as well as a renewed menu, which incorporates Mediterranean dishes, and "a modern gastronomic offering with fresh, top quality products."

The hotel will offer activities such as a diving school and water-sport excursions and advertise the proximity of the Baviera golf course in nearby Caleta as well as Añoreta in Rincón de la Victoria.

The new look and focus on quality has led to the hotel being awarded a four-star superior rating.

The chain, which has a further five hotels in Andalucía, was keen to point out that 80 per cent of the modernisation work was carried out by Andalusian companies and around 120 people were employed for the duration of the project.

Work started in November last year, when the hotel was closed completely. It reopened again in time for Easter week.

The Iberostar Hotels & Resorts chain is based in Palma de Mallorca and was founded by the Fluxa family in 1986. The company currently owns 100 four- and five-star hotels in 17 countries.

In Andalucía it owns the Iberostar Costa del Sol in Estepona, the Coral Beach in Marbella, the Andalucía Playa and Royal Andalus which are both located in Cadiz province.

Nerja treatment plant remains up in the air after further financial setbacks

:: EUGENIO CABEZAS

NERJA. Work to Nerja's waste water station remains at a standstill after details emerged of financial problems faced by Isolux-Corsán-Corviam, the firms responsible for the execution of the project.

Since 29 March this year the company has made it known that it is facing bankruptcy, with debts to the tune of four billion euros and payroll of some 5,000 workers.

The news coincided with Easter week celebrations, when Nerja town hall ordered work to stop so as not to interrupt the holiday week and processions.

Despite the whole project being 95 per cent complete, vital work to connect a number of collectors to the mains pumps as well as putting in place a pump in the Burriana beach area of the town remain unfinished.

The major delays to the waste water station project, which was due to be finished a year ago, means that Nerja continues to hold the dubious honour of being the only coastal town along the Costa del Sol that continues to pour untreated sewage straight into the sea.

The Unión Temporal de Empresas (UTE), which is formed by Isolux, Corsán and Corviam said: "ICC hopes to resolve its financial situation in the near future, which will allow it to complete the works within the planned timescale."

Sources at Spain's Environment ministry, which is wholly responsible for the financing and managing the works, valued at 23.4 million euros, told SUR the project is still "set to be complete, including the test phase, by the end of 2017."

HERE AND THERE



Councillors and animal groups sign the agreement. :: SUR

Councils sign agreement with animal groups

TORRE DEL MAR

:: J. R. The Mancomunidad de Municipios de la Axarquía, which oversees the work of the town halls in the area, signed an agreement with a number of local animal organisations last Friday to work together

to raise awareness of animal abuse. The Mancomunidad has offered its help and resources to organisations such as TAIL in Torrox and Apariv in Rincón de la Victoria, to run educational campaigns to reduce the number of abandoned animals and those that are put down unnecessarily. Councillor María Santana said, "This is the first step in stopping animals from being put down."

Road tax and garage entrance reminder

NERJA

:: J. R. Nerja town hall's Foreigners Department is reminding residents to pay the annual road tax and garage entrance fee. The road tax deadline is 19 May, while the garage entrance fee must be paid by 22 May. In a note in English to foreign residents, the department says, "All owners of a garage or a gate that permits a car entrance have to pay this tax. Many persons don't know that this tax exists. For the moment, it is one year behind as it corresponds to the year 2016." Any bank will receive the payment which must be accompanied by the invoice received by post.

Protesters take to streets against bullfight

VÉLEZ-MÁLAGA

:: E. C. Around 200 people took part in a demonstration against a planned bullfight in Vélez-Málaga last Saturday. Among the demonstrators were representatives from political parties, Podemos and Izquierda Unida, as well as animal rights organisations. The message, which was carried on banners and chanted, read, "No to bullfighting. Torture isn't art or culture." Vélez-Málaga announced the return of bullfighting to the town, due to take place on 10 June, earlier this year, months after signing a declaration making it "a town free of animal mistreatment".



Various UK reforms on hold, including domicile changes

By John McCann, Senior Partner, Blevins Franks

Changes to the UK domicile regime and other reforms were unexpectedly put on hold in the lead up to the snap General Election in June. The UK government removed these clauses from the 2017 Finance Bill on 25th April – 19 days after many were scheduled to start. The 760 page bill was reduced to just 140 pages.

The key clauses affecting British expatriates in Spain that have been removed include:

Deemed domicile rules for inheritance tax, income tax and capital gains tax – This includes the 15 out of 20 years deemed domicile rule as well as the formerly resident domicile rule. The 17 out of 20 years in the UK rule remains in place for now.

Protection of overseas trusts – Affecting those with a UK domicile of origin who returned to the UK after acquiring a domicile of choice elsewhere and settling a trust, the trust would no longer be excluded property while the settlor is resident in the UK, and so would become liable to inheritance tax. Since this is on hold, such trusts remain

excluded property for now.

Inheritance tax on enveloped residences – Where a UK residential property is held within a corporate structure (an ‘envelope’) this would be exposed to UK inheritance tax. So these properties continue to be outside UK inheritance tax for the time being.

Dividend nil rate band – Scheduled to reduce from £5,000 to £2,000 from April 2018, this is now on hold.

Money Purchase Annual Allowance – The amount that people who are already drawing their pension can put back into their pension tax free was due to be cut from £10,000 to £4,000.

£1,500 pension advice allowance – The ability to withdraw up to £1,500 from a pension fund tax free to pay for advice will now not be applied.

Personal Portfolio Bonds – laws changing the definition have been dropped.

High chargeable event gains - The new law allowing an individual

to appeal against tax when a withdrawal from a bond creates a high ‘Chargeable Event Gain’ has been dropped.

A new government could either keep the changes and implement them in a future finance bill, or revise or scrap some of the reforms. The next finance bill should be issued later this fiscal year (especially considering some of the clauses were supposed to have taken effect from 6th April 2017) or in 2018 or beyond.

The Financial Secretary stated that, if re-elected, the government will legislate at the earliest opportunity for the dropped reforms, but did not confirm a timetable.

QROPS transfer charge goes ahead

One reform to survive the cull was the surprise new 25% levy on transferring UK pension funds to Qualifying Recognised Overseas Pension Scheme (QROPS), announced in the spring budget. This tax remains in place.

It only applies to transfers taking

place from 9th March 2017 onwards. And you escape liability if both you and your QROPS are in the European Economic Area (including Gibraltar for this purpose) or you are both in the same country. So if you live in Spain and are transferring to a QROPS in say, Malta or Gibraltar, you are not affected.

Liability lingers for five years for transfers from 9th March 2017, so if you relocate outside the EEA during that time you risk taxation.

New probate fee system also on hold

This was a previous announcement, on 20th April. In February, the government said it planned to change the probate fee system, to replace the current flat rate fee of £215 (£155 if using a solicitor) with a tier system. Lower valued estates would escape fees altogether, but those over £50,000 would pay much higher fees. Estates over £1 million would pay between £8,000 and £20,000.

This has been scrapped for now, because there is not enough time to

be passed by parliament before the election. This was quite a controversial reform, so it will be interesting to see if it goes ahead.

If you were going to be affected by any of these reforms, particularly the domicile ones, keep in touch with your wealth management adviser to remain up to date. Domicile is a complex enough issue, without the uncertainty caused by putting the reforms on hold. Getting domicile planning wrong could easily result in larger tax bills, so specialist advice is essential.

Tax rates, scope and reliefs may change. Any statements concerning taxation are based upon our understanding of current taxation laws and practices which are subject to change. Tax information has been summarised; an individual is advised to seek personalised advice.

“With all the uncertainty at the moment, what facts can I rely on to protect my wealth?”

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There are still two years before Brexit though, so it may be advisable to act now, under known rules, rather than wait and see what happens.

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Marbella makes a splash with annual watersports festival

The town hosted a series of watersport displays and competitions for residents and tourists as part of 'Semana Náutica'

by **MÓNICA PÉREZ**

MARBELLA. Around 500 watersport enthusiasts were welcomed to Marbella's beaches as part of the annual 'Solmarina Semana Náutica', which ended last weekend. The two-week-long event, now in its sixth year, was organised by the association of western Costa del Sol municipalities.

"The events we have organised have proven the potential of the Costa del Sol to attract visitors 365 days a year, as our waters can offer much more than just a normal beach holiday," commented Margarita del



The Spanish jet-ski championship race. **J-LANZA**

Cid, one of the festival's organisers.

One of the biggest events to take place was the jet-ski race which drew 90 competitors. Sailing, paddlesurfing and fishing events were also on offer for visitors throughout the two weeks.

Marbella councillor for Tourism, Javier Porcuna, spoke about how the event was good promotion for the town too. "These high-profile events help to show the best of what Marbella can offer and also attract large numbers of spectators," he said.

Chiringuito owners plead to delay restaurant's demolition

by **CHARO MÁRQUEZ**

ESTEPONA. Staff at La Antigua chiringuito restaurant on El Saladillo beach in Estepona currently face unemployment, just as the high season starts, after the local council issued the restaurant with a demolition order for today (Friday).

The council have stated the restaurant should be demolished on the grounds that it is "illegally occupying land which belongs to the council and should be available for the public and traffic to pass through."

The French owners, who bought the plot three years ago after renting it for 11 years, hope to delay the demolition until after the summer. However, the council maintains that the owners did not obtain permission to put the restaurant in its current location and in fact began proceedings against them in 2012. Since then, the council has reportedly tried "without success" to make the owners relocate the restaurant.

Daniel Romero, the manager of La Antigua, which employs up to 57 people in the summer, has criticised Estepona's mayor, José María García Urbano, for contradicting himself after "talking constantly about increasing work opportunities".

The manager also complained that "in other towns the council has supported businesses who have found themselves in the same situation, but here it is the opposite". "We are fully prepared to demolish the restaurant ourselves in October, and start from scratch on a legal site, but let us finish the high season here first," he added.

Councillor for Infrastructure, Ana Velasco has responded to the owners' requests to delay demolition saying "the council doesn't want to force unemployment but it has to fulfill legal requirements, and the owners have had five years to resolve this problem."



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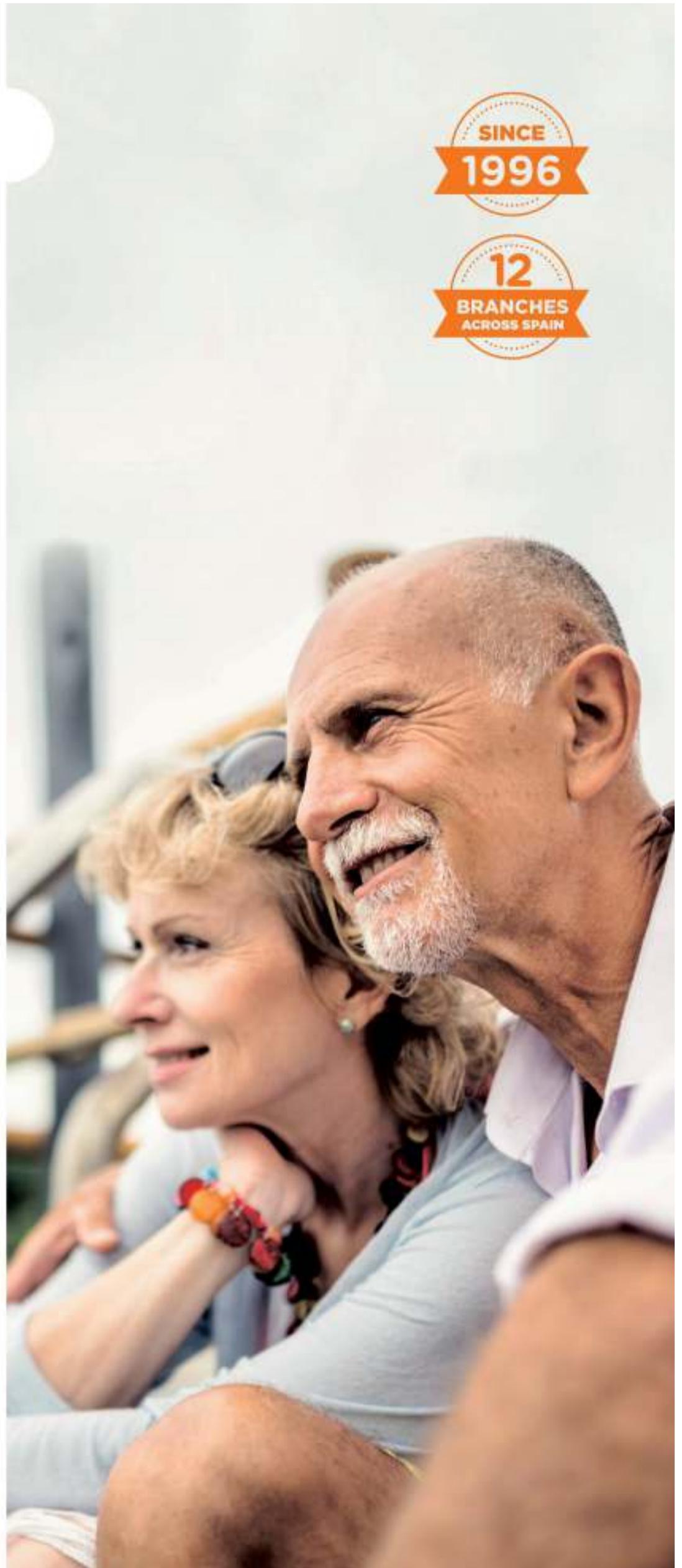
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Construction begins on 250-million-euro housing scheme in Ojén hills

Building company Grupo Avintia has already started work on the Palo Alto luxury residential area in Ojén, near Marbella

CHARO MÁRQUEZ

OJÉN. Work is under way on one of Ojén's biggest ever residential property developments. The 250-million-euro Palo Alto project is being funded by one of the world's largest real estate investors, Round Hill Capital.

The luxury scheme was designed by award-winning architecture practice Villarroel Torrico, and is now being built by one of Spain's best known construction companies, Grupo Avintia.

The luxury penthouses, villas and apartments which will make up the residential area are expected to stretch over an area of 50 hectares.

Avintia are currently cleaning the site, carrying out inspections, taking measurements and erecting a security fence in preparation for the first phase of construction, which is estimated to last until the end of 2018.



Avintia has begun to take measurements and erect security fences. :: J-L

President of Avintia, Antonio Martín Jiménez, has said that Round Hill Capital's decision to contract the group to carry out the work "is reason to be proud", given the company's leading position in the world of real estate investment.

Similarly, Matías Villarroel, director of Round Hill Capital in Spain,

has said how appreciative he is to have Avintia on board. "The group is very well known in the Spanish construction industry for the quality of its work. They have a great amount of experience both in Spain and abroad, which will help to make this project a success," he commented.

HERE AND THERE



The bridge will make crossing the A-7 safer. :: CHARO MÁRQUEZ

New Lidl footbridge will be open in two weeks

MANILVA

CHARO MÁRQUEZ. Residents in La Noria zone of Manilva, near Sabinillas, will soon be able to cross the A-7 dual carriageway much more safely, thanks to a new footbridge.

After years of complaints from residents and planning permission complications, the footbridge has finally been installed by the council next to Lidl supermarket

Although it is already in place, the 347,000-euro footbridge will not be passable for about two more weeks as further work needs to be carried out.

Manilva council to increase IBI by 2%

MANILVA

CHARO MÁRQUEZ. From next year, Manilva residents will see an increase of 2% on the IBI (local housing tax) they have to pay. The bill for around 21,000 households will increase, with only 6,000 households enjoying a decrease in their bill, which is 20,000 homes less than last year.

Part of A-377 to be closed for roadworks

GAUCÍN

V. MELGAR. A stretch of the A-377 between Gaucín and Manilva will close from 17 May until the start of July while work is carried out. From the Casares roundabout to the AP-7 will shut. All traffic except emergency service vehicles, residents and public transport, will be diverted through Casares.



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The unoccupied vehicle fell from a height of two metres onto the terrace. :: E. CABEZAS

4x4 vehicle crashes into a Frigiliana restaurant terrace after brake failure

:: EUGENIO CABEZAS

FRIGILIANA. Customers at a Frigiliana restaurant had a lucky escape yesterday after a 4x4 vehicle parked up in a street just off Plaza Amparo Guerrero suffered brake failure and rolled down from a height of two metres onto the restaurant's terrace.

The unoccupied vehicle caused a significant amount of damage, crashing into the tables and chairs laid out on the terrace, and also left some of the surrounding houses without electricity for a time.

Fortunately nobody was harmed as there were no pedestrians on that

part of the pavement at the time and the customers occupying the tables had paid their bill and left a few minutes earlier. Onlookers were shocked but nobody needed treatment after the incident.

The damaged vehicle was later removed by a tow truck.

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Mijas decides on new hospital location

The health centre will be built on 60,000 square metres on Avenida de Andalucía in the Las Lagunas area

by **IVÁN GELIBTER**

MIJAS. A new local hospital covering the Mijas and Fuengirola areas could be built on a 60,000-square-metre plot of land on Avenida de Andalucía in Las Lagunas, following several meetings between the mayor, Juan Carlos Mal-

donado and the regional minister of Health, Aquilino Alonso.

The town hall is putting the finishing touches to the necessary paperwork before handing the plot over to the Junta de Andalucía to begin the hospital's construction hopefully next year.

The new hospital will be situated in the geographical centre of Mijas and will be close enough to neighbouring Fuengirola, so that residents in that town can also make use of the hospital's services.

Maldonado stated that the land is ideally located given that there

is easy access to the motorway, while the idea of placing a station next to the hospital on any future coastal railway, which would increase accessibility to the hospital, has also been raised.

The councillor for Town Planning, Andrés Ruiz, added that other pieces of land in the municipality had been considered, but the legal status of some and the technical aspects of others made the project unfeasible in those areas.

The mayor will now negotiate with the town hall in Fuengirola to come to an agreement with them on the best way to fund the project.

He stated that, in order to speed up construction, he would prefer to replicate what has happened in Estepona, where the regional government allowed the local council to finance the works.

Owners of new luxury hotel for Muslims are looking to open another on the Costa del Sol

by **ALBERTO GÓMEZ**

TORREMOLINOS. The Kuwaiti owners of Costa del Sol Torremolinos Luxury Boutique Hotel, which is designed specifically for wealthy Arabic Muslims, are already looking to expand their high-end hotel chain along the coast.

The news came after the manager of the recently opened Torremolinos branch, Julio García, revealed on Wednesday that the hotel is already 80 per cent full, less than four months after it opened

its doors to guests.

Alongside its luxurious facilities of a jacuzzi, gym and panoramic terrace, the Torremolinos hotel is only the second in Spain to boast an all-halal menu as well as alcohol-free bars, 36 Mecca-facing hotel rooms and a prayer room, which all help to accommodate the needs of its Muslim guests.

García added that the Kuwaiti owners fell in love with Torremolinos in the sixties which is why they chose it as the location of their first hotel outside of Kuwait. But in light of the new hotel's success, market research is now being carried out to help the owners decide upon the best location of their next Costa del Sol hotel.

The owners hope to have another luxury hotel, also designed specifically for Muslim clientele, up and running within the next few years.

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Hundreds of people participated in last year's Walkathon in aid of the Cudeca hospice. :: SUR

Cudeca expecting good turnout for this year's Walkathon

Participants can register on Cudeca's website, or on the morning of the Walkathon

:: TONY BRYANT

BENALMÁDENA. Cudeca will be celebrating the fifteenth edition of its popular Walkathon on Sunday 21 May. The fundraising walk will consist of three routes. The main ten kilometre walk will begin at 10.30am, whereas the two and five kilometre walks will start at 11.30am.

Registration for the Walkathon, which will begin on the promenade in front of the Sunset Beach Club

Hotel in Benalmádena Costa, can be made on the Cudeca website until Friday 19 May, although people may still register on the day of the event. A registration fee of ten euros (12 euros on the day) will be charged to each participant. There is a reduced fee of six euros for children and a special family pack, which admits both parents and two children and is available for 20 euros.

The fee includes a T-shirt, refreshments and a free ticket for the grand raffle. The top prize is a one-week holiday in Portugal, courtesy of Diamond Resorts International. Other prizes include a two-night break in Ireland, a medical checkup at the Vithas Xanit Hospital, free entry to

Selwo Marina and Selwo Adventure parks and four free tickets for the cable-car in Benalmádena.

A special prize will be awarded for the highest amount raised in sponsorship money, as well as various other prizes for second and third place in both the adult and junior sections.

A celebration party will be held in the grounds of the Sunset Beach Club Hotel once the Walkathon is over. Participants and visitors can enjoy live music, children's activities and a charity paella.

The event is sponsored by numerous organisations and local businesses, including Talk Radio Europe and SUR in English.

Al's Ramblers raise 3,500 euros during recent sponsored hike

Funds raised from the event will be divided between four local animal charities

:: TONY BRYANT

COÍN. An intrepid group of walkers have raised an impressive 3,500 euros, after completing a 22km sponsored hike through the Coín mountains last weekend.

The fundraising walk was organised by the Coín-based inland hiking group, Al's Ramblers, and the 19 walkers completed the journey in six hours.

The proceeds from the walk will be shared equally between S.O.S. Animals, A.I.D., ARCH and CHAIN, four local charities that help animals in need.

Some of the hikers were accompanied by their dogs during the

walk, although the star of the event was Rupert, a two-year-old German shepherd currently in the care of SOS Animals. Rupert needs a hip dysplasia operation and a proportion of the funds raised from the walk have been earmarked for his treatment.

A spokesperson for S.O.S. said, "This means we have funds to finance Rupert's treatment when our vets say he is ready: we would like to thank everyone who made the day such a success."

The ramblers' individual sponsorship money was boosted by a pre-walk picnic and raffle, which added another 450 euros to the final total.

The group's leader, Alan Nichols, said, "It has been a great day and all the work put into the event by the ramblers has paid off handsomely."



The ramblers with their four-legged friends at the start line. :: SUR

Charity race in Cártama aids underprivileged families

:: TONY BRYANT

CÁRTAMA. More than 500 people participated in the eighth edition of the San Isidro Solidarity Race in Cártama last Friday.

As in previous years, the race had been organised to raise awareness of the problems faced by the town's underprivileged families. In order

to register, participants were required to donate one kilo of non-perishable food. These products will be distributed among the local families who need it most.

The five-kilometre street race was organised by the IES Valle del Azahar, a secondary school, and Cártama town hall.

Serious athletes and fun runners were accompanied by Jorge Gallardo, mayor of Cártama, Juan Rodríguez, councillor for sports, and several local school teachers.

Jesús González came in first place in the male category, while Celine Camerlynch triumphed in the female section.

The day concluded with a series of events held in the sports complex. These included races for primary school students and a variety of sporting activities, including football, basketball, padel and tennis.



500 runners took part in last week's solidarity race in Cártama. :: SUR

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Government ordered to pay 128 million euros in damages for changing energy conditions

British fund manager demanded compensation for reforms to the sector which restricted the benefits it obtained from its solar energy plants

:: JOSÉ M. CAMARERO

MADRID. Five years after reforming the electricity sector in Spain, the government is now facing the consequences of new regulations which drastically reduced the benefits obtained by those who invested in renewable energies.

The first bill it will have to face as a result of those changes is 128 million euros, which it has been ordered to pay in damages to the British Eiser investment fund by the International Centre for Resolving Differences regarding Investments (Ciadi).

This arbitration court considers that this is the amount the government should pay the company, which invested nearly one billion euros in three thermosolar plants in Castilla La Mancha and Extremadura in 2007. That was the year when legislation was approved by the then prime minister, José Luis Rodríguez Zapatero, to encourage the use of renewable energies, and as a result this type of energy technology quickly sprang up all over the country.

Eiser had demanded 300 million euros to compensate for what it considers to be a state of legal insecurity, because the change in legislation meant that the conditions from which its investment plans benefited were suddenly modified for others which were much more restrictive.

The decision has been an initial blow for the Energy Ministry, but sources there say they do not expect many more to follow. Two previous cases have been resolved in Spain's favour, and a third was closed with the agreement of both parties.

Government plans to appeal

The Energy Ministry plans to ap-



Solar energy was seen as a good investment. :: SUR

peal against the decision, because it considers that the new regulations only and exclusively affect three plants and under particular circumstances. In other words, it does not believe this type of decision would generally be made in other cases, among other reasons because the reform of the electricity sector in

2011 reduced the immense costs of the electricity system, which faced debts of 26 billion euros which were growing at the rate of 10.5 billion a year.

The government insists that if it had not carried out these reforms, electricity bills would have gone up by more than 42 per cent.

An avalanche of similar cases could cost the government billions

:: SUR

MADRID Ciadi's decision could start an avalanche of similar claims by investors who believe they have been negatively affected by the government's reform of the energy sector. This arbitration organisation already has 26 other cases to consider, and although each one has to be treated on its own merits, if it finds in their favour it could

cost the government more than one billion euros in compensation.

With so many cases arising in response to its energy reforms, Ciadi is examining more claims against the government in Spain than in any other country. In second position, but far behind with seven cases pending, is the Czech Republic, followed by Russia and Turkey, with six each.

MARK NAYLER
markanayler@gmail.com



THE EURO ZONE

SLOW PROGRESS

Though there must have been a sigh of relief in the Popular Party headquarters last Thursday, when Mariano Rajoy's 2017 budget narrowly survived defeat in a parliamentary vote, the Spanish prime minister would be wrong to think he thereby passed some kind of test. A vote on amendments to the budget proposed by Rajoy's opponents split congress down the middle, with 175 in favour and 175 against; as a result, the changes have been abandoned and the absurdly-belated spending plan is expected to be approved - halfway through the year it supposedly covers.

Far from giving Spanish conservatives cause for back-slapping, the vote only shows how ineffectual Spain's political system has remained since last October, when a new administration was finally formed after two general elections and ten months of deadlock.

Indeed, Rajoy only secured the Basque Nationalist Party's backing of his budget by promising the region a tax rebate worth over €1 billion and investment for a high-speed rail link. The PP still needs to secure one more vote for the budget to be passed, by which point it will practically be time to start writing the 2018 spending plan.

This snail-paced, knife-edge situation is surely enough to keep any realistic politician up long into the night, yet Spain's budget minister Cristóbal Montoro cheerfully announced that the vote proved "this government is able to make agreements". Far from it. What it shows is that legislation now takes months of debate to pass, and only then receives the necessary backing because Rajoy

dishes out favours to smaller parties in order to secure their desperately-needed votes. Only according to a Spanish politician's notion of effective governance is this situation anything other than lamentable.

Relatively uncontroversial as the 2017 budget is (or should have been), last week's vote came shortly after a new PP corruption scandal revitalised the hostility of Rajoy's opponents. In April, several PP politicians - including the party's former Madrid president, Ignacio González - were arrested after allegedly misusing public funds from Canal Isabel II, a publicly-owned water company. The party's core voters are largely indifferent to such cases, but they outrage Rajoy's political enemies: indeed, each fresh PP corruption scandal further undermines the prime minister's already-tenuous grasp on power.

And then there's the ongoing unemployment issue. Defending his 2017 budget in the parliamentary debate that preceded last week's vote, Rajoy spoke of the importance of creating jobs and maintaining the steady expansion of Spain's GDP.

The PP government has been creating around half a million new jobs a year, but many of them are worthless. Recent data from Eurostat indicated that 90% of new contracts signed from the beginning of this year through to the end of April were temporary; fewer than 6% of them, by contrast, were for permanent, fulltime positions.

The more you think about it, the more it seems that Rajoy was lucky that last week's budgetary vote was as close as it was.

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"It shouldn't take the town hall months to award licences"

Rosa M. González President of Benalmádena's traders association

BENALMÁDENA

González says that people are now "happier" to spend more on purchases but is demanding more flexibility from the town hall

ALBERTO GÓMEZ

The president of the Benalmádena traders association, Rosa María González, has called for the diversification of supplies in the town to avoid buyers going to other municipalities in order to make their purchases. González also asked businesses to take care of their shop decorations and to increase their online presence to help commercialise their products on the Inter-

net in order to become more competitive and attract clients. The association also lamented the lack of parking space in Benalmádena as one of the major burdens on its commercial fabric, which they say is currently lacking the names of "big companies." That scenario could soon change given the planned expansion of the Tivoli World Amusement Park, which will be converted into a huge shopping and leisure complex, a project which the association says "would benefit" businesses in Arroyo de la Miel.

-What is your take on the commercial situation in Benalmádena?

-We have noticed an upturn in consumption, but we still have a shortage of nice shops and big brands. Sales have increased and restaurants are doing well, which is in line with what is happening in the

rest of the province.

-What do you put the lack of big brands in Benalmádena down to?

-I put it down to the lack of usable space and our location. Studies have been carried out about the market and they have concluded that people don't stay in Benalmádena because supply is very limited and instead they look to Fuengirola or Malaga to buy what they need. This is where we are falling short.

-The lack of parking space is another historic problem.

-It is a very serious problem, in Benalmádena Pueblo especially. People can't find places to park, not when they have to go to the town hall to deal with some paperwork, nor if they want to grab a bite to eat. There are projects planned, but they are all long-term. You can tell it is a problem on the Costa del Sol in general. In summer it is impos-



González has called for a greater range of suppliers. :: A. G.

and businesses in the area. Major labels would sell their products co-exist with other shops in the municipality. Another thing is that the shopping centre would be remote, just as it is in Fuengirola.

-What are the biggest challenges of the commercial fabric?

-We have to diversify supply, improve shop decorations, ensure consistency in aesthetics and improve our set-up. And we have to go digital. I would like all the businesses in Benalmádena to have an online presence. Whoever wants to buy products here should have the opportunity to do it on their computers and phones as well. We have to get our act together on this.

-And what about municipal incentives? Do you have express licences like in Torremolinos?

-No. The majority of businesses that open here are part of the hotel industry and therefore cannot be part of the express licence system.

-What do you ask of the local council then?

-Flexibility. The department in charge of opening licences at the local council cannot take months, sometimes years, to accept licence applications. It has to be a smoother procedure.

sible to find somewhere to leave your car. It isn't such a big issue in Arroyo de la Miel, because of the amusement park's esplanade and the private parking area provided by Pueblosol, which I think would work much better if they lowered their prices.

-- How would you assess the Tivoli expansion plan? Would it affect small businesses?

-It wouldn't be an isolated shopping centre. It would remain part of the centre of Arroyo de la Miel and that would benefit restaurants



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Fresh attempt to combat Guadalmar mosquitoes

FRANCISCO JIMÉNEZ

MALAGA. The town hall in Malaga has gained permission from the regional government to spray larvicide on the embankment that separates the Guadalmar district from the Guadalhorce river to try to finally put an end to the mosquito problem that has beset residents in the Guadalhorce estuary area of the city for the last year and a half.

A small number of pest control workers will also be sent on a small boat to spray the edges of all the ponds and inland islets with the insecticide, once the forecast rain has passed.

The regional government, that controls the land, has described the problem as a "municipal matter" and will therefore not be putting any money towards eradicating the plagues of mosquitoes in the area. Nevertheless, the Junta de Andalucía has given the town hall the go ahead "to adopt the measures that it deems necessary".



Pest control in Guadalmar. :: s. s.

Termite infestation wreaks havoc in oldest court building in Torremolinos

ALBERTO GÓMEZ

TORREMOLINOS. A plague of termites has worsened the state of the courts in Torremolinos, with leaks and stains of damp already in the buildings. The termites have wreaked havoc in the oldest of the court buildings, which houses courts one, two, three and four as well as the register office.

Those working at the courts have lamented the fact that the insects have reached the archives and that as a result most of the records are now in a state which makes it almost impossible to recover them.

The problem led the chief judge to send an email to the regional government as well as other legal bodies to reiterate the need to spray insecticide on the affected areas, which until now have only been swept.



:: SUR

MAYOR TAKES A TUMBLE AT BMX CUP

The mayor of Malaga, Francisco de la Torre, visited the Rubén Alcántara skatepark last weekend for the launch of the qualifying rounds of the BMX Pro Cup (see back page). Testing out a competition bike for himself, the 74-year-old took a tumble, falling on his right arm after approaching a ramp with insufficient speed. De la Torre said he was not injured in the incident.

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Authorities call for the help of the general public to detect cases of abuse against the elderly

In the last 13 years around a thousand cases have been investigated in Malaga province, but a public prosecutor says most victims go unnoticed

ALVARO FRÍAS

MALAGA. Public prosecutor Flor de Torres has been dealing with cases of abuse against elderly people for years, however she claims that the cases that reach the courts are only the tip of the iceberg.

She describes this type of crime as "invisible". The victims rarely report maltreatment and the abusers take advantage of their physical and emotional vulnerability. The solution, says this expert in domestic and family violence, is for the local community to help detect cases.

In the last 13 years the public prosecution in the province of Malaga has opened around a thousand investigations into elder abuse. In 2011 the figures peaked at 111 cases, and went down to 53 last year.

However De Torres maintains that these statistics do not reflect

the real situation suffered by many older people. In the majority of cases, she added, the victim is the mother of her abuser, who has mental health or drug problems, although there are cases of elderly men also suffering at the hands of their children.

When the abuser is not a member of the family it is normally a carer employed to look after the elderly person who is responsible.

"They know that the victim is vulnerable and take advantage of that," said De Torres.

The elderly victims are abused not only physically and emotionally, but also financially. This last aspect worsened with the crisis as children moved back in with their parents and took control of their pensions as their own source of income.

The prosecutor explained that in the cases investigated there is often more than one abuser and several relatives take advantage of the elderly victim.

"We had one case of a 102-year-old woman who was being abused. You couldn't get anymore defenceless than that," she added.

De Torres believes that the solu-



The prosecutor describes cases of elderly abuse as "invisible". :: SUR

tion to the problem is social, as from a legal point of view, the victims tend to refuse to make a statement due to their close relationship with their abusers. According to Spanish law, parents and children of defendants are not obliged to testify against them.

It is down to society, therefore, says the prosecutor, to report cases to the authorities if they are made aware of them.

De Torres also said more could be done to protect victims. "We need a special law to protect elderly people, as there is for victims of gender violence," she added.

Helpline

The Spanish authorities have set up a free 24-hour helpline for elderly people (900858381) where cases of abuse can be reported and advice given. This is managed by the Junta de Andalucía and information is passed on to the prosecutors.

Non-profit organisations are also active in the care of elderly members of the English-speaking community in southern Spain. Advice is available from Age Care (952933409) and Age Concern (608458555).

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Fabulous fashion show raises funds for Bosom Buddies charity

This annual event is now in its 12th year and it was a particularly colourful evening, with body painting and Moroccan dance displays

BY DEBBIE BARTLETT

GIBRALTAR. It was a glittering occasion, and not only in terms of the fabulous fashions being modelled on the catwalk: a few glittering tears of emotion were also shed on the evening of 21 April at Grand Battery House in Gibraltar, as over 300 people watched cancer survivors strut their stuff to promote their positive message: Together, We Can Beat Cancer.

This variety and fashion show is an annual event to raise funds for the Bosom Buddies breast cancer charity. Sonia Golt, who is the chairperson of the charity and a breast cancer survivor, explained that it is also a way of demonstrating to the world that people diagnosed with breast cancer can still look and feel confident after their treatment.

Also taking part in the show this year was local businessman and



Luisandro's message was loud and clear. :: SUR

former international model Luisandro Moreno, who fought a hard battle to overcome chronic myeloid leukemia and is now a fundraiser and a campaigner to encourage people to register as bone marrow donors.

As well as the fashion show, the

evening included body painting displays (the event coincided with Gibraltar's 5th International Face & Body Painting Festival) and a traditional Moroccan dance demonstration, performed by Susan Soiza. All proceeds are being donated to the charity.

IN BRIEF



Dr Joseph Garcia, overseeing Gibraltar's Brexit. :: SUR

Deputy chief minister on Brexit panel

GIBRALTAR

BY D.B. Deputy chief minister Dr Joseph Garcia, who holds the Brexit portfolio in the Gibraltar government, is speaking as a panellist at

a Brexit convention which is taking place in London today and tomorrow. Other speakers are expected to include Richard Corbett MEP, Professor AC Grayling, Alastair Campbell, Bob Geldof, Lord Heseltine, Michael Gove, Gina Miller, Nick Clegg, and Rachel Johnson.

New road safety measures at Bella Vista

GIBRALTAR

BY D.B. A new traffic-light controlled pedestrian crossing is now in operation outside the Bella Vista Dementia Care Centre in Europa Road.

The speed limit in the area has also been reduced to 30kph and an electronic speed indicator has been installed.

Open Day at Gibraltar Museum on 20th

GIBRALTAR

BY D.B. The Gibraltar Museum in Bomb House Lane will be holding its annual Open Day on Saturday 20 May, from 10am until 6pm. Entry is free, and this is the perfect opportunity to find out more about Gibraltar's fascinating history and nature, including its famous Neanderthals.

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Prosecutors under fire over 'suspicious handling' of Lezo corruption case

Opposition MPs claim the public prosecution department is biased in its investigations and that the PP-led government has been interfering

:: SUR

MADRID. Politicians have been increasing pressure this week on public prosecutors and ministers in the PP-led government over their behaviour in the 'Lezo' corruption case.

The huge 'Lezo' case came to light last month and involves the supposed diversion of public funds from Madrid's publicly-owned water company by the former PP president of the Madrid region, Ignacio González, and other officials.

In a complex web of claims and criticism, opposition politicians are accusing public prosecutors and ministers of handling information on the corruption investigations to supposedly favour those accused in the Lezo case.

In addition, they say that the new head of the anti-corruption branch of the public prosecution department "isn't up to the job" after controversial decisions on important



José Manuel Maza (centre) faces questions from MPs. :: EFE

cases his team are investigating.

On Wednesday, appearing before a committee of MPs, chief public prosecutor (fiscal general), José Manuel Maza, defended the neutrality of his department, saying he had complete faith in his anti-corruption chief, Manuel Moix.

Moix's recent appointment has been heavily criticised. Secret recordings of the arrested former Ma-

drid president appear to show that he had been trying to influence a decision in favour of Moix's appointment to the anti-corruption role.

In the same session, Minister of Justice, Rafael Catalá, denied interference in investigations. Meanwhile, in the main parliament chamber, prime minister, Mariano Rajoy, was forced to face criticism of the fresh corruption allegations in the PP party.

IN BRIEF



Rescue workers at the scene of last Sunday's accident. :: EFE

Bouncy-castle death at country restaurant

BARCELONA

:: SUR. A six-year-old girl died and several other children were injured last Sunday lunchtime when a large inflatable attraction suddenly blew away. The inflatable had been

put up in the garden of a country restaurant near Girona and flew 40 metres onto the roof of the building, eyewitnesses said.

Initial investigations suggested that only two of the six guy ropes and pegs had been in place and that the restaurant owners didn't have the necessary town hall permit for the bouncy castle.

Politicians vote to try to get Franco's body moved

MADRID

:: M.A. Opposition MPs have united behind a PSOE party motion to have ex-dictator General Franco's body removed from its formal resting place at the Valle de los Caídos monastery, near Madrid. As the ruling PP party is against it, any attempt at removal is unlikely to succeed this time, commentators say.

Two teenagers die as glass side falls out of lift

MADRID

:: M.A. Two teenagers died in Madrid on Tuesday afternoon after the glass side of the lift in a block of flats where one of them lived apparently gave way while they lent against it. They fell through the lift shaft from the ninth floor while attending an end-of-exams party for their classmates in the same building.

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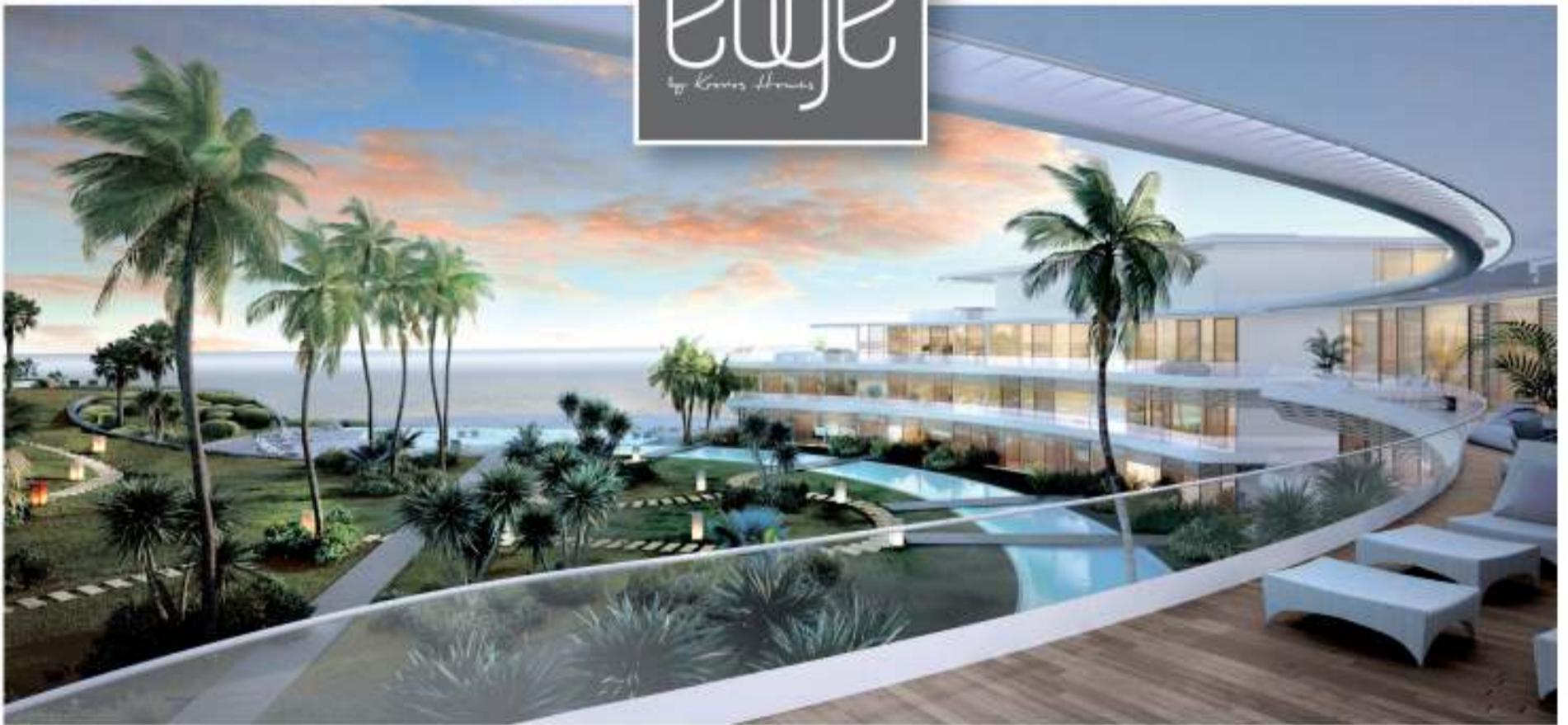
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Representing SUR in New York was editor-in-chief Manuel Castillo :: E.S.

SUR group receives US award

The free-speech prize was given to Vocento by Eisenhower Fellowships

AMPARO ESTRADA
NEW YORK. The Vocento media group, of which SUR in English is a part, was given a prestigious award this week in New York.

The 2017 First Amendment prize, awarded by Eisenhower Fellowships Spain, is in recognition

of the group's and its journalists' work in the defence of a free press. It is the first time that an entire company has won the award.

Speaking at the ceremony, held at the Instituto Cervantes Spanish cultural centre in Manhattan, the Spanish ambassador to the

United States, Pedro Morenés, said that "Vocento is the sum of many success stories" and he highlighted the company's commitment "to Spain, and its regions as well as democracy, done with rigour, independence and honesty".

Apart from the SUR titles in Malaga, the Vocento group also includes the national ABC newspaper, ten other Spanish regional newspapers, a news agency and interests in television and radio stations.

Receiving the award, Vocento's regional editorial director, Benjamín Lana, said: "The future of journalism depends on excellent morals and not technology." In particular he drew attention to the group's titles in the Basque Country, El Correo and El Diario Vasco, and the high-risk work they did during years of ETA's terrorist activity.

He also added that the paper's title in the Castilla y León region, El Norte de Castilla, is the oldest newspaper in existence in Spain, first published in 1854.

Representing SUR at the ceremony was Malaga-based editor-in-chief Manuel Castillo.

Two other well-known journalists from Spain, Carlos Herrera and Susanna Griso, also received awards, as well as Mexican-born broadcaster on America's Spanish-speaking Univision television channel, Jorge Ramos.

Eisenhower Fellowships is a nonprofit organisation formed in 1953 to honour former US president, Dwight Eisenhower, and his contribution to humanity as a soldier and leader.

Iconic Malaga writer also rewarded for his life's work

The Eisenhower Fellows also chose to honour a well-known Malaga writer at this year's ceremony. Manuel Alcántara was given the lifetime achievement prize at the First Amendment awards, although, at his 89 years of age, he was too frail to



Manuel Alcántara

travel to New York. Alcántara has written more than 20,000 articles and hundreds of poems. For many years he has been a columnist in Vocento's Spanish regional newspapers. Receiving the prize on his behalf, Manuel Castillo of SUR said that Alcántara had "an intense way of looking at the world, like Cervantes, with drops of scepticism".



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THERE IS A PRIZE FOR THE BEST CONTRIBUTION TO THIS PAGE SO PLEASE INCLUDE YOUR ADDRESS

Pressing the button

There's a question we ask ourselves every day we hear of a new terrorist attack: how can anyone decide to press a button and blow themselves up into a thousand pieces? It wouldn't enter our heads, yet they get up in the morning knowing that they're going to die. They go to the chosen place with the audacity of a martyr. Or a madman.

Unlike conventional terrorism, when the terrorist takes risks but without putting him or herself in too much danger, and where there's an organisa-

tion with internal rules, it now seems that anyone could become 'radicalised' after a few hours in front of the computer - whether they are devoutly religious or not - and go out into streets and spread terror.

It seems harder for us to get up off the sofa than for them to press their button. That's why we are likely to lose. We might be the most advanced civilisation in the history of humanity but that could count for nothing.

JONATÁN LÓPEZ ANGULO
BY EMAIL

Nationality

Why don't the hordes of expats on the Costa who want to stay in the EU just relinquish their British nationality and apply for Spanish citizenship? I think we all know the reason. They want to have their cake and eat it.

PETER ROGERS
BENAHAVÍS

Dangerous pedestrian access

I would like to draw your attention to an extremely dangerous 'pathway' access to the footbridge across the major road by El Faro.

A barrier was moved and the metal footings are left protruding on the ground. Following recent heavy rain these were largely concealed and my elderly friend took a nasty tumble over these metal footings. She sustained injuries to her hip, nose and forehead and now has two black eyes and bruising to her hip.

Now this 'pathway' to the footbridge is not an optional one, it is the ONLY one to access the footbridge.

This needs immediate attention to prevent any more accidents or worse.

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MIJAS

Milking the cash cow

PETER EDGERTON
MUSIC MAKER WWW.E-PETER.COM

This year, St Patrick's day came and went, awash in pints of Irish stout and huge comedy hats, as is the custom. Laughably, though, the marketing boffins thought it would be a good idea to try to dupe the public into extending the whole shebang into a 'St Patrick's Weekend' so that they might extract a few bob more from unsuspecting revelers. That's the thing about the general public, though - they might be prepared to wear daft tifers once a year but they're not daft at all. The marketing gurus lost and the celebration remained steadfastly a twenty-four hour experience, just as it should be.

Football, being some kind of all-conquering drug which apparently seeps into people's veins by osmosis during the night is the only area where this kind of mass manipulation actually works, I

think. If it were left to the money-grubbing authorities, matches would be at least four days long with five hundred substitutions per team allowed. Seasons would last the whole twelve months instead of the current measly ten or eleven and teams would be permitted to change their official strips every other day in order to maximise sales of replica kits at a price rounded up to a very reasonable one hundred and fifty euros. Scarily, I suspect few fans would bat an eyelid.

Anyway, that's football, a law unto its tawdry self. The really scary example of squeezing the lemon dry is Eurovision. As if witnessing the grand final each year weren't torture enough, we're now being offered two semifinals into the bargain, stretching the whole excruciating experience out into three interminable evenings. How bad would a song have

to be to reach the semifinal of Eurovision but not make the final? Actually, come to think of it, that would be a far more entertaining format, with the objective being to compose something so poor that it only made it to the semifinal. Quite a challenge, I'll be bound. Oh, I know, there's been the odd decent effort down the years e.g. ABBA's Waterloo, Cliff Richard's Power To All Our Friends and Rosa's Europe's Living A Celebration (just kidding, ABBA are the example of the genre, obviously).

Still, the competition has its loyal fans and millions across the continent will tune in on Saturday to see whether their country's tuneless 'boom sha la la' is deemed better than everyone else's.

All that'll be missing will be loads of humungous hats with 'Eurovision Weekend 2017' written on them. Maybe next year.

SANSÓN



Illustration by Sansón

The vulnerable age

RACHEL HAYNES

This week's SUR in English contains at least two articles that make us stop and think of the most senior members of our communities and families. In her second Brit Back column, in which she recounts the ups and downs of her rediscovery of the UK after years of living in Spain, Polly Rodger Brown points out how fractured British society seems.

The community spirit and family atmosphere that we are familiar with in this country seems to have faded away in Britain, save the odd royal jubilee tea party. Now the elderly are put together in front of the telly in "homes", teenagers hide out as far away from their parents as possible, children are sent to specially organised activities and then put to bed at the earliest possible opportunity so that adults can go and do grown-up stuff undisturbed.

We've noticed over the years how Spain is gradually going down the same route as other more "advanced" countries. It has adopted more global customs and attitudes, good and bad, later than others, basically held back by a 40-year dictatorship rather than a conscious effort to protect its own traditions.

So, by coincidence rather than editorial coordination, in the same issue as Polly's reminiscence about family values in Spain, we have a warning

of the many invisible cases of what has become known as "elder abuse" (a term that appears, incidentally, to have been coined in the UK).

Public prosecutors in the province of Malaga have called for members of the local community to help detect cases of vulnerable elderly relatives suffering physical or emotional violence, neglect or theft at the hands of, in the majority of cases, their own children.

Also in this edition we learn of a

police inquiry into three adults who lived with the body of the mother of two of them in a Malaga apartment for a month.

However most of these cases have, as the authorities point out, aggravating circumstances, such as mental illness or addictions. Polly will be relieved to hear that the community spirit she misses can still be felt here.

The families that she remembers don't have to arrange to "do" things together, they simply "are" together. If they feel like going out for dinner, there's no discussion over who is going and who will stay at home to look after the children - everyone goes, young and old.

Of course it's very easy to generalise and it takes all sorts to make a community. We've all heard of cases of siblings, both here and there, who haven't spoken to each other for years. We also know of families who, while

they always do things together, spend most of the time in heated argument and would be better off going out separately.

Whatever the circumstances, the elderly members of the family are often the most vulnerable and their quality of life depends on the availability and willingness of their families and carers.

Next time you see a big family group with three or even four generations in a restaurant, take a closer look at the older members. They might have children climbing all over them, and others shouting over their heads, but that look of quiet satisfaction on their faces, shows how content they are just being part of family life. I'm confident Polly will also find that same look of contentment on the faces of the elderly in her community, but perhaps indoors, out of the British rain.



The world-famous French designer was in Malaga this week to open an exhibition of his work in the Centre Pompidou

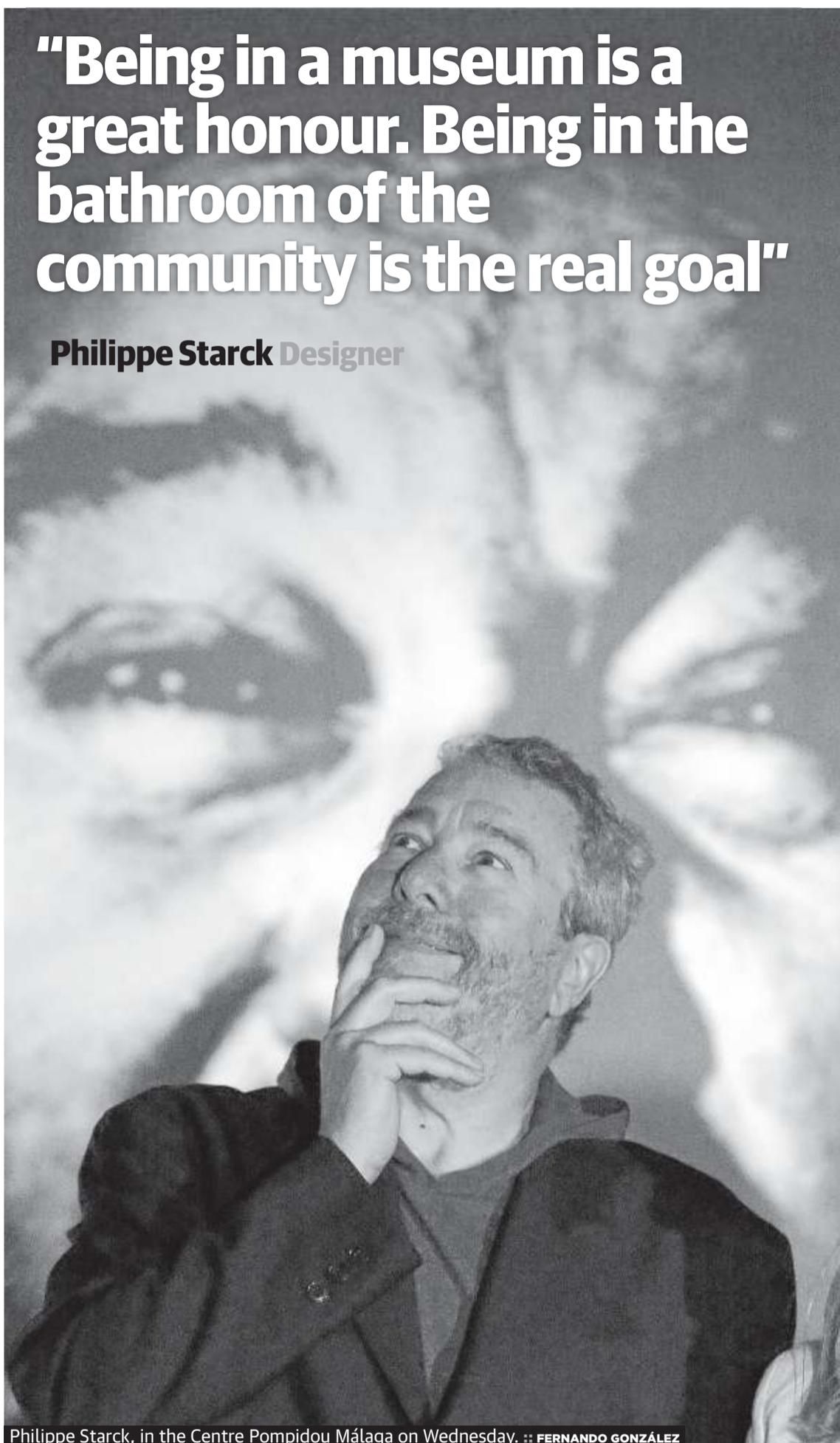
MALAGA. He claims that his website contains 10,000 creations that are "complete or still to come". Some of them already form part of the interior landscape of millions of homes and design manuals around the world. Philippe Starck (Paris, 1949) has put a juice extractor in the MoMA gallery in New York and his signature is on bikes, chairs, tables, restaurants and luxury yachts. The designer answered questions put to him by SUR, prior to his visit to Malaga this week.

-What will visitors be able to see at the Centre Pompidou in Malaga?

-Visitors, through this exhibition, can understand that everybody can be creative. Four thousand private sketches show ideas, but above all they show work, a lifetime of work, a life concentrated on creativity to help the community have a better life. These sketches are interesting because they show that any idea can be expressed in a few sketches on one page. That means creativity comes before anything else in your entire life, created by curiosity, generosity, vision and rigour. And after 30 years, 10 years, 5 years - never less - of "cooking", the sketch is just the printing of the finalised concept. These sketches clearly show that there is no aesthetic or cultural process, only logic and functional structure, away from any trend, with only one goal which is to give the right service with the minimum of materiality. These sketches will also show that humour, one of the most beautiful symptoms of human intelligence, is always present, even in the relationship with your team, which, what's more, gives a permanent surrealistic position.

"Being in a museum is a great honour. Being in the bathroom of the community is the real goal"

Philippe Starck Designer



Philippe Starck, in the Centre Pompidou Málaga on Wednesday. :: FERNANDO GONZÁLEZ

-After a career of nearly four decades, how has your approach to designing an article changed?

-Four decades of experience have changed strictly nothing: I use the same paper pad, the same pencil, never a computer. My obsessions are always the same: our evolution. It's just that you become more rigorous because you want to be more rigorous and also because you can be more rigorous. When you are young your duty is to work to exist, to survive; when you are less young, your duty is to forget yourself and to serve your community.

-What role does the beauty of the object play in its creative process?

-Beauty does not interest me because beauty does not exist. Beauty is just a personal opinion which can change with time, weather, mood. Beauty is not a strong enough parameter to build on. Beauty can be beautiful today and ugly tomorrow and beautiful again tomorrow. It is not serious. Only the search of harmony is useful and timeless. I hope we shall understand that in front of a painting we shall replace the "Oh my God, it is so beautiful" with "What perfect harmony!"

-You have claimed that an object designed by you must provide a functional and emotional service. Is one more important than the other?

-If you have the honour and the luck

HIS WORDS

Aesthetics

"Beauty is not a strong enough parameter to build on. Beauty can be beautiful today and ugly tomorrow"

Imitations

"Copying or repeating is a waste of time, a waste of energy and proof of laziness and avidity"

His domestic influence

"I am deeply touched when people I meet in the street just say 'thank you'"

His career

"Four decades of experience have changed strictly nothing: I use the same paper pad, the same pencil, never a computer"

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to be visited by something which can be a good idea, you have to follow a rigorous process. First you have to ask yourself if this project is needed and if it deserves to exist. You have to ask yourself if before the product there was a vision and a concept. If that is the case, you have to try to give this service without materiality. If you cannot, you have to do it with less materiality and the right materiality which involves some parameters like ecology, economy, politics and sexuality. If you succeed, you will have a creative and honest product which can be good to live with.

–Your work has been exhibited in museums around the world and at the same time is part of millions of homes. Where do you prefer to see it?

–Being in a museum is a great honour and it is a global thanks from a global community. It is abstract. Being in the bathroom of the community is the real goal, the real result of your work and it is a personal recognition. I never appreciate that people tell me how what I do is beautiful, it is useless. I am deeply touched when people I meet in the street just say “thank you” and sometimes “thank you for what you do for us”. I feel exceptionally proud.

–What do you think when you find an imitation of your work?

–I am sad for society and sometimes for civilisation. Copying or repeating is a waste of time, a waste of energy and proof of laziness and avidity. Everybody has a duty to work and participate in the beautiful story of our evolution. Someone who copies does not take part, and even causes a regression of creativity which is a shame and a negation of our DNA as creators.

–You have a residence in Spain. What does Formentera (Balearics) give you?

–The definitive taste, even vocation, for the minimum. I arrived in Formentera when I was 16. There were no cars, no motorcycles, ten bicycles, no electricity, no running water, no fishing boats and nothing to eat. I was living on the beach with half a euro a day and I remember one day for a birthday I wanted to buy five very small cakes at the bakery; the man told me buying five was too much as I had to leave some cakes for other people. Formentera was a permanent lesson of the elegance of minimum.

Inside the head of Philippe Starck

MALAGA. “You are about to enter the brain of someone who works and looks for solutions, sometimes useful, sometimes useless, but always interesting.” This was how Philippe Starck described the exhibition, ‘Starck, Secret Drawings’, that opened this week in the Centre Pompidou in Malaga.

The museum’s temporary exhibition space is now occupied by 30 objects designed by Starck, along with some 4,000 sketches, aimed to help visitors “understand the creative process”, explained curator Marie-Ange Brayer.

This is the first time in 14 years that Starck has been the subject of an entire exhibition. “If I accepted all the proposals from all over the world, that would be my job, a professional exhibitor,” he joked. The Malaga project changed his mind, however, as he saw it as a “continuation” of the show the Paris Pompidou devoted to him back in 2003.

Starck’s visit was fleeting; he arrived half an hour late and refused to pose alone with his works for photographers. “My wife and I are people who flee. The police aren’t looking for us yet, but we run away from the city, society, events... and most of all from exhibitions. Exhibitions are like tributes and I don’t like something or someone being admired,” he said by way of excuse.

He left leaving his Malaga audience to get inside the mind that created the iconic Juicy Salif squeezer (1988); the much copied Louis Ghost (2000) and La Marie (1996) chairs designed for Kartell; the Zik headphones sold by Parrot; and the Brut Nature 2009 bottle, among other pieces.

“We’re all geniuses,” said the designer on Wednesday. The only problem is a lot of people don’t know that.”

THE EXHIBITION

► **Artist.** Philippe Starck (Paris, 1949).

► **Venue.** Centre Pompidou Malaga.

► **Date.** Until 17 September.

► **Opening times.** From 9.30am to 8pm. Closed Tuesday.

SOME OF PHILIPPE STARCK’S DESIGNS



1. A minimalist electric car, designed by Starck in 2010. :: SUR

2. Stark’s Bon Jour unplugged table lamp (2013), which is rechargeable by USB connection. :: F. G.

3. Transparent taps created by the French designer. :: F. GONZÁLEZ

4. Sandals made for the brand Ipanema with 100% recyclable materials. :: F. G.



“In Ronda I’m going to create the most incredible object of my life”

In Malaga on Wednesday Philippe Starck spoke of the other project that links him to

the province of Malaga, the oil mill in Ronda.

“I’m going to create the most incredible object of my life in Ronda,” said Starck, referring to the 18-million-euro building designed for the Ronda firm La Almazara LA Organic S.L., that could be complete by 2020.

The designer explained that he was “in shock” when he visited

Ronda for the first time. “I felt that I was in one of the most powerful places in the world,” he said.

“I worked for three or four years to make something that had that same power I wanted to express and I think I managed it,” he added, describing the design which features a concrete cube, a steel bull’s horn, an olive and a surrealist Picasso eye.



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"Books are not about reading; books are about escaping"

N. J. Simmonds Author



Writing for teenagers - and getting them hooked on reading - is the important challenge taken on by N. J. Simmonds. Last week she brought her first novel to Spain, where she has her second home

MARBELLA. The author of a new young adult fantasy romance series was at BookWorld in Puerto Banús last week to sign copies of her first novel.

Locals were invited to join N. J. Simmonds at the bookstore as she gave a short talk and answered questions as well as signing copies of *The Path Keeper*.

Born in London, Simmonds was raised in Barcelona - where her father is from - until she was seven years old and then the family moved back to the British capital. In 2010 she swapped England for the Spanish coast and emigrated to Estepona with her husband.

Released earlier this year, her debut novel makes reference to her Spanish roots and is partly set in Tarifa and the Andalusian mountains.

"What affects our reality? Do soul mates exist? And if so, can love ever be stronger than fate?" These are some of the questions that the author asks in her first book. Exploring the concept of fate and the intensity of love, she hopes that her writing can break the mould of stereotypical young adult books which can be, according to teens she met on her UK book tour, "patronising, formulaic and predictable".

This is the first of at least three books in the series and N. J. Simmonds has just finished putting the final touches to the second book,



N. J. Simmonds signs copies of her novel at BookWorld in Puerto Banús. :: SUR

Son of Secrets, which is due for release in February 2018.

Being brought up in a creative household (her grandfather was an artist, her father is a graphic designer and her mother an English teacher) influenced Simmonds from a very young age. She describes her young self as "a reading and writing kind of child that never left her bedroom", with a passion for writing and drawing since she was able to hold a pencil.

Costa links

Although she is now based in The Netherlands, the author still visits her house in Estepona regularly and it was there that *The Path Keeper* was brought to life. Simmonds loves

the idea of her two daughters being brought up bilingual - as she was - and says she will "never let go of [their] little slice of Spanish paradise".

Speaking to SUR in English, Simmonds explained that she never set out to write specifically for young adults but rather to write the type of books she enjoyed reading herself - "romance with a touch of magic and a thriller edge". However, as her first novel evolved, she realised not just how fun it was to write for that age group, but also "how important it was to do it well".

"Teenage years are the turning point in your life; it's that transitional moment when you step into adulthood and decide what your

place in life is going to be." She said it was essential for her to create a strong female protagonist who wouldn't "take any nonsense off anyone but was also vulnerable and flawed".

In a day and age where social media continues to divide opinion, N. J. Simmonds is able to see the pros and cons linked to the world of literature. Asked how important she thinks it is that children and teenagers continue to be brought up reading proper books rather than becoming internet-dependent, the author stressed "it's not important - it's vital".

"Books are not about reading, books are about escaping," she said. "Reading allows you to escape to places you've never been and experience things you'll never get to do in real life, without leaving your bed or sofa. Isn't that one of life's greatest thrills?!"

Having said that though, she admits she is a lover of social media and wishes she had access to it as a teenager. Fans of the novel are able to contact her on Twitter with questions about the book and get a response from her immediately, something that Simmonds would have loved to have had the opportunity to do when growing up.

She said: "I would have loved to have finished a good book and tell the author right away that I enjoyed it. If social media is used correctly it can actually inspire and bring writers and readers together... Or you can watch kitten videos and not pick up a book for years. Your choice."

The writer has been "blown away" by the response she has received towards *The Path Keeper* so far - the book received over 60 five-star reviews on Amazon within eight weeks of its release - and she admits she still finds it a "surreal" experience to hear people discuss the characters she has created. "Seeing and holding my book for the first time was one of the most moving experiences I've ever known," said Simmonds.

Following her visit to southern Spain, N. J. Simmonds will be in The Hague for another signing on 1 June and at the YALC (Young Adult Literature Convention) in London from 28 to 30 July.

📍 Social media: To contact the author or discuss her books - Twitter @NJSimmondsTPK / Facebook @NjsimmondsAuthor / njsimmonds.com

"Teenage years are a turning point, when you step into adulthood and decide what your place in life is going to be"

"If social media is used correctly it can actually inspire and bring writers and readers together"



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GARDENING

The sunset foxglove

A native Spanish perennial belonging to the foxglove family with stunning blooms the colour of a beautiful sunset

Digitalis obscura, commonly known as the sunset foxglove or willow leaved foxglove, is native to southern and eastern Spain and Morocco. In Spanish it is known as 'brugia', 'dedalera negra' and 'hierba de las úlceras'.

The flowers are unmistakably those of the foxglove although the colour is not. The distinctive racemes of tubular flowers are rusty orange

and burnt umber with dark red speckles and veining in the 'throat'. The leaves too are unlike those of the British native foxglove (*Digitalis purpurea*); they are glossy, narrow and tapering.

The sunset foxglove forms large clumps with flower

spikes around half a metre tall. It is drought resistant once established although deep watering occasionally throughout the summer is recommended. Although it will grow in full sun, it prefers dappled shade and will flower from May all through the summer.

In cold winter the leaves may turn brown but the root ball should survive frosts. Mulching well in the autumn with a thick layer of composted organic material will help ensure its survival. Dead heading will promote a further flush of flowers. The seed can be collected when ripe and sown in the spring but the resulting seedlings may vary in flower coloration.

All foxgloves are toxic if ingested however a 'tea' made from the leaves and added to the water in a vase will make cut flowers last longer. Foxgloves are also an excellent plant for the vegetable garden as grown next to potatoes, tomatoes and apple trees they can help to stimulate growth and increase resistance to disease.

Foxgloves were often included in gardens hundreds of years ago as they were used medicinally to cure wounds and toothache. They were also believed to keep evil away although cutting them and bringing them indoors was considered to bring bad luck.



Digitalis obscura and a close up of the blooms (inset). :: SPIKEY JOHN

READER'S PHOTO



:: PEDRO GARCÍA GARCÍA

PEONY PERFECTION

This photo of peony 'Bowl of Beauty' was sent in by Pedro García García in Alhaurín.

GARDENING HINTS FOR MAY

Rooting cuttings

There are several 'recipes' for making homemade rooting mixtures. The easiest is probably a paste made with saliva and cinnamon. Apparently the cinnamon kills off any fungus or bacteria that may make the cutting rot and the saliva (can be used on its own) is said to be a natural root enhancer. Another way is to add one teaspoon of apple cider vinegar (the organic one is best as it contains trace elements vital for plant growth) to 300ml water and use it as a dip for

the cuttings. It can be stored in the fridge in a screw top bottle for months. Tea from twigs of willow, chopped, covered with boiling water and left to steep overnight, can be used to water in cuttings or for soaking cuttings before potting. Alternatively two extra strength aspirins mixed with half a litre of distilled water is also recommended as a rooting 'tonic'. Finally natural aloe vera gel is often used by organic growers to help rooting along.

PHOTOS

Calling all gardeners

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

Email your photos to english@diariosur.es or send them to SUR in English, Avda Dr Marañón 48, 29009 Malaga, with a caption and a few words of explanation, or send them via Twitter @SUR_English or Facebook @surenglish and we'll do the rest!

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Grandmother in Fuengirola goes viral

by ALMUDENA NOGUÉS

FUENGIROLA. A home video of a grandmother from Fuengirola opening her Christmas present has unexpectedly gone viral. The footage of Pepa, 82, crying with happiness after receiving a doll from her family, something her parents had been too poor to buy her as a child, has moved people around the world.

"My grandmother came from a poor family that had to survive on very little resources during the Civil War, and the priority for them was to eat," explained Pepa's 20-year-

old granddaughter, Miriam, who uploaded the video to Twitter on 30 April after rediscovering the footage on her mobile. Since then, Pepa's reaction to her gift has been retweeted over 12,460 times and received over 25,000 'likes'.

Miriam never anticipated that the video would receive so much attention. "Even people in the US have written to me to say thank you for the video. They don't even speak Spanish but it doesn't matter because my grandmother's reaction transcends language barriers," she said.



The video sequence of Pepa's emotional reaction :: sur

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Mad, comic genius heads for the Costa

The Salón Varietés promises an unforgettable night of stand-up comedy performed by the UK's zaniest comedians



TONY BRYANT
✉ tonysureng@gmail.com

FUENGIROLA. Three of Britain's most talented stand-up comedians are to take part in a one-off show tomorrow night at the Salón Varietés Theatre in Fuengirola.

The show will be hosted by zany British comedian Dave Thompson and will also feature popular comics Geoff Boyz and Dickie Richards.

The three comedians will perform separately, before coming together for a grand finale of *The Oddbods*, a hilarious act they recently performed at the Just for Laughs Comedy Festival in Montreal.

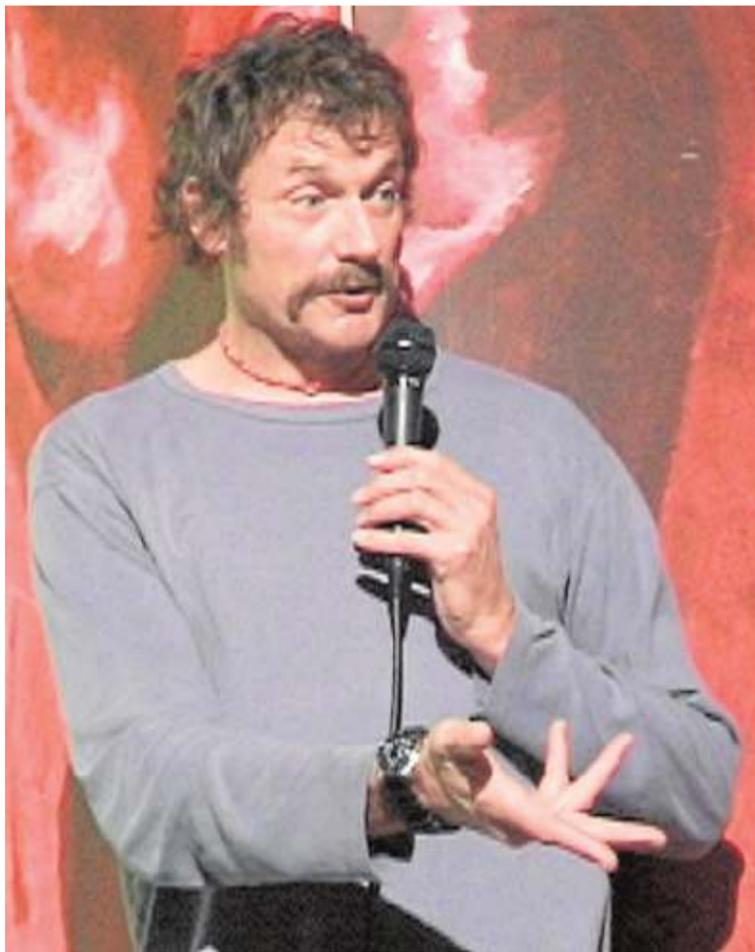
Geoff Boyz is a natural comic and an excellent impressionist. Robert De Niro, Al Pacino and Joe Pesci are brilliantly portrayed by this popular Scottish humorist.

Dickie Richards is a cockney comedian of Polish descent. As well as having a solo career, Dickie is part of *The Two Yuris*, an act he describes as "Russia's answer to *The Two Ronnies*".

Dave Thompson, a cult hero on the university circuit in Britain, has performed his absurd style of stand-up comedy in over thirty countries.

Known for his bizarre behaviour and quick-fire sense of humour, Dave has also written material for many famous names, including Ronnie Corbett, Bruce Forsyth and Harry Hill.

However, Dave Thompson is perhaps best-known as the actor inside the Tinky Winky costume in



Dave Thompson was extremely proud of Tinky Winky. :: SUR

the world-famous Teletubbies.

Dave trained as an actor and he is immensely proud to have been in this children's - and later cult - show.

"The audition was on a Friday morning in London, and I had a stand-up gig in Bristol that evening, so I nearly didn't bother to go. Six hundred people auditioned to be Tinky Winky, and they gave

"I was told there is not much stand-up comedy happening here and I felt someone should plug the hole"

"Six hundred people auditioned to be Tinky Winky and they gave the part to me"

"I believe in freedom of speech, free trade, and equality. I don't know of a political party that represents these views"

the part to me as they wanted quirky individuals who would create unique characters," Dave told SUR in English.

However, several years ago, Tinky Winky found himself at the centre of a controversy because he carried a lady's handbag. The fact that he was also purple and had a triangular antenna protruding from his head led some people to associate the character with the insignia of gay pride.

This aroused the interest of the American born-again preacher, Jerry Fulwell, who warned parents that Tinky Winky was a covert homosexual.

The 57-year-old comedian, described by TimeOut Magazine as the "the weirdest dude on the face of the earth", said that the claim that Tinky Winky was gay was totally ridiculous.

"Jerry Fulwell missed the point

when he projected adult sexuality into Tinky Winky and accused him of being gay. Teletubbies were created for children from the age of zero to five. They have gender, but no genitals," Dave said.

He left the show after the first series and he went on to work with some of Britain's top household names including comedian and writer Ben Elton, who described Dave as "mad, comic genius".

Dave's insane style of stand-up comedy inspired Ben Elton to write a part especially for him in the feature film, *Maybe Baby*.

He has had several credits as a serious actor, but this quirky comedian is probably at his best when performing stand-up comedy on stage.

Even though he shows little respect for left-wing liberals - "tyrants who do not believe in freedom of speech" - his show avoids politics because his aim is to unite a room in laughter, not to divide it.

"I believe in freedom of speech, free trade, and equality. I don't know of a political party that represents these views," he said with a hint of sarcasm.

The former Teletubbie has affection for the Costa del Sol and visits whenever possible, so Saturday's show in Fuengirola will be like a busman's holiday.

"I have organised the show because I love the Costa del Sol and performing here gives me a good excuse to spend time in the area. I was told there is not much stand-up comedy happening here and I felt someone should plug the hole. I am hoping the show will be enough of a success for me to bring more comedy shows to the region," he said enthusiastically.

If one thinks the Teletubbies was wacky, wait until Dave Thompson unleashes what have been described as his "lanky eccentricities" on the audience of the Salón Varietés theatre on Saturday night.

INFORMATION

► **Where.** Salón Varietés Theatre, Fuengirola

► **When.** Saturday 13 May, 8pm

► **Tickets.** Tickets, 15 euros, available from the booking office or online. www.salonvarietes.com

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Centre to show off many sides at open day

Lux Mundi Torre del Mar is inviting people to find out more about its activities

by JENNIE RHODES

TORRE DEL MAR. Lux Mundi Torre del Mar will be hosting an open day next Friday, 19 May. The purpose of the event is to let people know about all the activities and events that the centre organises.

Sue Bell, who is a volunteer at the Torre del Mar centre, in Viña Málaga, says that the idea came about because “people have no idea about the full range of things Lux Mundi does”. She adds: “Either they just see the trips and are put off because they are looking for somewhere for their religious beliefs, or vice versa.”

Lux Mundi is keen to demonstrate to visitors that the centre isn't just about trips and prayers; at the open day volunteers will be on hand to provide information about the whole range of activities and events via a number of stalls which will be set up in the building and outside in Lux Mundi's shady garden. The centre will be offering free coffee and the opportunity to take part in a quiz.

From language to photography classes, film to quiz nights, coffees and lunches, including regular ‘singles’ events, Lux Mundi will be showing the different ways it continues

to uphold its original message of friendship and how people can get involved.

While the origins of and purpose behind Lux Mundi are bringing together Christians of all denominations for prayer (as an ecumenical organisation), it has many facets and is even a place to pick up free newspapers and magazines.

Bilingual volunteers are on hand day and night to help when needed, with a 24-hour phone line and Gloria Uribe, who has worked for Lux Mundi since the early 1990s, says that they can “offer advice or point

INFORMATION

► **When.** Friday 19 May from 11am until 5pm.

► **Where.** Lux Mundi Torre del Mar, Casa de la Viña, Avenida Moscatel 1. (In the Jardines de la Viña park, opposite Alfonso's)

► **Further information.** www.lux-mundi.org
952 54 33 34
luxmundi@lux-mundi.org

people in the right direction on health care and legal matters as well as helping with spiritual needs”.

Gloria, who has been at Lux Mundi in Torre del Mar since the centre first opened in 1994, says that the centre “mainly attracts British people, some Germans and, in Fuengirola, a lot of Scandinavians”.

They are keen to get more Spanish people involved in the centre's activities too and are hoping that the open day will help with that.

Father Raymond Delius, the founder of Lux Mundi, together with the Hermanas de Maria Reparadora, founded the Lux Mundi Ecumenical Centre in Fuengirola in 1973. Following the success of the centre in Fuengirola, a second centre was opened in Torre del Mar in September 1994.

A similar Fuengirola event is planned for October.

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Andalucía

The Horse Fair in Jerez de la Frontera

Equestrian events, flamenco and sherry are the three pillars of this traditional fair, which fills the city with colour and entertainment during a week-long party

by JAVIER ALMELLONES

With barely time for a respite after the recent Seville Fair, Andalucía is looking forward to another great spring event this weekend, this time in the city of Jerez, in Cadiz province: the 'Feria del Caballo', or Horse Fair, which is classified as an International Tourism Event.

This will be a week of partying and entertainment, in which Spanish thoroughbred horses play an important role. There is an extensive programme of activities, including international jumping competitions, dressage, an equestrian rally, exhibitions and auctions. Also, from tonight (Friday) until Saturday 20 May the 'Real de la Feria' fairground in the González Hontoria park will be filled with horses, carriages, and riders in traditional costume.

Of course, there will also be the usual colourful attractions, and plenty of 'casetas', the bar-restaurants in the fairground, each with their individual ambience and decoration.

As always, no event could take place in Jerez without sherry and flamenco being very much in evidence: by day and at night, the fragrance of the local wine will permeate every 'casetas' and it pairs perfectly with many traditional dishes at this time of year. Visitors will be not only be able to enjoy hearty stews, but also Iberian ham,



This famous fair is based around the Spanish thoroughbred horse. :: SUR

artisan cheese and a huge variety of tapas. The typical 'caldito', or consommé, of Jerez is also perfect as a snack.

Flamenco song, 'cante jondo', is another important feature of this festival. Jerez de la Frontera is considered one of the birthplaces of flamenco and the city boasts numerous singers, dancers and guitarists. For

that reason, there are live flamenco performances in many of the casetas during the fair.

With so much else going on during the Horse Fair, there may not be much time to explore the city, but it is worth trying to see at least some of the interesting monuments, museums and wineries, which reflect Jerez's important heritage.

In fact, many of them really should not be missed, such as the Alcázar de Jerez, an Almohad fortress dating back to the 12th century. This walled castle is in one of the best-known parts of the city centre, beside the Alameda Vieja and close to the González Byass winery.

Not far away is the Cathedral of El Salvador, one of the most important religious buildings in Andalucía. It was a collegiate church until Pope John Paul II consecrated it as a cathedral. The interior contains some very valuable works of art, such as 'La Virgen de niña', by Zurbarán.

To see another of Jerez's important religious buildings, La Cartuja de Santa María de la Defensión, you have to leave the city centre.

WHAT TO SEE IN JEREZ

► **The cathedral.** 17th century construction with Gothic, Baroque and Neo-classical features, built on the site of a former mosque.

► **Santiago church.** This church, which was founded by King Alfonso X El Sabio, is an impressive Gothic construction with later Renaissance and Baroque additions.

► **La Cartuja de Santa María de la Defensión.** Situated on the outskirts of Jerez, this is considered the religious building of the greatest artistic importance in Cadiz province.

► **The Alcázar.** A complex of buildings originally constructed by the Almohads in the 12th century, with Baroque palaces incorporated later.

► **Church of San Miguel.** This church combines different styles, such as Jerez Gothic, with Renaissance and Baroque features.

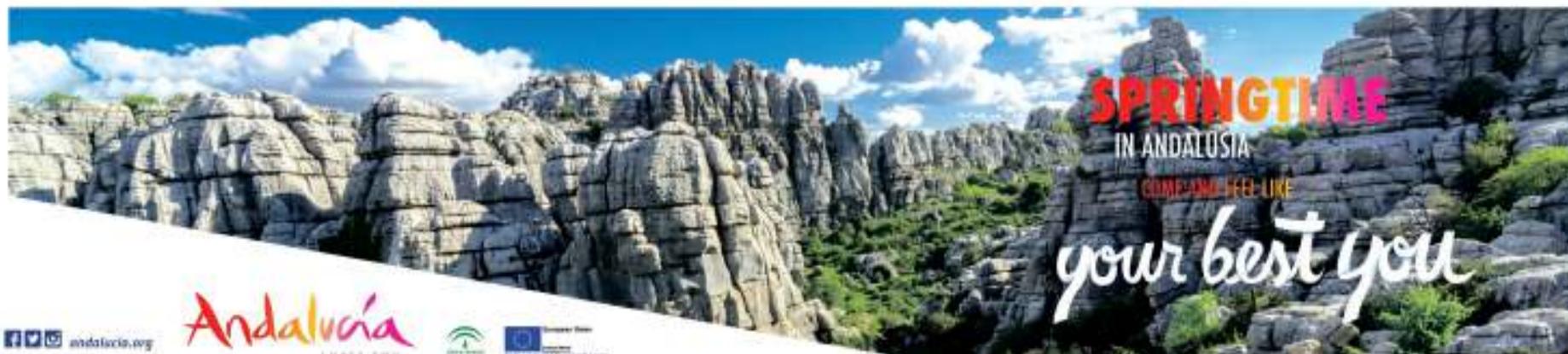
► **Real Escuela Andaluza de Arte Equestre.** The Royal Equestrian School puts on different shows, featuring Spanish thoroughbred horses.

► **Bodegas Tío Pepe.** One of the many wineries in Jerez where it is worth taking a guided tour.

This is an architecturally beautiful church which was constructed in the second half of the 15th century. Other fine examples of civil architecture are the Casa de Riquelme, the Recreo de las Cadenas and the Palacio de Campo Real, among others.



Wednesday 17th. Western Dressage show at the stud farm at 11am. :: SUR



THE NIGHT SKY

KEN CAMPBELL



The race into space

The space race began in 1957 with the launch of the Soviet satellite Sputnik one. This came as a shock to the American public, and led to the creation of NASA whose space programme was to be called project Mercury.

The Russians led the field in the race with Yuri Gagarin becoming the first human in space when he completed one orbit of the Earth in April 1961. The Americans replied shortly after in May 1961 with the launch of the first American in space, Alan Shepard. But unlike Gagarin, Shepard's flight was a lacklustre affair. His Mercury 7 rocket reached an altitude of just 101 miles before splashing down in the sea. In August the Russians sent Gherman Titov into space for a whole day, orbiting the Earth 17 times. The Americans tried again February 1962 when John Glenn became the first American to orbit the Earth.

When project Mercury ended in May 1963, a total of six people had been sent into space.

German scientist Werner Von



Alan Shepard :: SUR

Braun who during the Second World War had designed and built the V2 rockets, helped the Americans in their rocket development.

On 12 September 1962, President John Kennedy made a speech declaring that NASA should achieve the goal of landing a man on the moon before the end of the decade. This was a massive undertaking that would cost a fortune but the Americans were determined to beat the Russians at any cost. The Russians then launched the first woman into space, Valentina Tereshkova.

With the Americans racing so hard to catch up accidents were bound to happen and in January

1967 three astronauts were killed in a fire in the Apollo 1 rocket as it was being tested on the launch pad. In April the same year the Russians had their own disaster when Vladimir Komarov died during re-entry when his parachute failed to open.

NASA gained ground in December 1968 when the crew of Apollo 8 were the first to orbit around the moon. As NASA was preparing to land on the moon with Apollo 11 in July 1969, the Russians were attempting an unmanned landing to collect samples, unfortunately their rocket crashed. Once NASA had achieved the moon landing public opinion influenced NASA to cancel Apollo 18, 19 and 20. Apollo 18 was modified as a space station called Skylab.

In July 1975 the race was over when a Russian Soyuz rocket successfully docked with the last Apollo capsule.

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WHAT HAPPENED TODAY?

12 MAY 1930

Jesús Franco is born

TONY BRYANT



Born in Malaga on 12 May 1930, Jesús 'Jess' Franco Manera was a Spanish film director, writer, composer and cinematographer. He wrote and directed more than 160 motion pictures in his lifetime, encompassing a wide variety of genres.

Franco began his career working as an assistant director at the age of 24. In 1960, he attended the premiere of the new Hammer Horror movie *The Brides of Dracula* and this instigated his interest in the horror film business.

Franco's career took off in 1961, with the release of *The Awful Dr Orloff*. Considered to be the first Spanish horror film, the movie received wide distribution in the United States and the UK.

Even though he had some Ameri-

can box office success, including two 1969 films with British actor Christopher Lee, Franco never achieved wide commercial success. Many of his films were only distributed in Europe and they were rarely dubbed into English.

He continued to produce exotic horror films throughout the 1960s, but for a brief period he turned his attention to a number of James Bond-like spy thrillers.

A huge fan of jazz, Franco used various pseudonyms, many of which were taken from jazz musicians such as Clifford Brown and James P. Johnson.

Several of Franco's films were based on the writings of the Marquis de Sade, someone who remained a major influence throughout his life. His themes revolved around lesbian vampires, cannibalism, sadomasochism, zombies and exploitation.

In 1969, Franco moved to France in order to free himself from the strict censorship of totalitarian Spain. He wanted to make more



Jesús Franco made over 160 films in his 50-year career. :: SUR

erotically violent films and his following movies featured abundant nudity, with long, uninterrupted scenes of debauchery. These low-budget films included *Vampyros Lesbos*, a film about a woman who has a series of erotic dreams that involve a mysterious female vampire.

Although he produced a number of relatively successful horror films, he became pigeonholed as a porn director due to the huge number of X-rated adult films he began turning out.



His landmark 1969 film, 'Vampyros Lesbos'. :: SUR

Most of his hardcore films starred his lifelong companion Linda Romay, a young Spanish actress more than twenty years his junior. Romay met Franco in 1971, though they did not marry until 2008. They remained together until her death in Malaga in 2012.

In his later years, he directed two big-budget horror films - *Faceless* (1988) and *Killer Barbys* (1996) - both of which showed what he could do when his projects were adequately funded.

LANGUAGE FOOTNOTE

Película	Film
Cineasta	Filmmaker
Largometraje	Feature film
Género	Genre
Estreno	Premiere
Músico	Musician
Vampire	Vampiro
Censura	Censorship
Desnudo	Nude
Seudónimo	Pseudonym
Escena	Scene
Presupuesto	Budget
Sueño	Dream
Encasillado	Pigeonholed
Financiar	To fund
Ocaso	Twilight
Calificación	Rating
Rodar	To shoot/film
Rodaje	Filming

Franco attracted a large circle of bizarre actors during his life, many of whom were over the hill performers in the twilight of their careers. He gained a reputation for not paying his actors and the entirety of his work after 1996 was of very low quality, none of which was distributed theatrically.

Franco died of natural causes in Malaga on 2 April, 2013. He was 82.

Bilingual crossword inside back page

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FACTS & FACES



Antonio Rincón, Paul Butler, Mijas councillor Jose Antonio González and Lions members.

Lions help get kids outdoors

MIJAS. Representatives of Mijas-La Cala Lions Club recently presented 1,200 euros to DRANG, a non-profit association that organises activities for local youngsters in the Alcornocal de la Roza del Aguado cork oak forest. The organisation's founders, Antonio Rincón

and his wife Gisela Narvaja, have used the funds to buy overalls, wellington boots and a changing tent for the children. DRANG stands for fun (diversión), respect (respeto), friendship (amistad), nature (naturaleza), and generosity (generosidad). Children aged between four

and eleven meet every evening from Tuesday to Friday for activities and games that bring them in contact with nature and the outdoors.

The next Lions event will be the Fashion Show and Spring Fayre on May 16th at the Hotel Tamisa Golf starting at 11.30am.

Fuengirola performance for choir in search of a new pianist

FUENGIROLA.

The T.I.M.S. choir performed at the Lux Mundi ecumenical service held recently in the open air in the Plaza de la Constitución, Fuengirola. With choristers from over eight nationalities, the choir performed two works: A Clare Benediction by John Rutter; and When I Needed a Neighbour, a modern hymn by Sydney Carter. T.I.M.S.

(The International Music Society) is now in search of a replacement pianist as Christine Langley Wallner, who has supported the choristers for the last few years, is returning to Canada in a few months' time. Any classically trained pianist interested in taking on the role is invited to contact Gilly on 654 891 790. For more information visit www.timschoir.org



T.I.M.S. choir at the open air Lux Mundi service. :: SUR



An early morning thank you from organisers. :: SUR

Charity walk raises funds and awareness for suicide and self-harm prevention

ESTEPONA

:: R. ARMSTRONG. Around 70 people gathered on the Paseo Marítimo in Estepona on Saturday morning to take part in a 5km walk/run in aid of Pieta House, a support service based in Ireland for those experiencing suicidal thoughts or engaging in self-harm.

Campaigner Michael O'Halloran, who lost his son and two nephews to suicide, organised the Darkness into Light walk and was delighted with the turnout. Participants ranged in age from seven to 75 and most came from Ireland, Great Britain, America and Spain. Almost 3,000€ was raised.

The aim of the fundraiser, which

has been organised by Pieta House for the past nine years, is to help create global awareness of suicide and self-harm prevention. The total number of walkers hit a record high this year with 150,000 taking part worldwide.

Michael said the increase in the number of participants around the world indicates the general "change of attitude towards suicide and self-harm".

"What an experience to share our losses with so many people who understand," he said, "leaving us with a great feeling of elation and connection. A big thank you to all who attended and donated and looking forward to meeting again next year."

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REF. H.I.C.

Some time ago I lent money to a friend. We signed a document by which I lent him 12,000€ and he had to pay me back 12,500€ within three months. He has not returned it yet, and until now I haven't needed the money. However, now I have some unexpected expenses and I need the money back as soon

as possible. Is there any particularly speedy court proceeding to oblige him to return the money?

Yes, there is. In these cases there is a special proceeding called "procedimiento monitorio" through which you can claim the return of the loan providing the document that you signed, which serves as a proof of the debt. Nevertheless, your friend can contest the claim and refuse to pay alleging that he does not owe anything, in which case you will have no other option than lodge a normal proceeding, which will take quite more time and expense.

REF. P.O.S.

I live in an apartment building with a neighbour who accumulates rubbish in his flat, causing the rest of the apartments to have all kinds of insects (cockroaches, ants...) I have even seen rats, and the

whole building stinks. I am trying to sell the apartment, but in this situation I cannot find a buyer. We have spoken with the president of the community of owners, but he says that nothing can be done because the problem is inside a private property. Is it true that we can't do anything?

Of course you can. All the owners and occupants of the dwellings are obliged to keep them in good condition, so that the wellness of the rest of the neighbours is not affected. If your neighbour suffers from Diogenes syndrome, which appears to be the case, and there is a health risk for the rest of the neighbours, you can ask sanitary services for an inspection so that they take charge of cleaning the property if the owner refuses. In any case, there is also a court proceeding that if accepted could lead to the eviction of the owner for a certain period of time.

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The Moorish wall found at the Aduana building is the latest historical site which people will be able to visit in Malaga, a city about which much is still unknown



**FRANCISCO
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MALAGA. “We’ve found a really thick wall.” Ana Arancibia will never forget that statement, made by her colleague María del Mar Escalante when she hurtled up from the catacombs of the Buenavista Palace, like somebody possessed, to give her the news. “Thick?” she asked, hardly daring to mention the word which immediately sprang to mind. “Yes... thick!” answered her fellow archaeologist, also reluctant to say what they were both thinking.

The word was ‘Phoenician’, and they hardly dared to say it because it would mean that they had made one of the most important findings in Malaga in the past two decades: the origins of Malaka in the 7th and 6th centuries B.C. - what Ana refers to as “the founding fathers of this city.”

This subterranean Malaga can be seen close to the entrance inside the Picasso Museum, and anyone interested in following a route through more than two thousand years of archaeology can continue on to the Roman port of Malaga and the maritime wall of the Nasrid Malaga which was found at the Aduana, the Customs building, and can be seen below the glass floor of what is now the new Museum of Malaga.

This wall shows precisely the ‘elbow’ of the third line of defence of the Alcazaba fortress, which changes direction and heads towards the area where the Rectorado building now stands, and where years ago another stretch of the same construction was found.



10. Moorish wall at the Museum of Malaga

Date: Moorish period (11th-12th centuries). **Place:** Museum of Malaga, below the cafeteria. **Site:** Maritime wall of the third precinct of the Alcazaba, where it joined the medina. **Visit:** Will be possible once the cafeteria is open.

PHOTO REPORT: ÁLVARO CABRERA AND PAULA HÉRVELE

“It is a point at which the wall joined the medina and, although we haven’t found it, there was also a gateway between the city and the Alcazaba,” explains archaeologist José Suárez, who has led the excavations and soundings at the Museum of Malaga. He explains that the remains we will be able to contemplate over

a cup of coffee or drink - the café at the Museum is not open yet - is just the tip of the iceberg of this site, where the first necropolis from the high mediaeval period (9th century) was discovered in the sand in front of the wall, together with some Roman salting troughs which match others found in the area and some

valuable imperial thermae.

The glass floors with views of the foundations of our past have multiplied in the historic centre of Malaga in recent years, and they show a change of mentality towards archaeology.

“We had our backs turned to this heritage for a long time, but luckily

it is now possible to reconcile the city of today with the one of 2,000 years ago,” explain Pedro Sánchez Banderas and Alberto Cumpián, of Arqueosur, who are used to “fighting” with developers and construction companies because the discovery of ancient remains delays their works.

One project which was affected was when the Roman port of Malaga was discovered below the Vincci hotel group’s new establishment in the old Posada del Patio. We pass through the door of this new hotel with the archaeologists to visit the remains, which can be seen through the glass floor.

“What we have here is unique in Spain because it is not just a jetty; it is a port, designed by the important Roman architect and engineer Vitruvius,” explains Alberto Cumpián, pointing out that the breakwater and the wall of the port were “remarkably well preserved.” It is not difficult to imagine how the ships at this wharf would have been loaded with the garum that was produced in the troughs which have been found in Calle Alcazabilla and at the Rectorado.

Pieces of the same puzzle

Archaeology is like a large jigsaw puzzle in which most of the outside pieces are usually missing. That is why, when one is found, it not only provides information on its own, but also helps the archaeologists to understand the history of a city or an era.

“This port shows how commercially important Malaga was in the 4th century, after having declined somewhat during the century before,” says Alberto, who also explains that the resurgence was not only in the city’s industrial power but also in its strategic location as a safe and alternative route to the piracy in the Straits.

“This archaeological site doesn’t just make this an unusual hotel. I am convinced that its fifth star is partly due to what lies underneath it,” says Pedro Sánchez Bandera, nodding towards the other remains which have been found in the same place - the Moorish wall which can now be seen below the transparent floor of the Vincci’s charming bar.

The remains of a skin treating industry were also discovered, although

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ROUTE FROM THE MALAKA OF THE 7TH CENTURY B.C. TO THE MALAGA OF THE 15TH CENTURY A.D.

to see some Moorish tanneries it is best to visit the Andrés Olivares shop in the Plaza de las Flores.

“They are from the caliphal era and show that this was the tanners’ district of Malaga of that time,” says the owner of the shop where, below the clothes hangers and accessory displays, remains can be seen which date back several centuries.

Other private establishments, such as the Tribuna hotel in Calle Carretería and La Cueva de 1900 restaurant in Alcazabilla, have also incorporated pieces of Moorish wall into their premises, making them an inviting place to rest for those who follow this route through the subterranean Malaga.

It is a trip which shows us how each civilisation which arrived in the city after the Phoenicians superimposed itself upon the foundations of the other. Every time there is a new discovery, it is like “looking through the keyhole” at our past, as Sánchez Bandera puts it. He says he hopes that a solution will soon be found to the water leaks in the basement of the Carmen Thyssen museum so that other major archaeological evidence which has been discovered in recent years can also be put on view again.

He is referring to the discovery of a Roman villa, whose owner worked in the fish industry and turned his house into “a propoganda machine to show off his economic power.” With large ashlar, luxury details on the façade and lower-quality materials at the rear part of the property, this was a type of posturing which may have impressed his neighbours but not the archaeologists who are continually finding new profiles of the city.

“About 20 years ago, Malaga had a general history of the peoples who have passed through here, but as we make more progress in studying the sites, new signs of the city’s identity are being revealed to us, explains Ana Arancibia. “Nobody believed us 17 years ago, when we said we had found the Phoenician Malaga,” she says.

Once thing is certain: there are plenty more treasures to come. “At present we only know about four per cent of what lies below,” explains Ana, who is especially keen to find the Roman forum which lies somewhere beneath the city.



1. Nasrid barbican in Calle Carretería

Date: 13th century. **Place:** Hotel Tribuna, in Calle Carretería. **Site:** Remains of the wall and barbican which were defensive features of the city in the Nasrid era. **Visit:** The basement of the hotel, where the remains are integrated into the restaurant.



Cumpián and Sánchez, at the Vincci.

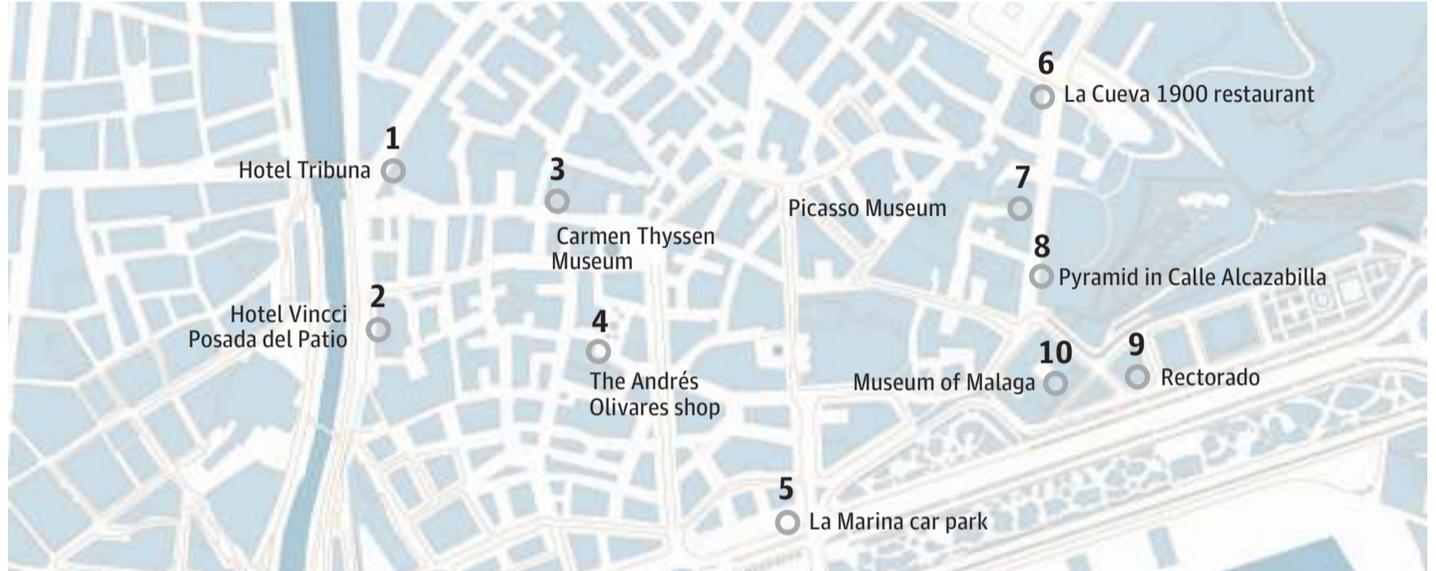
2. Roman bridge beside the river

Date: 4th to 15th centuries. **Place:** Hotel Vincci Posada del Patio, in Pasillo de Santa Isabel. **Site:** Over 50 metres of the old Moorish wall (13th-15th centuries), but the most important are the remains of the 4th-century Roman port. **Visit:** Downstairs. Entry is free.



3. Roman villa at the Thyssen

Date: 1st-5th centuries. **Place:** Carmen Thyssen Museum, in Calle Compañía. **Site:** Remains of a Roman mansion and fish conserving factory. There is a fountain called ‘nymph of the fishes’ because of its decoration. **Visit:** Not possible at present.



4. Moorish tanneries, Plaza las Flores

Date: 10th-11th centuries. **Place:** Andrés Olivares, fashion and decoration shop, Plaza de las Flores. **Site:** Remains of a leather tanning factory, and the walls. **Visit:** The remains can be seen below the glass floor of the shop.



5. Wall in the Plaza de la Marina

Date: 14th and 15th centuries. **Place:** Underground car park in the Plaza de la Marina. **Site:** Maritime walls from the Nasrid period, corresponding to the port area at the time. **Visit:** Go into the car park.



6. Defensive tower in Alcazabilla

Date: 14th century. **Place:** La Cueva 1900 restaurant, in Calle Alcazabilla. **Site:** Well-preserved tower which was part of the Moorish wall in the Nasrid period. **Visit:** You can have lunch or dinner beside it.



Ana Arancibia, in the Picasso museum.

7. Phoenician city, Picasso museum

Date: 7th and 6th centuries B.C. **Place:** Picasso museum, Calle San Agustín. **Site:** Walls, tower and houses marking the northwest boundary of the city in Phoenician and Punic times. **Visit:** Access is beside the museum entrance.



8. Fish factory in Alcazabilla

Date: 4th-5th centuries. **Place:** Calle Alcazabilla. **Site:** Remains of a fish factory, which took up part of the Roman theatre. Includes the troughs where the garum was made. **Visit:** Below the glass pyramid in Alcazabilla.



9. Salting troughs at the Rectorado

Date: 3rd-4th centuries. **Place:** ‘Rectorado’ building, Avda. Cervantes. **Site:** Remains of troughs on the south slope of the Gibralfaro hill, used to make fish sauces. **Visit:** At the entrance to the building.

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Community spirit

Attitudes towards old people and children couldn't be more different between Spain and the UK

"They're so friendly." The warmth of Spaniards, their engagement with the people around them, their exuberance and passion for life and each other, is something British visitors to Spain often comment on.

This oft-repeated truism runs far deeper than friendliness in my opinion. Spaniards seem to have a really natural and inclusive sense of community spirit which begins in early childhood and goes on - well, forever. I can't count the amount of times I saw a holidaymaker's jaw drop at the sight of sleepy babies in pushchairs or toddlers running around at two in the morning while their parents enjoyed a rowdy group meal with friends and family. The mandatory taking part in social occasions means that Spanish kids have none of the awkwardness British children often display in front of adults they don't know. In our local bar the teenagers who used to gather on a Sunday afternoon to meet for a



Old people in Spain, like children, are involved in everything. :: A. C.

'copita' or three never failed to offer up a "buen provecho" and a quick nod of acknowledgement if we or anyone else was eating when they arrived. That tiny, but important (and well mannered)

gesture always greatly impressed me.

And when it comes to the difference between Spanish and British ways with the elderly I don't know where to start. The

respect for the role of 'abuelos' who often live with their grandchildren and take care of them for long periods means that old people in Spain, like children, are included in everything. I am still shocked months after returning to the UK by the appalling lack of care and loneliness suffered by old people in Britain. They are frequently stuffed into shoddy state care homes or live, perilously, on their own. I often see them in our local town, sitting alone on benches or shuffling around the supermarket hoping to find a friendly face.

My mother, who is involved with a charity that organises regular tea parties for the elderly, reports that some of her group have no proper conversations with anyone at all between outings. I may well have a romantic view but I couldn't imagine anyone in our village in the Axarquia going for more than a few hours without a noisy, involved 'charla' (chat) with the people around them.

There's no doubt that British society seems fractured to me now in comparison to the one I experienced in southern Spain. But, however introverted we are, we don't all sit indoors ignoring our neighbours or turning silent when a stranger walks into the bar. Community goodwill does

of course exist here. It's just different.

Recently our town held an open day to showcase the voluntary organisations in the area. Expecting, rather pessimistically, to find a handful of do-gooders with weary expressions handing out leaflets, I found instead the town hall jam-packed with people interested in helping others. In Sudbury, Suffolk, it turns out there are literally hundreds of ways you can get involved - assisting not one but a handful of mental health charities giving free counselling, weeding the local park or 'guerilla gardening' the flower beds outside the theatre, captaining boat trips on the river Stour to raise funds for maintaining our very own waterway, putting together an audio news bulletin for blind people, compiling interviews with immigrant townfolk for a municipal archive project, teaching disabled children how to swim...

On a wintry East Anglian day the sense of a community coming together left me with a bright glimmer of hope.

Polly Rodger Brown returned from Spain to the UK last year. In this column she reflects on different aspects of life in both countries.



Luisa Isabel Álvarez de Toledo, the 'Red Duchess', with her unfaithful husband, Leoncio González, during their youth. :: R. C.

Aristocrat's illegitimate child fights to claim her share of the inheritance

DNA evidence proves that Leoncio González is the father of his servant's daughter, who now wants to claim her inheritance

:: P. MUÑOZ

Deceased aristocrat Leoncio González, the husband of of Luisa Isabel Álvarez of Toledo, who was popularly known as the 'Red Duchess' (La Duquesa Roja), was proven this week to have been the biological father of his servant's illegitimate child, Rosario Bermudo.

Despite opposition from two out of three of the duke's legitimate children, Leoncio González's body was exhumed from the Palacio de Quintana Redonda cemetery in March, after Rosario, now 66 years old, demanded a paternity test.

After DNA obtained from the duke's bones matched "99.99 per cent" of Rosario's DNA, uncontestedly confirming the duke's extramarital sexual relations with her

servant mother, Rosario now believes she is entitled to a fifth of her biological father's wealth.

On Monday, the lawyer of the servant's daughter suggested that Rosario is now justifiably entitled to receive some inheritance: "After such overwhelming evidence, the trial (20 September in Madrid) will be a mere formality," she commented, after the results of the National Toxicology Institute's report were revealed.

Rosario's lawyer also added that while the deceased duke's total wealth has not been quantified in monetary terms, consisting mostly of property, land and art, her client could be staking her claim of more than two million euros worth of assets.

In the demand, the lawyer states that Rosario Bermudo was born on

4 February 1951 in Madrid "as a product of intimate extramarital relations between her mother" and Leoncio Gregorio González de Martí when she was working as a servant for the duke in one of his properties in Madrid.

"Logically, given the dates, my client doesn't have a contract or document which proves that her mother was working there at the time," she admits. But what she does have is "an old photograph, in black and white, which despite the poor quality" shows the husband of the 'Red Duchess' at a table with three women.

Rosario's mother, "condemned and abandoned", eventually married another man on 8 December 1956 and had another six children. Her husband accepted Rosario Bermudo as his own.

Thirty municipalities unite to raise funds for new isolation rooms

'Verbenas', or street parties, will be held to raise funds for the rebuilding of children's isolation rooms at the Materno Infantil Hospital

∴ **ÁNGEL ESCALERA / SUR**

MÁLAGA. Thirty municipalities in Malaga province have agreed to raise funds for new bone marrow transplant isolation rooms for children at the Materno Infantil Hospital by hosting 'verbenas' (street parties) on Saturday 3 June.

The street parties have been organised by AVOI, the association of volunteers who work in the children's wards at the hospital, as part of the 'Verbenavoi' project.

The charity project is being sponsored by the Fundación Unicaja, which will also contribute funds to rebuilding the isolation rooms.

The association is also collaborating with the bedroom furniture shop Mi Colchón and the Málaga CF foundation for the events which they hope will raise at least 200,000 euros altogether.

All the money raised will go towards rebuilding the isolation



The president of AVOI was part of the party that presented the 'Verbenavoi' project. ∴ **VIRGINIA JIMÉNEZ**

rooms in in the children's Oncology wards.

The association wants to make the rooms more welcoming and child-friendly for the children, who have to be admitted three weeks

before the bone marrow transplants are due to take place, Juan Carmona, the president of the association, stated.

Tickets for the street parties include food, drinks, charity brace-

lets and the chance to participate in the draw to win a Mediterranean cruise for two people.

The association is also hoping to receive individual donations, which can be made to the Unicaja

INFORMATION

► **When and where.** Saturday 3 June, taking place in 30 municipalities across Malaga province.

► **Tickets.** Tickets cost seven euros and can be bought online at www.verbenavoi.com

► **Donations.** Contributions to the association can be paid to the Unicaja bank account ES33 2103 0239 91 0030008477.

bank account ES33 2103 0239 91 0030008477.

Carmona also stated at the presentation of the project that part of the events are dedicated to children, with magic acts, bouncy castles, facepainting and balloons all planned.

The thirty municipalities taking part include the likes of Marbella, Estepona, Mijas and Torremolinos, while several towns have also organised special shuttle bus services to the nearest street party.

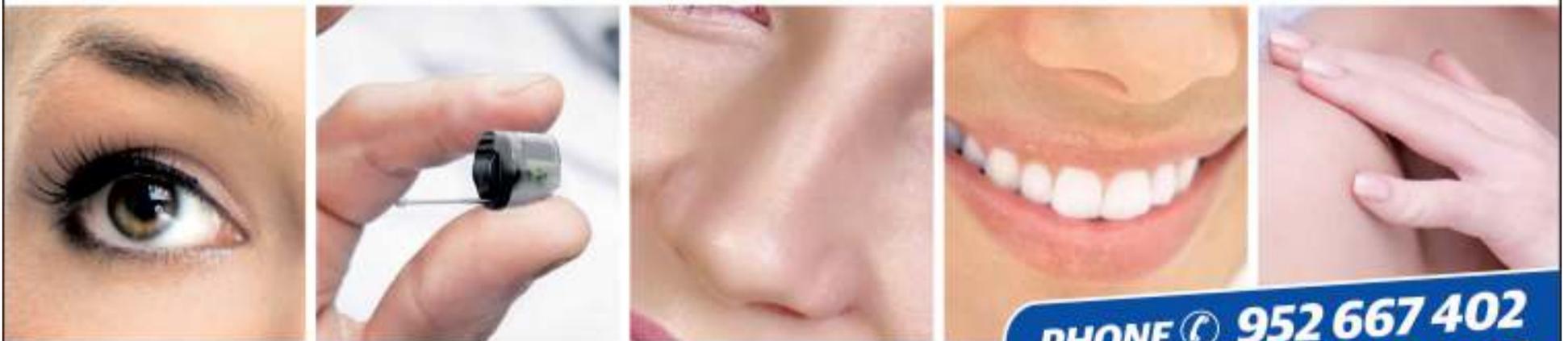
Carmona also took the opportunity at the project's launch to promote and raise awareness of the importance of bone marrow donations, stating that "we have a moral duty to continue the legacy of Pablo Ráez", the 20-year-old who passed away in February this year after a two-year battle with leukemia and who was followed by many social media users during his fight.

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Junta promises to keep health centres fully open all summer

Regional health minister, Aquilino Alonso, refused to confirm if replacement staff would be on full-time contracts, as demanded by the unions

:: I. GELIBTER / Á. ESCALERA

MIJAS. Health centres in the province of Malaga will remain open all summer. That is, at least, the "intention" of the Junta de Andalucía, according to regional health minister, Aquilino Alonso, on a visit to Mijas last week.

He said: "The idea is clear: we want every centre to remain open and give the level of care that is necessary for the Costa del Sol and Malaga province."

Contractual demands

Regarding the contractual situation, Alonso refused to give any concrete details, pointing out that negotiations are still ongoing with the unions who are demanding that the summer reinforcements be on full-time contracts to adequately cover the workload.

He said: "The deal is being closed and we will be able to give details



Alonso, alongside Mijas mayor Juan Carlos Maldonado. :: i. g.

A new hospital, a possibility

On his visit to Mijas, Aquilino Alonso announced that the Junta was looking into the possibility of a hospital that would serve both Mijas and Fuengirola. "We're getting there," he said, before announcing that contracts for the construction of the hospital in Estepona had been put out to tender.

once it is completed." This is expected to happen before the end of the month.

Despite his positivity, a series of strikes were called on Wednesday by unions dissatisfied with the Andalusian Health Service's (SAS) failure to guarantee full-time contracts to new personnel.

"A bad situation"

"The situation at present is quite bad," said the provincial secretary of the union Satse. "Hospitals right now aren't fully staffed; in the summer this will be much worse."



THE IMPORTANCE OF WASHING HANDS

A series of events were organised by the Hospital Clínico in Malaga last Friday to mark 'World Hand Hygiene Day'. The theme of the day was preventing the growing resistance to antibiotics and a number of activities to encourage good hand sanitation, inside and outside of hospital, were carried out.

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Music as a form of therapy

Musicians from the Malaga Conservatory took part in a day of music at the Hospital Materno Infantil

:: **ÁNGEL ESCALERA**

MALAGA. Malaga's Hospital Materno Infantil was filled with music on Monday as musicians from the Malaga Higher Conservatory of Music played both classical and cinematic pieces to patients, staff and visitors alike.

This was in aid of second edition of the initiative 'Music fills the Materno'. The scheme has been promoted by both staff at the hospital and pro-

fessionals from the conservatory who believe that music not only eases the mind and stimulates the senses, but can have therapeutic properties too.

Several musicians performed simultaneously at spots around the hospital: a brass quartet, a guitar duo, and an oboe and guitar pairing performed classical pieces and scores from films in the paediatrics and maternity outpatient wards and at the main entrance to the paediatrics department.

The areas were decorated with musical motifs and the poster designed by six-year-old patient Mara.

The day's events finished in the playroom where all of the musicians united to perform a musical story.



The brass quintet performing at the Materno on Monday. :: **SUR**

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Drug consumption is on the increase as people do not perceive the risks



ÁLVARO FRIAS

Twitter: @alvaro_frias

Recorded cases of cocaine and cannabis addiction have multiplied in Malaga in the past ten years

MALAGA. She was on her way home from a party when her car hit a group of six cyclists. Two of them were killed, and three others seriously injured. The driver tested positive for alcohol and drug consumption.

That accident occurred last weekend in Valencia and is another example of how the consumption of drugs, especially cocaine and cannabis, has extended in recent years. These substances are no longer only associated with recreation: they have become part of everyday life for more and more

people. In fact, the number of people who receive treatment after taking these drugs has greatly increased in Malaga province in recent years. Why is that? Because there has been a reduction in the perception of the risk associated with them.

Figures from the Provincial Drug Dependency Centre (CPD) support this claim. Most patients who need attention of this type have become dependent on alcohol, but in other cases the problem is with illegal substances such as cocaine and cannabis. In 2016 alone, the CPD assisted 1,135 people in the province who had problems because of these two drugs, and that is an increase of 54.6 per cent compared with ten years ago.

One of the worst problems is with cocaine; 675 people were assisted by the CPD last year, and the Proyecto Hombre association reports that 70 per cent of its work last year involved helping people with cocaine dependency. Its director in Malaga, Belén Pardo, says many people do not realise that cocaine cannot be consumed every day.

"For example, heroin is highly

addictive and within a very short time you feel the need to consume it every day. Cocaine creates a false sense of control," she explains.

Juan Jesús Ruiz, who runs the CPD, agrees and says that cocaine dependency begins little by little. Somebody who starts by taking it at weekends gradually ends up with a serious addiction, because their tolerance increases and they have to keep consuming more and more.

Cocaine is no longer considered an elite drug, and its consumption has increased. Although it costs money to acquire it, these experts warn that they are treating all types of people who have problems because of cocaine.

A STATISTIC

142

per cent is the amount by which the number of people needing help for cannabis addiction has risen in ten years.

Some of their patients are professionals who work long hours. "When they take cocaine they feel more in control, more able to concentrate, so they often consume it even while they are working," says Belén.

She also says that most of the people who come to the associations for help are men with a solid family and work structure, but they are still leading a double life. "They often don't ask for help until something serious happens in their personal or working life," she says.

With regard to cannabis consumption, the figures are alarming. Last year the CPD attended to 460 people, 142 per cent more than ten years ago.

Juan Jesús Ruiz says that in this case the profile of the people is different although, like cocaine, they come from all sectors of society. "This drug is becoming more popular and many youngsters are using it. On average, they start taking it when they are about 15 years old. However, many other people smoke cannabis, often at home after work," he says.

In fact, although people may be

somewhat wary of consuming cocaine, they think there is hardly any risk at all with cannabis. Experts refute this, and point out that it can have a serious effect on health.

José Manuel Burgos, a forensic doctor at the Institute of Legal Medicine in Malaga, explains that there has been an increase in psychotic incidents caused by cannabis.

"Knowing that I work on subjects like this, a friend of mine recently asked me to help his 22-year-old son, who is a student in Granada, because he had problems with this substance. He was admitted to an addiction centre just over two months ago, and has been receiving treatment ever since," he says.

Juan Jesús Ruiz confirms that cannabis is an enabling substance in psychotic disorders. "If someone has an underlying problem, the drug will affect them more. Most of the time these problems can be overcome, but sometimes the damage remains," he says.

With cocaine, the damage is physical rather than mental and it can be considerable. Forensic scien-

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Cocaine and cannabis can cause cardiovascular and mental health problems, respectively. :: SUR

tist Eduardo Ramos says cocaine consumption is linked with cardiovascular problems: when someone takes this drug it produces changes in the cardiovascular system

which can lead to irregular heart beat and even sudden death.

"It doesn't only affect somebody who has been taking it for years. It can happen at any time, even to

people who have only been using it at weekends for a few months. The quantity which has been taken overall has nothing to do with it," he says.

"It's quite terrifying, your mind creates 1,000 reasons to justify taking it"

:: A. FRÍAS

MÁLAGA. Carlos was like any other young man. He studied during the week and loved to play sport. At weekends, he used to go out with his friends and drink alcohol. Now, aged 50, this teacher from Malaga, married and a father, tells how later, when he went to university and began to mix with different types of people, "I wanted the party to go on longer than before, till six or seven in the morning." And that is how he came into contact with cocaine.

"At first I only went out at weekends, but then it became more often. I'd go out one day and rest the next. Bit by bit you take more cocaine to keep yourself going, because at first you take it to feel good but in the end you do it to stop feeling bad," he says.

Over time he abandoned his friends and his family, "because when you are addicted you don't want any commitment, only the one you have to your substance," he says. "Everything starts to revolve around it. Nothing else matters. It's quite terrifying, your mind creates 1,000 reasons to justify taking it."

Carlos continued to work, but could only think about going out and taking cocaine. "You only mix with other people who take it, and if you invite them to a drink and a line, they think you're the best thing ever. They tell you they understand all your problems, and you end up blaming something else for your addiction," he says.

He promised his new girlfriend that he would give up cocaine and did so for just over a year, but then relapsed at a difficult point in his life. There came a time when he just wanted to give in, "but I realised I would be totally alone and so I did something about it. I asked for help from my wife, as she is now, and she came with me to Proyecto Hombre in Malaga. They have really helped me to recover from my addiction," he says.

It is over 20 years since Carlos began to take cocaine and he now realises what the drug had done to his life. "I'm in contact with my family again, after many years. My children are proud of me, and I enjoy every moment I'm with them now. Before, I was with them but it wasn't the same. Life was a nightmare before," he says.

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Record 22 organ transplants carried out at Carlos Haya hospital in 12 days

Surgeons at the Malaga hospital performed 17 kidney transplants and five liver transplants between 16 and 28 April

ÁNGEL ESCALERA

MALAGA. In ten days of frantic activity, 22 patients at the Carlos Haya regional hospital have received

the organ transplant they needed to overcome their chronic illness, thanks to a new record in solidarity.

Between 16 and 28 April, 17 kidney and five liver transplants were carried out thanks to the altruism of families who lost a loved one and authorised their organs to be donated.

As well as the 22 transplants in Malaga, there were a further five

in Seville, Cordoba and Valencia. In total 29 organ transplants (19 kidneys, six livers, two hearts and two lungs) were made possible because of the donations.

There were four donations from relatives of patients who died at the Carlos Haya hospital, five from the Clínico Universitario, and one each from the Costa del Sol, Antequera and Torrecárdenas, in Almería, hospitals.

Of the 12 multiple donations, three were from cases of cardiac arrest (asystole) and nine from brain death. Last year, donations after asystolic death represented 30 per cent of the total registered in the Malaga region. The latest donations mean that 29 patients with advanced chronic conditions



A transplant at the Carlos Haya regional hospital. :: SUR

The transplant coordinator praised the work of the surgeons who carried out the operations

now have a second chance and very good prospects for their future health.

Pride and commitment

The transplant coordinator for the Malaga Sector, Domingo Daga, said this week that the 22 transplants which took place between 16 and 28 April were a matter of pride for the Carlos Haya hospital and showed the commitment of the surgeons who carried out the operations.

Dr Daga also thanked the 12 families who had authorised their relatives' organs to be used. "Thanks to their altruism, 22 patients now have the chance to recover from their chronic illness. Those families deserve recognition because, despite their own sadness after the death of a loved one, they agreed to allow their organs to be used to help others," he said.

He also explained that waiting lists for organ transplants are becoming shorter. "I'm very pleased because we have achieved something rather historic in shortening the waiting list, so that patients can receive their transplants more quickly," he said. "We want to reach a situation where no patient dies while they are waiting for a transplant to take place."



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EXHIBITIONS

Biennial Contemporary Art Marbella. Cultural Centre Kunsthau Berlin, Poligono Nueva Campana local 2 Nueva Andalucia. In collaboration with the Fred Friedrich Foundation, Marbella Town-Hall and the Mexican Ambassador in Spain, Don Raphael de la Madrid. Fifteen local and international artists are exhibiting their work. info@redaktionkhbm.de.

Pedro Rodríguez Marbella. Permanent exhibition, Kempinski Hotel Bahía. Pedro Rodríguez 'Pedrin', a Malaga sculptor, has an exhibition of his works in the Galería de Arte de Pedrin in the Kempinski. One of his works 'Olly', a magnificent bull, can be found in the entrance to the hotel.



Gabriel Ange, Magpie Gallery

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'. From 19 May until 18 June. 'The journey of the soul' is an exhibition by Gabrielle Ange. She works in oil on canvas, acrylic, mixed media and charcoal and makes murals for apartments, hotels, wineries etc. Gabrielle is a well recognised artist and winner of the "Best picture of the year" award in Paris.

Mercedes López Charro Marbella. Until 31 May. Kasser Rasser 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.mercedes-lopezcharro.com

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museo **PICASSO** Málaga

Bacon, Freud and the School of London

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EXHIBITIONS

El Campanario

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



S. Winkelmann, Estepona

Yuko Morata

Marbella. Until 17 June, *Galería Yusto/Giner, C/Madera*. The exhibition 'Bohemians' consists of twenty small format paintings by Japanese artist Yuko Morata. The theme that runs through all the paintings is nature and includes landscapes and especially swans.



Yuko Morata, Marbella

Ludovic Cesari

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

Museum Jorge Rando

Malaga. *Cruz del Molinillo, 12*. The works of contemporary artist Jorge Rando are on permanent dis-

No summer break for U3A

MALAGA. Summer is just around the corner and it's usually the time when social clubs along the coast sit back and have a rest until the autumn. However some associations are finalising their plans for activities to keep the foreign residents occupied during the summer months.

The U3A has coordinated some activities enabling members to continue meeting, albeit informally. Their first gathering will be on 7 June when they will be strolling around the Parque de la Paloma in

Benalmádena. They will meet at 11.30am at Pepe's restaurant near the roundabout for coffee before setting off.

The new U3A vice president, Rob Edwards, hopes this will be an opportunity to discuss what the group are looking to do over the coming months and how frequently they would like to meet.

Currently there are around 30 people in the group so anyone wishing to join should email Rob on edwardsrob@hotmail.co.uk

The U3A Facebook page will also post details of activities.

play. The museum also holds poetry and musical events.

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 is entitled La Dinastía Románov and includes many portraits of Russian royalty before the last Tsar and his family were assassinated in 1918.

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.

Malaga Glass Museum

Malaga. *Permanent exhibition. Plazuela Santísimo Cristo de la Sangre.* The glass museum has two new glass panels on display that have been painstakingly restored. They were both made by the Spanish company Mauméjean.

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 loan from Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofía.

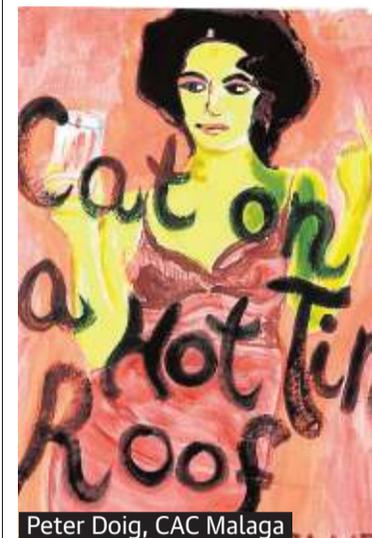
The second, 'Junto al aura de Picasso', consists of works that harmonise with Picasso's style and execution such as Tapiés, Julio González and Miró.

'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.

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.



Peter Doig, CAC Malaga

Peter Doig

Malaga. *Until 25 June, Centro de Arte Contemporáneo.* 'Studiofilmclub' is an exhibition by Scottish artist Peter Doig. It consists of posters created by the artist advertising films for his cineclub in Trinidad and Tobago.

Fausto Velázquez

Malaga. *Until 31 May, Fundación Unicaja, Plaza del Siglo.* 'Frida Kahlo, La vida como obra de arte' is an exhibition of paintings

PROGRAMMING



ALIEN COVENANT

Director Ridley Scott
Starring Michael Fassbender
HORROR - 123 min.

The crew of a colony ship, bound for a remote planet, discover an uncharted paradise with a threat beyond their imagination, and must attempt a harrowing escape.

Friday 12: 18:10, 22:15
Saturday 13 and Sunday 14: 15:45, 18:10, 21:45
From Monday 15 to Thursday 18: 18:10, 22:15



ORIGINAL
VERSION
SUBTITLED
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GUARDIANS OF THE GALAXY VOL. 2

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



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 12: 17:45
Saturday 13 and
Sunday 14: 15:45, 19:
From Monday 15 to
Thursday 18: 17:45



THE BOSS BABY

Director Tom McGrath - Starring Alec Baldwin and Steve Buscemi
ANIMATION - 87 min.
Friday 12: 18:00
Saturday 13 and Sunday 14: 15:45, 17:45
From Monday 15 to Thursday 18: 17:45



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 81916- 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.

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'.

Arte y superación

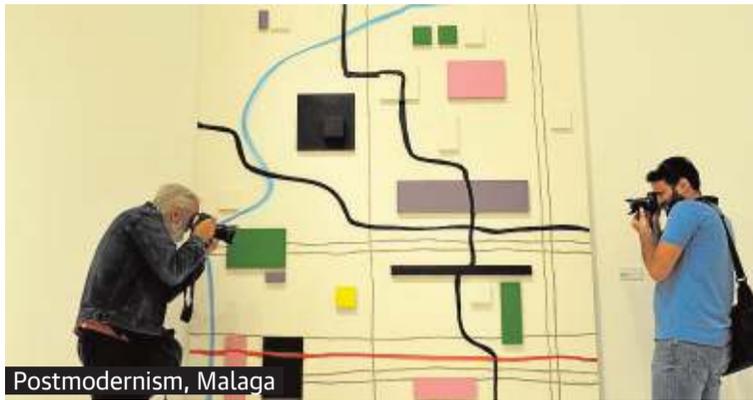
Malaga. *Until 23 June. La Sala Moreno Villa.* An exhibition of art works by international renowned artists of the Mouth and Foot Painters Association.

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.

Painting after postmodernism Belgium-USA

Malaga. *Until 2 July, Palacio episcopal, Plaza del Obispo.* This exhibition has been brought



Postmodernism, Malaga

to Malaga by Roberto Polo, patron of The New York Metropolitan Museum of Art. It consists of a collection of paintings by eight Belgian and eight American artists.

Automobile museum.

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

Eugenio Moreno.

Malaga. *Until 28 July. Alianza Francesa, C/Beatas* A life sized sculpture of Picasso lying in repose created by artist Eugenio Moreno is on display. It is aimed at underlining how Picasso's name and persona have become one of Malaga's 'souvenirs'.

'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 covering 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.

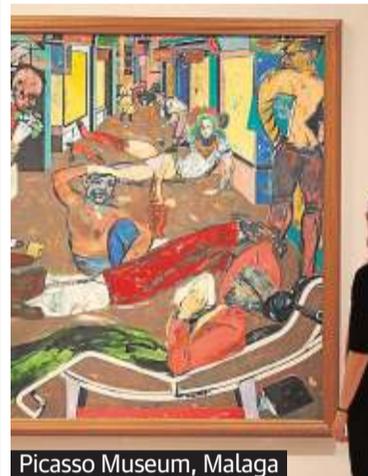
Noel Nieva Villafuerte

Cómpeta. *Until 28 May. Galeria Centro de Bellas Artes. C/San An-*

tonio, 6. Philippine artist Noel uses complex colour themes to create his art. This is an opportunity to see some of his new work ahead of upcoming exhibitions in Scandinavia later in the year. Tel: 642 494 054

Exotic Vibrations

Mijas. *Mijas Tourist Office, Mijas Pueblo.* Seven international artists living and working on Costa del Sol will be displaying original artworks in oils, pastels, watercolours, textiles, silk paintings and acrylics. Also greeting cards and miniature art.



Picasso Museum, Malaga

Artistas Eclécticos

Mijas Pueblo. *Until 19 May. Clínica Veterinaria, Avd México 21.* Works by Sinikka Ahokas-Gröhn, Elaine Carlton and Margit

Björklund. www.artistaselecticos.com

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 including one of the legendary Bridget Bardot posing on Carihuela beach in a Cordobés hat.

Art Gallery Costa del Sol

Mijas. *A permanent exhibition at the new art gallery in the Club House 'Cerrado del Águila'* Paintings, drawings, sculptures and ceramics are on display by artist such as Pedro Bueno, Teresa M. Martín and José B. Angulo.

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.

Gallery Art Club

Fuengirola. *Plaza Picasso, Old Town.* A new art gallery with monthly exhibitions of contemporary art. www.galleryartclub.com

Carromato de Max museum

Mijas Pueblo. *Permanent exhibition.* An extensive collection of miniature art. 

San Isidro celebrations

JENNIE RHODES

MALAGA. Towns throughout Malaga province will be celebrating their patron, San Isidro el Labrador, this weekend. As the patron saint of farmers, he is recognised in many of Malaga province's agricultural towns and villages including Periana, Nerja, Alhaurín el Grande, Trapiche, Ardales, Villanueva del Trabuco and Estepona.

San Isidro is celebrated on 15 May and as such many places will be making the most of the weekend for their festivities, including 'romerías' (pilgrimages).

In Periana a 12-hour procession will take place on Monday during which, 40 tonnes of wheat will be thrown, in homage to the patron. Over the weekend there will be music, dancing and a chance to try the local gastronomy.

Alhaurín el Grande celebrates San Isidro with the Cachorreña festival on 14 May handing out bowls of the traditional soup made with oranges, cod, stale bread, olive oil and salt. They are also holding an exhibition of bobbin lace.

Trapiche and Estepona's annual festivals are both named after San Isidro and events will take place on 13 and 14 May in Trapi-



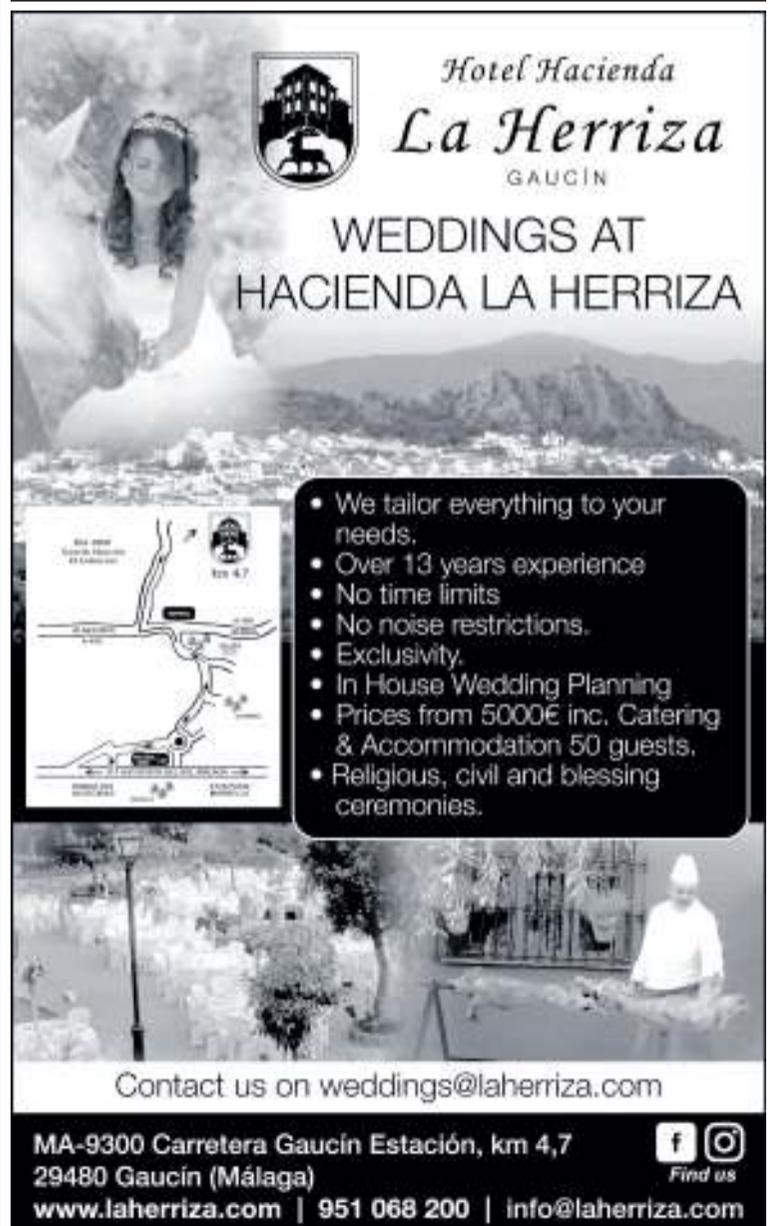
The San Isidro Romería in Nerja. :: sur

che, while in Estepona the five days of festivities started last Wednesday and will culminate in a procession at 6pm on Monday. A full programme can be found on the Estepona Turismo Facebook page.

In Nerja, events will start with a party at the caves at around 8pm on Sunday 14 May and on the fol-

lowing day, after Mass at the church, the romería will take place. A statue of the saint will be put on a cart decorated with flowers and pulled by oxen to the Caves.

In Ardales the romería will end at the Guadalhorce reservoir where on 15 May a party with typical food and drink will be available with music by the municipal band.



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EXHIBITIONS

Costa del Sol Photographic Society exhibition**Benalmádena.** Until 26 May, *Castillo Bil Bil*

Mon 10am-1.30pm Tues-Fri 9am-2pm and 4-10pm.

Antonio Carmona**Torremolinos.** Until 31 May, *Salon de Actos y Exposiciones Casa de Cultura, C/Horacio Lengó*

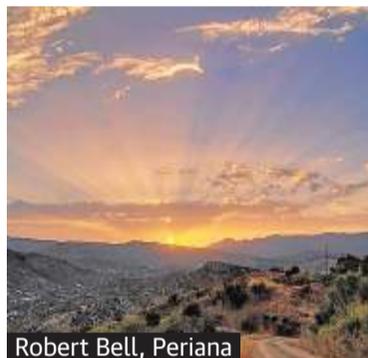
An exhibition of paintings by Antonio Carmona entitled 'La discapacidad a través de la cultura' (disability through culture).

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.

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.



Robert Bell, Periana

Frontera Líquida**Benalmádena.** Until 18 June. *Centro Andaluz de la Fotografía*

A visual record of Andalucía and Morocco.

María Zambrano**Vélez-Málaga.** Permanent exhibition. *Palacio de Beniel de Vélez-Málaga.* Monday-Friday, 9am-2pm.

An exploration into the life and works of Málaga-born philosopher and writer María Zambrano. For further information call 952500244.

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.*

Reservations and for viewings of the exhibition of photographs by Robert Bell can be made by email: info@lagaleria.eu or by tel: 951139153

CHARITY

Chamber of Secrets**Torremolinos.** 13 May, 8pm. *Montemar Theatre.* 32.95€

An evening of magic, mind reading, comedy and music. Ticket

Espeto music festival

:: TONY BRYANT

TORREMOLINOS. Lovers of live music are in for an extra special treat this Saturday, 13 May, when Torremolinos presents the second edition of the Espeto Festival.

The festival, which takes its name from the symbolic skewered sardines that are grilled over an open wood fire, will be held in the town's football stadium opposite the fairground.

The event will have a marked gastronomic character: freshly grilled sardines will be given to visitors at the start of this musical extravaganza and the popular Food Trucks will also be offering a wide range of international cuisine.

However, the main attraction will be the impressive line-up of bands and musicians that will offer an array of varying musical genres during the festival.

The Toasters, Miguel Campello, El Kanka, Hablando en Plato, and La Pompa Jonda are just a few of the artists that will be taking part.

The Toasters are one of the original American third-wave ska bands. Founded in New York in 1981, the band has released nine studio albums with labels such as Moon Ska Records and Skaloid.

They are currently on a world tour and are packing the dancehalls and clubs with their exciting style of Caribbean fused ska.

Miguel Campello, lead singer of the celebrated Spanish band, Elbicho, is considered one of the best flamenco fusion musicians of the last decade. His show consists of energetic compositions that fuse flamenco rhythms with classic rock and roll.

price includes Sangria, beer or refreshments. 15€ of each ticket goes to Cudeca Hospice. Limited seating tel: 663083249.

Coplas for charity**Torremolinos.** 13 May, 8pm. *Centro Cultural Pablo Picasso.* 7€

A concert of traditional Spanish folk music to raise funds for the Asociación Malagueña de Esclerosis Lateral Amiotrófica (amyotrophic lateral sclerosis or AMELA). Tickets from baltazardelmoral@hotmail.es

Charity concert**Malaga.** 12 May, 8.30pm. *Sala Unica de conciertos María Cristina, C/Marqués de Valdecañas.* 10€

The Lions Club has organised a charity concert with the Coral San Felipe Neri choir, music by Mozart (Notturmi) and pianist José Manuel Padilla. There will also be contemporary poetry set to music by J.A. Gómez.

Triple A open day and lunch**Marbella.** 14 May, from noon until 5pm. *Crta Ojén*

Besides a parade of dogs looking for homes there will be food donated



Controversial rappers, Ayax y Prok, will be in Torremolinos. :: SUR

INFORMATION

▶ **When:** Saturday 13 May.▶ **Where:** Football stadium, Torremolinos.▶ **Tickets:** www.canalticket.es

Another band from Malaga performing will be the celebrated Hablando en Plata. Originally known as Hombres del Hampa, 'men of the underworld', this group is sure to get things going with their intriguing style of rap.

The group shot to fame following the release of the album, Operación Mafia Fantástica, on which they collaborated with Frank T, a well-known rap producer and broadcaster for Radio Española

One of the more controversial acts on the programme is Ayax y Prok. These young rappers from Granada received over one million views on YouTube following the much-publicised altercation concerning the lyrics of a song that the police claimed were offensive.

The popular flamenco fusion band La Pompa Jonda will also take the stage during the festival. The group was born from the union of four musicians from Jerez de la Frontera and their music fuses the singers' Gitano-flamenco voice with rock music, creating a style they call 'Electro-Jondo'.

The festival will also present several local DJs who will keep the sounds pulsating in between acts.

Tickets for the Espeto Festival, which will begin at 6pm, cost 15 euros in advance or 25 euros on the door.



Chicago, Teatro Cervantes, Malaga

by La Roche College, drinks and live music from Diva Ria, some "stars" from the Gala show from Laude College will dance and sing and there will be tables of nearly new clothes and household items, toys etc.

18 May, from 1pm. *La Sala Puerto Banús.* 35€ (15€ to Triple A) At two course lunch including free-flowing cava, a fashion show with beautiful clothing for all shapes and sizes, live music by Franky Valentine, a raffle and an auction with great prizes. Tickets: La Sala, Office Triple A, Clothes Boutique Variations, San Pedro or email: events@tripleamarbella.org or tel: Lily: 622 910 214.**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 Adele. Tickets 10€ include canapes 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. www.facebook.com/opengardensandalucia/ #opengardensandalucia

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€.

AID Charity Auction**Alhaurín el Grande.** 12 May, 9 June 7pm. *La Cuchara restaurant, Polígono Rosa.*

Every second Friday of every month a charity auction to raise funds for Animals in Distress. 15 per cent of each item sold goes to the charity. Donations and items to sell 24hrs before, tel: Chris 628 239 174 / Joe 626 942 427

MUSIC & DANCE

Chicago**Malaga.** 12, 13 May, 8.30pm Sunday 14 May 7pm. *Teatro Cervantes.*

The musical 'Chicago' is based in the 20s, the main characters Roxie and Velma are serving prison sentences for murder. They become rivals to succeed in the world of vaudeville.

The Wall Bar**Malaga.** *Hotel Vincci Posada del Patio, 11pm, entry free.*

12 May. Daphne & Nicky. Jazz and bossanova.

13 May. Richard Ray Farrell. The New Yorker bluesman in person

Rockabilly concert**Torremolinos.** 12, 13 May, from noon until 8pm. *La Plaza del Remo.* Free.The 'European Rock'n Roll Meeting II' returns to Torremolinos with six Rockabilly bands from Malaga, Finland, Poland and Italy. Info: liisa@liisavaisanen.net or tommy.dahlstrom@gmail.com <http://www.torremolinos.es>**Mentally Ska'd****Malaga.** 14 May, 5pm. *Bar Artesanal, Malaga Port.*

The reggae band Mentally Ska'd will be in concert.

Malaga Philharmonic Orchestra**Malaga, Auditorio Edgar Neville.** 12 May, 8.30pm.**Mijas Costa, Teatro de Las Lagunas.**

13 May, 7pm.

Estepona, Auditorio Felipe VI. 14 May, 6pm.

Concierto de Aranjuez with soloist Daniel Casares and conducted by Arturo Diez Boscovich.

T.I.M.S choir**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. www.fuengirolapop.com

FLAMENCO

Jaleo

Malaga. Every Monday and Thursday 1.30pm and Saturdays 2pm. Museo Interactiva de Musica Malaga (MIMMA), 15€ with a welcoming drink. Flamenco singing and dancing.

Weekly flamenco shows

Malaga. Kelipe 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: kelipe.manzano@gmail.com

Museo de Arte Flamenca Peña Juan Brea

Malaga. C/Ramón Franquelo, 8pm. 13 May. Loli París singing, Pepe Amaya guitar; Fernando Santiago and Remedios Cervantes dancing. Information and reservations email: info@flamenka.com or tel: 687697526 / 952221380

LECTURES

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.

Informative talk

Arroyo de la Miel. 18 May, noon. Innova building. A group of experts will be talking about: changes to IHT in Andalucía, wills, plusvalía, funeral care in Spain and funeral procedure in general. The event is free but places are limited so tel: Ilse on 952 816443 or email: ilse.liebrechts@blacktowerfm.com

FESTIVALS

Día de la Naranja

Istán. 13 May, 1-3.30pm. The event is combined with the 23rd Muestra Gastronómica to create a day of good food and wine. There will also be stalls selling crafts and local produce.

Feria de la Cerveza Artesana

Rincón de la Victoria. 13, 14 May, Sat noon - 1am. Sun 2 - 9pm. The beer festival is held in the Plaza José Novo in the Huerta Julián area.



The Hobbit, Fuengirola.

Over 200 motives for not sleeping



'Noche en Blanco' starts an hour earlier this year. :: S. SALAS

REGINA SOTORRÍO

MALAGA. The number of events planned for the 'Noche en Blanco' in Malaga next week end has been reduced from previous years. This is to try to give the occasion a more cultural feel with activities starting an hour earlier than usual. Around 217 different events including free access to museums, art galleries, concerts and theatres will be available to the public.

This year, organisers have created a special app called 'Personal Dreamer' which is available for iOS or Android devices.

The motto is '217 reasons not to sleep' and with some events continuing until 2am, visitors

DETAILS

▶ **When.** 20 May, from 7pm.

▶ **Where.** The city centre.

▶ **Website.** www.lanocheenblanco.com

are unlikely to get to their beds before dawn.

The English Cemetery will also be taking part in 'Noche en Blanco' on 20 May and is conducting free guided tours from 9pm onwards. Tickets are available from the 16th at 9am on a first come, first served basis. Only the 9pm tour will be in English.

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 environmentally friendly products are on sale.

The Hobbit

Fuengirola. 19-23 May, nightly at 8pm, Sunday 7pm. Matinée 3pm 20 May. Salon Varietés Theatre. The production of the Hobbit from the book by J. R. R. Tolkien features an original and inventive stage design, puppets, costumes and a young cast. Tickets from the box office tel: 952474542 (11am - 2 30pm Mon - Sat) and an hour before performance. Or book online: www.salonvarietestheatre.com

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.

Gerald Brenan Museum

Churriana. 12 May, 7.30pm. Casa de Gerald Brenan, C/Torremolinos In Spanish, the museum will be holding a performance of the only play Gerald Brenan wrote 'The Lord of the Castle and his Prisoner'. casageraldbrenan@malaga.eu

Coach trip to Alcalá la Real

Torre del Mar. 8 June. 24€ Lux Mundi, Torre del Mar are going on a one day coach excursion to the town of Alcalá la Real in the province of Jaén, situated at the base of the Arab fortress, La Mota. Visit 'Los Quesos Sierra Sur' in Ermita Nueva a family run business producing cheese and yoghurts. Tel: 952 543 334 or e-mail: luxmundi@lux-mundi.org

Coach trip to Gibraltar

Torre del Mar. 18 May, 15 June. 12€ Lux Mundi, Torre del Mar are going on a one day coach excursion to Gibraltar. Passports necessary. Tel: 952 543 334 or e-mail: luxmundi@lux-mundi.org

Moto & Bike

Malaga. 19, 20, 21 May. Palacio de ferias y Congresos. 5€ This is the second year of this event which aims to promote the use of

motor bikes and bicycles for leisure and sport. Buyers will be able to try out certain models on the track.

Trip to Orgiva Tea Gardens

Torre del Mar. 19 May. Various departure points. 25€ Price includes coach fare and driver's gratuity. A beautiful tranquil garden covering about 5,000 sqm. 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.

Floral Art Club

Estepona. Agro Jardín, Cancelada. 16 May 3pm: Wedding floral designer Maxine demonstrates 'You've got to have friends'. This is the club's last demonstration before the Annual General Meeting on 13 June at noon in Agro Jardín. There will be a table at the demonstration selling floral accessories. Visitors 10€. Tel: 694 425 219 or send an email to esteponafloralartclub@hotmail.com

O. V. FILM

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



Rockabilly, Torremolinos

Cine Albéniz

C/Alcazabilla 4, Malaga. Tel: 902 36 02 95
Lady Macbeth: 18.40, 20.15

Cinesur El Ingenio

Avda. Juan Carlos I, Vélez-Málaga. Tel. 667 77 31 87.
Guardians of the Galaxy 2: 16.05
The Circle: 16.45
Alien Covenant: 16.30, 19.00 (every day); 21.30 (Tues)
Sleepless: 20.15

Cinesur Miramar

Avda. de la Encarnación, Fuengirola. Tel. 952 19 86 00.
The Lost City of Z: 16.00 (Tues)
Guardians of the Galaxy 2: 12.10, 16.10, 19.00
Lady Macbeth: 16.00, 18.00 (Mon, Tues, Thurs)
A United Kingdom: 12.10, 16.00
Alien Covenant: 11.50, 16.40, 19.20, 22.05, 00.30
The Circle: 15.50, 17.55, 20.00, 22.15 (Tues)

Cines Teatro Goya

For tickets and information call 951196665. www.cinesteatrogoya.com
Boss Baby: 15.45 (Sat, Sun); 18.00 (Fri); 17.45 (Sat-Thurs)
Guardians of the Galaxy 2: 15.45, 19.00 (Sat, Sun); 17.45 (Fri, Mon-Thurs)
Alien Covenant: 15.45, 21.45 (Sat, Sun); 18.10 (every day); 22.15 (Fri, Mon-Thurs)

Yelmo Cines, Plaza Mayor

Centro de Ocio Plaza Mayor, Avda. Alfonso Ponce de León. Tel: 902 902 103 or visit www.yelmocines.es
Der Rosenkavalier live from the MET: Sat 13 May 18.30
Alien Covenant: 12.30, 15.30 (Sat, Sun); 18.00, 20.30 (every day); 23.00 (Fri, Sat)
The Circle: 15.40 (Sat, Sun)
Guardians of the Galaxy 2 3D: 13.30 (Sat, Sun)
Guardians of the Galaxy 2: 19.30 (every day)
Shepherd's Butchers: 16.05 (every day except Sat, Sun); 14.00 (Sat, Sun)
The Lost City of Z: 12.40 (Sat, Sun)

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Top chefs put luxury on the menu in Marbella

The stars of Michelin, Dani García, El Lago, Messina and Skina together with 1870 and Takumi will take part in the Marbella Luxury Weekend

:: MÓNICA PÉREZ

MARBELLA. Marbella is fast becoming the destination for luxury gastronomy events. Just a few months ago Malaga's Dani García arranged for some of the best chefs in the world to meet in Marbella and this month it is the turn of the Marbella All Stars. This is the second year for this event which is captained by Diego del Río and the Asociación de la Alta Cocina. The next event will be the long anticipated Marbella Luxury Weekend, which takes place from 2 to 4 June.

Dani García (two Michelin stars), El Lago, Messina, Skina (one star each), Takumi and 1870 are all taking part in the Luxury Weekend, preparing exclusive and ephemeral menus that are only available over the three days of the event.

"Luxury is not only limited to something expensive; it is also something limited in time, that you can enjoy only the once," explained a source from the organisation team behind the Luxury Weekend. "It's a unique opportunity for lovers of fine gastronomy from all over the world to discover that in Marbella you can enjoy something very ex-



Top chef Mauricio Giovanni in the Messina kitchen. :: JOSELE-LANZA

clusive," they added.

Dani García's luxury menu includes mullet confit in brown butter, his Gazpacho Cherry Mary, and his Tomato Nitro Dulce. El Lago has opted for white shrimp ravioli with minced seafood and steak tartare of Retinto beef and Payoyo cheese, fried eggs and truffles. 1870 has included its crispy rice 'oblea' with wakame, and sturgeon confit with green wheat, gazpachuelo and Malaga prawns. The Japanese Takumi restaurant is of-

fering tuna tartare, gingara misozuke of black cod and miso. Messina will surprise its diners with a watermelon ceviche, ajoblanco soup with yuzu and red mullet in an acidulated and humita broth. In Skina guests can try Galician cockle and samphire ravioli and shoulder of lamb with crispy bread and herbs.

The menus are as varied as the prices which range from 65 euros at 1870 to 160 euros at El Lago (VAT not included).

A. J. LINN

MAY IS FOR GOAT



In order to understand the rules that dominate the gastronomic calendar, we need to understand the breeding cycles of the animals and birds destined for the table. The Glorious Fourth (of August) may be the best known as the opening of the grouse season, and down here we all know that sardines are best when there is no letter r in the month. But why is this the time of year when chivito (baby goat) is at its best? Cochinito (suckling pig) is eaten year-round, and there is a restaurant in Benahavis that sells industrial quantities, but those who appreciate chivito have to be more patient.

Although goat is apparently a great favourite of the West Indian community, normally stewed and of any age, cabrito is a favourite in Portugal, Italy and Greece, as well as Spain.

Understandably there are people who shy away from eat-

ing any animal that has been killed a few weeks after birth, but the reality is that male goats do not give milk so are killed anyway, usually as soon as they are born, so what is the difference? The business of goat milk, yoghurt, et al, has moved into the big time, so a male animal's value is only as meat.

If queasiness is not a factor (you don't of course eat any meat, do you?) then sit back and enjoy it. The strangely named La Sociedad restaurant in Canillas de Aceituno, north of Malaga, is the place to which pilgrimages are made, and allegedly hundreds of dishes are served every weekend.

Nearer home Marbella's Alameda Restaurant in the San Cristóbal Hotel has a 'Chivito Week' every May, and although shockingly under-promoted, is a sell-out for the five days it runs from 16th to 20th.

The special menu features every sort of goat-sourced dish. Kidneys, cheese, pate, roast leg, stewed shoulder, chops, indeed most parts of the animal are utilised, and all at a price anyone can afford. Be careful though, as from memory the servings are not small, and the house red wine is excellent value.

Baby goat is not eaten year-round; those who appreciate chivito have to be patient



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in English

The secrets of ajo blanco



Ajo blanco soup is traditionally served in glasses. :: FERNANDO. GONZÁLEZ

:: MARINA MARTÍNEZ

MALAGA. As part of the Malaga Gastronomy Festival last Saturday there was a workshop on the secrets of making an authentic ajo blanco (a chilled almond and garlic soup).

Experts at the event explained that the base for this soup (and for gazpacho) is simply bread, oil, garlic, vinegar and salt to which other ingredients are then added. For the ajo blanco, a very traditional dish that was once a welcome refreshment for labourers, slivers of peeled almonds are ground together in a pestle and mortar with soaked, stale bread. Little by little olive oil is added to the mortar along with the rest of the ingredients to produce a thick liquid. "It is better if it isn't ground too finely and the crusts are left on the bread," pointed out the founder of the Asociación de Mujeres Cocineras AMUCO, Guadalupe Montejo.

Although it is recommended that only the oil from the Hojoblanca variety of olive is used, other types of olive oil can be substituted.

The soup is usually chilled and served garnished with white grapes. Alternative additions to the traditional recipe include slices of mango and chopped apple. Other more contemporary recipes suggest serving the soup hot or using it as a sauce to accompany cod.

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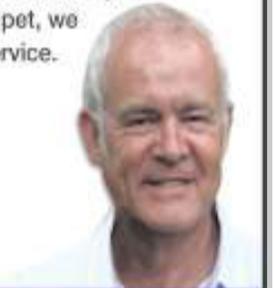
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PLENTY IN RESERVE

One of the keys to Real Madrid's success so far this season has been Zinedine Zidane's use of his 'B' team at the right moment

Zinedine Zidane's legacy at the Bernabeu may yet be the 'Americanization' of Real Madrid.

As Johan Cruyff revolutionised the way Barcelona played, Zizou may well have revolutionised how teams approach marathon football seasons. Let me explain...

When I lived in America, I was bemused when the top sports teams came into the local arena but had left their marquee players back home.

It was a regular practice in basketball, baseball and then spread into soccer.

Frequently Beckham and Keane missed out on the road-trips. I couldn't get my head around it. Surely they were sacrificing vital away points by not picking their best team at all times?

Zidane has taken on this approach and it has empowered him to take Real Madrid into a position to become double champions of Spain and Europe for the first time since the 1950s.

Some may say he has gambled, others may say that it is an educated estimation. In weeks when his team have tense Champions League games coupled with away games in La Liga, he has made mass changes.

When they travelled to Granada, nine stars missed out on the chance to take in the beautiful city. In truth, footballers see very little of the football destinations beyond the airport and best hotel in town. Zidane has reasoned that his stars are better off with home comforts and watching the game in front of the TV and he's been proven right.

For example, Cristiano Ronaldo has missed the delights of Eibar, Leganés, Gijón, La Coruña and Granada

recently. This meant that he was at the peak of his powers when he faced Bayern Munich and Atlético in the Champions League.

I would hazard a guess that Zidane is using his experiences as one of the game's great artisans to understand how his superstars work. It is quite a revolutionary method and does rely on the nine players you call up reaching the required standards and having the correct balance.

He's also brave to go with his own module when his president has a vision of a team of 'Galácticos' (though it does help when the players you are "drafting in" are all fully-fledged internationals who have cost millions of euros). But what has worked for Zidane

has backfired on his rival Luis Enrique. When he made mass changes back in September for the home game with Alavés, he was forced to call on the cavalry of Messi, Suárez and Iniesta, but even they couldn't save the day.

Iniesta, who for so many years has been the catalyst to success has this season been the key to failure. It should be noted that he wasn't in the starting eleven for the defeats against Celta, Deportivo, and Malaga home and away. Barça's bench just hasn't been strong enough.

Bill Shankly once surmised that there were only two teams on Merseyside: "Liverpool, and Liverpool reserves."

Well, Zidane can claim Madrid only has two teams; the Real Madrid 'A' team who are in the Champions League Final and the 'reserves' whose away form is making them favourites to win La Liga.



Zizou's gambles have paid off. :: AFP



Isco is one of many 'B' team players who have delivered when called upon. :: EFE

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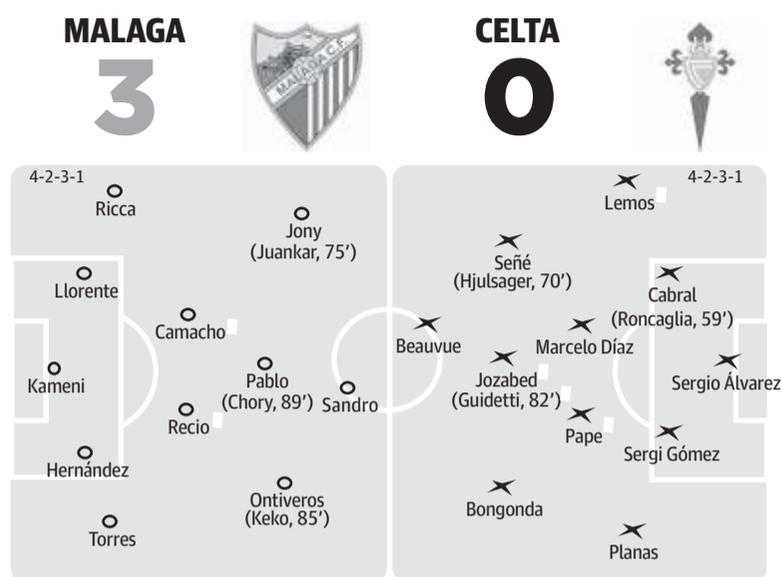
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TABLE & FIXTURES

MATCHDAY
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LEAGUE TABLE

★ Champions League ■ Europa League ▼ Relegation

TEAM	PT	P	W	D	L	GF	GA
★ 1. Barcelona	84	36	26	6	4	108	34
★ 2. R. Madrid	84	35	26	6	3	96	39
★ 3. At. Madrid	74	36	22	8	6	66	25
★ 4. Sevilla	69	36	20	9	7	63	45
■ 5. Villarreal	63	36	18	9	9	53	32
■ 6. Athletic	62	36	19	5	12	51	39
7. Real Sociedad	62	36	19	5	12	55	49
8. Eibar	54	36	15	9	12	54	46
9. Espanyol	53	36	14	11	11	47	48
10. Alavés	51	36	13	12	11	37	41
11. MALAGA	45	36	12	9	15	47	51
12. Celta	44	35	13	5	17	49	60
13. Valencia	43	36	12	7	17	54	62
14. Las Palmas	39	36	10	9	17	52	67
15. Betis	37	36	10	7	19	38	61
16. Leganés	33	36	8	9	19	34	53
▼ 17. Deportivo	32	36	7	11	18	40	61
▼ 18. Sporting	27	36	6	9	21	39	70
▼ 19. Granada	20	36	4	8	24	28	78
▼ 20. Osasuna	19	36	3	10	23	38	88

Results

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

Fixtures

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



Javi Ontiveros is congratulated after scoring the opener. :: S.SALAS

Fourth consecutive win boosts the feel-good factor around La Rosaleda

KISHAN VAGHELA

✉ Twitter: @KishV96

Malaga's comfortable 3-0 win saw them overtake their opponents in the table on a disastrous night for Eduardo Berizzo, who was also sent off late on

MALAGA. Malaga made it four wins on the trot on Sunday night after sweeping aside a lethargic Celta Vigo side in a result that saw the hosts climb above their opponents in the league table.

Michel opted for the same formation he deployed for the thriller against Sevilla, but both sides initially struggled for any real fluency. Nevertheless, up against a side exhausted from their Europa League semi-final exertions, the hosts would go on to create all the clear-cut chances in the half.

Shortly after the tenth minute, Pablo Fornals slipped in Sandro, who cut back onto his left foot but was denied by a strong hand from Celta goalkeeper Sergio Álvarez.

Seconds after Josep Señé dragged his shot wide of Carlos Kameni's right-hand post, Sandro collected an intercepted Fornals pass, before failing to get sufficient whip on his shot which nestled into the side netting.

A minute later the Spain U21 international was in the thick of the action again, but Sergio Álvarez was

on hand to deny his near-post flick from Federico Ricca's cross.

The hosts were undoubtedly getting closer to the breakthrough, and it eventually came in the 26th minute when Javi Ontiveros cut in from the right flank under pressure from Pape Cheikh Diop, before firing past Sergio Álvarez at his near post into the top corner with his weaker left foot. This was only his second goal of the season.

The hosts were now in the ascendancy and created further chances to double their lead before the break, but two Celta defenders closed in to block a shot from the hesitant Jony, before a suicidal backpass allowed Sandro in - though Sergio Álvarez was equal to him on this occasion.

Celta had enjoyed some sustained possession in the latter stages of the first half, and were nearly rewarded early in the second when Marcelo Díaz struck the post from a freekick.

However, Celta's defensive frailties persisted and just over ten minutes into the second period, Gustavo Cabral upended Sandro, who had latched onto Ontiveros' clipped pass, and the referee had no hesitation in pointing to the spot.

A confident Recio took over spot-kick duties from Sandro, sending

the goalkeeper the wrong way, a goal which allowed Malaga to sit back and attempt to hit the fatigued visitors on the break.

Malaga's new approach did yield some chances for the visitors, but Sergi Gómez flicked his header from a freekick straight at Kameni before substitute Andrew Hjulsager curled over from Pape's pass.

With Ontiveros and Sandro a potent threat on the counter attack, the duo who carved out the penalty incident combined again, but the latter failed to find the far corner with his strike.

The game did seem to be petering out, but ten minutes from the end Celta head coach Eduardo Berizzo was involved in an altercation with Recio on the touchline, an incident which saw the former sent off and Camacho and Recio booked.

Ontiveros was replaced by Keko for the final few minutes, and the substitute carried on from where his team-mate had left off. A minute after Pablo Fornals failed to prod the ball home from six yards while on the deck, Keko's deft skill left Facundo Roncaglia in his wake but didn't have the finish to match, disappointingly chipping his effort into the keeper's hands in the one-on-one.

The hosts, though, would eventually get their third right at the death. Shortly after Kameni had saved from Claudio Beauvue from point-blank range, Keko's defence-splitting pass found substitute Juankar, who presented a tap-in to Sandro, who added some gloss to a victory which took Malaga 11th in the table.

Malaga now face a trip to the Basque Country, with Real Sociedad awaiting them on Sunday.

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Ontiveros' strike midway through the first half was just his second goal this season



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Malaga announce Michel's son as first signing for the new season

The club have confirmed the signing of Adrián from Eibar and are in negotiations with Llorente and Juankar over renewal

by **ANTONIO GÓNGORA**

MALAGA. Head coach Michel took the opportunity after Sunday night's victory over Celta Vigo to announce the signing of his son, Adrián, on a three-year deal.

The versatile midfielder, 28, will join on a free transfer on the conclusion of his contract with Eibar in the summer.

The deal has been in place for some time, even before the arrival of his father, but has only now been confirmed after the club were informed by La Liga of their salary cap for next season.

The player has appeared on the club's radar for several years, but for one reason or another, a deal was never finalised.

However, now, with a number of veterans set to leave (Weligton, Martín Demichelis, Duda and Charles all see their contracts expire in the summer), the side will be seriously lacking leadership and experience - a gap Adrián is expected to plug.

It is also understood that negotiations are progressing well for Malaga to resign both Diego Llorente and Juankar on new loan deals for the next campaign.

Despite a slow start to the campaign, Llorente has cemented his place as a key component of this Malaga side, showing vast improvement since the arrival of Luis Hernández as his central defensive partner.

The Real Madrid youngster is keen to extend his stay after rejecting an approach from Stoke City in January.

This time, Malaga will hope to remove the clause in the loan con-

tract which will allow a recall in the event of Real Madrid suffering an injury crisis.

Likewise, the club hope to keep hold of fullback Juankar who is currently on his second loan spell from Portuguese club Braga.

His versatility and impressive performances at the tailend of the campaign have impressed Michel who is keen to tie him down for another year, whether on another loan contract, or permanently.



Adrián's experience and versatility will be valuable to the club. :: SUR



LA ROSALEDA CELEBRATES 75 YEARS WITH PHOTO EXHIBITION

Malaga's Calle Larios is currently home to a photo exhibition which forms part of the 75th anniversary celebrations of Málaga CF's La Rosaleda stadium. The collection, called 'La Rosaleda in 75 pictures', was inaugurated on Monday in the presence of club owner Sheikh Al-Thani, mayor Francisco de la Torre and Lourdes Alonso, who did the ceremonial kick-off at the first official game hosted at the ground. The photos will be on view until Thursday.

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Nico goal brings Marbella's losing streak to an end

After five winless games, Marbella capitalised on their one-man advantage throughout the second half to beat Jumilla 1-0 away from home

OPTASPORTS

JUMILLA. Marbella's misery came to an end on Sunday with a 1-0 victory away to Jumilla, after five consecutive games without a win. It was only the second victory the club have enjoyed since the dismissal of Mehdi Nafti in February, in a period which has also seen the club hire two new managers; the recently resigned Miguel Álvarez and the newly installed Rafael 'Fael' Becerra Cortés.

The start of the first half was lively; soon after kick off Jumilla had their first chance with a decent shot from their striker Pablo Morgado. Marbella responded quickly with a header from Joseba but the central midfielder's effort was lacking in quality and was cleared by the Jumilla goalkeeper. However the remainder of the first 45 minutes of the game were very lethargic with both teams offering little more on the attacking front.

Just before the whistle blew for half time, Jumilla right-winger Chirri



Marbella's defense remained firm. :: JOSÉ GARCÍA SIMÓN

was dealt a second yellow, gifting the visitors a one-man advantage with a full half still left to play.

In the opening minutes of the second half, the hosts seemed un-

deterred by Chirri's dismissal as they dominated possession which eventually saw a clear chance for left-winger Fran Moreno after being nicely set up by Julio de Dios. How-

ever Marbella keeper, Berna, and his defence were able to ward off the threat.

In the 68th minute Marbella finally capitalised on their extra

0-1

JUMILLA-MARBELLA

Jumilla: Seral, Sergio Albiol (Álvaro Romero, 61'), Luis Verdú, Neftalí, Robles (Carlos Terol, 70'), Julio de Dios, Chirri, Fran Moreno, Ismael, Manolo (Borja, 70'), Pablo Morgado.

Marbella: Berna, Marcos, Carlos Julio, Michele, Nico, Lolo, Asiel, Damián, Okoye (Turbo, 86'), Joseba (Tiri, 90'), Luis (Neva, 82').

Goal: 0-1 Nico (68').

Referee: García Aceña (Valencia). Sent off Chirri for two yellows (44'). Cautions for Fran Moreno, Luis Verdú and Asiel.

Ground: Polideportivo Municipal "La Hoya" (300 spectators).

man, as a corner fed a Nico header which put the visitors 1-0 ahead. For the rest of the match, Marbella provided little to create another goal to cement the win, preferring to defend their lead instead, and the largely humdrum fixture finished 1-0.

Although it is now mathematically impossible for Fael's side to reach the playoffs after their defeat to Villanovense last week, the three points from this victory could help them to secure a place in next season's Copa del Rey.

Malaga to host two stages of the Vuelta Andalucía MTB

Yunquera and San Pedro Alcántara will welcome competitors for the first and final stages of this popular race

SUR

MALAGA. The fifth edition of the Vuelta Andalucía MTB cycling competition this year will have two stages in Malaga province. The four-stage

competition, which will take place from 25 to 28 May, will unite cyclists from far and wide.

The first has its starting and finishing point in the Malaga town of Yunquera from which competitors will head into the Sierra de los Nieves for two steep hill climbs. The first is nine kilometres long and climbs to 1,800 metres and the second is 7.5 kilometres, up to a height of 1,050 metres.

The second stage is in Huetor Tajar

(Granada) before returning to Malaga for the third in San Pedro Alcántara (Marbella). This 60.9-kilometre stage will start from the Elena Benítez pavilion with a hill climb of 13 kilometres and gradients up to six per cent.

The final stage is based in Alcalá de los Gazules (Cadiz) and will take in the popular Los Arcornocales natural park.

Subscriptions:
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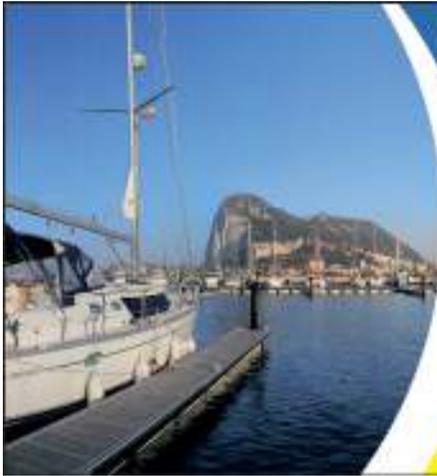
Archive photo of the starting line of a previous Vuelta Andalucía MTB stage. :: SUR

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Unicaja maintain their rhythm ahead of the playoffs

∴ JUAN CALDERÓN

MALAGA. In what was an ugly fixture in Murcia on Wednesday night, Unicaja managed to come out on top and maintain their push for a home advantage in the playoffs with a 88-95 victory.

In a match that was plagued by individual errors, Unicaja fell behind after five minutes with Brooks weak in his defensive play (14-11). However, such is the depth on his side's bench, that coach Joan Plaza could shake up his personnel to bring immediate dividends. The changes saw enormous defensive improvements and his side finished the quarter in the lead (20-28).

However, the visitors took their foot off the gas a little too much and with the introduction of the veteran Pedro Llompart, Murcia were quickly back in the game with a 13-1 run to level the scores at the break (46-46).

After the flurry of points, the game took a turn for the worse in the third quarter with several fouls in quick succession slowing the game. But with the introduction of Jamar Smith who scored three three-pointers, and then his replacement,



Nedovic gets beyond the Delia to score. ∴ AGENCIA LOF

Nedovic, maintaining that scoring rhythm, Unicaja were slowly starting to edge away before Benite narrowed the deficit just before the quarter's end (62-65).

Despite the away team defending well, they had an issue with

rebounds, claiming 13 fewer than their counterparts. However, this wouldn't be the decisive factor, but rather the amount of free throws which came Unicaja's way and enabled them to seal the result they needed.



∴ ACB PHOTO / I. MARTÍN

A LAST-GASP REPRIEVE

Wednesday's victory came on the back of a 75-79 away victory over Baskonia, as Unicaja made it five league victories in six matches on Sunday. There was little between the two sides with Baskonia keeping pace with the Malaga team throughout. The hosts made it difficult right to the end, with Hanga missing a golden opportunity to draw the sides level with just ten seconds remaining.



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SPORT IN PICTURES

► Athletics.

Twelve regional teams took part in the 18th edition of the annual International Schools Track and Field Athletics competition at the Cártama Athletics stadium last Wednesday. The English International College retained their title by scoring 804 points overall, 92 points ahead of runners-up Aloha International College. :: SUR



▲ **Cricket.** Nasir Das' 75 runs and four wickets set up a 96-run victory for the Costa del Sol Crusaders against Malaga CC at the weekend. The Crusaders were put in to bat and made a competitive 244-9 from 35 overs. Despite Waqas Ahmed's 57, Malaga were bowled out for 140 in reply. :: SUR



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IRISH CULTURAL ASSOCIATION

Dancing & language classes.
Enda 952374127.

SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCING

Arroyo. Martin 952383883/654859075.
Foreign & new residents Assoc.
Western Axarquía. 630927226.

ARTE Y CULTURA MARBELLA

1st Wed. 8 p.m. Magna Cafe. 627833262.
international club Estepona
www.siberme.com. Phone 952 802 549.

OUT OF AFRICA CLUB

Trish: 952668081 or Carmen 952440312

USA LEARNING FOR PLEASURE

Fuengirola: 952 577 671
www.u3acostadelisol.org Marbella-Inland:
622670158 / 952596070. www.u3a.es

1ST FUENGIROLA SCOUT GROUP

British Scouting Movement. Robert Troost 610755995. www.fuengirolascouts.com

NERJA HISTORY CLUB

Talks/trips. Jill Christian-Smith 952538526.

JAZZ APPRECIATION SOCIETY

Brian Parker 952 785 616.

NADFAS

Costa del Sol: Fuengirola. 664160652
www.costadelsoldfas.com
Nerja: 952533373. www.nerjanadfas.org
De la Frontera: San Roque Club.
www.nadfas-delafrontera.org
Gibraltar: http://gibdfas.webs.com/

COSTA CHORDBUSTERS

Anne Bowles. 952464184

THE INTERNATIONAL MUSIC SOCIETY

Mixed choir. Gilly Bareford, 952 573 983.

COLLEGIUM MUSICUM COSTA DEL SOL

International choir/orchestra. 952775492.

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Amateur singers Manilva. Mike 692558041

SOUTHERN SOUND CHORUS

Barbershop singers. 952473051

R.T.'S LINE DANCE CLUB

Calahonda / Fuengirola / Benalmádena.
Bob 952931754 or 697441313.

MISSISSIPPI COASTERS

Line dance.Fuengirola.Bob 697441313.

JIVE DANCE CLUB

Benalmádena, Cancelada, Torrox, Marbella and Duquesa. Call 635 71 72 11.

JJ'S COSTA DEL SOL DANCE CLUB

Ballroom, Sequence & Latin 627658925

FOTA, FRIENDS OF THE THEATRE

Desk open Mon / Wed / Fri 11.30 am-1.15 pm. Salon Varietés, Fuengirola. 952584268.

INTERNATIONAL THEATRE STUDIO

Founded in 1976, performs plays in San Pedro district. Tel 952884034

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Dinner and Drama. Los Boliches. 952472985 www.theatrecostadelisol.com.

ESTEPONA FLORAL ART CLUB

Urb. Benamara. 951 17 05 73.
www.facebook.com/esteponafloralartclub

FLOWER ARRANGING CLUB

Venta Platero (Coín-Cartama road, 3.5 km to Coín); every 2nd Thurs, 14:00.

ESTUDIO 61 ART CLUB

Alex 952 773 299 pintura@estudio61.com

THE ANDALUCIAN GARDEN GROUP

Alhaurín el Grande. 952119767 / 952455213

ANDALUCIA BIRD SOCIETY

English speaking birders. 952817843,
www.andaluciabirdsociety.org

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www.costapressclub.com

INTERNAT. ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Wildlife/natural history. 952711377 Dr V. Singh, www.zoologicalsociety.webs.com

COSTA WOMEN

http://costawomen.ning.com/
Ali: 677251058.

41 AND TANGENT CLUB

(Ex-Round Table and Ladies Circle members).
Richard/Julie Wood: 639542387.
41 Club East: Alfie: 626998626. Nerja

MIJAS ARTS CENTRE

Classes, 952485867, www.mijasartes.com

THE FIELD CLUB

Walks. Fuengirola. www.thefieldclub.es

FUENGIROLA KNITTING CLUB

Tel. 693 690 877

PATCHWORK AND QUILTING

www.quiltersdelsol.com

ASTRONOMY COSTA DEL SOL

www.astronomycostadelisol.com or contact Lee on 616 679 453.

COSTA PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

952961735 www.photoclubspain.com

GLITTERATI BOOK CLUB

Centro Diana. Beverley 952 928 136.

COSTA BOOK CLUBS

Maggie Hetherington: 672392474.

NERJA CHICK-LIT BOOK CLUB

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Benalmádena. 951 251 168.
www.mypinkscrapbook.com

LIONS CLUBS

Marbella: Dr. Javier Cabrera. 952823135
Benalmádena/Arroyo: Paul: 627440361.
Marbella Puerto Banús Cosmopolite: Michel Forgues Lacroix 620288500.
Marbella Francófono: Daniel Dans. Tel: 952815444
Mijas- La Cala: Bryan Coventry 951273325.
Nerja: Elke Lange 693706900

TOASTMASTERS

Al-Andalus Toastmasters Club #1788: Donna 956 840 497. Rota, Cadiz.
The Achievers Toastmasters Club #5183: Nueva Andalucía, Percy 646533112.
Gibraltar: Luis 606460025.
Malaga: PTA (Parque Tecnológico de Andalucía) English and Spanish 678649137.

FREEMASONRY IN FUENGIROLA

Los Boliches, Emulation L. of I. every Thursday at 4pm., Norman Hay 952479499.

ROTARY CLUB

Benalmádena: 952441440.
Benahavis: 670 604 392.
Estepona: Tel: 952 800 999.
Fuengirola - Mijas: Tel: 648292146.
Marbella: Tel: 952821121.
San Pedro: Tel: 951318381.
Marbella - Guadalmina: 952888077

ROYAL ANTIDILUVIAN ORDER OF BUFFALOES

Stan: 952563950.

ARROYO SOCIAL & WELFARE CLUB

Arroyo de la Miel. Dennis 952051610.

FRIENDSHIP & FELLOWSHIP GROUP

Torremolinos. Chat, coffee, help. Helpline Paul: 634384212.

TORREMOLINOS & DISTRICT SOCIAL CLUB

Wed a.m. The Bailey. Yvonne 952386172.

ARROYO FRIENDLY CLUB

Benalmádena. 952446935.

SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL

Professional women, soroptimist.costadelisol@gmail.com 653 771 625 www.si-es.org

HASH HOUSE HARRIERS

Cross country runners & walkers, Mijas: 606761942. Malaga: 654 633430.

AMIGAS DE CASA

Vva del Trabuco. 952751424/952031478

CLUB CHARITY AND PLEASURE

Estepona. President Jill 952 818 471

COLMENAR DISTRICT SOCIAL CLUB

Marjorie 951 163 071.

OLA NETWORKING GROUP

608 840 692 lisa@olanetworking.com

THE EAGLE SOCIAL CLUB

Benalmádena Costa, Jean 952445779.

THE GOOD COMPANIONS CLUB

Los Boliches. Tel: Tony White 952494730

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952202940 / 952464468. Mijas

AIKIDO TOMIKI SHODOKAN

Different levels. Tel: 952131670, Malaga

CALAHONDA BRIDGE CLUB

Club Naranja. Peter 95293 16 36.

ACE BRIDGE CLUB

Pueblo López, Fuengirola. Martin: 952485678.

NERJA BRIDGE CLUB

Nan 952525425 or Colin 617534342.

MAJID JAMAL BRIDGE CLUB

Estepona. www.atalayabridgeclub.com 952880595/ 609548595.

LOS BOLICHES BRIDGE CLUB

Duplicate Bridge. Mon & Fri. 951081984

CASARES BRIDGE CLUB

Tuesday at 6.15. Casares Rd. 655459576/ 622573993 www.bridgeweb/casares.com

ST ANDREW'S BRIDGE CLUB

Los Boliches. Tel. 625908687 / 952667861.

NUEVA ALCÁNTARA BRIDGE CLUB

San Pedro de Alcántara. Pierre 695 238 657 www.nuevalcantarabridgeclub.com

BENAMARA CHESS CLUB

952880733 or graham.speake@sky.com

SCRABBLE CLUB

Benalmádena. Brenda 952 443 689

COSTA DEL SOL CRICKET CLUB

League cricket. Previn: 606526618.

MARBELLA SURF CLUB

Avda. Independencia, 17, Tel:952778617.

INTERNATIONAL TABLE TENNIS CLUB

Benalmádena Costa. B. Meisel, 952373813.

SELF DEFENCE & KICK BOXING

Classes. Los Boliches. 670 898 599

MIJAS LAWN BOWLS CLUB

Tel: 952 466 038.

PROFESSIONAL ASSOC. OF LIFEGUARDS

aspcostadelisol@gmail.com 629541930.

FERRARI OWNERS CLUB

607562057.
ferrariownersclubandalucia.com
Ex-I

THE SEVEN DIFFERENCES



THE STARS



Aquarius

January 21 - February 19
Take a step sideways at the weekend and do something entirely different. If it doesn't involve computers or phones, so much the better.



Pisces

February 20th - March 20th
Take yourself near water and fresh air, especially next the weekend. Just breathe in the perfumes and relax.



Aries

March 21st - April 20th
Being involved with others boosts your enthusiasm however romantic moments are best in a quiet place.



Taurus

April 21st - May 21st
Booking up for concerts or arranging barbecues gets you in the right mood. Sharing brings added delights.



Gemini

May 22nd - June 21st
A partner shows a side that is fun and stimulating. This shows that it is often the quieter folk who have hidden depths!



Cancer

June 22nd - July 23rd
With a strong family theme to the week you will be getting in touch with them and your mates as well.



Leo

July 24th - August 23rd
There is a question or an offer on the tip of your tongue this week. Getting the timing right is important to you.



Virgo

August 24th - September 23rd
Does everyone seem to be looking to you to get things moving? Nothing new there, then! Even so, get that list going and it will make life so much easier.



Libra

September 24th - October 23rd
Walking in the countryside is something that will always please and relax you and it's free!



Scorpio

October 24th - November 22nd
Involving a loved one in some kind of adventure (maybe of the mind) makes you both happy.



Sagittarius

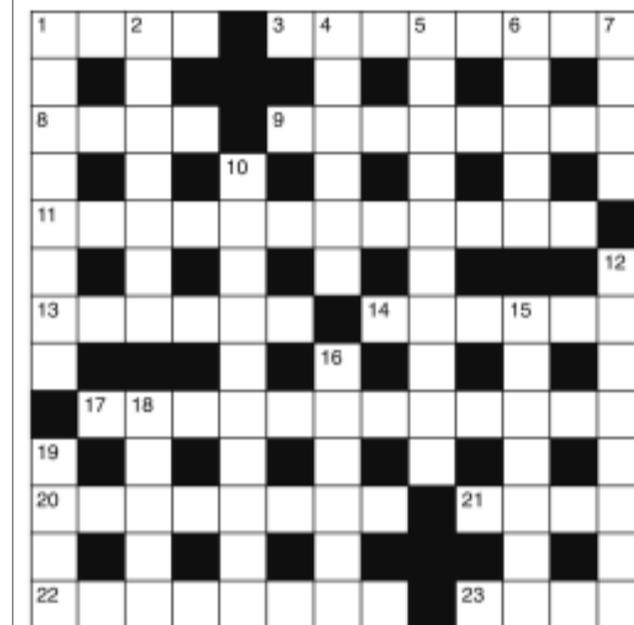
November 23rd - December 21st
You can't bear being bored, so this week could be a time to look for new interests.



Capricorn

December 22nd - January 20th
Fed up with always having to be the leader? Say so and challenge someone else to take the reins.

CRYPTIC CROSSWORD N° 11241



Across

- Amusing people in the show, it seems (4)
- Monocle required to look at the tumbler (8)
- Tidy collection of cattle (4)
- Motorway in excellent setting having the most traffic lanes? (8)
- Kind of office for mislaid piece of theatrical equipment (4,8)
- South African gin for the Persian governor (6)
- Is obliged with some hesitation to gather the troops (6)
- Presumably they were often reduced to living on the rocks! (4,8)
- Correcting the script, we hear (8)
- Not working in squalid leg-shows (4)
- Chaps near at hand are good at odd jobs (8)
- Amphibian went astray (4)

Down

- For the hoisting device, the girl has to turn the handle first (8)
- Conveyance for variety artist round the north (7)
- Worry on return about a plant of the milfoil family (6)
- Completely following the prayer in an elegant way (10)
- Expert incorrectly taped (5)
- Cause one to be completely fed up! (4)
- Father or mother in different play, seemingly (10)
- Could it eventually be enlarged into Half Moon Street? (8)
- Operated by the footplateman (7)
- Improvised dance music with eastern beat! (8)
- The embargo now includes gas (5)
- Tree topped for rustic feature (4)

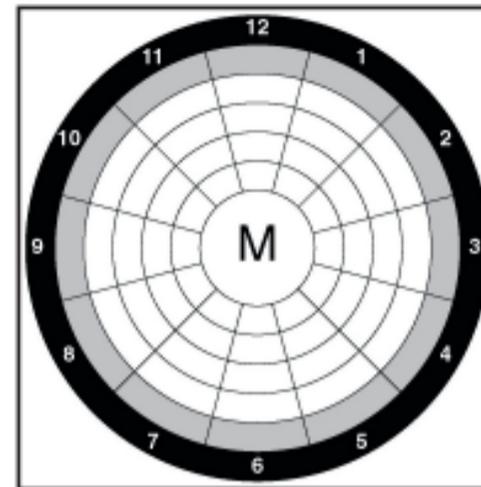
SUDOKU BY HANZO

Instructions
Complete the square making sure that every row of nine numbers includes all digits from 1 to 9, every column includes all digits from 1 to 9 and every 3 by 3 subsection includes all digits from 1 to 9

	9	6					2	3
5			2	6	7			4
	4							
		2		7		1		
6	7		5	3			4	8
			8			4	6	
1			6	4	3	8	9	7
7		3			2			5

CLOCKWORD

The solutions from 1 to 12 are all six-letter words ending with the letter M in the centre. Moving clockwise from 1, the letters in the outer circle will spell out the name of a British actor.



- Bicycle for two
- Respect
- Haphazard
- Preserve
- Incendiary substance
- Habit
- Element
- Brook
- Monotony
- National song
- Confusion
- Platform

THE WORDPUZZLER



CAN you identify the words missing from the Who song titles listed below?

- I'm a ---
- Won't Get --- Again
- Happy ---
- You Better You ---
- Together
- Pinball ---
- I Can See For ---
- I --- Explain
- Pictures of ---
- Squeeze ---

INTERNATIONAL RADIO

Talk Radio Europe

105.5 Axarquía
91.5 Costa del Sol East
91.9 Costa del Sol West
98.7 Gibraltar/Sotogrande
News, interviews, lifestyle, sport and BBC World Service.

Global (93.6 and 96.4FM)

All week round the clock music and entertainment

Radio Radio Network (96 and 98.3 FM). Music 24 hours.

Central FM (98.6 FM, 103.8)

All week, classic tracks and today's music broadcast to the Costa del Sol

ACE FM (106.8 FM)

Inland radio, news and music
The Beat fm (106 FM)
24 hours, music and entertainment

Spectrum (105.5 FM, Costa

Almeria/Mojácar 92.6 FM)
24 hour music and entertainment

Radio Mijas (107.7 FM)

3 p.m. News, views and music

Radio Sol Almirajara (99.1 FM)

Nerja radio in English and German and night time World Radio Network

Heartfmspain (88.5 FM Costa, 96.1

FM inland) Music, entertainment, news

Lick FM (103.6 FM Marbella)

Urban music broadcast between Gibraltar and Calahonda

Rtv Puebla (107.7 FM)

Monday evenings, Rock music memories.
7 - 9pm. email:
radiopuebla.musicmemories@yahoo.com
Fb: Radiotelevision Peubla de Cazalla

QUIZ

QUESTION 1

What is the value of the highest US banknote printed today?

- \$100
- \$500
- \$10,000
- \$100,000

QUESTION 2

What type of creature is a dugite?

- A bat
- A fish
- A snake
- A bird

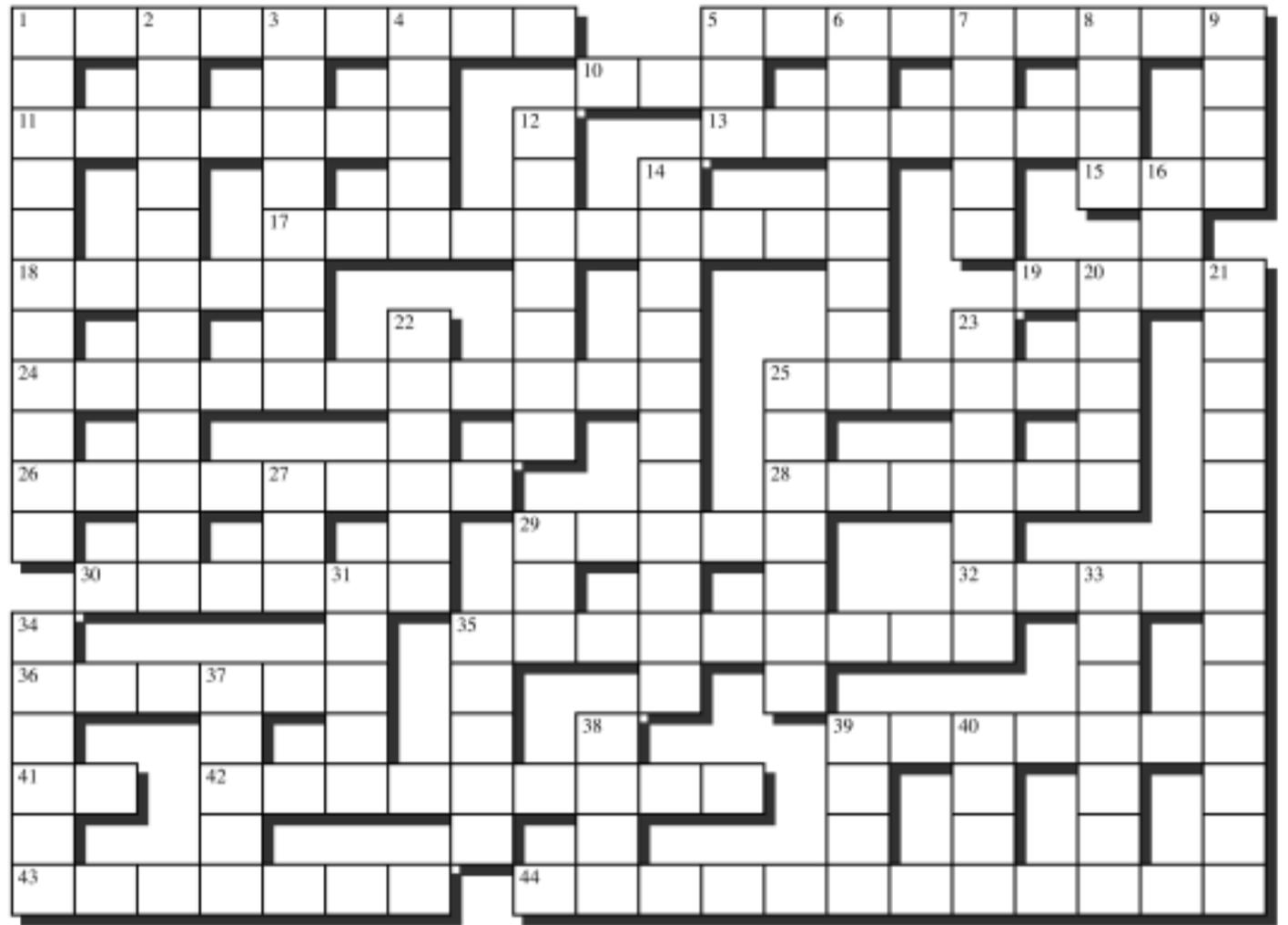
LANGUAGE CROSSWORD FILL IN THE SPANISH WORD

Across

- 1. Films (8)
- 5. To fund (8)
- 10. It falls (3)
- 11. Wrong (7)
- 13. October (7)
- 15. Ring (3)
- 17. To torment (10)
- 18. Knobs (5)
- 19. I coughed (4)
- 24. Foreigners (11)
- 25. Scene (6)
- 26. Traceable (8)
- 28. Tournament (6)
- 29. To polish (5)
- 30. Genre (5)
- 32. To last (5)
- 35. Pseudonym (9)
- 36. Unit (6)
- 39. Censorship (7)
- 41. To go (2)
- 42. Affectionate (pi) (9)
- 43. Opposite (7)
- 44. Rating (12)

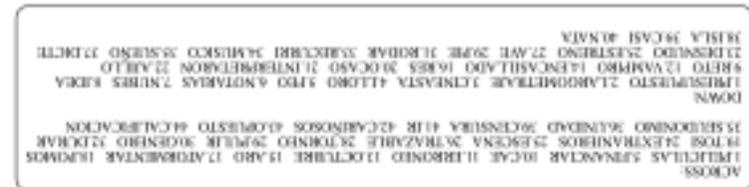
Down

- 1. Budget (11)
- 2. Feature film (12)
- 3. Filmmaker (8)
- 4. I cry (5)
- 5. Ugly (3)
- 6. You would notice (8)
- 7. Clouds (5)
- 8. Thought (4)
- 9. Challenge (4)
- 12. Vampire (7)
- 14. Pigeonholed (11)
- 16. Farm animal (3)
- 20. Twilight (5)
- 21. They played (a role) (13)
- 22. Garlic (6)
- 23. Naked (7)
- 25. Premiere (7)
- 27. Bird (3)
- 29. Foot (3)
- 31. To film (5)
- 33. I appealed (7)
- 34. Musician (6)
- 35. Dream (5)
- 37. I dictated (5)
- 38. Island (4)
- 39. Almost (4)
- 40. Cream (4)

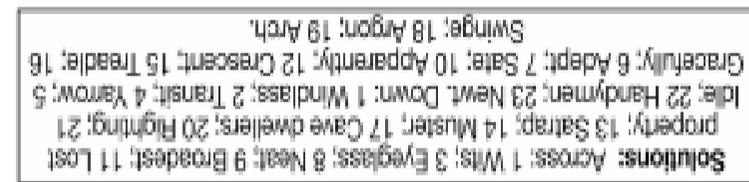


ANSWERS

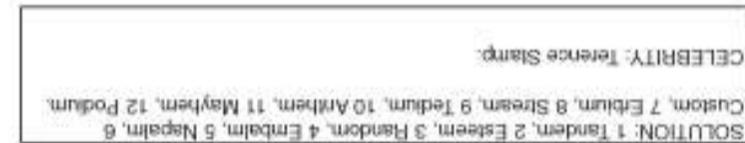
Language Crossword



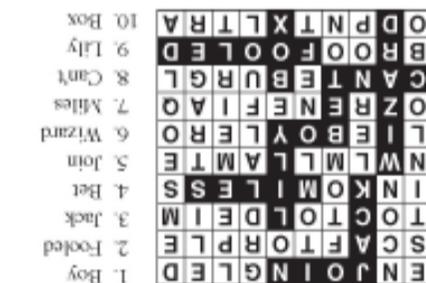
Cryptic Crossword



Clockword solution



Wordpuzzler solution



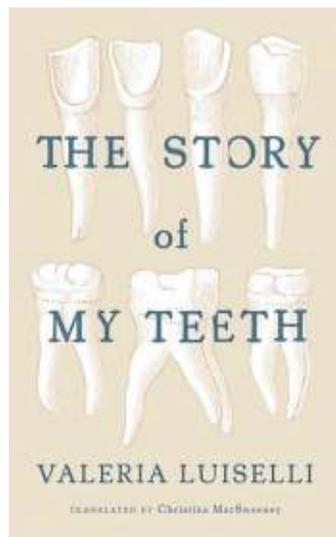
Sudoku solution

8	9	6	4	1	5	7	2	3
4	5	2	8	7	6	1	3	9
2	4	7	3	8	9	5	6	1
6	7	9	5	3	1	2	4	8
3	1	8	9	2	4	6	7	5
9	6	4	7	5	8	3	1	2
1	2	5	6	4	3	8	9	7
7	8	3	1	9	2	4	5	6

Quiz answers

Answer 1: \$100
Of interest: The largest denomination ever printed was for \$100,000 although they were not for public circulation. Production of \$500, \$1,000, \$5,000 and \$10,000 notes were stopped during WWII but are still considered legal tender. Federal banks remove and destroy them as they are received.
Answer 2: A snake
Of interest: The dugite is a species of venomous, potentially lethal, snake native to Western Australia, a member of the family Elapidae.

BOOK OF THE WEEK



The Story Of My Teeth
Valeria Luiselli

This is a quirky novel written by award winning Mexican author Valeria Luiselli. "Gustavo 'Highway' Sánchez is a man with a life full of stories and a mouth full of bad teeth, but all that's about to change because Gustavo is on a quest to obtain the perfect set of pearly whites. To do this he must travel the world, become a renowned auction caller and sell off his most precious possessions: the teeth he has collected over the years that once belonged to luminaries such as Plato, Petrarch, and Virginia Woolf.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

Most obstacles are imaginary, the rest are temporary

SCOTT SORRELL

MALAGA PORT INFORMATION

CRUISE SHIP MOVEMENTS (SOURCE: MALAGA PORT AUTHORITY)

Ship	Date	From	Next port	Docks	Sails
Silver Whisper	12/05	Cartagena	Portimao	07.00	19.00
Star Breeze	12/05	-	-	08.00	19.00
Costa Mediterranea	13/05	-	-	13.00	19.00
Tui Discovery 2	14/05	Cadiz	Marseille	06.00	22.00
Horizon	14/05	Alicante	Valetta	11.00	17.00
Celebrity Reflection	15/05	Gibraltar	Cartagena	07.00	19.00
Aegean Odyssey	16/05	Cadiz	Cartagena	07.00	23.00
Costa Magica	16/05	-	-	07.00	13.00
Panorama II	20/05	Motril	Motril	07.00	14.00





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II Motorbike and Bike Fair

MÁLAGA 2017 19-20-21 May

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 Sunday 21: 11:00 - 20:00 hrs

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Chase Hawk, the winner. :: ALVARO CABRERA



BMX legend Rubén Alcántara. :: A. C.



The final saw spectacular performances from all competitors. :: A. c.

Chase Hawk comes out on top at BMX Pro Cup

Malaga's Rubén Alcántara skatepark last week played host to the second global BMX qualifier event of the season

:: JUAN CALDERÓN

MALAGA. Malaga welcomed the most talented professional BMX bikers from across the globe as the

Rubén Alcántara skatepark played host to the latest qualifying event in the Vans sponsored BMX Pro Cup, which took place at the Rubén Alcántara skatepark last weekend.

Over the first three days 80 of the world's best 'bikers' battled it out to gain one of the 10 available spots in the final. On Saturday, Malaga's Alejandro Alcojor won a place in the final after his perform-

ance in the park, and was joined by Canadian and French bikers Chris James and Maxime Charveron who competed over the same three rounds.

However, after a final that will go down as the best in the competition's history, as contenders provided a series of perfectly executed tricks and manoeuvres, judges decided it was illustrious American biker Chase Hawk that should be crowned champion.

The event closed with a speech from Malaga BMX legend and two-times world champion, Rubén Alcántara himself, who thanked all the competitors and fans for attending.

FREE VALUATIONS! CURIOUS? CALL IN THE EXPERTS

HOUSE CALLS (AFTERNOONS ONLY)

ALL TYPES OF
RUSSIAN ENAMEL
WANTED



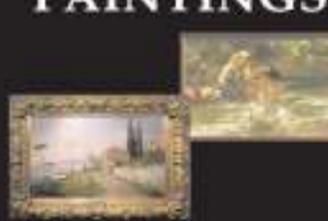
OLD QUALITY
WATCHES



POP
MEMORABILIA



QUALITY
PAINTINGS



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