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A bohemian voyage through gypsy music

Pinchas Zukerman
opened the Málaga
Clásica music festival
this week **P26**



Car hire firms bring a welcome road tax windfall to smaller inland villages

Thousands of vehicles are registered in small villages which charge the minimum rate for ITVM; a 'win-win' for the companies and town hall coffers

A number of firms with large fleets of vehicles, many of them car hire companies which operate out of Malaga Airport, have been taking advantage of attractive road tax rates on offer in some of the province's smaller municipalities.

Villages such as Montejaque, Macharaviaya, Colmenar and Rio-gordo are among those to have profited from these 'registrations of convenience', lowering their ITVM road tax rates to the legal minimum and even offering discounts for compa-

nies to attract registrations to their towns, in the process boosting town hall coffers.

To remain within the boundaries of the law, the town halls must stipulate that the companies have an address in the town. **P2**

BAIL REFUSED FOR PUERTO BANÚS HIT-AND-RUN SUSPECT

Marcus Stewart has been jailed for his supposed part in the drug-fuelled rampage in Marbella on Sunday evening **P3**



The alleged driver at the time is escorted from the Marbella court into the back of a police car on Wednesday. :: JOSELE-LANZA

Hoteliers prepare to fight fraudulent compensation claims

A wave of legal claims has cost Spain 60 million euros, but Costa officials are talking tough

Hoteliers on the Costa del Sol have come out fighting in the wake of the wave of British tourists suing over reported holiday illnesses. The claims from UK law firms, which have been sourcing clients from all-inclusive resorts, have been affecting many areas of Spain. The impact on the Costa has been small so far, but representatives for the sector say they won't hesitate in taking cases through the Spanish legal system. **P5**

Deals for Pablo Fornals and Juankar are close but Malaga CF could still lose out on Diego Llorente to Real Sociedad **P56**

More than just English homework. We announce the winner of Official Language School's short story competition **P34&35**



Your currency
savings start
on page 13

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Only 29 small villages in Malaga province charge the minimum rate for road tax

The IVTM can cost up to 70 euros more depending on where it is paid; Ronda, Malaga and Benalmádena charge the highest amounts

by FRANCISCO JIMÉNEZ

MALAGA. Anyone who has ever strolled through the peaceful streets of Montejaque would find it difficult to imagine a traffic jam in this small village in the Serranía de Ronda. In fact, they would think it could never happen, unless they were looking at official statistics: Montejaque has a population of just 1,100, but 9,328 vehicles are registered in the municipality. This is three times as many as five years ago and 1,800 more than in 2016.

The figures suggest that this is the municipality with the highest number of cars per inhabitant. However in reality Montejaque, like other villages such as Macharaviaya, Colmenar and Riogordo, has taken advantage in recent years of the so-called 'registrations of convenience'.

By reducing road tax to the legal minimum, and also applying generous discounts for firms, these villages are now the home of large fleets of vehicles belonging to transport and car hire companies - at least on paper. Most of these businesses operate from the airport, but very few pay road tax to Malaga council.

The only condition, in order to remain within the law, is that these companies have an address in the village.

This is a business in which everyone wins: the companies save a considerable amount of money on their 'Impuesto sobre Vehículos de Tracción Mecánica', the road tax known as IVTM, and the councils earn money by following the rule of charging less in order to gain more.

As an example, Montejaque council expects to collect €250,767 in road tax this year, and that is almost one fifth of its annual budget.

As well as large fleets of vehicles, private individuals also benefit from these road tax 'havens', although to a lesser extent; they are mainly people who have moved but whose previous address is still shown on their car documents, even when they buy a new vehicle. The tax is paid in the municipality that shows as the address on the vehicle's registration certificate ('permiso de circulación'), in accordance with the Regulatory Law of Local Taxation.

This is a state regulation which also stipulates a range of charges. In the case of commonly used vehicles,

these are either considered medium range (between 8 and 11.99 tax horsepower -CV) or fall in the medium-high bracket (between 12 and 15.99 CV), and the taxes are €34.08 and €71.94 respectively. After that, the local authorities have the power to increase the amounts paid by applying a coefficient which cannot be higher than two.

In Malaga province, only 29 villages (one third of the 103 municipalities) charge the legal minimum for road tax. The difference can be as much as 71 euros, depending on where it is paid.

The highest rates are in Cortes de la Frontera (2,464 vehicles registered for a total of 3,277 residents), and they are double the base rate, at €68.16 and €143.88 respectively.

Cortes council has had to adopt this measure this year so it can comply with government demands and access a liquidity fund to enable it to maintain services and reduce its debt.

Large councils

Most councils of large towns (except Estepona and Torremolinos, where the charge has only gone up slightly) take advantage of their freedom under this law to charge practically the maximum.

The closest to the maximum is Ronda, where the most common vehicles are charged €59.64 or €139.56, followed by Malaga city (€65.80 and €138.90), Nerja (€60.10 and €134.30), Benalmádena (€61.34 and €129.49), Antequera (€53.10 and €128.05) and Fuengirola (€60.33 and €127.34).

"There is no sense in the fact that the tax differs between municipalities because each council has to balance its accounts. It would be more logical as they do in other countries, for this tax to be standardised throughout the country and for the tax to be set according to how much each vehicle contaminates the environment," said the president of



Car hire companies use addresses in the cheapest municipalities. **SUR**

Montejaque, Riogordo, Colmenar and Macharaviaya offer low rates and have more vehicles than residents

The IVTM in Malaga

Municipality	8-11.99 CV	12-15.9 CV
Alameda	48.00	101.00
Alcaucín	40.89	86.33
Alfarnate	37.49	79.13
Alfarnatejo	37.49	79.13
Algarrobo	54.53	115.10
Algatocín	35.78	75.54
Alh. Torre	57.94	122.30
Alh. Grande	62.00	113.00
Almáchar	47.71	100.72
Almargen	47.71	100.72
Almogía	60.66	128.05
Álora	51.12	107.91
Alozaina	50.78	107.17
Alpandeire	34.08	75.35
Antequera	53.10	128.05
Árchez	44.30	93.52
Archidona	48.73	102.88
Ardales	43.58	91.65
Arenas	34.08	71.94
Arriate	58.96	124.50
Atajate	34.08	71.94
Benadalid	37.32	78.79
Benahavís	34.08	71.94
Benalauría	34.08	71.94
Benalmádena	61.34	129.49
Benamargosa	34.08	71.94
Benamocarra	44.30	93.52
Benaoján	37.49	79.14
Benarrabá	47.71	100.72
Borge. El	45.67	96.40
Burgo. El	34.08	71.94
Campillos	56.76	120.03
C. de Aceituno	51.12	107.91
C. de Albaida	51.12	107.91
Cañete la Real	35.78	75.54
Carratraca	34.08	71.94
Cartajima	34.08	71.94
Cártama	51.12	107.91
Casabermeja	50.16	105.87
Casarabonela	51.12	107.91
Casares	34.08	71.94
Coín	57.93	122.30
Colmenar	47.72	100.75
Comares	40.90	86.33
Cómpeta	51.12	107.91
C. de la Frontera	68.16	143.88
Cuevas Bajas	34.08	71.94
C. del Becerro	42.50	89.50
C. de San Marcos	42.26	89.22
Cútar	34.08	71.94
Estepona	37.70	79.50
Faraján	34.08	71.94

Municipality	8-11.99 CV	12-15.9 CV
Frigiliana	38.95	82.22
Fuengirola	60.33	127.34
Fuente de Piedra	52.14	110.07
Gaucín	38.95	82.22
Genalguacil	34.08	71.94
Guaro	34.08	71.94
Humilladero	51.89	109.66
Igualeja	34.08	71.94
Istán	34.08	71.94
Iznate	44.30	93.52
Jimera de Líbar	34.08	71.94
Jubrique	34.08	71.94
Júzcar	34.08	71.94
Macharaviaya	43.01	90.79
Malaga	65.80	138.90
Manilva	35.78	75.54
Marbella	51.40	116.25
Mijas	51.12	107.93
Moclinejo	52.82	111.50
Mollina	47.71	100.72
Monda	39.19	82.73
Montecorto	34.08	71.94
Montejaque	34.08	71.94
Nerja	60.10	134.30
Ojén	34.08	71.94
Parauta	34.08	71.94
Periana	34.08	71.94
Pizarra	58.82	111.51
Pujerra	34.08	71.94
Rincón V.	57.94	122.30
Riogordo	34.08	71.94
Ronda	59.64	139.56
Salares	34.08	71.94
Sayalonga	40.90	86.33
Sedella	34.08	71.94
Serrato	51.12	115.10
Sierra de Yeguas	39.19	82.73
Teba	44.00	93.00
Tolox	37.49	79.14
Torremolinos	37.08	79.93
Torrox	44.30	93.52
Totalán	47.36	100.00
Valle de Abdalajís	51.12	107.91
Vélez-Málaga	53.57	113.09
Vva. de Algaidas	51.12	107.91
Vva. Concepción	53.10	127.25
Vva. del Rosario	46.00	97.11
Vva. de Tapia	44.30	93.52
Vva. del Trabuco	46.00	97.11
Viñuela. La	37.48	79.14
Yunquera	34.08	71.94

Figures in euros
Source: Ministry of Finance and Provincial Tax Board

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The IVTM in Spain

Municipality	8-11.99 CV	12-15.9 CV
Almería	62.41	131.78
Barcelona	64.06	136.69
Bilbao	65.28	140.04
Cádiz	67.25	142.00
Córdoba	65.40	143.88
Granada	68.16	143.88
Huelva	68.16	143.88
Jaén	51.12	114.38
Madrid	59.00	129.00
Palma de Mallorca	68.16	143.88
Pamplona	54.61	116.48
Seville	60.66	128.05
Valencia	58.87	128.05
Zaragoza	62.30	137.30

Figures in euros
Source: Automovilistas Europeos Asociados

the Malaga Automotion Association (AMA), Carlos Olivo.

He considers it “understandable” for companies with a large number of cars to look for more advantageous rates. The car rental sector feels the same.

“It is totally legal and it is logical for companies to try to minimise their costs by taking advantage of the discounts offered by some town halls, because there is an enormous difference in the amounts charged,” said the head of the Association of Vehicle Rental Businesses in Andalucía (Aesva), Yolanda Alcázar.

These differences of up to 71 euros result in situations such as Alhaurín de la Torre and Torremolinos councils raising almost identical amounts from road tax (two million euros), even though Torremolinos issues 15,000 more bills (42,136 compared with 27,151).

There are 1.2 million vehicles in Malaga province, and in total their owners will pay the 103 councils €78 million this year. By volume, Malaga council will receive the most (26.9 million), followed by Marbella with €9.1 million.

Alleged driver in brutal Marbella hit-and-run sent to jail without bail

The two British men involved in the dramatic incident last Sunday in Puerto Banús tested positive for drugs and alcohol; the passenger has been released on bail

== HÉCTOR BARBOTA / JUAN CANO / ÁLVARO FRÍAS

MARBELLA. Two British men, Liam Anthony O’Neill and Marcus Eric Stewart, both 27, have appeared in court after the car in which they were travelling ploughed into pedestrians and other vehicles in Puerto Banús on Sunday evening, leaving ten people injured. Two are still in hospital.

The incident is believed to have started as a result of a fight in the well-known Ocean Club beach club. On being asked to leave the establishment, the pair got into an Audi and embarked on a destructive journey towards the A-7 motorway.

The car passed down the pedestrianised Avenida Lola Flores, running over three people - two of whom are believed to have been hit deliberately in retaliation for the fight - before accelerating at speed down the A-7 and N-340.

An unmarked car driven by Guardia Civil officers then attempted to stop the car but the driver ignored the sirens and instead tried to ram the vehicle.

Once the car reached the area close to Coral Beach, on Marbella’s Golden Mile, reports said that the driver decided to plough into oncoming traffic on the wrong side of the road, colliding with four cars, before heading in the right direction once more, colliding with another two before the Guardia Civil were able to bring their pursuit to a close.

Two minors, including a 12-day-



The pair as they were escorted from the court into the back of a police car. == JOSELE-LANZA



The state in which the vehicle remained after the chase. == JOSELE-LANZA

old baby, were travelling in the struck cars but escaped unhurt.

Mayor of Marbella, José Bernal, attended the scene and confirmed that this was not a terrorist incident

- as was first feared. He also stressed that this was an isolated event in an otherwise very safe town.

The men were detained at the scene and both tested positive for

drugs and alcohol. One of them, believed to be the driver, had taken cocaine while the other had taken cannabis.

The pair appeared in court in Marbella on Wednesday morning and pleaded ‘not guilty’ on account of being under the influence of drugs, denying being involved in any fight. Stewart, the suspected driver, was denied bail and O’Neill, his passenger, had his bail set at 25,000 euros. Stewart remains behind bars.

They are set to face two charges of attempted homicide, another two for endangering road safety (reckless driving and driving under the influence of drugs and alcohol), causing injury and affront to authority.

Meanwhile, the investigation continues to determine with certainty who was the driver with conflicting witness statements and confusion over the Audi A7, which as a British-registered car has the driver on the right-hand side and not the left.

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Porsche stolen then abandoned when thief realised there was a baby inside

Police are still looking for the robber who fled the scene after stopping the car just 200 metres from where it was taken

by JUAN CANO

MALAGA. A Porsche Cayenne was stolen on the spur of the moment in the centre of Marbella on Tuesday, when the owner got out of her car for a short time and left the keys in-

side. However, the stolen Porsche was quickly abandoned as the thief realised the victim's 13-month-old child was sat in the back.

The thief, who had possibly been following the driver, quickly got into the vehicle after the woman had left it for a few seconds to deal some paperwork at a business owned by her husband. The thief then made a rapid escape at full speed.

"Porsche Cayenne granate, from Marbella to Estepona. It appears to have been stolen. The important

thing: there is a child inside, I repeat, there is a child inside," was the alert sent out to the Guardia Civil and National and Local Police patrols. Officers positioned themselves in possible escape routes the thief may have taken and notified bordering towns.

However it was completely unnecessary. All evidence indicates that the thief abandoned the car after realising there was a baby inside as the car was found minutes later just 200 metres away, with the child completely unharmed.

Woman injured in explosion at Nerja takeaway

by EUGENIO CABEZAS

NERJA. A woman has been left with burns on her arm following an explosion at a roast chicken takeaway in Nerja.

The incident occurred at 1.30pm on Thursday after a gas cylinder in the shop exploded, causing a fire.

The shop is located on Calle Pintadas in the centre of the town.



The explosion occurred in a shop in Calle Pintadas. by SUR

112 REPORTS



Officers after they had arrested one of the thieves. by JOSELE-LANZA

Three men arrested for 'daylight robbery'

MARBELLA

by NIEVES CASTRO. Local Police have arrested three men who have been committing armed robberies wearing boiler suits and using a seven-metre ladder as a prop to

disguise them as workmen.

The thieves, a Spaniard, Bulgarian and a Slovenian, who are all in their forties, were caught red-handed around 1am on Sunday as they attempted to steal from a lawyer's office on Calle Antonio Herrero.

The men are now awaiting trial.

Dog rescued after being exploited by beggar

MALAGA

by SUR. Police have arrested a 54-year-old man for taking advantage of a dog that is in urgent need of medical attention to help him win the spare change of passers-by. The dog is now being cared for after it was found to be malnourished with an exposed fracture to its leg, which will need amputating.

Two Frenchmen caught stealing at a cashpoint

MARBELLA

by HÉCTOR BARBOTTA. Two French citizens have been arrested for attempting to steal from an elderly German couple at a cashpoint on Avenida Ricardo Soriano, after an anonymous witness notified Local Police. The men, aged 22 and 28, were then detained after police found 3,210 euros on them.

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Hoteliers start to talk tough on British guests' false illness claims

Local tourist chiefs fear that the wave of legal cases that has so far cost Spain 60 million euros could hit the Costa del Sol next

:: PILAR MARTÍNEZ

MALAGA. Hoteliers are starting to get tough on the wave of British tourists suing over reported holiday illnesses. The organised claims from UK law firms have been affecting many areas of Spain and souring relations between the country and its most important source of visitors.

Even though the Costa del Sol has hardly been affected so far, hoteliers' representatives estimate that in the worst-hit areas, such as the Balearics, the Canaries and the Costa Blanca, the claims have cost them 60 million euros over the past few seasons. They say some 90 per cent of sickness accusations are false.

As the legal claims are made in UK courts against the holidaymakers' tour operators, who under European law are legally responsible, and not directly to the hotels, hotel owners are not able to defend themselves properly and have no choice but to



Holidaymakers checking into a hotel. :: SUR

pay up under their contractual terms with the tour operators.

However secretary-general of CEHAT, Ramón Estalella, who represents tourist accommodation, has said that "the Spanish hotel industry is getting ready to defend its interests. We will pursue all the defrauders within the Spanish legal system".

The claims arise when holidaymakers are encouraged by lawyers' marketing campaigns to sue for al-

leged sickness. All-inclusive hotels are normally targeted, as guests only eat in one hotel on their stay. The Costa del Sol isn't as affected as it offers less of this type of holiday.

Luis Callejón Suñé, president of Aehcos, the Costa del Sol hoteliers association, has said, "If they think that this destination is their next target, we're going to face it head on with legal action." The Junta de Andalucía has also promised to defend hoteliers interests.



Young people using their mobiles in London. :: REUTERS

Spain's operators are ready for the end of roaming charges

:: J. A. BRAVO

MADRID. Spanish telecommunications companies, Vodafone, Orange and Telefónica, are prepared for the disappearance of roaming charges on 15 June.

The new regulations introduced by the European Commission mean that mobile users in all EU member states will pay the same tariffs for texts, calls and mobile data in other EU countries as they do in the country where their mobile is contracted. Therefore, anyone leaving Spain to visit another European country in two weeks' time will not pay any extra to use their mobile abroad.

Likewise, those coming to Spain from other EU countries will pay the same tariffs as they do at home.

Although the new measure, promoted as "Roam like at Home" only affects EU member states, some operators have announced they will include other countries in the new change.

Vodafone has already offered the same benefit to customers travelling to the US, Turkey, Switzerland, Iceland, Norway, Liechtenstein and Albania. Telefónica has also offered to extend the measure to Norway, Iceland and Liechtenstein.

IN BRIEF



The water display before the first direct flight to Tel Aviv. :: SUR

Water send-off for first direct flight to Tel Aviv

MALAGA

:: **P. MARTÍNEZ.** The first direct flight from Malaga to Tel Aviv was launched on Sunday night, operated by the Israeli company El Al.

Jets of water, which came from

the Guadalhorce and Jordan rivers were released by fire engines to celebrate the inaugural flight.

Passengers were also offered Kosher Mevushal wine by the Spanish airport authority Aena during check-in time.

The company has scheduled for two weekly direct flights to and from the Israeli city on Thursdays and Sundays.

Delta Airlines resumes flights to New York

MALAGA

:: **P. MARTÍNEZ.** The American airline Delta Airlines resumed flights from Malaga to JFK Airport in New York last Friday. The link will run until 30 September.

Almost 40,000 passengers flew direct between the two cities last year, but increased capacity this summer could see that number rise closer to 50,000.

Ryanair announces record profit

MALAGA

:: **E. P.** Ryanair achieved a net profit record of 1.3 billion euros in the year ending in March.

The figure is a six per cent increase on the last financial year, which was 1.25 billion euros.

The airline saw its income grow by two per cent, transporting 120 million passengers which is a 13 per cent increase on last year.

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HERE AND THERE

Marbella moves a step closer to street video surveillance cameras in crime hotspots**MARBELLA**

:: **M. PÉREZ.** Faced with pressure from residents and businesses to take action against crime, police in Marbella have identified four areas where they would like to have video cameras installed. The areas to be

given priority are Puerto Banús, the Puerto Deportivo marina in the centre of the town, the car parks at La Cañada shopping centre and the shopping plaza in Elviria.

Police were asked in a special commission set up by Marbella council to say which areas they wanted. Permission will now be sought from the Junta de Andalucía and the national government before installation can go ahead. The exact number of cameras and their locations have not been defined.

Two bridges installed on new coastal path route**MANILVA**

:: **C.M.** Two bridges have been dropped into place over the mouths of stream beds along the beach in Manilva. The bridges form part of the 'Senda Litoral' coastal path being laid out along the entire Costa del Sol. The pedestrian crossings now span Arroyo Alcorrín and Arroyo Martagina. A third bridge will be installed over Arroyo Indiano as part of a 500,000-euro plan for the path in that area of the town.



Work on a bridge. :: C.M.

Owl causes fault in village's power cables**CASARES**

:: **C.M.** An electric power problem in Casares on Tuesday night was caused by an owl becoming trapped in overhead cables, the local council has said. Sadly the bird, a protected species, was electrocuted and environmental officers were called out to remove it. Council officials have said that they will ask power suppliers in the area to do more to protect birdlife.



The new La Sala venue in central Marbella being closed off with tape last Friday. :: JOSELE-LANZA

Mahiki Beach sealed off by police hours before it was due to open

Although the launch party of Sala Group's latest Marbella venture took place last weekend, the building itself cannot be used and is locked in a planning dispute

:: HÉCTOR BARBOTA

MARBELLA. The town hall in Marbella has sealed off a former 'chiringuito' beach bar on the promenade in the centre of the resort that was about to be reopened as the first Spanish branch of a top London nightclub.

Mahiki Beach is based on the

popular celebrity hangout, Mahiki, in Mayfair in the British capital. It was due to be launched last Friday, 26 May, by the well-known venue owner, Sala Group, which has done a deal to extend the Mahiki brand into Spain.

However, Marbella council says that the refurbishment of the old 'chiringuito' has flouted planning law and doesn't have permission.

Sources said that the new owners had applied for the appropriate building licence but started work before it was granted. In April, problems reportedly arose with the architects and town planners issued an order to stop the rebuilding work.

The refit was said to have contin-

ued right up to last Friday's launch date, and included elements that weren't in the original planning application, including the installation of a bar at street level.

Faced with the failure to comply with the order and the advertised imminent opening, local police sealed off the site on Friday afternoon.

The high-profile launch of the club still went ahead as planned, at a different venue, and attracted several reality-television stars from the UK who flew in for the occasion.

Sources said that the Mahiki Beach venue would remain closed until the planning permission was sorted out, probably "sometime in June".

Hikers celebrate first year of the scenic bench that raises awareness of Butterfly Skin

Supporters of the DEBRA charity climbed La Concha mountain in Marbella to check on the seat that has attracted so much attention

:: SUR

MARBELLA. The DEBRA Butterfly Children Charity has celebrated the first anniversary of its bench situated at the peak of La Concha mountain, 1,215 metres above sea level.

The seat was the brainchild of local Marbella fireman José Pérez Belido. José wanted to give visibility to the rare Butterfly Skin condition at the same time as offering a

place to rest and take in the views. With the help of fellow firemen, the La Caixa charity foundation and the town hall, José saw his dream become reality a year ago. Since then hundreds of visitors have sat on the bench and shared selfies with the hashtag #BancoSolidario and @pieldemariposa, raising awareness of the cause.

To celebrate the anniversary and to pay tribute to all the Butterfly Children families, a group of supporters set off to reach the peak on Wednesday.

Twelve-year-old Adrián Soto, who has the rare condition, was treated to a helicopter ride overhead instead in order to fulfill his dream of seeing the bench in person.



Adrián Soto on his flight



Supporters celebrate reaching the top of La Concha. :: SUR

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Greater police presence demanded on streets of Mijas following rise in crime rate statistics

Latest figures show that there have been 77 per cent and 75 per cent increases in home and business break-ins respectively

:: IVÁN GELIBTER

MIJAS. Members of the Partido Popular (PP) opposition group in Mijas have demanded a greater presence from the Local Police force in the municipality after statistics showed an increase in crime figures in the area.

In the first three months of 2016, just over 1,000 crimes were recorded in Mijas, but that figure rose to over 1,200 between January and March this year, equivalent to a 12.6 per cent increase.

However the municipality has seen a spike in break-ins in homes and businesses with an increase of 76 per cent on average between the first quarter of 2016 and the same period of 2017. Domestic burglaries went up by 77 per cent; the 88 cases reported between January and March 2016 rose to 156 in the same period in 2017.



PP members raised concerns at the regular council session in Mijas last week. :: I. GELIBTER

According to PP criticism the “scarce police presence” on the streets of Mijas due to accrued leave, as well as the “questionable management of the force” are among the main causes of the worrying statistics.

A report from the party has therefore demanded more police in residential areas because of the “feeling of vulnerability and insecurity that our neighbours and residential tourists” are currently experiencing.

The PP has also called for immediate changes to the Local Police management, as they believe that it “has shown ample evidence over the last two years of its increasingly apparent inability to run a human resources department at the force”.

However the mayor of Mijas, Juan Carlos Maldonado, rejected the party’s demands during last week’s council session, saying that the law “very clearly states the functions of

[the town-hall run] Local Police, and preventing burglaries is not one of the responsibilities that corresponds with Local Police duties”.

“[PP-controlled] Fuengirola has also seen an increase in crime, but do you think that the Local Police force is not working as well as it should be there?” said Maldonado, who added that the PP should be demanding more National Police presence from central government.

Mijas residents reject plans to build motor racing complex and indoor pool

:: I. GELIBTER

MIJAS. Around a thousand residents in Mijas have spoken out against a proposal to build the ‘Ciudad del Motor’ race track and an indoor swimming pool in La Cala de Mijas.

Various polls were carried out on social media platforms such as Facebook, as well as through WhatsApp and text messaging, to gauge Mijas residents’ opinions on the project, details of which were revealed recently.

The president of the La Cala de Mijas residents’ association, Francisco Javier Sepúlveda, stated that 90 per cent of the survey’s participants voted against the project.

Sepúlveda now hopes the local government keeps its promise and stops the project, adding, “Maldonado [the mayor] told me personally that if residents didn’t want it, the Ciudad del Motor would not be built.”

The construction of the complex, which would have a similar use as the Ascari circuit in Ronda, would cost around four million euros, while the 25-metre indoor swimming pool inside the facility would cost a further 1.4 million euros.

Compensation

However, should the race track proposal have to be withdrawn, the town hall could face compensation demands of millions of euros. The company responsible for the project has already invested 250,000 euros, and would be due half a million euros from the local authority in ‘patrimonial liability’. More worryingly, the compensation for lost interest or damages awarded for the loss of use of property and reasonably expected profits could be more than a million euros.

HERE AND THERE

Closed A-377 stretch will reopen in early July

MANILVA

:: C. MÁRQUEZ. The part of the A-377 that lies between Manilva and Gaucín, which has been suffering closures for months while roadworks have taken place to widen the road, will be reopened for all drivers within the first two weeks of July. However the part of the A-377 which lies between kilometres 13.5 and 21.8 will then be closed for the second part of the 4.3-million-euro road improvement project to start.



The works on the A-377. :: C.M.

Benalmádena to build care home for the elderly

BENALMÁDENA

:: A. GÓMEZ. Benalmádena council has altered its town planning regulations (PGOU) to allow for the construction of a new care home for the town’s vulnerable elderly residents.

The 24,000-square-metre building will be located in the El Olmedo area and will consist of 90 individual rooms over three stories.

Oscar Ramundo, the councillor for Town Planning, has said the plans “should be the solution to the current demand for care homes.”

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Couple convicted of offering their underage daughters for sex are arrested in Cártama

The British pair had been on the run since being found guilty of sexually abusing minors last year and were found hiding in a shed

:: SUR

MÁLAGA. The Guardia Civil have caught up with a British couple, 54 and 59, who had fled the UK after being convicted of sexually abusing minors, in Cártama.

T.L.D. and B.S.D. were sentenced in the UK last year for offering their underage daughters to a family friend for sex in exchange for money in 2009, explained the Guardia Civil in a statement this week.

After being found guilty the couple fled the UK to Mallorca to avoid having to go to jail. From there they moved to Cártama where they had been living in a shed on a farm on



Guardia Civil officers detaining the British couple, who had been on the run for a year, in Cártama . :: SUR

the outskirts of the town. They were detained by the Guardia Civil in response to a European arrest warrant.

After appearing in court, a judge ordered them to be held in prison.

The operation, codenamed

'Davies', was carried out by Guardia Civil officers in Malaga and the Balearics.

Witnesses mistake illegally hunted 111 kilo tuna fish for a dead body

:: HÉCTOR BARBOTA

MARBELLA. A foreign couple in Puerto Banús called 091 when they thought they had witnessed a dead body, wrapped in a huge bag, being unloaded off a boat and transferred into a car boot. However the supposed arm the couple thought they had seen fall out of the bag was actually a fin belonging to a 111-kilogramme tuna that had been poached by restaurant owners hoping to cook and sell it.

Forensics were deployed at the scene and a fisherman was arrested. The amusing incident emerged when the detainee finally revealed the truth after being investigated for murder.

The fish was later seized from the San Pedro restaurant freezer and the murder charges dropped, but they have been issued with cautions for breaking fishing laws.

HERE AND THERE



The lighthouse lit up colourfully to celebrate its bicentenary. :: S. SALAS

Lighthouse to be converted into museum

MÁLAGA

:: I. LILLO. The 200-year-old La Farola lighthouse in Malaga port is to become a museum about the history of the docks in the city.

A temporary exhibition which displays around a hundred origi-

nal maps and plans has been organised as part of a programme scheduled to celebrate the bicentenary of the much-loved building's construction.

The plan to turn the lighthouse permanently into a museum will begin at the end of this year, when it will be decommissioned and a modern lighthouse building opens elsewhere in the port.

Malaga's pet cemetery to cost a million euros

MÁLAGA

:: F. J. The pet cemetery planned by officials in the city of Malaga is expected to cost one million euros. The facility, located next to the San Gabriel cemetery, will offer memorial services, burials and the rental of niches and columbaria for ashes. A report estimates profits of 80,000 euros a year with 2,400 services. It is calculated that some 7,500 dogs die in the city every year.

Benalmádena joins dog DNA register measures

BENALMÁDENA

:: A. GÓMEZ. Benalmádena has made it compulsory for dog owners to register their pets' DNA, following similar measures in Malaga city and Vélez-Málaga, among other areas. The aim is to reduce the number of abandoned animals on the streets as well as to identify and fine owners who do not pick up their dogs' excrement. Fines can reach 1,500 euros.



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The first phase of the work included removing the bollards to enable parking in the street. :: SUR

Work begins to restore life to a run-down area of Torremolinos

Local business owners claim that one of the main reasons for the deterioration of the commercial activity has been the lack of parking

:: TONY BRYANT

TORREMOLINOS. Torremolinos town hall has begun working on the much-needed regeneration of the Avenida Carlota Alessandri.

Once a thriving commercial area, complete with shops, bars and restaurants, the road that connects Torremolinos to Benalmádena has deteriorated into a virtual ghost town over the past few decades.

The council has begun the alterations by removing all of the bollards that currently prevent parking in the street, and the next stage will be to reduce the dual carriageway to just two lanes.

This will enable a wider pedestrian footpath and more room for

vehicles to park or make deliveries.

During a meeting attended by José Ortiz, Mayor of Torremolinos, and Maribel Tocón, councilor for urban planning, residents and business owners in the area raised their concerns about the lack of initiative to boost economic activity in the street.

However, the worried locals were assured that the town hall intends to regenerate the area and make it pedestrian-friendly, while hopefully making it attractive to investors once again.

The mayor of Torremolinos explained that the final plans were waiting the approval of the planning department of the provincial government in Malaga, and these include the installation of a new roundabout, pedestrian crossings and a bicycle lane.

Ortiz expressed his intentions to stop the decline of the area by regenerating the commercial activity it enjoyed during the 1960s and 70s.

He claimed that they would take advantage of the low density of traffic that uses this street, by transforming it into a "public space within a friendly town".

"We will promote these improvements so that the Avenida Carlota Alessandri is transformed back into an attractive area that focuses on investment," the mayor said.

Business owners have claimed that one of the main reasons for the deterioration of commercial activity in the area has been the lack of parking.

Maribel Tocón was quick to point out that the installation of the bollards, installed by the former PP council, was "the beginning of the deterioration of the area and the closure of many businesses".

She said, "The project in preparation for the Avenida Carlota Alessandri will make the area more sustainable and much safer, and it will help to regenerate this nostalgic part of Torremolinos."

Costa resort comes to the aid of those in need of a holiday

Seven families stayed in Mijas Costa last month as part of a scheme carried out through CLC World resort and UK-based charities

:: T. BRYANT

MIJAS. The holiday group CLC World Resorts & Hotels has announced a charitable scheme that will help the families of the ill, frail, injured and disabled to spend crucial time together.

The Costa resort is working with select UK-based charities to provide 333 weeks of free accommodation during 2017.

The scheme, CLC World Charity Holidays, is designed to turn going on holiday into a reality for those who need it most, supporting charities such as Give Us Time, Cystic Fibrosis Holiday Fund (CFHF) and Carers Trust.

Give Us Time takes holidays donated by owners of holiday groups, hotels, and timeshares, and matches them with military families in need of rest and rehabilitation after tours of duty. The charity was founded in 2012 by Liam Fox MP, who, in his time as an army medic and later as Secretary of State for Defence, became aware that homecomings were not always as easy as might be expected for service personnel or their families.

CFHF helps to fund holidays and short breaks for children with cystic fibrosis. As many as 10,000 people in the UK suffer from this debilitating disease and the charity provides holidays to improve the physical and mental well-being of those affected by the disease.

Carers Trust works to improve support, services and recognition



One of the resorts. : SUR

for anyone living with the challenges of a family member or friend who is disabled or has mental health problems.

As part of the company's charitable initiative, seven families from the Give Us Time charity stayed at the Club La Costa Resort in Mijas Costa for a week last month.

At a cava reception to launch the initiative, UK broadcaster and journalist, Jennie Bond, who is CLC's brand ambassador, welcomed the families, saying: "I understand that being away from family for long periods poses all kinds of strains on the relationship and I hope being here is giving you time to readjust as a family unit."

Graham Wilding, CLC World's Director of UK Operations, said that the company looked forward to welcoming more families to their worldwide resorts throughout 2017.

"Many of us take going on holiday for granted, but this can be a challenge for those coping with illness, time apart and caring for a loved one. Helping to change this and increase awareness of these causes is key to our initiative," the director explained.



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HERE AND THERE

Residents report local council for 'ignoring them'**CHILCHES**

■ **A. P.** Residents at a number of housing developments in Chilches have complained to both the Andalusian and national ombudsmen as they believe that written complaints to local officials about street lighting, cleaning and infrastructure have gone unanswered for many years. Neighbours say that the areas in question

are now attracting cockroaches and rodents. One of the residents, Andrés Vázquez, said last Friday, "Not only do they do nothing, but they don't answer our letters or give us appointments. They are totally inactive." The town hall have said that they have provided the two ombudsmen with the information requested but also maintain that the developments in question do not belong to the local authority and that maintenance is the responsibility of the homeowners themselves.

Junta withdraws Costa Tropical mussel project**ALMUÑÉCAR**

■ **J. R.** The Junta de Andalucía has withdrawn its plans for mussel beds off the coast of Almuñécar and La Herradura. After months of protests by local companies and the town hall, mayor of Almuñécar, Trinidad Herrera, announced the decision on Tuesday. She said, "from a tourism and environmental point of view, we believe this withdrawal was fundamental."



Protests against mussels. ■ SUR

Pedestrianisation project to start in 2017**VÉLEZ-MÁLAGA**

■ **A. P.** Mayor of Vélez-Málaga, Antonio Ferrer, announced last week that work will start this year to pedestrianise part of the town centre. Phase one of the 2.6-million-euro project will begin in the Camino de Málaga road, which is expected to be completed by autumn 2018. 600,000 euros have been allocated in this year's budget and 84 parking spaces will be lost due to road closures.

Still no agreement from opposing sides over Maro golf course project

Residents groups have been set up recently both in favour of and against the plans, which include homes and luxury hotels

■ EUGENIO CABEZAS

NERJA. Meetings have been taking place in the last week between Nerja town hall and landowners, La Sociedad Azucarera Larios SA (Salsa), to try to reach an agreement over the controversial Maro golf course development. Councillors met with representatives from Salsa, the company which owns the land situated near the Nerja caves, in an area known as el Barranco de La Coladilla.

Nerja's urban development councillor, Anabel Iranzo, told SUR after the meeting, "We are negotiating with them, we have asked for changes in the agreement which will benefit the town. Larios wants to cooperate with the town hall."

The current tripartite administration rules out reactivating the project, which was proposed, but never signed off, by their predecessors, under former mayor, José Alberto Armijo.

In a separate meeting, last Friday residents' group 'Another Nerja and Maro is possible' (otro Nerja y Maro es posible), which opposes the golf course plans, met with members of the Izquierda Unida political party, which makes up part of the coalition administration, to



The golf course would be built on land north of Nerja's caves. ■ E. C.

reiterate their concerns about the project. Earlier in May the group put up a banner in the Barranco area as a protest, but say it was, "quickly pulled down by Larios staff."

The group put forward alternative plans for the land, which, according to Nerja's town plan, is designated for agricultural use and not currently earmarked for development. The suggestions include sustainable tourism projects and the continued use of the land for agricultural purposes.

There is support for the project, which if it went ahead, would include an 18-hole golf course, 680 homes and a number of luxury hotels, from 'Maro Golf, Proyecto Turístico de Gran Caldo para Nuestro Municipio,' (Maro Golf, major tourist project for our town), a

group which is gathering momentum via social networks.

Since 2002, Nerja town hall has been in negotiations with different companies to develop the land near the caves, when Armijo's administration sold a large part of it for 15 million euros to the multinational real estate group, Medgroup.

However, an agreement has never been reached, largely due to the status of the land as agricultural and therefore not earmarked for development under Andalucía's PO-TAX and PGOU development plans, as well as the agreements which the former mayor never signed. Despite apparent town hall and resident opposition, there is still no confirmation as to whether the plan will go ahead or not.

Fire station covering upper Axarquía forced to close

Engines are being sent instead from Vélez-Málaga to the area, which is normally served from Periana village, adding 20 minutes to call-out times

■ AGUSTÍN PELÁEZ

PERIANA. The fire station in Periana has been closed for over a week due to a lack of working fire engines, according to the province's fire officer consortium (Consortio Provincial de Bomberos).

Periana fire station also covers the upper Axarquía towns of Alcaucín, Alfarnate and Alfarnatejo, among others. However, in the event of an emergency, vehicles are currently having to travel from Vé-

lez-Málaga, which, according to provincial secretary of the Andalusian firefighters' union (SAB), Juan Antonio Cisneros, puts an extra 20 minutes onto response times. "The Vélez-Málaga area, where there are more calls than anywhere else in the province, has not had new vehicles for years," was the message on SAB's Facebook page on Monday. The union added that the existing fleet of vehicles regularly breaks down.

Consortium president and ex-mayor of Vélez-Málaga, Francisco Delgado Bonilla, was unable to say when the station would reopen. Mayor of Periana, Rafael Torrubia, said that the village saw a similar closure in 2016 and that this time the consortium has said the problem could continue all summer.



Periana fire station remains closed due to a lack of vehicles. ■ E. C.

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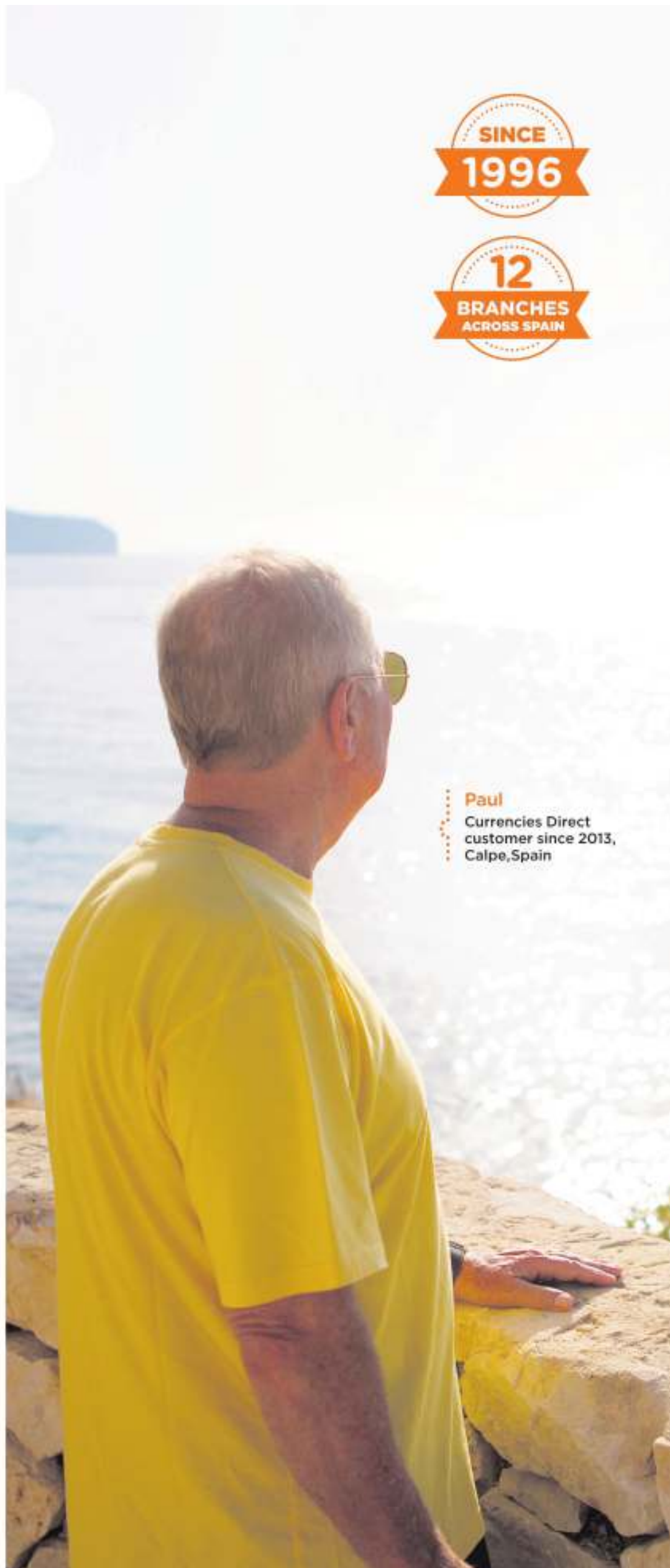
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THE WEEK IN PICTURES

MARBELLA'S FIRST EVER
'PERROTÓN' RUN WELCOMES
150 PARTICIPANTS

Around 150 dog owners took part in Marbella's inaugural 'perretón' organised run on Sunday to promote adoption and responsible animal ownership. The run took place in the municipality for the first time after the success of the event in Madrid over the last five years.

JOSELE-LANZA



ÁLVARO CABRERA

RUSSIA'S RICHEST
MAN DOCKS HIS
YACHT IN MALAGA

Alexey Mordashov, believed to be the richest Russian, moored his yacht 'Lady M' in Malaga last Thursday to take on supplies.



VANESSA MELGAR

'RONDA
ROMÁNTICA'
REENACTMENT

The latest 'Ronda Romántica' reenactment took place in Ronda last Friday, taking it back to the time of bandits and romantic travellers.



SUR

SEVERAL
HUNDRED VISIT
DOG SHOW

Several hundred people attended the ADANA Dog Show charity event in Estepona, which included a dog parade and craft stalls.

PILGRIMS SET
OFF FOR EL
ROCÍO

Pilgrims from Marbella headed off to the El Rocío 'romería' pilgrimage on Tuesday. The pilgrimage sees devotees meet at the chapel holding the 'Blanca Paloma' (White Dove), the local name of the Virgen del Rocío, in the village of El Rocío in Huelva. Before starting off a mass was held and Marbella mayor José Bernal gave a floral offering.



JOSELE-LANZA



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A Malaga woman's seven-year battle to prove she is still alive

According to official documents, Juana Escudero Lezcano has been dead since 2010, and she even has her own burial niche

EF

MALAGA. A burial niche in Malaga cemetery bearing the name 'Juana Escudero Lezcano', appears to be no different to those surrounding it. However, unlike the others, Juana is not lying behind the stone; she is very much still alive, something she has been trying to prove for the last seven years.

The incredible story "has not been fun for the family" her daughter Marta said. Juana first found out about her supposed death in 2010 when she went to her doctor to request some medication. "The doctor looked at her health card, and without knowing how to say it, he told her that the Social Security had listed her as a dead person," Marta added.

Juana was of course surprised but assumed it was a technical error and a problem that could be solved within a matter of days. However that day was the begin-

ning of her seven-year struggle to prove she did not die on 13 May 2010, as is written in the city hall's municipal register. And it's not over yet.

In April last year, the Official State Bulletin (BOE) also legitimised Juana's death so that the bones behind the niche could be moved to a smaller grave in an 'osario' after Juana's family, knowing she was alive of course, failed to pay the fees for the upkeep of the niche.

"We called Malaga city hall and they told us that because we had not met the payments to keep my mother in the burial niche, her bones would be deposited in an osario. I had to tell them that that would be difficult given that my mother was in front of me and I

Juana has had to prove she is alive to go to the doctor and renew her driving licence, but the bank has had no doubt about collecting her mortgage

was talking to her," Marta explained.

After Juana's death had been made official in this way, proving she was alive became even more problematic.

The council recommended that the family seek legal advice and suggested that the only explanation was that the woman whose bones were in the niche shared exactly same name and surnames and was also born on 11 September 1963, like Juana.

However, Marta said that the woman did not have an identity number, "something we don't understand", which is perhaps why the confusion has arisen.

Day-to-day problems

Juana continues to be inconvenienced by the issue. For example, she has had to apply for a proof of life certificate to renew her driving licence and national identity card (DNI).

Juana also said that she is apparently dead "according to everyone except the banks" as she continues to pay her mortgage, loans and her life insurance. "According to the State's computers, I'm dead, but for the banks I'm alive and kicking," she said.

HERE AND THERE



Part of the MA-8301 overlooking the coast. EF

Improvements planned for new stretch of Jubrique-Estepona road

JUBRIQUE

V. MELGAR. The Malaga provincial government (Diputación) has announced further spending of 426,000 euros to improve another

stretch of the road that links Jubrique and Estepona via Peñas Blancas, the MA-8301. The work will affect the stretch between kilometre 16.8 and 23.8 of the road, which stretches nearly 33 kilometres in total. The works will improve communications between the Serranía de Ronda, the Genal valley and the Costa del Sol.

Thirty-five under suspicion in Villanueva urban planning case

VVA. DE LA CONCEPCIÓN

F. TORRES. A total of 35 people are under investigation in connection with alleged planning offences involving construction on rural land in Villanueva de la Concepción. The operation, codenamed 'Oca', was launched by the Guardia Civil's nature protection service, Seprona, in 2015 following a report filed by for-

mer mayor, Ernesto Silva, accusing the current mayor, Gonzalo Sánchez, of a lack of due care.

The investigation, however, has led to both former and present mayors being accused of breach of duty for turning a blind eye to planning irregularities. Planning offences were supposedly left without penalty and buildings were allowed to remain standing, even though the mayors were aware of the illegalities. The majority of those under investigation are builders and developers.

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French artist's space invasion investigated

Street artist Invader has been leaving his mark on Malaga with a series of mosaics

The Junta de Andalucía is investigating to see if the artist's 29 works across the city are damaging its historical heritage

by R. SOTORRÍO / A.J. LÓPEZ

MALAGA. The Junta de Andalucía has opened an investigation to determine whether works by French artist Invader, which have appeared on buildings and walls around Malaga, are damaging the city's historical heritage.

The artist, who has not revealed his identity nor his face on social media, has installed 29 pieces around the city, but some say he went a step too far when installing his latest piece on the Palacio Episcopal, which is listed as a Asset of Cultural Interest (BIC). This led the Diocese of Malaga to lodge a complaint, which in turn has sparked a Local Police investigation into possible criminal damage caused by the mosaics.

The Frenchman's mosaics mainly represent the space invaders from the video arcade games that were popular in the 80s and 90s.

Little else is known about the street artist, except from the fact that he

was born in 1969 and studied at a Fine Arts institution in Paris.

The artist was contacted by the Malaga Contemporary Art Centre (CAC) some time ago when he was in Paris, resulting in an agreement which would see him set up an exhibition as part of the urban art project MAUS, as well as displaying art at the port.

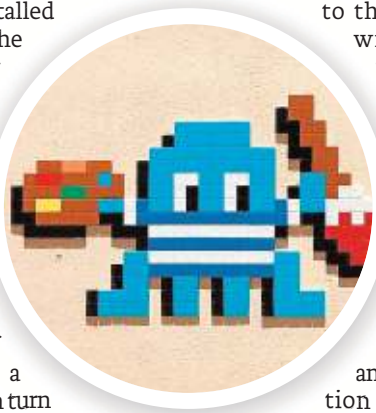
However, before fulfilling these obligations, the Frenchman decided to come to the city unannounced to leave his unique mark.

In the last few weeks he has "invaded" Calle San Agustín and Calle Santa María, as well as the wall of the Pablo Picasso promenade out to the east of Malaga with his urban artwork.

Malaga is just one of 71 cities worldwide to receive his mosaics, which globally total close to 3,500.

While the artworks have caused excitement among fans, the reaction of the Diocese of Malaga was not so favourable, demanding that the work be removed.

The police are also looking into the involvement of the CAC and its director Fernando Francés, who is seen on social media meeting with Invader and has since suggested that Invader's work "might be much more important than the Bishop's Palace".



Mosaics. Invader's works have popped up on the Episcopal palace (top), on Calle Juan Sebastián Elcano (above), on the seafront (left) and in Malaga's eastern districts (bottom). : PHOTOS: NITO SALAS AND SUSANA ZAMORA



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LA ARAÑA IN PALEOLITHIC TIMES



LA ARAÑA AS IT IS TODAY



COMPLEJO DEL HUMO IN PALEOLITHIC TIMES



COMPLEJO DEL HUMO AS IT IS TODAY



Not as rough as we thought

Research at La Araña is showing that in paleolithic times the neanderthals organised their caves as we do our homes, and had some refined culinary tastes

FRANCISCO
GRINÁN

✉ Twitter: @pacogrinan

Experts have discovered that the neanderthals died out about 43,000 years ago, not 30,000 as they had believed until recently

MALAGA. If H. G. Wells' time machine were to take us to the caves at La Araña during the paleolithic period, we would meet our ancestors, the neanderthals, and our first reaction would probably be to run away. This species has a reputation as being brutal and savage, and a people whose inability to evolve led to their own extinction. However, scientists are becoming increasingly convinced that this was not so, and the archaeological site at La Araña is now provid-



Recreation of the way the neanderthals lived inside the Cueva del Humo. :: INFOGRAPHICS: TOROGRÁFIC

ing essential information about their "refined" culinary habits and how their caves were organised.

"They weren't much different to our homes today," explains archaeologist Julián Ramos, the site direc-

tor, who says evidence is increasingly being unearthed to indicate that the neanderthals were "more intelligent

than we used to believe".

So the stigma of beings without human abilities is being destroyed by the way the interiors of the caves in the Complejo del Humo were organised. "They were very well separated and structured," says Julián, and he explains that the remains of tools, food and toys which have been discovered show that the neanderthals used to use one area as a workshop, another as a kitchen/dining room and there were even areas for meetings and leisure.

"All this shows that they had the same ability that we do and the same level of social behaviour," he adds. Neanderthals lived in these caves in Malaga for thousands of years, and this has enabled the scientists to carry out significant studies and even recreate the way they organised themselves via infographics.

Also, in terms of food, they didn't only take advantage of what was on offer in the sea and on land, but also had some rather 'gourmet' tastes. A mussel shell found in the lower levels of the Cueva del Humo had been roasted by the neanderthals, at a time when the Cro-Magnons had not even arrived in Europe. This shows not only that they used fire, but also that they did so for cooking.

Julián Ramos has been working on these excavations for 40 years and is the head of the Yacimientos de La Araña association, which administers the site. He says that so far they have barely scratched the surface of the six cave complexes, which he calls

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A call for the site to be protected so nothing can be built on top of it

“Nobody would dream of giving permission for a residential development to be built at the Alhambra in Granada because of its historical value, and this is just the same,” says Julián Ramos, the director of the site at La Araña, who wants the exten-

sive archaeological area to be protected.

“Part of the site has already been destroyed, when the road was constructed and the cement factory was built. There’s nothing we can do about that now, so there is no point in concerning ourselves with something which has already disappeared. What is important now, and what we want, is to ensure that what remains is subject to protection, so nobody can build anything else on top of it,” he insists.

the biggest archive in Malaga. “We have only looked at about one per cent so far, and we already have remains and evidence of half a million years of humanity,” he says.

The sediments in the caves date from the pre-neanderthal period to the Copper Age and even the Roman era. The site was open to the public on the recent Noche en Blanco cultural event so people could come and find out more about Malaga’s first inhabitants.

The site at La Araña is so large that it continually brings to light new findings and means that previous conclusions have to be reviewed. The problem is that the association which protects the site lacks public funding and relies on its members’ fees and donations from visitors. For this reason, it is also taking advantage of the interest of numerous universities all over the world to finance its research projects.

“We’re better known abroad than here in Malaga,” says Julián, giving as an example a recent study by Oxford University which has enabled them to “age” the presence of the neanderthals at La Araña.

“We always thought they lived here until 30,000 years ago, but the latest dating of organic fragments of shells and bones shows that they died out about 43,000 years ago,” explains Julián.

He says that one of the challenges for the future is to find out exactly when this species coexisted with the one which followed it, the Cro-Magnons. The answer to that may not be far away. Specifically, it is lying buried in La Araña caves, just waiting to be discovered.

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REF. M. O.N.

For the last two years I have been living between Spain and the UK, I spend four or five months here and the rest in UK. As I am not resident, I do not have access to the national health system in Spain, so some months ago I took out private medical insurance with a re-

owned company in order to have medical assistance in case of falling ill while I am here. Two months ago I was unwell, and after undergoing some tests, the doctors have found a tumour that has spread, so receiving treatment is very urgent. However, the insurance company refuses to cover my claim, alleging that when I took out the insurance I hid information about my health. What can I do?

It is a relatively common excuse, as if you were already ill when taking out the insurance you will need to prove whether or not there was a deliberate concealment of this information. If you acted in good faith, and when taking out the policy you did not know that you were ill, that is, you did not deliberately conceal the information, and consequently there was not intent to defraud, the company cannot refuse to cover your assistance.

REF. I.T.R.

I have been suffering from depression for quite a long time, and four years ago I decided to come to Spain hoping that the good weather and the relaxed atmosphere would help me to recover. I soon found a job and began a relationship and I was feeling emotionally well, but I have had a bad streak and I am slipping back. The problem is depression prevents me from working. If it was a pathological depression, could it be considered as “industrial accident”? It could not be considered as industrial accident, although depression can be a cause of sick leave, and even a cause of disability in the most serious cases. It could only be considered as an industrial accident if there had indeed been an accident and as a consequence you suffered a brain injury that resulted in the depression that you suffer, which is not the case.

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Consumer groups angered by dubious tactics of banks when paying out floor-clause refunds

Watchdogs accuse lenders of dragging their heels, as government orders banks to report on progress of compensation and special courts are set up to deal with unresolved cases

:: N. TRIGUERO / D. VALERA

MADRID. When the government announced a clear process for banks to refund borrowers who had overpaid on mortgages that had so-called floor clauses in them, it seemed an ideal solution to avoid hundreds of thousands of homeowners taking their banks to court.

However, over four months on, consumer-protection groups say that the process is far from going smoothly and they are blaming the lenders for a lack of transparency.

Minimum interest rates payable on a variable mortgage were declared illegal by EU judges last year, in cases where the low rate 'floor' wasn't explained properly to a borrower on taking out the loan and where real loan rates had fallen below the floor clause (cláusula suelo).

Under the government's fast-track refund plan, since February, banks must make a refund offer to a cus-



Protesters line up against the 'cláusulas suelo' (file photo). :: SUR

tomers within three months of them making a complaint that the clause wasn't properly explained.

Commenting on some of the tactics reportedly used by banks to delay or deny compensation, Borja Martín, Malaga president of Adicae, which defends consumer rights against financial institutions, said, "Some lenders say you have to fill in

a special form, others don't; some ask for extra documents, others don't, some refuse to refund if there is an ongoing court claim. Within the same bank, people give different answers."

One complaint against almost every lender is the failure to give a written printout of how much has been overpaid by the borrower with an illegal 'cláusula suelo'. Many have

been accused of pressuring customers into accepting a lower offer, including one going as far as to deposit an amount into a client's bank account without any explanation of how much was really owed.

Another watchdog, Facua, has said that some banks tell older people that reclaims can only be made online, which contravenes the detail of the government order.

Courts gearing up

Despite the government's high hopes that its scheme would go smoothly and that pressure would therefore be taken off the legal system, there are signs that it is reluctantly getting ready for an avalanche of claims to get as far as the courts.

An extra 54 specialist courtrooms are being set up across Spain to hear cases referred to them when a mortgage holder cannot agree an amicable compensation amount with their lender.

Meanwhile, Spain's finance ministry has ordered banks to publicly say how much progress they are making in refunding eligible customers. Up to now, only one bank, Bankia, has published detailed information. It says it has refunded almost 170 million euros to some 34,000 customers.

IN BRIEF

Government gets 2017 budget through at last

MADRID

:: **N. VEGA.** Mariano Rajoy's minority government finally succeeded in getting parliament to support its 2017 budget on Wednesday. To the relief of many, long negotiations with several smaller parties, including Ciudadanos, the Basque PNV and the two Canary Island regional parties, secured the right number of votes. The same process will start all over again after the summer when debates over the 2018 budget start.

Unicaja puts in request to float on stock market

MALAGA

:: **J. V. A.** Malaga-based Unicaja bank, the former main local savings bank, has submitted its 'intention to float' document to market regulators. This is the last-but-one step to becoming a fully-listed public company and starts the countdown to a likely debut on the Spanish stock exchange in July. Unicaja approved becoming a public company in March in order to gain extra capital to reduce debt acquired during the acquisition of a distressed savings bank during the financial crisis.

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Why money managers fail to achieve the market rate of return and why costs matter

‘When the facts change, I change my mind. What do you do, sir?’

said John Maynard Keynes.

All of us want the best possible return on our money. This may take the form of savings, investments, life assurance endowments, pensions, or all four. With that being said, have any facts changed over time, affecting the way we should take care of our money?

Well, having given investment advice for more than 35 years, I know that the financial marketplace of today is not my father's, nor does it resemble the marketplace when I started my career.

Today, the prospect of large salaries and bonuses attract some of the brightest talents into finance and the investment industry. They all have access to an extraordinary amount of data, thanks to the advancement in information technology. The regulator demands that information be given at the same

time to all of them but they are all so good at what they do that, for one to gain an edge, another must make an error. The competition is ferocious. Whether we are professionals, amateurs, providers or consumers, we all make up the market. We are all average before costs and below average after costs. Then what is the average? What the market delivers or fails to deliver. It is therefore difficult for a manager to achieve consistently a return that will outperform the market.

For those who say "Don't confuse me with the facts," here are three: First, an investor puts up 100% of the capital and takes 100% of the risk; second, 84% of all active fund managers will fail to beat the market rate of return; and third, the average actively managed fund costs seven times more than the average passive index fund. (Investment Company Institute 2014 and Morningstar Inc.)

Since 1976, passive index funds allow investors to hold an index of

securities. The index consists of companies held in the same proportion as they are listed in the market. Assuming the facts above, by accepting the market rate of return with the market risk, at a hugely reduced cost, the average investor can outperform 84% of all active managers.

Effective allocation of capital to diversify risk and control costs is, without a doubt, the key to investment success. The rest is just speculation. The gravy train, which has fed investment managers over past decades, has also fed the regulator. Sensible investors should analyse costs carefully.

The facts have changed, and so should our thinking. For the majority of investors, accepting the market rate of return and market risk through a very low cost index fund will put the odds of investment success, over time, firmly in their favour, therefore delivering more for less.

With interest rates at historic lows, European bonds with negative real yields, historic public deficits and a weak global economy, it is likely that during the next decade investors will receive more modest returns than those of previous decades, making costs an ever more critical factor.

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

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IN BRIEF

New PSOE leader calls Rajoy to say 'no' to Catalan referendum**MADRID**

:: **N. V.** The first telephone call from newly re-elected leader of the PSOE, Pedro Sánchez, to prime minister Mariano Rajoy was about the Catalan government's threat to stage an unauthorised independence referendum. The opposition leader has clashed repeatedly with Rajoy over different visions of how to organise Spain as Sánchez favours a federal state. However, to many people's surprise, he clarified that his recent call for Spain to be "a country of nations" didn't translate into support for a pro-independence vote in Catalonia in September.

Family of four die trapped in attic in Basque Country blaze**BILBAO**

:: **A. H.** A young couple and their two children died in a house fire in the Zorroza district of Bilbao, in the Basque Country, last Saturday. Nine other people were injured, two of them seriously.

The family that died were trapped in a flat in the attic of the wooden building. Miraculously an 11-year-old boy survived, found in a corner of the same room as his family. The grandparents of the deceased father also lived in the 40-square-metre flat and survived by jumping to the street. Neighbours had criticised the age and condition of the building.

Father's surname will stop taking priority in child names at end of June**MADRID**

:: **R.C.** From 30 June, the surname of a child's father will stop having precedence in the traditional double surnames of Spanish people. Until now a Spanish child's legal name has to include their dad's surname followed by their mum's surname. For example, the full name of FC Barcelona's captain is Andrés Iniesta Luján, son of José-Antonio Iniesta and María Luján. The recent reform of the government's Registro Civil department, which records births, means that mother and father can now agree which of their surnames can come first for their children.

Chief anti-corruption prosecutor quits over company in Panama

Manuel Moix had only been in the job 87 days and during that time had been mired in controversy over his closeness to the ruling PP party

:: SUR

MADRID. Spain's lead prosecutor in charge of running top-level trials into corruption resigned on Thursday after just 87 days in the job.

Manuel Moix stood down after news emerged on Tuesday that he owned 25 per cent of a company registered 'offshore' in Panama. He hadn't declared the shareholding to his boss, chief public prosecutor, José Manuel Maza.

After intense media pressure built up during the week, his position was widely seen as untenable by the time he gave in his notice, with both opposition politicians and conservative



Moix earlier this week. :: EFE

lawyers calling for him to go.

Moix said that the shares in the company, formed in 1988, were a family inheritance that he had had since 2012. The company owns a

private residence on the outskirts of Madrid.

'No suspicion of wrongdoing'

Commenting on the resignation, José Manuel Maza said that he did not believe that Moix had done anything wrong and reaffirmed the independent role of his department.

However Moix's resignation didn't come a moment too soon for many opposition politicians.

The former anti-corruption chief has been in the spotlight since his surprise appointment less than three months ago, as he had little previous anti-corruption trial experience.

Opposition MPs cited his closeness to the ruling PP party as evidence that he was placed in the role to protect the government from potentially damaging ongoing corruption investigations linked to the party. Ministers and public prosecutors denied those accusations.



MARK NAYLER
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THE EURO ZONE

WEAK FOUNDATIONS

The state of Spain's GDP has been much on the mind of Luis de Guindos this week. On Wednesday, during a debate in which the country's absurdly delayed 2017 budget was finally approved, the Spanish economy minister told congress that GDP growth might well exceed the official prediction of 2.7% this year, perhaps even matching 2016's expansion of 3.2%. This optimistic revision came just a few days after his announcement at an economic forum in Catalonia last Friday that Spain's economy would do even better if the average size of Spanish companies was increased.

We know by now, of course, that when members of the Popular Party government start throwing about GDP statistics, their aim is usually to convince critics and doubters that the Spanish economy is back on track. De Guindos said that his off-the-cuff revision of the official growth forecast for this year is based on the fact that Spain's GDP started 2017 "at cruising speed"; according to the economy minister, this means we can expect expansion of "around three per cent" by the year end.

Vague as De Guindos' reasoning may seem, there's good reason to think this is true. If anything was demonstrated by the political stand-off of last year, it was that Spain's macroeconomic expansion is speeding along at cruising height, regardless of what's happening down on the ground. The first quarter of this year was the 14th consecutive quarter of GDP

expansion in Spain. The problem, though, is that this apparently-dazzling macroeconomic performance is not supported by strong foundations.

Part of the foundational weakness is owed to the plight of Spanish small-to-medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), as De Guindos said at last Friday's economic forum. The majority of Spanish companies are SMEs - defined as companies with up to 249 employees - and they have been having a tough time of late: in a report released last September, the OECD revealed that almost four times as many SMEs closed in 2015 as in 2007. The success of SMEs is crucial to Spain's productivity levels and employment situation; in other words, that they thrive rather than fail is vital to sustainable economic expansion in Spain.

This is hardly news, though. At the end of 2015, a research document released by BBVA said exactly what De Guindos said last Friday: that Spain needed to expand the average size of its companies, identifying the difficulty and expense of securing funding as one reason for SMEs' current woes. Helping SMEs grow and become more productive is, as De Guindos reiterated last week, crucial to stabilising the Spanish economy. What he didn't say is that this must not be at the expense of stability and protection for employees - the lack of which is currently the Spanish labour market's fundamental weakness.

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Another cruise ship visits Gibraltar, as La Línea plans to compete

The TUI Discovery 2, formerly Legend of the Seas, was given an official welcome and plaques were exchanged to mark the occasion

DEBBIE BARTLETT

GIBRALTAR. In recent years Gibraltar has become increasingly popular as a port of call for cruise liners, and this week the TUI Discovery 2 joined the list of nautical visitors to the Rock.

This ship was built in 1995 and operated by Royal Caribbean as the Legend of the Seas until it was sold in 2016 to Thomson Cruises. It is a Visions Class cruise ship weighing 69,472 tonnes, with a length of 264 metres, accommodation for approximately 1832 passengers and a crew of 771.

All inaugural cruises are welcomed to Gibraltar with a special ceremony and an exchange of plaques between the ship's captain, the representatives from the Gibraltar Tourist Board, the Port Authority and local shipping agent Incargo.

The Minister for Tourism, Gilbert Licudi, said, "As one of the largest tourism groups in Europe it is always great to welcome ships from the TUI fleet and in particular TUI Discovery 2 on her first call. It is encouraging to see the major cruise lines continuing to show their commitment to our unique product and our attributes as one of the most popular cruise ports in the Mediterranean."

Last year, 225 cruise ships visited



Legend of the Seas, now TUI Discovery 2. :: JIM HOOKER/COLORADO LOCKS

Gibraltar, carrying around 350,000 passengers, and making it the third most visited port in Andalucía. The number is expected to increase this year.

Such is the success of Gibraltar as a destination for cruise passengers that neighbouring La Línea appears to be hoping to follow suit. According to reports, the council has plans to create a huge marina and facilities for these enormous ships at a cost of approximately 35.8 million euros.

The mayor of La Línea, Juan Franco, is reported as saying that the construction work could begin

this year and that "this will be our Guggenheim", a major attraction for visitors.

The authorities believe that Gibraltar will eventually reach the point where it has no more capacity for the increasing number of cruise liners and La Línea can absorb the overflow.

However, reactions to the news have been mixed. Although some residents of La Línea believe the project would be beneficial for the town, others think it could backfire because passengers are likely to walk across the border to Gibraltar instead of spending their money locally.

IN BRIEF



The competition entries on display in the gardens. :: SUR

Talented youngsters win butterfly competition

GIBRALTAR

DB. The winners of the Gibraltar Botanic Gardens Butterfly Competition received their prizes in a ceremony held at the gardens on Wednesday.

Over 65 children took part in the competition, which was held to mark World Biodiversity Day, and the director of the gardens,

Dr Keith Bensusan, said he and his staff had been astounded by the number of entries and the high standard of the pictures, which made it very hard to choose the winners.

In the First School category, the winner was Aaron Sanchez Soiza, while Alexander Sanchez Soiza won the Middle School category. Seven youngsters from both categories received 'highly commended' awards for their colourful pictures of butterflies.

Governor's Lane works are now complete

GIBRALTAR

DB. Improvement works being carried out to Governor's Lane recently have now been completed, and a pavement has been constructed on the western side of the street to make it safer. This was previously a notoriously dangerous road for pedestrians.

The stretch of road from the junction with Prince Edward's Road to Library Ramp has also been resurfaced.

Footballers to compete in Summer Games

GIBRALTAR

SUR. A team of eight footballers from Special Olympics Gibraltar will play in a five-a-side competition in La Spezia in Italy next week.

The competition is part of the Special Olympics National Summer Games. The athletes will be joined in northern Italy by head coach Mario Prescott, assistant coaches Jeremy Baldachino and Tyrone Davis and by head of delegation Caine Sanchez.

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SO PLEASE INCLUDE YOUR ADDRESS

Discovering Japan

I read with great interest Andrew Forbes' excellent article on Tokyo (April 28th) which provided essential background information for anyone intending to visit Japan. I visited Japan regularly over eight years, sometimes for a prolonged period as I was a director of a Japanese/American joint venture company.

Japan is expensive to visit, not only because of the high cost of living but the long flight involving a possible stopover. It is therefore strongly advisable to prepare for your visit to maximise the benefit of your visit and to avoid giving offence in a land deeply steeped in tradition. I made that mistake once - never again.

The rituals and etiquette in Japan are strange to a Westerner and as most Japanese people are unfamiliar with the West they do not easily make allowances. Preparation for your visit is extremely important by reading books by Kodansha publishing, available in Spain. Also many Japanese embassies will provide a short course in customs and rituals or will suggest a place where you can get sound instruction.

Margaret Thatcher once described the country as having "impenetrable barriers". Not so. It just needs a careful study and many companies have achieved fine results by recognising this. Japanese companies have made huge inroads into European markets by detailed study of our way of life.

Japan is different in so many ways, especially in codes of behaviour. A senior Japanese businessman said to me, "We had a

dirty Englishman visit me last month." I probed tactfully why he was so labelled. It appeared that the man had "pulled rag from pocket about make bad noise with nose in rag". The man had simply blown his nose in public and not place a mask over his nose. All Japanese carry masks. The first time I met one was in the hotel lift and I thought it was a hold up!

I would like to focus on the cultural aspect of Japan. Cities are divided into cultural cities, like Kyoto, and industrial, like Osaka. Rarely are they mixed and even in Tokyo, one of the world's largest cities, the areas are divided. Those interested in culture should not miss Asakusa described by the Japanese as "the last of the old". Here you walk through a bustling street with a market packed with a wide variety of goods in a style of past years. At the end of the street is the Kannon Temple of traditional design with an incense burner outside. Here you are expected to rub smoke from the burner in your face. Another ritual. I do not adhere to any particular religion but I respect them all. Close by is the traditional puppet theatre which is well worth a visit.

If you visit Tokyo over the New Year then a visit to the Imperial Gardens is a real treat as January 2nd is the only day they are open to the public for "Ippan Sanga" to pay greetings to the Imperial Family. The colour of the gardens make every gardener envious.

Yes, Japan is a land of tradition and ritual. I always find it fascinating. You will as well.

PETER HARRISON
ÁLORA

Duty bound, not
duty free

I take exception to your effusive praise of shopping at Malaga airport (May 26th). In my experience the shops are anything but relaxing. After the bun fight that passes as queueing for airport security, there is then a glitzy army obstacle course of perfume and flamenco dolls to overcome be-

fore one finally comes up for air somewhere near passport control. It is so stressful winding through the maze of duty free that one feels like drinking a bottle of their top-selling vodka, not queueing again to buy it. Roll on online airport shopping, or does that already exist somewhere?

ALAN HAYES
MIJAS COSTA

Pinch of salt and
Sgt Pepper

PETER EDGERTON
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The story goes that, at the height of The Beatles' fame, when asked by a wide-eyed reporter if Ringo Starr was the best drummer in the world, John Lennon replied that he wasn't even the best drummer in The Beatles. Whether it was Lennon who actually said it or not, the quip inevitably came to mind this week as the fiftieth anniversary of the release of Sergeant Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band was commemorated in the media and, what is undoubtedly an extraordinary piece of work, was both praised and analysed in equal measure. The principal question debated ad nauseum by lots of self-appointed experts has been "Is it the best album ever made?" to which the only sentient reply must surely be "It's not even the best album by The Beatles."

Now, before I'm sent sackfuls of hate mail scrawled in green ink by

swivel-eyed obsessives in mop top wigs, please let me point out that I think Sergeant Pepper is an excellent record. However, let's face it, Abbey Road is quite a bit better. Granted, the latter's got Octopus's Garden on it but let's gloss over that; Something is one of the finest love songs ever written and Come Together, Here Comes The Sun and Carry That Weight are each quite glorious in their own way.

There isn't room here for a song by song analysis of both records but, surely, the better tunes are on Abbey Road. Sergeant Pepper is, of course, remarkably creative when it comes to studio techniques and technological innovations but that just means that it's The Beatles' best produced album (undoubtedly), not their best record per se.

Whenever this subject comes up, it reminds me of those blokes (it's always blokes) who don't really like music but buy expensive sound sys-

tems on the basis of their frequency range and their ability to reproduce sounds only audible to labradors. Before any purchase, they'll take an unlistenable French avant garde jazz album into the shop to check the crispness of the sound of the drummer's cymbal brushes and ask the sales assistant technical questions of such mind-numbing complexity that he'll almost certainly be seen in the car park later that afternoon, dribbling uncontrollably and beating himself about the head with last year's Bang and Olufsen catalogue.

If, as is only right, we're to judge albums on the quality of their songs, Abbey Road is considerably better than Sergeant Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band. If, on the other hand, we are to gauge a record's merit on its production values and recording techniques well - mm - how can I put this? Ah, yes - we're very much mistaken.

SANSÓN

Louts without
frontiers

HÉCTOR BARBOTA

It would be wrong to assume that the incident last Sunday in Marbella, when two maniacs in a 100,000-euro vehicle almost caused a major tragedy, is one of a kind, rather than an isolated occurrence. Something that happens every day is rarely news.

However, it would also be wrong to ignore the fact that Marbella, and more specifically certain areas of Marbella, act as a magnet for a certain type of individual whose profile is similar to that of the pair involved in last Sunday's incident who were sent to prison on Wednesday. By no means do they represent all the tourists in Mar-

bella, not even a significant part of them. However there is a type of visitor that is more and more common in the town. Young people with little education and lots of money - who knows where from - who go round in huge cars and assume that the rules don't apply to them, believing that impunity can be bought just as they buy cars, champagne and company.

Recently the prison was fleetingly home to two others of similar characteristics - no identifiable job, regulars at trendy nightclubs, drivers of top-of-the-range vehicles - who had caused the death of a woman when they ran her over

while on a night out. Both were also under investigation in connection with the disappearance of a young woman, again, when leaving a club.

Marbella's main strength is that it attracts people from all over the world, but that's also one of its weaknesses as it's impossible to choose who comes and who doesn't.

When people talk of quality tourism they often use price as the only measure, but that is a rudimentary mistake. There are expensive products that are incompatible with the image Marbella hopes to create. Price is not the only gauge of quality or of what is good for this town.

It's not a question of going further than the law allows, or even telling business owners what type of establishment they should be running. But the authorities, all of them, have tools they could use so that characters of this type don't feel comfortable in the town, even though the results might affect some bank accounts. General interest does not always coincide with that of some business owners.

SUR English

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"The most amazing thing in life is when you can share what you've learned with others"

Pinchas Zukerman Violinist



The Israeli violinist was invited to open this week's Málaga Clásica festival by his former students Jesús Reina and Anna Nilsen

MÁLAGA. Pinchas Zukerman responds immediately, without a second's hesitation: "My origins have influenced me about 175,000 per cent!"

It was there, in Israel, where it all began, playing at weddings and events alongside his father, a klezmer who had survived the Holocaust. From Israel, he went to New York where his development would be punctuated by some of the great names in classical music: Ilona Feher, Isaac Stern, Pau Casals, Ivan Galamian...

They were his teachers; now the shoe is on the other foot and two of his students, Jesús Reina and Anna Nilsen, have invited him to Malaga to participate in the Málaga Clásica festival.

The Israeli violinist opened the fifth edition of the classical music festival on Wednesday after giving a masterclass to around 40 young people at the Museo Interactivo de la Música (MIMMA).

We spoke to him before his performance at the Cervantes theatre. **-You're going to perform in Malaga with two of your pupils - Jesús Reina and Anna Nilsen - how do you feel now you can see what they've**

become?
-(Laughs) You don't have enough space to write that! First of all I'm so proud of both of them now being able to continue in the great tradition of being fine musicians and fine, fine violinists. I think the most amazing thing in life is when you can share the information you have. I got so much wonderful information from amazing people so to share that with young people and to see them blossom like this and continue the traditions properly... It's like watching your children grow and become incredible people.

-The music festival, Málaga Clásica, is dedicated to gypsy music. How do you see the influence of popular and folkloric music in classical music?

-It depends how you do it. It's always interesting to have a variety I think - it's like a menu in a restaurant. If popular music is done well then I think it has a place in society, of course.

-How influential have your origins been on your musical career?

-Oh, just about 175,000 per cent! I had the best there was. My father was a Jewish klezmer; he played in cafe houses in Poland - the violin, the accordion - then after the Second World War he became a self-trained classic musician. I went sometimes with him to a wedding with a drum and he would play the accordion. So I got to listen to a variety of music. My upbringing was amazing. Then of course the rest of it was in New York where I met Isaac Stern and Pau Casals... They taught me how to listen. You can't just play, you have to listen - listen to what's coming from your violin, from your instrument.

-You've said many times that the violin saved your father's life; what has it saved you from?



Pinchas Zukerman opened the Málaga Clásica festival on Wednesday night. :: SUR

A bohemian voyage through gypsy music

Pinchas Zukerman and the violinist Paul Neubauer are the headline acts in the Málaga Clásica festival which runs until Sunday. Following this year's theme of gypsy culture, the organisers hope to take attendees on a "bohemian voyage through Romani

music" with a series of five concerts taking places at the Cervantes and Echegaray theatres and the Albéniz cinema, all in Malaga. International soloists Amanda Forsyth and Øyvind Gimse will join the cast to perform a repertoire of works from Bartok, Sarasate, Turina, Bizet, Brahms and Schubert, mixed with pieces by Paco de Lucía, José María Cano and Dana Wilson.

-The violin is an extension of my whole being. And it was for my dad too; it was how he earned a living. I can't define it in words - it's just part of my every hour of existence. You

have to work very hard to sustain a standard. You know someone like Federer - he works every day, on his backhand, his forehand - everything to get the fundamentals working

properly every day. That's why scales are very important.
-Zubin Mehta, Daniel Barenboim, Itzhak Perlman and you were part of a golden generation of Jewish music. What do you think you brought to classical music when you made it on the international stage?
-I have no idea! The only thing I can tell you is what I like to say always: I want to continue playing with a nice sound - sound is everything - with good intonation and rhythm. If you have those three things equal then you can continue for a long time and people will like it. It's simple. That's what everyone of that era did. So we happen to be very lucky to still be together as friends and play together.
-Do you think there will ever be

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peace in your country or have you given up hope?

–Well, first, I’m not a politician so I don’t know what goes on. What we have to do is make sure we don’t sway from our belief in human nature. But to build walls and to seclude and isolate people? I think that is a mistake. But what can I do about it? Absolutely nothing! I cannot do anything about what Mr Trump or Mr Netanyahu or Mr Abbas or Mrs May thinks. I can’t sway them. I can only ask them to come to the country and listen.

–Can projects like the West-Eastern Divan Orchestra help to bring peace?

–Of course! But we are a small percentage of the population. In 2060 there will be 9 billion people - you have 100 people playing in an orchestra - what is that? It’s nothing! But it’s important to continue to build culture because from culture comes the better understanding of human spirit and connection between people. All I can do is to teach people from around the world to play the violin better. It doesn’t matter where you come from because we all have four strings and we all start with Bach.

–When they call you a world-class violinist, what do you think of that?

–That’s their problem. I get up every morning, I look at the violin and I start practising. Fine - if they want to call me that, I have no problem with that. It makes no difference. I’m still the person I was yesterday, the day before that and 20 years ago. I only learn a little bit more - I keep my eyes and ears open and I try to help as much as I can.

Cudeca launches competition to find images for its 2018 charity calendar

BY TONY BRYANT

BENALMÁDENA. The Cudeca Cancer Care Hospice is holding a photographic competition for its 2018 calendar.

This year the theme will be ‘Corners of the Province of Malaga’, and budding photographers have been invited to enter their pictures for possible publication in the calendar. Cudeca needs 13 photographs for this year’s edition: one for each month of the year, while the overall winning photograph will adorn the front cover of the calendar.

Both amateur and professional photographers are invited to take part, but participants must be over 18 years of age.

The subject must be Malaga, either landscape or architecture, and the picture must not have been altered by photographic touch-ups, other than light or exposure levels. Those found to have been digitally altered will be disqualified from the competition.

Judges

The photographs must be accompanied by a brief description, stating location and date taken, along

with the author’s name, email and telephone number.

Participants, who can enter a maximum of three photographs, must submit their entries by Monday 31 July.

The panel of judges will be formed by a selection of Cudeca personnel and representatives of photographic associations. The result will be communicated to the winners in September, via the Cudeca website and social networks.

Once again, the calendar has been made possible thanks to the sponsorship of Alarma Universal, who will cover the cost of the printing.

The calendar aims to inform the community about the importance of palliative care, as well as raising funds to be dedicated to the care programmes.

Calendars will be available for sale from October from all the Cudeca charity shops and at Cudeca Hospice Centre in Benalmádena.

For more information concerning the rules and regulations of the competition, see www.cudeca.org

Entries must be submitted to cudecapromocion@gmail.com



JOSELE-LANZA

PAMELA ANDERSON BACK ON THE BEACH

The Canadian actress Pamela Anderson, who is most famous for her role in the TV series Baywatch, was in Marbella on Saturday for the opening of the Playa Padre beach bar, owned by the 49-year-old’s friend and Malaga actress María Bravo. The two stars cut the ribbon to mark the opening of the beach bar, which was then followed by a party at the new venue.

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FACTS & FACES



The dinner was held at Olivia Valere for a third consecutive year.

Dining in aid of Dishka

MARBELLA.

The Dishka project, which currently supports 225 orphaned, single-parented and HIV-positive children from below the poverty line in India, hosted a fundraising dinner in the Babilonia restaurant at Olivia Valere in Marbella on 27 May.

The event was organised by Dr

Jovanka Manojlovic and a team of volunteers for a third consecutive year. Approximately 170 guests of many nationalities and professions came from around the Costa del Sol to attend the three-course dinner.

Numerous gifts were donated by local artists, clinics, hospitals, restaurants and jewellery shops, and

by the end of the night 7,000 euros had been raised for the project.

The charity, which aims to help children grow into independent and self-reliant adults, will use the funds to provide their individually sponsored children with education in private schools, uniforms and books, until they earn their first salary.

Lions raise €4,063 for IES La Cala school

LA CALA DE MIJAS

As part of a project celebrating 100 years since the International Lions Club was founded, Paul Butler, the president of the La Cala de Mijas Lions Club, recently presented Alberto Bermúdez Fernández, the headmaster of the IES La Cala school, with a cheque for €4,063. The headmaster thanked the Lions and said how much the school appreciated the donation. With this money the school has been able to purchase much-needed books for their library and robotics for their technical engineering students.



The latest event was a lunch at Vida Sana at Las Mesas, Estepona.

Age Concern friends get together for lunch

ESTEPONA

The Vida Sana at Las Mesas, Estepona, was the venue for an Age Concern

lunch held on 25 May. The next event will be held at Ricks Gin and Tonic in Estepona port on 6 June. Those interested in attending or anyone requiring help or advice can call 650163928 or send an email to acesteponay-manilva@age.concern-espana.org.

Students get creative for Aloha College's annual Art Exhibition

MARBELLA.

Aloha College celebrated its annual Art Exhibition in its new Arts and Sports Hall for the first time last month.

The exhibition displayed a collection of pieces created by IG-CSE and IB Visual Arts students

who were presenting their work to be moderated as part of their final exams. The pieces ranged from large paintings in oil and acrylic to ceramics and timelapse videos. Many of those who attended were impressed by the high standard of the work.



The exhibition was held in the school's new Arts and Sports Hall.



Members of the British Legion get on their horses.

British Legion hosts a racing fundraiser

MOLLINA

The British Legion in Mollina celebrated the life of Bill Montgomery, one of their comrades who recently died unexpectedly, by host-

ing a fundraising event for the Poppy Appeal. Over 300 euros were raised at the event, which was named The Bill Montgomery Memorial Race Meeting. "It was very fitting that Bill's life should be celebrated in this way as he was an ardent fundraiser," said Lesley Gonella, a poppy organiser.

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Inspiring classical music east of Malaga

Thomas Kaurich Pianist

The Juilliard graduate has high hopes for music in Malaga's "cultural renaissance"

Thomas Kaurich will be giving two piano recitals in May; one on 10 June at Bodegas Bentomiz and on 17 June in the grounds of St George's Church in Malaga. He hopes that these will be the first of many and would like to gather support and momentum for more classical and chamber music to be on offer in the east of Malaga area where he lives with his partner and two labradors.

Thomas, originally from Maryland, USA, has lived for the last seven years in the 'campo' in the Axarquía, where he and his partner run a guesthouse that offers among other things yoga retreats, between April and October. This, the Juilliard Dance, Drama and Music School graduate says, allows him time to focus on "music and ambitions".

Thomas, 48, started playing the piano at the age of four. While there was a piano in the house he says he doesn't come from a particularly musical family. However, his family quickly recognised that he had a gift and by the age of 12 he was touring the USA and Canada. "If you have that kind of talent your future is predestined," he says. "Everyone just assumes that that is what you will do and I never thought about doing anything else."

Studying at Juilliard, the pianist says, makes you feel that you are not so special after all.

"It's extremely competitive and you are in a bubble - surrounded by other exceptionally talented people and extraordinary becomes



Thomas rehearses at home with Homer the dog. :: J. R.

A traditional programme

:: J. RHODES

MALAGA. Thomas says he has chosen a "traditional programme" which will be the same for both concerts: on 10 June at Bodegas Bentomiz and 16 June at St George's Church in Malaga. It includes Schubert's Impromptu Op. 90 No 4, Ludwig van Beetho-

ven's "Moonlight" Sonata, pieces by Chopin, Debussy and the Danzas Argentinas by Alberto Ginastera.

For tickets visit www.bodegasbentomiz.com and www.stgeorge-malaga.org

the norm."

When he was 20, Thomas left the USA and came to Europe, where he spent 20 years living in London and at various stages also in Paris and Munich. This has given him not only the opportunity to develop his musical career, giving up to 60 concerts a year, but to become a linguist too, picking up

French, German and now Spanish along the way.

In London, Thomas was awarded an MBA from the London Business School in 1994, after which joined Warner Classics and later EMI recording labels, the latter as marketing director. There he worked with a number of well-known artists, including Plácido

Domingo and Simon Rattle. However, he says that there was a steady decline in demand for recorded music, with the rise of digital downloading. By 2008, he says it was the "final nail in the coffin" for the industry and he says he needed to "decide whether to continue in the commercial world or get back to playing the piano".

Working in the commercial sector gave him a very different view on life, the music industry and indeed on his own talents. "You spend a lot of time alone as a soloist and therefore a lot of time looking inward and that's not always necessarily a good thing," he says. But "working 60-hour weeks allowed little time to dedicate to the piano", he adds.

Having decided that he did want to return to his own music, Thomas and his partner found their guesthouse up for sale while looking for properties on the internet. Although Thomas had previously spent time in Barcelona where he still has a number of friends, he didn't know Andalucía. Thomas has the time to explore the possibilities for classical and chamber music in the east of Malaga province and particularly around his home of the Axarquía.

"Malaga is going through a real cultural renaissance at the moment and the rest of the province is starting to take advantage of that," he says, adding, "I want to see if there is interest in this area to develop more of a classical music scene."

Thomas says he is settled in the Axarquía for now. "There is still so much of this area to explore," he says and adds that he has "no plans to return to the USA permanently" although he does go back to visit family and friends.



"Everyone just assumes that's what you'll do and I never thought about doing anything else"

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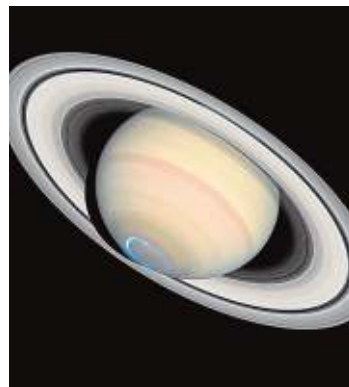


The rings of Saturn

June will be a great month for observing the planet Saturn. The ringed planet comes to opposition on 18 June when it will be at its closest to Earth and directly opposite the Sun. It will rise in the southeast at sunset, be due south and at its highest position at midnight and set again in the southwest at sunrise. It can be found about halfway between the constellations of Scorpio and Sagittarius. Although Saturn is not as

bright as Venus, Mars or Jupiter, it can still be easily spotted as it will be the brightest 'star' in that part of the sky and is recognisable by its distinct yellow colour.

Saturn is the sixth planet from the Sun and the second largest planet in the solar system; only Jupiter is bigger. Like Jupiter, Saturn is a gas giant being made mainly of hydrogen gas. It was named after the Roman God of agriculture and



since ancient times it was believed to be the farthest planet in the solar system (Uranus and Neptune

had not been discovered). It is so far away (almost 841 million miles) that it takes about 29.5 years to orbit the Sun.

It has at least 62 known moons, 53 of which are named, but it is Saturn's magnificent rings that makes it stand out. Saturn is not unique in having rings; Jupiter, Uranus and Neptune also have them but not nearly as impressive. Saturn's rings are made from billions of tiny pieces of rock and ice that are in continuous orbit around the planet's equator. They extend from 6,630 km to 120,700 km from the planet but are less than 20 metres thick. Even through binoculars the rings can be

seen, giving the planet an elongated appearance.

At certain times during Saturn's orbit the rings can appear 'edge on' and so disappear from view but now they are wide open and displayed in all their glory.

At present there is a NASA probe called Cassini that has been in orbit around Saturn since 2004. It has been sending back incredible images of the planet and its rings but it is now on its final mission. It cannot be left to wander indefinitely around the planet so on 15 September it will perform one last manoeuvre and deliberately crash into the planet and be destroyed.



Karen Armstrong. :: EFE

British author Karen Armstrong awarded Princess of Asturias Social Sciences prize

:: DANIEL ROLDÁN

MADRID. British author Karen Armstrong has been awarded Spain's Princesa de Asturias prize for Social Sciences for her books on comparative religion.

The 72-year-old writer, who was born in Worcestershire in 1944, expressed her "deep gratitude" for having received the award which was won by Mary Beard, another British woman, last year.

Armstrong combined being a Roman Catholic religious sister at the Society of the Holy Child Jesus convent with studying English at St Anne's College at the University of Oxford when she was just 18 years old.

She left her religious life behind seven years later after becoming disillusioned with the convent, and after obtaining a first-class degree in contemporary literature, she taught English at James Allen's Girls' School in Dulwich in South London.

Her career as an independent writer began in 1982 and has seen her investigate the evolution of the three major monotheistic traditions: Christianity, Judaism and Islam, while she also presented a documentary on St Paul on Channel Four in 1983.

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Fifty years in the life of Sgt Pepper and his band



TONY BRYANT
✉ tonysureng@gmail.com

Sgt Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band was lauded by critics and described as a decisive moment in the history of Western civilisation

TORREMOLINOS. When The Beatles entered studio two of the Abbey Road recording studios in North West London on 24 November 1966, there were rumours that the band were about to break up.

The greatest rock band in the world had seen poor audience attendance during their previous tour of the USA, and they lived in fear for their lives following John Lennon's comments about The Beatles being "more popular than Jesus".

However, just when it seemed as though the bubble had burst, The Beatles released what is considered the most important rock and roll album ever recorded.

Sgt Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band was the group's eighth album and this pioneering recording is celebrating its fiftieth anniversary this year.

Released on 26 May 1967 in the UK and on 2 June 1967 in the USA, it was an immediate commercial and critical success. It was lauded by music critics for its innovations in music production, song writing and graphic design.

Spending 27 weeks at the top of the UK albums chart and 15 weeks at number one in the US, Sgt Pepper has sold more than 32 million copies worldwide, making it one of the best-selling albums in history.

The Times described the album as "a decisive moment in the history of Western civilization". Newsweek called it a "masterpiece" - comparing the lyrics of A Day in the Life to T. S. Eliot's, The Waste Land.

Concerns that some of the lyrics on the album referred to recreational drug use led to the BBC banning several songs from British radio, includ-



The iconic cover is credited for bridging a cultural divide between popular music and modern art. :: SUR

ing A Day in the Life and Lucy in the Sky with Diamonds. Being for the Benefit of Mr Kite was also refused airtime because the lyrics mention Henry the Horse; censors speculated that Henry was a drug dealer.

The iconic album cover is credited for bridging a cultural divide between popular music and modern art and it was the first LP to include all of the lyrics on its back sleeve. The cover, depicting The Beatles posing in front of a tableau of celebrities and historical figures, was designed by the British pop artists Peter Blake and Jann Haworth.

A collage of photographs and wax-works depict a diversity of famous people, including Marilyn Monroe, Laurel and Hardy, Oscar Wilde and Lewis Carroll. Lennon apparently wanted to add Adolf Hitler and Jesus to the list, but his suggestions were rejected.

While the picture of the man depicting Sgt Pepper on the album cover

John Lennon visited Spain several times during the 1960s

As part of their European tour in 1965, The Beatles played two sellout performances in Spain. The first was held in the Las Ventas bullring in Madrid on 2 July. They ended the tour the following day with a performance at the La Monumental bullring in Barcelona.

Prior to the recording of Sgt Pepper, John Lennon headed to Almeria in 1967 to complete the filming of a black comedy called How I Won the War.

During his stay in Almeria, Lennon rented a villa called Santa Isabel. The wrought-iron

gates and surrounding vegetation bore similarities to Strawberry Field, a Salvation Army garden near Lennon's childhood home. Lennon wrote the song Strawberry Fields Forever, while filming in Almeria.

Before this though, Lennon had accompanied manager, Brian Epstein, on a two-week vacation in Torremolinos in 1963.

Lennon claimed that they spent their time sitting in cafes watching handsome young men, much to the pleasure of Epstein, although the Beatle always denied any sexual relations with his manager.

Torremolinos has remembered the visit with a small square, Plaza de John Lennon, which is situated in the centre of the town.

looks like a fictitious character, he was actually a real person. His name was James Melvin Babington, a British army officer who served during the Second Boer War.

The idea was conceived after Paul McCartney came up with the idea for a song about an Edwardian era-style military band; although the group were halfway through the recording before they decided they should release an entire album that would represent a performance by the fictional Lonely Hearts Club Band. Afforded the luxury of a nearly limitless recording budget, The Beatles adopted an experimental approach to recording, spending more than six-months and 25,000 pounds creating their masterpiece.

While continuing the artistic maturation seen on their preceding release, Revolver, the band experimented with psychedelia, incorporating Vaudeville, circus, music hall and classical Indian music.

Sgt Pepper was the first pop album to be mastered without the momentary gaps that are typically placed between tracks. The songs were blended together to give the impression of a continuous live performance, making it widely regarded as the first true concept album in popular music.

There are some who believe that The Beatles might not have been quite as inspirational as first believed. Freak Out, by The Mothers of Invention, has often been cited as having influenced Sgt Pepper, while others claim that the recording was inspired by The Beach Boys' 1966 album, Pet Sounds. Paul McCartney is said to have had great admiration for The Beach Boys and George Martin suggested that without Pet Sounds, Sgt Pepper may never have happened.

The album did, and still does, have its detractors, one of whom is Rolling Stone Keith Richards who denounced the album as "a mishmash of rubbish".

Fifty years after its release, Sgt Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band is still considered culturally and historically significant, for it was the record that instigated the beginning of the Album Era.

A new version was reissued for the 50th anniversary and this is said to retain more of the idiosyncrasies that were unique to the original mono version.

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WHAT HAPPENED TODAY?

2 JUNE 2014

A turning point in Spanish history: the King abdicates

On the morning of 2 June 2014 newsrooms around the country were buzzing with anticipation. La Moncloa palace, the official residence of the Spanish prime minister, had called an unexpected and urgent press conference. There would be an announcement, journalists learned, of "great institutional relevance". There was much speculation but it was clear that this was something more than a cabinet reshuffle or even the calling of a snap election.

Finally the prime minister Mariano Rajoy confirmed suspicions: "His Majesty has just informed me of his wish to give up the throne and start the succession process," he said. King Juan Carlos was to abdicate and leave the Spanish throne to his son and heir, Felipe, then the Prince of Asturias.

The monarch himself confirmed his decision later that morning, by reading a message on television, in which he set out his reasons for his abdication: the country needed reforms, and he wasn't the right person to make them.

"Today a younger generation deserves to come to the forefront, with new energy, prepared to undertake with determination the transformations and reforms that current circumstances demand and face the challenges of the future with renewed intensity," he said.

The circumstances he referred to included the economic crisis "that has left serious scars on the [nation's] social fabric", he explained, adding, "These difficult years have allowed us to be self-critical, recognising our errors and limitations as a society."

Those circumstances to which



King Juan Carlos announced his abdication on 2 June 2014. :: SUR

King Juan Carlos was responding with his abdication also included the predicted end to the country's two-party system, as new parties such as Podemos and Ciudadanos were gaining support to the detriment of the PP and the PSOE. Then there was the Catalan independence movement that threatened the unity of the country.

"My son Felipe, heir to the throne, embodies stability, which is the hallmark of the royal institution," he said.

This stability under Juan Carlos,



King Felipe VI. :: SUR

on the throne since the death of Franco in 1975, had been jarred in recent years by events affecting the king and the royal family, among them six operations. The image of the royal family had been damaged by the Nóos embezzlement case, in which his daughter Cristina would later go on trial for her suspected role in her husband's business affairs. And the final realisation that the monarch was no longer untouchable came with the Botswana affair, when Juan Carlos fell and broke his hip on an elephant hunting trip, anger-

LANGUAGE FOOTNOTE

Anuncio	Announcement
Reinado	Reign
Abdicación	Abdication
Renunciar	To give up
Prensa	Press
Trono	Throne
Heredero	Heir
Hijo	Son
Joven	Young
Reto	Challenge
Cicatriz	Scar
Estabilidad	Stability
Rey	King
Malversación	Embezzlement
Intocable	Untouchable
Cadera	Hip
Sucesión	Succession
Sociedad	Society
Política	Politics
Lealtad	Loyalty

ing a large part of the population. He was later forced to apologise.

After the announcement on 2 June, the abdication was passed through Parliament and formalised by 19 June when Prince Felipe became King Felipe VI of Spain.

Since then Juan Carlos, now 78, who maintains the title of King, has made some, but few, public appearances.

Bilingual crossword inside back page



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HOW TO
GET HERE

More than just English homework

Students from the official language schools in Andalucía take part in a short story competition in English

✿ RACHEL HAYNES

MÁLAGA. The English Department at the Escuela Oficial de Idiomas (EOI) in Malaga runs an annual short story competition aimed at more advanced students who want to show off their creative writing skills.

Writing a short story is a chal-

lenge in itself and so producing one in a foreign language is particularly impressive. Nevertheless the competition, now in its 16th year, receives dozens of entries from students of English as a foreign language at official language schools all over Andalucía.

Every year the school's own

judging panel has the difficult task of selecting the top three stories out of the entries, all written with pseudonyms to disguise the identity of the authors.

Then, staff in the newsroom at SUR in English have the privilege of choosing the winner out of the final three.

The best stories in the contest are published in the language school's own annual magazine and the top three writers also get the chance to see their work in print inside SUR in English.

Here are the top three 2017 entries. We hope you enjoy them as much as we did.

FIRST RUNNER-UP

Fall

✿ MARÍA ISABEL GÓMEZ ARROQUIA

We had been driving for five hours when we caught a glimpse of a small historic inn and decided to stop.

That Saturday morning, we had set off very early to avoid traffic jams on our annual leaf-peeping October trip from New York City to Vermont.

Every year on our wedding anniversary, for almost ten years now, we had been doing this foliage driving tour. The landscape around us was incredibly full of fiery reds, deep oranges and bronze yellow maple and oak leaves which, blowing in the wind, were performing a peaceful and incredibly magical ballet...

As Albert Camus wrote, "Fall is a

second spring when every leaf is a flower..."

When we got out of the car and I could finally have a full view of a charming nineteenth century-style country inn frontage that looked slightly familiar to me.

As soon as we checked in, we went for a long walk around. I was lost in my thoughts when all of a sudden, Holden, who had been extremely quiet during the whole walking trip, suggested that we should get back because the sun was going down. After a quick shower, we had a romantic meal at a table by the fireplace and we exchanged gifts. I was given an extraordinary golden maple leaf bracelet. I was so delighted and still

madly in love with him that I could hardly breathe. We finally went to sleep late, talking about everything and nothing at all.

When I woke up the next day he was gone, though. At first, I thought he would be having breakfast somewhere or taking a stroll. However, after two hours looking for him I was completely and absolutely terrified and I decided to ask the receptionist to call the police. She just looked at me and, in a very soft and sympathetic voice told me, "Miss Cauldfield, when you checked in last night you were alone like every time since you have been coming here for the last five years". She was obviously kidding me.

"For God's sake, please call the police!" I uttered in anguish.

After waiting nervously for almost an hour, I desperately broke down into tears while sitting on an old armchair in the cosy and now too famil-

María Isabel Gómez Arroquia

A native of Cadiz, María Isabel is an archaeologist by profession. She has taken a degree in Geography and History, specialising in Pre-history and Archaeology. Among her long list of favourite authors she includes Roald Dahl, Edgar Allan Poe, Thomas Malory, Alfred Tennyson, W. B. Yeats and W.H. Auden. This is her first short story ever to be published.



iar lounge. Besides, I was surrounded by people who were looking at me in a creepy weird way, full of compassion and understanding.

When the police officer came in, he simply said "Again, Miss Cauldfield? Last year you promised it'd be the last time. Do you remember me? I found you five years ago when you had a car crash three miles away from here, your husband... your husband died in that accident, do you remember...?"

He continued telling me a strange story that I couldn't believe, I was only able to stare at my golden maple leaf bracelet, which didn't look as brand-new and shiny as the night before. In fact, it seemed rather worn out. "Don't worry, we have already phoned your doctor and he is going to pick you up... As usual."

SECOND RUNNER-UP

Light

✿ LUCÍA LÓPEZ ALCAIDE

And suddenly I start to hear something. Somebody is calling me unceasingly, somebody repeats my name once and again with a heart-breaking voice, full of anguish and despair. That person is touching my face with something strange. It is not human skin; the touch feels stiff, kind of artificial. I can barely understand those words but, eventually I recognize the voice, surrounded by many sounds in the room. It's him, yes, it is. My love. He is trying hard to wake me up. He opens my eyelids and looks at my pupils with a tiny lantern to see how I react to the light, requesting an answer. After everything has been done and they have finished stabilizing me, Mark kneels by my still body, begging me to come back and stay with him. I can hear him, I can feel him, but I can't move, I can't speak... I can do nothing!

After many tests, my family arrives. They all cry. Mark explains

the situation down to the last detail. He is going to try his best to keep me alive until the end. He is going to do everything possible.

I'm not sure how long I've been this way, but there's always someone next to me. Sometimes my mother remains sitting near my body, which lies motionless, caressing my face, my hands and my belly. Some other times Mark stands by me. Every time he walks through the door he cries. He rests his face near mine as if trying to avoid losing me; he is too much in love to let me go. He spends here most nights, whispering that lights will guide me home, igniting my bones, and that he will try to do everything possible to fix me.

As time goes by visitors become more and more scarce. I notice it

when Mark appears in the distance noiselessly. Tears come streaming down his face. But instead of getting closer to me, he remains standing next to the door, heartbroken, because not only can he not bear being unable to help me, but also feeling that he is losing something that he will never be able to replace.

From time to time he gathers his courage to come close, take my hand and rub the sheet on my trunk gently without uttering a word.

Time. Everything is a matter of time. Like love. Love is a matter of time.

A person cannot love another if it goes to waste, as the torment would turn a blissful person into the most wretched one. I'm aware of Mark's mixed emotions. He possesses both the drive and eagerness to make it happen.

Lucía López Alcaide

Lucía was born in Malaga in 1986 and is currently taking her English B2 at EOI Málaga. A lab technician working for the Andalusian Health Service, she is keen on watching films in English, reading and travelling. A really passionate writer and one of our regular participants so far, she took part in this competition last year with her story What if...? and won the competition two years ago with her story entitled Two Words.



What is going on now? They are moving me somewhere. There is a blinding light just over me, odd sounds and a distinct atmosphere.

It's sort of cold here. I've been changed out of my bed which has accompanied me for so long and there are so many people around me. Maybe I'm undergoing some kind of surgery, maybe they've finally found the solution to my condition and I'll escape from this prison miraculously.

A baby bursts into tears. What? Is that a baby weeping? My mind is about to blow up. It's my baby! I was pregnant all this time without being conscious. Mark places the baby between my breasts telling her with the most tender voice - "This is your mum my lovely girl, one day you will be as strong and beautiful as she is. Remember her for the rest of your life, 'cause you are the light that she leaves on, before the light inside her goes out forever".

And so, Mark holds my hand firmly, kisses my lips while his tears fall over my face and then I realise that it's time to leave.

WINNER

Tea with Mrs Rees

MIRIAM FERNÁNDEZ SIMÓN

Lowri Rees was standing with her back towards the gas stove. Outside, the inhospitable Welsh winter had frozen the field and threatened with misting up the windows. However, inside, the vapour of what Lowri was cooking warmed the kitchen.

"I'm so glad you are here, after all," she said with a smile. "A long time has passed since I last had a guest for days." Eirwen, a cat as white as snow, got in the room and walked between Lowri's legs. She saw, with loving eyes, how Eirwen came closer to the guest. The cat, purring, stroked the sleeve of the jacket with her tail. "She likes you!" Lowri said chucklingly.

The teapot started whistling while the cups were being prepared on the kitchen table.

"Actually, it's quite difficult for Eirwen to like someone," she said serving the tea. "In that, she reminds me of myself. I usually don't get along with people. But my animals..." She sighed, "Oh, my dear creatures! I don't know what I'd be without them." She finished serving and took a seat in front of the guest. "So, tell me, is there any worried wife wondering about your

whereabouts?" She smiled and looked steadfastly at him, waiting for an answer that never came.

"I got married once," a thoughtful Lowri finally said. She took a short sip of her drink. "It didn't work. It turned out that he wasn't made for me. Or I'm not made for anyone, most likely. In any case, my husband was uninspiring, anodyne. A conformist, just happy with a grey life, whereas I've always been a dreamer."

Meanwhile, Eirwen jumped onto the table and drank from the man's tea. Lowri seemed not to realize that. "I abandoned him. After two years of marriage, one day I simply left. I could be a widow and not know... Wait! he could think he's the widower himself!" She giggled.

"Eventually, I bought this house," she said cheerfully, opening out her arms. "Before my marriage, I went to university for one year, where I studied nursing. I never got to finish, but with that and books, I got by to learn veterinary rudiments. Since then, I've been taking care of all the animals I've found, trying to help them and giving them a home. I've been doing this for nearly fifty years." At that moment, as if he could under-

stand her, Merlin, an elderly Border Collie, entered hobbling. He looked tenderly at Lowri and placed his head on her lap, wagging his tail. "I provide them with food and shelter," she said stroking the dog. "And here we are. Thirty minutes by car to the nearest house. Mine is a lonely life..." she whispered.

"Oh! I told you Merlin's a sweetheart," she said, absorbed in her thoughts. "I rescued him three months ago. He had been abandoned by a heartless bastard when he began to age. I found him in a terrible condition, with a nasty infection in his leg which ended up in a noticeable limp." Lowri took Merlin's head and looked into his eyes, smiling. The dog licked her cheek. "He's still recovering. He didn't want to bite our guest, did you, sweetie?" she asked Merlin. "Of course not," she answered. "It was an accident. The normal reaction of a dog who has been stepped on. As for you... You shouldn't have done that," she said slowly and angrily, still holding the animal's head. "You shouldn't have hit him," she said, more and more enraged. "I requested you to stop, and you continued and continued beating him up AND I REQUESTED YOU

Miriam Fernández Simón

Born in Almeria, Miriam moved to Malaga, where she took a degree in Journalism. She is now writing her thesis. She is passionate about both communication and design. She admits that she has always dreamed of being a writer and she has also had the chance to get some short stories published as the winner of past literary competitions in Almeria.



she exclaimed, stirring the meat. "Look how easily the meat detaches off the bone," she said while carving the food, helped by a fork. "I'll save it up. This will be good to feed my animals." She offered Merlin a piece, who tasted it.

"You know what? You're an awful talker," she expounded while she grabbed the biggest cooking pot she could find. Lowri filled it up with water and put it to boil. "I am truly sorry for what happened. I don't want you to think I am ungrateful," she said honestly, moving her hand to her chest. She looked really sorry. Lowri got closer to the man and smiled tenderly.

"But cheer up! I appreciate your work here. The tap runs perfectly and, I promise, nothing will be wasted." Lowri heard the water starting to boil. "But whoever abuses animals is no longer a human being."

She took the man's head, which had been shaved and had the sockets empty. "I haven't talked this much to another person for years," she said with her eyes fixed on the place where his eyes once were. "So, thank you," she added solemnly. "If you hadn't come," Lowri carefully put the head down, "I would have lost my mind..." she said covering the pot, "sooner or later".

TO STOP!" Lowri yelled, punching the table, glaring at the man's face. The cat, lying down on the table, got startled and hid behind the guest's hand, near his cup of tea. Lowri was breathing heavily.

"Anyway," she said, trying to calm down. "The meat must be cooked already." Lowri gulped the rest of her tea, which, by then, was unpleasantly cold. "Let's get this over with."

She stood up and went to the gas stove, where there was a large saucepan. Lowri took the lid off. "Look at that! It seems delicious,"



PROGRAMMING
Friday 2th to
Thursday 8th June



GET OUT

Director Jordan Peele and Rhona Rubin
Starring Daniel Kaluuya and Allison Williams
HORROR-MYSTERY - 104 min.

It's time for a young African American to meet with his white girlfriend's parents for a weekend in their secluded estate in the woods, but before long, the friendly and polite ambience will give way to a nightmare.



Friday 2: 20:00, 22:20
Saturday 3 and Sunday 4: 16:15, 20:30, 22:30
From Monday 5 to Thursday 8: 20:30, 22:30



PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN: DEAD MEN

Director Joachim Rønning and Espen Sandberg
Starring Johnny Depp and Javier Bardem
ADVENTURE - 120 min

Captain Jack Sparrow finds the winds of ill-fortune blowing even more strongly when deadly ghost pirates led by his old nemesis, the terrifying Captain Salazar, escape from the Devil's Triangle, determined to kill every pirate at sea...including him. Captain Jack's only hope of survival lies in seeking out the legendary Trident of Poseidon, a powerful artifact that bestows upon its possessor total control over the seas.



Friday 2: 17:50, 20:20, 22:30
Saturday 3 and Sunday 4: 15:50, 17:30, 20:20, 22:15
From Monday 5 to Thursday 8: 18:00, 20:00, 22:30

DENISE BUSH



GARDENING

All the pink ladies

Oenothera speciosa is a drought-tolerant perennial suitable for xeriscaping and with attractive pink flowers nearly all year round

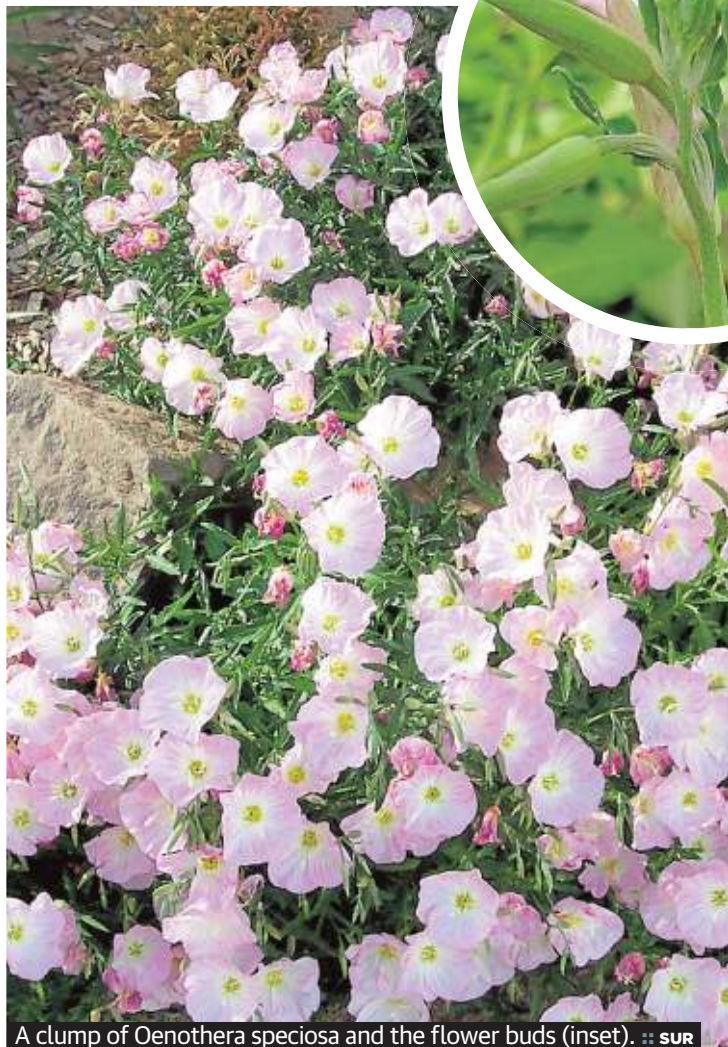
Oenothera is a member of the Onagraceae family, commonly known as Evening Primrose. The most well-known evening primroses have yellow flowers but *O. speciosa* has delicate pale pink blooms which attract lots of pollinating insects. The blooms of most of the species open in the evening and close in the morning with some exceptions which include yellow flowering *O. fruticosa* (Sundrops) which open during the day.

Common names include Pink Ladies, Pink Evening Primrose, Showy Evening Primrose and Mexican Primrose.

Once established, Pink Lady is surprisingly drought-tolerant although in very dry conditions the flowers are often smaller. In a severe drought it will become dormant. Occasional watering and a location which receives full sun (Pink Lady will not flower in the shade) will ensure a sea of large delicate flowers nearly all year round. The blooms which have four petals are usually veined with darker pink or red and have a yellow 'eye'.

It is used in landscaping for preventing soil erosion in dry climates, especially on banks and steep slopes. Although the downy stems look delicate above ground, below ground is a different story. Pink Lady spreads by creating a thick, impenetrable mesh of roots which can choke other plants. The mass of foliage, which can grow to around half a metre tall, can also smother everything around it. It is native to the grasslands of the US and North East Mexico and in the wild is kept in check by grazing deer, horses and cattle. However without natural checks on its growth, it will spread to form an extensive colony. Therefore, in a small garden or patio, it is probably best to grow it in a container.

All parts of Pink Lady are edible and the leaves, which have a better flavour when young, can be used raw in salads or cooked like spinach. Propagation is dividing the root ball or by collecting the papery, winged seeds as the pods dry on the plant.



A clump of *Oenothera speciosa* and the flower buds (inset). :: SUR

READER'S PHOTO



:: MICHAEL HARRIS

THE EXOTIC CAESALPINIA GILLIESII

Michael Harris of Almuñécar sent in this photo and says, "A young Poinciana *Caesalpinia gilliesii* tree in our garden with an abundance of flowers that are appreciated by the bees. These originate from Argentina and flower from spring into the summer. It needs full sun and watering once a week and is happy in ordinary garden soil with some peat and sand."

GARDENING HINTS FOR JUNE

Fuchsia care

Fuchsias should be showing lots of new growth if you remembered to cut them back hard this spring. To keep the new growth bushy and to encourage lots of flowers, trim back the stems to three or four sets of leaves. If you didn't cut them back earlier this spring then not to worry, they are probably already showing signs of flowering

so just cut out any damaged or straggly stems. This will encourage new growth which means more branches and more flowers.

Top dress around the base with bonemeal and mulch well to conserve moisture. Keep on top of the dead-heading and your fuchsia should keep flowering all summer long.

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!



Fernando Moreno

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Southern Spain has a multitude of hidden corners just waiting to be discovered: this week we suggest you take the road to...

Andalucía



The King's Cup of Tennis takes place in Huelva until 10 June. :: SUR

JAVIER
ALMELLONES

The Atlantic pearl, the home of tennis

2 days in Huelva

Car and walking

Journey: 3 hours 15 minutes from Malaga.
Tennis tournament: 4 hours.
Cultural visits: 4 hours.



The city of Huelva is getting ready for one of the biggest sporting events of the year. From tomorrow, Saturday, until 10 June, the King's Cup of Tennis will be taking place. For an entire week the Real Club Recreativo de Tennis will be the setting for some of Spain's most prestigious tennis professionals. The first stage will be held from tomorrow until Monday, with about 50 players taking part. In the second phase of the tournament, from Tuesday until Saturday 10th, 32 singles and

16 pairs will aim to reach the final. The singles semi-finals and the doubles final will take place on Friday 9th, and the grand singles final will be the following day.

This is the 92nd year that this tournament has taken place and it is now one of the biggest sporting events in Andalucía. Over the years, some of Spain's most famous players have taken part, including Emilio Sánchez Vicario, Rafa Nadal, Carlos Moyá, Tomy Robredo, Albert Costa and Alberto Berasategui.

This Andalusian city, which this year holds the tit-

le of Gastronomic Capital of Spain, has been associated with the King's Cup for over a century. It was back in 1912 that King Alfonso XIII donated the tournament to the Real Club Recreativo de Tennis in Huelva, with the idea of it becoming the event's permanent home.

The king's wish has been fulfilled, apart from the most turbulent years in the country's history, and Huelva has developed a reputation for tennis, which began there at the end of the 19th century when a British company which was involved in the Riotinto mines founded the Real Club Recreativo in Huelva.

Tennis lovers will also find this the perfect opportunity to explore this Andalusian capital in depth. Huelva is known as the 'pearl of the Atlantic' because of its links with the Discovery of America and because it has been populated for thousands of years.

Two of the places of interest which should not be missed are the Muelle del Tinto wharf and the Puerta del Atlántico information centre, both of which focus on Huelva's historic links to sailing and fishing.

There are also interesting religious buildings, especially the Cathedral of La Merced and the Virgen de Cinta chapel. Among the city's civil architecture, the Barrio Reina Victoria district is well worth exploring: it is a collection of houses which were built in English style during the last century and named after the British queen, Victoria.



The Reina Victoria district. :: T. ANDALUZ



BASIC GUIDE

What to see

Cathedral of La Merced.

Huelva's most important religious building, constructed in the 17th century.
Plaza de la Merced, s/n.
21002 Huelva

Santuario de la Virgen de Cinta.

A chapel built in the 15th century in the area known as El Conquero.
Avenida Manuel Siurot, s/n.
21002 Huelva

Barrio Reina Victoria.

A district containing old English colonial houses.
Barrio Reina Victoria, s/n.
21002 Huelva.

Muelle del Tinto.

A wharf which was used at one time when removing minerals from the Riotinto mines.
Calle Presidente Adolfo Suárez, s/n, 21001 Huelva.

Where to eat

Azabache. Atlantic seafood and products from the Sierra de Huelva mountains.
Calle Vázquez López, 22.
21001 Huelva. Telf. 959 257 528.

Where to stay

Hacienda Montija. A four-star hotel about 15 minutes outside the city centre.
Ctra. A-5000 (Huelva-San Juan del Puerto), km. 2,5.
Huelva. Telf. 959 222 111.



More time outdoors can prevent myopia in children



If your child holds a book too close when reading, squints, or points to the text with a finger, or if their school work is suffering, it could be a sign that they have a sight problem, something which should be corrected by an optician

PIJAR MANZANARES

Sixty years ago, about 20 per cent of the Chinese population suffered from myopia (short-sightedness) but nowadays the figure is more like 80 per cent. In the USA, 42 per cent suffer from myopia, compared with 26 per cent 30 years ago. In southern Europe, about 35 per cent of people are myopic, while in the north it affects one in every two people. In Spain at present, about 25 to 30 per cent of the population has myopia.

With figures like these it is no surprise that myopia is now considered a new pandemic, because in recent years there has been an alarming increase in different parts of the world. Why is this? Is it because people nowadays spend so much time looking at computers and mobile phones?

Dr Sara Bueno, professor of optics and optometry at the CEU San Pablo university and a member of the academic committee of the Visión y Vida association, says various factors are involved. Some are well known, and others less so, and it is possible that some have yet to be determined. There are genetic factors - as many as 24 genes have already been identified whose carriers have a greater risk of developing myopia - and environmental factors can also play a part.

The studies into environmental factors which are associated with the onset and progression of myopia have analysed lifestyles, schooling and the number of hours of exposure to the sun. Children who spend a lot of time at home or in enclosed places, studying, carrying out tasks or playing on the computer are much more likely to show signs of myopia. "But it isn't because of the screen as such, it's to do with the surroundings, the distance and the extra effort it involves for the visual system. The type of light is also important, because it is artificial light and not sunlight," explains Dr Bueno. It seems that the less time that children spend in the fresh air, the higher the risk of myopia and other vision problems.

Dr Bueno recommends spending around three hours a day outside in the fresh air, as a means of prevention. "What we can say is that less use of technology and more walks or playtime outside can help prevent vision problems," she explains.

Detection

Myopia is a defect in refraction which is usually detected when children are at school. Because they cannot see at a distance, they hold their book close or need to be near the screen they are looking at. They may squint

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when they look at things, or are unable to read what is written on the blackboard very well. These are obvious signs and can easily be spotted by parents and teachers.

However, a study called 'The visual health of children in Spain', which was presented by the Ministry of Health in November last year, shows that 60 per cent of parents of children who wear glasses said that it was their child who realised that they couldn't see very well. And not all sight problems are myopia.

"Other common problems that we find are alterations called non-strabismic binocular disorders, in which the eyes are not able to work together very precisely. That means that the child has to make extra effort to see properly," says Dr Bueno. This effort causes fatigue and lowers performance in school work, which can lead to failure. These children often put their head on one side to read, or close one eye; it is hard for them to understand what they are reading, they sit in unusual positions while doing their homework... when an optometrist detects these problems they can correct the errors in graduation and usually give the child a series of eye exercises to do so they learn to work together.

"Sometimes there can be other refractive problems such as hyper-

metropia, or long-sightedness, which, contrary to myopia, doesn't make the child feel that he or she isn't seeing properly. They are able to make an effort with their eyes which enables them to see well, but this extra effort causes headaches, visual fatigue (reading or doing close-up work makes them tired), their performance at school suffers and their eyes water," says Dr Bueno. Correcting the eyesight helps to relax the system, because spectacles mean that the eyes don't have to make so much effort.

In addition to these, other problems can also affect performance such as strabismus (crossed eyes) amblyopia (lazy eye), or changes to ocular motricity. "The children are not able to follow objects with their gaze. It is difficult for them to read because they can't follow the line or they use a finger to indicate where they are on the page. This can affect their reading and learning," she explains.

When these conditions are detected and diagnosed the optician or optometrist will correct the vision, either with glasses, contact lenses or through different therapies and visual training which help the children to perform normally at school. As shown above, every sight problem 'emits' different signals.

But beyond affecting children's

Many adults buy pre-assembled over-the-counter spectacles, but experts say this is the wrong thing to do. These glasses are prefabricated on an industrial basis, often without the quality controls which are needed for health-related products of this type.

"It is absolutely impossible for these glasses to be adapted to an individual's vision. All of us see distance differently in each eye, and often even variations in height. This has to be carefully measured and taken into account when making spectacles, and the optical centre of the lens has to be in exactly the right

place for each person. What often happens is that the graduation between the two eyes is very similar, but that doesn't mean it is the same. In a pair of glasses, each eye needs a different lens which is made to suit the way it sees. Over-the-counter glasses are just not suitable for continual use, because they don't correct the refractive defect which is most common: presbyopia, or eyestrain. They can not only lead to bad vision but can also cause greater problems, such as headaches, difficulty in reading, vertigo, low performance, difficulty in focusing, etc," says Dr Bueno.

of film came on the scene, many of these problems would not have been noticed. Now, professionals warn that people who feel dizzy or tired when they watch 3D films could have problems with their vision.

"When we look at something, each eye forms an image in the retina and projects it to the brain. When the brain collects the information which comes from each eye, these different images give us a feeling of tridimensionality or depth. If there is a problem with the sight in one of the eyes or differences in graduation between them, or some of the binocular problems mentioned earlier which mean that the eyes have difficulty in working together, those people cannot transform the image they receive in each eye into a tridimensional one. Or they do, but it takes a lot of effort, and they often get a headache or even feel sick when they watch 3D films," says the doctor.

Important changes in the development of the eye and visual function occur throughout childhood, so regular eye check-ups are essential. Symptoms are detected in about 20 per cent of children, and those who were born prematurely, or in cases of difficult birth or parents with hereditary visual problems, should be carefully monitored to prevent problems in the future.

Some people's vision problems have been revealed by trying to watch 3D films, if they suffer from symptoms such as dizziness, sickness and headache

studies, does poor eyesight affect them in other ways? "Yes; if myopia, problems with spatial vision or strabismus are not corrected they can affect the child's leisure activities and also sports where they need good distance vision or precision, such as judging the way a ball is moving," says Dr Bueno.

Unable to see in 3D

The new technologies can also reveal possible vision problems which have not been detected before. For example, 15 per cent of people are unable to see in 3D. Until this type

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Five ways to stop smoking

World No Tobacco Day on Wednesday invited us to think about ways to kick the habit

The first step is to really want to give up smoking and to understand the toxic effects this addiction has on a smoker's health

ÁNGEL ESCALERA

MÁLAGA. The most basic and principal method of giving up smoking is to really want to do so. Knowing the damage that a tobacco addiction does to the body is a major incentive to stop, and so is being aware of how much money can be saved by giving up a habit which results in 10,000 deaths each year in Andalucía, 2,000 of which are in Málaga province. Never starting to smoke or, at least, beating a dependence on tobacco in time, is definitely best for the health.

Determination

You must really want to give up: people often relapse

Determination is essential for someone who wants to give up smoking. About 70 per cent of smokers want to stop and have tried numerous times to do so, says Salvador Oña, a specialist in preventive medicine and the head of the smoking addiction unit of the Spanish Association Against Cancer (AECC).

The problem is that nearly 70 per cent of smokers who try to give up by themselves find it too hard and end up lighting a cigarette within 72 hours, because of the withdrawal



A man takes a co-oximetry test at the information stand in Málaga. : PAULA HÉVELE

symptoms. These normally last for about four weeks and this is the hardest period of all.

The passage of time helps those who give up smoking. As the days go by and they resist the temptation to light up, their ability to overcome their addiction becomes stronger. It has been shown that the degree of success in those who decide to stop smoking, focusing on one day at a time, is equal to that of those who consider the situation calmly and decide on a particular date to give up tobacco, says Dr de Oña.

Rolling your own can be more dangerous than cigarettes

Many people roll their own cigarettes because they mistakenly believe that loose tobacco is healthier than manufactured cigarettes, because it contains fewer additives.

That may be the case, but smoking loose tobacco also accu-

mulates more nicotine, tar and carbon monoxide, according to Dr Salvador de Oña.

"Rolling your own is actually even more dangerous for the health than smoking a normal cigarette," he says.

"Under equal conditions, loose tobacco is just as bad or even worse. There is no tobacco whatsoever which is good for the health. People should realise that they just shouldn't smoke at all," he insists.

Professional help

Doctors and pharmacists give advice to smokers

For those who find it too hard to give up on their own, health centres have a programme which can help. GPs provide advice to encourage people to continue and not give in to the urge to smoke. The programme includes information about the damage which smoking does to the body, and has helpful information about how to stop.

In the first four months of this year, doctors in Málaga province have given advice to 408,000 people who wanted to give up smoking. Pharmacists, in chemists' shops, can also give advice about tobacco addiction and how to overcome it. The Junta de Andalucía also has a helpline (900 850 300) for smokers who want to give up the habit.

Treatments

There are specific medications for withdrawal symptoms and anxiety

The third method to overcome tobacco addiction is through medication. Dr de Oña says this has to be individually prescribed. Two types have shown particularly good results: in Spain they are called varenicline y bupropión. The first is a non-nicotine product which basically reduces the effect of the nicotine on the brain and reduces the anxiety caused by the withdrawal symptoms. Bupropión has psychostimulant and antidepressant properties and helps to overcome the addiction. These drugs

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have to be paid for, because they are not funded by the health service.

Effective Combined medical- psychological therapy

This system is very effective and has a high success rate. It is available on the national health as well as privately. It is an advanced treatment to help smokers give up tobacco, and can be provided individually or on a group basis. It is a combination of cognitive-behavioural psychologies and pharmaceutical treatment. In the first four months of this year, 18,827 people received this treatment in health centres in Malaga province. This programme requires the smoker to attend the sessions in person.

Something new with good results Combine e-cigarettes with chewing gum or nicotine tablets

This is a new tool to fight tobacco addiction. Smokers who want to give up combine the use of electronic cigarettes with nicotine chewing gum or tablets, explains Salvador de Oña.

With regard to hypnosis as a way of overcoming addiction, De Oña says this is no more beneficial than the products with a so-called placebo effect, and points out that the unit he runs did a study which showed that there was no significant difference between those products and hypnosis. He says every smoker needs to find the method which suits them best, and should always bear in mind that giving up tobacco will considerably improve their quality of life.

A quarter of the population in Malaga province smokes on a regular basis

The number of smokers has reduced by about 7.6 per cent in the province in the past four years, which is seen as a positive step

■ A. ESCALERA

MALAGA. The battle against tobacco is being won, but it is a hard fight and the results are slow. Advice, information and campaigns about the damage to health which is caused by this addiction are fundamental tools.

In Malaga province, one quarter of the population smokes. Figures which have just been released by the Department of Health show that 26.6 per cent of people in Malaga over the age of 16 smoke, and 22.3 of them are women. Most of them say they began to smoke between the ages of 16 and 17.

To coincide with World No Tobacco Day, the governmental and health delegates in Malaga, José Luis Ruiz Espejo and Ana Isabel González respectively, paid a visit to the information stand in

Calle Larios, where expert advice was being given about active and passive smoking and the resources available to help people give up. People could also have a co-oximetry test (to detect the loss of oxygen in the blood and determine the level of carbon monoxide in the air which is breathed by an individual).

Tobacco addiction does not only affect the person who smokes: it also affects other people who are with them in places which become contaminated by cigarette smoke. Malaga province is in line with the general trend in Andalucía in this respect: 35.4 per cent of people in this region are passive smokers.

The regional government has drawn up an Integral Tobacco Addiction Plan, which includes programmes to help smokers give up the habit and to prevent others from starting to smoke, especially targeting groups such as pregnant women, prisoners and those with mental illness.

For each one of these cases, specific programmes are designed, including targets for the smokers to try to meet.

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We speak:

A prize for pupils' skin protection initiatives

More than 800 children and teachers took part in the III Sun Protection Conference for Schools

The Costa del Sol Health Agency and District welcomed the schools' ideas for encouraging healthy habits while enjoying the sunshine at the same time

by M. PÉREZ

MARBELLA. More than 800 people, including pupils and teachers from 11 schools on the Costa del Sol, recently took part in the III Provincial Conference on Sun Protection at School, which was part of a campaign to encourage people in this region to protect themselves and prevent skin cancer.

This conference was specifically aimed at schoolchildren, and it has formed part of this ongoing campaign for the past nine years. It is known as 'Creciendo Soludable', a play on words which refers to growing up healthily in a sunny climate.

The Costa del Sol Health Agency-Costa del Sol Hospital, the CHARE hospital in Benalmádena and CARE in Mijas and the Costa del Sol Health District, which consists of 12 health



The provincial health delegate, Ana Isabel González, with the competition winners. :: SUR

centres and 12 doctors' surgeries, organised this campaign, which operates under the theme of 'Enjoy some sunshine without damaging your skin'. The Marbella-Coin Teachers' Centre also collaborates with

this programme to raise awareness among schoolchildren.

The meeting was organised to promote the idea of schools educating pupils about the need for sun protection. Overall, the campaign

aims to improve children's knowledge and attitudes and help them to develop healthy skin protection habits, and to promote the idea of these subjects being taught in the classrooms and becoming ge-

neral school policy, as explained in a recent communication from the Andalusian government.

During the gathering there was a presentation of the guide 'Creciendo Soludable', an educational

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tool which is at the heart of this campaign and aims to help teachers so that skin cancer protection measures can be taught in the classroom and the children can begin having lessons on sun protection in the next school year.

The names of the winning schools in this year's competition were also announced at the conference.

The first prize was a grant to install shade in the school playground, worth 3,000 euros. The winning initiative was presented by El Albero school in Las Lagunas (Fuengirola) and the Mar de Alborán school in Estepona was runner-up.

Within the educational sphere, the sun protection campaign has continued to train teachers this year.

Around 60 Infant, Junior, Secondary and Professional Training teachers have taken part in two training sessions, one at the Marbella-Coín Teachers' Centre and another at its counterpart at El Albero.

The Junta de Andalucía's delegate for Equality, Health and Social Policies, Ana Isabel González; Marbella's councillor for Health, Ana María Leschiera; the managing directors of the Costa del Sol Health Agency and Health District, Torcuato Romero and María Dolores Llamas, respectively; the head of the Marbella-Coín Teachers' Centre, Manuel Mellado, and the director of the campaign, Magdalena de Troya, all took part in the conference.



Laetitia Breillot. :: SUR

New manager appointed at Kempinski's pedicure and manicure studio

:: SUR

ESTEPONA. Laetitia Breillot has been appointed as the new studio manager at the Bastien Gonzalez pedicure and manicure studio at the Kempinski Hotel Bahía in Estepona. Laetitia studied podiatry in Paris, graduating in 2013, and then worked in a medical centre for one and a half years, gaining practical experience. She started with Bastien Gonzalez in 2015, working in Vietnam and Abu Dhabi.



RICHARD GERE VISITS MADRID HOSPITAL

American actor Richard Gere visited the Niño Jesús children's hospital in Madrid to help promote a new project to help bring children closer to nature. The hospital is separated from the famous Retiro Park by a single street, and will try to create a similar atmosphere by turning the centre into a garden with visual effects.

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Joffrey's Las Mimosas in La Cala de Mijas is going from strength to strength for French chef Joffrey Charles and his partner, TV stylist and presenter, Lisa Burgess. The concept, to create a contemporary fine dining restaurant with a creative and tantalising menu using fresh and seasonal ingredients has been well-received by diners who have posted glowing reviews on social media and TripAdvisor.

A LA CARTE MENU

The À la Carte menu has a choice of starters ranging from nine to 12 euros and includes succulent scallops, gravalax and crab tartare with Thai green curry mayonnaise.

Main course prices start at 17 euros and go up to 30 euros.

On Wednesday there is now a two-course taster menu for 25 euros or a three-course taster menu for 29.95 euros. Every Saturday a set menu of duck parfait, French style hake or risotto (vegetarian option) followed by Joffrey's mouth watering crème brûlée is available for 29.95 euros.

BASTILLE DAY SPECIAL

The restaurant is currently being filmed for Channel 4's programme 'A New Life in the Sun'. Camera crews will be filming all summer for the programme which will be aired in February 2018. The film crews will be present on Bastille Day, 14 July when Joffrey will be doing a spectacular six course degustation menu and the French flag will be projected on to the front of the building to celebrate France's national day.

And if fabulous food, excellent service and welcoming staff aren't enough then Joffreys also offers a variety of live music acts on Thursdays and Fridays from 9pm. Well known tribute artists such as Lucy Sassoon (from Etta James to Stevie Wonder), Paul Ellis



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Builders, staff and owners pose for the opening photo. :: O B-J

(Frank Sinatra), Randy Corwood (original member of American Drifters) and saxophonist and singer, Igor add the 'icing to the (already delicious) cake that Joffreys Las Mimosas offers.

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Malaga's 'campero' goes to France

Daniel Rojas is offering one of Malaga's most traditional dishes from his foodtruck in the French Alps

JUAN SOTO

MALAGA. In Saint-Michel-Maurienne, a small village near some of the most famous ski resorts in the French Alps, a 'Malagueño' makes a living selling camperos (flat breads lightly toasted and with a variety of fillings) from his food truck.

Daniel Rojas emigrated to France with his family when he was little and is now promoting his homeland with his business 'Paco Campero'. Despite being in competition with croissants and crêpes, shawarmas and burgers, his camperos have become "the star product in the whole valley" he boasts.

Besides the camperos he also offers the Antequera 'mollete' and the Malaga 'fritura', although they have not been as successful with

customers. He promotes the camperos with an illustrated poster explaining the origins of the Malaga speciality.

Although he emigrated over thirty years ago, Malaga is still close to his heart and he travels home two or three times a year to catch up with family and friends.

Daniel says that the most popular are the chicken, and the ham and cheese camperos. He has recently introduced a spicy filling he calls 'Ardiente' (fiery). The beef 'Americano' with mayonnaise and chips is also a new introduction.

He admits that he uses a 'secret' ingredient, garlic mayonnaise that he buys from Makro wholesalers in Malaga, and he has a baker who makes the bread to an authentic Malaga recipe.

The success of this venture has encouraged Daniel to open up a restaurant in the town where he is going to offer another of Malaga's favourite foods, its own version of the jacket potato, the 'papa asada'.

He also has plans to develop a franchise throughout the country called simply 'Camperos'.



Daniel Rojas with co-worker Alexane. :: SUR



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Of the approximately 35,000 different wines that are produced in Spain – a figure that surprises almost everyone – about half can be immediately discounted as being of such limited production they will never be seen outside the region where they are made. Half of what is left can also be ignored, going entirely for export. Nevertheless that still leaves an awful lot of wines to fight for space on wine store shelves.

Which begs the question of why

A. J. LINN

SIZE DOES MATTER



the Spanish wine scene is made up mainly of two extremes. At one end we have the smaller, often family-run, wineries that make good wines and accept the fact that they will never become rich and famous but enjoy what they do. At the other end are those burgeoning groups that often started as single bodegas, although along the way they joined up with another producer and so found they had a taste for growth. It all depends on the business philosophy of the people at the top.

There is the recent case of an Andalusian winery owner who started gobbling up small local producers at such speed the acquisitions could never be properly integrated into the group. Result: financial disaster that took everything down with it, including the blameless little wineries that had been taken over.

Then there is the example of a strategic planner like Carlos Moro, born into a Ribera del Duero family that had been making wine for nine centuries. After qualifying in

agricultural engineering and working in the Ministry of Agriculture and Ministry of Industry, Carlos started the Matarromera label in 1998. Another eight wineries were subsequently opened, and now there is a range of alcohol-free wines, an olive oil plant, a cosmetics brand, Esdor, and finally, to add to existing wineries in Ribera del Duero, Toro, Cigales and Rueda, a Rioja label. All the group's facilities have been built sustainably and efficiently and received the European Environment Award in 2012.



MICHELIN STARS LURE PEOPLE TO LUXURY WEEKEND

Miguel Gómez, local businessman and promoter of the Marbella Luxury Weekend, which runs from 2 to 4 June, has said this week: "For the first time ever, the four stars of Michelin in Marbella, Dani García, El Lago, Messina and Skina, will offer a three-day never-to-be-repeated menu. A milestone in gastronomic terms and one that has never been seen before in the world. We hope it will lure more people here."

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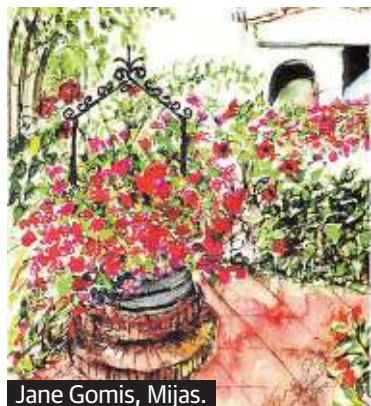
EXHIBITIONS

Benezra Gallery

Marbella. Until August. *La Quinta*, between Marbella and San Pedro. The new exhibition is entitled 'Summer Art'. info@art-investments.com or benezragallery.com

Open Studios Art Event

Gaucín. 2-4 June. *Gaucín village*. Stroll around the village and visit the open studios to talk to the artists and watch them work. www.artgaucin.com or tel: 634809747



Jane Gomis, Mijas.

Magpie International Gallery.

Marbella. Until 18 June. C/Virgen del Pilar. 200m from port. '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 and other decorations for apartments, hotels, win-

eries etc. Gabrielle is a well recognised artist and winner of the "Best picture of the year" award in Paris.

El Campanario

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

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.

Roberto Matta

Marbella. From 3 June until 26 May 2018. *Museo Ralli, Urb Coral beach*.

Temporary exhibition of the Chilean artist Roberto Matta of surrealist abstract art. Tel. 952 85 79 23 / marbella@rallimuseums.org

New Longman's

Estepona. From 9 June until 6 July, *Plaza de Manilva, 6*. An exhibition of paintings by Heidi Jayne Best entitled 'Looking out across the land'.

Arte Recuperado

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

temporary loan to the Casa Natal. It includes works by Spanish masters including Josep Togores, Esteban Vicente, Alberto Sánchez and Pablo Gargallo among others.

Picasso's birth place

Malaga. Until 11 June, *Sala de Exposiciones, Casa Natal de Picasso*. Picasso's birth place houses two exhibitions. The first, 'Arte Recuperado (1916-1957)', contains 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 Tàpies, Julio González and Miró.

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

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



Medvediev, Mijas

Trinidad and Tobago.

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.

Nancy Holt

Mijas. Until 30 June, *TRH Mijas*.

Nancy teaches adults and children at the Centro del Arte in Mijas and the Cudeca centre in Arroyo. Nancy also paints murals and has recently finished painting murals in two Mexican/Indian fusion restaurants.

Valerii Medvediev

Mijas. Until 5 June, *Sala de Patio de las Fuentes, Mijas town hall*. An exhibition of sculptures by Russian artist Valerii Medvediev.

Happy Artists

Mijas Costa. Until 20 July. *Hotel Carmen, Bulevard de la Cala de Mijas*. An exhibition of works by Jane Gomis.

Frontera Líquida

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

Mujeres Aventureras

Torremolinos. Until 19 June. *Casa de los Navajas. 11am-2pm, 6-8pm*. An exhibition of photos, water colours and collage which pays tribute to 12 women who, through history, have been at the vanguard of politics, science, culture and communications.

Art around every corner



Rafael Vera Merchán. :: SUR



Juan Galán. :: SUR

TOLOX. Numerous artists and visitors will descend on the town of Tolox from 16 to 18 June to take part in the 'Encuentro Internacional de Artistas'.

Over the three days, the artists will be working in various corners of the town creating murals and sculptures in a mix of contemporary, figurative and realist styles.

The theme this year will be

water, reflecting the natural scenery of the area around the Sierra de las Nieves with its crystal-clear streams, waterfalls, forest and shady walks among the trees.

Besides some stunning art there will also be live music, flamenco, dance performances, theatre for adults and children, photographs, a fashion show and lots more.

INFORMATION

► **What.** A festival of art from various international artists.

► **When.** 16-18 June, 1-3.30pm.

► **Where.** Plaza de la Constitución and around the town.

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Roger Cummiskey

Fuengirola. Until 30 June. *Arte y Cocina Restaurante*
'Sabor de España' or 'Taste of Spain' is an interesting collection of paintings combining influences based on James Joyce and Miguel de Cervantes and other Spanish related themes by Roger Thomas Cummiskey, Irish Artist.

Galería Krabbe 'Solstice'


Frigiliana. Until 25 June. *Galería Krabbe, C/Rosario La Joaquín.*
A new solo exhibition of artwork by Carline Krabbe entitled 'Solstice'.

Tres Abstractos III

Rincón de la Victoria. Until 9 June. *Casa Fuerte de Bezmiliana, Av del Mediterráneo.*
An exhibition of abstract art by Fernando de la Rosa, Óscar Pérez and Perry Oliver.

CHARITY

Cabaret for cats (and horses)

Alhaurín el Grande. 3 June, food from 7pm, show at 9pm. *Venta La Recta.* Tickets (for show only) 10€
An evening of songs from the 50s, 60s, 70s, 80s and 90s. From Scott Walker, Bobby Darin, and Michael Buble to Diana Ross, Roberta Flack and Adele. All proceeds will go to "Gift of Life" Cat Rescue Centre and A.R.C.H. (The Andalucía Rescue Centre for Horses). Tickets from Papelería Martín or Cristina's paper shop. To book a table  tel: 952 112 057.

Reliving the Battle of Malaga

BY TONY BRYANT

TORREMOLINOS. An exhibition entitled 'El Éxodo de la Carretera de Almería - Febrero de 1937', has opened in Torremolinos.

The exhibition focuses on what has become known as the 'Flight from Malaga'; an event that took place in February 1937, when the Republican-held city fell to Nationalist troops during the Spanish Civil War.

Fearing persecution, thousands of Republican refugees headed east on the road to Almería, but many died of exhaustion or were killed by shells from offshore gunboats and aerial attacks from the German Luftwaffe.

The exhibition, which has been organised by the Junta de Andalucía, with the assistance of Torremolinos town hall, combines both visual and textual information concerning this horrific stage of the war.

The exhibition was previously on show at the Provincial Archives of Malaga and is currently on a tour of several towns in the province.

On display are various objects and equipment used by the combatant armies and more than a hundred different documents, many of which are displayed for the first time.



The exhibition displays Civil War documents . BY TONY BRYANT

There are historical files from the provincial and municipal governments of Malaga and Almería, historic military files, as well as documents from the Red Cross and the Italian news agency Luce.

Also included are the prison records of the journalist Arthur Koestler - in Malaga as a war correspondent at the time - who was accused of being a spy.

The exhibition displays a collection of poems that were written by celebrated writers of the period, including Gamal Woolsey,

Peter Chalmers Mitchell and Emilio Prados. Among the items on display are a collection of photographs and newspaper cuttings that graphically document the effects of the bombings in Malaga.

The exhibition, which began last week and continues until 16 June, includes testimonies of several people from Torremolinos that lived through the event.

One draws on the story of Don Miguel Escalona Quesada, former mayor of Torremolinos, who recounted his personal story of

INFORMATION

► **When:** 9am to 1.30pm. Monday to Friday, until Friday 16 June.

► **Where.** Ayuntamiento de Torremolinos. Plaza Blas Infante.

the event in his memoirs, 'Así llegamos a Almería', (Thus we arrived in Almería).

His family has loaned the exhibition documents and photographs that were published in the book and these include his brother's prison records, Lázaro Escalona Quesada, who served 30 years in prison after trying to flee the city in 1937.

There are also information boards and video screens that retell the horrifying story of the Battle of Malaga. The images of burnt-out buildings and desolate refugees remind one of how senseless the Spanish Civil War was.

The refugees faced a 200km trek in search of a safe refuge, while being pursued by Italian tanks, German aircraft and rebel Nationalist ships.

Between 3,000 and 5,000 citizens are believed to have perished during the exodus.

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CHARITY

Charity car run

Marbella. 3 June, 10am. 25€ donation to Cudeca

Meeting for coffee and registration at the Porsche Sportwagen show-rooms. Run starts at 10.45am arriving at Las Brisas Golf Club for lunch (30€). Organised by the Porsche and Ferrari owners Andalucía clubs and the Rotary Club of Marbella. Sponsored by C.S. Porsche Sportwagen Marbella. Contact: lorraine-marbella@gmail.com or tel: 619099310



Foreigner, Marbella

Guinness Book of World Records attempt

Andalucía. 3 June.

The event called 'Verbenavoi', (organised by the Asociación de Voluntarios de Oncología Infantil) intends to get 30 towns and villages to hold a 'verbena' (street party) simultaneously. The event is to raise funds for reforming the isolation rooms in the Oncology ward of the children's hospital in Malaga. It is also hoped to make the

Guinness Book of World Records. www.verbenavoi.com

A Lark in the Park

Benahavis. 4 June, 6.30pm. Parque Leonera.

The International Theatre Studio will be holding their annual 'Lark in the Park' to raise money for Age Concern Spain. A one act play followed by live music from various musicians. Bring a picnic. www.internationaltheatrestudio.org

Animal shelter visit

Benalmádena. Benalmádena Animal Rescue Shelter. First Sunday of every month, 12pm-3pm.

Includes a visit by a dog trainer and vet to answer questions. Brica-brac stall, raffle, homemade tapas and soft drinks. 600721794 for more information.

AID Charity Auction

Alhaurín el Grande. 9 June 7pm. La Cuchara restaurant, Plgn 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

Summer gala

Marbella. 11 June, 7.30pm. Villa Tiberio. 85€

Sandro Morelli is hosting the Children With Cancer UK Summer Gala at Marbella's Villa Tiberio Restaurant. Following an aperitif in the garden, there will be a three-

course dinner with wine and coffee, as well as live entertainment, dancing and an auction with celebrity items. 25€ of each reservation goes to the charity. Tel: 952771799

Fashion Show

Marbella. 16 June, 9pm. Hotel Alanda, pool side. 10€

The Marbella Design Academy are holding a fashion show to support the DEBRA butterfly children charity. Tickets from the hotel, the design academy or DEBRA.

Charity Gala

Benalmádena. 16 June, 8.30pm. Colegio Internacional Torrequebrada. 25€ (10€ children)

The charity gala 'Bhai' (hindi for 'brother') has been organised by students of the school to raise funds for Vicente Ferrer Foundation to make improvements to a special centre for brain damaged children in India. Live music, dancing and raffle (one of the raffle prizes is a shirt signed by all the Real Madrid players and another signed by Rafa Nadal). Tickets from the school or www.solindiarizate.org

MUSIC & DANCE

Foreigner in concert

Marbella. 11 June, 9pm. Club de

Tenis, Puente Romano. 36-275€ With ten multi-platinum albums and sixteen Top 30 hits, Foreigner is universally hailed as one of the most popular rock bands with songs like "Cold as Ice", "I Wanna Know What Love Is" and "Waiting For a Girl Like you". Tickets: <http://www.crazymusicproductions.com/en/>

The Wall Bar

Malaga. Hotel Vincci Posada del Patio, 11pm, entry free.

2 June. Enrique García. Music of the 60s and 70s.

3 June. Play On. Alberto Soler (bass) and Lola Casameiro (vocals) The best international ballads, jazz, pop and rock.

9 June. Constanza & Javier. Jazz duet.

Rob Sas Band

Fuengirola. 3 June, 10pm. The Cabaret Club



Tom Kaurich, Malaga

Estepona. 16 June, 11.45pm. Bar Louie Louie.

Piano recital with Tom Kaurich

Malaga. 16 June, St George's Church, English Cemetery.

Music will include Impromptu Op. 90 No. 4 by Franz Schubert, Sonata Op. 27 No.1 "Moonlight" by Beethoven; Andante Spianato and Grande Polonaise Op. 22 by Chopin and Reflets dans l'eau by Claude Debussy among others.

Malaga Philharmonic Orchestra

Tapas and cocktail route

TONY BRYANT

CÁRTAMA. Cártama is preparing to celebrate the fifth edition of the 'Ruta de la Tapa y el Cóctel', a gastronomic event that will take place from 8 to 11 June.

The tapa and cocktail route, which is organised by Guadalhorce Turismo and Cártama town hall, is sponsored by the Junta de Andalucía, Sabor a Málaga, Renfe, Radio Cártama and several local bodegas.

A total of 45 establishments in Cártama Pueblo, Estación de Cártama and El Sexmo are taking part in the initiative. Participating bars will offer a selection of cocktails to accompany a range of imaginative dishes that have been prepared with locally-produced ingredients.

Customers can register their tapas passports in a grand draw that will include prizes of theatre tickets, hotel accommodation, passes for the Camino del Rey and selections of wine and Iberian pork products.

As is traditional at these gastronomic events, the customers will be able to vote for the best tapa



45 establishments will participate in Cártama's tapas route. :: SUR

and cocktail, and the winning bars will receive cash prizes of up to 500 euros.

The town hall has arranged a special bus service over the weekend, between 12pm and midnight, to ferry people between Cártama Pueblo, Estación de Cártama and El Sexmo.

INFORMATION

► **When:** Thursday 8 until Sunday 11 June.

► **Transport:** Free bus service will operate over the weekend.

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Malaga. Teatro Cervantes

2 June, 8pm. Concerto n° 21 in D major for piano and orchestra by Mozart and Symphony n°2 in D major Op 61 by Schumann. Conducted by Manuel Hernández Silva.

8, 9 June, 9pm. Symphony n°3 in D minor by Mahler with mezzo soprano María José Montiel and the Ópera de Málaga and Escolanía Santa María de la Victoria choirs. Conducted by Manuel Hernández Silva. www.orquestafilarmonicademalaga.com

International Guitar Festival

Ronda. 6-10 June. Convento de Santo Domingo. Guitarists from Spain, Portugal, Italy, Turkey and Costa Rica will be performing. Tickets 10€ (5€ for children) or for all the concerts 35€ from the Oficina de Turismo and Solyocio.com. www.rondaguitar-festival.com

festival.com

Sundown Sounds

La Cala de Mijas. Sundown Sounds are a series of free open air concerts held in the plaza in front of the La Cala de Mijas Town Hall every Thursday from 9pm. The event is organised by the Foreign Residents Department in collaboration with Martyn Wood of Big M Promotions.

8 June. One Wish Steve – singer/guitarist/entertainer plays favourite pop songs.
15 June. The Rolling Steves – 50s 60s 70s pop songs.

Beatles Festival of Legends

Mijas. 2 June, 9pm. Auditorio Municipal. 18€. The Silver Beats, Beatles tribute band; Neil Tudor, Paul McCartney look-alike/sound-alike; Phil Melia from the Pete Best band and Buddy Walker as Buddy



Ellen Allien, Castillo Sohail

Holly. Tickets tel: 609 488 572
Info and online ticket sales:
www.thefestivaloflegends.com

Piano recital with David Huh

Nueva Andalucía. 3 June, 9pm. Vasari Centre, Urb La Alzambra. 20€. The award winning pianist David Huh will be playing pieces by Haydn, Ravel and Schumann. www.musicaconencanto.org

Oriental dance

Vélez-Málaga. 3 June, 7pm. Teatro del Carmen. 6€. 'Canción de la luna' will be performed by the Helena dance academy.

Choir concert

Torremolinos. 3 June, 8.30pm. Centro Cultural Pablo Ruiz Picasso. The Asociación Coral Torremolinos, 'Tantanakuy' vocal group and Coral Magnum Mysterium will be performing. Free entry.

Gospel Concert

Mijas. 4 June, 11.30am. Finca Nandrup, C/José Orbeneja, Calahonda. Iglesia International Costa Del Sol will be holding the first Gospel Celebration service on Pentecostal Sunday. New pastors Stephen and Valma Merrick will be hosting the Gospel service and welcome all nationalities and denominations.

Sense of Values Quartet

Almuñécar. 4 June, 8.30pm. Auditorium Casa de Cultura. 8€ in advance, 10€ on door. An evening of jazz with cello, piano, double bass and drums.

South Moon

Fuengirola. 3 June. Sohail castle. The festival returns with Ellen Allien, Tiga and Agoria headlining also Maceo Plex, Ame, Adriatique and Shall Ocín, Deep techno and Deep house.

Teatro del Carmen

Vélez-Málaga. 6, 7, 8 June, 8pm. Teatro del Carmen. By invitation. A concert of modern music on 6 June, a concert of classical music with the symphonic orchestra on 7 June and a ballet performance on 8 June by the Escuela Municipal de Danza y Música.



Heat, history and tranquility

JENNIE RHODES

CÓMPETA. Irish artist, Noel Lewis, is starting the summer season at Galería Centro de Bellas Artes in Cómpeeta with an exhibition of watercolours and oils.

Many of the paintings in the exhibition are pieces that the artist has been working on in the last year, which gallery owners John Deverell and Lisa Hurt-Jones say "demonstrate his eclectic and exciting mix of figurative bordering".

Noel's work is heavily inspired by Spain, Italy and his native Ireland, showing the heat of Spain, the history of Ireland and the tranquility of Tuscany.

"With a sketchbook and some watercolours I try to capture the scene in that fleeting moment in time when it is all new and exciting. When I am back in my studio, my sketchbooks inspire me to develop this work into larger paintings," says Noel.

This is a retrospective exhibition of Noel's work showing paintings which have been typical of his range of styles. Noel's understanding of his subject matter make it easy to understand why his work is so well acclaimed.

The exhibition contains several well-known scenes of Cóm-



A watercolour of Cómpeeta by Noel Lewis. :: SUR

peta and its surrounding countryside together with paintings from a more distinctly northern climate and atmosphere.

Noel has held exhibitions in Zurich, Tuscany and Dublin as well as in other parts of Ireland. His work has been selected to be shown in selected exhibits throughout Europe. He divides his time between Cómpeeta, where he has a house, and Ireland. He will be in Cómpeeta for the duration of the exhibition.

INFORMATION

► **When:** From 3 until 25 June, every day from 11am - 2pm except Sunday and Wednesday

► **Where:** Galería Centro de Bellas Artes, C/ San Antonio 6, Cómpeeta

► **Further info:**
www.galeriacentro.com

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FLAMENCO

Museo de Arte Flamenca Peña Juan Brea

Malaga. 4 June, 11am. Meet at the door of the Alcazaba. A tour of 'cafés cantantes y tablaos flamencos'. Information and reservations email: info@flamenka.com or tel: 687697526 / 952221380



Circus of horrors, Malaga.

Torera

Malaga. 16, 17 June, 8pm. Teatro Cervantes. The world premiere performance of 'Torera' by the Antonio Andrade dance company. Tickets: www.uniticket.es

FESTIVALS

Romería de San Bernabé

Marbella. 4, 6 - 11 June. The romería to the Parque de Nagüeles takes place on 4 June. Concerts, dancing and lots of activities during the following feria which runs from 6 until 11 June.

Agricultural Fair

Antequera. 2-4 June. The Feria de Primavera Agrogant is celebrated in the fairground. Pure breed Andalusian horses, livestock shows, concerts and dance performances. www.antequera.es

Feria del Perro

Archidona. 2, 3, 4 June. This year will be the 25th anniversary of the festival. https://ochavada.com

EVENTS

Noche en Blanco Chess

Estepona. 3 June, from 8pm. Paseo marítimo. A giant chess tournament dedicated to international chess master Alejandro Pérez and the E.M.A.E. (Estepona Municipal Chess School).

Circus of horrors

Malaga. From 9 until 11 June. The tenth edition of Manicomio Circo de los Horrores comes to Malaga. Tickets: www.entradas.com/manicomio-circo-de-los-horrores-entradas

FOTA summer ball

Mijas. 15 June, Restaurante Valparaíso. 35€. A summer ball organised by Friends of the Theatre Association. Book at the FOTA desk Salon Varietés or tel: 951 313 257

Fashion Shows

Marbella. 3, 9 June. The Marbella Design Academy will be holding a fashion show on a floating catwalk on 3 June, 10pm at the Marbella Luxury Weekend in Puerto Banús. Entry is free on request. There will also be a fashion show on 9 June, 8pm

in Monda. Entry is free. www.designschool.com or tel: 952 457 090

Marbella luxury Weekend

Puerto Banús. 2 - 4 June. All things luxurious are at the Marbella Luxury Weekend including, yachts, cars, gastronomy, jewellery, fashion, art and property.

Gay Pride week

Torremolinos. Until 4 June. A gay pride festival with lots of events and activities. More information http://gaytorremolinos.com

Bloomsday

Fuengirola. 16 June, 8-10.30am. The Beach, Paseo Marítimo Rey de España. Free. For Bloomsday on 16 June, a small group are planning a simple reading, swim or paddle off the beach. Readers are encouraged to read chapter six from Ulysses - Hades, Glasnevin cemetery. in their own language. Please bring your own copy. www.rogercum-miskey.com/bloomsday-bathe-on-the-beach/

Cultural fortnight

Arenas. From 3 until 17 June. Arenas town hall has organised excursions, conferences, traditional games and art and cookery workshops. Also live music.

Coach trip to Gibraltar

Torre del Mar. 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: lux-mundi@lux-mundi.org

Auditions

Fuengirola. Salon Varietés. 3 June, noon. Auditions for cast

members for 'Wrong turn at lungfish' due for production 17 November. Tel: Steve: 877972205

O. V. FILM

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

Cine Albéniz

C/Alcazabilla 4, Malaga. Tel: 902 36 02 95 or visit www.cinealbeniz.com or www.unientradas.es
Personal Shopper: 16.30
Norman: 16.30, 20.05, 22.10

Cinesur El Ingenio

Avda. Juan Carlos 1, Vélez-Málaga. Tel. 667 77 31 87.
Pirates of the Caribbean: Dead Men Tell No Tales: 12.10 (Sat, Sun); 16.50, 19.30, 22.10 (Mon, Tues, Thurs); 17.40 (Weds, Thurs, Sat, Sun)
Get Out: 17.00, 19.05, 22.15 (Mon, Tues, Thurs)
Guardians of the Galaxy 2: 16.20 (Tues)
The Promise: 12.00 (Sat, Sun); 16.30 (every day)
Alien Covenant: 19.00 (Tues)

Cinesur Miramar

Avda. de la Encarnación, Fuengirola. Tel. 952 19 86 00.
Pirates of the Caribbean: Dead Men Tell No Tales: 12.00, 16.50, 19.40, 22.20, 00.10
Pirates of the Caribbean: Dead Men Tell No Tales 3D: 20.10, 22.30 (Mon-Thurs)
Get Out: 15.55 (Tues)
Alien Covenant: 11.50, 16.30
Guardians of the Galaxy 2: 12.10, 16.10
Miss Sloane: 19.05 (Mon-Thurs)
The Promise: 16.00
Money: 19.00 (Tues)

Ballet: The Dream/Symphonic Variations/Marguerite & Armand: 7 June, 20.15

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Get Out: 16.15 (Sat, Sun), 20.00, 22.20 (Fri); 20.30, 22.30 (Sat-Thurs)



Bloomsday, Fuengirola

Yelmo Cines, Plaza Mayor

Centro de Ocio Plaza Mayor, Avda. Alfonso Ponce de León. Tel: 902 902 103 or visit www.yelmocines.es
Pirates of the Caribbean: Dead Men Tell No Tales: 12.30, 15.40 (Sat, Sun); 18.20, 20.55 (Every day); 23.30 (Fri, Sat).
Pirates of the Caribbean: Dead Men Tell No Tales 3D: 17.30 (every day).



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Malaga hoping to tie Pablo and Juankar down to long-term deals

Pablo is attracting suitors from the Premier League and the club wants to increase his release clause and make Juankar's loan deal permanent

■ **ANTONIO GÓNGORA**

MALAGA. Pablo Fornal's rapid progression isn't going unnoticed. At 21 years of age, and now a regular starter in Michel's midfield, the youngster is being courted by a number of teams both home and abroad.

Fornal signed a new deal only a year ago, but with just two years left to run, and an attractive release clause of 12 million euros, he could prove a bargain purchase.

The club hopes to increase his release clause, while also adding a further two years and a substantial wage rise to keep him on the Costa.

Negotiations between the two parties are ongoing and the club is optimistic about the prospect of an agreement, despite repeated reported interest from Arsenal in the British press.

Almost a done deal

Personal terms have already been



Fornal has reportedly be attracting interest from Arsenal. ■ **N. SALAS**

agreed with utility player Juankar as the Blue and Whites look to make his loan move permanent.

The 27-year-old has just come off the back of his second consecutive season-long loan from Braga. His ability to play in a number of roles down the left flank has impressed Michel and the club is looking into a possible swap deal involving forgotten midfielder man Ri-

cardo Horta.

Horta has been on loan from Malaga at Braga, where he has excelled in a less competitive league. However, the stumbling block is that both players are part owned by an investment fund so any swap deal involves multiple parties.

Nonetheless, Malaga are hopeful of getting any deal over the line before the start of preseason training.



Llorente became a key performer in the final run-in. ■ **AGENCIA LOF**

Real Sociedad interest could scupper move for Llorente

■ **A. GÓNGORA**

MALAGA. Malaga's chances of keeping defender Diego Llorente at the club for another year have taken a hit after Real Sociedad expressed an interest in taking the Real Madrid loanee to the Basque Country on a permanent transfer.

The Blue and Whites already had an agreement in place with the player to loan him for another season, but Real Madrid heads may be turned by an offer in excess of 10 million euros.

The 23-year-old initially strug-

gled when he first moved to La Rosaleda, finding himself out of the team after a wobbly start and occasionally being drafted in as a makeshift holding midfielder.

However, he has enjoyed a renaissance under Michel's leadership and became a key figure in the club's end-of-season push.

Now settled at the club, Llorente has expressed his desire to extend his stay but this interest from Real Sociedad, as well as news of Everton waiting in the wings, could scupper the deal.

Club faces substantial wage cap reduction unless players are sold

Not even a possible Sandro transfer would be enough to match the 43 million euros that were available to the club last season

■ **A. G.**

MALAGA. Malaga will see their wage cap from last season heavily reduced, according to the latest estimations coming in from La Liga.

The club, whose revenue last sea-

son reached 70 million euros, largely thanks to the 54 million euros in television money, were able to spend 43 million euros on playing and coaching staff in last summer's transfer window.

The news means that the club will have fewer funds to spend on players, with the only option that Malaga now have to increase the budget is to sell players.

Not only do all the teams in Spain's top two divisions have to comply with the wage cap regulations, but the ruling will also determine what offer



The squad could look very different next season. ■ **SUR**

Malaga can put forward to Sandro and Ignacio Camacho in their attempts to retain their services.

However, even if Sandro is sold, the six million euros they would receive would be not be enough to ex-

ceed 43 million euros and therefore match the budget available to the club last summer.

Malaga were one of the very few clubs that didn't sell any players last summer, even though several opportunities, such as the offers that came in for Camacho, arose throughout the transfer window. The squad was also heavily reinforced in the summer, while the signing of Luis Hernández in January took them very close to the 43-million-euro limit.

The amount will also be reduced due to their eleventh-place finish this season, as the Blue and Whites finished eighth in the 2015/16 season under Javi Gracia.

The budget also has to cover the players who will be brought in to replace those who have come to the end of their contracts at Malaga, either as loanees or permanent members of the squad, as well as paying for members of the coaching staff.



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A LOOK AT LA LIGA

ROB PALMER
Commentator, Sky Sports
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The hard work begins now

New Barça boss Ernesto Valverde has a lot of recruiting to do this summer

The worst kept secret in Spanish football became a reality when Ernesto Valverde was confirmed as the new manager of Barcelona this week and the commendations have flowed in.

He's been described as a deep-thinking, footballing philosopher returning to the club where he played two decades ago - the perfect fit.

I can't disagree that he is one of football's gentlemen, a fine coach with an impressive CV. He's won the Greek League with Olympiakos, structured Athletic Bilbao into a club capable of beating Barcelona in the Spanish Super Cup and he even took Espanyol to the UEFA Cup final.



Ander Herrera worked with Valverde at Athletic. :: EFE

It is a résumé that is very similar to that of Rafa Benítez when he joined Real Madrid or Bobby Robson at Barcelona. Both took on clubs going through a transition and their stays were not defined by their ability to coach but the men in suits behind the scenes.

Valverde is the statesman who will transmit calm and organisation when the truth is that, within the walls of the Camp Nou, there is a need for reconstruction and harmony. The past and previous presidents are at each other's throats; there hasn't been a graduate from the famed academy since Sergi Roberto; and last summer's transfers were largely a waste of

money.

If his only job was to man-manage the team and get the tactics right, then he's the man.

This is more like the less-publicised spells at Villarreal, where he didn't last long after replacing Manuel Pellegrini, and Valencia, where he worked for just one season.

The success or failure of Barcelona will not be defined by Valverde's craft and experience but what tools he's given to work with. He inherits the most enviable strike force in the world, backed up by Gerard Piqué and the crux of a team that has been a real force in Spain and beyond for several years.

The problem is that Barça have to change their tack. They have to invest in fledgling talent and plenty of it. They are six, seven, maybe nine players short of keeping up with their eternal rivals, Real Madrid. Nine is the magic number of changes that Zinedine Zidane could make between games. If Luis Enrique tinkered at all, then his team



Ernesto Valverde was officially presented on Thursday. :: EFE

lost its equilibrium.

My knowledge of world football isn't vast enough to make mass suggestions. It's clear that the mid-field needs reinforcing. Ander Herrera has been linked with the blaugrana, Philippe Coutinho is strongly rumoured to be on the radar, and I think Dele Alli could further his career in the colours of Barcelona.

This won't make me popular with fans of Manchester United, Liverpool or Spurs, but that is the

level of player and quality of club they need to raid. It would be a contrast to last summer, when the signings were largely back-up players who made no impact at all.

Luis Enrique saw the writing on the wall and he's left on a high of winning the Copa Del Rey. His successor will be smiling from the pages of newspapers and TV screens but, after that, not for long, as there is some serious work ahead.



Andrés Iniesta lifting the trophy on Saturday night. :: EFE

Luis Enrique bows out with Copa del Rey final win over Alavés

The victory was a fitting end to the coach's trophy-laden three-year spell in charge

:: DARYL FINCH

MALAGA. Luis Enrique ended his spell as Barcelona boss on a high last Saturday as the Blaugrana recorded a 3-1 victory against Deportivo Alavés in the Copa del Rey final, the last official game to be played at the Vicente Calderón.

The match was effectively settled by half time despite a superb Theo Hernández freekick giving the underdogs a glimmer of hope when he cancelled out Lionel Messi's opener in the 33rd minute.

However, it was a quickfire double on the stroke of half time from Neymar and Paco Alcácer that killed off the tie.

Alavés had their chances in the second half but lacked the conviction necessary to put real pressure on the La Liga runners up. Despite a stutter-

ing campaign both domestically and in Europe, Barça were not going to let this one slip.

They used their experience and their signature possession game to see out the tie, wrapping up the ninth piece of silverware in Luis Enrique's three-year spell in charge with plenty still left in the tank.

The match also proved to be the last for Alavés head coach Mauricio Pellegrino, who announced he would be leaving among interest from Sevilla and clubs in the Premier League.

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Costa del Golf Tour gets off to a flying start in Marbella

Salvador Benítez, Antonio Sánchez and Francesca Robert McCormack were the winners on the opening day of the amateur tour

MÁLAGA. The course at Alcaidesa, in the Cadiz municipality of San Roque, last Saturday welcomed the first leg of the Costa del Golf tour - one of the biggest amateur tours to take place in Andalucía, organised by SUR and its leading specialist publication Costa del Golf.

Around a hundred players, described by the tour's director as having a "very high level", took part in the event, won by Salvador Benítez and Antonio Sánchez in the first and second categories, respectively. Francesca Robert McCormack topped the women's table.

Juan Manuel Toro, Peter Grutter, Antonio Corral and Antonio Gil made up the rest of the top five in the first category with Raúl López, David Doña, Matías de los Ríos and Manuel Justo doing likewise in the second. Among the female players, Mercedes Espiñeira, María José Vegas, Rosa Risoto and María Victoria Sel made up the rest of the pack.

The tour is played as an individual Stableford points competition and access to the grand final (which takes place at Los Flamingos, in the Hotel Villa Padierna in Marbella) depends on performance across the three matchdays, though it is still possible to progress having only played in one or two.

Players wishing to take part can still sign up via the Oferplan website (oferplan.diariosur.es) for the tour's remaining two stops on 24 June and 8 July.

The first will be at Real Club de Golf Guadalmina, which this year will also host the Women's Open



ALBERTO GÓMEZ

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de España, part of the European Tour. The course boast 45 holes in total and opened in 1959, making it one of the oldest on the Costa del Sol.

The second, and final chance to get to the final, will be at Cabopino, also in Marbella.



Organisers, sponsors and winners at Alcaidesa Golf on Saturday. :: J-L

Figures show signs of recovery in golf tourism sector

Golf tourism grew on the Costa del Sol by four per cent in 2016 compared with the previous year - a figure which confirms the continuing recovery of a sector which is one of the largest in Andalucía, and one which suffered most during the economic crisis.

The growing support from sponsors has seen a number of professional and amateur tournaments make a reappearance on the calendar in recent months.

The Malaga provincial authority says that golf tourism is worth 400 million euros to the Costa del Sol, with that figure rising to 900 million when secondary spending is taken into account.

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Unicaja seal playoff semi-final spot with victory in Tenerife decider

Joan Plaza's side confirmed their place in a third semi-final play-off in four years, which this time sees the Malaga side face Real Madrid

:: JUAN CALDERÓN

MALAGA. Unicaja secured their spot in the semi-finals of this year's playoffs after a 71-61 home victory over Iberostar Tenerife in the deciding quarter-final match

Tenerife's 73-67 victory over Unicaja on Friday meant that the winner of Sunday's game at the Carpena would advance to the last four, and a strong physical display from Joan Plaza's side ensured Unicaja will face Real Madrid in the next play-off stage.

The expected tension given the magnitude of the match transmitted to the rhythm of the game, with only a few scores in the opening exchanges.

However, Unicaja soon found their mojo and shooting accuracy, with three-pointers from Jeff Brooks and Jamar Smith putting the Malaga side into a 12-6 lead with five minutes gone.



Christian Eyenga's re-introduction in the third quarter was pivotal to Unicaja's victory. :: SALVADOR SALAS

Tenerife maintained a strong defence, but Unicaja's physical superiority allowed them to take a 16-10 lead into the second quarter.

The baskets continued to come for the hosts, with three consecutive three-point baskets from Ne-

manja Nedović unsettling the often compact and solid Tenerife team.

Eleven points without reply from the home side and a consequent 33-17 scoreline threatened to completely kill off the game, but baskets in quick succession from the visitors saw Uni-

caja's lead cut to nine points, with the half-time score 35-26.

Unicaja threatened but ultimately failed to add further scores to their tally and as a result saw a backlash from their opponents through Georgios Borgis, who put Tenerife within

71 61

UNICAJA - TENERIFE

six points of their hosts.

After two three-pointers apiece, Plaza brought Nedović and Christian Eyenga back on, moves which revived the hosts at both ends of the court, with the former's three-pointer putting Unicaja 51-41 ahead going into the final quarter.

Oliver Lafayette, who has had a relatively quiet season, saved his best minutes for the final quarter, scoring decisive baskets to extend Unicaja's lead to 12 points with just six minutes remaining.

Nevertheless, Tenerife refused to give in and they set up a tense finale by scoring ten points, thanks to scores from Rodrigo San Miguel and Tariq Kirksay, while conceding just three to put the score at 63-56 to the hosts.

However, the visitors' decision to go for three-pointers saw their accuracy decrease and a ruthless Unicaja punished them by scoring two baskets on the break through Dani Díez and Nedović to secure victory and a semi-final against Real Madrid.

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Unicaja showed no signs of being overwhelmed as they headed to the capital for the first of a possible five semi-final ties against Real Madrid. On Wednesday night, only a superb performance from the league's stand-out player, Sergio Llull, stood between the two sides as Los Blancos registered a narrow 71-68 win. The sides meet again in Madrid tonight at 8.30pm before the return match in Malaga on Sunday. If the tie is still in the balance (2-1), there will be a fourth game on Tuesday, with a possible fifth on Thursday.



AGENCIA LOF

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▲ **Gymnastics.** This weekend, Mijas hosted the finals of the Al-Andalus championships where the top eight gymnasts in each category of the Tesorillo and Ronda competitions faced off for the top honours. The GRGA team from Gibraltar did especially well, with gold medals claimed by Lili Murphy, Thea Cawthorn, Kylie Gaivizo and Chanel Trinidad. :: SUR



◀ **Jábegas.** The 2017 Liga de Jábegas got underway on Saturday with the El Candado Gran Premio, won in the senior category by La Araña. The Asociación de Remo y Pala de Torremolinos came out on top in the veterans, women and youth categories. ::

ÁLVARO CABRERA

► **Rugby.** Trocadero Marbella this weekend took a number of youth teams to Madrid for the National Rugby Youth Tournament. The club managed to have a team in every semifinal contested and their under-8s went on to claim gold.

:: SUR



► **Inline hockey.** The sporting achievement and community work of the Fuengirola Lions was recognised on Monday as they picked up the prize for Best Sports Project of 2017 at the town's Sports Awards Ceremony. Jari Nyman is pictured receiving the prize at the Palacio de la Paz. :: SUR



◀ **Handball.** Malaga-born Ana González made handball history by being the youngest player to earn a call-up to the national side. The 18-year-old is in the Spain squad for the World Cup qualifier against Ukraine which will take place over two legs on 9 and 14 July.

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MARBELLA center, gorgeous Thai ladyboy, slim, kissable lips, name it and you have it. 663612830

BENALMADENA: Linda 26, beautiful blonde transvestite, feminine, endowed. Whatsapp 667846464

SENSUAL Asian Trans. Classy, friendly, fun. Puerto Banus 602414398

Massage

WWW.TANTRACENTER.ES PLEASURE WITHOUT LIMITS, SPEC-TACULAR MASSEUSE. MASSAGE EROTIC... WITH!!!SHOCKING END! 952216145/ 644452369

SAYAN. Tantra massage for ladies, gentlemen & couples. Ultimate bliss at a very nice place. Fuengirola. 952586339 /608977260 www.masajessayan.es

MARBELLA. Monik, sexy lady. Titled chiropractor,relaxing, therapeutic, Chinese techniques, magic hands, portable massage bed. Private apartment. Hotel Visits. 686740661

DISCOVER the benefits of tantric massages! Feel the pleasure in your skin...635290724

PROFESSIONAL masseuse: Massages till end with optional end. 666770405 Estepona

44 YEAR old brunette, slender, natural French, Greek, toys, squirting, no limits, dungeon. Secluded facilities. Call 662913428 Check me out at: www.Lailalynch1.com

PURE ecstasy in Nueva Andalucia with young pretty independent masseuse. Erotic body, tantric and other completely relaxing massages in private apartment. 656350401

MARBELLA centre. New. Luxury center with wide selection of expert masseuse... Sensual, erotic. Nuru erotic tantra, body to body lingam and prostatic. Unique experience 4 hands, pleasant and exciting, double stimulation. Massage for couples. Open: 9:00am/9:00pm. Appointment: 952867663/ 690046233

ESTEPONA. Funny young latina, sex, massage. I speak English. 672536859

TANTRAZENN Fuengirola: Indulge yourself in the hands of masseuses. Stimulate your senses. Welcome to the Tantra world. www.tantra-zenn.com. 608016983



MARBELLA. Camila, beautiful, elegant, exotic, full body massage. Whatsapp 603169139 www.mysticmassage.es

GORGEOUS Paola. Erotic, tantric, body massage. Happy ending. relaxingtouch.es 602448534

touch4men.com Professional Erotic man2man massage. Incalls Torre-molinos. Outcalls Costa del Sol. 628746407

40 EUROS: Sensitive, relaxing, prostatic massage. Happy ending. Fuengirola. 625912315

FUENGIROLA Carolina, blonde, elegant, relaxing massage, full erotic massage. Whatsapp. Message: 634797230

SOPHYA Elite high class escort model. Luxury GFE, tantric b2b massage, role-play. 603176001

ENGLISH Gentleman Masseuse. Any desired massage. Outcall & Hotel visits. Price dependant on specific requirements. You will be left feeling refreshed and satisfied 100%. Call 622458751

MATURE man, qualified masseur. Excellent massages for men. Torre-molinos, Carhuela. 639040128

FUENGIROLA: Body2body Tantra erotic massage with a delightful finalé. Come & be pampered by one of our sensual girls. 604298406

ESTEPONA: Kim professional masseuse, Tantra and therapeutic. Private apartment. Outcalls. 602469304

SAN PEDRO de Alcántara. MM Massage offer therapeutic, sport, lomilomi and Balines massage. Clear and good atmosphere. 951482585/ 604393547

ASIAN qualified offer an authentic professional massage relieve, pain and stress, luxury, private. Marbella center. 604143788

SLIM, Young Russian, pretty Asian, sexy, hot horny, discreet, luxury atmosphere, Marbella. 679126231

FUENGIROLA, Luciana, Costa Rica. Beautiful lady, Enjoy a relaxing, sensitive, sensual massage with me. Hawaiians technicals. 602605697

MALE to male massage for golfers and busy gentlemen Puerto Banus. JayLi (Singaporean) 662576394

FANTASTIC Massage by Asian Shemale. Relax, release. Nueva Andalucía 602414398

Various

VIAGRA (Kamagra) 100 mg, Cialis (Tadalafil) 20 mg, Jellies 100 mg. Wholesale & retail. Free delivery all areas. For the best products & service. 617740250.24 hrs.

VIAGRA Kamagra 100mm for sale. Delivery/ postal email be-met1@hotmail.com 634029878

SUR
in English

The undisputed
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more than
260,000 expats
every week
in Malaga alone
(*IPSOS
independent
research)



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MALAGA. HEAD OFFICE. Emma **952 649 669 / 683 298 897**

MARBELLA. Leandro **952 776 040.** Jules Franken **629 589 964**

SAN PEDRO DE ALCANTARA. Traducciones San Pedro **952 789 204 / 654 613 094**

FUENGIROLA. Diana **952 580 142 / 635 716 285**

BENALMÁDEN. Publi Ocio del Sur **670 886 299.** Graham **605 022 121**

MIJAS. Carrefour Mijas **952 580 726 / 670 643 488**

MIJAS COSTA. Sonja Bryce **626 539 298**

ESTEPONA. Carmen **609 569 878**

SOTOGRADE/GIBRALTAR **616 263 687**

COIN. Rocio **951 315 113 / 600 513 343**

NERJA. Debbie **952 649 674**

RINCÓN DE LA VICTORIA. Virginia **952 403 611**

SUR
in English

CHURCH SERVICES INTERNATIONAL

CHURCH OF ENGLAND/
EPICOSPAL CHURCH

St George's Anglican Chaplaincy
www.stgeorgemalaga.org
email: chaplain@stgeorgemalaga.org or wardens@stgeorgemalaga.org
Malaga, St George's Church (in the English Cemetery, Av. de Pries) Sunday Holy Communion 11am. Contact: 951 287 382
Velez-Málaga, La Antigua Capilla de S. José, C/. Linares 7. Sundays 10.30am
Anglican Chaplaincy of St. Andrew, Costa del Sol (East)
Chaplaincy Office 952580600.
Los Boliches, St. Andrew's Edif. Jupiter, Avda Padre Jesús Cautivo 44. Sung matins (BCP) Mon, Tues, Thurs 9am. Holy Communion (BCP) 9.30am.
Benalmádena Costa, San José chapel, 9.30am;
Sung Eucharist (Common Worship) 1st, 3rd, 4th Sun; sung MP 2nd Sun
Calahonda, Ermita de San Miguel, 9.30am. Sung Eucharist (Common Worship) 2nd and 4th Sun; sung MP 1st and 3rd Sun.
Alhaurín el Grande: Cemetery Chapel Sun. at 11.30am. All age service 1st Sun; MP (Common Worship) 2nd Sun; sung Eucharist (Common Worship) 3rd, 4th Sun
Costa del Sol (West)
San Pedro, Sunday 10a.m. (Holy Communion) Parroquia Virgen del Rocío.
Sotogrande, Sunday 12 noon. (Holy Communion 2nd & 4th Sundays) La Iglesia de Nuestra Sra. de la Merced. Chaplaincy House. www.costachurch.com
Nerja: Sun 12 noon, San Miguel church, Wed. 9.30am. (Church shop, C/Malaga 952 522 460.) Rev. Geoffrey Johnston, 952521339.
Almuñécar: Capilla de Nuestra Señora del Carmen, (Fishermen's chapel) Chinasol. Sun. 9.30am. (not August) Priest as Nerja.
Torre del Mar: St Barnabas IERE, 11am. Morning Prayer 1st and 3rd Sunday, H.C. 2nd and 4th. Lux Mundi centre. 952030461.
Gibraltar: Cathedral of the Holy Trinity, Sun 10.30. Tel. 78377.
Benalmádena Costa: Songs of Praise, Interdenominational church service, Castillo Bil Bil. Sun. 5.30pm. Oct. – May. 648666152.

MUSLIM

Marbella: Mezquita del Rey Abdulaziz. Friday 2.30pm. 952774143.
Fuengirola: Mezquita del Centro Cultural Suhail, Parque Doña Sofía. Friday worship 2.30pm. Tel 952473916.
Malaga: Mezquita, C/San Agustín 11. Friday 2.30pm. 952228595.

ROMAN CATHOLIC

Marbella: Santo Cristo del Calvario Church, Avda. del Calvario: Holy Mass in English, 11am. every Sunday. Tel: 952774 899.
Fuengirola: Capilla San José, Las Rampas (Upper Level), Daily Mass (in English): Mon-Fri 11am. Sat 7pm. Sun 11am.
Fuengirola: Lux Mundi, C/ Nueva, 12 Sun.
Arroyo de la Miel: Mass in English Parroquia de la Inmaculada, Saturday 1 pm.
Calahonda: Ermita de San Miguel, 12 Sun.
Benalmádena Costa: Parish Church of La Virgen del Carmen, Avda. Bonanza. Bilingual mass English/Spanish Sunday 10am.
Torre del Mar: Lux Mundi, Avda. Moscatel, 1-“1”. Saturday. Winter 5pm, summer 6 pm. 952543334.
Chiclana (Cadiz): Nstra Señora de Europa church, Urb. Novo Sancti Petri, RC Mass in English and German, Sunday 10.30am
Pueblo Nuevo de Guadair - Sotogrande (Cadiz): Mass in English, Saturday 7pm and Sunday 10.30am at Santuario de la Divina Misericodia
Malaga: Catholic mass in English, Avenida Santiago Ramón y Cajal, Ciudad Jardín. 11.30am Sunday. 952260760.

METHODIST CHURCH

Gibraltar: Methodist Church, 297 Main Street. Sun 11am and 8pm. +350 200 77491/+350 200 40870. Rev. Fidel Patron.
Sotogrande: La Iglesia de Nuestra Sra. de la Merced 1st and 3rd Sundays 11.45a.m. For more info. call 952 895 102.

CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST
OF LATTER DAY SAINTS

Mijas international: 10 am Sun Calle Rueda 7 , Los Boliches, 952469392 / 607521032.
Motril: Sun10 am. C/ Jesús del Gran Poder 34. 958 825665.
Malaga: Sun 10.30 am, C/Babel 1.
Algeciras: Sun 10.30 am. C/Sevilla 43. Tel. 956630894.
Nerja: Sun. 10.30 a.m. C/Granada,83. Tel. 607 522 671

JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES

Arroyo de la Miel: Avda Del Cerro de Viento, s/n . Tues. 7.30pm. Sat. 4.30pm. Tel. 952561170.
Fuengirola: Kingdom Hall, Plaza Hispanidad, Service Meeting, Fri 7.30pm. 952469082.
Malaga: C/José Palanca, 20. Service Fri 8pm. Tues 7.15pm.
San Pedro: C/ Amor 6, Fuente Nueva. English: Sun 11am & Wed 7.30pm. Tagalog: Sun 1.30pm & Tues 7.30pm. Kingdom Hall 952788855.
Torrox Costa: Local 17, Urb Costa de Oro. Sun 11 a.m., Weds 7pm. Tel. 952526740.
Torre del Mar: Calle Infantes, Conjuntos Islas del Sol. Scandinavian Sun 6pm, Thurs 7pm. German Sun 11am and Fri 7pm.
Coín: Calle Félix Rodríguez de la Fuente. Weds 7.30pm, Sun 11.30am. 952499239.

EVANGELICAL CHURCH /
BAPTIST CHURCH

Los Boliches: Evangelical Church, Paseo Marítimo 77. Sun:Worship and Bible teaching, 4pm. Weds: Bible study and prayer 7.30pm. Tel 952460728
Torremolinos: Evangelical Community Church. Sun service 11am. C/Gregorio Marañón 4. 952384706
Torremolinos: Gloryhouse International Christian Center. African Pentecostal style. Sun 11am C/ Danza Invisible, 7/8, Bloque D, Nogalera. Pastor Moses. 679740825, 951210300
Nerja: Fellowship of the King, Pasaje San Miguel, Sundays at 10.30am. 952 969 058 / 958 658 439.
Nerja: Community Bible Fellowship, C/ Pintada 35, 2nd floor. English/ Spanish Worship, Sunday 10am. 952521776.
Caleta de Vélez: Cornerstone International Church. Barrio Cooperative Ntra Sa del Carmen. Sunday 11.30am. 634 540 519
Calahonda: The Evangelical Christian Fellowship, Ermita San Miguel. Sun 4.30pm. Rev. Peter Riggall, 952 588 160.
Arroyo de la Miel: Arroyo Baptist Church, Sun 4pm. Conjunto Zodiaco, Edif. Aries, C/ Sagitario. Tel. 95244796/952386716.
Calahonda: Baptist Church, Calle San Jeronimo 1, Worship Sunday 11 am with Sunday School. 952832533.
La Línea: Asambleas de Dios. C/San José, 41. Thurs 9pm. Sun 11am & 8 pm.
Marbella: Int. Christian F'ship. Sun 11.30 Ed. Milla de Oro. Tel. 952 932 216 .
Mijas Costa: Iglesias International Costa del Sol, C/José de Orbaneja 10. Sun 11am and 7pm; Thur 7pm Tel:636 422 7
Puerto Banús: Christian Church (The Wave) Worship Service: Sun 11am. The Wave Café: Wed 11am. Prayer: Fri 12pm. 637408194/5 puertobanuschurch.com
Salobreña: Fellowship of the King. Various locations. Sundays at 10am Tel.635 358 808 / 958 645 027
Almuñécar: Fellowship of the King. Casita Málaga, Parque El Majuelo. 2nd & 4th Sundays, 11.00am . Tel. 958 881 358
Almuñécar: Evangelical Reformed Church, C/ Torres Quevedo 5. T958 639 529, 677 699 490. Sunday 11 a.m.

Gibraltar: Brethren Assembly, Queensway Quay. Sun 11am, Minister Francis Baldachino.
Benalmádena Costa: Elim Family F'ship. Sun 11am. Pastor Dave 695115496 www.elimfamilyfellowship.com
San Pedro: Elim Family Fellowship. Sun 3.30pm. 695 115 496
San Pedro: Faith Baptist Church. Sun 6.30pm, Edif Manantial. Tel: 615 788 511
Fuengirola: Ark Christian Fellowship Family Worship. Sun 11am, C/Rio Darro 2, Plaza Juncal. Tel.: 952 592 171.
Fuengirola: Costa del Sol Bible School, Healing Clinic and “The Beauty of Holiness”. Rev. Joyce McNaughton 663706806.
Fuengirola: The Way, Christian Counselling Ministry. Tel. 634369414/ 951135441.
Malaga: Believers Loveworld Inc.(Christ Embassy) Sunday11am, Wed 7pm, Sat 5pm. C/Cantimpla 11, Av. de Europa 951955354/672805789.
Marbella: House of Judah (Jewish & Gentile Believers) Bilingual Fri. Worship 7.30pm - NH Marbella Hotel Tel: 605924555.
Mijas Costa: Baptist, Bi-Lingual services Sun 11.30am and 7pm; Thur 7pm Tel:636 422 717 www.libertadmijascosta.com
Heaven's Gate Pentecostal Church Int: Benalmádena: Carril de Sirocco 1, Worship- Sun 11am- 6pm, F'ship- Friday 7.30pm, 602392139
Fuengirola: Christian Family Centre Int. Worship Sun 1pm, Fellowship Tue 7pm Church auditorium, C/Jacinto Benavente, 10. Tel: 605329074
Granada: Avda Andalucía, 53, La Chana, Worship- Sun 6pm, 605329074
Malaga: Avda de Europa, 69, Worship- Sunday 9am, Fellowship- Wednesday 7.30pm, 605329074

DUTCH EVANGELICAL

Fuengirola: Skandinaviska Turistkyran. Ed. M del Carmen. Paseo Marítimo 77 Los Boliches, Sundays 9.30.
Torremolinos: Sun 11.30 in Holland Huis. Ed. Number One. Avda. de Montemar, 10-A.

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND
(PRESBYTERIAN)

Fuengirola: Sun 10.30am at Lux Mundi Ecumenical Centre, C/Nueva 3. Tel 951260982 or 952455213.
Gibraltar: St. Andrew's Church, Sun 10.30am. Tel 20077040.
Torre del Mar: Sun 11am, Legend's Bar, C/Don Cipriano Maldonado Jiménez.

BAHAI

Bahai Information Office, C/Ricardo Soriano, 35, Marbella.
Marbella: 952 90 21 21
Fuengirola: 951 259 742.
Malaga: 952 214 052.
Benalmádena: 952 442 424.
Alhaurín de la Torre: 952411496.
Rincón de la Victoria: 952 402 870.
Gibraltar: +350 200 73287.

SYNAGOGUES

Torremolinos: Beth Minzi, Av. Palma de Mallorca 55; Castillo San Luis, Local 14. Daily services. 952052550.
Marbella: Beth El, Urb. El Real, Km 184. Services, Fri in summer 8.30pm winter 7pm Sat & holidays 10am 952859395

QUAKERS

Malaga: Quakers (Society of Friends). Info: zvi@gotadsl.co.uk

NORWEGIAN SEAMEN'S CHURCH

Calahonda: El Campanario, Av del Cortijo 3. Sun 4 pm, 952939800
www.sjomannskirken.no/costadelsol

SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH

Fuengirola: Sat 10am. Bible study, worship Calle Palangreros, 60. 952456672 / 633716651 ww.adventistasfuengirola.es.

CONSULATES

Great Britain	C/. Mauricio Moro Pareto 2- 2. Málaga	952352300
USA	Av. Juan Gómez 8. Ed. Lucía 1-C. Fuengirola	952474891
Holland	Avda Palma de Mallorca 57, Torremolinos	952380888
Belgium	Carretera de Cádiz, km 202, 29649 Mijas Costa	952599159
Denmark	Calle Córdoba 6 404, Malaga	952211797
Norway	Avda Los Boliches, 60, Edf Rosenkranz, Fuengirola	952667955
Canada	C/Cervantes, Edif. Horizonte, Malaga	952223346
Germany	Mauricio Moro Pareto 2, Malaga	952363591
Sweden	Calle Córdoba 6, 5th floor, Malaga	952604383
Ireland	Avda. Los Boliches, Fuengirola	952475108
France	1, Plaza de Santa Cruz, Seville	954293200
Italy	Calle Lagasca, 98, Madrid	912106910
Austria	Alameda de Colón 26, Malaga	952600267
Finland	Calle Blasco de Garay, 7, Malaga	952212435
Saudi Arabia	Mauricio M. Pareto 2 bloque Sur 2º, Malaga	952310358
Greece	Salitre, 16, Malaga	952311847
Iceland	Paseo Marítimo 91, 29640 Fuengirola	952661200
Philippines	C/Marqués de Larios 4, 2º, Malaga	952222757
Hungary	Av. de Andalucía 26 29007 Malaga	952308393

USEFUL PHONE NUMBERS

EMERGENCIES	
Emergency operator	112
National Police	091
Local (municipal) Police	092
Medical	061
Fire	080
Guardia Civil	062
Sea Rescue	900202202
Crime report	902102112

ENGLISH-SPEAKING HELP	
Samaritans in Spain	900525100
Alcoholics Anonymous	600379110
Age Care	952933409
Age Concern (Estepona)	608458555

ANDALUSIAN HEALTH SERVICE	
Salud Responde (doctors' appointments & advice)	902505060

ESTEPONA	
Bus Station	952800249
Taxi Service	952802900
Tourist Office	952800913
Town Hall	952801100
Foreign Residents Dept.	952809031

FUENGIROLA	
Bus Station	952475066
Taxi Service	952471000
Tourist Office	952467625
Town Hall	952589300
Foreign Residents Dept.	952589440

MALAGA	
Bus Station	952350061
Railway Station	902240202
Taxi Service	952345693
Tourist Office	951926020

MARBELLA	
Bus Station	952823409
Taxi Service	952774488

Tourist Office	952771442
Town Hall	952761100
Foreign Residents Dept.	952771442

MIJAS	
Town Hall	952485900
Town Hall Las Lagunas	952473125
Taxi	952478288
Tourism Office	952589034
Foreign Resident Dept.	952589010

NERJA	
Bus Station	902422242
Taxi Service	952520537
Tourist Information	952521531
Town Hall	952548400
Foreign Resident Dept.	952548401

TORREMOLINOS	
Bus Station	902143144
Taxi Service	952380600
Tourist Office	952371909
Town Hall	952379400
Foreign Residents Dept.	952374231

BENALMADENA	
Bus Station	902450550
Taxi Service	952441545
Tourist Office	952442494
Town Hall	952374231
Foreign Residents Dept.	952442494

VÉLEZ-MÁLAGA	
Bus Station	952503162
Taxi	952540016
Town Hall	952559100
Tourist Office	952541104

GIBALTAR	
General emergency	199/112(mobiles)
Fire/ambulance (emergency)	190
Tourist Office	(00350) 20074950
Taxi	(00350) 20070027

MALAGA PORT INFORMATION

CRUISE SHIP MOVEMENTS (SOURCE: MALAGA PORT AUTHORITY)					
Ship	Date	From	Next port	Docks	Sails
Panorama II	03/06	Motril	Motril	07.0	04.00
Tui Discovery 2	04/06	Ceuta	Vigo	06.00	22.00
Celebrity Reflection	04/06	Barcelona	Gibraltar	07.00	19.00
Silver Spirit	10/06	Cartagena	Gibraltar	08.00	23.59
Tui Discovery	11/06	Gibraltar	Marseille	06.00	22.00
Aidabella	12/06	-	-	07.00	20.00
Star Legend	12/06	-	-	08.00	22.00
Independence ot Seas	13/06	Toulon	Lisbon	08.00	15.00



THE SEVEN DIFFERENCES



THE STARS


- 

Aquarius
January 21 - February 19
Treat everyone as your best friend and you will get a brighter response, especially at work.
- 


Pisces
February 20th - March 20th
When explaining your ideas to others, stay practical. Keep any fantastical thoughts for romance, not for work.
- 

Aries
March 21st - April 20th
A burst of energy this week makes it a great time to find answers to anything. However, be diplomatic where loved ones are concerned.
- 


Taurus
April 21st - May 21st
Getting organised at work is best to keep things running smoothly, so leave nothing to chance!



Gemini
May 22nd - June 21st
Keep your social life running along as there are some interesting people on the horizon.




Cancer
June 22nd - July 23rd
Could it be that a friend going in the wrong direction makes you realise what is wrong in your own sphere?



Leo
July 24th - August 23rd
Are you helping a friend to move house or creating fresh ideas for your own home? Either way your hot, creative streak is at its best.




Virgo
August 24th - September 23rd
Current partnerships sizzle in a new way as your imagination goes into overdrive.




Libra
September 24th - October 23rd
Those who no longer add anything to your life could see a change in your attitude to them.



Scorpio
October 24th - November 22nd
Tempting as it may be to make your romantic intentions known to someone you admire, the best time is nearer the end of this month.

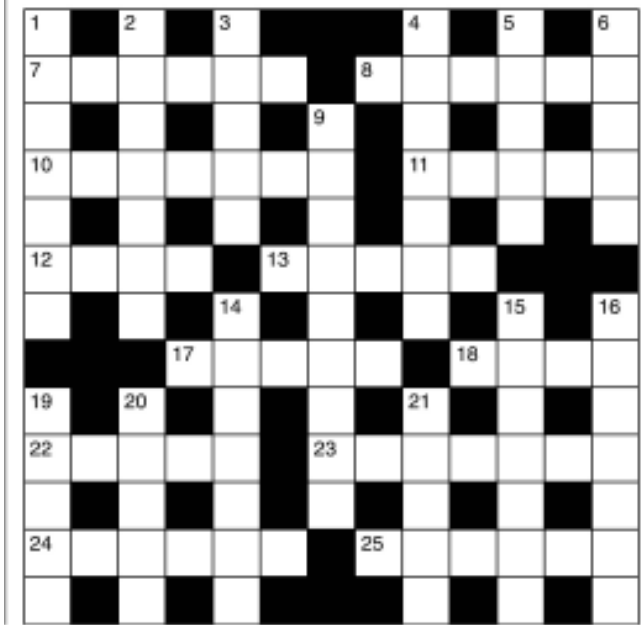


Sagittarius
November 23rd - December 21st
In a lucky and busy time your talents really show. Who do you want to impress? Don't be shy!



Capricorn
December 22nd - January 20th
The chance for personal growth is high and you really do need to make the most of this period.

CRYPTIC CROSSWORD N° 11244



Across

- 7 Soft bed required for the sportsman (6)
- 8 Be the recipient of another's advances (6)
- 10 Treatin' the fertiliser in a different way (7)
- 11 A bit of serenity, we hear (5)
- 12 The ham is partly embroidered, generally (4)
- 13 Childish infatuation for a fruit drink (5)
- 17 It's used after rain - in fact it pours! (5)
- 18 One with the leading part in 'Brother Octavius' (4)
- 22 Behave grotesquely - what a sauce! (5)
- 23 Displayed in the position of the defeated boxer! (4,3)
- 24 The military policeman is a Communist (6)
- 25 An instrument to practise dishonestly (6)

Down

- 1 Top worker at the mill? (7)
- 2 Freight charge - mind the label is inside (7)
- 3 Decoration poorly made by a learner (5)
- 4 Settle oneself to make a score (7)
- 5 A summary kind of case (5)
- 6 This follows the main course, my love (5)
- 9 Completely following change of rate in a sad way (9)
- 14 Box and beat a classical fighter (7)
- 15 Discs produces by the annalist (7)
- 16 Wartime decade that is embodied in strongholds (7)
- 19 Disorganised races cause alarm (5)
- 20 A place for a hippie in the south east - it's used for digst (5)
- 21 Note isn't changed when sent back (5)

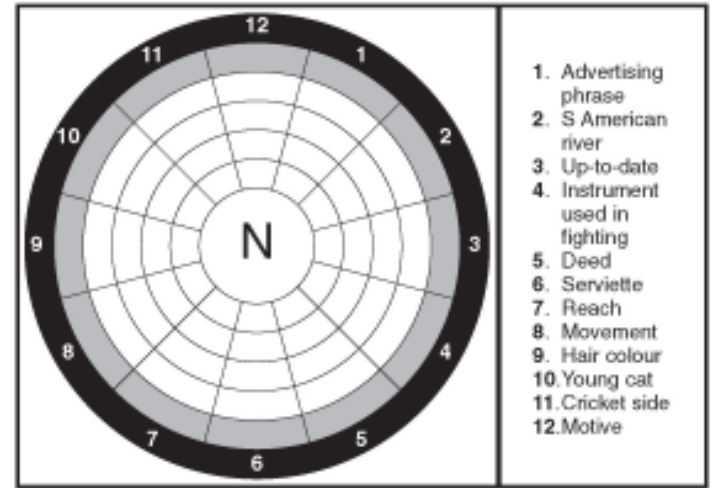
SUDOKU BY HANZO

Instructions
Complete the square making sure that every row of nine numbers includes all digits from 1 to 9, every column includes all digits from 1 to 9 and every 3 by 3 subsection includes all digits from 1 to 9

		1			4		9	
	6	5			2			
					7		3	2
9		2			6			1
	5		1	3				
							6	3
2				5				
	4	9			1		8	7
1			9			4		

CLOCKWORD

The solutions from 1 to 12 are all six-letter words ending with the letter N in the centre. Moving clockwise from 1, the letters in the outer circle will spell out the name of a late U.S. actor and director.



THE WORDPUZZLER

Q	A	P	E	A	L	M	I	P	O
A	L	A	N	D	J	A	M	E	S
G	A	R	I	L	E	R	P	R	P
R	L	F	K	E	N	I	E	A	E
I	D	E	I	N	J	O	D	Y	L
V	E	A	N	T	A	T	E	R	L
U	G	L	D	I	K	I	A	T	A
M	P	A	I	N	E	L	S	O	N
N	D	I	M	E	K	O	P	N	U
O	S	N	I	G	E	L	L	A	R

CAN you identify the first names of the Grand Prix champions listed below?

1. Senna

2. Hunt

3. Rosberg

4. Jones

5. Andretti

6. Piquet

7. Mansell

8. Lauda

9. Schecter

10. Prost

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.
- 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 Almjara** (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

In which country is Salman Rushdi's 'Midnight Children' set?

1. Iran
2. Turkey
3. India
4. Pakistan

QUESTION 2

Chaucer wrote 'The Canterbury Tales', what was his christian name?

1. William
2. Geoffrey
3. John
4. Colin

LANGUAGE CROSSWORD FILL IN THE SPANISH WORD

Across

1. Abdication (10)

5. Unlouchable (9)

10. The (m) (2)

11. Society (8)

13. Spectator (10)

14. He fails (3)

15. Title (8)

16. Not much (4)

17. Country (4)

18. Press (5)

20. Pleasant (5)

23. Shi (4)

24. Beautiful (7)

27. I will praise (8)

29. To give up (9)

30. Friendships (8)

32. Reign (7)

34. Pictures (8)

35. Warning (11)

37. He was going (3)

39. It is (2)

40. Succession (8)

41. He waves (6)

44. Determination (13)

45. Thrones (5)

Down

1. Announcement (7)

2. From (5)

3. Scar (8)

4. Tale (5)

5. Excitement (7)

8. Thunder (5)

7. Opposite (8)

8. Edge (5)

9. Energy (7)

12. I clarified (8)

17. Politics (8)

19. Its (2)

21. Embuzzlement (12)

22. To brake (6)

23. Stability (11)

24. Hair (5)

25. He was of the opinion (7)

26. Journalists (11)

27. To shiver (10)

28. To the (2)

31. Young (5)

33. To include (7)

36. Age (4)

38. Ace (2)

42. Even (3)

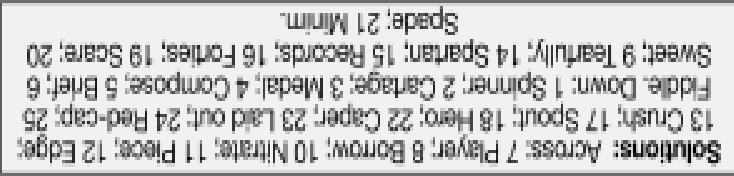
43. I (2)

ANSWERS

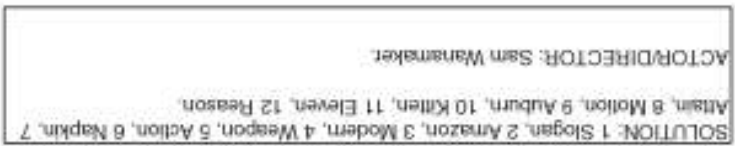
Language Crossword



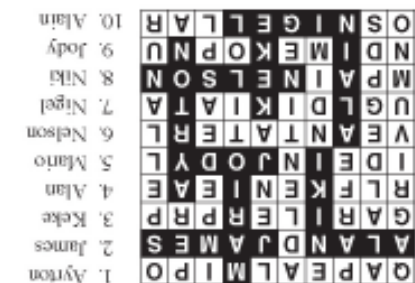
Cryptic Crossword



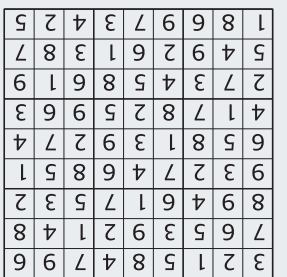
Clockword solution



Wordpuzzler solution



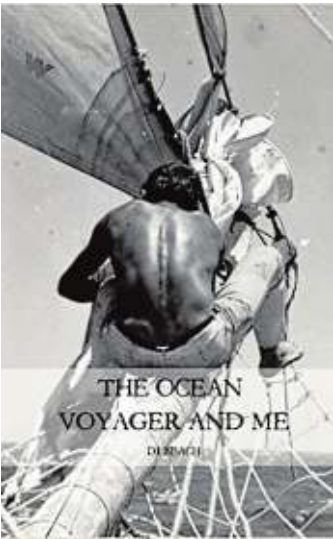
Sudoku solution



Quiz answers

Answer 1: India
Of interest: Midnight's Children is a 1981 novel by Salman Rushdie that deals with India's transition from British colonialism to independence and the partition of British India.
Answer 2 : Geoffrey Chaucer was born in sometime between 1340 and 1344 to John Chaucer a wine merchant and deputy to the king's butler, and Agnes Copton. Known as the Father of English literature, he was the first poet to be buried in Poets' Corner of Westminster Abbey.

BOOK OF THE WEEK



Ocean Voyager and me
Di Beach

For most of us, running away to sea with a gorgeous man is an escapist's dream, but Di did it and has written a page-turning account of her adventures. She and Rod explore wild coasts in West Africa, sail across oceans, meet extraordinary people and produce two beautiful, fearless little girls on the way. Her book – funny, informative, passionate and poignant – has all the makings of a best seller. It is available on Amazon or from Di's boutique hotel near Ronda.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

You can never do a kindness too soon, for you never know how soon it will be too late

RALPH WALDO EMERSON

THE SUR IN ENGLISH CORNER

Have something to say?

At SUR in English we are proud of our reputation for publishing a wide variety of Spanish news of interest to our readers, and as part of the SUR media group we have access to all the best and most reliable sources. Another part of our remit is to publish all the local news concerning the English-speaking community in Andalucía, and for that, we have several sources including our team of roving reporters and you, the reader! We often get calls asking the question “Can you mention this in

SUR in English?” The “this” can be anything from an art exhibition to an event in aid of charity, a change in church service times, the establishment of a pressure group, a wedding or a dolphin washed up on the shores of the Mediterranean. The answer to all of these is “yes”. If it is of interest to our readers we can mention it, and if it is a big story we can send one of our team of journalists to write about it. Email us at: surinenglish.su@diariosur.es or simply Tweet them to us @SUR_English





Toilet. In the large photo, the door to the bathroom. Below, the columns of the Mosque-Cathedral. :: R. C.



ing.” The Church authorities have placed, beside the famous mihrab of Al Hakam II on the wall of the qibla, a sculpture dedicated to San Juan de Ávila and a giant lectern “whose natural place would be the choir” according to the group. The management is also accused of displaying “in a disproportionate and unconsidered manner” numerous figures and paintings of Christ and the Virgin Mary which “have no artistic merit” and they are being criticised for setting up nativity scenes amid the forest of marble columns. When advertising forthcoming services or cultural events, “they even fasten them to the thousand-year-old outside wall”.

The Church under attack

This official complaint is the latest move in an ongoing battle over the management of the ancient building. Cordoba council has just created a committee, presided over by former Unesco director Federico Mayor Zaragoza, to study the possibility of the monument being placed under State control. The citizens’ group and the Islamic Board consider this a positive step.

The Church, however, sees it differently. Firstly, it says that the Mosque-Cathedral “has never belonged to the State and has been the property of the Catholic Church since 1236”, something which has been recognised by the government and the law courts. Secondly, the work it has done to preserve the building is so good that the United Nations “raised it to the category of exceptional universal value”. And thirdly, the creation of this committee is “an attack on the cathedral and the Catholic community of Cordoba”.

“We are not against Christian worship,” replies Miguel Santiago, the spokesman for the citizens’ platform, “but we don’t want its religious use to overwhelm its historic and cultural values”.

In four years of campaigning, the group’s only victory has been for the Church to use the name Mosque-Cathedral again, instead of Holy Cathedral Church which used to appear on its leaflets. The next battle will be to stop the toilets of this ancient monument pointing to Mecca.

A toilet facing Mecca

A citizens’ movement wants the lavatories at the Mosque-Cathedral in Cordoba to be moved; the Catholic Church is refusing

INÉS GALLASTEGUI

Can you imagine the high altar in Burgos cathedral being turned into a café for tourists? The chapel in Seville cathedral becoming a souvenir shop? Or the font in the Seu in Valencia being used to store audioguides? Well, something like that is happening in the Mosque in Cordoba, which was built as a Muslim place of worship in the eighth century and consecrated as a Catholic church in 1236: the public lavatories are in the ‘qibla’ wall, one of the most important features from an architectural point of view and one of the most sacred for Islam because it indicates the way to Mecca and therefore the direction to face when praying.

The lavatories have been there for at least 20 years, but they have now become a symbol of the “abusive invasion” that the Catholic Church, which has owned the building since gaining control of it for 30 euros in 2006, is accused of carrying out on this jewel of Andalusian art.

“There must be a better location for the toilets,” says José David Luna, a representative of the citizens’ movement which is fighting to have the monument managed by the State instead of the Church.

Certainly the architects of the

emirate who in the year 785 laid the first stone of Islam’s second largest temple (after only Mecca and, since 1588, the Blue Mosque in Istanbul) would never have imagined that the oratory, instead of indicating the birthplace of Mohammed, would serve as somewhere to relieve one’s bladder.

The secretary of the Islamic Board of Cordoba, Janif Escudero, is diplomatic about the subject. He says it is true that the qibla is a special place, but his religion doesn’t designate places as sacred and anywhere is a good place to pray. “Putting the lava-

IN DETAIL

Mixture of styles

The Mosque in Cordoba is one of the best-preserved monuments of Hispano-Muslim art, but as well as its Omayyad features, it contains Gothic, Renaissance and Baroque elements.

1.8

million tourists visited the Mosque-Cathedral complex in 2016. Entry is free for local residents, but the Church still receives approximately 15 million euros tax-free from ticket sales.

Pointing to Damascus

The forest of columns (850 marble, granite and jasper pillars), the courtyard of orange trees and the mihrab are some of the loveliest features. Like other mosques in the time of Al Andalus, the qibla doesn’t point exactly to Mecca but to Damascus, 51 degrees south.

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