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August 11th to 17th 2017
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The golf sector continues to show its worth

Record figures and more in your copy of this month's Costa del Golf in English **INSIDE**



The wreckage of the bus which was hit by a lorry on Saturday. :: EFE

RONDA MOURNS A TRAGEDY

Five people died in a horror bus crash on a humanitarian trip to India **P6&7**

Britons caught pointing lasers at planes from their hotel balcony

Pilots landing at Malaga airport were affected by the green light in their eyes on Tuesday night

Two British tourists, a dad aged 45 and his 15-year-old son are facing a possible fine of 30,000 to 600,000 euros for reportedly using illegal laser pens and distracting planes coming into land. An off-duty police officer was staying in the same Torremolinos hotel and saw them. **P16**

Estepona homes evacuated during bush fire

The blaze on Wednesday afternoon was near the Velerín river **P13**

No more Smurf village status for Júzcar. The owners of the image rights have said enough is enough **P4**

Starlite Festival threatens to quit Marbella over strict closing times

Staff, fearful for their jobs, have protested against the council's enforcement of legal opening hours

The organisers of Marbella's Starlite live music festival have said that they are considering moving somewhere else next year as relations with the local town hall have deteriorated in recent months.

P2&3

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Starlite Festival threatens to quit Marbella unless it is allowed to open late at night

Staff at the summer music event, fearing for their jobs, have demonstrated against the council's strict enforcement of legal closing times, which they claim is unfair

by H. BARBOTTA / C. MÁRQUEZ

MARBELLA. Starlite, the annual international music festival that has been running in Marbella for six summers, is threatening to pull out of the resort next year.

The move comes amid increasing tension between event organisers and Marbella council over closing times after concerts and uncertainty over operating licences.

The latest dispute, that was aired in public last week, centres on disagreement over whether Starlite should be legally defined as a 'festival', and so entitled to special privileges in how long it can stay open each night, or a normal nightclub which has to adhere to stricter rules.

The 45-night event, which was originally branded as Starlite Marbella but is now advertised as Starlite Festival as relations with the town hall have soured, started on the Costa del Sol in 2012. This year it has featured many major international names in concert, including Elton John, Luis Fonsi, Art Garfunkel and Andrea Bocelli.

It's all about the Lounge

The current dispute isn't about the concert stage, which is located in an old hillside quarry in the Nagüeles area of the resort, but the bar and after-show area known as the Starlite Lounge just alongside.

Organisers say that as the event



Workers protest against the council last week. by JOSELE-LANZA



The Lounge area. by J-L

is a festival, the Starlite Lounge should be allowed blanket permission to close anytime up to 6am. Marbella council says no, that the law says 2am on weekdays, 3am at weekends, with only ad hoc permission to open later until 6am. Failure to give permission every

day means the events cannot be planned properly and risks their viability and jobs, says Starlite. It claims it is being unfairly treated by the mayor.

The organisers' frustration reached boiling point early on Thursday last week when two Local Police officers turned up at 2am after a Gypsy Kings concert to check the venue was closing. Both sides confirmed afterwards that all was in order on the visit.

However Starlite issued a statement in which organisers said they were considering other resorts in Spain to move to and starting legal action for what they call "obstructive and illegal behaviour". They say jobs are being put at risk.

The mayor of Marbella, José Bernal, has denied any sort of persecution, saying that Starlite has "had the utmost support". He says that

he can't give permission for it to close "whenever it likes" as the law doesn't allow him to.

Some have suggested, however that the council's actions are politically motivated.

Other nightclub organisers have been complaining about Starlite's perceived late opening for a while. Last year a lawyer and founder of the left-wing Podemos party locally made an official complaint.

The organisers' frustration reached boiling point when Local Police turned up at 2am

Marbella's mayor relies on the support of Podemos's two councillors to keep him in power. Podemos had complained to the mayor on Thursday that "the Starlite Festival was allegedly not honouring its opening timetable". Hours later the police attended the venue.

Former PP mayor of Marbella, Ángeles Muñoz, who first authorised the event in 2012, has hit out at the current PSOE mayor and blamed instability in the minority local administration led by José Bernal. She said that the council was acting "on the whim of councillors, in this case Podemos", saying the dispute is bad for the town's image.

Workers' anger

Employees at Starlite demonstrated against the town hall last week. "It's not fair the constant harassment and damage that's being done," said Elena Suárez, one employee. A spokesperson for Starlite added: "Starlite gives work to over 800 people in the area, many of those being local suppliers."

The mayor said he was bemused by the fuss, explaining the problem is with the after-concert club-lounge that can only open until 2am on weekdays, 3am at weekends and until 6am when the council gives special permission.

He said that, despite the event organisers saying it is a 'festival', deserving longer-term late opening permits, his hands were tied by Andalusian law and said the rules had to apply to everyone.

He also explained that if the event moved elsewhere in Andalucía, "they are going to have the exact same timetables [for the lounge] and the same conditions".

Speaking out on the issue, the Junta de Andalucía has said it is working on legislation to clarify

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Marbella's Puerto Deportivo nightspots get over 100 fines for disobeying closing times

Starlite is not alone in feeling frustration at Marbella council. Owners of bars and restaurants in Marbella's central Puerto Deportivo marina have made an official complaint against "legal restrictions" imposed on them for over a year and have warned that the peak tourist month of August will be "wasted". Spokesperson Pilar Orsas said that businesses "suffer a systematic police presence so that

they stop trading completely at 2am, as the local regulations state".

The owners feel that in an area like Marbella "you can't close its recreational centre so soon and remove customers."

They are demanding a meeting with town hall leaders, claiming that they have legal evidence that they should be allowed to open longer. They add that some 100 fines have been given out to bars, restaurants and clubs in the area.

Marbella's mayor, José Bernal has said that he has met "numerous times" with the owners and that police are told to be "flexible", adding however that "the law has to be respected above all else".

these type of events.

The head of the Junta in Malaga, José Luis Espejo said in the face of the latest controversy that the proposed new law, expected to come into force next summer, will be more flexible in solving problems faced by events like Starlite.

"We want Starlite to stay in Marbella, as in our view we have to support these types of economic and leisure activities that favour this region," he said.

Last week's events are just the latest in a series of tense exchanges with local authorities. This year Starlite only received its overall operating licence a few days before

the first concert started.

The licence was delayed as the old quarry site is a protected natural area and permission from the Junta de Andalucía to rent it out for concerts had expired. A renewal was delayed as the Junta said that Starlite had installed a permanent wall on the site, which it wasn't allowed to do. Once the wall was removed, permission was granted just in time but only for one year and at an increased cost.

Starlite has said it is impossible to plan an event with major international artists in advance if it does not have longer-term operating licences in place.

"There'll be no 'tourism-phobia' here," says Andalucía's minister in charge

The region's tourism boss reassured businesses at a meeting in Malaga that visitors would still be welcomed by locals but added that tourists need to spread out more

■ AGUSTÍN PELÁEZ

MALAGA. The regional minister for Tourism, Francisco Javier Fernández has issued a call for calm to local businesses following a wave of isolated attacks on tourism in Catalonia and the Balearic Islands.

Speaking in Malaga, the person responsible for promoting Andalucía to visitors and increasing tourist numbers said that the so-called "tourism-phobia" experienced in other areas of Spain this summer won't happen in this region.

"In Andalucía tourism isn't a problem at all," he said. But he encouraged the sector to think about ways to better distribute tourists to under-visited areas of the region to take pressure off crowded parts, and so avoid any conflict between visitors and locals.

According to Fernández, while 70 percent of visitors to Catalonia are concentrated on Barcelona



The tourism minister speaking in Malaga. ■ S. SALAS

and tourism is the dominant industry on the Balearics by far, Andalucía, due to its sheer size has much more diversity.

Harmony with locals

He added that the aim should be that "no local feels like a visitor in their own city" and that a tourist "feels part of the city, and can experience it as the locals do".

To this end he said that visitors to cities must be spread out to avoid tourist 'ghettos' emerging.

In an effort to support this strategy, the Junta de Andalucía has launched an international promotional campaign designed to en-

courage visits out of season and to parts of the region that are less well-known. Covering publicity in 15 countries, it targets seven segments of the market including golf, inland tours and culture.

Spain has received record visitor numbers this year, and some busy areas have expressed concern over the impact on local residents of this growth.

Are there too many tourists?

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Smurfs told to get out of their blue village

The Diputación is mediating in the reignited dispute over image rights in Júzcar, which hosted the launch of the characters' popular films

by V. MELGAR / P. GARCÍA

JÚZCAR. The 240 residents of the blue-painted village of Júzcar were shocked to find out last week that they will have to stop promoting where they live as the 'Smurf village' after all. The surprise announcement, saying that they had until 15 August to comply with instructions to take down images of Smurfs, was published on the village's web-site.

Villagers had recently been told that an agreement had been reached between the heirs of Pierre Culliford, creator of the popular blue cartoon characters, whereby



Youngsters enjoy the Smurf theme on the streets of Júzcar, near Ronda. :: SUR



residents would pay 12 per cent in royalties for all income generated from the use of the Smurf identity to boost tourism in their village. Júzcar, a mountain village near

Ronda, has been painted completely blue, rather than the traditional white, since 2011 when it won a casting by Sony Pictures to be the backdrop of the launch of the first ever Smurf film. The village went on to host the launches for two more films.

The accolade as "The world's first

Smurf village" has been a huge boost to the tiny village's economy, with it receiving an estimated 50,000 visitors a year.

However the managers of the image rights to the Smurfs, International Merchandising Promotion & Services (IMPS), have been unhappy for some time that money was be-

ing made thorough the unauthorised use of the Smurfs' image.


Villagers had thought that a deal had been brokered earlier this summer, allowing them to carry on exploiting the cartoon characters' image, however it now seems that it has fallen through. Sources said that the breakdown was down to a disagreement over accusations of a possible levy on the town hall by IMPS.

Sony asked to help mediate



The Diputación provincial authority, which has been supporting Júzcar and its tourism during its time as an all-blue tourist attraction, has said that it is attempting to mediate in the dispute with the help of Sony Pictures.

For the moment, it has said that it will go ahead with its investment programme in Júzcar, even if the Smurf name and image cannot be used. It has allocated some 300,000 euros to improve car parks and signage, among other initiatives.

Júzcar town hall has said the village will stay blue in order to meet the conditions originally laid down by the Diputación for the investment, however the Diputación, although hopeful of a resolution, has admitted that the houses will now only stay blue as long as the residents want them to stay that way.



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"Water is an essential resource for our land and we all have to be conscious of that"

Rodrigo Sánchez Haro Agriculture, Fisheries and Rural Development advisor, Junta de Andalucía

Andalucía's agricultural sector is facing enormous pressure particularly with low levels of water in La Viñuela and the threat of drought in the Axarquía

AGUSTÍN PELÁEZ

MALAGA. With a degree in Law, Rodrigo Sánchez Haro, has been recently given the post of Agriculture, Fisheries and Rural Development advisor at the Junta de Andalucía. Previously he was Employment, Companies and Commerce spokesperson at the regional government. Sánchez Haro, who is from Almería, wants to assure people the priorities for his department are to find solutions to the drought and make progress in irrigation and agriculture in Andalucía and the sustainable use of water.

-How are you planning to tackle the challenge of the most important economic sector in Andalucía?

-The Andalusian government is going to be a strategic ally of the agri-food sector in Andalucía. The Junta will work side by side with the farmers, fishermen and agri-entrepreneurs to continue to be leaders in an area which, as you say, has an important role in the gross domestic product of the region; eight per cent. We have the most powerful sector in Spain, which contributes two per cent of the value of agricultural output, 33 per cent of agricultural income and provides 10 per cent of jobs in Andalucía. I am eager to work as hard as possible so that this region maintains its position.

-You have come to Agriculture, Fisheries and Rural Development without any previous experience, which is, without a doubt, a handicap.

-I come from a rural environment where farming is part of everyday life in the province of Almería. Agriculture is like the air we breathe and we all drink from it to some extent. In addition, the department has a great team of professionals; staff that know a lot of different areas that fall within the remit of this department and that will help me to manage my day-to-day work as an advisor. I am convinced that by working as a team we will successfully manage the tasks of advising



Rodrigo Sánchez Haro on a recent visit to Malaga. :: A. P.

and moving the sector forward.

-You are the fifth Agriculture advisor in eight years. Do you not think that is a lot of changes?

-As I have already said, this department has professional staff who understand the needs and interests of the sector perfectly well. For this reason, in spite of the fact that there have been changes, the work of the Junta in this area has not been interrupted. On the contrary, it has enjoyed a continuity that enables the projects to continue successfully.

Meeting the challenges

-As soon as you came to the post you announced that you had come "to give more impetus to the agriculture sector". What challenges have you noticed?

-The main challenge is to work together with the private sector to improve competitiveness and sustainability. I believe that they must go hand in hand to overcome the challenges faced by professionals in farming, fishing and the agricultural fabric of Andalucía.

-One complaint that Andalusian producers have had in recent years

"We are developing protocols in the event of a drought being declared in the region"

"We can move forward in the interests of producers without harming the natural environment"

is that in spite of agriculture being one of the main sources of wealth for Andalucía, the Junta does not give it due recognition. How do you intend to respond to this complaint?

-Personally I see it in a different way. I believe that the Junta has always supported this sector and this is reflected, among other ways, in the huge amounts of support that the Junta makes available to Andalusians. For example, the last two calls for applications for the incorporation of young people, in 2015 and 2016, add up to now an allocation of 120 million euros and is still pending a further extension. There are also other subsidies in the budget for the modernisation of farms and the improvement of industries, which in both cases exceeded 100 million euros. In total there have been close to a billion

in incentives that have already been made available to the sector through the Rural Development Programme. Furthermore, the Junta has dealt with numerous issues related to the agriculture and fisheries sector, such as reports, plans and regulatory developments.

-Would you have liked to come to the post in a moment less complicated than now, with the threat of drought?

-I am aware of the concern of the Andalusian producers and from the first day that I came to the post I have been aware of the situation, analysing how it is evolving and listening to the demands of farmers. I'm here to help in any way that I can and that is what I shall do. In fact, we are developing protocols in the event of a drought being declared in the region. There is never an easy time in the agricultural sector, there are always situations and long-term challenges to be addressed, but it is also a solid sector, with a good foundation and a long history of overcoming challenges.

Adapting to climate change

-Now that you are heading up Agriculture, you will be aware that lack of water is the number one concern in the Andalusian countryside and Malaga. What do you intend to do on this matter?

-As I said in my first speech as advisor, water is a vital resource for our land and I am convinced of the importance of all of us to be aware of this. For this reason, advances in

irrigated agriculture and the sustainable use of water will be a priority for the Junta, which is also concerned with adapting to climate change.

-Farmers are complaining that the only thing the Junta is doing to get water resources is to look to the skies in the hope that it will rain. Is this going to be your policy?

-The Junta has opted for direct dialogue as the most effective way to look for solutions to the challenges that farmers face, among which is making the most of the water resources we have and adapting to climate change. For this reason, we are going to set up a forum for dialogue in the province of Malaga that will serve as a meeting point to look at challenges faced by the sector as a whole but in an individualised manner. Finding a solution to the problem of water is vital for Malaga's economy and the agricultural activity and for this reason it will be a priority over the coming years.

The subtropical sector

-In Malaga, sectors like the subtropical one have been asking for investment to facilitate the transfer of water to the Axarquía for years, which, despite having the largest capacity reservoir in the province, it is the area with least water, while in the west of the province resources just go directly into the sea. Are you going to meet their demands?

-As a matter for the Ministries of Agriculture and Environment, I think it is important to have communication between all parties involved. The forum for dialogue which is gaining motion along with the participation of the regional administration is going to be really useful for irrigators and farmers. I am convinced that if we work together we will be able to find some way to move forward in the interests of producers without harming the natural environment.

-Have you thought about an answer for the producers in the Guadalhorce valley?

-We are going to put out a call soon to help the modernisation of irrigation systems for eligible farmers in the area, providing they meet the necessary requirements. I would like to encourage communities of irrigators to apply for these grants that facilitate the optimisation of irrigation systems. In the specific case of the Guadalhorce area these changes could aim, for example, to the construction of pools instead of open channels, whose water losses are greater. This would lead to improving the competitiveness of farms and their partners.

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Ronda mourns as five die in horror bus crash on group humanitarian trip to India

Some survivors have returned home, saying they have lived through "a tragedy" and are "in a bad way psychologically and physically"

by V. MELGAR / A. PELÁEZ

RONDA. The town of Ronda has been in mourning this week after the horrific minibus crash in India that killed four travelling companions from a humanitarian group from the Malaga municipality and a local driver.

Six of the remaining nine from the group of 13, all injured, were well enough to be flown back to Spain and arrived at Malaga airport on Tuesday, while, at time of going to press, two are still in hospital and one waiting to return.

Two of the survivors, showing the scars of the accident, spoke to waiting journalists. "We've been through a tragedy," said one, while a fellow group member added that "we are in a bad way psychologically and physically".

The scenes at Malaga airport on Tuesday were a far cry from the excitement and expectation the group had had on setting out from there a week earlier.



The travellers' bus was hit last Saturday morning by a lorry, whose driver fled the scene. :: EFE

Hit by an oncoming truck

The group, mostly from Ronda, had set out to visit humanitarian projects in southern India linked to the Fundación Vicente Ferrer, a Spanish charity. The trip turned to tragedy, however, when several days into the journey, a minibus in which the group was travelling was hit head on by a truck on the wrong side of the road.

According to accounts from members of the group, after arriving on 1 August, they had spent five days finding out about the charity's work in the Indian state of Andhra Pradesh, north of Chennai, before starting out on a private trip last Saturday to an orphanage at Puducherry, crossing the neighbouring state of Tamil Nadu, that is not part of the charity's work.



Happier times- the group setting off from Malaga airport. :: CHARRYTV

"I didn't see much, I lost consciousness and I ended up among the wreckage, they had to take me out"

It was about 200 kilometres into the journey to the orphanage when the minibus was hit at about 10am by the lorry. The bus was virtually destroyed by the impact and the lorry driver fled the scene and is wanted on suspicion of dangerous driving.

Organised by a yoga centre

The group trip to India was organised by a popular yoga centre in Ronda. The owner of the Centro

Baba, Vicente Pérez, who was one of the four fatalities on Saturday, was also the local Ronda coordinator for the Fundación Vicente Ferrer's work and had arranged the trip. Pérez's wife was one of the more seriously injured in the crash.

A message on the Centro Baba Facebook page from last Friday including photographs of the trip, which was taken down after the accident said: "India, a country where humanity overwhelms. We are visiting the impressive work carried out by the Fundación Vicente Ferrer."

Many of those taking part were well-known for their charity and volunteer work in Ronda.

Speaking from her hospital bed in Bangalore after the accident, Ronda businesswoman Concha Márquez

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Vicente Pérez, Josefa Morán, Nieves López and Francisco Pedrosa. :: SUR

Kind people who were lost in the tragedy

The deaths of Vicente Pérez, Josefa Morán and Nieves López have left a huge void in the community of charity workers in Ronda, with which they were closely linked. Francisco Pedrosa, a native of Granada province, resident of Malaga and the fourth local victim, was also involved in humanitarian work. He had stepped in and joined the trip when a friend from Ronda was unable to go.

As well as the death of the well-liked owner of Ronda's Centro Baba Yoga, Vicente Pérez, who organised the journey, the accident also claimed the life of Josefa Morán, a retired teacher. "She was a person with a huge social commitment," said one relative. Nieves López, a further victim, was founder of a local ecology and conservation action group in Ronda. The driver of the visitors' bus also died.

explained what she remembered of what had happened. "I didn't see much, I lost consciousness and I ended up among the wreckage. They had to take me out," she said.

"We had set out at about four in the morning, we stopped for breakfast, bananas and coffee. We were having an incredible few days."

She went on to say that they had been taking donations of materials to the orphanage in a city to the south, believed to include fleeces and glasses.

Of those killed, three were from Ronda and one was from Granada province but worked in Malaga. They were named as Vicente Pérez, Josefa Morán, Nieves López and Francisco Pedrosa. The Indian driver of their minibus was also killed.

Mayor of Ronda, Teresa Valdenebro, declared three days of official mourning after the accident, with official meetings cancelled and flags flying at half mast. "I want to pass on my condolences to the families," she said. Local residents lit candles and left flowers at the door of Centro Baba, which remained open to support those family members affected. Messages of sympathy were also received from the King and Queen and the prime minister.

Charity in shock

The head of the Fundación Vicente Ferrer charity, Jordi Folgado, visibly affected by the accident, commented from Spain: "It is as if a part of our energy has been taken away."

The Vicente Ferrer organisation aims to take people out of poverty in southern India through sustainable development. Most donations come from sponsoring a child and some 150,000 children are sponsored this way, sources say.

The bodies of the deceased were expected to arrive back in Spain on Thursday evening (yesterday) before being taken to Ronda.

IN BRIEF



:: SALVADOR SALAS

FINISHING TOUCHES TO THE FERIA

Workers were busy this week putting together the large show-ground on the outskirts of Malaga that is the nighttime venue for the biggest summer fair in the south of Spain. Many thousands will pass by the huge Ferris wheel and other attractions installed for the occasion nightly, from 12th to 19th. This year, visitors will be welcomed by an illuminated façade recreating the city's new Aduana museum which opened this year. See also 'What to Do', page 45.

More police called for in Cártama after thefts

CÁRTAMA

:: **F. TORRES.** Councillors in Cártama are calling for extra Guardia Civil officers to provide policing services in their town after a spate of robberies. Many of these thefts have been from property belonging to the town hall.

They say that they have been asking for local reinforcements since 2006 but that these have not arrived, adding that Cártama gets less Guardia Civil support than nearby Coín, Alhaurín de la Torre and Alhaurín el Grande, even though it has the second largest population of these four towns. The council has also given land for a new Guardia Civil station but this has been delayed due to lack of funds.

"Guadalhorce hospital is a mere health centre"

CÁRTAMA

:: **F. TORRES.** The regional head of the PP party has claimed that the Guadalhorce valley's new hospital is nothing more than another health centre. The politician was criticising what she says is the Junta de Andalucía's failure to get all the new services up and running, despite great fanfare when the facility opened earlier this year.

The PSOE party, who run the Junta, has said the comments are unacceptable and serve only to create "insecurity over the Andalusian health service" with users. It says that everything is working except the operating theatres and wards, due to electrical problems.



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Marbella is looking at ways of regulating “uncivilised and wild” hen and stag parties

The PSOE party in Malaga also wants local by-laws to be changed so that these celebrations can be controlled

by A. GÓMEZ / F. JIMÉNEZ / E. CABEZAS

MALAGA. Marbella has just become the latest municipality to announce that it plans to introduce regulations to control behaviour at hen and stag parties. Social Rights councillor, Victoria Morales, says “women are treated as objects” at these parties and the town hall is considering different ways of controlling such events if they become “uncivilised and disruptive.”

Malaga, Torremolinos and Benalmádena have already announced that they intend to do something about hen and stag parties, which often take place in coastal resorts in Spain. The local authorities say the events are characterised by sexism, unsuitable dress and messages, and the loud music, megaphones and drunkenness constitute

a public nuisance.

In Malaga city, the PSOE party said this week that it intends to ask for existing by-laws to be modified, so that wild parties sending off brides and grooms can be regulated.

“At present, the Local Police are authorised to intervene in cases of disruptive behaviour, but when new situations arise, such as these parties, they need to be regulated as well. They should be specifically covered in the by-laws, because having fun is one thing, but extreme situations which damage the image of the town are unacceptable,” said spokesman Daniel Pérez, who wants Malaga to follow the example of other places which have taken similar action such as Granada, Madrid, Mojácar (Almería) and Conil (Cádiz).

He pointed out that the annual feria is about to start, and said “you can’t have a quality fair when there are people wearing unsuitable clothing, using megaphones and behaving in an uncivilised manner.”

Teresa Porras, Malaga’s councillor for Festivals, is not ruling out the idea of the regulations being changed, but says that all bad be-

haviour should be regulated, not just stag and hen parties as such.

In La Axarquía region, which is becoming a popular place for the pre-wedding events, there have already been complaints about a lack of control and sexist behaviour, and also some controversial practices such as ‘handcuffing’, when people of short stature, usually dwarves, are handcuffed to the groom or bride for the whole evening.

“On alert”

The councillor for Equality in Vélez-Málaga, Zoila Martín, says there have been no reports of significant problems at these type of celebrations in the town, but she is aware that other councils, such as Torremolinos and Benalmádena, are considering introducing strict regulations.

“We are on alert for this problem. We are going to look at the situation, although we have already introduced some regulations which ban people from going outside without a shirt or making a lot of noise,” she says.

With regard to sexist behaviour at stag parties, she says this is ‘deni-



Tourists at a hen do in Puerto Banús. :: J-L

grating’ to women. “That has to be stopped. I have never liked stag and hen parties, I don’t think there is anything positive about segregating people by sex and making fun of them.”

Her counterpart in Nerja, Patricia Gutiérrez, says the council there has not encountered any problems

of this type, although she is aware that they occur in towns further west such as Marbella and Benalmádena.

She agrees, however, that it should not be permitted. “It’s time to put paid to the original idea that marriage meant an end to individual freedom,” she says.



Site of the house which Pantoja sold for 2.2 million in 2015. :: J-L

End of villa that became a symbol of local corruption

The former mansion of singing star Isabel Pantoja, where she lived with Marbella’s ex-mayor Julián Muñoz, is knocked down for development two years after it was sold

by HÉCTOR BARBOTTA

MARBELLA. It became a symbol of the massive corruption that swept through Marbella in the first ten years of the century.

The eight-bedroom villa called ‘Mi Gitana’ (my gypsy) was in the na-

tional spotlight when news reached the world of the scale of the ‘Operation Malaya’ scandal that rocked the resort and its local council.

Located at the entrance to Nueva Andalucía, on the La Pera estate, and near Puerto Banús, this was the former home of Isabel Pantoja, the famous singing star.

Home of the mayor’s lover

Pantoja became the lover of Marbella’s mayor from 2002-2003, Julián Muñoz, and they stayed together as a couple until 2009 as the country’s media trained its lenses on their home. Both Pantoja and

Muñoz served prison sentences. Pantoja was arrested there in May 2007.

In earlier days, before meeting Muñoz, the villa had seen happier times for Pantoja, when it was truly on the social circuit with events there regularly making the gossip columns.

But it will be for Pantoja’s involvement with the mayor and her help laundering some of the black money that was flowing around the town that it will be best remembered.

Now it has gone, after bulldozers moved in to knock it down in the last few days.

The large home makes way for two smaller properties after it was sold by the artist, known for her flamenco-style singing, in 2015, reportedly for 2.2 million euros and while she was still in jail. She had been asking for 3.8 million.

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Inaccessible accesses to the beach

A mother from Estepona is campaigning so that her disabled son is able to enjoy trips to the beach near their home



CHARO MÁRQUEZ
✉ diariorestepona@gmail.com

ESTEPONA. We often complain as we head down to the beach, trying to keep hold of the sun umbrella, the towels, the coolbox etc. "It's so difficult to do this!" we think. Perhaps, though, we should stop complaining, after hearing about the problems faced by 11-year-old Leonardo Rueda and his electric wheelchair.

For Leonardo, the trip from his house to the beach is a real ordeal, a journey full of obstacles. His mother, Tamara Jiménez, has now started a social media campaign to highlight the fact that the accesses to the beach which have been adapted for use by disabled people are all in the town centre.

Tamara says that as soon as Eas-



Leonardo at the top of the steps down to the beach near his home. :: CHARO MÁRQUEZ

ter arrives the beaches in Estepona centre are ready and can be accessed by people with reduced mobility, but that isn't the case in outlying areas such as Hacienda Beach, six kilometres away, where she and her son live.

"Every year I go to the town hall and ask for a disabled access to the beach in my area. Every year. They

know we need one. But they only do them in the town centre," she says.

As a result of her social media campaign, the council has now installed wooden boards on the sand but Leonardo's chair has small wheels which become trapped. There are also different levels, gaps between the pathway and the pave-

ment, and steps. It makes it impossible for anyone who uses this type of wheelchair.

Leonardo suffers from Duchenne muscular dystrophy, a genetic degenerative condition. It is so rare that only 800 children in Spain have it. Tamara says that when he was very small he used to fall over a great deal. She thought it was a pro-

blem with his balance, but no. Since he was eight years old, Leonardo has had to use an electric wheelchair. His mother tries to enable him to be as independent as possible, but he continually encounters barriers.

"I often think God has given me a son like this so that I will go out and campaign," says Tamara. Other times, she wonders if she is too demanding or whether she complains too much. "But we just want things to be as simple as possible for Leonardo, and not just for him but for everybody who has a disability and has a problem in getting about by themselves," she says.

Another thing she asks for every summer is a chair which enables disabled people to go into the water, because these are available on the beaches in the town centre. "I have to carry him in my arms to get him into the water. I weigh 38 kilos and he weighs 26, and having to carry him is giving me a hernia," she says.

She is grateful to the council for giving her a No Parking sign so nobody else can park outside her house, and for building a ramp to her entrance, but she continually comes up against obstacles in their everyday lives. For example, the local buses have platforms which can be lowered but they are only suitable for ordinary wheelchairs, not electric ones. Nor do the children's playgrounds have any equipment for disabled youngsters, and Tamara wants a swing to be installed for Leonardo, at least.

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BY OSIM

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Malaga port plans new 'Miami-style' marina for megayachts to cope with rising demand

Improved facilities for world-beating luxury private vessels measuring the length of a football pitch could be built next to Muelle Uno shopping centre

:: IGNACIO LILLO

MALAGA. Malaga's rejuvenated port area, now a major leisure attraction, has been hosting an increasing number of private megayachts in recent years, among them some of the largest, most luxurious and famous in the world.

Most of these use Malaga as a base to top up on supplies, drawn by the attractiveness of the city, ease of access, good security and competitive mooring prices. And this is despite the port having no special facilities for these impressive world-beating vessels.

However, all that could soon change and Malaga could be seeing even more megayachts. The port authority, part of the Junta de Andalucía, has announced early plans for a new marina with space for 40 luxury floating boats from 40 to 100 metres long, the length



Megayacht Octopus, owned by Microsoft founder Paul Allen, on the site of the proposed moorings. :: SUR

of a full-sized football pitch.

The new facility would be on the Marqués de Guadiaro quay, the stretch of the port next to the dockside shopping centre that runs towards the city centre. It would resemble the huge private yacht marinas of Miami with a gardened protective outer wall.

The Melilla ferry terminal would move to the other side of its current dock to allow more space.

So far, a study of the flow of currents in that part of the dock has been carried out, which has made some recommendations for improvements to ensure the large boats can moor safely.

Growth forecasts

Port bosses are encouraged by economic data that shows that there are 100,000 private yachts over 40 metres long in the world and an-

other 755 under construction.

Malaga port is seen as an ideal stopping off point before yachts make the crossing to the Caribbean. As yet no detailed design or specification has been drawn up.

The proximity of Malaga's airport is also seen as a key to the project's long-term success. A heliport would be built for transfers to the airport as well as Marbella and Puerto Banús.

Developer and architect both call for fast decision on proposed hotel tower in port

:: SUR

MALAGA. Both the developers and architect behind plans for a 135-metre tall tower housing a hotel in Malaga's port have separately called for a fast decision to be made on the project's future.

Abdullah Al Darwish, a Qatari businessman who represents those behind the development, has pleaded with officials to work together to grant the required planning permission. "We can't wait for ever. Its time to make a move," he said.

Meanwhile the tower's architect, José Seguí, writing in SUR, has said that these type of projects "cannot be subject to nostalgic resistance".



The proposed tower. :: SUR



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Residents of two complexes near Estepona had to leave their homes when a fire spread

200 properties were evacuated and the flames came to within four metres of some of them, although they were not damaged

✪ **CHARO MÁRQUEZ**

ESTEPONA. At 4.30pm on Wednesday the 112 emergency service began to receive calls to say there was a fire and thick smoke in the area by the Velerín river mouth, near Estepona. It had broken out in an inhabited area, close to the woods.

People in the residential complexes of El Velerín and Dominion Beach, where there are about 200 homes, were evacuated as a precautionary measure. The flames came within four metres of the properties closest to the blaze, but none of them suffered interior damage,



Firefighters working in the area on Wednesday. ✪ **JOSELE-LANZA**

although smoke did get inside three of them. Nobody was injured.

The spokesperson for the local fire brigades, Álvaro Bautista, said later that the self-protection plan which had been drawn up by people living in the residential developments had proven effective and had reduced the impact of the fire.

"When they had to leave, people made sure their doors and windows were closed to stop the smoke getting in, and that also stopped the fire damaging the inside of their properties," he said.

The Infoca organisation sent 16 firefighters, a specialist, an environmental officer and two helicopters (one for transport and the other to drop water over the area) to the scene. Other fire fighters came from Estepona, together with Guardia Civil, Local Police, National Police and Civil Protection officers.

The fire was under control by 7pm

and the Infoca operatives withdrew, although the others remained. At 8.50pm the residents were told they could return to their homes.

It is not known exactly how much woodland was damaged by the fire, but reeds, pine trees and undergrowth were burned. At 9.10pm the fire was deemed to be completely extinguished, but fire fighters remained on the scene to monitor the situation and keep spraying the area with water.

Only the day before, the Junta de Andalucía had presented its campaign in Marbella for fire prevention in the urban-forest interface area.

The regional government's delegate in Malaga, José Luis Ruiz Espejo, said that 60 per cent of fires which have occurred in the province so far this year have been in areas such as this, and the cause is usually negligence by agricultural workers when they are driving in woodland areas or clearing urban areas which are near woods.

So far there have been 115 fires, 62 of them in interface areas, where 362 hectares of land have been burned, and the remainder were forest fires which affected 210 hectares.

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The head of Russia's biggest drug-trafficking gang arrested in Mijas

In a joint operation between the National Police, Guardia Civil and police in Estonia, three other leaders were also detained in Tallin

■ SUR

MALAGA. The National Police, Guardia Civil and police from Estonia, working together on an operation called Fulcrum-Carinatus, have broken up the biggest Russian drug-trafficking organisation in Estonia, called Kemerovo. A police raid carried out simultaneously in both countries has resulted in the leader of the organisation being arrested in Mijas, and three other members have been detained in Tallin (Estonia).

The Estonian authorities have been investigating this criminal group for more than two years. The operation took on another dimension after the revenge killing of the top name in the Russian criminal world in Estonia in September 2016. Before his death, according to a statement issued by the National Police in Spain, he had exercised total power and it was he who received money from the criminal organisations based in Estonia, as their contribution to the so-called 'obshack', or 'common account'.

He had been involved in all aspects of crime (weapons trafficking, drugs, extortion, prostitution, people trafficking) and acted as a judge whenever disputes arose between other leaders. His absolute power had been recognised since the 1990s, and he presided over the so-called 'shodkas', meetings which were attended by the 15 most influential criminals. Such was his power that these meetings were known in the underworld as "the round table".



The head of the criminal organisation was arrested in Mijas. ■ AFP

The leader of the group moved to Mijas to launder money and because he felt safer

At one of these meetings he withdrew his support for another member of the group who until then had been controlling the amphetamine market in Estonia, but had lost merchandise worth one million euros. Because of this, 'the boss' is said to have ordered that he was to be killed. This led to a

battle between the different organisations over who would take the place of the dead man and there were several killings and shootings between the clans, all of whom wanted more control over criminal activities and specialities.

This latest police operation targeted the leader of the Kemerovo organisation in Spain, who was involved in all types of crime although he mainly concentrated on drug trafficking.

As the police explained, there were two reasons this man was in Spain. On one hand he wanted to set up an operational base for these criminal activities, and on the other he needed to launder money.

Security is also believed to have been a factor in his decision to move to Spain, because he feared that he would become the victim of one of the aforementioned 'balance of accounts' killings.

One of the hired assassins involved in these shootings, who belonged to a rival organisation to Kemerovo, had been detained in June in Reus (Tarragona), shortly after arriving in Spain. A short while previously, in Estonia, he had shot one of the members of Kemerovo after barging into a meeting which was taking place at a hotel in Tallin. The police are not ruling out the possibility that his presence in Spain was related to the ongoing war between clans.

As soon as the head of the criminal organisation had settled in Mijas, Spanish and Estonian police set up a joint operation to find out what illegal activities he was involved in. He had put strong security measures in place, and from his base here he issued instructions to his most trusted assistant about controlling the drugs market in Estonia.

Once there was sufficient indication of criminal activity, the simultaneous operation was carried out in Tallin and Mijas. When officers searched the property in Mijas after his arrest, they found documentation and computer material which is now being analysed, an axe and a large knife which he had hidden under his pillow.

At the same time in Tallin, the other leaders of the organisation were arrested, including the deputy leader of the group, a martial arts expert who recruited the so-called 'soldiers' of Kemerovo in the gymnasium he managed. They then took orders directly from him.

Ten of these 'soldiers' have been detained in the past year by the Estonian security forces. Their homes were also searched, and computer material and documents seized.

112 REPORTS

Restaurant blaze damages Puerto Marina

BENALMÁDENA

■ **A. GÓMEZ.** A fire in a restaurant in the Puerto Marina port complex in Benalmádena on Tuesday lunchtime has caused considerable damage to one of its buildings, emergency services have said.

The fire broke out in the kitchen of Sakura, an Asian restaurant that overlooks the marina. Firefighters sprayed flame-retardant foam into ventilation shafts to stem the blaze.

Restaurant-goers and people in nearby shops were evacuated as the flames spread, however officials have said that nobody was injured as a result of the fire or during the evacuation, however they couldn't rule out that some people would be feeling the effects of smoke. The cause of the blaze wasn't immediately known.

Romanian man dies in San Pedro police station

MARBELLA

■ **H. BARBOTTA.** A 35-year-old Romanian man died last Friday in the Local Police station in San Pedro, where he was being questioned by officers along with two others. According to sources, he wasn't under arrest at the time.

The men were in a car on the Ronda road when it was stopped by Local Police. One of the vehicle's occupants was visibly nervous, police said, and, on being searched, a butterfly knife was found hidden between his legs. Irregularities in the car's paperwork were also spotted.

Police then escorted the car and its occupants to the police station for more checks, where the victim suffered a heart attack in front of his two friends. Neither the police nor emergency services were able to resuscitate him.

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Britons caught putting planes at risk by pointing illegal lasers from hotel

Suspects face fine of up to 600,000 euros after air traffic controllers in Malaga issued a plea over Twitter to find the culprits when pilots raised the alarm on Tuesday night

by I. LILLO / A. FRÍAS

MALAGA. Two Britons are facing huge fines after threatening the safety of aeroplanes coming into land at Malaga airport by shining high-powered laser pens into the eyes of the pilots.

The alarm was raised late on Tuesday night when several pilots of passenger aircraft that were coming into land from over the sea at around 11pm reported being distracted by the illegal pointing of lasers into their aircraft.

Air traffic controllers, seeing the risk of a plane being brought down, immediately called police and sent out a message over their Twitter account in an attempt to find the culprit. One pilot, who knew the area, said that they appeared to be coming from the direction of hotels in nearby Torremolinos.



Archive photo of a pilot being distracted. :: SUR

The lasers soon stopped, supposedly as the security services had been called out on the ground to search the area before a potentially catastrophic fatal accident.

Lucky coincidence

By a fortunate coincidence an off-duty police officer staying at the Hotel Don Pablo in Torremolinos saw green laser rays coming from a balcony in the building and took a photograph.

Hearing news of the alert the next morning, he told colleagues, who used the photograph to work out what floor the dangerous light was coming from.

Two British holidaymakers, a man

aged 41 and his 15-year-old son were found with two green laser pens in their room.

The suspects now face a fine of between 30,000 and 600,000 euros for contravening national security laws. Police on Thursday released images of the seized pens.

High-power laser pens are banned from public sale, although they can be found on the internet.

The risk arises as the light can rebound into an aircraft cabin at critical moments of a flight, such as take off and landing, as happened

on Tuesday night. "People do it as a game but they don't think of the damage they could cause", said a pilots' representative. The lasers can also cause eye damage.

Pilots have said that these type of incidents with lasers are more common over the summer, particularly during open-air fiestas and concerts.



Police image of the seized lasers. :: SUR

Dutch man in hot water for urinating on police in Torremolinos following arrest

by ÁLVARO FRÍAS

TORREMOLINOS. A 53-year-old man from the Netherlands failed to endear himself to police recently after his detention by dropping his trousers in Torremolinos police station and trying to relieve himself on the officers present. Fortunately only the floors and walls got wet.

The incident was the culmination of a bizarre series of events which saw the man and a 48-year-old friend, also from the Netherlands, detained.

The men's car was stopped in Torremuelle, Benalmádena late at night by police for erratic behaviour. Both men showed signs of heavy drinking, officers said.

The driver, who was the 48-year-old, allegedly refused to take a breathalyser test and instead decided to use the reading machine as a form of flute to play a tune on.

Increasingly frustrated by the lack of cooperation, the officers searched the men and the vehicle finding knives and a gym weight. The men were held and taken into Torremolinos police station, where they became increasingly violent and disruptive.



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Police seize counterfeit goods in raid on illegal street vendors

Many of the vendors abandoned their wares on the promenade, while others threw goods into the sea when detected by police

TONY BRYANT

TORREMOLINOS. A joint operation carried out by officers of the national and local police forces of Torremolinos and Benalmádena last week has resulted in the seizure of more than 5,000 counterfeit items.

Police intercepted around 100 people in a raid carried out in La Carrihuela last Thursday, as part of an operation to rid the area of illicit street traders.

A patrol of Local Police officers converged on the promenade in La Carrihuela and the maze of surrounding passageways, while another set up a blockade near the Sol House hotel, a place known to be a meeting place for the traders.

In an attempt to avoid being caught with the illegal merchandise, many of the vendors abandoned their wares on the promenade, while others threw goods into the sea when they detected the presence of the police.



Police seized fake designer handbags during the operation. :: SUR

Items seized in the clamp-down on the hawkers included imitation designer shoes, handbags, football shirts, baseball caps, watches and jewellery.

One man, believed to have been an undocumented migrant, was arrested by the National Police during the operation. The suspect was said to have been in possession of almost 150 counterfeit watches at the time of his arrest.

Rafael Fontalba, chief of the Local Police in Torremolinos, said, "The operation was a success and concluded without any notable incident."

The project is part of a joint effort by both Torremolinos and Benalmádena town halls to tackle the continuing problem of street traders. In addition to the unlicensed trading, local business owners have complained that the large presence of street vendors gives the area a bad image.

Victor Navas, mayor of Benalmádena, said, "In addition to preventing this illegal activity and to insure the integrity of local business owners, the town hall will continue to try to find an amicable solution to this problem."

Posthumous medal for pioneering architect

Antonio Lamela has been recognised for his outstanding contribution to Torremolinos' architectural heritage

TONY BRYANT

TORREMOLINOS. Torremolinos town hall has announced it is to award the deceased architect, Antonio Lamela, a posthumous Medalla de la Ciudad de Torremolinos in recognition of his outstanding contribution to the town's architectural heritage.

The honour, which has been made possible with the cooperation of the Malaga College of Architects, will be accepted by Lamela's son on 27 September (Día de Torremolinos), during a ceremony that is part of a cultural week dedicated to the architect.

The internationally-renowned architect, who had received countless awards for his work, died at his Madrid home on 1 April 2017.

Lamela helped to turn Torremo-

linos into the emblem of the Costa del Sol during the 1960s and 70s and his legacy includes the former Hotel Tres Carabelas in Montemar, the iconic Plaza La Nogalera and the Cercanías train station.

La Nogalera, which was built in 1963, represented an architectural landmark in the town. Lamela designed six apartment blocks linked by elevated walkways over landscaped gardens. The complex covered an area of around 23,000 square meters, with swimming pools, restaurants, bars and recreational areas. It was inaugurated in 1966 in the golden age of Torremolinos, and eventually became the town's gay district.



Antonio Lamela.

J R LADRA

Lamela was also responsible for numerous other projects in Spain, including Madrid's Santiago Bernabéu football stadium and Terminal 4 of Barajas Airport.

The Medal of the city is a Spanish civil decoration awarded by town halls to individuals for outstanding achievements. The award is honorific, since it does not involve any financial benefit.

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Strike by town's park workers ends but discontent simmers on

Gardeners in public green spaces in Benalmádena say that their employer, FCC, has repeatedly broken promises they made

by ALBERTO GÓMEZ

BENALMÁDEN. Parks and garden staff in Benalmádena went back to work at the end of last week after seven days of industrial action.

The 63 local employees of FCC, the company that has the contract to maintain the area's green spaces from the council, were protesting after seven of their members had been ordered to go and work in Malaga city, also on FCC contracts.

A September return

In an agreement reached last Friday between the town hall and FCC, the seven workers will stay in Malaga until 31 August and will return to Benalmádena after their summer holidays on 15 September.

While councillor for Parks and Gardens Joaquín Villazón said the decision was "satisfactory", the measure was received with "scepticism"



The municipal gardeners marched in Benalmádena last Friday. :: SUR

by the workers, who want the contract with FCC to be cancelled.

They claim that since FCC took over the running of the gardening services, they have been forced to accept frozen salaries and bonuses to avoid being transferred or made redundant.

In a march also organised last Friday, they carried banners saying "In defence of our jobs" and "Where is the Left in the town hall?"

Within the council, the Podemos partners in the PSOE-ruling coalition

have called for the service to be brought back under direct council control, claiming that "green spaces have got a lot worse".

Blamed on funding cuts

The operators FCC have blamed the transfer of staff to Malaga on the fact that Benalmádena council has cut the funding for its parks and gardens by over a million euros.

They say it has forced them to cut costs. Relations with the staff have been bad for some time after earlier similar disputes.



Ángel Nozal (centre) is being investigated in four cases. :: SUR

Former Mijas mayor to be quizzed by judge

Ángel Nozal is under investigation over an alleged job offer to a rival councillor in return for supporting him return to power

by IVÁN GELIBTER

MIJAS. The ex-mayor of Mijas, Ángel Nozal, and leader of the PP group on the council is to be quizzed by an investigating judge.

The formal interview will take place on 5 October and is in connection with the supposed offer of a job at Club la Costa resort to local Podemos-CSSP councillor

Francisco Martínez.

The offer was reportedly made in a secret meeting between Nozal, Santiago Martín (another PP councillor) and Martínez, in which the PP representatives asked, among other things, for the rival councillor's support in a no confidence vote against current mayor Juan Carlos Maldonado.

The meeting was taped by Martínez and news of it first published in SUR four months ago. Santiago Martín will also be called to give his version of events.

Nozal is also currently under investigation over suspected links to three other corruption and irregularity investigations from his time at the helm of Mijas.

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Vélez-Málaga joins other European towns in sustainable tourism project

The objective behind the initiative is to reduce the environmental impact of tourism on the Mediterranean coast

by JENNIE RHODES

VÉLEZ-MÁLAGA. Vélez-Málaga, including its seaside resort of Torre del Mar, is one of five tourist destinations participating in the European ConsumelessMed initiative which promotes the idea of sustainable tourism in the Mediterranean, the town hall announced last week.

The other towns involved are Ragusa and Realmonte in Italy, Gozo in Malta, Naxos in Greece and Saranda in Albania.

"The main objective of this project is to change the way of understanding tourism from the point of view of the visitors and inhabitants in touristic areas of the Mediterranean," tourism councillor, Jesús Pérez Atencia said at the press launch of the project in July. He added that "with this initiative we want to reach a significant reduction in the environmental impact that tourism has at a local level."

The project will look at areas such as seasonal tourism, water and energy consumption, the genera-



Torre del Mar is participating in a sustainable tourism project. **SUR**

tion of waste during peak seasons as well as the importance of involving tourists in responsible consumption.

The launch of the initiative comes at a time when the Axarquía is facing its first drought in almost a decade with the Viñuela reservoir at minimum levels.

Vélez-Málaga environment councillor, Marcelino Méndez-Trelles, highlighted the importance of the initiative "given the difficult moments we are going through with the lack of water resources in

the Axarquía."

Atencia said that participating businesses will receive an "environmental assessment" to make sure they "follow the philosophy of the project."

ConsumelessMed is partly financed by the EU's European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) and has the common goal to "promote a unique and inclusive brand for supporting sustainable tourism."

www.consumelessmed.org

IN BRIEF



1000s of shoes have been removed from Río Chillar. **NERJA TH**

Thousands of shoes removed from river bed

NERJA

SUR. Thousands of shoes have been removed from the bed of the Chillar river in Nerja in the second clean up of the summer. Upon completing the route many visi-

tors throw their shoes, tied together by the laces, over the overhead cables; a tradition that caught on several years ago. The town hall has called for visitors to be "civil" and to help them to keep the area clean. A third clean up has been scheduled for the end of September, coinciding with the end of summer season.

Government considers sewage station options

NERJA

E. C. Spain's environment ministry is considering terminating the contract with Isolux-Corsán-Corviam, the company responsible for building Nerja's waste water station. The company went into administration which led in part to the stoppage to work in April. The government has signalled that work is unlikely to start again this year.

Town hall provides extra free parking

TORROX COSTA

E. C. Torrox town hall announced on Monday an additional 1,000 free parking spaces in Torrox Costa and El Morche. The announcement came after complaints were made to the local authority about traffic problems near the Ferrara beach area when a circus was in the area. In principle the additional parking will only be available during summer.

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LOSING TOUCH

This week saw Mariano Rajoy issue his latest warning to the increasingly aggressive separatists in Catalonia. On Wednesday, he asked the regional government – headed by the fervent secessionist Carles Puigdemont – to act with “common sense” and to “isolate the extremists and radicals who are influencing the [independence movement]”.

The Spanish prime minister's most recent request for moderation among separatists in the north-easterly region of Spain comes amidst heightened concern that secession would damage the Spanish and Catalan economies. Yet it is unlikely that Puigdemont will pay any heed to either Rajoy or a worried business community: indeed, he seems determined to win independence from Madrid at almost any cost, both economically and politically speaking.

This is odd, given that his sup-

port in Catalonia seems to be waning. According to the latest poll by INE, Spain's national statistics institute, general support within the region for independence is at 35%, down from a peak of 49% in 2013, when Spain was at the height of its financial crisis. In fact, ever since then, as Spain's GDP started to expand and unemployment started to fall, support for independence has been decreasing in Catalonia. This suggests that moderate supporters of secession don't want to risk derailing Spain's return to macroeconomic health.

The Catalan president's bullish tactics in pushing the independence movement forward suggest he is not bothered by this poll, nor with one conducted by Deloitte a couple of weeks ago for the Spanish daily El País. This survey revealed that 75% of Spanish business executives think that the Spanish economy will be damaged if Catalonia splits from

Spain. That figure rose to 100% among executives working in tourism, an industry that is crucial to Puigdemont's region: last year, Catalonia received 17.4 million visitors, making it the principal destination in Spain for foreign tourists.

Of course, the issue of whether Catalonia should be allowed to split from Spain involves much more than economic considerations. For many Spaniards outside of Catalonia, the issue provokes viscerally negative reactions. A usually-serene Andalusian friend of mine erupted when I asked her about Catalan secession recently: “What they are doing is crazy, selfish and disrespectful. They are showing no concern for Spain”, she said. Such an attitude is common among Spaniards outside of Catalonia.

Yet Puigdemont ploughs on regardless, and has vowed to hold a controversial independence referendum on 1 October. The Catalan president says it is wrong to assume the returning strength of the Spanish economy will deter die-hard separatists such as himself. Of course, much legal uncertainty surrounds the questions of whether the vote will go ahead and, even if it does, whether it will have any validity (Rajoy says it won't); but as it approaches, its orchestrator appears to worryingly out of touch with reality.

Costa under consideration for plant that creates water out of thin air

Teexmicron, a Spanish company, has also decided to install the world's first ecological atmospheric water-bottling plant in the area

✪ AGUSTÍN PELÁEZ

MÁLAGA. Teexmicron, a world leader in the production of equipment that collects drinking water from the atmosphere, has set its sights on the Málaga area to install a plant to make atmospheric generators of drinking water.

The firm, which sells its products to the construction, hotel, agriculture and military industries, as well as for humanitarian aid, said last December that it planned to set up in Andalucía and stop manufacturing in China and Brazil.

Teexmicron, which is based in the northern Spanish region of Asturias, plans on investing some two million euros in the project, according to its president, Víctor Fernández.

Córdoba is also being considered, however according to Fernández, one of the advantages of the

Costa del Sol is the higher air humidity as it is close to the sea.

If Málaga is finally chosen as site of the factory, some 80 per cent of the equipment will be for the export market. A first phase will create 35 new jobs, rising to 70, in a factory covering 8,000 square metres. As yet the exact location being considered in the area hasn't been revealed.

Bottling plant confirmed

Teexmicron has, however, confirmed that it will be installing the world's first ecofriendly bottling plant for water collected from the atmosphere using the firm's technology. They are in negotiations to work with LY, a company based in Alhaurín de la Torre.

The Teexmicron Water System is patented and generates very pure drinking water by extracting it from the air through condensation. The generators can typically produce between 100 and 10,000 litres a day, although there are larger plants capable of producing 300,000 litres a day.

The bottling plant would start out creating between 30,000 and 40,000 litres of water a day.

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Spain says it will not use Gibraltar to jeopardise Brexit

The foreign minister's comments were cautiously welcomed in Gibraltar, but there is still strong resistance to the idea of joint sovereignty

DEBBIE BARTLETT

GIBRALTAR. Spain's foreign minister, Alfonso Dastis, appeared to offer a conciliatory tone over Gibraltar in an interview with a Spanish newspaper this week, saying that his government will not use it as a bargaining tool to jeopardise Brexit.

There had been concern that Spain would demand joint sovereignty over Gibraltar as a condition of not blocking deals made between the UK and the EU, especially after the EU granted Spain what amounts to a double veto by saying that no deals which would affect Gibraltar can be done between Britain and the EU after the UK has left unless Spain agrees to them.

The foreign minister stressed that regaining Gibraltar is still very important to the Spanish government, to complete Spain's 'territorial integrity', and he hoped that the people of Gibraltar could be convinced that it is worth exploring the route of joint



Spain's foreign minister, Alfonso Dastis. :: SUR

sovereignty and that it would be beneficial to them as well, but "what I don't want to do is jeopardise an EU-UK agreement by subjecting it to a need to alter Gibraltar's status at the same time.... I won't make an agreement between the EU and the United Kingdom conditional on recovering sovereignty over Gibraltar," he said.

His words were greeted with caution in Gibraltar. Although in general the change of tone was welcome, especially after the more hostile approach taken by Dastis's

predecessor José Manuel García Margallo, most people still feel very strongly that they wish to remain British.

In two referenda in the past, Gibraltar voted overwhelmingly against any type of Spanish involvement. Chief minister Fabian Picardo said this week that the government would consider holding a third referendum if the need arose, and that he had no doubt what the result would be, despite Brexit and the challenges it poses for Gibraltar.

IN BRIEF



The pupils with teachers and government ministers. :: SUR

Local teenagers repaint Referendum Steps

GIBRALTAR

:: D.B. The steps leading to the Upper Rock, which are known locally as Referendum Steps, are being repainted with the Union flag by 15 teenagers from the

Youth Service as part of the run-up to the celebrations to mark the 50th anniversary of the first referendum, which took place in September 1967.

The youngsters, who are said to be "very excited" about participating in the project, have been learning about the history of the referendum at school.

Gibraltar's fintech sector moves forward

GIBRALTAR

:: D.B. The premium global fintech business Xapo has announced that it is starting to operate in Gibraltar and has been granted an E-money licence by the government. Minister for Commerce Albert Isola says Xapo will help to consolidate Gibraltar as a centre of excellence in this up-and-coming sector.

44th International Art Exhibition

GIBRALTAR

:: D.B. Entries are being invited for this year's International Art Exhibition, which is open to local artists who are aged 16 or over on 6 November this year. The entries will be displayed in the Gustavo Bacarissas gallery from 8 to 18 November, and there are five prizes ranging from £1,000 to £4,000.



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Fear of immigrant surge partially shuts Ceuta's border

Guards have been overwhelmed as their stations are charged, as up to 3,000 more people are said to be waiting in the hills to cross into the city

■ MELCHOR SÁIZ-PARDO

MADRID. Spain has partially closed its land border with Morocco in an unprecedented move to combat an increasing surge of illegal migrants storming the frontier and overwhelming the border guards on duty.

Early last Monday morning, 186 immigrants caught the eight officials on duty by surprise when they raced across the border post that joins Morocco to Ceuta, a Spanish city on the North African coast on the other side of the Strait of Gibraltar. A further large group made the same trip the next night.

The Interior Ministry, working with the Moroccan government, believes that there are between 1,500 and 3,000 sub-Saharan Africans camped out in the hills near Ceuta and Tangier, waiting to enter the Spanish city and who have been en-



A group of sub-Saharan Africans after entering Ceuta on Monday. ■ REUTERS

couraged by others' recent success.

Until the middle of next week, the El Tarajal II border post will be shut. This is a new crossing set up for the 4,000-5,000 human carriers of smaller, tolerated contraband that cross between Spain and Mo-

rocco every day. In the summer the carriers' numbers drop.

This shutdown will allow police and border guards to concentrate their efforts on the old El Tarajal I post and the protective fencing that rings the city.

Barcelona airport crisis could still get worse and strikes could spread

The Guardia Civil are ready to step in and cover if current offers are rejected and stoppages by security staff continue

■ SUR

BARCELONA. The industrial action by security guards checking passengers at Barcelona airport could get worse if the four different proposals on the table to end the dispute aren't accepted.

Workers have called for an in-

definite strike from 14 August if their demands for better pay and conditions are not met. Authorities have said that the Guardia Civil are ready to step in and take over the services operated by Eulen, a private contractor, if that happens.

Last weekend partial stoppages caused chaos at the El Prat airport.

Meanwhile security workers in the Galician airports of Santiago and A Coruña have said they will launch partial strikes later this month if their requests for better conditions are not met.



The long wait at the city's El Prat airport last weekend. ■ EFE



An archive photo of Juana explaining her case to journalists. ■ EFE

Mother told by court to give her children back to former partner who abused her

Juana Rivas, from Granada, is in hiding since failing to comply with a court order to hand them over

■ SUR

GRANADA. Juana Rivas, the Granada woman who is in hiding since failing to comply with a court order to give up her two children in late July, must hand them over to her former partner, Granada's top court ruled on Thursday.

Juana brought her children, aged 11 and 3, back to Spain from Sardinia a year ago.

The father of her children had been condemned in his native Italy on a domestic abuse charge in 2009 and Juana returned to Granada to make a further complaint against him in 2016. However, the father has taken sustained legal action to recover the children.

Juana's refusal to hand them over has drawn widespread attention. Supporters claim that the authorities haven't carried out their duty to protect her and her family but the judge on Thursday disagreed.

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THERE IS A PRIZE FOR THE BEST
CONTRIBUTION TO THIS PAGE
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RIP Ángel Nieto

I'm feeling sad as I contemplate the loss of the maestro Ángel Nieto, who will not be with us anymore.

Ángel, a wonderful human being, always a source of motivation, inspiration and trust, an inspiration for all of us who had the fortune of coming into his ambit; he has left us for a heavenly abode.

May the memories and the love that he shared bring back the moments of togetherness, love and hope.

You will always be remembered. I pray that your soul rests in peace and loved.

To his family and children, no words may heal the pain now, but his presence and aura will last forever. Let the good memories comfort you all to handle the pain.

Adios Ángel Nieto. You were a real hero, an icon, a legend and a thirteen-time (12+1) world champion.

AKINRADEWO A. OROBOLA
BY EMAIL

Soft toys

Am I the only one who found the back page article this week [4 to 10 August] rather off-key?

From the photo and headline ("A big cuddly thank you for saving my life") I thought I was going to read a heart-warming story about a child who gave a collection of toys to a hospital, but no. It was about a grandfather who "donated" his granddaughter's toys. Where is the generosity

of spirit or the gratitude in giving away someone else's old toys? And are second hand fluffy toys going to be appropriate in a children's hospital? I hope at the very least the child was asked, and properly thanked....

Incidentally I do agree with Mr Masters that the Spanish health service is brilliant, and I wish him a full recovery from his illness.

ROBERTA WILLIAMS
BY EMAIL

SUR English

Published by: PRENSA MALAGUEÑA S. A.
Director General: JOSÉ LUIS ROMERO

Editor in Chief:
MANUEL CASTILLO

Publications Director:
Pedro Luis Gómez

Editor:
Rachel Haynes

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Commercial Director:
Jorge Artero

Malaga Edition:
Avda. Dr. Marañón, 48, 29009,
Málaga. Telephone: 952649741.
Advertising Fax: 952611256.
Editorial Fax: 952020293. Code
from U.K.: 0034

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Global Media Sales Ltd
PO Box 1126, Bromley, BR1 9TX
Tel: +44 (0)20 8464 5577
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Lord of the Glens

PETER EDGERTON
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With a few honourable exceptions, poetry and song are two art forms that are best kept far apart. Poems set to music or song lyrics read on their own are usually a pretty grim experience to behold. It's true that Leonard Cohen's wordplay sounds just as good with or without music owing to the fact that poetry was his preferred form of expression as a young man. Some Paul Simon lyrics and a few Bob Dylan works also maintain a certain level of artistic dignity when deprived of musical accompaniment. Ed Sheeran ('Last night you were in my room and now my bedsheets smell like you') by contrast, doesn't quite make the grade, I'm sure we can agree.

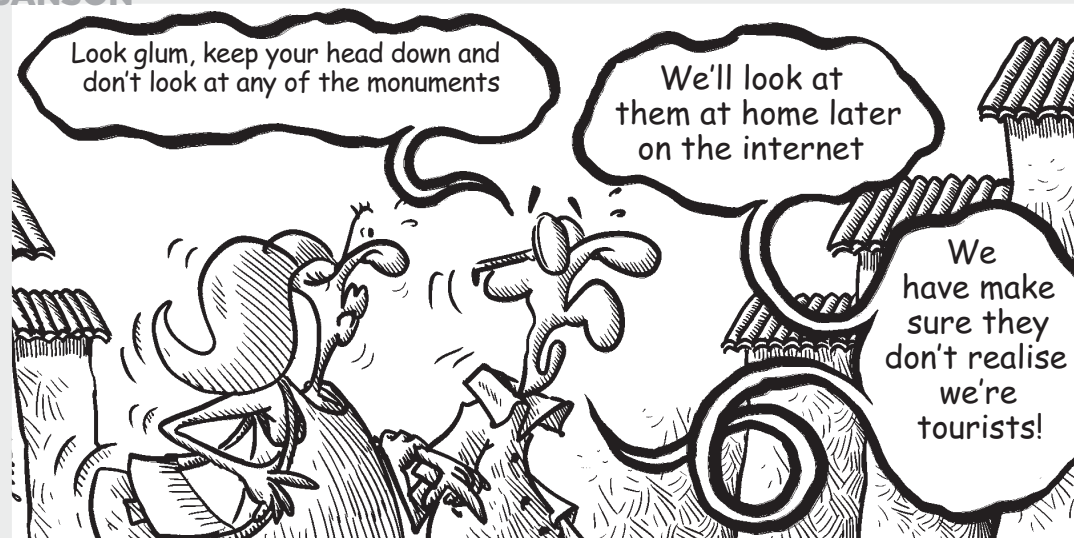
Quite often, when I'm mooching about the place doing nothing in particular, song lyrics will begin to swirl around my head and, very often, they'll be of the more complex variety. An old favourite of mine is Gentle On My Mind by John Hartford. It's a fine example of a lyric that can be read from a page and which sounds just as good in its own right as it does with music. Sample lines: 'I dip my cup of soup back from a gurglin' cracklin' cauldron in some train yard/ My beard a rustlin' coal pile and a dirty hat pulled low across my face/ Through cupped hands round a tin can I pretend to hold you to my breast and find/ That you're waving from the backroads, by the rivers of my memory/ Ever smilin' ever gentle on my mind.'

The fact that it's got a cracking melody to boot, only adds to the beauty of it all. Dean Martin's is probably the definitive version, simply because of its swing and verve as well as the marvellous brass arrangement it offers.

As always though, Glen Campbell's interpretation has a uniquely magical quality. It's to be found somewhere in between the yearning tone of his voice and his immaculate phrasing. When this man sang a lyric, he was living it and you were living it with him. We lost Glen Campbell this week and the world of popular music will be a much poorer place for that. Very few voices touch such a vast number of people.

RIP Glen Campbell - we hear you singing in the wire, we can hear you through the whine.

SANSÓN



Tourism-phobia

HÉCTOR BARBOTTA

On twitter: @barbotta



It may be that Venezuela isn't producing enough news to fill the time slots, or because the law courts take a holiday in summer, but for several days now TV news channels have been allocating time to a group which has been ignored until now, a group which spends its time harassing tourists.

It seems this isn't important enough to cause any alarm and it is possible that it will prove to be as fleeting a phenomenon as a summer storm, but for the moment it is keeping the media entertained. There is no better way than drawing attention to the presence of an enemy than to give them publicity, even though the price is that we are giving notoriety to a group whose only objective is to achieve fame and celebrity through acts of hooliganism. Some villains are so necessary that if they didn't exist, someone would have to invent

them.

So far, these groups have only acted in the Balearics and Catalonia, which seems to indicate that the real cause of their concern is not, in fact, the direction that tourism is taking in places where it seems impossible to contain, but is actually about other matters

which feature on the political agenda these days.

On the other hand, functional opportunists have appeared who tepidly disassociate themselves from these actions but then go on to applaud their supposed contribution to opening the debate, as if it is necessary for tourists hav-

ing lunch in a beach bar to be harassed, or as if stones have to be thrown against the fronts of hotels so that we start discussing the way our principal economic sector is heading.

It is evident that tourism needs to be permanently under review and cannot be left to the capricious

winds of the market. Deregulation is not good policy in a sector battered on one side by wild externalisations and on the other by an avalanche of demand which needs to be channelled selectively to prevent it dying from its own success. But this is a debate which has been ongoing for some time and all the hooligans are doing is giving a legitimacy, through rejection, to the most entrenched positions.

Some people say that here in the south we can't afford to be phobic about tourism because we have no alternative activity. This is only partly true, because the deep-rooted cause is very different. From the Phoenicians to the present day, we have been receiving visitors for several thousand years. We have never rejected anybody who has contributed something. Our smiles to tourists are ancestral. That is what makes us different, from those bumpkins wearing fancy dress in modern times.



Mariló Carrillo, Eloísa Domínguez, Silvia Olivero and María del Mar Muñoz, in the Unicaja María Cristina Concert Hall. María Ángeles Rozas couldn't attend the photo session. :: SALVADOR SALAS

Conducting to conquer prejudice

They are still a rare sight in the masculine world of conducting, but that doesn't stop them. Five female conductors talk of their experiences.

REGINA SOTORRÍO



They speak with real passion about what they do, describing it not as a profession, but as a life. The adrenaline rush which comes from standing in front of a music stand, with dozens of pairs of eyes watching every movement of your hands, is like no other. However, if you happen to be a woman, a conductor's life is not an easy one.

"I am constantly knocking on doors, and when they shut them in my face I wait for a while and then knock again," jokes Silvia Olivero, who is 42 and a veteran on the stage of concert halls in Malaga.

Eloísa Domínguez, who is 26 and has just qualified, says it cheers her up to hear that she is not the only one in that situation, but she is also surprised that women are still "looking for a place" after so many years. "That's right," says Silvia. As 39-year-old María Ángeles Rozas explains, "as a woman, there is no way to access first division orchestras;

it's very difficult." Not that that stops them trying.

"This is like a sport. You can't give up because if you do then you lose," says María del Mar Muñoz Varo, who is 31. "And when you've caught the conducting bug, you can't get rid of it," says Mariló Carrillo, 41.

These five female orchestra conductors from Malaga talk about their experience in a discipline in which there are far more people looking for posts than there are positions available. They have to be brave, but contacts are important as well. "Sometimes contacts and talent go together, and sometimes they don't," says Eloísa.

It is still unusual for a woman to be involved in such a traditionally masculine world. "I can't wait to get wrinkles and grey hair, to see if some of them respect me more and stop referring to me as 'girl'," says Silvia.

Make no mistake: they don't feel sorry for themselves, and they don't want anyone else to pity them either. In fact, although people still ask why they want to conduct orchestras, all five are making a living from music, through concerts, conducting bands, teaching new generations and becoming involved in ambitious projects. However, the reality is clear: not one woman is the senior conductor of a large orchestra in Andalucía. Only

three have conducted the Malaga Philharmonic Orchestra in its 26 years of existence, and one of them was María del Mar, in the 'La Filarmónica frente al Mar' cycle, at the Edgar Neville auditorium. In the 2018/19 programme, Lucía Martín will be doing the same.

Thirteen pupils in ten years

They are seen less on stage because fewer females decide to focus their career on this aspect: in the past ten years, only 13 girls registered for this course at the Senior Conservatory of Malaga (the only one in Andalucía to offer it), and this year there are no girls at all among the five student conductors.

These women insist that ability has nothing to do with gender. "The important thing is to conduct with strong, clear and expressive movements. It makes no difference whether it is a woman's arm or a

man's arm holding the baton," says María Ángeles, who teaches large groups at the Senior Conservatory of Jaén. She says that in terms of educational level men and women are equal.

"It is only a question of time before people think it is normal for women to conduct and it will no longer cause so much comment," says María del Mar. There is still a way to go, though, and their own experiences and the way in which they tackle their profession reflects that.

Silvia says that has been met with responses such as "It can't be this year because we have already had a woman," or "When I said I was looking for a Spanish conductor, I meant a man, not a woman."

"If they think I'm not capable of doing the job then let them call me an idiot or whatever, but they don't do that. The reason they give is that I'm a woman," she says. She is the only female in the conducting department of the Senior Conservatory Orchestra of Malaga, the first to conduct Las Flores music band and has been a guest conductor for several orchestras elsewhere in Spain and in Romania (it is not unusual for conductors from Malaga to visit Romania thanks to the mediation of the former conductor of the OFM, Octav Calleya, who also teaches at

the Conservatory).

Silvia defines the way she behaves in front of an orchestra very clearly: "The clothes I put on are medium size and my conducting technique is large size," she says. She doesn't want to attract attention so she sticks to clothes which are as neutral as possible, hoping that the public and the musicians see her as a person doing their job, not as a man or a woman.

"I don't dress in feminine clothes because people would judge me for being female. I just want them to watch the baton," says Eloísa.

Not all of the women agree, however. María del Mar believes discretion is necessary for all conductors, male or female. "If a conductor turned up in bright coloured clothes, everyone would laugh at him," she argues. "I have felt more judged by women than by men."

"There have always been people like that, though," says Mariló Carrillo, who has never considered letting her gender interfere with her plans. She says she has experienced positive discrimination, too: a couple of months ago she conducted a concert in Valcea (Romania) for Women's Day and will be going back next year, this time to Macau, for another event linked to women.

Conducting and teaching

The women all combine conducting and teaching, because the latter is a more stable job and one tends to lead to the other.

"I have a vocation for teaching, but I need to conduct because the more I do it the more I can teach," says Eloísa, who teaches at the Triarte studio and also conducts two bands in Granada.

It may still be difficult for women to conduct philharmonic orchestras, but it is more common with smaller groups of this type. "It is an interesting experience too," says Silvia.

Without a professional symphony orchestra, teaching also gives them the chance to conduct the musicians around them. For example, María del Mar conducts the orchestra at the Gonzalo Martín Tenllado Conservatory, where she also teaches. Two months ago she left the Professional Youth Orchestra of Malaga (JOPMA) for another educational project: creating an orchestral academy.

María Ángeles has conducted 17 concerts so far this year with pupils from the Senior Conservatory in Jaén. "For me, this is my life and I love it. I'm not crying over the fact that I'm not conducting a philharmonic," she insists.

They all say that an orchestra, no matter which one, is "the best instrument that exists," with an unlimited "versatility, range of colours and expressive ability." They find happiness in going on stage and leading the music of this machine, "with the only musical instrument which makes no sound," the baton.

And up there, on stage with the music, gender doesn't matter.

"It is only a question of time before people think it's normal for women to conduct"

THE CONDUCTORS

Eloísa Domínguez

► **Age:** 26.

► **Training.** She qualified in Conducting at the Royal Senior Conservatory in Madrid, and in Composition in Granada.

► **Career.** She teaches composition at Triarte. She conducts two bands in Granada: the Ave María and the Huétor Vega band.



:: SALVADOR SALAS

Mariló Carrillo

► **Age:** 41.

► **Training.** Qualified in Conducting at the Senior Conservatory in Malaga.

► **Career.** Founder of the City Choir in Ronda. She has conducted several orchestras in Romania. She says she would love to create an orchestra in Ronda, her home town.



:: SALVADOR SALAS

María del Mar Muñoz

► **Age:** 31.

► **Training.** Qualified in Conducting at the Senior Conservatory in Malaga.

► **Career.** Teaches Orchestra and Bands at the Martín Tenllado Professional Conservatory. Ex-conductor of the JOPMA. She currently conducts the conservatory orchestra and is involved in creating an orchestral academy.



:: SALVADOR SALAS

Silvia Olivero

► **Age:** 42.

► **Training.** Qualified in Conducting at the Senior Conservatory in Malaga.

► **Career.** Teaches Conducting at the Senior Conservatory in Malaga. Was conductor of Las Flores band. Has conducted the University Chamber Orchestra, the Malaga Symphony Orchestra in educational concerts and foreign philharmonics.



:: SALVADOR SALAS

Ma Angeles Rozas

► **Age:** 39.

► **Training.** Qualified in Conducting at the Senior Conservatory of Malaga.

► **Career.** Teaches large music groups at the Senior Conservatory in Jaén. She will be conducting the Sur de España Youth Orchestra and the Granada Municipal Band in concerts in the near future.



:: VIRGINIA JIMÉNEZ

THE NIGHT SKY

KEN CAMPBELL

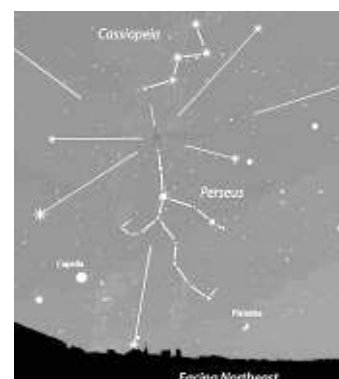


Shower of stars

It's that time of year again to witness the annual celestial firework display that is the Perseid meteor shower. If you've never seen a meteor then this weekend is the best time of the year to catch one.

A meteor or shooting star is caused when a tiny piece of space dust usually no bigger than a grain of sand strikes the Earth's upper atmosphere at tremendous speed. Friction with the air causes it to burn up creating a brief streak of light across the night sky. Go outside on any given night and if you wait long enough you will almost certainly see one or two rogue meteors. But at certain times of the year the Earth passes through the debris trail left behind by a comet and instead of seeing one or two meteors, we are presented with anything up to 100 an hour.

Beginning tonight and into Saturday and Sunday night, the Earth will pass through the trail left behind by comet Swift-Tuttle. This comet returns every 133 years; the last time it was in our neighbourhood was in 1992 and it will



be back again in 2126 but each time it returns it lays down another patch of debris that crosses the Earth's orbit.

Each year between 11 and 13 August, the Earth passes through the debris creating the meteor shower. There are other times of the year when we pass through meteor showers but the Perseids are the most prolific and have been observed for many hundreds of years.

The name Perseid comes from the constellation Perseus which

is where the meteors appear to radiate from. You may see a meteor anywhere in the sky but if you follow a line back then they all appear to emerge from this one point.

You don't need any special equipment to watch the meteor shower, just lay back on a reclining chair or sun lounger and look up, I usually prefer half way up the Northeast sky. Try to get in an area as dark as possible away from any streetlights and wait. Patience is the keyword here; you really need to commit a couple of hours to watching the shower. It will take at least 15 minutes for your eyes to become dark-adapted as most of them are nothing more than faint gossamer-like trails. Saturday night will be best but as the waning moon rises at around midnight it will drown out all but the brightest.

There is an internet rumour going round that this year will be the most spectacular shower for over 100 years, unfortunately this is simply not true and the only thing you can predict about the Perseids is their unpredictability.

More information : www.costadelstars.com

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REF. I.P.A.

Last month I underwent plastic surgery, and due to medical malpractice I now suffer a mild facial palsy. I got in contact with a lawyer, who told me that he needed a medical report to proceed. I spoke with a medical expert and I paid for the report, but since the examination, I have asked him to give me the re-

port several times, but he refuses making ridiculous excuses. What can I do to obtain the report?

If an amicable claim has no effect, it would be necessary to send a registered letter to him demanding the handing over of the report, and stating that if it is not delivered in a certain term, you will proceed to take the appropriate legal action and to lodge a claim to his professional association. Usually, this is more than enough to get the problem solved, but if even so the expert refuses to give you the report, you can always go to Court.

REF. T.E.C.

I was living in a rented apartment for nearly a year, and during that time, due to economic difficulties, I could not pay five gas bills. When I left the apartment, I cancelled the gas contract and now the com-

pany is claiming almost eight hundred euros for the unpaid invoices. I do not agree with such a debt, since it amounts to nearly 150 euros per month and I only ever used the gas when having a shower. What can I do?

In principle, the gas company will try to get the payment of the invoices amicably, and if you do not pay, they will go to Court. In this sense, it is advisable to reach an agreement, as if they took legal action it is likely that you would be sentenced to pay the legal costs, and therefore the economic loss will be even higher. If you want to fight against the amount of the invoices, you will have to prove that the consumption is wrong. It would also be advisable to check if the invoices correspond to the period when you were living in the apartment, just in case that they were trying to charge invoices that do not correspond to you.

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British artist has design chosen for this year's Noche del Vino poster



JENNIE RHODES
✉ rhodes_jennie@hotmail.com

Ray Murphy had never exhibited in Spain before and was encouraged to enter the competition by a friend he met in Cómputa

CÓMPETA. On the opening day of his first ever exhibition in Spain, at the Galería de Bellas Artes in Cómputa, Ray Murphy learned that his entry had been chosen as this year's Cómputa Noche del Vino poster.

Ray is from Essex, where he lives and runs a business with his wife looking after children, which they have done for over 20 years. They have been visiting Cómputa regularly since

2009 and although they have never lived outside the UK, Ray says that he "would consider Cómputa".

Despite never working as a full-time artist, he hopes to be full-time in the near future. "I am a self-taught artist and have painted from a young age," he says.

Ray says that his inspirations come from landscape, seascape, wild animals and beautiful women and that the artists that most inspire him are professor Ken Howard, "because of his mastery of tone", and Joaquín Sorolla, "because of his mastery of colour and light".

First competition

Ray explains that a good friend, who he met on his first visit to Cómputa,



Ray, second right, at his exhibition opening and inset details of the winning poster design. :: SUR



suggested that he should design a poster for the Noche del Vino competition after he'd seen some old posters

on the walls of a bodega in Cómputa and Ray asked him about them.

"I was delighted to have my work chosen as it is a great feeling to have one's work appreciated and acknowledged," Ray says of his success. It is the first competition that Ray has entered.

As for the poster design, he says: "I wanted to create a story. I wanted to combine the wine, the grapes, something traditionally Spanish and a little bit of magic, hence the creation of the flamenco dancer dancing the fruit into wine."

Ray returned to Cómputa on 5 August for the official presentation of the poster. However, the event was postponed until Wednesday at the last minute due to the death of a relative of one of the organisers, meaning Ray was unable to attend. Due to prior commitments he won't be at this year's Noche del Vino either, to

which the artist confesses he has never been.

Although the exhibition has now finished, much of Ray's work can be found on his website: www.paint-themouse.com.

Cómputa's Noche del Vino will be taking place on Tuesday 15 August. As well as being the day of the town's patron saint, Nuestra Señora de la Asunción, who is said to look after the vineyards, it also marks the time when the town traditionally waved off the grape harvesters, who would be away for up to three months picking the fruit in the fields around Cómputa.

The first Noche del Vino

In 1974 the first Noche del Vino was a spontaneous party which started when local resident, Aurelio Fernández Navas, gave away free wine to locals and the event has taken place every year since then.

It has become known as one of Cómputa's most important local fiestas and takes place around the Plaza de la Vendimia during the day, before moving to Plaza Almirante for a concert in the evening.

Free wine is still provided and music and dancing is the order of the day, going on well into the night.

For more information, visit: www.competa.es

Thrill seekers head for San Roque

On Monday morning a 500kg bull will run through the streets of San Roque chasing hundreds of participants

:: ASH BOLTON

SAN ROQUE. It's fair to say it's not everyone's cup of tea but next Monday, 14 August, at 7am, several hundred people are set to literally run for their lives through the streets of San Roque for the town's annual bull run.

The event takes place on the last day of the town's feria and sees a 500kg, fighting bull chase locals for 500 metres through a steel barricaded route to the town's bull ring.

Dating back to 1649, the bull run started when the original Spanish inhabitants of Gibraltar would go to the



The 500kg bull has been known to hospitalise runners. :: A. B.

old Shrine of San Roque (built in 1508) in pilgrimage and hold a bull run. The shrine was located in the old quarter of the town where the parish church is today.

The tradition then continued af-

ter the Spanish population founded San Roque in 1704, when British and Dutch forces took the Rock.

Next Monday's bull run will see the fighting bull spend an hour in the bull ring with the runners, before

three younger bulls replace him.

Carlos Jordan, San Roque Tourism coordinator, told SUR in English that the event draws thousands of people – packing the bull ring to its 3,000 capacity.

He explained: "Once the bull is in the arena, the participants are allowed to pretend to be matadors, but without harming the bull in any way. After a while, the bull is put back in the pen and the organisation let three young bulls loose which are quite dangerous and are more agile."

Carlos added that runners are given a shot of Aguardiente (a strong spirit) at 6am near the start of the run before the bull is let loose, to give them courage.

"Runners are mainly young people in their twenties and early thirties, some have had a bit too much to drink at the feria that night, but oth-

ers take this really seriously and are far more athletic," Carlos said.

"As far as spectators are concerned, there are people of all ages, families with children and senior citizens. Mainly people who like watching the event, but don't want to take any risks."

Unlike some local bull fights, the bull run doesn't attract protests. During the event no one is allowed to touch the bull and a local association runs alongside the animal to make sure no one hurts it. Afterwards the bulls are sent back to a stockbreeder's estate in the countryside.

Carlos said that if you want a "rush of adrenaline and you are into taking risks" then participants will enjoy the run.

He added: "It isn't everybody's cup of tea, although no harm is done to the bull and participants are at more risk than any of the bulls. If anyone wants to come down and watch the bull run, then get here at 6.30am to get a seat in the bull ring."

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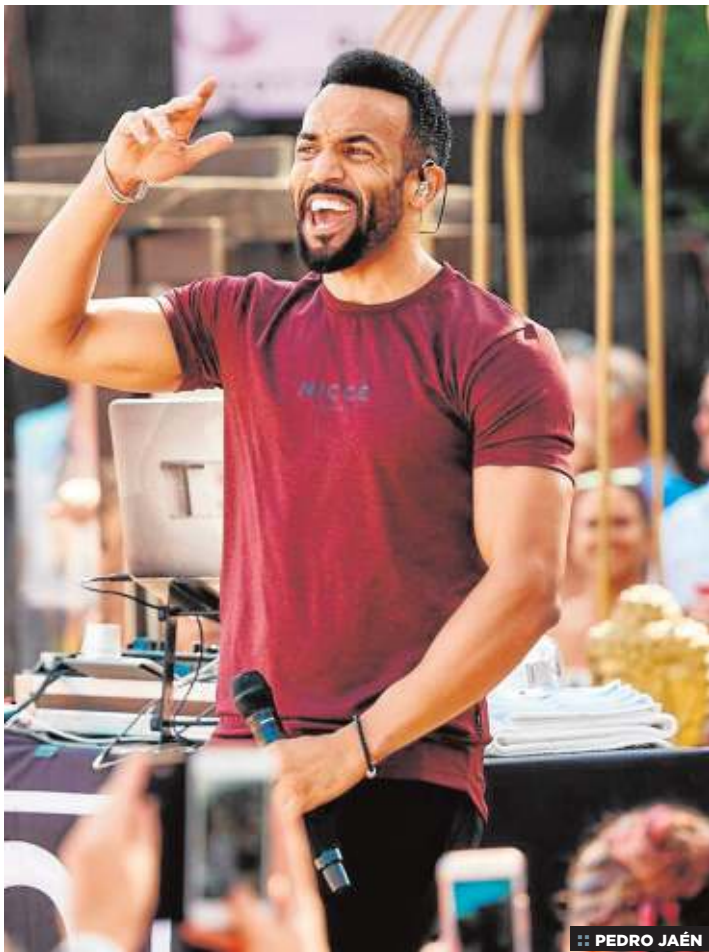


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SUMMER PHOTOS ACROSS THE PROVINCE



:: PEDRO JAÉN

**CRAIG DAVID
CONCERT AT LA
SALA BEACH CLUB**

British singer, songwriter, rapper and record producer Craig David recently performed at the TS5 Pool Party at La Sala by the Sea Marbella.



:: ÑITO SALAS

**ANNUAL SWIM IN MALAGA
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Red buoys marked the route between piers one and two of Malaga port for the 58th Swimming Festival. A total of 527 swimmers took part, including Malaga mayor Francisco de la Torre.

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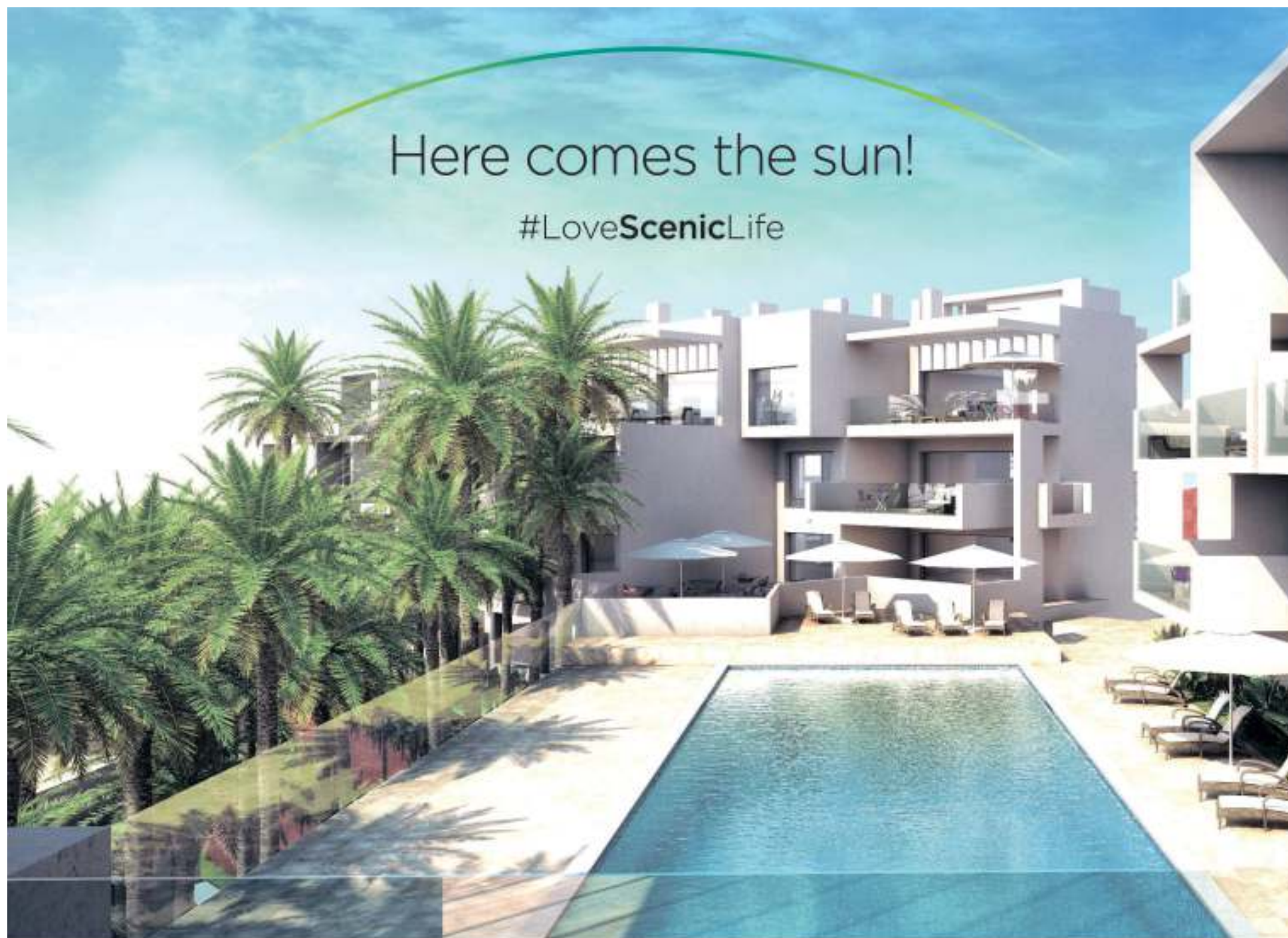
Autobello, celebrated at the Magna Marbella Golf Club last week, brought together thousands of euros worth of luxury and legendary cars including John Wayne's gull-wing Mercedes.

**MARBELLA'S
JUNIOR CHEFS
ATTEND
CASTING**

The Puente Romano hotel in Marbella hosted the only casting for Masterchef Junior in Andalucía on Tuesday. Fifty five children, selected from nearly 2,000 applicants, competed to be one of the 25 finalists that will appear in the fifth edition of the popular show.



:: JORGE REY



information graphics indicative



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STONEWEG
Living





The postcard, a relic of a bygone era?

Sending a postcard was once a way of letting our family and friends know that we were having a wonderful holiday; at one time we sent more than 16 million of them a year

by TONY BRYANT

MALAGA. The traditional family summer holiday has always been a time for leaving behind the worries and strains of our daily routines in order to enjoy a few weeks in the sun. Probably the only chore we would have to attend while visiting our chosen destination would be to send news of our escapades to family and friends back home. Today, this is something of an easy task, but we once had to rely on the good old-fashioned holiday postcard in order to do this.

The first picture postcards appeared at the end of the nineteenth century, when British publishers were given permission by the Royal Mail to manufacture and distribute these cards. The revolutionary postcard, which could be sent through the post without an envelope, became one of the sure ways holiday makers could let loved ones know they were well and that they were having a great time.

The soaring demand for picture postcards led to a huge increase in the number of postcard publishers and they issued cards covering a vast range of subjects.

In the early 1930s, the saucy car-



Tourists rarely buy picture postcards to send to their families. by F. G.

toon-style postcards became popular. These were often suggestive in nature, making use of innuendo and featuring stereotypical characters

such as vicars, large-bosomed ladies and hen-pecked husbands.

In the early 1950s, the newly-elected Conservative government

Postcards first appeared at the end of the 19th century, when British publishers were given permission to manufacture and distribute them by the Royal Mail

Original postcards are now highly sought after and vintage cards can command high prices at auction and on eBay

were concerned at the apparent deterioration of morals in Britain and decided to regulate these bawdy postcards. In the more liberal 1960s, the saucy postcard was revived and became as popular as the time-honoured stick of rock. During the 1970s and 80s however, the quality of the artwork and humour began to deteriorate and the demise of the saucy postcard occurred.

Sold by newsagents and souvenir shops all along the Costa del Sol, traditional seaside postcards often featured multiple depictions of the resort. They were a way of making those back home jealous of the favourable weather conditions and cheap drink that we wrote about on the reverse of the card, and at one time we sent more than 16 million of them a year.

However, the old-fashioned post-

card seems somewhat consigned to history by the revolution of the mobile phone. With today's sophisticated smartphones, we no longer need to search out postcards with pictures of landmarks, scenic views or local architecture, as this is now done at the click of a button and sent immediately to the recipient.

So the question remains: are the days of sending the good old fashioned postcard now a thing of the past?

Racks of postcards once cluttered the doorways of shops and news agents in just about every seaside resort and, although they might still be found in certain areas along the Costa del Sol, there are few people that still engage in this long-established custom. In fact, even the practice of sending birthday and Christmas cards has declined since the invention of the internet, and, like many aspects of yesteryear, the modern world in which we now live has erased the tradition of sending the classic seaside postcard.

Despite the decline in their popularity, they continue to be a significant aspect of British culture and old cards provide an extremely valuable record of the past. The postcard might record a village scene or street that has long since disappeared. This is particularly true in old villages where houses and buildings have been erased without any record being made, other than the picture postcard, which are no longer in print.

People still search out these old postcards, not to send to their

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A THING OF THE PAST?

Sue Shop owner

"We rarely sell any postcards now"

Sue, the owner of A Date to Remember in Torremolinos, says that they did originally sell many post cards. However, today she would struggle to sell in one month what she used to sell daily.

"We rarely sell any post cards now, other than the occasional one to the older tourist," she says.

Jessica Ward Student

"I don't send postcards; I have a mobile phone"

20-year-old British tourist, Jessica Ward, said that it was not something she would do because it was not necessary, although there has been the odd occasion when she has sent an amusing card back home.

"If I see something amusing that my friends would find funny, then I might, but in general, no. I have a mobile phone for that."

Bob Andrews Taxi driver

"I only ever sent them to my mum and dad"

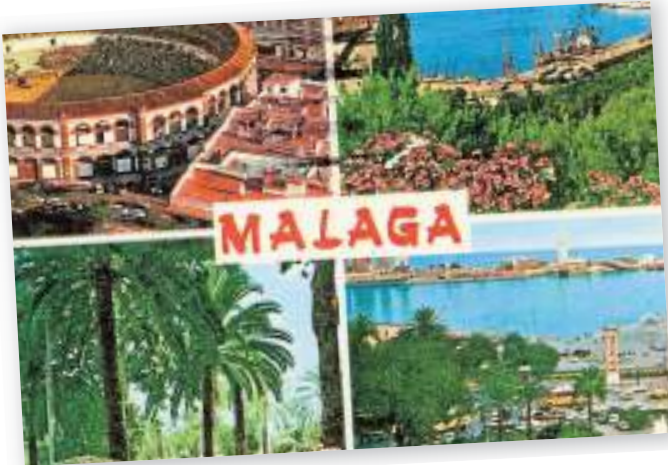
Bob Andrews has been coming to the Costa del Sol for more than 30 years and, until recently, he would always send a few postcards back home.

"I only used to send them to my mum and dad because they did not have a mobile phone, but since they passed away I've obviously stopped sending them," he says.

friends, but because they have now become a collectable item.

Original postcards are now highly sought after, and vintage cards, especially those published by ETW Dennis of Scarborough or Bamfords of West Yorkshire, can command high prices at auction and on eBay.

Prices can range from a few pounds to several thousand, depend-



Multi-picture postcards were once very popular with tourists, but they are now a thing of the past. :: SUR

Some of the most popular cards feature street scenes and the social life of bygone days, while other collectable postcards include images of the Titanic or famous sports personalities and film stars.

ing on the condition, so, even though the dreaded mobile phone has erased the custom of sending cards, these iconic emblems of the British holiday are still very much in demand.

The most expensive postcard (and the oldest according to Guinness World Records) was sold at auction for 35,000 euros, so it may well be worth checking to see if we still have any tucked away with our old holiday snapshots.

British journalist Muriel Pilkington dies

:: SUR IN ENGLISH

MALAGA. British journalist and translator Muriel Pilkington, remembered on the Costa del Sol for her political columns in the newspapers The Town Crier and The News, died last week at the age of 74.

Born in Sunderland, UK, in March 1943, Muriel first moved to Spain in 1964 where she lived and worked until 1970.

She then returned to the UK and worked at the BBC Radio newsroom in London, but in 1977 she left the country again, this time for Venezuela, where she would spend the next 25 years.

In Caracas she worked as a freelance translator and journalist, joining the English-language newspaper The Daily Journal in 1983 and taking over as editor of its Sunday magazine in 1998. Her work there was highly regarded and earned her an award from the late Venezuelan president Hugo Chávez.

In 2002 she decided to relocate to Spain, fearing that the economic and political situation in Venezuela could get worse.

She moved to Coín and, after working for a while with SUR in English, went on to write for local publications The Town Crier and



Muriel Pilkington. :: P. W.

The News, where she became political editor.

Former editor of The News, Kym Wickham, wrote in a tribute last week: "Muriel was a kind-hearted person but was also one of the most feisty people I have ever met."

"She knew her stuff inside and out and, if it was anything to do with Spanish or South American politics, her knowledge was second to none," said Kym.

Muriel shared this knowledge in her lectures on the Spanish Civil War for the U3A groups in Alhaurín el Grande. She also helped with translations at health centres, hospitals or banks. "Many people will miss Muriel for her kind-hearted help in this department," said Kym.

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BRIT BACK

POLLY
RODGER BROWN

To the weather. Which is pretty simple. Rain or showers for much of England and Wales with scattered showers in Scotland and Northern Ireland", said a newsreader on the radio this morning.

It is August and the weather here in the UK is a familiar mix of brief spells of sunshine punctuated by rain. A lot of rain. In fact it is predicted to rain all this week with yellow alerts in place for torrential downpours and thunderstorms.

So, a typical soggy summer here in Britain. A year after we returned to live in England I'm still shocked by how much it rains here in June, July and August. I am a rare individual in our village because I love the damp climate. While everyone around us grumbles about the unseasonal weather and grudgingly relocates the annual fête to the village hall or shuffles guests at a weekend barbecue into the garage I can't help but feel this is because they have never lived in a drought-prone area with long periods of 40 degree heat.

Well I have - and it is hellish.

Water

After many sweltering summers in Andalucía, summer rain is a miracle



A typical, British summer scene. :: ARG_FLICKR

When we were situated inland in the Axarquía I began to worry about the madness of the summer months as soon as Easter was over. Not just the extreme heat which meant us hiding within the thickwalls of our 'casa de campo' with the shutters down while our vegetable garden shrivelled away, only emerging from the gloom to jump into the car and whack up the a/c but worse, not a drop of municipal water for weeks on end.

Now we no longer have to endure Andalusian summers we never will, willingly, again. Here in East Anglia - actually one of the driest areas of the UK - the hedgerows are still dark green and verdant, the leafy trees offer shade when the sun occasionally burns bright and our garden is carpeted with soft springy grass.

Better still we live close to a famously pretty river, the Stour, which was painted by John Constable and Thomas Gainsborough among others and meanders through fields and meadows lined with weeping willows to the sea.

In the summer the river is brimming with life. On the water moor hens, ducks and swans paddle around the swathes of wild water-

cross and kayakers, making the most of the relative warmth and the long light evenings, navigate their way over locks and weirs. It sounds too good to be true but it is all real.

Last Saturday Sudbury hosted its 137th Regatta. Hundreds of valuable rowing boats were towed to the town from locations all over Britain. Gazebos lined the stretch of waterfront where the racing was to take place and rowers in team-matched lycra onesies gathered together. There was a bouncy castle, a cake stall and the ubiquitous beer and burger tent.

Mid afternoon the skies turned dark, there was an ominous roll of thunder and the rain began. It poured and poured and great streaks of lightening shot through the air. The beer tent where we had fortuitously found ourselves at the right time began to sag with the weight of water and anyone left outside was completely soaked through. I couldn't stop smiling. Of all the things I love about England now summer rain is my absolute favourite. After many sweltering Augusts in Andalucía it seems like a miracle.

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DENISE BUSH

GARDENING

Gomphrena globosa

The Globe amaranth thrives in hot conditions and blooms non-stop from late spring until the end of autumn

Gomphrena globosa is native to Brazil, Panama and Guatemala but is cultivated in many countries around the world. It is prized in Hawaii for making leis, in Nepal for making garlands to celebrate 'Brother's Day'

and in Trinidad the flowers are valued as much as for decorative purposes as they are for making a tea to treat gripe in babies.

Globe amaranth is relatively low growing, anywhere from 15cm to a metre tall. It is therefore a useful plant for front or middle of a border, especially in cottage garden schemes. Pinching out the first new growth in spring will help to make it bushy and bear more flowers although

this isn't strictly necessary. It can also be used as a specimen plant or grown in a container. Globe amaranth loves full sun; partial shade may result in fewer flowers and straggly growth. It also needs good drainage.

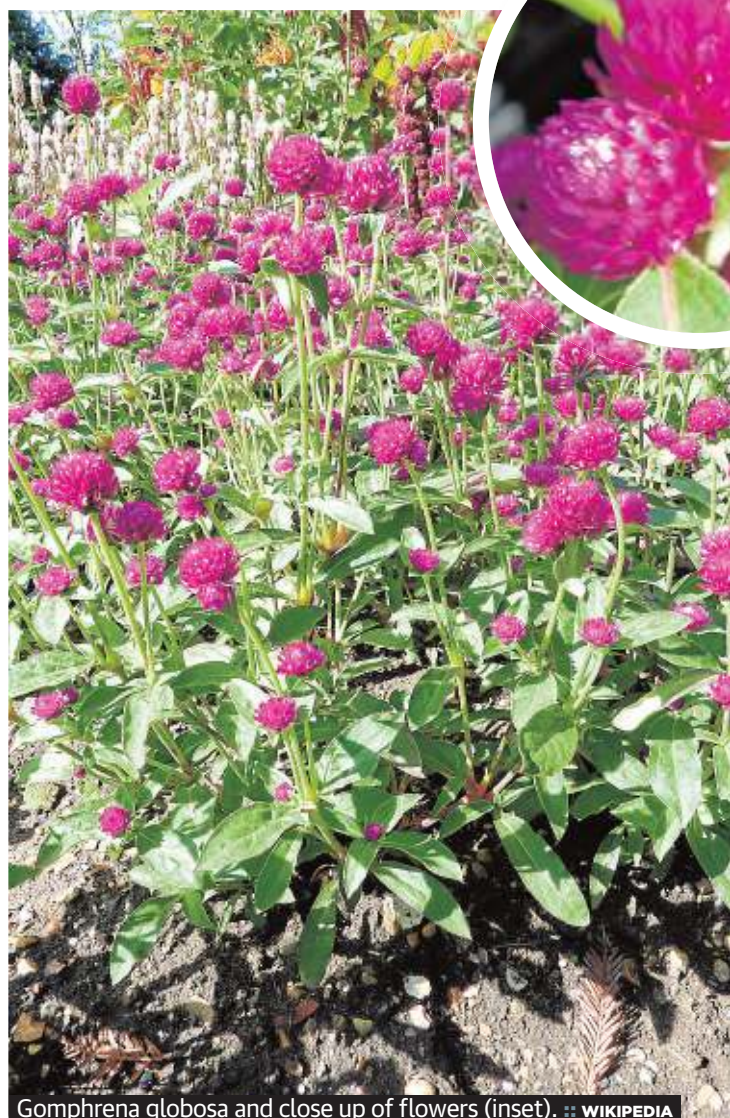
The blue-green leaves and stems are covered with fine white hairs, especially on new growth, and the flower heads are made up of tiny florets grouped together and resembling those of clover.

They come in a range of colours from white and yellow to pink, red and lavender and do not need deadheading as they will continue to flower as long as conditions are right.

Globe amaranth makes an excellent cut flower and stems may start to root in the vase. It also can be dried easily. The flowers should be picked just as they are opening and hung upside down in bunches, in a cool, airy place. They will keep their colour for many months.

Besides bringing colour to a border or patio they also attract butterflies and other important pollinating insects. Globe amaranth is usually pest free but can sometimes develop mildew, especially if planted too close together. It is not drought or cold tolerant and will need to be watered regularly. The seed can be collected and sown in spring although the resulting plants may not have flowers the same colour as the parent. The seeds are poor germinators and sometimes soaking in water for a few hours before sowing will increase the germination rate.

Cultivars to look out for are G. globosa 'Bicolour rose' which has pink and white flowers and 'Strawberry fields' which has large red flowers.



Gomphrena globosa and close up of flowers (inset). :: WIKIPEDIA

READER'S PHOTO



:: MRS L CARTER

WALL TO WALL SUNFLOWERS

Laurette Carter from Benamara Dos Hermanas in Estepona, sent in this photo of her garden with a border full of towering sunflowers.

GARDENING HINTS FOR AUGUST

A - Z of plant terms, part 3

It's still too hot to do much gardening so here's the last part of the A to Z: Inflorescence - the grouping or arrangement of flowers on a plant. Involute - rolled inwards. Lanceolate - longer than broad, usually refers to the leaves. Maculate - spotted. Monocarpic - flowering and setting seed only once before dying. Node - the part of the stem where leaves or branches arise. Noxious - not only poisonous but may also refer to plants that are invasive and harmful

to the environment. Palmate - a leaf with veins radiating from a central point. Pubescent - downy. Rhizome - a perennial underground stem also called a stolon or runner. Scabrous - rough to the touch. Spathe - a large bract ensheathing a flower head. Sport - a naturally occurring variant of a species. Trifid - split into three parts (bifid two parts), not to be confused with trifid! Tuber - underground storage organ. Viscid - coated with a sticky secretion.

PHOTOS

Calling all gardeners

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

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



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RACHEL HAYNES



WHAT HAPPENED TODAY?

11 AUGUST 1999

When the sun (partially) disappeared from the Costa del Sol

On rare occasions has any one other than maintenance staff climbed the spiral staircase that leads to the roof of the SUR building in Malaga. One of those occasions however was the morning of Wednesday 11 August 1999, when journalists and other employees gathered among the skylights and air conditioning units to watch the solar eclipse through special glasses.

There was excitement around the world as the Moon was due to pass between Earth and the Sun, creating a total solar eclipse visible along a path that went from the Atlantic Ocean, across the United Kingdom and Central Europe as far as the Bay of Bengal.

While people in Spain would only get to experience a partial eclipse, that didn't stop residents and tourists from interrupting their

routines to observe the sky. SUR reported the following day that even the then secretary of state for Security, Ricardo Martí Fluxá, had delayed the start of a lecture in El Escorial (Madrid), by half an hour to watch the phenomenon.

In Malaga, hundreds of people flocked to the Pablo Picasso promenade next to La Malagueta beach to observe the last eclipse of the millennium. There, experts from the Astronomy Society had set up two special telescopes that members of the public took turns to use from midday. They also lent special glasses to those who had been unable to obtain their own pair out of the thousands made specially for the occasion as these soon ran out. Hardware stores also sold out of welders' goggles which also allowed people to watch the eclipse without damaging their eyes.

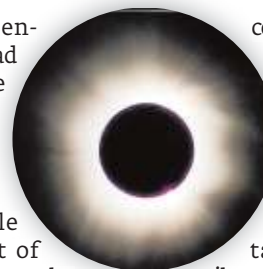


A special telescope was set up on a Malaga beach. ■ SALVADOR SALAS

Some astronomy enthusiasts had even had special T-shirts made for the occasion with the words 'Málaga, eclipse del sol' printed on them.

The eclipse stole around 52 per cent of sunlight from bathers on the Costa del Sol. The light started to diminish just before 11am and the show was all over by around 1.30pm. At 12 noon temperatures on La Malagueta beach dropped by between three and four degrees.

Meanwhile inland, the Environment Department at the Junta de Andalucía had been out to re-



cord any possible changes in behaviour among the province's fauna, one of the effects of a solar eclipse. All the experts watching the birds of prey at the Desfiladero de los Gaitanes (El Chorro), the ibex in the mountains of the Sierra de las Nieves, were able to confirm, however, was that these creatures failed to react to a partial eclipse such as this one.

Unusual activity was recorded however at the accident and emergency departments of the region's hospitals, which reported being

LANGUAGE FOOTNOTE

Sol	Sun
Gafas	Glasses/goggles
Eclipse del sol	Solar eclipse
Observar	To watch
Parcial	Partial
Ocultado	Hidden
Luna	Moon
Tierra	Earth
Astronomía	Astronomy
Telescopio	Telescope
Milenio	Millennium
Conferencia	Lecture
Soldador	Welder
Grado	Degree
Turnarse	To take turns
Ojos	Eyes
Daño	Damage
Urgencias	Accident and Emergency Department

"overwhelmed" by patients who feared they had damaged their eyes watching the eclipse. Three hours later only one young girl "with very pale blue eyes who had looked at the sun for a long time" was diagnosed with damage, although this was "not very significant", said a doctor. The rest of the patients who had reported eye pain had suffered no damage.

Bilingual crossword inside back page

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Spain is the fifth country in Europe as regards consumption of chicken.

Half a century ago it was mostly eaten at Christmas because it was a luxury and therefore expensive meal. At state dinners, such as the 1933 Proclamation of the Second Anniversary of the Republic, the menu consisted of caviar, chicken soup, cold salmon, roast chicken, asparagus and dessert.

Around the 1950s, chicken on a spit started to become popular,

A. J. LINN

RELEGATED TO HISTORY



but only in luxury restaurants where it appeared alongside salmon, foie gras, lobster and caviar. In Madrid nightclubs it was on the menu with smoked salmon and langoustines.

Fast-forwarding to the present, and it is a very different story. Belgian chef Fredrick Dhooge, whose restaurant had a Michelin star, asked to be excluded from the guide in future so he could "cook roast chicken when I want to". But in spite of this there are no chicken dishes on restaurant

menus these days. We all should remember that wonderful 'pollo al ajillo', chicken pieces fried in oil with garlic and hot peppers, with sherry added at the end. One of Spain's most typical and flavoursome dishes, on offer in every bar in Andalucía as a tapa or a main course. And what about other Spanish classics like 'pollo al chilindrón', 'en pepitoria', or just casseroled?

While the French extend legal protection to their Bresse chicken, and coq au vin is one of the coun-

try's most famous gastronomic delights, here chicken is only eaten at home. When was the last time you saw it on a restaurant menu, or mentioned by a food critic?

Cooks for some reason prefer to offer us mediocre fillet steak or lubina from the fish farm. A breeder of wonderful organic chicken in Coín gets snubbed by restaurants and has to export all he produces. And what host would dream of serving chicken to their guests, for fear they would think them unsophisticated?

"We can make quality wines using our own native varieties of grapes"

Ana de Castro Technical director and oenologist at Bodega La Melonera

ESPERANZA PELÁEZ

Ana de Castro is a respected oenologist with a unique field of work. Young, passionate about wine and a country lover, she is the technical director at La Melonera, the Ronda wine bodega which has embarked on recovering native varieties of grape, endorsing reds such as Payoya Negra.

-What made you choose being an oenologist as a profession?

-Since I was little we used to spend our summer holidays in Galicia and my first glass of wine was an Albariño, how could I not have fallen in love with it?

-The wine growing area of Ronda relies on French grape varieties to revive the industry. What were prospects like when you arrived?

-Very hard, the French varieties are adapted to a very different climate to that which we have in Ronda. The hard work cultivating them gives us great fruit that we must value.

-How did you start working with native varieties?

-There are many varieties of

grapes, both white and red, that are native to Andalucía and are at the point of extinction. Thanks to the book by Simón de Rojas Clemente and the excellent work of the Rancho de la Merced, we decided to venture into this marvelous task which aims to recover our national plant heritage.

-The effort to recover local varieties is taking off in many areas. Why do you think that is?

-We live in a globalised world where we can drink a Cabernet Sauvignon from Europe, Chile or New Zealand. It is time to differentiate ourselves and create new products from lesser-known varieties that are not inferior quality. We live in a rich and diverse wine country, we must explore more.

-What grapes do you work with?

-I'm continuing with the red from Rota, a variety with a rich colour, acid and tannin, which makes me very happy. The Melonera, our emblematic grape, is special; delicate with a very sweet nose. The Rome, the Blasco, Vijiriega Blanca...



Ana de Castro, a respected oenologist and technical director at La Melonera bodega in Ronda. :: SUR

-Do you think there are any new varieties to be discovered or do you think they have all been documented now?

-We still have a lot to do. There are many native varieties of grape in Andalucía that are catalogued but which have not been fully investigated. There is a world of plants still to discover, investigate and enjoy.

-What would the objective of this work at La Melonera be, in relation to Ronda? What would you like it to influence, for example?

-Our objective is to prove that we can make quality wines from native varieties. I would love it if more bodegas in Ronda attempted to recover native varieties of grapes and turn the province of Malaga

There are many varieties of grapes, both white and red, that are native to Andalucía and at the point of extinction

into a wine-producing point of reference with its own identity.

-What other wine growing areas in the province interest you?

-I have a passion for the Axarquía. Great viticulture, great wines, great people... Anyone who has been there will know what I mean!

-You mainly work with red wines, but what other types do you find interesting?

-I have no shame, I'll try anything!

-As a wine lover, what do you look for in a new wine?

-I look for something that surprises me, unusual varieties, natural wines, ecological... wines that bring something different, but also are of quality. You have to be careful with the new wine trends, not everything is worth drinking.

-Can you describe wines as being masculine or feminine?

-I don't think so. It's true that winemakers somehow leave their mark on the wines they make but it is more a matter of personal taste than of gender.

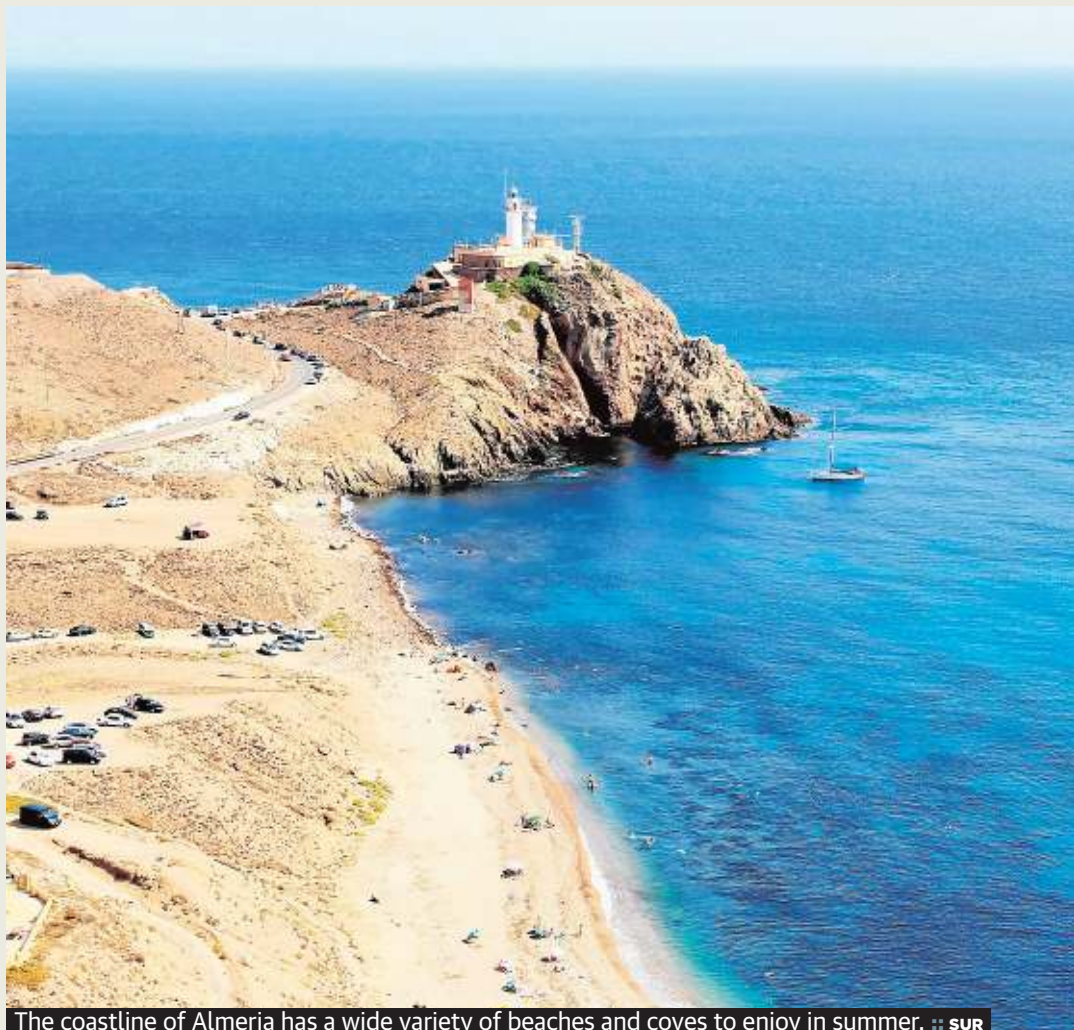


Southern Spain has a multitude of hidden corners just waiting to be discovered: this week we suggest you take the road to...

Andalucía

The idyllic coast

JAVIER ALMELLONES



The coastline of Almería has a wide variety of beaches and coves to enjoy in summer. :: SUR

Andalucía's most easterly province has rugged landscapes and an unmistakable natural charm



How to get there Costa de Almería.

From Malaga, you can take the A-7 most of the way and then different local roads, depending on your destination.

From Níjar to Pulpí, the province of Almería has some truly spectacular beaches. Whether visiting the Cabo de Gata natural park or the Levante area, travellers in this province on the eastern side of Andalucía will find some remarkable places in which to soak up the sun or swim in a glorious setting.

This stretch of the coast in Almería starts at one of the most famous places on the Iberian peninsula, Cabo de Gata. At Níjar, which is not far from the city of Almería, you see the first beautiful beaches. This is the most spectacular part of the Andalusian coast, with the only volcanic mountains in the region offering a stark contrast to the dunes, beaches and salt flats.

The neighbouring municipality of San José boasts some of the most beautiful coves in the region, such as La Rajá, Carbón, Arena and Los Toros. Many of these are difficult to reach, but it is worth the effort to be able to enjoy such hidden and glorious beaches.

However, those who prefer beaches which are easy to get to need not worry: there are plenty of those along this stretch of coast as well, such as Mónsul or Los Genoveses.

If you continue to head eastwards, you come to the Playazo de Rodalquilar, which is like an authentic oasis on the shores of the Mediterranean. Continuing on, the next obligatory stop has to be the small village of Agua Amarga, known for its Enmedio and El Plomo coves. Also recommended are the beaches of Las Negras or the San Pedro cove, which is considered one of the last hippy 'hangouts' in Europe.

The area which is known as the Levante of Almería starts in the municipality of Carboneras, and from there you can progress towards the north in search of some



Las Sirenas. This remarkable reef, situated beside the lighthouse at Cabo de Gata, is of volcanic origin.

El Playazo de Rodalquilar. This beach, situated beside the San Ramón castle, has lovely fine golden sand.



Los Muertos. This beach in Carboneras, on the boundary with the Cabo de Gata natural park, is one of the busiest at the height of the summer.

Mojácar. Pretty town on the Levante coast of Almería, famous for its traditional architecture which is a reminder of its Moorish past.

of the other idyllic beaches. Look out for Los Muertos and Algarro-bico: these are two favourites among visitors who want to really relax in a purely Mediterranean setting.

The following place to bear in mind is Mojácar, which has 17 kilometres of coastline and over one dozen beaches, ranging from almost virgin coves to busy and easily accessible stretches of sand.

The journey along the Levante coast of Almería ends at Vera, Cuevas de Almanzora, Garrucha and Pulpí. Between them, they offer around 30 different options for a day on the sand. Here, tourists will find not only remarkable coastal landscapes but also some wonderful gastronomy including the famous and exclusive red prawns ('gambas rojas') of Garrucha.



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More than leaves in a cup of tea

Drinking herbal teas and infusions is a sign of a healthy lifestyle, but 96.8 per cent of them contain metals

"There is no risk to the consumer, but the health authorities should improve the controls over accumulative metals," says a toxicologist

More than just healthy. Herbal teabags and medicinal herbs are exposed to levels of contaminatory metals which exist in Nature.

ANTONIO CORBILLÓN

In 2004 the World Wildlife Fund successfully demonstrated the extent to which our bodies are being subjected to environmental pollution. They contracted the services of a well-known laboratory and asked members of the European Parliament if they wanted to collaborate in the research by giving a blood sample. Nearly 50 did so. The results, which were recently presented in Strasbourg, were startling. As many as 76 toxic, persistent and bioaccumulative industrial products were flowing through the veins of the MEPs. The blood sample with the highest level of contamination showed 54 different noxious substances. The average didn't drop below 41.

In general, people tend to accept that there is an environmental price to pay for scientific advances

and that the resources of the planet will be used and abused. What most don't realise, however, is the cost to us personally of what is around us, sticking to our skin or on the clothes we wear. What is inside our bodies comes from what enters our mouths, and that includes some food and drinks which are normally believed to be a healthy option.

Combined research by two universities in the USA (Columbia, in New York, and John Hopkins in Baltimore) and Granada university, has just resulted in the biggest study so far of the presence of metals in medicinal plants and infusions which are used in Spain. It concluded that 96.8 per cent contain heavy metals of all types. Of the 220 samples analysed (mint, sage, apple, valerian, field horsetail, red and green tea), a small per-

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THE FIGURES					
					
Milligrams per kilo of plant	MINT	LINDEN	THYME	CAMOMILE	TEA
Arsenic	0.15	0.24	0.037/0.07	0.08	0.16
Cadmium	0.04	0.29	0.14/0.27	0.19	0.05
Chrome	2.40	2.59	0	0.61	1.39
Mercury	0.02	0.05	0	0.002	0
Lead	1.17	1.27	6.45/8.63	0.53	0.99
Copper	11.8	8.37	0	10.5	14.2
Iron	1,137	704	0	535	263.3
Magnesium	105	132	0	67.1	1,578
Zinc	34.9	36.7	0	31.2	26.4

centage (4.6) showed levels of metals which were slightly above the maximum recommended by the World Health Organisation.

The experts checked out all the places in which these herbal products can be purchased in Spain. In total, they took samples of 12 plants, either commercial brands or own brands, which are on sale in supermarkets, tea shops and even traditional markets where they are sold as loose leaf and priced by weight.

The combined findings of the

“The traces of metal can’t be reduced any further. They are inherent in the drying process”

three laboratories led to the report on different infusions and their metal content which has just been published in the ‘Journal of Food Composition and Analysis’.

The heavy metals and minerals analysed were arsenic, cadmium, lead, copper, iron, mercury, manganese and zinc.

“The maximum levels were only exceeded in samples of thyme and camomile teas, because of the cadmium, and the red and green teas because of the manganese,” says Fernando Gil Hernández, the head of

Toxicology at the Department of Legal Medicine, Toxicology and Anthropology at Granada university.

Strict controls

However, he insists that there is nothing to worry about. “We don’t consume the leaf of the plant; we consume an infusion of it, and that reduces the part that dissolves a great deal. Also, intestinal absorption reduces it even more,” he says.

The Spanish Association of Tea and Infusions (AITE), which represents about 60 per cent of the

national market, agrees. “We continually monitor 13 metals in 1,300 products and we have all the records to verify that we are within the limits set by law,” says the general secretary of the association, Aylin Gordo.

The professionals at AITE insist that the controls on teas and infusions are even greater than those on fruit and vegetables, but admit that “the appearance of metals is inherent in the drying process” and that “they cannot be reduced any further.”



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➤ They also corroborate the findings of the toxicologist: "Although the presence of a heavy metal is detected, it is not diluted in the infusion so only small traces remain. You would have to drink litres and litres for many years before there would be any effect on the body," says Aylin Gordo.

The research team pointed out that there is a lack of information regarding origin and drying conditions on labels. "Pick up a packet in any supermarket, and you'll see that there is no indication where it came from," says Gil Hernández. Sources at AITE insist that "the European Union decided that information of that type does not have to be given for single ingredient products (coffee, tea etc)." In recent years the places of origin of some plants have been included, especially those from Asia, to try

to control the selection process as much as possible.

Experts and producers believe that the example of metals in infusions could apply to any type of food. "Fields and their surrounding areas are also affected by noxious elements from industry," says Fernando Gil Hernández. He explains that technical advances mean that instead of analysing particles by the thousand, samples can now be analysed by the million or even trillion, so that we are now able to obtain full details about the toxic elements which surround us and affect us.

"Everything we consume is affected by something," say sources at the tea and infusion producers. That is correct. If studies such as this one were applied to fish, for example, which live in the 'seas of plastic' we have today, the results would certainly alarm many people.

ORIGINS AND AMOUNTS OF INFUSIONS



58%

of the world production (around 5 million tons) is produced by China (30 per cent) and India (28 per cent). Kenya produces ten per cent and Sri Lanka nine per cent. Western countries are almost irrelevant in this case.

We drink more coffee

Although tea consumption has risen, Spain generally drinks coffee. This 'black gold' generates about two billion euros a year, compared with 150 million

from herbs.

120

grams of herbal infusions a year are consumed on average in Spain, far lower than in Japan, the world's largest consumer at 800 grams per person a year. Chile (600 grams/year) has risen to second place, far above China with barely 300 grams per inhabitant.

Infusions rather than tea

The Spanish like to use a variety of herbal plants in infusions,

many of them grown in Spain, rather than tea, which is always imported and accounts for 30 per cent. Even so, they still drink as much tea as camomile and mint infusions put together.

6,124

tons of herbs were consumed in Spain last year. About 60 per cent (3,448 tons) were in the form of infusions. Around 1,781 tons of tea were consumed, followed in popularity by 627 tons of camomile and 268 tons of mint.

Coexisting with metals is inevitable these days

Of the 106 chemical elements 84 are metals, and this means that they are inevitable travelling companions in everything we do, touch, eat, wear... in the case of foods, the heavy metals present in our diet come from different sources. The most common: contamination in the soil in which they are grown, fertilisers, pesticides and water.

This is more easily understood through an example. If we grow produce beside a road, our vegetables will contain lead. If the risk comes from a mining area, or the ground was

treated beforehand (which is almost certain) with pesticides, we have further metals. And everything is multiplied if we make that tomato, which we thought we were growing organically, into a sauce and we put it in a can we will be adding tin and some iron to the equation. If we then open the tin and heat the contents in an aluminium saucepan.... more light metals.

The problem isn't this inevitable modern 'toll', but the daily accumulation in our diet. Experts recommend consuming fruit and vegetables which are high in pectin, garlic, coriander and foods with a high sulphur content, because these help to purge the heavy metals from our systems.



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We speak 

Elimination, the most effective way of preventing allergic reactions

Food allergies are rare but can be caused by any type of food, the most common being peanuts, gluten, shellfish, eggs, fish, celery and dairy

ÁNGEL MANUEL CARACUEL

According to surveys, some 20 per cent of adults claim to have a food allergy. Children are more likely to suffer from them as their immune system is still not fully developed.

A food allergy is a reaction to a particular food or one of its components in which the body's immune system intervenes.

Other reactions that affect the metabolism and not the immune system, such as the lack of certain enzymes, make it difficult to digest some components of foods, such as lactose intolerance (the sugars found in milk) because of a deficiency of the enzyme lactase.

When the immune system recognises an allergen in a food, it produces antibodies to block the diffusion of the external agent. The body simultaneously exhibits a physical reaction, which can manifest as inflammation and swelling of the lips, cramps, vomiting and diarrhoea, rashes, eczema, runny nose or respiratory disorders. A more serious and less frequent symptom is anaphylactic



Shellfish can cause a severe reaction. :: SUR



shock, which can be fatal and requires immediate medical attention.

Food allergies are rare, but can be caused by any type of food, the most common being: peanuts, gluten (oats, wheat, barley, rye), shellfish, eggs, fish, soy, dairy proteins, nuts (almonds, hazelnuts, pistachios, pecan nuts, pine nuts, Brazil nuts, cashews, macadamia nuts), sesame seeds, celery, and stone fruits (apricots, cherries, peaches and plums).

When there is a suspicion that

an allergy is present, it is recommended to stop eating the food until a medical examination is carried out to determine the cause, since other factors, such as poor health, could produce similar symptoms.

If the symptoms are derived from an allergy, it is necessary to consult an allergist for a diagnosis. Corresponding dermatological tests and blind food tests will need to be carried out.

A treatment to put an end to food allergies permanently has not yet been discovered. If the tests prove positive, there is only one effective solution which consists of giving up the food in question completely. The radical elimination of food, especially when it comes to staple food stuffs, requires a medical follow-up to avoid possible dietary imbalances, especially when it involves children.

ALL EARS

ALFONSO SÁNCHEZ



Infections and allergies

I've noticed a problem with my hearing since I had an infection. Is this related?

If you have recently suffered a viral infection and have concerns for your hearing, then it is important for you to seek expert advice. There are some viral infections that can cause damage to the ear or create inflammation which, if allowed to continue, may also cause a structural problem. If left untreated these problems increase the possibility of damage. There are others that cause the likelihood of bacterial infection which again could also lead to hearing loss.

Although recovery of hearing can be spontaneous, it should never go unexamined and concerns regarding infections should also send you to seek medical and professional advice at your earliest convenience.

Could allergies affect your hearing?

The human ear is made up of three parts: outer, middle, and inner. Allergies can attack any one of these parts and, in doing so, create a problem with your hearing and the receiving of information in the normal way. Your hearing may appear distorted.

At this time of year, it may be worth remembering for those who suffer allergies to pollen or those who enjoy a daily dip in the pool, that at some point you may well experience irritation to your eyes, nose, and ears and that these allergic reactions could lead to infection.

If you experience irritation to your ears and these symptoms persist or often recur, you should seek professional medical advice. Irritation or infection that remain untreated could very well lead to temporary hearing loss or in extreme cases long term damage.

Watch out for: continuous itching of the outer ear canal; sore, burning, or infected outer ear; the feeling of continuous pressure inside the ear; recurring ear infections; dizziness.

Also during the allergy season, if you are a wearer of hearing aids it is a good time to check in with your hearing aid provider. Explain if you are experiencing any changes in your hearing or if you are suffering repeated ear infections or inflammation and they will be able to advise you or make the necessary recommendations and if required, adjustments.

Alfonso Sánchez is Senior Audiologist at Sontec Hearing Centres. Tel. 952667403

Take note:
Irritation or infections that remain untreated could lead to temporary hearing loss

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New book reveals how a British expat living in Spain defeated aggressive prostate cancer

Iain McLean got the first indications that he might have prostate cancer in April 2015 and the highly aggressive nature of the cancer that followed almost killed him

by TONY BRYANT

MALAGA. When someone receives the devastating news that they have cancer - something none of us ever want to be told - a sense of fear and panic will inevitably flow through their body.

Everyone will handle this shocking diagnosis differently and yet no matter how traumatic their experiences might have been; many people that survive the ordeal have a desire to help others who may find themselves in similar situations.

One such person is a 61-year-old British expat who recently won his battle against aggressive prostate cancer.

Iain McLean came to live in Spain in 1997, following a career working as a dramatist and corporate script writer. His wife had been offered a job as an English teacher at a private university and so they, along with their three children, embraced their new life in Spain.

Iain found employment too as a teacher at the same university where his wife worked. He also wrote articles for the New York Times, the Scottish Sunday Post and feature articles for glossy magazines about aspects of Spain.

However, in April 2015, Iain got



Iain McLean and his family came to live in Spain in 1997 :: SUR

the first indications that he might have prostate cancer, and the highly aggressive nature of the cancer that followed almost killed him.



At the time, Iain was 58, although he had none of the usual symptoms connected with prostate cancer, but at his exact same age, both his father and brother had enlarged prostates, so Iain decided to go for a medical check.

After a series of tests and ultrasound scans, Iain was diagnosed with the highest grade prostate cancer. It was then that he made his first big independent decision: this was to take

responsibility for his own prostate problem, which proved to be a crucial point in his ordeal.

"Mine was a campaign made up of many battles, including personal research into alternative therapies," Iain says.

Twelve months later, after a radical operation, an intensive course of radiotherapy and hormone therapy, it appeared that Iain had beaten the disease. He was given a 92 per cent chance of being cancer free for the next ten years.

"I've been a professional writer/researcher for 30 years, so it makes sense that when I was diagnosed with the highest grade prostate cancer in April 2015 and having beaten it by the following April, I would write a book about it," Iain explains.

His recently published book, April to April: My Year Beating Prostate Cancer, is Iain's own quest for cure. It is for all men who suffer from this cancer (or wish to prevent it), and for their families and friends who want to understand what their loved-one is going through.

"Although all the information is scattered around the internet, there is not one single book that covers all the bases. This book does," the author declares.

In this entertaining and informative read, Iain's main argument, with respect to conventional treatment, is that doctors do not tell a patient all they need to know about the process that lies ahead. Iain's approach is that beating cancer is a war and each patient needs all the tools at their disposal, not only to win, but to adapt strategies for each stage in what will be a long campaign.

"It is extremely important to get the message and knowledge across to as many people as possible," Iain says.



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EXHIBITIONS

Cruz Herrera Museum

La Linea. Permanent exhibition in La Linea de la Concepción. The museum has a gallery for Her-
reras' works plus conference room and classroom.

Benezra Gallery

Marbella. Until end of September. La Quinta, between Marbella and San Pedro.

An exhibition of unique scul-
ptures by six, internationally ac-
claimed artists. info@art-invest-
ments.com or benezragallery.com

Biennial Contemporary Art

Marbella. Cultural Centre
Kunsthau Berlin, Poligono Nueva
Campana local 2 Nueva Andalucía.
In collaboration with the Fred
Friedrich Foundation, Marbella
townhall and the Mexican ambas-
sador to Spain, Don Raphael de la
Madrid. Fifteen local and interna-
tional artists are exhibiting their
work. info@redaktionkhbm.de.

Pedro Rodríguez

Marbella. Permanent exhibition,
Kempinski Hotel Bahía.
Pedro Rodríguez 'Pedrín', a Malaga
sculptor, has an exhibition of his
works in the Galería de Arte de Pe-
drín in the Kempinski.



Roberto Matta, Museo Ralli

Magpie International Gallery.

Marbella. Until 14 September.
C/Virgen del Pilar. 200m from the
port.

A collection of works by the late
Julio Cenrián entitled '60 años de
humor, o no'.

Fred Friedrich

San Pedro. Until 31 August. Museo



Live music in the city centre attracts thousands of visitors. :: CARLOS MORET

Fun and festivities at Malaga Fair

:: DENISE BUSH

MALAGA. The biggest event in
Malaga's calendar starts today,
11 August. The inauguration of
the Malaga Feria takes place to-
night just before midnight, at
the La Malagueta beach and is
followed by a huge firework dis-
play and a concert by Chambao.

Thousands of tourists and visi-
tors as well as locals will flock to
the city over the next week to see
some of the activities planned for
this very special occasion. There
will be a gathering of horses, rid-
ers and carriages in the Paseo del
Parque on the morning of the
12th, who will then lead people
carrying floral tributes to Nues-

DETAILS

► **When.** 11 - 20 August.

► **Where.** The streets of
Malaga's historic centre during
the day and the fairground
(closest Cercanías station Vic-
toria Kent) at night.

► **Programme of events.**
www.feria.malaga.eu

tra Señora de la Victoria. Daytime
concerts during the feria will be
concentrated in the Plaza de la
Constitución and on Calle Larios.
In the evenings, there will be vari-

ous live performances of flamenco
and concerts by singers such as
David Bustamante and Soraya at
the fairground until 19 August.
The fairground will also be the
venue for evening equestrian
shows throughout the feria.

Bullfights are also a part of this
traditional fair and they will be
held at the bullring in La
Malagueta every day in the eve-
nings.

On the last day there will be a
reenactment of the arrival of the
'Reyes Católicos', Isabella and
Ferdinand, into the city, a much-
loved event which commemo-
rates the reconquest of the city
in 1487.

José Hernández

Villanueva del Rosario. Casa de la
Cultura.

An exhibition of art work and let-
ters belonging to artist José
Hernández. The artist gifted
around 20 works to the town
shortly before his death in 2013. He
spent long periods at Molino El Te-
jar while creating his pieces.

The Russian museum

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

The new seasonal exhibition 'La
aventura del color' which is run-
ning until 4 February next year,
will feature Alexéi Jawlensky

(1864–1941). A contemporary and
friend of Vasily Kandinsky, Gabri-
ele Münter and Paul Klee among
other famous artists of the early
twentieth century. Jawlensky
started his career in Russia working
alongside Iliá Repin and admired
the canvases of Valentin Serov,
Konstantin Korovin and other mas-
ters of realism and impressionism.
The museum is also holding an ex-
hibition of political posters 'Carte-
les de la Revolución' consisting of
simple but effective images
deemed suitable for the masses.
The posters featured workers, sol-
diers in the Red army and country
labourers personifying the power
of the people.
The annual exhibition is entitled
La Dinastía Románov and includes
many portraits of Russian royalty
before the last Tsar and his family
were assassinated in 1918.



Revolutionary poster, Malaga

Ernst Kraft

Malaga. Botanical gardens 'La
Concepción'.

A sculpture 'The Tree of Life' by
Ernst Kraft will be on permanent
display in the gardens on the lawns
next to the pond. The minimalist
structure of iron rods is five metres
tall and is based on the pre-phara-
onic pictogram representing the
union of heaven and the under-
world

Museum Jorge Rando

Malaga. Until 30 September. Cruz
del Molinillo, 12

A temporary exhibition entitled 'El
Nacimiento del Color' (the Birth of
Colour) is currently on display. It
includes over 100 works by Jorge
Rando. The museum also holds po-
etry and musical events.

Fred Friedrich, La Nueva Campana
industrial estate.
'Exodus/Pensamientos Oscuros' is
an exhibition of large format works
by the artist.

Carlos Barrera Wolff

Estepona. Until 30 August. Patio
Top Garden, crta A7, km 163, Urb. El
Pirata.

An exhibition of art work com-
piled over forty years by this art-
ist from Jaén. www.patio-topgar-
den.es

'Des - figuraciones'

Marbella. Until September. Gal-
eria Yusto/Giner, C/Madera 7.
Yusto/giner turns to the abstract

for its summer exhibition with
paintings from Fernando
Clemente, Paloma Gámez, José
García Vallés, José Piñar and Dan-
iel Solomons.

Roberto Matta

Marbella. Until 26 May 2018.
Museo Ralli, Urb Coral beach.

Temporary exhibition of the Chil-
ean artist Roberto Matta of surre-
alistic abstract art. His works rep-
resents his own vision of the
world and art through the invis-
ible, the psyche, the cosmos, with-
out losing reference to his origins
or nature. Tel. 952 85 79 23 /
marbella@rallimuseums.org

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Irish dancing competition

by TONY BRYANT

TORREMOLINOS. Lovers of traditional Irish step dancing are in for a treat this weekend, as the World Irish Dance Association (WIDA) will be hosting the Andalusian Irish Open Féis in Torremolinos.

The event is organised by WIDA and Torremolinos town hall and will welcome dancers from Ireland, Russia, the Netherlands, Holland, Germany, Isle of Man, Scotland, England and several provinces of Spain.

WIDA is a non-profit making organisation that promotes Irish dancing and culture all over the world and this will be the first time the festival has been held in Andalucía. The competition will focus on all aspects of Irish dancing, including the reel, the hornpipe, the treble jig, and the slip jig, a popular style that is often called 'the ballet of Irish dance'.

This traditional gathering of Irish dance enthusiasts will be held in the Principe de Asturias auditorium on Saturday 12 August. Tickets, which cost five euros, are available online or on the door.



WIDA to hold dance festival in Torremolinos this weekend. :: SUR

WIDA organises competitions and workshops to promote Irish dance worldwide, and their courses cater for both the novice and the more competent. WIDA is also using the festival to entice local dancers to set up their own schools on the Costa del Sol. Since its founding in 2004, WIDA has developed a global presence and currently includes over 140 schools in 21 countries.

DETAILS

► **When:** 12 August from 9am.

► **Where:** Auditorium Principe de Asturias, Torremolinos.

► **Tickets:** 5€. www.torremolinos.es

phases of his work.

'Neighbours III'

Malaga. *Permanent collection.* Centro de Arte Contemporáneo, Calle Alemania.

Works by local Malaga artists are on display in 'Neighbours III'. Many different techniques and subjects are included.

The Way Things Go

Malaga. *Until 3 September.* Centro de Arte Contemporáneo, Calle Alemania.

Swiss artists David Weiss and Peter Fischli made this video in 1987. It is just 29 minutes long and documents a causal chain assembling everyday objects, similar to a Rube Goldberg machine. This work hints at the influence of Marcel Duchamp and Dadaism.

'Málaga, Ciudad del Saber'

Malaga. *Until 24 September.* Museo de Patrimonio Municipal. Paseo de Reding.

An exhibition of rarely seen artefacts from Malaga such as documents, utensils, and archeological finds that illustrate the Islamic period in the city's history. www.museodelpatrimoniomunicipal.malaga.eu

Imaginario Mister Kaikus

Malaga. *Until 23 August.* La Casa Amarilla, C/Santos 7.

The exhibition consists of a series of imaginary portraits without a real model, where the artists create a face with volume, colour and texture.

Philippe Starck

Malaga. *Until 17 September.* Pompidou Centre, Muelle Uno

'Secret Drawings, 4,000 sketches unveiled' is an exhibition of the artist's works which give an insight into how his mind works when he is creating his art.

'Lo Aparencia de lo real'

Malaga. *Until 10 September.* Museo Carmen Thyssen, C/Compañía, 10

Three generations of Spanish artists are represented in this exhibition which reveals the artists' attempts to create illusions of reality.

Bacon, Freud and the London School

Malaga. *Until 17 September.* Picasso Museum

This exhibition is the result of an agreement between the Tate in London and the Picasso museum in

Malaga. It features 90 works covering eighty years by renowned artists such as Freud, Bacon, Kossof, Ronald B. Kitaj, Michael Andrews, Euan Uglow and Paula Rego. www.museopicassomalaga.org

Santiago Ydáñez

Malaga. *Until 24 September.* Centro de Arte Contemporáneo.

The exhibition 'El Corazón Manda', unites 50 works by Jaén artist, Santiago Ydáñez. They include paintings, objects and a taxidermy sculpture of a bull.



Ydáñez, Malaga

Incendiar el Velo

Malaga. *Until 30 September.* August by appt. JM Galería.

A collective exhibition by Ana Teresa Ortega, Chema Cobo, Mario Espliego, Paula Rubio Infante, Simeón Saiz Ruiz and Tete Álvarez.

Relatos de Alma

Malaga. *Until 15 October.* Centro de Arte Contemporáneo.

The first exhibition in Spain by Dutch artist, Danielle Van Zadelhoff. The photographs are influenced by the Renaissance paintings of artists such as Rembrandt, Caravaggio and Murillo.

Exotic Vibrations

Mijas. *Mijas Tourist Office, Mijas Pueblo.*

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

Torremolinos Chic

Torremolinos. *Permanent exhibition.* Casa de los Navajas.

A permanent exhibition of photographs taken in the 60s and 70s entitled Torremolinos Chic. It features around twenty photographs including one of the legendary Bridget Bardot posing on Carihuela beach in a Cordobés hat.

Spain for you

Torremolinos. *Until 22 September.* Palacio de Congresos.

EXHIBITIONS

Ruiz de Luna

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

Malaga Glass Museum

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

Pacífico 54

Malaga. *Until 25 August.* Espacio Expositivo, C/Pacífico 54. An exhibition of paintings, ceramics, video art, photographs and sculpture by the Ígneo Group. The



Decisive Moments, Picasso Museum Malaga

group are artists who form part of the Bib Azahar Cultural and Social association. <http://grupoig-neo.jimdo.com/>

Picasso's birth place

Malaga. *Sala de Exposiciones, Casa Natal de Picasso* **Until 8 October.** The exhibition en-

titled 'Palau mira a Picasso' consists of a collection of photos and documents of the artist. The images anecdotal and personal, taken by Picasso's close friend the poet José Palau.

Temporary exhibition. 'Decisive moments' is an exhibition of 18 of Picasso's pieces split into the three

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The English Cemetery Foundation (La Fundación Cementerio Inglés de Málaga) urgently needs your help to maintain this beautiful place that is of great historical and cultural significance to the entire international community on the coast.

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M A L A G A



The exhibition documents how Spain and the Costa del Sol were first promoted as a tourist destination. It includes artifacts and posters etc dating back to the 1930s up to present day.

Art Gallery Costa del Sol

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

Picasso ceramics

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

Gallery Art Club

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

Carromato de Max museum

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



Minature art, Mijas

Economistas en el arte

Torremolinos. Until 22 September. Centro Cultural Pablo Ruiz Picasso. Oils, watercolours, drawings, photographs and sculptures created by ten students at the Economics Faculty of Malaga University.

Happy Artists

La Cala de Mijas. Until 31 August. BocArte Restaurant, C/Cómpeta. American artist Wendy Lucas is exhibiting a selection of her work.

La Belleza del Sur

Benalmádena. Until 22 September. Centro de Exposiciones. An exhibition of paintings, sculpture, video art, art installations and illustrations by around 30 international artists.

Marlou Smits and Meta Wolters

Calahonda. Until end of August, Restaurante Federika, Av De España. An exhibition of paintings by Marlou Smits and Meta Wolters.

María Zambrano

Vélez-Málaga. Permanent exhibition. Palacio de Beniel de Vélez-Málaga. Monday-Friday, 9am-2pm. An exploration into the life and works of Málaga-born philosopher and writer María Zambrano. For further information call



Manu Tenorio is performing at a free concert. :: SUR

A typical Andalusian fair in Coín

:: T. BRYANT

COÍN. Coín is preparing to celebrate its Feria de Agosto, a traditional Andalusian fair that will take place from Friday 11 until Tuesday 15 August.

The five days of festivities are held in honour of La Virgen de la Fuensanta - the town's patron saint - and will include live music concerts, parades and a fair, which will be installed in the Parque Periurbano in the centre of the town.

'Casetas', temporary bars and restaurants, will offer local gastronomy and there will be performances of traditional 'sevillana' dances.

This typical village-style feria attracts thousands of visitors from all over Andalucía with its wide range of activities which include a procession of the Virgen de la Fuensanta, and the grand parade of horse-drawn carriages, which takes place at 2pm on Saturday and Sunday.

There are also photography, painting and ceramic exhibitions, as well as the procession of the junior kings and queens

of the fair. There will also be plenty to keep children occupied and one of the biggest attractions will be a 75-metre water slide, which will be installed in the Avenida Alcalde Salvador González.

One of the highlights is a competition in which farmers compete to see who has grown the tastiest 'huevo de toro' (bull's ball) tomato. This takes place in the Plaza San Agustín on Tuesday at 10am.

Manu Tenorio, a young singer from the district of Triana in Seville, will perform a free concert in the municipal 'caseta' on Sunday at 11pm. This popular singer came into the spotlight after appearing on the Spanish reality music show, Operación Triunfo, in 2000. He has since clocked up one gold and six platinum discs.

On Monday, there will be a live concert by Mayka Romero, a Malaga-born copla singer, who will present her spectacular tribute to Rocio Jurado on the patio of the Colegio Huertas Viejas at 8.30pm.

952500244.

Juan Manuel Hurtado González

Torrox-Costa. Until 31 August. Tourist office.

Juan Manuel Hurtado is exhibiting a selection of his work.

Arja Linteri

Alhama de Granada Until 15 September. Patio del Carmen.

An exhibition of art work by Finnish artist Arja Linteri.

Contemporary artists

Nerja. Until 3 September, Museo de Nerja.

Works by thirty five female artists in the collection owned by the Diputación de Málaga.

Galería Krabbe

Frigiliana. Galería Krabbe, C/Rosario La Joaquín.

Until 2 September.

Works by a selection of artists including Fernando de la Rosa, Gert Mathiesen, Pamela Smillow, Yaiza García, Luise Haugen and introducing Danish guest artist Camilla West.

CHARITY

Charity dinner under the stars

Mijas. 27 August, from 8.30pm.

Hotel Tamisa Golf. 33€

Live entertainment with Amaru Inti from Peru, includes three course dinner with half bottle of wine. email: starbabi-



Galería Krabbe, Frigiliana

es5@gmail.com or tel 654513380 or ring the hotel: 952585988 email: reservas@hoteltamisa-golf.com

The Charity Summer Ball

Mijas. 8 September, 7pm. Hotel

Tamisa Golf. 40€

Welcome drink and canapés, three-course meal with wine and beer and live entertainment. Proceeds to FAMA animal charity. Tel: Pat Coleman 620 354 885 or email: patriciamarycoleman@gmail.com

MUSIC & DANCE

Ocean Bar

Malaga. 12 August, 10.30pm. Hotel Vincci. C/Pacífico.

Sñr Blues. Jesus Aranda and Alberto Soler. Blues, country and rock'n'roll.

Jazz, blues and swing

Torre del Mar. Mondays 10pm,

Pase Marítimo de Poniente.

14 August. Befunkbop.

21 August. Peet Rothwell's tribute to Michael Bublé.



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Spiders from Marbs will be in La Cala de Mijas next week. :: SUR

Golden years of Bowie in Mijas Costa

:: T. B.

MIJAS. The Sundown Sounds music festival in La Cala de Mijas continues next week with a special performance by popular local band, The Spiders from Marbs.

Spiders from Marbs is a David Bowie tribute act made up of several members of the well-known Costa punk band, The Reinfected. These include former actor and producer, Roland Quesnel, and lead guitarist, Mats Riedeborn, both lifelong Bowie devotees. Rhythm guitarist, Martin Hope, was a founder member of cult punk band, The Accused, a British band that featured in the 2010 documentary about the Birmingham punk scene of the 1970s.

The band will perform songs from the era when Bowie styled himself as the androgynous alien, Ziggy Stardust, who was backed by the legendary Spiders from Mars. This was Bowie's most productive and iconic period and next week's show includes songs from the celebrated Rise and Fall of Ziggy Stardust,

Aladdin Sane and Diamond Dogs.

The band will also pay tribute to Brian Ferry and Roxy Music, another pioneering band on the avant-garde glam-rock scene of the early seventies.

The Spiders from Marbs are the only Bowie tribute act on the coast and their show bears witness to the huge influence that Bowie's Ziggy Stardust had on the glam-rock era.

The show will be held in the Plaza de Ayuntamiento in La Cala de Mijas on Thursday 17 August at 9pm. The concert, which is free, is organised by Big M Promotions and the Foreign Residents department of Mijas town hall.

The Sundown Sounds music festival continues throughout August with the Jersey Boys tribute to Frankie Valli and the Four Seasons on Thursday 24. There will also be a night of traditional flamenco performed by Arte Azabache on Thursday 31 August.

Information :
bigm@costadeldisco.com

MUSIC & DANCE

Palmito Rock Festival Villanueva de la Concepción.

11 August, 10.30pm. Plaza Pablo VI.

Four bands: Hollywood Arson Project, J. J. Sprondel, Break the Senses and Ten Shots & K. O. are in concert. More information on Facebook: Palmito Rock.

David Gómez

Torremolinos. 9, 10 August, 10pm. Casa de los Navajas.

David Gómez is a recognised concert pianist and composer. He will be presenting his new album Pianographie. Tickets from the box office or www.1y200.com



David Gómez, Torremolinos

Noches de Encanto

Almáchar. Until 11 August.

Every Friday at 11pm there will be concerts at various venues in the town. www.almachar.es

Starlite

Marbella. Until 26 August, 10.30pm. La Cantera de Marbella. <https://www.ticketea.com>

11 August. Dani Martín will be performing songs from his latest album La Montaña Rusa.

12 August. Niña Pastori and Antonio Carmona. Two of the most important Spanish flamenco artists.

14 August. Axwell. DJ set electronic music.

15 August. Andrea Bocelli. The fabulous voice of tenor and composer Andrea Bocelli.

16 August. Ben Harper. A powerful songwriter and performer with range across multiple genres.

17 August. DVicio have a Latin Grammy nomination and hundreds of awards.

18 August. Noche Movida. A band created by Starlite will be performing hits from the 80s and 90s.

19 August. El Arrebato. Rumba and Flamenco-pop.

20 August. Álvaro Soler. Spanish artist with 37 gold and platinum awards.

21 August. Hardwell. Robbert Van de Corput, better known as Hardwell the DJ. All the best electronic music.

Adele tribute act

Gibraltar. 12 and 16 August. La Sala Sunborn Yacht Hotel.

Nikki Rae sings some of Adele's greatest hits including Rolling in the Deep and Someone Like You. Table reservations: +34 95 281 4145 or email: info@lasalagibraltar.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.

17 August. The Spiders from Marbs, David Bowie tribute act.

24 August. The New Jersey Boys tribute to Frankie Valli and the 4 Seasons.

31 August. Arte Azabache, Traditional Flamenco show.

Jazz Wednesdays in the CAC

Vélez-Málaga. Centro de Arte Contemporáneo. 8.30pm. Free.

16 August. Eva and the Calypsos.

23 August. Carlos Cortés Cuarteto.

30 August. Garum Trio.

Zarzuela and opera

La Cala de Mijas. 11 August, 9pm. Plaza del Torreón.

Soprano Carmen Serrano and tenor Adolfo Nieto accompanied by pianist Francisco Soriano.

Villa de Mijas choir

La Cala de Mijas. 18 August, 9pm. Plaza del Torreón.

A varied repertoire of choir music from diverse cultures and origins.

The Animals III, Songs of Smokie, Echoes of the 60s

Mijas. 19 August, 9pm. Mijas Municipal Auditorium. 15€.

The Animals II are coming direct from Newcastle, Songs Of Smokie and Echoes of the 60s tribute acts. Tickets tel: 609 488 572

Pink Purple Zep Fest

Estepona. 26 August, Plaza del Toros. 25€ or 70€ VIP.

The Pink Purple Zep Fest is a celebration of the music of three of the biggest names in rock history, Pink Floyd, Deep Purple and Led Zeppelin. The music will be performed by three of the leading tribute bands from the UK: Think Floyd, Deeper Purple and Whole Lotta Led. www.pinkpurplezefest.com

FLAMENCO

Jaleo

Malaga. Every Monday and Thursday 1.30pm and Saturdays 2pm.

Museo Interactiva de Música Malaga (MIMMA), 15€ with a welcoming drink.

Flamenco singing and dancing.

Weekly flamenco shows

Malaga. Keliye Flamenco, C/Muro de Puerta Nueva 10.

Every Thursday, Friday and Saturday 9.30pm. For private workshops and more information tel: 34 665 09 73 59 or email: keliye.manzano@gmail.com

Open-Air Flamenco

Vélez-Málaga. 10.30pm. The open-air theatre on the Cerro de San Cristóbal. Free.

11 August. Naíke Ponce and Paquete.

18 August. Jorge Pardo. <https://mivelez-malaga.com/whats-on/open-air->

flamenco-concerts/

FESTIVALS

Fairs and festivals

Antequera. 16-20 August.

The annual fair is split into daytime and nighttime events both with concerts and other activities. Saturday is the Día del Caballista and there will be a gathering of riders and their horses in Paseo Real.

Archidona. 14-18 August.

In honour of the patron saint of the town, La Virgen de Gracia. The romería is on 14 August in the evening.

Torremolinos. 11, 12 August.

Feria de San Miguel and Santa María del Mar. Concerts, DJs, dancing, competitions, bar and food from which money raised goes to Caritas charity. Starts at 8.30pm in the Oasis, Playa del Bajondillo

Villanueva de la Concepción. 12-15 August.

In honour of the patron saint of the town, La Inmaculada Concepción.

Festival de la India

Churriana. 15 August, 8pm-

12.30am. Hare Krishna Cultural centre. Free.

Celebrating the 70th anniversary of the India's Independence Day the festival will include Bharat Natyam and kathak dance, drama, sitar and tabla music, henna tattoos, Indian costume photo stand and a wide variety of Indian vegetarian delicacies.

www.harekrishna.es

International Folklore Festival

La Cala de Mijas 12 August, from 9pm. Free.

Organised by the Mijas Town Hall and the University Popular de Mijas, the festival will celebrate different dance traditions. There will be a parade through the streets followed by dances from Ciudad Real, Peru, Bulgaria and Malaga.



India Festival Churriana

Noche del Vino

Cómpeta. 15 August.

Traditionally this was a farewell party for the grape pickers who would be leaving to start the grape harvest and would not be returning until October. A guest celebrity treads the grapes and there is wine tasting, local products, live music and dancing.

Mad Bear Beach Festival

Torremolinos. Until 16 August.

Various venues.

This gay festival is one of the biggest gatherings of 'bears' in Spain. www.mad.bear.org

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EVENTS

Plaza Mayor Summer festival
Malaga. Until 26 August, 9.30pm.
Plaza Mayor.
Magic shows, circus acts, music from local bands and the Malaga Philharmonic Orchestra and much more. www.plazamayor.es

Ecological market
Mijas. *Parque Andalucía. Second Sunday of the month and the last Sunday of the month in the Bulevar de La Cala.*
Ecological food and environmentally friendly products are on sale.

Fiesta de la Cerveza Oktoberfest
Fuengirola. 18 August until 3 September, 7pm-2am Mon-Sat and midday to 2am on Sundays. *Castillo Sohail.*
The best Bavarian beers, typical German foods and folklore bring the ambiance of the Munich Oktoberfest to Fuengirola.

Craft fair
Puerto Banús. Until 31 August.
Plaza Antonio Banderas.
Over 50 stalls with crafts from all over the world.

'Me Vuelves Lorca'
Alpujarras. Until 12 August. *La roles.*
The festival includes live music, a theatre production and flamenco. More information <http://web2.mevuelveslorca.com>



Shooting stars week
Benalmádena. Until 13 August, 10pm. *Open air planetarium at the top of the cable car lift on Ca-lamorro.*
The perseids, or San Lorenzo's tears, are an astronomical phenomenon created by the Earth passing through the tail of a comet. The planetarium is offering viewings through their telescopes as part of the Noches Mágicas de Teleférico which start at 7pm every day throughout August. Tel: 902 19 04 82 or visit: www.telefericobenalmadena.es

Sea Life Jurassic Oceans
Benalmádena. *Sea Life Aquarium*
The Plesiosaurs and the Megalodon lived in the oceans millions of years ago and are represented in the new exhibition at Sea Life Benalmádena. The exhibition includes an interactive activity for children which allows them to discover the skeleton of a Plesiosaurus and the tooth of a Megalodon with holograms to help dem-

onstrate the size of these extinct creatures and other dinosaurs.

Cabaret Circus
Las Lagunas. 11 August, 9.30pm.
Parque Andalucía. Free.
Acrobats, contortionists, balancing acts, monocycling, jugglers and clowns.

Peppa Pig and Ben & Holly
Torremolinos. 12 August, 9.30pm.
The bull ring.
Tickets (cheaper in advance) from Toy Planet in Torremolinos, www.giglon.com or from the box office.

Lighthouse tours
Torrox. Every Thursday.
Visit the lighthouse and the archaeological remains. First English tour is on 13 July and then every other week (inbetween tours are in German). Facebook:



cifarodetorrox, email: cifaro@torrox.es

Trip to Three Cultures Festival
Fuengirola. 25 August. *Various departure points.* 20€
Lux Mundi Fuengirola have organised a trip to Frigiliana to

the Three Cultures Festival. Tel: 952 474 840, e-mail: luxmundif@gmail.com

Trip to Almuñécar for fiesta
Torre del Mar. 15 August. *Various departure points.* 12€
Lux Mundi Torre have organised a trip to Almuñécar to see the festivities in honour of the Virgen de la Antigua. Procession to the beach followed by firework display. Tel: 952543334 or e-mail: luxmundi@lux-mundi.org

Espanglish
Torre del Mar. August. 1€
Lux Mundi, Torre del Mar are holding language interchange mornings from 11am until 1pm throughout August. Tel: 952 543 334 or e-mail: luxmundi@lux-mundi.org

Coach trip to Cáceres, Mérida

and Badajoz
Torre del Mar. 25 - 29 September. *Various departure points.* 348€ pp, double room, 398€ single room.
Lux Mundi Torre have organised a trip with guided tours of Mérida Badajoz, the monastery at Guadalupe and Trujillo. Tel: 952543334 or e-mail: luxmundi@lux-mundi.org

O. V. FILM

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

Cinesur El Ingenio
Avda. Juan Carlos I, Vélez-Málaga. Tel. 667 77 31 87.
Spiderman: Homecoming: 20.30, 23.00 (Thurs)
Emoji Movie: 17.10, 19.05 (Thurs)

COLECCIÓN DEL MUSEO RUSO Annual exhibition: The Romanov dynasty Until 21 Jan 2018 Temporary exhibition: Kandinsky and Russia 10 August 2017 - Jan 2018	museoPICASSOMálaga	Temporary exhibition: Bacon, Freud and the London School Until 17 Sept 2017 Temporary exhibition: We are completely free. Female artists and realism 10 Oct 2017 - 28 Jan 2018	Museo Carmen Thyssen Málaga
Temporary exhibition: Santiago Ydanez The heart rules 23 Jun 2017 - 24 Sep 2017 Temporary exhibition: Danielle van Zadelhoff Tales of the soul 30 Jun 2017 - 15 Oct 2017	cacmálaga Centro de Arte Contemporáneo de Málaga	Temporary exhibition: MÁLAGA, City of Knowledge Until 24 Sep 2017 - 15 Oct 2017	museo del patrimonio municipal 2007-2017 X ANIVERSARIO
FUNDACIÓN PICASSO MUSEO CASA NATAL AYUNTAMIENTO DE MÁLAGA	Temporary exhibition: Palau looks at Picasso 21 Jun 2017 - 08 Oct 2017	Centre Pompidou Málaga	Temporary exhibition: Starck, Secret drawings Until 17 Sep 2017 Exhibition workshop with Alexander Calder: Wow! Circus! Until 15 Sep 2018
New permanent fashion exhibition: Too much is never Enough	Museo Automovilístico 2 de la Plaza	Temporary exhibition: The birth of the colour of Jorge Rando Until 30 Sep 2017	Museum Jorge Rando
Permanent exhibition: 104 works by Malaga artist Félix Revello de Toro. Pedro de Mena house and workshop			
<p>Museum of Málaga: Permanent collection, Art and Archaeology Collections focusing on Málaga city and province. Repository of Cultural Assets open for visits. Interactive Music Museum of Málaga (MIMMA): Permanent collection, a journey to different cultures and eras through music. Glass and Crystal Museum of Málaga: Permanent collection, more than 3,000 pieces of crystal from different periods. Ars Málaga (Episcopal Palace): The essence of Beauty. Francisco Godia Foundation (From 11 July to 17 September). And much more...</p> <p>Málaga City of Museums where art lives</p> <p>www.malagaturismo.com</p> <p>Ayuntamiento de Málaga</p>			

O. V. FILM**Cinesur Miramar**

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

Despicable Me 3: 15.50

The Emoji Movie: 12.00, 17.00

Rough Night: 21.45 (Tues)

Spiderman, Homecoming: 12.20, 16.45.

King Arthur: Legend of the Sword: 19.00, 21.45, 00.20.

I Am Not Your Negro: 21.00 (Thurs)



Emoji Movie

Cine Albéniz

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

Tanna: 18.00

Their Finest: 22.00

Cines Teatro Goya

For tickets and information call 951196665. www.cinesteatrogoya.com

Spider man: Home Coming:

12.20, 16.45 (every day); 19.45, 22.35 (Mon, Tues, Thurs)

King Arthur: Legend of the Sword:

15.45, 17.45, 22.00.

The Emoji Movie:

16.15, 18.15

Dunkirk:

22.30

Transformers: The last Knight

16.00

Despicable Me 3:

15.50 (every day)

Spiderman: Homecoming:

18.00

Atomic Blonde :

15.45

Cars 3 :

20.20

Yelmo Cines, Plaza Mayor

Centro de Ocio Plaza Mayor, Avda. Alfonso Ponce de León.

Tel: 902 902 103 or visit

www.yelmocines.es

Dunkirk:

15.20 (every day)

Atomic Blonde:

14.30 (every day)

Transformers: The Last Knight:

15.00, 21.00 (every day)

Spider man: The Homecoming :

15.10 (every day)

King Arthur: Legend of the Sword:

12.30, 17.40, 20.15, 22.50 (every day).

The Emoji Movie:

12.30, 18.30 (every day).

Torremolinos Summer cinema

Playamar beach. Spanish audio with English subtitles. Cine de verano: www.torremolinos.es

Pets:

15 August, 10pm.

Hunger Games Mockingjay part 2:

17 August, 9.30pm.

Goosebumps:

22 August, 9.30pm.

The Huntsman, Winter's War:

24 August, 9.30pm.

Three cultures in Frigiliana

JENNIE RHODES

FRIGILIANA. The Festival Tres Culturas de Frigiliana is celebrating its 12th year and will take place from 24 until 27 August.

It has become one of the most popular festivals in Malaga province attracting people from all over Spain and abroad. Last year some 35,000 people attended the four-day festival and the town hall expects the number to be higher this time.

The festival is to promote the three cultures that make up the history of Frigiliana; Arabic, Christian and Jewish. The artists are chosen to represent all three elements.

During the day there will be processions, workshops and children's activities. A tapas route will also form part of the event as will stalls selling local products and handmade crafts.

The main events will be the concerts which this year include two of Spain's biggest names in flamenco - Estrella Morente and Jorge Pardo, along with the Barmer Boys from Rajasthan who have been described as "the next generation of performers that carry forward the centuries-old musical traditions of the Manganiyars and are leading exam-



Estrella Morente will be performing at this year's festival. :: SUR

DETAILS

► **When.** 24 - 27 August

► **Where.** Frigiliana.

► **More information.** www.festivalfrigiliana3culturas.com

ples of contemporary Rajasthani folk and Sufi music."

Balkan Paradise Orchestra from Barcelona, Spanish group Ethnos Atramo, who describe themselves

as "electro-acoustic folk and traditional but with a contemporary feel," will also be performing.

And last but not least, Siria en Mí, which are a duo made up by Mahmoud Fares, born in Aleppo but living in Spain since 2014, and Wafir S. Gibril, who was born in Sudan, but has lived in Spain since 1990.

Between them they create voices and sounds from the Middle East, spiritual Islamic music, music from ancient Spain and traditional Syrian music.



PROGRAMMING

From Friday 4th to Thursday 10th August

ORIGINAL VERSION SUBTITLED SPANISH

**TRANSFORMERS, THE LAST KNIGHT**

Starring Mark Wahlberg and Laura Haddock
ACTION - 130 min.



From Friday 4 to Wednesday 9: 16:00, 20:00
Thursday 10: 16:00, 22:20

**SPIDER-MAN: HOMECOMING**

Starring Tom Holland and Michael Keaton
ACTION - 133 min.



From Friday 4 to Wednesday 9: 15:45, 18:00, 22:30
Thursday 10: 15:45, 19:45, 22:30

**ATOMIC BLONDE**

Starring Charlize Theron and James McAvoy
ACTION - 115 min.



From Friday 4 to Thursday 10: 15:50, 18:15

**DUNKIRK**

From Friday 4 to Thursday 10: 18:00, 22:30

**CARS 3**

From Friday 4 to Thursday 10: 18:20

**WAR FOR THE PLANET OF THE APES**

From Friday 4 to Thursday 10: 15:40

**DESPICABLE ME 3**

From Friday 4 to Thursday 10: 15:45



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Real estate page 53, 54 & 55
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Glass curtains

Malaga suffer further setbacks in already disastrous preseason campaign



DARYL FINCH

✉ dfinch@diariosur.es

The Blue and Whites have now taken their tally to seven preseason defeats out of seven

MALAGA 0 LAZIO 1

MALAGA. Malaga's miserable record in preseason continued as Italian side Lazio claimed a comfortable 1-0 victory in the Costa del Sol Trophy match in front of a half-full La Rosaleda on Saturday night.

Michel fielded an eleven which many would expect to line up in the season's opener against Eibar on 21 August, but his side, visibly lacking in confidence, were second best to

the Italians who were unfortunate not to take a lead into half time.

Inzaghi's men fashioned the clearest chances, with Adam Marušić testing the reflexes of Roberto from range.

Spaniard Keita Baldé had the crowd on its feet as he tricked his way past three Malaga defenders before his left-footed strike cannoned out off the inside of the post.

Malaga's Adrián ought to have done better with his header after 34 minutes which went straight at Thomas Strakosha.

There were no wholesale changes at the break and that certainly worked in the visitors' favour. They maintained the same intensity and took the lead after Juankar got caught between Ciro Immobile and his own goalkeeper, inadvertently flicking the ball into his own net under pressure.

The home faithful expected a fight-back but it was delayed in coming. Only after wholesale changes (with debuts for Cecchini and Diego) did the home side show any sign of af-



Juankar on the ground after sending the ball looping over his own keeper. :: NITO SALAS

fecting the scoreline. The latter came closest with a free header that sailed wide when it looked easier to score.

En-Nesyri toiled and forced the keeper into a good save from the angle, but in truth Lazio never looked overtly troubled and went on to claim the trophy.

When asked if he was worried that his side had lost all of their preseason games so far, head coach Michel was calm. He said: "We've still got a fortnight to go. We will continue to search for solutions, whether from inside the squad or outside."

Michel fielded a more experimental side against Granada on Tuesday night, the first of two domestic friendlies this week, and saw a repeat of the

Al-Thani shuts down move for Javi García

In the aftermath of Saturday's game, head coach Michel confirmed that he was interested in adding Zenit defensive midfielder Javi García to his squad. He said: "I spoke with him yesterday. It's looking good. We're just waiting for the final OK [from the owner]."

scoreline against Lazio, with keeper Cenk Gonen this time at fault to gift Joselu the winner.

However, within hours of the press conference, Al-Thani took to Twitter to say: "With my respect to the player Javi García it is not our target for Málaga cf so please close this door (sic)."

Despite publicly undermining his man in the hotseat, he later added: "I trust [Michel] and I believe he make big team so please I do not want anyone [saying] there is no trust between me and the coach."

Malaga face Villarreal in Cadiz today, their final match before the season opener against Eibar on 21 August.

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Casanova's colleagues and Malaga youth players came together for a minute's silence. :: **ÑITO SALAS**

Club mourns the loss of former academy director Manel Casanova

Casanova, who oversaw the development of some of Malaga's brightest young stars in recent years, died unexpectedly on Sunday

:: **PEDRO LUIS ALONSO**

MALAGA. Malaga CF held a minute's silence on Monday after learning of the unexpected sudden death of Manel Casanova, former academy director, responsible for unearthing

some of the club's major young stars in recent years.

Casanova suffered a heart attack while watching the Malaga youth team play a friendly game against Malaga CF at the latter's home ground in the western suburbs of the city on Sunday night. He was pronounced dead at the scene after failed attempts to resuscitate him. He was 66.

Recruited from Espanyol by Sheikh Abdullah Al-Thani, Casanova oversaw youth development at the club as academy director. His ability for spotting talent was widely rec-

ognised in the game. In fact, he was responsible for recruiting Pablo Fornals, Javi Ontiveros and Sergi Darder, just to name a few, and nurturing their development to first-team level.

In recent times, however, illness forced him to take a back seat. Problems with his legs meant he was absent from the day-to-day running of the club for almost two years, but following his recovery he recently came back to work as technical secretary, a role he was carrying out until his death.

IN BRIEF



The new second kit. :: **MALAGA CF**

Confusion over launch of new away kit

MALAGA

:: **P. L. ALONSO.** A peculiar design on Malaga's away kit for the new season has generated a certain degree of controversy. Originally launched with an anchovy design (Malaga are called the 'boquer-

ones'), the fish has now given way to a lion after fans voiced their displeasure at the original design. Whether they will be pleased with the latest design remains to be seen.

The club has announced that this new grey kit will be released in the coming days and that fans will be able to purchase the shirt with or without the lion.

Rolón to complete transfer imminently

MALAGA

:: **P. L. A.** Malaga are set to complete a deal for defensive midfielder Esteban Rolón who will join from Argentinos Juniors in a deal which could rise to 3.5 million euros.

Sheikh Al-Thani is personally leading negotiations for the 21-year-old who is already booked in for a medical and could sign a six-year deal in a matter of days.

Rolón is certainly one for the future and is far from the Camacho replacement fans are craving.

Mikel given permission to talk to Cadiz

MALAGA

:: **P. L. A.** Despite featuring against Granada on Tuesday night and injuries in defence for Federico Ricca and Miguel Torres, Malaga have given permission to Mikel Villanueva to complete a loan move to Segunda side Cadiz.

Mikel, 24, who has 14 caps for Venezuela, has found himself behind Luis Hernández, Paul Paysse and Diego González in the pecking order, despite a reasonable campaign last season.

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A LOOK AT LA LIGA

ROB PALMER
Commentator, Sky Sports
@robbopalmer



Check list incomplete

Barcelona still have a lot of shopping to do before the season starts

Behind closed doors at the Camp Nou and the Bernabéu, they will be going through the pre-season check list.

New kit launched – tick, global trip completed – tick, schedule in hand – tick, and then we come to the tricky ones... Significant signings completed? Superstar egos in check? And that's where the differences lie.

Real Madrid pricked the bubble of Cristiano Ronaldo when he made noises about leaving the capital in the early part of the summer amid his tax tribulations. I suspect an official gave him a stadium map with a route to the exit sign if he needed to find it. It went very quiet after that.

Meanwhile, in Catalonia, all of

the noise has been about Neymar. At first, we all thought it was posturing but Barcelona may be secretly content to bag a ridiculous amount of money and rid themselves of a distraction in the long term.

In the short term, they have a big issue though; they need to balance a squad which was inadequate before the number eleven shirt became

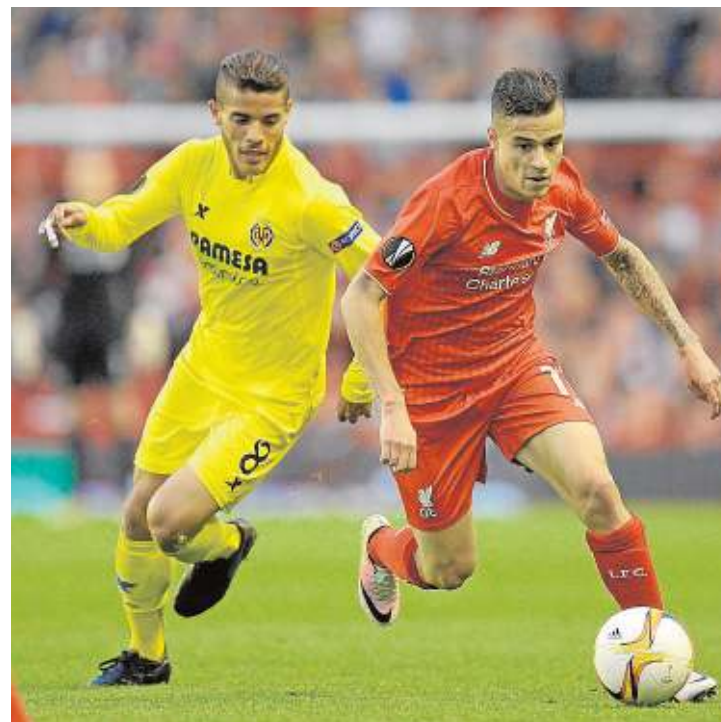
vacant. Their 'representatives' seem to be camped in plush hotels in Liverpool and Dortmund with a bag of cash in tow. If Philippe Coutinho, Ousmane Dembélé, and any other starlet was to join Barcelona, there needs to be a significant amount of time to settle into a far more demanding club.

The teams meet over two legs in the Spanish Super Cup this week and it will not give a significant insight into what is to come. When the clubs play their best eleven, there is very little to choose – in fact nothing to choose. The issue comes when injuries, suspensions and fatigue kick in.

Last season, Zinedine Zidane could regularly make nine changes and the equilibrium wouldn't be affected. If his opposite number made any alterations then Barça's balance would wobble.

Ernesto Valverde would like to impose his new coaching ideas from the start but it is impossible when he doesn't know the exact make-up of his squad. Zidane can start working on plans A-B-C etc.

In Barcelona, they need to start re-planting; in Madrid, all in the garden is rosy. They have cleared out some of the deadwood, trimmed everything and the seeds that were sewn a year ago are allowing sap-



Coutinho has been heavily linked with Barcelona in recent weeks. :: AFP

lings to flourish.

Real Madrid are ready to go. I'd argue that the only position they could actually strengthen is goalkeeper with the addition of David De Gea. It has gone quiet on that

front but don't discount it.

Barcelona is still very much a work in progress, with their representatives due to return from trips to foreign lands and their wares yet to be tested.



Ousmane Dembélé. :: EFE

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A champion on patrol in the city



ÁLVARO
FRÍAS

✉ On Twitter: alvaro_frias

Antonio González Castilla, a police officer in Malaga, won the European Brazilian jiu-jitsu championship

MALAGA. There is a tranquility about Antonio González Castilla, as he speaks quietly about his achievement. The modesty of this police officer is almost palpable, as he talks about what it was like to have become the European champion of Brazilian jiu-jitsu in his category.

The sun is shining on his face as we talk, and he is sipping a cup of herbal tea before a training session. The cup looks tiny in his hand.

The fact is that Antonio is "a bit of a giant," at 1.82 metres tall and 92 kilos of pure muscle. His skin isn't green, but as far as his five-year-old daughter, Claudia is concerned, this policeman is like Hulk, the Marvel superhero who has superhuman, almost unlimited, strength.

That's what she tells her classmates at school in Torremolinos, the town in which Antonio has lived for over ten years. He was born in Olivares (Granada) and realised that his future would lie in Malaga after meeting the woman who is now his wife, who decided to study audiovisual communication at the university there.

Now, he works in the heart of Malaga, as part of the Judicial Police department in the city centre. He loves his work, but is equally as dedicated to his other passion: sport.

He has been practising different sports for years, but has never been keen on gyms. "I don't like going to



Antonio González Castilla, during a training session. :: FERNANDO GONZÁLEZ

the gym because I talk too much. I can spend two hours there, but will only train for about ten minutes of that time," he says.

Instead, he took up crossfit, a form of strength training and conditioning based on a variety of exercises. However, he regularly suffered injuries - "one day it would be my shoulder, the next day the knee" - until a friend suggested that he try Brazilian jiu-jitsu instead.

Antonio had always been attracted by the idea of martial arts and decided to give it a go. He was loaned a kimono, tried a few techniques, then it was time to start combat. He smiles, as he remembers how a girl who weighed 40 kilos less than he did forced him effortlessly to the ground.

That is precisely the point of jiu-

jitsu. This discipline, which originated from Japanese judo and was introduced in Brazil by a few masters, makes it possible to overcome an opponent using different techniques such as rolling, joint-locks and chokeholds, among others.

That was his first day and he immediately found out what the tatami mat smelled like at close hand. However, like any good champion, he carried on.

"I was hooked on this sport right from the start," says Antonio, who started to train every day, and sometimes twice a day if his working hours permitted.

He started in this sport about a year and a half ago, but his progress was so surprising that his colleagues encouraged him to enter the European

championship which was organised by the International Federation of Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu in Lisbon.

One of those companions was Aron Adamko, an instructor at the Lilius Barnatt academy, where Antonio trains. "He is the best pupil anyone could have," he says. "Antonio is focused, modest, he leaves his ego off the tatami and is in good physical shape. All that, combined with his dedication, has been key to his success," says Aron, who also points out that within 12 months of putting on the kimono for the first time, Antonio had won the most important European championship in his category, the heavy-weight white belt.

Antonio started a special training plan to prepare for the competition,

in combat with colleagues from higher categories. "I like to do it like that. I don't mind losing and I learn the techniques they are using against me, then I copy them," he says.

The tournament

That is exactly what he believes he did in Lisbon during the championship, although he says he isn't too sure. He can't really remember how he overcame his opponents. This is due to nerves, he admits with a smile: "I can't even remember the feel of the tatami underfoot."

What will remain in his mind forever are the words of encouragement from his daughter, who was shouting support from the stands. She didn't care whether he won or lost; her mother had already explained that Antonio was a champion anyway, even if he was beaten by his opponent.

However, that didn't happen. Soon afterwards he was standing on the top of the podium with the gold medal around his neck. He is hoping to repeat that experience at the world championships in Las Vegas later this month.

For now, though, as well as the medal, he has the warm memory of the congratulations from his family, friends and colleagues in the police force, including his boss. "I've tried to persuade some of the others to give it a try too, but haven't managed it so far," he says. He believes that the police academy in Ávila should be teaching some of the Brazilian jiu-jitsu techniques to trainee officers, because it is very useful in a situation where somebody has to be pushed to the ground.

In fact, his young daughter is following in his footsteps. "I registered her for classes and she loves it. As soon as I bought her a kimono, she was hooked. With everything I see in the streets these days, I think it is really useful for people to learn martial arts," he says.

So far, Antonio has never had to use any of these techniques in his work, but the knowledge is there and his colleagues are pleased about that. In the city centre the police always have to be vigilant, and it is reassuring to go on patrol with a champion at your side.



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SPORT IN PICTURES



▲ **Swimming.** Following on from her success at the World Aquatics Championships in Budapest, swimmer Mireia Belmonte picked up another gold in the 400-metre freestyle event at the Swimming World Cup in Berlin on Monday. :: AFP



▲ **Motorcycle racing.** Thirteen-time world champion, Ángel Nieto, who died last week as a result of a road accident in Ibiza, was cremated on Saturday. Tributes continue to flow in, including from the Royal Family and the government. Many flocked to the corner named in his honour at the Jerez motor racing circuit, pictured, to pay their respects. :: EFE

► **Polo.** Brunei will face Lechuza Caracas in the semifinals of the High Goal Maserati Silver Cup after defeating La Indiana by 8 goals to 5 in the quarterfinals of the 46th International Polo Tournament organised by Santa Maria Polo Club on Wednesday. Ayala Polo Team and Dos Lunas A & G Private Banking will play in the other semifinal. Both games will be played this evening. :: SANTA MARÍA POLO CLUB



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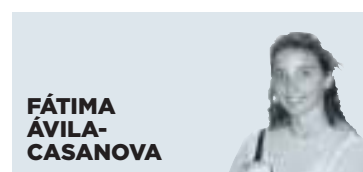
Malaga's young talent is emigrating

An increasing number of local athletes are taking advantage of the scholarships which are offered by American universities

Six youngsters, with proven success in their chosen sports, tell us about their experiences on the other side of the pond

MALAGA. The sporting talent in Malaga has set its sights on the USA and an increasing number of young hopefuls are now deciding to cross the pond and combine studies and sport through one of the scholarships which are made available by American universities. Examples include basketball player Francis Alonso, golfer Ana Peláez and Gonzalo García, athlete Guillermo Alcalá, swimmer Gonzalo Rodríguez and rower Soledad González, among others.

All of these, with outstanding success so far in their chosen sport, have decided to complete their training in a country where studies and sport are given equal importance, and where the facilities for combining the two are very different to the way things work in Spain, as Gonzalo Rodríguez explains: "Here in America, they offer us different options regarding timetables, lec-



On Twitter: @faticasanova

turers and days when we attend classes. It means that, because we know in advance when our training sessions will be, we can organise things so that the classes don't clash with training in the swimming pool or gymnasium, for example."

That is not the only advantage of the scholarships, says golfer Ana Peláez, bronze medallist in the European under-18 championship which took place in Oslo, Norway.

"Those who are doing sport have an advisor who asks us every week how we are doing in different things and monitors our marks. We also have private classes, which the university pays for, in every subject."

That is a luxury which more than 1,000 Spanish athletes have enjoyed through these scholarships so far; many of these are organised through AGM, one of the leading agencies in the sector, but others have arranged it themselves. The average sum offered by these universities is about 20,000 euros, which is enough to cover the cost of the school year, accommodation and food, according to information supplied by AGM.

Obtaining the scholarship

"After I passed my exams I saw on the internet that, by combining my sporting and academic achievements I could obtain a scholarship to study at any university in America, so I decided to send my CV. I then received a call from the rowing coach at Philadelphia University, Christopher O'Brien," says Soledad González, who used to row with the Real Club Mediterráneo in Malaga.

Gonzalo García, Spanish mixed pairs golfing champion with Ana Peláez, says things were different in his case. "I didn't want to stop playing, under any circumstances, so through Castor Gómez, a trainer with the Andalusian Federation, who has many contacts with heads of universities here, I was able to obtain a scholarship with the Northwestern Ohio (UNOH)," he explains.

All these athletes say the training is very demanding and they have improved on all levels. "If I hadn't come here, I would be half the player I am now," says Francis Alonso, European champion with the under-20 Spanish basketball team and one of the best players on the continental tournament. He has spent more time in America than many of the others, because he attended a Prep School before starting university.

Spain is one of the countries with the most athletes competing in university leagues in the USA, although there is no official register to show how many of them are on scholarships. To be eligible for one of these grants, students have to have completed their Baccalaureate, passed the American exams (known as SAT), and also pass the TOEFL English test.

In fact, language tends to be one of the challenges which many applicants from Malaga face as soon as they arrive. "My level of English was quite good, but talking in a different language for hours on end gave me a headache for the first few months. Now, though, I often find myself thinking in English, and when I visit Malaga I end up speaking 'spanglish' with my family!" says Soledad González.

Experiences

These six promising young athletes agree that living the American dream is enabling them to enjoy some wonderful experiences.

"I couldn't name just one because there have been so many, but



FRANCIS ALONSO (BASKETBALL)

Personal details

Date of birth: 25 May 1996.

University: North Carolina at Greensboro.

Degree course: Kinesiology (INEF).

Sporting success

In Spain: Last summer he became European champion with the under-20s team.

In USA: Record score as a freshman at the university.

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ANA PELÁEZ (GOLF)

Personal details

Date of birth: 22 March 1998.
University: South Carolina.
Degree course: Business (Economics).

Sporting success

In Spain: First in the Womens' Championship in Madrid.
International: Bronze in the world junior team championships, bronze in the European under-18s and top team in the American University League.



it was fantastic when my father made a surprise visit with Manolo Rubia (the Unicaja team's operations director). On a sporting level, the best one was when I broke the record score as a freshman at the university," says Francis Alonso.

There have been few disagreeable moments, although some have suffered injuries, including Gonzalo Rodríguez and Soledad González.

"As soon as I arrived in Michigan I broke my ankle, and that was a difficult time. My parents are doctors and whenever I have had a problem in the past they have sorted it out. I found it really hard to cope without them. For nearly two months I couldn't swim, I had to have physiotherapy and it was awful trying to walk on crutches in the snow. Still, it helped me to mature," says Soledad.

Despite the facilities they enjoy in the USA, everyday life can be quite hard, says Guillermo Alcalá, an athlete from the Cueva de Nerja-UMA club. "I wake up at 6am and go straight to the gym. Then I have classes from 8am to 2pm, and from 3.30 to 6pm I train. After that I take a shower, have something to eat and study until midnight, when I go to bed," he explains.

The athletes have to give 100 per cent of themselves in their training sessions, and they are also expected

GUILLERMO ALCALÁ (ATHLETE)

Personal details

Date of birth: 12 November 1997.
University: Mount Olive.
Degree Course: Business Management.

Sporting success

In Spain: One of the top eight athletes in the country over 200 metres, although he has not competed for some time due to injuries.
International: Second in his category in 200 metres on an indoor track.



MARÍA SOLEDAD GONZÁLEZ (ROWER)

Personal details

Date of birth: 9 August 1995.
University: Philadelphia.
Degree course: 3D Animation.
Sporting success

International: Double gold medalist in the Bill Braxton Regatta, two bronzes in the Murphy Cup and fifth in the Head of the Charles regatta.



GONZALO RODRÍGUEZ VILLASANTE (SWIMMER)

Personal details

Date of birth: 16 February 1996.
University: Grand Valley State.
Degree Course: Advertising and PR with Graphic Design.

Sporting success

In Spain: Champion and runner-up of Andalucía in several different categories.
In USA: He is the fastest swimmer at the university in 500 yards freestyle and 200 yards freestyle.

to perform well academically. "The Americans seem to think we are machines. They don't take into account the fact that we need to rest sometimes. Some days it gets us down. All they think about is training, so in that aspect they have a bit of tunnel vision," says Guillermo.

They all mention the cultural differences between the two countries, as well. "What struck me from the first day is how much they depend on their cars. I normally walk to my classes; some of them are about 15 or 20 minutes apart, and they say I'm mad to do that," says Alonso. For Gon-

zalo García, however, the worst thing is the food: "They only eat junk food here, and it's expensive."

When thinking about the future, these six athletes are divided. While some, like Francis Alonso, Ana Peláez and Guillermo Alcalá, are working hard towards a career in their chosen sport, the others are more interested in their academic future.

"I have learned a great deal and I have grown as a person thanks to swimming, but after so many years I think it'll probably be time to give it up when I finish university," says Gonzalo Rodríguez.

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GORGEOUS Paola. Model 's body, tantra, relaxing, B2B massage. Excellent company/Good vibes. relaxingtouch.es 602448534

touch4men.com Professional Erotic man2man massage. Incalls Torremolinos. 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

MESSAGE and fun! Genuine trained exotic male tantric masseur. 645291083

FUENGIROLA: Madonna, Hot oil/horny massage with my boobs! Happy ending.632157758

MATURE man, qualified masseur. Excellent massages for men. Torremolinos, Carihuella. 639040128

MAIAH, Fuengirola. Erotic, professional massage, body2body, happy ending. Miah, 647101046

TORREMOLINOS: Do you want to have fun with 2 girls, blonde/brunette? Exciting, erotic, body2body massage. 633578665

ASIAN MM Massage Salon. A place where you can find proper good massage. Ideal for men, women, couples and have muscule problem, Clean and good atmosphere. 951482585/ 604393547

PROFESSIONAL masseuse: Massages till end with optional end. 666770405 Estepona

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

FUENGIROLA: Divorced, charming sexy lady. Body2body massage. Complete ending. In/outcalls. 603455786

BEAUTIFUL sexy sculptural body. Massages high voltage. Torremolinos. 611326731

ATTRACTIVE Asian Expert oriental massage, relieve pain and stress, unique service qualified. Discreet atmosphere, easy to find. Marbella. 604143788

Various

MALE/ female Viagra, kamagra jelllys, cialis, delivered or mail order viagra4you19@gmail.com. 672883025

VIAGRA Kamagra 100mm for sale. Delivery/ postal Email met1@hotmail.com 634029878

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.

RECRUITMENT

Situations Vacant

JOBFINDER Spain is a unique Business Development, Marketing & Recruitment agency that helps businesses to grow by supplying quality staff, intelligent marketing and sales generation. Talented staff wanted for all types of jobs. Call 951400234 www.jobfinder-spain.com

QUALITY staff? Need great people or looking for work? Jobfinder Spain can help efficiently and cost effectively. Call 951400234 or visit www.jobfinderspain.com

AMBIENTJOBS Recruitment Market Leaders for over 12 years, continues it's successful track-record in sourcing top candidates for the Top employers in the region, and offering unadvertised job vacancies to qualified candidates. Contact Susana for a personal discussion on 665774400 susana@ambient-jobs.com www.ambientjobs.com

CDS PROPERTY are recruiting for our busy office in San Pedro. We require an experienced Sales Person, Languages a bonus and familiar with resales online and info casa and also an experienced lister English and Spanish speaking. Lots of Quality Leads. Excellent working conditions. Basic salary and commission for the right applicants. Email info@cdsproperty-spain.com Call 645194826

ACADEMY requires native English teacher. Nueva Andalucía. 952818092/ 616681031 mundi-lenguas@hotmail.com

ENGLISH teacher requieres for Marbella school must be qualified and have experience with young learners and Cambridge exams. 659931198 CV to marbel-lasschool@gmail.com

HOME based Telemarketers wanted 1,690 Euros OTE per month. For further info, pls send you CV to careers@regulatedadvice.co.uk or call Ryan on 622182120

ENGLISH teacher required for Coin and Marbella areas. Must be native speaker and have TEFL certificate, preferably Celta. Experience with young children and Cambridge also required. Send cv to cv@thelanguagehouse.es

SPANISH S.L. established 2012 is offering several positions to enthusiastic, natural British speaking tele-sales professionals with realistic earnings of OTE Euros 75-100k promoting global property bonds. Please send your CV to spanishcareers@gmail.com

ASIAN Housekeeper required, live in part time, Marbella area. 602527869

CALLING all qualified, experienced and creative stylists. Gibaltars luxury hair salon experience where quality and service matter: Mayfair On Main, launched in April 2017, now with a busy clientele we are looking to expand our team to cope with client demand. Are you NVQ qualified, a motivated team player, passionate about hair, committed to providing high quality service and keen to be part of the team set to revolutionise the hair industry in Gibraltar. Email your CV and covering letter to info@mayfaironmain.gi or call us on 00350 20075913 using the reference Sur in English

HOME based Telemarketers wanted 1,690 Euros OTE per month. For further info, pls send you CV to careers@regulatedadvice.co.uk or call Ryan on 622182120

EXPERIENCED Sous Chef wanted for exciting position in the restaurant at Los Naranjos Golf Club in Nueva Andalucía. We are looking for someone to be in charge of the dinner service in this busy upscale golf restaurant. The right applicant must have great ambition, should be trained in culinary school and must have had at least 5 years working experience. Send your CV to info@haciendalosnaranjos.com

FINANCE Pro's Looking for 2 hard working, natural English speaking telesales people realistic OTE Euros 75-100 k or more, finance knowledge a must. Stage 2 S.L. Don't call without tele-finance experience. 632 916 201

COME and join our dynamic Team! Telesales company on the coast surroundings Marbella/ Fuengirola looking for Brokers/Qualifiers. High revenue. English, German, Dutch and Scandinavian. Send your CV to : telesalescostadelsol@hotmail.com

MARKETING Educated person part time for the marketing department at Marbella Design Academy. We need a very dynamic person, English speaking, to join our great team. You shall take care of our social media, marketing online and offline. Please email CV to CV@design-school.com

FLOOR staff needed for busy Pub in Estepona Port. Please send CV to hasrunlau@gmail.com or call 722639978





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Opening hours: Monday to Friday
9:00 am - 14:00 pm
email: ventanillamarbella@diariosur.es
Call. 952 77 60 40








REAL Estate agency located in Mijas Costa and operative on the entire Coast is looking for experienced sales agents and telemarketers. The candidates must speak English fluently and preferably one of the following languages: French, German, Nordic. High commission scheme for the right candidate. Please send CV info@buenavistahomes.eu and/or call 951484500

HELP Needed at home. Manilva area from 20.00 pm to 08.00 am. Contact 952890384. Mobile 629505259

FILIPINOSUR Agency, trusted filipinos offers family driver, nannies, cleaner, and more services. Marbella. 952008431/ 663612830

PERFORMERS WANTED NOW!! M/F SPECIALITY & CIRCUS ACTS AN ADVANTAGE. BRAND NEW SHOW BURLESQUE SHOW BAR TORREMOLINOS. WHATSAPP 642026975

PROFESSIONAL Telesales staff wanted in a thriving office in Elviria. Pension experience preferred but not essential. Great benefits and salary on offer. Native speaking English only. Please email your CV to claire@fmsearch.co.uk

EXOTIC dancers, strippers, performers and bar staff needed for a classy and sexy show bar in central Torremolinos. 608492601

ENGLISH teacher required for academy in Fuengirola (part time). Native speaker preferred. Experience with children essential. Send CV to orionidiomas@gmail.com

MARBELLA. Help needed for house every evening from 6-10 pm, with accommodation private. Animal lovers essential. 952773166

CLEANER wanted immediately to meet and greet for 4 bedroom house outside Estepona. Must have good English and Spanish. Whatsapp +353872565700

INTERNATIONAL Healthcare Collection Company: Due to further expansion we are looking for 2 more individuals to handle a portfolio of collection files, Gestor de cuentas. The successful candidate must be fluent in English, speak at least one other language and be experienced in Microsoft Office 2016 Suite. Salary plus commission. Please visit our website at www.gcsag.com, then send your CV and current references to enquiries@gcsag.com on or before 31 August 2017

LAWYER required. 3 years minimum experience. High English level. Driving licence. Collaboration. abogaciamj@gmail.com

PROJECT Coordinator required for an Interior design and build company based in Elviria. We are looking for a candidate with good organisation skills and an excellent eye for detail who can control and manage client projects. Able to communicate with clients, contractors, suppliers, and architects. Good level of written and verbal communication in Spanish & English. Construction knowledge. Driving licence and own car. Please send your CV to: info@pulseinteriordesign.com

OLIVIA'S La Cala is looking for a Graphic Designer for immediate start. Education in graphic or industrial design with at least 2+ years work experience as a graphic designer covering all aspects of artwork preparation and printing. Requires thorough knowledge of typography, printing processes, selection of paper or other printing surface and paper folding, binding and finishing. Fluent English & Spanish. If you wish to join our team, please send your CV to hr@olivia-slacala.com

OLIVIA'S La Cala is looking for a qualified IT Technician that will maintain computer systems and networks aiming for the highest functionality. You will also train users of the systems to make appropriate and safe usage of the IT infrastructure. Knowledge of micros - oracle Systems' (POS) software and hardware an advantage. Work experience in hospitality technology, especially 1-2 years of experience delivering technical service in a restaurant environment. Fluent English & Spanish. Join our team, please send your CV to hr@olivia-slacala.com

MARBELLA FOR SALE REALTY CONSULTING URGENTLY needs Multilingual Sales Consultants Experience and knowledge of the Coast required. Preferably Dutch speaking. Send CV to: info@marbellaforsale.com

WE ARE seeking experienced sales professionals to join an expanding company that specialises in Project finance. An understanding of the private Equity market is preferred. Home or office based positions are available. OTE GB65k+ Basic provided. Please forward CV to chris.starkey@enterpriseuk.co.uk or telephone on 602589336

HANSA REALTY
We are expanding our staff and require
SALES ADVISOR & TEAM ASSISTANT
The successful applicant must be fluent in Spanish & English, other language skills a plus. Good organization skills and computer literacy are required.
Marbella Calahonda
Forward CV to: marbella@hansa-realty.com

CHEF and Kitchen Porter wanted for busy Irish bar and restaurant San Pedro/ Puerto Banus area. 634787655

Situations Wanted

DAY care for your children, food and schola assistance included. Marbella 687660902

RETIRED gentleman looking to do handy man and garden work in exchange for room and small salary. References available. Phone 654589218 or email markman-nerik@gmail.com

I NEED part time, driving, cleaning, Spanish driving license. 611257145

Career in sales
We are looking for young, target driven, and ambitious sales professionals to join Our experienced team.
No experience is necessary as full training is provided
Please send CV to info@sw-mktg.com Tel. 952 039 500

MPG
Managing Partners Group is a multi-disciplined investment house that specialises in managing and promoting regulated mutual funds and stock-market listed securities.
We currently have a vacancy for an experienced graphic designer to join our team in our Spanish office as part of a busy design department focused on delivering all company literature, websites and mobile applications to the very highest of standards.
Graphic Designer Required
Applicants must possess advanced knowledge of the following:
• Adobe Creative Suite
• HTML, CSS and JavaScript
• Google Analytics/Webmasters
• Salesforce CRM system
• iContact e-mail marketing solution
Location: Nueva Andalucia | Remuneration: Salary plus bonus
To apply, please send your CV with a covering letter and samples of previous work via e-mail to recruitment-it@managingpartnersgroup.com quoting reference MPG016
Successful applicants will be invited to an interview.



CLC World Resorts & Hotels are delighted to announce the launch of

SANTA BARBARA HEIGHTS

our luxury residential development on Mijas Costa

This unique residential development of 50 apartments, each with their own glass-fronted pool, will boast contemporary living and home automation systems.

On the crest of our Club La Costa World resort, it will combine an exclusive private residence with hotel services and resort facilities.

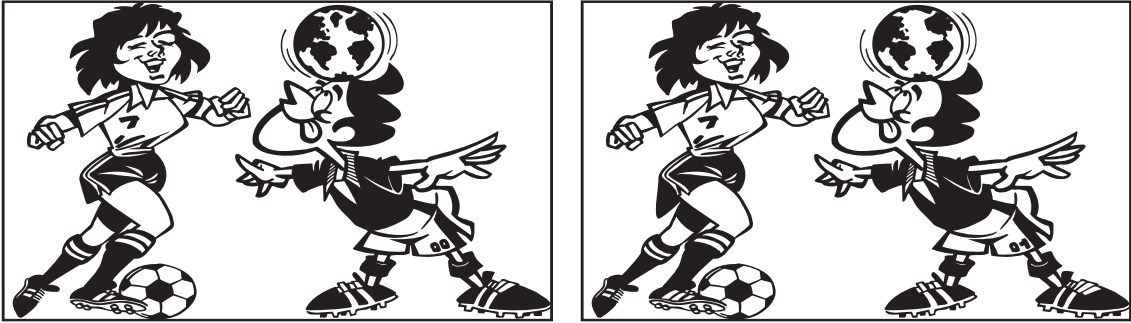
Due to unprecedented demand, we're now seeking experienced

- Real Estate Sales Representatives
- Real Estate Marketing Specialists
- Real Estate Listing Agents
- OTE €65,000


If you have a proven track record in your field, are self-motivated, success-driven and a people person, then CLC Estates are waiting to hear from you.


Preferred languages: English, Scandinavian, Spanish
Send your CV and covering letter to: hr@clcworld.com


THE SEVEN DIFFERENCES





THE STARS


 **Aquarius**
January 21 - February 19
If you don't feel like going out then just share a few minutes chatting with those around you.


 **Pisces**
February 20th - March 20th
You feel like being dynamic and positive but what about those around you? Getting people moving is sometimes a thankless task.


 **Aries**
March 21st - April 20th
Make a list of what is right in your life and another about what is wrong (if anything!)


 **Taurus**
April 21st - May 21st
Aim to make life easier and simpler by using your talents and imagination to the full.

 **Gemini**
May 22nd - June 21st
Breaking new ground at home could be as simple as doing those long-awaited practical jobs.

 **Cancer**
June 22nd - July 23rd
This week may take you away from the things that you want to do. It is irritating but plans can go astray. This is, however, temporary.

 **Leo**
July 24th - August 23rd
Press ahead and don't let lethargic people slow you down. Others will appreciate a confident approach.

 **Virgo**
August 24th - September 23rd
Building confidence this week revolves around a certain partnership. Bold talking brings strong reactions.

 **Libra**
September 24th - October 23rd
This week you are called upon to do something mundane that you consider not worthy of your talents.

 **Scorpio**
October 24th - November 22nd
This week is more about taking a step away from people who have upset you than making a stand.

 **Sagittarius**
November 23rd - December 21st
You dislike being nagged at, which is understandable. Please remember that when dealing with others this week.

 **Capricorn**
December 22nd - January 20th
Even though it goes against your feelings and beliefs this week, try to be flexible. As much as you feel in the right it is not desirable to be too pushy..

CRYPTIC CROSSWORD N° 11254



- Across
- Down
- 1

Game in which the unmarried are paired off? (7,5)
- 7

A bit of quiet, we hear (5)
- 8

He has title or new variety (5)
- 9

A number back in 15 (3)
- 10

Suddenly in unison, perhaps (3,2,4)
- 11

The country air's bad around us (6)
- 12

Decamp: the race is cancelled (3,3)
- 15

There's no comeback after having some chicken in a Greek temple (9)
- 17

Thus hotthead produces a note (3)
- 18

There's nothing in a trick to stimulate (5)
- 19

Twelve inches being prepared (5)
- 21

Famous musician? (6,2,4)
- 1

The result of an explosive class situation? (6,6)
- 2

Don't stand for a fib! (3)
- 3

It's proper to observe youth leader after 1050 (6)
- 4

Face the other way - a new tendency after a fight? (5,4)
- 5

Clergyman is able to get no backing (5)
- 6

Acquitted without having to pay anything (4,2,6)
- 7

A crowd of reporters? (5)
- 10

Has spines - a quality of primates, perhaps (9)
- 13

Attack while filming? (5)
- 14

Fruitlessly having boarded vehicle about one (2,4)
- 16

The way to defeat egghead (5)
- 20

Fool knocks top off bread (3)

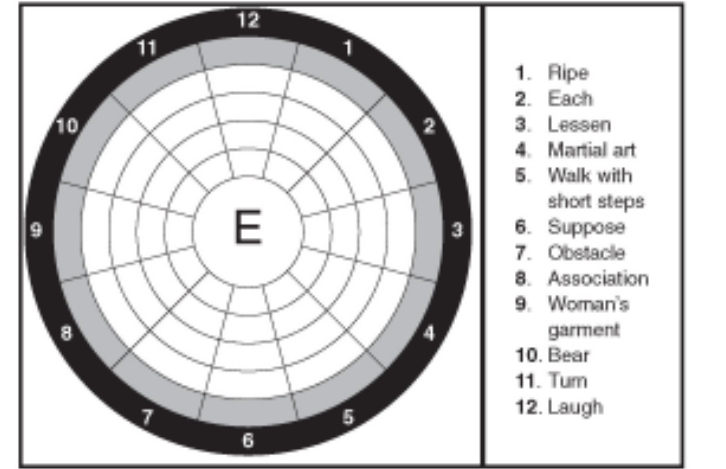
SUDOKU BY HANZO

Instructions
Complete the square making sure that every row of nine numbers includes all digits from 1 to 9, every column includes all digits from 1 to 9 and every 3 by 3 subsection includes all digits from 1 to 9

9			8		2			
5		8		6	2	9		3
	7				3			9
		4				7		2
	5		2	4				1
3			6	7				5
		7					3	8
	8		9					

CLOCKWORD

The solutions from 1 to 12 are all six-letter words ending with the letter E in the centre. Moving clockwise from 1, the letters in the outer circle will spell out the name of a U.S. actor and former pop star.



THE WORDPUZZLER

S	L	I	M	V	E	N	I	C	T
A	Y	N	E	R	I	E	N	H	Y
G	V	L	O	I	R	E	D	E	N
E	P	U	R	L	T	R	A	A	E
R	A	N	S	W	E	A	R	T	H
A	N	U	D	O	E	S	T	U	G
V	C	L	O	U	S	E	N	I	T
O	I	P	V	S	L	B	O	S	I
N	A	Z	E	N	D	R	O	I	A
T	R	E	R	U	S	A	F	S	N

CAN you identify the English rivers from the anagrams listed below?

1.

Awre

2.

Enty

3.

Vode

4.

Siis

5.

Nova

6.

Trad

7.

Usoe

8.

Zean

9.

Sete

10.

Need

INTERNATIONAL RADIO

- Talk Radio Europe**
105.5 Axarquía
91.5 Costa del Sol East
91.9 Costa del Sol West
98.7 Gibraltar/Sotogrande
News, interviews, lifestyle, sport and BBC World Service.

Global (93.6 and 96.4FM)
All week round the clock music and entertainment

Radio Radio Network (96 and 98.3 FM). Music 24 hours.

Central FM (98.6 FM, 103.8)
All week, classic tracks and today's music broadcast to the Costa del Sol

ACE FM (106.8 FM)
Inland radio, news and music
The Beat fm (106 FM)
24 hours, music and entertainment

Spectrum (105.5 FM, Costa Almeria/Mojácar 92.6 FM)
24 hour music and entertainment

Radio Mijas (107.7 FM)
3 p.m. News, views and music

Radio Sol 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

What is 'Barbie's' full name?

1. Barbara Shirley Roberts

2. Barbara Cindy Roberts

3. Barbara Millicent Roberts

4. Barbara Susan Roberts

QUESTION 2

Romansh is one of the four national languages of which country?

1. Romania

2. Bulgaria

3. Switzerland

4. Czech Republic

LANGUAGE CROSSWORD FILL IN THE SPANISH WORD

- Across
- Down
1. A&E (9)

5. Telescope (10)

10. Knocked down (7)

12. I received (6)

14. Glasses (5)

15. Mountains (8)

18. Street (5)

18. Press (6)

20. To take turns (8)

22. Like that (3)

23. Mechanism (9)

27. To make someone blush (8)

28. Partial (7)

30. To hear (3)

32. Broken (f) (4)

34. Degree (5)

37. Island (4)

38. Moon (4)

39. To observe (8)

43. I sleep (6)

44. Environment (13)

45. Network (3)

47. Current affairs (10)

48. Activity (9)
1. Last (6)

2. Hair gel (6)

3. Gone (3)

4. To be (3)

5. I will cross out (7)

6. He chooses (5)

7. Lecture (11)

8. People (8)

9. Hidden (8)

11. To damage (5)

13. To swindle (7)

17. Freed (pl) (9)

18. This (f) (2)

20. Earth (6)

21. Welder (8)

24. My (2)

25. Astronomy (10)

26. Eye (3)

29. Commentator (7)

31. Reality (8)

33. Uncle (3)

35. Slow motion (7)

36. Wife (6)

37. To go (2)

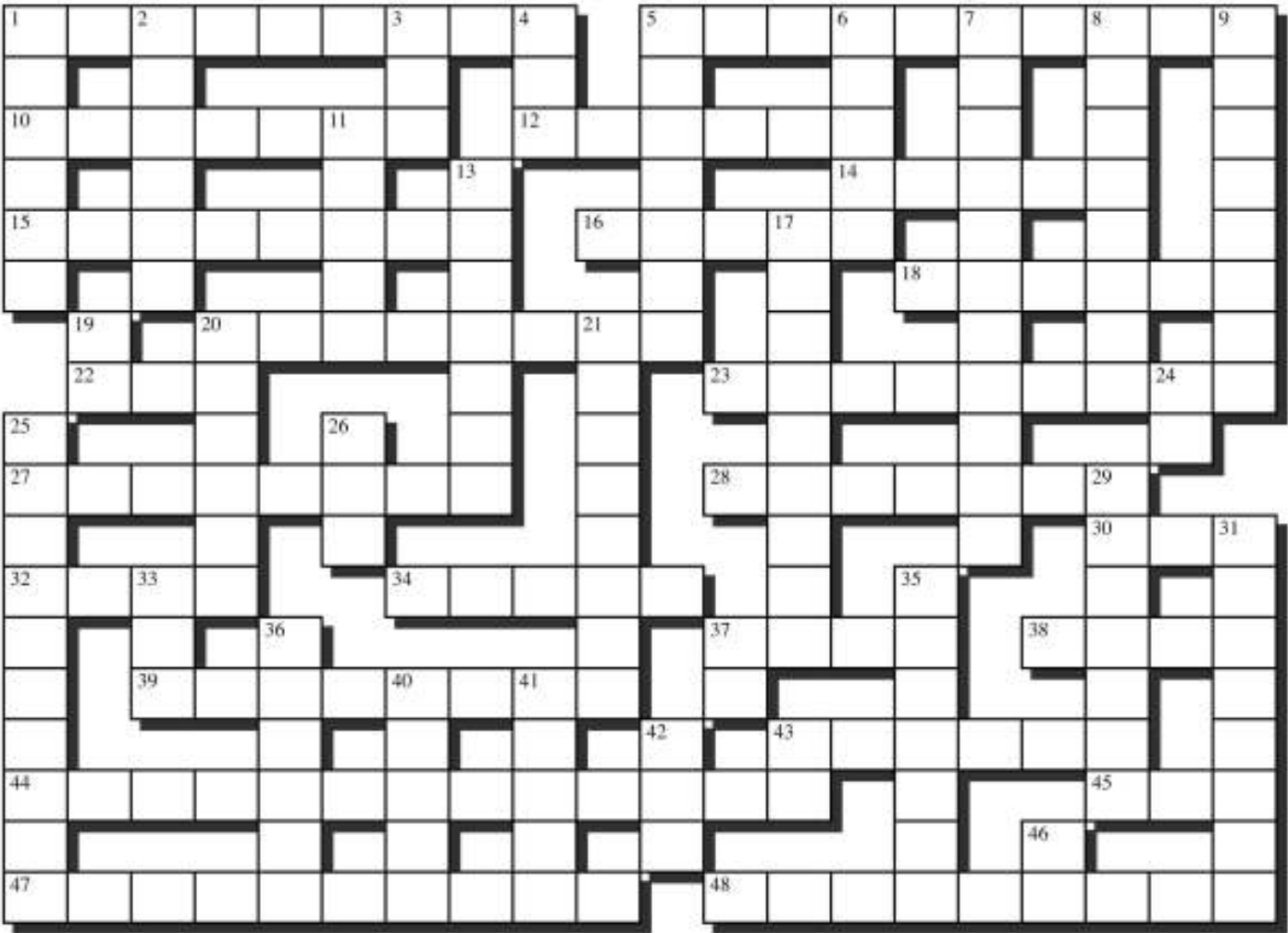
40. I broke (5)

41. Friend (f) (5)

42. One (3)

43. Of (2)

46. Yes (2)

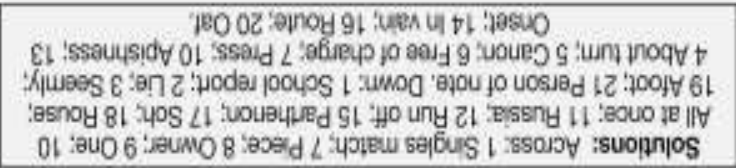


ANSWERS

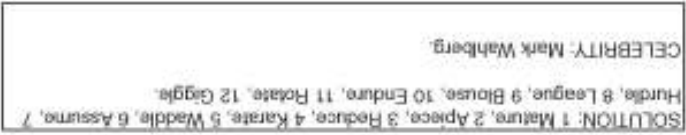
Language Crossword



Cryptic Crossword



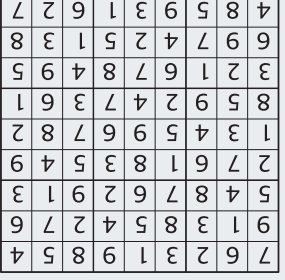
Clockword solution



Wordpuzzler solution



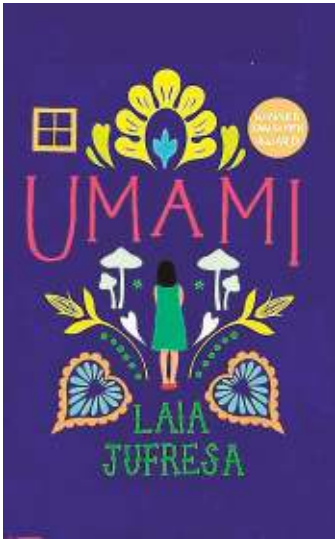
Sudoku solution



Quiz answers

Answer 1: Barbara Millcent
Of interest: Barbie is the figurehead of Mattel dolls and accessories. She was created by Ruth Handler who named her after her daughter and based the doll on a German toy called Bild Lilly. Handler later named a male doll after her son, Kenneth.
Answer 2: Switzerland
Of interest: Romansh (rumantsch) is spoken by 50-70,000 people in the Swiss canton of Grisons. It is one of the four national languages of Switzerland and has semi-official status.

BOOK OF THE WEEK



Umami
Laia Jufresa

Deep in Mexico City, where five houses cluster around a sun-drenched courtyard, lives Ana, a precocious twelve-year-old still coming to terms with the death of her little sister years earlier. She decides to plant a vegetable garden in the courtyard, and as she digs the ground and plants her seeds, her neighbours in turn delve into their past. Grief, childlessness, illness and displacement saturate their stories - Who was my wife? Why did my mum leave? Can I turn back the clock? And how could a girl who knew how to swim drown?

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

A bank is a place that will lend you money if you can prove that you don't need it

BOB HOPE

MALAGA PORT INFORMATION

CRUISE SHIP MOVEMENTS (SOURCE: MALAGA PORT AUTHORITY)					
Ship	Date	From	Next port	Docks	Sails
Panorama II	12/08	Motril	Motril	07.00	04.00
Seabourne encore	12/08	Gibraltar	-	08.00	18.00
Tui Discovery 2	13/08	Gibraltar	Marseille	06.00	22.00
Navigator of Seas	14/08	Valencia	Cadiz	12.00	20.00
Seven Seas Voyager	16/08	Cartagena	Gibraltar	08.00	23.00
Tui Discovery 2	20/08	Cartagena	Vigo	06.00	22.00





The stubborn wreckage at the bottom of the port

IGNACIO LILLO

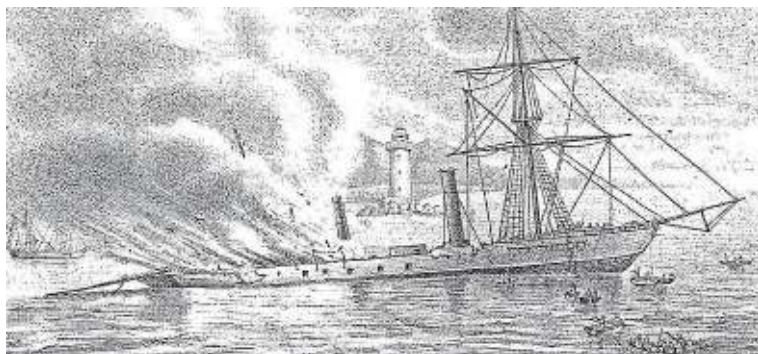


✉ ilillo@diariosur.es

The remains of the Génova, which were found by the Esgemar company during recent works, do not pose a risk to ships entering Malaga

MALAGA. The Génova is reluctant to leave Malaga port. The steamship sank after an accident at the end of 1859, and in the worst possible place, in the middle of the Marqués de Guadiaro dock (between quays 1 and 2). Since then, two attempts have been made to break it up so that boats which are coming into the port don't collide with it. Last week it was announced that the ship had been completely destroyed, but in fact that is not so.

Jorge Rey Díaz de Rada is an industrial engineer and the head of Esgemar, a Malaga company which specialises in surveying the seabed, especially for port works, pipe laying etc. "On one of those jobs I noticed something strange, something that



A print of the Génova sinking, from 1859. :: J. REY



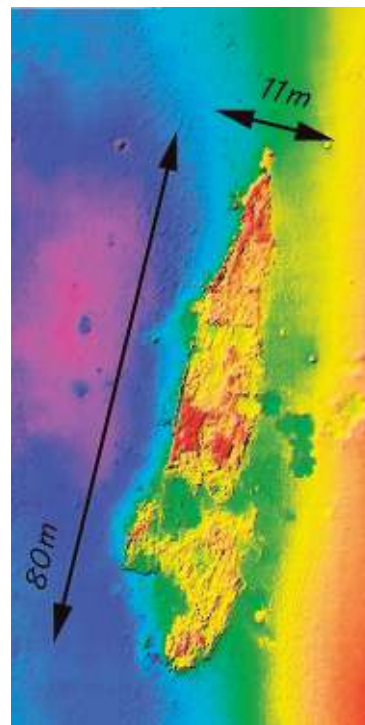
The view from a boat floating above the shipwreck. :: JORGE REY

shouldn't have been there. It looked like a rock at the bottom of the port. We took a closer look, and it was shaped like a boat," he says.

He began to research the numerous shipwrecks which have occurred in the area, and discovered one which was the same size and position. It had to be the Génova. Later, when

working underwater in that area again, the team took a high-resolution multi-beam sounding of the area. And there it was.

In 1859, Spain fought the Hispano-Moroccan War. In order to supply materials, ammunition and personnel, faced with the lack of its own resources, the government decided to



A scan of the ship. :: J. REY

hire ships from different maritime companies. On 29 November 1859, the Génova arrived in Malaga from Alicante.

"It was a very large iron ship, carrying 44 officers, employees, 159 mules and military equipment. It was also carrying a large amount of explosive materials," says Jorge.

In fact, barely had the ship dropped anchor about 180 metres from the lighthouse, at a depth of about eight metres, than there was a loud explosion. "Immediately, the stern cabin was on fire. When the crew spotted the flames, knowing that the cargo included 250 hundredweight of gunpowder and 1,000 grenades, they evacuated the ship," he explains.

The vessel sank, and although Jorge insists that its remains now pose no risk to navigation, that was not always the case. On two occasions - the first not long after the shipwreck, in 1862, and the other in the 1960s - the authorities tried to scrap it. "It was in the way of some boats coming into the port," he says, and for that reason plans were drawn up to dismantle it.

However, this was obviously not totally successful as some parts still remain. "It would be interesting to see what's left, because it is part of our history," says Jorge, although he recognises that it would be a very difficult place in which to work.

"We still haven't sent any divers down, because ships are constantly going past," he says. Instead, he is calling on the Port Authority to finance a project to document the shipwreck, film it and catalogue what is left of that old steamship which still refuses to leave Malaga.

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