

# SUR

## in English

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### A new year with new challenges

The threat of drought  
and pressure to  
improve for the  
'Armada' in this month's  
Costa del Golf **INSIDE**



## A WINTER WONDERLAND

The season's harshest weather so far brought snow to various parts of Malaga province **P2&3**

Fuente de la Reina, in the Montes de Málaga, covered by a blanket of white. :: ÁLVARO CABRERA

# British tourist who ran over and killed three-year-old in San Pedro tests positive for cocaine

The boy, who was with his grandmother at the time, was pronounced dead at the scene in the Azalea shopping centre car park

A three-year-old French boy died on Sunday after being run over by a car in the Azalea shopping centre car park in San Pedro.

Four British holidaymakers aged between 20 and 24 were in the car as it reversed out of a parking space, colliding with the boy as he got out of another car.

The emergency services were

called and paramedics pronounced the boy dead at the scene.

The driver, 24, was breathalysed and no alcohol was detected in his system. However, drug test results showed traces of cocaine in his saliva, which could have been consumed any time between 24 and 48 hours before the test was taken.

As there is currently no evidence

that the driver was under the influence of narcotics at the time of the incident, he was released after questioning.

The results of the test will be sent to a laboratory to assess the time of consumption more accurately as part of the police's ongoing investigation into a possible case of negligent manslaughter. **P4**



## Search is on for missing mother-of-two Rebecca Muldoon

The 35-year-old disappeared from her home in Marbella more than a week ago **P8**

**Malaga CF take quick action in the transfer market** as Alberto Bueno and Riki Centurión replace Jony and Paul Baysse in the squad **P51**

**Inland towns continue to shrink in population** while coastal areas progressively increase their numbers, new census figures show **P6**

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# Cold snap covers inland areas in snow

The Serranía de Ronda and the Antequera area were worst hit as the harshest weather of the winter so far deposited up to 10cm of snow and heavy rain across Malaga province

## ■ SUR

**MALAGA.** The mountain areas of Malaga province were covered in white earlier this week as snow fell on higher ground, making access to remote areas difficult and causing widespread disruption, as well as amazement as families and amateur photographers came out to enjoy the unusual weather. It was the harshest spell of weather seen so far this winter.

At the weekend it snowed across the entire mountainous arc that borders the province from the Ronda mountain range and the Sierra de las Nieves in the west to the peaks of Tejeda, Alhama and Almirajara in the Axarquía to the east.

The snow was also accompanied by a dramatic fall in the temperature to below zero in Ronda and other mountain towns and villages.

On Monday morning the Spanish meteorological agency Aemet raised the yellow warning to amber in the Ronda area and there were yellow alerts for snow in force in the Antequera area as more than 10 cm of snow fell, restricting road access and trapping dozens of vehicles. Drivers in the area were advised to wrap up warm, take suitable footwear and a raincoat, and a bag with water, food, and a charged mobile phone.

Access to El Torcal in Antequera was still closed to traffic until Wednesday after officials stated the heavy build-up of snow and icy patches on local roads had made the roads unsafe for vehicle access. The El Torcal visitor centre was



A plough out to clear snow off the road connecting Ronda and the Costa. ■ VANESSA MELGAR



Alfarnate in the upper Axarquía is one of the highest points in the province. ■ EUGENIO CABEZAS

## IN FIGURES

# 10

centimetres of snow accumulated at various points in the Serranía de Ronda at points above 1,000 metres in altitude.

# 220

tonnes of salt and grit were scattered on the province's roads by the Junta's road safety department.

also closed.

From Saturday through to Monday, the Junta de Andalucía sent out around 20 clearance vehicles carrying 70 road maintenance staff to clear the worst of the snow and to spread salt to prevent accidents. Their main priority was to keep the main roads in and out of Ronda operation, especially the A-396 (to Algeciras) and the A-366 which connects Ronda to the Sierra de las Nieves via Yunquera and El Burgo.

Though access to the Sierra de las Nieves was difficult via Ronda, the natural park still attracted a number of visitors from the coast via San Pedro, including many tourists, keen to enjoy the Día de Reyes in the snow. This road too was eventually closed on Monday.

## Highest parts of the province

On the eastern side of the province, the highest municipalities, Alfarnate and Alfarnatejo, in the upper Axarquía, saw snow as thick as 5cm settle on the ground but the use of gritting machines meant that neither chains on tyres nor

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road closures were necessary.

#### Cold on the Costa too

Meanwhile, the snow didn't quite reach the Costa del Sol, but it was at least visible on the top of the mountains inland. A white layer had settled on the Montes de Málaga natural park overlooking Malaga city at the Fuente de la Reina viewpoint.

Instead, coastal areas experienced heavy rain and hail and a notable drop in temperatures. In the city of Malaga maximum temperatures ranged from 7 to 11°C, in Vélez from 4 to 12° C, and in Marbella between 8 and 12° C.

Temperatures rose once more by Wednesday but meteorologists warn that cold and wet weather could return for the weekend.

During the course of the cold snap, no serious accidents nor casualties were reported.

#### Good news for agriculture

Despite the inconvenience for many motorists, the rain and snow came as a welcome relief for both growers and the province's reservoirs.

In the Axarquía, where drought restrictions are already in place, the heavy rain has irrigated land as well as replenishing stocks at La Viñuela reservoir, according to the association for young farmers



Low visibility and heavy snowfall at El Torcal in Antequera. :: A. G.

(Asaja). They say that the precipitation has not damaged any crops too much. The snow too, it is

hoped, will have a positive effect as it melts and increases water flow in aquifers.

## Families forced to wait ten hours in "death trap" hold-up in Segovia

:: SUR

**MADRID.** Around 3,000 vehicles were trapped as knee-high snow fell between kilometre 60 and 95 on the AP-6 in the province of Segovia on Saturday evening. The hold-up lasted some ten hours.

There was widespread anger at apparent neglect from the authorities who were aware of the inclement weather days before.

The hold-up, which occurred as

many families returned from their Kings' Day celebrations, was described as a "death trap" by David Murciano, who was trapped with his family.

Other cases have emerged of children going without water, sick babies unable to get medical attention and a diabetic child separated from their insulin.

A joint law suit is being prepared on behalf of the victims.



Cars trapped through the night on the AP-6. :: D. GARCÍA / EFE

## The strange sight on a Fuengirola beach

Images quickly spread on social media of a snow-covered beach at the heart of the Costa del Sol

:: ÁNGEL DE LOS RÍOS

**MÁLAGA.** Could there be snow on the Costa del Sol? It certainly seemed that way in an image that went viral on social media on Monday, showing the beach in Fuengirola covered

in a blanket of white.

However, it has since been proved that this unusual image was as a result of an intense hailstorm which struck the resort. This was confirmed by Aemet, the Spanish met office, which confirmed that conditions were "all wrong" for snow to have fallen.

The beach didn't stay like this for long. Despite temperatures of just 5°C, the mercury quickly rose again and the hail melted.



The beach in Fuengirola which seemed to be covered by snow. :: F. G. TAMAJÓN

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# Driver who ran over and killed child in San Pedro tests positive for cocaine

The 24-year-old British man was on holiday with friends when he ran over the three-year-old in a car park in San Pedro

**== NIEVES CASTRO / JUAN CANO**

**MÁLAGA.** A three-year-old boy died on Sunday after being run over in the Azalea shopping centre car park in San Pedro. Four young British men aged between 20 and 24, on holiday in Marbella, were in the car that ran over the boy as it reversed out of a parking space.

The emergency services were called at 2.10pm but paramedics attending the toddler could do nothing to save his life and he was proclaimed dead at the scene.

The 24-year-old driver was breathalysed and no alcohol was detected. However, drug test results have revealed traces of cocaine in his saliva. The test used to confirm the driver's consumption of cocaine can only detect drug use 24 to 48 hours prior to the test so there is currently no evidence to suggest that the driver was under the influence of narcotics at the time of the incident. He did not show any physical signs of recent drug



The accident took place in the Azalea car park. **== JOSELE-LANZA**

use either.

The driver was therefore released after questioning but as part of ongoing investigations into a possible case of negligent manslaughter, the results of the test have been sent to a laboratory to determine the precise time of consumption to see if it could have impeded his ability to drive.

The tourists had briefly parked their rental car, a Hyundai Tucson,

in the car park in order to retrieve a cap that had blown into the street. At the same time, the young boy was going to the shopping centre with his grandmother, who had just parked. The boy, who is French, had just got out the car as the other car began leaving the space.

This accident has delivered a tough blow to the local Jewish community to which the victim's family belongs.



The agents found a gun hidden in a water treatment system. **== SUR**

## Four drug traffickers arrested after a shootout

**== ÁLVARO FRÍAS**

**MÁLAGA.** Four men have been remanded in custody and face a range of criminal charges from drug trafficking to attempted homicide, in connection with a shoot-out in Marbella. The events date back to last September, when two men arrived at a central Marbella hospital with gunshot wounds.

The National Police investigation revealed that the two men, of Spanish nationality and 25 and 29 years old, had been in a confrontation with two others, and had then been shot. The investigation led the police to a house on the Camino de Santiago in Marbella.

There they found two other men,

a 18-year-old Dutch man and a 43-year-old Polish man, as well as a ski mask, gloves, more than 5,000 euros in notes, and, in a blood-soaked pouch, a firearm. When they returned with a search warrant, they discovered over a tonne of hashish, the gun used in the shooting hidden in a water treatment system, as well as three other firearms.

The police concluded that the shootout occurred because the Spanish men, part of one drug ring, had attempted to steal the hashish from their rivals. The Spanish and Polish men face charges of drug trafficking, assault and possession of illegal firearms, while the Dutch man is accused of attempted homicide.

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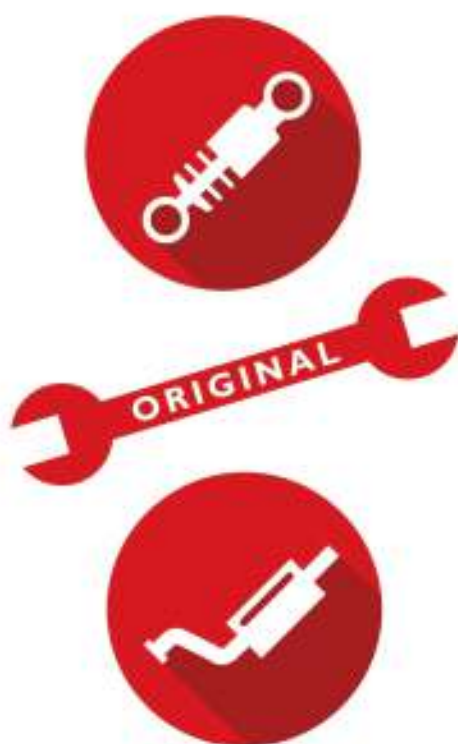
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When winter arrives and the temperatures drop many residents feel uncomfortably chilly at home, especially those who live on the coast

■ ANA PÉREZ-BRYAN

**MÁLAGA.** No matter where you go in the world, the weather is always a popular topic of conversation: the heat, the cold, the rain, the wind.... come up in brief exchanges between neighbours.

These conversations are normally a matter of courtesy rather than based on reality, but the recent cold weather in Malaga has given residents and visitors a new slant on the subject: everyone has been complaining that their homes are cold. One question in particular always seems to be asked: how, in a place like Malaga and the Costa del Sol, which has such a lovely climate, can the houses be so cold and uncomfortable?

There are answers to this, of course, and one undeniable fact is that the weather is colder in winter and Malaga is no exception. In this province the coldest months are usually December and January, when the average temperature is about 12 or 13 degrees Celsius. It often feels colder than it actually is because of the relative humidity, which is higher on the coast than inland and gives that impression of 'bone-chilling cold' which is more acute in coastal towns.

**Construction regulations**

The second explanation comes from the president of the College of Architects of Malaga, Francisco Sarabia, who begins by agreeing "as a user as well as a professional", that houses in a large part of the province are not sufficiently prepared to cope when the temperature drops.

"The regulations for insulating buildings in areas with a warm climate are much less strict than in places where the winters are more severe," says Sarabia. He is referring to the Technical Building Code, to explain why a house in Burgos, for example, is not built in the same way as one in Malaga.

This legislation was modified in 2006, and it means that now "the minimum requirements for insulating a building are decided by climatic areas, whereas before the regulations were changed they were generic for the whole of Spain," he explains.

In other words, it is not surprising that properties which were built over a decade ago do not comply with the

conditions which are obligatory in new buildings today.

"Nowadays, we have to incorporate insulation into the outside walls of properties built in Malaga. We always have to take the local climate into account," explains Francisco Sarabia.

In other words, the regulations with which the professionals have to comply when designing a house have to be adjusted to maximums of consumption - in summer and winter - so households do not need to use a great deal of energy in order to obtain a comfortable temperature.

**'Cool houses'**

This also explains, for example, why on the Costa del Sol the requirements focus mainly on the heat, rather than the cold. In other words, buildings in southern Spain are obliged to bear in mind the criteria of keeping houses cool in the summer rather than warm in the winter.

# Why are homes so cold on the Costa del Sol?

The humidity and minimum regulations regarding insulation in residential properties are two reasons people are shivering indoors



Oil-filled radiators are commonly used. ■ SUR

Also, homes on the Costa del Sol do not use central heating to the same extent as in other areas of Spain and even Andalucía (such as Granada and Jaén) "because central heating is a complex and expensive installation and it would not be used much," says Sarabia.

On the other hand, and still following the criteria of geographical location, homes in Malaga do have to comply with other requirements, as he explains: "Here, homes are built to lose as little cold or heat energy as possible; properties tend to be designed with windows to the south so the sun comes in during the winter and also incorporate cantilevers to protect from the heat in the summer. North-facing walls tend to have few windows because a lot of energy is lost through them," he says.

Most people rule out the idea of central heating because it is so expensive and is not often needed in a cli-

mate such as that on the Costa del Sol, but many homes in this area do have air conditioning/heating units instead. These, together with other electrical appliances such as fan heaters, braziers or oil-filled radiators, are the most commonly used methods of combating low temperatures in homes.

**The gas option**

For several years now, especially since the liberalisation of the market in

2008, people in Spain have had the option of incorporating gas heating into their homes. This is considered the cleanest, least polluting and most comfortable source of energy. Its installation requires a gas boiler connected to a system of pipes through which hot water circulates and then provides heat via the radiators.

This option, however, is only available if the gas distribution network reaches the area in which people live, and it is not particularly widespread.

Information from Gas Natural Andalucía, the distribution branch of Gas Natural Fenosa, in Malaga province the network only extends to 14 municipalities (and is most used in Malaga city, Marbella and Rincón de la Victoria), covers 1,270 kilometres and provides a service to more than 280,000 people.

With regard to the demand for this method of heating the home, the same sources say that requests for the installation of domestic gas heating have increased by 20 per cent compared with this time last year.

**A surprise to foreigners**

It is a fact, then, that many homes in Malaga are cold and it isn't only the locals who are complaining: foreign residents, especially, say they are surprised and so do people who come from other parts of Spain where the weather is harsher but homes are better adapted to the climate.

One such case is Svetlana Bagdasarova, a Russian woman who moved to Estepona with her four children six years ago. She thought she was escaping from the cold in Moscow, but paradoxically found that the Costa del Sol in winter was not what she expected.

"At this time of year the house is freezing. The problem is that it is very big and it costs me more than 1,000 euros a month to try to heat it. It's awful!" she says.

Inés Vidal found herself in a similar situation when she moved to Malaga over 20 years ago. She comes from León - a province which is often very cold - and was accustomed to the comfort of heating in her home. She remembers as if it were only yesterday that one of the first things she noticed when she arrived here was the temperature of her home:

"It was colder inside the house than outside in the street. I bought a heater and used to huddle over it. When I walked into another room my glasses used to mist over because of the change in temperature," she says.

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# The population in inland Malaga has dropped considerably in recent years

**EUGENIO CABEZAS**

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Only 37 places in the province have increased their population since 2007, and most of these are along the coast or close to Malaga city

**MALAGA.** Large towns along the coast are gaining in terms of population and those inland are progressively losing theirs. That is a simple way of summing up the way the registered population in the 103 municipalities in Malaga province has evolved in the past decade, a period during which we moved from the boom in construction to the economic crisis and then a moderate recovery in the most recent years.

There are some exceptions, but the latest figures from the National Institute of Statistics (INE), compiled on 1 January 2017, show that since 2007 the population has only increased in 37 places in the province.

In Malaga as a whole, there has been an increase of 113,092 people on the municipal population registers during the past ten years, giving a total of 1,630,615. Most of these were in towns on the coast or in the metropolitan area of Malaga city. Benalmádena tops the list, having obtained 16,642 new inhabitants and increased from 52,217 to 68,859 in ten years.

Marbella, which has the second highest population in the province after Malaga city, with 141,172 inhabitants, has gained 14,750. Third is Mijas, where the population has increased from 64,288 to 77,151. Fourth is Vélez-Málaga, which has gained 10,274 inhabitants, reaching a total of 79,878, making it the municipality with the third highest number of inhabitants in the province. Fuengirola, after gaining 9,508, has progressed from 65,421 to 74,929 and occupies fifth place on the list. Rincón de la Victoria, with 9,424 more inhabitants, comes sixth. Its population register showed 35,714 inhabitants in 2007 and it now has 45,138.

The population has also increased in the Malaga metropolitan area, such as in Alhaurín de la Torre, which gained 7,269 inhabitants, rising from

31,884 to 39,153, and Cártama, which has gone up from 18,865 to 25,317.

Estepona's population register now shows an extra 6,535 inhabitants, bringing the total to 66,863. Among the places where the population has risen considerably is Benahavis: in ten years its population increased from 3,253 to 7,348, mainly due to an influx of foreign residents.

On the contrary, among those which have lost the most inhabitants in the past decade are the inland towns of Antequera and Ronda. Antequera has lost 3,443 inhabitants in ten years as the village of Villanueva de la Concepción split away, dropping from 44,547 to 41,104, and in Ronda the population has dropped from 36,122 to 34,268, a difference of 1,854.

The situation of Antequera is particularly surprising because it has seen improved communications and is economically stable due to its strategic location. In the case of Ronda, the figure is not as bad as it seems: its outlying districts of Montecorto and Serrato have both become independent recently and now have their own population registers. However, lack of a motorway are still hindering Ronda's growth in population.

The drop in the other inland municipalities is not as great in absolute terms, but is a matter of concern, especially in the case of small villages with fewer than 5,000 inhabitants. In fact, 29 (almost one third) have a population of less than 1,000.

The Spanish Federation of Municipalities and Provinces (FEMP) has asked the government to take urgent measures to tackle this demographic challenge, and Quique Navarro, a lecturer in geography at Malaga university, says rural depopulation has serious consequences.

"Malaga province's situation is not as bad as elsewhere but urgent plans are needed to develop tourism, farming and artisan crafts," he says.

**Benalmádena, Marbella, Mijas and Vélez have gained the most inhabitants**

**Antequera's population has officially dropped more than anywhere else in ten years**

## The evolution of population in municipalities in Malaga

Municipality	2007	2012	2017
Alameda ▲	5,367	5,504	5,384
Alcaucín ▼	2,286	2,817	2,253
Alfarnate ▼	1,365	1,300	1,113
Alfarnatejo ▼	478	532	397
Algarrobo ▲	5,907	6,584	6,284
Algatocín ▼	936	887	778
Alh. Torre ▲	31,884	37,446	39,153
Alh. Grande ▲	21,776	24,074	24,720
Almáchar ▼	1,892	1,904	1,814
Almargen ▼	2,114	2,157	2,004
Almogía ▼	4,299	4,195	3,765
Álora ▼	13,307	13,399	12,924
Alozaina ▼	2,217	2,230	2,017
Alpandeire ▼	284	274	244
Antequera ▼	44,547	41,827	41,104
Árchez ▼	427	476	405
Archidona ▼	8,736	8,814	8,398
Ardales ▼	2,595	2,606	2,469
Arenas ▼	1,391	1,411	1,190
Arriate ▲	3,971	4,121	4,094
Atajate ▲	154	158	167
Benadalid ▼	255	262	223
Benahavis ▲	3,253	5,980	7,348
Benalauría ▼	466	511	449
Benalmádena ▲	52,217	65,965	68,859
Benamargosa ▼	1,631	1,634	1,532
Benamocarra ▼	3,007	3,089	2,988
Benaoján ▼	1,632	1,543	1,497
Benarrabá ▼	547	559	480
Borge, El ▼	1,041	1,026	940
Burgo, El ▼	2,034	1,957	1,848
Campillos ▲	8,330	8,663	8,547
C. Aceituno ▼	2,336	1,937	1,672
C. Albaida ▼	854	964	741
Cañete la Real ▼	2,052	1,901	1,674
Carratraca ▼	910	860	751
Cartajima ▼	255	251	244
Cártama ▲	18,865	23,664	25,317
Casabermeja ▲	3,421	3,686	3,442
Casarabonela ▼	2,769	2,726	2,550
Casares ▲	4,532	5,610	5,743
Coín ▲	20,870	21,791	21,562
Colmenar ▼	3,530	3,624	3,383
Comares ▼	1,568	1,638	1,315
Cómpeta ▲	3,712	3,861	3,847
Cortes Ftra. ▼	3,738	3,540	3,268
Cuevas Bajas ▼	1,441	1,494	1,416
C. Becerro ▼	4,048	4,043	3,722
C. San Marcos ▼	1,847	1,747	1,608
Cútar ▼	649	668	597
Estepona ▲	60,328	67,101	66,863
Faraján ▼	308	287	248

Municipality	2007	2012	2017
Frigiliana ▲	2,834	3,360	3,066
Fuengirola ▲	65,421	75,953	74,929
F. de Piedra ▲	2,341	2,758	2,507
Gaucín ▼	1,946	1,727	1,588
Genalguacil ▼	537	522	405
Guaro ▼	2,273	2,289	2,087
Humilladero ▲	3,104	3,383	3,292
Igualeja ▼	1,012	871	778
Istán ▼	1,437	1,533	1,432
Iznate ▼	889	951	856
J. de Líbar ▼	470	463	396
Jubrique ▼	796	739	589
Júzcar ▲	201	243	226
Macharaviaya ▼	496	504	448
Malaga ▲	561,250	567,433	569,002
Manilva ▲	12,249	14,391	14,589
Marbella ▲	126,422	140,473	141,172
Mijas ▲	64,288	82,124	77,151
Moclinejo ▼	1,245	1,295	1,204
Mollina ▲	4,645	5,239	4,924
Monda ▲	2,258	2,523	2,475
Montecorto			630
Montejaque ▲	995	1,017	997
Nerja ▲	20,796	22,617	21,047
Ojén ▲	2,528	3,451	3,517
Parauta ▼	252	242	209
Periana ▼	3,525	3,560	3,124
Pizarra ▲	8,129	9,269	9,073
Pujerra ▼	328	326	307
Rincón V. ▲	35,714	41,216	45,138
Riogordo ▼	3,052	3,107	2,715
Ronda ▼	36,122	36,698	34,268
Salares ▼	228	236	175
Sayalonga ▲	1,490	1,564	1,579
Sedella ▼	688	716	634
Serrato			494
S. de Yeguas ▼	3,487	3,517	3,363
Teba ▼	4,253	4,128	3,847
Tolox ▼	2,349	2,317	2,062
Torremolinos ▲	60,010	68,961	67,701
Torrox ▼	15,616	18,274	15,371
Totalán ▲	704	746	710
V. Abdalajís ▼	2,983	2,716	2,577
Vélez-Malaga ▲	69,604	78,467	79,878
Vva. Algaidas ▼	4,503	4,485	4,238
Vva. Concep. ▼		3,465	3,290
Vva. Rosario ▼	1,669	1,629	1,523
Vva. Tapia ▼	3,547	3,641	3,383
Vva. Trabuco ▲	5,306	5,482	5,327
Viñuela, La ▲	1,881	2,040	2,045
Yunquera ▼	3,271	3,139	2,926
<b>TOTAL ▲</b>	<b>1,517,523</b>	<b>1,641,098</b>	<b>1,630,615</b>

Source: National Institute of Statistics

Marbella gains 5,000 new foreign residents in 2017

While the figures released by the National Statistics Institute (INE) last week, and reflected on this page, show a modest increase in the inhabitants of Marbella in the

year up to 1 January 2017 (428), more recent statistics from the town hall's 'padrón' department show that the population grew by 6,000 during 2017 to 147,248. Of those 6,000 new names, nearly 5,000 are not Spanish.

The number of foreign residents on the local census went up from 32,810 to 37,710 between 1

January 2017 and the same date in 2018, meaning that a quarter of the local registered population is now foreign. The real figure is expected to be higher however, as not all residents join the census.

Of the total registered foreigners, four nationalities make up nearly half: British, Russian, Moroccan and Ukrainian.

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# Investigation continues after two die in mass brawl between rival clans in Coín

Three arrests have been made in connection with the deaths of two men in the violent fight between two rival families in the Fuensanta area on Thursday last week

by J. CANO / F. TORRES

**COÍN.** A mass brawl broke out on the afternoon of Thursday last week between two rival gypsy families, known as 'Los Mudos' and 'Los Franceses', in the neighbourhood of Fuensanta in Coín. Two men from 'Los Mudos', aged 63 and 50, were killed, while another two, both from separate clans, remain in hospital receiving treatment for knife wounds. They are both expected to make a full recovery.

Witnesses of the "horrific" fight say it broke out when some senior members of 'Los Mudos' began reprimanding some younger 'Franceses' for making too much noise at siesta time. Despite the seemingly trivial nature of this confrontation, minutes later a mass brawl broke out which involved over 20 people.

Witnesses saw the use of knives



Thirty Guardia Civil officers were deployed in the area. :: SUR



The two coffins at the funeral on Sunday. :: SUR

and bats, with some claiming to have seen guns, although these were not used. Locals say the two clans have a history of conflict with one another.

Local evangelical pastor, Bernabé Hernández, said, "The fight was meant to be trivial, one of the 'múos' [member of 'Los Mudos'] was out of line and began insulting people. He insulted one of the kids and they killed him. Things got heated, there was lots of pain and rage." The fight left four cars and one house in the area damaged, and several refuse containers were set on fire.

After numerous 112 calls from local people, some 30 Guardia Civil officers were deployed to the area to ensure no more fights broke out.

Since then, three people have been arrested in connection with the deaths; two have been remanded in custody and denied bail and the third, a minor, was referred to the juvenile prosecution service. The Guardia Civil are continuing with their investigation and have not ruled out further arrests.

On Sunday, residents of Coín gathered to say goodbye to the two men who died during the brawl. The funeral went ahead without incident.

## 112 REPORTS

### British fugitive tracked down living in Alhaurín el Grande

#### ALHAURÍN EL GRANDE

by F. TORRES. Guardia Civil officers in Alhaurín el Grande have arrested a 75-year-old British man who was wanted by the UK authorities under an international arrest warrant. The man, who was apparently living a normal life in a country house near the town, is required to serve a prison sentence of five years and nine months having been convicted of a drug trafficking offence in the UK. The arrest was made in collaboration with the UK's National Crime Agency. The fugitive was put into the custody of a Madrid court.

### Calls for 17 years jail for man 'who tried to throw officer off a bridge'

#### MÁLAGA

by A. FRÍAS. Prosecutors in Málaga have called for a man who allegedly attempted to throw a police officer from a bridge in the city to be given 17 years in prison. The events took place in July 2016. One officer was on his way home from work when the accused, who recognised him from previous incidents, hit him in the mouth with a beer bottle causing cuts to the face. A second officer, who was passing on a motorcycle, chased the assailant and attempted to detain him but suffered blows and bites, before the man dragged him to the railings and attempted to throw him off the bridge.

# Search stepped up for missing British woman

Rebecca Muldoon, 35, disappeared on 2 January in Marbella. A neighbour called the police to report that her children were at home alone

by J. C. / T. B. / M. P.

**MARBELLA.** National Police stepped up the search on Thursday for a British mother-of-two who went missing from her Marbella home more than a week ago.

Rebecca Muldoon, originally from Southend, Essex, vanished from her home on 2 January. The 35-year-old,

who had been living with her partner and two children on the Costa del Sol for the past year, failed to appear in court to confirm her reports of domestic abuse she had suffered at the hands of her partner. Following her allegations her partner was arrested and he was still in police custody when Rebecca went missing.

On Thursday around 50 people from the local police, fire and Protección Civil services were involved in the search, coordinated from a temporary command station in the Camino del Pilar area.

The authorities were first alerted when a neighbour contacted police claiming that Rebecca's children,



Rebecca Muldoon. :: SUR

aged eight and eleven, had been left alone in the family home. Rebecca's relatives in the UK immediately flew to Málaga to take care of them.

A friend of Rebecca's has appealed for information on her whereabouts in a social media campaign, saying: "Rebecca has been missing for a week. She has no money, passport or clothes and her phone is switched off."

The woman's sister had also reported her disappearance to British police who are now collaborating with their Spanish counterparts in the investigation.

National Police have appealed for any member of the public with information to contact them on 091.

### Man sentenced for attempting to kill a woman in Fuengirola

#### FUENGIROLA

by I. GELIBTER. The Málaga provincial court has sentenced a man to seven years in prison for trying to kill a woman due to an "unrequited love that had become an obsession", according to prosecutors. The attack occurred in September 2015 when the man approached the victim in the street in Fuengirola with a knife and stabbed her several times. He has also been ordered to pay the woman 28,000 euros in damages.

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# Last detained immigrants leave Archidona's prison building

Campaigners are relieved by the move after news that three people held there self-harmed recently in addition to the man who committed suicide

:: FERNANDO TORRES

**ARCHIDONA.** The last illegal immigrants held in Archidona's unopened prison complex left on Wednesday.

The remaining 67 Algerians there were taken to the government's official immigrant centres, meaning the interior ministry fulfilled its promise to only use the Archidona building in inland Malaga province



A file photo showing one of the first buses arriving in November. :: F.T.

until the start of January.

Last November over 500 illegal immigrants who had arrived in Spain from Algeria were taken to the new, unused Archidona prison building as the government's other, official detention centres were full.

The move sparked a wave of protests over the supposedly inappropriate use of the prison for migrants that came to a head recently with the suicide of one of the immigrants and increasing violence among those held inside.

Although the government has always maintained that the conditions were the same as its normal centres, news also emerged this week that three held inside had tried to self harm and sources said that the recent incidents made officials keen to speed up the plan to empty out the building.

Opposition parties and campaign groups welcomed the last departures as experts visited the building to assess the repairs necessary after its temporary use.

## Torremolinos and Benalmádena still haven't agreed on La Leala bridge link plan and financing

:: ALBERTO GÓMEZ

**TORREMOLINOS.** The mayors of the neighbouring municipalities of Torremolinos and Benalmádena still haven't made progress on the plans for a new bridge over the El Saltillo stream bed in the La Leala area. The bridge would link this part of the two districts and stop local traffic having to make a detour along busy main roads. Although both mayors promised the bridge in their 2015 election campaigns, Torremolinos says that it cannot pay its half as it has other investment priorities at the moment. So far not even the plan has been drawn up.

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## Fuengirola to spend a million euros putting rubbish containers underground

:: IVAN GELIBTER

**FUENGIROLA.** Over 80 rubbish containers on the streets of Fuengirola are to be put inside 23 specially built underground units. Fuengirola council says it is to spend a million euros, taken from an underspend on its 2016 budget, "with the aim of improving the look and feel" of the town's streets.

The tender document was published in December and, once a contractor is approved, the work should be finished within five months. The containers being replaced with underground depositories to collect organic waste, paper and cardboard, glass and plastic are located in different parts of the municipality.



## SUR PRESENTED WITH FOREIGN RESIDENTS PRIZE

Héctor Barbotta (l) from SUR's Marbella office collected an award this week from the Andalusian foreign residents association (FRAA) for the newspaper group's work integrating foreign communities through its editions in English, German and Russian. Pictured next to Héctor is Jolanta Jarczewska from the association and the prize, which is a painting of oranges wrapped in a SUR newspaper.

## HERE AND THERE

### Ryanair implements new baggage policy

MALAGA

:: M.B. Ryanair's new baggage policy is due to be introduced on 15 January. The changes mean that passengers will only be able to bring one handbag or laptop bag on board with them. Any bigger cases, which were previously included in the cabin bag allowance, will be taken at the gate and placed in the hold. This means that passengers may have to endure long waits at the baggage carousel at the arrival airport. If willing, passengers can pay extra for 'Priority & 2 cabin bags' to take a normal cabin bag on board.



The current bridge. :: GOOGLE

### Road bridge over A-7 in Las Lagunas planned

MIJAS

:: I. G. Mijas council has carried out a feasibility study into swapping the pedestrian bridge that runs over the A-7 linking the two sides of Las Lagunas for a road bridge. It says that the increasing population in the area means driving around the Las Lagunas district of Mijas Costa, which is divided by the motorway, has become harder and this is a possible solution. If it gets permission from government it hopes to include the scheme in its 2019 budget. The pedestrian bridge is well-known to A-7 motorists for its 'You are in Las Lagunas' painted sign.

### Street lights put up on Camino de Campanales

MIJAS

:: IVÁN GELIBTER. After years of complaints from local residents, Mijas council has announced that it has finished putting up 20 street-lighting columns along the previously unlit Camino de Campanales, between the Fuengirola-Mijas road and Avenida de Mijas in Las Lagunas.

Work has been going on for the last two months to install the new LED lighting. As well as meeting locals' demands for improvements, "we continue looking after the environment", said a spokesperson.



## HERE AND THERE

**Date set for illegal houses to be torn down****VÉLEZ-MÁLAGA**

:: E.C. / J.R. Vélez-Málaga town hall has confirmed that two houses built on land not intended for development in the Mano Hierro area near Los Puertos, a hamlet belonging to Vélez-Málaga, will be demolished on Monday 15 January. The decision is based on a 2012 court sentence which found the owners guilty of urban

planning offences as the two houses had been built illegally and without a licence.

A final attempt was made by the owners of the houses on 29 December to stop demolition when they submitted a request for the properties be registered as Asimilado Fuera de Ordenación (AFO), which recognises illegal houses built on non-urban land as semi legal and provides them with limited rights as well as prevents them from being demolished.

**Nerja is in top 10 global emerging destinations list****NERJA**

:: E.C. / J.R. Nerja has been ranked number nine on a list of the top 10 emerging worldwide destinations by travel website, Tripadvisor. The island of Ishigaki in Japan claimed the top spot on the Travellers' Choice list. Nerja is the only listed destination in Spain and just one of four chosen hot spots in the whole of Europe, along with Gdansk in Poland, Riga in Latvia and Rovinj in Croatia.



Tripadvisor ranks Nerja top. :: SUR.

**Agreement reached over convent purchase price****VÉLEZ-MÁLAGA**

:: A. P. Mayor of Vélez-Málaga, Antonio Moreno, announced on Tuesday that a purchase price agreement of 800,000 euros has been reached with Unicaja to buy Las Claras. The final decision now lies with the Junta de Andalucía as to whether the town hall will be able to buy the former convent. The council and local cultural society would like to see the space used as a cultural centre.

**Sewage spills blamed on heavy rain and unfinished treatment plant**

A court has ordered the Guardia Civil to investigate the source of effluent leaks this week in Nerja at the mouth of the Chillar and Playa Burriana

**:: EUGENIO CABEZAS**

**NERJA.** A court has asked the Guardia Civil's environmental unit to investigate the source of effluent leaks around Nerja town centre this week. On Tuesday sewage was spotted spilling into the mouth of the Chillar river, at El Chuchito and El Playazo beaches to the west of town, and on Wednesday more effluent was reported on Burriana beach.

According to the councillor responsible for water management and infrastructure, José María Rivas, the spillage on Tuesday was caused by an electrical fault at the Calle Mérida pump which is connected to the pipes that flow into the Chillar river and the sea.

Rivas explained that this "can happen during heavy rainfall or storms". However, he added that the problem was "resolved within 15 minutes" of the town hall being alerted to the problem. Rivas admitted that the lack of a waste water treatment plant in Nerja "complicated the situation".

On Wednesday Malaga MP for the PSOE party, Miguel Ángel Heredia, visited Nerja and joined the town's PSOE mayor, Rosa Arabal, in calling upon national gov-



Image of untreated sewage on Playa Burriana on Wednesday. :: E. C.

**Nerja's councillor for water and infrastructure, José María Rivas, admitted that delays to the waste water treatment plant did not help the situation**

ernment to allow work to restart on the waste water treatment plant, which has been stopped for over eight months.

On the same day neighbours reported more waste water at Burri-

ana beach, but the reason for the leak wasn't immediately clear.

Rivas said on Tuesday that "while we don't have a treatment plant this kind of situation is what we have to deal with".

Work was halted when the company responsible for carrying out the project, Isolux-Corsán-Corviam, went into receivership last July. 76 per cent of the work has been carried out, including connecting pipes to pumping stations. However, the main site as well as the pumping station near Burriana beach remain unfinished.

The tripartite leadership at Nerja town hall announced last week that if there was no news on progress by the end of January a series of protests would be organised.

**"We want to find our grandfather's remains and stop travelling to Rute"**

A group based in Rute has asked the Junta de Andalucía for permission to exhume the bodies of communists buried in the town's common grave

**:: EUGENIO CABEZAS**

**NERJA.** The grandchildren of a communist fighter who fought against Franco during Spain's civil war are hoping to bring their grandfather's remains back to Nerja.

María Luisa Sánchez and her cousin Carmen, two of José Centurión Jiménez's six living grandchildren, are part of a collective based in Rute, Cordoba, where Centurión

is buried in a common grave along with other guerilla fighters. The group has recently asked the Junta de Andalucía for permission to exhume the bodies of communist soldiers buried in the cemetery.

Every 1 November, All Saints' Day, the cousins travel to Rute to lay flowers on the grave. "For us it would be a great joy to be able to bury him with dignity alongside our grandmother and not have to travel to Rute every 1 November," explained María Luisa.

Centurión was assassinated by the Guardia Civil on 22 June 1950 after fleeing Nerja when he heard that they were looking for him. He got as far as Rute where he was eventually captured.



María Luisa and Carmen, two of Centurión's granddaughters. :: SUR

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## HERE AND THERE

**Calle Larios will remain a sight to behold until the end of Carnival****MÁLAGA**

✪ **JUAN SOTO** The enormous arc which has been suspended over calle Larios since the start of Christmas will remain in place for an extra month. The council has confirmed that the structure will be reused for the Carnival festivities, but the cathedral windows will be replaced with masks. Other parts of the city are expected to keep their lights for the carnival processions, which are due to take place between 3 and 11 February.

**Seven thousand euros for Butterfly Skin****MÁLAGA**

✪ **SUR.** The Debra Butterfly Skin Association raised 7,040 euros during their 2017 Christmas campaign. Volunteers from the charity wrapped presents in the FNAC shop in the La Cañada shopping centre to raise money. "The saying 'strength in numbers' has never been truer," said the charity. "Four years ago the association and FNAC decided to join forces, both companies agree that Christmas comes not just in the form of presents, but in the form of support."



The official visit to the new visitor centre. ✪ **SUR**

**Caminito del Rey visitor centre complete**

The new space, which will help the 300,000 annual visitors, will open in Easter

**✪ FERNANDO TORRES**

**ARDALES.** The new visitor centre at the Caminito del Rey gorgeside walk is nearly ready to open. The work, which cost the local government around one million euros, was completed this week.

Several officials visited the new building on Wednesday, including

the president of the provincial government, Elías Bendodo, and mayors and councillors from Ardales, Álora, Antequera and Pízarra, as well as the central government representative for the area.

Bendodo spoke of the value of this building which will "help and inform" the 300,000 people who visit the Caminito every year.

The visitor centre has information screens, attention desks, and spaces where images can be projected. There will also be a car park with space for 200 cars.

**Redevelopment of central Torremolinos gets under way****✪ TONY BRYANT**

**TORREMOLINOS.** Torremolinos town hall has begun work on the pedestrianisation of the Plaza Costa del Sol and the centre of Torremolinos. The work will be carried out in two phases. The first phase - due to be finished by May - will focus on the renovation and expansion of infrastructure and utility networks. The second phase, which should be complete by the end of the year, will see the installation of a central pergola and the complete transformation of the Plaza Costa del Sol.

The project covers an area of over 10,000 square metres. Work

has begun in the Avenida Palma de Mallorca and will progress towards the Plaza Costa del Sol, creating a grand central boulevard.

Although the alterations will cause some disruptions in the town, the work will not obstruct access to local businesses.

In conjunction with the transformation of the town centre, renovation work has also begun on the Cuesta del Tajo and Calle Peligro, the streets that link Torremolinos with the Bajondillo beach.

This work is due to be complete before the summer season gets under way.



Work on the new central boulevard began this week. ✪ **SUR**



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# "Now that negotiations are moving on there is a danger that citizens' rights will be sidelined"

**Roger Boaden** *Cofounder, ECREU*



**JENNIE RHODES**

✉ rhodes\_jennie@hotmail.com

With just over a year until 'Brexit Day' there is still a lot of uncertainty over citizens' rights, especially for those of working age with UK qualifications

**MALAGA.** Roger Boaden is a co-founder of ECREU, a France-based citizens group which is championing the rights of British citizens abroad with regard to Brexit negotiations. ECREU belongs to British in Europe (BiE) - the umbrella group set up by Jane Golding, a British lawyer living in Germany, of which Bremain in Spain is also a member.

For 30 years Roger worked for former UK prime ministers Ted Heath and then Margaret Thatcher as their election campaigns manager and was the Conservative

Party European elections officer for the first direct elections to the European Parliament in 1979.

Despite saying that he is "critical" of some aspects of the EU, Roger considers himself "European." He says he is "of the generation who helped to reconcile differences" with Germans following World War Two and spent time in Germany before the Berlin wall was built as well as while it was still standing.

He moved to France with his wife 15 years ago and is considering moving to Spain. However, with uncertainty over rights post Brexit, a move from one EU country to another looks set to be complicated by the British government's plans for EU citizens living in the UK having to apply for 'settled status.'

**—We first (and last) spoke shortly after the referendum when citizens' groups were starting to mobilise. What has happened since then?**

—ECREU, along with other groups like Bremain in Spain have joined forces and now belong to the umbrella group, British in Europe. I am on the BiE steering committee and we have managed to meet regularly with European politi-



Roger Boaden. :: SUR

**"Michel Barnier told us his 'door is always open'. We haven't been able to get a meeting with David Davis"**

**"The next round of negotiations are going to be crucial in terms of recognition of qualifications and the self-employed"**

cians, including Michel Barnier, who told us that his "door is always open." Unfortunately we haven't been able to get a meeting with David Davis and have only been able to speak to junior ministers and civil servants.

**—We have been told that our rights as UK citizens living in the EU will be protected post Brexit. Does this give us some sense of hope?**

—There has been some progress, yes, particularly in terms of health care and pensions for those who are already retired. But figures show that over 70 per cent of UK citizens living in the EU are still working and the next round of negotiations, on trade, are going to be crucial in terms of recognition of qualifications and those who are self-employed. There is still a great deal of uncertainty.

**—You mentioned that you and your wife are considering moving to Spain.**

—Yes, we're 50/50 over the decision. As EU citizens we currently enjoy freedom of movement and the right to live where we want in the EU. However, with the potential for bilateral agreements between the UK and individual governments after Brexit, because of the UK's 'settled status' programme, it could well be a lot more difficult to move from one EU country to another. We could become landlocked. We'd have the right to reside in the country we're already living in, but moving to another could be very complicated.

**—With just over a year to go until 'Brexit Day' what are BiE's priorities?**

—To keep campaigning. Now that the negotiations are moving to trade there is a danger that citizens' rights will be sidelined and we can't allow that to happen.

## Malaga Education Week highlights the city's importance as a global educator

:: SUR

**MALAGA.** Malaga has become a centre for intercultural exchange and language learning with the arrival of Malaga Education Week, which began on Tuesday and runs until Sunday. This innovative initiative includes three events centred around learning Spanish as a foreign language.

The week has been attended by over 500 experts in language tourism, including teachers, academics, and international educators.

Malaga has for a long time played a pioneering role in teaching Spanish to foreign visitors. It launched its first language school in 1947, and the province now has 23 centres accredited by the Cervantes Institute. The language tourism sector is very important for the local economy, having attracted 60,000 visitors in 2016 alone.



The mayor and organiser. :: F.A.

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## IN BRIEF

**Referendum play to be performed this month****GIBRALTAR**

**D.B.** A play which was written to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the 1967 sovereignty referendum will be performed at the John Mackintosh Hall from 18 to 20 January.

'The Winds of Change' is based on the decade leading up to the 1967 Referendum. It was co-written by Jackie Villa and Andrew Dark, has a

cast of over 30 and was written specifically for the Referendum's 50th anniversary.

Deputy chief minister Dr Joseph Garcia, who coordinated the recent referendum anniversary events said he was delighted with the idea of this play and hoped everyone who lived through the tumultuous events of the 1960s in Gibraltar will come to see it.

Tickets cost £12 on Thursday and Friday and £14 for the gala night on Saturday.



Last year was the 50th anniversary of the first referendum. :: SUR

**'Rock Fashion Rocks!' exhibition coming soon****GIBRALTAR**

**:: D.B.** A major fashion exhibition is being held to celebrate the history and development of fashion design in Gibraltar. The exhibits will include several pieces by two pioneering designers, the late Johnny Pearce and Eduardo Viotto and photos, sketches and videos loaned from private collections. It will be at the Gustavo Barcaris Gallery from 31 January to 17 February.

## Dates announced and tickets on sale for this year's MTV Gibraltar Calling music festival

The mega music event is taking place slightly later in September as the Victoria stadium will be hosting FIFA matches earlier that month

**:: DEBBIE BARTLETT**

**GIBRALTAR.** This year's music festival, MTV Gibraltar Calling 2018, will take place on Friday 21 and Saturday 22 September at the Victoria Stadium. This mega music festival is normally earlier in September, but has been put back slightly because Gibraltar will be hosting FIFA matches at the stadium.

The festival normally takes place on Saturday and Sunday, but this year that has been changed to allow staff, volunteers and the audience to have a day to rest on the Sunday before returning to work on Monday. Anyone who has attended a previous festival will know that it is an amazing, but exhausting experience. As the Minister for Culture, Steven Linares, said this week: "Brace yourselves for a fantastic



Ricky Martin at last year's festival. :: D. PARODY

event!"

The first tickets went on sale yesterday, 11 January and those booking early can benefit from special 'Early Bird' prices at [www.gibraltar-calling.com](http://www.gibraltar-calling.com): A two-day general ticket costs £89, a one day general ticket is £75 and the VIP versions are £359 and £320 respectively. Children aged 12 and under (on 22 September)

can go free of charge as long as they are accompanied by an adult ticket-holder and are in possession of a free ticket themselves.

In the next few months there will be regular announcements about the performers at the festival, but as usual there will be global superstars as well as the chance to enjoy local bands and artists.



HMS Sutherland. :: SUR

## HMS Sutherland will be in Gibraltar today

The Type 23 anti-submarine warfare vessel is en route to Australia, the Far East and the Gulf region for exercises

**:: D. BARTLETT**

**GIBRALTAR.** A Royal Navy vessel is due to arrive in Gibraltar today, Friday 12 January for a short logistical stop.

HMS Sutherland, which is affectionately known as 'The Fighting Clan', is a Type 23 anti-subma-

rine warfare frigate. She left the UK earlier this week and will be away for seven months, conducting operations and exercises with a wide range of allies and partners.

The ship was the 13th of the 16 Type 23 frigates to be built, and she was launched in 1996 at the Yarrow shipyard (now BAE) on the Clyde. HMS Sutherland's home port is now Devonport, in Plymouth.

When she leaves Gibraltar, she will travel on deployment to Australia, the Far East and the Gulf region. Her captain is Commander Andrew Canale.

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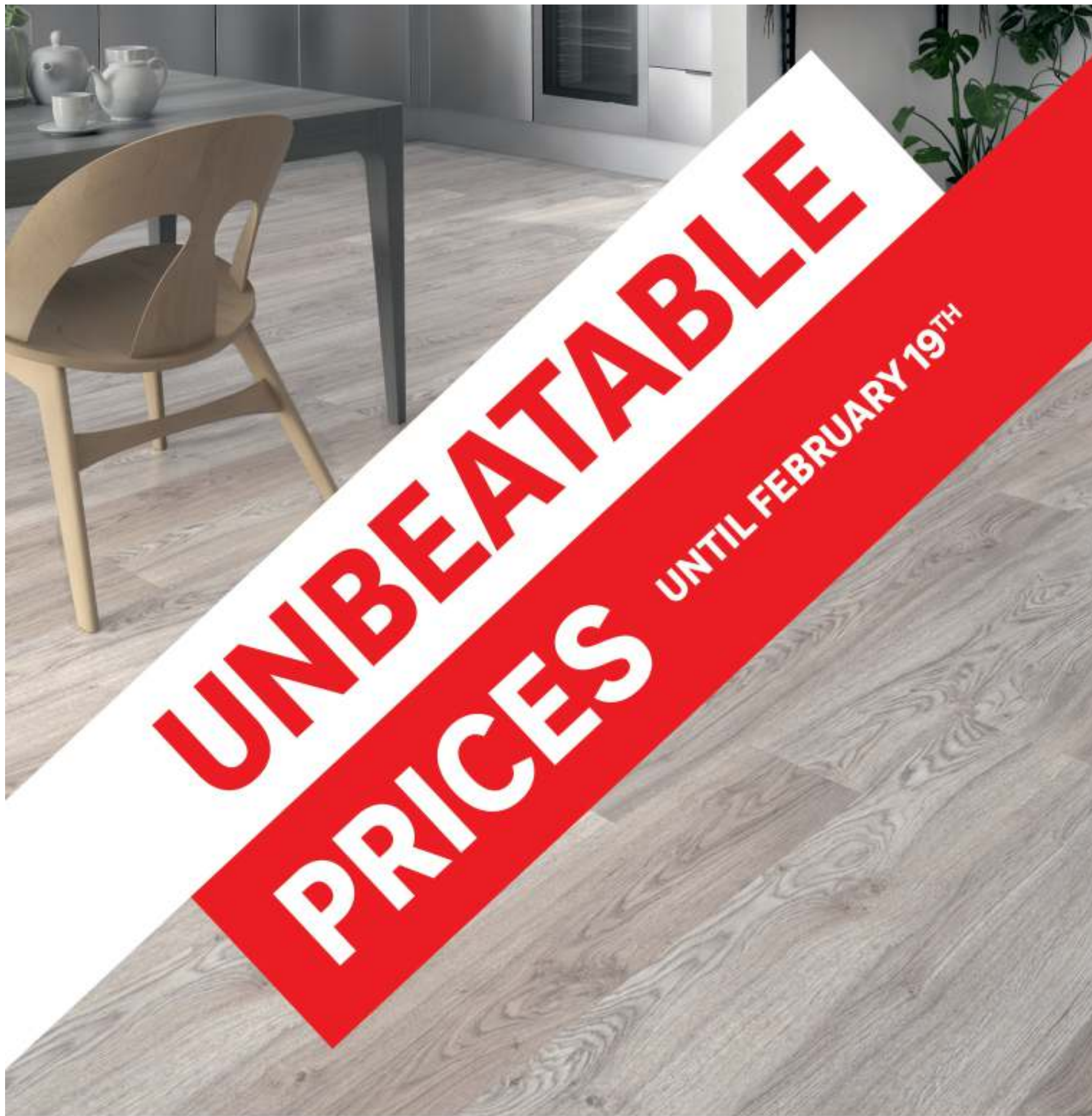
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Beamed in from Brussels - Puigdemont during recent elections. :: AFP

## Catalan separatists consider choosing a president via Skype

Carles Puigdemont, possible main candidate to be regional government leader, is in Belgium and will be arrested if he returns to Spain

:: SUR

**BARCELONA.** The pro-independence political parties, who hold a majority in the soon-to-be-convened Catalan parliament, are discussing

between themselves whether to remotely invest the new president of the regional government.

The former president, Carles Puigdemont, is leader of Junts per Catalunya, the biggest separatist party after December's election, but he is still in Belgium along with five of his ex-ministers. If they return to Spain they face certain arrest over the investigation into the illegal declaration of independence last autumn.

His party and second place ERC are checking the legality of Puigdemont reading out an investiture

speech from Belgium via a video conference link such as Skype ahead of a majority of regional MPs voting him in. It isn't clear if Puigdemont would then return to be arrested or a day-to-day stand-in would be appointed while he stayed away.

Another controversial scenario

debated is that Oriol Junqueras, leader of ERC, the second largest secessionist party, is sworn in, but he is held in jail and, if let out, would only be able to attend votes.

A further option being considered, and favoured by those against more confrontation with Madrid, is that the five MPs in Belgium, including

Puigdemont, and the three in jail in Madrid step aside from their seats and allow other candidates lower down December's electoral list to take their place as regional MPs.

Next Wednesday, 17 January the regional parliament meets for the first session in the process of deciding a new president and government.



## TRIBUTE TO KING JUAN CARLOS ON HIS 80TH BIRTHDAY

King Emeritus Juan Carlos, who abdicated in favour of his son Felipe in 2014, celebrated his eightieth birthday on 5 January. The following day the annual new-year ceremony in honour of the country's armed forces was held at Madrid's royal palace and the present king paid tribute to his father in his speech.

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## Man declared dead in suicide wakes up on the autopsy table in morgue

An investigation has been launched after three doctors confirmed that the 29-year-old was deceased

■ OLAYA SUÁREZ

**OVIEDO.** An inquiry has been launched in Asturias, northern Spain, after a 29-year-old prisoner, who had been declared dead after apparently committing suicide, woke up naked on the autopsy table in a morgue.

According to the man's family, he had taken an overdose in his cell and two prison doctors had declared him dead. A third doctor confirmed that he was legally deceased.

It was several hours by the time the man started to stir when an autopsy was about to begin. "First he started to snore then he opened his eyes," reported his family. "When he woke up the first thing he asked for was a cigarette then something to eat," they added.

The prison service has said the doctors had all acted correctly but has promised to investigate.

## Preliminary autopsy says Diana Quer was strangled

■ SUR

**MADRID.** The preliminary autopsy on the body of Diana Quer, the 18-year-old woman who went missing in August 2016 in Galicia, has shown that she was strangled.

Diana's body was found on New Year's Eve in Rianxo, around fifteen kilometres from where she is believed to have been abducted.

Police were led to her body by 41-year-old José Enrique Abuín Gey, who was arrested on Christmas Day and admitted her killing to police, saying it was a traffic accident.

Abuín, known as 'El Chicle', was moved to another prison this week over fears of attacks from other inmates.

Diana was buried in Madrid on Thursday.

THE EURO ZONE  
MARK NAYLER

## ANYONE'S GUESS



**J**ust how concerned is the Spanish government about the potential cost of the Catalonia crisis to the rest of the country? One week it seems to be very worried indeed, yet the next it appears to shrug off the dangers, and nowhere is this more evident than in the statements of Spanish economy minister Luis de Guindos.

Last week saw De Guindos fretting that the ongoing problems in the north-easterly region had already cost Spain one billion euros. Yet this Tuesday, the minister sent out a rather different message when he upped the government's forecast for Spain's GDP expansion in 2018.

"The scenario [for this year]," a suddenly-optimistic De Guindos said at an investors' conference earlier this week, "is a growth rate clearly above 2.5%." Previously, that estimate was at 2.3%.

I've written in this column time and again that, macroeconomically, Spain is indifferent to the games of its politicians: this was proved when the country went for ten months without a government in 2016 yet still posted solid GDP growth that year. What's interesting here is what De Guindos is thinking and the messages he's sending out. And the conclusion we're left with is that he thinks the Spanish economy can lose a billion euros, no problem, and still smash the government's growth targets.

When De Guindos estimated that the Catalonia farce had already cost Spain a billion euros, it seemed he was also worried about further damage to the country's GDP - and rightly: the issue is far from resolved. A week on, and this is still the case. Pro-independence parties won a parliamentary majority in the Catalan elections on December 21st last year, and this

week they have agreed to try and restore the former regional president, Carles Puigdemont, to power. There's just one problem with that plan, though: Puigdemont is in voluntary exile in Belgium and will be arrested if he sets foot in Spain.

Bizarrely and hilariously, Puigdemont is said to be proposing governing Catalonia from Brussels via video-call. Accordingly, legal experts are now pouring over the rules of the regional parliament to see if this is allowed for. Inés Arrimadas, leader of the anti-independence party Ciudadanos in Catalonia, summed up the absurdity of this proposal by saying that Puigdemont "cannot be president by hologram". Perhaps she begs the question, though, because there seem to be no limits to how surreal the Catalonia situation can become.

So there is a possibility, no matter how strange, that the Spanish government's nemesis is about to become leader of Catalonia again. And to reflect that fact, Luis de Guindos ups this year's economic forecast for Spain.

Perhaps, if a hologrammed Puigdemont is elected to lead Catalonia for a second time - governing via Skype and Whatsapp - the Spanish economy minister will increase his growth estimate yet again.

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# Former IMF head denies blame for the near-collapse of Bankia

The ex-president of the bank was in combative mood before a committee of MPs investigating the cause of the financial crisis

■ SUR

**MADRID.** The ex-president of Bankia, Rodrigo Rato, who was also once a government minister and head of the International Monetary Fund, appeared before a committee of MPs this week to explain his role in the crisis at the bank in 2012.

After a controversial flotation on the stock market and the pressure of the declining economy, the bank was rescued in 2012 with the help of the EU.

Making his eagerly awaited appearance on Tuesday, Rato was in combative mood, saying that it was the government that had driven Bankia to nationalisation.

Rato suggested that the regulator, the Bank of Spain, had been kept out of discussions with Bankia's competitors leading up to the bailout, saying that he believed the meetings had "been hidden".

He went on to say that the shares



Rodrigo Rato before the parliamentary committee. ■ REUTERS

of Bankia only collapsed in 2012 after finance minister, Luis de Guindos, forced him from his job as head of the bank.

Rato added that he was only accountable for the 4.6-billion-euro bailout initially requested to recapitalise and not the 19 billion euros

that his successor went on to ask for.

De Guindos said on Tuesday that Bankia was now "well managed" and away from "political interference".

Rato is also waiting to hear a Supreme Court decision over his alleged involvement in fraud at Bankia.

## NH hotels rejects merger offer from Barceló for being too low

■ SUR

**MADRID.** The board of NH hotels has unanimously turned down a merger offer with the rival Barceló group.

In a statement it said that the amount Barceló proposed "in no way reflected the true value of the company".

In November Barceló made an

offer to NH to merge the two Spanish hotel giants which valued NH at 2.48 billion euros.

The NH board also said that Barceló's offer hadn't taken into account the value of its property portfolio in urban areas across Spain and the efficiency of its operation.

It went on to state its confi-

dence in its current strategic plan, solid growth and debt reduction.

Barceló replied to the rejection saying it was disappointed that NH had not agreed to create a leading European hotel chain and that it would "forget about the subject".

At the time of the offer in November analysts had said it was possibly a good strategic option for both companies, as NH is focused on urban hotels and the business market and Barceló more on the leisure market and resort hotels.

THE BIGGER PICTURE  
JEREMY BLATCH

✉ jb@ehh.gi

## SOUND MONEY AND WHY IT MATTERS



**T**he classic definition of 'money' has three features: (1) a medium of exchange; (2) a store of value; and (3) a unit of account. 'Sound money' is simply a medium of exchange, backed by an asset with an intrinsic value and not liable to sudden appreciation or depreciation.

Money is not a risk asset. It does not, in and of itself, have a yield feature. The yield comes, from placing a EUR in a bank deposit. However, from the moment you make the bank deposit, it is no longer your money; it becomes part of the bank's unsecured liabilities.

The difference between money and bank deposits was learned painfully in Cyprus and Greece, in 2013 and 2015. In Greece, banks and ATMs were closed by the government. In Cyprus, many depositors had cash on deposit forcibly converted to bank stock.

Money has taken many different forms through history; shells, beads, feathers, gold and paper. Gold has been used as money throughout civilisation due to its unique atomic structure, and it is ideally suited to be money. Gold is physical, not digital, money and is subject to less volatility than FIAT currencies. As such, gold provides an insurance against the risks to which digital currencies are exposed. Another form of digital currency is the EUR. We may carry some paper or coins, but most of our transactions are in fact by credit card or online.

The 20 EUR note in your pocket is a FIAT currency as it derives its buying power from FIAT (Latin for 'decree'), a government mandate.

No longer backed by the tangible asset of gold, its value rests on confidence in the government bestowing buying power. Confidence is fragile, difficult to earn and easy to lose. In 1971, when President Nixon announced by decree that the US paper currency was no longer redeemable in gold, the US Dollar became FIAT for the first time in its history and the US Government could print as much as it wanted. It printed 84Bn US Dollars a month for six years, following the financial crisis of 2008. It was not necessary to collateralise it with anything, other than confidence in the US government. Historically, however, large scale money printing has led to inflation (too many dollars chasing too few goods and services).

The international monetary system collapsed three times in the 20th century: in 1914, 1939 and 1971. It came close to collapse in 1998 and 2008. Today's international monetary system is largely based on confidence in the US Dollar. The monetary system fails every 30 years or so. The next collapse will be triggered by no confidence in the US Dollar as a store of value.

History teaches us that it's convenient for central banks to persuade people that money is unconnected to gold, so that they can print unlimited paper and devalue their debt. However, there is something to be learned from the fact that today, major developed central banks, together with Russia and China, are net buyers of gold. Gold is still, unquestionably underpinning the international monetary system and is sound money.



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

## Animal stories

Last week you ran sickening stories on the painful death of a German Shepherd and an exposé of cruel puppy factories.

So it was uplifting to read about Pepe the priest in Coín and his unwavering devotion to his goshawks.

For four years now, in one

of the most unlikely locations, a pair of sparrowhawks have taken up residence on the top floor balcony of my Fuengirola tower block, enjoying uninterrupted inland and coastal views.

You can't choose your neighbours but they seem to have chosen us.

**CHRIS DOVE**

BY EMAIL

Wheelchair access  
problems in  
Estepona

I read in your paper about all the flowers put in place in Estepona, which are very nice, mainly to impress tourism, a nice gesture.

But what about people in wheelchairs?

Why not place a sign entering Estepona saying We don't want people with/in wheelchairs?

The reason for me saying so is the following experience:

Going into the underground car park, I find no disabled parking space. So I park my car in two places to get my wife out of the car, and then the wheelchair. I walk to the elevator; this is not working today, as many other days. We go back to the car, but first pay for the visit to the car park. Then I go outside looking for a disabled parking space. There are only very few around and then there is either a normal car - without a disabled card - parked or a delivery van. I finally find one, unload again and then go into the PEDESTRIAN street. You may call it today RESTAURANT street. There are plenty tables on the street and it's very difficult to pass by. On top there are angry waiters and diners. You cannot get in many shops, so they lose business.

I suggest that the town hall urgently looks into this and creates more parking spaces. Also the police should check that cars parked there do have the disabled sticker displayed.

So I hope that maybe this letter will get some more

things done than just nice flower pots.

**AL JOHNSON**

BY EMAIL

Nonexistent  
progress on a railway  
line to Marbella

I read with interest your recent article concerning the lack of building and infrastructure projects in the province and in particular the inertia on the part of the authorities with regard to the coastal railway.

While the amount of 350,000 euros which was allocated in the 2017 state budget towards further studies is little more than a drop in the ocean, it is even less than the amount set aside in the previous year's budget.

Still to be decided is whether the line is to be a new one or an extension of the existing Malaga-Fuengirola line. I remember that in 2003 it was announced that the new line would follow the new AP-7 and be ready for the year 2012!

Admittedly a few years ago some plans were produced, setting out the layout and the location of the stations on the line, however progress is slow if not nonexistent. Comments some time ago that a large part of the line should be underground resulting in a huge escalation in the cost would suggest that the probability of the project ever coming to fruition may well already be buried along with the proposed underground line.

**PETER SANDERSON**

BY EMAIL

## Guilt-edged hoards

**PETER EDGERTON**

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**Y**ou can feel it in the air. The kind of guilt-fuelled manic activity that only this time of year can bring. Lots of people doing lots of stuff, although not necessarily with much focus or staying power. By the middle of February most of us will have settled back into our steady routines, puffing on fags, quaffing gallons of ale (but that's enough about me) and leaving gym treadmills silent and alone where they belong.

It's all good though because we need this little window of frenetic behaviour to psychologically purge ourselves of the excesses of the festive season - all those brussel sprout sandwiches and chocolate oranges with the pieces irreversibly stuck together don't make for an easy conscience. So, we swing uncontrollably from one extreme to another, secretly hoping for February to come along and place a soothing hand on

our collective fevered brow and whisper some words of reassurance.

"It's ok, your sins have all been forgiven. Now, put those jogging pants away and crack open a bottle of Glenfiddich."

The month of January and last year's unfinished projects is another moot point. Hipster coffee shops are currently crammed with people tapping at Mac Pro Book thingies while other bearded ones loaf around sketching pictures still just as poor as last year's. Meanwhile, in the throes of unbridled - if only temporary - enthusiasm, some will even insist on spending all of their savings on recording an Ed Sheeran cover version that only their mothers will ever hear.

Already this year I've witnessed various red-faced blokes yelling into mobile phones, overcome with an urgent need to get finished what, on 19 December, seemed like something which could easily be put off

for a few weeks. Not now though.

"No, no, no, no, no, - it simply has to be tomorrow! It's the middle of January already, man, and the foundations haven't even been laid. Good God, it's nearly 2019! We're all doomed, I tell you - doomed!"

A week before Christmas, in a fug of pre-holiday bonhomie and good will, he will have told the very same chap not to worry, they could look at it "after Christmas" which, of course, is well into January round these parts.

While there's something mildly entertaining about all of this, one can't help but feel a visceral urge to tap everybody on the shoulder and whisper softly in their ears.

"Sshhh, there, there - it'll all be fine. February's just around the corner and by the time it arrives all of this madness will be nothing but a distant memory. Do you fancy a wee nip of Glenfiddich in the meantime?"

## SANSÓN

New Year's  
resolutions

**JUNE RENDLE**

**B**arbara sighed and picked up her pen. Another January the first. Why did it seem important that she should try to make a new start, just because the year was beginning? But, she always had done, ever since she could remember. She cast her mind back, and smiled as she saw the little girl she used to be concentrating hard on making a list for herself. Sucking the end of her pencil she finally only made one entry of things to do to make life better next year. "Be nicer to Ellen." Was she? Nicer to Ellen? She struggles with her memory, but no Ellen jumps out to shriek "you were nicer to me, thank you!!"

Can it really be 2018? Where have all the years gone? It is ex-

traordinary how the older you get the faster the years fly by, although each day drags interminably. What is the point of making resolutions anyway? What can she possibly try to achieve that has become so unimportant that she has forgotten it, she achieved it years ago, or was so impossible to keep so why bother? And who is looking anyway? No-one gives a toss what she does anymore, as long as she doesn't do it in the street and frighten the horses.

She could join the throngs of anxious people who these days always join a gym or health club, at the beginning of January. They are so keen, especially after parting with a small fortune for a year's subscription, but come mid-February the initial

enthusiasm has waned, and traipsing along with other overweight and unhealthy people, to pound away on machines or join classes doing ridiculous exercises, has palled and all their good intentions have joined the wrapping from the Christmas presents, in the bottom of the wastepaper basket.

Making resolutions really implied that you had a future to look forward to. She knew that her future was all in the past. No longer did it matter if she lost a few pounds in weight, or 'strengthened her core' - whatever that was. Should she give up chocolate? Or her evening Scotch? What for? she asked herself. It was her little indulgence and she enjoyed it. Did no-one any harm.

She could vow to do more Charity work. Or to cancel her weekly maid and do her own housework. Or to read something 'worthy' instead of watching so much rubbish on television.

But she didn't think she would, she sighed. She had no-one to watch her trying and failing to keep her resolutions.

So she smiled, sipped her Scotch, and decided she wouldn't bother to make any.

**SUR English**

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IN THE FRAME

TONY BRYANT  
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# Novelising the fascinating history of Spain

Joan Fallon Novelist

**The Scottish author began her career as a writer soon after moving to Spain in 1998**

**N**umerous foreign writers over the centuries have been influenced by the mysterious seduction of southern Spain. Some, like Washington Irving, George Borrow and Richard Ford, based some of their most celebrated works on their travels in Andalucía. Still today, Andalucía continues to inspire others who find its history just perfect for the content of their novels and non-fictional works.

One such writer is expat novelist Joan Fallon, author of numerous books, some on a Spanish theme. Joan lives in Benjarafe with her husband, where she has become passionate about both the language and history of her adopted home. This passion is reflected in her writing. Many of her books are set in periods of recent history, such as the Spanish Civil War and the Second World War, and they are meticulously researched.

A member of the Society of Authors and the Alliance of Independent Authors, Joan's reading taste is eclectic and ranges from Turgenev and Stendhal to William Boyd and Hilary Mantel.

A natural storyteller, Joan's novels centre on a strong female character and explore the emotions and relationships of her protagonist.

Joan was born in Dumfries, Scotland, the only child of a Scottish mother and an Irish father. A former training and development consultant for Bucks County Council, Joan was educated at Felixstowe Grammar School and



Joan is passionate about Spain and its history. :: SUR

## Intrigued by the events of February 1937 in Malaga

:: TONY BRYANT

**MALAGA.** It was while working on an oral history on women in contemporary Spain that one of Joan's interviewees started to tell her about the massacre on the Malaga-Almeria road in February 1937, the subject of one of her books.

The woman's own father had been caught up in the events and Joan was so intrigued by what

she had to say, she suspended the research on the book she was writing and devoted herself to telling this tragic story.

The historical details in Spanish Lavender were carefully researched, even down to the state of the weather that month.

"I have tried to give an accurate picture of the events of February 1937 in Malaga," Joan explains.

spent her formative years living in Marlow in Buckinghamshire.

She left school at sixteen, instantly regretted it, and spent the next fifteen years catching up on her education. She earned her teaching certificate and became a primary school teacher in Buckinghamshire, but continued with her studies at the Open University, then a fairly new institution.

Despite having a full time job, a husband and two young children she obtained an honours degree in History and Literature.

The sudden death of her son - a keen sportsman who rowed for England - when he was only seventeen, prompted Joan to make a career change and she took a post-graduate diploma in Management Studies.



**"Since a very young age I've been fascinated with Spain and used to read old travel books about it"**

ership and Behavioural Studies, before successfully launching her own management and development company.

The Scottish author began her career as a writer after moving to Spain in 1998, where she settled in Benjarafe, which, at that time, was a quiet, picturesque fishing village. She completed an Open University course in Creative Writing in 2006 and began to devote herself to fiction.

"The writing was always something I wanted to do, but I never got the opportunity to write until I came to Spain. I'm not sure what it is about Spain and Andalucía in particular that inspires me, but since a very young age I've been fascinated with Spain and I used to read old travel books about the country. Since actually living here, I've found it even more fascinating. Everywhere you look there are reminders of the country's varied history," Joan explains passionately.

Her first book was called Daughters of Spain, a non-fictional work based on authentic interviews with a number of Spanish women from all walks of life.

The research for this book in turn encouraged Joan to write Spanish Lavender, a love story set among death and carnage in Malaga in 1937. Although the characters in the novel are fictitious, the historical details are based on actual events that took place during the Spanish Civil War in February 1937.

"I knew I had to write a novel about Malaga in the Civil War. Sometimes I end up researching a period where little written accounts remain, but if I can find enough information to write the historical background accurately, I use my imagination and logic for the rest. That's the best thing about writing fiction," she declares.

Her subsequent novels have grown out of her experiences living and working in Spain.



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TONY BRYANT



## WHAT HAPPENED TODAY?

12 JANUARY 1591

# Birth of 17th century baroque artist, Jusepe de Ribera

**J**usepe de Ribera, also known as José, was a leading 17th century Spanish painter noted for his dramatic realism and his depiction of religious and mythological subjects. He was probably the most influential painter of the Spanish baroque period, but his unconventional images categorised the artist as a painter of dark and sinister subjects. His work presented mutilated bodies, deformed children and faces contorted with pain.

His interest in the human form greatly influenced his work; however, Ribera was more than a mere painter of oddities. His paintings include biblical scenes and a series based on mythological subjects, and portraits of real and imaginary figures.

Born in Valencia in 1591, Rib-

era's father was a shoemaker who intended his son for a literary career, but he neglected his studies, preferring to concentrate on his passion for art.

Longing to study art in Italy, he made his way to Rome in 1611.

It is generally assumed that Ribera was the apprentice of the celebrated artist, Francisco Ribalta. Legend claims that he left Ribalta's studio and, subsequently, Spain, following an illicit affair with Ribalta's daughter. Legends abound from this period of Ribera's life: according to one source, a wealthy cardinal discovered the poor young art student drawing frescoes on a Roman palace. Ribera is said to have rejected the offer of the cardinal's support, claiming he needed the stimulus of necessity in order to produce his art.

He remained fiercely proud of



Jusepe de Ribera, painter of dark and sinister subjects. :: SUR

his Hispanic roots and Italian artists soon began calling him Spagnoletto, - the little Spaniard.

Despite a substantially high income, Ribera is said to have lived beyond his means and in 1616, he moved to Naples, supposedly in order to avoid his creditors. In the same year he married Caterina Azzolino, the daughter of Giovanni Bernardino Azzolino, a Neapolitan painter whose connections in the art world



Figure study :: SUR

helped to establish Ribera as a major figure within the Naples art sector. The Kingdom of Naples was then part of the Spanish Empire and Ribera's Spanish nationality aligned him with the small Spanish governing class, which included important

collectors and dealers of art. The artist quickly attracted the attention of the Viceroy, the Duke of Osuna, who gave him a number

of major commissions. Few paintings survive from this era, but this was the period in which most of his best work was produced. Although Ribera never returned to Spain, many of his paintings were brought back by returning members of the Spanish governing class.

He was said to have been in serious financial difficulties when he died in 1652.

**Bilingual crossword inside back page**

## LANGUAGE FOOTNOTE

Nacimiento	Birth
Pintor	Painter
Influyente	Influential
Cuerpo	Body
Mitología	Mythology
Encargo	Commission
Aprendiz	Apprentice
Centrarse	To concentrate
Época	Period
Cardenal	Cardinal
Marchante	Art dealer
Necesidad	Necessity
Rareza	Oddity
Representación	Depiction
Acreeador	Creditor
Cara	Face
Dolor	Pain
Retrato	Portrait
Trasladarse	To move

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#### REF. L. O. C.

I have a bad relationship with my husband, because I want to separate and he does not. Two weeks ago, during one of our usual arguments, he shoved me and I fell to the floor. Although I wasn't injured, I reported him to the police for ill-treatment. However, now he has accepted my decision to separate and we

have agreed that if I withdraw the complaint he will go back to the UK and I could stay in Spain with our son and keep the property. What procedure do I have to follow in order to withdraw the complaint?

Theoretically, it is not possible to withdraw it. Once someone has been reported for an offence, the judge and the prosecutor are obliged to determine the veracity of the complaint, and if the facts are confirmed, to punish the aggressor. However, if the facts have not been serious, you can decide not to appear at court the day of the hearing, which can lead to the file of the case with no further action.

#### REF. E. T. A.

I live in a tower block. One of the neighbours is an aggressive person, who tries to have confrontations with the rest of the owners for no reason whatsoever. This person also

breaches co-habitation rules, playing loud music even in the small hours, damaging the entrance to the building... I am trying to sell my property, and last time, when the buyers saw the behaviour of the neighbour, they lost interest. Is there anything that can be done against this neighbour who damages the image of the building and does not respect the rights of the other owners?

Yes, there is indeed. The Horizontal Property Law considers that for extreme situations, if the neighbours decide so in a meeting, they can expel these owners for a certain period of time, although a judge would have to decide the exact duration of that period. It is necessary to take legal action at court, where the conflictive owner will be entitled to allege what he considers appropriate and to defend himself. The judge will decide if it is necessary to expel him or not.

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## Clothes and toys go to those most in need over Christmas

:: JENNIE RHODES

**FUENGIROLA.** Lux Mundi Fuengirola and Torre del Mar received donations of women's and men's clothing as well as children's toys over the Christmas period.

The donations were distributed to homeless people in the area who use the centres' weekly soup kitchens as well as to refugees and immigrants in collaboration with a number of organisations. These included the Red Cross, Centro Español de Ayuda al Refugiado (CEAR), the Spanish Evangelical Church, Asociación Católica Española de Migraciones (ACCEM), Casa de las Hermanitas de Los

Pobres, la Casa del Sagrado Corazón de Jesús (Cottolengo) in Malaga and Cáritas Torre del Mar.

Lux Mundi also worked with the Lions Club in La Cala de Mijas who provided ingredients and entertainment for a Christmas lunch which Lux Mundi and the Lions hosted on 4 January in Fuengirola.

The Torre del Mar clothes shop, Almacenes Córdoba, also took part in the collection by donating boxes of clothes and there was help from a number of churches in the province.

Guests at the Christmas lunch were given bags containing donated items.



Lux Mundi Fuengirola volunteers with donated items. :: SUR



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## SOCIETY SCENE

# Getting back down to business at the start of a new year

ADANA started the New Year by welcoming a new secretary while the RAF Association is looking to elect a new officer

## :: SUR IN ENGLISH

### 41 Club Nerja Trip to Somerset

Thirty-seven members of 41 Club Nerja spent two days in Axbridge, Somerset in December 2017, allowing those who have been unable to visit the club in Spain recently an opportunity to renew old friendships and to make new ones.

Members and wives stayed at the Oak House Hotel in the town and visited Thatchers Cider Mill for a tour followed by tastings of the cider.

Forthcoming events for the new year include: on the first Thursday of the month - Munch Bunch, a lunch for members and wives at local restaurants; monthly evening members' meeting on the third Thursday of the month - this month an artist from Frigiliana will be talking to the club.

For more information contact Alfie on 626998626 or [www.41clubnerja.org](http://www.41clubnerja.org)

### Funky Vocals Community Singing Group

#### Social singing

The Funky Vocals singing group have moved to a new venue; they can now be found every Tuesday between 6pm and 7.45pm at the Underground Fun Pub in Ibensa Square, Arroyo de la Miel. They are

looking for more members of all ages and nationalities, who would enjoy singing everything from 60s hits to modern day, including all the great classics from stage and screen.

The ability to read music isn't necessary and professional teachers will be there to help everyone make the most of their singing voice. Fees are five euros per session, only payable when you attend.

The group are happy to perform at local events and can be contacted for enquiries and bookings through Funky Vocals Facebook page or tel: 640 629 223 .

### Living Waters Fellowship Sunday Services

Living Waters Fellowship will be commencing Sunday Services this weekend at 4.30pm, in their church building in Las Rampas, Fuengirola, which they took over from the former church, the Ark. After the service tea, coffee and cakes will be available.

### ADANA New year, new face

ADANA, the Estepona-based dog rehoming charity, has a new face on the Management Board, that of newly-elected secretary, Charles Brierley. Charles, who is Head of the Physics Department of the Laude School, San Pedro, got to know ADANA after adopting a dog.

"As I had experience of running my own company in the field of IT I was given the task of updating the existing ADANA dog database to make the work of the Adoption Team easier in that they can now



Members of the Nerja 41 Club in Somerset. :: JOSEPHINE PROCTOR



ADANA members with Mary Page and Charles Brierley (centre). :: SUR



Members of La Cala Lions club with ADIMI representatives. :: SUR

deal with adoption enquiries at home, away from the ADANA kennels," he explained.

President Mary Page said that the Board and volunteers were delighted to have Charles working with them and that his knowledge and expertise would enable staff to work even more efficiently.

ADANA enjoyed a good year with over two hundred and fifty animal adoptions in 2017 and a steady stream of income from fundraising.

### RAF Association Costa del Sol Annual general meeting

The annual general meeting of the Costa del Sol Branch of the RAF Association will be held on Monday 15 January at Elim Church, Plaza Ibensa, Arroyo de la Miel at 1pm. Voting will take place for the officer posts of the committee. Nomination forms can be obtained from the secretary, [secretary.rafacds@gmail.com](mailto:secretary.rafacds@gmail.com). For further information see the website: [www.rafacostadelsol.co.uk](http://www.rafacostadelsol.co.uk)

### La Cala de Mijas Lions ADIMI open day visit

The Mijas association for people with disabilities, ADIMI, held an open day recently and the La Cala de Mijas Lions president, Julie Barry, presented their president Cristóbal Moreno with a cheque for 4,583.76 euros.

Lions representatives were taken on a tour of the premises and shown the special therapy rooms for the mentally disabled individuals and their families. The money donated will go towards the purchase of much needed gym equipment and early learning aids.

La Cala Lions have a charity shop in Calle Torremolinos 12 (10am - 2pm) which sells donated second-hand items. They always need volunteers; anyone who can help should telephone 677059061 or go into the shop.

### What are you up to?

If you are involved in a club or association and planning events, trips or activities that would be of interest to other readers of SUR in English, we would love to hear from you:

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DENISE BUSH



## GARDENING

# A fragrant winter 'gardenia'

**Luculia is an evergreen shrub or small tree native to the Himalayas; it has very sweet smelling starry flowers and foliage that takes on a reddish tinge in the winter**

**Denise Bush**

Luculia is a genus with just five species. It is an evergreen shrub or small tree native to the Himalayas in China, Nepal, India and Bhutan. It is a member of the Rubiaceae family which includes

gardenia, hamelia and coffee.

Luculia can reach six metres in height in optimum growing conditions which are: dappled shade, mildly acidic soil with lots of organic material, and a regular supply of wa-

ter. In gardens they are unlikely to reach over three metres.

Like gardenias, they are temperamental and hard to establish, but their perfume in midwinter and their attractive red-tinted foliage make Luculia well worth the effort.

The two most common species available are *L. gratis-sima* (from the Latin meaning 'very pleasing'), and *L. grandiflora* which as its name suggests, has bigger flowers.

*L. gratis-sima* has large umbels at the ends of the branches packed with fragrant, pink, tubular flowers. *L. grandiflora* has umbels of large white blooms and glossy leaves 20-35cm long with red veining. The leaves of all the species tend to turn reddish during cold weather.

Although Luculia does best planted in a border, it can also be grown in a large tub.

The roots are shallow and must be kept cool in summer so a thick mulch or layer of pebbles is advisable. They do not like root disturbance and will often not survive being transplanted. Luculias are not resistant to drought or frost.

The flowers form at the ends of new wood so pruning, which is necessary to keep the shrub compact, is best carried out straight after flowering has finished.

Propagation is by seed or by hardwood cuttings.



*L. grandiflora* and *L. gratis-sima* (inset). :: SUR

**READER'S PHOTO**

## GETTING AN ALOE TO FLOWER

There are over 400 species in the Aloe family with Aloe Vera probably being the most well known. They are easy to care for and have stunning flowers. However only mature plants (at least four years old) will bloom, and although they will tolerate a degree of neglect, they must have plenty of bright sunlight, moisture and free draining soil.



:: PHOTO BY MARIA HILLEN

**GARDENING HINTS**

## Fascinating facts about the Fabaceae family

Fabaceae is commonly called the pea / bean family. It is the third biggest plant family after Orchidaceae (orchids) and Asteraceae (daisies) with approximately 700 genera and 18,000 species. There are three sub families within Fabaceae, Papilionaceae, Casalpiniaceae (the cassias) and Alimosaceae (the acacias). The flowers of the species are constructed the same, although in differing proportions. There is one large upper petal (banner) behind two smaller petals (wings) and the lower petal (keel) are fused together. The fruit is also the same across the genera, a narrow pod, opening at the sides,

with the seeds in a row inside. Another characteristic that Fabaceae share is their nitrogen fixing properties. They have a fibrous tap root with nodules in which nitrogen fixing bacteria (Rhizobia) live.

An interesting fact about this family is that they are all edible or barely edible. All contain levels of a poisonous alkaloid that inhibits an enzyme necessary for mammals' metabolism. This poison is in the whole plant but especially in the seed coat. Excessive consumption of the seemingly harmless garden pea for example could cause depression and nervous disorders.

**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](mailto: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 upload them to <http://readersphotos.suri-nenglish.com>, and we'll do the rest!



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## BRIT BACK

# Resistance

**It's hard to think of anything good about January in England**

One of the best of the many surprises that awaited me many years ago when I moved, without real rhyme or reason and no plan at all, to southern Spain was January.

First of all I couldn't believe the brightness and blueness of the sky and the warmth of the days. I took endless photos of my flip-flopped feet in the sand while I enjoyed a cold beer by the sea. In winter! Then I wondered what the lovely clouds of creamy white and pink petals drifting in the breeze were. I'd never seen almond blossom before. And just as the new year began so the season of saints' days started. First was San Hilario in Comares, where the patron saint is carried down some of the steepest streets in Andal c a followed by San Sebasti n in Benamargosa - perhaps my favourite fiesta of all, with the heady scent of local oranges and the neighbours rushing out of their houses carrying trays laden with sweets and the alarmingly rickety Catherine wheels shooting out fiery sparks at every junction. Wayhay, the first month



of the year seemed to loudly declare - C'mon. Let's go.

In what feels like a different world altogether, January in England is cold and dull and very very long. It's hard - and believe me, we are desperately trying - to think of anything good about it. The trees are bare, the fields and flowerbeds are bare, the high streets and shops and bars are bare. Even the news, bad at the best of times, seems to have become bleaker in sympathy with the general mood of apathy and gloom. Our local paper is filled this week with a litany of woe - ram-raiders ripping out cash machines in normally crime-

free villages, post offices and pubs continuing to close, rail strikes, road closures and traffic accidents happening all round us and new housing developments marching roughshod on in spite of vociferous community opposition. It is no surprise that this is cited as the most popular time of year for Brits to book a holiday abroad, to start divorce proceedings and on Monday 15 January, known as Blue Monday, to endure the "single glummiest day of the year", as The Sun rather quaintly puts it.

Still, in the year which celebrates the centenary of the end of the First World War and which also - I can't say why - unveils a number of tributes to Winston Churchill and his dogged spirit, we battle stoically on.

There are a few reasons to be cheerful here. Suffolk's own coffee shop chain now sells all its drinks in fully compostable cups. The smiley Sri Lankan brothers who have taken over the previously dire Post Office stores have risen to the challenge admirably by actually listening to what people in the village want. They might even make a success of it.

Our neighbour and smallholder, George, who I could listen to all day because of his wonderful Suffolk accent (sadly a rare thing now) and who pickles his own onions and red cabbage, told me today that he will start chitting his early potatoes this week. By mid January the days are getting lighter by two minutes a day. And in the garden the first snowdrop is flowering.

**POLLY  
RODGER BROWN**



## OBITUARY

# DAVID RADFORD, 1932 - 2018

**GRAHAM CHERRY**

David Radford, one of the best known expats in Fuengirol a, died of cancer in the Costa del Sol Hospital on 9 January, the day before his 86th birthday.

Originally from Burton-on-Trent, David started his career as a cabin steward with BOAC, rising to Cabin Services Director on 747s and Concorde before retiring, via Brighton, to Calahonda. He subsequently moved to Puebla Luc a in Fuengirol a.

In Calahonda he found time both to be president of his community and to become involved with International Theatre Studio and subsequently the Salon Vari t s Theatre in Fuengirol a.

From the early 1990s on he acted, stage managed, helped with lighting, prompted and, with a wonderful speaking voice, worked outside on voiceovers, but above all became a stalwart of the Friends of the Theatre. He served for many years on their board and became their president.

At times the financial state of the theatre was desperate and he hit on the idea - picked up on one

of the Cunard Cruises, of which he was exceedingly fond - of recycling greeting cards. Three mornings a week he could be found in the theatre's bar selling these and he raised many thousands of euros. Without this contribution the theatre would almost certainly have closed. He ran a course at the U3A training others in the



necessary skills. Sitting in the bar selling his cards he became a friendly ear for many or just a centre of information for all who stopped for a chat.

His last appearance was last spring in the Old Time Music Hall where he was an excellent chairman. The theatre's Facebook pages have been full of affectionate tributes to a man who loved both Fuengirol a and the Salon Vari t s Theatre. He is going to be missed by so many people.

**Death is never easy...**



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# GPs and hospitals are overwhelmed by patients with flu and colds at present

The regional government's health service activated a special plan on 1 December to cope with the situation

:: ÁNGEL ESCALERA

**MÁLAGA.** So many people are suffering from colds and flu viruses in Málaga at present that it is putting pressure on health centres and hospital emergency services. Doctors say they are overwhelmed by the sheer numbers of patients with respiratory problems. "I have seen more than 100 patients in one day, between normal appointments and those who need to be seen immediately," one GP told us this week.

Another GP said there is currently a full flu epidemic, and in addition many people have catarrh, pharyngitis, colds, bronchitis, pneumonia etc. As a result, there are delays in getting appointments and a considerable increase in the number of people who go to emergency departments instead.

In the first week of 2018 there were 79.67 cases of flu per 100,000 inhabitants in Málaga province; this was



Many patients are consulting their GPs about respiratory problems. :: SUR

lower than the 102.37 in the last week of 2017. In Andalucía, 162.56 cases were registered per 100,000 inhabitants between 1 and 7 January, and 188.19 from 25 to 31 December.

"There is more flu than it would appear from the official statistics," said one GP, because the procedure

to register a case of flu is complex and involves filling in a great deal of information on the computer. Instead, doctors sometimes say a patient is suffering from a viral infection instead of flu, because they don't want to lose time when so many other patients are waiting to be seen.

Another GP said that, because they are allocated so little time to attend to patients in their surgeries, and because of a lack of reliable methods, it is often not clear whether someone has flu, severe catarrh, early pneumonia or a respiratory infection. "The only thing we can say is that at this

time of year there is a considerable increase in respiratory problems," he explained.

Another factor is that the flu this season is intense and presents a variety of symptoms: high temperature, shivering, aches and pains, dry and persistent cough, headache etc.

The regional government activated a special plan on 1 December to deal with the problem, and it is supposed to mean that extra staff are taken on at hospital emergency departments and health centres, but professionals working for the Andalusian health service say that they were extremely short-staffed over Christmas. "Last Friday there were only four of us on duty instead of ten," said one GP who works in Málaga city.

The plan monitors several parameters: the increase in patients attending hospital emergency departments, health centres and observation rooms, the increase in the number of people admitted to hospital and those requesting home visits from GPs. The information is then compared on a weekly basis, and the appropriate measures are put into effect. However, the Andalusian forum for GP treatment (FoAAP) and the Basta Ya Málaga association have published a statement expressing their concern over the situation faced by doctors over Christmas and the New Year.

The patients who mostly go to emergency departments at this time of year are generally suffering from chronic health problems, especially those which are complicated by the cold weather and viruses.

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## Andalucía to bring in new law aimed at reducing obesity

Restaurants will have to provide healthy options and free drinking water while an exercise programme will be introduced in schools

by L. G.-S.

**SEVILLE.** The Andalusian government has approved a bill that makes the region the first to have legal measures in place to fight obesity. The official name of this new law is the 'Ley para la Promoción de una Vida Saludable y una Alimentación Equilibrada' (The Law to Promote a Healthy Lifestyle and a Balanced Diet), and it will include plans to extend anti-obesity measures to town halls and integrate them into existing measures.

Obesity affects 16.6 per cent of the adult population in Andalucía and 23 per cent of the child population, as the regional health minister, Marina Álvarez, explained on Tuesday at a press conference. This law especially targets young people, pregnant women, 15.2 per cent of whom are obese, old people and disadvantaged social groups.

When the bill becomes active, many establishments will be forced to offer drinking water free of charge. The installation of drink-



Marina Álvarez. :: EFE

**Figures reveal that 16.6% of adults and 23% of children in Andalucía are obese**

ing fountains in schools, public places and children's play centres will be a legal requirement. The new regulations require vending machine manufacturers to include free water in their products. In addition, bars and restaurants will have to provide complimentary jugs of drinking water to all customers.

Within two years, schools must establish a timetable which in-

cludes a recommended minimum of five hours of exercise per week. Additionally, a set of rules to discourage the consumption of high calorie foods and soft drinks among children under 15 will be laid out.

Under the restrictions, it will become illegal to sell food containing over 200 kilocalories and secondary schools will be required to display the calorie content of foods in vending machines and canteens.

The new law plans to include initiatives for the distribution of fruits and vegetables and the planting of vegetable gardens in schools, starting with the areas with most social deprivation.

The bill includes clauses which require restaurants to offer multiple portion sizes and have healthy options on the menu. Nutritional values of all foods sold commercially will have to be displayed to allow for comparison of products within the same brand and between different brands.

As well as the new nutrition laws, laws to promote a healthy lifestyle will be implemented. In companies of over 50 employees, bicycle parking will have to be installed.

The government plans to create a programme to promote exercise and healthy eating in Andalucía and is considering imposing fines to encourage people to follow the programme.

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

**Take note:**  
If you already use a hearing aid and are experiencing difficulty hearing, it could be a build-up of wax



# Eating fish every week improves children's cognitive performance, according to study

The research, conducted in the United States, also revealed links between the weekly consumption of fish and better sleep

:: MINDY BURROWS

**MADRID.** A team from the University of Pennsylvania's School of Nursing published a study this week which has proved that the weekly consumption of fish is linked to having a higher IQ. Children who eat fish every week have an IQ that is four points higher, on average, than those who consume fish infrequently or not at all. The study revealed that eating fish improves sleep which leads to higher mental capacities.

Previous studies clarified the link between the consumption of omega-3, the fatty acid found in many types of fish, and a higher IQ, as well as links between omega-3 and better sleep. However, this is the first study that has discovered that all of these links are connected.

For the study, a group of 541 children in China, aged nine to eleven, were asked how often they



Oily fish, high in omega-3, is a big part of the Mediterranean diet. :: SUR

ate fish. The options ranged from "never", to "at least once a week". These children, 54 per cent of whom were boys and 46 per cent girls, were then assessed via the Chinese version of an IQ test called the Wechsler Intelligence Scale for

Children-Revised, which examines non-verbal skills such as vocabulary and coding. The parents of the assessed children answered questions about their children's sleeping habits, including how long they sleep for, and frequency of

waking and daytime tiredness. The researchers took into account parents' occupation and marital status, and number of children in the home.

Analysing all of the data, the team found that the children who said that they ate fish weekly scored 4.8 points higher in the IQ test than the children who said they "seldom" or "never" ate fish. Those who "sometimes" consumed fish scored 3.3 points higher. Additionally, increased fish consumption was associated with fewer disturbances of sleep, which indicates better sleep overall.

"Lack of sleep is associated with antisocial behavior; poor cognition is associated with antisocial behavior," said Professor Adrian Raine. "We have found that omega-3 supplements reduce antisocial behavior, so it's not too surprising that fish is behind this."

Jennifer Pinto-Martin, member of the research team, stressed the importance of children being introduced to fish as part of their regular diet from a young age, from around two years old. "Fish consumption has really positive health benefits and should be something more heavily advertised and promoted," she

said. Pinto-Martin pointed out that if children are fed fish early on then they get used to the smell and taste, which children can find unpleasant if unaccustomed to it.

Further developments on this research would involve looking into the types of fish consumed, and whether this affects IQ and quality of sleep. This study would be done on an older test group as they are likely to have a greater variety of fish included in their diet. The team also want to find out what other positive effects fish may have on school performance and social abilities.

Families in Malaga, due to the province's being on the coast, tend to consume a diet that is high in fish. According to this study, eating fish once a week is considered "high consumption". For children whose diets are low in omega-3, the research team highly recommends incrementally incorporating more fish into a diet.

"Doing that could be a lot easier than nudging children about going to bed," Raine commented. "If the fish improves sleep, great. If it also improves cognitive performance, like we've seen here, even better. It's a double hit."

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# One in six people will have a stroke, but 80% of them could be prevented

Experts in Marbella recommend that all high-risk patients undergo an ultrasound to avoid having a cerebrovascular accident

## EUROPA PRESS

**MADRID.** One in every six people will suffer a stroke, but approximately 80 per cent of these cases can be prevented, according to the director of the Angiology and Vascular Surgery department of the Quirónsalud Marbella hospital and Quirónsalud clinic in Gibraltar, Rubén Rodríguez Carvajal.

"It is very important that the

high-risk patients (those with high blood pressure, high cholesterol or diabetes) rule out the possibility of having a cerebrovascular accident by having an ultrasound," the expert explained.

The condition, which affects 15 million people in the world every year, happens one in three times because of an obstruction in the carotid artery. There are three types of treatment for a stroke. Of these Doctor Rodríguez Carvajal singles out the Transcarotid Artery Revascularisation procedure (TCAR) due to "having more advantages than the other two. It is the safest and newest technique of treatment for this condition".

According to the specialist, the



An ultrasound can detect obstructions in the carotid artery, the main cause of a stroke. :: SUR

TCAR is a clinically proven alternative to invasive open surgery, the normal treatment for a stroke, and safer than transfemoral stenting. The procedure, which can be done with a local anaesthetic, involves a small incision just above the collar bone. The surgeon inserts a tube directly into the carotid artery and connects it to a system which temporarily directs the blood flow away from the brain to protect from the dangerous deposits which can be released from the artery walls.

"This method of protecting the

**15 million people around the world suffer from a stroke every year**

**The TCAR procedure is the safest and least invasive treatment for a stroke**

brain is the key to the success of the TCAR procedure and what sets it apart from the other treatments. Also, the TCAR has the lowest number of cerebrovascular accidents re-

lated to the procedure (1.4 per cent of procedures have experienced trouble), according to the most recent clinical studies," commented the doctor.

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## THE SEVEN MOST COMMON SYMPTOMS OF A STROKE

Below are the most common symptoms of a stroke. If you suspect that someone is having a stroke because they are displaying one or more of these symptoms, do not hesitate in calling for an ambulance. Catching the stroke early is the best way to ensure survival and avoid serious long-term consequences.

**1** Sudden confusion, trouble speaking or understanding speech. Speaking may become slurred or difficult to understand. Ask the person to repeat a simple sentence after you to check this.

**2** Sudden severe and irregular headache with no known



cause.

**3** Sudden trouble walking, falling over, dizziness, loss of balance or coordination, and confusion.

**4** Sensation of tingling in face, arm or leg, especially

down one side, which comes on suddenly.

**5** Memory loss and behavioural changes.

**6** Any change in vision which could be sudden loss of sight, whether partial or severe in one or both eye, and involuntary eye movements.

**7** Sudden numbness or weakness of face, arm or leg, especially on one side of the body. This may cause face drooping. Ask the person to raise both arms and see if one drifts downwards. Ask the person to smile and see if their smile is lopsided or uneven.

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# Andalucía is the top region in Spain in terms of blood marrow donors



Donors of bone marrow in Malaga province increased by 300 per cent more than the targets which had been set for 2017

**MÁLAGA.** Pablo Ráez's message is still having an effect and the number of new bone marrow donors who registered in Malaga province last year was 300 per cent higher than expected.

Pablo, a young man from Marbella who died of leukaemia in February last year, inspired numerous people to join his campaign for bone marrow donors, and his story went viral on social media.

Andalucía now has more bone



File photo of donors. :: SUR

marrow donors than any other region of Spain, says Isidro Prat, the director of the Regional Blood Transfusion Centre (CRTS), which registers and manages these donations in Andalucía.

By the end of November last year, 19,079 people in the region had registered as donors, and the number had risen to over 20,000 by the end

of the year. In Malaga there were about 2,700 new donors (2,589 at the end of November). The original aim had been to reach 861. For Andalucía as a whole, the target was 4,463 donors.

Although these figures were lower than those of 2016, in Andalucía and in Malaga, they are still "spectacular, fabulous," and all

## THE FIGURES

# 20,000

That is the number of people who registered as bone marrow donors in Andalucía in 2017. About 2,700 of them are from Malaga province.

# 33,951

This is the number of new bone marrow donors who registered in Andalucía in 2016. In Malaga, there were 11,201 donors.

thanks to Pablo Ráez, says Isidro Prat. In 2016, Andalucía had 33,951 donors in total, of whom 11,201 lived in Malaga.

Anyone who is interested in becoming a bone marrow donor has to be between the ages of 18 and 55, healthy, and undergo a blood test. Experts say the ideal donor is young, between 18 and the early 30s, because at that age there is more chance of them proving compatible with a patient who needs a transplant.

## Altruism

The altruistic act of donating bone marrow offers people with leukaemia, tumours and other blood diseases the chance to have the transplant they need. The donors' details are on a register and if they are com-

patible with a patient they are phoned and asked to come to the hospital so that the bone marrow can be extracted. If they are happy to go ahead, they are given a blood test and asked to sign a consent form in the presence of a witness and a doctor, or two witnesses if the communication is by telephone.

The worldwide register of bone marrow donors offers a 90 per cent chance that the patients who need a transplant will be able to have one. The important factor is that the donor and recipient are compatible. The average time from the start of the process until a bone marrow implant takes place is about three months.

There are two ways of extracting the bone marrow. The first involves removing it via an injection in the hip, which is done in a sterile operating theatre. The other way is through the peripheral blood: the donor is given a treatment to stimulate the production of their bone marrow, a method known as apheresis, to obtain the cells which are produced. The extraction normally takes place the following day. The donor can go home once the apheresis is finished.

In Malaga province, the donations take place at the Carlos Haya regional hospital. The product extracted from the donor is analysed, preserved and sent to the hospital where the patient who needs the transplant is waiting. The whole process is extremely well coordinated, says Dr Prat.

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# Gastronomic trends for 2018

Food trends, like fashion, change regularly and the search is always on for new flavours

Innovations for 2018 include reducing waste and eating fruit and vegetable skins

## MANU BALANZINO

**MALAGA.** It is sometimes difficult to keep up with the constant arrival of novelties on the gastronomic scene due to the speed at which they appear. In the last few years, the diversification in dietary styles has seen these innovations multiply and they are coming from all sides.

It is likely that 2018 will be marked by the concept of 'food on demand' that Ferrán Adrià anticipated - ingredients that seek to satisfy an informed public, eager for healthy foods and traceability, but also low in calories. And in catering, innovations are moving more and more towards themed premises that break away from classic offerings and are directed at a very specific public. The menu is varied. Sit down and take note.

## Traceable foods

**1** Transparency in labelling and knowing exactly what the food we buy is composed of, is not a new idea, but now the consumer also wants to know in detail where it comes from and how it is produced. Twenty-nine per cent of all new food launches already use the origin to add prestige to their product, especially if it is locally pro-

duced. Local products are fashionable, and if it isn't local, then it must have other values such as sustainability or ethical production.

## 'Trashcooking'

**2** We live in a world with limited natural resources and sustainability means reducing food waste. The skins of fruits and vegetables are also food, and in the US, supermarkets are already stocking products such as pickled watermelon rinds or pestos made with the stems of herbs. The good thing about these ideas is that they can also be adopted at home.

## Vegetarian diet

**3** The growing percentage of consumers who have a diet almost exclusively of plant products, are forcing catering establishments to modify their menus, including options to satisfy these clients. The data shows that soon, vegetables will represent 80 per cent of the gastronomic offering.

## Vegetable protein

**4** The aspiration to have a healthier diet which at the same time is more respectful to the environment leads to new foods such as 'meat' made from vegetable proteins. Pulses, grains and nuts already feature in the ingredients of burgers, sausages and cutlets, improving the flavour and texture.



## Vegan desserts

**5** Irresistible to many, desserts have also seen changes to consumer habits. Vegan sweets, made without animal products, are the latest innovation and use vegetable milks, substituting coconut oil for butter and flax seed for eggs.

## 'Healthy' drinks

**6** The big beverage manufacturers are reducing the sugar content in their products notably, far exceeding the conventional 'light', 'diet' or 'zero' labels. The increase will be in production of water-based, fruity, sparkling drinks.

## Emotional benefits

**7** Just a few years ago we were looking for energy drinks and products that helped us

to get through a tough day. Now the aim is to maintain balance and emotional peace, benefits that are promoted by products such as chewing-gum with plant extracts, vitamin shakes or drinks made with tea and other natural ingredients that promise to reduce stress and anxiety.

## Powdered superfoods

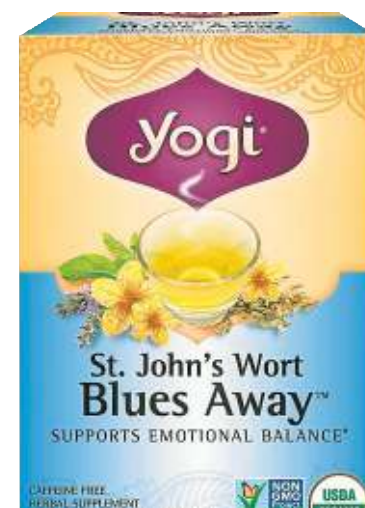
**8** Superfoods are back in powdered form and can be incorporated easily into smoothies, soups, biscuits and nutritional bars. Matcha tea, maca root, cocoa, spirulina, kale and collagen come in the form of powders with the aim of becoming part of our everyday diet. From now on, incorporating extra vitamins and minerals to meals is going to be a much easier task.

## Fouth meal

**9** No, we're not talking about brunch but a healthy snack that we can consume just before or after daily exercise, snatching a moment of peace in a frenetic lifestyle.

## Floral flavours

**10** Flowers have made their mark on haute cuisine as decorative elements in recent years, but aromatic flowers such as rose, jasmine and lavender have been used since ancient times to add aroma and flavour. In 2018, the rose, lavender and hibiscus flower



will be present in various savoury dishes, in teas and cereals, in coffees, cocktails and desserts.

## Alternative colourings

**11** Sugar is increasingly seen as a public health problem. Therefore this year, low-calorie sweeteners and low-processed sugars such as stevia, panela or date honey are going to be popular.

## E-commerce vegetables

**12** Although 92% of the Spanish food budget is still spent in shops, the giants of e-commerce, which already deliver fresh foods, are increasing their market share with personalised offers of fruits, vegetables and fresh products delivered to your home just by clicking.

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## Kits for the perfect meal

**13** Home cooking evolves in response to those who want to eat healthily and cook themselves. In the US, companies such as 'Blue Apron', an online store that delivers the exact ingredients and the recipe for a particular dish to your home, is already a success. Kits that make life easier in many kitchens, and which promise that by following the recipe to the letter you will get excellent results, have now updated their repertoire with healthy meals low in calories and haute cuisine.

## Special effects

**14** Most people will remember 'exploding candy'. Well, the surprise effect is still a trend in 2018, but times are advancing and now we find drinks with unusual textures and explosions of fruit and other surprises such as aloe vera water or quinoa or chia drinks. This trend also includes the world of ice cream and biscuits, which in-



corporate 'surprises' in their search for new sensations and contrasts.

## The supermarket revolution

**15** A few years ago, supermarkets were boring and unglamorous. But the food chains do not want to be left out of the gourmet fever, and are updating their stock with special gourmet lines. Supermarkets now stock everything from the exotic to

specialised diets and haute cuisine. They will have to continue updating according to surveys such as the one carried out recently in Canada in which 39 per cent of Canadian consumers thought that the products should be themed for different occasions, meals and dinners.

## Flavours of the Middle East

**16** Every year, the world looks at an area of the planet to incorporate its gastronomic techniques and flavours into the global menu. In 2018, the Middle East comes to the fore, but not with the already popular hummus, falafel or pita bread, sold in most supermarkets. Now it's the turn of spices. The scent of cardamom, the surprising lemony flavor of sumac, or zatar - a mixture of golden sesame, oregano, sumac and salt - will add magic to dishes.

## The power of tacos

**17** Taco fever has crossed the Atlantic and can be seen in various combinations.



These Mexican corn tortillas stuffed with ingredients such as cheese, fish or meat, now incorporate new ingredients, not only the typical savoury fillings, but also sweet. Look out for tacos filled with ice cream, cream and chocolate.

## Discovering arepas

**18** Arepas, pancakes made from maize flour and cooked under the grill or

on a griddle, are creating a lot of interest due to their versatility. They can be filled with cheese, meat, fish, vegetables or salads. The arepa, originally from Venezuela, is already popular in the Canary Islands and is now finding its way into the kitchens of top chefs.

## Not just sushi and ramen

**19** Sushi has been king of global gastronomy for years now and Japanese cuisine still has much to offer. The latest to arrive Spain last year was ramen. This year is the turn of the 'tonkatsu' (breaded pork chop), the 'sukiyaki' (meat, vegetables and egg in a bowl), or skewers 'yakitori' style.

## Gochujang, hotter still

**20** Still think tabasco is as hot as it gets? Well, in the world of hot sauces new trends are revealing spicy products from all over the world. The latest is from Korea, the gochujang sauce made from a base of red chilis, rice and fermented soya.

Leaving a Malaga restaurant the other day, the owner bade me farewell with the words, "Don't forget to write something nice on TripAdvisor." Apparently the going rate for a fake review on the world's most influential online restaurant reviewer is around 12 euros. Oobah Butler, after years of making a living in this way, decided to conduct an experiment to resolve the matter once and for all. He set up a non-existent restaurant that would climb up the TripAdvisor rankings using invented reports and appraisals. The Shed, Dulwich opened in his Dulwich semi; it had a mobile



phone number, a website and a dinner-by-appointment-only policy. Shortly after the 'inauguration' in 2016 its ranking was 18,149, unsur-

prising considering there were no reviews posted, but in weeks it rose to 1,456 thanks to stunning feedback orchestrated by Butler from friends and contacts. Nine weeks later it got to 156th place, and the snowball effect was such that in one week there were 116 attempts to make bookings via the website and the phone's answering service, plus numerous requests for employment and contacts by hopeful suppliers. All were ignored. One day its TripAdvisor listing had 18,000 views and it had still not served a single meal to anyone. In November 2017, six months after 'opening', The Shed achieved top

placing. TripAdvisor phoned with congratulations. TripAdvisor would later comment that its anti-fraud system is designed to avoid fictitious postings of existing restaurants, rather than those of inexistent ones. Work that one out if you can. However the case is well-documented and although only accessible in archived rather than current form, <http://archive.is/coW0I> shows TripAdvisor's page when The Shed was at the 263 spot (out of a possible 18,188 at the time). Eventually THE SHED did begin to serve meals, mainly based on tarted-up fast food, but still the enthusiastic reviews kept coming in.

## WINE OF THE WEEK

### Vino Botani Blanco

For most of history, Malaga wines were sweet and heavy; now new winemaking techniques offer several dry Muscatels. They are not suitable for those who prefer 'bone-dry' white wine, but are enjoyable as an aperitif and to drink through the meal. Botani remains good value at 12 euros.





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## AROUND MALAGA

# The natural beauty of the Serranía de Ronda

JAVIER ALMELLONES

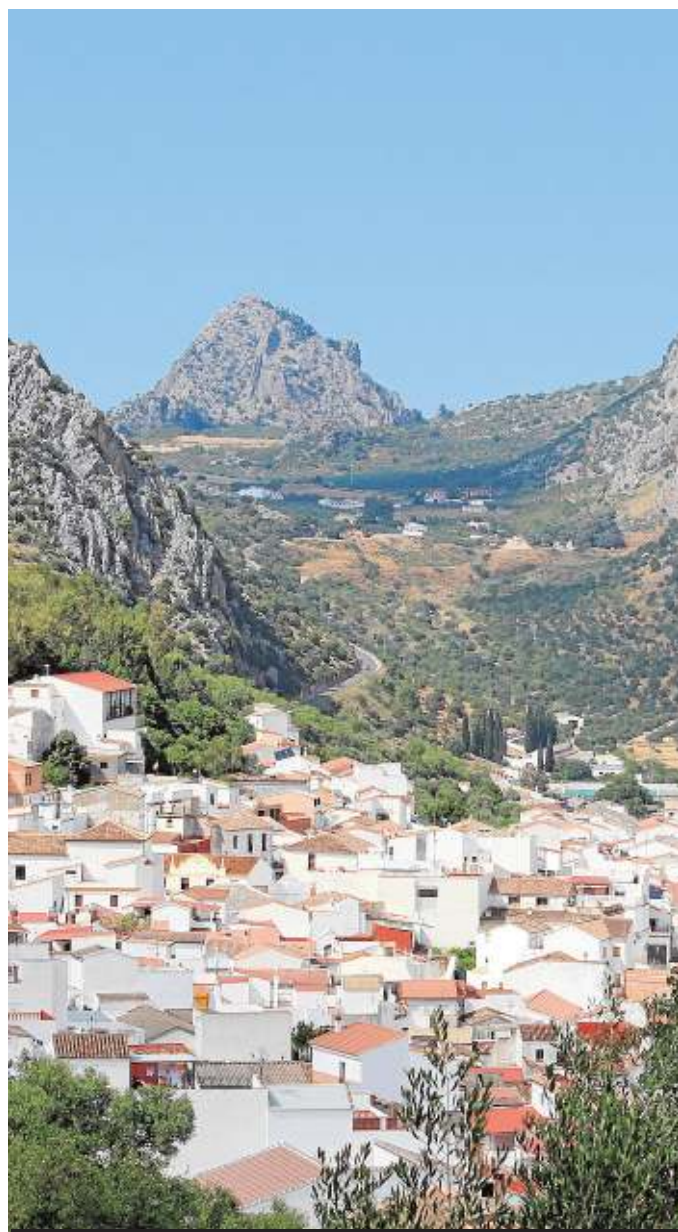
The Guadiaro, like other important rivers, has for many years served as a natural boundary between territories. This is exactly what happens in its journey down through the valley that bears its name, from Benaolán to Cortes de la Frontera, which marks the border between the Serranía de Ronda and the province of Cadiz.

The valley alternates between open areas with verdant forests and impressive mountain ranges which tower over the valley, from which visitors can see the Cañón de las Buitreras, a canyon which has been designated an Andalusian Natural Monument.

This varied landscape serves to create a collection of towns with a common heritage, including Cortes de la Frontera, Jimera de Líbar, Montejaque and Benaolán.

That said, there are other towns in the area surrounding Ronda which also offer a harmony between nature and historical legacy. Arriate is a town with unique traditions, situated a stone's throw from Ronda.

It's also easy to visit Montecorto, gateway to the Sierra de Grazalema national park, which has recently been added to the list of municipalities in the the province of Malaga.



Benaolán is one of the towns in the Valle del Guadiaro. :: J.A.

## Benaolán

**Prehistory.** This village in the Guadiaro valley boasts a grand history centred around its two caves, La Pileta and El Gato. The first is known as the 'Altamira of Andalucía', because of its cave paintings, while the other, which once served as a shelter for the first settlers of the area, has now been declared an Andalusian Natural Monument. This tranquil mountain village is also known for the quality of its cold meats.

**What to see:** The El Gato and La Pileta caves and the Nacimiento de Benaolán spring.



## Montejaque

**Refuge.** Known by the Arabs as Monte-Xaquez ('sacred mountain'), this town is set on one of the slopes of the Juan Diego mountain range and is connected to the settlement known as the Llanos de Líbar by a well-maintained path. Near the mountain is the El Hundidero cave. The most picturesque part of the town is certainly the old town, which hosts both the Iglesia de Santiago El Mayor and the town's Speleology centre.

**What to see:** The Hundidero caves, the Llanos de Líbar and the church of Santiago.



## Jimera de Líbar

**Riverbank.** Although much of the town is built on a hillside, there is also a pleasant neighbourhood that grew up to serve the railway running alongside the Guadiaro river. The Jimera station is well connected to that of Benaolán with a walking route, part of the Gran Senda of Malaga. In the town, as well as its historical buildings, visitors can see the church of Rosario, while in Estación you can find the shrine of the la Virgen de la Salud.

**What to see:** The Iglesia del Rosario, the shrine of the Virgen de la Salud and the Guadiaro river.



## Cortes de la Frontera

**Nature.** This municipality, the only one in the Malaga section of the Alcornocales nature park, surprises a lot of visitors with its rich architectural heritage. In the centre, you can see buildings of interest, such as the town hall, with its neoclassical style, the Nuestra Señora del Rosario church and the chapel of Valde-nebros. It is also worth seeing the bullring, though built much later (in the 19th century). In the centre there is also a visitor centre for the nature park.

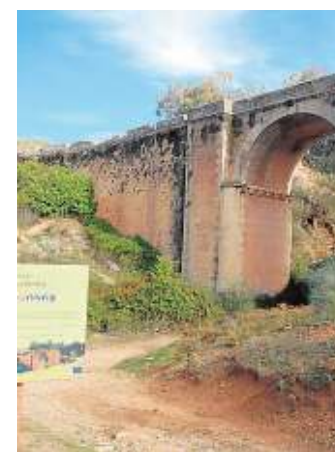
**What to see:** Town hall, Casa de Piedra, the Alcornocales nature park and Las Buitreras canyon.



## Arriate

**Tradition.** Set in the valley of the Guadalquivir river, tributary of the Guadiaro, and surrounded by the boundary for Ronda, this town is one of the gateways to the Serranía. The surrounding countryside is full of pleasant surprises, such as the Arroyo de la Ventilla brook. As well as the many wineries in and around the town, Arriate is made more attractive by its many unique traditions, such as its Holy Week celebrations.

**What to see:** The Arroyo de la Ventilla, the church of San Juan de Letrán and the La Estaca viewpoint.



## Montecorto

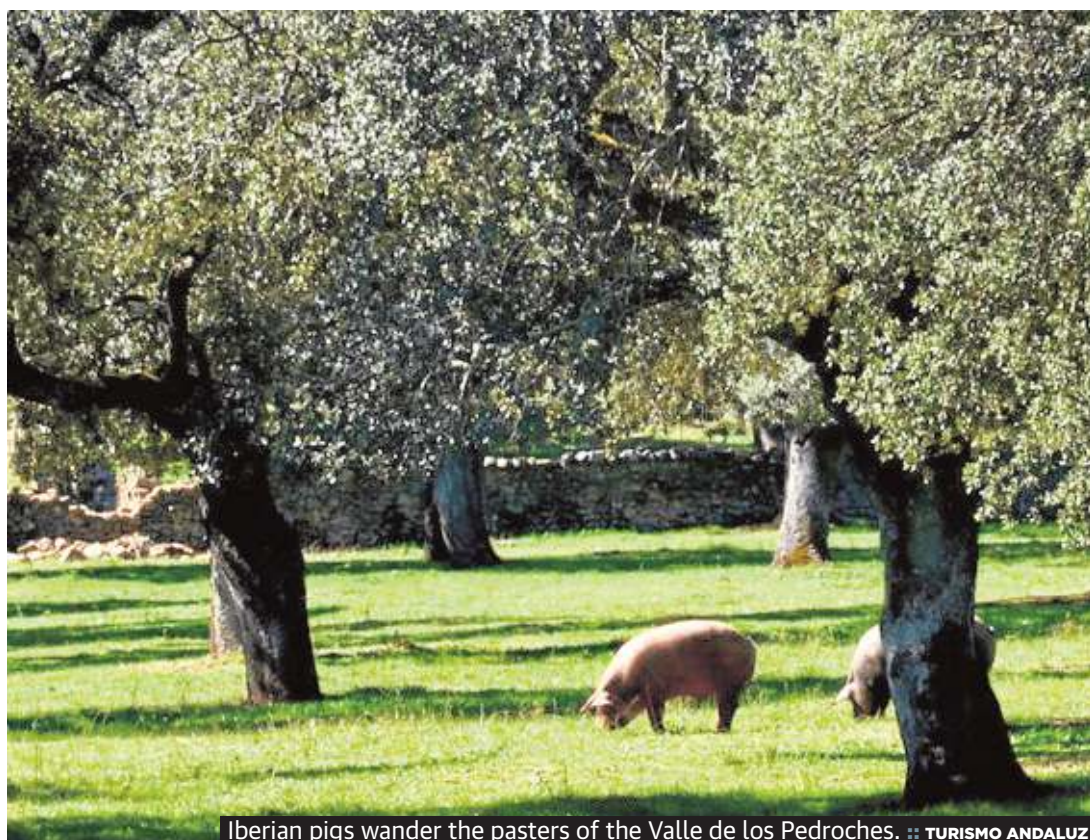
**Views.** Since 2014, Montecorto, situated in one of the entrances to the Sierra de Grazalema nature reserve, has been officially recognised as a municipality of Malaga province (previously it belongs to Ronda). As well as being situated in incredibly beautiful natural surroundings and having several unique viewpoints, in its small town centre are several impressive sights, such as the Benito stream.

**What to see:** The Virgen del Carmen church, the Frontera Andalusi viewpoint and the Benito stream.





## DISCOVER ANDALUCÍA



Iberian pigs wander the pastures of the Valle de los Pedroches. :: TURISMO ANDALUZ



Fiesta de la Matanza in Villanueva. :: SUR

# An area whose cuisine is centred on the best pork

### TWO DAYS IN VALLE DE LOS PEDROCHES

Car + walking

**Journey time:** Three hours from Malaga to Villanueva de Córdoba. **Events:** four hours. **Cultural visits and routes:** six hours.



JAVIER ALMELLONES

**L**ocated in the north of Córdoba province, the district of the Valle de los Pedroches has preserved the tradition of slaughtering Iberian pigs through a number of fiestas and events which take place especially during the winter months.

Before the end of January, in one of the towns in this valley, the Cerdo Ibérico tapas route will take place. Specifically, it will be the bars and restaurants of Villanueva de Córdoba that host the event between the 26th and 28th of this month. More than twenty establishments will take part and showcase the versatility of the area's cuisine.

We will have to wait a further month for another gastronomic event in this town with a pork flavour; the Fiesta de la Matanza in which visitors can witness first hand an ancient tradition, with tastings included.

These and a number of other festivals in the Valle de los Pedroches show just how important Iberian pork is here. In fact, during practically any time of the year, a culinary route is scheduled across the establishments of the area.

In them, the food is typically wholesome with dishes such as

homemade 'flamenquines' (slices of jamón serrano wrapped in pieces of pork loin, coated with egg and bread-crumbs and then deep-fried), 'lechón ibérico frito' (fried suckling pig), pork cheeks in sauce, oven-baked ham or 'migás' (breadcrumbs) with bacon rashers. Of course, none of these dishes would be complete without the accompanying jamón, cold cuts or 'lomo de orza' (fresh loin, fried on a very slow heat in its own fat).

However, not all food found in the 17 towns in the valley is derived from its prized Iberian pork. The range of meats is very broad and includes beef, lamb and game meat such as venison and wild boar.

What's more, there is a plethora of other dishes, which in the past people turned to for sustenance, that have now become specialities such as 'cachorreñas' (a soup made from bread soaked in hot water, garlic, paprika, salt and vinegar), 'ajohuevo', rice with hare, 'sopa dorada' or 'la olla de Carnaval' (a selection of meats with chickpeas), among others.

Among the towns in the Valle de los Pedroches, are Cardena, Conquista, Villanueva de Córdoba, Pedroche, Belalcázar, Pozoblanco and Hinojosa del Duque.

### QUICK GUIDE

#### What to see in Valle de los Pedroches

**Centro de Interpretación de la Dehesa.** Museum centring on the area's agriculture.

C/. Pozoblanco, 3. 14440 Villanueva de Córdoba.

**Air-raid shelter.** Constructed in 1937 to protect residents from air strikes during the Civil War. Plaza de España, s/n. 14440 Villanueva de Córdoba.

**Iglesia de San Pedro.** Religious building in Villanueva rebuilt in 1735 in a Baroque style. Calle Iglesia, s/n. 14490 Villanueva.

**Museo del Pastor.** Visitor centre that shares the ethnological values of the Valle de los Pedroches. Calle Buensuceso, 17. 14490 Villanueva.

**Sotomayor castle.** This fortress, one of the best-preserved in Andalucía, was built in the 15th century. Plaza de la Constitución, 11. 14280 Belalcázar.





## 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.

### Biennial Contemporary Art

**Marbella.** Cultural Centre *Kunsthau Berlin, Polígono Nueva Campana local 2 Nueva Andalucía*. In collaboration with the Fred Friedrich Foundation, Marbella Town-Hall and the Mexican Ambassador in Spain, Don Raphael de la Ma-  
drid. Fifteen local and international artists are exhibiting their work. info@redaktionkhbm.de.



Armonías, Nerja.

### Holocaust Remembrance Day

**Marbella.** From 18 January until 3 March. *Galería Yusto / Giner, C/Madera 9*. Daniel Solomons' 'Olam haba / The

World to Come' is an exhibition to mark the International Holocaust Remembrance and Prevention of Crimes Against Humanity Day. It is a series of photographs, autobiographical and some architectural, that highlight the Jewish cultural image in and around London.

### Roberto Matta

**Marbella.** Until 26 May 2018. *Museo Ralli, Urb Coral beach*. Temporary exhibition of the Chilean artist Roberto Matta of surrealist abstract art. His works represents his own vision of the world and art through the invisible, the psyche, the cosmos, without losing reference to his origins or nature. Tel. 952 85 79 23 / marbella@rallimuseums.org

### 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-pharaonic pictogram representing the union of heaven and the under-world.

### The Russian museum

**Malaga.** Edificio Tabacalera, Avda Sor Teresa Prat. Tues-Sun 9.30am - 10pm. The seasonal exhibition 'La aventura del color' which is running until 4 February will feature Alexei Jawlensky (1864-1941). A con-  
temporary and friend of Vasily Kandinsky, Gabriele Münter and Paul Klee among other famous artists of the early twentieth century. The museum is also holding an exhibition of political posters 'Carteles de la Revolución' consisting of simple but effective images deemed suitable for the masses. The posters featured workers, soldiers 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.

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### Revello de Toro

**Malaga.** C/Afligidos, 5. A dozen pencil drawings by Félix Revello de Toro will be on display in a seasonal exhibition in the museum.

### Ruiz de Luna

**Malaga.** Museo Municipal del Patrimonio (MUPAM), Paseo de Reding.



Homes Real Estate, Fuengirola.

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.

### '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.

### Bad Taste

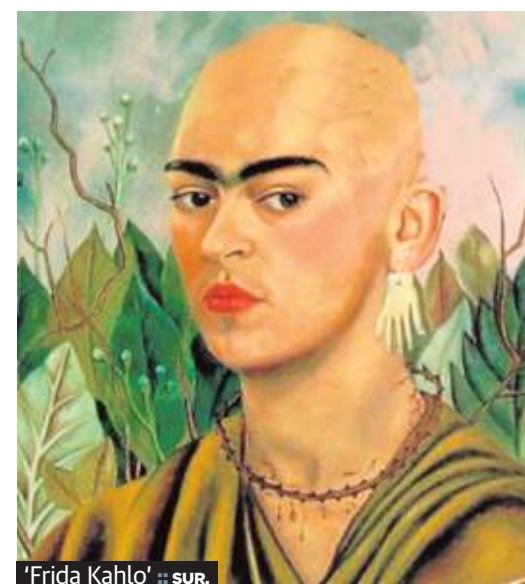
**Malaga.** Until 14 January. *La Térmica, Avda de Los Guindos, 48*. The exhibition forms part of the Festival de Cultura Basura. 'Suburban culture' take centre stage accompanied by conferences and prose by the filmmaker and writer John Waters.

### Buren at the Cube

**Malaga.** Until 14 January. *Pompidou Centre, Malaga port*. Daniel Buren, the artist who created the iconic design on the 'Cube' at the Pompidou Centre, is exhibiting more of his work at the museum.



'The Mona Lisa' :: SUR.



'Frida Kahlo' :: SUR.

# Student art for Cudeca

## :: SUR IN ENGLISH

**ARROYO DE LA MIEL.** Marketing and Market Studies students, following the initiative of their teacher Lola García Sánchez, are offering an exhibition of their works representing "Healing" from this weekend.

The works are based on some

of the most famous paintings of all time and a selection will be on display from 13-20 January, at Cudeca's newest furniture charity shop, located on Calle Sierramar in Arroyo de la Miel.

All proceeds from the sale of these works will go to the Cudeca Foundation.

## DETAILS

► **When.** From 13 until 20 January.

► **Where.** Cudeca Charity furniture shop, C/Sierramar, Arroyo de la Miel.

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### Jaime Sordo

**Malaga.** Until 14 January. Sala de La Coracha, Museo del Patrimonio Municipal, Pase de Reding. Free. In the annex to the MUPAM is an exhibition of contemporary photographs from the collection Los Brazales belonging to businessman Jaime Sordo. The exhibition is entitled 'Escenas: acción y representación' and includes work by Pierre Gonnord, Per Bercley, Regina José Galindo and many others.

### Baroque Art

**Malaga.** Until 14 January. Palacio episcopal, plaza del Obispo. Over thirty pieces of religious art from all over Spain are on display. The artists' styles differ in subtle ways with some preferring a more reverent, contained manner of depicting religious figures while others display exuberance.

### Antonio Yesa

**Malaga.** Until 16 January, Galería Alfajar opposite the gardens of Malaga Cathedral. 'Cualquier lugar es Bueno', is the name of the exhibition by Antonio Yesa



Photo Club, Nerja.

### 'Picassiano'

**Malaga.** Until 21 January. Casa Natal de Picasso, Plaza de la Merced. The exhibition entitled 'Guernica y Otros Disastres' aims to bring a new approach to Guernica, Picasso's mural showing the horrors of war, on the 80th anniversary of the bombing of the village.

### Ignacio Tovar

**Malaga.** Until 21 January. Centro de Arte Contemporáneo. 'Cantándote Bajito' is the title of the exhibition by Ignacio Tovar who interprets the poetry of flamenco in his paintings using the full spectrum of colours on his palette.

### Rubén Guerrero

**Malaga.** Until 28 January. Centro de

### artes Contemporáneo.

The 'Familias Mínimas (Rojo, amarillo y azul)' exhibition features 11 paintings of places, buildings, and words.

### Female artists and surrealism

**Malaga.** Until 28 January. Misunderstood, fighters and rebels, in some cases eclipsed or abused by their male partners, their lives and reactions to criticism and social convention were reflected in their art. The art from this group of female artists was not recognised nor accepted for far too long, they include names such as Eileen Agar, Claude Cahun, Leonora Carrington, Germaine Dulac, Leonor Fini, Valentine Hugo, Frida Kahlo, Dora Maar, Maruja Mallo, Lee Miller, Nadja, Meret Oppenheim, Kay Sage, Ángeles Santos, Dorothea Tanning, Toyen, Remedios Varo and Unica Zürn.

### Gris and Blanchard

**Malaga.** Until February. Museo Carmen Thyssen, C/Compañía, 10 Works by Maria Blanchard, Juan Gris, Jean Metzinger, Jacques Lichitz and Albert Gleizes illustrate the 'second period' of cubism.

### Paco Cabello

**Malaga.** Until 2 February. Fundación Unicaja, Mon-Fri -8pm. The Unicaja Foundation will be holding an exhibition of works by the sculptor Paco Cabello.

### Museum Jorge Rando

**Malaga.** Until 25 February. Cruz del Molinillo, 12 A temporary exhibition entitled 'Nacerán Nuevas Auroras' (the Birth of Colour) is currently on display. The museum also holds poetry and musical events.kontakt@museojorgerando.org.

### The Stones and The Beatles

**Malaga.** Until 18 June. La Térmica, Avda de Los Guindos. 'Rival' photographers Terry O'Neill and Gered Mankowitz immortalised some of the most important bands in history including The Beatles and The Rolling Stones. An exhibition of some of their photos is on show in La Térmica until June.

### Malaga lighthouse

**Malaga.** Until 30 June. Museo Alborania, Palmeral de las Sorpresas, Muelle 2. An exhibition detailing how important the lighthouse has been to malaga over the last two hundred years. How it faired during wars



Remembering Robert Burns at last year's charity event. :: SUR.

## Burns Night dinner

### :: TONY BRYANT

**MIJAS.** The Cudeca Goldies will host their first fundraising event of the New Year on Thursday 25 January.

As in previous years, Cudeca will hold a special Burns Night party at the Tamisa Golf Hotel in Mijas Costa. The event, which starts at 7.30pm, offers a typically Scottish menu with welcome drinks and canapés.

Wines and whisky are included in the menu, which offers haggis, neeps and tatties, Aberdeen Angus roast beef and Highland Cloutie fruit dumpling. A vegetarian option will also be available.

Guests will be greeted by bag-

pipes on arrival and live entertainment will be supplied by Laura Elen, a multi-talented singer whose repertoire includes everything from ballads and rock and roll to opera.

Visitors will also enjoy the 'Address to a Haggis', a poem written by Robert Burns to celebrate his appreciation of the haggis. As a result, Burns and haggis have been forever linked.

Tickets for the Burns Night party cost 45 euros, of which ten euros will go to Cudeca.

Reservations can be made direct at the Tamisa Golf Hotel: 952 58 59 88. For more information, call Carlos White on 663083249.



Holocaust, Yusto / Giner

An exhibition by local artist Antonio Montiel.

### Photo club Nerja

**Nerja.** Until 30 January. Centro Cultural Villa de Nerja.

Doors, windows and facades feature in the new exhibition by the members of the photo club Nerja. the photos illustrate the architecture, the decorative elements of the town and the way of life of its people.

### 'Armonías'

**Nerja.** Until 27 January. Sala Municipal.

Marie José Larousse was trained at the National School of Fine Arts in Paris. Her favorite subjects are still-lives and portraits using pastel and oil on canvas, wood and cardboard. Francine Raguet was a student of the artist Paul G. Kleim in Sain-

Remy de Provence (France). Her paintings are impressionistic with animals, birds, music and women.

### D-Espacio

**Nerja.** Until 4 March. Museo de Nerja

Paco Martín Cobos will be exhibiting a selection of his photographs.

### Robert Hardy

**Mijas.** Until 6 March. Centro de Arte Contemporáneo.

'Robert in Sepia' is an exhibition of works by Robert Hardy.



Robert Harvey, Mijas.

### 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.

### Homes Real Estate and Art

**Fuengirola.** Until 23 February. Avda Los Boliches, 86.

Miguel Angel Barri, Swedish national of Mexican origin and Daniel Del Valle, Cuban, are holding a joint exhibition of colourful paintings and engravings.

### 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.



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## EXHIBITIONS

**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.

**Kit Haig**

**Mijas Pueblo.** *Until 29 January. Casa Museo de Mijas*  
A collection of poetic photos taken by Danish artist Kit Haig.

**Julia Casado**

**Mijas.** *Until 31 January. Hotel TRH Mijas.*  
An exhibition by this local artist.

**Gallery Art Club**

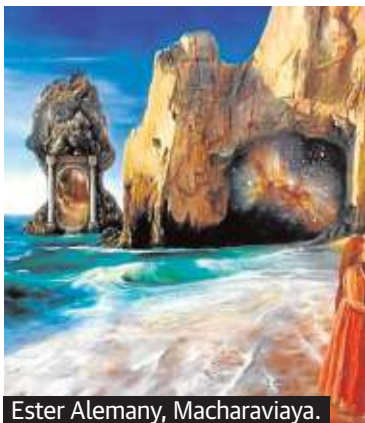
**Fuengirola.** *Plaza Picasso, Old Town.*  
A new art gallery with monthly exhibitions of contemporary art.  
www.galleryartclub.com

**Carromato de Max museum**

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

**María Zambrano**

**Vélez-Málaga.** *Permanent exhibition. Palacio de Beniel de Vélez-Málaga. Monday-Friday, 9am-2pm.*  
An exploration into the life and works of Málaga-born philosopher and writer María Zambrano.  
For further information call 952500244.



Ester Alemany, Macharaviaya.

**Ester Alemany**

**Macharaviaya.** *Until 19 March. Museo de los Gálvez.*  
'El Espejo de Los Sueños' is the title of this exhibition by Ester Alemany.

## CHARITY

**Cudeca Ice Skating**

**Benalmádena.** *20 January, from 12.30 to 2.30pm. Club de Hielo. 10€ adults, 5€ children.*  
A fun charity event with 100% of the funds raised going to Cudeca Cancer Hospice. www.clubdehielo-benalmadena.com or www.cudeca.org

## MUSIC &amp; DANCE

**The Wall Bar**

**Malaga.** *Hotel Vincci Posada del Patio, 11pm, entry free.*  
**12 January:** Rosa Ruiz and Foky.

# Everything for weddings and communions

## :: TONY BRYANT

**TORREMOLINOS.** Torremolinos is to host the seventeenth edition of Deboda y Comuniones, a first communion and wedding fair that will be held in the Palacio de Congresos from today.

The event is designed to help plan the perfect wedding and it has become a firm favourite for brides and grooms who are looking forward to their big day.

The exhibition will also cater for first communions and visitors will find plenty of ideas and inspiration to suit every budget.

The fair will offer a wide selection of wedding services, and the carefully selected exhibitors are experts in their field, ensuring everyone can find something to match their dreams.

The exhibition, which is held on 3,000 square metres, will offer an extensive range of wedding dresses, communion and ceremonial gowns, jewellery, accessories, table decoration and every last detail needed to make the wedding day a success.

Visitors will be able to purchase direct from suppliers, and exhibitors will offer a comprehensive solution to all the planning involved in organising such an important event.

Photographers, travel agents, hoteliers, caterers and entertain-



The wedding fair will include bridal fashion shows. :: SUR.

## DETAILS

► **What:** An exhibition of all things to do with weddings and communions.

► **Where:** Palacio de Ferias y Congresos, Torremolinos.

► **When:** Friday 12 until Sunday 14 January. Free entry.

ers will also be on hand.

There will be a free draw with prizes of designer dresses and suits, honeymoons, romantic dinners and health and beauty sessions.

The fair is complemented with fashion shows on Saturday and Sunday, where new trends and designs from the 2018 summer season will be showcased.

The fair will open at 5pm on Friday (today) and continue from 11am until 9pm on Saturday 13 and Sunday 14 January.

Vocals and bass.

**The Lito Blues Band**

**Almuñécar.** *12 January, 8pm. Auditorium of the Casa de la Cultura*  
The Lito Blues Band will be performing 'The Best of Blues'.

**Rock and Funk covers**

**Nerja.** *12 January, 9pm. Centro Cultural Villa de Nerja. 10€.*  
The band consists of Pablo Márquez, Alejandro Granizo and Alex Cuaxilox, all experienced Malaga musicians. They will be playing all the greatest hits of artists such as Michael Jackson, Stevie Wonder, Bruno Mars, Prince, Joe Cocker, Eric Clapton and Amy Winehouse among others.

**Flaut and piano duo**

**Nerja.** *13 January, 9pm. Centro Cultural Villa de Nerja. 10€.*  
This Croatian-Spanish duo formed by mother and daughter Lara Pytel and Gordana Komericki, has performed regularly around Malaga. They have received international awards and have collaborated with the prestigious Barenboim-Said Foundation. The duo will play a varied repertoire with important works for flute and piano from the baroque to the twentieth century.

**Classical concert**

**Almuñécar.** *14 January, 8pm. La En-*

carnación church.

Soloists Radomir (tenor) and Miroslava (mezzo soprano) will be in concert accompanied by pianist Bratislav. They are all members of the San Petersburg Orchestra.

**Ben Roels in concert**

**Malaga.** *18 January, 8pm. Sala María Cristina, Fundación Unicaja.*  
Belgian pianist Ben Roels is one of the last pianists who had the honour to study with legendary Italian pianist Aldo Ciccolini. He will be playing pieces by Beethoven, Debussy, Chopin and Liszt. www.benroels.com / www.sociedadfilarmonicademalaga.com Tickets: www.unientradas.es

**TIMS Christmas concerts**

**Malaga.**  
*21 January, 8pm. Malaga cathedral.*

**Yin Jazz**

**Nerja.** *26 January, 9pm. Centro Cultural Villa de Nerja. 10€.*  
Yin Jazz, a quartet of fusion jazz formed by Jesús Mata on sax; Roberto Joya on drums; Pedro Arcusa on bass, and Ian Arthur on piano.

**Tango Show**

**San Roque.** *20 January, 8pm. Teatro Juan Luis Galiardo. 10€.*  
The Arcos de Buenos Aires will be performing tangos, milongas and waltzes. Tel: 660753246

**Arcos de Buenos Aires**

**Nerja.** *27 January, 9pm. Centro Cultural Villa de Nerja. 10€.*  
Tangos, milongas and waltzes.

## FLAMENCO

**D' Adentro**

**Almuñécar.** *13 January, 8pm. Auditorium of the Casa de la Cultura*  
Eva Esquivel will be performing D' Adentro Latido Flamenco.

**Rizoma**

**Nerja.** *20 January, 9pm. Centro Cultural Villa de Nerja. 10€.*  
Pilar Soto 'Rizoma' is a Malaga flamenco dancer who has been teaching her art for twenty years.



Rizoma, Nerja.



Rock and Funk, Nerja.

## LECTURES

**U3A Lectures**

**Fuengirola.** *Lux Mundi reference Library, free to members, guests 5€.* Email: u3afuengirola@gmail.com  
**History and Art: 'David Hockney'**  
*24 January, 11am-12.30pm.* An illustrated talk about the life and work of the most famous living British artist.

**Science and Technology: 'Numbers are Everywhere'**  
*17 January, 11am-12.30pm.* Numbers are everywhere in advertising, politics, economics and the lottery. But do we understand them?

**Treasures of the World: Peru to Brazil.** *12 January, 11am.* Including Machu Picchu, a Spider Necklace and Christ the Redeemer statue in Rio.

**Debating and discussion group.** *24 January, 1-2.30pm.* Britain is composed of two nations due to social and economic division. Recent events suggest that the above is true. Following evidence to this end the audience is invited to suggest changes to make Britain a fairer society?.

**The Arts Society lectures**

**La Frontera.** *17 January, 11am, San Roque Golf and Country Club. 12€*  
delafrontera@theartsociety.org  
**The Gate of Heroes: On the China Trail.**

Illustrated talk by BBC Antiques Roadshow presenter Lars Tharp. Price includes glass of wine after the talk.

**DFAS lectures**

**Benahavís.** *23 January, 6.30pm. Benahavís Town Hall. Visitors 12€.*  
**Mackintosh and The Glasgow Four**  
Charles Rennie Mackintosh is now regarded as one of Britain's greatest architects but his potential was never recognised in his lifetime and he ended his days in obscurity. The role his wife played is also hidden. The lecture highlights their iconic works. www.benahavisd-fas.com/events

**Lux Mundi Art Appreciation Group**

**Torre del Mar.** *15 January, 10.30am. Lux Mundi Ecumenical Centre. 2€*  
**The Private Life of Masterpieces: The Last Supper by Leonardo da Vinci**  
'There will be a short introduction about the artist followed by a DVD followed by a lively discussion. Refreshments available.



# Music, dance and fantasy extravaganza

by TONY BRYANT

**ESTEPONA.** The Auditorio Felipe VI in Estepona is to host a weekend of musical events that will include some of the most iconic music and dance of the stage and screen.

The musical extravaganza begins on Saturday 20 January at 8pm, with the 1970s blockbuster movie *Grease*, although this is no ordinary screening of the film. The *Grease Sing Along*, which has toured all over the UK and Spain, invites the audience to dress up as their favourite characters from the original movie, which starred John Travolta and Olivia Newton John. This is an audience participation event and so wannabe singers and dancers are encouraged to join in during the show. The lyrics of hits such as *You're The One That I Want*, *Hopelessly Devoted To You* and *Summer Nights*, are displayed on screens so the audience can sing along.

The *Grease Sing Along* has proved to be extremely popular and fans attend dressed in poodle skirts, or wearing the famous T-Bird jackets as worn by the film's male heartthrobs.

The movie was released in 1978 and became an instant success,

launching Olivia Newton-John in the role of Sandy, and John Travolta as the cocky Danny, to stardom.

The fun continues at midday on Sunday 21 January, with *El Mundo de Fantasía*, a children's musical featuring singers and dancers recreating popular characters and scenes from some of the best known Disney movies.

Produced by Boulevard Productions, the musical focuses on the dreams of a girl named Alice and her imaginary friend, who embark on a journey into a magical world where dreams come true.

Tickets for both shows cost between 10 and 13 euros.

The highlight of the weekend will be the performance of Michael's *Legacy*, a show endorsed by the Michael Jackson Fan Club in Spain as the best musical show about the King of Pop.

Created by the Jackson Dance Company, the tribute show simulates one of Jackson's live concerts. The show has already toured many of the main cities in Spain receiving rave reviews for its replica stage sets, costumes and dance routines. The dance company consists of nine performers who perfectly recreate Jackson's intricate dance



The Jackson Dance Company tribute offers the concept of one of Michael Jackson's live concerts. :: SUR

## DETAILS

► **What:** Music, dance and fantasy shows.

► **Where:** Felipe VI theatre, Estepona.  
[www.auditorioestepona.com](http://www.auditorioestepona.com)

► **When:** Saturday 20 and Sunday 21 January.

routines, supported by a musical spectacle that will offer a little of the magic offered by the man himself.

The show's protagonist recreates Michael Jackson's every movement and gesture to the extent of perfection. The production includes many of the star's most celebrated hits, like *Thriller*, *Bad*, *Smooth Criminal* and *Give Me One More Chance*, which he recorded with the Jackson Five.

The Jackson Dance Company is

made up of a cast of more than twenty people, including dancers, actors, singers and technicians, which together, present a truly amazing tribute to the world's most celebrated artist.

Tickets for the show, which begins at 8pm on Sunday 21, cost 20 euros. Reservations for all performances can be made online. Tickets can also be obtained from the box office of the auditorium, or at the door on the day of the performance.

## MOVIE LISTING

From Friday 12th to Thursday 18th January

ORIGINAL VERSION SUBTITLED SPANISH

**THE FOREIGNER**

Director Martin Campbell  
Starring Jackie Chan and Pierce Brosnan  
ACTION - 114 min.

Friday 12: 18:00, 22:45  
Saturday 13: 16:00, 18:00, 22:45  
Sunday 14: 11:45, 16:00, 18:00, 22:45  
From Monday 15 to Thursday 18: 18:00, 22:30

**JUMANJI: WELCOME TO THE JUNGLE**

From Friday 12 to Sunday 14: 18:15, 20:15  
From Monday 15 to Thursday 18: 18:00, 20:15

**FERDINAND**

Saturday 13: 16:00  
Sunday 14: 11:45, 16:00

**INSIDIOUS: THE LAST KEY**

Director Adam Robitel  
Starring Lin Shaye and Leigh Whannell  
HORROR - 103 min.

Friday 12: 22:45  
Saturday 13 and Sunday 14: 18:15, 22:45  
Monday 15, Wednesday 17 and Thursday 18: 18:00, 22:00  
Tuesday 16: 22:00

**THE GREATEST SHOWMAN**

Director Michael Gracey  
Starring Hugh Jackman and Zac Efron  
ACTION - 99 min.

Friday 12: 18:15  
Saturday 13 and Sunday 14: 16:00, 18:15  
From Monday 15 to Thursday 18: 18:00

**THE DISASTER ARTIST**

From Friday 12 to Sunday 14: 20:30  
Monday 15, Wednesday 17 and Thursday 18: 20:15

**STAR WARS: THE LAST JEDI**

Friday 12: 19:30  
Saturday 13 and Sunday 14: 19:45  
From Monday 15 to Thursday 18: 19:00



## EVENTS

## Floral Art Club

**Estepona.** *Agro Jardín, Cancelada.*  
**16 January 3pm:** Chelsea Gold medal winner John Chennell, will be returning to demonstrate 'Out of my Suitcase'. Places are limited so please make a reservation. Visitors 10€. Annual membership 50€ Tel: 694 425 219 or send an email to esteponafloralartclub@hotmail.com

## Thespa

**Fuengirola.** *31 January, 6.45pm. Los Boliches, Masonic Hall.* 16€ members, 18€ guests. Includes set meal.  
'Just Passing' by Colin and Mary-Crowther. Directed by Peter Cadman and 'Last Post' written by Jean Mc'Connell. Directed by Geoffrey Stansfield. Reservations tel: 622 454 422 www.theatrecoastal-sol.com or email: thespabooking@gmail.com

## Bollywood Dance Classes

**Torremolinos.** *13 January, 27 January, 10 February, 24 February, 10 March, 24 March.* 6pm. Caseta Fitness.



Floral Art, Estepona.

Indian dance classes. Sign up in the office of the Palacio San Miguel Sports Centre.  
www.torremolinos.es

## Lux Mundi week of prayer

**Costa del Sol.** *18 - 25 January.* Each day there will be Ecumenical prayers at different churches, for the full programme information: www.lux-mundi.org.

## Coach excursion to Gibraltar Torre del Mar.

**18 January.** *Various departure points.* 12€ Transport, travel insurance included. Passport necessary. Lux Mundi Torre del Mar. Tel: 952 543 334 or e-mail: luxmundi@lux-mundi.org

## Excursion to Zahara and Ronda

**Torre del Mar.** *25 January.* *Various departure points.* 20€ Transport, travel insurance included. Lux Mundi Torre del Mar. Tel: 952 543 334 or e-mail: luxmundi@lux-mundi.org

## Classic Cars

**Malaga.** *26-28 January. Palacio de Ferias y Congresos.* 8€. The Salón Retro is a fair dedicated to classic and vintage vehicles. It opens on 26th January from 4pm until 9pm and all day Saturday and Sunday. Tickets 5€ if you attend in your own classic car. An exhibition of AMS motorcycles and memorabilia etc as well as many other vintage vehicles. The 70th anniversary of the Porsche 356 and Citroën 2CV, and the 50th anniversary of the Seat 124 will also be celebrated with specialist stands and examples of the cars.

## Excursion to Quarryat Dilar and Lanjarón

**Torre del Mar.** *22 February.* *Various departure points.* 28€ Visit olive oil factory and Lanjarón. Transport, travel insurance included. Lux Mundi Torre del Mar. Tel: 952 543 334 or e-mail: luxmundi@lux-mundi.org

## Trip to Lisbon, Portugal

**Torre del Mar.** *5 - 10 March.* *Various departure points.* 429€ pp double room, 499€ single. Five nights in 4\* hotel. Bed and Breakfast. Transport, travel insurance, guided tour of palace included. Lux Mundi Torre del Mar. Tel: 952 543 334 or e-mail: luxmundi@lux-mundi.org

## FESTIVALS

## San Hilario de Comares

**Comares.** *13 January.* In 1442 Mozarabs from Comares rose up in arms against the Muslim



Classic cars, Malaga.

community of the town, coinciding with the anniversary of the death of Saint Hilary of Poitiers. In gratitude for their protection, the town's inhabitants decided to choose this French bishop as their patron saint and set that date, January 13, to celebrate in his honor. The day starts at around 9am processions, mass and performances by verdiales bands and choirs.

## San Antón

**Maro.** *13, 14, 17 January.* The celebration is in honour of the patron saint of the village and protector of animals, San Antón. The fiesta started in the 17th century and begins with the traditional lighting of bonfires or 'lumbres'. On the second day there is a procession through the village and fireworks at night.

## O. V. FILM

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

## Cine Albéniz

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

**Three Billboards Outside Ebbing, Missouri:** 16.15, 18.20, 20.25, 22.30.

**Wonder Wheel:** 16.10, 20.10, 22.00.

**Wonderstruck:** 16.10, 18.00, 20.00.  
**Final Portrait:** 18.20.

## Cinesur El Ingenio

Avda. Juan Carlos 1, Vélez-Málaga. Tel. 667 77 31 87.

**Molly's Game:** 16.00 (Mon-Thurs).

**Three Billboards Outside Ebbing, Missouri:** 12.05, 16.30 (every day).

**Star Wars: The Last Jedi:** 19.00, 22.00 (Tues).

**Darkest Hour:** 19.00, 21.30 (Tues).

**The Greatest Showman:** 18.00, 20.15, 22.30 (Tues).

## Cinesur Miramar

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

**Star Wars: The Last Jedi:** 16.00, (Mon-Thurs)

**The Greatest Showman:** 12.10, 16.15, 18.30

**Three Billboards Outside Ebbing, Missouri:** 12.10, 16.00, 20.45, 23.10.

**Darkest Hour:** 16.30 (Mon-Thurs).

**Molly's Game:** 16.15 (Mon-Thurs).

**Opera: Rigoletto:** 20.15 (Tues).

## Cines Teatro Goya

For tickets and information call 951196665. www.cinesteatrogoya.com

**Star Wars: The Last Jedi:** 19.00 (Mon-Thurs); 19.30 (Fri); 19.45 (Sat, Sun).

**Ferdinand:** 11.45 (Sun); 16.00, (Sat, Sun).

**Jumanji: Welcome to the Jungle:**

18.00 (Mon-Thurs); 18.15 (Fri-Sun); 20.15 (every day).

**The Disaster Artist:** 20.15 (Mon, Wed, Thurs); 20.30 (Fri-Sun).

**The Greatest Showman:** 16.00 (Sat, Sun), 18.00 (Mon-Thurs); 18.15 (Fri, Sat, Sun).

**Insidious: The Last Key:** 18.00 (Mon, Wed, Thurs); 18.15 (Sat, Sun); 22.00 (Mon-Thurs); 22.45 (Fri, Sat, Sun).

**The Foreigner:** 11.45 (Sun); 16.00 (Sat, Sun); 18.00 (every day); 22.30 (Mon-Thurs); 22.45 (Fri-Sun)



San Antón, Maro.

## Yelmo Cines, Plaza Mayor

Centro de Ocio Plaza Mayor, Avda. Alfonso Ponce de León.

Tel: 902 902 103 or visit www.yelmocines.es

**Molly's Game:** 12.10 (Sat), 19.35 (Sun).

**Three Billboards Outside Ebbing, Missouri:** 12.35 (Sat, Sun), 16.50 (Tues).

**Star Wars: The Last Jedi:** 13.00 (Sat), 16.35 (Sun), 16.00 (Mon-Thurs).

**Darkest Hour:** 14.35 (Sat, Sun), 19.35 (Tues).

**The Foreigner:** 12.25 (Sat, Sun), 16.25 (Tues).

**Jumanji: Welcome to the Jungle:** 12.10 (Sun).

## Musica Con Encanto

Iglesia de la Virginia, Marbella. Bookings tel 689 000 944

**Rudolfo Mederos:** 20 January 7pm. 12€ A documentary about Rudolfo Mederos, half poet, half intellectual and great tango performer. English subtitles. Tel: 689000944

http://www.musicaconencanto.org

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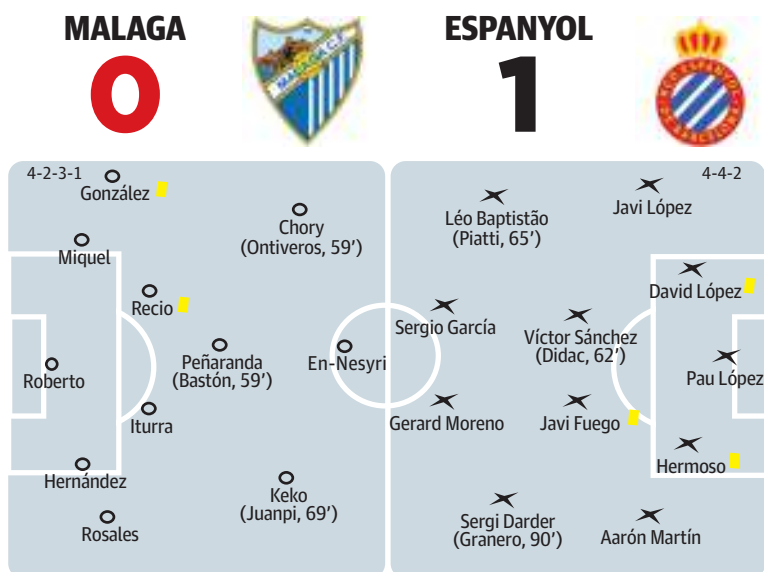


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## LINE-UPS



**Unused substitutes:** Prieto (GK), Kuzmanovic, Ricca, Bayse.

**Unused substitutes:** Diego López (GK), Naldo, Óscar Melendo, Marc Roca.

## STATISTICS

## BALL POSSESSION

**60%** MALAGA **40%** ESPANYOL

	Goals	
0	1	
14	Total shots	5
2	On target	3
12	Off target	2
6	Corners	5
4	Offsides	1
18	Fouls committed	11
2	Yellow cards	3
0	Red cards	0

**Goal:** 0-1 Sergi Darder (6').

**Referee:** Antonio Mateu.

**Venue:** La Rosaleda (12,149 spectators).

## TABLE &amp; FIXTURES

MATCHDAY  
18

## LEAGUE TABLE

★ Champions League ■ Europa League ▼ Relegation

TEAM	PT	P	W	D	L	GF	GA
★ 1. Barcelona	48	18	15	3	0	48	7
★ 2. At. Madrid	39	18	11	6	1	27	8
★ 3. Valencia	37	18	11	4	3	38	18
★ 4. Real Madrid	32	17	9	5	3	32	16
■ 5. Sevilla	29	18	9	2	7	23	27
■ 6. Villarreal	28	18	8	4	6	25	21
7. Eibar	27	18	8	3	7	24	30
8. Athletic	24	18	6	6	6	20	19
9. Leganés	24	17	7	3	7	13	14
10. Betis	24	18	7	3	8	30	34
11. Getafe	23	18	6	5	7	22	18
12. Real Sociedad	23	18	6	5	7	31	30
13. Girona	23	18	6	5	7	22	28
14. Espanyol	23	18	6	5	7	15	21
15. Celta	22	18	6	4	8	32	27
16. Levante	18	18	3	9	6	15	25
17. Deportivo	16	18	4	4	10	20	35
▼ 18. Alavés	15	18	5	0	13	13	27
▼ 19. MALAGA	11	18	3	2	13	13	32
▼ 20. Las Palmas	11	18	3	2	13	14	40

## Results

Villarreal - Deportivo	1-1
Celta - Real Madrid	2-2
Barcelona - Levante	3-0
Leganés - Real Sociedad	1-0
Sevilla - Betis	3-5
Athletic - Alavés	2-0
At. Madrid - Getafe	2-0
Las Palmas - Eibar	1-2
Valencia - Girona	2-1
MALAGA - Espanyol	0-1

## Fixtures

Deportivo - Valencia
Real Madrid - Villarreal
Levante - Celta
Real Sociedad - Barcelona
Betis - Leganés
Alavés - Sevilla
Espanyol - Athletic
Getafe - MALAGA
Eibar - At. Madrid
Girona - Las Palmas

# Míchel out of ideas as Malaga's slide to Segunda continues

DARYL FINCH

✉ dfinch@diariosur.es

Fans turn on the head coach and owner Sheikh Al-Thani after another lifeless defeat leaves the side joint bottom of the La Liga table

**MALAGA.** The new year has not brought a change of fortunes. Malaga were just as limp and lifeless as they were a little over a fortnight ago when Espanyol visited La Rosaleda on Monday night. The visitors, who until now hadn't won on the road, picked up their first win away from Catalonia, courtesy of Malaga old boy Sergi Darder. His first-half goal was enough to see off the Blue and Whites who dominated the subsequent possession albeit without ever looking likely to score.

Manuel Iturra made his second



Tears at the full-time whistle from Diego González. :: SALVADOR SALAS

"Quitting would be the easy option"

Malaga head coach Míchel told reporters at his post-match press conference that "quitting would be the easy option". He added: "My superiors are the ones who have to take that decision and if they don't, it's because they see things differently."

When asked about his relationship with the owners, Míchel cryptically said: "This isn't a situation which can be explained just by the bad work of the trainer."

club debut on a cold winter night on the south coast and was perhaps the only bright spark for Míchel's team which struggled for quality possession in dangerous areas. Adalberto Peñaranda toiled until his withdrawal after 60 minutes, but could only draw the simplest of saves out of Pau López in the visitors' goal.

It was an early strike which settled it. In the sixth minute, Sergi

Darder, on his return to La Rosaleda, showed his old fans what they were missing as he followed up play and latched on perfectly to Sergio García's knock-down to slot inside Roberto's right-hand post.

With the onus then put on the home side in this relegation six-pointer, Malaga fought back, albeit with little conviction. Keko twice set up chances in the penalty area with a cut-back from the byline but neither Chory Castro nor Adalberto Peñaranda could make the keeper break sweat.

The inevitable changes from Malaga head coach Míchel in the second half didn't provoke the fightback fans were expecting. Despite throwing on Borja Bastón, Javi Ontiveros and later Juanpi, only a weak header from En-Nesyri - with almost half an hour still on the clock - came remotely near to finding the equaliser.

With the club's unrelenting slide towards Segunda, fans once more turned on Míchel, calling for his dismissal, with owner Sheikh Abdullah Al-Thani, absent once again, also subjected to chants of "¡vete ya!".

Diego González was in tears at the full-time whistle while his teammates picked fights with the opposition players. Now rock bottom of the table, five points from safety, tensions are evidently running high after the brief optimism generated by the winter break quickly dissipated and the realisation has set in that, without drastic change, the club is in deep trouble.

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Bueno (l) was presented on Tuesday while the club await final confirmation on Centurión (r). :: MCF / SUR

## Blue and Whites move fast to bring in further reinforcements

Attackers Alberto Bueno and Riki Centurión are on the way in while exits for Paul Baysse and Jony have been agreed

:: SERGIO CORTÉS / PEDRO LUIS ALONSO

**MALAGA.** Following the side's crippling 1-0 loss to Espanyol on Monday, Malaga have moved fast in the transfer market to reinforce in attacking areas. While it looked like it was going to be a month of frustration when Alberto Bueno's transfer was held up by owner Sheikh's Al-Thani's inaction, the forward was officially presented as a Malaga player on Tuesday and will soon be followed through the door by winger Riki Centurión.

Bueno joins until the end of the season on a loan deal from FC Porto after having his loan spell with La

Liga rivals Leganés cut short.

The deal had been in place since at least Friday and the player passed a medical and even trained with the first-team, all while awaiting Al-Thani's thumbs up.

The player, 30 in March, is Malaga's third winter signing, after Spanish defender Ignasi Miquel joined from Lugo and Argentinian defensive midfielder Manuel Iturra made his return to the club after a spell in Mexico.

A versatile player, Bueno is happy to play in most attacking positions, but excels as a second striker. He was an integral part of the U-19 national side that were European champions in 2006 and was joint-top goalscorer in the tournament with five goals.

Bueno represented Real Madrid, Valladolid and Rayo Vallecano before his move to Porto in 2015 but after only making four appearances, returned to Spain on loan with Granada and Leganés.

The forward is soon to be joined in

the squad by winger Riki Centurión who has agreed a loan deal until the end of the season to move from Italian side Genoa despite interest in taking him back to his native Argentina.

### Bad boy

Despite being just 24, former São Paulo and Boca Juniors man Centurión arrives with a lot of baggage. A picture of him holding a shotgun emerged during investigations into a domestic violence complaint made against him by an ex-girlfriend in Argentina. Centurión also made headlines when nude photos of him went viral and which saw his club's ultras turn on him.

His signing is imminent, after the club made space in the squad by offloading defender Paul Baysse, for whom an offer of a little under a million euros from Girondins de Bordeaux was accepted, and winger Jony who has returned to Sporting Gijón on loan.

## Supporters join forces to put criticism of owner on record

The federation of official Malaga supporters' clubs has released a statement criticising Sheikh Al-Thani, and questioning coach Michel and the players

:: PEDRO LUIS ALONSO

**MALAGA.** Around forty members of the Federación de Peñas, the federation of official Malaga CF supporters' clubs, met on Tuesday to discuss the issues faced by their team.

They released a statement, approved by the directors' board, in which they blamed the club's current crisis both on and off the pitch on its owner, Sheikh Abdullah Al-Thani.

The leader of the federation, Miguel Molina, said of the sheikh: "You took us to heaven, but then to hell." With this statement, Molina summarised the feelings of many supporters, and the full repercussions of his criticism are yet to be seen.

The supporters' clubs also took issue with head coach, Michel, and the players themselves for the part that they are playing in the club's current free-fall.

Representatives from seven different supporters' clubs have confirmed a break between the sheikh and the supporters: "I haven't believed anything that the club has said on social media," Molina told SUR.

What is certain is the serious

sporting and institutional crisis that Malaga are suffering has pitted the fanbase directly against the ownership.

Daniel Sánchez, head of the San Pedro Alcántara supporters' club, said: "The club has been totally abandoned. It's an unusual situation for a club and I don't think that it's happened many times before. But we're in the middle of the season and it's still possible to save ourselves, which is the priority. Now is the time to act."



Al-Thani has been absent during the club's crisis. :: SUR

Manager Michel González has come under increasing pressure recently after several poor results, including a 0-1 loss to Espanyol on Monday.

All of the members of the supporters' clubs that this paper has spoken to have highlighted the sheikh as the main issue facing the club, but there is no such consensus on the coach.

"We should have fired him a while ago. We should look for a coach who's very motivating, a fighter, like the managers of Alavés, Getafe, and Eibar. It would be difficult, but that's what we need. Michel is a good manager for an average club, with good players, but he doesn't seem like the right person to me. That said, I'm not anti-Michel," said Daniel Sánchez.

However, Juan Aguilar, head of the Borriquerrón de Casabermeja supporters' club, has said: "I don't think that we should change the coach. Given the situation, no other coach could do much more."

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## A LOOK AT LA LIGA

**ROB PALMER**  
Commentator, Sky Sports  
@robbopalmer



# The 150-million-euro question

**Many see Philippe Coutinho as Andrés Iniesta's successor, but there's life in the old dog yet. So where does he fit in?**

So it's all signed and sealed but the big questions is: "Would Philippe Coutinho make it into Barcelona's current best eleven?"

An outrageous question when the Liga leaders have just broken the Spanish and indeed Premier League record to bring the Liverpool midfielder to Spain. He's clearly a star for the future, potentially world-class but isn't necessarily an automatic choice upon arrival.

A few so-called experts suggested that he's here to replace Andrés Iniesta, which is probably correct in the long-term but not the immediate. One of the foot-



Coutinho was presented at the Camp Nou on Monday. :: REUTERS

ball intelligentsia claimed that Iniesta is no longer as influential. I suspect he doesn't watch every

game.

Iniesta is still the orchestrator, the man who sets the rhythm and

fine tunes the younger players around him. Ernesto Valverde seems to have a pact that Iniesta will start virtually every game but won't finish them. A quick check suggests that the 77th minute is as long as the coach will push him. He's only been asked to play for 90 minutes once, against Malaga.

So, Iniesta isn't budging and he probably has Xavi's club appearance record in his sights.

The other easy target is Ivan Rakitić who is undervalued by so many, but not the manager. The Croatian has played more minutes than any other outfielder apart from Lionel Messi.

The test will be when Barcelona have to pick their very best side. For me there is one place up for grabs alongside Messi and Luis Suárez. When it came to the Clásico, the honour was given to Paulinho. Presently, it would be between the Brazilian and Ousmane Dembélé who is finally fit again.

Coutinho will have to recover from injury before he can stake a claim. It would make sense for the 150-million-euro signing to play the Liga matches and allow Iniesta, Rakitić and Paulinho a chance to rest and rotate with the emphasis on peaking in the Champions League (where Coutinho is ineligible to play).

Examination weekend will be in May when Barcelona face Real Madrid again and Valverde will select his preferred eleven from his full squad. Until then, Coutinho will be learning the ropes.

### The beast unleashed

The biggest challengers appear to be Atlético Madrid who finally unleashed Diego Costa back into the wilds of La Liga last week. He didn't disappoint.

If you played Costa Bingo you would have a full house: yellow card for elbowing opponent – check; goal – check; red card – check; suspension – check.

It was cruel, and his face was a picture, when he was cautioned for running into the crowd to celebrate his comeback goal.

Welcome back Diego, we've missed you.

## Plucky Marbella rescue a point against Mérida

Francis Ferrón's sublime double ensures the Costa side remain in the play-off places

### MÉRIDA 2 MARBELLA 2

:: ALEJANDRO VILLALOBOS / OPTASPORT

**MÉRIDA.** Sunday's Segunda B fixture between Marbella and Mérida was a well-matched affair. Marbella's determination and commitment allowed them to come away with a draw after falling behind in what was

a shaky second half, despite having taken an early lead.

Mérida came out onto the pitch as a home team full of confidence, and often looked like the dominant side in comparison to a more cautious Marbella. The visitors, orchestrated by Fernando Estévez in the dugout, played well as a unit, leaving few defensive gaps, but that didn't prevent the hosts from registering a number of shots in the opening 20 minutes.

However, it was Marbella's threat on the counterattack that helped to break the deadlock. Francis Ferrón tapped home from just a couple of yards out after Catena's low pass across



Sergio Narváez battles for possession. :: OPTASPORT

the face evaded keeper Felipe Ramos.

The game took a complete about turn in the second half when Jokín Esparza levelled it up on the half vol-

ley after a brilliant attacking move from Mérida.

In the 69th minute, the hosts claimed the lead for themselves. Mar-

bella were undone when, although under pressure, the defence reacted too slowly and failed to clear the danger in time and the ball ricocheted in off Catena's shin.

However, the visitors' resilience shone through and they were able to catch a complacent Mérida on the break, with Ferrón slotting it home just out of Felipe Ramos' reach, after a neat one-two on the edge of the area.

Although this was a good result for a club on the up, the match could have gone very differently without the brilliance of Ferrón both in midfield and in front of goal, and the belief of the team when faced with several offensive onslaughts.

The result, which consolidates Marbella's place in the play-off spots, is certain to give Estévez plenty to think about before his side's fixture against Córdoba B on Sunday.

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## SPORT IN PICTURES

### ► Tennis.

Reigning Wimbledon champion Garbiñe Muguruza is an injury doubt ahead of next week's Australian Open after withdrawing from the Sydney International due to injury. Muguruza beat Kiki Bertens 6-3 7-6 (8-6) on Wednesday, but it was later announced that she will not play in the quarter-finals.

REUTERS



▲ **Basketball.** Unicaja's confidence will be high after beating Monbus Obradoiro 96-76 at home on Saturday as they look to keep their hopes of progression in the Euro League alive when they take on Zalgiris to-night.

ÁLVARO CABRERA



◀ **Tourism.** Turismo Costa del Sol on Tuesday renewed its commitment to sport in the province as it announced the extension of a deal which helps promote the area as a sporting destination through some of its most distinguished stars. Padel player Carolina Navarro, shotputter Borja Vivas and triathlete Rubén Ruzafa will be promoting the destination when their seasons get under way.

ÁLVARO CABRERA



◀ **Cycling.** The world's oldest cyclist, Frenchman Robert Marchand, has retired from the sport at the age of 106, under doctor's orders. He made the headlines in France at the age of 105 when he rode 22.5 kilometres in an hour. Born in 1911, a PE teacher and fireman by profession, Robert bought his first bike in 1977. Since then he has broken all the records in his category.

REUTERS



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# Hoping for a long-awaited medal

Snowboarder Regino Hernández will be competing in his third Olympic Games in February

MARINA RIVAS

✉ Twitter: @MarinaRivasG

"These Games haven't taken me by surprise; we are prepared and, being realists, we know we are good enough to win a medal," he says

**FUENGIROLA.** It seems that not even coming second in the world championships, a decade competing with the international elite and three Winter Olympics by the age of 26 are enough for fans to stop Regino Hernández in the street and ask for a photo. Many people would love that to happen to them and would boast, but Regino doesn't care. He only likes to attract attention when he is on his snowboard.

This 'rider', who was born in Ceuta but has lived in Mijas Costa since he was one year old, has been selected to take part in the Winter Olympics in Pyongyang (South Korea) in February. This will make him one of the athletes from Malaga province who has participated the most in this major sporting event, behind only swimmer María Peláez (who has competed five times) and yachtsman Félix Gancedo (four). Regino is also the youngest man ever to achieve this historic triple record.

He remembers his first Olympic event as if it were yesterday (it was in Vancouver, in 2010). He was 17 years old and the youngest member of the Spanish team. "I didn't know what was happening. I made my debut in the World Cup the previous year, and all of a sudden I was going to the Olympics. I hadn't been fighting to get there," he recalls.

Now, nearly eight years later, he will be the second most senior (in terms of Games experience) member of the Spanish team in South Korea and is 11th in the world ranking.



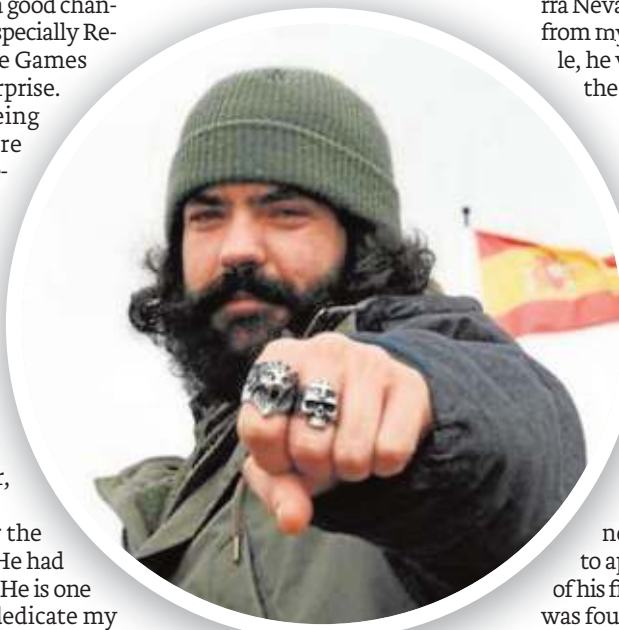
Regino Hernández at the Sohail Castle in Fuengirola. :: M. RIVAS

It is a small team of just eight competitors, but they stand a good chance of winning a medal, especially Regino Hernández. "These Games haven't taken me by surprise. We are prepared and being realists, we know we are good enough to win a medal," he says.

Travelling with him will be his companions in the snowboard team, Laro Herrero and Lucas Eguibar. A few days ago Regino shared first place with Eguibar at the World Cup in Montafon (Austria), and they both shared the same trainer, Israel Planas.

"Israel died just after the World Championships. He had a stroke. He was only 41. He is one of the people I plan to dedicate my medal to," says Regino. Unfortunately, this was not the only loss he has suffered in a short time. The death of one of his childhood friends, Ángel Moreno, has changed his life.

"We became friends in Fuengirola when we were five years old... he



The 'rider' managed to return home to Malaga briefly before competing in Turkey, Russia and the Games. :: M. RIVAS

died two years ago now, in the Sierra Nevada, snowboarding, and apart from my parents and my family circle, he was the person who gave me the most support," he says.

"Our parents were friends, we used to play handball together when we were little, we went to the same school... I was with him the day before, here in Fuengirola, and then he went to Granada. When it happened, they rang me to tell me they couldn't find him and we went there to see what was going on," he says.

The bad news was confirmed shortly after that phone call, and the details began to appear in the media. The body of his friend, who was 24 at the time, was found around seven hours after he accidentally ran off the piste.

"Nobody saw him, nobody realised what had happened, because he was the last one in the group and it wasn't until they reached the bottom that everyone started to wonder where he was," he says. It is something

which will mark him forever. "I've changed my way of looking at life. Seeing the courage a family can have after losing a son, how they fight to carry on... it makes you think 'Why should I worry about stupid things every day?' We get depressed over nothing, while far worse things are happening to other people."

## A risky sport

Time passes for everyone and Regino has had to learn to overcome difficulties and move onward in a sport in which he knows that the slightest mistake could have serious consequences.

"I've broken my knee twice, both shoulders... this is a risky sport and it is all part of it. We know that we will be injured at some time," he says, with the calm which comes from experience. Now he has also injured his wrist, during a training session for the World Cup in Italy, although it has not stopped him competing and completing his busy schedule.

"We never stop. We're always travelling. We have just done trials in France, Austria and Italy, and this month we will be in Turkey and Russia, and then it is the Olympics in February," he explains. He has been competing with the international elite in this sport for the past ten years.

Ever since he stopped playing handball, which was his first passion, and experienced the snow when he was four years old, he decided that snowboarding was what he wanted to do. He has numerous stories to tell about how he has come this far, although it is still difficult to make a living from his sport.

"It's difficult. We are given grants, but those depend on results. Also, this year the grant depends exclusively on the Games. If you have a bad day, you can lose your grant. There is everything to play for," he explains. So there is no lack of motive for Regino Hernández to try to win an Olympic medal. He has been trying to do so for several long years, and has shed blood, sweat and tears. If he wins this time he knows he will not be alone. Two of his closest friends will be cheering him from above.

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**METHODIST CHURCH**



THE SEVEN DIFFERENCES



THE STARS

**Aquarius**  
January 21 - February 19  
Enjoying yourself recharges your batteries and brings a smile to your partner's face.

**Pisces**  
February 20th - March 20th  
Confidence-building conversations see you looking forward to some time out in the world.

**Aries**  
March 21st - April 20th  
It feels almost impossible to take a light approach to anything at the moment. Even so, the weekend offers the chance to chill out and just be yourself.

**Taurus**  
April 21st - May 21st  
Something comes along that you want to avoid being a part of. Feel free to back off.

**Gemini**  
May 22nd - June 21st  
Certain conversations that are long overdue should now be had. This clears the 'fog' away, leaving you with a bright and exciting start to next week.

**Cancer**  
June 22nd - July 23rd  
Career matters are on the up. A close relationship between an old love and someone new sets you thinking hard.

**Leo**  
July 24th - August 23rd  
Planning a trip, either alone or with your partner, makes you excited and supercharged.

**Virgo**  
August 24th - September 23rd  
In a lucky period, making changes and commitments can really work well for you. Keep an open mind on finances.

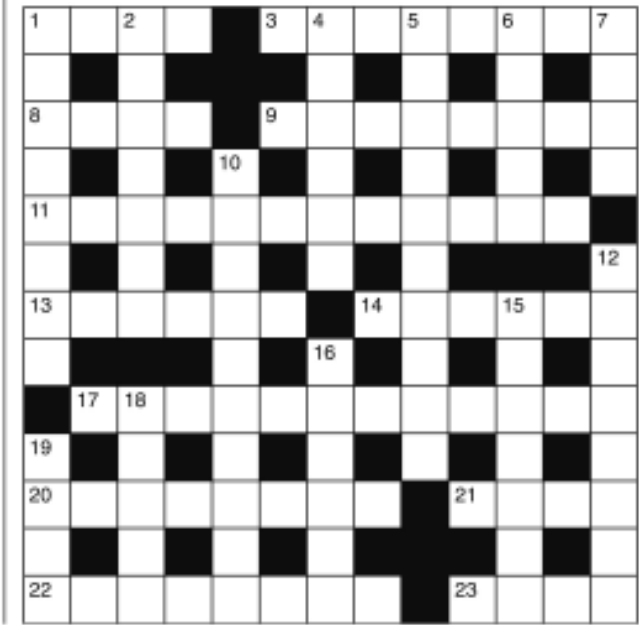
**Libra**  
September 24th - October 23rd  
All aspects of your finances need considering and getting in order. Demands made on these later in the year make this essential.

**Scorpio**  
October 24th - November 22nd  
Keeping the money coming in could depend on your having a strong plan B in the weeks ahead.

**Sagittarius**  
November 23rd - December 21st  
Working with others brings you in line with important changes. Keep an open mind on new working methods.

**Capricorn**  
December 22nd - January 20th  
Be prepared for love and money to both throw you challenges so get organised!

CRYPTIC CROSSWORD N° 11277



- Across
- 1 Sounds to have little strength this time (4)

3 Waterfall perhaps needs operation? (8)

8 An outing that leads to a fall? (4)

9 Stayed to produce green lid (8)

11 Chief shipping company goes all over - it's on the front page! (8,4)

13 Familiar party (2-4)

14 Craftsman who won't get on with his work? (6)

17 Eventually as a cross-country competitor? (2,3,4,3)

20 Youth leader leaves catalogue to originator (8)

21 Winning rhythm? (4)

22 Gathers in prayer? (6)

23 More capital (4)
- Down
- 1 Timekeeper? (8)

2 How pipe and hat came to be on a tombstone (7)

4 Lines up a sling (6)

5 Threatened with a deadly report, perhaps (2,8)

6 Its effectiveness depends on the bowing, of course (5)

7 Bound, we hear to the general course (4)

10 Little opportunity to correct obesity? (4,6)

12 Dark girl saw 10 swallowed up by beast (8)

15 Trooped round tin fish (7)

16 Nearly half a meal taken by the majority (6)

18 Book that always retains its freshness? (5)

19 Bit of quartz includes metal (4)

SUDOKU BY HANZO

**Instructions**  
Complete the square making sure that every row of nine numbers includes all digits from 1 to 9, every column includes all digits from 1 to 9 and every 3 by 3 subsection includes all digits from 1 to 9

					7			
	5			2	6	1	3	
7		3				2		6
	4		6	9	1	3	2	5
					4			
5		6						9
3				5	2		1	
	6	2		4	9	5	8	
	8						7	

CLOCKWORD

The solutions from 1 to 12 are all six-letter words ending with the letter M in the centre. Moving clockwise from 1, the letters in the outer circle will spell out the name of a TV quiz show presenter.

1. Habit

2. Balloon gas

3. Haphazard

4. Tell

5. Not often

6. Two-person bike

7. Psychiatric hospital

8. Music beat

9. Save

10. Vouch for

11. Liquid used in fire bombs

12. Monotony

THE WORDPUZZLER

S	T	A	H	K	B	O	F	F	L
P	S	I	E	R	R	M	I	N	O
L	U	V	L	E	E	S	N	O	E
U	N	A	L	I	A	M	G	U	S
L	A	B	O	T	T	L	E	N	T
S	P	A	S	A	H	G	R	E	A
M	A	G	I	C	E	M	A	I	N
B	I	E	N	G	R	O	I	L	D
L	N	O	G	R	E	O	T	E	A
A	G	R	E	L	O	N	E	L	Y

CAN you identify the words missing from the titles of the Police songs listed below?

1. Message in a ---

2. Wrapped Around Your ---

3. Walking on the ---

4. King of ---

5. Can't Stand --- You

6. So ---

7. Every Little Thing She Does Is ---

8. Every --- You Take

9. Invisible ---

10. Don't --- So Close To Me

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.

**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

**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

QUIZ

**QUESTION 1**

**From which country did Lebanon gain Independence in 1943?**

1. Portugal

2. France

3. Israel

4. Syria

**QUESTION 2**

**Which railway station is the largest in the world by number of platforms?**

1. St. Pancras Int. London

2. Atocha, Madrid

3. Grand Central, New York

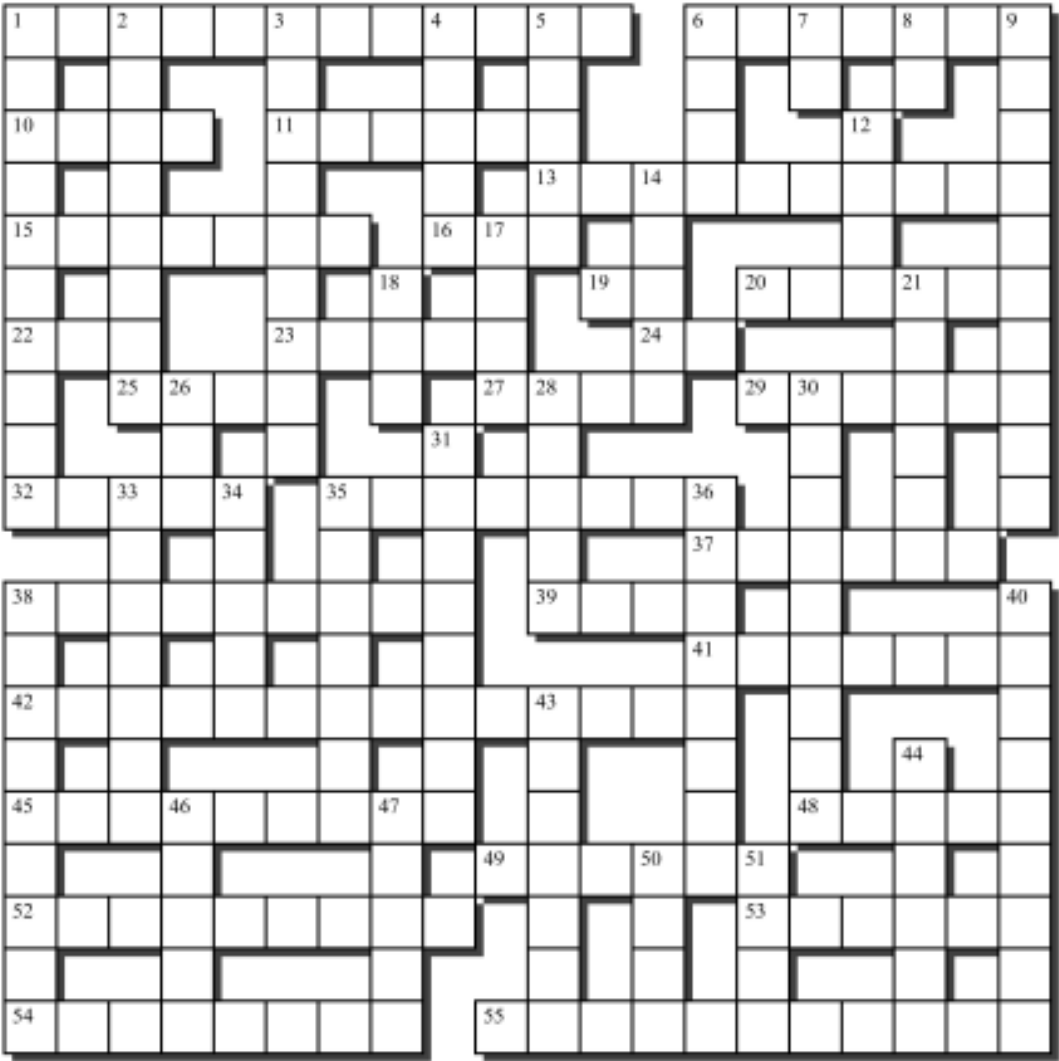
4. Chhatrapati Shivaji Mumbai



LANGUAGE CROSSWORD FILL IN THE SPANISH WORD

- Across
- 1) Nationality (12)
  - 6) Legend (7)
  - 10) Face (4)
  - 11) To silence (6)
  - 13) Influential (10)
  - 15) Cowardly (7)
  - 16) Sun (3)
  - 19) To the (2)
  - 20) Mercy (6)
  - 22) That (3)
  - 23) Pain (5)
  - 24) I gave (2)
  - 25) Moon (4)
  - 27) Harp (4)
  - 29) To stroll (6)
  - 32) Oil paintings (5)
  - 35) Grape harvest (8)
  - 37) Painter (6)
  - 38) Mythology (9)
  - 39) Love (4)
  - 41) Wandering (7)
  - 42) Depiction (14)
  - 45) Heirs (9)
  - 48) To hate (5)
  - 49) Oddity (6)
  - 52) Negotiated (9)
  - 53) To cry (6)
  - 54) Commissions (8)
  - 55) To move/relocate (11)

- Down
- 1) Birth (10)
  - 2) Cardinal (8)
  - 3) Necessity (9)
  - 4) Islands (5)
  - 5) April (5)
  - 6) Loyal (4)
  - 7) I (2)
  - 8) Nor (2)
  - 9) Creditors (10)
  - 12) To read (4)
  - 14) Skirt (5)
  - 17) Work (4)
  - 18) Wing (3)
  - 21) Body (6)
  - 26) One (3)
  - 28) Queen (5)
  - 30) Wealthy (9)
  - 31) Charms (8)
  - 33) Astonishment (7)
  - 34) I jumped (5)
  - 35) To laze around (7)
  - 36) Apprentice (8)
  - 38) Art dealer (9)
  - 40) To concentrate (9)
  - 43) Squid (7)
  - 44) To migrate (6)
  - 46) Period (5)
  - 47) Waves (5)
  - 50) You are (4)
  - 51) Dawn (4)



ANSWERS

Quiz answers

**Answer 1:** France  
**Of interest:** On 22 November, 1943, Lebanon's constitutionally elected leaders were released from detention by French occupation forces after their commanders backed down and accepted the independence of Lebanon.  
**Of interest:** Grand Central Terminal, Park Avenue and 42nd Street, New York, USA, was completed in 1913. It has 44 platforms. They are situated on two underground levels with 41 tracks on the upper level and 26 on the lower.

Cryptic Crossword

**Solutions:** Across: 1 Week; 3 Cataract; 8 Trip; 9 Lingered; 11 Headline news; 13 At-home; 14 Potter; 17 In the long run; 20 Inventor; 21 Beat; 22 Collects; 23 Rome. Down: 1 Watchman; 2 Epitaph; 4 Aligns; 5 At gunpoint; 6 Arrow; 7 Tide; 10 Slim chance; 12 Brunette; 15 Torpedo; 16 Almost; 18 Novel; 19 Zinc.

Clockword solution

**SOLUTION:** 1 Custom, 2 Helium, 3 Random, 4 Inform, 5 Seldom, 6 Tandem, 7 Asylum, 8 Rhythm, 9 Redeem, 10 Affirm, 11 Nepal, 12 Tedium.  
**CELEBRITY:** Chris Tarrant

Wordpuzzler solution

1. Bottle  
2. Finger  
3. Moon  
4. Pain  
5. Losing  
6. Lonely  
7. Magic  
8. Breath  
9. Sun  
10. Stand

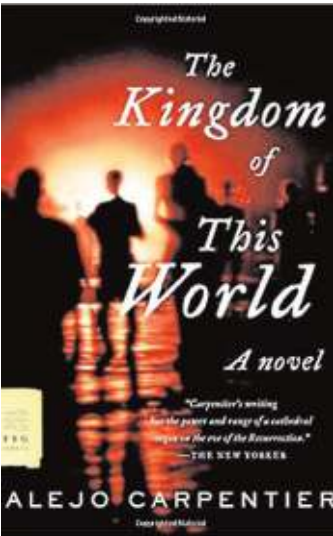
Sudoku solution

6	2	4	3	1	7	8	5	9
9	5	8	4	2	6	1	3	7
7	1	3	9	8	5	2	4	6
8	4	7	6	9	1	3	2	5
2	9	1	5	3	4	7	6	8
5	3	6	2	7	8	4	9	1
3	7	9	8	5	2	6	1	4
1	6	2	7	4	9	5	8	3
4	8	5	1	6	3	9	7	2

Language Crossword

**ACROSS:**  
1. INCONCIENCIA  
2. ALERGIAS  
3. ALERGIAS  
4. ALERGIAS  
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55. ALERGIAS

BOOK OF THE WEEK



The Kingdom of This World  
Alejo Carpentier

A few years after its liberation from the brutality of French colonial rule in 1803, Haiti endured a period of even greater brutality under the reign of King Henri-Christophe, who was born a slave in Grenada but rose to become the first black king in the Western Hemisphere. Alejo Carpentier records the destruction of the black regime built on the same corruption and contempt for human life that brought down the French, in an orgy of voodoo, race hatred, madness, and erotomania.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

As we work to create light for others, we naturally light our own way

MARY ANNE RADMACHER

THE SUR IN ENGLISH CORNER

A monthly focus on golf

We know that golf is one of the favourite pastimes of many SUR in English readers, attracted to the Costa del Sol by the dozens of top class golf courses and, of course, the fine weather to enjoy them. With an edition full of photos of snow and news of cold weather, this might seem an odd time to be stressing the delights of this area for the golfer who wants to be on the greens all year round. Our mild winters are ideal for lovers of this sport, and this week is an exception to the usual fine weather. The week's rain will

have done its bit to help relieve the current drought conditions, however it will take more than that to avoid restrictions in the coming months. This month's Costa del Golf, the golf newspaper included free inside this edition of SUR in English, looks at the current situation of Andalusia's greens and how nearly all of the region's courses use recycled wastewater for irrigation. Apart from this week, that is, when some may well have seen some flakes of snow. Visit us online at [surinenglish.com](http://surinenglish.com)









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# Contemporary dance finds a home on the Costa

## The Wennare Company has taken up residence at the Felipe VI theatre in Estepona

by **CHARO MÁRQUEZ**

**ESTEPONA.** Having a resident dance company is an honour associated with concert halls in major European capitals. However, Estepona can now be added to this prestigious list, as the Auditorio Felipe VI takes in the Wennare Dance Company as permanent residents.

The troop is currently made up of five experienced dancers from Spain, France and Georgia under the direction of choreographer and dancer Yuri Gudushauri, who has experience in both classical and contemporary dance.

Veronika Ulkina, director of the company, said that "it is difficult to manage a company without the use of your own space" and she thanked Estepona town hall for allowing them to use part of the theatre.

Ulkina considers Estepona, and the Costa del Sol, a great place to find spectators. "There is no language or cultural barriers in contemporary dance, it is pure expression and anyone can understand and enjoy it," she explained.

The choreographer, who trained in the Bolshoi Ballet Academy in Moscow, never dreamed of starting a



Dancers rehearse at the Estepona theatre that is now their base for rehearsals and shows. **by C. MÁRQUEZ**

dance company, mainly because of the space problem. "Now we have a theatre to use and a technical team to work with," he said.

Estrella Martín is one of the dancers in the Wennare Dance Company. She trained in New York and Japan

**The company is formed by five dancers from Spain, France and Georgia who will be taking their show on tour**

and considers the Auditorio Felipe VI to be an ideal location for them, partly due to its big stage. "It's a privilege for us to be able to use this theatre because it is very difficult to find somewhere to carry out our entire work process, and not just put on one

show," she said.

As well as the creation and production of shows, having a home means that the company can also offer classes.

Over 60 students, aged between four and 17, make up the school. Gudushauri stressed that this is the only place where children can learn the 'Vaganova' technique of Russian ballet, which is not offered by any other academy or conservatory, but is used by international ballet dancers. The technique comprises of a series of movements derived from the teaching methods from the old Imperial Ballet School in Russia, which emphasises the lines formed with movement of the human body. Currently, the school offers three grants for children from Estepona.

The company made its debut with the successful performance of their first show 'EGO', which they will now be taking on a ten-date tour of Spain, rehearsing back in Estepona between shows. Then, from 1 May they will start preparing a new show.

The Felipe IV theatre, which seats 600, is also home to a variety of activities such as café-theatre, jazz and film cycles, monologue competitions, opera, book and record launches and exhibitions, as well as being home to a religious music band, a swing school and a musical theatre school.



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