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April 27th to May 3rd 2018  
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**SPECIAL SUPPLEMENT**

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Provincial president Elías Bendodo (c) with award winners in Monda.  
:: NITO SALAS

diputación de Málaga

## DÍA DE MÁLAGA

MONDA



### PROVINCIAL PRIDE KNOWS NO BORDERS

British Ambassador Simon Manley was among recipients of Malaga awards on Thursday **P6**

### Man wanted for leaving passenger at scene of near-fatal crash

A British national apparently told no one about the accident in which the car plummeted off the road

A Spanish man is in intensive care after the car in which he was a passenger came off the A-45 and plunged 30 metres down an embankment early on Sunday morning. **P4**



The car was a write-off. :: SUR

**Police remind holiday home owners** to register their visitors' details; only one in four properties complies with the law **P3**

**Hope for Paws.** A Belgian organisation recently sent 2.4 tonnes of pet food and accessories to rescue centres in Malaga **P10**

**Discover hidden Cyprus** away from the coastal resorts with Andrew Forbes in this month's Travel special **P34-37**

# Latest census report shows further fall in British residents

While the general population grows, the numbers of UK citizens registered on the 'padrón' continue to fall, figures reveal

The population of the province of Malaga is growing faster than any other in Andalucía, but this, according to official figures, is not thanks to fellow Europeans. The exit of British residents from the registers continues, showing a 40% fall since 2013. The foreign population is growing, however, with Venezuelans and Colombians leading new arrivals. **P2**

ish residents from the registers continues, showing a 40% fall since 2013. The foreign population is growing, however, with Venezuelans and Colombians leading new arrivals. **P2**

### "The Malaga spirit never dies!"

After relegation was confirmed last week, we look back at the glory years and towards returning the team where it belongs next year **P52-56**



SUR's campaign to unite the fanbase. :: SALVADOR SALAS

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# Malaga is the Andalusian province where the population has grown most, despite Britons leaving

**NURIA TRIGUERO**

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Demographic growth is accelerating and the foreign population has begun to climb after five years of falling because of the arrival of non-EU immigrants

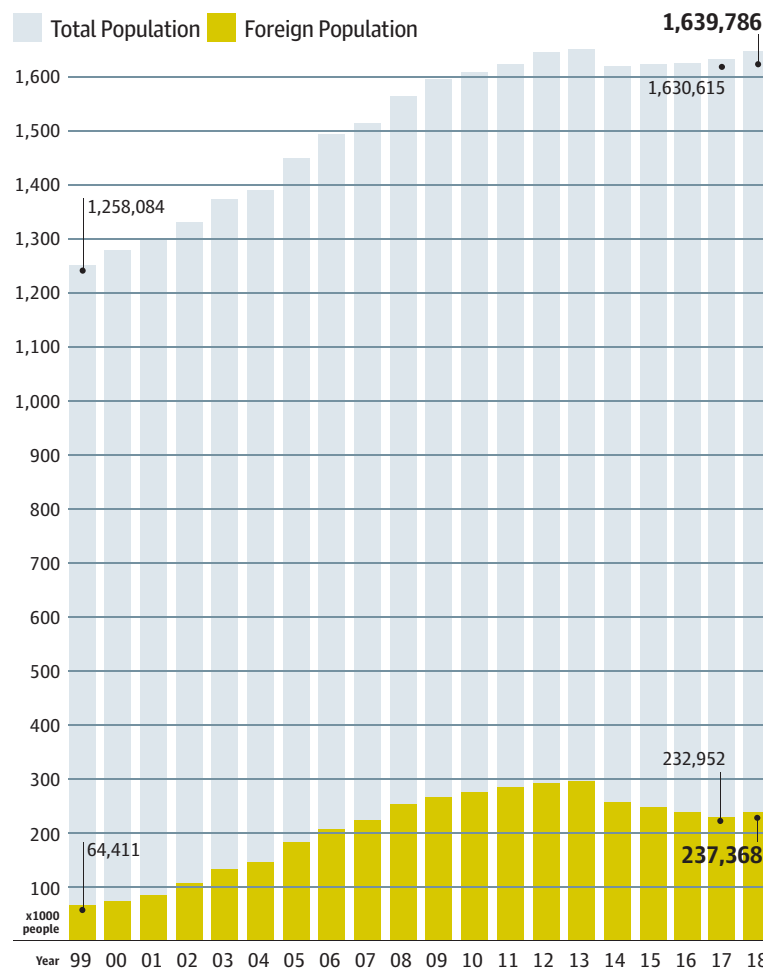
**MALAGA.** Situated in the middle of a region where loss of population is the norm (with five out of eight provinces in Andalucía in decline), Malaga and the Costa del Sol's ability to attract new residents continues.

According to the last padrón, (the local town halls' official census), the province gained 9,171 new residents last year (a 0.6% increase). On 1 January 2018, the number of residents stood at 1,639,786. This increase is greater than the sum of the changes in the other provinces combined. Without Malaga and the Costa del Sol's pulling power, Andalucía would have lost almost 12,000 residents. The decline elsewhere in Andalucía was mostly felt in Jaén (-5,802 residents) and Córdoba (-3,367).

Malaga province's population growth accelerated in 2017. In the year it achieved its largest increase since 2012. In national rankings, the number of new residents was the sixth largest.

This increase is a result of changes to both the native and the foreign populations. In concrete terms, last year Malaga province gained 4,755 new Spanish residents and 4,416 of other nationalities. This last figure signals a reversal of the recent trend

Population in the province of Malaga (Changes by year)



**Venezuelan presence has grown most, with 820 more residents**

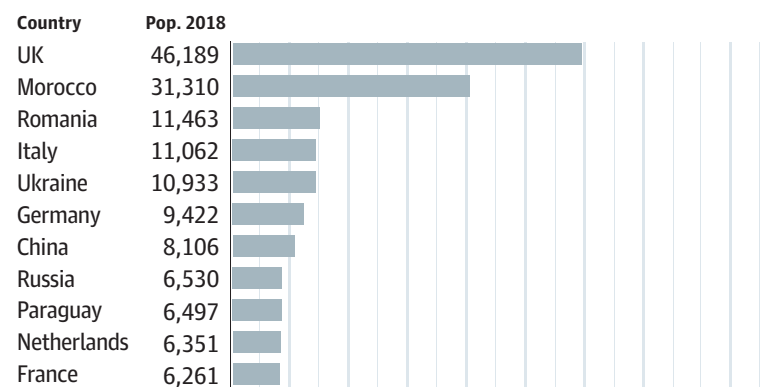
**The diminishing UK population: the Brits have gone down by 40% since 2013**

of a diminishing foreign population.

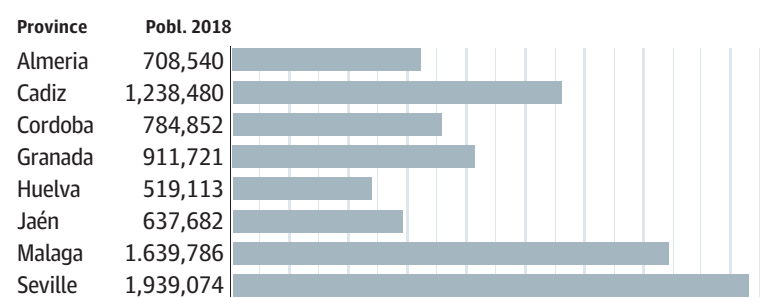
What has changed? To answer this question we need to look back over the last few years when the number of European residents on the Costa del Sol and in Malaga province decreased drastically, especially the British population, which was and still is the biggest nationality.

Since 2013, the number of British people registered on the censuses at town halls has fallen by 40%. Other nationalities, such as the Finnish have

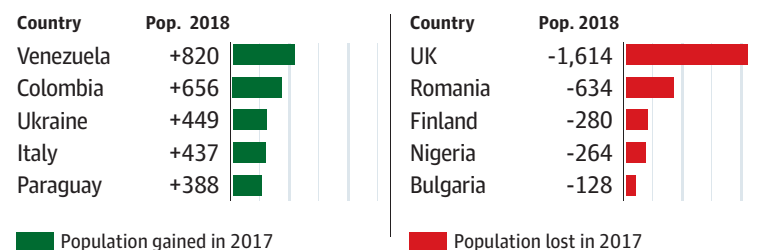
Local foreign population by country of origin



Population by province



Change in foreign population



Source: INE

also diminished. This trend has been explained as due to a mix of the ever-increasing age of foreign residents and a decrease in local purchasing power forcing them home, plus the new rule imposed on town halls which states that if a foreign national

fails to renew themselves as a resident for a certain number of years, town councils must take them off the census even if they still live here.

And this trend continued last year. The large British population continues to fall (at least according to the

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## The population of Spain grows for the first time in five years

### ■ SUR

**MALAGA.** The total number of residents registered in Spain on 1 January 2018 was 46,698,569, according to the analysis of official rolling town-hall-census data published on Tuesday by the government's National Institute of Statistics. Of this total, 41,979,151 people are Spanish nationals (89.9% of the total) and 4,719,418 are international (10.1% of the total).

In the last calendar year, 126,437 more people were registered by town halls as residents in Spain (an increase of 0.3%). This is the first population growth for five years. The expansion is down to immigra-

tion, given that during 2017, the number of registered Spanish nationals decreased by 20,174 people (0.05%) and that of internationals has increased by 146,611 (3.2%).

Among the latter group, those belonging to the European Union have increased by 2,709% people (0.2%) and those from elsewhere by 143,902 people (5.1%).

Over 2017, populations have diminished in nine autonomous communities. The rest have seen an increase. Madrid, Catalonia and the Canaries have experienced the largest population expansions, while Castilla y León, Extremadura and Galicia have suffered the largest losses.

official statistics): last year saw 1,614 fewer registered Brits. Numbers from Ireland and Finland are also dwindling. Overall, Malaga province lost 1,000 residents net from EU member countries.

### Venezuela leads the way

If these nationalities have diminished, which have grown? The biggest arrivals are the Venezuelans. Last year, more than 800 people came to Malaga seeking refuge status from Venezuela. This number is striking, especially when compared with past figures, as it represents an increase of 30% in just one year.

Alejandro Cortina, director of Malaga Acoge, a charity which helps to integrate immigrants into Malaga, doesn't have any doubts about their motive: "The exodus is linked to the political situation in Venezuela combined with the fact that Spain has a policy of accepting refugees into the country". Of those nationalities seeking asylum in Spain in 2017, the largest proportion were from Venezuela. Of the 3,600 people that solicited the services of Malaga Acoge last year, 260 were from Venezuela. Moroccans are the organisation's most frequent visitors.

Cortina worries for those who

have arrived here in order to escape war or political hardship. "Decisions regarding immigration documents are often made slowly or delayed. This means that people will live here uncertain about their future."

Ukraine is another country whose natives are moving into the province. In 2017, Malaga gained 449 more Ukrainians, the third largest population increase by nationality, after Venezuela and Colombia.

The Ukrainian population in Spain has always been numerous on the Mediterranean coast, originally made up of women who came in search of domestic service jobs and later brought their families. "This recent increase in immigration has been brought about by Ukraine's political situation," affirms Cortina.

In terms of continents, the largest influx of migrants came from the Americas, with 3,060 new residents coming from this continent, the majority being Venezuelan, Colombian, Paraguayan, Brazilian and from the US. Second is those from Asia (1,184 more registered residents). African immigration has grown at a moderate pace, with 147 new registered immigrants. Moroccans are the most common African nationality in Malaga.

## Don't forget to register guests, police tell self-catering owners

Only one in four people renting out holiday homes on the Costa del Sol complies with the legal obligation to submit the names of those in their properties to the authorities

■ PILAR MARTÍNEZ / JUAN CANO

**MALAGA.** Since 2 February 2016 the National Police have been in charge of controlling who is staying in tourist self-catering accommodation across Malaga province and the Costa de Sol. However the

numbers speak for themselves: so far only 23 per cent of holiday homes listed on the tourist accommodation register are managing to meet their legal obligations and tell police the names of guests.

The rules were introduced to bring the rapidly increasing number of rental properties into line with hotels, which have been requesting guests' passport details for years.

Of the almost 19,000 registered holiday lets in Malaga province, only around 4,500 have set up an account with the National Police to send through the data. Owners (or agents) are required to use a special online program to supply the name, nationality and passport

number of each visitor, as well as the dates of their stay, within 24 hours of a guest first arriving.

"The person most concerned who is in their property should be the owner, and even more so with a level 4 terrorism alert currently in place. If we don't know that a particular person is there, we cannot do anything. Our main aim is prevention," says Gustavo Ferrer of the National Police in Malaga province.

### Setting it up should be easy

As the police explain, setting up an account with them to send them the details regularly is easy. Owners should contact their nearest National Police station and ask to be emailed the forms that need to be filled in. Once complete, an appointment needs to be arranged to hand in the paperwork at the same place. An online app is then used to send in the guests' details. Fines for noncompliance by owners can range from 100 euros for a first minor offence to 30,000 euros for those who impede police access to information.

However representatives of the holiday rental industry have criticised the waiting time for appointments at police stations and say that, as a result, some owners have been unable to comply even though they have wanted to.

Start-up companies have also been designing apps to help busy owners of holiday flats and houses process the data from guests more easily and inform police. One such app is CheKin, developed in Andalucía, that claims to save 90 per cent of processing time.



The area is experiencing a boom in new rental properties. ■ SUR

More tourist rental news :  
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# Search on for British man who abandoned passenger at scene of near-fatal car accident

The mystery continues over the supposed driver who fled the scene by the A-45 motorway and was taken to hospital alleging that he had been attacked by "the police"

by JUAN CANO / ÁLVARO FRÍAS

**MALAGA.** The Guardia Civil are searching for a British national who apparently abandoned his seriously injured passenger after a traffic accident early on Sunday morning. The car they were travelling in left the A-45 and plummeted 30 metres down an embankment, landing near the Guadalmedina river. The British man could be charged with failure to render aid.

The victim, a 42-year-old Spanish man from Riogordo, was not located until five hours after the accident when a local stumbled across the scene and called 112. The supposed driver of the car managed to get to a hostel in Casabermeja and told staff that he has been attacked by "the police".

The hostel staff called the emergency services who took him to Carlos Haya hospital in Malaga. At no point did he mention a car ac-



The victim is removed from the wreckage of the car discovered on Sunday morning. :: SUR

cident nor that another person was still trapped in the vehicle.

The accident took place at around 2am last Sunday morning at the 131.5 kilometre point of the Las Pedrizas road (A-45), about three kilometres past Venta Co-trina on the Antequera-bound

carriageway.

According to sources from the investigation, the victim said at the scene of the rescue that the two men, who were friends, were returning to the Axarquía area after a night out in Fuengirola.

In and around the wreckage of

the car, twelve empty bottles of beer were found, as well as a bottle of vodka in the boot.

The initial hypothesis is that the British man was the driver and managed to jump free before the car fell down the bank

He did not appear to have sus-

tained anything more than mild bruising but investigations still cannot ascertain the motive for fleeing and not mentioning the injured passenger.

## Critical state

The emergency services did not receive the call about the second injured man until 8.15am. Firefighters from the city of Malaga and from Colmenar were deployed to the site of the accident and freed the man from the wreckage.

Service members from 061 managed to stabilise his condition before rushing him by ambulance to Carlos Haya hospital with head injuries and internal bleeding. The patient was admitted to the intensive care unit and his condition was described as very serious.

The alleged driver of the vehicle was discharged from the same hospital hours previously after spending a few hours under observation. SUR has confirmed that this was the same man who called an ambulance from the hostel in Casabermeja.

Upon finding that the two cases were related, Guardia Civil agents appeared at the hospital that morning to interview the man, but he had already been discharged. He had only given the hospital his first name.

Detectives initially focused their investigation on a third man, 60, who is also British and also resident in Riogordo. The car involved in the crash was rented in his name from a car hire company in Malaga.

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# Club Med will open in Marbella in July 2019 after remodelling the Don Miguel hotel

NIEVES CASTRO

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The new resort will be run by the world's biggest 'all-inclusive' quality tourism group and is being designed with families in mind

**MARBELLA.** It was a great party at the old Don Miguel hotel in Marbella earlier this week, when directors of Magna Hotels & Resorts, the company which owns the building, and Club Med, the French group which will run the establishment, laid the first stone of a project to reform the legendary hotel, which is due to reopen in July next year.

The renovation works will create 300 jobs, and a further 300 positions when the complex is open and running. About 1,000 indirect jobs will also be created by the project.

The hotel first opened in 1974 and closed down in 2004. Its name, layout and concept will have changed completely when it opens its doors to guests in the summer of 2019. Club Med-Magna Marbella will be open 11 months of the year as an all-inclusive resort for families and it will also new business and event facilities.

The number of rooms will remain the same - 486 - but there will be new additions. "The new hotel, built on 125,000 square metres of land, will have several restaurants, bars, a top class spa, a business and events centre with room for up to 1,000 people and 60,000 square metres of sports facilities including 11 tennis courts," explained the president of Magna Hotels & Resorts, Jihad Megharief.

The plans will maintain the existing structure but give a new air to the front, which will be white, but the interior of the the building will be completely ripped out and remodelled. The hotel will offer child care from the age of four months and will have a wide variety of sports facilities



The founder of Magna Hotels&Resorts, Dokali Megharief; the president of Club Med, Henri Giscard; the mayor of Marbella, Ángeles Muñoz; and the president of Magna Hotels&Resorts, Jihad Megharief. :: J.-LANZA

First stone, flamenco and synchronised swimming

The laying of the first stone of the hotel which Club Med will open in July 2019 was celebrated with a party. Members of Marbella council and local residents were invited by the hosts, Magna Hotels & Resorts and Club Med. There was flamenco music, synchronised swimming and a cocktail party in the gardens. The presidents of the two companies, Jihad Megharief y Henri Giscard d'Estaing, and the mayor of Marbella, Ángeles Muñoz, marked the occasion in a very special way, placing their handprints on a 50-kilo clay picture created by artist Salvador Luna.

## THE FIGURES

72

million euros are being invested in the project.

300

direct jobs will be created when the complex opens.

125,000

metres is the size of the site.

486

rooms at the hotel, adding nearly 1,000 beds in Marbella.

ties on the land around the building. The renovation works have just begun, as the relevant permissions have now been granted by Marbella council.

### Luxury hotel

The company, which is owned by an Arab investment group, bought the hotel in 2012. At that time it announced that it planned to reopen it as a luxury hotel for Marbella.

In his speech, the CEO of Magna Hotels & Resorts asked people living in the area to be patient during the construction phase and thanked the council for its support for the project. He said the laying of the first stone symbolised the start of the conversion of the former Don Miguel into "a top-of-the-range family hotel". The group will be investing nearly 72 million euros on the project.

The company hopes between 300,000 and 400,000 guests a year will stay in the hotel's rooms, which have sea and mountain views. It believes this is possible thanks to the association with Club Med, a partner with over six decades of experience in managing all-inclusive family hotels.

With this new establishment Club Med, which operates 70 four and five star hotels in 26 international destinations, is returning to Spain and the objective, according to president Henri Giscard d'Estaing, is to convert this hotel in Marbella into the company's flagship in this country. The president of the French group highlighted its location, with easy access, just 30 minutes from Malaga airport, which is "ideal for international clients", who will be staying in a complex whose design will be inspired by powerful "Spanish

cultural themes".

The head of Club Med also stressed the impact that this project will have on Marbella and the nearby area, principally because it will use local suppliers and that will produce important benefits for companies in the area. Giscard d'Estaing pointed out that after the French market, the next most important for the group is China, which opens interesting perspectives for Marbella.

Among other VIP guests, the party to celebrate the laying of the first stone of the new hotel was attended by the mayor, Ángeles Muñoz, who expressed her satisfaction that the hotel will be opening again, will create jobs and benefit the local economy. "The fact that a powerful tourism company like Club Med has decided to return to Spain is a reflection of what Marbella has to offer," she said.

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Locals mingle with provincial authorities and guests outside the church in Monda on Thursday. :: NITO SALAS

# Extension to the Caminito del Rey announced at provincial celebrations in Monda

The British Ambassador to Spain, Simon Manley, was among the recipients of awards at the Day of the Province celebrations in the Monda church on Thursday morning

## ANTONIO M. ROMERO

The president of the Malaga provincial government (Diputación), Elías Bendodo, used the Día de la Provincia celebrations on Thursday to announce plans to extend the Caminito del Rey to twice its length.

The famous walk currently covers seven kilometres, including the “daredevil” gorgeside path as well as the surrounding woodland. The extension, between 5.5 and seven kilometres long, will turn the walk into a circular route, starting and finishing at the same point. The current route is linear and one-way, with transport needed to get back to the starting point.

The provincial authority has already met with the regional minister for the Environment, José Fiscal, and the local councils involved (Álora, Ardales, Valle de Abdalajís, Antequera, Pizarra and Campillos) to get the project off the ground.

Bendodo explained on Thursday that the new section of the route would include more raised walkways around the mountainside and take visitors through “beautiful” natural spaces that are not normally accessible to walkers.

He gave no fixed timeline, simply saying the project would be carried out “as soon as possible”, although he pointed out that the new section would not be as complex as the first one to build.

“Our aim is to improve the ex-



Elías Bendodo gives Simon Manley his award. :: NITO SALAS

perience even more, to give visitors the chance to see more of such extraordinary natural surroundings,” said Bendodo.

## Annual tribute

The celebration of the 15th Day of the Province took place in the church of Santiago Apóstol in Monda, built in 1505 on the site of a former mosque.

Held on 26 April every year since 2004, the event commemorates the date the first democratic provincial corporation was constituted after the dictatorship, and highlights Malaga’s identity and roots.

Every year gold medals and other distinctions are presented by the provincial government to outstanding individuals and institutions in the fields of culture, the arts, science, research, education, sport, charity, environmental protection and economic entrepreneurs.

This year the recipients of the awards were the Hermanitas de los Pobres, the newspaper El Sol de Antequera, Olympic bronze medallist Regino Hernández and businessman Federico Beltrán, all of whom were

presented with the gold medal of the province.

There was also a special award for the UK’s Ambassador to Spain, Simon Manley, after the proposal was approved by the provincial government with votes in favour from the PP, Ciudadanos and the PSOE. The IU and Malaga Ahora parties abstained.

On receiving the award the ambassador highlighted the links between Malaga and the UK. “This province is in the hearts of the British,” he said, adding that Brexit would not stop Britons visiting and investing in the province.

Since the Day of the Province first began, more than 50 people and institutions have been presented with an award. The ceremony is held in a different place in Malaga province each year and the aim is always to choose municipalities governed by different political parties.

Monda, which is currently governed by Izquierda Unida, is in the Sierra de las Nieves natural park, and the decision to hold the event there gave added support to the area’s ongoing journey towards its classification as a National Park.

## THIS YEAR’S AWARD WINNERS

### Snowboarder Regino Hernández

On 15 February this year Regino Hernández made sporting history by winning a bronze medal for snowboarding at the Winter Olympics in PyeongChang. It was the first time in 26 years that a Spanish athlete had won a medal at these games. Regino, who was born in Ceuta but has



lived in Mijas most of his life and says he is a ‘malagueño’ by adoption, was the third Spaniard to achieve it. The Malaga gold medal with which he was presented on Thursday is the latest in a number of awards he has received in recognition of his skill and talent at his chosen sport.

### Entrepreneur Federico Beltrán

With sales totalling 200 million euros a year and a production of 200,000 hams and 4,500 tonnes of cured meats which are sold in the EU, Russia, China, Africa and south-east Asia, Famadesa is one of the ten biggest meat companies in Spain. Its president is Federico Beltrán,



one of the most important businessmen in Malaga province and standard-bearer of the Malaga food and agricultural industry. These are the qualities which were taken into account by the provincial government when deciding that he merited one of the coveted gold Malaga medals.

### Las Hermanitas de los Pobres

For the past 153 years, the Hermanitas de los Pobres - a community of Catholic nuns which was founded in France in 1839 - has been working to help disadvantaged elderly people in its residences in Malaga province. The provincial government (Diputación de



Malaga) decided to pay public and institutional tribute to the nuns’ spirit of generosity and dedication by awarding the community a Malaga gold medal this year. The Hermanitas de los Pobres community is held in great regard and affection by people in the province.

### The newspaper El Sol de Antequera

For 100 years the newspaper El Sol de Antequera has been bringing the news and highlighting the traditions of the Antequera region of the province. Founded in 1918, it is now one of the oldest in Andalucía but has always kept up with the times and since



2001 it has also had a digital edition. The newspaper has always identified itself with the interests of Antequera, and the provincial government decided that in the year it celebrates its centenary it also deserved to be awarded a gold medal of Malaga.

### The British Ambassador, Simon Manley

Since June 2013, Simon Manley, a diplomat with a long career behind him, has been the United Kingdom’s Ambassador to Spain. The provincial government wanted to pay tribute to his success in expanding the good relations between the UK and Malaga province, where this year the XXX Tertulias His-



pano-Británicas will be taking place, with the participation of over 100 authorities, entrepreneurs, financial experts, academics and representatives of civil society. In addition, Britain is the biggest source market for tourism to Malaga. Mr Manley was awarded the shield of the province.





# Good news for UK nationals about Spanish Succession Tax

By Steve Langford, Partner, Blevins Franks

Spanish succession and gift tax (SSGT) is an unpopular tax, so much so that thousands of people renounce their inheritance each year, largely because of the prohibitive tax bills. However, over recent years reforms made by many regional governments have significantly reduced this tax liability for spouses, descendants and ascendants.

Now, a Spanish Supreme Court Ruling is reassuring for non-EU/EEA residents. There is a strong chance these regional rules will continue to apply to UK residents after Brexit, even if the UK ends up outside the European Economic Area (EEA).

If you live or have assets in Spain, your succession tax liability depends on whether you (when you receive an inheritance or gift) and your beneficiaries (when they receive assets from you) are eligible for the more beneficial regional rules. If not, tax is calculated under the state rules, where the highest reduction is just €15,956. In contrast, some regions offer a 99% succession tax relief and even substantial exemptions for spouses and descendants.

## Background

In the past, you had to be habitually resident in an Autonomous Community to benefit from its regional rules.

Then in 2011 the European Commission referred Spain to the European Court of Justice (ECJ) for discriminatory rules on succession and gift tax that required non-residents to pay higher taxes than residents. This went against the EU's fundamental principle of free movement of people and capital. In 2014 the ECJ ruled that Spain was acting illegally by allowing this different tax treatment.

In January 2015 new rules came into force so that beneficiaries living outside a Spanish Autonomous Community can now benefit from the local rates and allowances... but only where they live in the EU or EEA. This is despite the fact that the EU Treaty's free movement principle also includes third parties.

Recently, the Spanish Supreme Court published a landmark judgement concluding that the terms of the ECJ 2014 ruling must be

extended to all non-resident beneficiaries, regardless of where they live.

## 2018 Spanish Supreme judgement

On 19th February 2018, the Supreme Court reached a judgement in the case of a Canadian resident beneficiary inheriting an estate from her mother who lived in *Cataluña*. She had paid over €300,000 in succession tax as per the state rules.

The court ruled that the SSGT rules breach the EU Treaty's free movement of capital rules, and that the 2014 ruling should also apply to non-EU/EEA residents. It believes the breach is so clear and serious it also justified the civil liability of Spain – it recognises the rights of taxpayers to seek damages.

## How does this change the rules?

The Spanish succession and gift tax rules themselves have not changed; the ruling is not currently binding for Spanish tax administration so at present the regional beneficial rules still do not apply to non-EU/EEA residents. However –

1) The judgement gives non-

EU/EEA residents a strong argument as to why they should be able to apply regional tax rules and rates when receiving inheritances and gifts.

2) It is possible that Spain will change its legislation in future to extend regional benefits to non-EU/EEA residents.

3) It opens the door for non-EEA resident taxpayers to claim back refunds for succession and gift tax paid under the discriminate rules over the last four years (the statute of limitations period).

## A relief for UK nationals with Brexit on the way

This good news is particularly relevant for UK nationals. As things currently, if the UK ends up outside both the EU and EEA after Brexit, anyone living in Spain and receiving an inheritance from the UK, or any UK resident receiving an inheritance or gift from Spain, cannot apply the beneficial regional rules.

So if Spain changes its legislation to cover non-EU/EEA residents, then the local rules will apply to them

too, regardless of the final Brexit terms. Even if the rules do not change, they may be able to use the Supreme Court judgement to claim the application of the regional rules, in certain cases.

## Take advice

Cross-border estate planning is complex and Brexit adds further complications and concerns. Blevins Franks has been advising expatriates in Spain for decades. Contact your local office for specialist, personalised advice on establishing an effective estate plan and provide peace of mind that the right money will go to the right people at the right time, with as little tax as possible. [www.blevinsfranks.com](http://www.blevinsfranks.com)

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

## Can I continue to use my UK Financial Adviser now that I live outside the UK?

Due to a change in legislation, UK based financial advisers may not have the correct regulatory permission to give advice in Spain or carry professional indemnity insurance for advising people who live outside the UK.

Blevins Franks is fully authorised in both jurisdictions. We are specialists in cross-border advice and fully conversant with both Spanish and UK tax. Please call us for more information.

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# Great unity among the United Nationalities of Marbella

Popular English-language media presenter in Marbella, Nicole King, invited international expats to discuss resolving issues together

:: GABRIELA BERNER

**MARBELLA.** She runs a radio show named 'Mi Marbella' and the TV show 'Marbella now' on RTVE Marbella, she talks about laws, local news, events, culture, agendas and more. Nicole King has met many interesting interviewees from all parts of the world as her main concern is to encourage people living in Marbella to get more involved with other nationalities.

Her programmes serve as a networking media hub between the town hall and the people of Marbella that is home to 139 nations.



Velvet restaurant hosted the third edition of United Nationalities of Marbella. :: GABRIELA BERNER

Last Tuesday, Nicole organised the third United Nationalities of Marbella Summit which had among its objectives to "establish a grapevine network to connect our multinational community along our 27km coastline and to support and help promote year-round business and encourage local customer loyalty", she stressed.

The invitation was accepted by around 80 people, including British Consul in Málaga, Charmaine Arbouin, and head of Marbella Foreign Residents' Department, Oti García. There were representatives of several associations and business clubs such as Costa Women, Russian Luks, Dutch Ellas, just to name a few.

There was also a wide range of charities: Rotary, Lions, Concordia, Debra, Mundo Infantil, Age Concern, Triple A and more. All these were ready to be part of the new communication network as they want to raise their profile, attract volunteers and make new contacts in order to provide more help to the vulnerable members of the community.

Many good ideas and projects were launched during the event and updates will be given on 'Mi Marbella' on 107.6 FM.



## THIS HOME INSURANCE OPENS YOUR DOOR WHEN YOU CAN'T FIND YOUR KEYS

## Mijas Rotary Club plants 100 trees to help restore stability to the natural world

The event was sponsored by the World School Championships for Reforestation

:: TONY BRYANT

**OJÉN.** The Rotary Club Mijas participated in the global Earth Day celebrations last weekend, by planting 100 trees in the Eco Reserva nature park in Ojén.

Earth Day is an annual event celebrated on 22 April and various events are held worldwide to demonstrate support for environmental protection. Members of the Rotary Club and several volunteers worked from midday until darkness, in order to contribute to the 100,000 trees due to be planted in 80 countries to mark the occasion. The group was instructed by Antonio Calbo, a representative of Eco Reserva, a former hunting park that has been converted into an ecological reserve.



Helping to counteract the devastation and effects of worldwide deforestation. :: SUR

The event was sponsored by World School Championships for Reforestation. The Malaga-based group works to counteract the devastation and effects of deforestation

worldwide by challenging students to raise funds to rebuild forests.

The Rotary Club began the reforestation project in the Eco Reserva last year, when they planted 120

cherry and almond trees.

"Planting a tree can bring our forests back and make a difference to our world," Anita Noordzij, Rotary Club press officer, said.

### HERE AND THERE

#### Sports event worth millions to Marbella

**MARBELLA**

:: **MÓNICA PÉREZ.** The Ironman 70.3 competition is taking place in Marbella on Sunday, 29 April, and 2,500 people are expected to take part. The economic impact of the event is estimated to be around ten million euros, as many of those attending will be staying in the town for several days.

#### Preparations under way in Cancelada

**ESTEPONA**

:: **CHARO MÁRQUEZ.** On 1 May the district of Cancelada will be holding its annual 'romería' and the council is carrying out improvements to the Guadalmansa area, where the festivities will take place. As well as tidying up the land and painting the patio of the church, the lane the procession will take is being repaired.



## New larger drop-in centre for foreign residents announced

### ■ SUR IN ENGLISH

**MARBELLA.** The United Nations of Marbella event was a chance for many organisations to make announcements about new initiatives. And one of the most important pieces of news to emerge was the forthcoming opening of a new, enlarged Foreign Residents' department at Marbella Council. The new centre, which will have an official opening next month, will be on the second floor of the resort's Palacio de Congresos. Oti García Díaz-Ambrona who runs the department, said that the new location had been chosen as it is easier to park and gives more space to meet the needs of the many international residents in Marbella. She added that there will be rooms for residents to use as workspace to hold their own meetings as well.

# Contract awarded to build new San Pedro health centre with work starting by summer

The SAS regional health service will spend 4.6 million euros on the new facility that will be three times the size of the current building

### ■ MÓNICA PÉREZ

**MARBELLA.** The representative of the Junta de Andalucía regional government in Malaga has said that the new SAS health centre in San Pedro will be ready in 2019.

José Luis Ruiz Espejo was speaking on an official visit to the nearby Hospital Costa del Sol designed to promote the health benefits of olive oil.

The construction of the new health centre in San Pedro has been awarded to Añil Servicios who are expected to start work before the summer and complete building within 18 months. A total of ten



José Luis Ruiz Espejo (centre) at the Costa del Sol Hospital. ■ J-LANZA

companies bid for the work.

The new centre has been urgently called for some time as the existing building is too small and in a state of disrepair. Moves to replace the existing centre began last summer when Marbella council agreed to give up a piece of land it owned next to the current site.

### Designed to serve 45,000

The centre will be designed to serve a local catchment area of 45,000 people. It will cover 3,441 square metres, triple the old building, with 24 consulting rooms for adults and four more for children. Unlike the existing centre, there will also be an orthodontal surgery and a mental health facility. There will also be a physiotherapy service and equipment for minor operations.

"We will be ready in 2019, just like we said," said Ruiz Espejo on his visit to the Marbella area.

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## Work starts on beach repairs and should be finished by June

The coastal authority says 75,000 cubic metres of sand will be added to the beaches

### ■ NIEVES CASTRO

**MARBELLA.** Emergency works are being carried out on beaches to repair the damage caused by storms earlier in the year. The works will take place throughout May and are scheduled to be completed before 1 June.

The first part of the project will involve compacting the sand on all the beaches between El Cable and Las Chapas, which suffered severe damage in January and February. Breakwaters and walkways will also be repaired.

The coastal authority says that 75,000 cubic metres of sand will be placed on the municipality's beaches before the summer season begins.



The beaches suffered serious damage in storms. ■ SUR



## A JOB WITH THE STARLITE STARS

Thousands of hopeful people have applied for the 400 jobs on offer at the Starlite Festival this summer, which will once again take place in the Nagüeles quarry. The jobs range from waiters and bar-men to hostesses and drivers, and the organisers expect at least 60 per cent of the positions to be filled by people who have worked at Starlite before. The interviews took place this week.



# A boundless ambition to help abused dogs

**Hope for Paws vzw is a Belgian organisation that recently sent 2.4 tonnes of food and accessories to rescue centres in Malaga**

:: TONY BRYANT

**MALAGA.** Several dog refuge centres in Malaga have benefitted from a recent scheme organised by Hope for Paws vzw, a foundation established by Cindy Terrière, a lady with a boundless love for rescue dogs.

In order to raise money for the shelters around Malaga, the Belgian charity hosted a series of fundraising events and organised collections of pet food, baskets, linen, toys, and collars. Last week 2,400 kg of material was transported from Antwerp to Malaga, where it will be divided among several local shelters.

The shelters include The Fiedelio in Benalmádena; Apariv, the Association for the Protection of Animals in Rincón de la Victoria, and El Rincón de Peco in Malaga. All of these rescue centres cater for large numbers of neglected and abandoned dogs, most of which are malnourished and have suffered abuse.

"It's beyond my comprehension that people literally throw puppies away in the trash bin; that they leave their dogs chained up in bad conditions and that they starve them to death," Cindy told SUR in English.

Cindy's aim is not only to do volunteer work, but to try to change the climate in animal welfare politics and also try to change the attitude of people regarding their animals.

## Sterilisation project

Cindy recently visited Spain with a sister organisation called Dogs Behind Bars. The group of Belgian volunteers and veterinary surgeons took part in a sterilisation project for stray dogs in the Seville province. The group visited five shelters



The Belgian veterinary surgeons sterilised 32 dogs during a recent visit to Andalucía. :: SUR



Volunteers are dedicated to giving stray dogs a happier life. :: SUR

and performed 32 sterilisations in seven days. The collaboration between vets, shelters and Dogs Behind Bars went so well that Cindy now hopes to operate a similar service in Malaga.

"Doing nothing changes nothing. If we can work together with each other we will be on the right route to make that change," she declares with conviction.

## Adoption programme

The organisation also offers a foster and adoption programme, which has already given over 700 Spanish stray dogs a new home in Belgium and the Netherlands.

Before adoption, all dogs are neutered and provided with a microchip and a European passport. Their volunteers visit all adoption candidates in advance, to make sure the right dog goes to the right people.

"Dogs are living creatures with intelligence and emotions and as people we owe it to them to treat them in a good way. Spain is drowning in stray dogs and it needs to change its attitude towards sterilisation and castration. We hope to change that mentality, even though this will be a long term vision," Cindy explains.

Hope for Paws' next fundraising event will take place on Thursday 24 May in La Cala de Mijas, when a hairdressing salon will donate the takings from each wash and blow dry to the animal charity.

"All volunteers in Belgium, as well as in Spain, do all this in their own free time. They don't get paid and even pay their travel costs. The only reward they get is the satisfaction of knowing they are able to give mistreated and abandoned dogs the chance of a happy life," Cindy says passionately.

**i information :**  
[www.facebook.com/hopeforpawsvzw](http://www.facebook.com/hopeforpawsvzw)

**Hope for Paws offers a foster and adoption program and has given 700 Spanish stray dogs a new home in Belgium**

**The charity hopes to change the attitude of people regarding their animals**

**Charity claims Spain needs to introduce sterilisation and castration schemes**

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## Moroccan man arrested in Malaga for financing terrorism

The suspect, who owns a greengrocers near the city centre, is accused of sending money to his wife, one of Daesh's most dangerous terrorists

by **Á. FRÍAS AND J. CANO**

**MALAGA.** A 35-year-old Moroccan man who is legally resident in Spain was arrested on Monday for allegedly financing terrorism. The man, who has been named as 'Fouad L.', ran the Súper Verde greengrocers in Calle Eugenio Gross, and was known to his customers as either 'Mohamed' or 'Juan'. The police say he sent money to his wife, 'Fadoua H', also aged 35, who is now one of the most-wanted terrorists in Europe, so that she could travel to Syria and join the Daesh terrorist organisation.

In February 2016 Fadoua left Spain on a flight to Greece, and interrupted her journey in Turkey. Between then and June that year, she received monthly money transfers of more than 700 euros from her husband to fund her stay, accompanied by a 25-year-old Palestinian who is believed to be an intermedi-



The suspect was detained on Monday. **SALVADOR SALAS**

ary for Daesh.

The authorities say that between 2015 and 2016 Fadoua sent money to the family of this jihadist and financed his movements across Europe. As she had no money of her own, this money is thought to have come from her husband.

Fadoua returned briefly to Malaga, but in July 2016 she and her Palestinian companion travelled over-

land to Syria, still funded by Fouad. Once there, she went into combat and is now known as one of the group's most dangerous terrorists.

People in Malaga who knew Fouad L. are shocked to find that he had terrorist links. "He was always so kind. He used to carry elderly people's shopping for them," said one woman on Monday. "Nobody here suspected anything."



The evicted mother at the door of her home this week. **SUR**

## Benalmádena breaks no-eviction pact and leaves family homeless

by **ALBERTO GÓMEZ**

**BENALMÁDENA.** Councillors in Benalmádena have broken their vow to stop evictions in the municipality. This week local police and social workers supervised the departure of a couple and their two young children from a flat which is part of the social housing stock belonging to the council itself.

Benalmádena council has defended the move, saying that the family had no right to be there and had been given 18 months no-

tice. It says that the flat was once lived in by the woman's grandparents but, once they died, she continued to use it despite not having any right to do so, adding that the law requires it to check people's entitlement to the municipality's stock of 230 houses every two years and that it hadn't been checked since 2008.

The couple, who say they have nowhere to go and little money to rent anywhere, are currently staying with friends.

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# Mijas puts aside 4m euros for a hospital and asks Junta and Fuengirola for action

The mayor wants the neighbouring council to join with his to finance a new facility in the Las Lagunas area

IVÁN GELIBTER

**MIJAS.** The mayor of Mijas, Juan Carlos Maldonado, has made the surprise announcement that he has set aside four million euros in the council budget to go towards funding a new hospital for the Mijas area, to be built on a proposed site in Las Lagunas.

Mijas has been asking for a local

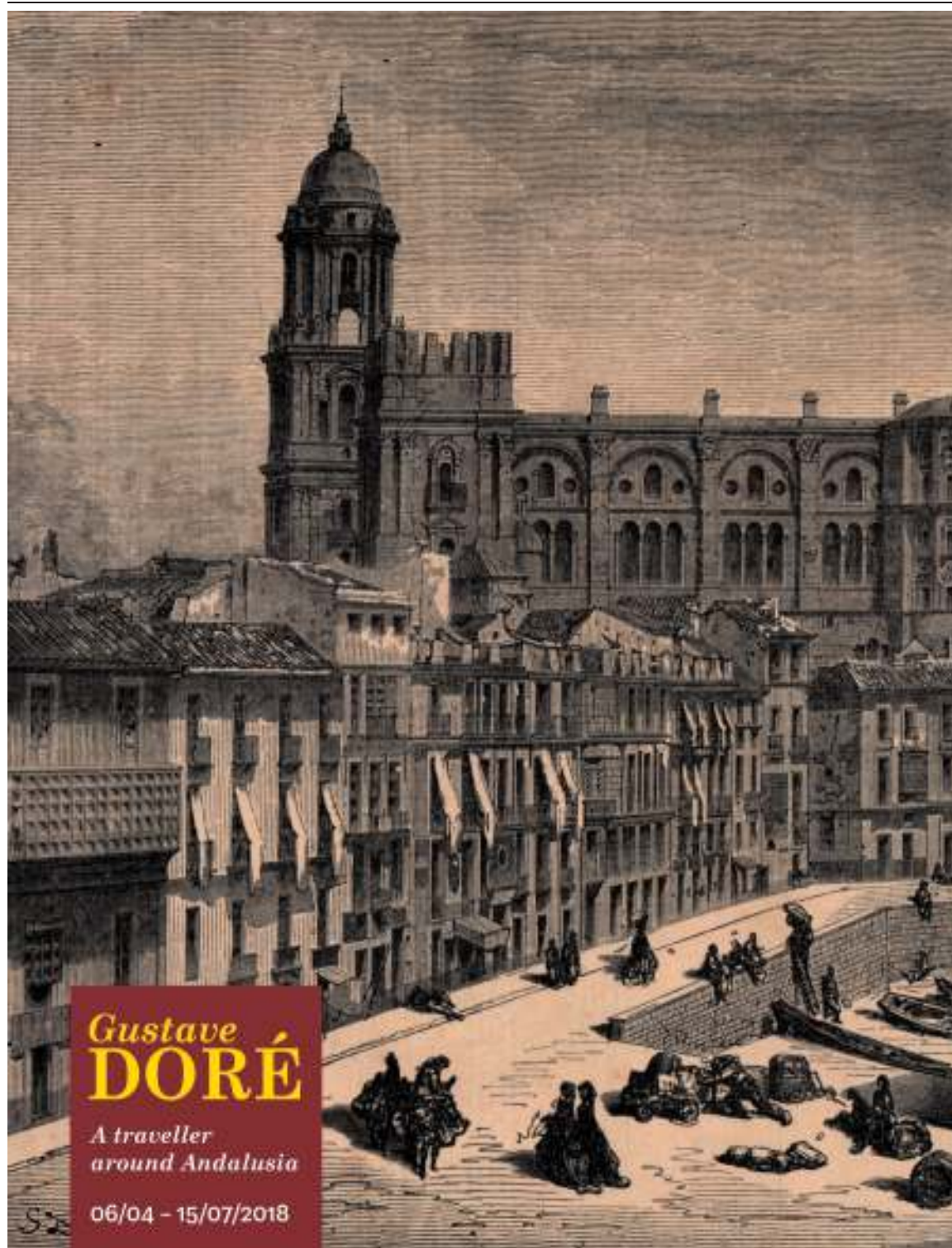
hospital for some time and the mayor has previously said that he was prepared to go down the route taken by Estepona recently to start off its new facility. Hospitals have traditionally been built and run by the Junta de Andalucía regional government but Estepona managed to secure agreement whereby it would finance the construction of the building with the Junta coming in to equip and run the new facility.

Having said Mijas would like to do the same, Maldonado has taken steps to make good his commitment and in turn force the hands of the other local authorities needed to turn his plan into reality.

The Junta de Andalucía hasn't commented on the initiative. Meanwhile neighbouring Fuengirola, whose territory falls very close to the proposed site, has been asked to consider partnering with Mijas council to get the facility built.

Commenting on the idea, Maldonado said, "The Junta has got money and land to carry out this long-standing idea and if Fuengirola shares the cost, we can finally find a solution for residents in both municipalities."

The ruling conservative PP party in Fuengirola has said that health care isn't a council's job and that the Junta should be funding it all.



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## HERE AND THERE

### Council plans to open new tourist centre on old McDonalds site

FUENGIROLA

IVÁN GELIBTER. The disused building next to Fuengirola's port that was once used by McDonald's is to be turned into a tourist information and visitor centre. The council has voted on a plan to restore the building, which has been empty for several years. Local people were calling for something to be done about

the eyesore and opposition politicians had called on the council to speed up its plans to rehabilitate the site.

The building is on designated coastal land so any change of use or development has to be approved by the Junta de Andalucía regional government.

Both the mayor, Ana Mula, and councillor for Tourism, Rodrigo Romero, have said that the council has been working on the idea for a while and now needs to send the proposal to the Junta.

### Torremolinos town hall to renovate the iconic Pasaje Begoña

TORREMOLINOS

T. BRYANT. Torremolinos town hall and the newly formed Asociación Pasaje Begoña has applied for the Pasaje Begoña, (now called Pasaje Gil Vicente), to become recognised by the Law of Historical and Democratic Memory of Andalucía. During the 1960s and '70s, the passage was the hub of the nightlife scene and home to the first gay bar in the town.

The town hall, which will first seek to change the name back to the original, wants to encourage shops and bars to return to the area. It also intends to install the town's first 'Pink Market', a project the council claim has already attracted the interest of several investors who want to promote the image of this "historic landmark".



Pasaje Begoña today. TB

### Mayor calls for any new rail line to have four stops in Mijas

MIJAS

IVÁN GELIBTER. The mayor of Mijas, Juan Carlos Maldonado, has written to the national government asking that Mijas municipality isn't forgotten in any new rail project for the western Costa del Sol.

While the debate centres on whether a slower Cercanías line or a faster line with less stops would be better to reach Marbella, Maldonado has reminded ministers that Mijas covers several urban centres between Fuengirola and Marbella and that a priority has to be to link those up.

He is calling for a station in Las Lagunas and three along Mijas Costa.

### Local Police use new technology to control traffic

BENALMÁDENA

ALBERTO GÓMEZ. Benalmádena has launched a new system designed to better control the flow of traffic by synchronising the activity of all of the traffic lights on avenida Antonio Machado, one of the busiest roads on the Costa. The system is designed to "affect the timings of the traffic lights according to the volume of pedestrians in the streets", according to representatives from the council.



SUR

### A POEM OF OVER 100 METRES IN ARROYO

Benalmádena unveiled a 120-metre-long poetry collection last Friday along the Avenida de la Constitución. Pupils from various local schools could write their favourite verses on this enormous roll of paper installed in front of Arroyo's Casa de la Cultura. Poems from the recently deceased Pablo García Baena were included on it.



# Malaga raisins put Axarquía on map with declaration of 'world food heritage' status

The UN's Globally Important Agricultural Heritage Systems award is given to sites that meet criteria including culture, tradition and landscapes

✪ DARIÓ MENOR

**ROME.** The Malaga raisin, produced in the Axarquía area with muscatel grapes, was officially recognised as belonging to a Globally Important Agricultural Heritage System (GIAHS) by the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO) on Thursday last week.

Rodrigo Sánchez Haro, the regional government's Agriculture minister travelled to the FAO's headquarters in Rome with a group of local Axarquía mayors and delegates to pick up the official certificate.

The Axarquía was one of two new



Rodrigo Sánchez Haro (2nd left) is joined by representatives from other GIAHS winning areas. ✪ A. NUSCA

sites in Spain selected for the award, together with the Salinas de Añana salt mine in the Basque Country. Spain was joined at the ceremony by representatives from agricultural programmes and areas in Portugal, South Korea, China, Japan, Egypt, Mexico and Sri Lanka.

## Outstanding landscapes

The FAO's criteria for awarding this status to a particular crop or growing system include: its historic importance to the development of world agriculture; role in supporting livelihood security; biodiversity; use of know how and adapted technology; culture; and outstanding landscapes.

Speaking during the ceremony, Sánchez Haro said the certificate recognised "the environmental conservation and traditions of our area" and rewarded "the dignity and work of farmers who have managed to keep the traditions for many centuries".

The organic cultivation of muscatel grapes in the Axarquía and the delicate process of drying them in the sun to turn them into raisins has been carried out since Phoenician times. Axarquía communities have been celebrating and this Saturday morning the village of Almáchar will be throwing a party.

A man in a red shirt and cap is holding a car tyre in front of a house.

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✪ E. CABEZAS

## LOCAL SCULPTOR UNVEILS LATEST WORK

Torre del Mar sculptor, Francis Martín, was joined by mayor of Rincón de la Victoria, Francisco Salado, last week for the unveiling of his latest work in Torre de Benagalbón: a life-size statue of St Vincent de Paul. The statue of the saint, venerated for his help to the poor, was commissioned to mark 400 years since his birth and 50 years since La Marina school opened in the area. Teachers and pupils attended the event.

## HERE AND THERE

### Two rental cars left burnt out following fire in Nerja car park

**NERJA**

✪ **E. C.** Firefighters were called to tackle two car fires in Nerja on Monday. The vehicles, which were both rented, caught fire in the Los Huertos de Carabeo public car park. It is not known why or how the fires started. Officers used synthetic foam to extinguish the fires, however both cars were completely burnt out. Police are now trying to find the drivers of the rented the vehicles.



A firefighter at the scene ✪ E. C.

### Dead horse washed up on to beach may have come from a boat

**ALMUÑÉCAR**

✪ **J. R.** Local police officers along with Almuñécar's beach cleaning and maintenance company, Urbaser, were called to identify and remove a dead horse which had been washed up onto the town's Cabalajío beach

during last week's bad weather. The animal did not have a chip and how it ended up on the beach is unclear. However, Urbaser's Miguel Cabrera said that "given the condition it was in, the horse had been in the sea for some time" and that it "may have been dumped into the sea from a boat. He added that his company had removed turtles, dolphins, wild boar and even a mountain goat but never a horse until now.

### Torrox body thought to be local beggar

**TORROX**

✪ **E. C.** Workers near the Barranco Plano roundabout in Torrox discovered on Monday the body of a person thought to be a beggar who had been living in the area but was believed to have died several months ago. The body was already in an advanced state of decomposition and has been sent to Malaga forensic scientists for tests. The area where it was found has become a popular place for homeless people recently.

### Reminder for Nerja car tax payments

**NERJA**

✪ **J. R.** Nerja town hall foreigners' department is reminding residents that car and motorbike tax must be paid by Thursday 17 May. This can be done by taking the invoice to any bank and that a standing order may be set up for future payments by going to the town hall's Patronato de Recaudación. The department also announced this week that all information regarding the Padrón, NIE and living in Nerja is now available in French and German.



# Malaga politicians favour limiting tourist flats to avoid saturation

Palma de Mallorca wants to stop people renting out homes in order to protect local residents and some Malaga councillors think it would be a good idea here

## ■ SUR

**MALAGA.** Some local politicians in Malaga city have come out in support of a move to limit the number of properties being used as holiday rental homes in residential blocks in the centre of the city.

Their views come in response to a move by the town hall in Palma de Mallorca to stop the historic centre getting any more saturated with holiday lets. Councillors there say it has become impossible for locals to find affordable accommodation to rent and the influx of visitors to traditional residential neighbourhoods is destroying communities.

Now councillors from left-wing parties and the centrist Ciudadanos party have come out in favour of adopting restrictions in Malaga, where the city has recently begun to experience the same problem, as more homes are turned over to holidaymakers.

## Palma is the first to act

The tourist industry on the Balearic Islands has been coming to terms this week with the plan by Palma council, still to be approved, to ban flats in residential buildings being rented out to visitors unless the whole building is already given over to tourist accommodation.

The council has explained its move, which has been backed up by a change in Balearic regional law that allows councils to decide their own local policies, by saying it guarantees the rights of local residents to a home.

Palma's mayor, Antoni Noguera, said that the decision was "funda-



Tourists arrive at a holiday apartment in central Malaga. ■ NITO SALAS

mental" for the future of the city and would be a pioneering move in Spain as well as "setting the trend when understanding living space within cities".

## Malaga gives it some thought

So far the conservative PP, largest party on Malaga council, has not given a clear view either way on what it might wish to do in the future. However municipal spokesperson for the PSOE party, Daniel Pérez, has said it is time to put caps

on the quantity of tourist flats in areas like the city centre to "avoid bigger problems". "We've insisted that the council administration takes measures but the mayor has done nothing. In tourist cities there is a housing problem because of this trend that is forcing up rents and there needs to be more regulation," explained Pérez.

According to Juan Cassá, leader of Ciudadanos on the council, "Just as what happened with the boom in hotels, there's a lot still to work on and regulate."

The rules are different in Andalucía compared to the Balearics however, with the regional government here not allowing local councils to ban tourist accommodation like in Palma. Politicians have also called for more clarity from the regional government.

## The rules in Andalucía are different to the Balearic Islands

# Ronda plans to create footpaths at the foot of the famous Tajo gorge

The council is looking to create a circular route around the Guadalevín riverbed below the Puente Nuevo

## ■ VANESSA MELGAR

**RONDA.** The Puente Nuevo and the Tajo gorge are well-known symbols of Ronda, and nearly always photographed from above. The council wants to change this and is trying to encourage visitors to experience the view from below by creating a circular walking route with a footbridge over the river.

The measures taken will also improve safety for the visitors who already venture into the area around the river Guadalevín, under the famous bridge, where the existing paths could be dangerous in places.

The councillor for Tourism, Isabel Barriga, has said that the contract for the works has been awarded to Construcciones Glesa, S.A., after the project was designed by the local architect Sergio Valdez and Francisco Gil. The works have a budget of 180,000 euros, which will be provided by the Andalusian government.

They will affect the old Albacár

footpath between the Puerta del Viento and the Arco del Cristo, in the old town walls which also need a considerable investment to prevent further deterioration.

"The comprehensive project is designed to join the east and west sides of the gorge, including the Tajo footbridge," said Barriga, who explained that works on the Albacár path were pending approval from the regional ministry of Culture.

Barriga stated that the council is planning to recover a further two paths, one of which will be paid for with funds from the regional authority and the other from the council's own budget.

"Ronda is always seen from above and we'd like it to be viewed from below too," said the Tourism councillor. She explained that as well as the works on the footpaths, the council plans to supply infrastructure such as viewpoints, rest areas and places suited for photography. "Ronda has a natural theme park for us to exploit - as it's what sets us apart - while, of course, respecting the natural surroundings," she said.

The council will pay around 300,000 euros for the works after the project is approved by the Andalusian government.



The Tajo and the Puente Nuevo in Ronda. ■ J. C. OROZCO

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**REF. D. R. A.**

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sales contract when I finally found a buyer. Shortly after, a man got in contact with me, checked the car, he liked it, we signed the contract, he gave me the money and left. However, to my great surprise, I have just received a speeding fine dated one month ago. How is that possible, if I sold the car two years ago?

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you have to inform the traffic administration that the car is no longer yours, providing the sales contract. In this way, any offence committed since the car was sold will no longer be your responsibility.

**REF. O. B. K.**

I am in the midst of divorce proceedings and have two children. The house where we live is a jointly owned with my husband. Am I entitled to continue living there until our kids are of age, or could my husband ask for the property to be sold?

When the judge awards the house to one of the partners, it is for a limited time established in the judgment, normally until the children are of age or have finished their studies. After that, if there is no agreement about the property, any of the owners can ask for it to be auctioned, and divide up the proceeds.

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SALVADOR SALAS

## ALL SET FOR EL PIMPI'S CHARITY FIESTA

The team behind the Soles de Málaga charity event this Saturday, 28 April, met this week to promote their fundraiser in the centre of Malaga. Some 50 different organisations will benefit from the day of entertainment and activities, not just next to the famous El Pimpi bodega bar near the Alcazaba, but also across Malaga city. The Soles de Málaga event is organised by El Pimpi's own charity foundation.

## Long delays in refunding municipal tax payments

**ANTONIO M. ROMERO**

**MALAGA.** The authorities are always very quick to demand payment of taxes, but are very slow to give refunds when people have paid too much. The provincial tax collection office, which handles the payments by residents in 98

of the 103 municipalities in Malaga province, currently has a backlog of more than 5,000 overpayments and on average people are having to wait more than a year for their money. In some cases, the delay can be two or even three years.

Because the amounts which have been overpaid are variable, it is impossible to know exactly how much the town halls owe their taxpayers at present. Figures for 2016 show that the wrong amounts were paid for 8,069 bills, and a total of 3.9 million euros were refunded. Last year, 6,127 wrong payments were made and the same amount, 3.9 million euros, was refunded. Nor is it possible to know exactly how many people are affected by this problem, as some taxpayers could be waiting for several refunds.

Sources at the tax collection office say the delay in repayment is due to several factors, including internal restructuring and changes to the auditing system.

In addition, the existing IT system is "obsolete" and is also in the process of being changed, and there have been changes to some senior staff positions.

According to the sources, serious efforts are now being made to facilitate the process, so that money which has been wrongly collected is always refunded within six months in the future.

The delays are not only frustrating for taxpayers, but are financially damaging to the authorities because, by law, interest has to be paid on late repayments. Last year 111,371 euros had to be paid out in interest.

The money which is overpaid is often due to changes in the rateable value of properties, incorrect self-assessment, discounts authorised by town halls, tax exemptions or duplicated payments, among other causes.

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# 'Shoplifting' video forces president of the Madrid region to resign at last

Cristina Cifuentes quit after evidence of a 2011 incident involving Oil of Olay face cream added to her woes over a fraudulent master's degree inquiry

## ■ SUR

**MADRID.** The president of the Madrid regional government resigned her post at a press conference on Wednesday. Cristina Cifuentes, of the conservative PP party, had been embroiled in a month-long political storm over the supposed faking of her master's degree by a university, but had held on, refusing to leave her position.

However, in the end it was the publication of a 2011 CCTV video by website OKdiario that forced her out. In the audioless footage, taken in a back room at a supermarket next to the regional assembly building in Madrid, the elegantly dressed politician can be seen opening out her bag in front of a security guard to reveal two tubs of 40-euro Oil of Olay anti-ageing cream that she had tried to leave the store without paying for.

Cifuentes said in her appearance before the press on Wednesday that it was "an error and an involuntary action", that she regretted, accusing her enemies of releasing the video, which was taken when she was already a long-standing regional assembly member, to destroy her.

Although not shown in the video, police were apparently called but the politician was eventually allowed to pay up and leave discreetly



The footage was taken in Madrid seven years ago. ■ OK DIARIO

Cifuentes was defiant as she resigned. ■ E.P.

by the store's back door, said sources. There was shock and disbelief at both ends of the political spectrum, including from within her own party, over how a possible future successor to prime minister Mariano Rajoy could fall from grace so quickly and spectacularly.

It was Rajoy himself who ordered Cifuentes to resign on Wednesday and he has been criticised for not pushing her out sooner over the ongoing scandal of a master's award from the Universidad Rey Juan Carlos in Madrid.

Cifuentes is alleged not to have attended classes or given in course work. An investigation into possible criminal falsification of official documentation by the university is currently under way.

## VERDICT REACHED IN HIGH-PROFILE PAMPLONA 'PACK' SEX TRIAL

There were protests outside court in Pamplona on Thursday as the sentences were read out in the trial of five men accused of the gang rape of a girl during the city's bull-running festivities. Although the prosecution sought a rape verdict, judges decided on the lesser verdict of sexual abuse, giving each member of the gang, who had nicknamed themselves "the pack", nine-year sentences.



■ REUTERS

## Victims' families criticise ETA terrorism apology as "late and incomplete"

### ■ DAVID GUADILLA

**BILBAO.** The families of those killed during the decades-long Basque-separatist terrorist campaign waged by ETA have hit out at the latest statement from the group.

Although ETA formally announced that it was ending its violence in 2011, it had been widely expected that the group was on the verge of announcing that it was fully disbanding at last. However when a communiqué came last Friday it was headed merely, 'ETA to the Basque people: declaration concerning the damaged caused' and stopped short of announcing its own demise.

Although the statement was self-critical of the group's actions, it did not say that its activity had been unfair and explained it in the context of a historic struggle. The apology was partial, saying sorry only to those victims "that hadn't taken part directly in the conflict", a comment which drew the wrath of victims' groups, who said the statement "came late and was incomplete".

## Experts enter Valle de los Caídos mass civil-war tomb to try to identify and remove bodies

### ■ ANTONIO PANIAGUA

**MADRID.** The final resting place of almost 34,000 victims of the Spanish Civil War may shortly be not so final. On Monday scientific and construction experts entered the huge and controversial Valle de los Caídos mausoleum in the mountains near Madrid. The team are there on judges' orders to assess the state of the burial chambers in the cavernous site where bodies from both the Republican and Nationalist sides of the 1936-1939 war are buried. They want to find out how easy it is to identify four individual victims from the unmarked bodies so they can be returned to their families.

It is the first time that relatives of people buried there have had judicial success in their campaign to identify individual remains. Almost all the bodies were taken there against families' will under the orders of dictator General Franco as he built his war monument. Franco himself is buried there. If it proves physically possible to pinpoint individual bodies, a flood of similar legal requests is expected to follow.



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# Significant drop in carbon emissions for third year running

A change to the use of Low Energy Devices and public awareness campaigns have contributed to the improved figures

DEBBIE BARTLETT

**GIBRALTAR.** Figures released by the Gibraltar Electricity Authority this week show that carbon emissions dropped by nearly six per cent last year, from 161,358 tonnes in 2016 to 152,287. This was the third consecutive year that the emissions dropped, and there has been a reduction of 27,000 tonnes, or 15.3 per cent, since 2014.

Several factors have contributed to this improvement, including Low Energy Devices (LEDs) being installed in all government installations and public lighting, as well as a small number of solar fittings. The Department of the Environment and Climate Change has also been carrying out energy efficiency campaigns, which appear to have been effective despite an increase in the number of buildings in Gibraltar.

Further reductions will be made when power in Gibraltar is gener-



Gibraltar is gradually reducing its emissions. :: SUR

ated from gas in the future; at present diesel is being used for power generation.

The reduction in carbon emissions means that less fuel will have been burnt, and will therefore also result in lower emissions of contaminants such as nitrogen oxides.

Responding to the news, the Minister for Environment, Energy and Climate Change, John Cortes, said this week: "We have to congratulate ourselves as a community in the way we have taken up the challenge in the global fight against climate change. We have shown that every little bit helps. Switching off lights and devices, changing to low energy lighting, and increasing the energy efficiency of buildings have been measures we have been encouraging since 2012 and are showing results. We must continue. Clearly we can make a difference."

late ourselves as a community in the way we have taken up the challenge in the global fight against climate change. We have shown that every little bit helps. Switching off lights and devices, changing to low energy lighting, and increasing the energy efficiency of buildings have been measures we have been encouraging since 2012 and are showing results. We must continue. Clearly we can make a difference."

## IN BRIEF



Staff at St Bernard's are unhappy at privatisation claims. :: SUR

### Hospital staff protest at "stealthy privatisation"

GIBRALTAR

DB. Staff at St Bernard's held an hour-long protest outside the hospital on Wednesday at what they described as the government's "stealthy privatisation" of the Gi-

braltar Health Authority. About 400 doctors, nurses, auxiliary and admin staff joined the protest about the use of supply workers. In response, the government said Unite the Union must have been "entirely misled" if it had been informed that any aspect of the GHA or any health services are to be privatised, as this is not the case.

### Lifetime achievement award at London gala

GIBRALTAR

DB. Phill Brear, who is retiring as Head of Gambling, has been presented with a Lifetime Achievement Award at the Gambling Compliance Awards in London. Gibraltar firms including Playtech and Kindred also received recognition.

### Miss Gibraltar pageant date confirmed

GIBRALTAR

DB. This year's Miss Gibraltar pageant will take place on Saturday 18 June at Grand Battery House. Of the three contestants, the winner will receive £2,000 cash prize, £3,500 clothing allowance and will represent Gibraltar at Miss World in the autumn.

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# Malaga's economy will grow more than any other province in Andalucía this year

Unemployment is also expected to drop in the region by about 7.3 per cent to 23.7 per cent overall, but in Malaga it is already lower than that

■ **NURIA TRIGUERO**

**MALAGA.** Once again, Malaga will be the driving force of the Andalusian economy this year, with the highest growth in GDP in the region. The latest report from Analistas Económicos de Andalucía (AEA) shows that the economy of the region as a whole will grow by 2.7%, which is slower than the 3% last year; the economy of Malaga province, however, is expected to

increase by more: 3.1%.

AEA expects Seville and Cadiz to follow close behind Malaga, with an estimated 2.9% growth this year, while Huelva and Jaén are expected to register 2.6%, and Almeria, Granada and Cordoba come at the bottom of the list with a growth of 2.5% for the first two provinces and 1.8% in Cordoba.

With regard to employment, AEA doesn't provide forecasts by province, only for Andalucía as a

**The two main driving forces in Malaga are construction, which is recovering, and the tourism sector**

whole. It expects employment to grow by 2.5% this year, higher than the national average of 2.3%.

Unemployment is expected to drop by about 7.3% to 23.7% in Andalucía, compared with 15.3% in Spain as a whole.

In fact, unemployment in Malaga is already lower than that, having ended 2017 at 20.7%. As its economy is likely to grow at a faster rate than other provinces, unemployment should be below 20% by the end of this year.

Although all sectors of the economy are contributing to the growth in Malaga's GDP, the two main driving forces are construction, which together with the property market, is showing positive signs of recovery, and tourism.

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## COOKING THE BOOKS



**A**ccording to the Spanish Civil Guard, even more public money was unlawfully spent on last October's Catalan independence referendum (1-O) than was at first estimated. Investigators now put the total amount at €1.9 million - an increase of €300,000 from the figure they released last month. The upward revision is a response to budget minister Cristóbal Montoro's recent assertion that no public money was used to finance the vote; and in making it, the Civil Guard has worsened the obscurity already surrounding this issue.

The new figure of €1.9 million comes with substantial caveats. As the Civil Guard conceded in its most recent report, a lot of the alleged amounts are estimates on their part, as no paper trails have yet been found, or released, that

conclusively link Catalan use of state funds to all aspects of 1-O.

There is no such vagueness in some areas, though: investigators claim that €217,656 was used by Catalan separatists to heighten awareness of their plight in the international press. If true, this would certainly count as misuse of public funds; but the Holy Grail of secessionist misdemeanours, as far as the Civil Guard is concerned, is spending Spanish taxpayers' money on the ballot boxes and papers that made 1-O possible. They have yet to prove - or release proof - that that occurred.

Montoro has so far failed to back up his contradiction of the Civil Guard's findings, prompting Ciudadanos leader Albert Rivera to request urgent clarity on the matter. Rivera - increasingly the strongest voice in a floundering congress - has also drawn attention to a state-

ment made by Mariano Rajoy earlier this year, to the effect that Catalan secessionists did not use "a single euro" from the Autonomous Liquidity Fund (FLA) to fund 1-O.

Yet of all Spain's autonomous regions, Catalonia has requested the most money from the FLA since it was set up six years ago. The "Fondo de Liquidez Autonómica" was established by the Spanish government in 2012 - at the peak of the country's crisis - ostensibly to help regions finance their debt: between that year and 2016, Catalonia withdrew €45.8 billion from the FLA. Valencia is in second place over the same period, having drawn €28 billion, and Andalucía comes in third with claims amounting to €14.9 billion - three times less than the far wealthier region of Catalonia.

It may be true that none of the hefty sum so far given to Catalonia through the FLA was spent on 1-O, although it needs to be shown. Regardless, the region's heavy use of the fund seriously undermines secessionists' claims that Catalonia is starved of cash by a stingy central government. Rivera is right: the matter of how 1-O was financed and how much it cost must be cleared up as soon as possible. Until it is, half baked figures will continue to be thrown back and forth.

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Few know this better than Irina Saltmarsh, founder and owner of Malaga Expat Consulting, who provides personalised services to assist with all and any needs both current residents and newcomers may have. Irina has relocated to many different countries including Sweden, Germany, Switzerland and Spain (where she has lived since 2009) and can thus be considered something of an 'old hand' when it comes to navigating all the procedures, regulations and authorities involved.

With recently tightened regulations for foreign residents, and Brexit causing concern for the future amongst British expats on the coast, it is more important than ever for both current long term residents and newcomers to ensure they have the correct docu-

mentation such as their 'Residencias', valid driving licences, Social Security registrations and any other paperwork. Malaga Expat Consulting has vast experience in the ins and outs of the often confusing and frustrating bureaucracy involved in ascertaining exactly what is needed and how to go about getting it.

Many satisfied clients have spoken of how much easier their move to the Costa del Sol was thanks to Malaga Expat Consulting, or how they finally managed to legalise their situation and obtain the correct paperwork with Irina's expert assistance. With interpretations of the law varying from one person or organisation to the next, being advised by someone who really knows how the system works and exactly what each individual needs to apply for, how, when and where can make all the difference.

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THERE IS A PRIZE FOR THE BEST  
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## More bees please!

I was buzzing at the news of the introduction of a set of bee hives to Los Ruices environmental centre and landfill site last week. I myself have been speaking out about the preciousness of bees for years!

I am an amateur bee-keeper and I look after my own hives near where I live, just outside Malaga. As well as being essential for pollination and the upkeep of the environment in which we live, bees produce delicious honey which I share out with friends and family on afternoons and weekends. I for one do not mind the occasional sting! We all have to make sacrifices in order to protect our planet.

**FRED WELLER**  
BY EMAIL

Female footballers  
at the forefront

I was so glad to see that

Malaga's women's football team made front-page news last week.

Too right that they are getting the exposure they deserve, especially with the news that the men's team have been relegated.

With the women, Malaga has a team that we can invest our hope and support in and get real results! I am proud to be a Malaga woman!

**ENCARNACIÓN LOPEZ**  
BY EMAIL

## Town hall spending

I was interested to see your story last week about town halls being given the green light to spend more money.

It's quite right that you mention the upcoming elections in the headline because do you think they would be so interested otherwise?

**DEREK CUNNINGHAM**  
BY EMAIL

**SUR** English

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## Immortality

ÁNGEL ESCALERA

For as long as the world has been the world, man has sought immortality. Without success, of course. Until now. Or, to be more precise, until 2045. That year, which is only just around the corner, will be when dying will become optional, according to the engineers José Luis Cordeiro and David Wood.

Both have written a book, launched a few days ago at the Circulo Ecuatoriano in Barcelona, in which they pay tribute to the human being's dreams of eternity. In *La Muerte de La Muerte* (literally, The Death of Death) they claim that immortality and rejuvenation are possible, from a scientific point of view. Cordeiro and Wood explain that progress in different technologies, es-

pecially in nanotechnology, will change the pattern of death. People will depart from this valley of tears due to accidents, but not through natural causes.

As the writers of this book are scientists who know what they are talking about, we can assume that their ideas are supported by solid arguments and not the prediction of a witch doctor or a charlatan. Of course independently of what really happens it's not so absurd, as Cordeiro and Wood say, to think that genetic edition could convert bad genes into good ones, which would prevent many deaths.

Add to this the application of regenerative medicine, the suppression of dead cells in the body, stem

cell therapy, cell recovery and the 3D printing of organs, the scenario is promising. We know, though, that promises were made to be broken.

The authors of *La Muerte de la Muerte* also believe that illnesses such as cancer will be curable in ten years' time. Live with optimism is the motto of these two engineers, whom time will prove right or wrong. For the time being we have to give them the benefit of the doubt. And wait and see.

But don't worry, even if people don't die there is still a lot of room on planet Earth for more population. And, what's more, in the hyperthetical case of the world becoming full, we can also inhabit space, say Cordeiro and Wood, who have a solution for everything.

Cordeiro, who is Venezuelan with Spanish parents, has gone even further and said, to anyone who might be listening, that he has no intention of dying and that, apart from immortal, in 30 years' time he will be younger than he is now. And we can only follow that statement with another: I'll believe that when I see it.

## Ace of clubs

PETER EDGERTON  
MUSIC MAKER WWW.E-PETER.COM

Many moons ago, while visiting San Francisco and feeling a little peckish, I made the fatal mistake of ordering a club sandwich from a downtown takeaway place, just to tide me over until tea time. The chap behind the counter, smiled knowingly at the dude with the British accent, took a couple of humungous slices of bread from the shelf above him and began to fill them with a vast selection of ingredients until, eventually, the monster snack was so big that he had to stick little plastic toothpick things in it to keep it all in one piece.

"Er, thank you," I muttered, proffering a handful of dollar bills and wondering how I was ever going to finish the thing before my flight home a week on Tuesday.

He didn't look up, though, just

kind of snorted derisively before launching into what turned out to be the second phase of the operation, piling more and more stuff on top of the second slice of bread with the toothpicks in it. It turns out what I'd thought was a Guinness world record in club sandwich making had, in fact, only been the half way point. On and on he went, tongs and spoons flailing and flashing beneath the bold neon lights, slapping layer upon layer of cholesterol onto the pile.

An eon or so later, club sandwich man wound slowly to a halt, sweating and grinning in equal measure and handed me my, er, snack. He may or may not have used a winch, it's quite difficult to recall. I stepped out into the cool Californian evening, cradling the beast in both arms - and, to tell the truth, that's the last thing I remember about the incident. I

suppose I must have erased the experience of actually eating the sandwich from my memory banks, employing some kind of post traumatic stress-related coping mechanism.

These days, whenever an American comes into the pub and asks for a hot dog or something, I feel obliged to outline the measly proportions of our victuals with my hands and smile apologetically before they order, in case they might want to get twenty-eight or twenty-nine in, just to bridge the gap until supper time.

I haven't been back to the US since that fateful visit but occasionally I'll get a decent bout of indigestion and stare wistfully into the middle distance, wondering - in a fug of profound nostalgia - if I'm still suffering the gastric repercussions of my 1988 San Francisco club sandwich experience.

IDÍGORAS

"Benalmádena town hall evicts a family with two children - a three-month-old and a six-year-old"



"I don't know if they're covering my eyes so I'm not recognised in the photos or so I can't see the reality"



## Keeping count

RACHEL HAYNES

This has been an exciting week for people who love facts and figures - journalists among them - who need to pull a statistic out of their hats to support every argument or assertion. On Tuesday Spain's national statistics institute (INE) released the population figures for the province of Malaga at the beginning of 2018.

Yes, all those visits to the town hall last year to join the famous 'padrón' (a word that must come quite high up on the list of essential Spanish for new residents) resulted in another little number on the list sent by the local council to the INE. Those tedious forms, photocopies, boxes ticked have all contributed to the numbers on the graphs on page 2 of this edition.

So what do we know? The population is rising in general but the British are leaving. There it is. It's out there like a piece of meat, thrown by the INE for the hungry analysts to pounce on. These days Brexit comes up as a potential reason for every recent change in behaviour among the British, but we don't know to what extent the looming exit from the EU is scaring people out of Spain. Property purchases suggest it isn't. Or are people only disappearing on paper, and becoming invisible in the mountains behind the Costa del Sol?

Whatever the case, the 'padrón' figures are what we have to work with. Interpret them as you wish - and go and make friends with a Venezuelan. They're arriving in their droves.





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## THE VILLA COLLECTION





# The secret life of a film set maker

**Don Dossett** Film set designer and photographer

**An exhibition currently running in La Herradura is raising money for Nerja Solidaria**

**D**on Dossett has met some of the biggest names in Hollywood and knows who the more easygoing and more difficult film directors are.

For almost 20 years he designed and built sets for movies including Superman, Judge Dredd and Kenneth Branagh's Hamlet.

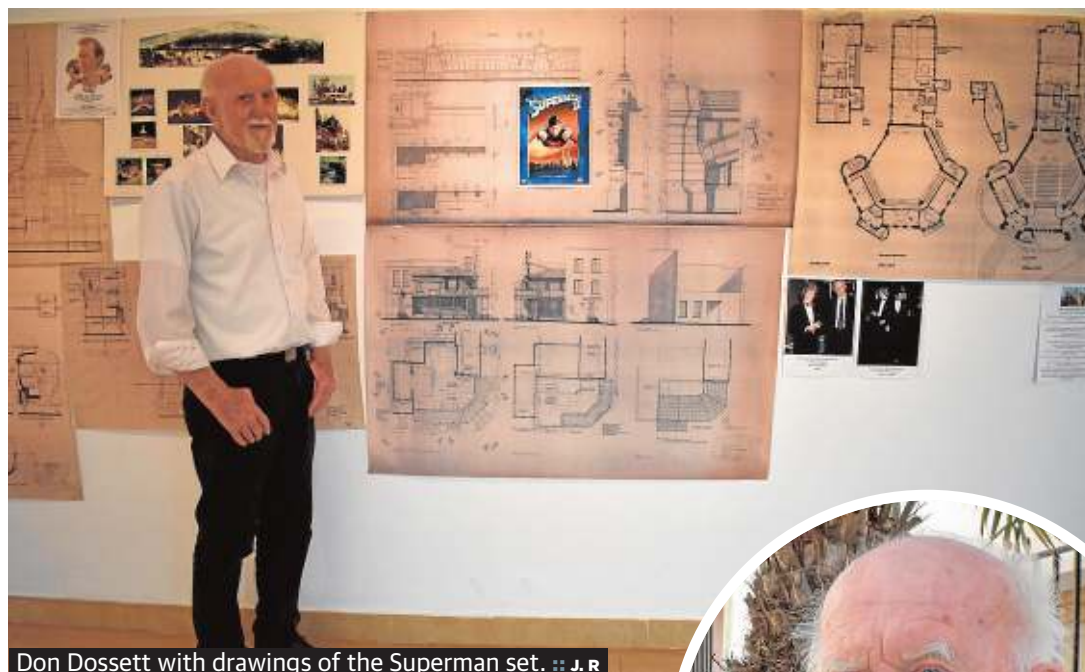
"Kenneth Branagh is a very nice man," he says, although he isn't so favourable about others.

Now, after many years packed in boxes, his work is on display at the Centro Cívico in his adopted hometown of La Herradura, until 5 May. The exhibition gives a fascinating insight into an area of the film business which is often overlooked: the technical drawings and photographs of finished sets. Don is also displaying some of his early work done while a student at the Royal Academy of Arts in London, as well as examples of his latest passion: photographing scenes around Andalucía and using digital media to create artistic impressions of what he captures on camera.

## Charity donation

In fact it was when he donated some of his photographs to be sold for a charity event about 18 months ago that he got the idea for the exhibition. "People bid for them and they went really quickly," he says. "So I thought I could continue with it and raise more money for charity."

Don will donate the money raised from sales of the photo-



Don Dossett with drawings of the Superman set. :: J. R.

## A second venue "thanks to Manolo"

**:: J. RHODES**

**LA HERRADURA.** Don Dossett's exhibition, Images of Andalucía, runs until Saturday 5 May at the Centro Cívico, Calle Las Palomas, in La Herradura. It is open from 10am and 2pm every day (including Sunday).

Don says he will be there throughout the duration of the exhibition. Some of his work will also be displayed at the La

Bola Marina de Cantarriján restaurant in the town and Don says that he is "extremely grateful" to proprietor Manolo for his support on what is Don's first exhibition in the area.

Money raised through sales and donations made to see the exhibition will be given to Nerja Solidaria. Don also hopes to be able to donate funds to other local charities.

graphs on display to the local charity, Nerja Solidaria, which runs a food bank in Nerja.

"I went along to their HQ and was really struck by how many people, ordinary families, rely on Solidaria," Don comments.

Don himself is not a complete stranger to more austere times, before his successful career in both the film and interior design businesses took him to locations all

over the world. His father was a coal miner in Yorkshire before becoming a school caretaker in London, which is where Don was born before the outbreak of World War Two.

## Tough times

As a young boy Don was sent as an evacuee to the Malvern Hills, which he admits he thought "was wonderful" having come from a

major city. As a young adult, he did the then obligatory two years' military service and explains that he got on very well with the education officer. "I didn't have much of an education but I knew I could draw, so the education officer helped me to get a place at art college in Guildford. Eventually I was able to put together a portfolio and got accepted into the Royal Academy," Don recalls.

Life for Don at the Academy was not easy as, in his own words, he "was very scruffy and ordinary" and was "not treated very well by all the debutante girls who were there with me". However, he consistently got better marks and acknowledgment for his drawing skills. "I used to win the argument through my drawing," he smiles.

Don got his break in the world of film when he returned to the UK from South East Asia, where he had been working as an interior designer for the Holiday Inn hotel chain. "I used to get a lot of other work as I think I was the only interior designer out there at the time," he says. One of the last people he had worked for in Singapore invited him to help design the set for a film at Pinewood studios in London and Don worked in the industry from 1972 until 1990.

## Famous property

He also got into the property business and one of his acquisitions was a church in Hampstead, London, which he used to design and build some of his sets, including the one for the film Santa Claus. The exhibition includes photos of his whole family helping him out to paint hundreds of wooden toys for the film.

The church is now home to Air Studios, which was founded by Sir George Martin, the Beatles' producer and known by many as "the fifth Beatle", in 1969. It was bought by Richard Boote in 2006 and is still used today.

Don, who describes himself as "a bit of a loner", moved to Spain in 2013 after spending six years in Provence in France.

"I've lived on my own for most of my life," he admits. He says he prefers living in Spain and sees himself staying here.

"I'm happy here and I am making friends," he says of life in La Herradura.



**"I didn't have much of an education but I knew I could draw"**

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DEBBIE BARTLETT



WHAT HAPPENED TODAY?

27 APRIL 1928

Spain's first National Tourist Board was founded

On 27 April 1928, during the dictatorship of Primo de Rivera, Spain's first National Tourist Board was founded to encourage Spanish people to explore their own country more and to attract visitors from abroad. It had a short and somewhat eventful life: it was dissolved after the proclamation of the Second Republic in April 1931, reconstituted in December the same year but disappeared completely when the Civil War began in 1936.

Short-lived it may have been, but the Patronato Nacional de Turismo was the starting point for Spain becoming the mega tourist destination it is today.

It was the National Tourist Board which opened more 'paradores', which were State-run hotels, and created 'albergues de

carretera', a more modest type of overnight accommodation for travellers. It also opened museums, such as the 'Casa del Greco' in Toledo, restored monuments and produced the first travellers' guides to different provinces in Spain, complete with photographs which have since become a useful record of the history of the country.

In those days, the main focus was to raise Spain's profile abroad, rather than the economic possibilities of foreign tourism. During the early years of the Franco dictatorship, tourism was still seen as a good way of improving the country's image elsewhere, but from the 1950s the emphasis changed as the authorities realised the financial potential of attracting visitors from other countries.

The National Tourist Board was



Scandinavian tourists on a boat trip in Torremolinos in the 60s. :: SUR

reborn with another identity in 1951, as the 'Dirección General de Turismo', which was part of the Ministry of Information and Tourism. It was in this decade that mass tourism began, but whereas in the past it was Spain's

history and culture that had attracted tourists, the new visitors discovered the delights of the seaside, especially on the Costa del Sol and Costa Brava.

In 1959 Franco abolished tourist visas and devalued the peseta

LANGUAGE FOOTNOTE

Viajar	To travel
Dictadura	Dictatorship
Turismo	Tourism
Vacaciones	Holidays
Destino	Destination
Viajeros	Travellers
Fotografías	Photos
Guías	Guides
Monumentos	Monuments
Historia	History
Cultura	Culture
Patrimonio	Heritage
Información	Information
Playas	Beaches
Litoral	Coastline
Extranjeros	Foreigners
Visados	Visas
Alojamiento	Accommodation

to make the country more attractive to foreigners. The number of tourists rose from fewer than one million in 1950 to 4.3 million in 1960, 18 million in 1967 and 30 million by 1975. Last year Spain received 82 million tourists, and became the second most popular destination in the world after France. Those tourists spent 87 billion euros, an average of 137 euros per person, per day.

**Bilingual crossword inside back page**



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## SOCIETY SCENE

# Spring activities in company

Spring fairs and St George's Day celebrations help raise funds for the community

## :: SUR IN ENGLISH

## Acompalia Looking for support

Acompalia, the palliative care organisation in Granada province, is looking for new members. The charity continues to develop its helpline and 'Acompañion' buddying services with the aim of developing a stronger volunteer programme within the Costa Tropical and La Alpujarra communities. "Fundraising helps us to give terminally-ill patients and their families the support that they need," said a representative. To join Acompalia visit [www.acompalia.org](http://www.acompalia.org) or look for Acompalia on Facebook. Annual membership costs 15 euros per person.

## Royal British Legion Coin Spring fair

The Coin Branch of the Royal British Legion held its annual Spring Fair at La Parrilla de Pepe on 18 April. Members competed in several categories

of events. Anyone interesting in joining and meeting other members is invited to La Parrilla de Pepe, just opposite La Trocha, at 11am on the first and third Wednesday of every month.

## La Cala de Mijas Lions Club St George's Day

La Cala de Mijas Lions Club members, volunteers and friends raised funds by holding a St George's Day event at the house of vice president, Margaret Bobowicz. The afternoon included crazy golf, darts, duck dipping, name the dog, tombola, among other activities. Last year the club donated almost 60,000 euros locally, raised through events and the shop in Calle Torremolinos. This year the club celebrates 20 years of service to the local community and is on its way to beating last year's fundraising figure. New members are always welcome. The Lion's shop is open Monday to Saturday from 10am to 2pm. Tel 677 059 061. Donations of clothes, bric a brac etc. are always appreciated.

## The Royal British Legion Nerja Residents' Day

The Royal British Legion Nerja branch attended the recent Residents' Day and raised 400 euros for the Poppy

Appeal Fund coordinated by Dorothy Allen. The RBL holds various events throughout the year and anyone interested in joining them should contact Vera on 952967200 or email [ozzybaldwin@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:ozzybaldwin@yahoo.co.uk). Contrary to popular belief, members do not have to be currently serving or ex-military, British or wear 'black tie' to events; everyone is welcome.

## TAPAS Garden party

TAPAS organised an afternoon of fun, music and a typical English afternoon tea to celebrate St George's Day. The event raised over 200 euros for charity. Singer Helen Rush entertained and encouraged the crowd to join in with her to sing a medley of English songs specially chosen for the St George's Day theme. The news on the day of the birth of the second son for the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge was further cause for celebration.

## 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:

Email: [surinenglish.su@diariosur.es](mailto:surinenglish.su@diariosur.es)



La Cala de Mijas Lions St George's Day celebrations. :: SUR



Members of the RBL Nerja branch at Residents' Day. :: SUR



TAPAS celebrate St George's Day with a garden party. :: SUR.



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# Exploring the forests of consciousness

## Matt Rivers Musician, writer and teacher



TONY BRYANT

✉ tonysureng@gmail.com

The artist, who has a deep connection with spirituality, will perform at a fundraising concert for Cudena this Saturday

**TARIFA.** Matt Rivers is a singer, composer, poet and writer who describes his art as "exploring the forests of consciousness, time and space, while surfing the waves of thought, love and being".

Inspired by the poems and lyrics of Jim Morrison and Bob Dylan, the 40-year-old British artist started writing his own material as a teenager. Previously based in Brighton, he formed a band that was sponsored by the Arts Council of Great Britain, receiving a prestigious grant to develop his music. This led to the production of his first EP in 2007.

The disc was recorded as part of the Leverhulme Artist Programme, a year-long professional development opportunity run by the Arts Council. Matt was one of five artists selected to take part in the programme, which included seminars with established artists and industry professionals and free studio time.

Matt has moved through various artistic mediums, beginning with art and poetry, and then moving into acting and music. He started learning guitar at 14 and began attending acting school at 16, having accidentally landed a part in a play with a local youth theatre group.

Matt performed in a number of local theatre groups before moving onto college to further his performing arts experience.

In 2011, Matt left Brighton in order to travel. He first went to Greece, where he met his girlfriend, who is, in his words, "a constant inspiration". The couple decided to travel together and headed to India, where Matt gained an interest in yoga. However, he was eager to concentrate on his music so, after three years, he decided to move to Spain.

"The Costa del Sol seemed to tick a lot of boxes as I have visited here many times over the years. I found a job in a yoga retreat in Malaga, but following a holiday in Tarifa, I was sure this was the place I wanted to live," Matt explains to SUR in English.

### Spirituality and meditation

Matt has had a deep interest in spirituality and has studied meditation and consciousness since he was young. It was while in India that Matt became a yoga teacher and today he runs yoga classes in Tarifa. He also runs reiki and soul writing courses, all aimed, he explains, "at opening up, stretching ourselves, finding the creative centre and sharing it with others".

"Reiki is a hands-on energy healing modality. It encourages the flow of well-being and deepens our connection to each other," Matt says enthusiastically.

Matt's writing practice flows from his connection to his own creative spirit and he believes everyone can learn how to tap into their own creative well.

"Soul writing is a writing prac-



Matt on stage in Tarifa last year. :: S. ELISABETH



At home with nature. :: J. JACOBS

**"I think we all need to come together as a race and start caring for each other more and more"**

## Recognising his worth with fantasy fiction

Matt's interest in soul writing has inspired him to write a children's fairy tale. He has recently completed a fantasy story called *Many Moons Ago*, a kaleidoscopic adventure into a colourful fantasy land of insane creatures and impossibilities. The story involves a faraway universe that is far beyond the sights of normal human eyes.

Matt has called on the talents of a close friend, Mike Wolff, who is currently designing and illustrating the book. Once complete, Matt has decided to self-publish.

"It is a story about recognising your own worth, regardless of what life may throw at you," the multitasking artist explains.

tice designed to help release and develop one's inner voice and creative spirit. At the same time, it is a healing tool that can help us process old and current issues," he says.

This not a traditional writing course, as it does not require participants to be experts in spelling and grammar. The course does not teach the mechanics of writing, but rather encourages one's individual voice to emerge. Matt claims that the course helps us to find an inner flow of thoughts and words that we previously may have thought we lacked.

"Soul Writing points to the natural creative being that lives within all of us," the artist explains.


Matt uses this process for his song writing and his lyrics are sourced from life experiences. They are


about overcoming adversity, being human and celebrating life, as his recently released debut album, *Nature*, will demonstrate.

He is currently taking his solo acoustic show to venues on the Costa del Sol throughout April, May and June.

Even though Matt adheres to a rather hectic schedule, he likes to find the time to use his music to help local charities and this weekend he will perform a fundraising concert in aid of Cudena. The concert will be held in Fredericks Bar in Benalmádena Pueblo on Saturday 28 April.

"I think we all need to come together as a race and start caring for each other more and more. Community and compassion are the cornerstones of a happier and healthier life," the artist concludes.





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**T**hey fluttered and swayed in the warm Mediterranean breeze like giant feathers; movement that flowed across the hillside in an almost otherworldly way; as if the trees were dancing. This fairytale sight greeted me as I passed through the renowned Cedar Valley, in the Troödos mountains. In less than a few hours of leaving the coast, I was already in the very heart of southern Cyprus.

Paphos forest, a protected area of pine forest and rare cedar trees, is where three of the island's principal districts meet; Paphos (Pafos), Nicosia (Lefkosia), and Limassol (Lemesos). I was eager to reach my destination before it was dark. Yet the sight of the perfectly horizontal branches of these graceful cedar trees moving in waves of almost choreographed dance, was beautiful and mesmerising.

#### Eastern Mediterranean

These majestic trees are related to the famous Cedars of Lebanon, a country just a few hundred kilometres to the east. It is this eastern Mediterra-

nean location, south of Turkey, and south east of Greece, that affords Cyprus such a dry, sunny climate. This means that the three million annual visitors to Cyprus can be pretty much assured great weather for much of the year.

The popular resorts and family villas are on the coast – offering the classic sun, sea and beach holiday. Yet over the last decade or more Cyprus has been reinventing itself. Evolving into a destination with broader ap-

peal. I was on my way to discover part of that story, a once hidden corner of Cyprus, now revitalised thanks to low-impact tourism.

As the sun began to dip behind the mountains, we arrived at the hilltop village of Kalopanayiotis. It was that golden hour, probably one of the most beautiful times of the day in the Mediterranean. The small hamlet was bathed in warm light, with long shadows falling on the narrow road. We had stopped at the

edge of the hillside, taking in the view of row upon row of village homes built on terraces leading down to the river. Facing me, almost hidden in the shade cast by the mountain, was the ancient Agios Ioannis Lampadistis monastery. I later discovered this is a Unesco World Heritage Site of three churches, renowned for their exceptional frescoes and Italo-Byzantine paintings.

It all made for a peaceful, somewhat magical setting.

#### Mountain village life

I'm greeted by a local; he chatted in Greek while guiding me to the shiny new funicular-style lift that was to gently lower us down part of the hillside to the rural hotel below.

It was a short walk from the lift to the hotel's reception, found in a historic village house. Outside the air was filled with the calming scent of Mediterranean herbs, and the sound of evening birdsong. Inside vintage crystal chandeliers added a sparkling

The charming and winding Troödos mountain road.

:: SUR

## Hidden Cyprus

Travel beyond the coastal resorts, and be immersed in traditional village life

### MARBELLA Taylor Wimpey Spain

# A chance to buy an exclusive new home

#### MARBELLA

Developer Taylor Wimpey Spain is offering the chance to buy a prestigious apartment in 1 of 2 unique developments in privileged spots at the heart of the Costa del Sol.

The developer, a subsidiary of stock-exchange listed multinational TaylorWimpey PLC, currently has properties available to purchase off-plan within two new complexes: Royal Banús in Nueva Andalucía, Marbella and Le Caprice at Westin La Quinta Golf Resort, Benahavis.

Royal Banús is a unique residential complex designed by Taylor Wimpey Spain and Liev-Rodriguez architectural studio. Located in Nueva Andalucía, within walking distance of amenities and the beach, it consists of just 6 exclusive penthouses with solarium and 18 contemporary style 2 and 3-bed, 2-bath apartments, all south-facing.

The complex's contemporary, elegant design makes the most of communal areas including a pool with wooden decking surround and modern, sophisticated interior gardens designed for residents' enjoyment.

Apartments come with high quality fittings including marble floors,



Royal Banús, at the heart of Nueva Andalucía next to the Casino

wooden interior carpentry, a/c, halogen lighting and LEDs. The fitted kitchens include Siemens appliances, and bathrooms are of top quality. In fact, the homes are fully equipped and ready to move in. Built to European regulations, the homes have B Energy Certification and all include parking and storage room in the basement. Ground floor apartments also benefit from private gardens.

Le Caprice meanwhile is an exclusive new complex of just 14 pent-

houses and apartments at The Westin La Quinta Golf Resort & Spa in Benahavis. Design and natural light are the outstanding characteristics of these unique, privileged, south-west facing homes with views of the golf course and the Mediterranean coastline. The complex consists of 3 elegant, 3-storey buildings, within a gated community including communal gardens and swimming pool.

The homes have 3 bedrooms and come with parking, storerooms and



Le Caprice, exclusive homes at The Westin La Quinta Golf

special privileges at the Westin La Quinta facilities. All have high quality finishes in accordance with European construction regulations, solar power, thermal insulation, soundproofing, natural ventilation system and B Energy Certification.

Penthouses have private 100 m<sup>2</sup> solariums, duplexes wonderful terraces and ground floor apartments private gardens.

These exclusive properties at the heart of the so-called 'Golf Valley'

and just 10 minutes from Marbella, are expected to be ready for delivery in the last quarter of 2019.

#### Contact:

For more information on these and other developments by Taylor Wimpey Spain call 900 130 044 (free from Spain) or +34 971 70 69 72 or visit [www.taylorwimpeyspain.com](http://www.taylorwimpeyspain.com)

SPONSORED FEATURE



warmth to the rustic chic interior. It felt good to have arrived. I was finally at Casale Panayiotis – a village hotel that is a flagship project of agrotourism and village renewal in Cyprus.

Following a period of political instability, in July and August of 1974 the island was invaded by Turkey, which resulted in the partition of Cyprus along what is now the UN-monitored buffer zone, the so-called Green Line. The northern 40 per cent of the island remains to this day under Turkish occupation. The events of the 1970s had a huge social and economic impact upon Cyprus – with many villages like Kalopanayiotis, in the picturesque Troödos mountains, becoming depopulated and unsustainable.

Yet, with the vision and investment of international businessmen John Papadouris, who grew up in the village, this decline has been reversed. Papadouris made his fortune in engineering in the UK and the Middle East, so when he returned to his village to see it in such decay he was compelled to make a difference.

For visitors and residents that difference is remarkable. The Casale Panayiotis hotel has renovated abandoned homes, retaining their rural charm, yet updating them for 21st century hospitality. Unique and historic houses are now guest suites, a library, restaurants, bars, and even a luxury spa. Old fruit orchards are being restored too, and with the growth in popularity of the wine routes of

Cyprus' interior, the village plans to replant its vineyards.

It's a way of life that was all but lost. Yet the influx of tourism, instead of eroding traditions and culture, has in fact supported the village creating once again a viable community, where the younger generation can find employment.

Visitors are not just from northern Europe; rural tourism is from cities on the island and from neighbouring countries like Greece too. Contrary to perceived wisdom, Cyprus is not part of Greece. The Republic of Cyprus is an independent nation, and a member of the European Union which recognises the entire island as a member, and all residents, including those in the occupied north, have EU rights. However, the south is very much aligned culturally with Greece.

### Capital culture

Yet there is of course plenty of shared history with the Turkish culture too. Head to the island's divided capital of Nicosia, and one will see the influence of the Ottoman Turks. Not far from the Green Line, in the non-occupied part of the city, remain 16th-century buildings from the Ottoman period, including the stylish Hamam Omerye. This original Ottoman bath house built from honey-coloured sandstone is still in use and is a captivating place to relax and unwind within historic, authentic surroundings. Even though much of the capi-



A Cypriot meze of local seasonal dishes. :: SUR

tal now looks and feels like any other European city with international high street retailers filling the streets, there are still a few historic corners, where you can discover former Ottoman mansion houses, with heavy carved wooden doors.

The Brits have also been very much part of the island's history too and therefore it's little wonder that Cyprus is a national favourite as a summer holiday destination. English is still widely taught in public schools, so locals can typically switch easily between Greek and English, making a visit here particularly easy. That's most definitely true on the southern coast where, since the invasion, sea-

side towns have grown significantly serving decades of tourism that used to be attracted to the now abandoned beach resorts of the occupied north.

### Coastal resorts

If you're looking for a family-friendly hotel or some luxury, then Paphos has emerged as the compelling destination, with some world-class resorts and hotels. This once sleepy seaside town is renovating its centre, and harbour while access is also being improved to the many ancient archaeological sites throughout the municipal area.

Limassol is also continuing to reinvent itself. Wealth in recent years

has come here from European and Russian visitors and expats. Even after the hard-hitting 2013 financial 'hair-cut' demanded by the EU bailout of Cyprus, the city has maintained its focus on regeneration. One of the most interesting districts, away from the all-inclusive resorts, is the old quarter.

Left abandoned for many years, the old buildings and warehouses are now being renovated by young entrepreneurs, creating a vibrant, gentrified area that combines a real sense of history and place together with the energy and creativity of modern urban Cypriot culture.

Wonder the pedestrianised streets and you'll discover theatre and music venues, small, independent bars and restaurants, and quirky stores selling art and fashion.

### Hidden Cyprus

Yet for the hidden Cyprus - to walk among ancient cedars, to discover tiny Byzantine chapels, and to experience a once forgotten way of village life – well that means braving those winding roads of the Troödos mountains to Kalopanayiotis.

As the golden tones of the last sunlight gave way to the rich dark blue hue of night, it was time to get immersed in some local culture. For my first night in the village that meant a Cyprus brandy sour cocktail, and an abundant Cypriot meze of local seasonal dishes.

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ANDREW FORBES

## THE INSIDER GUIDE

## Southern Cyprus



Petra tou Romiou, Pafos :: MARCUS BASSLERS

:: ANDREW FORBES

## STAY:

## Casale Panayiotis

Your reward for a winding drive through the spectacular Troödos mountains is this remarkable rural hotel. Forty-one quirky guest rooms have been created in seven restored houses that climb a hillside overlooking the ancient Agios Ioannis Lampadistis monastery. Casale Panayiotis has an excellent wellness centre too, the Myrianthousa Spa, as well as restaurants and bars – all maintaining the style, culture and charm of the village. It's a superb base for mountain biking, hiking, and wine touring.

Casalepanayiotis.com

## Elysium Hotel

Striking Byzantine-inspired landmark hotel, adjacent to the Tombs of Kings, and a short walk from the harbour of Paphos. Recently completely remodelled, the Elysium is now an exceptional family resort hotel. Guest rooms all have a terrace or balcony with views of the gardens, the swimming pools and across the hotel's small private cove to the Mediterranean.

Elysium-hotel.com

## Cyprus Villages

Traditional stone-built homes in the delightful villages of Tochni and Kalavassos, restored and converted into simple holiday accommodation.

CyprusVillages.com.cy

## Aphrodite Hills Hotel &amp; Residences

Aphrodite Hills takes its name from the mythical birthplace of the Greek goddess of love and beauty. This sprawling estate includes a luxury hotel as well as residences and overlooks the impressive Petra tou Romiou rocks and bay – which are well worth a visit. It's said if you swim around the rocks three times in the full-moon you'll be gifted eternal youth and beauty!

Aphroditehills.com

## EAT:

## The Gym

The capital's cool café for healthy meals and stylish cocktails in the centre of Nicosia. This on-trend café, bar, restaurant and gallery is full of original, creative style. The street-side terrace leads into the restaurant, with a long bar, dining tables with plenty of eclectic design. Beyond is a gallery selling works by local artists.

Facebook.com/TheGymConcept

## Kipriakon

Limassol has probably evolved to become Cyprus' most stylish and lively city, with a cool, regenerated, gentrified old quarter, as well as plenty of waterside restaurants and bars by the harbour. Kipriakon offers a contemporary take on classic meze, served by a young and friendly team in a relaxed, chic environment.

Facebook.com/Kipriakon

## To Katoi

The village of Omodos is a popular day trip for visitors, with a charming cobbled square, wine cellars, and some excellent restaurants, including To Katoi, with its fresh, modern interpretation of a country tavern.

OmodosEvents.com

## Wine tasting

Wine making on Cyprus dates back millennia. Within the wine village of Omodos is a medieval wine press, a small museum where one can sample the diverse wines of the island.

OmodosVillage.com

## DO:

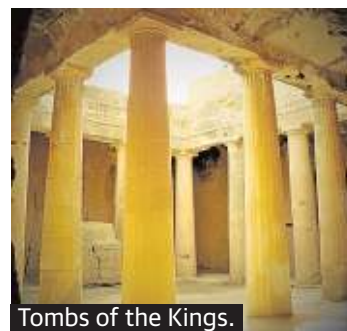
## Troödos mountains

The island's largest mountain range, and home to the National Forest, this protected area is a destination for nature lovers and those looking for activity adventures. Attractions also include the highest peak, Mount Olympus; the magnificent trees of Cedar Valley; and the many Byzantine churches with exceptional frescos.

MyTroodos.com

## Hamam Omerye

Hamams were said to be the first



Tombs of the Kings.



Casale Panayiotis.



Limassol marina.



Hamam Omerye.

buildings Ottoman Turks constructed in Nicosia. Omerye is one of these original 16th-century bath houses, where you can enjoy a traditional bathing ritual and relaxing massage.

HamamOmerye.com

## Horse riding

Even if you're not an experienced rider, at George's Ranch, Paphos, you can enjoy a gentle hack down to the coast and enjoy the sunset.

GeorgesRanchCyprus.com

## Tomb of the Kings

A little north of Paphos, close to the coast, the Tombs of Kings were created for the movers and shakers of Paphos over 2,300 years ago. They look more like aristocratic villas

than burial chambers.

VisitCyprus.com

## Ancient Kourion

The eastern Mediterranean has no shortage of impressive archaeological sites, and the Kurion Complex is no exception. Looking out across to Episkopi Bay from the amphitheatre of this ancient acropolis is a memorable experience.

## Cyprus Museum

Museums may not be at the top of everyone's list of 'to-do' things on holiday, yet the modest Cyprus Museum in the capital, Nicosia, has a remarkable collection for history buffs, including rare terracotta figures. The shop has some interesting gifts too!

## BUY:

## Local delicacies

Of all the stores catering to tourists, probably the most authentic are those selling local foods made on the island. Look out for 'Glyko Melitzanaki' (little aubergines stuffed with almonds and preserved in syrup); 'Taktila' (baklava cake made as fingers or as a spiral); 'Soujoukos' (sweets that look like a candle, made from condensed grape juice and stuffed with almonds and then sliced); and 'Pishia' (sweet cakes with cinnamon).

OmodosVillage.com

## Paphos Market

The main market, within the Ktima pedestrianised area, offers more than just fresh produce – there are stalls selling local artisan products, basket-ware, embroidery and jewellery. Just make sure you are buying products made in Cyprus.

## TRAVEL:

The Cyprus Tourism Organisation maintains an up-to-date travel web site.

VisitCyprus.com

Easyjet operates flights to Paphos via London Gatwick and London Luton Airports.

Easyjet.com/en/cheap-flights/Cyprus






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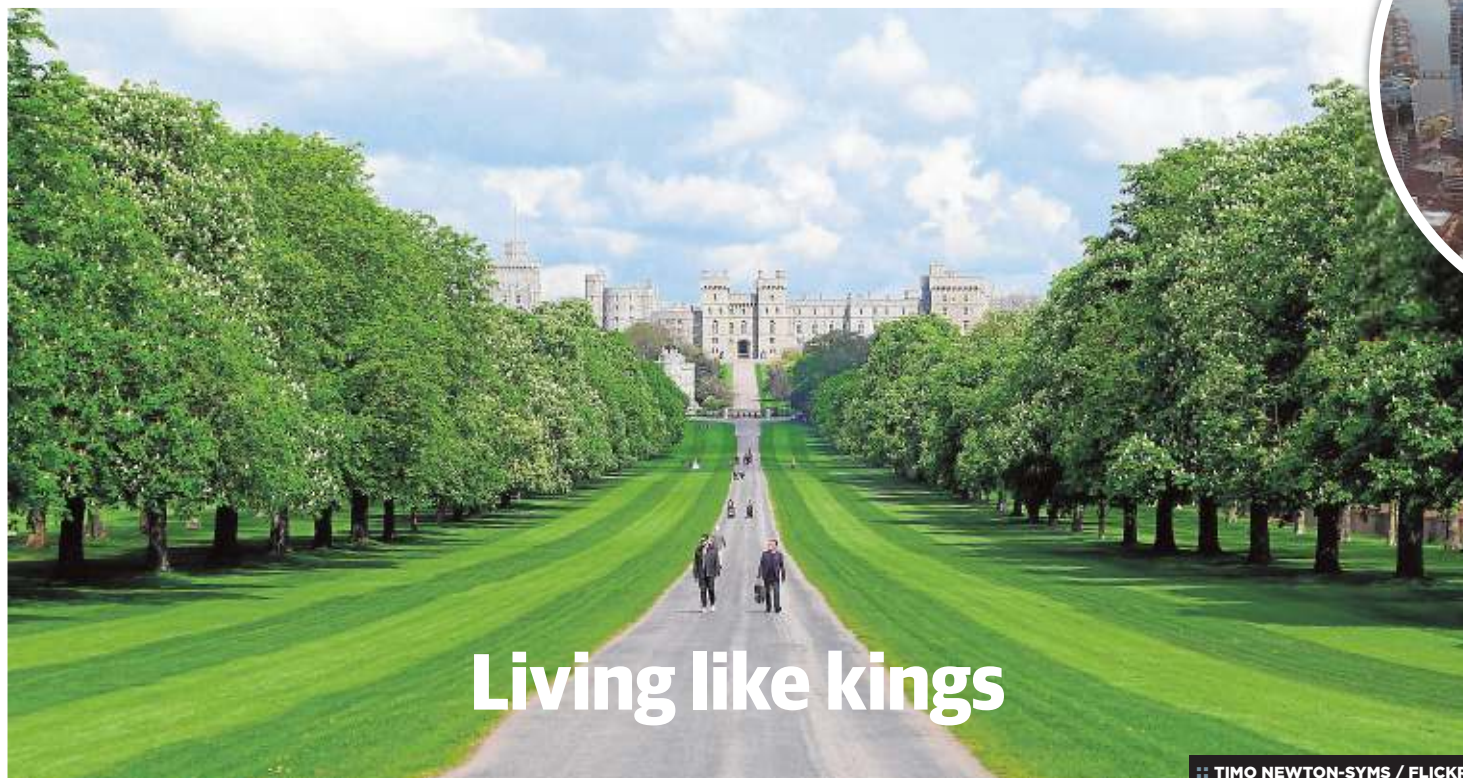
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## WHERE IN THE WORLD?



### Living like kings

© TIMO NEWTON-SYMS / FLICKR

It is yet another big year for one of the world's best-known families. Earlier this week, another member was brought into the world while next month, a wedding, the largest since 2011, will take place in the place pictured above.

It is estimated that the wedding there seven years ago reached two billion people in more than 180 countries around the world (whether news reports, photos or TV footage), a figure likely to be exceeded when the brother of the groom on that day

weds in May.

The announcement of the upcoming union raised a few eyebrows as parallels started to be drawn to the groom's great grandfather's brother's wedding in 1936 which had massive ramifications for more than just those

directly involved.

The town due to host the event is home to the world's largest inhabited castle (pictured) which was built in the 11th century, originally as a Motte and Bailey fortification by Norman invaders. If you know where this

is, you could win a prize.

Please send in the venue and date of the wedding, the name of the couple to be wed and the reason why their union stirred controversy in some quarters to [english@diariosur.es](mailto:english@diariosur.es). Only entries with your full name, delivery address and telephone number will be considered.

Last month's photo showed the skyline of Gold Coast, Australia, which hosted the Commonwealth Games from 4 to 15 April. The event was won by the hosts, Australia, with England coming second and India third.

Congratulations to William Peel in Alhaurín el Grande who answered correctly. Your prize will be on its way to you soon.

Send your answer to [english@diariosur.es](mailto:english@diariosur.es)



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DENISE BUSH

# GARDENING

## Lobelia erinus

**A familiar edging or hanging basket plant, Lobelia erinus is a herbaceous tender perennial native to South Africa**

Lobelia erinus is commonly called Edging lobelia and is probably the most well known of the genus, being a firm favourite for use in hanging baskets and borders. Both upright and trailing varieties are available in a range of colours including intense blue,

purple, pink, white and pale blue, often with a white or yellow 'eye'. Butterflies and bees love them. It is not hardy and best grown as an annual although in mild winters it may survive and produce new

shoots in the spring. The blooms appear from late spring and through the summer until it gets really hot and then lobelia will shut down and become dormant, sometimes flowering again in the autumn as the temperatures drop. It needs a rich, well-drained soil and will grow in full sun although partial shade is better. Allowing Lobelia some shade will result in more luxuriant foliage and deeper coloured flowers. The upright lobelia will form a mound 20cm high by about 30cm wide.

The small, narrow leaves are serrated and are often tinged bronze, especially on the plants with darker blooms. During the summer the leaf colour on its own adds interest even if flowering has stopped. A light trim after flowering will encourage more blooms in the autumn.

Although Lobelia erinus can be grown from seed, they are usually available in cell packs from garden centres, ready to plant out. The trailing varieties can be planted in pots so that they cascade over the sides while the upright varieties are best for edging. They are not drought resistant and will need regular watering during the hottest months.

The genus Lobelia was named after a sixteenth century Flemish botanist called Mathias L'Obel.



Edging lobelia and close up of one of the flowers (inset). :: WIKIMEDIA

### READER'S PHOTO

#### FROM LITTLE ACORNS....

Maria Hillen sent in this photo of a *Salvia officinalis*, commonly known as sage. She says she was given it as a little cutting a few months ago and it has shot up with all the rain. *Salvia* is a member of the mint family (Lamiaceae) and native to the Mediterranean region. Not only is it a useful culinary herb it also has spectacular flowers and earns its place in the border or on the patio on ornamental merit alone. It is also a bee magnet.



:: MARIA HILLEN

### GARDENING HINTS

#### Beautiful baskets

Hanging baskets look fabulous in the summer but they need special preparation and after care to keep them that way. The first rule is to use good quality compost. It should contain sufficient fertiliser and trace elements to last several months but it doesn't hurt to mix in some slow release fertiliser to extend its life. At the same time a few handfuls of water-retaining crystals will be of benefit. Use a liner, either plastic or a made-to-measure felt liner from the garden centre as traditional moss is unlikely to survive the summer heat. Next step

is to choose the plants. A rule of thumb is one plant per inch of basket so a twelve inch (30cm) diameter basket will need twelve plants. Plants suitable include begonia, impatiens, fuchsia, pelargoniums, carnations, lobelia and petunias. Or be creative and use culinary herbs or low growing succulents. Try to avoid hanging the basket in full sun and preferably shelter it from drying winds. Water regularly and if the basket starts to dry out get a big bowl or bucket and submerge the whole basket for a couple of hours.

### 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. Alternatively, you can send them to us via Facebook ([surenglish](https://www.facebook.com/surenglish)) or Twitter ([@SUR\\_English](https://twitter.com/SUR_English))



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# Women reign at Malaga Film Festival

■ SUR

**MALAGA.** Audiences at the Malaga Film Festival watched with excitement as this year's big winner was revealed to be Elena Trapé, who received the illustrious 'Biznago de Oro' Best Film award for her direction of 'Las Distancias'.

The People's Prize went to Marta Díaz, for her film 'Mi querida cofradía'. In a press conference, Díaz stated that her film, set in Ronda, "tells the story of a woman who wants to occupy a space that has always been taken up by men".

In light of the film industry's history of bias towards male directors, these two women have followed a similar narrative.



Elena Trapé receiving the 'Biznago de Oro' prize. ■ NITO SALAS

## IN BRIEF

### Famous graffiti artists paint Alhaurín de la Torre school

MALAGA

■ **M. HAY.** The 'Wholegrafx' design company is credited with painting the largest mural in the Spain, which stretches across the Jerezanas Páez Morilla wine cellars in Cadiz covering an astounding 18,000 metres squared.

Over 21 and 22 April, 'Wholegrafx'

founders Abraham Castro and Adrian Santos brought their spray cans to the walls of Campus Inglés, a family-run business in Alhaurín de la Torre that teaches English to all ages.

Both teachers and pupils were delighted with the result, a life-size recreation of a red double-decker London bus.

Michelle, Campus Inglés founder was amazed at the speed with which the artists worked. "They painted our mural in just two days; the Páez Morilla one took two and a half months!"



The newly-painted school. ■ SUR



■ SIMON GOLTERMANN

### QUEEN TRIBUTE RAISES 25,000 EUROS

Queen Machine, Europe's largest Queen tribute band, performed with Paul Maxwell at a charity event held at Sohail Castle in Fuenigirola on Saturday 21 April in collaboration with SUR in English. The event raised a total of 24,639 euros for the Cudeca palliative care hospice and was attended by over 1,500 people. One of the event's promoters, Henrik Andersen, said: "We raised much more than we expected. I did a similar concert two years ago where we raised around 19,000 euros. I would have been very happy if we'd raised the same amount again, but it was even more this time." ■ BEN CLARKE



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# “My daughter could lose her hands”

**The father of Dunia, a young girl with butterfly skin syndrome, requests respect and attention for the condition**



**FERNANDO TORRES**

Twitter: @fernandotorresu

Dunia's family have searched for somewhere that is willing to conduct complex limb-saving operation since 2011

**ALHAURÍN DE LA TORRE.** Born with a rare genetic condition called Epidermolysis Bullosa, Dunia's life has never been easy. EB, also known as 'butterfly skin', causes the skin to be extremely fragile.

According to medical evidence gathered by Debra, a charity raising funds and awareness to help “butterfly children”, the condition manifests itself in the form of blisters, ulcers and sores on the skin. Infections caused by alterations to the skin can pass through the blood to the heart

or other organs.

Since she suffers from respiratory issues and various other problems, Dunia needs daily medical attention and constant treatment in order to ensure that she lives a normal life.

Another complication brought about by this illness is that the skin can start to grow over the fingers, restricting movement and stunting muscle and bone growth. This means that sufferers could lose their hands.

In order to avoid irreversible damage, Dunia's father Carlos has been searching for a hospital that is willing to operate on her since 2011. “My daughter could lose her hands forever,” he explains.

The surgical procedure has been passed up by most medical centres. “First, the children's hospital put us on a waiting list, but once they had decided to operate on her, they quickly changed their mind. The hospital did not want to be in charge of such a complex case.”

From there, the family from Alhaurín de la Torre began a tour of Spain in search of a solution that is yet to be found.



An image of Dunia provided by her family. :: SUR

Golf and gala fundraiser

On 2 and 3 June, Debra will host its sixteenth annual charity golf tournament and ball which raise crucial funds in aid of butterfly skin sufferers. The dinner will take place at Aloha Golf Club in Marbella on 3 June. Tickets are currently being sold at [www.butterflychildrenball.org](http://www.butterflychildrenball.org) for an early-bird price of 60 euros until 19 May. Golfers are invited to take part in the friendly competition on 2 June at the Aloha golf course. Tickets are 80 euros until 19 May from the website above. The funds will help to expand the capacity of Debra's healthcare team so they can continue to provide essential care to young patients.

After Seville's Virgen del Rocío hospital rejected their case, Carlos and Dunia travelled to Vall d'Hebron in Barcelona, who promised to treat the child. “In May 2017 we gave them the tests they asked for and they told us that they would seek advice in order to evaluate the situation.” Time passed and nobody called. When the hospital finally did make contact, they told the family that they did not have the right team of doctors at their disposal to take on Dunia's case.

Upon the recommendation of other patients with the same condi-

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tion, Carlos decided to try his luck at La Fe hospital in Valencia. After a long period of consideration, they finally decided to set a date for the operation. There was just one problem. "They wanted to operate on her in the middle of summer, which would be unfeasible since the high temperatures can make treatments last for months and cause serious infections. This might just worsen Dunia's situation," he said.

Carlos, who is used to fighting for his daughter's rights, begged that the hospital consider a different solution.

"They told me I was ungrateful, even after the doctor herself had said that the initial plan would have had severe side effects."

The case remains on hold at La Fe in Valencia, with small hope for a possible new date for the operation. Carlos is conscious of time running out. "It's been a long while since Dunia has been able to move her hands very much at all."

Dunia, who is already 15 years old, is aware of the seriousness of the situation. She can't brush her hair or pick up a piece of cutlery. "There are days when she can't even hold a pen at school," said her father.

After so many years of fighting alone, Carlos no longer asks for help. "All I want is respect. Respect from the public health services for my daughter and others who suffer from this condition."

There's still time, but the clock is ticking. With every day that passes, the prospect of Dunia keeping her hands becomes increasingly improbable.

# Dr Luis Montes, defender of the right to a "good death" has died, aged 69

The anaesthetist was accused of malpractice for allegedly sedating 400 terminally ill patients but the case was eventually shelved due to lack of evidence

:: J. LUIS ÁLVAREZ

**MADRID.** They tried to turn him into "Dr Death" but anaesthetist Luis Montes insisted that, in fact, he was fighting "for life". He used to say that "a decent life deserves a good death". Dr Montes died last week as he was travelling by car to Murcia to give a conference as president of the Association for the Right To A Dignified Death. He was 69.

The Luis Montes case hit the headlines on 8 March 2005. The Madrid health authority had received anonymous reports that terminally ill patients were being given excessive sedation; the reports spoke of 400 deaths. The head of the Emergency Department, Luis Montes, the medical director and hospital manager were dismissed by the regional government, whose president at the time was Esperanza Aguirre; investigations were carried out and cases



Luis Montes at a meeting of his association in 2011. :: EFE

were filed with the prosecution authorities. Staff at the Severo Ochoa hospital held several protest demonstrations in support of Montes and his colleagues and different medical associations insisted that the sedation was commonly used in many hospitals.

Different technical reports concluded that there had been unsuitable or contraindicated sedation, but

none could prove that it had caused the patients' deaths. The case was finally shelved in June 2007 because "there is no absolute certainty of a cause and effect relationship between the administration of sedatives and the deaths".

A year later, the provincial court determined that there had been no medical mispractice at the Severo Ochoa hospital, and the case was

shelved definitively.

As soon as he received notification of this Dr Montes declared that he had no intention of forgiving and forgetting, because he considered that the treatment he and his colleagues at the Severo Ochoa hospital had received was an attack on the public health system, had discredited him and led his patients to lose confidence in him.

Despite having been exonerated, Dr Montes was not readmitted as emergency coordinator in Leganés, although he did return to work as an anaesthetist at the hospital. In 2009 he and another of the doctors involved started legal proceedings against the regional Health minister Manuel Lamela and other politicians in Madrid for falsely accusing them. The case was shelved. The same year, he became the president of the Association for the Right to a Dignified Death.

"Medicine must prevent suffering and guarantee the quality of death, an expression that I prefer to 'dignified death'. We all have the right to die well. Life is a natural right and a lucid adult should be able to make their own decisions about it. It is a right which should be protected," he used to explain in lectures.



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## Cudeca charity Walkathon returns for sixteenth outing

The walk will help raise funds for foundation that provides palliative care for those who suffer from incurable illnesses

■ **MADDY HAY**

**MÁLAGA.** The Cudeca Cancer Care Hospice's annual Walkathon returns to Benalmádena for the sixteenth time on Sunday 20 May.

The walkathon, which takes place from the Hotel Sunset Beach Club in Benalmádena, is open to everyone. Serious trekkers can take on the 10-kilometre challenge, which kicks off at 10.30am, while those who would prefer a more relaxed route can join the five or two-kilometre trails, which both begin at 12pm. Pets are also welcome.

The action-packed day promises a string of events, including live music, children's activities and paella. Attendees are also eligible for prizes which will be given to the adult and the child who raised most money, as well as to the largest team of walkers. Entrants also have the chance to walk away with a six-night stay in Portugal or four free tickets to Selwo Marina with a dolphin encounter included.

Cudeca, established in 1991, provides palliative care for those suffering from incurable illnesses throughout the province of Malaga, free of charge. The charity, founded by British retiree Joan Hunt OBE, and its specialist team of doctors, nurses, psychologists and physiotherapists offer care and support to more than 1,400 patients and family members.

To sign up for the Walkathon in advance, you can register up to two days before the event takes place, either online at [www.cudeca.org](http://www.cudeca.org); at the Hospice Centre in Benalmádena (Avda. Del Cosmos, s/n), or by visiting one of Cudeca's charity shops, located throughout the province of Malaga. The cost of registration is 10 euros for adults and six euros for children; a 20-euro family pack (which consists of children and two parents) is also available.

You can also register on the day itself, on the beach promenade next to the Beach Club, at a minimum of 30 minutes before the start of your chosen route.

The price for same-day registration is slightly higher, at 12 euro for adults (child and family pack prices remain the same).



Juan Carmona and Elías Bendodo. ■ **FRANCIS SILVA**

## More than 60 councils unite for a walk in support of children with cancer

The money raised will help ill children who want to walk part of the Camino de Santiago

■ **ÁNGEL ESCALERA**

**MÁLAGA.** A series of charity walks, on all 35 stages of the 660-kilometre Gran Senda trail around the province of Malaga, will take place on 6 May. The aim is to raise funds so that children suffering from cancer can have the chance to walk part of the Camino de Santiago, the pilgrims' trail in the north of Spain, later this year.

More than 60 town halls have signed up to the initiative, which is being organised by the association of child oncology volunteers, AVOI, which helps children with cancer and their families. The charity walk was launched with the collaboration of the provin-

cial government (Diputación), Obra Social La Caixa, Sabor a Málaga and the Gran Senda. Organisers hope that some 5,000 people will take part and donate ten euros each. Participants can choose to walk whatever stage of the Gran Senda they desire, starting in one of the towns.

At the end of each stage the group will plant a tree in memory of Pablo Ráez, who died of leukaemia last year in Marbella. The president of the provincial government, Elías Bendodo, thanked residents of the over sixty towns that will participate and expressed his personal support for the AVOI cause, which he praised for leading the fight against childhood cancer.

The president of AVOI, Juan Carmona, announced that each route will also offer an alternative route which will be more suitable for older people and families.



Participants in a previous Cudeca Walkathon along the seafront in Benalmádena. ■ **R. HAYNES**



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Paula Falvey representing Sarcoma UK. :: SUR

## Expat completes London Marathon for 'soulmate' who died fighting sarcoma

:: M. HAY

**MALAGA.** After her best friend Sharon died of sarcoma last year at the age of 59, Paula Falvey pledged to run the London Marathon for Sarcoma UK.

Last weekend, the 67-year-old fulfilled her promise, completing

26.2 miles in aid of the charity, which funds research and support for those affected by the rare form of cancer, which occurs in the connective tissue of the body.

Paula, who lives in El Pinillo, refers to Sharon as her "soulmate", who "only ever helped others no

matter who they were".

The runner shares her friend's generous spirit: so far she has raised £2,605 for Sarcoma UK. Paula's ultimate wish is to "raise as much money as possible to help other families who are touched by this illness".

To donate, visit [sarcoma.org.uk](http://sarcoma.org.uk).

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La Malagueta, C/ Fernando Camino, 10  
29015 Málaga. 902 448 855
- Centro Médico Quirónsalud Parque Litoral**  
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# Star chefs bring children into the kitchen

Famous faces from Michelin starred restaurants met in Marbella to promote the 'Chefs & kids' initiative

'Chefs & Kids' will take place on 21 May in Los Monteros, Marbella, to raise funds for the Aldeas Infantiles NGO and help stimulate children's interest in cooking

by NIEVES CASTRO

**MARBELLA.** Some of Spain's best chefs have joined forces to take part in Chefs & Kids, an initiative in aid of the children's charity Aldeas Infantiles and endorsed by the town of Marbella and the Diputación de Málaga. Martín Berasategui, Ángel León, Eneko Atxa and Paolo Casagrande (whose restaurants have three Michelin stars) will be in charge of sparking the children's passion for cooking.

Paco Pérez, Dani García, Mario Sandoval, Paco Roncero, Diego Guerrero, Francis Paniego, Jesús Sánchez, Kiko Moya, Fina Puigdevall, Erlantz Gorostiz and Óscar Velasco (two Michelin stars) will also be taking part, as will José Carlos García, Diego Gallegos, Mauricio Giovanini, Ricardo Sanz, Paco Morales, Benito Gómez, Juan José Carmona, Miguel Ángel López (with one star each) and Diego del Río.

The events are organised by the Avalon company and will start in the morning of 21 May with culinary workshops at los Monteros, Marbella. The 24 participating chefs will work with children from the



Some of the participating chefs take a 'selfie' at the launch of the charity event on Monday. by J-LANZA

Aldeas Infantiles centre in Malaga and several schools in Marbella. These kitchen greats will teach the children to recognise textures, ingredients and, what is most difficult, try to pass on their passion for cooking.

The chefs and children will also take part in a photo shoot for a calendar which will be sold to raise funds for the international Aldeas

Infantiles organisation, which works to provide homes for deprived children and to help vulnerable families.

## Gala dinner

In the evening, eight of the chefs will prepare a gala dinner at the hotel with executive chef Sebastián Conejo.

The tickets for this unique eve-

ning have already gone on sale and can be purchased through the website <https://chefsandkids.com/reservas/adquirir>. They cost 350 euros per person. The chef of Messina, Mauricio Giovanini said, "Hopefully the tickets will all be sold and a lot of money collected to help these children."

Diego del Río was enthusiastic about the idea of "channelling"

the children towards the profession that has given him so much joy.

Deputy mayor of Marbella Félix Romero applauded the Chefs & Kids initiative saying he hoped it would "open up possibilities for minors to find a profession and help Aldeas Infantiles continue to perform the excellent work it does with young people".





ANDREW J. LINN

## FIVE PER CENT OF NOTHING



**A**cohol kills'; 'Finally the myths about positive alcohol use can be buried'; 'The drinks business is finished'. These headlines, which appeared two weeks ago in the international media, referred to the results of a mega-study about the effects of alcohol. There were 600,000 participants in 19 countries. Accustomed as we are to many similar nanny-state studies, what is so different about this particular one? Quite simply that it is the largest of its kind in history. The conclusions that emerged are apocalyptic for anyone who makes a habit of drinking even small quantities of wine.

Firstly, the present government - any government - guidelines are far too generous and need to be revised downwards. Secondly, drinking wine, even that daily glass that is supposed to be good for the heart, is dangerous, even in minimal amounts.

The conclusions announced by Dr Angela Wood, of Cambridge University, published in the highly reputable The Lancet, cannot be ignored by anyone who enjoys a tippie or three. A male person consuming more than five glasses of wine a week (women less than five glasses) runs the risk of dying prematurely. Three glasses daily will cut a 40-year-old's life by two years, or in percentage terms 5% of their remain-

ing span. Put another way, every glass of wine is equivalent to 15 minutes of life, roughly the same as a cigarette is calculated to be worth. However, before giving up alcohol for ever, think for a moment about the bottom-line implications of the study. What its conclusions are really telling us, according to its authors, is that the price we have to pay for continuing to enjoy wine is to give up a few years of life from those that remain to us. How many remain to us? Do you know? Do the authors of the study know? Does anyone know? So what it comes down to is that from the unspecified and impossible-to-estimate number of years we have left, an indeterminate number may be forfeit if we do not cut right back on the demon drink. Or, as they say in broker-speak, 'Five per cent of nothing is nothing'.

### WINE OF THE WEEK

#### Ramón Bilbao Verdejo 2017

The commonest white grape in Spain is Verdejo, and also the lowest priced owing to its abundance. The well-established Rioja winery Ramón Bilbao has been making dependable, fairly priced red wine in Rioja for many years, and recently has established a bodega in Rueda. The result is this very good wine at 6 €



### TIDBITS

#### Annual seafood fair starts today at Benalmádena port

##### BENALMÁDENA

**A. GÓMEZ.** From today, Friday, until Tuesday next week, the Feria del Marisco is being held at Puerto Marina. Over 20,000 visitors are expected to attend the fair which will offer all types of fresh seafood at reasonable prices. The restaurants participating this year are Los Melizos, La Despensa del Mar, Papa Eric, La Plaza, La Perra Gorda, La Pimienta and Agua Salá and dishes cost from five euros. At last year's event nearly seven tonnes of shellfish and other seafood was served to the public.

#### Top chefs Benito Gómez and Álvaro Garrido share a kitchen in Ronda

##### RONDA

**V. MELGAR.** Benito Gómez and Álvaro Garrido, both chefs with Michelin starred establishments (Bardal in Ronda and Mina in Bilbao, respectively) have been working together in Gómez's restaurant this week. The initiative, called 'cocinando entre amigos' (cooking with friends), forms part of the Malaga Gastronomy Festival and encourages chefs to invite other chefs to share the passion for their art in the kitchen by preparing special creations for clientele of the restaurant.

They were visited by Ronda mayor, Teresa Valdenebro, and the councillor for Tourism, Isabel Barriga, who announced plans to promote gastronomy in Ronda in light of the Michelin star awarded to Gómez's restaurant last year.



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## DISCOVER ANDALUCÍA



From 1 May the patios of Cordoba will be adorned with flowers. :: TURISMO ANDALUZ

## Cordoba, full of colour

## TWO DAYS IN CORDOBA

Car + festivals

**Journey time:** 1 hour and 30 minutes from Malaga. May Crosses and patios 4 hours and 30 minutes. Monuments 5 hours.



JAVIER ALMELLONES

**T**he middle of spring sees an explosion of colour in the city of Cordoba. Flowers, pots and crosses make the provincial capital shine between the last days of April and the first days of May.

From today until 13 May the city will host a variety of traditional events which attract thousands of tourists every year.

The festival of colour celebrates the emotions of happiness and solemnity. It is centred around the May Crosses festival, which starts today

and runs until Tuesday.

In this well-known contest, residents of and visitors to the city walk around the patios and plazas in the historic centre to visit the many crosses, decorated with flowers and Manila shawls, put up around the city. As well as displaying examples of traditional ornamental art, over several days visitors can enjoy a buzzing atmosphere in the street, where there are tapas and drinks for people to enjoy.

Some of the best known parts of the city for this are San Basilio, San Andrés and San Agustín.

One of the other important events of the Cordoban spring is known as the Battle of the Flowers, which will take place on Sunday in the Paseo de la Victoria.

Despite its name, the parade is a peaceful procession of twenty floats bearing hundreds of flowers. These flowers have been gathered by various groups from around the city.

The third springtime event is the Festival de los Patios, which has the privilege of having been declared an Event of Intangible Cultural Heritage by Unesco. Owners of many traditional properties in the city adorn their patios with flowers for all to see.

The spring festival will last until 13 May and will include events such as flamenco dancing, wine and tapas tasting and much more - another excuse to visit one of Andalucía's finest cities. The month will conclude with the Feria de la Virgen de la Salud festival from 19 to 26 May.



The Battle of the Flowers. :: TURISMO ANDALUZ



## QUICK GUIDE

## What to see in Cordoba

## Alcázar de los Reyes Cristianos.

◀ Ancient Arab fort from which the Catholic Monarchs organised their attack on the Nazari kingdom.

Campo Santo de los Mártires, s/n. 14004 Cordoba.

## Archaeological site of the Medina Azahara.

◀ The remains of the ancient palace built by Abderramán III. Carretera Palma del Río, km. 5,5. 14071 Cordoba.



## Puente Romano.

Built with 16 arches, this is one of the most emblematic sites of the city. Puente Romano, s/n. 140001 Cordoba.

◀ **Mosque-Cathedral.** This religious building, located in the heart of Cordoba, combines the Umayyad, gothic, renaissance and baroque styles. Calle Torrijos, 10. 14003 Cordoba.



The crosses will fill the city with colour. :: SUR



The Mezquita has been a Catholic church since 1236. :: SUR



EXHIBITIONS

Experimental Art

Malaga. Until 27 April. Ateneo, C/Compañía.

An exhibition by various artists that links the work of artist Vik Muniz with Buster Keaton.

Secundino Hernández

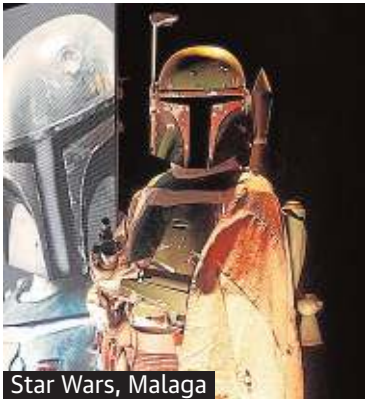
Malaga. Until 6 May. Centro de Arte Contemporáneo.

The Madrid artist is exhibiting 38 canvases representing his work over the last five years.

Don Dossett

La Herradura. Until 7 May. Centro Cultural Las Palomas.

An exhibition of computer generated images and memorabilia from film productions including Superman, Judge Dredd, Hamlet and Santa Claus belonging to the artistic director of many cinematic and television films, Don Dossett.



Star Wars, Malaga

Star Wars

Malaga. Until 27 May. Palmeral de las Sorpresas, Muelle 2.

An exhibition of all things to do with Star Wars from posters and figures to autographs and original props and storyboards. Organised by the Andrés Olivares foundation. Tickets: [www.mitosdeunagalaxia.com](http://www.mitosdeunagalaxia.com)

Quilting exhibition

Alhaurín el Grande. Until 2 May. Casa de la Cultura.

The Quilters del Sol and the Finca Vida Art Group have joined together for the exhibition entitled 'The Sky's the Limit'. Open 10am - 2pm and 4pm - 8pm.

Antonio Machado

Torremolinos. Until 30 April. Centro Cultural Pablo Ruiz Picasso.

'Laberinto de Espejos' is the title of the exhibition of photographs, texts and books written by the Andalusian poet Antonio Machado.

Costa del Sol Photographic

Benalmádena. Until 27 April. Castillo Bil-Bil.

The members of the Costa Del Sol Photographic Club are exhibiting some of their photographs.

Superpunk

Torre del Mar. Until 29 April. Centro Cultural Ntra Sña del Carmen

Local artist Javi Rojo will be exhibiting his art which he says is influenced by Almodovar, Hitchcock, Andy Warhol, Dalí and Greta Garbo.

Spring jazz fever hits Malaga

TONY BRYANT

MALAGA. Malaga has seen an extraordinary rise in interest in the jazz scene over the past few years, as the annual winter International Jazz Festival has demonstrated. As a result the city has now introduced a new spring jazz event that has been organised by Costa del Jazz.

The new festival will bolster Malaga's already formidable image on the European jazz scene and will present some of the most celebrated musicians and ensembles.

Primavera Jazz will be held on Sunday 29 and Monday 30 April, coinciding with the celebration of the International Day of Jazz (30 April). Nine concerts will be performed across the city of Malaga, two of which will be held in the main auditorium of the Palacio de Ferias y Congresos.

The first, on Sunday, will be a performance by the Andrea Motis Trio. Andrea Motis, born in Barcelona in 1995, is a young multitalented musician who has performed with some of Spain's top jazz musicians. She has received numerous awards for her



Andrea Motis is one of Spain's top jazz musicians. :: WIKIMEDIA

work and is considered among the best new jazz talent in Spain.

Aficionados of flamenco-jazz will enjoy the concert by Chicuelo and Mezquida on Monday. This piano and guitar duo have accompanied some of flamenco's most prestigious performers.

Tickets cost 18 euros each and are available from [www.entradascodetickets.com/entradas/primaverajazz](http://www.entradascodetickets.com/entradas/primaverajazz)

INFORMATION

► What. Jazz festival.

► Where. Palacio de Ferias y Congresos, Malaga.

► When. Sunday 29 - Monday 30 April at 8.30pm.

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Alejandro Ginés. Untitled. Espacios No Domésticos Series, 2015.



# A varied programme of opera

**GIBRALTAR.** The Gibraltar Philharmonic Society presents 'A Celebration of Opera' at the Convent Ballroom on Wednesday 9 May at 7.30pm.

Greek soprano Irini Kyriakidou studied at the Maria Callas Conservatory of Athens under Marina Krilovici and is the winner of the second prize in the "Maria Callas Grand Prix", in Athens, first prize in the European Competition "Debut 2004" and the "Pro Europa" prize of the European Culture Foundation.

Rihards Macanovskis (bass) has been a soloist at the Latvian National Opera since 2003. His achievements have been recognised with the "Latvijas Gāze" Annual Award for Opera 2012 as Best Opera Soloist. In 2013 he received the Pauls Sakss Award and was nominated for the Grand Music Award for his outstanding performance of Tchaikovsky's romances.

The two singers will be accompanied by pianist Nauzet Medera in a programme that includes arias by composers Bizet, Dvorak, Mozart and Tchaikovsky.



Rihards Macanovskis.



Irina Kyriakidou.

Tickets priced at £20 are available from Sacarello's coffee shop – restaurant in Irish Town and The Silver Shop at 222 Main Street or online at [www.buytickets.gi](http://www.buytickets.gi)

A limited number of tickets at £10 are available to senior citizens and students via the John Mackintosh Hall. Further information: + 350 200 72134 or [www.philharmonic.gi](http://www.philharmonic.gi)

## INFORMATION

► **Where.** Convent Ballroom.

► **What.** Pieces by Bizet, Dvorak, Mozart and Tchaikovsky performed by Rihards Macanovskis and Irina Kyriakidou.

► **When.** 9 May, 7.30pm.

## EXHIBITIONS

**Iwona and Jerzy Jarmolowicz Almuñécar.** Until 30 April. Sala de Exposiciones Rowland Fade. Paintings and sculptures by Polish artists Iwona and Jerzy Jarmolowicz.

**Francisco Aguilar Mijas.** Until 7 May. Centro Cultural de La Cala. An exhibition of paintings by this Valencian artist.

## CHARITY

**ADANA dog show Estepona.** 29 April, from 10am. Palacio de Ferias y Congresos. 2€. Registration at 10am, judging at 11am. Classes include obedience, agility, best trick, musical sit and more. Also stalls and a bar, police demonstration, parade of dogs. Full info [www.adana.es](http://www.adana.es)

**Cabaret for Cats Coín.** 5 May, 7.30pm. Jordan's Bar opposite La Trocha. 13€ Homemade lasagna and apple pie is included followed by entertainment by The Sound Bites whose repertoire includes songs by ABBA, The Carpenters, Michael Bublé, Carole King, James Ingram, Linda Ronstadt and many other popular artists. Vegetarian meals and group table bookings call: 952 112 057. Tickets from Martin's paper shop, Cristina's paper shop, and the

A.I.D. charity shop (all located in Alhaurin el Grande).

**Cudeca Spring Fair Torrox.** 5 May, from 11am. La Tabla (1st floor of Torrox Park Commercial Centre).

Free entrance. Stalls selling hand crafted products, live music from 1pm with Niel M and Mel & Alf, kids corner and so much more. There will also be a BBQ. Call: 603 110 608 / 603 113 931 or email: [info@tablatorrox.com](mailto:info@tablatorrox.com)



Francisco Aguilar, Cala de Mijas

**Last Chance Animal Rescue Cártama.** 6 May, from 10.30am. Avanto Restaurante. Last Chance Animal Rescue, based in Cártama, are holding a family fun charity walk at the Avanto Restaurant, Urb. Torrenueva-Playa, La Cala de Mijas. Starting at 10.30am the walk will be along the broadwalk to La Cala and back. Entrance for adults and children over 13 is 10€, children 6 € and a family

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**Excursions to Granada, Seville...**  
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ticket is 20 €. There will be live music and a small fair with stalls available at 15€ and the Avanto restaurant are providing a lunch on the day for 22€. Call Marti Oliphant 666860637

### Age Concern

**Estepona and Manilva.** 9 May, 1.30pm. El Caserio restaurant 9€. Reservations cal: 951318234 or email: tonyaldous55@yahoo.co.uk. A three course menu del dia, drinks extra (except water). A sample of the menu is available at the Age Concern shop. Payment by 2 May.

## MUSIC & DANCE

### Seasonal concerts

**Malaga.** From 4 May until 22 September.

Ten concerts ranging from jazz to classical compositions, all performed by talented young musicians from the province.

**Moclinejo.** 4 May, 8pm. Orfeón Preuniversitaria de Málaga.

**Cártama.** 11 May, 8pm. Escuela de Jazz de Málaga

### Spring concert

**Malaga.** 29 April, 8pm. Sala María Cristina, Fundación Unicaja.

The Academia Orquestal de Málaga will be performing at a grand concert. The orchestra is made up of musicians from various music conservatories in Malaga. Tickets: uni-entradas.es

### Academia Orquestal de Málaga

**Malaga.** 29 April, 8pm. Sala Unicaja María Cristina.

The orchestra will be playing: Mozart's concerto for oboe, clarinet, French horn, bassoon and orchestra. Symphony n°1 by Beethoven.

[www.unientradas.com](http://www.unientradas.com).

# Four Seasons tribute concert

### TONY BRYANT

**MALAGA.** Following several sell-out shows last November, the vocal band, The Valli Seasons, is set to return to the Costa del Sol in May. The band is made up of members of the award winning West End show, The Jersey Boys, which came to a triumphant end in London last year. The internationally acclaimed hit musical told the remarkable rise to stardom of Frankie Valli and the Four Seasons, one of the most successful bands in pop music history.

The Four Seasons were formed in 1960, although they were originally called the Four Lovers. They were one of only two American bands (the other being The Beach Boys) to enjoy major chart success before, during, and after what became known as the 'British Invasion' of the early '60s.

The Valli Seasons show will feature the world-wide hits of The Four Seasons, including Working My Way Back to You, December 1963, Walk Like a Man, Sherry and Big Girls Don't Cry.

The concerts are organised by BigM promotions and will



Working their way back to the Costa del Sol in May. :: SUR

### INFORMATION

► **What.** Frankie Valli and the Four Seasons tribute show.

► **Where.** Various locations along the coast.

► **When.** 2 - 6 May.

start in the La Sala Banús on Wednesday 2 May. The boys will continue at the Salón del Mar in Torre del Mar on the Thursday 3, and at the Moonlight Lounge Bar in

Benalmádena on Friday 4 May.

The band was booked to perform at the Felipe VI Auditorium in Estepona on Saturday 5 May, but unfortunately, for reasons beyond the control of the organiser, this show has been cancelled.

The last performance can be seen at the Avante Restaurant in La Cala de Mijas on Sunday 6 May.

Discounted tickets for the show in the Moonlight Lounge on 4 May are available today Friday 27 April through Oferplan ([www.ofierplan.diario-sur.es](http://www.ofierplan.diario-sur.es)).

### Frederick's Bar

**Benalmádena Pueblo.** 28 April 6pm. Avd de Chorillo.

Live music with Matt Rivers in aid of Cudeca. Includes charity raffle for two hampers.

### The Wall Bar

**Malaga.** Hotel Vincci Posada del Patio, C/Pacífico. 11pm, entry free.

**28 April.** Susan Valery and Adrian Lombardi. Jazz and vocals.

### Noche de Tango

**Nerja.** 28 April 9pm. Centro Cultural Villa de Nerja. 13€.

Jazz and contemporary music is fused in this tango show Tickets: [www.mientrada.net](http://www.mientrada.net)

### Tamisa Night Fever

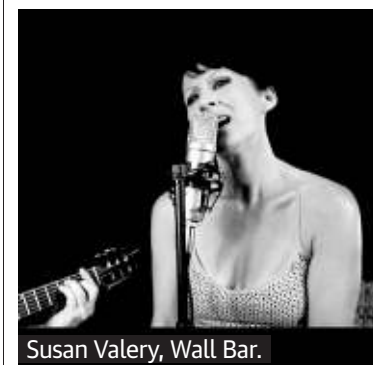
**Mijas.** 27 April, 7.30pm. Hotel Tamisa Golf. 23€

70s and 80s night at Tamisa golf Hotel. Booking: 722 336 978 or email: [solosol@email.com](mailto:solosol@email.com) or [reservas@hoteltamisagolf.com](mailto:reservas@hoteltamisagolf.com)

### Jersey Boys

**Mijas.** 29 April, from 2pm. Tamisa Golf Hotel. 25€

The Jersey boys tribute act and a fashion show. In aid of Cudeca. Reservations: 952 585 988 or email: [reservas@hoteltamisagolf.com](mailto:reservas@hoteltamisagolf.com)



Susan Valery, Wall Bar.

### Dance party

**Caleta de Vélez.** 30 April, from 8pm. Cortijo Nidolea.

Live music, flamenco dance. Lions Club Balcón de Europa. More info contact Nerja Foreigners Department.

### Petite Messe Solennelle

**Marbella.** 5 May, from various departure points. 60€.

The Festival Internacional de Jímena de la Frontera 'Petite Messe Solennelle' with Gioachino Rossini, two pianos, soloists and choir. Tickets include travel from Marbella, San Pedro, Benahavís or Estepona; concert, and meal. Reservations 689000944 before end of today, 27 April. [www.musica-concanto.org](http://www.musica-concanto.org)

# F O R U M

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## MUSIC &amp; DANCE

**The King is Back****Malaga.** 8 May, 8.30pm. *Teatro Cervantes.*

Ben Portsmouth and The Taking Care of Elvis Band will be performing a tribute to Elvis Presley. Ben Portsmouth was crowned the best Elvis imitator in the world in 2012 at the Worldwide Ultimate Elvis Tribute Artist Contest in Memphis. Tickets from 24 to 60 euros from [www.unientradas.es](http://www.unientradas.es)



Elvis, Teatro Cervantes, Malaga

**Beatles Festivals**

**Estepona.** 18 May, doors open 8pm. *Auditorium Felipe VI.* 15€ Featuring The Silver Beats, Beatles tribute band; Buddy Walker as Buddy Holly; Camilo as George Harrison solo tribute to John Lennon; and special celebrity guest, Tony Bramwell, the ex CEO of Apple Records. More info: [www.thefestivalofflegends.com/ESTEPONA.html](http://www.thefestivalofflegends.com/ESTEPONA.html) Tickets: the auditorium Mon-Fri 10am-4pm, any Corte Inglés, or call: 609 488 572, [www.ticketeas.com](http://www.ticketeas.com)

## FLAMENCO

**Flamenco abierto**

**Vélez-Málaga.** *Peña Flamenca Niño de Vélez, C/Tejeda 10.* 27 April, 10pm. Sandra Cisneros (dance), Alejandro (vocals), Rubén Portillo (guitar). 10€. Reservations: 651 332 750

**Flamenco in the Museum**

**Malaga.** *Museo de Arte Flamenco Peña Juan Breva, C/Ramón Franquelo.* 28 April, 8.30pm. Noelia Ruiz and Marcelo Rodríguez (dance) with Miguel Astorga (vocals), Nacho Marocco (guitar). For information and bookings call 687 607 526 or email: [info@fla-](mailto:info@fla-)

# Two new attractions arrive at Mijas waterpark

**MIJAS.** The attraction that will cause the most sensation is without doubt the Crazy Loop, a new slide that will delight those young at heart, while those who are looking for a little more relaxation, can enjoy the new jacuzzi area.

Aquamijas, formerly called Parque Acuático Mijas, has been open to the public since Monday 23 April, the first to open on the Costa del Sol, and will remain open until the end of September.

According to Ana Belén Coronel, marketing manager of Aquamijas, the two new aquatic attractions, along with the complete remodeling it has undergone over the winter, have given the park a new image and it will continue to provide the same fun as in previous seasons but with a totally new look.

The aquatic attractions of Aquamijas guarantee fun for both young and old alike. Among the attractions on offer are the Rio Bravo, the Adventura and the Kamikaze - the latter an exhilarating descent aboard a giant rubber ring. There is also the artificial pool with metre-high waves, four soft slides and a slide maze, while for the less daring, there is the possibility to relax in the big Blue



View from the top of the Kamikaze slide.

Lake or in the new jacuzzi.

Aquamijas has a large free parking area for its visitors, and a bus service from the main Fuen-girola station right to the park gates.

Aquamijas is open until the end of September, and offers a wide range of entertainment such as aqua aerobics, children's shows, dance and interactive games. It also has restaurant and gardens areas, safety deposit boxes, sunbeds, lockers, showers, changing rooms and shops.

## INFORMATION

► **Where.** Aquamijas, Autovía A-7, km 209 (Mijas Costa).

► **What.** The newly-remodelled water park with two brand-new attractions is open every day until 30 September.

► **Contact.** 952 460 404 / [www.aquamijas.com](http://www.aquamijas.com).

menka.com

## FESTIVALS

**May crosses**

**Andalucía.** 28 April. Córdoba is famous for the May crosses festival but it is celebrated all across Spain. Religious brotherhoods decorated crosses and put them on display but there is also concerts, flamenco and usually food during the evening.

**Día de Morcilla**

**Canillas de la Aceituna.** 29 April. The last Sunday of April, Canillas celebrates its patron saint the Virgen de la Cabeza and Día de la Morcilla. It is primarily a gastro-

nom festival dedicated to the black, blood sausage typical of the area but there will be other local products to sample too.

**Día de la Haba**

**Villanueva de la Concepción.** 29 April. The town pays tribute to the annual harvest of broad beans with live music, a photography competition and of course plenty of opportunity to taste dishes made with broad beans.

**Feria del Espárrago**

**Sierra de Yeguas.** 29 April. A hugely popular event, the asparagus fair now includes all ecological produce from the area. Besides tastings there will be stalls selling the

fresh asparagus stalks as well as bottled and ecological vegetables.

## EVENTS

**Koningsdag**

**La Carihuella.** 27 April, 3-8pm. *Plaza Chiriva.*

The Dutch community will be dressing up in predominantly orange clothing and wigs to celebrate Koningsdag. Their will be demonstrations of the Dutch culture, music and gastronomy as well as crafts and customs.

**International Cultural Festival Fuengirola.**

*Until 1 May.* The Feria de Los Pueblos is a multicultural event promoting the gas-

tronomy, culture and folklore of the participating countries. One of the highlights is the colourful parade which leaves the Plaza de España at 11.30am on Saturday.

**Tapas route**

**Vélez-Málaga.** *Until 29 April.*

This year twenty two establishments in the town are taking part in the VII Ruta de la Tapa. A tapa and a drink will cost 2.50€. More information at <http://www.velez-malaga.es/>

**Conservatives Abroad**

**Mijas.** 2 May, 2pm. *Tamisa Golf Hotel.* 10€

The Conservatives abroad are meeting for a social event lunch consisting of tapas, cheese and wine. Reservations email: [john.conservativesabroad@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:john.conservativesabroad@hotmail.co.uk) or call Christine: 952 668 267

**Spring Bazaar**

**Torre del Mar.** 4 May, 11am - 1pm. *Lux Mundi Ecumenical Centre.*

On sale will be small gifts, preserves, cakes and homemade food, boutique, second hand items books, local art and crafts etc. Lux Mundi Torre del Mar. Tel: 952 543 334 or e-mail: [luxmundi@luxmundi.org](mailto:luxmundi@luxmundi.org)



A May cross in Coín

**Star Wars Storm Troopers**

**Malaga.** 5 May, from 5.30pm. *La Farola to Plaza de la Constitución.* The day after World Star Wars Day, 501 Legion will be parading through Malaga from La Farola through Muelle Uno, Palmeral de las Sorpresas, Plaza de la Marina, Calle Larios and finishing in Plaza la Constitución at around 8pm. Over 200 people dressed in Star Wars garb will join the parade including the Emperor and his bodyguards who will disembark from a Spanish Navy patrol boat at the port.

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## O. V. FILM

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

### Cinesur El Ingenio

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

**Avengers: Infinity Wars:** 12.15, 16.30, 19.30 (every day).

**A Quiet Place:** 12.00, 17.00 (every day); 19.00, 21.45 (Thurs).

### Cinesur Miramar

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

**A Quiet Place:** 20.15, 22.15, 00.15.

**Avengers: Infinity Wars:** 12.15, 16.30, 19.30, 22.30.

**Game Night:** 11.50, 16.15, 18.15.

### Cines Teatro Goya

For tickets and information call 951196665. [www.cinesteatrogoya.com](http://www.cinesteatrogoya.com)

**Tomb Raider:** 15.40 (Fri-Sun).

**Isle of Dogs:** 11.45 (Sun); 16.00, 18.00 (Sat, Sun, Tues, Wed); 17.30 (Thurs); 17.45 (Fri, Mon).

**Ready Player One:** 16.00 (Sat, Sun, Tues, Wed); 17.30 (Fri, Mon, Thurs).

**A Quiet Place:** 16.00 (Sat, Sun, Tues, Wed); 17.30 (Fri, Mon, Thurs); 20.15 (Fri, Mon); 20.30 (Sat, Sun, Tues-Thurs).

**Game Night:** 16.15, 18.20 (Sat, Sun, Tues, Wed); 17.45, 22.30 (Thurs); 18.00 (Fri, Mon); 22.45 (every day except Thurs).

# Festival of San Isidro, the labourer

## TONY BRYANT

**CHURRIANA.** Churriana is preparing for its annual celebration in honour of San Isidro Labrador, the patron saint of farmers and land workers.

This year's festivities will begin at 10am on Sunday 6 May, when the town will participate in the traditional pilgrimage to the shrine of the saint. The celebrations will include concerts and street performances, but the highlight of the week, the Procession of San Isidro Labrador, takes place on Sunday 13 May at 7pm.

San Isidro was a Spanish farm worker known for his piety toward the poor land workers and animals. His real name was Isidro de Merlo y Quintana and he was said to have possessed mysterious powers because he was often accompanied by a pair of angels.

The festival finishes on Tuesday 15 May, when the choir of the Hermandad de la Romero performs a concert in the San Antonio Abad Church in Churriana.

This festival is celebrated in many towns and villages in Andalucía.



San Isidro Labrador :: SUR

**Early Man:** 11.45 (Sun).

**Avengers: Infinity War:** 15.50, 18.45, 21.45 (Sat, Sun, Tues, Wed); 17.30 (Fri, Mon, Thurs); 19.00, 22.00 (Fri); 19.30 (Mon); 22.30 (Mon, Thurs).

### Yelmo Cines, Plaza Mayor

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

Tel: 902 902 103 or visit [www.yelmocines.es](http://www.yelmocines.es)

**Game Night:** 22.10 (Tues).

**A Quiet Place:** 14.30 (Sat, Sun).

**Avengers: Infinity War:** 12.30 (Sat, Sun) 17.30 (every day), 20.30

(every day), 23.30 (Fri, Sat).

### Screenings of opera and ballet and theatre

[www.yelmocines.es](http://www.yelmocines.es)

**Manon (ballet live from ROH).** 3 May, 20.15, (Rincón de la Victoria, Vialia)

**Cinderella (The Metropolitan Opera).** 28 April, 18.55 (Plaza Mayor, Rincón de la Victoria, Vialia)

**Madame Butterfly (Royal Opera Theatre).** 10 May, 19.00 (Plaza Mayor, Rincón de la Victoria, Vialia)



## MOVIE LISTING From Friday 27th April to Thursday 3rd May

ORIGINAL VERSION SUBTITLED SPANISH



### GAME NIGHT

Director Jonathan Goldstein and John Francis Daley  
Starring Jason Bateman and Rachel McAdams  
COMEDY - 140 min.

Friday 27 and Monday 30: 18:00, 22:45  
Saturday 28, Sunday 29, Tuesday 1 and Wednesday 2: 16:15, 18:20, 22:45  
Thursday 3: 17:45, 22:30



### A QUIET PLACE

Director John Krasinski  
Starring Emily Blunt and John Krasinski  
HORROR - 90 min.

Friday 27 and Monday 30: 17:30, 20:15  
Saturday 28, Sunday 29, Tuesday 1 and Wednesday 2: 16:00, 20:30  
Thursday 3: 17:30, 20:30



### AVENGERS: INFINITY WAR

Director Joe Russo and Anthony Russo  
Starring Robert Downey Jr. and Chris Hemsworth  
ACTION - 149 min.

Friday 27: 17:30, 19:00, 22:00  
Saturday 28, Sunday 29, Tuesday 1 and Wednesday 2: 15:50, 18:45, 21:45  
Monday 30: 17:30, 19:30, 22:30  
Thursday 3: 17:30, 22:30



### ISLE OF DOGS

Director Wes Anderson  
Starring Bryan Cranston: Chief (voice)  
ANIMATION - 101 min.

Friday 27 and Monday 30: 17:45  
Saturday 28, Tuesday 1 and Wednesday 2: 16:00, 18:00  
Sunday 29: 11:45, 16:00, 18:00  
Thursday 3: 17:30



### READY PLAYER ONE

Friday 27: 17:30  
Saturday 28, Sunday 29, Tuesday 1 and Wednesday 2: 16:00  
Monday 30 and Thursday 3: 17:30



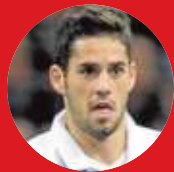
### READY PLAYER ONE

Sunday 29: 11:45





**Isco**  
"The feeling never dies. Wherever we are, we always do it. Malaga: today and always"



**Joaquín**  
"My heart cries. You will always be a part of me, my beloved Malaga. You'll be back where you belong"



**Willy Caballero**  
"You've already done it more than once. A small team with great fans can go very far"



**Pablo Fornals**  
"I hope that the club returns very soon to where the city and the fans deserve to be"



**Santi Cazorla**  
"All my support goes to Malaga. Every day that passes is one fewer until their return"



**S. Sánchez**  
"Malaga will shine in whichever division they're in. I'm sorry and I love you all"



The squad and owner Sheikh Al-Thani apologised to fans after relegation to Segunda, a formality for a number of weeks, was confirmed

**DARYL FINCH**

✉ dfinch@diariosur.es



**MÁLAGA.** Malaga's relegation to Segunda was confirmed on Thursday night when they lost 1-0 away to Levante. A goal in the 93rd minute from Emmanuel Boateng sealed their fate, blacking out any vague glimmer of hope of survival in Primera.

The end of the club's golden era came in the cruellest possible way with the late goal after a game in which the Blue and Whites played better than their hosts. Their inability to attack, however, let them down.

Brown Ideye had two good chances in the first half during a period of good pressure from the visitors who knew that defeat would end their ten-year

stay in the top flight. The first was a header from a right-wing cross that was easily saved by Oier; the second was an effort at the near post blocked out for a corner. Chory Castro stung the palms of the keeper with a spectacular half volley from the left but Malaga were unable to capitalise on their dominance.

In the second half, Levante were able to get a foothold in the game and they could have taken the lead when Coke headed José Campaña's freekick inches wide of the left post.

However, the knockout blow came late on, just like at the Riazor two weeks previously, when Saša Lukić squeezed the ball across the face of goal from the byline for Emmanuel

Boateng to score the winner deep in stoppage time.

"I ask the fans for forgiveness," said Malaga head coach José González after the final whistle. "We've not given what was expected, but we gave all that we had."

"The boys are devastated but this will only make them stronger."

#### "Not a time for excuses"

Upon their return to Malaga last Friday, the playing squad and the coaching staff called a press conference to apologise to the fans for the disappointment of relegation.

"Today is not the time for making excuses," said first-team captain Recio, speaking on behalf of the squad. "Today the whole squad would like to let all Malaga fans know that we are sorry for letting them down."

The skipper went on to say that Malaga CF was a "feeling", one that all players feel and continue to feel even after leaving.

"Saying 'sorry' isn't enough," he

continued. "Sadly there's no longer a way of getting out of this but we assure you that we will continue to fight for this badge until the final moment."

#### No sign of the Al-Thanis

While the players and staff faced the music, there was no sign of anyone belonging to the Al-Thani family.

Club owner Sheikh Abdullah Al-Thani has not been in the city for almost a year while his children, Nasser, Nayef and Hamyan, all directors, have also been absent for the past weeks and months, with no family representation at games since Nayef's presence at the Valencia defeat when he was given his own box for his own protection.

However, Al-Thani senior did take to Twitter to apologise to fans and pledged that "the team will return".

He also had words, albeit somewhat lost in translation, for Francisco Martín Aguilar, senior consultant, who has been involved with the club for the past 35 years and became cen-

tre of attention on Thursday after a video of him crying and being comforted by Levante president Quico Catalán appeared on social media.

For many fans, this heartbreaking image summed up the predicament of the club, with too few involved showing the same commitment as Aguilar.

#### Widespread support

Despite reaching the lowest point of the last ten years, Malaga CF wasn't short of support, especially from former players.

Isco, from Arroyo de la Miel and now a star with Real Madrid, posted a picture of himself during his time with the club, accompanied by the message: "The feeling never dies. Wherever we are, we always do it. We'll be back."

Joaquín, another player from the golden era in the Champions League, said: "My heart cries. You'll be back where you belong... I've experienced what you're capable of."



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**A WAY TO PLAY. A WAY TO GROW.**



# Fans turn on the management in first game back at La Rosaleda following relegation

Chants were directed at the owner, head coach and sporting director throughout Sunday's 2-0 victory over Real Sociedad

BY BEN CLARKE

**MALAGA.** Malaga, despite having their relegation to Segunda confirmed on Friday, produced one of their best performances of the season against Real Sociedad, recording a 2-0 win - just their fifth of the season.

However, those inside La Rosaleda stadium could take little pleasure in the victory as they protested the ownership of Sheikh Abdullah Al-Thani, the coaching of José González and the recruitment carried out by sporting director Mario Husillos.

In the fifth minute the supporters clubs, who left the 'grada de animación' completely vacant at kick off, emerged onto the terraces as part of their planned protest, filling the stadium with chants against the club's management.

On the pitch, however, this seemed to galvanise the home side. After holding off early pressure, Malaga won a corner on the counter-



Fans emerging after kickoff as part of their protest. BY NITO SALAS

attack. From it, the ball broke to defender Luis Hernández on the edge of the box, who flicked it over the backline to Adrián who brought it down on his chest before finishing past Gerónimo Rulli.

## Bitter-sweet

The go-ahead goal brought a mixed reaction from the crowd who on the

one hand wanted to back their team but at the same time wanted to show the club that the team's underachievement was not good enough.

The drama continued in the 23rd minute when a misplaced pass from Manuel Iturra failed to find Ignasi Miquel and instead had to be swept up by the keeper. From the resultant indirect freekick, Sergio Canales lifted

the ball over the wall, but also the cross bar.

However, when Sociedad's Héctor Moreno conceded a corner in the 33rd minute, Malaga doubled their lead. Although the initial set piece was wasted, the ball fell

to Chory Castro who delivered a well-timed cross right into the path of Youssef En-Nesyri, who fired past the helpless keeper.

The visitors, who made three changes early in the second half, tried to force their way back into the game. David Zurutuza almost clawed one goal back after he turned neatly in the box, before zipping his shot wide from a tight angle.

Despite their possession, though, Imanol Alguacil's side struggled to create enough chances. Former Malaga defender Diego Llorente came closest; his header from a freekick had Roberto scrambling but drifted just wide.

With stoppage time approaching, Malaga almost put the cherry on top of a rather stale cake when Keko pushed down the right wing and delivered an excellent cross in to an unmarked En-Nesyri, whose header sailed harmlessly across goal.



## Mercenaries

At full time, the victory still didn't placate the fans who whistle the players, particularly singling out Miguel Torres, Keko and Brown Ideye as being "mercenaries".

On the other hand, given the level of the performance, against a team which had won their last three in a row, there was certainly a feeling of what could have been.

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09	55 points 55 goals	10	37 points 42 goals	11	46 points 54 goals	12	58 points 54 goals	13	57 points 53 goals	14	45 points 39 goals	15	50 points 42 goals	16	48 points 38 goals



# Adiós

to the best decade in Malaga's history

**Van Nistelrooy.**  
The Dutch forward arrived as the Al-Thani era began.

**Overhead kick.** One of the defining moments of the era was Júlio Baptista's goal against Getafe.

**Isco.** An idol among the fan-base, he didn't spend long at the club.

We take a look back at the club's longest period in the top flight, which included its two best ever campaigns between 2011 and 2013

**MÁLAGA.** Malaga fans have never had it so good. Ten years in the top flight is the best in the club's history and yet it is little consolation now that fans have trips to Lugo and Valladolid to look forward to, rather than the Bernabéu or the Camp Nou.

However, it is still worth looking back and remembering that the period which started in the 2008-09 season saw the club have its greatest ever squad, finish in its highest ever position (fourth) and narrowly miss out on the semifinals of the Champions League because of some horrendous refereeing decisions.

**2008-09 season** 8th (55 points)  
**Tapia's best season, a brush with Europe**

**PEDRO LUIS ALONSO**

✉ Twitter: @Plalonso27



Paradoxically, during a campaign in which the team didn't score until the fifth match day, the season ended with debates over whether this was the best Malaga side in history. It was certainly the best period for coach Antonio Tapia, in his second spell at the club. Striker Nabil Baha scored 10 goals, Apoño nine (seven from the penalty spot), and Albert Luque and Eliseu bagged seven each. Putting the latter on the right wing proved to be a stroke of genius and following a win in Getafe (1-2) on the 28th match day, Malaga were as high as fifth. However, the side took their foot off the gas for the final furlong and ended up finishing eighth, seven points off Europa League qualification. Unhappy with the lack of ambition of the club,

Tapia resigned and Juan Ramón Muñoz took over.

**2009-10 season** 17th (37 points)  
**Last-gasp safety thanks to a goal from Duda**

The only occasion in the whole decade when safety wasn't assured until the last day. During a season in which Muñoz blooded a lot of youngsters, two winless runs of 13 and 11 games left Malaga needing to avoid defeat on the final day to stay up. In their way was Real Madrid at La Rosaleda who could still have claimed the title. A goal from Duda put the Blue and Whites ahead before an equaliser from Rafael van der Vaart.

**2010-11 season** 11th (46 points)  
**Pellegrini gets the Al-Thani era under way**

The start of the Al-Thani era got off to a chaotic start on the pitch as new coach, the veteran Portuguese Jesualdo Ferreira, failed to get to grips with the demands of Spanish football. Despite record investment and the signings of Sebastián Fernández and Sa-

lomón Rondón (who finished with 14 goals), the team only picked up seven points from the first 30 available. When Manuel Pellegrini took the helm in November he had a leaky defence to address as well as a lack of balance in the squad. The players took some time to buy into his methods but with the January signings of Sergio Asenjo, Martín Demichelis, Enzo Maresca, Ignacio Camacho and Júlio Baptista (who scored nine in half a season) they were able to seal mathematical safety on the penultimate match day with a win in Bilbao (1-1). The 11th-place finish was deceptive; Malaga finished just three points above relegated Deportivo in 18th.

**2011-12 season** 4th (58 points)  
**The best campaign in the history of the club**

Malaga sealed fourth spot and qualification for the Champions League with a final day win over Sporting Gijón (1-0). By this stage, recruitment had gone into overdrive with Malaga's typical eleven looking like this: Caballero; Jesús Gámez, Demi-

chelis, Joris Mathijsen, Nacho Monreal; Santi Cazorla, Jérémy Toulalan, Isco, Eliseu; Joaquín (Rondón) and Ruud van Nistelrooy. The team reached a record points total (58) and despite a lack of natural wingers, played with good balance and command of the ball.

**2012-13 season** 6th (57 points)  
**A notable sixth and a Champions League run**

This campaign the side still had an exceptional squad in spite of the sales of Mathijsen, Rondón, Cazorla and Van Nistelrooy. What's more, their resources had to be spread on multiple fronts with a run to the quarterfinals in the Copa del Rey (where they lost a close-fought battle against Barcelona) and the Champions League where an offside goal for Borussia Dortmund eliminated the Costa side deep into stoppage time. Monreal left in January but in the league there were great memories such as Baptista's overhead kick against Getafe (1-0) and the nine goals scored by local boy Isco. Despite a sixth-pla-



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16 11th  
17 46 points  
49 goals

**Eliseu.** The Portuguese was one of the constants during the past decade.

ce finish, the UEFA sanction prevented the club from playing in the Europa League the next year.

**2013-14 season** 11th (45 points)  
**Back to reality with Schuster at the helm**

Bernd Schuster was the one entrusted with bringing Malaga back down to earth but the German didn't endear himself to the fans. After 25 games, the team was in 15th place, but a late push, and a tight defence, secured an 11th-place finish for a side which only scored 39 goals.

**2014-15 season** 9th (50 points)  
**A mixed first season for Javi Gracia**

The surprising choice of Javi Gracia as the next head coach turned out to be massive success. He brought the best out of a limited squad which relied on the talents of youngsters Sergi Darder, Samuel and Samu Castillejo. The first half of the season was phenomenal with the side as high as sixth, but a poor second half left a bitter taste. Juanmi, who scored the winner in a 1-0 win at the Camp Nou, finished the season as top goalscorer with eight.

**2015-16 season** 8th (48 points)

**An excellent showing despite limitations**

Finishing eighth with such a limited squad ultimately saw Gracia poached from Malaga by Rubin Kazan. The team grossly overachieved even after the sale of Nordin Amrabat. The key to the success was the forward pairing of Charles and Duje Cop, with the former scoring a dozen in the league. The season was also marked by the emergence of Pablo Fornals.

**2016-17 season** 11th (46 pts)  
**Michel revives a team in freefall**

# So where did it all go so wrong for Malaga this year?

**■ SERGIO CORTÉS**

**MALAGA.** This summer started in much the same way as the previous one: frustration in the ranks as delays held up recruitment and planning for the season ahead.

Lines of communication between sporting director Francesc Arnau and owner Sheikh Al-Thani had broken down. As had been the case with Juande Ramos the season before, noises started emerging out of La Rosaleda that head coach Michel was growing frustrated with the increasing delays which allowed transfer targets to escape the net.

While the sheikh's observance of Ramadan was the official line, the truth was that the sheikh had lost trust in Arnau and wasn't willing to sanction deals. The result was that experienced former Manchester City midfielder Javi García ended up at rivals Real Betis despite having agreed personal terms, while the move for promising defender José Meré also fell through at the last minute, despite Malaga activating the buy-out clause weeks before. The club's hesitation saw German side Köln swoop in and beat them to his signature.

**Key departures**

Having lost Ignacio Camacho to Wolfsburg, Malaga could ill-afford to lose another midfielder. However, the club's worst nightmare came to pass when Pablo Fornals stated his desire to move on and Villarreal activated his buy-out clause - a measly 12 million euros. To rub salt into the wounds, a new contract, with a significantly higher release clause

which reflected his market value, had already been agreed, only for Al-Thani to veto it.

With both key men out the door and García's move cancelled, panic ensued when it came to drafting in replacements. After Arnau signed the unknown Emanuel Cecchini for close to four million euros, Al-Thani himself took personal control and signed another unknown entity, Esteban Rolón, from the Argentinian second division.

With the season about to start and it had already been decided that both were sub-standard, Zdravko Kuzmanovic, who had been injured for much of the previous season, was resigned. Between them, Kuzmanovic, Rolón and Cecchini have made less than ten appearances this year.

**A chaotic January**

After a disastrous run of 11 points from nineteen games, incoming (and returning) sporting director Mario Husillos decided to sack Michel and replace him with former Granada manager José González.

This uninspir-

ing choice, as well as some scatter-gun recruitment left the new man needing not only to pick up points, but to bed in eight new players, many of whom were seriously lacking in fitness and therefore unable to contribute anything until much too late.

Goal scoring had been a major issue before González came in with major summer signing, Borja Bastón, the only recognised forward, injured for large parts of the season. Husillos' recruitment of Brown Ideye, Maxime Lestienne, Samuel García and Isaac Success aimed to remedy this but delivered very little, with the forwards having returned from long spells of inactivity and in need of intensive fitness training.

In midfield, much of the work since January has been left down to veterans Manuel Iturra and Mehdi Lacen, both pushing 34, also January signings. This overall lack of fitness in the squad showed time and time again with the concession of late goals, especially against direct rivals (Deportivo, Las Palmas, Levante...) costing them dear and creating another planning dilemma with regards to life in Segunda.

Three coaches passed through the revolving door this year. Juande Ramos' second spell didn't go as planned and he resigned before Christmas. However, what cushion he had established over the rele-

gation zone was quickly eroded when his assistant Marcelo Romero led the team to just five points in his ten games in charge. Michel was brought in to steady the ship and turned the team's fortunes

around, going on a run of seven wins from eight games close to the season's conclusion, bringing the best out of Javi Ontiveros, Recio and especially Sandro, who finished up with 14 goals.



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A still from the video, released on social media on Monday. :: S. S.

## "The Malaga spirit never dies!"

SUR has launched a video campaign to stoke feelings among the fanbase to help the team gain promotion at the first time of asking

:: DARYL FINCH

**MALAGA.** If Malaga are to get back into La Liga at the first time of asking, the backing of the fans will be a key element.

This is why SUR and SUR Deportes this week launched a video to help stir up passions among the supporters called "El malaguismo no se para" (the Malaga spirit never dies).

In it, fans are travelling to a game and it breaks down. While they are at the roadside, Malaga's relegation is confirmed on the radio. Despite brief sadness, the fans then get off the bus (in reality the real team bus) one by one and start pushing it as they chant their team's name.

The video was made in collaboration with film director Enrique



Director Enrique García. :: S. SALAS

García and just a day after its publication had reached 468,567 people across SUR's social media platforms, including those of SUR in English and SUR Deutsch Ausgabe.

**i** The video can be seen on our Twitter (@SUR\_English) and Facebook (surenglish) accounts.

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## A LOOK AT LA LIGA

**ROB PALMER**  
Commentator, Sky Sports  
@robbopalmer



# Dépor of the rovers

**The Galician side are fighting for their lives; but it hasn't always been like this**

It's so sad to see the demise of Deportivo La Coruña, now a shell of the club who were possibly the most exciting Iberian footballing enterprise of the nineties and noughties – Spain's very own Blackburn Rovers!

There are so many parallels between Dépor and Rovers, the highs and, sadly more recently, the lows. The modern fans wouldn't believe the excitement these two clubs gave us all back in the day.

Unfashionable Galician businessman Augusto Lendoiro pumped millions of pesetas into his local club bringing in Brazilian superstars like Bebeto, Mauro Silva, Rivaldo, Djalminha and Donato.

At the same time Jack Walker was splashing the cash to take Alan Shearer, Chris Sutton and Graeme Le Saux to Lancashire, Tim Flowers was the must-have goalkeeper in the Premier League, Paco Liano won the Zamora in La Liga.

It was an age when a small club with a big benefactor could challenge the establishment. Dépor were top all season until the summer of 1993 when they slipped behind Barcelona and Real Madrid. The following season they missed out on the final day and a year after they won the Copa del Rey, and finished as champion-ship runners-up.

Over at Ewood Park Kenny Dalglish was replicating his success with Liverpool at Ewood Park. The footage of Blackburn taking



Lendoiro (right) and his millions led Dépor to great heights. :: EFE

the Premiership title on a sunny day at Anfield is some of the most emotive in the formative days of the new 'loads a money' league.

Rovers did peak there but managed to qualify for Europe three times in five years, won the League Cup in 2002 with record signing Andy Cole leading the line.

La Coruña's equivalent was Roy Makaay whose goals inspired the winning of the title in the year 2000. In the same year that Blackburn won the League Cup, Dépor gatecrashed the Copa del Rey final to beat Real Madrid at their own stadium in a game stage-managed to celebrate the centenary cup final at the Bernabéu. One assumes the grand plan was for Real to win it?

It was like lottery winners taking over football. The problem was that they then became part of the institution and the romance began to wane.

Blackburn's story is well documented, Sir Jack Walker passed away and there's little left of his

legacy. They're on the way back from the third tier and now Deportivo face a similar soul-searching period.

The Lendoiro glory days are long gone. The gamble he took with finances left the fans with some incredible memories, a modern stadium but a horrible reality.

The club has been operating on a budget. They tried employing Spain's footballing fireman to save them, however Pepe Mel departed in the autumn. Cristóbal Parralo was their equivalent of Tony Parkes, the likeable coach promoted from within; he barely lasted the winter.

The last gamble was Clarence Seedorf, footballing royalty, who was asked to work with less than ordinary footballers during spring. They were already doomed.

Once it was champagne and the finest threads in the boardrooms of both clubs. These days they are quaffing the left-overs from the elite establishments and buying 'vintage' or borrowing in most cases.



The players celebrate Añón's 17th-minute goal. :: J. RODRÍGUEZ

## A play-off place secured for Marbella

The Costa side's title chances took a dent with a draw but a point was enough to secure a place in the play-offs

### EJIDO 2012 1 MARBELLA 1

:: JULIO RODRÍGUEZ

**EL EJIDO.** Objective achieved. A point on the road in El Ejido was enough to secure a place in the play-offs for Marbella but that didn't stop the players showing their disappointment at the final whistle after surrendering a 1-0 lead on Saturday afternoon.

It started so well for the visitors, who dominated the play for the entirety of the first half. Full-back Carlos Julio almost gave his side an early lead but dragged his shot from beside the penalty spot wide.

It was the same starting eleven as from the previous week's defeat to Ecija, but the approach was completely different: freeflowing attacking football only halted by persistent fouling by the home side.

The tactic, however, would come back to bite them in the 17th minute when captain Añón found the

top corner with a perfectly-executed freekick over the top of the wall.

Despite the dominance, though, Marbella went into the break with just a single-goal lead after Corpas spurned a clear chance, totally unmarked at the back post, pushed out for a corner by the keeper.

Everyone inside the Santo Domingo stadium was given a reminder who was the home side in the second half. Ejido 2012 piled the pressure on but had difficulty converting their strong wing play into chances on goal.

That was until the 74th minute when former Marbella man Emilio Cubo delivered a perfect cross into the area, leaving Pino with the simplest of tasks to convert.

This deflated the visitors who managed to carve out one last chance in the 91st minute, spurned by Juanfran who let the occasion get to him.

Following Cartagena's win over Betis Deportivo, Marbella are now second in the table, bringing an end to their eight-week run at the top. Now Fernando Estévez's side have two points to make up in the remaining three games if they are to be crowned champions at the end of the season.

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# Costa del Golf Tour to take in four of the best courses in Andalucía

Registration is now open for this amateur competition, which will be played at Alcaidesa, Cabopino, El Paraíso and Guadalmina

## ALBERTO GÓMEZ

**MÁLAGA.** The Costa del Golf Tour, now considered among the main tours in Andalucía, is about to take place. The first leg of this tour, which includes some of the best courses in the country, will be at Alcaidesa on 25 May. It will be played under Stableford individual rules, where each hole is scored in relation to its par strokes (one point for a bogey, two for the par, three for a birdie and four for an eagle), and reaching the final will depend on the results across the three days of competition, although the players can register for one, two or all three legs, with the chance of playing in the final in each case.

The second leg will be at Cabopino on 30 June, and the third will take place on 7 July at El Paraíso. The grand final will be at Guadalmina, on 28 July.

The course at Alcaidesa Links Golf Resort, which is in fantastic surroundings, is close to the Sotogrande and Valderrama courses, both of which have hosted top level international competitions such as the Andalucía Masters. The complex has two courses of its own, Alcaidesa Links (the only 'links' style course in southern



The three legs of the tour will take place on some of the best courses in Andalucía. :: SUR

Europe, with no trees and undulating terrain, similar to St Andrews in Scotland) and Alcaidesa Heathland, with a total of 36 professional holes and spectacular views of the sea, Gibraltar and Africa.

The second leg of the tour will be at Cabopino, on the eastern side of Marbella, opposite the marina of the same name. It has 18 holes, is more than 5,000 square metres in size and was designed by architect Juan Ligués Creus. The course at Cabopino has stunning views of the Mediterranean.

The third leg will be held at El Pa-

raíso, with its wide fairways surrounded by palms, pines, oleanders and olive trees, with streams and two magnificent lakes. The par 71 course extends for 6,131 metres from its magnificent tees.

## Grand Final

The Grand Final of the Costa del Golf Tour will take place at the Real Club de Golf Guadalmina, which last year hosted the women's Open de España, part of the European Tour.

Guadalmina has two courses, the north and the south, with 45 holes in total, and it was inaugurated in

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1959, which makes it one of the oldest clubs on the Costa del Sol. The fairways, wide and with almost no rough, wind their way between well-established trees, making it very attractive for the players who take part in the championship. The cour-

## INFORMATION

► **First leg.** The first competition will be at Alcaidesa on 25 May. It will be played under Stableford individual rules, where each hole is scored in relation to its par strokes.

► **Second leg.** The next stage takes place at Cabopino, on the eastern side of Marbella, on 30 June.

► **Third leg.** The third leg of the golf tour will be at El Paraíso on 7 July.

► **Grand final.** The best-classified golfers in the different categories will go through to the Grand Final at Guadalmina on 28 July.

se was remodelled in 2002.

Registration is now open for this tour, which is being organised by SUR and its specialist publication Costa del Golf. Oferplan also has a special offer which means that people can enjoy the competition, green fee, with buggy included, on all three courses for 149 euros, or pay a discounted price of 65 euros to play at either Alcaidesa, Cabopino or El Paraíso (the normal cost would be 120 euros).

The Grand Final will be played by the best-classified golfers in the different categories.

The Costa del Golf Tour is sponsored by Acosol, Marcos 1942, Da Bruno restaurant and the Junta de Andalucía. In addition to the four courses which are hosting the events, other collaborators are Andalucía Golf Select, Copyrap, Golfriends and FC&CO.

In previous years the tour, which has been taking place for five years, has attracted nearly 1,000 amateur players, competing in men's and women's categories.

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# Women paint the city of Malaga blue to fight cancer

The sixth edition of the run was attended by over 6,000 women to raise funds to help the fight against cancer

:: PATRICIA PINEDA

**MALAGA.** Women of all ages united for a common cause: the fight against cancer. Over 6,000 people took part in the sixth annual Women's Run against Cancer on Sunday, which took place at 10am over a 4km course beginning in Malaga's Paseo del Parque. The run focused on fun and raising awareness rather than being competitive. Mothers, daughters, grandmothers, babies in prams and even dogs were all among the participants.

Belén Infantes, last year's winner, has now made it two wins in a row. "I am very focused, I think that this race is very important and I really wanted to win it," she said.



More than 6,000 took part in the Women's Run against Cancer. :: F. S.

Only a few seconds after Belén, Rocio Ortega crossed the line to gain second place. She has been taking part in women's races since 2009, but previously her best result had only been fifth place. "This race is an excellent opportunity to do our bit for the wider community," she told SUR.

Participants paid eight euros to

take part and were given a blue T-shirt, which most wore for the run. All of the money raised will be donated to the group 'United against Cancer', which works with organisations such as the Cesare Scariolo Foundation, AVOI, the Andrés Olivares Foundation and Cudeca to support individuals and families that have been affected by cancer.



## RECORD-BREAKING WIN FOR CLAY KING RAFA NADAL AT MONTE CARLO

Spanish tennis player Rafael Nadal claimed his 11th Monte Carlo Masters title on Sunday after seeing off Kei Nishikori 6-3 6-2 in the final. The 31-year-old became the first man in the Open era to win the same title 11 times, moving ahead of Novak Djokovic for career Masters titles (31). The Mallorcan is aiming to add to his overall tally this weekend having made it to the quarterfinals of the Barcelona Open after beating compatriot Roberto Carballés 6-4 6-4 on Thursday.

REUTERS



Sole has a shot on goal for the tournament hosts. :: FRANCIS SILVA

## Heartbreak for Rincón Fertilidad as their Copa de la Reina dream is over

The Malaga handball team, hosting the competition for the first time, lost to Bera Bera in the semifinals

ENRIQUE MIRANDA

**MALAGA.** There was heartbreak and tears in Ciudad Jardín on Saturday as Rincón Fertilidad Málaga lost out on a place in the final of the Copa de la Reina with defeat to Bera Bera.

This was the first time in the team's history that they hosted the competition and were desperate to claim their first tournament win on home soil.

However, it wasn't to be as the team from San Sebastián ran out 26-25 winners after Emma Boada saw her penalty saved by the keeper in the last minute in what was a physically demanding game, closely-fought to the final whistle.

Neither side was able to open up any sort of commanding lead, especially in the second half when Bera Bera's strength in defence



A devastated Emma Boada. :: F. S.

was able to keep a Malaga attack, perhaps lacking a bit in pace, at arm's length.

Rincón Fertilidad kept going until the end but when the penalty was saved, that was where the dream ended.

Throughout the competition, the home side showed a competitive edge and a psychological strength to overcome adversity. Reaching the semifinal stage also demonstrated how far the team had come over the years to become established as a major force in the elite division.

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FUENGIROLA 952 580 142 / 685 716 286  
SOTOGRANDE/CABRALIAY 683 280 067  
ESTEFANIA 689 344 916 / 952 906 406

**SUR**  
in English

**REAL ESTATE** Agency located in Mijas Costa and operative on the entire Coast is looking for experienced sales agents and telemarketers. The candidates must speak English fluently and preferably one of the following languages: French, German, Nordic. Great conditions and high commission scheme for the right candidates. Please send CV info@buenavistahomes.eu and/or call 951484500

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Preferred Starting Date: Early June

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**EXPERIENCED** receptionist required for busy and professional aesthetic clinic in Puerto Banus. The candidate must be bilingual and fully fluent in both spoken and written English and Spanish and have knowledge of social media for marketing purposes. Please send an email with your CV to [dravbr.office@gmail.com](mailto:dravbr.office@gmail.com) for the attention of Maria

**WE ARE** looking for native English speaking sales people to join our call centre in Marbella selling Google advertising. For an immediate interview please email your CV to [admin@capuletmedia.com](mailto:admin@capuletmedia.com) or call 683594980

**REAL** Estate Office Mijas requires sale person. Must have driving license, fluent English and some Spanish. C.V to [cvafs401@gmail.com](mailto:cvafs401@gmail.com)

**Advertising Agency requires Sales Representative for Fuengirola/Mijas Area**

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**Send your CV by e-mail: [info@surlinenglishads.com](mailto:info@surlinenglishads.com)**

**REAL** estate agency in Estepona is looking for an experienced teamplayer to handle partly administrative tasks and partly sales within office hours. Candidates must speak at least fluently Spanish and English. We provide a contract (nomina) with commission on sales. Please send your CV to [nicole@marbellamaison.com](mailto:nicole@marbellamaison.com) or call 952887750

**RECEPTIONIST/** Secretary, bilingual, for established British medical clinic in Marbella. Computer skills essential, accounting and medical experience and other languages an advantage. Send CV to [igone@psired.es](mailto:igone@psired.es)

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**SICK?** Of not being paid within the Timeshare industry? Company bosses refusing to pay your commissions? Then it's time to work for the Best UK partnered SL Company in Spain. We have positions for listers and closers in our 2nd telesales office in Fuengirola. Fantastic reward package on offer if you are hungry for money and success? If so, this is the place to be! Call Reece 660549635

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**EXPERIENCED** Qualifiers and Closers required for our international investment property team. To fulfil this role you will be self-motivated, professional and outgoing with a passion for sales and a real people person. You will be based from our offices in Marbella and Nueva Andalucia. We truly are different, so come and find out why; Email a covering letter along with your CV to [work@spacemarbella.com](mailto:work@spacemarbella.com)

**HEAD** Chef, kitchen porter and bar staff wanted for Caffreys Irish bar. Good rates of pay. For more information call 951275121/ 634787655 [info@caffreysbar.es](mailto:info@caffreysbar.es)

**YOUNG**, happy and innovative chef, that loves to cook, wanted for an important private house. The suitable candidate should be of a good presence, very good manners and friendly. Well organized and tidy is a must. Be adventurous and willing to please the requests of the owners and their guests with good quality food and well presented. Good working conditions and good salary. Please email CV to [info@villamoana.com](mailto:info@villamoana.com)

**EVENTS** company requires a face to face person to conduct venue tours to potential clients. Must be very positive, friendly have a good knowledge of the Costa del Sol and hold a full driving license. Speaking Spanish would be an advantage. Please send your CV to [susie@sunshineweddings.com](mailto:susie@sunshineweddings.com)

**REFLECTIONS, Nueva Andalucia, require an experienced Nail Technician. Call Tina or Lottie on 952906524 or send CV to [john@reflectionsmarbella.com](mailto:john@reflectionsmarbella.com)**

**BLUE** square Real Estate is currently searching for Sales Executives to work in and around the Marbella area. A full training package is provided and excellent incentives. Multilingual candidates are sought after. Please email [hr@blue-square.com](mailto:hr@blue-square.com) with your CV

**RECEPTIONIST** full time for dental clinic in Estepona. Will also be trained to be a dental nurse. Must speak English and Spanish. Send CV with photo to: [info@dentalcaremarbella.com](mailto:info@dentalcaremarbella.com). [www.dentalcaremarbella.com](http://www.dentalcaremarbella.com)

**WE HAVE** one vacancy in our busy office in Estepona The applicants must be: Fluent Spanish, English and Swedish or Scandinavian speaking Computer literate Good communicator as he/she will be working directly with the public We offer: Full training Excellent carer prospect Working part time Contract If interested, please send your CV to [info@sanitasestepona.com](mailto:info@sanitasestepona.com)

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**SUR**  
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run by the Andalusian government:  
**900 200 999**  
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EQUALITY AND WELFARE - [cmujenmijas@sej.es](mailto:cmujenmijas@sej.es)  
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**SUR**  
in English

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Call. 659 344 816

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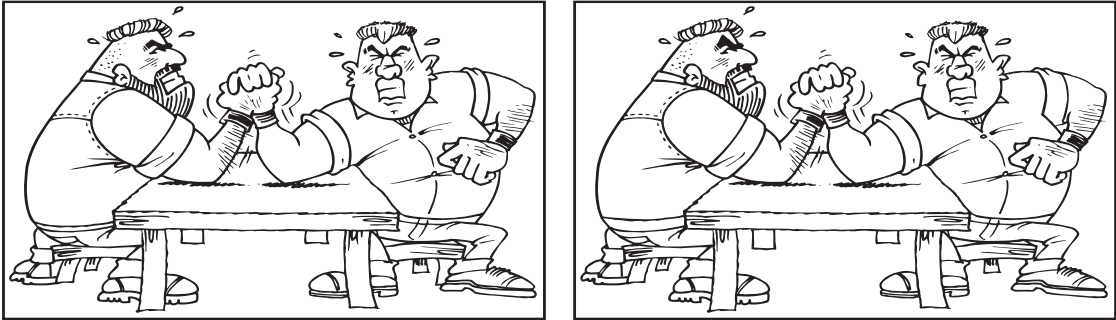
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РУССКОМ

**SUR** es


**Golf**





THE SEVEN DIFFERENCES





THE STARS


- 


**Aquarius**  
January 21 - February 19  
On the work front it seems better to work closely with a colleague. Just make sure that you get the credit for any bright ideas.
- 


**Pisces**  
February 20th - March 20th  
Hold on to any feelings of frustration, let them out through a smile rather than sharp words.
- 


**Aries**  
March 21st - April 20th  
With happier days ahead, a decision that was made last month now shows the benefits.
- 


**Taurus**  
April 21st - May 21st  
Try to bring more of a social life into the everyday rather than 'now and again'. Easy to say but needing some effort.
- 


**Gemini**  
May 22nd - June 21st  
A result that you were hoping for next month seems to have been brought forward. Lucky you!
- 


**Cancer**  
June 22nd - July 23rd  
Use that extra energy to get on with things. In a week full of ups and downs a positive attitude keeps the 'ups' dominant.
- 

**Leo**  
July 24th - August 23rd  
Tackling jobs at home as part of a team makes life much easier. Of course you will still get the credit or the blame!
- 

**Virgo**  
August 24th - September 23rd  
When in a positive mood the world is very open to you. Never underestimate your own talents and determination.
- 

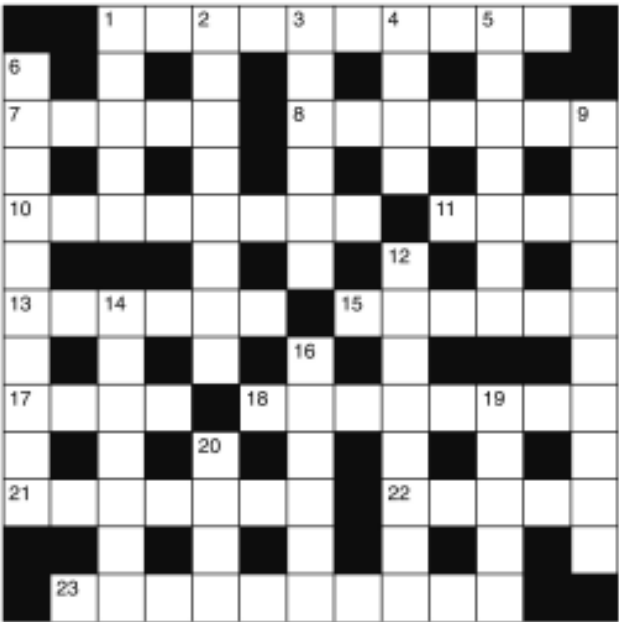
**Libra**  
September 24th - October 23rd  
You may suspect that something is too good to be true. Be polite but check it out. Opportunities can be golden but hold onto your cash until you are sure.
- 

**Scorpio**  
October 24th - November 22nd  
Your surroundings are becoming more important to you, maybe because you are sharing them more.
- 

**Sagittarius**  
November 23rd - December 21st  
This weekend gives a chance to be lucky and happy. Remember back to what pleased someone in the past.
- 

**Capricorn**  
December 22nd - January 20th  
Taking up an opportunity to get ahead is not to be sneezed at. Doing so could see you catch a financial cold!

CRYPTIC CROSSWORD N° 11292



- Across

  - 1 Showing the film as something outstanding (10)
  - 7 See 18 Across
  - 8 Its spread may cause concern to one no longer young (7)
  - 10 Electrical coils made by steelmen (8)
  - 11 He can't be relied upon to put the fence back (4)
  - 13 Destroy the good looks of French countenance (6)
  - 15 They're devilish if set back by conclusions (6)
  - 17 They get engaged in the machine shop (4)
  - 18 & 7Ac Putting the maker's name on golf clubs - they leave a lasting impression (8-5)
  - 21 As tennis players, they may be employed in a mass (7)
  - 22 He will be discovered in a dubious act (5)
  - 23 A cord and tangled net becomes constrictive (10)
- Down

  - 1 Inclined to be lying (5)
  - 2 See 14 Down
  - 3 Absence of friendship will involve me in tiny disturbance (6)
  - 4 Never fails to come back, having reached the lowest ebb (4)
  - 5 Nothing to hold down a particular viewpoint (7)
  - 6 Even when healthy these creatures may drop down (5,5)
  - 9 Two pairs of spectacles, one hears, used by marksmen (10)
  - 12 Outstanding point of the hostelry situated in a different place (8)
  - 14 & 2Dn Could they be statistics supplied by the orator? (7,2,6)
  - 16 Where a man has to take his time (6)
  - 19 Fatuous writer makes a comeback in it (5)
  - 20 Sign of distress from some of the late arrivals (4)

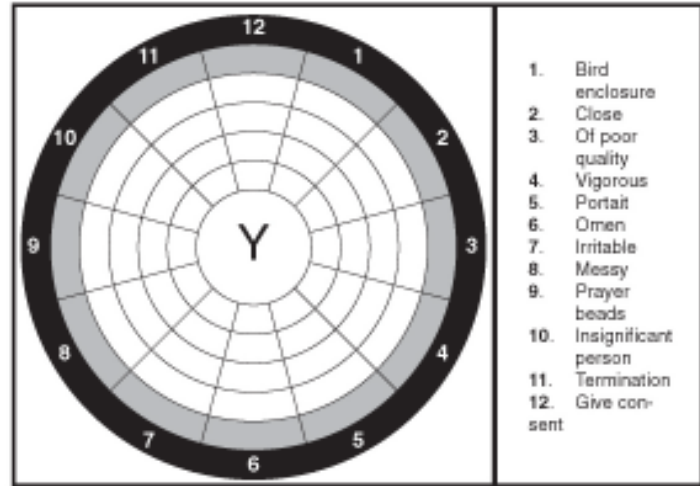
SUDOKU BY HANZO

**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

8						4		
			6				1	
	2	9	5		4	8		6
		8	2		9	1	5	
5					1			
7	4		8			9	2	
		4			7			2
		3	9				6	
		7		2		3	8	

CLOCKWORD

The solutions from 1 to 12 are all six-letter words ending with the letter Y in the centre. Moving clockwise from 1, the letters in the outer circle will spell out the name of a former Blue Peter presenter.



THE WORDPUZZLER

P	I	L	O	T	T	E	R	O	Y
U	P	A	R	I	M	A	N	C	O
R	U	N	E	R	A	T	I	N	G
S	L	O	U	D	R	I	B	O	I
E	L	A	N	D	I	V	E	R	S
R	C	R	C	O	N	U	L	M	I
V	I	M	A	T	E	R	I	A	N
O	P	A	D	U	S	C	O	O	K
R	W	R	E	N	T	A	R	O	O
N	E	F	T	A	B	O	S	U	N

CAN you identify the maritime personnel from the anagrams listed below?

- 1. Vride
- 2. Okoc
- 3. Dacte
- 4. Gratin
- 5. Serrup
- 6. Nrew
- 7. Remain
- 8. Nobus
- 9. Tilpo
- 10. Team

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**

Which is the nickname of the American state of Kansas?

- 1. Cornhusker State
- 2. Sunflower State
- 3. Prairie State
- 4. Peach State

**QUESTION 2**

In which American city is the McCarran airport?

- 1. Chicago
- 2. Los Angeles
- 3. New York
- 4. Las Vegas



LANGUAGE CROSSWORD FILL IN THE SPANISH WORD

- Across
- Down
- 1) Heritage (10)

4) Dictatorship (9)

9) Storms (9)

11) Car boot (8)

12) You hear (pl) (3)

13) To promote (11)

16) Teapots (7)

17) East (4)

18) Ace (2)

19) Tax (4)

20) To beat (5)

21) Of (2)

22) Leaflets (8)

27) Applause (7)

28) Hotel (5)

29) To travel (6)

33) Mountain (7)

34) Sandals (9)

37) To get old (9)

39) Foreigners (11)

42) Isolated (f) (7)

45) Useful (4)

46) Attraction (7)

47) Boot (4)

48) To fall (4)

50) Accommodation (11)

51) Artists (8)
- 1) Board (9)

2) Tourists (8)

3) Monuments (10)

5) Leather (5)

6) To defeat (8)

7) Hostels (9)

8) Impressed (12)

10) Builder (7)

14) Honey (4)

15) Castle (8)

23) That (f) (3)

24) Stay (8)

25) I (2)

26) To sell (6)

28) Hospitality sector (10)

30) Image (6)

31) Roads (10)

32) Crème caramel (4)

35) A (2)

36) Coast (5)

38) To visit (7)

40) Third (6)

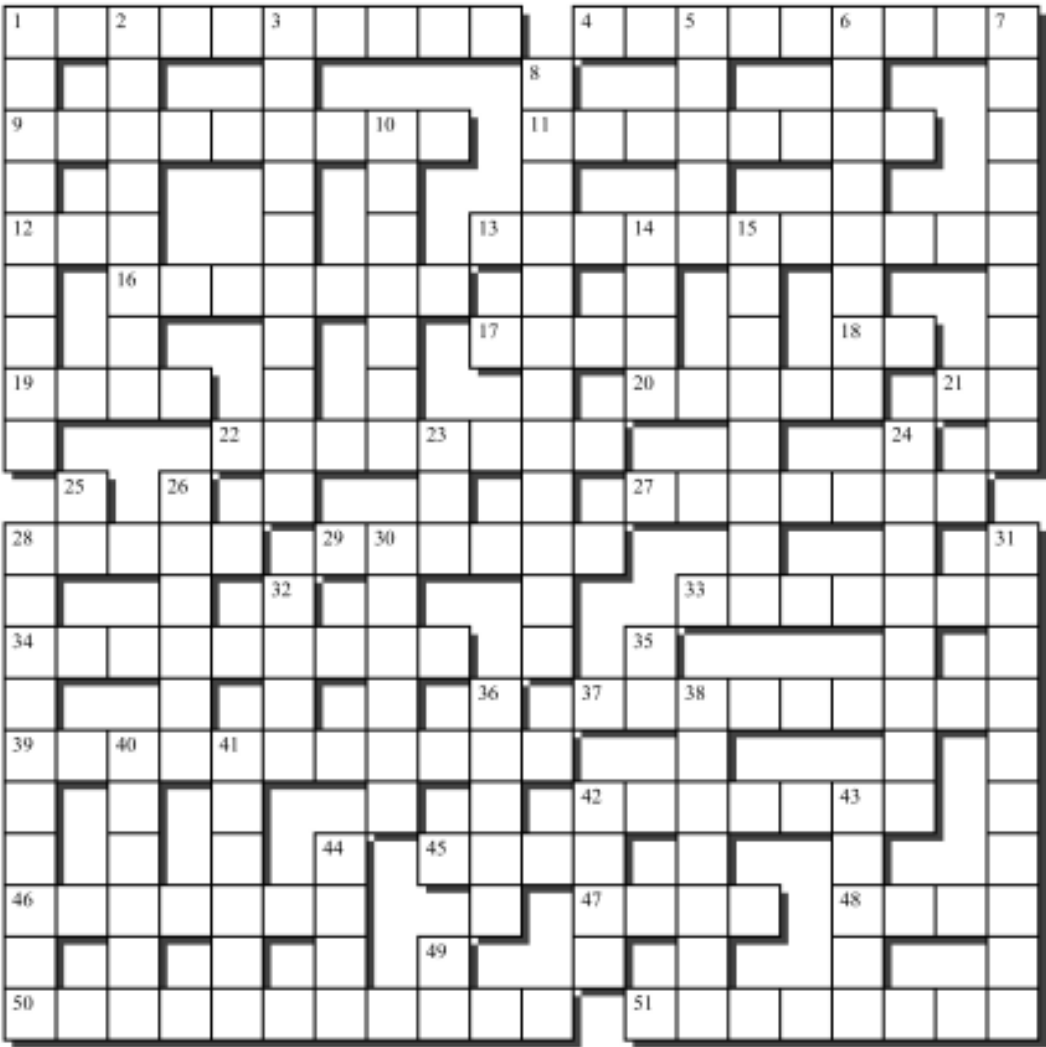
41) It pleases (6)

42) Dawn (4)

43) You say (5)

44) I moved (4)

49) In (2)



ANSWERS

Quiz answers

**Answer 1:** Sunflower State  
**Of interest:** The sunflower is also the official state flower of Kansas and appears on the state flag and the Kansas quarter. Kansas is also called the 'Jayhawker State' and the 'Wheat State.'

**Answer 2:** Las Vegas  
**Of interest:** McCarran International Airport is the primary commercial airport serving the Las Vegas Valley, Nevada. It is named after the late U.S. Senator Pat McCarran who contributed to the development of aviation both in Las Vegas and on a national scale.

Cryptic Crossword

**Solutions:** Across: 1 Projection; 7 Irons; 8 Midriff; 10 Elements; 11 Liar; 13 Deface; 15 Friends; 17 Cogs; 18 Branding; 21 Servers; 22 Cheat; 23 Astringent; Down: 1 Prone; 2 Of speech; 3 Enmity; 4 Tide; 5 Opinion; 6 Elder ducks; 8 Foresights; 12 Pinnacle; 14 Figures; 16 Prison; 19 Inept; 20 Tear.

Clockword solution

**SOLUTION:** 1 Avarry, 2 Nearby, 3 Tawdry, 4 Hearty, 5 Effigy, 6 Augury, 7 Tetchy, 8 Unlady, 9 Rosary, 10 Nobody, 11 Expiry, 12 Ratty.  
**PRESENTER:** Anthea Turner.

Wordpuzzler solution

1. Diver  
2. Cook  
3. Cadet  
4. Rating  
5. Purser  
6. Wren  
7. Marine  
8. Bosun  
9. Pilot  
10. Mate

Sudoku solution

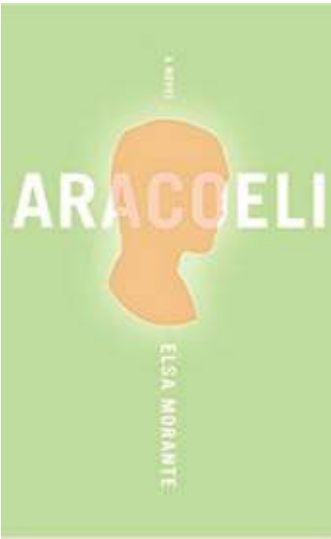
9	5	7	4	2	6	3	8	1
2	1	3	9	5	8	7	6	4
6	8	4	3	1	7	5	9	2
7	4	1	8	6	5	9	2	3
5	9	2	7	3	1	6	4	8
3	6	8	2	4	9	1	5	7
1	2	9	5	7	4	8	3	6
4	7	5	6	8	3	2	1	9
8	3	6	1	9	2	4	7	5

Language Crossword

**ACROSS:**  
1. PATRONATO 2. TURISTAS  
3. MONUMENTOS 5. CUERO 6. DERROTAR  
7. ALBERGUES 8. IMPRESIONADO  
10. ALBARRIL 14. MUEL 15. CASTILLO  
21. ESA 24. ESTANCIA 25. YO 26. VENDER  
28. HOSTELERIA 30. MAGNAN  
31. CARRETERAS 32. PLAN 35. LUN  
36. COSTA 38. VISITAR 40. TERCO  
41. AGRAIDA 42. ALBA 43. DICES 44. MOV  
49. EN

**DOWN:**  
51. ARTISTAS  
41. BROTA 48. CAER 50. ALOJAMIENTO  
42. AISLADA 45. UTIL 46. RECIAMO  
37. ENVEDER 39. EXTRANJEROS  
29. VIAR 33. MONTAÑA 34. SANDALIAS  
22. FOLLETOS 27. APAYUSO 28. HOTEL  
18. AS 19. TASA 20. LAMIR 21. DE  
13. PROMOCIONAR 16. TERRENAS 17. ESTE  
9. FORMENTAS 11. MALETERO 12. OS  
13. PATRONATO 4. DICIADURA

BOOK OF THE WEEK



Aracoeli  
Elsa Morante

Aracoeli is the story of an ageing man's attempt to recover the past and get his life on track. The Aracoeli of the title is Manuel's (the narrator) deceased mother, who grew up in a small Spanish town before marrying an upper-class Italian navy ensign. She contracts an incurable disease and becomes a nymphomaniac. Manuel, an unattractive, self-loathing, recovering drug addict who works a dead-end job, travels to his mother's hometown in Spain to understand what the events that shattered their idyllic life together.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

Success  
seduces  
smart  
people into  
thinking  
they can't  
lose

ANON

MALAGA PORT INFORMATION

CRUISE SHIP MOVEMENTS (SOURCE: MALAGA PORT AUTHORITY)					
Ship	Date	From	Next port	Docks	Sails
Mein Schiff 4	27/04	Cadiz	Barcelona	08.00	18.00
Royal Clipper	28/04	-	-	07.00	22.00
Marella Celebration	29/04	Gibraltar	Cartagena	06.00	20.00
Vision of the Seas	29/04	Ponta Delgada	Alicante	07.00	16.00
Viking Sun	29/04	Cartagena	Leixoes	08.00	18.00
Costa Pacifica	30/04	Funchal	Civitavecchia	07.00	13.00
Arcadia	30/04	Cadiz	Gibraltar	08.00	22.00
Asuka II	30/04	Valencia	Gibraltar	08.00	21.00
Costa Neoriviera	01/05	Cadiz	-	08.00	18.00
Ocean Majesty	02/05	Alicante	Gibraltar	07.30	20.30
Seadream II	02/05	Marbella	Almeria	08.00	18.00
Wind Star	02/05	-	Almeria	08.00	19.00
Amadea	03-04/05	Almeria	Portimao	20.00	14.00
Norwegian Star	04/05	Cadiz	Alicante	07.00	17.00







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# Seventy years teaching the language of Cervantes

**The city's international Spanish centre, now part of the University of Malaga, takes in 2,000 foreign students every year**

by FRANCISCO GUTIÉRREZ

**MÁLAGA.** More than 20 years before the city's university opened its doors, young people from all over the world were already being drawn to post-civil war Spain and especially Malaga, where they could attend Spanish language classes designed for foreigners.

During its early years the Centro Internacional de Español (CIE) was affiliated with the Spanish council for scientific research (CSIC). However when the University of Malaga (UMA) was established in 1972, the language school was incorporated into its Faculty of Humanities.

On Monday this week, the rector of the UMA, José Ángel Narváez, hosted a ceremony to celebrate the language school's 70th anniversary. There he recognised the work of students, staff, associates and former

teachers, who, he said, have "helped to transform and modernise the city of Malaga".

Antonio Peláez, director of the CIE, explained that the teaching of Spanish as a foreign language in Malaga was a very "bold" thing to do 70 years ago. Back then, he said, the city was already showing signs of claiming a place at the forefront of culture.

Today, the centre's union with the UMA means that some CIE courses can offer students ECTS credits, counting towards their university studies in other European countries. Today the centre, located in El Palo, is still expanding, explained Peláez, and currently welcomes some 2,000 students every year.

Looking to the future, Peláez said that the school faces two challenges: to bring innovation into the classroom and to adapt the courses on offer to suit a "heterogeneous public".

The rector expressed his gratitude to Manuel Alvar, who took the "risky decision" to come to Malaga and begin teaching Spanish 70 years ago. According to Narváez, those courses "transformed this city", encouraging international students to come to Malaga to learn the Spanish language and culture. The rec-

## CIE celebrates 'Cervantes Week'

The 70th anniversary celebration marked the start of the CIE-UMA's third annual 'Cervantes Week'. The event pays tribute to the legend of Don Quixote and its creator Miguel de Cervantes. The week of workshops has included a literary activity led by Granada poet Alejandro Pedregosa discussing Cervantes' daily life and a musical production of Don Quixote from Malaga's Acuario Theatre Company. Today (Friday) sees a multilingual reading of the first chapter of the novel by teachers and students.

tor thanked the students for putting their trust in the school and said that the university was committed to supporting the CIE and quality teaching.

### Recognition

During the ceremony, awards were given to teachers, students and members of staff at the centre.



The UMA rector with staff from CIE language school. by SALVADOR SALAS

Among those recognised were Gino Norani, figurehead for former students; José Antonio Mesa Toré, in representation of former teachers; and Helga Dobler Stelzer, a representative for the administration staff at the CIE.

The centre's partner universities around the world were represented by Mark Aldrich of Dickinson Col-

lege, Pennsylvania (US), whose programme with CIE is one of the oldest. Heidi Mae Doerr received recognition for the work of International Studies Abroad; Juan Carlos Izquierdo Villaverde, for the work of the firm Gestión Educativa Consultores; and Christian Gutiérrez Samuelsson for the collaboration of Accom Consulting Spain (UniSpain).

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