



ETA, Spain's terrorist scourge for 60 years, announces it is disbanding at last

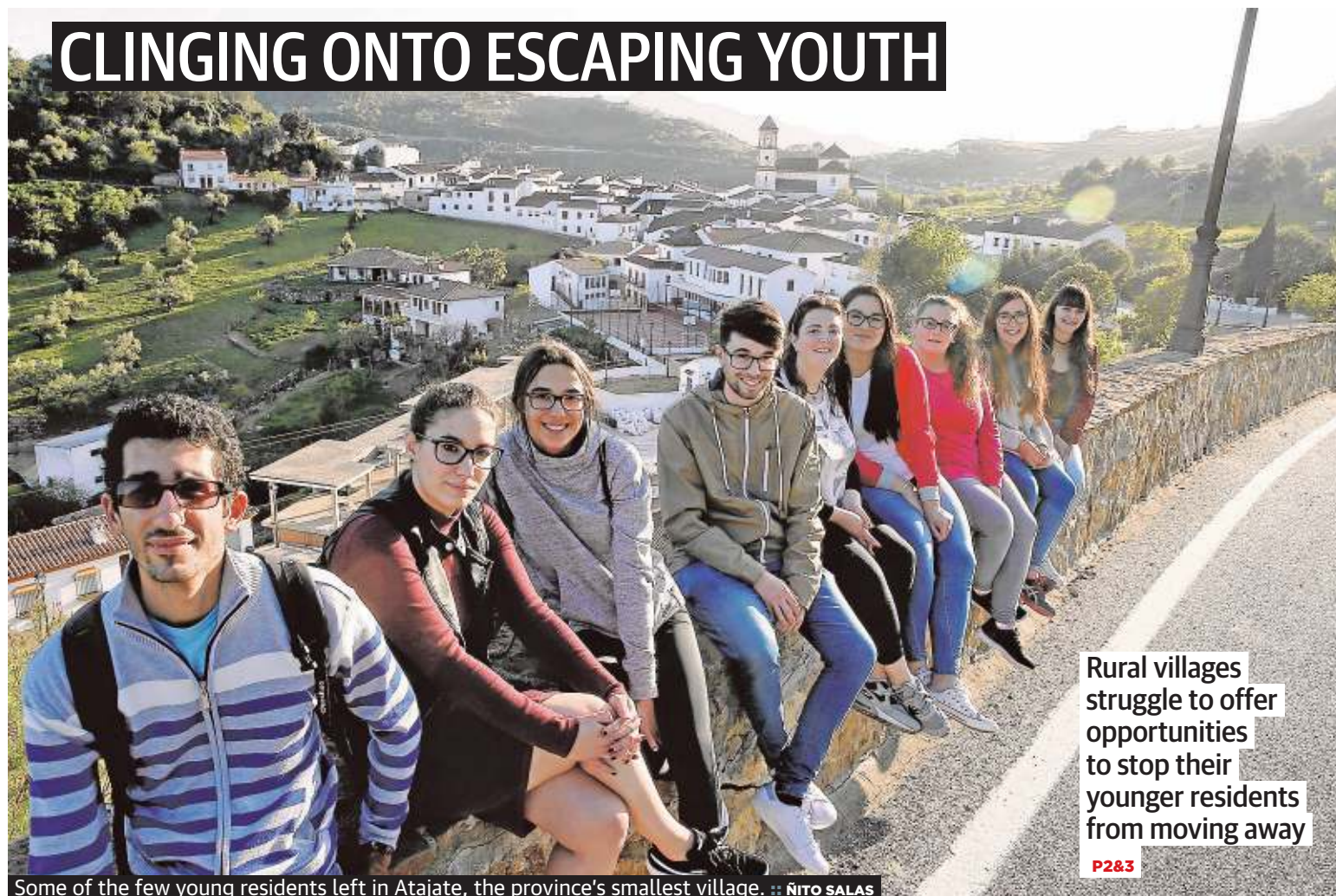
The move had been hoped for since the Basque separatist group renounced violence in 2011

Former leaders of ETA read the communiqué that was issued via a local Basque website on Thursday afternoon

The ETA terrorist organisation, which was founded in 1958 and first killed in 1968, announced that it was disbanding at last on Thursday afternoon. The announcement brought the curtain down on a group

that has marked a significant part of the modern history of Spain. Over 850 people died during ETA's bloody campaign, a figure that victims' groups were at pains to remind people of this week. **P25**

CLINGING ONTO ESCAPING YOUTH



Some of the few young residents left in Atajate, the province's smallest village. :: NITO SALAS

Rural villages struggle to offer opportunities to stop their younger residents from moving away **P2&3**

Hidden cameras reveal abuse of disabled patients at care home

Four have been arrested after footage showed violence against residents at La Milagrosa in Malaga

The charity that owns a care home for people with severe learning disabilities in Malaga had expected to catch staff sleeping on the job when it installed hidden cameras. Instead the footage revealed cases of physical abuse against several of the residents. An inquiry is under way. **P5**

Antequera to house Spain's first logistics 'megahub' as the dry port continues to grow **P16**

Ronda protesters call for a motorway link to help boost the economy of the local area **P8**

SPORT

Malaga move a step closer to choosing their new coach.

Oviedo's Anquela is now the frontrunner **P65**

Athlete's death rocks Marbella Ironman event.

A British woman died after suffering cardiorespiratory arrest **P68**

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The villages clinging to their youth

In ten years, one third of the 103 municipalities have lost over 20% of their under-30s

Canillas de Aceituno is the most extreme case: half of its young people have left. The town halls of rural villages have few resources to tackle a problem which is threatening their survival

by NURIA TRIGUERO

MÁLAGA. In Canillas de Aceituno there are half as many young people as there were ten years ago. In 2007 there were 809, and now there are fewer than 400. It may not sound much of a loss, but in a village with a population of under 2000, it makes a difference. For example in the school, there are now fewer than 10 pupils to a class. "It is a very big problem. Our survival is at risk. The authorities should help us because we can't tackle this alone," says the mayor, Vicente Campos.

One-third of the 103 municipalities in Malaga province have lost more than 20 per cent of their under-30s in just ten years. Eleven have lost more than 30 per cent of their young people, and five have lost over 40 per cent: Igualaja, Alpandeire, Alfarnatejo, Comares and Canillas de Aceituno. Only 13 places in the province have escaped this problem, led by Benahavis, where the number of under-30s has doubled (but so has its population overall). The situation in inland areas is extreme, however: it can be described as a true exodus

It is directly related to two other major problems in rural areas: depopulation and ageing. Older people stay put; new generations move on. María Luisa Gómez, the head of the Geography department at Malaga university, says the worst-affected areas in Malaga province are the Genal valley and inland Axarquía. Her colleague Enrique Navarro, the head of Regional Geographical Analysis, says Malaga is especially affected by one particular factor: life on the coast. "Three hundred years ago people didn't want to live on the coast because there was no agriculture or livestock farming there. Nowadays they do, because there is more going



Eloísa and Melchor live in Atajate, the smallest village in the province

by NITO SALAS

on and they think the quality of life is better. Malaga has a very dynamic coastline," he says. "The Costa del Sol is full of opportunities and acts as a magnet for young people from inland areas, especially those with qualifications or training."

Lack of opportunities

It is the lack of work that is forcing young people to move away from the countryside; the problem worsened with the economic crisis, and the villages have never recovered.

The lack of facilities is another factor. Public transport is scarce - in some villages, like Atajate, the bus only pas-

An initiative to recover the identity of rural villages

On 12 May the first 'Foro Pueblos en Movimiento' forum will take place in Cuevas del Becerro. It will be attended by council representatives and associations from all over Andalucía and experts including Jaime Izquierdo, Gustavo Duch and María Luisa Izquierdo,

to talk about a problem which is at the heart of the depopulation of rural areas: the loss of identity of the villages.

"There are numerous positive aspects to living in a village, but they are not appreciated now. This is having an effect on people, especially the young ones," says the mayor of Cuevas, Cristóbal González. He hopes the forum will open a debate about the problems experienced by villages, "among the villages themselves".

ses once a day. In some villages a doctor is only available a few mornings a week, there is no pediatric service and in an emergency residents have to drive to the nearest hospital, which may be nearly an hour away. Bank branches have gradually been closed down, as well. This is not the most comfortable environment for a family with small children, to say the least.

Schools are another problem: the fewer pupils attend, the greater the risk of classes being amalgamated or the school closing down altogether. In Cuevas del Becerro, for example, a couple of years ago residents pro-



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THE FIGURES

13

of the 103 municipalities in Malaga province are not suffering a loss of younger population

34

have lost more than 20 per cent of their inhabitants under the age of 30

tested against plans to amalgamate classes. "In the end they didn't do it, but the sword of Damocles is always hanging over us," says the mayor, Cristóbal González. At the school in Atajate, which has only 11 pupils, it has already happened and there are fears that the school could close. "Several families are already saying they would prefer to take their children to school in Ronda," says Lorena Peña, a council employee. She believes it is important for the school to remain open "to keep the village alive".

How to stem the flow?

Despite their scarce resources, several councils have introduced measures to encourage young families. Two years ago Cartajima was in the news for offering temporary jobs and low-rent accommodation to families with small children. It was a desperate measure to stop the school closing due to a lack of pupils, and it worked. It also gives a 3,000 euro cheque for every baby born in the municipality. Cuevas del Becerro, Iznate, Almáchar, Arenas and Cómpeta also provide 'baby-cheques', but they know that jobs are the key factor.

"There needs to be investment in knowledge which can be brought to rural areas and they need good connections at all levels," says Enrique Navarro. In Cuevas del Becerro, where the young population has dropped by 24 per cent in ten years, the council is trying to keep its young people by offering free training in organic agriculture and artisan crafts and providing facilities for those who decide to take up the offer. Local youngsters have now set up an ecological farming project, an olive oil cooperative and a snail-breeding programme.

María Luisa Gómez says rural communities deserve more support from the authorities. "A 23-year-old from Casabermeja has just been told he couldn't set up a farm because he would have to buy at least 180 goats," she says. "That's not good enough."



Half of the youngsters aged 16 to 30 in Atajate.
:: NITO SALAS

:: NURIA TRIGUERO

MALAGA. Two bars and a bakery; that is what Atajate has to offer in the form of commerce. The school has 11 pupils, all in the same class. The teachers are shared with two other villages, Benadalid and Bena-lauria. There is no secondary school; those pupils have to travel to Cortes de la Frontera or Ronda. The bus to Ronda leaves at 8am and returns at 2pm. There is no public transport at weekends or on public holidays. The doctor comes three days a week, and the only bank closed down some time ago. Life in Malaga's smallest municipality - 167 inhabitants, according to last year's population register - has limitations which for many city-dwellers would be impossible to accept, but local people do enjoy other benefits. Tranquility, quality of life, contact with nature, cleanliness, 'kilometre zero' food products, friendly neighbours and reasonably-priced housing, among others.

The youngsters in this village which nestles in the Genal valley appreciate these aspects of rural life, but they complain, especially about the lack of public transport and shops. They would like to stay in Atajate, but realise they will probably have to leave because there is no work here. In Atajate, there are 37 inhabitants under the age of 30. In absolute figures, it is the municipality with the lowest number of young people in the province, but in relative

Young people: the greatest treasure of the smallest village in Malaga province

In Atajate, 37 inhabitants are under the age of 30. The youngsters appreciate the advantages of rural life but say they will have to leave to find work

terms they form 22 per cent of the population. This is lower than the provincial average (32 per cent) but higher than in villages such as Alpandeire, Comares and Sedella, where youngsters comprise less than 20 per cent. In addition, the number of young people in Atajate has increased in the past ten years; something to celebrate, given the general trend in the Genal valley.

Children and young people are treasured in Atajate. The council, despite its modest resources, employs Lorena Peña who helps them study, works with them on aspects of life-

such as sexual and affective education and organises leisure, sports, cultural and voluntary activities. "I have a double mission: I want them to enjoy themselves, of course, but also to know other realities and understand what happens in society," she says.

In the village there are 19 people aged between 16 and 30, with whom Lorena works. Two are at Malaga university and come home every two or three weekends, to see their families and friends. Others are at school in Cortes or Ronda, some work in nearby towns or villages and a few

QUOTES

Rocío del Río
Student, aged 21

"The worst thing is the lack of buses: there's only one to Ronda, at 8am"

Lorena Peña
Youth worker

"The authorities need to provide assistance so the youngsters can set up businesses here and won't have to move away"

are not studying or working at present. Lorena meets them several times a week: on Tuesdays for classes, on Friday evenings they get together to eat and chat at the Punto Joven - a youth centre with a TV, video consoles, books and table games which the town hall provides free of charge, and on Saturdays there is always an activity of some type: walking, day trips, talks, volunteer sessions...

Rocío del Río, who is 21, is relatively new to Atajate - she moved there three years ago from San Pedro Alcántara - and can compare life in the two different worlds. "People who grew up here take it for granted, but for me to have a free gymnasium, a swimming pool for one euro, a place like the Punto Joven and activities every weekend is something I have never seen anywhere else," she says. She agrees that the main inconvenience of living in Atajate is the lack of public transport. "If you don't have a car and you need to go shopping in Ronda in the afternoon you have to rely on your parents to take you," she says. Needless to say, all the youngsters in the village plan to learn to drive as soon as they are 18.

Attached to their roots

None of them foresee their future in the village, but they would all like to stay. Lorena says the authorities should do something so the youngsters don't have to move away. "They should be given training and help to identify opportunities, such as rural tourism," she says. Only one young resident has thought of setting up a business, repairing computers, but decided it wouldn't be profitable. "There is everything in Ronda. Nobody would come here," he says.

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British man who left passenger badly injured in car hands himself in

The victim, who was not found until five hours after the car left the road and plummeted down an embankment, is out of intensive care

ÁLVARO FRÍAS / JUAN CANO MALAGA. The British national who was wanted by police for allegedly abandoning his badly injured passenger in a car after an accident has handed himself in to the Guardia Civil and been placed under arrest.

The accident occurred at around 2am on 22 April when the car in which he and the injured man were travelling in left the A-45 motorway and tumbled 30 metres down an embankment, ending up in the Guadalmedina river.

According to sources, the 35-year-old was arrested on Monday after he went to the Guardia Civil station with a lawyer. He has been accused of three crimes: failure to render aid; driving under the effects of alcohol; and causing injury through negligence.

The Guardia Civil had been on the trail of the British suspect since the passenger, a 35-year-old from Riogordo, was found in the wreckage of the vehicle some five hours after



The wreckage of the vehicle in the Guadalmedina river. :: SUR

the accident.

While there was no trace of the driver, officers found what could have been the reason for his leaving the scene: half a dozen empty beer bottles either scattered around the wreckage or inside the vehicle. There was also a Smirnoff vodka bottle in the boot.

Guardia Civil Traffic section detectives concluded that the pair had been returning to Riogordo after a night out when the car left the road. It appears that the driver was able to jump free of the vehicle before it landed at the bottom of the embankment in the river bed.

A while later the driver knocked on the door of the Ciudad Jardín hos-

tel on the Casabermeja road asking for help. Seeing his cuts and bruises, the receptionist called the National Police. He was interviewed by the Citizen Security Brigade and said that he had been attacked by "the police" without giving any further details. He failed to mention the accident, or his companion. He was transferred to hospital for treatment, but was discharged before the two cases could be related.

His passenger was rushed to Malaga's Carlos Haya hospital with serious head injuries and internal bleeding. He was admitted to the intensive care unit but was moved to the traumatology ward on Friday last week.

Missing used car salesman found stabbed to death in Guadalhorce river

Francisco Javier López Padilla, 33, had been missing since Thursday last week, when he was last seen at the Guadalhorce hospital

Á. FRÍAS / J. CANO

MALAGA. The body of 33-year-old Malaga resident Francisco Javier López Padilla was found on Monday with multiple stab wounds in the Guadalhorce river.

The used car salesman had been missing since Thursday evening last week when he went to the Guadalhorce hospital as he did not

feel well. At 11.45pm that night he messaged his wife, Ana Elena Vargas, to say that he was on his way home. That was the last she heard from him.

His burnt-out car was found near the river in Las Castañetas, Campanillas, on Friday. During a search of the area on Monday his body was discovered among reeds around 100 metres from the spot where the car was located.

The autopsy revealed that the victim had been stabbed with "particular virulence" but the authorities were unable to say whether they were looking for one or more suspects in connection with the killing.



The body was found in Las Castañetas. :: ÑITO SALAS

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Care-worker abusers caught on camera at home for the disabled

The owners contracted private detectives, believing staff were sleeping on the job, but the recordings allegedly revealed something far more disturbing and four have been arrested

:: JUAN CANO / ÁLVARO FRÍAS

MALAGA. Eight cameras hidden inside furniture have been key to uncovering supposed abuse of residents at a care home in Malaga for people with severe mental disabilities. Four people have been arrested in connection with the incident.

The La Milagrosa care home owners had employed private detectives to fit the recording devices in the belief that they would reveal that some staff had been sleeping during the night shift when they should have been working. Putting the cameras in wasn't easy as the centre has 46 employees as well as the residents themselves. However the unpleasant discovery when managers at the centre came to review the recordings was unexpected.

Instead of sleeping employees, an initial look at the results of the undercover operation revealed abuse of six residents by some of the staff. Allegedly, one of the victims, a 40-year-old severely disabled man, had been subjected to continual mistreatment involving physical violence but, as he was unable to speak, had been unable to report the abuse.

On seeing the evidence, management immediately reported the



The La Milagrosa care home in Malaga. :: SALVADOR SALAS

employee to police, handing over a USB stick with the recordings. They also informed the possible victims and other staff as well as the Junta de Andalucía and the Diputación provincial authority, the two local authorities who have agreements to place residents in the charity-owned home.

Police moved quickly to detain the carer featured in the recordings. He is also accused of abusing another two residents, although not with the same degree of violence as the first alleged victim. The man was subsequently released while investigations continue.

More staff held

The officers continued reviewing all the recordings and went on to

identify another three employees at the care home that appeared to have acted in a harmful way towards four residents, one of whom was the same man purportedly most severely abused by the first staff member held. These three were also arrested a few days later and questioned and released, police sources said.

While police investigations are ongoing, representatives of La Milagrosa care home have defended their management, saying that they acted "immediately" to stop those involved in the scandal having further contact with residents. They have also said that the centre will actively collaborate "with all involved to ensure that nothing like this can happen again."

said they have no plans to cancel their contracts with the La Milagrosa care home in Malaga, sources have said. They added that the centre's management has kept them fully informed of developments since the alleged incident was discovered.

The Junta has explained that its representatives have been working closely with both the care home and investigators,

"taking appropriate action to guarantee an acceptable level of service to residents and their families". The regional government went on to explain that it has also inspected the centre in recent days.

The Diputación provincial authority said it was "deeply" sorry to find out what had reportedly been happening at the centre.

Local authorities say they will continue to use the La Milagrosa care home after swift management action

Both the Diputación, Malaga provincial authority, and the regional ministry of Health at the Junta de Andalucía have

112 REPORTS



Image distributed on Facebook by Iris Zhang. :: SUR

"It was a racist attack, they hit me and insulted me for being Chinese"

MALAGA

:: Á. FRÍAS / J. CANO. A 22-year-old Chinese woman studying Spanish in Malaga launched a plea over Facebook this week to find the group of youths who allegedly subjected her to verbal and physical abuse on an early-morning train from Fuengirola to Malaga. Iris

Zhang, who was returning from the Feria de los Pueblos last Sunday morning, was dozing in the last carriage when the youths reportedly racially abused her, hitting her and flicking a lighted cigarette at her. After posting an image of one of them on social media, several onlookers have come forward to police with suggested names. Zhang says she loves studying in Malaga but cannot understand why other passengers didn't help her at the time.

Transsexual couple reports neighbour to police

TORREMOLINOS

:: A. GÓMEZ. A young transsexual couple have reported one of the neighbours in the block of flats where they live for ongoing homophobic abuse. According to Alex and Tara, who live in Torremolinos, the incident that tipped them over the edge occurred last weekend when, according to Alex, the man "opened his door and started to insult me and kicked me and hit me". Hearing shouts, Tara came to help and "was assaulted", according to the complaint made to police. They say, "He calls us poofers and pigs and says we are going to be thrown out of the block."



Tara and Alex. :: SUR

Six months for leaving 6-year-old home alone

MARBELLA

:: SUR. A 38-year-old woman has been given a six-month suspended prison sentence for leaving her six-year-old daughter home alone. The incident happened in Marbella as recently as last Sunday and the verdict was given out in an express judgement as the woman pleaded guilty to the offence. According to police, the daughter became frightened and first called her father, who is separated from the mother and has a restraining order on him.

Car hire worker held for pocketing lost jewellery

MALAGA

:: J.C / A.F. A 55-year-old man working for a car hire company has been arrested for taking a suitcase with 22,000-euros-worth of jewellery that he had supposedly found at Malaga airport. A visitor from Pakistan who had collected a rental vehicle at the airport reported the case missing to police when he reached his destination. Police reviewed security camera footage and the man was held. The case has now been recovered.

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The quarries: an open wound

The mountains around Alhaurín de la Torre are home to 39 different endemic species



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ALHAURÍN DE LA TORRE
Félix López, professor of Geology at UMA, analyses damage to the natural environment caused by illegal exploitation

IN 2005, THE ALHAURÍN DE LA TORRE QUARRIES WERE ON ALL THE FRONT PAGES. The High Court of Andalucía declared them to be “illegal and clandestine”. This groundbreaking judgement was a response to complaints from ecological parties and associations. Four businesses worked on and exploited the mountains of this area for decades without licence checks from the town hall or the regional government.

Recently, the matter has returned to the news after a group called La Plataforma en Defensa de la Salud y la Sierra (PDSS), which campaigns to protect the environment in Alhaurín de la Torre, reported activity in one of the closed quarries. This has been confirmed and documented by the Guardia Civil and municipal and regional authorities have been aware.

What is the value of these mountains and what damage have these quarries done to it? One of the area’s more reputed experts, professor of Ecology and Geology at the University of Malaga, Félix López, spoke to SUR about the terrain and the key aspects of this complex geographical and political process.

In terms of natural parameters, López explains that the principal value of the Sierra de Mijas as it passes through Alhaurín de la Torre is in its endemic species (those exclusive to a certain type of terrain). “This sierra has 39 of its own species, seven of these are exclusive to Malaga, four to the Baetic System and nine to Andalucía.” For the professor, it constitutes

a “large representation of special plants”.

Furthermore, the sierra has a large area of forest, “which will become a more established wood” after the reforestation of conifers. This will have a special value for the area since it is “very close to urban centres and connected with other ecosystems of interest like Alpujata and the Sierra de las Nieves”. According to experts, the value of the natural spaces increases when it is more connected with other ecosystems.

The mountain range is composed of calcium carbonate, with some “very special” rocks called ‘dolomías sacairoideas’ (dolomites with a sugar-like structure). These minerals are “of great interest to miners”, but are also the reason for the presence of the endemic species.

In the professor’s opinion, the Si-

erra de Mijas has sufficient botanical and geological value to merit expansion of and improvement to the current system of protection.

What’s more, the range is “very rich in water”, and supplies most of the surrounding municipalities. The quarries have come to reach the groundwater levels of various streams, “profoundly” altering the aquifers in the area, creating irreversible damage.

Regeneration
The committee for the regeneration of the quarries meets today (Friday 4 May) for the first time. It takes place without a representative from the quarry workers, who have not yet agreed upon a spokesperson. López will participate in the meeting as the contributing ecological expert. The professor considers reforestation to

KEY FACTS

Botanical value
The ground in the Sierra de Mijas restricts the kinds of plants that grow and has allowed the growth of 39 endemic species

Water course
Quarries have caused streams in the Mijas sierra water network to empty

Regeneration
Professor Félix López recommends geomorphological regeneration

be the most important part of the debate. “Up to now, the only regeneration project that has taken place is terracing. This antiquated model only works in the short term.” He proposes geomorphological restoration, a modern process used in Europe to restore water flows.

In the current model, quarry workers plant species after they are finished with their work. The seeds rarely stand the test of time.

The expert believes that the regeneration must be implanted “as the quarry activity starts”, not after it has been completed.

Now, the town hall and the regional government are looking into possible sanctions for the quarry that has continued to carry out illegal extractions. The PDSS believes that now is the moment to wait for the sentence from Andalusian High Court.



A file photo of the quarries in Alhaurín de la Torre. :: SUR





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The protest ended when the organisation read out its manifesto with its demands. :: V. MELGAR

Protesters in Ronda demand a motorway connection for the town

Locals ask authorities for improved links, saying the current narrow roads harm the area's economy

:: VANESSA MELGAR
RONDA. A protest last Sunday, organised by 'Plataforma autovía para

Ronda YA', demanded that politicians "wake up" and improve communications for the region of Ronda and Sierra de Cádiz. They also asked for a new motorway to be built to better connect Ronda to the rest of the province, saying they were tired of the current "goat tracks". Almost 5,000 people gathered

for the march, which is fuelled by concerns that the area is depopulating and the economy suffering, and people could be heard shouting "a motorway to Malaga" and "end the isolation!" Only five mayors out of over 20 municipalities in the Serranía de Ronda area were in attendance.

Illegal bingo sessions in local clubs slammed as chief quits

:: JUAN SOTO
MALAGA. The head of Malaga city's association of local clubs and community societies (Federación Malagueña de Peñas) resigned spectacularly this week, accusing many of the different societies that are members of malpractice. Rafael Trigos had recently returned to the role of association president but claimed at a general assembly that he was leaving as the world of clubs and societies had "changed a lot in the last ten

years". He explained that the over 80 societies across the city used to have a mission to bring cultural and creative activities to members. Now, he says, 37 are only kept going by running illegal bingo games, with excessive prize money, having ditched other activities. In the fractious meeting it was announced that the association had run up debts of 274,000 euros. Members must now decide whether to choose a new president or wind it up for good.

Government starts to plan for cleaning up the Guadiaro river basin with treatment plants

:: VANESSA MELGAR
RONDA. Central government has recently announced that it is to spend 608,000 euros on drawing up plans for wastewater treatment plants in the valley of the Guadiaro river. The river basin, linking the upland area around Ronda with the coast, is seen as overly polluted and government and local authori-

ties have been promising to do something about it for some time. In the latest initiative, the money will be spent on construction plans for five plants in the municipalities of Arriate, Jimera de Líbar and Cortes de la Frontera. The funds do not include the cost of construction and no figure has been set on this, although the government has said in the past that building costs for these and others required in the linked Genal valley could reach 20 million euros. In the meantime, the Diputación provincial authority is to spend 900,000 euros on a treatment plant for the village of Atajate, also in the Guadiaro basin.



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View of Malaga's busy quayside on Wednesday. :: SUR

Three luxury cruise ships in a day bring high-end tourists to Malaga

Wind Star, Ocean Majesty and Seadream II all docked in the city on Wednesday

:: IGNACIO LILLO

MALAGA. The capital of the Costa del Sol was visited by three of the most luxurious cruise ships in the

market in a single day on Wednesday. Although the three vessels, Wind Star, Ocean Majesty and Seadream II are considerably smaller than the mega cruise ships often spotted in Malaga's harbour, these ocean liners are highly sought-after because of their quality interiors and extra levels of service.

Perhaps the best known is the Wind Star, a four-mast sailing boat that launched Malaga's smaller second cruise terminal in 2012.

Seadream II is based in Oslo but also caters to a mainly American seafaring audience.

Also in port on Wednesday was Lady Sura a 50-metres private luxury yacht.

Mijas council to spend 66% more than first budgeted for

:: IVÁN GELIBTER

MIJAS. Councillors in Mijas have voted to increase the council's budget by 66 per cent more than originally planned. Although the 2018 plans were decided on just two months ago and set municipal expenditure at 100 million euros, an extra 66 million is now to be spent.

The money will go primarily on capital expenditure and improvements to infrastructure, although there is also some extra spending forecast on projects agreed to when the CSSP-Podemos party decided to give its single vote to the ruling Ciudadanos-PSOE minority

coalition in a stability pact.

The change in budget is possible as the government has recently relaxed restrictions on councils to allow better-run ones to spend money they have saved on capital projects that don't generate significantly more ongoing expenditure. Mijas managed to save 95 million euros in 2017.

Among the extra projects to be undertaken are expansion to the main car park in Mijas Pueblo and two new ones in Las Lagunas, near the water park, totalling 18 million euros. There will also be a sports hall for Las Lagunas and a swimming pool in La Cala.

Puerto Marina port announces a small profit in 2017 after years of scandals

:: ALBERTO GÓMEZ

BENALMÁDENA. Puerto Marina, the port and leisure complex in Benalmádena Costa, has announced it made a small profit of 457,357 euros in 2017. The mu-

nicipally-owned company published its results on Wednesday, showing its first profit since recent corruption scandals there.

A 2016 audit highlighted irregularities in the granting of contracts and concessions, linked to the management of the marina and worth 2.9 million euros, between 2011 and 2015.

Unveiling the improved results, mayor of Benalmádena, Víctor Navas, put the improvements down to changes in the town hall and the management company. Ten per cent more boats visited in 2017.

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Study reveals existence of archaeological remains south of San Pedro basilica

Acosol requested the Andalusian Institute of Geophysics to carry out the study in order to find a new route for the San Pedro sewer pipe

:: NIEVES CASTRO

MARBELLA. There were already strong suspicions, but a new study by the University of Granada using ground-penetrating radar (GPR) has confirmed the existence of archaeological remains south of the San Pedro basilica below ground, between the existign site and the sea.

The study, led by the public company Acosol with the intention of diverting the course of the San Pedro sewer pipeline, which is prone to rupturing in its current location under the western end of San Pedro beach, will give the company the information it needs on whether the pipeline can be diverted.

The works took place over the course of five days, between 19 and 23 February, and were carried out by technicians from the Andalusian Geophysics Institute of the University of Granada. They meticulously studied 7,000 square metres of the site of the early Christian Vega del Mar basilica, a Visigothic church built in the sixth century in what is now San Pedro Alcántara. It is one of the most important sites for studies of this period in western Andalucía.

Equipped with GPR and a 400 MHz antenna capable of capturing 3D image more than three metres



A test using GPR to see if structures can indeed be detected.. :: J-L

underground, specialists have detected a range of underground structures, according to information obtained by SUR. The researchers who led the study, with the help of the archaeologist, Andrés Fernández, were well informed about the site; they knew where to look and what methods they should use. To the south of the area there was a sand dune that had been previously excavated in the 1990s and had been found to cover Roman ruins.

What have they found?

Analysis carried out by GPR has found that there are four separate underground levels, which contain a mixture of pavements, columns and underground pipes.

Works to regenerate Las Chapas beach with sand from Cabopino port in time for summer

:: MÓNICA PÉREZ

MARBELLA. Local officials hope to transfer at least 3,000 cubic metres of sand from Cabapino port, which is well known for ships running aground due to the vast amount of sand at the site, to other beaches on the Costa. However, in the long term there might be up to 12,000 if the council gives its permission. One of the sites that has been specified is the area of the Artola sand dunes right up to the Triana snack bar.

“It doesn’t make sense to move all of the sand at once because later in the season we’re going to need to come back and top up the sand,” explains Rafael Castaño, who is in charge of the project. Over the past forty years, the beach has been suffering from the effects of sand being washed away. These measures are expected to make the beach “one of the most attractive in the province”.

MARBELLA VILLA AMONG WORLD'S TEN BEST HOLIDAY PROPERTIES

Located in the Bello Horizonte region of Marbella, near the 'Carlos Cabezas' sports centre, the property boasts eight bedrooms and six bathrooms. The 600 square metre property is located on a 1,800 metre plot of land with three swimming pools, one of which is located inside a 'Funny Club' which includes an indoor swimming pool, a gym and a games room, as well as parking for six cars. It's called 'Villa Casa Marbella' and it is the only Spanish holiday property to rank in the top 10 of Tripadvisor's Traveller's Choice Awards 2018.



HERE AND THERE

Marbella to step up controls over street entertainers

MARBELLA

:: NIEVES CASTRO. Since 2013, buskers in Marbella have been required to have permits in order to be allowed to play in public spaces. In that year there were 18 busking applications in the town, growing to 35 last year. Marbella council has now published new regulations to govern the awarding of licences and payments due. The penalty for busking in the town without a licence would be a fine of up to 600 euros and/or the confiscation of instruments.



Las Dunas, Estepona. :: SUR

La Senda path gains new section

ESTEPONA

:: MÓNICA PÉREZ. The Gran Senda coastal path continues growing. A new three kilometre section is now open allowing pedestrians to walk between Hotel Healhouse and the residential complex of Hacienda Beach and Cabo Bermejo.

Following a 219,000 euro investment from the provincial authority, and a further 19,000 euros from Estepona council, there is now a 130-metre-long and three-metre-wide walkway as well as gardens and street lighting. Local mayor José María García announced his satisfaction with the project.

Marbella council approves legislation for Starlite venue

MARBELLA

:: MÓNICA PÉREZ. Marbella council members have approved new legislation that will better regulate the use of the Nagüeles quarry venue and allow other events to be held there. The Starlite festival has been hosted at the site over the last few years and has courted controversy in the past for staying open later than it should have done by law.

The council has yet to specify the quarry's opening and closing times however. The plans were drawn up by the coalition of the PP and the OSP, who were keen to increase security in the venue.



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HERE AND THERE

Illegal dumping turns 'punto limpio' into tip

TORREMOLINOS
A. GÓMEZ. The provisional recycling centre or 'punto limpio' set up next to Torremolinos bullring has been turned into an uncontrolled refuse tip due to misuse. Set up in August 2015 to be used until a permanent centre is built, the facility consists of a series of skips

where local residents can leave furniture, domestic appliances or garden waste, among other unwanted items. Its use is limited to private individuals, with a maximum amount of waste per person per day, although the authorities say that firms are dumping construction rubble and other waste alongside the containers. The town hall has pointed out that firms could face fines of up to 1,500 euros if caught.



Unauthorised rubble at the 'punto limpio' in Torremolinos. :: SUR

La Cala Resort appoints new director

MIJAS
I. GELIBTER. La Cala Resort has announced the appointment of a new director, Sean Corte Real. With extensive experience in resort management around the world, he aims to give the resort a greater international dimension and to "continue the path of excellence that has led La Cala to be considered one of the best golf and leisure complexes in the world".

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Torremolinos announces third wheelchair-friendly beach

The town already has two beaches equipped with special amenities for people in wheelchairs and those with reduced mobility

TONY BRYANT
TORREMOLINOS. Torremolinos town hall has announced that the Playa Bajondillo is to be adapted for people with reduced mobility. The town already has two beaches (La Carihuella and Los Alamos) that have been equipped with special facilities for people in wheelchairs. Bajondillo will become the third in an initiative that aims to eventually expand the service to the whole of its seven kilometres of coastline. Preparations are already under way to adapt the beach in time for the summer season. Municipal workers have installed concrete runways and other features will include designated parking for wheelchair users, access ramps and paths to the sea, as well as accessible showers and changing areas. The town hall has also purchased three amphibian chairs, which will enable people with reduced mobility to bathe in the sea.



The beach will offer amphibian chairs and accessible showers. :: SUR

The project will include the installation of special shaded areas, concrete bench seating, stainless steel rubbish bins and information boards. The beaches of Torremolinos have blue flag status, a recognition granted by the ADEAC, the foundation for environmental education. They have also received the 'Q' for quality from the ICTE, the Spanish institution of quality tourism. Councillor for beaches, Maribel Tocón, said: "Torremolinos intends to make the beaches adequate to meet the needs of the collective with disabilities, with particular attention being paid to people with reduced mobility. Our aim is to progressively expand the availability of this service to the whole of our beaches."

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Nearly 12,000 more unemployed in Malaga in first quarter and unemployment rose to 22.1%

The construction sector was the exception to the inertia in the labour market and more than 9,000 jobs were created in that sector in the first three months of this year

NURIA TRIGUERO

MALAGA. The start of a new year doesn't normally bring good news about employment in Malaga and this one was no exception. The Survey of the Active Population (EPA) for the first quarter of 2018, which was published last week, shows that 11,800 more people were unemployed than in final quarter of 2017. The unemployment rate rose from 20.73 to 22.11 per cent, and a total of 169,200 people were registered as looking for work.

Looking at unemployment in Andalucía, Malaga province has the second highest rate after Seville, where the number of people out of work rose by 21,100. Unemployment fell in all the other provinces in the region (apart from Cadiz), but not enough to compensate, so in Andalucía as a whole the number of unemployed rose by 15,100. In fact, Andalucía saw the second highest rise in unemployment in Spain, after the Balearic islands.

In Malaga, the increase is due to two factors, which share the blame almost equally. One is the destruction of jobs: during the first quarter, the EPA estimates that 596,300 people in the province were working, which is 5,400 fewer than in the final quarter of 2017. At the same time, the size of the active population increased by 6,400 to a total of 765,500.

The rise in unemployment was exclusively in the services sector, where 18,000 jobs were lost in the first quarter, once the Christmas season and winter sales were over and because it is low season for tourism. In the construction sector the situation was the opposite: a great many new jobs were created. In three months, 9,300 more people were employed in this sector, an in-

crease of 22.5 per cent, bringing the total to over 50,000. The agriculture sector also grew, although to a lesser extent: there were 3,000 more people employed. The industry sector barely changed, with just 200 more workers than in the previous EPA.

There was also an increase in the number of 'under-employed' people, the term used by the EPA to describe people who are not able to work as many hours a day as they would like. In Malaga, 72,000 are in this category, which is an increase of about 10 per cent. It is a problem which affects more women than men: there are 44,700 female under-employed in the province, compared with 28,000 men in the same situation.

Better than a year ago

Despite the results of the EPA, it should not be forgotten that overall the employment situation in Malaga is considerably better than a year ago. Compared with the first quarter of last year, the number of people looking for work has dropped by 31,200 and the number of workers has increased by 31,900. Twelve months ago the unemployment rate was 26.2 per cent, which is four per cent higher than at present.

The services sector is also in a better situation than a year ago, as 21,000 jobs have been created during that time. The next best-performing sector is construction, with an increase of 8,700, and agriculture with 3,900. Industry is the only sector to have lost workers: 2,300, to be exact.

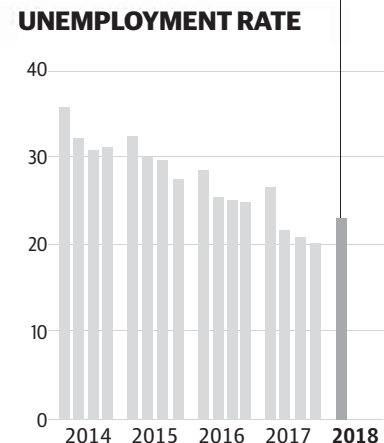
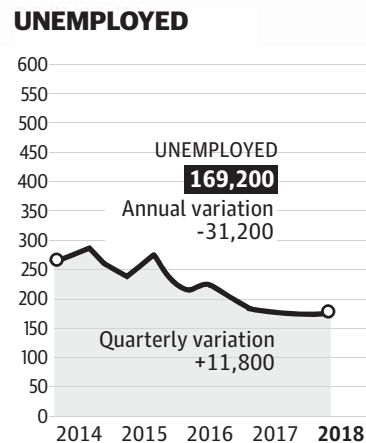
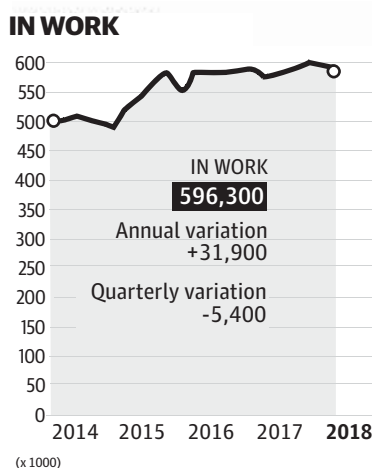
However, job stability is still a problem. In the past year, the number of temporary jobs has risen by 3.8 per cent to 33.1 per cent; in other words, nearly one-third of workers in Malaga have a temporary contract.

Unions say the latest EPA figures show that the employment which has been created is "fragile" and they also point out the difference in unemployment when looked at in terms of gender: male unemployment in the province is currently 18.33 per cent, compared with 26.59 per cent for women.

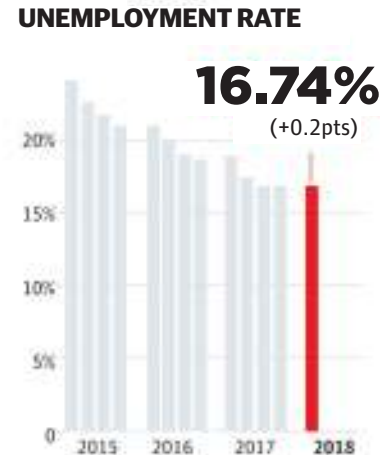
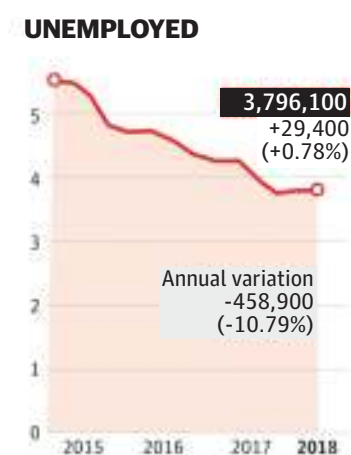
Survey of the Active Population

First-quarter figures for 2018 and comparison with previous figures. Source: INE

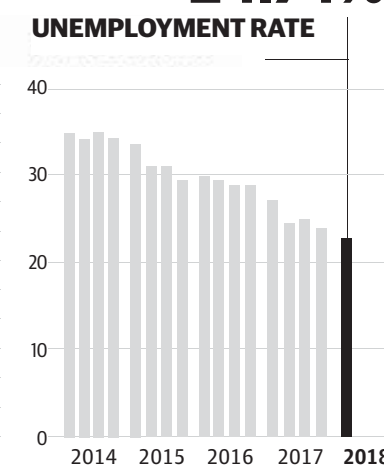
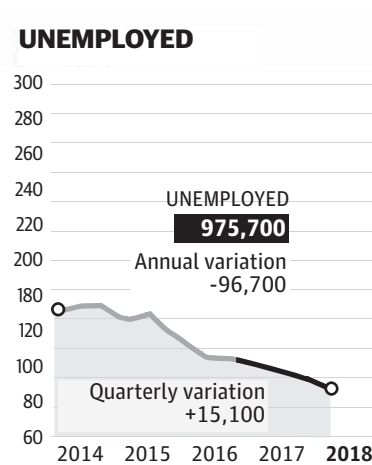
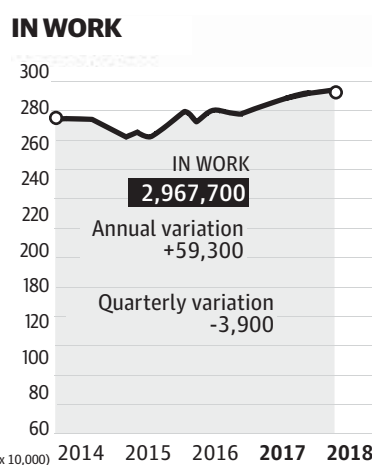
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The dry port in Antequera is redesigned to become Spain's first logistics 'megahub'



NURIA TRIGUERO

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The facility, which is expected to begin operating by the end of 2019 or in early 2020, will involve a total investment of 450 million euros and generate 1,900 jobs

MÁLAGA. The plans for an inland port in Andalucía have spent ten years being passed from desk to desk of politicians, town planners, investors and entrepreneurs. It is a project which aims to take advantage of Antequera's strategic location at the very heart of Andalucía and its proximity to different forms of cargo transport, in order to attract logistics centres and clean industries.

Finally, the initiative has received the impulse it needed to come to fruition, but in the meantime it has been reconverted into a more ambitious project, to meet the demands which dominate the logistics sector nowadays.

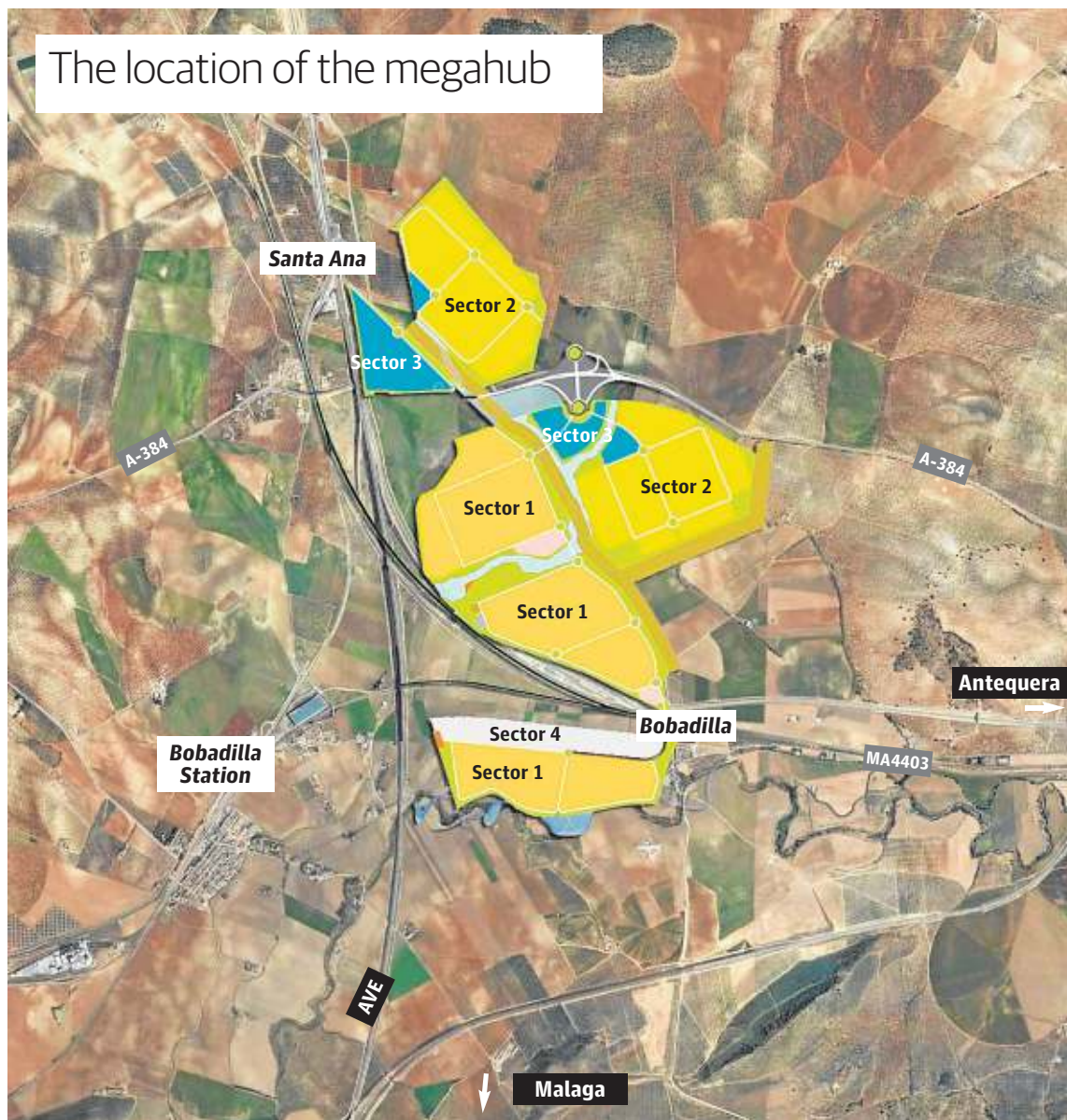
Now, in its final form, the dry port - in other words, a facility to which cargo is brought by train from different ports to be stored and redistributed - will be just one part of the 'MegaHub Andalucía', which aims to be Spain's very first logistics 'megahub'.

This project is the result of public and private collaboration, namely the Junta de Andalucía, (through its Ports of Andalucía agency, Red Logística de Andalucía S.A. company and Puerto Seco de Antequera SA, in which several private partners are participating), and the Acotral company of Antequera. The percentage of participation is 40 and 60 respectively, and the project is being managed by the Junta.

An innovative concept

The 'megahub' concept is more than a mere logistics centre, for two reasons. The word 'hub' in the name refers to the fact that Antequera is, to use EU terminology, a multimodal node, because it is the only point in Europe where the Atlantic and Mediterranean corridors converge via rail and roads, plus it is within easy reach of the ports of Algeciras, Málaga and Seville, the AVE high speed railway station in Antequera and Málaga airport.

The prefix 'mega' is applied because of the priority which will be



The facility will include an intermodal railway station and a dry port. :: SUR

given to the logistics 'mega-units' which can be up to 200,000 square metres in size.

Demand for this type of space is increasing among logistics operators and commercial firms. For example, it was announced recently that Amazon is setting up a distribution centre in Málaga. Because of these two qualities, this facility in Antequera will be unique

in Spain, says the manager of Puertos de Andalucía, Mariela Fernández Bermejo.

The aim of MegaHub Andalucía is to become a benchmark for logistics in southern Spain and northern Morocco. The CBRE real estate consultancy has already begun to handle the sale of land. Ramón Vázquez, who is the head of this project at the firm, says negotia-

tions are already under way with interested logistics and commercial operators.

"I have no doubt that sales will go well. Companies of this type are looking for land in the region, and it will once again become a strategic focus for cargo transport at a world level," says Mariela Fernández Bermejo.

"Antequera is especially attrac-

tive for major retailers with logistics operators and transport providers, who can access an extensive choice of 'mega' and 'super-mega' sites, and also for small occupiers, who can share the hub, infrastructure and solutions with major companies," says Ramón Vázquez.

At the same time as it is looking for tenants, the Junta de Andalucía is trying to speed up bureaucratic procedures so the works can start this year. It is hoped that the dry port will begin operating at the end of 2019 or early 2020.

"We are processing several documents at the same time to make things quicker. We expect to receive definitive approval of the special plan in June, and approval of the urbanisation project, including the environmental aspect, by the end of the year. After that, the contract for the first part of the building works can be put to tender," explains Mariela Fernández Bermejo.

450 million euros

The first phase of the project will consist of preparing 113 of the 334 hectares of the site, including the new rail terminal, logistics plots and those for tertiary use. The cost is expected to be around 40 million euros, funded by public and private investors. When the second stage is included, the investment will be around 70 million euros, and "if we add in the money spent by the operators who set up in this logistics hub, the total investment could be 450 million euros, says Ramón Vázquez. To make things easier for the companies, the site preparation works will be synchronised with the construction of the storage facilities.

Mariela Fernández Bermejo says the MegaHub Andalucía will generate 1,900 jobs. The number of companies it houses will depend on the size of the warehouse units they build. The project has been designed in such a way that there can be flexibility in the way the land is distributed: from small plots of less than 15,000 square metres to 'mega-units' of up to 200,000 square metres.

The space is laid out in four sectors with different uses. On one side is the biggest area, 1.25 million square metres, which belongs to the Logistics and Transformation Park. Beside sector two, which is where the 920,000 square metre Multifunctional Industrial Park will be situated, there will be an Integrated Services Centre, 320,000 square metres in size, occupying the third sector. Finally, the smaller fourth sector will house the intermodal rail terminal and the Antequera Dry Port, covering 200,000 metres between them.



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Shaza and Jimena, one year on

The couple, who were jailed in Turkey, divide their time between Torrox and Malaga

EUGENIO
CABEZAS

✉ eugeniocabezas@gmail.com

Jimena works as a waitress in the city while her Egyptian fiancée, who is waiting to be granted asylum, is perfecting her Spanish

TORROX. One year ago, their love story went round the world. In April 2017 María Jimena Rico, 29, from Torrox, and 22-year-old Egyptian Shaza Ismail, underwent an ordeal which took them to three countries, fleeing the rejection of Shaza's family in Dubai, who didn't - and still don't - accept their daughter's relationship with another woman. They ended up in jail in Turkey and were only released after the intervention of the Spanish ambassador and foreign minister.

Twelve months on they are still living in Malaga, between Jimena's parents' house in Torrox and an apart-



María Jimena Rico and Shaza Ismail, in Malaga last week. :: SUR

Several graffiti artists have painted images of the couple on buildings in the city of Paris

ment in the city.

Over the last year they have been featured in numerous magazines, given dozens of interviews and filmed a documentary about their lives, which will be shown on television and called 'My future in your eyes'.

"We don't consider ourselves an icon. We are just very happy because we were able to resume our life together, escape from the hell we went through a year ago, in a prison in Turkey, where they accused us of being terrorists," Jimena told us last week.

Sitting quietly in a café on Muelle Uno, she said that 12 months ago she didn't know what was going to happen, but knew she wasn't going to leave her partner on her own. "Wherever Shaza was, that's where I was going to be as well."

The first anniversary of their

"nightmare" coincided with International Day of Lesbian Visibility on 26 April. "If our story, with all the pain and suffering we went through, serves to continue the fight for sexual acceptance in the world, we will feel proud and satisfied. We have to keep fighting to change the way people think, especially in countries where people are persecuted for their sexual orientation," said Jimena.

During these 12 months they have had time to travel, but for the moment only in Spain because Shaza can't leave the country, due to the fact that she has not yet been granted the asylum she has applied for because of persecution for her sexual orientation. "She has a temporary residence permit, which she has to renew every six months, and we hope she'll get her permanent papers soon," explained Jimena. They also plan to marry in her home town.

Jimena now works as a waitress in Malaga, while Shaza is continuing to take Spanish lessons. "She's getting much better. She has been offered work in hotels but she wants to perfect her Spanish first, she says. Shaza still has no contact with her parents or sisters, but "she is calm about it; she just hopes one day they will accept her as she is".

One of the pleasant surprises after coming back to Torrox was to receive photos from friends showing graffiti supporting them in Paris. "It was after we appeared on TV in February," said Jimena, who confided that she and Shaza are hoping to be able to visit Paris, the city of love, in the not-too-distant future.

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Discovery of human remains halts work on new social security building

Vélez-Málaga town hall's architect, Emilio Martín, has confirmed that investigations are under way to determine how old the bones are

:: EFE

VÉLEZ-MÁLAGA. Human remains have been discovered during work to build a new social security office in Vélez-Málaga.

The company responsible for overseeing the archaeological aspect of the new social security treasury office on calle Lope de Vega in the town's historic centre announced on Wednesday that they had discovered a burial area with human bones.

Vélez-Málaga town hall's archaeologist, Emilio Martín, told the Efe news agency that the bones belong to "a number of people". However,



View of Vélez-Málaga's historic centre. :: JENNIE RHODES

he said he was unsure of exactly how many bodies would have been buried at the site.

An archaeological investigation will take place at the site over the coming weeks to determine the age of the bones and whether they hail from modern times, the middle ages

or are even prehistoric.

A number of objects were also found buried with the bodies, which Martín explained would help to determine how old the bones are.

Culture councillor, Cynthia García, said that works have stopped while the investigations take place.

Villages unite to celebrate Malaga raisin's new global status

:: EUGENIO CABEZAS

ALMÁCHAR. The villages of Almáchar, Moclinejo, Cútar, El Borge, Iznate and others gathered at the María Zambrano fairground in Almáchar last Saturday to celebrate the news that the Malaga raisin has been given UN status (Globally Important Agricultural Heritage System) via the Food and Agriculture

Organisation (FAO). Raisins, local wine and other typical dishes were served at the event. Politicians confirmed that the next step will be to form a foundation to manage an action plan for the sustainability and cultivation of the raisin, which is unique to the Axarquía. Almáchar is also set to receive 250,000 euros for a museum.



Celebrations in Almáchar. :: E. C.

IN BRIEF



Hotel Sol los Fenecios in La Herradura. :: SUR

Hotel with royal connections reopens

LA HERRADURA

:: J. RHODES. The Hotel Sol los Fenecios in La Herradura reopened its doors in time for the May bank holiday weekend after being closed for refurbishment.

According to hotel receptionist, Óscar Moleón, the hotel was fully booked with guests from China, the

UK, Germany and Spain, among other nationalities.

The hotel was the first to be awarded four stars on the Costa Tropical and King Juan Carlos and his wife, Queen Sofia, stayed there in 1993 when King Baudouin I of Belgium died while visiting Motril. The Spanish monarchs stayed in La Herradura and escorted the Belgian king's body to Granada airport from where it was flown to Belgium.

Salares to Árchez road reopens to traffic

ÁRCHÉZ / SALARES

:: E. P. The section of the MA-4108 between Salares and Árchez, which collapsed during heavy rainfall at the beginning of March, reopened on Saturday. The people most affected by the road closure, according to provincial councillor for Public Works and Infrastructure, Francisco Oblaré, were students living in Sedella and Salares who had to find an alternative route to get to their secondary school in Cómpeta.

New primary school for rapidly growing town

TORRE DEL MAR

:: E. C. Councillors unanimously voted in favour of a new primary school for Torre del Mar during last Friday's council meeting in Vélez-Málaga. The decision by all political parties to start work on the new school "as soon as possible" was based on the population growth that the coastal town, which belongs to Vélez-Málaga, has seen in recent years, along with the fact that none of the town's existing primary schools is modern.

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Rosy picture from Unicaja as profits jump 13% so far in 2018

The Malaga-based banking group is enjoying the benefit of reducing the amount of non-productive assets it holds and an overall improvement in financial indices

by NURIA TRIGUERO

MALAGA. Unicaja Banco, the Malaga-based banking group, has announced that it made a net profit of 57.4 million euros in the first three months of this year. This figure

represents a 13.1% increase compared to the same period last year. The return on equity reached 6.1%

The company said that this stronger performance is due to a general improvement in performance indicators in the period. According

to its statement, Unicaja says it has managed to improve its solvency, which has reached 15.4% on the CET1 ratio, one of the highest in the industry, and also reduce the amount of assets not generating a return on investment.

Going digital

The bank also reported on its continuing success in attracting new online customers, who now make up some 30% of its total client base. At the moment 58% of customers' transactions are made online, 30% in branch and 12% at ATMs.

58% of customer transactions are carried out online and 30% in the branches



by FRANCIS SILVA

MONEY CONCERNS CENTRE STAGE AT MAY DAY RALLIES

The traditional May Day marches organised by trade unions took place on Tuesday this week. In Malaga (shown) and towns and cities across Spain working people took to the streets. This year marchers were highlighting, among other issues, ongoing tensions over pension levels plus calls for more stable employment contracts and higher wages.

THE EURO ZONE
by MARK NAYLER

TAKE A GUESS



Partly because of a slight slowdown in Q1 growth, the Spanish government announced this week that the pace of Spain's GDP expansion is going to decrease over the next three years. Year-on-year, the country's economy expanded by 2.9% in the first three months of 2018 - the first time quarterly growth has dipped below 3% in three years - prompting Mariano Rajoy's Popular Party (PP) to announce that expansion will slow to 2.4% in 2019, down from an expected 2.7% this year. That figure will fall to 2.3% in 2020 and 2021, said the PP.

Why does the government - or indeed any other body involved in the "GDP-Expansion-Forecast" game - release such predictions so far in advance, one wonders? Organisations such as the Bank of Spain and the International Monetary Fund change their growth estimates for Spain at least twice a year, usually increasing them to match the actual rate of the previous year's growth.

This is precisely what happened in 2017. The Spanish government, the Bank of Spain and the IMF upped their forecasts as the months progressed, seemingly to try and reach the figure of 3.2%, the rate at which Spain's GDP grew in 2016. Finally, all those organisations' revised predictions were in line with the actual growth rate of 3.1% in 2017, thus enabling Rajoy to continue his rosy narrative about the Spanish economy.

It's likely, looking at precedents, that the forecasts for 2021 will be changed at least once a

year by the Spanish government between now and then. And that's not even considering fluctuations in estimates made by other organisations - both Spanish and international - which will also occur several times over the next three years.

Indeed, the IMF has already started playing the latest round of the "GDP-Expansion-Forecast" game. Last October, before things erupted in Catalonia, the Washington-based organisation predicted that the Spanish economy would grow by 2.5% in 2018. In January, it reduced that forecast to 2.4%, noting that post 1-O (1 October) events in the north-easterly region would probably dent investor confidence in Spain.

Yet the Spanish economy has barely registered the effects of 1-O and its chaotic, divisive fallout. Accordingly, two weeks ago the IMF tweaked its Spain growth forecast for the second time in four months, increasing it to 2.8% (better even than its pre 1-O estimate of 2.5%). In doing so, Poul Thomsen, boss of the fund's European Department, assured everybody that the dispute over Catalan independence was just a "political issue" and therefore unlikely to dent Spain's economy in the medium term.

Those who thought that politics and economics were inextricably connected, especially in present-day Spain, thereby stand corrected. Even so, it's probably best not to take guesses - sorry, "forecasts" - concerning the growth of the Spanish economy too seriously, from the IMF or from anyone else.

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Gibraltar's air quality criticised but government puts it into context

Following media coverage of the latest WHO pollution report, the Gibraltar authorities say the situation is not as bad as suggested

by **DEBBIE BARTLETT**

GIBRALTAR. The latest report on pollution from the World Health Organisation, issued this week, showed that more than 40 towns and cities in the UK are at, or have exceeded, the air pollution limits set by the WHO; it mentioned Gibraltar in the section of those which exceed the limit of 10 micrograms per cubic metre. In response to some of the press coverage about this report, the Gibraltar government issued a statement on Thursday to put the figures into context.

According to the WHO report, Gibraltar recorded 14 micrograms per cubic metre, fourth in the list after Port Talbot (18), Scunthorpe (15), and Salford (15). The Gibraltar government's statement explained that measured concentrations at Rosia Road do exceed the WHO guidelines, but these are stricter than EU levels, which the Air Quality Directive sets as Stage 1 Limit Value (25 ug m⁻³) and Stage 2 Limit Value (20 ug m⁻³). Gibraltar does not exceed either Stage 1 or Stage 2 LVs on the EU criteria, and levels have been steadily dropping over recent years. The government says it continues to work on reducing them further.



Most of Gibraltar's air quality is within EU limits. **by D.B.**

The statement points out that there is a limit to how much this is achievable, as a portion of the contamination comes from sources outside the authorities' control, such as sea salt and African dust. Both sea salt, and in particular African dust from the Sahara will be higher in Gibraltar than in the UK locations quoted in the report due to its geographical location. Nevertheless, the government is fully committed to reducing PM 2.5.

Another contributing factor is the burning of diesel. All use of die-

sel for power generation in Gibraltar will stop this year following the commissioning of the new LNG power station; this will have a significant impact in reducing this type of pollution as well as others. Gibraltar also has a Sustainable Traffic Plan, explains the government, which includes steps to encourage people to use their cars less and to reduce speed (such as speed cameras). Further measures are to be announced shortly, together with a wide range of other environmental plans.

IN BRIEF



The RIB was loaded with cigarettes. **by SUR**

Customs seize 900 cartons of cigarettes

GIBRALTAR

by D.B. Customs officers have arrested four Spanish citizens and seized 900 cartons of cigarettes in two separate operations this week.

The first was on Saturday evening, during a routine patrol, and the second was in the early hours

of Thursday morning, when the Customs launch gave chase to a rigid inflatable boat which was loaded with cigarettes. The inflatable kept trying to ram the Customs vessel, causing slight damage to one engine. One officer sustained minor injuries to his knee.

The four men have all been charged and will be appearing in court in Gibraltar in the next few days.

School pupils learn about sun safety

GIBRALTAR

by D.B. Children from St Bernard's First School took part in a sun safety project in Commonwealth Park this week, thanks to a joint activity between the Education Department and Skcin, a UK skin cancer charity, which aims to reverse the soaring rates of skin cancer for future generations. Sun Safe Schools also assists primary schools in implementing a suitable sun safe policy and encouraging the reinforcement of sun safety at home.

Charity donates equipment to A&E

GIBRALTAR

by D.B. The Gibraltar Health Authority now has a sophisticated 'Point of Care' analyser for its A&E department, donated by local charity Research Into Childhood Cancer (RICC). The equipment is used for paediatric patients who need a blood test to determine the severity of infection and inflammation. This test previously entailed a blood sample being sent to the laboratory for analysis, but the new equipment means results are available within three minutes.

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ETA makes its expected announcement and consigns itself to the history books

The Basque separatist group gave up violence in 2011 but, until now, had continued to exist and victims groups say justice still has to be done

■ SUR

MADRID. It had been talked about for weeks as imminent, but when it came, on Thursday, afternoon, the formal announcement by ETA that it was consigning itself to the history books caused mixed reactions across Spain as well as a sense of the welcome end of an era.

In its statement, read out by ex-leaders of ETA and first published by media in the Basque Country, the region that it had sought to separate from Spain for 60 years, ETA said it had "totally dissolved its structures", and was "putting an end to its historic cycle and function".

Although ETA had given up its violent terrorist activities in 2011, it is only in the past weeks that it has been publicly known that it was taking steps to disband.

On 20 April the group admitted the damage it had caused over its six decades and it promised to come to terms with the consequences of the conflict and not to repeat it. However in that declaration last month it was criticised for only apologising for the harm to some of the victims.

At an event in the French Basque Country on Friday (today) there will be a symbolic winding-up ceremony involving a local notary.

On Wednesday this week the group had alerted media that it was preparing to make an announcement the next day and provoked reaction from across the country in anticipation of Thursday's declaration.

The Spanish government said that, despite the dissolution of the group, it would pursue wanted terrorists "wherever they are". Interior minister, Juan Ignacio Zoido said that there "will be no sort of immunity". "Before and after this communiqué they will be sought out," he added. He explained that Madrid would still be looking for



Victims' group on Wednesday :: L.A.

THE TRAIL OF DAMAGE

853

murders. The first was of a Guardia Civil officer, José Antonio Pardines in 1968.

2,597

people injured, according to official statistics. 86 kidnaps also took place.

1,635

children orphaned by ETA, according to data from campaigners for justice, Covite.

10,000

businesses coerced into giving funds since the criminal group was born in a San Sebastian bar in 1958.

cooperation from former ETA members in the more than 300 unsolved terrorist crimes.

Between the first murder, in 1968, of a Guardia Civil officer and the



Consuelo Ordóñez, sister of a conservative politician murdered by ETA in 1995, said that, despite the end of terrorism, "it mustn't be forgotten that serving in public institutions there are "not only the political heirs of the gunmen, but the ideologues." "ETA has put an end to its history, but...it doesn't mean that it is deactivating its political project."

Costa del Sol remembers too

During its six decades of violence, the spectre of ETA was also present in Malaga and the Costa del Sol. Among incidents etched on locals' memories are the 2000 murder of Malaga councillor, José María Martín Carpena, and numerous bombings and attempted bombings along the coast. The last time was in August 2008 when three bombs were placed in Benalmádena and near the airport.

IN BRIEF

Justice system under scrutiny after verdict

MADRID

■ **SUR.** The outpouring of public anger after the trial of five men accused of a gang rape in Pamplona has shone the spotlight on the Spanish judicial system this week. The judges in the trial gave a lesser verdict of sexual abuse and one judge on the bench issued an independent judgement saying the men should have been acquitted. Politicians reacted to the demonstrations by suggesting the definition of a rape crime should be changed, and the Justice minister, Rafael Catalá, was criticised by some in the legal profession for interfering.

Minister says drug activity is under control

ALGECIRAS

■ **SUR.** The minister for the Interior, Juan Ignacio Zoido, has said that recent huge seizures by the authorities of drugs coming into the area around Algeciras and La Línea, next to Gibraltar, are proof that the government has the situation under control. His visit to the area came after a Guardia Civil union warned that the problem is getting worse and that activity by local criminal families is being organised into "the first drugs cartel in Spain".



Zoido on his visit. :: EP

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

The death of another horse

When April comes round it's time for the Seville fair when the city fills with ladies in spotty flamenco dresses and smart men in suits and ties. Private 'case-tas', ham and wine. And, of course, don't forget the horse rides! The essence of deep Andalucía. The most noble and beautiful animal of this land comes out to shine and be admired, and serve all those who are full of praise but not always the due respect and care.

Once again we hear the news of the cruel death of a horse. The animal, already ill, suffered in the intense Seville heat, which, on top of the selfishness of its owner who didn't give it anything to eat or drink, contributed to its death. Seeing a horse die, collapse on the sand,

is atrocious and horrific. Like an arrow straight through the heart. It demonstrates the loss of values in this society that only thinks about having a good time and giving out a false image that lacks humanity.

Seville might sell all sorts of good sides to its fair, but nothing can delete the image of a dead horse through neglect from our memories.

What a shame that we allow the killing of this animal that just by looking in our eyes transmits elegance and loyalty!

What has happened to humanity?

But, still, long live the Feria! We've got lots of horses.

BARTOLOMÉ FLORIDO
BY EMAIL

Down, down, down

Your large sports section last week only confirmed what we have known for a while. Malaga CF have gone down to the second division. Relegation - time to hang their (our?) heads in shame.

It's good to see how the last ten years have panned out for the club, though. Now we can only hope that all of those thousands of supporters who pack

the stands for the big La Liga matches, when Real Madrid come, for example, will continue to support the team in La Rosaleda next season.

For many local football will have lost a bit of its shine but we have to still turning out for the games to cheer the lads back up to the top league for the following season.

HARRY JOHNSON
BY EMAIL

Don't offence me in

PETER EDGERTON
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Modern Life Is Rubbish. The wildly overrated pop group Blur proffered this truism as an album title back in the mid nineties, so heaven knows what they'd need to come up with these days to encapsulate even half of the lunacy we're currently witness to.

A few days ago an eighteen-year-old girl in America posted a picture of herself in her prom dress on TwitFace or MonsterGram or somewhere and all hell broke loose. This is because she was accused of cultural appropriation - yet another confected category amid the quagmire of reasons to be offended on behalf of others (who normally couldn't care less) invented by the ever growing homogenous mass of swivel-eyed lunatics who feel it's their life's work to spend their days in a state of permanent outrage.

The clothing in question was Chinese in style, apparently, and

this was reason enough for legions of people with nothing better to do than write stuff in capital letters peppered with exclamation marks to clasp their heads in disbelief and dig out their How To Be Offended manuals. Inevitably, any actual Chinese people were conspicuous by their absence in all the furore, presumably because they had better things to be doing - like a hard day's work, for example.

The tyranny of cultural appropriation is far reaching - it's said that white people should never be seen sporting dreadlocks, for instance. Actually, I wholeheartedly agree on this one, not because of some perceived symbolic lack of respect you understand; more because they always look faintly ridiculous.

In the same way, it would have been a jolly good idea, I think, if UB40 hadn't culturally appropriated reggae music, principally because their version always sounded

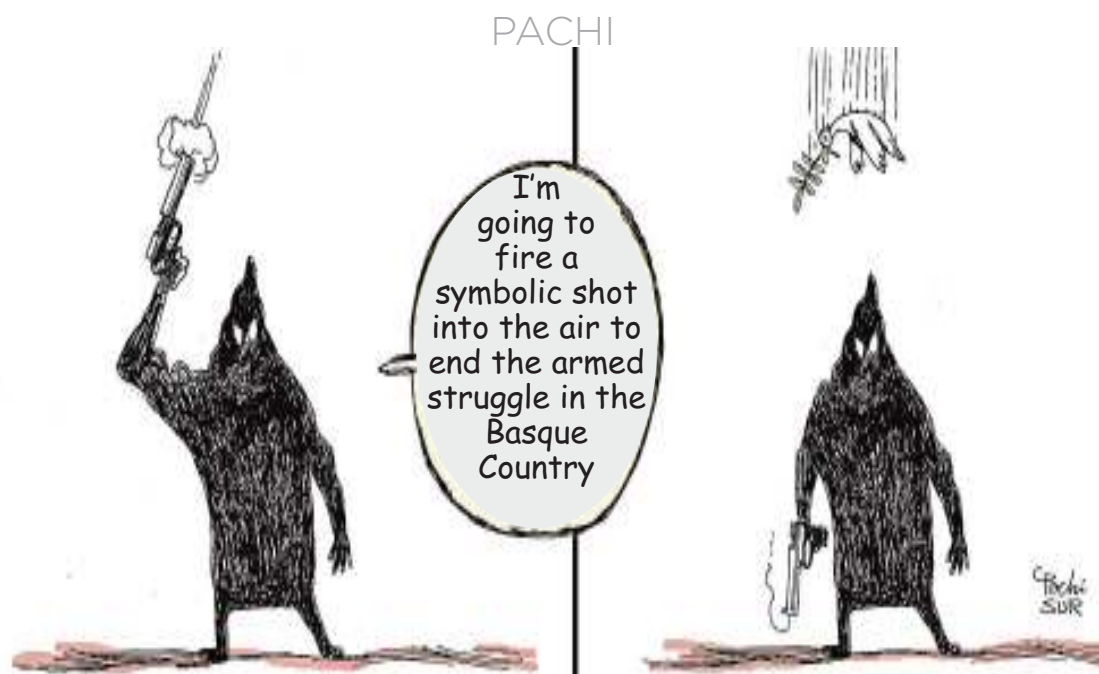
so nasally poor.

Talking of music, it's a good job being offended about stuff and nonsense wasn't a full time occupation in the nineteen sixties when The Rolling Stones culturally appropriated (i.e. blatantly copied) the blues and The Beatles did likewise with, well, anything they could lay their hands on, actually. ("No, George, put that sitar down, you imperialistic hooligan. You're being really offensive, man.")

Anyway, that episode in history seemed to work out fine for our cultural legacy, didn't it? Well, except for Octopus's Garden, obviously.

So, look here, chaps. I'm getting more and more offended by people who get offended on behalf of others. No, hang on, that wasn't nearly loud enough; let's try again (clears throat).

CAN YOU HEAR ME NOW, EVERYBODY?!!!!!! I'M REALLY OFFENDED!!!!!!!!!!!!!!



SUR English

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Some might think that at this stage we didn't ought to be surprised or scared when someone talks of mafia organisations linked with drug trafficking being set up on the Costa del Sol. For a long time now international criminal organisations have sought refuge here, trying to blend in with the large foreign population with a high-flying lifestyle and laundering money through property investment.

We can even remember how the same countries that sent us their criminals changed the name of the Costa del Sol to the Costa del Crime, a situation that was covered up as it did little for tourism promotion until the revenge killings, some with stray bullets that claimed innocent victims as col-

lateral damage, forced the authorities into action.

Some might say we shouldn't be scared, but you'd have to be irresponsible not to take seriously what's happening now in the Campo de Gibraltar. The Guardia Civil association warned last week

that there, just a stone's throw from the Costa del Sol, Spain's first drug cartel is taking shape, and that is much more serious than anything we have seen before.

The Interior Ministry, with its usual conceit and insolvency, has rushed to say that that is not the

case. To back up its statement it has come up with the record-breaking figures in recent drug hauls in the area. Even the newest reader of the crime columns and anyone who has spoken to a police expert, knows full well that the more drugs are seized by police, the more drugs are getting through.

The minister cannot show a single statistic to prove that they are investing more to be able to deal with the situation that is starting to affect the Campo de Gibraltar, an area that is sensitive and vulnerable like all frontier territories, and ravaged even further by the scourge of unemployment and the lack of opportunities that make the world of drugs tempting for thousands of youths without a future.

For some time now, people work-

ing on the ground have been stressing the need to recognise the problem, give the security forces more resources and make a serious investment to offer an opportunity in the lives of those with no alternative but to become pawns in this sinister business.

After recent events that shed doubt on the basic democratic equation that the State holds the monopoly in strength, it was assumed that a deployment of resources would be made available to fight the drug dealing. The reinforcements were barely there long enough for the minister to have his photo taken with them.

This is serious and it's on our doorstep. If we think that it's not going to affect us, then we're terribly wrong.

Right here

HÉCTOR BARBOTTA



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"Elvis always had fun and I want people to take some of that away with them"

Ben Portsmouth *Elvis tribute act*



BEN CLARKE

✉ english@diariosur.es

Elvis Presley died over 40 years ago but his legacy lives on with the 2012 Worldwide Ultimate Elvis Tribute Artist Contest in Memphis, Tennessee in 2012.

MALAGA. Ben Portsmouth is as cool, calm and confident over the phone as he is on stage. With his notably British accent, you would never suspect that he saw off hundreds of competitors across several rounds to become the winner of the Ultimate Elvis Tribute Artist Contest in Memphis, Tennessee in 2012.

The singer, 38, spoke to SUR in English ahead of his upcoming performance in Malaga next Tuesday, 8 May.

Ben's band is called Taking Care of Elvis, which reflects his efforts to preserve the artist's legacy. "The trouble with Elvis impersonating is that there's always a stigma about it, he says. "It's like anything, whether you're telling fortunes or you're a magician, there are good ones and bad ones. I try my best to do it in a respectful way and have fun as well."

"Elvis always had fun and I want people to take some of that away with them."

The artist grew up on the outskirts of Reading, Berkshire, the youngest of three brothers. "I got the most attention," he admits.

It was his father who first intro-



Ben Portsmouth takes centre stage as Elvis Presley, complete with husky voice and girating hips. :: TCE

duced him to Elvis. "He always played his songs in the car when I was growing up."

This one of the reasons why he took an interest in music from an early age. "I was always in bands as a kid and I wrote my own songs. I used to play Elvis' music at home for pleasure and learn the chords," he says. "Later on, in my early 20s, I was doing a lot of session guitar work and studied music at college."

Eventually, I got fed up of that. I much preferred playing and listening to Elvis so on the side I got a new band together and it just escalated from there."

Ben started playing pubs and clubs and is currently undertaking a world tour until January next year, playing venues in Spain, the UK, the United States and Mexico.

Despite his interest in music, his eventual career choice took his fam-

ily by surprise. "My dad thinks that I'm completely bonkers," he admits. "I picked up his guitar and tried to learn the chords while listening to Elvis tapes so I suppose he had his suspicions."

Taking Care of Elvis first came together after Ben put an advertisement out locally in an attempt to form a band. "It's always been made up of professional musicians, but individuals come and go. We're all

QUOTES

"It really doesn't matter where you play, it could be in a cow shed or it could be in Las Vegas. It's about the audience"

"I always bring a bit of my own personality into my performances to distinguish myself from the rest"

great friends and they all have a wealth of experience, having worked with many big names in pop and rock."

Together they have played venues around the world in countries including the UK, Spain, Switzerland, Belgium, Germany, Argentina, Australia, Brazil and the USA. "It really doesn't matter where you play, it could be in a cow shed or it could be in Las Vegas, it's all about the audience," he says.

"Some of the best gigs I've had have been in Brazil. When I played Glasgow Royal Concert Hall they were on their feet dancing from the first song, it was great," he adds.

The act, he finds, is successful because it has a broad appeal, with fans across three generations. "An Elvis fanbase is made up of grandmothers and grandfathers who were there originally, their children, and their children's children," he says.

However, Ben does not take it all for granted. He works hard to recreated Elvis "in his prime", using his 1968 comeback tour as inspiration. "I stay in shape and look after myself," he says. "He was an archetypal heartthrob."

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Ben's main inspiration is Elvis' 1968 Comeback tour. :: TCE

NEED TO KNOW

► **What.** An Elvis tribute act performed by Brit Ben Portsmouth.

► **Where.** Teatro Cervantes, Malaga.

► **When.** Tuesday 8 May, 8.30pm.

► **Tickets.** 24 to 60 euros from www.unientradas.es

important, it is equally vital not to get caught up in the persona. "When I'm on stage sometimes I'm Elvis and sometimes I come out of it and I'm myself."

"I think that it's important to put some of your own humour into it," he says. "There's nothing worse than when you tell one of Elvis' jokes; it comes across as very tacky and cheesy."

Ben Portsmouth brings his act to Malaga's Teatro Cervantes on Tuesday.

Five-year-old philanthropist wants to Save the Children

A San Pedro schoolboy organised a jumble sale to raise funds for young people who have limited access to food and water

:: MADDY HAY

MALAGA. After five-year-old Dexter St Pierre saw an advert for aid charity Save the Children on television, he decided that he should do something to help.

Dexter, who lives in San Pedro, was upset that other children do not have the same access to food and water that he does. With the help of his mother, Chloe, the philanthropic young boy organised a jumble sale so he could raise money in order to improve the lives of others.

Dexter and his sister Piper each gathered a bag together of their own toys to sell for funds. Dexter's school, St George's in San Pedro, also helped by sending out emails to parents requesting donations of toys, books and other items that could be sold on the stall. To add to her son's efforts, his mother collected jumble from work colleagues, friends and from her own personal belongings. "We



Dexter and his mother Chloe at the stall. :: SUR

had lots of things to sell!" she said.

The sale took place on at the end of April at Benahavis market. So far, Dexter has raised 328 euros.

Chloe is proud of her son and believes that helping others is a

"valuable lesson".

Dexter and Chloe plan to put together more fundraising events in the future, all in the hope of providing essential aid to those less fortunate.

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El Pimpi's city-wide fiesta brings out Malaga's charitable side

More than 80,000 people took part in various events across the city in support of 11 organisations

:: ÁLVARO FRÍAS

MÁLAGA. "The people of Malaga have charity in their DNA," said Alejandro Martín, director of the Marcelino Champagnat Foundation, one of the beneficiaries of the Soles de Málaga charity event held across the city on Saturday.



Crowds in Malaga city centre. :: S. S.

More than 80,000 people proved him right, enjoying entertainment and activities across the city, centred around El Pimpi bodega, whose foundation organised the event, close to the Alcazaba.

Thousands were drawn to events in this central location, but the activity wasn't just limited to the city centre: across eleven districts of Malaga various events were planned, including concerts from a number of former TV talent show singers.

The aim of the day was to raise awareness and funds for eleven organisa-



Organisers, sponsors and representatives of the beneficiaries. :: SALVADOR SALAS

tions across the city, including charities which look after those affected by cancer, Aids, domestic violence, mental health issues, among others.

President of the Foundation and co-owner of El Pimpi, José Cobos, said: "It was always my hope that we would get a lot of people involved but I never thought that the people of Malaga would support us so overwhelmingly."

Further proof of this support, added El Pimpi managing director, Elena Cobos, was the collaboration of more than 300 organisations who "without having to knock on their doors" wanted to "do their bit".



The party extended to the 'barrios' of the city. :: S. SALAS

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PET CARE

Summer danger

Leishmaniasis can be fatal to dogs and is especially prevalent in warmer climates

It looks like summer is just around the corner and after a dodgy spring with more than enough rain, we are all looking forward to it. However, every coin has a flip side and summer is no exception.

Over the many years the Pet Care column has appeared, Erny and I have frequently written about leishmaniasis and the danger it is to our dogs. I was therefore surprised to be having a chat with a dog owner from Mijas Costa who told me that he had never heard of the condition until his dog caught it and died as a result.

The simple fact is that leishmaniasis especially exists in warm climates as it is transmitted by the sandfly mosquito. It is an immunosuppressive dis-

ease which means it lowers the dog's ability to fight off conditions which can be fatal.

There is no cure. To make a direct analogy it means that your dog is like a country with no armed forces. It becomes liable to attack and has no resistance.

One dog cannot give it to another without a vector or carrier and I asked the well-known and respected veterinary surgeon Dr María José Guerrero of the Hospital Veterinario in Alhaurín el Grande to expand on this fact and to suggest preventive measures.

Dr Guerrero told me: "Canine leishmaniasis is caused by a parasite known as leishmania and is transmitted by the mosquito phlebotomus. It is endemic in all the southern Mediterranean zones.

"Prevention of the disease is of the utmost importance and should include the application of an insecticide that lasts with a base of permethrin like Advantix, Frontline, Trii Act or the use of collars with deltamethrin like

Scalabor or Flumethrin."

Dr Guerrero advises that in high-risk areas the combination of these mosquito repellents together should be considered, along with a vaccination that exists in the market against the risk of leishmaniasis.

She also advises that, as far as possible, dogs should be kept indoors at night. Of course they must go out to answer the call of nature. I would add that owners should never allow their dogs to sleep outdoors.

Zero risk does not exist but Dr Guerrero and I are of one voice in our objective to minimise the risk of dogs contracting the disease.

Symptoms

Keep a watchful eye on symptoms which include hair loss, soreness of the ear tips, losing weight but eating well and whiteness of the eyes.

Everyone likes to be proved right in their suspicions. Frankly I hate being proved right in this case. If you suspect your dog has this complaint, go to your vet for a blood test. Only that test will reveal the truth.

Do not take risks, especially in summer.

PETER HARRISON



Dutch community celebrates King's Day in Torremolinos

BY TONY BRYANT

TORREMOLINOS. Hundreds of Dutch nationals came together in La Carihuella last week to celebrate Koningsdag, the national holiday of the Netherlands. The King's Day party, which was organised by the cultural department of Torremolinos town hall and the Voom Voom Club, was held in recognition of King Willem-Alexander's birthday.

Dutch residents and visitors, many of whom were dressed in orange wigs and wacky outfits, enjoyed a day-long street party with live entertainment supplied by sev-

eral bands and Dutch DJs.

Visitors also enjoyed a street market offering Dutch handicraft products, including ceramics, cookie boards, knitted and embroidered garments and handmade wooden clogs.

There was also the chance to sample traditional Dutch cuisine and an array of artisan beers brewed in the Netherlands.

This was the third consecutive year that the festival has been held in Torremolinos and it has become a popular annual event for Dutch residents of the Costa del Sol.



Dutch residents enjoy the King's Day party in La Carihuella. :: SUR



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Music to silence the bombs

JOPMA has worked with Músicos sin Fronteras to send over a tonne of musical instruments to a refugee camp in Syria

REGINA SOTORRÍO

@ReginaSotorrio



MALAGA. In the midst of the loud explosions of the bombs, violin chords, the strum of a guitar or the bang of a drum will be heard. In a place where recreation is an unimaginable indulgence, a chance to have fun is gratefully taken. This is the challenge for Músicos sin Fronteras who have gathered up a tonne of musical instruments to send to Syria.

The NGO, aims to spread the joy of music to even the most deprived parts of the world, has prepared to send all of this musical equipment from Vitoria with the intention of creating several music groups for children and young people. In this ambitious project they have the sup-



The instruments being stored in Vitoria before being sent on. :: SUR

port of the Youth Orchestra of Malaga Province (JOPMA).

The Malaga music group and other Spanish youth groups will contribute 8,000 euros towards the cost of transporting the instruments. This money used to belong to the Association of Spanish Youth Orchestras,

which ceased to exist nine months ago after finally succumbing to the effects of the economic crisis. The organisation once had twenty members, but now only JOPMA (with 123 children between nine and 17 years old), the National Youth Orchestra of Spain (JONDE) and the National



Pupils from the Afrin school who were going to receive the instruments before the fall of the Kurdish city. :: SUR

Youth Orchestras of Catalonia and the Basque Country remain.

A tonne of instruments

After months of campaigning, Músicos sin Fronteras has collected tubas, trumpets, trombones, accordions, guitars, French horns, cellos,

double basses and percussion instruments which together weigh over a tonne. The instruments have been donated by individuals and by orchestras, by children and by professionals.

But after the first phase of the initiative, the more difficult next step is to send the instruments on - which is not an easy task when the destination is a war zone.

The continuous bombardments have forced a change to the original plans, which were to donate the instruments to a refugee camp in the Kurdish city of Afrin, considered as one of the most peaceful parts of the country following seven years of war.

This period of calm was broken at the end of January by the Turkish armed forces, their allies in the Free Syrian Army and other Islamist factions that have fought to control the area, causing the exodus of thousands of civilians who have gone to seek refuge elsewhere.

The instruments will remain in Vitoria while charities plan a new destination for them along a safer route. They will arrive later than expected, but the plan is still in motion "because those kids need something to distract them from the situation that they are forced to inhabit and music can heal the world," says Antonio César Muñoz, secretary of JOPMA and a representative for Músicos sin Fronteras.



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:: SUR IN ENGLISH

Costa Soul Singers

No experience necessary

Costa Soul Singers, who claim to be the “grooviest, funkier, soulful-est, fun loving” singers on the coast, are extending their singing sessions now to La Cala de Mijas on Wednesday nights.

They meet at 6.45pm at the Peña Flamenca del Sur, as well as at the Manila Bar on the Paseo Marítimo in Los Boliches on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 7pm. Every one is welcome to come along and join in, no experience necessary.

Costa Soul Singers often have gigs to help raise money for Cudeca and other charities. They will be performing at the Avanto Restaurant in La Cala de Mijas on Sunday 6 May at 12.30pm to help raise funds for The Last Chance Animal Rescue Centre. For more information, visit facebook.com/costasoulsingers, email costasoulsingers@gmail.com or call 602 517 915.

Age Concern

United Nationalities

The new branch of Age Concern, which recently officially opened in Marbella, attended The United Nationalities of Marbella summit which took place in the Velvet restaurant in Nueva Andalucía.

The British Consul for Andalucía, Charmaine Arbouin was there as was Neil Hesketh who was responsible for developing the website Support in Spain.

Age Concern can be contacted via www.ageconcernmarbella.com or 689355198. The organisation offers information about services available for people living in Marbella and San Pedro and welcomes volunteers to help for events organised for the older residents of

all nationalities.

Coffee mornings are held once a month at the San Pedro padel club on the first Thursday of every month.

Club Charity and Pleasure Consul gives a talk

Club Charity and Pleasure president Terry Hannam welcomed British Consul, Charmaine Arbouin, to their weekly meeting recently.

She gave members an entertaining talk, an insight into the workings of the Malaga Consulate, and answered questions on Brexit.

CAP meets from 10.30am each Wednesday morning for coffee at Restaurante Chilli, Benamara, where there is often a speaker.

Regular events, fundraisers and excursions are organised, a full programme which is published in its free quarterly magazine, and regularly updated online.

New members are welcome – annual membership is only 15 euros. For more information, contact Terry Hannam on 952 813336 or visit www.clubcharityandpleasure.wordpress.com.

Age Care Calahonda

A concert with coffee

Reflections, an acapella quartet, gave a free concert to Age Care clients and members of the public at a recent coffee morning held in the International Baptist Church.

The quartet sang a variety of songs including favourites like Country Rose, In My Room, Sentimental Journey and Unchained Melody.

Age Care holds coffee mornings in Calahonda Baptist Church every Tuesday and Thursday from 11am to 1pm. They also hold talks, go on trips and organise other activities.

Volunteers are always appreciated, contact info@agecarecosta.org or Lesley 635 407 255

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



Costa Soul Singers performing to raise money for charity. :: SUR



British Consul Charmaine Arbouin with CAP President Terry Hannam, and committee members. :: SUR.

LEGAL ADVICE



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REF. E. G. D.

A few days ago, my son came home with his clothing torn and a big bruise on his arm. When I asked him what had happened, he told me that he had had a fight with another child in the playground when they were coming out of the school. I was very upset because this was the first time that my son has been in-

involved in a fight, and by chance, when I was speaking with the mother of another child, she told me that it had been a shame because there was a teacher near that had seen everything and had done nothing to stop the fight. Now I am thinking about reporting the teacher, for not having intervened. Could I take legal action against him or the school?

Yes, as long as you can prove that the school staff, like the teacher you mention, could have mediated to stop the fight and did nothing, or took too much time to control the situation. In this case, if the mother you spoke with witnessed the incident and she is willing to give testimony, the proceeding will be easier.

REF. I. R. F.

I have received a fine for speeding, attaching a shot of my car

at the moment of the offence. It is a secondary road that I do not usually take. I was not aware that I was driving above the speed limit as I was travelling at 90kph, and when I covered the road again to check the speed limit, I saw that there was indeed a sign limiting the speed to 50kph but it was too old and the reflective material was damaged. This was the reason why I did not see it, because I was driving at night. Can I appeal against the fine taking into account that it was impossible to see the sign?

Of course you can. They cannot fine for traffic offences consisting of not obeying signs that are damaged, or that simply cannot be seen for being located in an inadequate place or covered by obstacles. They cannot fine either when the signs can be hidden by a precedent car, if the sign is not also placed in the other side of the road.



Reflections acapella quartet with Age Care representatives. :: SUR

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IN THE FRAME

JENNIE RHODES
✉ rhodes.jennie@hotmail.com

Art is like therapy during difficult times

Tricia Gabbitas Poet, songwriter and artisan

The multitalented artist wanted to be a teacher but trained as a secretary to help out at home

Tricia Gabbitas is full of energy and happiness as she greets me at her flat in Torre del Mar, where she lives for about eight months of the year with her husband, Tony.

The couple, who only married in 2011, despite first meeting in 1975, return to Yorkshire for the summer months.

"We find it too hot and too busy here in summer," Tricia confesses, but admits that the only thing she really misses about her home county is "the bluebells in spring".

On a recent trip home they bought a large print of a bluebell wood, which now hangs in their living room, mixed in with paintings, flower pressings and soft furnishings all made by Tricia.

"The only thing she can't do is turn lead into gold," jokes Tony, who proudly shows me a jacket which his wife (then girlfriend) made him 35 years ago and is still in perfect condition.

Among Tricia's many creative talents are writing poetry, songs and prose, painting and of course making clothes and furnishings for the flat. She has published a number of collections of poetry, from romantic verses, Christian messages and poems for occasions such as Christmas, birthdays and bereavements.

"Some of my poetry, or lines from my poems, have been used on greetings cards," Tricia explains.

She produced a CD of religious songs for which she wrote the lyrics and music and had John Springle, who is a former member of



Tricia reading her poetry at home in Torre del Mar. :: J. R.

"I have always wanted to make people happy"

:: J. RHODES

TORRE DEL MAR Tricia Gabbitas will be signing some of her books, including the poetry collections and her autobiography at the Lux Mundi Torre del Mar Spring bazaar on Friday 4 May. The books will be for sale at discounted prices and she will be joined by friend and fellow writer, Joan Fallon, who will also be selling and signing copies of

her books. Tricia and her husband have long been associated with Lux Mundi and many of her poems and songs have a religious theme. Tricia says that she has "always believed in God" but admits that she "gave up on organised religion" after reading the book *Conversations with God*, by Neale Donald Walsh. "I have just always wanted to make people happy," she concludes.

Gary Glitter's band, create the backing tracks for the album.

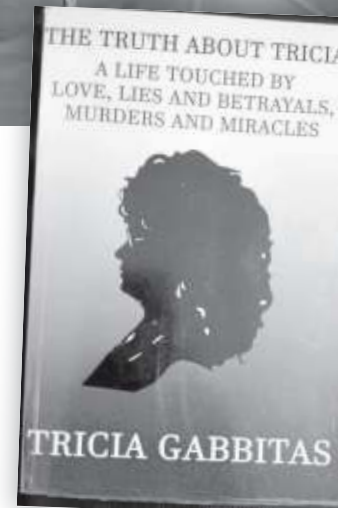
She also reads her own poetry and, with a broad Yorkshire accent, is a pleasure to listen to. She is animated and has even written one poem in the Yorkshire dialect. "That one needs to be translated into English," she laughs.

Shocking revelation

As well as a book of holiday anec-

dotes she co-published with Tony, Tricia wrote her autobiography, *The Truth About Tricia: a Life Touched by Love, Lies and Betrayals, Murders and Miracles*, in 2016.

The writer, who has had no formal training in the art, wrote the book as a way of expressing herself in light of discovering, at the age of 63, that the man she had believed was her grandfather was in fact her father. In the book she



"I have always done crafts and written poems and they have helped me through the hard times"

also talks about series of near-fatal illnesses and accidents she has had, including an operation to remove her appendix which led to gangrene at the age of 12. She suffers from fibromyalgia, which she says prevents her from lifting and reaching.

Tricia, who will be 70 in De-

cember this year, says that her first craft project was to turn a teddy bear into a glove puppet when she was 10.

She wrote her first poem, *Autumn*, aged 13 and has gone on to write about 1,000 more.

"I have always done crafts and written poems and they have helped me through the hard times," Tricia admits. "They have always been there and I have used them, especially the writing, as a way of expressing myself."

Despite everything she has gone through, Tricia remains happy and positive. "I'm lucky," she beams. "I had a car accident and I should have died, but I didn't. I'm still here."

Career ambitions

At the age of 15 Tricia left school and trained to be a secretary. "I really wanted to go to university and become a teacher but I left school at 15 and worked as a secretary to help my mum and kid sister," Tricia explains.

She did achieve her teaching ambition later on when she did a City and Guilds qualification to become a teacher of pressed flowers at an adult education college.

Tony and Tricia have lived in Torre del Mar since 2001, when they visited by chance on a free trip while holidaying in Nerja.

"We fell in love with the place, saw an apartment that was available to rent and decided to stay for three months. We reserved the same place for another three months the following year and kept coming back until we decided to stay here more permanently," Tricia explains. "I don't think we'll ever move back to the UK permanently," she admits.

Since they have been here they have become involved in a number of organisations including Lux Mundi. Tricia has given talks and read some of her poetry to local groups as well and the couple support Cudeca, although Tricia admits that most of the support "is through buying things at the shop in Torre del Mar".

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Sad farewell to popular Belgian tour guide

Eduard Vandoorne died just a few days before he was due to be honoured by the tourism authority

TONY
BRYANT

✉ tonysureng@gmail.com

Born in Belgium in 1956, Eduard was a self-taught expert on water management in dry climates and he had a lifelong passion for plants and gardens

TORREMOLINOS. An emotional tribute service was held in Torremolinos last week to honour Eduard Vandoorne, one of Malaga's most knowledgeable tour guides and ecologists, who recently died from cancer.

Members of his family and close friends gathered in the Molina de Inca botanical gardens in Torremolinos, a place that was very close to Eduard's heart, in order to receive a porcelain 'biznaga' in recognition of his work within the tourist in-



Eduard's children (centre) with former colleagues Silvina Axelrad de Gago (l) and Jürgen Nolle. :: T. B.

dusty in Malaga.

The award was the idea of one of his fellow tour guides, Jürgen Nolle, who, on realising the seri-

ousness of his friend's condition, suggested that the provincial tourism authority recognise the tireless work that Eduard had done.

Eduard was diagnosed with an aggressive cancer just a few weeks ago, and although the department of tourism organised the event with haste, the popular expat died just a few days before the award was due to be presented.

His daughter, Luna, who had flown in from her home in Mexico to be with her father, told the small gathering that Eduard knew, and was very pleased, about the award. Her regret, she explained, was that her father could not be there to accept it.

"My father was very pleased when we told him about the award, but he was very sick by that time. One of the things that delayed the presentation was his health, as he could not travel very far, but I'm sure he is here with us today," Luna said. "He loved these gardens and wanted to promote them because he believed that they are relatively

unknown to tourists."

Eduard had been living in Torremolinos for 20 years and had worked as a private guide for the Malaga tourism department, taking politicians, celebrities and TV crews on private tours to discover rural Malaga and the Costa del Sol.

He was well known within the Andalusian tourism sector, but in Torremolinos he is probably most remembered for his love of the trilby hat, which he was rarely seen without.

Born in Belgium in 1956, Eduard spoke Spanish, English, French, German, Dutch and Norwegian. He came to Spain during the late 1970s and settled in Motril, where his two children, Luna and Eduard junior, were born and raised.

In 1985, Eduard became involved in a collective campaign - along with politicians, ecologists and members of the agricultural sector - to stop the proposed transfer of water from the Guadalfeo river in Granada to the dam in Benínar. The idea of the project was to supply water to the Almeria region of Campo de Dalías, but Eduard, who believed that this would have caused serious economic and ecological damage to the Alpujarra and the Granada coastline, campaigned to have the project halted.

Eduard was a self-taught expert on water management in dry climates and he enjoyed a lifelong passion for plants and gardens. He believed in the potential of the Costa del Sol's green spaces and worked hard to promote them. He

had been preparing a walking guide to some of the most interesting parks and botanical gardens in Malaga province, but this was a project he never managed to complete.

Jürgen Nolle, who had worked with Eduard for five years, said

that he was one of the best tour guides in the area because he possessed "such an extensive knowledge of Andalucía".

"Eduard was very passionate about his work and he had many projects planned, but he was not able to finish them because he became ill very quick. He will be greatly missed by all who came into contact with him," Jürgen said.

Following a stroll through the botanical gardens, Eduard's family held a special memorial gathering in Playamar to celebrate his life and work.



Eduard Vandoorne. :: L. V.

Eduard had worked for the tourism authority, taking politicians and celebrities on private tours

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Banderas paints a good Picasso

While the series, partly filmed in Malaga, garnered mixed reviews, critics are in agreement over Banderas' well-executed performance

FRANCISCO GRIÑAN

MALAGA. Since the official premiere of *Genius: Picasso* in Malaga on 22 March, audiences have endured weeks of waiting in anticipation of its public release. Finally, the season opener was made available worldwide last week, accessible in Spain from 26 April.

The National Geographic series was immediately devoured by critics. It garnered a mixed response, from outright enthusiasm to reviews that were tepid at best. However, most are in agreement about the lengths that Malaga-born Banderas went to in order to bring life to the city's most famous artist.

Variety magazine wrote "when Picasso is at the forefront, *Genius* is impressive". The New York Times observed the "superficiality" of the series, but also commented that it "can be enjoyed for its surface attributes, including Mr Banderas' impressive make-up and expectedly seductive performance".



Antonio Banderas and Samantha Colley during filming on Malaga's Misericordia beach. :: SUR

For its part, the Argentinian newspaper *Clarín* spoke of the second season of *Genius* as a production with both good and bad aspects, but "Antonio Banderas standing out as the mature Picasso who fights to remain relevant and inspiring".

In contrast, the series' most disparaging critic was *The Hollywood Reporter*, whose writer considers the format of the programme to be "obsolete" and that the biopic gives us less information about Picasso's proc-

ess than a "coffee table book".

The San Francisco Chronicle does not share this view of the series, which was partly filmed in Malaga. "The solid performances and attention to production details of setting, design and costumes enhances our knowledge and goes a long way toward making us want to know -and see- more."

Miguel Ángel Oeste, SUR expert and critic commented that "Antonio Banderas' efforts are undeniable (in

fact in his eyes we can glimpse Picasso's)", but considers the telling of the story of the painter's life to be wasted through "lifeless direction and a script which lacks emotion, weighed down by melodrama".

During the world premiere, Banderas himself told SUR that the series "couldn't have been filmed without the support of Picasso's family", although he also mentions that days before filming started, they nearly called the whole thing off. One of

WHAT THE CRITICS SAID

Mike Hale *The New York Times*

"Genius can be enjoyed for Mr Banderas' impressive makeup and seductive performance."

Daniel Fienberg *The Hollywood Reporter*

"[Genius] shows less [about Picasso] than what you'd get from a coffee table book"

Miguel Angel Oeste *SUR*

"In Antonio Banderas' eyes we can glimpse Picasso's"

Picasso's relatives insisted that the series could not include scenes wherein Banderas was actually painting. Only blank canvases and finished pieces could be shown, never the creative process.

After the critics' verdict, the next challenge for *Genius: Picasso* is the public. The aim is to surpass the 45 million viewers that watched the first season of the programme, which was based on the life of Albert Einstein.

If the series manages to rake in these numbers, the beautiful scenery of Malaga will surely touch viewers all over the world.

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A tribute to talent and education in creativity

The winners of the SUR in English Education and Learning schoolwork showcase have received their certificates

by RACHEL HAYNES

MALAGA. It was back in March when six youngsters from the Costa del Sol and Gibraltar received deserved recognition for their hard work and talent; their poems, stories and artwork were published in this newspaper's Education and Learning special.

SUR in English still owed them personal congratulations however and last month five of the winners visited the newspaper's main newsroom in Malaga with their parents and teachers.

The visitors were given an insight

into how the SUR newspapers are produced before receiving their certificates and enjoying refreshments in the SUR television studio.

The winning artists, seven-year-old Angelina Lopin, who goes to Aloha College and completes her artistic education at Kids Club Internacional El Campanario; and St Anthony's College student Noora Siltanen, had the chance to discuss their paintings with art critic Georgina Oliver, who helped judge the entries.

The young poets, Yukai Huang, 9, of Sunny View School, and Glafira Belova of Swans International

School, were reminded of the words of praise given by poet and translator, Álvaro García, who was unable to attend the presentation, and the staff and visitors were able to enjoy their works being read aloud.

Former editor of SUR in English, Liz Parry was on hand to congratulate the primary short story winner, 10-year-old Carlos Úbeda of Sunny View School, for his work.

The winner in the secondary short story category, 15-year-old Oliver Barrass, received his certificate this week at his school, Prior Park in Gibraltar. SUR in English's Gibraltar correspondent, Debbie Bartlett, visited the school to deliver this newspaper's congratulations in person.

All the participating schools in southern Spain and Gibraltar were praised for the endeavours of teachers to stimulate creativity among children of all ages.

Poems and stories were read aloud to parents, teachers and judges at the event in Malaga



Group photo taken during the visit to the SUR offices last month. :: PHOTOS. SALVADOR SALAS

PRESENTATION

Noora Siltanen
Winner secondary artwork



The 15-year-old from St Anthony's College received her certificate from Georgina Oliver.

Angelina Lopin
Winner primary artwork



Angelina, 7, goes to Aloha College and Kids Club Internacional El Campanario.

Glafira Belova
Winning secondary poem



The Swans School student, pictured with editor Rachel Haynes, read her poem to guests at SUR.

Carlos Úbeda
Winning primary short story



The primary story-writer from Sunny View received his certificate from former editor Liz Parry.

Yukai Huang
Winning primary poem



A short poem on the subject of Love obtained recognition for this Sunny View primary pupil.

Oliver Barrass
Winning secondary short story



Oliver Barrass received his certificate from Debbie Bartlett at Prior Park School in Gibraltar.

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Experience Group Spain

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COSTA DEL SOL

Since it was established in Spain in 1970, Experience Group Spain has been providing a wide range of services to property owners along the Costa del Sol.

Under the guidance of its chairman Alan James, the Experience Group has truly pioneered the development of the Costa Del Sol. Starting in 1970 and uniquely after 48 years not only have they built more than 5,000 homes, they have also built The Bena Vista Lawn bowls club and owned the El Paraiso Gary Player-designed golf club which is now owned by the members.

During the 70s and 80s, the group developed the Bena Travel organisation with 20 flights per week from most UK airports to Málaga, once again pioneering travel to the Costa del Sol; Bena Golf specialising in golf tourism to the coast; and Bena Ski organising skiing tours to Sierra Nevada. From the 1970s to present times, the group has been building apartments, townhouses and villas all along the Costa del Sol from Nerja to Sotogrande.

In the 70s, the group designed and marketed 500 homes on urbanisations in at Benamara, Estepona, and 400 at La Cortijera in La Cala de Mijas.

During the 1980s Experience Group developed, designed and constructed the Bena Vista shopping and commercial centre, located between Marbella and Estepona. Home to 50 shops and offices, the centre is one of the most successful on the coast, and the group has its head office and showroom there. The project also included financing, design and construction of the footbridge over the main coast road in the area which may be responsible for saving many hundreds of lives.

In 1986, the development section of the group developed, designed, built and marketed 900 apartments and townhouses at Urbanisation Balcon de Bena Vista, El Paraiso.

In the 1980s, they built and promoted the Bena Vista Lawn Bowls club, which opened in 1984; and in conjunction with others founded the Spanish lawn bowling association. Over the years, the Club has offered an amazing facility to thousands of bowlers. In 1982 the group went on to open the tennis club at El Paraiso, with 13 tennis courts, pool and gymnasium.

During the 1970s and 1980s, the Experience Group also built and managed 3 restaurants.



The Group's head office and showroom is located at Bena Vista shopping centre

The group has been running on the coast for 48 years

Another company within the group, Decor Directo, has meanwhile been providing interior design for homes along the Costa del Sol since the 1970s.

For the last 20 years the Group, still under the guidance of the chairman Alan James, his wife Carol, family members and staff have concentrated on property sales, management and rentals, construction and of course the fast growing internet and TV division.

That part of the Group is its Electronics Division, Exp TV and Internet S.L. The company prides itself on being the go-to company and one-stop-shop for clients looking for internet or TV for their home or business anywhere in Andalusia.

The company is confident it has a solution for anyone looking for internet or TV services, whether they are new to the coast or dissatisfied with their current providers; and it has thousands of happy clients on its books to back this up.

The qualified English and Spanish-speaking locally based technicians connect customers to the best possible product for their needs,



Alan James and his wife Carol, along with family members and staff

then offer the best after-install service, with some products even allowing for on/off services for those who do not require or wish to pay for permanent connection for temporary use. Within the unique products the company can provide, there are nine different sources of internet available including fibre optic, 4G, ADSL, satellite and transmission internet options.

Experience Electronics prom-

ises to provide a complete, friendly, start-to-finish service within the agreed time frame and budget, sourcing and installing the most suitable equipment and providing on-going support.

There are numerous internet options available, meaning the company can provide the right solution for all its clients depending on their specific requirements and conditions.

The first, fastest option, if the Fibre Optic Internet service provided in partnership with AVATEL Telecom. Speeds, with unlimited usage, range from 100 Meg per sec to 500 Med per sec, and comes with an optional on/off facility, meaning customers who come and go and do not require permanent connection need only pay when they are here and really require service.

Another new option for speedy internet connections is the Electronics Experience Exp 4G Internet, which comes with unlimited 20 Megabyte speed and constant connection, is suitable for TV and WiFi, works well almost anywhere and does not require a landline.

The ADSL system meanwhile is the perfect option for those still waiting for fibre optics to arrive in their area and satellite options are available for those who live off the beaten track but need or want to stay connected.

When it comes to television, Experience Electronics has the best satellite and internet TV offers on the coast for all nationalities.

The internet TV service includes all sports and movies for most languages, some of which can be provided with no monthly charges or with on/off, don't pay when not here options.

Viewers can receive all free-to-air channels and many documentaries, news and drama from UK, Irish, Scandinavian, Russian, Dutch, Italian, French or German broadcasters. Services include a video club, radio, 28-day catch-up and recording.

The company also offers a TV service which does not require internet connection between Torremolinos and Duquesa and includes a total of 99 channels, 41 of them from the UK or a UK TV satellite option with a three year guarantee, among other options.

Experience Electronics' professional staff can and will suggest the best possible solution for customers' individual internet and TV requirements.

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SPONSORED FEATURE

Learning Spanish in historic surroundings

JESÚS
HINOJOSA

✉ jhinojosa@diariosur.es

Enforex is investing 20 million euros in taking over historic buildings in Malaga to be used as teaching centres and accommodation for foreign students

MÁLAGA. Interest in Malaga as a tourist destination has been capitalised on by the teaching group Enforex, which has undertaken several investments in city centre residences and education centres for students.

One of these is a building on the central Calle Carretería which was converted into a Spanish school last September. It has already admitted almost two hundred students, and staff hope to reach 350 by the end of the summer.

"We believe that both a change in location and integration between Spaniards and foreign students is very important for language learning," said Antonio Anadón, founder of Enforex and the driving force behind projects which have aimed to reinvigorate three locations in Malaga.

The first of these, located on Calle Carretería, is already a reality. Thanks to an investment of four million euros, this nineteenth-century building has been converted into a Spanish language centre for non-native speakers, complete with 22 rooms with space for ten students each. "Our teaching is highly personalised for our student body," highlighted Anadón.

Dutch, Italian, French, German,



The classrooms are laid out around the hexagonal centre of the building. :: ÑITO SALAS

English and Japanese people have already received lessons in the impressive structure, which has seen all six of its marble columns restored.

One of the two local shops bordering the building has also been incorporated into the structure as a classroom, and the other, which housed a historic bazaar, will also be used to extend the school.

"We have decided to repurpose these sites for our own project," said the company's director, who said that, alongside the classes, they offer a varied itinerary of cultural and recreational activities.

The major problem that Enforex has encountered with the project is the lack of residential space for students. The organisation has acquired thirteen apartments in a building located just in front of the school, but this is not enough.

"We [also] bought building Calle Victoria to use as a luxury student residence, but the regional culture department didn't let us make the changes we wanted," explained Anadón. The problem, he said, is that the building, constructed in the first decades of the twentieth century, is a grade 1 listed structure.

From a convent to a campus for American students

:: JESÚS HINOJOSA

MÁLAGA. Enforex's next project in Malaga will be the refurbishment of what was once a Dominican monastery on Calle Andrés Pérez.

The plan is to convert it into a type of campus to teach Spanish courses to foreigners, with a specific focus on accommodating students from North American universities and from other parts of

the world.

"Here we want to create a teaching environment where Spanish culture takes a primary role," explained Antonio Anadón.

The plan, he said, is to convert the building into a residence for 250 students.

Enforex is planning to invest between six to eight million euros in the project and twenty million euros in Malaga.



Part of the main cloister of the convent. :: Ñ. SALAS

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RACHEL HAYNES



WHAT HAPPENED TODAY?

4 MAY 1978

Climbers rescued after four days trapped in the Cueva del Gato

It was soon after midday on Thursday 4 May 1978 when cries of joy could be heard at the Hundidero entrance to the cave system known as the Cueva del Gato in the Sierra de Grazalema near Ronda. Francisco Barrera, 22, and Tomás Encina, 25, both from Seville, emerged from the cave after being stuck inside for more than four days. They were accompanied by their rescuers, three expert potholers who had gone into the cave 24 hours previously after other search parties had failed to locate the missing men.

Barrera and Encina, both experienced mountain climbers but new to potholing, had begun their excursion into the Cueva del Gato the previous Saturday evening. When they failed to appear at the expected time the following day, the alarm was raised and experienced cavers

from all over Andalucía rushed to the village of Benaolán to join the rescue operation. The tragedy of December 1976, when a potholer died inside the cave, was still fresh in their minds.

The Gato-Hundidero cave system runs for around 7,800 metres underground between the more famous Cueva del Gato entrance near Benaolán and the higher Hundidero opening near Montejaque. It is one of Spain's most important underground systems and has water permanently running through it, with deep holes and lagoons.

The rescue team had located the two men in a gallery known as 'The Bottle' around 1,900 metres from the Hundidero opening. They were on an upper ledge above the underground stream with no light or water and had been rationing what dried fruit they had left.

The return journey was not



The entrance to the Cueva del Gato and, right, coverage of the events of May 1978. :: SUR

without its problems as two of the inflatable boats they were using burst, but they made their way out safe and sound the next day to the relief of family and friends.

Barrera, a Biology student, and Encina, a pipe installer, were kept in observation at the Ronda hospital for 24 hours after their ordeal.

They explained how the excursion was going well until the force of the water capsized their boat, throwing out Barrera. That was at around four o'clock on Sunday morning. They wanted to turn back but found it too difficult and decided to wait. Later they did find a way of moving through the galleries but headed in the wrong direc-

tion, away from the first search parties instead of towards them. By Tuesday they had no more light and had to stay put on the ledge where they were found. When they ran out of water they had to suck their wet clothes to drink.

"All we can say is, thank you," said the pair, when interviewed by SUR in hospital.

LANGUAGE FOOTNOTE

Cueva	Cave
Espeleología	Caving
Subterráneo	Underground
Rescate	Rescue
Búsqueda	Search
Agua	Water
Atrapado	Trapped
Perdido	Lost
Alivio	Relief
Accesible	Accessible
Silbato	Whistle
Montañero	Mountaineer
Madrugada	Early morning
Hinchable	Inflatable
Luz	Light
Agradecer	To express gratitude for
Galería	Gallery
Tragedia	Tragedy

The 40th anniversary of this happy ending comes as Benaolán council and the regional government have embarked on a scheme to open the first 200 metres of the Cueva del Gato to visitors. According to the project, a walkway will give the general public access to the little-known cave paintings inside. The construction of a new wooden footbridge, making access to the cave entrance easier, is already complete.

Bilingual crossword inside back page

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DENISE BUSH

GARDENING

The Violet Bush

Barleria obtusa is an evergreen with small violet-coloured flowers and blue-green leaves native to South Africa

The genus Barleria was named after Jacques Barrelier (1606-1673), a French physician, botanist, plant collector and Dominican monk. There are about 200 species in the genus of which around 60 are native to South Africa and the rest

are from Asia. It is one of many genera in the Acanthaceae family. The species are all different but the most common ones for gardens and patios are B. obtusa, B. repens and B. albostellata. Barleria obtusa

is commonly called the Bush violet and has blue-green leaves which are slightly curled and covered with soft, fine hairs. It grows best in semi-shade reaching around one to two metres tall. The Bush Violet needs a rich, well-drained soil and although drought resistant for short periods, grows much better with regular watering during the driest months of the year.

The specific epithet, 'obtusa' is from Latin and means 'blunt', 'dull' or 'obtuse' and probably refers to the leaves. The Bush Violet is fast growing but can be snipped back after flowering to encourage more blooms and to keep it compact. The seed pods are hard and woody and when ripe explode, spreading the seeds over the surrounding ground. This shrub can also be propagated by cuttings and layering.

The pretty violet flowers attract pollinating insects such as butterflies and bees and in Africa, the leaves are cooked as a vegetable and other parts are used in traditional medicine. It's cousin, B. prionitis is a well-known perennial, Ayurvedic herb is a popular herb for treating toothache, catarrhal affections, whooping cough, inflammations, glandular swellings, urinary infection, jaundice, fever, gastrointestinal disorders and as diuretic and tonic.



Barleria obtusa and close up of flowers (inset). :: WIKIMEDIA

READER'S PHOTO



:: ROZZ CAPLAN

BRIGHT AND BEAUTIFUL

Rozz Caplan sent in this photo and says, "Cheap and cheerful Nasturtiums come up every year, these are 'Jewel of India' and I have had various colours from the one seed packet."

GARDENING HINTS

Sweet Summer Bedding

When buying summer bedding plants, choose only the greenest, bushiest examples, and those with lots of buds rather than open flowers. Before planting, harden them off slowly by placing them outside for a few hours every day so that they can become accustomed to the change in temperature. This is especially important if you live inland but bought the plants from a garden centre on the coast. Dig the bed over before you

put them in, making sure all weeds are removed first. Soak the plants in a bucket for an hour or so before planting and space them out to give them adequate room to grow. Now is the time to add stakes or framework if the plants are going to grow tall and need support later. Water in and if you have some well rotted organic material, spread it around the base of the plants to help conserve moisture.

PHOTOS

Calling all gardeners

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

Email your photos to english@diariosur.es or send them to SUR in English, Avda Dr Marañón 48, 29009 Malaga, with a caption and a few words of explanation. Alternatively, you can send them to us via Facebook (surenglish) or Twitter (@SUR_English).

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Jazz, flamenco and piano stars complete Nerja Cave Festival line-up

REGINA SOTORRÍO

@ReginaSotorrio

Soprano Barbara Hendricks, clarinetist Paquito D'Rivera, pianist Javier Perianes and flamenco dancer Manuel Liñán will all perform



MÁLAGA. Nerja Cave Festival will include a gospel singer who has won the Príncipe de Asturias award for arts, a flamenco dancer who won the latest National Dance Prize, a Manuel de Falla recital by a nationally-renowned artist and a jazz performance by a fourteen-times Grammy winner.

The International Nerja Cave Festival this year celebrates its 59th anniversary with a line-up of renowned artists, including American soprano Barbara Hendricks, the dancer Manuel Liñán, the pianist Javier Perianes and the

Cuban clarinetist Paquito D'Rivera, with a local flavour provided by the Malaga Province Symphony Orchestra, directed by Salvador

Vázquez.

The event, organised by the Nerja Cave Foundation, will take place in three separate locations. Last year, the organisation decided to limit the number of acts that took place within the cave itself in order to make sure that it was conserved for future generations. Last year, only one show took place among stalactites and stalagmites. This time round, in accordance with expert advice, two shows will take place in the intimate natural setting: the opening and the closing act.

The Malaga Province Symphony Orchestra will perform for free in the Plaza de España



◀ **70 years old.** Paquito D'Rivera will celebrate his birthday alongside the Pepe Rivera Trío. :: SUR

◀ **Spiritual musicians.** 'The road to freedom' is the title of Barbara Hendricks' show. :: SUR

▼ **Flamenco.** The choreographer and dancer Manuel Liñán performs 'Nómada'. :: SUR

▼ **At the piano.** Javier Perianes plays pieces by Debussy and Falla. :: DANIEL GARCÍA BRUNO



Barbara Hendricks, the first North American musician awarded the Príncipe de Asturias award for arts, in the year 2000, will evoke, through gospel, blues and spiritualism, the fight undertaken by slaves for their liberty and the end of racial segregation led by Martin Luther King. A Hammond organ and a guitar accompany 'The road to freedom', a performance that will open the event on 16 June.

The festival will close on 19 July with a performance from Javier Perianes (National Music Award), a very popular pianist who sells out venues wherever he plays. The music of Claude Debussy and Manuel de Falla will resonate around the cave.

Only 525 people will attend these concerts; a few years ago the capacity was reduced by removing an annex structure for conservation purposes.

For the second year, the gardens that surround the cave will be open to visitors who want a break from the cave's dark interior, and can instead enjoy the natural beauty of the natural formation, which has been declared an Asset of Cultural Heritage and aspires to one day be granted World Heritage status.

Outside the cave, the capacity is 1,200 people. In this space Manuel Liñán's company – which last year received the National Prize for Dance – will perform 'Nómada' on 29 June, which won the Max prize for best performance.

On 13 July, the Cuban saxophonist and clarinetist Paquito D'Rivera will celebrate his 70th birthday. The multiple Grammy winner and cofounder of the legendary music group Irakere alongside Chucho Valdés will be accompanied by the Pepe Rivera Trío.

The Nerja Cave Festival will also continue its tradition of offering a free performance in the Plaza de España, which this year will be delivered by the Malaga Province Symphony Orchestra, conducted by Salvador Vázquez and featuring the pianist Antonio Ortiz. This will take place on 5 July from 10pm.

Miguel and Francisco, who famously discovered the cave as young boys, will attend all of the events and celebrate the discovery of a cave of incalculable scientific and cultural value.

THE FESTIVAL

► **Barbara Hendricks.** Saturday 16 June. Inside the cave. 55 euros.

► **Manuel Liñán.** Friday 29 June. Performance area outside the cave. Between 20 and 50 euros.

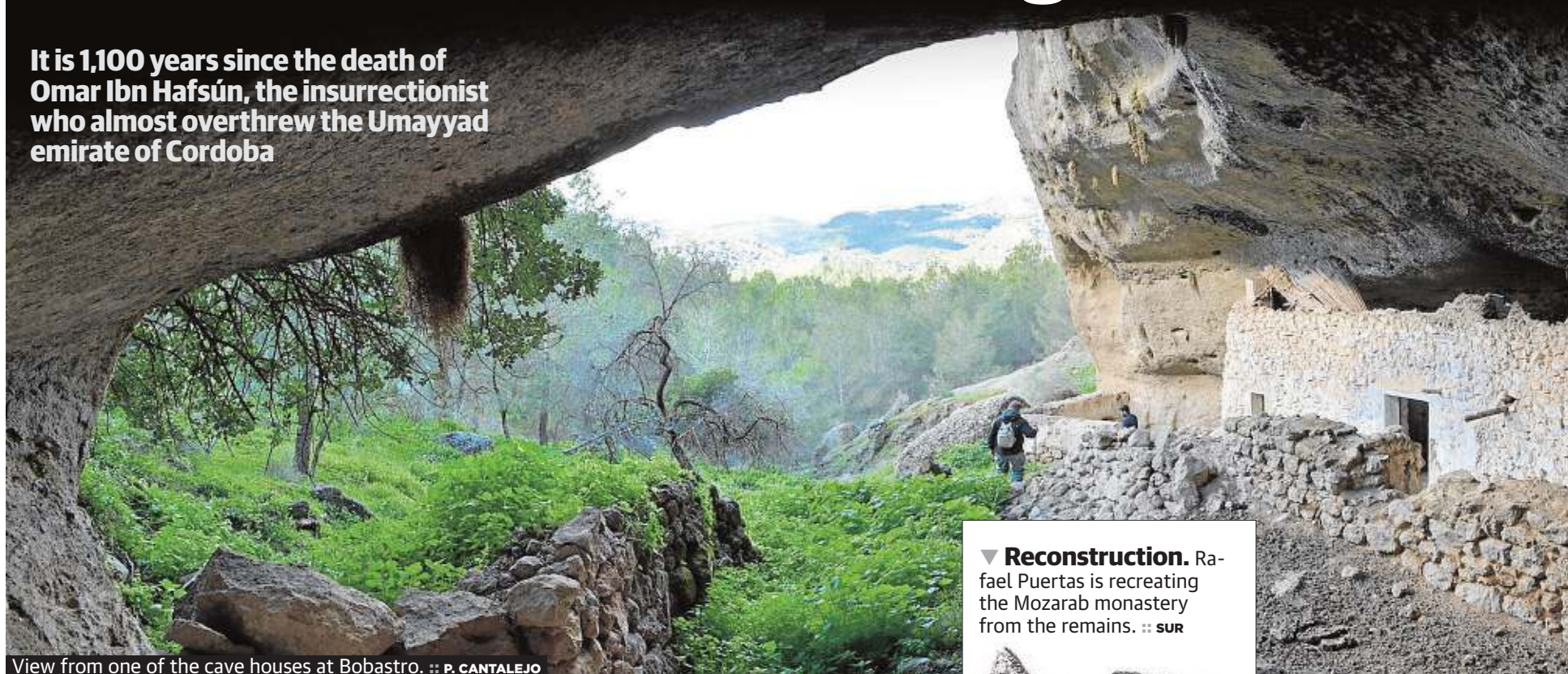
► **Malaga Province Symphony Orchestra.** Thursday 5 July. Plaza de España. Free.

► **Paquito D'Rivera.** Friday 13 July. Performance area outside the cave. Between 20 and 50 euros.

► **Javier Perianes.** Thursday 19 July. Inside the cave. 55 euros.

Bobastro: the rebel's refuge

It is 1,100 years since the death of Omar Ibn Hafsún, the insurrectionist who almost overthrew the Umayyad emirate of Cordoba



View from one of the cave houses at Bobastro. :: P. CANTALEJO

FERNANDO TORRES

✉ Twitter: @fernandotorresu

The rebel leader moved to the Mesas de Villaverde area in the year 880 and built what became the general headquarters for his battle against the Umayyad emirate

ARDALES. Leaving behind the Desfiladero de los Gaitanes gorge and the Caminito del Rey walkway, one approaches the remains of Bobastro. This location in Ardales was firstly the refuge and later the general headquarters of Omar ben Hafsún's rebellion against the Umayyad emirate in Cordoba.

This year marks 1,100 years since the death of the rebel, whose passing left a story which is as intense as its association with what are today the archaeological remains of his battle headquarters. A visit to Bobastro is like going back in time and entering an almost impassable refuge.

One of the historians who has delved most deeply into the story of Omar ben Hafsún is Virgilio Martínez Enamorado, a professor at Malaga university and the author of several works about this figure and the remains of the town he founded.

The reasons why the guerrilla fighter took up arms against the emirate are not clear, although several authors believe it was due to an incident with the authorities after being accused of a murder.

"In the year 880 he installed himself at Bobastro, which had not been

populated since prehistoric times," says Martínez Enamorado. The reasons for choosing that specific site have not been documented either, but it is "completely unassailable and very difficult for an army to conquer," he explains.

At that time, Omar ben Hafsún began to build a town which then expanded alongside his political reputation. Nowadays you can see numerous remains of the city's military, civilian (the famous cave houses) and religious buildings. One of the most striking is the large fortress built with ashlar, whose interior contains ben Hafsún's palace and several turrets which acted as a defensive circle in the surrounding territory (the Pico del Convento, in the Desfiladero de los Gaitanes gorge, above the Caminito del Rey, was one of these bastions).

Bobastro grew quickly and with a clear objective. "Ben Hafsún's ob-

jective was to compete with the emirate and create a new capital," says Martínez Enamorado.

The problem the rebel faced in this strategy was the lack of legitimacy of his government compared with that of the Umayyads, who were direct descendants of the prophet Mohammed. For that reason, during the war that ben Hafsún led against the Emirate of Cordoba, he sought support from other dynasties, even approaching the Shia in the north of Africa.

This rebellion took place at a time of serious political crisis in the Emirate of Cordoba, so it was easy to find other rebels such as himself to carry out the insurrection. The participants included Moors, Berbers and the indigenous Christian population, among others.

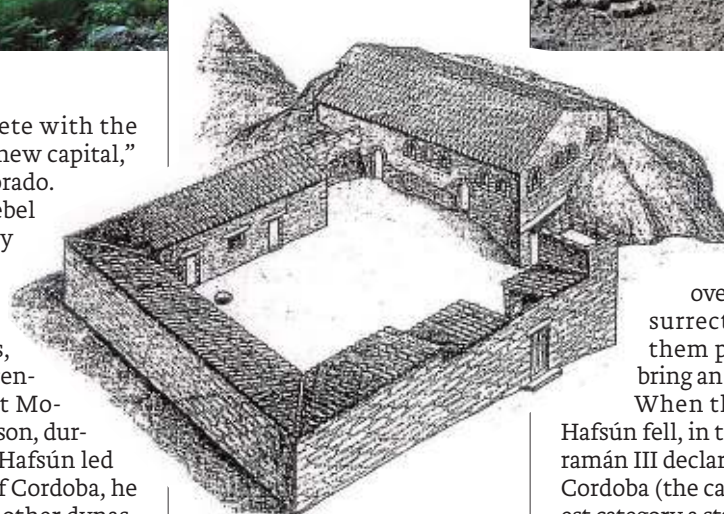
The violent conflict (called 'fitna' in Arabic) lasted nearly 50 years and the troops from Malaga arrived at the doors of the emirate in a decisive battle in which the legitimate powers inflicted a serious setback to the rebellion.

Conquering spirit

"Ben Hafsún had a great wish to expand and be known," says Martínez Enamorado, "so he designed a policy which was based on conquering other territories". This war took place in a historical context in which "everything was ruled by pacts, agreements between tribes, bartering and marriages of convenience".

At the height of their splendour the rebel's lands, with Bobastro as the capital, stretched to Elvira and Jaén in the east and as far as the region of Seville in the west. When he died in 918, his four children took over from him: "He left a real dynasty; he was much more than a rebel," explains Martínez Enamorado.

▼ **Reconstruction.** Rafael Puertas is recreating the Mozarab monastery from the remains. :: SUR



▼ **Capital.** Piece of a column from Bobastro, now on show at the Museum of Malaga. :: SUR



▼ **Home.** One of the cave houses at Bobastro, known as Puerta del Sol. :: P. C.



Nevertheless, his sons were beaten by the Emirate of Cordoba, which began to smoothe things

over with the other insurrectionists, offering them public positions to bring an end to the conflict.

When the dynasty of ben Hafsún fell, in the year 929, Abderramán III declared the Caliphate of Cordoba (the caliphate is the highest category a state can have in Arab culture). "The end of the rebellion significantly raised Abderramán III's status, for the Umayyads," says Martínez Enamorado.

After the death of ben Hafsún, his story and the remains of what was his refuge, general headquarters and political base live on. This was a major historical capital and it has been excavated three times by archaeologists in the past 100 years, says Pedro Cantalejo, the head of the Heritage Department at Ardales town hall.

This is an important site in the history of the mediaeval period, but there are also signs from prehistoric times.

"The council has asked the Malaga provincial government for financing from the European EDUSI funds, because that would allow us to extend the guided tours around the remains, including the cave houses, the quarries, the shrines and habitats in the large caves," says Cantalejo, who believes a large archaeological park needs to be created to preserve the remains.

Ardales council wants the history of the area to be included as part of the cultural and environmental aspect of the Caminito del Rey project. If this were to be done, it would also be a further attraction for cultural tourism, which is being developed in the region.

As well as the ruins of Bobastro there are also remains from prehistoric times

THE SITE

► **Military constructions.** Part of the defensive wall around the town can be seen, as well as the watchtowers.

► **Religion.** Ben Hafsún ordered churches to be built where there were Mozarabic monasteries. Two still remain.

► **Archaeological park.** Ardales council wants to create an archaeological park to protect the remains and tell their story.

DISCOVER ANDALUCÍA



Bars and restaurants on pedestrianised street Calle Ancha. :: J.A.



The beaches are full of light during springtime. :: J.A.

Spring in Punta Umbría

TWO DAYS IN PUNTA UMBRÍA

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Journey time: 25 minutes from Malaga to Colmenar and 1 hour and 25 minutes to Benaoján.



JAVIER ALMELLONES

There is no doubt that Punta Umbría is one of the most important summertime destinations in Andalucía. However, this Huelva town is also a popular spot for tourists during the second half of spring.

In the lead-up to summer, the streets of the town are just as tranquil as the beach. In fact, apart from during the hottest days of May and June, the coast of Punta Umbría isn't even its tourist attraction. Bathing in the Atlantic waters can wait until summer; for now, Calle Ancha is the heart of the town.

Along this pedestrianised street are the best restaurant establishments of Punta Umbría. Fish and seafood are their main attraction. The white prawn, the small 'coquina' clam and the cuttlefish are among the culinary delights on offer at bars and restaurants in this area.

Los Caracoles is found at the halfway point of this street, one of the town's most characterful establishments. The reasonable prices, varied seafood menu and informal, relaxed atmosphere makes this restaurant a refuge for residents and a great discovery for those passing through. In addition to its special offer –one plate of white prawns with two beers – during the spring, visitors can try Los Caracoles' 'enzapatás' beans.

Away from the streets and the gastronomy, one can also enjoy the ecological enclaves of this coastal town. One such attraction is the Enebrales, a beautiful natural landscape that is best enjoyed walking or cycling along its pleasant pathways. Just minutes away from its urban centre are vast green landscapes made up of savin and coastal junipers.

Punta Umbría is also the ideal place to get to know the Odiel Marshes, from which the 'Canoa' (Canoe) departs every day. This historic vessel connects the town to Huelva Port through the estuary. This area's heritage and legacy are conserved through monuments in the urban centre, such as the Umbría Tower and the Casa de los Ingleses.

QUICK GUIDE

What to see in Punta Umbría

Casa de los Ingleses. Museum building inspired by the model introduced by the Rio Tinto Company in Punta Umbría at the end of the 19th Century. *Avenida Ciudad de Huelva, s/n, 21100 Punta Umbría.*

Los Enebrales. 162 hectares of natural landscape situated on the coast of Punta Umbría. Accessed by A-5050. *21100 Punta Umbría.*

Torre Umbría. 15-metre-tall fortified tower which was fundamental in the defence of the area during the 16th and 17th Centuries. *Calle Jazmín, s/n. 21100 Punta Umbría.*

La Canoa. Boat which travels from the Odiel Marshes in Punta Umbría to Huelva Port. *Muelle de las Canoas, 21100 Punta.*

Los Caracoles. Legendary establishment where customers can try traditional cuisine. *Calle Ancha, 51, 21100 Punta Umbría.*



The Enebrales. :: AYTO. PUNTA UMBRÍA





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Dance: health benefits all round

It can combat bullying, relieve stress and encourage real integration. There is a great deal more to dance than just the artistic aspect

REGINA
SOTORRÍO



It seems a bit disorganised to start with, as everyone is talking, laughing and even shouting. But then the music starts, director Antonio Morales calls for attention and everyone immediately takes their place. “Right, come on Raúl,” he says. One, two, three and a plié; one, two, three and an arabesque; one, two, three and a pirouette. Raúl has Down Syndrome, but that makes no difference at all: here, he is a dancer, a student of classical dance at the Encina Laura Association, and he is playing a leading role in the ballet ‘Don Quijote’ which is being performed in 12 municipalities in Malaga province.

Raúl is an example of how dance is not ‘just’ dance. It can be a type of therapy, a vehicle for integration and an educational tool. It is used against bullying, to treat phobias and to boost self-esteem, and this form of art is enriched by diversity. There is much more to dance than we see on a stage, and in this aspect Malaga is a pioneer.



Two dancers with Down syndrome who are participating in the ‘Dance is for everyone’ programme. :: NITO SALAS

The Senior Conservatory of Malaga (CSD) has been holding classes in Social, Educational and Health Dance for six years. It was the first centre in the country to dedicate one line of studies to other aspects of dance, rather than training people for a professional career. This is a relatively new field

in Spain, although it has existed for some time in other countries, and some important advances have been made as a result

Until now the world of dance was not very inclusive. In fact, it was possibly the form of art which was most resistant to inclusivity. If some bodies are looked down

upon in society, it is not hard to imagine that the same thing would be the case in a discipline with a strong focus on the physical. Now, however, that is changing at an artistic level: companies are made up of dancers with and without functional diversity, and it has also changed the way it is taught.

“We are working for a society where diversity is not penalised but is appreciated, where it is accepted that not everybody is made the same way. In inclusive dance we highlight how we can coexist, educate, create and dance as a result of our diversity,” explains Marisa Brugarolas, a teacher who specialises in dance and functional diversity at the Senior Conservatory in Alicante. Marisa, who founded the Ruedapiés company, will be speaking at the VI International Conference on Dance, Research and Education which is being organised by the University of Malaga. She will be taking part in a round-table discussion on 19 May with the director of the Spanish National Ballet, Antonio Najarro and choreographer Fernando Hurtado, among others.

Transforming art

Dance has always been subject to very strict aesthetic and technical criteria, so everything began by changing the perceptions that people have about it. It is not necessary to be able to see, hear or have a perfectly-shaped body in order to dance. “This is not about teaching somebody to conform to certain standards. It is about appreciating the fact that when this diversity is involved in art, it transforms that art. We shouldn’t try to hide something that is diverse: we should learn from it and let that diversity change our aesthetics and the way we look at art and dance,” says Marisa.

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She also stresses that inclusive dance is not therapy. It doesn't try to treat a dysfunction. It ensures that the person is just another student at the conservatory and later a member of a company.

The project 'Danza para todos' (Dance for everyone), the brainchild of Malaga dancer and choreographer Antonio Morales, works on both lines. Thanks to the Encina Laura Association, which received a grant from the provincial government, and the Andalusian Ballet Association, a ballet has been created with people with Down Syndrome and delayed development, and is also open to anyone who wants to take part in the project. Together they are currently performing the ballet 'Don Quijote' in municipalities with a population of less than 20,000.

The aim is to make people aware that dance is for everybody. "Many have found their vocation this way," says Alicia Aguilera, social integrator and the founder of the Encina Laura association. In addition, dance has physical and emotional benefits.

"People learn dance discipline, their creativity is enhanced and their way of expressing themselves improves," says Antonio Mo-



An educational dance workshop at a school in Malaga. :: B. GARCÍA

"We shouldn't try to hide diversity; we should learn from it and let it change the way we look at art and dance"

The Conservatory in Malaga is a pioneer in the study of other aspects of this artistic discipline

rales. He has taught his cast different ballet movements, which they use in the choreography in the order they like and at the moment they feel is right. "All this has given them something new and enjoyable and their self-esteem has improved," says Alicia.

Dance is also gradually being used in schools as a way of encouraging children's integration on a physical, cognitive, social and emotional level. This is educational dance. It helps memory, spatial perception, affectivity, the rela-

tionships with others... it also works as a tool to improve the atmosphere in conflictive centres or where there are cases of bullying.

Esperanza Utrera, a teacher of psychopedagogy and educational management at the Conservatory of Malaga, has been testing these effects for years. With group dynamics, changes of partner and a fun ambience, "the dynamic of power and emotional discomfort" between companions is broken. "And when that happens, when they are all at the same level



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➤ and enjoying themselves, they are establishing links with people in another way," she explains.

The role of a teacher of educational dance is to be "a facilitator: to facilitate learning from a posture which is close to them," says Belén García, the head of Social, Educational and Health Dance at the CSD. There is never any competitiveness and the principal focus is on enjoying dance. "Using that as the focus, you try to avoid blocking, embarrassment and those first moments when the child is more reticent. We demystify dance, we take off the straitjacket which we all have and we open up to just being human," she says, speaking shortly after a workshop at the Gao-na school which is part of the practical sessions for pupils on this programme at the Senior Conservatory. They work with folklore and flamenco as well, but urban dance "is always a sure success".

In schools

Music and art are found on school curriculums, but there is no dance at all. It only appears in a minor form as corporal expression in PE and in music; and this is often due to a lack of specialist teachers.



During a rehearsal for the ballet 'El Quijote'. :: NITO SALAS

"That is why we want to be able to cover this aspect," says Belén García, who points out that if there were more dance in schools there would be less sedentary behaviour, which is one of the major problems among young people today.

In homes for the elderly, Alzheimer's centres, Proyecto Hombre, hospitals... the benefits of choreographed movement are now being extended to different areas and users. This is dance therapy. José

María Aragón, who now teaches flamenco at the Senior Dance Conservatory, worked in this field for years after training with María Fux, who is Argentinean, and Georgine Fariñas, from Cuba, who founded these techniques in their own countries. He has used them in workshops at companies to alleviate stress, with recently divorced people, to empower them, with young cancer patients to give them something different from hospi-

tal routine, and even to treat phobias. "For example, people who have a phobia about the dark. If you integrate it in the group, when the moment comes when everything goes dark and the child sees that everyone else is carrying on, he or she realises that they can do it too," he explains.

As all these professionals insist, dance is not just moving the body. It also sets the mind to work, and that is an infinite field for research.

COMING SOON

A conference to analyse the communication of the art of movement

How dance is covered by the media; what place does it hold in cinema; what is its relationship with music, and with audio-visual support; what role do critics play... these and other subjects will be discussed at the VI International Conference on Dance, Research and Education, which is being organised by Malaga university, from 17 to 19 May. The main theme is 'Dance and Communication'. Choreographer Cristina Ruiz Yuste will be the first to speak, with a conference called 'Let the show begin', followed by a round-table discussion on 'Dance, cinema and communication', led by Cecilia Nocilli (Hanna Kiel Fellow. Harvard University, Italia). Also taking part will be dancer Cristina Hoyos and her husband Juan Antonio Jiménez, with a talk on 'Memories of life and dance. When the stage is celluloid'.

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Sarah Mena Panella and the beauty of being a little different

A seven-year-old girl who suffers total hairloss due to an autoimmune disease is the new image of El Ingenio shopping centre after a social media vote

:: EUGENIO CABEZAS

RINCÓN DE LA VICTORIA.

Seven-year-old Sarah Mena Panella from Rincón de la Victoria, who lost her hair three years ago due to the autoimmune disorder alopecia areata universalis, is the model for this year's spring campaign for the El Ingenio shopping centre in Vélez-Málaga.

Sarah's mother explains how being selected as the face of the campaign, through a vote on social media, had come as a great boost to the self-esteem of her daughter who is in her second year at the María del Mar Romera primary school in Rincón.

"We saw the rules on Facebook and then went to the shopping centre to ask; she was very excited about it and I thought it could be a good way for her to feel valued and admired, as we saw it wasn't down to a panel of judges but to



Sarah Mena Panella, in one of the campaign images. :: CARLOS CASTRO

people on social media," said her mother María José Panella.

She admitted that Sarah's illness

had been a tough blow.

"Everyone looks at her all the time in the park, in the street... everyone thinks she has cancer and is having treatment but she has no medication," added Panella.

After the photo session with local photographer Carlos Castro, the decision was put to social media users.

Sarah won with a 700-vote advantage. The campaign was launched in the middle of March, with posters and advertisements, even on the side of buses, and continues until 30 June.

Congratulations

"Everyone congratulates her in the street," said her mother for whom the best part of the story is that "you see a girl who is different doing something she normally wouldn't be able to do, like winning a beauty contest". "Beauty lies in diversity," she added.

Sarah has received a wig from the NGO Mechones Solidarios: "But I don't wear it all the time, because I sweat and it makes me hot," she said.

With the 150 euros she has received as a prize she has been able to buy new clothes in several shops in the commercial centre.



:: SUR

GALA NIGHT FOR PALLIATIVE CARE

More than 1,000 euros was raised during a special gala night held in aid of Cudeca last week. Around 100 people enjoyed the event, which was held at the Tamisa Golf Hotel in Mijas Costa. Entertainment was supplied by The Jersey Boys, and special guest artists, the Mini Jersey Boys, from the Banana Studios.

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A family's fight to get father-of-three to walk again

When Paul Morrison was diagnosed with MS last year his dad, wife and children rallied to raise funds for treatment in Russia

JENNIE RHODES

✉ rhodes.jennie@hotmail.com



MALAGA. Paul Morrison, 45, was a healthy father and a builder from Rochdale in Manchester when eight years ago he and his wife Claire made the decision to move to Almeria.

Phil Morrison, Paul's father, who lives in Jaén, recalls, "He told me if he was going to work, he'd rather do it in the sun."

The idea was that Paul would continue to work while Claire would stay at home with the children - Charlotte, 18, Ben, 16 and Álvaro, eight, who was born in Spain. Now, however, Claire has started to work as an English teacher and is the family's breadwinner.

In 2016, Paul started to experience pain in different parts of his body and was unable to feel his toes. "The family knew there was something really wrong," explained Phil, his father. In April last year Paul was diagnosed with multiple sclerosis (MS).

Since then his symptoms have become worse and he is sometimes forced to spend days in bed because of the pain.

"He can't even take his little boy to the park anymore," said Phil adding that doctors have told Paul, who already uses crutches to walk, that he will have to start using a wheelchair soon.

A charitable dad

Phil has been a supporter of Acompalia, the palliative care charity which is based in Granada, since 2013. He is a close friend of Acompalia president, Françoise Rajewski and every year takes part in the



Paul Morrison at home with his family :: SUR

Scotland-based 5x50 charity challenge (www.5x50.org) which is a commitment to do something active for 50 days to raise money for charity.

Last year, the 67-year-old grandfather suddenly found that he had a more personal reason to carry on taking part in the challenge when Paul was diagnosed.

Paul's wife, Claire, said, "It was awful when he was told he has got MS and it's just been a rollercoaster since then."

This year Phil started his 5 x 50 challenge on 31 March and is walking at least five kilometres a day, although he said that he is "currently averaging eight" and added, "Now that I have a dog [his rescue greyhound, Issy] I will

probably continue much to the agreement of my doctor."

Treatment in Russia

Phil explained that there is some hope for Paul, but it lies in Russia with treatment known as haematopoietic stem cell transplantation (HSCT). It would cost 40,000 pounds to treat Paul and although it has been trialled in some parts of the UK it isn't available on the national health service.

The MS Society website says that "HSCT aims to 'reset' the immune system to stop it attacking the central nervous system. It uses chemotherapy to remove the harmful immune cells and then rebuild the immune system using a type of stem cell found in your bone marrow."

Paul has an appointment at a clinic in Russia in August and the family are now trying to raise enough money to get him there and to pay for the treatment.

As well as Phil's 5x50 challenge, the family have also set up a Facebook and GoFundMe page. By mid-April 2018 they had raised 25,500 pounds, having only set it up on 4 April.

Phil explained, "Not every donation was sponsoring me. I set up the GoFundMe account on 4 April when we decided to try to raise funds for Paul. Within 21 days all donations totalled 25,500 pounds plus the flights to Moscow."

There have been further events in April including a sponsored walk; '40,000 steps for £40,000' and a

Paul Morrison was diagnosed with MS in April 2017 and has been told that he will need to use a wheelchair soon

The family is trying to raise 40,000 pounds for treatment available in Russia

His father, Phil Morrison, is taking part in the 5x50 challenge to raise funds

fundraising dinner which had already sold out well before it was due to take place.

Multiple sclerosis

The National Multiple Sclerosis Society describes MS as "an unpredictable, often disabling disease of the central nervous system that disrupts the flow of information within the brain, and between the brain and body."

It says that cause of MS is still unknown and that scientists believe the disease is triggered by an unidentified environmental factor in a person who is genetically predisposed to respond.

The progress, severity and specific symptoms of MS in any one person cannot yet be predicted. Most people with MS are diagnosed between the ages of 20 and 50, with at least two to three times more women than men being diagnosed with the disease.

There are four different types of the disease: clinically isolated syndrome (CIS), relapsing-remitting MS (RRMS), primary progressive MS (PPMS), and secondary progressive MS (SPMS). For further information about diagnosis, treatment and living with MS visit the National MS Society's website: www.nationalmssociety.org

Further information about Paul and Phil :
www.facebook.com/paulsfightto walk/ and
www.gofundme.com/paulsfightto walk/





Avda. Ricardo Soriano, 65
5º 2º. Marbella

☎ 952 821 811
☎ 670 032 191

We speak: 



Kilometres bring light to those at risk of suicide

The Costa del Sol leg of the Darkness into Light walk, organised by the Pieta House organisation, takes place on 12 May in Estepona

:: SUR

ESTEPONA. Raising funds and awareness of the need to do more to prevent suicide and self-harm is the aim of the Darkness into Light walk organised for 12 May in Estepona.

The event was officially launched on Wednesday by the councillor for Youth and Sport, Adrián Trujillo, and organiser Michael O'Halloran. It is hoped that around 300 people of all ages will join the walk which starts at 6am, so that participants are literally walking from darkness into the light. During the event, a tree will be planted in memory of those who have lost their lives to suicide.

Darkness into Light walks are organised around the world, thanks to the initiative of the Irish organisation Pieta House, that provides aid to people at risk of suicide. The first walk was held ten years ago in Dublin with 400 participants. Last year 180,000 people joined similar walks in 120 locations



Michael O'Halloran, Adrián Trujillo and Darkness into Light supporters on Wednesday. :: SUR

The organisers hope that 300 people will get together in Estepona for the early morning walk

hall, to increase our numbers to 300 walking on the Paseo Marítimo, Estepona, helping to bring us a world where suicide, self-harm and stigma have been replaced by hope, self-care and acceptance," said O'Halloran.

"So wake-up and walk with me in Estepona," he added.

The walkers will meet up at 5.30am and set off at 6am from the area known as La Punta de la Plata near Carrefour, walking the length of the promenade and back, a distance of around five kilometres.

O'Halloran explained that anyone interested in joining the group should sign up online at www.darknessintolight.ie before the end of today, Friday 4 May, to receive a T-shirt.

worldwide.

Trujillo pointed out that it is essential for the town hall to support this type of initiative and col-

laborate with non-profit associations whose aim is to help people with problems.

"In Estepona last year we had

90 people participating and this year we hope, with the help of a small but dedicated committee, and the cooperation of the town

i For more information and registration fees : www.darknessintolight.ie or look for Darkness into Light Costa del Sol on Facebook.

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From left to right, María Victoria Requena, Erika Montoro, José and Alberto Burgos, Lourdes Padilla, Esperanza Martín and Rosalía Rioja. :: NITO SALAS

A new book enables patients with dysphagia to enjoy the same food as their families

**ANA
PÉREZ-BRYAN**

✉ En Twitter: @anaperezbryan

Nurses in Andalucía, coordinated by the Clínico hospital, are behind a pioneering initiative to help patients overcome physical and social restrictions

MÁLAGA. Physical side effects of illness are often not paid as much attention as they deserve, especially when they involve something as vital as eating. For example cancer patients, those affected by Alzheimer's and other types of dementia, those recovering from a stroke, digestive or pneumological problems and, in general, anyone suffering from a serious illness, often find it impossible to swallow foods normally.

This problem, which affects the ability to swallow, is called dysphagia and the increase in certain illnesses combined with the progressive ageing of the population means that more and more people are restricting the food they eat for fear of choking.

In many cases being ill (or being elderly) does not mean that the patient has lost their appetite or doesn't fancy certain foods, but because of the dysphagia they can only eat purées recommended by their doctors to meet their nutritional needs. This, as many specialists realise, adds another problem to the one from which they are suffering. For example, the family may sit down together for a meal but all the patient can eat is a purée or vegetable soup instead of the paella everyone else is enjoying, and they feel stigmatised.

"Imagine what it is like, day after day, to be given nothing but the same puréed food," says Rosalía Rioja, a nurse in the Clinical Management, Endocrinology and Nutrition Unit at the Clínico Universitario hospital. She imagined herself in the place of the patients and set up a pioneering project which aims to change the life and routine of patients with dysphagia. It is a book of traditional recipes which have been adapted to overcome these difficulties. The book is called "Tengo disfagia pero como en familia" (I have dysphagia but I eat with my family), and it is the result of a shared concern among nurses, who wanted to improve the lives of their patients when they went home from hospital by creating recipes which the patients can eat, taste exactly the same as the con-

ENSALADILLA MALAGUEÑA

The usual dish



Modified dish



Method: Cook the potatoes in their skins, and the eggs. When ready, remove them from the water and let them cool until you can peel them. Cool the eggs beneath the cold tap and shell them immediately. Peel the oranges and cut them into quarters. Chop the onion. Prepare the salt cod to taste. Mix the ingredients in a salad bowl and dress with olive oil.

Modification for dysphagia: Put one helping of the salad in a liquidiser and add a soup spoon (4.5 grammes) of thickener. Liquidise and serve in a bowl. Add a little more oil if required.

RABO DE TORO

The usual dish



Modified dish



Method: Fry the chopped vegetables (garlic, onion, tomato, carrot) in olive oil and then add the meat, a glass of white wine, bay leaf, sweet paprika, salt and pepper. Wait till the wine evaporates and then cover the contents of the pan with water. Cover the pan and leave it to boil, controlling the temperature. It will take about 180 minutes to cook. Add the chopped potatoes about 20 minutes before the end of the cooking time.

Modification for dysphagia: Shred the meat and separate the potatoes to serve separately. Once both are liquidised to a purée, add a soup spoon of thickener to each of them.

THE BOOK

► **Title.** 'Tengo disfagia pero como en familia'. The book is backed by the Nutrition and Dietetics Nursing Group of the South, the national association of Nutrition and Dietetics Nurses (Adenyd) and technical support from the Fressenius-Kabi laboratory.

► **How to obtain a copy.** Only 500 copies of the book have been published but the recipes can be downloaded free of charge from www.disfagiassolucion.es/profesionales and www.adenyd.es

ventional dishes and overcome the stigma of not socialising when food is involved.

The book is the work of about 25 nursing professionals in the eight provinces of Andalucía, coordinated by Rosalía Rioja at the hospital in Málaga.

The 22 recipes have successfully reproduced many of the flavours of traditional Spanish home cooking, some of them local specialties such as the 'ensaladilla malagueña', 'flamenquin cordobés', Andalusian gazpacho, lentils with chorizo, potato and squid stew, oxtail, prawns in garlic, seafood salad and even 'torrijas'.

Homemade (and tested)

"Being able to enjoy these flavours is a major change for the patients," says Lourdes Padilla, a nurse in the Cardiology, Surgical, Digestive and Traumatology Unit, who with a colleague produced the recipe for 'ensaladilla malagueña' in her own kitchen.

This is, precisely, one of the highlights of this recipe book: every dish has been produced and tried by the nurses in their own homes, adjusting textures and using the perfect amount of thickening agent so the consistency does not pose a danger for the patient. Lourdes went even further and had a very special 'taster': "My mother, who is 85 and lives with us, has slight dysphagia. I gave her several things to try and she loved them," she says.

The thickener is fundamental in preparing these dishes. "It is a product which doesn't change the taste of the food and it doesn't matter if it is used hot or cold," says Esperanza Martín and María Victoria Requena, nurses who both work with patients who suffer from dysphagia.

The thickener, which can be found in pharmacies and is available on medical prescription, is not the same as the products usually used at home to thicken consistency, such as flour or cornflour. "Those completely change the taste of the food," says the nursing director of the Clínico, Erika Montoro.

She and her team officially presented the book to more than 50 associations of people affected by different illnesses but who have dysphagia in common. Alberto Burgos, president of the Mercader association for stroke victims, said it would change the lives of many patients and their families.

From now on, more dysphagia sufferers will be able to enjoy the same flavours as everyone else at the table, where the whole family will be eating together as usual.

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EXHIBITIONS

Art Gaucin Open Studios

Gaucín. 25 - 27 May, 1 - 3 June, Gaucín village.
The event will showcase new work by Art Gaucin's member artists as well as by guest artists Javier Machimbarrena from Spain and Gerrit Oppelland-Hampel from Germany.

Pottery Points

Marbella. Until 18 May. Galería Yusto Giner, C/Madera
A collective exhibition featuring works by Fernando Clemente, Alejandro Ginés, Victoria Maldonado, Livia Marín, Pedro Mora and Concha Ybarra.

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.

Galería Benedito

Malaga. Until 13 May C/Niño de Guevara
Russian artist Svetlana Kalachnik is exhibiting some of her work.

And Fellini Dreamed of Picasso

Malaga. Until 13 May. Picasso Museum
Federico Fellini once lived in the house in Rome that Picasso had

lived in half a century earlier. He never met Picasso but said he dreamed of him and it was those dreams that inspired his latest exhibition in the Picasso Museum.

Manuel Estrada

Malaga. Until 18 May. Salas de La Coracha, Alameda Principal, 23.
An exhibition entitled 'Pensar, dibujar, diseñar' by Manuel Estrada.

Star Wars

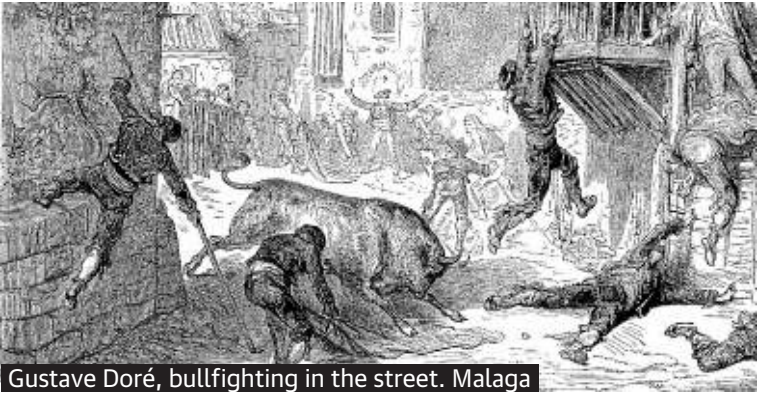
Malaga. Until 27 May. Palmeral de las Sorpresas, Muelle 2.
An exhibition of all things to do with Star Wars from posters and figures to autographs and original props and storyboards. Organised by the Andrés Olivares foundation. Tickets: www.mitosdeunagalaxia.com

The Stones and The Beatles

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

Gustave Doré

Malaga. Until 15 July. Museo Thyssen.
The celebrated painter and illustra-



Gustave Doré, bullfighting in the street. Malaga

tor Gustave Doré and Hispanophile Jean-Charles Davillier, travelled together across Spain compiling images and writings between 1862 and 1873. They sent them to the Le Tour de Monde magazine for publication and later the work was made into the book 'L'Espagne'. The engravings made from Doré original drawings form an important pictorial history of Spain in the nineteenth century.

Juan Luis Rodríguez Huesca Torremolinos. Until 24 May. 9am-1pm. The lower floor of the town hall.

Around thirty photographs by the artist in this exhibition entitled De Rejo.

Francisco Aguilar

Mijas. Until 7 May. Centro Cultural de La Cala.

An exhibition of paintings by this Valencian artist.

Don Dossett

La Herradura. Until 7 May. Centro Cultural Las Palomas.
An exhibition of computer generated images of the Costa Tropical and design memorabilia from film productions. Money raised from the exhibition will go to a local charity.

CHARITY

Cabaret for Cats

Coín. 5 May, 7.30pm. Jordan's Bar opposite La Trocha. 13€
Homemade lasagne and apple pie is included followed by entertainment by The Sound Bites whose repertoire includes songs by Abba, The Carpenters, Michael Buble, Carol King, James Ingram, Linda Ronstadt and many other popular artists. Vegetarian meals and group table bookings can be ordered by

calling Cath: 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

Last Chance Animal Rescue

Cartama. 6 May, from 10.30am. Avanto Restaurante.
Last Chance Animal Rescue are holding a fun charity walk at the Avanto Restaurant, Urb. Torrenueva-Playa, La Cala de Mijas. Starting at 10.30am the walk will be to La Cala and back. Adults and children over 13, 10€, children 6 € and a family ticket 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

St George's Church Book Sale

Malaga. 6 May, from 12.30pm. St George's Church Avd de Pries.
A second-hand Book Sale (English and Spanish) will take place at 12.30pm after the Sunday service. There will also be some homemade marmalade for sale.

A very European quartet

JENNIE RHODES

CAJIZ / MALAGA. Ars Nova, a Granada-based quartet, will be playing at El Molino de Cajiz on Sunday 6 May and then on Thursday 10 May at the Sala Unicaja de Conciertos María Cristina in Malaga. They will be accompanied by pianist and owner of the Molino de Cajiz, Cornelia Lezin.

Ars Nova have been performing together for almost 30 years. The quartet is formed by two violinists, Peter Biely from Bratislava in Slovakia and Joachim Kopyto, from Freiburg in Germany. Matthias Stern is from Basel in Switzerland and plays the cello and Andrzej Skrobiszewski, from Gdansk in Poland, plays the viola. "As you can see, we are a typical Spanish quartet," Matthias Stern jokes.

Joachim, Andrzej and Matthias are founding members of the Orquesta Ciudad de Granada (OCG) and have lived in the city since 1989 and Peter joined the group later.

Matthias describes the group and their style as a "four wheel drive quartet" as they "like not to play exclusively standard classical music".

Sunday and Thursday's concerts will both include A. Dvořák's piano quintet and "an unknown funny piece" as Matthias puts it, by P. Hindemith, called Minimax.



The Granada-based Ars Nova Quartet. :: SUR

Matthias adds that the quartet like to do the performances with a small introduction, explaining that this "relaxes the public and helps them enjoy the music".

Cornelia Lezin is from Basel, like Matthias, but he explains that they met here in Spain although Matthias's brother had heard about her and suggested the two Swiss musicians should meet. "The first rehearsal we did was just amazing, full of understanding and harmony," recalls Matthias.

INFORMATION

► **What.** Ars Nova Quartet with Cornelia Lezin accompanying on the piano.

► **Where.** El Molino de Cajiz, and Sala Unicaja de Conciertos María Cristina in Malaga.

► **When.** Sunday 6 May in Cajiz at 7pm, Thursday 10 May in Malaga at 8pm.



CHARITY

Malaga Against Cancer Malaga. 5 May, from 4pm. La Sala Paris 15. 5€.
A concert to raise funds for the Fundación Cesare Scariolo and the AECC (Malaga Cancer Association). In this edition there will be performances by Ten Shots and KO; Southwind, Rebel Souls, Thryant and Guilles. Tickets www.tiquetin.com

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.

Israel 70th anniversary lunch Marbella. 14 May, 1pm. The Boardwalk, Avda La Fontanilla. 35€
A three course Israeli meal (wine and coffee included) live music and a raffle to raise money for Israeli children with cancer. By ticket only: 664469445 / 640337498

Fashion Show and Spring Fair Mijas. 14 May, from 11.30am. The Tamisa Golf Hotel.
La Cala de Mijas Lions Club are celebrating their twentieth anniversary with a fashion show and spring fair. Entry is free and there will be stalls, raffle, live music with Laura Elen snacks, and a cold buffet lunch will be available at the hotel for 20€.

Rob's Royal Cudeca Cup Sabinillas. 19 May, from 1pm. O'Callaghan's. Free.
Royal Wedding and FA Cup Final charity fun day. Live music and raffle. Proceeds to Cudeca Hospice. Call 667 735 401 / 663 083 249



Age Concern Mijas. 25 May, 7.45pm. Hotel Tamisa Golf. 25€.
Age Concern is holding a charity dinner with entertainment by A Touch Of Class. The performance starts at 9pm but there are

Beatlemania in Benalmádena

TONY BRYANT BENALMÁDENA / ESTE-PONA. Fans of the legendary music of The Beatles will enjoy two special tribute concerts, the first in Estepona on Friday 18 May and then in Benalmádena Costa on Saturday 19 May.
Organised by Benalmádena town hall and Alberto Cohen, founder of Festival of Legends, the concert will be held in the Auditorium Felipe VI in Estepona and the municipal auditorium in La Paloma Park, Benalmádena respectively.

The Silver Beats - a Malaga-based Beatles tribute band are hailed as Spain's finest Beatles tribute band and their live performance is sure to remind fans of the era of Beatlemania. Their show, complete with replica outfits, haircuts and instruments, is based on the band's early career and will present timeless hits like Twist and Shout, A Hard Day's Night and I Want to Hold Your Hand. Camilo will be performing solo tributes to John Lennon, George Harrison and Paul McCartney.
The concerts will also focus on the people who influenced the Fab Four, like Elvis, (who will be recreated by Mark T Connors at the Benalmádena gig only); and Buddy Holly, whose tribute will be performed by Buddy Walker. Walker has taken his Buddy Holly Show to stages all over the world and in 2002; he performed



at the Surf Ballroom in Clearlake, Iowa, renowned for being the last stage on which Buddy Holly performed before his death in 1959.
Tony Bramwell, former CEO of Apple, will be present at both concerts and will talk about his experiences during the Beatles rise to fame in the 1960s. Known as 'The authority of all things Beatles', Bramwell grew up in Liverpool and was best friends with George Harrison. His life became intertwined with The Beatles, first working for the band's manager, Brian Epstein, and then becoming the CEO at Apple Records.
Tickets for the concert, which starts at 8pm, cost 15 euros and are available at

www.ticketea.com and several outlets along the coast. For more information, call 609488572.

TICKETS

- **Estepona:** The auditorium Felipe VI Mon-Fri 10am-4pm or any Corte Inglés, or call: 609 488 572, www.ticketea.com
- **Benalmádena:** Ruben's Money Exchange in Benalmádena, Fuengirola, Torremolinos; Partitura music store in Fuengirola; Papelería Martín in Alhaurín de la Torre or any Corte Inglés, or call: 609 488 572, www.ticketea.com

welcome drinks at 7.45pm followed by dinner at 8.15pm. Tickets from the Age Concern shop in Calle Francisco Cano 56 in Los Boliches or Tamisa Golf Hotel.

Charity dinner and art auction Puerto Banús. 26 May, 6pm. H10 Andalucía Plaza.
A charity dinner and art auction for the Aldeas Infantiles SOS charity. Tickets and information, menu etc: www.magpie.international/en/aisosm

FAMA Dog Show Mijas Costa. 3 June, from 11am. Rancho El Rengo, Ctra Cerros del Águila.
Lots of categories for the dog show and stalls and activities for all the family. Information on stalls and registration etc call Pat: 620 354 885

MUSIC & DANCE

Malaga Philharmonic Orchestra Malaga. Teatro Cervantes 4 May 8pm.
Greig and Brahms. Concerto for piano and orchestra in A minor Op.16 by Greig with pianist Ana Guijarro and Symphony n°3 in F major Op 90. by Brahms.

Tickets <http://www.teatrocervantes.com>

Seasonal concerts Malaga. 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.

Jesús Mata Jazz Quartet Almuñécar. 4 May 8.30pm Auditorio Casa de la Cultura.
Jesús Mata, sax; Jacinto Rodríguez piano; Miguel A. Pimentel, double bass; Julio Pérez, drums.

Ballet Triádico Sotogrande. 4 May 7pm. Espacio Cultural Osvaldo Lobalzo, Ribera del Marlin. 10€
Contemporary dance, classical ballet and fusion flamenco. Reservations: 667984948

Four Seasons tribute concerts Benalmádena. 4 May. Moonlight Lounge of the Sunset Beach Hotel.
La Cala de Mijas. 6 May. Avante Restaurante
The Valli Seasons pay tribute to frankie Valli and the Four Seasons.

Niña Pastori Malaga. 4 May, 10pm. Palacio de Ferias y Congresos.
Niña Pastori presents her new album. Tickets: www.malagaentra-das.com

Chamber Orchestra Malaga. 5 May, 8pm. Unicaja Sala Maria Cristina.
The Orquesta de Cámara Promúsica will play compositions by Barber Guinovart and Jenkins.

French Latino La Herradura. 5 May 9pm Auditorio Centro Cívico. 12€ in advance, 15€ on door.
Latin, jazz fusion.

Francis Holland School Choir Almuñécar. 6 May, 9pm. Parroquia de la Encarnación.
The all female choir sings classical music.

Baroque Orchestra Malaga. 6 May, midday. Unicaja Sala Maria Cristina.
A concert with the winners of the Young Baroque Soloists of Malaga competition and flautist José Menéndez.

Petite Messe Solennelle Jimena de la Frontera. 5 May,

7.30pm. Convento Ntra Sra Reina de los Ángeles. 15.02€
The Festival Internacional de Jimena de la Frontera 'Petite Messe Solennelle' by Gioachino Rossini, two pianos, soloists and international choir. Tickets <http://www.eventbrite.es>

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

Cuarteto Bretón Malaga. 8 May, 8pm. Auditorio Museo Picasso.
A recital by the Cuarteto Bretón organised by the Malaga Philharmonic Orchestras.

Celebrating opera Gibraltar. 9 May, 7.30pm. Convent



Ballroom. £20
Greek soprano Irina Kyriakidou and Latvian bass Rihards Macanovskis will be performing works by Bizet, Dvorak, Mozart and Tchaikovsky. Tickets from Scarcello's Coffee shop, The Silver Shop and from the ticket office at the John Mackintosh Hall on weekdays between 11am and 1pm. Tel: 00350 200 72134 www.philharmonic.gi

Ocean Boulevard Nerja 11 May, 9pm. Centro Cultural Villa de Nerja. 12€.
A tribute to Eric Clapton.

Orff Ensemble Torremolinos 11 May, 7.30pm. Centro Picasso. Free.
The choirs from the Municipal School of Music and the Torremolinos Orff Ensemble will be in concert.

Marty Elkins Jazz trio Nerja 12 May, 9pm. Centro Cultural Villa de Nerja. 10€.
Marty Elkins is a jazz vocalist known for her effortless talent. With pianist Diego Suárez and



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guitarist Ricky Vivar.

Música Con Encanto

Marbella. 19 May, 7pm. *Escuela Universitaria Les Roches.* 25€
Pinto-Ribeiro is considered as the most prestigious international portuguese pianist. He is artistic director of Classic Summer Festival in Lisbon and also of the Schostakovich Ensemble. Info: <http://www.musicaconencanto.org/conciertos/507-filipe-pinto-ribeiro> Tickets: 689 000 944 www.musicaconencanto.org

FLAMENCO

Flamenco in the Museum

Malaga. *Museo de Arte Flamenco Peña Juan Brea, C/Ramón Francisco.*
10 May, 8.30pm. Bastián Jiménez (dance) with Miguel Astorga (vocals), Fran Moya (guitar)
For information and bookings call 687 607 526 or email: info@flamenka.com

Tribute to Carrete

Malaga. 9 May, 8pm. *Cervantes Theatre.* 11-30€
A tribute performance with singers Estrella Morente, Tomasito, Juan José Amador, José Valencia and Simón Román. Dancers include Ramón Martínez, Sergio Aranda and Carmen González. Guitarists Antonio Soto and Juan Requena. Poetry recited by José Luis Ortiz Nuevo and a performance by the Familia de Carrete.
<http://www.teatrocervantes.com>

Recuerdos

Nerja 4 May, 9pm. *Centro Comercial Villa de Nerja.*
Seguidillas, bulerías, tangos and fandangos.

Virgen del Carmen dance group

Vélez-Málaga 5 May, 9pm. *Teatro del Carmen.* 6€.
Flamenco with the Virgen del Carmen dance group from Torre del Mar.



Marty Elkins, Nerja

LECTURES

Magpie International Gallery Marbella. C/Virgen del Pilar. 200m from port.

4 May. A lecture entitled 'Modernism and post modernism' will be given by Prof. Juho Ahava.

11 May. A lecture entitled 'Deconstruction and its Antecedents' will be given by Prof Christophe de Landtsheer.

U3A Lectures

Fuengirola. *Lux Mundi reference Library, free to members, guests 5€.* Email: u3afuengirola@gmail.com

'The science of stress'
9 May, 11am-12.30pm.

A video of a Royal Institution talk where three professors look at different aspects of stress from psychology to physiology including psychosocial factors.

Torrox. 11 May, 11am. *Restaurante Parquesol, El Morche.* Free. www.u3aaxarquia.com

AVISA talk

Chris Cluderay from AVISA (Association of Voluntary Health Interpreter Service in Axarquia), will be giving a talk about the work of the interpreting service available in the Hospital Commercial in Vélez. There will be an opportunity to ask questions afterwards.

British Consul visit

Torre del Mar. 15 May, 2.30pm. *Lux Mundi Ecumenical Centre, Avd Moscatel.*

A short talk by the British Consul for Andalucía, Charmaine Arbouin. There will be the opportunity to ask questions and tea and coffee will be available. Tel: 952 543 334 or e-mail: luxmundi@luxmundi.org

FESTIVALS

Día del Níspero

Sayalonga. Until 6 May.
The first Sunday in May the town of Sayalonga pays a tribute to the níspero (loquat) with a gastronomy festival.

Fiesta de la Primavera

Coin. 6 May. *Feria ground.*
As many night time as daytime events during the spring feria with live music, dancing parades of riders and their horses etc.

EVENTS

Trip to Écija

Fuengirola. 16 May departing from various points. 26€
Full details contact Fundación Lux Mundi Fuengirola, C/Nueva 3. Tel: 952474840



Last year's fashion show attracted over 3,500 visitors. :: SUR

Fashion fever hits Torremolinos

TONY BRYANT

TORREMOLINOS. The Plaza La Nogalera in Torremolinos will be transformed into a gigantic catwalk this weekend, when the town celebrates the spring edition of the Torremolinos Fashion Weekend (TFW).

In order to support the local fashion industry, the TFW will highlight the collections of young up and coming fashion designers whose beach and summer wear can be purchased in Torremolinos.

More than 30 local designers will exhibit their new spring and summer designs at the show, which last year attracted more than 3,500 spectators. The models will be presenting new trends in beachwear, including bikinis, swimming trunks, sunglasses and accessories.

The show will begin at 8pm on Friday (today), when the catwalk will be taken over by more than a dozen female models wearing some of this year's most striking summer designs.

The fun continues at midday on Saturday 5 May with the children's fashion parade, while at 6pm, visitors will enjoy the TFW Top Model Contest, when 24 models will compete to be crowned this year's champion models.

The fashion show will continue at 8pm with a parade of male and female models who will share the limelight, displaying new collections of summer sports wear and accessories. The event will finish with a grand final gala, during which the winners of the Top Model Competition will be announced.

Tickets to Bon Jovi tribute

Blaze offers a Bon Jovi tribute concert on 18 May at Sala Forever Beach in Benalmádena. Don't miss it!

Ocio Music C/ La Fragata, Benalmádena, Málaga.

8€

~~10€~~

20%



TRIBUTO A BON JOVI

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EVENTS

Seasonal clothing one day sale
Fuengirola. 24 May, 10am-12.30pm. Lux Mundi Ecumenical Centre.

A sale of clothing for all seasons at the Lux Mundi shop in Fuengirola. Coffee, cake and tapas available. Full details contact Fundación Lux Mundi Fuengirola, C/Nueva 3. Tel: 952474840

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 and much more. Lux Mundi Torre del Mar. Tel:952 543 334 or e-mail: luxmundi@lux-mundi.org

Trip to Gibraltar
Torre del Mar. 17 May, 21 June. Various departure points. 12€. Passport required. Lux Mundi Torre del Mar. Tel:952 543 334 or e-mail: luxmundi@lux-mundi.org

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Hidden Figures art exhibition

by TONY BRYANT

SAN PEDRO. Swedish artist, Johan Wahlstrom is to present his latest exhibition in the ES Art Gallery in San Pedro de Alcántara this month. Under the title of Hidden Figures, the exhibition includes works that channel nature to symbolise the artist's inner emotional state. The 'hidden figures' communicate emotion through visual elements, shifting the rapport between the artist and his anonymous subject.

The new paintings contain patterns which differ from his previous works, although they continue to evoke a northern cultural heritage. Conveying the complexities and distortion inherent to cultural and temporal experience, Wahlstrom believes that this work has been unconsciously sourced from ancient legends. His dark narrative paintings of heads and torsos are inspired by ironic social critiques.

Born in Stockholm, Sweden, Johan Wahlstrom is a fifth-generation artist. However, even though art was in his blood, his first creative direction was music. As a keyboard player he enjoyed a career that spanned more than 20 years, during which he



Wahlstrom's paintings are inspired by ironic social critiques. :: SUR

toured with celebrated artists such as Ian Hunter, Graham Parker and Mick Ronson. He eventually tired of the rock and roll lifestyle and moved to a small village in France, where he immediately started painting with a new sense of sincerity and focus.

The exhibition, which is free, can be viewed from Friday 11 May until Wednesday 6 June between 7pm and 10pm.

INFORMATION

► **What:** An exhibition of works by Swedish artist Johan Wahlstrom.

► **Where:** ES Art Gallery, San Pedro de Alcántara.

► **When:** Friday 11 May until Wednesday 6 June.

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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.

Phoenix Club trips

Montillar and Lucena. 18 May. Various pick ups including Maro. 28€. Includes a guide in Lucena and a visit to one of the oldest Bodegas in Spain. the price includes guide,

wine tasting, coach fare and drivers gratuity.

Lavender gardens in Alpujarras.

25 May. Various pick up points including Maro. 25€. Optional lunch 15€.

The garden was started in 2005 and the owners have converted the 8,000 metre square site into a delightful Mediterranean mountain garden. Price includes entry, coach fare and driver's gratuity and entry to the garden.

Trip to Tarifa

Torre del Mar. 24 May. Various departure points. 25€. Coach trip to Tarifa. Lux Mundi Torre del Mar. Tel:952 543 334 or e-mail: luxmundi@lux-mundi.org

O. V. FILM

SUR in English advises calling

cinemas to check for any last minute time changes. Lunchtime and late night screenings weekends only.

Cine Albéniz

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

Isle of Dogs: 17.00, 20.35, 22.20 (every day).

Lucky: 17.00, 18.40, 20.20 (every day).

Cinesur El Ingenio

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

The Avengers: Infinity Wars: 12.10, 16.30 (every day).

Cinesur Miramar

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

Avengers: Infinity War: 12.15, 16.15, 19.20, 22.30.

Midnight Sun: 12.10, 15.50.

Yelmo Cines, Plaza Mayor

Centro de Ocio Plaza Mayor, Avda. Alfonso Ponce de León. Tel: 902 902 103 or visit www.yelmocines.es

The Avengers: Infinty War: 12.30 (Sat, Sun); 17.30, 20.30 (every day); 23.30 (every day except Sun, Thurs).

Screenings of opera and ballet and theatre

www.yelmocines.es

Madame Butterfly (opera live from ROH). 10 May, 19.00, (Plaza Mayor)

Musica Con Encanto

Iglesia de La Virginia, Urb La Virginia, Marbella. Bookings: 689 000 944.

Score: A Film Music

Documentary: 12 May, 7pm. 12€ How sound tracks for films are made.

Amy: A film by Asif Kapadia: 2 June, 8pm. 12€ Amy Winehouse was a unique talented jazz musician who wrote and sang from the heart. She won six Grammys before her tragic death from in 2011.

www.musicaconencanto.org



Amy, Musica con Encanto.



Star Wars parade, Malaga



MOVIE LISTING

From Friday 4th to Thursday 10th May

ORIGINAL VERSION SUBTITLED SPANISH

<p>Denzel Washington Roman J. Israel, Esq.</p>	<p>ROMAN J. ISRAEL, ESQ.</p> <p>Director Dan Gilroy Starring Denzel Washington and Colin Farrell DRAMA - 122 min.</p> <p>Friday 4: 17:45, 20:00 Saturday 5 and Sunday 6: 15:40, 18:00 Monday 7 and Tuesday 8: 17:45, 20:00 Wednesday 9 and Thursday 10: 17:45</p>
	<p>AVENGERS: INFINITY WAR</p> <p>Director Joe Russo and Anthony Russo Starring Robert Downey Jr. and Chris Hemsworth ACTION - 149 min.</p> <p>Friday 4: 17:30, 19:00, 22:15 Saturday 5 and Sunday 6: 15:45, 17:15, 19:00, 22:15 Monday 7, Tuesday 8 and Thursday 10: 17:30, 19:00, 22:15 Wednesday 9: 17:30, 19:15, 22:15</p>
	<p>A QUIET PLACE</p> <p>Friday 4: 22:45 Saturday 5 and Sunday 6: 20:30, 22:45 From Monday 7 to Thursday 10: 22:30</p>
	<p>ISLE OF DOGS</p> <p>Saturday 5 and Sunday 6: 16:15</p>

	<p>NIKDY NEJSME SAMI</p> <p>Director Petr Václav Starring Klaudia Dudová and Zdeněk Godla DRAMA - 105 min.</p> <p><i>Original version in Czechoslovak</i></p> <p>Friday 4: 18:00 Monday 7, Tuesday 8 and Thursday 10: 17:45</p>
	<p>GAME NIGHT</p> <p>Director Jonathan Goldstein and John Francis Daley Starring Jason Bateman and Rachel McAdams COMEDY - 140 min.</p> <p>Friday 4: 20:30 Saturday 5: 16:20, 18:30 Sunday 6: 16:00, 18:30 From Monday 7 to Thursday 10: 20:30</p>



Seeds to brighten up your meals

Nowadays we have access to many more cereals and grains. Here we show you how to cook them and enjoy their health benefits

ESPERANZA PELÁEZ

MÁLAGA. Delicious, nutritious and versatile. Cereals have been an essential part of the human diet for more than 10,000 years. Back in time, many people found it difficult to access those which would best adapt to their environment, but nowadays we are lucky: specialist shops, herbalists and the 'healthy eating' sections of supermarkets stock a wide variety of cereals and grains so we can add a new touch to our meals and, at the same time, enjoy the benefits of eating whole grains, with all their fibre and nutrients.

Buckwheat

What is it?

Buckwheat (*Fagopyrum esculentum*) is not a cereal; it is the seed of a plant from the polygonaceous family. Light brown and pyramid-shaped, it is a very complete grain, rich in carbohydrates (3.4 per cent) and minerals. Buckwheat does not

contain gluten, so these days it is now often used by bakers.

The taste

Its flavour is mild but characteristic and can resemble hazelnut. When cooked, the grain produces a slightly mucilaginous film, and although it retains its texture it is softer than other grains.

How to use it

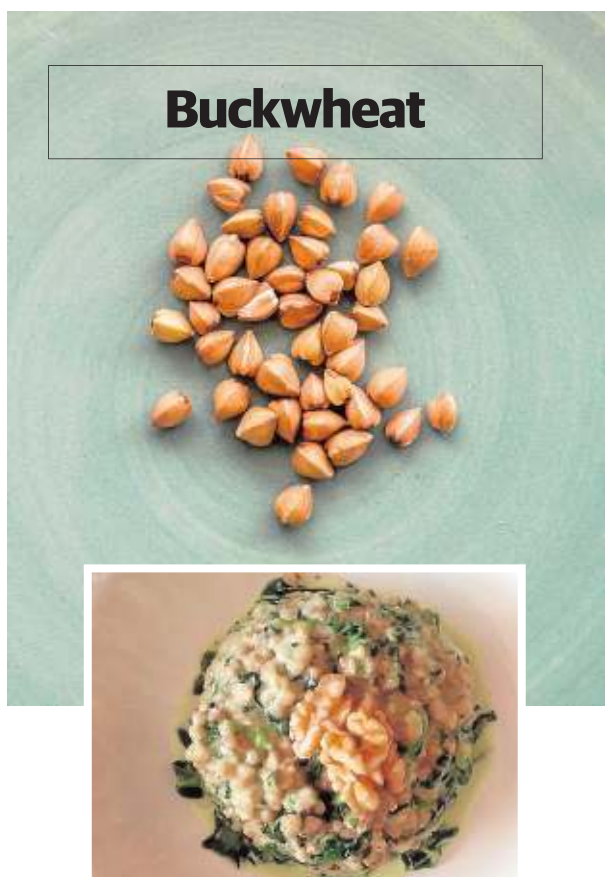
It can be cooked like rice, using two parts water to one part grain. Its texture is suitable for fake risottos, because the film it produces accentuates the creaminess. It can also be used as a garnish or combined with vegetables.

Because it is soft, it can be ground to make flour (many shops also sell buckwheat flour). The French pancakes known as 'galettes' are made with this type of flour, as are soba noodles.

Millet

What is it?

Common millet (*Panicum miliaceum*) is a cereal with small seeds. There are different varieties, which are popular in Africa and Asia. It is a very nutritious cereal, with a high lecithin, protein and fibre content, as well as containing group B vitamins, magnesium and manganese.



The flavour

It has a sweet aroma. If left 'al dente' it tastes slightly astringent and its after-taste is similar to that of walnuts.

How to use it

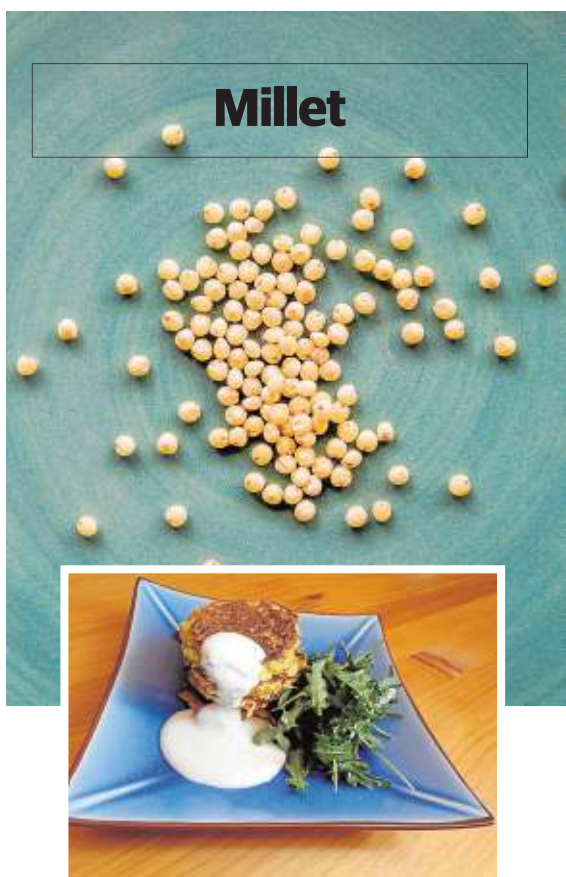
Because millet is small, it can even be eaten raw or toasted in muesli. When cooked 'al dente' (2.5 parts water to one part cereal) it can be used instead of couscous because it doesn't contain gluten. When cooked for longer, or in more water (3-4 parts water to one part cereal), the grain breaks up and becomes sticky, so it is perfect to make porridge or certain

types of batter. It can also be used in soups or tabbouleh-type salads.

Cornmeal

What is it?

Cornmeal is produced from the dried husked grain. It is sold nowadays as pre-cooked polenta (steamed and dried), which cooks almost immediately, unlike the raw variety which needs much longer cooking. It is one of the oldest basic human foods. In cooler Mediterranean areas, because of the way corn brought from America adapts to the environment, it was used instead of porridge in places



like northern Italy, Portugal and Spain. In fact, its name comes from the Latin 'puls', meaning pottage.

The flavour

Polenta has a pleasant corn flavour which is quite neutral and slightly sweet.

How to cook it

These days nearly all polenta is sold pre-cooked, which makes it very easy to prepare at home. For a dense purée texture you need four parts of water to one part polenta. In general, once it starts to boil, it cooks very quickly, in about three





NIKI'S

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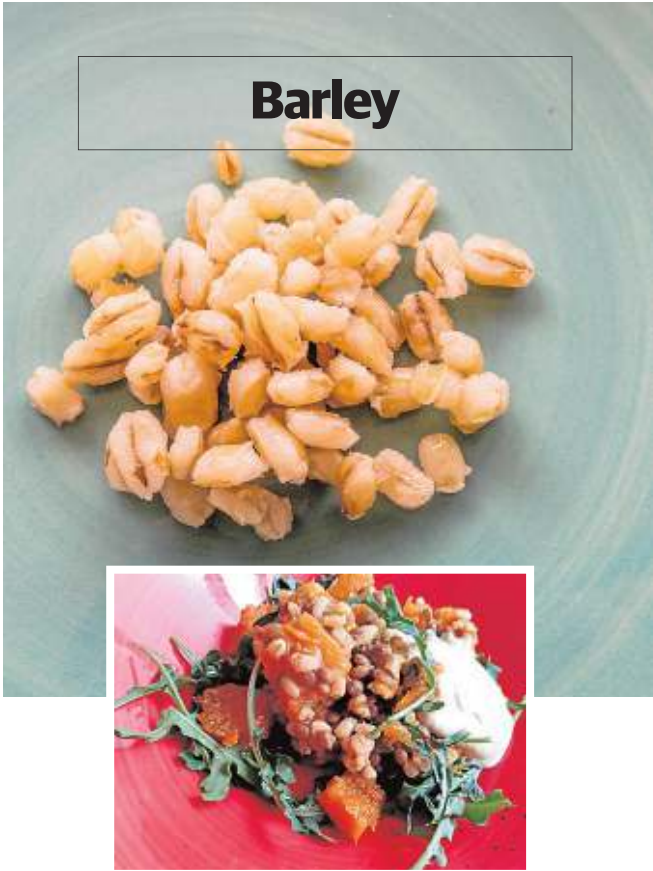
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Plaza José Palomo, 1, 29601 Marbella, Málaga. Tel.: 952 82 57 07 - Email: nikisbarmarbella@gmail.com





Polenta



Barley



Spelt

minutes. For a more liquid consistency, you can add half a part more water. It can also be used to thicken soups. Polenta can be flavoured and softened with oil, butter, truffle oil, parmesan cheese, spices... The thickened polenta, once cooked, can be turned out into a dish and left to dry, then cut into portions and toasted in the pan or fried.

may find you need to use three parts water for one part grain, instead of four. Thick polenta can also be shaped like a volcano and filled in the centre with meat stew, as they do in northern Italy.

Barley

What is it?

Barley (*Hordeum vulgare*) is the fifth most cultivated cereal in the world, and is especially used in beer, animal feed and flours, but it is also used as a grain. It is normally sold husked, and known as ‘pearl barley’. It is rich in slow-ab-

sorption carbohydrates and fibre (which is distributed throughout the whole of the grain).

The flavour

It is mild, slippery on the palate, and has texture. The taste is delicious, with sweet and nutty notes.

How to cook it

Pearl barley needs cooking for about 40 minutes with three parts water to one part grain. In a pressure cooker it cooks in 12 minutes, with 115 grammes of water for every 100 grammes of grain and a little oil in the cooker to stop it

sticking. It can be used as a garnish, in salads, soups, stews and risottos. It contains gluten.

Spelt

What is it?

Spelt (*Triticum spelta*), also known as hulled wheat, is an ancient variety of wheat which was already being used in Iran about 7,000 years ago. It has always been highly appreciated and its nutritional properties have made it popular again, especially in the form of a flour. It is considered easier to digest than wheat, although its properties are

similar. It contains gluten.

The flavour

Spelt has a hard shell, so when it is cooked it maintains its consistent texture and nutty flavour.

How to cook it

It takes a while to cook (one hour in an uncovered saucepan). In a pressure cooker, you would need 225 grammes of water for every 100 grammes of grain, and it will take about 20 minutes to cook. It works very well in stews with vegetables, and is ideal for stuffing vegetables.



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The event ran from last Friday until Tuesday. :: SUR

Puerto Marina hosts successful tenth edition of its seafood fair

Seven tonnes of seafood were sold on the final day alone

:: SUR

More than 20,000 people headed to Puerto Marina in Benalmádena on Tuesday for the final day of the Seafood Fair, this year celebrating its tenth anniversary.

Opened last Friday by mayor, Víctor Navas; councillor for Business, Bernardo Jiménez; and councillor responsible for the port, it is estimated that around seven tonnes of seafood product were sold on the final day alone.

Among the participating restaurants were Los Mellizos, La Despensa del Mar, Papa Eric, La Plaza, La Perra Gorda, La Pimienta and Agua Salá.

ANDREW J. LINN

CHEFS OF FORTUNE



Working as a chef in a famous restaurant is not a sure-fire way of becoming rich. In fact, unlike other occupations, we are seldom told how much a star chef earns, and we may be surprised by the relatively low figure.

British super chef Jaime Oliver is, however, at 45, one of the richest people on the planet, and his wealth is calculated at 330 million euros. Oliver was discovered when the BBC went filming at the River Café restaurant where he was working, and a producer spotted his natural talent in front of the camera. Soon he would have his own TV show, *The Naked Chef*, and not too much later his cookbooks started beating sales records. Amazingly, he is the best-selling author of non-fiction work in the UK. Later his campaigns to improve school and other institutional food would earn him a gong from the Queen, and he is still heavily involved in philanthropic activities.

Oliver built up the Jamie's Italian chain to 42 branches in 10 countries. Unfortunately it has just closed 17, causing bad feeling all round and widely-publicised tweets such as 'Jamie, pay your suppliers!' His steakhouse initiative, Barbecoa, also failed and is in administration. And while these financial disasters would sink many an entrepreneur, they only

make a small dent in Oliver's huge fortune. He will still be millions ahead of Gordon Ramsay, whose restaurants combine 16 Michelin stars, and is also a TV star. His worth has been put at six million, though other estimates are much higher. Austrian Wolfgang Puck made his 60 million fortune from books, acting, restaurants, catering and franchises. The well-known New York-based chef Anthony Bourdain has been a TV star most of his professional life, but his best-seller, *Kitchen Confidential*, added substantially to his six-million fortune. Late-lamented Paul Bocuse tried to keep out of the TV limelight, but this did not stop his publishing career bringing in four million euros from recipe books.

The moral of all this is obvious. If you are a cook, forget about cooking and pick up your pen instead.

WINE OF THE WEEK

Neo Crianza 2013

Supermarket chain Lidl always offers, like its competitors, an imaginative selection of lesser-known wines from all Spanish regions at very fair prices. Ten of these costing less than ten euros got gold medals at the Berliner Wein Trophy 2017, including this excellent Ribera del Duero red at €6.99.



Three Malaga olive oils win prizes in a global competition held in New York

The premium oils from Mondrón in Periana, and Bobadilla and Cartaojal in Antequera were awarded six medals in the World Olive Oil competition

EUGENIO CABEZAS

The premium extra virgin olive oils from Malaga, that is those made from a selection of the best olives and with very limited production, continue to achieve international success. Three olive mills in the province have won a total of six medals, five gold and one silver, at the World Olive Oil Competition in New York (NYIOOC); the equivalent of the Oscars for the olive oil producers across the world, and organised by the Olive Oil Times.

The oil cooperative San José Artesano, in the hamlet of Mondrón, Periana, has been awarded a gold medal for its oil, 'Único'. Finca La Torre, based in Bobadilla near Antequera, won another three gold medals for its premium oils 'Cornicabra', 'Picudo' and 'Hojiblanca'.

Hacienda de Colchado SL, in the small Antequera hamlet of Cartaojal, won gold for the 'Legado' oil and a silver medal for 'Experience'.



'Legado' from Antequera.



'Único' from Mondrón.



'Cornicabra' from Antequera.

Olive oil expert, Francisco Lorenzo Tapia, explained that this contest rewards the best premium extra virgin olive oils in the world. This year alone, more than 1,000 samples from 28 countries were received, "which gives an idea of the increasing quality of the oils from Malaga," said Lorenzo Tapia. "The jury assesses each oil with a score, and if it exceeds 85 points out

of 100, the gold medal is awarded. If it is below 85, it is a silver", he explained.

This is the first time the cooperative in Periana has achieved international recognition for its new oil 'Única' although it was mentioned in the latest edition of awards granted by the provincial council.

However, Finca la Torre can add

this success to a long list of awards it has won over the past few years. Since 2012, the Bobadilla oil mill has won 'Best Extra Virgin Olive Oil' in five editions of Food Awards Spain, organised by the Agriculture ministry. The last time was in March in the 'Frutado Verde Amargo' category. Since 2012 it has only once not succeeded winning a prize and that was in 2016

when it only made it to the finals. Quite an achievement when keeping in mind that Spain, as the world's biggest olive oil producer, has many mills producing high-quality, extra virgin olive oils.

Prices

The 'Único' oil from Mondrón was valued by the jury for its extraordinary flavour and aroma. Only 8,500 litres will be sold this year in half litre bottles for 6.50 euros each (if you buy six) and in 2.5 litre cans for 18 euros. "It smells like cut grass, vegetables and olive leaves and has a deep flavour reminiscent of almonds. It is complex and balanced," explained the manager of Mondrón's cooperative Paco Alcántara who was "very proud" of the award. "Our hard work has been recognised and that brings us enormous satisfaction. The olives are collected at the end of October when they are at their peak, in order to intensify their aroma," said Alcántara. To produce just one litre of 'Único', eight kilos of olives are needed when for other extra virgin oils, five kilos is sufficient.

Perfecto Mata, head of Hacienda de Colchado SL, was also very satisfied with the awards it received for the third year running in New York. Their prizewinning 'Legado' is sold at between twenty and twenty five euros for half a litre and between nine and twelve euros for 'Experience'. Besides these latest awards, the olive mill in Antequera has also been placed in the top ten by the prestigious international guide, Iber Oleum.

Cachorreña Festival

IN HONOUR OF SAN ISIDRO LABRADOR

MAY 13TH



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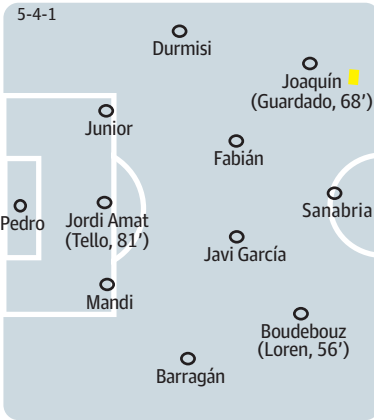
XIII BOBBIN LACE EVENT
VILLA DE ALHAURÍN EL GRANDE

LINE-UPS

REAL BETIS
2


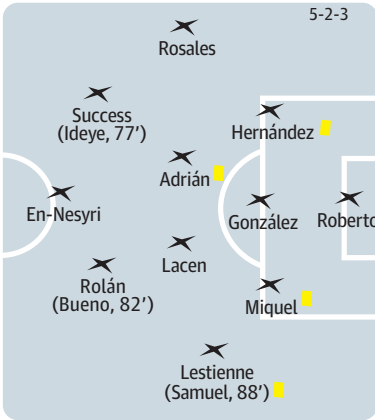
MALAGA
1


5-4-1



Unused substitutes: Daniel Rebollo (GK), Campbell, Rubén Castro, Sergio León.

5-2-3



Unused substitutes: Prieto (GK), Rolán, Iván, Juanpi.

STATISTICS

BALL POSSESSION	
62%	38%
REAL BETIS	MALAGA
2	1
7	8
3	4
4	4
6	4
0	3
9	17
1	4
0	0

Goals: 0-1 En-Nesyri (20'); 1-1 Durmisi (24'), 1-2 Fabián (73').

Referee: Carlos del Cerro Grande.

Venue: Estadio Benito Villamarín (53,163 spectators).

TABLE & FIXTURES

MATCHDAY
35

LEAGUE TABLE

★ Champions League ■ Europa League ▼ Relegation

TEAM	PT	P	W	D	L	GF	GA
★ 1. Barcelona	86	34	26	8	0	87	21
★ 2. At. Madrid	75	35	22	9	4	55	18
★ 3. Real Madrid	71	34	21	8	5	82	37
★ 4. Valencia	67	35	20	7	8	62	36
■ 5. Real Betis	59	35	18	5	12	56	54
■ 6. Villarreal	54	34	16	6	12	49	41
7. Getafe	49	35	13	10	12	40	32
8. Sevilla	48	34	14	6	14	42	54
9. Girona	48	35	13	9	13	47	53
10. Real Sociedad	46	35	13	7	15	63	55
11. Celta	45	35	12	9	14	54	51
12. Eibar	44	35	12	8	15	37	47
13. Alavés	41	35	13	2	20	34	48
14. Athletic	40	35	9	13	13	38	45
15. Espanyol	40	35	9	13	13	29	41
16. Leganés	40	35	11	7	17	29	43
17. Levante	40	35	9	13	13	34	50
▼ 18. Deportivo	28	35	6	10	19	34	69
▼ 19. Las Palmas	22	35	5	7	23	23	70
▼ 20. MALAGA	20	35	5	5	25	23	53

Results

Levante - Sevilla	2-1
Espanyol - Las Palmas	1-1
Real Sociedad - Athletic	3-1
Real Madrid - Leganés	2-1
Villarreal - Celta	4-1
Getafe - Girona	1-1
Alavés - At. Madrid	0-1
Valencia - Eibar	0-0
Deportivo - Barcelona	2-4
Betis - MALAGA	2-1

Fixtures

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

Chance missed to get off the foot of the table



✉ Twitter: @darylfinch

Malaga threw away an early lead, gifting Real Betis the three points necessary to secure their return to European competition next season

MALAGA. Malaga missed out on a chance to leapfrog Las Palmas into 19th place on Monday night as they threw away a lead to lose in the Andalusian derby against Real Betis.

The Estadio Benito Villamarín was bouncing ahead of the clash as the Sevilla side aimed to secure Europa League qualification.

With Malaga already relegated, the side nonetheless still showed that they had pride to play for and started the tie the stronger of the two teams creating two good chances in the opening ten minutes.

Just six minutes in Adrián brought down the ball on the edge of the box on his chest before letting himself



En-Nesyri celebrates scoring the opener. :: AGENCIA LOF

down by snatching his volley wide.

Minutes later, Diego Rolán showed good close control in the area to turn the defender but his shot went straight at Pedro in the Betis goal.

Maxime Lestienne had Malaga fans on their feet when he took a tumble in the area but replays showed that though there was contact from Antonio Barragán, the Belgian made the most of the touch and his delayed fall didn't fool the referee.

Eventually, though, this early Malaga pressure paid off when Isaac

Success sent Youssef En-Nesyri through on goal; the young Moroccan held off Jordi Amat before opening up his body and whipping the ball into the top corner, taking his tally to four for the season.

However, for all Malaga's attacking intent, an error at the back gifted Real Betis the equaliser in the 24th minute. As Roberto Rosales, one of the side's more consistent performers, attempted to clear the ball inside the penalty area, all he succeeded in doing was to tee up Riza

"We did a lot of things right"

There was a surprisingly upbeat atmosphere in Malaga head coach José González's post-match press conference. He said: "We stepped up today, like in most of the games I've overseen."

"We may have lost 11 games in the second half of the season, but seven of them were just by a single goal so we are doing a lot of things right."

Asked about the change in system, he added: "We changed things up today with a new shape and the players adapted to it excellently."

In that vein, González refused to single out Roberto Rosales for his error which led to the first goal: "Rosales gives us a lot and it would be unfair to single anyone out today after they gave Betis such a hard time."

Durmisi who had the simplest of tasks to slide it past Roberto.

Despite the blow, the visitors continued on the front foot and had the ball in the net when En-Nesyri tucked

in Adrián's low cross from the left. The 20-year-old forward, though, was at least two yards offside.

It was a good half for Malaga who were employing a 5-2-3 formation in the absence of a specialist left-back, with both Federico Ricca and Miguel Torres out injured. However, with the introduction of former Marbella forward Loren to partner Antonio Sanabria early in the second half, Malaga returned to their usual 4-4-2 in an attempt to stop Betis' forwards picking up space.

This obsession with the forwards would cost them, though. In the 73rd minute, Fabián was given far too much space on the edge of the area; the midfielder was allowed to turn onto his favoured left foot and measure a strike into the right-hand corner of Roberto's goal. The keeper could do nothing to stop it.

Despite bringing on Brown Ideye, Samuel García and Alberto Bueno, the best chance the Costa side could muster came in stoppage time when a long ball was flicked on by Ignasi Miquel at the back post but Bueno couldn't get enough on his outstretched toe poke to test the keeper.

Malaga remain bottom of the league on 20 points, with Deportivo Alavés visiting La Rosaleda on Sunday.



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A WAY TO PLAY. A WAY TO GROW.

Why is avoiding finishing bottom so important for Malaga?

■ ■ SERGIO CORTÉS

MALAGA. Relegation has long been confirmed but there is still plenty up for grabs for Malaga - at least from a financial perspective.

It has been calculated that the difference between finishing bottom and second bottom is around 400,000 euros.

The La Liga television rights are distributed on a sliding scale, with the number decreasing by 0.25 per cent (from three per cent) for each place below ninth.

With the club planning to earn promotion at the first time of asking, this difference in earnings could be the difference between signing an extra player or not.

Defeat in Seville means that the Blue and Whites are two points adrift of 19th-place Las Palmas with three games still to play.

Malaga face Deportivo Alavés at La Rosaleda this Sunday, then travel to Barcelona to take on Espanyol the following week. The final game sees them host Getafe on the weekend of 19 May.

For their part, Las Palmas host Getafe and Girona either side of a trip to take on Eibar.

Deportivo La Coruña, whose relegation was confirmed with defeat to Barcelona on Sunday, could theoretically still be caught. The Galician side are eight points ahead of Malaga, with nine points left to play for.



A LOOK AT LA LIGA

An almost mirror image

Fans of the English game will say the Premier League is superior, but this year it couldn't be more similar to La Liga

So the house keeping is all done with three rounds of La Liga to go; we know the champions, the Champions League representatives and who we won't be seeing in La Liga next season.

"You wouldn't get this in the Premier League," reasoned the student who clearly isn't a 'straight A student'.

I was guest lecturer for a Sports Media course and my reasoning was that there is parity between La Liga and the English Premier League, ignoring the ability in the market and actually organising events.

The kid couldn't believe it. So here is my reasoning.

For Barcelona, read Manchester City; we've known the champions for months and only had to wait until April for confirmation. Neither are the complete package and there are positions to be strengthened but they are both built for the marathon that



Real Madrid are through to yet another European final. ■ ■ AFP

is the domestic season.

Real Madrid and Liverpool have obvious comparisons as they will meet in the Champions League final in Kiev. Two teams who play cavalier football but the squad doesn't allow this every weekend and they tend to peak on a Tuesday or Wednesday night.

Atlético are concentrating on the Europa League this season as Manchester United did last season when they took the continent's secondary title. Valen-

cia are like Tottenham, they promised plenty but just lack the extra quality to truly challenge and will have the consolation of playing in the Champions League next season.

West Bromwich could be twinned with Malaga. Not that you'd book an all-inclusive two weeks in the Black Country! Two clubs with a passionate and noisy fan base, tidy stadium but a tendency to change manager every few months. We know both should be doing better.

Las Palmas and Deportivo La Coruña are the other two relegated, clubs from cities with large populations and serious expectations of their football teams. Southampton folk are always likening their climate to the Canaries and sadly their team has mirrored the underwhelming season. Deportivo La Coruña and Stoke share a national perception of places with unattractive footballing teams. On this season's performances, neither will be a big loss to the big league.

My theory even extends to mid table where there's a uniformity among promoted team. Getafe and Girona have both managed solid seasons, along the lines of Newcastle and Brighton. Levante will finish just above the relegation zone, which is still the position of Huddersfield.

I can even extend the philosophy to mid table where Athletic Bilbao with their modern stadium and loyal vociferous fanbase could be a pen pal for West Ham. There's disaffection with the club's coaches too. Maybe the Hammers should implement a 'Cockney Only' signing policy?

So, I thought I made a very solid academic argument.

The student just sloped his shoulders and repeated, "Nah. The Premiership is the best in the world mate." I wanted to correct him and remind him that it's actually the Premier League - the term Premiership was changed years ago but I'd given up arguing!

ROB PALMER

Commentator, Sky Sports
@robbopalmer



Anquela, the frontrunner for the Malaga job

The current Real Oviedo coach's contract is up at the end of the season

The new coach will be given the final say over signings, but planning is already well under way

■ ■ A. GÓNGORA / S. CORTÉS

MALAGA. Though the season is all but over, Malaga are sticking to their guns and will only announce a new head coach come the conclusion of the campaign.

The man set to take the job is understood to be Real Oviedo manager Juan Antonio Anquela. The 60-year-old's contract expires at the end of the season and fits the profile outlined by sporting director Mario Husillos. He knows Segunda well, is tactically flexible and has a good reputation in the footballing world.

Anquela's Oviedo are currently just one place (and three points) outside the play-off spots with five games still to play so Malaga are holding off



Anquela leads training for Real Oviedo. ■ ■ ELOY ALONSO

their approach to avoid unsettling the manager of a team with plenty still to play for.

It is believed that the veteran coach has an offer on the table for a new

deal at Oviedo but that the Malaga job would be too big to turn down.

Player recruitment

Husillos is confident of getting his

man and preparations in terms of recruitment are well under way. He, together with the club's scouts, have shortlisted around 50 players who would fit within the wage structure and whose skill set matches the demands of the division.

However, unlike in January when Husillos had complete control over the signings (barring Isaac Success who was José González's pick), the sporting director will present the new man with the shortlist and allow him to choose who he feels best fits his plans and even invite suggestions for others who may have slipped the net.

With the club's spending power expected to be greater than any of their rivals next year thanks to inflated parachute payments (Malaga had been in the top flight for the past ten years and their television receipts were consistently in the top ten in the division), it will be a

big summer at La Rosaleda with lots of players coming in and, more significantly, going out.

Finding suitors

Husillos spent the best part of last week in various locations in South and Central America trying to find buyers (or at least teams interested in loan deals) for Emanuel Cecchini and Esteban Rolón.

The former was signed by former sporting director Francesc Arnau, while the latter was a signing made by the sheikh himself. However, neither has proven to be up to standard and moving them on will be key for planning next year.

Likewise, Malaga must wait on Sporting Gijón's situation, with two of their players (Jony and Michael Santos) on loan there and forming a key part of the squad. If Sporting gain promotion, it is likely they will want to keep hold of them, possibly on permanent deals, with finances no longer being an obstacle.

A push for promotion with a local flavour

Eight players from the province of Malaga are leading the women's team's charge to the top flight

CARLOS J. MARTÍNEZ

✉ Twitter: @carlosmm10

Malaga women's football team have made the play-offs and will now battle six other teams for promotion to the First Division

MALAGA. Dreams do sometimes come true. The best way to reach them is through hope and – most importantly – hard work. The Malaga women's football team have one dream in particular: making it to the First Division. They are already champions of their league and now they've set their sights on the play-offs for promotion, where seven teams will fight for two places within the elite of women's football.

Malaga Feminino, coached by Antonio Contreras, is local through-and-through. Eight players come from the province of Malaga: Encarni, Noelia, Sandra, Postigo, Ruth, Farfán, Janira and María Ruiz. The team has climbed the ranks of Group IV of the Second Division and are now within touching distance of First.

"We were keen to win the match against Pozoalbense and therefore accomplish the first part of our objective for the season," confesses Ruth, who, at 17 years old is one of the youngest members of the Malaga squad.

Midfielder Sandra says that playing for their own city is something that gives the women a lot of pride. "I believe that we have a huge responsibility. We want to get to First." Postigo adds: "to be able to say that we have made it to playoffs representing our own city is very significant for us."

Hope for the play-offs

The play-offs are a hot topic for discussion among the Malaga team: this is something they have been working towards for the entire season. Seven teams will fight for two places in the First Division through elimination (semi-final and final) and a tournament between three teams.

"What we really want is to move up. We're not going to attach too much on to the format of the play-offs; moving up is what we have promised ourselves and the rest doesn't matter as much," explains María Ruiz, one of the captains of the team.

Janira reveals that the team have made a vow among themselves. "If we manage to win the league and move up to First, we have all decided to get a tattoo; it will stay with us forever," says the 21-year-old defender.

All of the Malaga team members are grateful for what they have learnt



Encarni, Noelia, Sandra, Postigo, Ruth, Farfán, Janira and María Ruiz at the Cártama stadium :: SALVADOR SALAS

MALAGA'S HOPEFULS

► **Ruth.** 17 year-old centreback. A key part of the defence for the team which is coached by Antonio Contreras.

► **Farfán.** This 18-year-old has enjoyed many minutes on the pitch this season.

► **Sandra.** The 22-year-old midfielder has sustained an injury away from the pitch. She has scored two goals this season.

► **María Ruiz.** This 17-year-old has knocked down the door for the first Malaga team, scoring nine goals.

► **Encarni.** Another defence fixture. Despite her position, the 22-year-old has scored four goals.

► **Janira.** Due to an injury, the 22-year-old has only played 163 minutes and has scored one goal.

► **Postigo.** 19 years old and the indisputable leader of the back.

► **Noelia.** 25-year-old midfielder with five goals under her belt.

this season, for their new-found confidence and improved technique. "Tactically, we've learnt a lot and that has made us more professional," explains Encarni. María Farfán, another of the team's young hopefuls, adds: "We have always worked with the same intensity as a team from the First Division." From Postigo's point of view, the team has evolved a great deal. "If you had seen us at the start



María Farfán and Ruth :: SALVADOR SALAS

of the season, you would appreciate how far we've come."

Women's sport has gone from strength to strength in recent years and Malaga's teams are an excellent example. The Rincón Fertilidad women's handball team has represented the city in the European competitions. "We have noticed that the number of young female football fans is growing in Malaga. Girls are playing more sport at school," confirms Janira. Her teammate, Sandra confesses that many members of the team met with difficulties during the first few years of their footballing careers. "We played on children's teams, but there weren't any teams created specifically for girls," says the Malaga local, who currently is off the pitch

Now we know the route into the elite

On 6 May, Malaga will take on Gran Canaria's Femarguín team in a home match.

From there, the women will play Sporting Plaza Argel (SPA), (Alicante), on 13 May, Gran Canaria again (27 May) and finally Alicante (3 June).

Among SPA's 20 victories, three draws and three losses this season they scored 83 goals and let in 20.

Femarguín are worthy competitors, having scored the highest number of goals of the Second Division, at 240 successful shots. Neither team made the playoffs last season.

Malaga has everything to play for, but it's a difficult road ahead.

due to an injury.

Another shining example of women in sport are Malaga's reserve team. On Saturday 21 April, they were proclaimed champions of their group

in Andalucía's Second Division after beating the Benalmádena team 3-1. Now they move on to the play-offs for promotion into the National Second Division.



Ferrón celebrates the winner with his daughter. :: J. RODRÍGUEZ

Good practice for the play-offs

Marbella saw off an attacking Melilla side thanks to a fine goalkeeping performance at a packed-out Municipal stadium on Sunday

MARBELLA 1 MELILLA 0

:: JULIO RODRÍGUEZ

MARBELLA. A huge win against Melilla on Sunday sees Marbella keep the pressure on Cartagena at the top of the table as the season approaches its finale.

The Costa side, in front of a near-capacity Municipal stadium, ran out 1-0 winners against by far the best visiting team this year, thanks to a magnificent goalkeeping performance from Wilfred which will last long in the memory of the 3,400 fans present.

His sharpness prevented the visitors from taking an early lead. The North Africans dominated the first half an hour and had two clear chances denied by the keeper who will doubtless be attracting admirers from teams in higher divisions. First he won the

battle of wits in the one-on-one with Mustá, then threw out a hand to stop a certain goal from Pedro Vázquez.

Soon Marbella settled into the game, but failed to create a clear chance of their own in the entirety of the first half.

Melilla sensed blood going into the second 45 but continued to be thwarted by Wilfred. Boateng had two chances, Yacine and Zelu had one each, but the man from Seville was equal to them and received the warmth of the home crowd both during and after the game.

At the other end, Luis Rioja wasted two clear chances for the home side. On both occasions he was sent through on the keeper but was too ponderous and both efforts were saved by Dani Barrio.

Fortunately for Marbella, Ferrón wasn't so wasteful. With just ten minutes left to go, he latched onto a ball from Rioja on the left before firing across the keeper into the far corner of the goal. The match winner jumped into the crowd to celebrate with his daughter.

Once the final whistle blew, the crowds piled onto the pitch and gave the adulation where it was due – mostly to the goalkeeper.

Arrival of Belgian consortium confirmed by the club

:: J. RODRÍGUEZ

MARBELLA. Marbella FC confirmed last Friday night the news that SUR had broken the previous week about the arrival of a Belgian consortium, headed by agent Louis de Vries and Dutch businessman Alexander Janssen.

According to the club statement, president Alexander Grinberg had reached an agreement over co-ownership with "serious investors" who would "help the Marbella project to be more stable".

The group has taken control of the club's finances, ensuring that

the players get paid on time (which had not been the case in recent months) and receive their performance-related bonus due to them after securing a play-off place.

The club has shown publicly its openness to attracting investors in an attempt to rise up the leagues, but Grinberg's arrest last year, which saw his assets frozen, accelerated the process.

Grinberg, who has overseen the club's promotion from Tercera and the restructuring of its academy, will remain as president of the club.

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Marbella Ironman event marred by death of British athlete

The woman had to be rescued during the swimming stage after suffering cardiorespiratory arrest

by JULIO RODRÍGUEZ

MARBELLA. A British athlete, who was rescued on Sunday during the swimming stage of the Ironman 70.3 triathlon event in Marbella, died in hospital on Monday.

The woman had to be rescued from the sea and was taken to the Costa del Sol hospital after suffering cardiorespiratory arrest, according to health service sources.

Organisers of the event sent out a statement on Tuesday: "We are profoundly shocked by the news of the death of one of our athletes. Our condolences go out to the family and friends to whom we offer our support." The statement also said that



The event got under way at 7.50am on Sunday. :: JOSELE-LANZA

the organisers would be working with the local authorities to get as much information as possible about what had happened so that they could "provide the safest possible environment" for future events.

The triathlon, in which 2,500 people competed, started the European Tour which sees 50 places up for

grabs in the World Championship which will take place in South Africa in September.

A photo finish

The first Marbella Ironman 70.3 started and finished in Puerto Banús and was made more difficult by the heat, paired with gusty winds. It consisted of 1,900 metres of swimming, 90 kilometres of cycling (taking in numerous parts of Malaga province), and a half marathon of 21 kilometres. British athlete David McNamee was the first across the line, while the first woman was the German, Laura Philipp.

McNamee crossed the line after three hours and 57 minutes, seeing off American Chris Leiferman in a sprint to the finish. The German Andreas Dreitz, one of the other favourites, completed the podium.



David McNamee wins the race by a split second. :: JOSELE-LANZA



MARÍN, AMONG EUROPEAN ROYALTY

Spanish badminton star Carolina Marín became the first player in history to be crowned European champion for a fourth time. The twice world champion and Olympic gold winner came out on top on home soil in Huelva, seeing off Russian Evgeniya Kossetskaya 21-15 and 21-7 having lost just a single set throughout the whole competition.

Nadal seals victory in Barcelona Open

by M. SÁNCHEZ

World number one tennis player Rafael Nadal will retain that position for at least the next two weeks after winning the Conde de Godó trophy for the eleventh time - on the court which bears his name.

The Spaniard defeated Greek Stefanos Tsitsipas in the final on Sunday, by a comfortable 6-2 6-1. Nadal has now won 46 straight sets on clay, extending his own personal record.

The 31-year-old hasn't lost on clay since facing Dominic Thiem in Rome last year.



Clay king Nadal. :: J. LAGO / AFP

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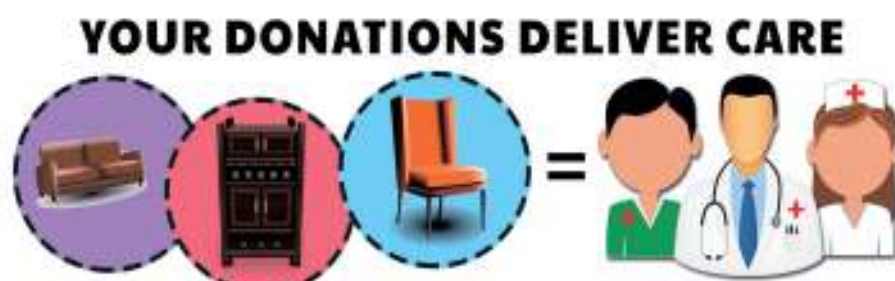
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THE SEVEN DIFFERENCES



THE STARS

- 

Aquarius
January 21 - February 19
Energy is up again by the weekend when someone wants to pamper you. Let them and both enjoy the moment.
- 

Pisces
February 20th - March 20th
Sudden changes this week bring home to you that there is something new around every corner.
- 

Aries
March 21st - April 20th
You wonder why everyone else seems to take life so seriously. Could it be up to you to help them to relax more?
- 

Taurus
April 21st - May 21st
Be sure to truly channel your energies in the right direction. It is easy to go off at a tangent when the heart is light!

- 

Gemini
May 22nd - June 21st
Taking an unusual and unexpected approach to the home could backfire. Discuss your intentions to avoid friction.
- 

Cancer
June 22nd - July 23rd
A fresh start in a personal area of your life is needed. Now would seem to be a good time.
- 

Leo
July 24th - August 23rd
Someone worth spending more time with comes along. They may not be immediately drawn to you.
- 

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
Being thrown on your own resources is not so bad. This is a time when you can grow both emotionally and spiritually.

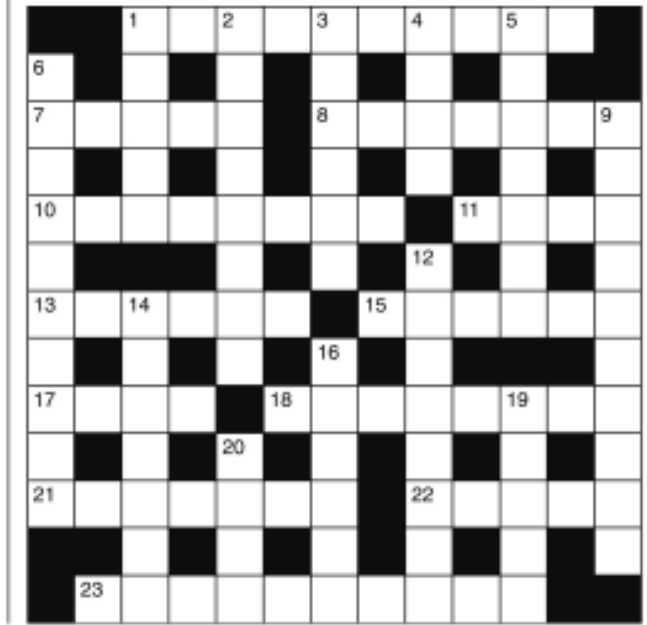
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Scorpio
October 24th - November 22nd
Success this week revolves around how open-minded you can be when others are trying to shut your mind to the possibilities. Analyse the situation.
- 

Sagittarius
November 23rd - December 21st
The actions of a partner could be a temporary blip. Is this maybe due to your inattention?
- 

Capricorn
December 22nd - January 20th
When was the last time that you listened to music or totally relaxed your body? Someone new to your social circle helps to lighten the mood.

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- Across

1 He sips gently normally, but eats madly in winter! (4,6)

7 A good shot but not quite a winner (5)

8 Sign of repentance in Spring? (3,4)

10 Travelled in a hurry from the Andes (8)

11 Place where cubs may be left warm and dry (4)

13 Of national interest (6)

15 Shade in the garden (6)

17 Court a great many in the forest (4)

18 Film Ruth in merry abandon (8)

21 Take an inferior position? (3,4)

22 Only minor burns (5)

23 A succession of small bloomers! (5,5)
- Down

1 Staffs that can work wonders if handled with charm (5)

2 Scandinavian of manner so strange (8)

3 One who minds is easily hurt (6)

4 Joined four quarters (4)

5 Iris lends colour to it (7)

6 Taking money out for retirement (10)

9 Excellent introduction to the teaching profession (5,5)

12 A queenly carriage? (8)

14 Anger over a disease (7)

16 Eat out (6)

19 He has taking ways (5)

20 Outstanding manager (4)

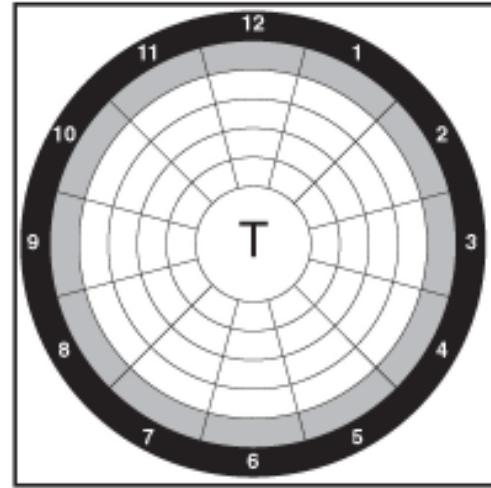
SUDOKU BY HANZO

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

4	5	7						
9			7			3	6	
			9		2			8
				6	4			
8	9				7			
		3	2			6	7	5
3		5	1		9	8		7
	1				6		3	

CLOCKWORD

The solutions from 1 to 12 are all six-letter words ending with the letter T in the centre. Moving clockwise from 1, the letters in the outer circle will spell out the name of a radio presenter.



1. Loud noise

2. Bring in from abroad

3. Prestige

4. Truthful

5. Brusque

6. Holiday destination

7. Leave

8. Election

9. Alter

10. Armoured soldier

11. Scope

12. Outcome

THE WORDPUZZLER

S	I	C	O	M	P	R	I	C	E
L	N	A	M	B	A	E	L	R	O
I	T	R	B	E	R	G	H	Y	N
M	A	W	A	L	K	R	A	I	Z
B	R	A	N	D	I	Y	M	N	I
I	C	L	C	A	S	T	A	D	B
R	O	L	L	A	S	U	S	I	E
D	I	L	O	V	E	N	T	L	U
I	R	O	W	E	D	R	E	A	M
J	E	N	N	Y	O	R	A	B	L

CAN you identify the words missing from the titles of the Everly Brothers songs?

1. ('Til) I --- You

2. All I Have To Do Is ---

3. --- Dog

4. Wake Up Little ---

5. --- In The Rain

6. Cathy's ---

7. The --- of Love

8. Poor ---

9. --- Right Back

10. Bye Bye ---

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

Who was the first wife of Henry VIII?

1. Katherine Parr
2. Catherine of Aragon
3. Ann of Cleves
4. Juana the Mad

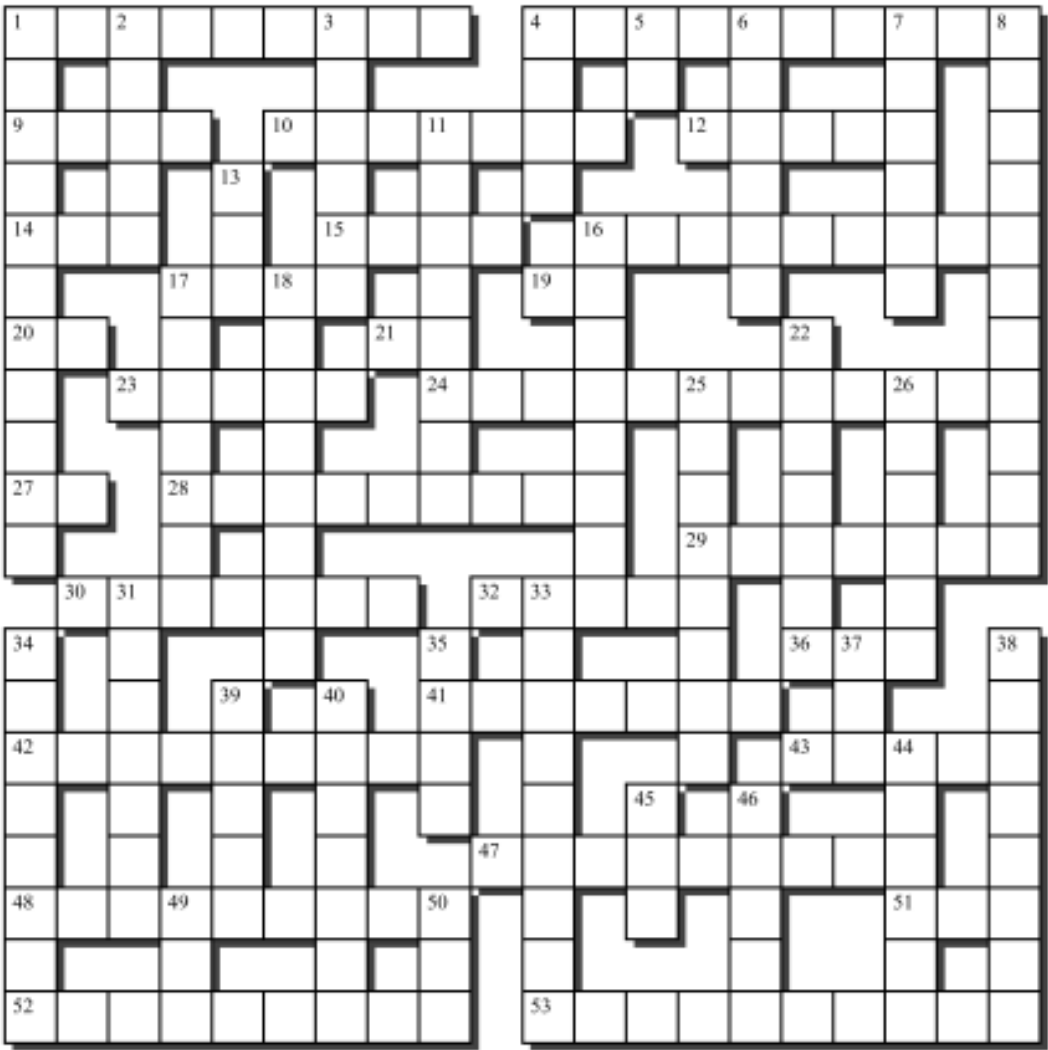
QUESTION 2

The USSR dissolved into how many independent countries in 1991?

1. Nine
2. Eleven
3. Thirteen
4. Fifteen

Across

- | | |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1) Trip (9) | 1) Experience (11) |
| 4) Mountaineers (10) | 2) Cave (5) |
| 9) Skin (4) | 3) Language (6) |
| 10) Whistle (7) | 4) Myth (4) |
| 12) Alive (pl) (5) | 5) Not even (2) |
| 14) Estuary (3) | 6) Relief (6) |
| 15) Mass (4) | 7) Resin (6) |
| 16) Accident (9) | 8) Underground (11) |
| 17) Face (4) | 11) Search (8) |
| 19) In (2) | 13) Day (3) |
| 20) It is (2) | 16) It precedes (8) |
| 21) Your (2) | 17) Corks (7) |
| 23) Brief (5) | 18) To burst (8) |
| 24) Caving (12) | 22) Cheerful (pl) (7) |
| 27) To go (2) | 25) To evaporate (8) |
| 28) Inflatable (9) | 26) Great! (6) |
| 29) Lost (7) | 31) Huge (pl) (7) |
| 30) Rescue (7) | 33) Early morning (9) |
| 32) Pleasant (5) | 34) Tragedy (8) |
| 36) Sun (3) | 35) Step (4) |
| 41) They were walking (7) | 37) Wave (3) |
| 42) Trapped (pl) (9) | 38) Galleries (8) |
| 43) Easy (5) | 39) He supports (5) |
| 47) To show gratitude for (9) | 40) To admit (7) |
| 48) They rule out (9) | 44) Prison (6) |
| 51) I fell (3) | 45) Bread (3) |
| 52) Adventures (9) | 46) Kisses (5) |
| 53) Accessible (pl) (10) | 49) With (3) |
| | 50) Us (3) |



Quiz answers

Answer 1: Catherine of Aragon
Of interest: Catherine of Aragon was the youngest child of Ferdinand and Isabella, the Spanish monarchs She was married to Henry's brother Arthur but when he died, married Henry. Henry later had the marriage annulled in order to marry Ann Boleyn.
Answer 2: Fifteen
Of interest: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Estonia, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Moldova, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, Uzbekistan and Russia.

Solutions: Across: 1 Wine taster; 7 Inner; 8 New leaf; 10 Hastened; 11 Lar; 13 Racial; 15 Violet; 17 Wood; 18 Northman; 21 Lie down; 22 Rills; 23 Daisy chain; Down: 1 Wands; 2 Norman; 3 Tender; 4 Sew; 5 Eyeball; 6 Withdrawal; 9 First class; 12 Victoria; 14 Cholera; 16 Picnic; 19 Felon; 20 Boss.

SOLUTION: 1 Hacker, 2 Import, 3 Cachet, 4 Honest, 5 Abrupt, 6 Hissot, 7 Depart, 8 Ballot, 9 Adjust, 10 Knight, 11 Extent, 12 Result.

RADIO PRESENTER: RICHARD BAKER.

10. Love	J	E	N	N	Y	O	R	A	B	L
9. Walk	J	R	O	W	E	D	R	E	A	M
8. Jenny	D	I	L	O	V	E	N	T	L	U
7. Price	R	O	L	L	A	S	U	S	I	E
6. Clown	I	C	L	A	S	T	A	D	B	
5. Cynin'	B	R	A	N	D	I	Y	M	N	I
4. Susie	M	A	W	A	L	K	R	A	I	Z
3. Bird	I	T	R	A	B	E	R	G	H	Y
2. Dream	L	N	A	M	B	A	E	L	R	O
1. Kissed	S	I	C	O	M	P	R	I	C	E

4	5	7	6	8	3	1	9	2
9	2	8	7	5	1	3	6	4
6	3	1	9	4	2	7	5	8
5	7	2	3	6	4	9	8	1
8	9	6	5	1	7	4	2	3
1	4	3	2	9	8	6	7	5
7	8	9	4	3	5	2	1	6
3	6	5	1	2	9	8	4	7
2	1	4	8	7	6	5	3	9

ACROSS:
LEXCURSION 4 MONTEÑEROS 9 PIEL
10 SUJATO 12 VIVOS 14 RIA 15 MISIA
16 ACCIDENTE 17 CARA 19 EN 20 ES
21 UN 23 BREVE 24 ESPELEOLOGIA
25 INCHINABLE 26 PERDIDO
30 RESCATE 32 AMENO 36 SOL
41 ANDABAN 42 ATRAPADOS 43 FACIL
47 ANDARDEBER 48 DESCARBAN 51 CAL
52 AVENTURAS 53 ACCESIBLES

**'YURI HERRERA IS MEXICO'S
GREATEST NOVELIST.'**
FRANCISCO BOLDUAN, AUTHOR OF SAY HER NAME

SIGNS PRECEDING
**THE END
OF
THE WORLD**

YURI HERRERA
TRANSLATED BY LISA DILLMAN

Yuri Herrera does not just write about the border between Mexico and the United States and those who cross it. He explores the crossings and translations people make in their minds as they move from one country to another, especially when there's no going back.

Making the crossing is Makina. Leaving Mexico to search for her brother, she is smuggled into the USA carrying two secret messages – one from her mother and one from the Mexican underworld.

We would
all rather
vote for the
best man
but he is
never a
candidate

KIN HUBBARD

Ship	Date	From	Next port	Docks	Sails
Norwegian Star	04/05	Cadiz	Alicante	07.00	17.00
Marella Discovery	06/05	Gibraltar	Cagliari	07.00	22.00
MSC Magnifica	06/05	Cadiz	Palma	07.00	17.00
Seabourn Quest	06/05	Ibiza	Cadiz	08.00	18.00
Seabourn Odyssey	07/05	Tangier	Barcelona	07.00	17.00
Aidastella	08/05	-	-	08.00	18.00
Star Breeze	09/05	-	-	08.00	19.00
Carnival Horizon	11/05	-	-	08.00	17.00





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Around the world in five days

Fuengirola draws in thousands for the Feria de los Pueblos event, which represents people from 33 countries

by **I. GELIBTER / B. CLARKE**

FUENGIROLA. Last year crocodile meat was the most exotic thing on offer, but this year the addition of South Africa has brought zebra burgers and python tapas. The 24th edition of the popular Feria de los Pueblos took place on the Fuengirola fairground from last Friday to Tuesday this week. It was a fun, cosmopolitan event promoting the gastronomy, culture and folklore of the participating countries. Among those represented were the UK, Finland, America, Cuba, India and Morocco. Six regions of Spain were also represented, including Andalucía and the Canary Islands.

Puerto Rico, South Africa and the

Ukraine took part for the first time this year, and there was also a new gastronomic fair called Sabores de lo Nuestro. This was located in a central marquee and offered visitors the opportunity to sample and buy traditional local products such as cheeses, cured meats, spices, herbs and sauces.

Since its first day the streets were full of both local residents and tourists alike. One of the highlights was the colourful parade with representatives of all the countries involved, which left the Plaza de España at 11.30am on Saturday.

Dancers and musicians entertained the crowds, who were treated to a display of traditional costumes from around the globe. The British contingent was led by members of all sections of the 1st Fuengirola Scout group.

The bars and casetas, open from 1pm until 4am, were brightly decorated with each country's individual colours and many of the visitors dressed in traditional costumes.

Live music and dance performances took place throughout the afternoons and included jazz, reggae, flamenco and rock. The popular David Bowie tribute band, The Spiders from Marbs, were performing in the British caseta every day of the festival.

The most popular stands for food were Argentina, Brazil and Uruguay, which offered large barbecues at competitive prices. There were plenty of other options for vegetarians however and a large selection of sweet treats on offer.

The festival catered for a young demographic with an atmosphere very similar to that of the town's Feria del Rosario in October. As a group of young men explained at the entrance to the Cuban caseta: "You have to take advantage of the event, because it's like another Feria and very few towns are lucky enough to hold two," they said, holding piña colodas in their hands.

The most popular stands for drinks tended to be more tropical. The Hawaiian, Colombian, Puerto Rican and Cuban stands were all hives of activity, offering cocktails of the sweetest, most exotic fruits.

Popular stands such as the Netherlands, Chile, the UK and Senegal have become firm favourites at the festival, known for its fun atmosphere and delicious array of food.



The USA attended in style.

by **I. GELIBTER**



Great Britain joined the grand parade on wheels. by **RACHEL O'ROURKE**



The South American stands were popular with foodies. by **BECKI NICHOLS**

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