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WEEKEND BEACH GETS THE FESTIVAL BALL ROLLING

P12 & WHAT TO DO



Crowds at the opening night of the Torre del Mar beach festival on Wednesday. :: HUGO CORTÉS

SPORT

The end of the road for both Spain and Iniesta at the World Cup

A disappointing defeat to
Russia signals a changing
of the guard for La Roja **P62**



Andrés Iniesta. :: REUTERS

**Soundproofing panels
prove fatal for birds** on
the Ojén road, sparking an
investigation and anger
among animal activists **P8**

**Pablo Ráez's legacy lives
on.** The pedestrianised
Arroyo Primero in
Marbella, named in his
honour, has opened **P9**

Ryanair cabin crew to strike on 25 and 26 July in four countries

Workers based in
Spain, Portugal,
Italy and Belgium
demand better
working conditions

Summer holiday disruption for air
passengers is expected after Ryanair
cabin crew in four countries an-
nounced in Brussels on Thursday
that they will go on strike on 25 and
26 July. Representatives of unions
from Spain, Portugal, Italy and Bel-
gium explained that the workers
were calling for the airline to com-
ply with the labour laws of the

countries where they are based,
rather than applying Irish legisla-
tion to contract conditions.

The company has around 1,800
cabin crew based in Spain, many of
them in Malaga, and 4,000 across
the four countries, working on 2,000
flights a day. Ryanair has responded,
defending the conditions of its em-
ployees. **P5**

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Vélez-Málaga town hall searched and Local Police chief quizzed in backhander inquiry

The mayor of the Axarquía district has denied the council has any involvement and nobody from the municipality has been charged

AGUSTÍN PELÁEZ / JUAN CANO

VÉLEZ-MÁLAGA. The town hall in Vélez-Málaga and the Local Police headquarters were raided by National Police officers as part of a nationwide anticorruption operation on Tuesday. The inquiry concerns alleged backhanders in the awarding of contracts for traffic control systems. The inquiry centres on a Catalan supplier of highway technology to police called Aplicaciones Gespol, part of the Sacyr group.

The searches in Vélez-Málaga were part of a widespread operation covering over 20 municipalities across the country. Officials at the town hall were taken by surprise, including the mayor, Antonio Moreno Ferrer. The head of the Local Police, a town-hall controlled service, was taken from his home to be questioned at the National Police's station.



National Police officers outside Vélez-Málaga town hall on Tuesday during the search. :: EFE

Searches started before 8am and went on until 11am at the Local Police offices and 12.30pm at the town hall. Copies of hard drives with contract information were taken from each building. According to the mayor, officers were only looking

for information about Gespol.

The mayor said: "Vélez-Málaga town hall has had no business relationship with the group of companies investigated and no council politician is being investigated".

The solicitor of the Local Police

chief told reporters that her client denied any knowledge of the company being investigated and had not answered questions as he wasn't allowed to hear full details of the inquiry. He was allowed to return home without any charge.

'Operation Creeper' involved 92 searches across Spain

SUR

MÁLAGA The wider operation covered over 20 town halls, including Vélez-Málaga. In the raids this week, 39 people nationwide were detained and for the moment 18 will be investigated further by a judge for their alleged involvement in corruption in the awarding of police traffic management software contracts. In total, 92 searches were carried out and some involved politicians from the PP, PSOE and Ciudadanos parties. The Local Police chiefs in Oviedo (Asturias) and Fuenlabrada and Pinto (Madrid region) were also arrested. Sacyr, the owners of the company under investigation, has announced an internal inquiry as well.

The National Police operation is led by the force's specialist anti-corruption unit, UDEF, and has been named 'Operación Enredadera' (Operation Creeper). Among the alleged crimes being investigated are misappropriation of public funds, embezzlement, bribery, false documenting, interfering with a price in a public tender and belonging to a criminal organisation.

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Court in Fuengirola has to rewrite 394 case files destroyed by mistake

The 78 boxes of documents were accidentally removed from the archive and destroyed in October last year and nobody realised

by A. FRIAS/J. CANO

MALAGA. A Fuengirola court is preparing for an extra-heavy workload in the near future: the Andalusian High Court (TSJA) has ordered it to recollate all the information lost when 394 files of legal proceedings were accidentally destroyed last year.

The matter only came to light recently when a lawyer went to the court to ask for information about a case he was handling. He was informed that the proceedings had been cancelled because 78 boxes of legal files which were stored offsite at the Junta de Andalucía's archive on the Malaga technology park (PTA) had been destroyed by mistake last October

and nobody had realised.

A source at the Junta de Andalucía says the boxes were stacked up and somebody who worked at the judicial archive accidentally included them with others which had been authorised to be removed and destroyed.

The contract for the company which ran the archive ended in April, and after putting it to tender, a different company is now running the facility.

Permission has to be granted

If a judicial file is to be destroyed, permission has to be granted first by a committee formed by members of the Andalusian High Court and the regional government's Justice ministry. This is normally done to clear space in the court archives. The committee decides whether the files can be removed and destroyed, or whether they should be passed to other administrations.

One lawyer with clients affected by this error says that the boxes contained everything which is relative



The destruction of legal documents has to be authorised by a special committee. :: SUR

to each case, including original documents or court decisions which had already been taken. "For example, if a couple have applied for a legal separation and signed an agreement, that agreement will be kept in the file. If things go badly and one of them wants to use the agreement as evidence for a claim, it won't exist any more because it has been destroyed. A situation could arise where one of them has lost their copy, and the other one claims they don't have theirs either, because that would work in their favour," he explains.

Not an easy task

Reconstructing the files will not be an easy task. The process is laid down by law, which says that the parties involved must provide all the documents they have so they can be included in the file. If they are willing to comply, have the documents or these can be obtained again, there is no problem, but if not then the matter has to be taken to a higher court, which will decide how the files have to be reconstituted or will decree that this would prove impossible. Any of the parties involved could appeal

against such a decision. The Junta de Andalucía also says that some of the documents in the files, but not all, will have been digitised so that information can be retrieved.

Unions have been complaining for some time that the judicial archives are overcrowded, and the Junta recently invited bids from companies to construct a 45,000-square-metre storage facility for the legal files. Unfortunately only one company was interested and was turned down because it failed to meet the requirements, so for the moment it cannot be built.

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Drug trafficking gang operating through Algeciras brought down with the arrest of 21 people

Investigations by the Guardia Civil have led to these arrests, many of whom were port workers facilitating the trafficking of cocaine

by JUAN CANO / ÁLVARO FRÍAS

MALAGA. The Guardia Civil have brought down an organised crime network committed to the import and export of large quantities of drugs through the port of Algeciras. Officers from the Unidad Central Operativa (UCO) have arrested a total of 21 people, ten of whom worked at the port in the storage and transportation of containers. In the operation, known as 'Allis Ubbo', a shipment of 480 kilogrammes of cocaine was also intercepted.

Investigators in this case carried out a large number of surveillance operations which allowed them to successfully locate a large network of traffickers across most of Europe. During one such operation, one new name came up which would, months later, be making the headlines on the Costa del Sol.



Many of those arrested worked in Algeciras port. :: SUR

On 10 January, investigators caught wind of a meeting between various ringleaders of the now dismantled group and a Marbella resident known as 'El Maradona'. Four months later he was shot dead outside a church in San Pedro where his son had just had his first communion. A link between his killer and this group, however, has been rejected.

According to the Guardia Civil, security measures at the meetings of the group's ringleaders had been increasing. In such meetings, they agreed upon a 30 per cent commission on the price of each shipment of drugs successfully moved from containers onto trucks.

A complex network

This investigation started a long

time before this, coming as a result of a tip-off from a joint police operation between officers in Brazil and Portugal. Having discovered that a deal had been sealed for the buying and selling of cocaine in Madrid, the UCO aimed to identify those involved immediately upon their entry into the country. As a result, they learned of the existence of an organised criminal gang located in the Campo de Gibraltar region and with a network of traffickers based in Spain and elsewhere.

The investigators identified four tiers to the organisation, made up entirely of Spaniards. At the top (the ringleaders) and at the bottom, those involved had criminal pasts. But those in the second and third tiers, who mostly worked in Algeciras port, had a clean record and were well organised and prepared to offer their services to traffickers.

They controlled the shift patterns of those involved in patrols in the port to ensure that when shipments of interest were passing through, they were not subjected to any inspections.

However, at the start of May, a police task force intercepted 480 kilogrammes of cocaine which had arrived from Guayaquil (Ecuador) as it was about to be smuggled out of Algeciras port in a lorry.

With these arrests, the Guardia Civil consider that this organised crime network and the "principal drug smugglers" in this port have been brought down.

112 REPORTS

Man shot four times outside Mijas bar

LAS LAGUNAS

by J. CANO. A man was taken to Costa del Sol hospital in the early hours of Wednesday morning after receiving four gunshot wounds.

Emergency services were called to a bar on Calle Dionisio in Las Lagunas after receiving several calls that gunshots had been heard.

It is understood that the attack came after an argument inside the bar. At the time of going to press, the perpetrator had not yet been tracked down.

Six arrests bring down local drug network

BENALMÁDENA

by E. P. A drug network in Benalmádena has been dismantled by the National Police following the arrest of six people who sold marijuana, hashish and cocaine in the main nightlife spots in the town. Primarily workers in bars and clubs in the area, they used their own homes for storage and preparation for sale. 48 grammes of cocaine, 147 of hashish, 522 of marijuana, 1,500 euros in cash and 16 mobile phones were also seized.

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Ryanair cabin crew in four European countries called to strike on 25 and 26 July

Workers based in Spain, Italy, Belgium and Portugal want the company to comply with the labour laws of their home nations, while Ryanair argues their conditions are good

✪ PILAR MARTÍNEZ / EFE

MALAGA. Ryanair cabin crew in four countries, including Spain, announced in Brussels on Thursday that they will go on strike on 25 and 26 July.

The action comes after unions failed to obtain a commitment from the airline to apply the conditions established in the labour laws in the countries in which the employees are based - Spain, Portugal, Italy and Belgium - rather than the Irish legislation.

Ryanair has responded, saying their demands "don't make sense", bearing in mind their current conditions.

The stoppages will be carried out in all four countries, announced the unions Sitcpla and USO (Spain); SNVPAC (Portugal); UIL (Italy) and CNE (Belgium).

The USO explained that more than 1,800 Ryanair cabin crew have been called to strike in Spain, with the figures reaching 4,000 in all four countries. The airline currently operates around 2,000 flights a day from 89 hubs in Europe, 13 of them in Spain, including Malaga.

Sitcpla stated that some 120,000 passengers could be affected on each day of the strike in Spain.

"Ryanair must apply the national legislation to the crew's contracts," said a Sitcpla representative on Thursday, adding that the airline should "incorporate the European values of dignity and respect".

The president of Sitcpla, Monique Duthiers, said that those speaking in Brussels on Thursday were representatives as the employees themselves did not want to speak out in public.

"In 2018 in the EU there is still fear of reprisals from an employer



Ryanair operates hundreds of flights from Malaga. ✪ REUTERS

in the event of a strike," said Duthiers, who asked the press not to take photographs of the Ryanair staff present in the room to protect them.

"What no one understands is how they have managed to get so far. We are talking about an Irish company in the European Union in the 21st century that has failed to comply with European and national regulations," added Duthiers.

In the name of the employees, the unions reported practices such as calling workers to airports to cover flights that in the end didn't take off and refusing to pay them for the hours spent waiting, as well as applying Irish or local legislation for maternity and paternity leave, depending on which was more beneficial for the company.

Mediation hopes

The USO has said that over the next few days the Spanish unions will attend a conciliation session at the mediation and arbitration service SIMA, in an attempt to avoid the strike and solve the conflict. If the company does not attend or no agreement is reached the strike will go ahead as announced.

"The number of flights affected will depend on the minimum essential service regulations in each country: Although, based on the participation in the first and only strike

called until now by Ryanair cabin crew in Portugal, delays and cancellations of dozens of flights in the four countries are expected," said Ernesto Iglesias, head of the Flight section at the USO Air Sector.

In response to the strike announcement on Thursday, Ryanair defended the conditions currently enjoyed by its cabin crew, who could earn up to 40,000 euros a year, "more than twice the minimum wage".

The employers also pointed out that they work for five consecutive days and then have three days off, which means they have a "long weekend" every week, conditions that exceed the minimum requirements of the EASA (European Aviation Safety Agency).

The airline went on to list more conditions that currently apply to the cabin crew, such as sick pay, a 10% bonus for selling products in the cabin and an annual allowance of 400 euros for uniforms.

Irish pilots

The cabin crew action comes after the Irish Airline Pilots Association (IALPA) called Ryanair pilots based in Ireland to strike on Thursday 12 July. The head of Human Resources at the airline, Eddie Wilson, has called the pilots to a meeting on 11 July to negotiate and call off the strike.

Malaga port gives the Red Cross space for a migrant attention centre

Premises will be turned into a first aid centre and can be used by the organisation free of charge for at least three years

✪ IGNACIO LILLO

MALAGA. The Port Authority has approved giving the Cruz Roja (Red Cross) organisation authorisation to use port premises for their work helping newly-arrived migrants.

The premises, one larger space covering 406 square metres plus a smaller one, are located close to the fishing quay. The organi-

sation will have to fit the premises out itself before it can start attending to the health and social needs of the migrants rescued at sea and brought into Malaga port.

The authorisation has been approved for an initial period of three years and the use of the buildings is free of charge, after the authority approved the exemption of fees.

The president of the Malaga Port Authority, Paulino Plata, pointed out that the Cruz Roja facility in the port would allow the organisation to offer first aid and attend to the needs of the migrants in better conditions.



Migrants rescued at sea arrive in Malaga port. ✪ SUR

Spain-Holiday removes 275 illegal tourist properties from its holiday let platform

✪ PILAR MARTÍNEZ

MALAGA. Holiday rental platform Spain-Holiday, based in Malaga, has removed 275 rental properties within the region that were not on the Andalusian Tourism Register from its database.

"Ever since the regulations for tourist properties came in in 2016, Spain-Holiday.com has been col-

laborating with the regional government and encouraging clients, owners and property managers to comply 100 per cent with the law," said Jannich Petersen, the company's managing director.

"This process has been laborious and some of our clients have had a lot of difficulties getting onto the register but we are very grateful that they have made the effort," he said.

Removing properties from the database, however, has a major impact on portals such as these. While conceding that it has affected business, Petersen said that he hoped to be able to get these 275 properties back on the database "little by little".

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Aifos still tops the list of local firms with the biggest debts with the taxman

The bankrupt developer is the Spanish tax agency's sixth biggest debtor and its owners and affiliates are also on the black list

== NURIA TRIGUERO

MALAGA. Aifos is once again the Costa del Sol firm which owes most to Hacienda, the Spanish tax agency. The developer, currently in a complex and never-ending administration process has an outstanding debt of more than 98.6 million euros, which makes it the sixth biggest debtor in Spain.

Since the Agencia Estatal de Administración Tributaria (AEAT) - the official name of the tax agency that is more commonly known as Hacienda - started to publish its black list at the end of 2015, Aifos has had the dubious honour of being the biggest debtor in the province of Malaga. What's more, the second and third positions on the list are occupied by firms with the same owner as Aifos: Promotores y Consultores Ziur, which owes almost 38 million euros; and Sun Farm, with a debt of 32 million. Their owner, Jesús Ruiz Casado, also appears on Hacienda's black list for individuals, owing more than ten million euros; his wife, Teresa Maldonado Taillefer, has a similar amount of unpaid tax outstanding. Private individuals do not appear on this page, however.

The list published last week by AEAT includes 150 firms, whose headquarters are registered in Malaga province. The number has gone down with respect to previous lists, which at one point had as many as 200 debtors. Their total debt to Hacienda is more than 652 million euros.

One new entry this year is Grupo Vera, which appears in seventh place among Malaga debtors with more than 15 million euros. This veteran construction firm had already been through an administration process, but last year it went into liquidation after it was unable to meet the deadlines established by court to pay back creditors. The list also includes Grupo Vera's affiliate Draba, with a debt of almost 12 million euros.

Bankrupt companies

This Hacienda black list is dominated by bankrupt construction firms and property developers, which makes it unlikely that the Spanish tax office will recover its debts. This is the case of Evemarina, Promociones Cuevas Sánchez, Promociones Lorcrimar, Hexa, Ingeconser, Construcciones López Porras...

Outside the property industry the presence of other firms that have been through an administration process on the list, including Isofotón, Euralex, Novasoft, Oleoliva, Aurigacrown Car Hire, Niza Cars or Mr Gold, comes as little surprise.

MALAGA PROVINCE FIRMS THAT OWE THE TAXMAN MORE THAN 1 MILLION EUROS

Debtor	Total debt outstanding
Aifos Arquitectura y P, Inmob, SA	98,616,318.02
Promotores y Consultores Ziur SL	37,715,758.61
Sun Farm SA	32,041,876.52
Eve Marina SL	30,883,763.94
Promociones Lorcrimar SL	25,463,359.30
Europa Center SA	25,114,626.45
Grupo Empresarial Vera SL	15,744,850.19
Promociones Cuevas Sanchez SL	14,231,760.91
Draba SL	11,705,381.57
Sofipar SA	11,647,735.19
Petroazul SL	10,983,765.32
Gestores De Estaciones Low Cost SL	8,854,369.64
Suite Invest, SL	7,459,697.12
Proex 2,000 SL	7,163,900.30
Petraxarquía SL	7,095,292.83
Los Lagos Siglo XXI SL	6,700,893.23
Naviro Inmobiliaria 2000 SL	6,372,732.16
Pitagoras Digital SL	6,266,188.29
Ailime SA	6,195,958.43
Vograla SA	6,030,395.85
Sierra Blanca Properties SL	5,801,799.92
Milla Med SA	5,775,534.34
Aurigacrown Car Hire SL	5,678,718.07
Construcciones y Promociones Vistsolmar SL	5,293,234.43
Aloha Hill Club SL	5,275,518.08
Comp, Int, de Parques y Atracciones SA	4,870,326.96
Dugarry Business Services SL	4,339,401.16
Viajes Marbesol SL	4,219,873.95
Proyecto Ciudad Iliberis SL	4,156,745.82
Niza Cars SL	4,062,433.94
Marsella Servicios Integrales SL	3,999,173.84
Mirador de Calahonda SL	3,870,526.65
Habitat de Estepona SA	3,859,860.31
Viñuela Rural SL	3,823,908.00
Construcciones Migmar SL	3,716,766.61
Axion Red SL	3,670,505.30
Novasoft Corporacion Empresarial SL	3,583,924.23
Promociones Volterra 98 SL Unip	3,576,596.19
Incipia Proyectos Inmobiliarios	3,527,702.44
Construcciones Pelaez 3015 SL	3,524,509.79
Mirador De La Fortaleza SL	3,480,832.26
Jesaoil SL	3,272,071.90
Maysap SL	3,255,416.99
Solares de Malaga SL	3,211,729.64
Isofotón SA	2,911,366.12
Ingeniería y Construcciones Allue SA	2,822,707.66
Las Dunas Land SL	2,763,249.76
Euralex SL	2,745,689.96
Alimar Obras e Infraestructuras SL	2,714,424.40
Oleoliva SA	2,674,658.48
Inmobiliaria Estabella SL	2,577,561.67
Construcciones y Promociones Florida Este SL	2,529,636.29
Luitor SL	2,504,900.18
Hermanos Macías García SA	2,483,478.32
Las Dunas Palace SA	2,461,685.42
Residencial Guadalsol SA	2,418,621.93
Marsella Numero 28 Promociones SL	2,327,241.80
Prosec Promociones e Inversiones SLU	2,326,275.44
Diseño Motor 4 SA	2,326,056.74
Construcciones López Porras SA	2,321,725.56
Wide Pictures SL	2,316,721.33
Láctea Antequerana SL	2,314,829.83
Romeo SL	2,293,152.37
Inmobiliaria Nueva Fuengirola SA	2,274,347.08
Suministros Jumarsa SL	2,232,572.56
Evemarina Hoteles SL Unipersonal	2,217,745.07
Silicio Energia SA	2,201,765.18
Torresuel SL	2,199,599.62
Mihogar 2003 SL	2,141,039.37
Malagueña De Proyectos y Serv, Electricos SL	2,122,198.35
Brisamar Cuatro SL	2,102,057.63
Palma Residencia SA	2,047,368.03
Client Escrow Services SL	2,026,289.39
Hexa Servicios Y Obras SL Unipersonal	2,007,835.63
Inverandaluz SL	1,995,408.80
Vemosur Desarrollos Inmobiliarios SL	1,963,111.12
Mr. Gold SL	1,945,778.85

Debtor	Total debt outstanding
Agrupación Inmobiliaria Eurosur SA	1,934,478.78
Vannelet Gilles Charles Louis Pierre Yves	1,931,539.62
Metcalfe SL	1,888,254.35
C Y O Ingeniería SL	1,874,696.18
Haviland Proyectos Inmobiliarios SL	1,863,844.68
Sherry Mirador SL	1,811,829.74
Prom. y Construcción Azulejos y Pav. SL	1,703,857.55
Cogilcodos SL	1,700,364.65
Mainasa Instalaciones Industriales SA	1,677,089.00
Blay Barrera María Del Carmen	1,673,547.16
Mirador de Bellavista SL	1,667,472.17
Edirecursos SL	1,648,865.02
Marina Del Sol SA	1,639,455.71
Borca 2000 SL	1,635,967.65
Urbanizacion Valle Rosario SL	1,606,746.09
Ponte Tresa SL	1,575,111.78
Las Terrazas De Santa María SL	1,574,786.08
Cec Centro Europeo De Congresos SA	1,557,689.20
Hotel Rincón Andaluz SA	1,555,971.57
Dragon Real SL	1,546,540.54
Tierra Util SL	1,536,687.25
Arcopel SL	1,529,101.12
Airport Parking SL	1,506,958.99
Autos Aragon Paz y Lopez SL	1,496,158.95
Mardel Prom, y Consulting Inmobiliario SL	1,490,178.78
Rsp Gece SL	1,482,277.09
Objetivo Zero SL	1,462,007.95
Alessi Newyork SL	1,439,003.13
Turret SL	1,434,837.53
Gesarce SL	1,432,862.37
Escreyes SL	1,426,742.07
Malaga Inv Inm Garpe SL	1,417,364.15
Novasoft Ingenieria SL	1,343,808.87
Biznauto Automoviles SA	1,320,573.91
Bolichero 98 SL	1,292,988.14
Ingeconser SA	1,285,302.15
Andalucia President Golf Club SRSL	1,262,307.51
Red Mediterranea Online SL	1,255,128.09
Camimalaga SA	1,237,501.38
Saint Ives Holdings SL	1,232,905.48
Oro Flash Convert SL	1,224,100.20
Geoylabs SL	1,211,004.39
Axarquía de Urbanización SL	1,208,297.43
Construcciones Andaluzas Litorales SL	1,201,878.15
A.R.F.Trust SL	1,191,137.43
Costa Villaverde SA	1,187,638.77
Contratas Arrosal SL	1,185,137.92
Canales Y Lumbreras SA	1,179,937.08
Stroiobect SL	1,174,661.22
Calahonda Royale SA	1,155,275.98
Contacto Publicidad SL	1,142,268.17
Servyguar Glez Glez SL	1,139,171.27
Bazar San Juan SA	1,132,690.02
Revestimientos Belda SL	1,130,491.55
Restaura 3000 SL	1,129,013.98
Marsella Best SL	1,109,761.86
Kroond Residences SL	1,102,661.62
Margaretio Samper Guillermo	1,101,345.50
Rubikon Proyectos Y Reformas SL	1,095,461.80
Garcia Monserrat Amparo	1,091,258.30
Reino De Taifas SL	1,080,880.38
Megainfor Components Electronic SL	1,075,406.95
Central De Recursos En Internet SL	1,075,340.34
K.S. Investments SA	1,067,502.97
Dogor Electronic's SL	1,049,566.22
Nail Services Banus SL	1,047,944.77
Constrular 2000 SL	1,041,462.48
Varo Martín Construcciones Y Contratas SL	1,033,090.84
Torcal Limpieza SL	1,025,199.62
Promociones Creta Costa Del Sol SL	1,024,649.26
Deisa Climat SL	1,020,244.99
Viva Estates Marsella SL	1,015,822.28
Natiel 2000 SA	1,010,106.07

Malaga city to stop Uber and Cabify hovering near airport, stations and shopping malls

== FRANCISCO JIMÉNEZ

MALAGA. Councillors in Malaga are studying ways to take action to stop private hire vehicles from companies like Uber and Cabify waiting close to airports, railway stations or shopping centres, ready to approach if a user calls them up over their phone app.

Private hire cars are not allowed to pick up business in the street but some linger near to busy buildings so as to show up as available to users searching for them. This is upsetting taxi drivers, who have the right to pick up passengers in the street. Uber recently started operating on the Costa del Sol and Cabify has increased its fleet size this summer.

Councillors and local police recently met with taxi-industry representative's to discuss a map which would show exclusion areas around a list of places that private hire vehicles can access but not wait close to.

The council has been working with the 1,432 taxi drivers to ensure their continued support after a strike was called last August partly in protest at the supposed lax policing of private hire cars.

New restaurant choice landing soon for passengers at Malaga Airport

== PILAR MARTÍNEZ

MALAGA. Bosses at Malaga Airport have just finished the tendering process to refresh the selection of bars and restaurants for passengers. Coming in later this year is new sushi restaurant Kirei By Kabuki, by chef Ricardo Sanz, and Bibó Brioché Bar by local Michelin chef, Dani García.

AENA, that owns and runs the airport, recently put the contracts up for renewal for all 25 food and beverage outlets for the period 2018 to 2026. The aim, they explained, was to combine the latest international trends with local cuisine. Most restaurants will be operated by a small number of multi-brand concession holders, the biggest being Select Service Partner (SSP), Eat Out Group, Lagardère Travel Retail and Áreas.

Other choices to appear in the coming months are La Boutique della Mafia, an Italian restaurant, and a food-court concept including Italian, Mexican and Asian food. There will also be a better 'grab& go' selection including Jamie's Deli, Eat and Giraffe Stop, among others.



Estate planning – will you have control and certainty?

By Steve Langford, Partner, Blevins Franks

We all sleep better when we feel confident that our affairs are in order, and as we get older we think more about the legacy we will leave to future generations; specifically, how and to whom our assets will pass on our death.

Increasingly, estate planning is a major concern for our clients. You have worked hard to build up your wealth and want to pass it on to your children and grandchildren to help them as they make their way through life. However you want to ensure the money is used wisely, and at the time your heirs need it most. How can you have control over what happens after you are gone? You may also have many years left in retirement yourself, and so need to continue to receive income or take capital in the meantime.

Here are some situations we often come across, which may resonate with you.

You want to leave money to your children but are concerned about

how they will handle it at this stage in their life. Perhaps you also have concerns about whether their marriage will last.

Or maybe you would prefer it if they received their inheritance later in life so they can use the funds to ensure they have a comfortable retirement and do not have to worry about medical costs as they get older.

You want your grandchildren to receive a good education, without being saddled with debt, and would like to contribute to their university (or other course) fees. You would like them to have access to a certain amount of capital while they are at university, then receive the balance of their inheritance when they may be looking to buy their first property.

You may be able to set capital aside now to plan for such situations, but need to leave funds available for your and your spouse's use through your retirement years – however long that turns out to be. So you

need to have ownership of these funds now, but set up in such a way that they can easily pass to your chosen beneficiaries when you die. Ideally you want certainty of succession without the need for probate.

And then there is the significant issue of tax. As much as possible you would like all of your hard earned wealth to pass to your chosen heirs, rather than much of it going to the taxman. British expatriates living in Spain could potentially have both UK inheritance tax and Spanish succession tax to contend with. The two tax regimes work very differently.

Your estate planning solutions should therefore be tax favoured ones. Not just for inheritance tax purposes, but also during your lifetime so you can enjoy a tax-efficient income today.

Wills are an essential part of estate planning, but are limited as to what they can achieve. If you want control and certainty you need

careful planning and tailor-made solutions.

In our experience it is possible to structure your affairs, for both Spain and UK, so the right money passes to the right hands at the right time, at the same time as reducing tax during your lifetime and after it.

It is however very important to use robust arrangements which are compliant in Spain and the UK. As an expatriate you are likely to live in one country, have heirs in another and possibly assets in other jurisdictions. Cross-border tax and estate planning has become more complex over recent years, and we now have automatic exchange of financial information, and you need to ensure your arrangements would stand up to scrutiny by the tax authorities.

Creating and maintaining a good 'estate plan' is primarily about ensuring your wishes are carried out in the way you wish, but taking account of relevant legal and tax considerations. The plan needs to be flexible to accommodate events

like more grandchildren, divorce or re-marriage within the family. It is vital that you review it on a regular basis, so if you set up your plan years ago it will be time to look at it again.

Estate planning is a very specialist area and professional advice from an experienced wealth manager like Blevins Franks is essential. Blevins Franks has established an Estate Planning Review Service to meet the demand from families who live in Spain for an impartial, objective review of their Estate Plan. Please contact us for further details. www.blevinsfranks.com.

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

Thinking of putting your assets in your spouse's name?

Unlike in the UK, gifting between spouses is a taxable event in Spain. You need to understand the local succession and gift tax rules in Andalucía and how they apply to you. Blevins Franks has been providing tax and estate planning advice to expatriates in Spain for over 40 years and can help you establish an effective estate plan to meet your wishes.

Keep an eye on the Blevins Franks website for Brexit news - www.blevinsfranks.com/brexit and contact us if you want to sign up for regular updates.

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Transparent soundproof panels on Ojén road have proven fatal for dozens of birds

A video condemning the roadside panels has gone viral, forcing authorities to alter them and provoking a Guardia Civil investigation

by DANIEL DOLS

OJÉN. Dozens of blackbirds have been found dead at the side of the Marbella-Cóin road near the Palo Alto housing development in Ojén after crashing into transparent noise-prevention panels.

The situation has produced a wave of criticism. Graffiti has appeared and activist group Marbella Se Queja has created a viral video demanding that the panels be altered. The Guardia Civil's environmental protection unit (Seprona) has opened an investigation.

Ojén council announced on Tuesday that they have arranged for the panels to be provisionally covered to make them more visible to birds and requested that the property developers responsible for the screens, Round Hill, come up with a solution.

The mayor, Jose Antonio Gómez, said that Round Hill had permission to put up the panels in order



Protesters painted graffiti on the panels in protest. by JOSELE-LANZA

to reduce traffic noise but added that the council had asked them to "use common sense" and make sure that birds could spot the screens easily.

Mayor's version questioned

Director of Round Hill Spain, Matías Villaroel, has disputed the mayor's comments, saying that the com-

pany had only planned to use opaque panels until new painted ones could be installed and it was the council that preferred the clear ones.

The screens will now be decorated with murals of birds and trees and Round Hill has also promised to make a donation to a bird sanctuary.



The new mural. by SUR

Marbella mayor asks for Roca's properties to be handed over for the town's use

by HÉCTOR BARBOTA

MARBELLA. The mayor of Marbella, Ángeles Muñoz, has asked the council to vote on her plan to demand that the national government give the town seven properties owned by former town-planning head, Juan Antonio Roca, who was the mastermind of the Malaya corruption scandal.

Marbella is due significant compensation from the case generated from the ongoing sale of Roca's assets. However, to speed up the return of the money to the town, Muñoz wants 15-million-euros worth of property to be given directly to the council for public use.

Among the properties is Roca's former country home, Finca La Caridad, near San Pedro and valued at 5.7 million euros, a heliport near Nagüeles (769,000 euros), a luxury apartment in central Marbella (2.6 million euros), and a half-built building by the hospital earmarked as a new central courts complex for the town.

Councillors have also debated how to spend the 12 million euros recently handed to the town in cash by a court responsible for selling Roca's assets.

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Pablo Ráez's legacy lives on in Marbella

Local authorities joined the family of the young campaigner, who died of leukaemia, to open a new boulevard and walk in his memory

:: MÓNICA PÉREZ

MARBELLA. "Normally it's the children who remember the legacy of their parents, but in this case it's the reverse. I am proud and I'm also joyful, because to think about Pablo is to think about joy," reflects Paco Ráez, the father of Pablo Ráez who died over a year ago aged just 20 after a difficult battle with leukaemia.

Before his death, Pablo Ráez led a huge social media campaign for bone marrow donations in order to help those who found themselves in a similar situation to his own. As a result, the number of bone marrow donors in the province of Malaga increased by 1,300 per cent between 2016 and 2017.

To honour the memory of local-boy Ráez, Marbella has opened a large pedestrianised park space on Arroyo Primero boulevard, which will take its name from the heroic young man. The town hall has invested almost three million euros in the 15,000-square-metre area, which took over one year to build. Over the last few decades the space has been mostly disused.

"I hope that this will serve as an example for future projects," stressed Paco Ráez, during a speech. He asked that the local authorities "always put their heart into whatever they do". The firefighter also stated that he wants the space to be used by young people and that it is "somewhere for culture, entertainment, games and peace and quiet".

After Pablo Ráez died in Febru-



Ráez's family and friends with the mayor at the opening. :: J-L

ary 2017, more than 16,000 people signed a petition to call for the town of Marbella to create a dedicated public space which would pay tribute to the young local campaigner. The authorities listened and opted to begin construction on Arroyo Primero boulevard, on the east side of the old town near the Monday market. The mayor of Marbella, Angeles Muñoz, spoke at the opening ceremony and said that the new boulevard will be a "meeting point". She referred to Pablo as "one of Marbella's most loved and admired residents".

Pablo Ráez boulevard boasts an open-air theatre, two playgrounds, six water-features, a cafe, grassed areas, two outdoor gymnasiums, a recycling point and benches and sunshades to relax under. In the future the boulevard will have a direct connection to Calle Alfredo Palma.

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Prosecutors seek 10 years in jail for ex-mayor of Estepona in corruption case

:: HÉCTOR BARBOTA

MARBELLA. It is eleven years since an investigation began and 10 years since 'Operation Astapa' was launched by police and courts which forced the resignation of former mayor of Estepona, Antonio Barrientos. Now prosecutors have completed their formal written accusation of 51 people believed to have been involved in the scandal. Five former top officials and politicians could face trial and sentences of up to 10 years each. The accusations centre on the period from 2003 when the mayor supposedly carried on spending, despite the council being in deficit, using backhanders and black money from developers.

ESTEPONA COUNCIL WIDENS ITS ASSISTED BATHING SCHEME

Last year Estepona launched an assisted sea bathing programme on Tuesdays and Thursdays for all residents who receive the council's home help service. Locals are collected and taken to the town's Cristo beach, which has specially-designed equipment for people needing extra help to enjoy the sea. This year the scheme has been extended. On Wednesdays it will be the turn of users of the APRONA mental-health charity and on Fridays the turn of the Virgen del Carmen residential home.



CHARO MÁRQUEZ

HERE AND THERE

Town accused of failed dog beach promise

MARBELLA

:: **M.P.** A councillor for the IU party on Marbella council has accused the town hall of failing to keep its promise to install proper facilities at two beaches that were designated for use by dogs last year. Miguel Díaz has said the planned showers, exercise areas and shady zones for pets haven't materialised.

In reply the council has said that it is waiting for the plans to improve the beaches, at El Pinillo and Ventura, to be approved by the Junta de Andalucía regional government.



The Nagüeles quarry site. :: J-L

Starlite venue planning permit puzzle is solved

MARBELLA

:: **M. P.** The Starlite festival venue, an old quarry in Nagüeles behind Marbella, finally has all its planning permissions and licences in place. Question marks over permission to use the venue have been hanging over the event for the past two summers and at one point threatened to see the concert festival leave the town.

The Junta de Andalucía regional government, which is the owner of the site, has agreed at last to let Marbella council lease the old quarry for up to 24 more years. The council in turn sublets it to Starlite.

Agreement to record town's 50,000 pets

MARBELLA

:: **C. MORILLA.** Marbella council has been given ten pet microchip readers that will help it identify the some 50,000 pets in the town, 43,500 of which are dogs.

Although it has been a requirement for several years for animals to be chipped, the town hasn't carried out a proper census or control. Now armed with the donation from the official Malaga vets association, local police and officials will be able to carry out street inspections more frequently.

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How Rincón de la Victoria grew from the village of Benagalbón

The town hall is considering making 28 August an official holiday to mark gaining independence from Moclinejo in 1835

:: EUGENIO CABEZAS

RINCÓN DE LA VICTORIA. The population of Rincón de la Victoria has doubled in size in the last 20 years, from 23,000 according to the 2000 census, to 46,000 people according to the latest figures. However, it wasn't until the arrival of the Malaga to Zafarraya train in 1908 that the town, along with La Cala del Moral, which sits to the west and forms part of the area, became anything more than vineyards and a very small fishing village.

Delving further back into the area's history, researcher and author, Miguel Alba Trujillo, has revealed



Benagalbón hosts a Verdiales competition every September :: E. C.

that Rincón de la Victoria once was governed from a town hall in the then larger village of Benagalbón, situated about six kilometres in-

land and still part of the same municipality today. In the late 1940s the town hall was relocated to coastal Rincón de la Victoria and

the district renamed, due to disputes between the different local centres of population of Rincón, Benagalbón, Torre de Benagalbón and La Cala del Moral.

Up until 1835, Benagalbón and the area around it, including Rincón de la Victoria, belonged politically to nearby Moclinejo, but after a 12-year attempt to gain independence Benagalbón finally achieved its goal on 28 August 1835.

Now a proposal has gone to Rincón de la Victoria town hall to make 28 August an official holiday in the municipality to mark the course of its history and in particular its separation from Moclinejo.

The town hall has said that the proposal has been "well received" and will now be debated before going to a full council meeting by the end of July. The idea of four gold shields being awarded annually, presented to residents who have "offered their services" to the town, "whether they are Spanish or foreign" has been included in the proposal. The Izquierda Unida party (IU), who has submitted the proposal, hopes to be get approval to celebrate the day this year.

HERE AND THERE

Rubén Portillo to open Vélez-Málaga fair

VÉLEZ-MÁLAGA

:: E. C. Vélez-Málaga town hall has confirmed that local flamenco guitarist, Rubén Portillo, will officially open this year's San Miguel fair. A council spokesperson said Portillo had been chosen, "in view of the centenary of the death of Juan Breva and for being the protagonist of Flamenco Abierto which has put Vélez on the map."

Doctors warn of A&E staff shortage

TORRE DEL MAR

:: A. P. Doctors at the Axarquía hospital in Torre del Mar have warned about staff shortages in the Accident and Emergency unit expected over the summer months, when the population of the area can more than triple. They also said it was a problem across the Axarquía as other villages have also experienced staff shortages.

Fifth Weekend Beach festival gets under way and reports record pre-event ticket sales



Revellers queueing to get into the festival on Wednesday. :: J. R.

:: J. RHODES / E. CABEZAS

TORRE DEL MAR. The Weekend Beach festival, which is celebrating its fifth anniversary this year, got under way on Wednesday night, with Malaga band, Danza Invisible, one of the most popular performances. Before the event started organisers announced record ticket sales, with 35,000 sold compared to 33,000 in 2017. It is expected that up to 40,000 'Weekers', festivalgoers, will attend on each of the four days, with a total of 130,000 people attending over the course of the event. On the door, ticket sales started on Wednesday and organisers predicted that 95 per cent of all tickets would be sold by the weekend. American rock band, The Offspring, headlined Thursday night, while the world-famous DJ, David Guetta, is expected to pull the biggest crowd when he performs to-night.



:: JENNIE RHODES

TORRE DEL MAR'S THEMED SHOWERS

Torre del Mar beach's newest showers take the form of a dancing lighthouse and a giant flip-flop. The themed showers can be found near the biblioplaya and have attracted a lot of attention so far. They form part of a series of new installations for this summer, which also includes an area for barbecues complete with boats made with cement and are next to the dog beach at the western end of the town.

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New Carrefour hypermarket to open at La Trocha centre in Coín

COÍN

The local group Costasol de Hipermercados has chosen the Guadalhorce valley for its most modern centre

■ **FERNANDO TORRES.** The Guadalhorce valley area is to have a brand new hypermarket by the end of this year. The group Costasol de Hipermercados, which already operates Carrefour stores in Torremolinos, Estepona and Mijas, plans to open its fourth venture with the French brand on an area of 5,000 square metres adjoining La Trocha commercial centre in Coín.

Building work has already started on the premises, following the finalisation of the acquisition of the land last month.

The firm's director general, Aurelio Martín, explained that this area was important for the next step in the group's expansion around the province of Malaga, due to its "growing population". "We are confident that Costasol de Hipermercados will become an important organisation for [the area's] inhabitants," he said.



A computer-generated image of the future store. ■ SUR

Martín added that the large foreign population was among the reasons for choosing La Trocha, especially as the centre is an important meeting point for the international community.

The new store will have a car park with spaces for 1,000 vehicles as well as a Carrefour petrol station.

The global investment in the pro-

ject has not been released, however the firm has said that the new store will provide 250 new jobs, directly and indirectly.

In 2006 Costasol de Hipermercados opened its first Carrefour store in Torremolinos. In 2016 the firm celebrated its 30th anniversary; it was founded in 1986 with a store under the name Costasol.



A digital recreation of what the new restaurant will look like. ■ SUR

Hard Rock Café set to open in Muelle Uno in December

■ IGNACIO LILLO

MALAGA. The American restaurant franchise Hard Rock Café has applied for planning permission for its new establishment in the city of Malaga. The eatery will be located in the portside Muelle Uno area, opposite the entrance to the Pompidou Centre.

After signing an agreement with the port's commercial management last November, the multinational company aims to begin works later this summer. Its objective is to have the restaurant open by December.

Alongside the Hard Rock Café's signature celebrity memorabilia, the 1,500-square-metre space will feature a rooftop terrace with panoramic views, a souvenir shop and a lift, meaning the building will be fully accessible.

This will be the second Hard Rock Café in the province, after the existing one in Puerto Banús, Marbella.

The new restaurant will be in one of the most visited spots in Malaga; this year a predicted 11-million people will have visited Muelle Uno, a new record.

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Torremolinos begins second phase of central pedestrianisation project

Mayor José Ortiz announced on a visit to the work site that the new boulevard on Plaza Costa del Sol will open in December

IVÁN GELIBTER

TORREMOLINOS. The second phase of the transformation of central Torremolinos is well under way and during a visit to the works on Wednesday, the town's mayor, José Ortiz, announced that the new Plaza Costa del Sol would be complete by

December.

Ortiz described the project as "the most emblematic and transformative project" in the town since the 1960s and that it would be for the "enjoyment" not only the new influx of tourists but residents too.

While underground work has been ongoing since January, this second phase is all above ground and has been divided into three parts to minimise the disruption to shoppers and business owners in the area.

The first will take place in July and August between Avenida Palma de Mallorca and its intersection with Calle Cauce. Next, in September and

October, work will take place between Calle Cruz and Calle Hoyo, up to Avenida Los Manantiales. The final stage, which will be completed in December, will be in the centre, from Calle Cauce to Avenida Los Manantiales, in front of the Doña María Barrabino house.

In time for Christmas

Town Planning councillor Maribel Tocón, also present on Wednesday, announced that "this Christmas we'll have a new Torremolinos".

She also said that works at El Bajondillo were almost complete, barring the installation of lighting.



The 'new Torremolinos' is set to be ready in time for Christmas. :: I. GELIBTER

More buses scheduled to run from Mijas to Marbella and Fuengirola

I. GELIBTER

MIJAS. Mijas town hall has announced that both the M122 bus which connects Fuengirola and Mijas, as well as the M220 between Fuengirola and Marbella, will run more services during the summer months.

"This is a tourist municipality and when the summer comes, the num-

ber of users increases significantly. As the local administration, we are always looking to adapt our services to suit the needs of our residents," said councillor Nuria Rodríguez.

The M122 service will run an hour longer, with the last bus leaving Mijas Pueblo at 11pm. The service will run every half an hour, starting at 7.20am in Fuengirola, from Mon-

day to Saturday. They will be just as frequent on Sundays and holidays, but the first will leave at 8am.

With regard to the M220 which passes through La Cala de Mijas, the service will run later with the last departure from the Avenida de Mijas turn off from the A-7 in Las Lagunas (Ford roundabout) at 1.55am every day.

From Monday to Saturday, the first departure is at 7.40am, leaving every half an hour. The frequency remains the same on Sundays and holidays, but the first departure is at 8.10am.

HERE AND THERE



Emaús serves 200 people every day in Torremolinos. :: SUR

Emaús receives 65,000 euro grant from Torremolinos town hall

TORREMOLINOS

T. BRYANT. Torremolinos town hall has approved a grant of 65,000 euros for the town's Emaús soup kitchen.

Emaús International, created in 1971, is an organisation of active

solidarity, fighting against poverty and social exclusion. The branch in Torremolinos, situated in Plaza de Andalucía, is run solely by volunteers and serves around 200 people a day, 365 days a year.

The organisation caters for the six soup kitchens in Torremolinos, providing breakfast, lunch and dinner to those in need. It also operates a delivery service for those with reduced mobility.

Egalitarian wedding fair comes to Torremolinos

TORREMOLINOS

T. B. Torremolinos is to host the first edition of the egalitarian bridal fair, Expobodas, on 6 and 7 of October. This new concept in the industry aims to offer services to all people planning their big day, regardless of gender and sexual orientation. The fair will offer the most outstanding representations

in the world of fashion, catering, decoration, tourism and event management.

Councillor for equality, Aida Blanes, said, "This new concept in wedding fairs will cater for everyone together, rather than having a segregated area reserved for the LGBT sector."

Director of Expobodas, Manuel Maya, said, "We chose Torremolinos because it has always been at the forefront of equality."



The Ombú tree in Benalmádena Costa that inspired the poem. :: T. B.

Memorial plaque for Ombú tree poet

BENALMÁDENA

T. B. In a campaign to recognise celebrated writers and artists, Benalmádena town hall has honoured Pablo García Baena, a Córdoba poet who died earlier this

year. Baena had lived in Benalmádena Costa for many years and was inspired to write a poem about a large Ombú tree that he passed each day. The poem, Ombú, has been inscribed onto a plaque that has recently been installed next to the tree in Avenida Antonio Machado. The plaque is illustrated with an image of the poet.

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The Marbella property market is prospering

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Christopher Clover, FRICS, owner and Managing Director of Marbella's longest established real estate agency, the exclusive international associate of Savills for Marbella, Estepona and Benahavis areas, has been writing about the Marbella property market for over 48 years. In his 2018 report, he concludes that "virtually every indicator of activity of the Marbella property market and its economy is positive".

The increase in sales volume last year was a healthy 6.9%, rising to 4,275 properties sold during 2017. Tourism, the main source for real estate sales, is breaking records, both nationally and locally: new hotels are being built, old ones are being refurbished. Rental prices increased 20.8% from January 2017 to January 2018. 924 new companies (discounting those which closed) were formed in Marbella in 2017.

Property prices are creeping upwards, a few ultra-prime areas in Marbella have doubled in price since the bottom of the market in 2011, whereas other areas in the municipality still offer properties for sale at below pre-crisis levels.

There is high activity in the Marbella area in new construction and off-plan sales. Around 61 new developments being built in Marbella, Estepona, Benahavis and Ojén which are for sale since 2016. These new projects offer properties in the price range of 200,000 euros to 4,000,000 euros and represent a total of 2,657 properties.

The greatest strength of the current residential market lies with properties priced between 200,000 euros and 1,500,000 euros for apartments, and euros 700,000 euros to 2,500,000 for villas.

Many properties in the best residential areas which are between 20 and 50 years old are being bought and either torn down and rebuilt, or totally refurbished, some by end users, others by professional developers.

Looking at the market evolution, the next few years will probably be characterized by a gradual development and growth of the area rather than a market heading for overheating as before, all depending of course on the economic evolution of the multitude of countries whose citizens comprise the markets for luxury Marbella-area real estate.

The Spanish buyer is returning to the market place, and of the for-



A Marbella property. SUR

ign buyers of property in Andalucía, those from the UK represent 21.5% of the properties sold, followed by the Swedes at 11.6% and the Belgians at 8.11%. Although the UK demand for property in this area has diminished slightly from 26.82% in 2016, the UK market is showing surprising resilience and remains the most important single market for purchasing property in Andalucía and in all of Spain.

The property sales volume in the province of Málaga is double that of the Balearic Islands, and the fourth in Spain behind Madrid, Barcelona and Alicante.

THE MAGIC OF MARBELLA

Since Marbella started to become popular in the mid-'50's when the Marbella Club Hotel opened, a policy of low density, low rise construction and ample green zones in the Marbella area has resulted in making Marbella today stand out as an oasis of quality, compared to the many concrete jungles on the Spanish coasts.

There are more than 40 golf courses within a 30-minutes' drive from Marbella. Located at Europe's southernmost tip, there are more than 320 days of sunshine and the best weather in all of the continent. With all these factors and a core population of the municipality in the winter months of around 300,000 people, Marbella now has a twelve-month season, with its high and low periods, compared to the strictly seasonal nature of almost all of the Mediterranean resort cities, rolling up the sidewalks at the end of September and gradually coming back to life at the end of March.

There are many other factors

currently at play which are essential to take into consideration when contemplating the full spectrum and impact of the positive evolution and activity of this area. Marbella's extraordinary culinary offer with more than 500 restaurants and 5 Michelin stars, the city with the highest number of Michelin stars in Andalucía, 20 the many events that Marbella is celebrating: golf tournaments, the Davis Cup, the Starlite Music Festival confirming it will continue in Marbella with an outstanding summer schedule, as well as many other shows and events of all types.

Marbella has a unique lifestyle which permits one to enter into various strata of the Marbella society or simply sit back to enjoy the climate, the incredible light which artists always talk about, the warmth and genuineness of the Spanish people, the outstanding nature surrounding the whole area.

Is today a good time to buy property in Marbella? Any time is a good time for those buying with lifestyle objectives in mind, which has always been the single most important factor influencing buyers in Marbella.

For many, the hard evidence of the positive evolution of the Marbella property market, will no doubt lead them to conclude that 2018 and the coming years represent an outstanding time, perhaps even a historic opportunity, to purchase property in this area, while Marbella is just entering its New Golden Age.

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Benalmádena to dredge sand and silt from port

The council will invite bids from companies, though the controversial dredgers of 2011 still remain under investigation

by ALBERTO GÓMEZ

BENALMÁDENA. Over the next few weeks, Benalmádena council will ask for quotes from companies to remove more than 40,000 cubic metres of sand and silt from Puerto Marina, a project that has been at a standstill since 2009. A report published last May warned that the build up of sand at the port could make it "dangerous" to sail there. The works are expected to last for two months and

should begin in October. The cost of the project is set at 467,751 euros, including tax. The last dredging of the estuary, in 2011 was cloaked in controversy after the work was awarded to a local company. In three invoices, it was indicated that transfers had been made to a different company, which had been formed just one month before the contract had been awarded, and whose director had a "close friendship" with the councillor in charge of the port, Francisco Salido. The beneficiary of the invoices presided over a group with at least four companies, all in his name, which invoiced more than 1.4 million euros to the port management between 2011 and 2015. Though an investigation was carried out, many had doubts over the legality of the situation.



The build up of sand causes problems for sailors. by SUR

Junta de Andalucía is investigating illegal quarrying

by FERNANDO TORRES

ALHAURÍN DE LA TORRE. The Junta de Andalucía regional government has started proceedings to fine one of the companies accused of operating without a licence at the quarries in Alhaurín de la Torre. This comes after many complaints, a report from the Guardia Civil environmental service and protests from local ecologists about the destructive nature

of the alleged activity.

Regional minister for Employment, Business and Commerce, Javier Carnero, said that the proceedings were started after the Junta received the complaint from the Guardia Civil, and concern "the failure to comply with article 31.2 of the General Mining Regulations". For the environmental groups, the action is "positive", but comes four years too late.

Renovations to take place on last stretch of main road into Fuengirola

by IVÁN GELIBTER

FUENGIROLA. The council in Fuengirola has announced that works to improve the last stretch of Avenida Alcalde Clemente Díaz will begin on 5 September and are likely to last for 72 days.

With financial support from the provincial government, almost 1.6 million euros will be invested in the project, which will "modernise" the street, according to the mayor Ana Mula.

This avenue is one of Fuengirola's main arteries as it links the town by the station to the A-7 road. The council has set out with the new design to make sure that pedestrians will be a priority.

The lower stretch of the road, nearest the station, was remodelled last year. 29 companies bid to carry out this last section.

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Medina Azahara, World Heritage

Unesco has declared the Cordoba ruins a World Heritage Site, calling them a unique example of the development of Western Islamic civilisation

:: CECILIA CUERDO

SEVILLE. The archaeological remains of Medina Azahara, near Cordoba, built in the 10th century by Abderramán III, have been made a Unesco World Heritage Site. The international organisation's committee announced in Bahrain last Sunday that it had agreed to add the ancient Islamic complex to its list of protected areas.

Unesco said that the site serves as a "testimony to the Umayyads as a cultural and architectural civilization, and more generally, to the development of Western Islamic civilization".

With the naming of Medina Azahara as a World Heritage Site, Cordoba has become the first place in the world to have four areas with this prestigious Unesco status. The archaeological remains join the Mosque-Cathedral, the old town and, most recently, the Fiesta de los Patios flower festival, which was chosen as an Intangible Cul-



Caliphate city Medina Azahara, close to Cordoba. :: EFE

tural Heritage Site in 2012.

Medina Azahara's 112 hectares of walled land make it the largest archaeological site in Spain. The area has two particular features that stood out to the Unesco specialists. Firstly, it is an example of ancient cultural traditions and secondly, the impressive architecture is representative of an important historical period.

The complex was constructed in 936 by the Umayyad dynasty when Cordoba was the capital of an Islamic Caliphate and a centre of Western civilisation. According to

ancient writings discovered by archaeologists, it was a gift from the monarch to his love, Azahara, who never got used to the place, despite the beauty of its garden of almond trees. The splendour barely lasted a century, destroyed by the Berbers during a civil war in 1010. It wasn't until the 19th century that the ruins were identified, six kilometres away from Cordoba city centre.

After Unesco's announcement, the regional president of Andalucía, Susana Díaz, highlighted the importance of this "artistic and historical jewel".

IN BRIEF



The works of art date from the 17th century. :: A. VÁZQUEZ / LA VOZ

Lost cathedral carvings turn up in private hands

CADIZ

Four 17th century wooden carvings in pieces that went missing from the crypt of Cadiz cathedral have turned up in private hands after being removed ten years ago "to stop them being

thrown out". The alarm was raised by museum and church officials last week. The items are by Spain's first official female sculptor, La Roldana, and were originally part of a bigger altarpiece that was dismantled. The two men, one a carver and another with links to the local church, who took the items out of storage have claimed that they were protecting them.

Utility and phone firms told to open real offices

SEVILLE

M. D. T. The Junta de Andalucía is working on new consumer-protection legislation that includes the obligation for a water, electricity, gas, insurance or phone supplier to have at least one physical office open to the public in each of the eight Andalusian provinces. In addition it is asking for the firms to provide

round-the-clock customer service by telephone without charge.

The Junta, which operates an arbitration service between consumers and some companies, said that in 2017 it had 1,843 arbitration requests, 8.5 per cent more than a year earlier. It says that many cases could have been solved sooner if customers didn't have just a telephone operator available to help them. Some 4,000 companies in all sectors are signed up to the regional arbitration system.

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New Calpe House facility for Gibraltar patients opens in London

The building has 37 ensuite rooms and, like its predecessor, will be a 'home for home' for those who need hospital treatment in the UK

DEBBIE BARTLETT

GIBRALTAR. All sponsored patients from Gibraltar who are sent for medical treatment in London will be able to stay at the new Calpe House in future. This new facility in Norfolk Square was officially opened by the patron of Calpe House Ltd, Sir Joe Bossano, who was also representing the Gibraltar government, on Tuesday this week.

The previous Calpe House in Princes Square, which has always been known as a 'home from home' for Gibraltar patients, had become too small to cope with demand. The new building cost £8.5 million to buy and an approximate £6 million was spent on its conversion and refurbishment. The facilities are more extensive and modern: there are 37 ensuite rooms (27 doubles and 10 singles), most of which have a kitchenette, and communal and visitor areas.

In his speech, Sir Joe said he was



The new facility is in Norfolk Square, London. :: CALPE HOUSE TRUST

honoured that one of the Calpe House buildings has been named after him: the three are called 'The Peter Caetano Wing', 'The Sir Joseph Bossano KCMG Wing' and 'The Charles Tilbury BEM Wing', in tribute to "the people who inspired the original idea of Calpe House and made it a reality," said the charity's chairman, Albert Poggio. The new Calpe House was made possible by corporate and indi-

vidual donations from the people of Gibraltar, and support from the Gibraltar government.

Among those at the inauguration were the Governor of Gibraltar, Lieutenant General Ed Davis, Dr Daniel Cassaglia (GHA Medical Director) and other members of the Gibraltar Health Authority, some of the corporate sponsors and the Board of Trustees and Directors of Calpe House.

IN BRIEF



HMS Duncan is a Type 42 destroyer. :: MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

HMS Duncan visits Gib on her way home

GIBRALTAR

DEBBIE BARTLETT. HMS Duncan is due to arrive in Gibraltar today, 6 July, for a routine engagement visit. This Type 45 destroyer has just completed a very successful seven-month de-

ployment as flagship of NATO's task group in the Black Sea and Mediterranean. She has been taking part in a number of operations and exercises, maritime security patrols and regional engagement in Southern European waters and the surrounding areas. Following her visit to Gibraltar, the ship will return to her home port, Portsmouth.

Look out for new purple jellyfish flag

GIBRALTAR

DEBBIE BARTLETT. From now on Gibraltar's beaches will fly a purple flag to indicate that jellyfish and/or other dangerous marine life are known to be in the area. If you see a purple flag, it doesn't mean swimming is prohibited if sea conditions are suitable, but extreme caution and vigilance are needed.

Biggest Christmas Lottery so far

GIBRALTAR

DEBBIE BARTLETT. It may only be July but the government has announced that this year's Christmas Draw will be the biggest yet. It will take place on Tuesday 18 December at 7:30pm. The 100,000 tickets, on sale now, will cost £20 per full ticket, and the top prize will be one million pounds.

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Churriana, the euro tester

Twenty years ago, the district was involved in a pilot project to try out the new currency; now a new experiment is planned

Over four days in 1998, Churriana became the focus of global media attention as locals tested out the euro

:: NURIA TRIGUERO

MALAGA. Everyone in Churriana remembers 1998 as the “year of the euro”. For them the European currency came four years early. The pilot experiment which simulated the change from peseta to euro lasted four days and turned the neighbourhood into a place of international interest. It was the first initiative of its kind in Europe and was revolutionary for Churriana, which filled with visitors, journalists and politicians. The banks carried out 150,000 exchange operations and the shops sold more than ever before.

This year marks two decades since that experiment, which is still fondly remembered. Rare is the resident who hasn't kept a collection of the coins that were put into circulation over those four days. There were eight commemorative coins: 1, 2, 5, 10, 20 and 50 cents and 1 and 2 euros, all of which were distributed in packets of 9.51 euros (1,600 pesetas) or of 17.83 euros (3,000 pesetas). Each person was able to acquire the euro equivalent of 4,600 pesetas.

Nieves Bravo worked as a cleaner in Unicaja. She remembers the commotion at the branch and the queues of hopeful locals and visitors over those four days. “The coins ran out and soon collectors arrived, paying as much as 500 or 600 euros for the packet of 9.51 euros,” recalls the Churriana resident.

Some people took photos with the politicians who visited the neighbourhood. This is the case of Carmela Álvarez, whose husband, a pharmacist, is pictured in one of the more memorable photos of the event: Rodrigo Rato, the minister of the Treasury buying flu medicine with his euros. “Fifty journalists ar-

rived at the pharmacy. I thought it was going to fall down,” she remembers.

It was the then-mayor of Malaga, Celia Villalobos, who convinced Rato that Churriana would be the ideal place to carry out the euro experiment, which took place from 30 September to 3 October 1998. The streets of were pedestrianised and were filled with residents and visitors ready to spend their test euros. The shop owners threw themselves into the experiment, hanging posters with prices in

both euros and pesetas and patiently helping confused customers. They distributed currency converters and, to liven up the atmosphere even further, there was a bull run and a ‘Fiesta del Euro’.

To celebrate the 20th anniversary of the beta launch of the euro in Churriana, the mobile payment app, Bizum, has organised another initiative in the same neighbourhood. Residents of all ages are getting involved with the experiment and introducing the app into their daily lives.



Local residents last week with the coins they used in 1998. :: M. F.



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The story was on the front page of SUR in English on 2 October 1998.





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HEY, SMALL SPENDER



According to Donald Trump, Spain is not spending enough money on defence. The US president wrote to the new Spanish prime minister Pedro Sánchez this week, informing him that the country needs to up its military budget to 2% of GDP, in accordance with pledges made at the NATO summit in Wales in 2014; currently, Spain spends around 0.96% of its GDP on defence, which its new government says is plenty. It's a position that Trump's huffy mis- is unlikely to change.

The US president's letter was also sent to Canada and several other EU countries, alerting them to a matter likely to top the agenda at a NATO summit in Brussels next week (indeed, only five NATO members hit or exceeded the 2% target last year). As far as the US president is con-

cerned, though, Spain's small spending on defence not only breaks a deal made among NATO members in Wales four years ago - it also goes against a much more recent pledge.

Last December, the then Conservative defence minister María Dolores de Cospedal promised to increase the Spanish defence budget from around €10 billion a year (or 0.86% of GDP) to €18 billion a year (1.5% of GDP) by 2024 - an increase of over 70% in four years. The proposal was greeted with outrage by the Socialists, who argued that the money would be better spent on a public sector weakened by economic crisis. Socialist politician Ana Botella Gómez told De Cospedal that to plough so much extra cash into defence was wrong at a time when many Spanish families' lives were "marked by hardship and

precarity".

The big change since last December, of course, is that Spain's Socialists are no longer voicing their dislike of Conservative policies from the opposition benches: they're in power. Gómez is now Secretary of State for Security in Sánchez's Socialist government and is not about to sanction a massive increase in military expenditure, as recommended by Spain's former Conservative defence minister.

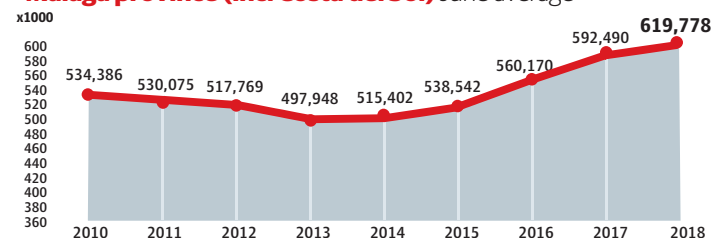
Trump seems to have forgotten, or perhaps doesn't care, that he's dealing with a whole new Spanish government from the one that was in office last December.

In any case, the PSOE is right to argue that it's not just how much you spend, it's how you spend it. Speaking with NATO Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg in Madrid on Tuesday, Sánchez said that Spain has proved itself a "firm ally" of NATO by committing troops to all its military operations, as well as all EU military operations; he also highlighted Spain's membership of the Global Coalition Against Daesh, for which it has provided almost 600 soldiers.

Trump can send the new Spanish prime minister all the nasty letters about upping defence spending that he wants - but they're unlikely to have the desired effect.

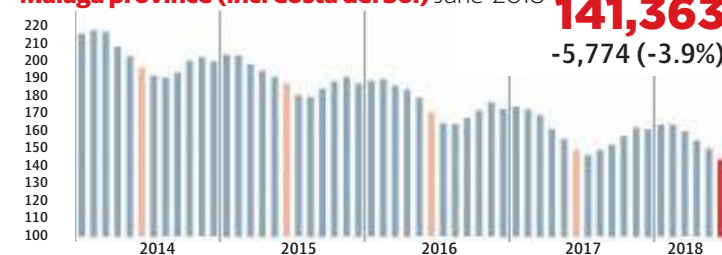
Registered as paying social security contributions

Malaga province (inc. Costa del Sol) June average



Registered unemployed

Malaga province (inc. Costa del Sol) June 2018



UNEMPLOYED

141,363

-5,774 (-3.9%)

Unemployed in the province down 3.9% says June data

✉ NURIA TRIGUERO

MALAGA. Monthly data for the number of jobless registered at government unemployed centres in June in Malaga province showed a fall of 5,774 (3.9 per cent) in May, due mainly to contracting for the peak summer tourist season. This is the lowest total since 2008.

Meanwhile, the same data has

shown that the number of people registered as paying social security contributions for benefits such as healthcare and pensions has gone up and reached 619,778, more than before the last financial crisis.

Unions have called for less temporary and more long-term contracts. The data excludes long-term unemployed who aren't registered.

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Separatist detainees moved to Catalan jails as Sánchez relaxes position

The Catalan president visited one of the two local prisons on Wednesday

:: SUR

BARCELONA. The former Catalan leaders in jail awaiting trial have been allowed to move from prisons near Madrid to Catalonia. On Wednesday six of the nine were taken to two jails closer to their homes.

The new Socialist government, led by Pedro Sánchez, agreed to the

move in response to criticism from pro-independence politicians and in an effort to improve relations with Catalonia.

The prisoners are being held over their alleged part in the illegal declaration of independence last October and on Wednesday evening pro-separatist Catalan president Quim Torra visited one of the two jails, saying, "Moving the prisoners closer isn't a concession [to separatists], it's not a political gesture nor does it form part of any negotiation." Torra is due to meet the new PM to discuss Catalonia on Monday.

Government pacts new management board at RTVE, the public broadcaster

:: SUR

MADRID. Pedro Sánchez's minority PSOE government secured its first parliamentary success this week when it reached agreement with enough other political parties for a new board of directors at RTVE. A softer stance on Catalonia helped get Catalan nationalist support.

RTVE, the national public broadcaster, has a board approved by parliament and there had been disagreement over how it should be made up. In the end the new board will also have members chosen by the Podemos party and the PNV Basque nationalists but not by the conservative PP party nor centrist Ciudadanos.

The new board is in a position to influence editorial policy and the PP expressed anger at being left out. Parliamentary spokesperson, Rafael Hernández, said, "We are not prepared to let Pedro Sánchez assault public television so they don't broadcast the payments to his [political] partners and so he controls the news." The new head of RTVE is Tomás Fernando Flores, current boss of its Radio 3, a music-based station.

IN BRIEF

Podemos leadership couple have twins early

MADRID

:: SUR. The leader of political party Podemos, Pablo Iglesias, and his partner, Irene Montero, also a top party member, have become the parents of twin boys.

The babies, which are expected to be called Leo and Manuel, were born three months prematurely and will stay in hospital for the next two months.

Speaking after his partner gave birth after only six months, Iglesias said, "They've been born much earlier than expected. We hope all goes well. They are in the best hands."

The high-profile couple were at the centre of a controversy in May when it emerged that they had bought a 600,000-euro house outside Madrid to bring up the children in. Their party, Podemos, was founded as part of an anti-capitalist street movement and they were seen as potentially abandoning their political roots. An overwhelming majority of party members then backed them in a subsequent online vote.

PP party decides shortlist for new leader

MADRID

:: SUR. The PP party was deciding on Thursday who will be on the shortlist to be its new leader. Only those party members who registered to vote can take part and it is expected that two favourites will emerge to go forward to a final vote at a party conference later this month. There are six pre-candidates, and the final choice is likely to come from three of them; Pablo Casado, a party media chief, and former ministers María Dolores de Cospedal and Soraya Sáenz Santamaría. Commentators have said that this is the most divided race for leadership in the party's history.

Trump demands more NATO spend from Spain

MADRID

:: SUR. The US president, Donald Trump, has written to the prime minister, Pedro Sánchez, reminding him of his obligations on defence and the promise of former PM, Mariano Rajoy, to increase military spending to 2 per cent of GDP by 2024. A letter also went to some other allied governments and came ahead of a NATO summit in Brussels next week.

Spain currently spends 0.92 per cent on defence, the third lowest percentage in NATO. Sánchez, and Rajoy before him, have said defence commitment cannot be measured in GDP terms alone.



Torra (c) leaves Lledoners jail, Catalonia, after the visit. :: M. SÀENZ

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The outside of the Valley of the Fallen, with the huge cross in the background. :: ALBERTO FERRERAS

The valley in which Franco didn't want to be buried

The dictator would have preferred his remains to be laid to rest in a chapel at Mingorrubio cemetery, near El Pardo

The imminent transfer of his remains has started a debate about the future use of the monument in the Madrid hills

:: A. AZPIROZ

MADRID. "As a democracy, Spain cannot permit symbols which separate Spanish people. Something which would be unimaginable in Germany or Italy cannot be allowed in this country either. It is a question of closing wounds."

In his first interview as prime minister, Pedro Sánchez made it clear that he would change the present status of the Valley of the Fallen, and that includes removing the remains of dictator Francisco Franco from the mausoleum and burying them else-



Juan de Ávalos, with reproductions of some of his father's works. :: A. F

where, something which his socialist predecessors Felipe González and José Luis Rodríguez Zapatero either didn't want or didn't dare to do. The

decision has now been taken. The move will be made before August.

What is strange in these 43 years of debate about the Valley of the

Fallen is that Franco didn't ask to be buried in this monument, which he ordered to be built in an idyllic setting in the Madrid hills. His intention was to be buried in a chapel at the Mingorrubio cemetery, near El Pardo palace, which is where the remains of his wife, Carmen Polo, lie.

"There was no way that Franco wanted to go to the Valley of the Fallen," insists Juan de Ávalos, architect, painter and son of the sculptor of the same name who was commissioned to create the statues which adorn the monument.

De Ávalos has the same close relationship with the site as his father, whose appointment upset some elements of the Franco regime because he was a republican. "At that time, you could be republican but not left-wing," says Juan junior.

He says that when the dictator suffered his first haemorrhage, Carmen Polo went to look at the chapel at Mingorrubio. "When Franco asked what it was like, she told him it was too luxurious. If she thought that about the chapel, I imagine the Valley of the Fallen would have been considered very grand indeed, to say the least" he says.

Wishes set aside

With Franco dying, Arias Navarro's government decided to leave aside the dictator's wishes and prepare a

place for him inside the Valley of the Fallen. According to De Ávalos, just a few days before the burial the managing director of a construction firm was commissioned to prepare the tomb. When Franco died, King Juan Carlos signed an order which declared that he was to be buried in the Valley of the Fallen.

The decision to bury Franco at the Valley of the Fallen has linked the monument with the dictatorship ever since, something which Pedro Sánchez's government considers can be corrected by moving his remains.

The socialists want to reform the Law of Historic Memory and transform the monument into a National Memorial Centre so it is no longer a place of memory for Francoism and Catholic nationalism. Instead, they want it to become a place "for the culture of reconciliation, democratic collective memory, and dignity and recognition for the victims of the Civil War and the dictatorship".

Albert Rivera of the Ciudadanos party would rather it became a national cemetery, similar to that of Arlington in the USA, where American soldiers who died in combat are buried. For Izquierda Unida it should be desacralized and just renamed 'Cuelgamuros Valley'. Compromís senator Carles Mulet goes further still: he wants the monument to be demolished, as the only way of not leaving "reminiscences".

De Ávalos has a proposal of his own, nothing to do with politics and based on reconciliation and his passion for art. "I think what they should do is promote it as the result of the work of artists, engineers, stonemasons, builders and painters. A lot of culture lies within that," he says. He is in favour of a museum to hold the vast amount of documentation written about the Valley of the Fallen and its construction. With regard to the burials, he says if the relatives of any the more than 33,000 people buried there don't want their loved one to lie beneath the cross, they should be offered another position within the complex, and finally he proposes that the black marble which decorates each side of the entrance to the basilica be inscribed with the names of all those buried there, no matter which side they fought for. "And in strict alphabetical order," he says.

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THERE IS A PRIZE FOR THE BEST
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An unkempt Mijas Pueblo

I read the letter last week from Sue Butler-Smith and agree with what she said.

We love our beautiful village, but not for some time now it hasn't been properly cleaned, especially in the non-central areas of the Pueblo, although tourists always visit them to admire the views of the campo, Fuengirola and the Mediterranean.

Staying here in Mijas, having first bought in 1982, I have noticed that there are more and more dogs kept as pets by locals and very sadly not everyone picks up the fouling left by their pets. In fact on the C/ Campos, close to the Coin road junction, was placed a fixed dog 'poo' bin maybe more than a year ago now. I went to town hall to ask if more of these fixed bins (with an attached notice for a fixed

penalty) could be placed around the village area by the local police. No response was received from my written application and so far as I can see there are no more bins. Even the donkeys and horses now have to wear 'poo catchers'!

It's all very well outsourcing, but the cleaning company, Urbaser I believe, must themselves be controlled by someone at the town hall, to ensure they carry out correctly what they are meant to do, as set out in their contract.

Please, please everyone do look after Mijas Pueblo and keep it clean, including the periphery areas for the residents and the valuable tourists.

PETER B. RAPAPORT
MIJAS

The European Union

The so-called European Union - there is no union and can never be any union within Europe.

We have had an apartment in La Cala de Mijas for eight years come this October 2018. I have now retired and wish to live at our apartment, legally in Spain. However, Spain has done its best to prevent us from doing so. The amount of paperwork produced - payment of certificates, proving who we are, legalising the car, confirming at the bank our status, Spanish landline and mobile number - to date this has cost us €2294.00.

I thought the EU provided free movement of European citizens to live in any country within the EU. But this cannot be so; we have friends in France who are in the same situation as us. They want to be legal but once again the rules and regulations applied in France are different to the UK, and different to Spain.

I have had to have my pensions translated into Spanish, my birth certificate translated and all officially stamped; this cost €200.00. Registering for health-care, even having the S1 forms obtained from the UK government department and sent to our address in Spain, on making an appointment at the Social Secu-

rity office in Fuengirola, the answer was NO!

The matriculation of my left-hand drive car was not completed because the rear windows were tinted, and there was framework for a tow bar, but the actual ball end was taking off as I do not tow anything, I had to pay €90.00 for certification before the ITV could be done. To once again legalise our vehicle in Spain plus my driving licence has cost €1620.00. Before we came the car was serviced at 95,480 km in February 2018, with anything wrong being put right, new brake pads, new discs, new front springs, oil change, timing belt aircon, lights, new wiper blades, new tyres, emission level checks at a cost of £1846.00 inclusive VAT.

The European Union is a farce; you try to be above board and do every thing legally, but NO! I would like to know if in the UK the same rules apply, because I have seen Polish, Romanian and French vehicles there that would never pass an MOT test.

Spain certainly does not have a certificate for the environment with the amount of paper that is produced.

We have decided to cut our losses and return to the UK. Bring on Brexit.

RICHARD SLATER
MIJAS

Jazz rules

PETER EDGERTON
MUSIC MAKER WWW.E-PETER.COM

Jazz music is a mightily broad church. From Ella Fitzgerald to Weather Report, the definition of what constitutes jazz seems like a pretty moveable feast to say the least. The first time I remember doing a cartoon double take at the radio was when some DJ or other said something about "the great jazz singer, Ray Charles". Mr Charles had never sounded much like jazz to my ears, I can tell you. Then, as time progressed, I'd see posters for people like Van Morrison headlining jazz festivals. Eh? How on earth is the old Irish curmudgeon in any way related to jazz? The whole arena was, and indeed is, completely baffling.

To this end, I thought I'd offer some clear guidelines as to what truly constitutes jazz, so that we can all get some proper focus going here.

First rule is that there must be a drummer who tish, tish, tishes on a hi hat cymbal all the way

through the piece, preferably with wire brushes. If he can also sport a greying spindly beard and a shirt even a golfer wouldn't be seen dead in, this certainly helps. Secondly, at least one of the eight guitarists needs to be practising his scales at all times, and not necessarily in the same key as the other musicians present. It's always a bonus, if it's a live performance, if a member of the audience can periodically yell something like, "Hey there, fast fingers! When does the tune start?!" at him. This won't lead to the inclusion of any discernible melody at any point but will, at least, provide some light relief from the earnest nature of the whole shebang.

Another jazz requisite is to have somebody constantly plinking and plonking away at a xylophone in the background or even - unfortunately - in the foreground. Apparently, it's essential that they are holding two beaters - or whatever

they're called - in each hand, crossed over like a giant chopstick/cotton bud combination. Plonk, plonk plinketty plonk is generally deemed to be more than sufficient in almost every situation.

Any piano player present should always avoid any pleasantly normal chords like, say, C major, and instead consistently plump for dissonant fifths and major sevenths leaving the listener so uncomfortable with the lack of resolution in the music that eventually he's forced to cry out in anguish "Please! Please! I beseech you! Resolve it! C major! C major! Please!" At which point he's usually carted off to padded cell somewhere to spend the rest of his days humming Beatles tunes because at least they actually have a beginning, a middle and an end.

Jazz is in fashion currently, and very popular with all age groups, it seems.

I'd actually rather listen to a bit of Ray Charles.

IDÍGORAS



The cave

PABLO ARANDA

In the cave in Rincón de la Victoria our ancestors kept warm by stuffing themselves with razor clams and cockles. We have known since February that the world's earliest graffiti artists decorated the walls of Ardales Cave more than 65,000 years ago, and now we know that 15,000 years ago they caught shellfish in Europe's only cave that originated under the sea. And if the tides were good they would occasionally get to roast a whale that had been beached on the shore.

15,000 years later and 10,000 kilometres away, this June, in Thailand, a master and his 12 disciples went into a cave and they could be stuck there for several months.

Passion these days must be associated with football. After a match which we don't know who won, a 26-year-old Thai coach and 12 players, aged between 11 and 16, visited one of the biggest tourist attractions in the north of Thailand: a labyrinthine cave several kilometres deep. They got lost and the rain and mud flooded the entrance. Ten days later, against all odds, they were found alive, but they might not be able to escape for months, although divers will take them energy bars and other foods. If they can learn to dive, they could get out faster. I hope they are freed soon and someone makes a film. Antonio Banderas could play the coach. He already

starred in The 33, about a group of Chilean miners trapped in an underground mine.

This week two British divers reached the football team, who don't speak English. What must they have understood while those men emerged from the water and gave them instructions? A study says that we lie less when we speak another language, but those Englishmen were speaking their own, which belongs to everyone. When faced with the cruel truth it's best not to understand. Imagine several months in the dark eating energy bars and waiting for divers to bring medical supplies. I'm confident they'll get them out all right.

Europe is a cave and we don't want to let anymore people in. We forget that the whole world is a cave, one big one. Our ancestors had the right idea: to eat shellfish in the shade, near the shore. I don't know whether people from outside would have been welcome in those caves 15,000 years ago, or if they roasted them on sticks too, which must be painful.

SUR English

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Malaga, a star of Russia's World Cup

The commercial all over Russian TV screens this month was filmed on Calle Larios

FRANCISCO
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Twitter: @pacogrinan

The iconic Equitativa building at the end of main street is the backdrop for a chewing gum commercial that tells Russians not to be shy about speaking English to tourists

MALAGA. Flags from all over the world, football shirts, Cossack hats, Russian dolls, smoke flares, parties, chants and... GOAL! This has been the scene on Russian televisions these last few days to celebrate the World Cup. However, the image in question is not from a sports programme nor a news broadcast. It is a commercial for Orbit chewing gum that invites Russians to try chatting in English so that the masses of travelling football fans leave with a good impression of the country and its people.



Filming on Calle Larios in February. Right, a scene from the commercial with La Equitativa in the background. ■ SILVIA ARÁEZ, FRESCO FILM / SUR

While the commercial appears on television screens in Moscow, it is clear that the setting of this commercial is none other than Malaga's Calle Larios and in the background is the famous Equitativa building.

The filming itself took place much earlier than the World Cup celebrations began, on Sunday 18 February. Over the course of that

day, Malaga's main pedestrianised street was transformed into a side street of Moscow's Red Square, host to a typical market.

"Filming in Russia during the winter would have been impossi-

ble because the streets were covered with two metres of snow, so we moved shooting to Spain. Calle

Larios was perfect and the straight lines of the La Equitativa building turned out to be very similar to those seen in Russian architecture," explained Silvia Aráez, of Fresco Film, the Malaga production company that created the advert for the BBDO Moscow agency.

Fifty extras took part in the filming of the advert, Time to Talk, in which a market trader chats with a foreign football fan.

A very European street

"[Calle] Larios' 19th-century style means it is the ideal location to represent any European city," explained Rafael Guadamuro, the director of casting at Modexpor, which was in charge of the selection of the extras, who put the football atmosphere into the advert.

In fact, as well as the Orbit campaign, the road has served to mimic the streets of London for a Samsonite advert and also as a snowy northern European city as part of a publicity campaign for Saudi Airlines.

In the case of Time to Talk, the humorous clip encourages Russians to "use English, as best you can, with mistakes and an accent, so that all the world can see that we are a friendly and hospitable country", explained Grigory Rakovsky, from BBDO Moscow.

The Russians certainly won't have lost their sense of humour after defeating Spain in the quarter-finals last Sunday, much to the disappointment of those treading the pavements of Calle Larios this week.



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Roots in England, flowers in Spain

Cecilia McWeeny was officially made an "adopted daughter" of Almuñécar last Friday

JENNIE RHODES

✉ rhodes_jennie@hotmail.com

ALMUÑÉCAR. Cecilia McWeeny, a Brit resident in Almuñécar for past 53 years, received the title of "hija adoptiva" (adopted daughter) of the town last Friday. The honour was the local council's way of recognising her work as a volunteer for many local charities.

Cecilia McWeeny Chacón was born in Bradford in 1940. After leaving school she trained as a nurse and worked at Bradford hospital.

As a young woman, she, alongside some of her nursing colleagues, travelled to Norway for a skiing trip. Cecilia explains that on the boat back to England, they got talking to someone who had connections in Almuñécar and invited them to visit the town.

"We first went in 1963 and went back in 1965," Cecilia tells SUR in English, adding, "In those days we didn't know anything about the dangers of the sun and skin cancer and we used to literally fry ourselves by mixing olive oil and coca cola to try to get a tan."

Meant to be

While there on her second visit, Cecilia met her future husband Paco at a party. "During the holiday I knew it was meant to be," she reminisces.

She handed in her notice at Bradford hospital and moved to Spain, where she and Paco, who had just finished military service and was setting up his own business as a butcher in Almuñécar, married in 1967.

"My parents were very happy. They trusted me and, as they had met while on holiday in Lourdes,



Cecilia McWeeny (4th left) with the mayor of Almuñécar, Trinidad Herrera, and family members. :: SUR

they weren't surprised about me meeting someone in a similar way," she adds.

Cecilia also explains how her parents managed to bring a traditional three-tiered wedding cake from England for the wedding. One of Cecilia's uncles, Bernard, had been ordained as a priest in Spain and Cecilia explains that he "offered a lot of help" about Spanish families and way of life.

"I remember Uncle Bernard telling me that when you marry in Spain you don't just marry one person but the whole family and that's certainly true," laughs Cecilia.

She adds that her husband's family were very welcoming and that she has always got on well with them.

She says of the time in which she moved to Spain: "Of course it was during the Franco era but I didn't

really think about that. I was so in love and I just don't think it really affected me."

She and Paco had a very happy marriage, she says, but she often got comments from other Spanish people about "what her husband would let her do", adding: "Of course in those days husbands had to give their wives permission to do a lot of things."

Family

Cecilia and Paco had six children; three boys and three girls. Sadly one of the boys died when he was just 29, 20 years ago, and about eighteen months after Paco died of cancer.

Cecilia is now a grandmother to eight grandchildren: "All eight are girls." Cecilia says that she always speaks in English with her children

Cecilia's parents brought a traditional three-tiered wedding cake from England for the wedding

and granddaughters and describes English and Spanish connections poetically: "My roots are in England but my flowers are in Spain."

As well as her own family, Cecilia has dedicated her life in Spain to helping others, something that, as last week's recognition shows, has not gone unnoticed.

She has volunteered with a huge number of organisations including the cancer association AECC and Cáritas, and helped people with interpretation and hospital visits. She also gave parenting classes and

Official recognition of years helping the local community

Mayor of Almuñécar Trinidad Herrera Lorente conducted the ceremony during which Cecilia was presented with a certificate and medal as well as flowers. She was given the official recognition after all political parties agreed unanimously that the British septuagenarian should be made "adopted daughter" for her work as a volunteer, helping people, from other foreigners and expectant mothers, to drug addicts and people with Aids over the years.

Cecilia's eldest son, Mark, and two of her eight grandchildren spoke about their mother and "granny" during the event which took place at the town's Casa de la Cultura last Friday.

worked with drug addicts and people with Aids. "We had people staying with us when they needed help sometimes," Cecilia adds.

Her warmth and popularity were clear to see at Friday's event when family, residents, people she has helped along the years and local politicians of all parties, as well as town hall staff, packed the Casa de la Cultura.

Even one of her two sisters travelled from Bradford to be there, which was a surprise for Cecilia. "It was a lovely event and lovely to see so many people," she says. She adds that she has always done what has come naturally to her and always wanted to help people.

"There is a Spanish saying which is 'el amor se paga con amor' [love is paid for with love] and I believe in that."

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Independence Day on the Costa del Sol

Americans and friends enjoyed a traditional Potluck Party in Benalmádena on Sunday

:: SUR IN ENGLISH

BENALMÁDEMA. The American International Club Benalmádena and La Peña Americana from Fuengirola celebrated America's Independence Day a few days early last Sunday, with a traditional Potluck Party overlooking the sea in Benalmádena.

The US Consular Agent Roberta Aaron delivered the Independence Day address which was followed by a rousing rendition of the Star Spangled Banner.

Guests, who tucked into a traditional American menu along with other international delights, included over thirty friends from around the Costa del Sol, plus Bobby Aaron (US Consular Agent), Benalmádena councillor Ana Scherman and Joanna Drozdowska (from Benalmádena Foreigners Department). Also attending were Jeff Glenn (Peña Americana Fuengirola), Johnnie Wadley (Chairman of the American International Society Estepona) and Jim Thibault from the same society.



More than 30 guests attended the event in Benalmádena. :: SUR

Live entertainment was provided by Antony Wolson and Mikey Blanco who treated the guests to a tribute to Michael Jackson.

Elsewhere, the Fuengirola chapter of The American Club held a July 4th party on the actual day at Domi-

nique's restaurant, while Marbella Golf Country Club staged another event which included an open golf tournament, American-style barbecue and music supplied by Stelvis.

There are still events to be caught elsewhere along the coast this week-

end. The largest will be in Malaga where a procession starting from Plaza de la Marina through to the cathedral will remember the role of General Bernardo de Gálvez in the Battle of Pensacola, a key turning point in the American War of Independence. This

will take place tonight, Friday, starting from 7.30pm.

A reenactment that battle during which Gálvez defeated the British will take place on Saturday in his hometown of Macharaviaya. It will get under way from 9.30pm.



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Carving a living out of the sand

While the tourists soak up the sun and enjoy the beach, others are kept busy trying to earn a wage



Manchester John began sand sculpting on the beach in Torremolinos in 1999. He has become as popular as the sculptures he creates. :: T.B.

TONY BRYANT

✉ tonysureng@gmail.com

Manchester John has been creating sand sculptures on the Bajondillo beach for almost 20 years

TORREMOLINOS. Summer has arrived with a vengeance and the beaches along the Costa del Sol are full of tourists enjoying their annual vacations. While the visitors relax on the beach and soak up the sun, others are busy trying to make a living, whether working in the chiringuitos, or hiring out sun beds and pedalos. Others, like John, a sand sculptor who works on the beach in Torremolinos, use their artistic skills to make ends meet.

Born in Manchester in 1957, hence the affectionate name of Manchester John, the 61-year-old artist studied graphic art at Oldham



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BREXIT – MOVING TO SPAIN NOW: THE POSITIVE APPROACH

There have been a lot of harbingers of doom about Brexit and British citizens buying property and moving to Spain. However, on re-reading the Joint Report of the UK Government and the European commission of 8th December 2017 it is clear that for those thinking of buying or renting property and living in Spain before Brexit, some of the most important rights have been secured.

"This agreement guarantees that your rights as residents in the EU will be protected in the Withdrawal Agreement, so you can have certainty that you will be able to receive healthcare rights, pension and other benefits provisions as you do today. You can also benefit from existing rules for past and future social security contributions. Furthermore, we have agreed that close family members will be able to join you in the Member State where you live, after the UK has left."

This includes partners, Civil partners, grandparents and others.

It may well prove to be a mistake to take the wait-and-see approach if you are considering moving to live permanently in Spain, or indeed to set up a business or become an employee. For the retired, the major concern has been reciprocal rights on healthcare, so again it would be better to make your move prior to the final stages of Brexit.

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Art College. Although John has always had a passion for art, his dream was to become a professional footballer. He had trials for a feeding club for Manchester United - the club he dreamed of playing for - but a badly broken ankle ended his career before it began.

John spent many years working in the graphic design industry in Manchester, before selling his home to start afresh in Spain. Arthritis had been giving John many problems since his injury and so, on the advice of his doctors, a life in the sun seemed like the best option.

He arrived in Torremolinos in 1979, working as a barman in Hardy's Bar in the notorious Combat Alley. However, John broke his ankle again while playing football on the beach, so he returned to the UK during the mid-1980s to seek specialist treatment. Unfortunately, doctors were unable to fix his ankle and so John has suffered from his injuries ever since.

It was not too long before he decided to return to Spain, although his injury made it difficult for him to work for long periods. It was during this time that he came across an "old guy" who was making a huge sand sculpture on the beach. John got chatting to the artist and ended up earning a few coppers in return for collecting the water from the sea. John began helping the artist regularly and soon became familiar with the art of sculpting with sand.

"One day, the previous artist [whose name he does not recall] said he was leaving and told me that I could use his spot, so I took over and began making my own sculptures. Back then, artists could earn good money, because there were not many people doing it. Today this has changed, as there are now many trying to earn a living from sand sculpting," John explains to SUR in English.

John has now been a regular attraction on the Bajondillo beach in Torremolinos for almost 20 years and in that time he has created hundreds of outstanding sculptures.

Beach wedding

In 2013, John married his Finnish girlfriend, Paive, and she has now become his water carrier and companion whenever possible.

"We met seven years ago in a bar in Torremolinos. We got married here on the beach [he points to a small pergola just yards from where he works]. It was an absolutely fabulous day, because we had a '60s themed wedding and everyone dressed in psychedelic clothes and coloured wigs," he says, bursting into laughter as he recalls the event.

Even though John is a competent artist, his creations do not start as drawings, for he prefers to work spontaneously, creating whatever comes into his head. He tries to keep his crea-



The sculptor working on his latest creation, which is dedicated to the World Cup. :: TONY BRYANT

His sculptures have included temples, monsters, mermaids and a life-size elephant

Although he is a competent artist, his creations do not start as drawings; he prefers to create in his head

"Today it is harder because there are now many people trying to earn a living from sand sculpting"

tions topical and is currently working on a World Cup themed scene. This depicts a fan slumped on a sofa - a can of beer in one hand and a sleeping dog at his feet - watching the match on a huge television. His sculptures have included a massive nativity scene, the crucifixion of Christ, temples, monsters and mermaids, and a life-size elephant carrying a lance-bearing warrior.

Although it is illegal to request money from tourists, his work has been appreciated by thousands, a few of whom left a surprising reward: others have doubted whether his sculptures were constructed solely of sand and water.

Unexpected donation

Several years ago one of his crucifixion scenes caught the attention of an elderly Spanish lady, who left a roll of money next to the sculptor. John later discovered she had donated more than 200 euros.

On another occasion, several unruly British tourists questioned whether the lance carried by an In-



John's sand sculptures can take up to three days to carve. :: T.B.

dian warrior was merely a broom handle coated with sand.

"One of the guys bet me 50 euros, because he couldn't believe that it was made solely of sand. It boosted my earnings considerably that day," John says in his amusing Mancunian manner.

However, as John is keen to point out, it doesn't always go in his favour. There have been occasions when he has misjudged the mixture of sand and salt water, only to see his creation - which may have taken two or three days to make - suddenly tumble to the ground. Obviously when this happens, he has to start from scratch, but he never tires of working on the beach, even though

he is now struggling more with his ankle. To add to this, the authorities have also been clamping down on sand sculptors, although John is respected because of his etiquette towards the beach.

"Last week the police arrived to move a group of people who had set up camp on the beach. They had begun to build a large sand sculpture, but the authorities bulldozed it because they were not supposed to be living here," John explains.

John has tried to obtain a permit to ply his trade on the beach, but the town hall is yet to introduce such a licence. Because the beaches are public, there are no current rules that forbid this type of activity.

PET CARE

ERNY HARRISON



Dangerous toys

Consider the risks when buying playthings for pets

Over the years I have bought a great number of toys for our dogs and cats. There is an interesting variety from simple balls to a large cuddly bear. Even the latter can be dangerous with its semi glass dark brown eyes. Get rid of them before you give it to your pet. It would not be the first one to try and pull one out and choke on it.

Always buy your toys from a vet or a reliable pet shop. They know the dangers and will not stock harmful toys.

Many years ago I bought a ball for my cats which had an elasticated string attached to it. What fun I had watching them playing. And what fun did they have, jumping up and down to try and get the ball.

Ill fate struck. Smokey, in her effort to catch the ball, shot up in the air with the string cutting deep into her leg. The scream was incredible and it took me a few moments to react. My first instinct was to get a pair of scissors and cut her free. It would have been a serious mistake as she would have run away with the string still attached to her leg.

The first thing to do is stay calm. The second to roll your cat into a towel and then cut him or her free. At least they cannot escape and it gives you a chance to assess the damage. In my case a visit to the vet was necessary and Smokey needed stitches and a painkilling injection. It made me feel guilty and stupid at the same time.

Since then I have not bought any toys for my cats. I keep it simple. I make little balls from knitting wool or aluminium foil. Cheep and cheerful - giving them hours of harmless fun.

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Queues went around the block at the Palacio de Ferias. :: NITO SALAS

Thousands of hopefuls turn out for Operación Triunfo auditions in Malaga

The popular TV talent show invited participants to showcase their skills at the city's Palacio de Ferias on Monday

:: ROCÍO SÁNCHEZ

MÁLAGA. Solo artists or bands, with or without instruments. Variety was the order of the day, but

they all had one thing in common: a dream, a high dose of excitement and plenty of patience.

Almost two thousand mostly youngsters descended on Malaga's Palacio de Congresos on Monday, ready to perform a 30-second snippet for the first round of auditions for the popular TV talent show Operación Triunfo's latest edition.

The auditions, which started on 30 May in Barcelona, are working

their way around the country until a final stop in Madrid on 10 July.

Head of casting for the programme and singing coach, Noemí Galera, said that the previous edition of the show had "set the bar very high". Despite this, she said, "we are seeing a lot of very talented people here".

A lucky few were called back for a second audition on Tuesday, this time behind closed doors.



:: FERNANDO TORRES

MUSIC AND WORDS AT THE PIANO

British pianist James Rhodes gave one of his unorthodox concerts in Sohail castle in Fuengirola last Friday. Dressed in jeans, trainers and one of his signature composer sweatshirts - this one was Chopin - the musician, who now lives in Madrid, entertained with his combination of classical music and humorous monologue. References to Trump and the Manada sexual assault case came up alongside his comparisons of composers such as Bach and Rachmaninov with modern-day adolescents, giving his audience food for thought as they listened to his spectacular performances of their music.

Luis Fonsi to receive Global Gift Philanthropy award

:: NIEVES CASTRO

MARBELLA. Luis Fonsi shot to world fame last year after the release of 'Despacito', his wildly successful reggaeton track. Little known, however, is the Puerto Rican singer's charity work, for which he will be officially recognised in Marbella on 29 July. As part of the seventh edition of the Global Gift Gala, held at the Gran Meliá Hotel, Fonsi will receive the Phi-

lanthropist award, namely for his contribution towards the recovery effort in Puerto Rico and Dominica after the devastation wreaked by Hurricane María late last year,

as well as his donations to the cancer unit at St Jude's Hospital (Memphis, US). Given that the honouree will be performing at Marbella's Starlite festival three days prior to the ceremony, some are hoping that he will arrive to receive the award in person.



Luis Fonsi

OBITUARY

JIM BROMLEY

One of the veteran members of the Nerja branch of the Royal British Legion, Jim Bromley, passed away at the beginning of June.

Jim fought in the Second World War in the Arctic convoy and was instrumental in bringing about recognition not simply from the British government (70 years later) but also from the Russian government in gratitude for the contribution the convoy made to the people of Russia by taking sup-

plies to them during that conflict. "Jim will be greatly missed by everyone in the Legion,

but we take a small grain of comfort knowing that his widow Vera is fortunate in having a very loving and caring family around her,

testimony to the fact that Jim was a wonderful father and husband," said a representative of the Nerja branch.



Jim Bromley.

LEGAL ADVICE



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REF. O. S. S.

A bunch of lads have damaged my car. Apparently, they were drinking, they started to make a fuss and ended up kicking the wing mirrors of the cars parked in the street. With mine, apart from breaking the wing mirror, they broke a side and rear window as well. Some neighbours called the police

who arrested some of the lads, all were minors. Obviously, irrespective of the criminal responsibilities, I would like to recover the money that I have had to pay for the repairs. As they are minors, can I ask their parents to pay?

The Civil Code establishes that parents are responsible for the damage caused by their children under their care. Courts are accepting the obligation of parents to pay compensation, if there is negligence in their obligation to keep an eye on them.

REF. E. R. P.

I intend to buy an apartment on the coast. I have been visiting a residential development that is under construction and they told me that they are selling the properties very fast, and that I should pay a deposit if I want to buy one. Nevertheless, as the development is not finished yet, I fear that I could

then lose my money if the construction eventually stopped, as I have heard about similar cases in the past. What kind of security should I ask for?

Law obliges developers to guarantee, by means of a bank guarantee or insurance contract, any amount given by the buyer until the construction is finished, precisely in order to cover those cases when the construction is not built or completed within the terms agreed. Obviously, it is necessary to study all the documents before paying any deposit, in order to check that the required guarantees are indeed provided. And it is very important to hire the services of an independent lawyer, not related with the developer, as on many occasions buyers are advised to deal with the purchase through their own lawyers, "in order to save money", and at the end of the day those lawyers defend the interests of the developer and not the buyers.

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WHAT HAPPENED TODAY?

6 JULY 2008

Nadal beats Federer in greatest Wimbledon men's final of all time



JENNIE RHODES

rhodes_jennie@hotmail.com

On Saturday 6 July 2008 a young Rafael Nadal beat reigning Wimbledon men's champion, Roger Federer, in what many have hailed as the greatest Wimbledon final in history.

In a match which lasted just 12 minutes short of five hours, making it the longest final in history, Nadal beat his opponent 6-4, 6-4, 6-7 (3-7), 6-7 (8-10), 9-7 to clinch one of the tennis world's most sought-after prizes for the first time.

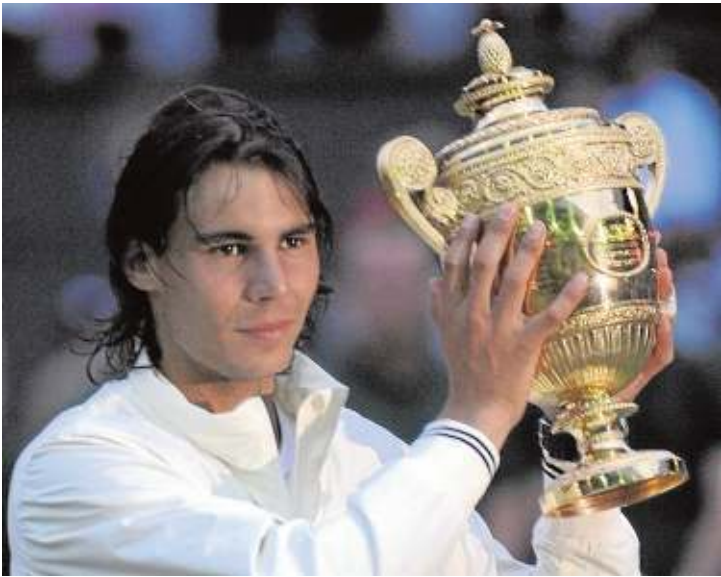
In the same year the Spanish

player also became the first man since Björn Borg to win both Wimbledon and the French Open, something which hadn't happened since 1980. His opponent in France was again Roger Federer, who Nadal had beaten for the third consecutive year to retain his place as the French Open champion, a title he had held since beating Argentinian Mariano Puerta in 2005.

The then 26-year-old Roger Federer had been the Wimbledon champion for five years in a row and was trying to retain the trophy for a sixth year.

The 2008 Wimbledon Men's Singles final was the third consecutive year in which Federer and Nadal had played against each other in that tournament.

The players were due on court at 2pm, but in typical Wimbledon



Rafael Nadal with his Wimbledon trophy in 2008. :: AFP

style, rain delayed the start of the match by about 35 minutes.

Nadal won the first two sets 6-4, 6-4, but rain stopped play once again as Federer led the third set 5-4. After a further 80 minute delay because of the bad weather, Federer fought back to win the next two sets, 7-6, 7-6. Another downpour just before 8pm stopped play for an additional 30 minutes.

By the time they returned, it was getting dark and there were doubts over whether they would be able to continue or if the match would have to be postponed until

the following day. In the end play continued into the evening and Nadal went on to win the fifth set 9-7 and also the match itself, which finally ended at 9.15pm.

The 2008 men's final also went down in history as the longest Wimbledon singles final in terms of time played and the second longest final in any Grand Slam until the 2012 Australian Open final.

Nadal has gone on to win 17 Grand Slam singles titles, 11 French Open titles (including this year's), three US Open titles, two Wim-

bledon men's finals and one Australian Open.

Two months after his victory at the All England Club in London, in August 2008, Nadal overtook Federer in the ATP (Association of Tennis Professionals) rankings, as world number one. He is currently ranked number two after his long-standing rival, Roger Federer.

Wimbledon 2018 started on 2 July and the men's final will take place on 15 July.

Bilingual crossword inside back page

LANGUAGE FOOTNOTE

Tenis	Tennis
Pelota	Ball
Red	Net
Raqueta	Racquet
Partido	Match
Contrincante	Opponent
Deporte	Sport
Ventaja	Advantage
40 Iguales	Deuce
Título	Title
Pista	Court
Aguacero	Downpour
Retrasar	To delay
Interrumpir	To interrupt
Vencer	To win
Campeonato	Championship
Hierba	Grass

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All change: new sports and leaders

SOCIETY SCENE

The Costa del Sol society scene continues to evolve this week, with fresh ideas for events alongside the old favourites

|| SUR IN ENGLISH

La Cala de Mijas Lions Club A Touch of Class

La Cala de Mijas Lions club recently hosted a gala dinner at Hotel Tamisa Golf. The evening started with the Costa Soul Singers followed by A Touch of Class. The

President of the Lions, Julie Barry, thanked everyone for their generosity in helping the club raise funds for the local community. Julie finished her year in office on 30 June and announced that the club had raised over 75,000 euros in its 20th year.

In the twenty years since it was founded, the club has raised nearly 800,000 euros. Funds are also raised at their charity shop at C/Torremolinos 12, La Cala de Mijas.

International Club of Estepona ICE-breaking Activities

June was particularly busy for ICE and saw the inauguration of a new sport for Sunday mornings: petanca. This will become a regular feature on Playa Ancha, Casares.

The main event of the month was the Summer Dinner Dance,

held this year at El Paraíso Country Club. Attendees dined al fresco and danced to Rockin' Johnny.

Another first for the club this month was a coach trip into the mountains to have lunch. Many regular events continue to take place, including Thursday morning meetings; just drop in at Bahía Dorada.

www.siberme.com

The Royal British Legion Remembering Christine Watson

The Mollina branch of the Royal British Legion paid tribute to the memory of former secretary Christine Watson, who died in 2015, with an annual photography competition held on the day of the Armed Forces Picnic. This year's winner was David Grey, who captured a Hurricane aircraft in flight.

The Mollina branch of the Royal British Legion also paid a visit to Seville on Friday 22 June.

Coming up is the annual dinner which will take place on 13 September at the Margarita restaurant. The three-course meal costs 20 euros per head, including wine, and will commemorate 100 years since the end of the First World War, the formation of the Royal Air Force and Battle of Britain Day. For more information, visit <http://branches.britishlegion.org.uk/branches/mollina>.

'Unstuffy'

Spain South RBL member Kathryn Thorndycraft-Pope recently



A Touch of Class perform at the Hotel Tamisa Golf. || SUR



ICE members enjoyed lunch in the mountains. || SUR

won a prize for her photograph of Dunottar castle, which is situated near her home town of Stonehaven, in Scotland. Upon receiving her winnings, a wall tapestry of her photograph from members

of the Spain South district committee, Kathryn said: "This competition is one way to kill the myth of The Royal British Legion being a stuffy organisation of men in blazers."

What are you up to?

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

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DENISE BUSH



GARDENING

Sweet viburnum

A versatile plant for a border or in a container, Viburnum odoratissimum has fragrant white flowers and shiny foliage

Viburnum odoratissimum (sometimes listed as V. lucidum), is native to China, Japan, India and Burma. It is a surprisingly hardy plant and one of the few vibur-

nums that will survive in a very hot climate. Commonly called sweet viburnum as the flowers are sweetly scented, it can be grown in a container, in a border

or as a dense screen or hedge.

Left to its own devices it will form a medium-sized tree with a dense, multi-branched canopy but cutting it back hard in spring, and clipping it again after flowering, will promote new growth and encourage a compact growth habit.

Sweet viburnum has large, oval, leathery leaves which turn red in the autumn. The perfumed conical racemes of small, white flowers appear in spring and through the summer.

After flowering has finished the green berries appear, gradually turning red and then black as they mature; an autumn treat for the birds.

Although moderately drought-hardy once established, sweet viburnum looks best and stays healthier if watered regularly during the driest months of the year.

Mulching around the base will help the soil to retain moisture. It is a good idea sprinkle a slow-release fertiliser around the base of the plant in the spring.

Sweet viburnum will also survive short periods of frost and is resistant to salt winds close to the sea. Councils often use it in planting schemes in cities as it is not bothered by air pollution or poor, compacted soils.



Viburnum odoratissimum and close up of bloom (inset). :: WIKIMEDIA

READER'S PHOTO



:: MRS CARTER

PRETTY AS A POPPY

This photo of 'Blush Pink' (bottom left) and 'Ladybird' (top right) poppies was sent in by Mrs Carter from Benamara Dos Hermanas.

GARDENING HINTS

Keeping up with watering

Watering is now a serious business with early morning and evening soakings necessary to keep your garden looking healthy. Avoid watering in full sun as the water droplets on the foliage will cause leaf scorching and keep the hose out of the sun as a blast of near boiling water won't do any plant a lot of good. If you have an automatic irrigation system set up, check every nozzle once a week to clear any blockages and act quickly if any plants

appear to be wilting. Another problem that comes with living in the 'campo' is often irrigation pipes get chewed by rodents. Whether they are looking for a cool drink or just like to chew on plastic pipes is unclear, but any plants beyond the chewed section become deprived of water while others at the site of the damage may become flooded. Unfortunately there isn't a solution, except be extra vigilant and keep a stock of bits and pieces for repairs.

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](https://www.facebook.com/surenglish)) or Twitter (@SUR_English).



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Woolsey, born in South Carolina, lived and died in Malaga.

:: SUR

Gamel Woolsey, the burning poet

ALBERTO GÓMEZ



✉ Twitter: @Agalmendres

Upon her grave in the English Cemetery in Malaga, like a piece of posthumous advice, a Shakespeare verse is written: "Fear no more the heat o' the sun." Gamel Woolsey was never a conventional woman. Nor was she fearful. She shunned the social and religious impositions of the first half of the 20th century to construct her own views, a poetic and free perspective which resulted in a short but powerful literary output.

She got through a childhood

marked by the death of her father and tuberculosis, flirted with cinema during her adolescence, explored sexuality in toxic relationships and at times was overcome by her liking for alcohol, but above all Woolsey was revealed to be an extraordinary chronicler of the Spanish Civil War in 'Malaga en llamas', or 'Malaga burning' in English.

As in so many other cases, none of this was enough to offset the macho coup of history, the balance of patriarchal accounts which she ended up witnessing as the wife of Gerald Brenan.

From their house in Churriana, Woolsey and Brenan witnessed the start of the war. It had appeared to be the loveliest morning of that summer ("in all the rummage box of time there could hardly have been found a more beautiful day") but it turned out to be the prelude to terror.

This American writer, born in 1895, didn't talk about the conflict

in terms of numbers or entrenched ideologies; she focused on relating the annihilation of everyday life, the effects of the bombardments on her neighbours, who were dragged into an incomprehensible spiral of blood and vengeance.

With a tremendous ability to notice details, Woolsey turned normal people into the protagonists of that terror. There was Enrique, the gardener, who planted far more fruits and vegetables than they needed in order to give the surplus to families with nowhere to grow their own. Maria, the cook and housekeeper, who groaned because the red mullet cost eight 'duros' per pound. The young people who, having had no time to understand anything, were sent to the front. The baker who had to hide and ended up riddled with bullets. The workers in the steel factory, who before the war began had called a strike to demand 15 pesetas a day.

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Half a century after her death, Malaga owes a debt to the American writer who brilliantly described the horror of the Civil War but was unjustly relegated and known mostly for being the wife of Gerald Brenan

She gave a voice to those condemned not to have one.

"She individualised the pain, the fear, the hunger and the tragedy," as writer Rosa Regas said in the book's prologue.

'Malaga burning' was not the title originally chosen by Woolsey: she had opted for 'Death's Other Kingdom', a verse taken from T. S. Eliot's poem 'Hollow Men' ("Those who have crossed, with direct eyes, to death's other Kingdom, remember us - if at all - not as lost, violent souls, but only as the hollow men. The stuffed men").

The first edition of the book, written in English, was published at the end of 1939, when the author was 44 years old. It was immediately discontinued as it coincided with the start of the Second World War, which monopolised general interest.

Zalin Grant, an American writer recognised for his narration of another conflict, the Vietnam War, was fascinated by Woolsey's book and republished it under the title 'Malaga burning'.

In Spain, Woolsey's chronicle did not find a publisher until 1998, when Temas de Hoy produced a translated version which, on the front page, referred to her marriage with Brenan as a way of attracting commercial interest: "The emotional testimony of the Civil War by the woman who shared her life with Gerald Brenan."

Paradoxically, Woolsey had always tried to transcend beyond her colleagues, although the masculine universe with which she was surrounded is key to understanding her work and her character.

After leaving Charleston, in South Carolina, she tried her luck as an actress on the stages of New York and met British writer and philosopher John Cowper Powys, who invited her to London. There,

she began a passionate relationship with John's brother Llewellyn, a married man, with whom she had an overwhelming adventure full of frustrations which would pursue her even after she was involved with Brenan.

When Gerald and Gamel met, they were both carrying emotional baggage. Brenan had just come out of a tangled relationship with painter Dora Carrington and other members of the Bloomsbury Group. The figure of Llewellyn still hovered over Woolsey. They married in Rome in 1931, embarking on a marriage "based on friendship, affection and mutual admiration," as Regas describes it.

In 'Malaga burning', Woolsey tells how Brenan could hardly bear the death that surrounded them. The couple ended up leaving the country, although they always maintained their links with Spain: "We tried to forget the war, but all the while it lay heavy and sore at the bottom of our minds".

A short while afterwards, in 1943, Brenan published 'The Spanish labyrinth'.

Rejection from Eliot

Above all, Woolsey was a poet. That lyrical vision of the world can also be seen in her prose. She wanted her work, in which she supported female sexuality and criticised the lack of freedom which asphyxiated women of her time, to be published by T. S. Eliot, whom she admired so much, but he rejected the idea.

This was a blow which led her into a spiral of apathy, as publisher Carlos Pranger, the executor of Brenan's legacy, explains: "She had a very melancholic temperament and Eliot's disdain didn't help her, although her poems were eventually published by others. Her delicate state of health, aggravated by the alcohol, meant that she had to spend long periods of time in bed," he says.

She spent most of her time typing and editing Brenan's manuscripts; she never left his side, despite the carousel of infidelities in their relationship.

"They both had strong and eccentric personalities. He was very lively and she had a more nostalgic and poetic air, but they worked very well as a couple," says Pranger.

Woolsey wrote six books of poems which have never been published in Spain even though some



Hemingway (centre) visited Brenan and Woolsey at their home in Churriana. :: SUR



Gamel Woolsey also published novels and books of poetry. :: SUR

Left: Gamel, painted by Gertrude Mary Powys. :: SUR

ALBA

Churriana,
I would wrap you up
and carry you with me —
like that picture by Greco:
Toledo in sun and storm —
safe in my pocket
the fierce light
and the broad skies.

(Poem never published in Spain, but published in English in the book 'The last leaf falls' by Warren House posthumously in 1978).

of them refer to her time in Malaga, such as 'Alba', in which she pays tribute to Churriana.

Her work is scattered with anecdotes about her time in Andalusia, when they lived a comfortable life with several people working for them. They were visited by colleagues such as Ernest Hemingway, Virginia Woolf and E. E. Cummings and had a busy social life. They often went to Torremolinos, where there was a sizeable British colony.

They also did so at the height of the war, when they went to see

an American journalist, despite their housekeeper's warnings: "You'd much better stay at home in your own garden, and not on the roads and get yourselves shot by these ill-educated youths," she told them.

They didn't lose their hedonistic vocation even in the most adverse circumstances, as Woolsey says: "At last we could see Torremolinos, small and white on the edge of the sea. Exhausted by the heat, we sat in the shade of an olive tree and prepared our meal. It was a truly Spanish 'merienda':

cold potato omelette, a little goat's milk cheese, half a loaf of bread, early muscatels and a small bottle of white wine [...]. But suddenly far off inland we heard a rattle of shots, and to the left the ominous smoke of Malaga burning was still drifting out to sea."

Their perspective as wealthy foreigners in Spain, which at times gave the narrative a certain condescending air, enabled her to relate episodes such as the bombardment of Calle Larios with a certain distance: "The most important shopping street in Malaga, also filled with smoke and rubble" and describe ironically some figures such as Queipo de Llano: "He had a tremendous fascination for us, we could never resist him; he could 'tear a cat', as Shakespeare says. But unfortunately, it was real".

After returning to Malaga, Gamel Woolsey died of cancer in 1968. Brenan's diaries reveal that her final days were marked by great pain; the doctor, afraid of being accused of euthanasia, wouldn't allow her to be sedated. Half a century after her death, her work is still shouting out to be rescued.

She described the war in detail, but in terms of the annihilation of everyday life

Above all, Woolsey was a poet. "She had a very melancholic temperament"

Archaeologists at
Cueva de la Victoria
cave in El Cantal. :: SUR

A luxury seafood diet in Paleolithic Malaga

Cockles and razor clams featured in the diet of the inhabitants of La Victoria cave more than 13,000 years ago

The remains that were in Salamanca will be returned to the Malaga Museum

least one episode during which it formed part of the diet of the people who caught and ate shellfish. Among the remains was a calcified piece of balanus (a type of barnacle which sticks to the skin of whales), in this case the 'Tubicinella major'. The balanus is endemic to this southern cetacean, which means that "the groups must have carried meat and fat from the whale, which possibly had been washed up on one of two nearby beaches, to the cave", as the report explains. The skin of whales was largely covered by shells of this species, creating a type of mobile reef.

First excavation

This project first began in the summer of 1972, when Javier Fortea, a professor of Prehistory at Salamanca University, excavated an area 13 square metres in size in what is known as the Sala de las Conchas (Hall of Shells) at Cueva de la Victoria. In that first excavation, he documented various levels of sediment formed by remains of molluscs, but also other marine species (crab claws, fish vertebrae and other evidence) and terrestrial species. He also found tools carved from flint and several fishing harpoons made with bone.

Many of these remains can currently be seen at the Malaga Museum, after being kept in the city while awaiting a permanent home. Others were kept in storage for 45 years at Salamanca University, and the research has focused on these.

"Once we publish the definitive results at an international level we will return the items to the Malaga Museum," said Esteban Álvarez, a professor at the university and director of the works.

For Álvarez, the results are extremely valuable because they confirm the ability of these early inhabitants of the Malaga coast to exploit marine resources. "We already had information about many communities inland on the Iberian Peninsula at that time, but we knew very little about those who used to catch shellfish," he explained.

One of the best-known groups with fishing skills was in Nerja, but this study has now confirmed that another also existed in Cueva de la Victoria. Specialists in marine and terrestrial fauna, paleolithic archaeology, age-dating and cave art participated in the study, which was coordinated by Salamanca University with the collaboration of UNED, the University of Valencia and the archaeological team from the Ardales Cave.

FERNANDO TORRES

✉ Twitter: @fernandotorresu

A study by Salamanca University has shed new light on the way of life of the groups who used to live in the Rincón de la Victoria area

MALAGA. Clams, razor clams and cockles. The groups of humans who inhabited the Malaga coastline during the Paleolithic age had a diet which would be considered quite luxurious nowadays: it was based on the food that the sea placed within their reach, and they were able to catch it thanks to rudimentary fishing techniques. In addition to shellfish, the Mediterranean occasionally served them an even more succulent dish, the meat and fat of a beached whale. This menu has been revealed in a study carried out by the University of Salamanca and presented in Paris during the XVIII World Congress of the International Union of Prehistoric Sciences.

The research team's work focused on the caves at El Cantal, between La Cala del Moral and Rincón de la Victoria, at the Cueva de la Victoria site. Remains analysed by modern methods have enabled the scientists to confirm the presence of groups of people

who hunted, foraged and fished there between 13,500 and 15,000 years ago, during the Late Magdalenian period in Andalucía.

In addition to the shellfish, the diet of the Paleolithic inhabitants of Malaga comprised vegetables and

small animals which they could catch, such as hares and rabbits.

With regard to their fishing and shellfish collection techniques, the researchers were able to document the use of harpoons and fish hooks made from bone, and decorative

items with small 'Littorina obtusata' shells, a type of cold water species which can no longer be found on the coasts of the province today.

The ingestion of whale meat could be anecdotal, although the archaeologists have been able to confirm at



Whale barnacles from the cave. :: SUR



Harpoon spears and shells. :: SUR



Decorations made from shells. :: SUR



Excavations in the cave. :: SUR

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Pulses: healthy and packed with nutrients

Seeds are versatile and offer lots of possibilities

Salads, pâtés and dips, cold purées and burgers... pulses can be enjoyed during the summer months as well as in winter

ESPERANZA PELÁEZ

MÁLAGA. We live in the age of superfoods, and every time we go shopping we are tempted by new ingredients that sometimes we don't even know how to cook. However, practically none of the products that have appeared in supermarkets in recent years can beat pulses for nutritional value. Did you know, for example, that lentils have as much protein as quinoa? Or that the chickpea contains as much calcium as cheese? Because of their low glycemic index and high fibre content, pulses are excellent options for people with diabetes; they are heart-healthy, an excellent source of vitamins and iron, antioxidants and low in fat.

For all these reasons, FAO, the

United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation, has been promoting the consumption of pulses for years.

In Spain, for example, the four weekly rations that were consumed in the 1960s, has now dropped to 1.4 servings per week, according to data from the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Fisheries. That is, about 12.4 grammes a day, a long way from the recommended 25 to 45 grammes a day.

And if that were not enough, its cultivation enriches the soil, uses little water, emits low amounts of carbon dioxide into the atmosphere and reduces the need to use chemical fertilisers.

In our grandparents' time, dishes made with pulses were consumed all year round. Today, although we value pulses, we are less inclined to eat hot and hearty casserole dishes in the summer, but there are many alternatives that we can continue to enjoy the palette of shapes, colours, flavours and textures that pulses offer. And if your excuse is that it is too much trouble to have to remember



There are hundreds of different varieties. :: D. M.

to soak and cook them, there are different solutions. It is possible to soak, cook and store pulses in the fridge with their cooking water to add to different dishes, and secondly, you can buy them already cooked.

Pulses can be added to salads and grilled vegetables, with any type of



Pulses are versatile and very nutritious. :: DANIEL MALDONADO

accompaniment. Beans combine very well with sauces such as pesto, green mojo, garlic mayonnaise or parsley and lemon dressing. In addition, lemon and any fruit rich in vitamin C, helps with the absorption of iron.

Another way of eating pulses in the summer is to make them into burgers and vegetable croquettes. The classic falafel, original originat-

ing from the Middle East, can be made with chickpeas or beans. Burgers are usually made with cooked pulses mixed with onion, garlic and various seasonings.

Or you can simply add cooked chickpeas or beans to your usual meals, even to stir-fries and pasta recipes, turning them into completely different dishes.

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HOLLYWOOD TO CATALONIA



There are good stories behind many wines but the Jean Leon brand is exceptional. Leon's real name was Ceferino Carrión (Santander, 1928) and in 1941 he stowed away on a boat to New York. Within hours of arriving he was washing dishes for \$4 a day. As Jean Leon he fought in Korea, and on demob worked as a waiter in Hollywood, where he became friends with the likes of Natalie Wood, Grace Kelly, Lana Turner, Judy Garland and James Dean. Dean proposed they become partners, but was killed the day before they were due to sign the agreement. Undeterred, Jean borrowed \$3,500 from a friend and opened La Scala society restaurant.

Marilyn Monroe always dined early, as did Paul Newman, followed by Humphrey Bogart, Warren Beatty, Zsa Zsa Gabor, Fred Astaire, Elizabeth Taylor, Marlon Brando, and many other stars. When Marilyn Monroe called Jean at the restaurant on 4 August 1962 to ask him to send some food round to her apartment, Jean took it himself. On arrival he realised she was not alone, so left the tray at the door. The next morning Marilyn was found dead.

The intrepid ex-waiter returned to Spain in 1962 to fulfil his lifelong ambition of making wine. He found a vineyard in Catalonia's Penedés region and

bought cuttings of vines from Chateau Lafitte-Rothschild and Corton Charlemagne that were unknown in Spain. Other vintners thought he was mad, but he hired oenologist Jaume Rovira with a simple instruction: make the best wine in Spain.

Currently the flagship of the Torres-owned bodega is the Cabernet Sauvignon Reserva, and in exceptional years a Gran Reserva is made, this being the wine served at Ronald Reagan's investiture in 1980. If you thought the best Spanish red wines only come from Rioja and Ribera del Duero, you are in for a pleasant surprise. There are also wines made with Cabernet Franc, Merlot, Chardonnay and Xarel.lo. The 3055 range (Leon's New York cab licence number) offers a Merlot-Petit Verdot, Chardonnay and Rosado.

WINE OF THE WEEK La Scala Gran Reserva 2011

Jean León Vinya La Scala Gran Reserva 2011, one of Spain's great red wines, and if you are a claret lover, you will be more than satisfied with both the quality and the price (€37.85). For less expensive tastes, the Cabernet Franc and the Merlot cost around €20, with the Cabernet Sauvignon Le Havre Reserva at €20.



The Único de Mondrón olive oil wins a gold medal at Terraolivo

This is the only Extra Virgin Olive Oil in the province to have won a prize at the international awards held in Israel

AGUSTÍN PELÁEZ

PERIANA. The San José Artesano Olive cooperative in the village of Mondrón in Periana is to be congratulated. In just three months it has won two international awards. In April of this year, the AOVE (Extra Virgin Olive Oil) Único de Mondrón won gold at the World Olive Oil Competition in New York (NYIOOC), the equivalent of the Oscars of liquid gold in the world, awarded by the prestigious publication Olive Oil Times.

It also won an honorable mention in the latest edition of the awards given by the provincial government. Now, just two months later, the Único de Mondrón has achieved more recognition. This time it was at the International Olive Oil Competition in the Mediterranean, Terraolivo, in Jerusalem (Israel), one of the most prestigious competitions at international level. The Verdial Único de Mondrón has achieved a Gold Medal and is the only AOVE in the province that has obtained this award.

According to the manager of the cooperative, Francisco Alcántara, this is an important achievement, taking into account that Único de Mondrón is a fairly new product

that was launched in March, after the company decided to make a premium AOVE with the verdial olive typical of the Axarquía region.

"We are very satisfied. We know that Único is a great product, but these awards give us a boost and show that our hard work has paid off. It is not easy to get a prize of this importance and we are convinced that it will help us to promote the product commercially," said Alcántara.

Increase in sales

"It gives us increased visibility and puts our name on the map. With the World Olive Oil Competition in New York our sales increased by 300 per cent. After that first 'boom' we have managed to maintain an increase of 150 per cent," he explained.

Eight kilos of olives are needed to produce a litre of Único; for the other extra virgin oil about five kilos is sufficient.

The cooperative has produced only 8,500 litres of Único de Mondrón this year, which is being marketed in half litre containers, costing 6.50 euros each if six bottles are purchased, and cans of 2.5 litres for 18 euros. According to the manager of the cooperative, Verdial Único stands out both for its extraordinary flavour and aroma.





TOURISM The professional team at Solaga, a Málaga company that manages this type of holiday accommodation, wants the number of licences to be limited and the regulations observed to guarantee a sustainable model for Málaga

“THE REGIONAL GOVERNMENT’S TOURIST APARTMENT DECREE IS LIKE PUTTING A PLASTER OVER A HAEMORRHAGE”

MÁLAGA

The ‘Airbnb effect’ has reached our coasts over the last few years and all the evidence points to it being here to stay. The so-called effect is a new model based on tourist apartments that, like almost everything else in life, has its pros and cons.

On the plus side, this new style of tourism provides travellers from all over the world with the chance to travel in a cheap, more comfortable way. It has a broad range of options with something for every type of profile and circumstance.

Also, we cannot forget that tourism is an important part of the foundations of the province’s economy and brings boosts to consumption, generation of wealth and job creation. It has also had a positive effect on the region’s aesthetics and infrastructure and is helping to position Málaga in an increasingly prominent place on the international map.

Too much of this type of tourism, however, can bring unwanted situations to the area, especially when insufficient measures are taken to control it and guarantee a sustainable model for everyone involved.

A DECREE THAT IS NOT OBSERVED

For the last two years, activity in



the tourist apartment sector has theoretically been regulated by Decree 28/2016 of February 2nd. The truth is, however, that in practice this regulation has no restraining or binding effects. As the CEO of specialist tourist apartment company Solaga, Steffen Hansen, explains: “The decree has been like sticking a plaster over an enormous wound. It’s time to stop the haemorrhage.”

The company states that the Junta de Andalucía regional government’s Decree is not observed while the institution “simply hands out thousands of li-

cences with no previous checks, bringing about an unacceptable situation”.

Not in vain, according to data from the InsideAirbnb website, there are 5,200 tourist apartments available in the city, of which only 2,600 were registered with the Junta de Andalucía regional government in March. Almost half the tourist apartments are therefore currently operating in an illegal manner, with the subsequent risks that brings.

Those at Solaga also believe it is necessary to limit the number

of licences, as the mayor of the city has already proposed via a moratorium, to avoid saturation of areas like the historical centre, where the giant’s share of this type of the accommodation is concentrated.

Likewise, these professionals believe it is absolutely necessary to “increase the number of inspectors (there are only 8 in the whole province to keep an eye on more than 20,000 tourist establishments), impose fines, and close down the illegal flats that don’t pay taxes and moreover are a potential danger to pub-

lic safety.” At this point it’s important to point out that since they are not supervised by any authority or controls, those responsible for this type of accommodation fail to observe the National Police regulations requiring guests to be registered within 24 hours of arrival. This could potentially cause serious problems for the security of the region.

Solaga also suggests that technology should be employed to restrict excessive acoustic or environmental contamination and avoid undesirable behaviour, which can cause a problem for local residents and the surroundings. “In essence, we want Málaga to follow in the footsteps of San Sebastián, not of Magaluf, and that responsibility lies with the institutions and with enforcing observance of the necessary measures,” stresses Alex García, commercial director of Solaga.

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DISCOVER ANDALUCÍA



The Santa Catalina castle will play host to a number of events this summer. :: TURISMO ANDALUZ

Summer nights in Jaén

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Journey time: 2 hours and 15 minutes driving from Malaga.
The castle under candlelight: 3 hours.
Monuments and museums: 7 hours.



JAVIER ALMELLONES

Live music, star gazing and nighttime candlelit tours are just some of the treats that lie in store all summer at one of the most unique fortresses in Andalusia.

The Santa Catalina castle stands atop a hill and can be seen from a great distance, so in the past it was an ideal lookout point. For the third consecutive year, the castle is currently playing host to 'Summer Nights Among Towers and Battlements' a series of events that unites culture, art and leisure with the cool Jaén evenings.

Although the programme of events began on 1 June, there remains much to enjoy at the ninth-century Arab fortress, which was later reconstructed by the Christians after Fernando III's conquest of the town.

It is, therefore, the ideal setting for various medieval-inspired activities. For example, this July visitors will be able to take part in a spectacular interactive experience that combines awe-inspiring magic with gut-wrenching terror. Due to its somewhat alarming content, 'Conjura, la víspera del infierno' ('Conjuring, the eve of hell'), is only suitable for those aged 14 and over.

Also available this month is 'Music at the Battlements', which features unmissable live jazz and soul performances. Furthermore, the castle will be transformed into a stage for an exciting evening of classical theatre.

During August, the fortress remains open for 'Castle Beneath the Stars', a stargazing programme in which participants can observe the beauty of the night sky while learning about well-known phenomena such as the Tears of San Lorenzo.

What's more, fans of history and theatre will enjoy medieval roleplay events at the castle next month.

The month of September will mark the end of this year's cycle of summer events, with candlelit tours of the castle at night, fire dancing and detective games, where players must use logic to solve the mysteries of crimes committed in the Alcazar.



The fortress has its charm. :: SUR

QUICK GUIDE

What to see in Jaén

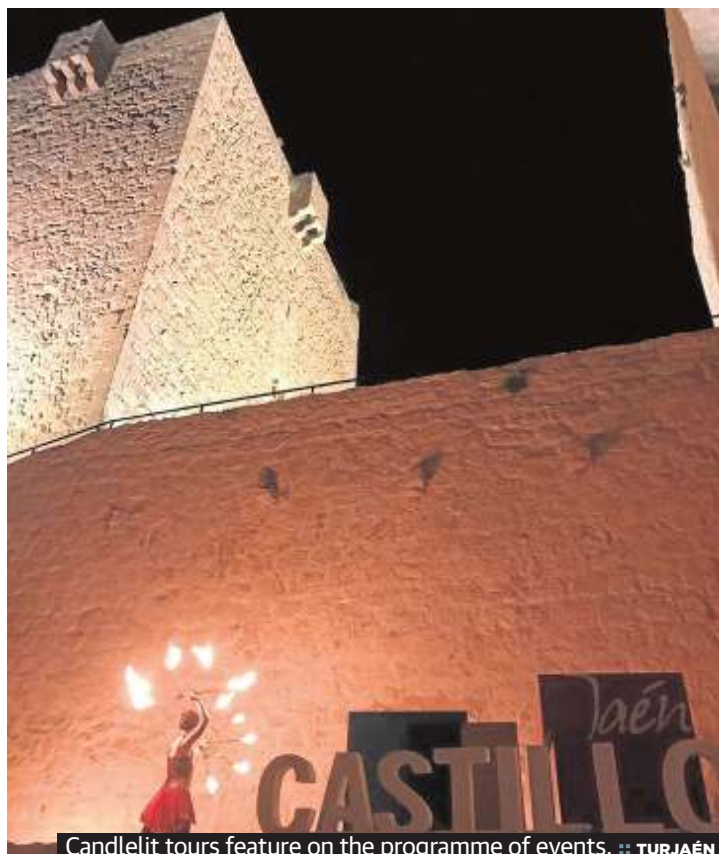
◀ **Castillo de Santa Catalina.** Old Arab fortress, reconstructed by Christians that sits on a hill 800 metres above Jaén. Camino del Castillo, s/n. 23003 Jaén.

◀ **Cathedral.** Jaén's main religious building, constructed between the 16th and 18th centuries. Plaza de Santa María, s/n. 23003 Jaén.

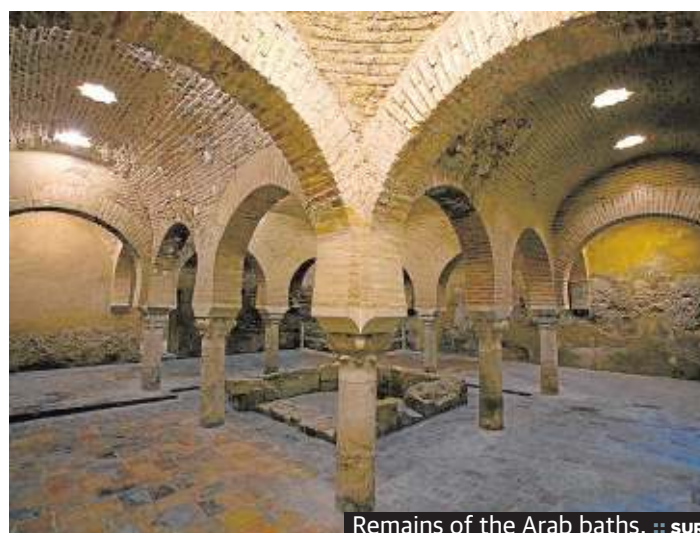
◀ **Santiago Antiaircraft Refuge.** Underground settlement built after the city was bombed in 1937. Plaza de Santiago, s/n. 23003 Jaén.

◀ **Iberia Museum.** Informative exhibition focused upon Iberian civilisation. Paseo de la Estación, 41. 23003 Jaén.

▼ **Arab baths.** Ancient 11th-century remains situated beneath the Villardompardo Palace. Plaza Santa Luisa de Marillac, s/n. 23003 Jaén.



Candlelit tours feature on the programme of events. :: TURJAÉN



Remains of the Arab baths. :: SUR



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International jazz festival

by JENNIE RHODES

ATARFE. Grammy-winning American saxophonist, Kenny Garrett, and British swing singer, Claire Martin, with her quartet and swing band The Jump Club, are the international names performing at Atarfe's seventeenth Festival de Jazz en el Lago this weekend.

The event starts on Friday 6 July at 10.30pm with Kenny Garrett, followed by the Swing Jump Band at 12.15am. The Claire Martin Quartet will perform at 10.30pm on Saturday, followed by Sergio Pamies at 12.15am.

All concerts will take place in the area around the Ermita de Los Tres Juanes in Atarfe, which is situated almost 1,000 metres above sea level in the Granada mountains.

Kenny Garrett has a career spanning three decades and has played with some of the biggest names in jazz, including Duke Ellington and Miles Davis.

Claire Martin has won the British Jazz Awards seven times and is also copresenter of Jazz Line-Up on BBC Radio Three.

The Jump Band are based in Granada and made up of members of different nationalities.



Kenny Garrett will be playing at the festival. :: SUR

Their repertoire, which features swing and jazz, includes numbers by some of the greats such as Count Basie, Ella Fitzgerald and Duke Ellington.

Sergio Pamies was born in Granada in 1983. He is influenced by traditional jazz and flamenco and his music fused both styles to produce three albums.

Tickets for Friday cost 14 euros while on Saturday they are 10 euros. Tickets for both days can be purchased for 20 euros.

INFORMATION

► **What.** International jazz festival.

► **Where.** Atarfe, Granada province.

► **When.** Friday 6 and Saturday 7 July.

► **Tickets.** www.jazzatarfe.com



MOVIE LISTING

From Friday 6th to Thursday 12th July

ORIGINAL VERSION SUBTITLED SPANISH



ANT-MAN AND THE WASP

Director Peyton Reed
Starring Paul Rudd and Evangeline Lilly
ADVENTURE - 118 min.



From Friday 6 to Thursday 12: 15:45, 18:10, 20:30



SHOW DOGS

Director Raja Gosnell
Starring Will Arnett and Alan Cumming
ADVENTURE - 92 min.



From Friday 6 to Wednesday 11: 16:15



OCEAN'S 8

Director Gary Ross
Starring Sandra Bullock and Cate Blanchett
ACTION - 110 min.



From Friday 6 to Thursday 12: 15:45, 18:15, 20:30, 22:45



SICARIO: DAY OF THE SOLDADO

Director Stefano Sollima
Starring Benicio del Toro and Josh Brolin
ACTION - 122 min.



From Friday 6 to Thursday 12: 18:10, 22:45



I FEEL PRETTY

From Friday 6 to Wednesday 11: 20:30



JURASSIC WORLD: FALLEN KINGDOM

From Friday 6 to Wednesday 11: 15:45, 17:45
Thursday 12: 15:45



EXHIBITIONS



Mercedes Lirola, Malaga

Javier Calleja
Marbella. *Until 28 July. Yusto / Giner Gallery, C/Madera.*
'I hope you don't mind' is the name of the latest exhibition by Malaga artist Javier Calleja.

International artists
Marbella. *From 6 July. Jesse Jay Art Gallery, C/Guadalete.*
A collection of art by twenty international artists.

Entre Tierra y Mar
Marbella. *From 7 July until 7 September. Salón Enseñada Hotel El Fuerte, C/El Fuerte.*
An exhibition of watercolours by Adrián Marmolejo.

Art Marbella
Marbella. *From 20 to 25 July. Palacio de Ferias y Congresos.*
An international art fair which will include modern and contemporary works from a number of galleries across Spain and the rest of the world.

Naturaleza
Malaga. *Until 30 September. Museum Jorge Rando.*
The latest exhibition by Malaga artist Jorge Rando is entitled 'naturaleza'.

Creadores 2018
Malaga. *Until 8 July. La Térmica, Avda de Los Guindos.*
Irene González, Ernesto Casero, Enar de Dios, Marco Moreira, Miriam Väyrynen and Alejandro Ginés are the 'Creadores' that are exhibiting their works.

José Luis Puche
Malaga. *Until 26 August. Centro de Arte Contemporáneo.*
Malaga artist José Luis Puche has an exhibition at the CAC until August. His works vary from just a few centimetres to monumentally large formats and include various themes but have one constant, they are all created in charcoal with touches of colour from pastels or crayons.

Mediterráneo. Arcadia Reinventada
Malaga. *Until 9 September. Museo Thyssen.*
The exhibition consists of works by 60 artists, both French and Spanish, from the middle of the twentieth century.

Gustave Doré

Malaga. *Until 15 July. Museo Thyssen.*
The celebrated painter and illustrator Gustave Doré and Hispanophile Jean-Charles Davillier, travelled together across Spain compiling images and writings between 1862 and 1873. The engravings made from Doré original drawings form an important pictorial history of Spain in the nineteenth century.

'Deja que la vida fluya'
Malaga. *Until 18 September. Alfajar, C/Cister.*
An exhibition by Mercedes Lirola.

Dolls House exhibition
Benalmádena. *Until 14 December. Centro de Exposiciones de Benalmádena.*
Not just dolls houses but dolls and miniatures too in this exhibition by collector Voria Harras.

Happy Artists
Fuengirola. *Until 21 July. La Libélula, C/Periana.*
Josephine Quintero of Happy Artists is exhibiting some of her work.
Mijas Costa. *Until 4 September. Norwegian Church, El Campanario, Calahonda.*
Artists from the Happy Artists group are exhibiting a collection of paintings in diverse styles by Wendy Lucas, Josephine Quintero, Jane Gomis, Astrid Frida Zehetner and Gunnvor Sorhus.



Happy Artists, Mijas

Alan Wilkinson
Castell de Ferro. *Until 12 July. Town hall.*
An exhibition of paintings and drawings by Alan Wilkinson.

CHARITY

FAMA charity auction
Fuengirola. *20 July, 7pm start. Hoyo 19, Camino Viejo de Coín.*
Sellers (15% commission), items must be booked in by 19 July. Buyers: lots of bargains and food and drinks available. Tel: 672949756

Dry Martina and Cesar brandon poetry recital
Malaga. *17 July, 9pm. El Balneario, Baños del Carmen. 15€.*
A charity concert and poetry recital organised by the Fundación General de La Univesidad de Málaga. Funds raised are for Cudeca Cancer Hospice. fguma.es

Daniel Casares Quinteto
Marbella. *7 July, 8.45pm. Buchinger Wilhelmi. 20€*

Malaga's Roman cultural past is brought back to life

MALAGA. In 2013 the initiative to make use of Malaga's famous Roman monument, the Amphitheatre in Calle Alcazabilla, began. A programme of cultural events and activities has taken place every year since and includes concerts, flamenco and Roman theatre. This year, from 11 July until 4 August, a new cycle of Roman plays will be performed in the ancient theatre.

All shows start at 10pm and general tickets are 20 - 25 euros. The retired, students, unemployed and holders of the 'Tarjeta Joven' only pay 15 - 20€. Children's tickets are 12€ and FNAC and Corte Inglés card holders pay 15 - 20€. There is also a group discount. More information and ticket sales are on the website: <https://www.juntadeandalucia.es/cultura/teatrosromanos/>



The Teatro Romano. :: SUR.

PERFORMANCE DETAILS

- **11 - 12 July.** Dido and Eneas, with the Andalucía Baroque Youth Orchestra.
- **13 - 14 July.** The False Truth by the Corchato Teatro.
- **18 - 21 July.** The Ghost Comedy by the Clásicos Contemporáneos Company.

- **25 - 28 July.** Esquilo, from the birth to the death of Greek tragedy with Rafael Álvarez 'El Brujo'.
- **1 - 4 August.** Naked Dionysus with Rafael Amargo.

80s pop music revival night

TONY BRYANT
FUENGIROLA. The twenty-third edition of the Festival Ciudad de Fuengirola, which incorporates Marenosturm Music Castle Park, will present a calendar of live music events that will continue throughout the summer.

This weekend, Sohail Castle will be transformed in to a huge night club to host La Noche Rosa, a festival offering the nostalgic rock and pop music of the 1980s. Some of Spain's top acts will come together for this live music extravaganza, including Javier Ojeda, frontman of Torremolinos pop sensation, Danza Invisible. The group have enjoyed a succession of chart hits since the 1980s, when they formed part of the musical movement known as La Movida Madrileña.

Others on the bill are Spanish punk band, Seguridad Social; new wave rockers, La Unión; and Nacho Campillo, lead singer of celebrated pop outfit, Tam Tam Go. There will also be a special



Javier Ojeda will headline '80s revival night in Fuengirola. :: SUR

tribute to the late Antonio Vega, founder and singer of Nacho Pop, one of the most iconic bands of the 80s Spanish pop scene. La Noche Rosa, which takes place on Saturday, has become one of the most popular music events of the year in Fuengirola and organisers have promised that this year's festival will be more spectacular than

ever before. Tickets for the concert, which starts at 8.30pm and continues to 2am, cost between 27 and 40 euros and are available online, or from El Corte Inglés. Children under 16 must be accompanied by an adult. For more information, see www.marenosturmcastle-park.com

A charity concert in aid of Cudeca. Bookings: pr@cudeca.org or call: 952564910 Mon-Fri 9am-3pm.

Cudeca Sunflower Campaign
Malaga. *Until 8 July. Malaga city, Arroyo de la Miel, Fuengirola, Mijas, Nerja, Torremolinos, Marbella, Málaga, Benalmádena.*

The Sunflower Campaign 2018 is aimed at improving awareness of the charity's work. Volunteers will be offering the symbol of international palliative care, the sunflower, in exchange for a donation. To volunteer or for more information: girasol@cudeca.org, or www.cudeca.org or call: 663 265

948.
Collective Calling benefit concert
Estepona. *13 July, 8.30pm. Centro Cultural Padre Manuel. 6€.*
A concert by Sami James to raise funds for the charity Collective Calling who support the local

Ojén lets its hair down

:: TONY BRYANT

OJÉN. It is a typical Andalusian village with white-washed houses and narrow streets, but in July, Ojén's reserved image will be swept away by the Ojeando Festival, a two-day independent music festival where more than 40 bands will perform on three large stages.

The festival promotes independent rock and pop music, combining established groups and musicians with emerging musicians from Andalucía. The festival, which began in 2008, has become an essential date for lovers of independent music and attracts thousands of fans from all over the province.

The festival has presented numerous well-known acts in the past, including Fangoria, a celebrated electro-pop group fronted by Alaska, one of Spain's most fashionable female singers.

Among the musicians appearing this year is Chris Martin, frontman and co-founder of British pop sensation, Coldplay; celebrated Barcelona singer and composer, Carlos Sadness; and Dreyma, a female duo from Malaga whose latest video single honours the Mexican artist, Frida Kahlo.

Among the other groups performing are Bud Spencer,



Dreyma will perform at the independent music festival. :: SUR

Petiswing, Alex Sánchez and Betamax. There are also several renowned DJs who will keep the music going between acts. These include Alsout, famed for his high energy techno-house, and Isabela Clerk, a Seville-based DJ that made her name on the Spanish summer festival circuit.

A special bus service has been organised by the AVANZA transport company to ferry people from Marbella to Ojén.

A set ticket price of 27 euros allows access for both days. The price for those who also wish to take advantage of the camping facilities is 42 euros. Chil-

dren under the age of 18 must be accompanied by an adult, while children under 12 have free entrance.

The festival, which begins at 9pm on Friday 13 and continues on Saturday 14 July, has access for people with reduced mobility; a special elevated area has been installed so people with wheelchairs can watch the concerts in comfort.

People with reduced mobility are advised to contact the organisers prior to the festival on the prensa@ojeando-festival.es email.

For tickets and information, see www.ojeando-festival.es

homeless community and 225 marginalised families on the Costa del Sol. Tickets: 659772448

MUSIC & DANCE

Ocean Bar

Malaga. Hotel Vincci Posada del Patio, 11pm, entry free.
7 July. Delirium Blues Fusion. Lourdes del Pino and Javier Esteve. Blues fusion. www.tallerblues.es

Loop Soul

Almuñécar. 7 July, 10.30pm. Parque El Majuelo. 8€ in advance, 10€ on the door.
María Romero and Carlos in concert.

Tees Valley Youth Orchestra

Almuñécar. 8 July, 10.30pm. Parque El Majuelo.
A charity concert to raise funds for AFAVIDA (Alzheimer charity).

Rubén Blades and the Roberto Delgado Salsa Big Band

Malaga. 8 July, 8.30pm. Teatro Cervantes. 22-75€
The Roberto Delgado Big Band will be accompanied by singer and actor Rubén Blades performing some of his greatest hits. Blades is one of the most acclaimed salsa and Latin jazz musicians of the Grammys. Tickets: unientradas.es

Hispanoamericano

Almuñécar. 10 July, 10.30pm. Parque El Majuelo.
A journey through the musical geography of Hispanic America. Tickets: entradasforyou.com

Bucks County Youth Orchestra

Nerja. 13 July, from 8pm. Centro Cultural Villa de Nerja. Free.
The repertoire includes music by Bach and Rimsky Korsakov, music from The Hobbit and Downton Abbey as well as Cole Porter and Duke Ellington.

Jazz Wednesdays

Vélez-Málaga. Centro de Arte Contemporáneo Francisco Hernández.
11 July, 8.30pm. Dan Ben Lior Trio.

La Cala Live

La Cala de Mijas. Every Thursday May to September.
Live bands and dance performances will take place in the plaza in front of the town hall.
12 July. Stolen Gnomes.

Rob Sas band

Coín. 13 July, 5pm. The Ginger Pig. 15€.
Rock n Roll and BBQ with special guest band Karma.

Stars in Their Eyes

Mijas. 20 July, 7.30pm. Hotel Tamisa Golf.
Hotel Tamisa Golf is calling all budding stars to enrol for the chance to perform in a Christmas Gala Event. The contest is being held on 20 July. Email: solosol@email.com or reservas@hoteltamisagolf.com Call: 722 336 978.

MOSMA

Malaga. Until 7 July.
Teatro Echegaray.

6 July, 11pm. Oblique and Carlos Bayona 'A Song For ... Live!' By invitation from Teatro Cervantes.
Teatro Cervantes.
7 July, 8.30pm. Closing concert with John Powell, Christophe Beck, Taro Iwashiro and Víctor Reyes with the Malaga Philharmonic Orchestra.

International Festival of Music and Dance

Granada. Until 8 July, Palacio de Carlos V, Alhambra.
Choirs, orchestras, Flanders Royal Ballet, flamenco and opera.
The full programme and availability of tickets etc: <https://granadafestival.org/programa/>

FLAMENCO

Flamenco in the Museum

Malaga. Museo de Arte Flamenco Peña Juan Brea, C/Ramón Francisco.
7 July, 9.30pm. Juan Kade and dancers.
For information and bookings call 687 607 526 or email: info@flamenka.com



Daniel Casares, Marbella

Flamenco Patrimonio

Malaga. Teatro Romano.
6 July, 10pm. Guitarist Daniel Casares: Picassares.
7 July, 10pm. Víctor Bravo: Alegoría.
All tickets from 20€ in advance from El Corte Inglés.

La Jose

Almuñécar. 9 July, 10.30pm. Parque El Majuelo.
With José Luis Montón playing guitar. Tickets: entradasforyou.com

Laura De Los Ángeles

Almuñécar. 12 July, 10.30pm. Parque El Majuelo. 8€ in advance, 12€ on the door.
Flamenco piano and vocals.

FESTIVALS

Fiestas Mayores

Estepona. Until 8 July.
Concerts, horse riding competitions, dancing and bullfights (Sunday) at this popular fair which marks the beginning of July.

Feria de Verano

Los Álamos. 7 July, from 9pm.
In the sports centre, a concert by the Alboreá orchestra, activities for children, food and bar.

Fiestas de San Cristóbal

Nerja. 6, 7 July, from 8pm. The Los

A 'seeing and touching' exhibition

:: SUR IN ENGLISH

MALAGA. A blown bulb, some elastic bands, plastic lids, a perfume bottle, a few flowers and some loose letters of the alphabet. All these can be made into a piece of art, they just need to be converted from functional items into something creative.

This is what the Centre Pompidou in Malaga is encouraging people to do in its new workshop/exhibition '¡Materiales retroproyectados!'

With the aid of light, the modified shadows of the objects can be viewed on a screen. It is an exhibition where the artist is the visitor and as such, is encouraged to touch and watch the transformation.

The main element of this exhibition is the overhead projector, a popular tool decades ago, which has been left behind by modern technology and the digital age.

But just like vinyl records, it is making a comeback and contemporary artists haven't wasted any time in rescuing this dated apparatus to use it in their



A young boy creates shapes with the projector. :: S. SALAS

INFORMATION

► **When.** Until 11 January 2019.

► **Where.** Centro Pompidou, Muelle Uno, Malaga.

► **What.** A family-friendly interactive exhibition entitled '¡Materiales retroproyectados!' where the artist is also the visitor.

visual and ephemeral creations. The exhibition is especially

suited to families and its objective is to introduce visitors to artistic creation by three methods: 'Special Effects', which encourages the use of tricks that can alter the visual image; 'Materials and Objects' which shows how the pieces and forms can be used in the composition of the designs and 'Image Support' in which the light source projects the objects onto three white grounds which serve as the base for the shadowy images.

Poetas quarter.
Concerts, choirs, orchestras, flamenco as well as a paella (Saturday at 2pm), foam party and activities for children.

EVENTS

Malaga Summer Fashion Show La Caleta. 6 July, 7.30pm. La Caleta beach. Free.
The international designer, Elena Tablada, along with several Malaga companies including Entre Costuras and Antonia Galiano and Haute Couture designers Ángel Palazuelos, Rafael Urquizar and Jesús Segado, will be presenting their latest designs on the beach catwalk.

Marina Classic Week Sotogrande. Until 7 July. Sotogrande port.
The first Marina Sotogrande Classic Week will include four majestic sailboats, Hispania (Spain), Tuiga (Monaco), Mariska (Switzerland) and Lady Anne (UK) and around another twenty classic vessels between 10-15 metres to take part in the competition.

Coach excursion to Gibraltar Torre del Mar. 19 July. Various departure points. 12€
Transport, travel insurance included. Passport necessary. Lux Mundi Torre del Mar. Tel:952 543 334 or e-mail: luxmundi@luxmundi.org

Trip to Lorca Festival Granada



Trip to the Alhambra, Lux Mundi

Torre del Mar. 25 July. Various departure points. 35€
Flamenco show in the Generalife gardens of the Alhambra Palace. The dance is inspired by the poems, plays and writing of Federico García Lorca. Lux Mundi Torre del Mar. Tel:952 543 334 or e-mail: luxmundi@luxmundi.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
On Chesil Beach: 16.30, 22.05 (every day).
Don't Worry, He Won't Get Far on Foot: 18.30, 20.35, 22.40 (every day).

Whitney: 16.30, 20.20, 22.30 (every day).

Cinesur El Ingenio
Avda. Juan Carlos I, Vélez-Málaga. Tel. 667 77 31 87.
Ant Man and the Wasp: 12.30, 17.25, 19.50 (every day).
The Beguiled: 21.00 (Thurs).

Cinesur Miramar
Avda. de la Encarnación, Fuengirola. Tel. 952 19 86 00.
Jurassic World: The Fallen Kingdom: 17.55.
Ant Man And The Wasp: 12.15, 16.30; 19.00, 21.30, 00.00.
Ocean's 8: 12.10, 16.00, 18.00, 20.15, 22.20, 00.30.
Sicario 2: 12.00, 16.20.
Muse Drones World Tour: 20.30 (Thurs).

Cines Teatro Goya
For tickets and information call 951196665. www.cinesteatrogoya.com
Jurassic World: Fallen Kingdom: 15.45 (every day); 17.45 (Fri - Wed).
Dead Pool 2: 17.30, (Fri, Sat, Mon, Tues); 18.10 (Sun).
I Feel Pretty: 20.30 (Fri - Wed).
Show Dogs: 16.15 (Fri - Wed).
Ocean's 8 : 15.45, 18.15, 20.30, 22.45 (every day).
Ant Man and The Wasp: 15.45, 18.10, 20.30 (Fri - Thurs).
Sicario: Day of the Soldado: 18.10, 22.45 (every day).

Yelmo Cines, Plaza Mayor
Centro de Ocio Plaza Mayor, Avda.

Alfonso Ponce de León.
Tel: 902 902 103 or visit www.yelmocines.es
Adrift: 12.45 (Sat, Sun); 16.10 (Mon, Tues, Thurs).
Ant Man And The Wasp: 12.45 (Sat, Sun); 22.00 (every day).
Sicario: The Day Of The Soldado: 12.40 (Sun), 21.20 (Mon).
Hereditary: 12.05 (Sat); 16.45 (Sun, Wed).
Jurassic World: The Fallen Kingdom : 16.35 (every day).
The First Purge: 16.00 (every day).
Ocean's 8: 18.40 (every day).

Show Dogs: 14.30 (Sat, Sun).
Screenings of opera, ballet, documentaries and theatre
www.yelmocines.es
Muse Drones World Tour: 12 July, 20.30. (Plaza Mayor, Rincón de la Victoria, Vialia Málaga).
Cinesa La Cañada
La Cañada commercial centre, Marbella
www.cinesa.es/Eventos/Todos#documental
Muse Drones World Tour: 20.30 (Thurs).



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Over eight million babies in the world have been born thanks to fertility treatments

Since 1978, new fertilisation techniques have led to an increase in the number of conceptions of this type

:: EFE

More than eight million babies have come into the world thanks to fertility treatments since the first 'test tube baby', Louise Brown, was born in 1978, according to a study which was presented recently at the conference of the European Society of Human Reproduction and Embryology (ESHRE), in Barcelona.

Louise, the first baby to be born as the result of in vitro fertility treatment, was born on 25 July 1978 at Oldham General Hospital in the UK, after a conception guided by a reproductive biologist from Cambridge, Robert Edwards - who later founded ESHRE - and gynaecologist Patrick Steptoe.

The study, which shows the numbers of babies born as the result of different fertility techniques, used data collated from regional registers between 1991 and 2014.

The experts on the international committee which monitors the progress of this system have estimated that more than half a million babies are born each year as the result of different reproductive techniques; a total of two million fertility treatments are car-



The number of pregnancies from donated ovules continues to rise. :: FOTOLIA

ried out every year.

The study shows that Spain is still the most active country in Europe in terms of assisted reproduction, with a record 119,875 treatment cycles registered in 2015, ahead of Russia, France and Germany.

The latest report from ESHRE, which includes all fertility treatments carried out in Europe in

2015, shows that there were nearly 800,000 cycles and 157,449 births.

Among other findings, the study shows a preference among European clinics for the intracytoplasmic sperm injection technique (ICSI) rather than in vitro fertilisation, and this pattern is reflected in the rest of the world as well.

The study also shows that the

pregnancy rate for the two treatments has stabilised by 36 per cent and increases when five-day-old embryos

(blastocysts) are used instead of those which are three days old.

Fewer twins

The number of pregnancies which occur after the donation of ovules continues to rise and is now at 50 per cent, while the number of pregnancies of twins has dropped in Europe, to 14 per cent in 2015.

The president of the ESHRE committee, Christian de Geyter, explained that "the success rates have stabilised, although there is continuing progress from ovule donation and the use of frozen embryos".

Nevertheless, the greatest increase has been from treatments using frozen ovules, propitiated by the vitrification technique all over the world.

According to De Geyter, the availability of fertility treatments is still "very uneven" in

Europe, with Denmark and Belgium offering over 2,500 treatment cycles for every one million inhabitants, whereas other countries such as Austria and Italy offer "considerably fewer".



Louise Brown, the first test tube baby. :: EFE

NHS FUNDING SURGICAL PROCEDURES, CLAIM UP TO 80% BACK ON COSTS FOR YOUR SURGERY PERFORMED IN SPAIN

Depending on your citizen status in the UK you might be able to claim back up to 80% of the costs for any selective surgery that you might want to undergo in Spain.

If you are in the need of any surgery and you are considering having it done down here in Spain, like a total knee or total hip replacement, you could be eligible for a considerable refund by the British NHS. Although you are most certainly in possession of the European Health Insurance Card (E111), this card would only cover you for emergency treatments, but it would not cover the costs for any elective surgery that you might want to have done in any country of the European Economic Area, including Switzerland.

There are two possible routes to claim some refunds from the NHS. The so-called S2 route is a direct funding arrangement between the NHS and the state

healthcare provider in the country of your choice. This would mean that you would have to go to a national health hospital here in Spain to have the procedure done. In that case the NHS would most certainly pay the full amount of the costs. But you might not only be faced with a long waiting list, but also encounter some communication problems due to a possible language barrier.

The other option would be the EU directive route. This is a funding arrangement between you and the NHS. Using this route means you will have to pay the costs of your treatment abroad upfront and then claim eligible costs from the NHS when you return. For some treatments you'll need to get authorisation from NHS England prior to receiving treatment. But it would give you the option to receive treatment by a private surgeon and have the procedure performed in a private hospital.

The typical surgical procedures eligible for funding are elective surgeries with a long waiting list in the UK, like hip and knee replacement surgery.

It is important though that you get in touch with the NHS prior to the procedure, and prove that you are eligible for the procedure by providing the appropriate paper work. Our team would be more than happy to help you with that. Once you get the approval by the NHS, they might even pay a certain amount in advance as part of the funding, to help you finance the cost of the surgical procedure. The other important detail is that the above mentioned funding scheme might not be available anymore once the Brexit has gone through. For any further questions please don't hesitate to get in touch with us.

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About 70 per cent of 35-year-old women in Spain have no children

"We know that fertility reduces naturally around the age of 35, so this gives us a very big problem," says an expert

:: EFE

MADRID. About 70 per cent of 35-year-old women in Spain are childless, according to the Spanish Fertility Society (SEF), which says that at this age women's fertility naturally reduces and many seek treatments in order to become pregnant.

The SEF explained this during the presentation of its national congress, and stressed the need for policies which favour more births because Spain is one of the countries with the lowest birth rates, although it is a "leader" in terms of assisted reproduction.

Figures from SEF's National Register of Activity show that in 2015, the last year for which data is available (the latest ones will be published this summer), 36,318 babies were born following fertility treatments, of whom 29,366 were born in Spain, accounting for seven per cent of all deliveries.

The other 6,952 babies were born



Spain is a leader in assisted reproduction. :: SUR

to couples or women who had travelled to Spain for the fertility treatments, because of the excellent reputation of experts in this country and because the legislation here is more flexible, for example in matters such as ovule donation.

The register also shows a nine per cent increase in these treatments compared with the previous year, and the figures make Spain a leader in Europe and third in the world after the USA and Japan.

Experts predict that the number of treatments will rise, because Span-

ish women tend to postpone motherhood to a later age. In fact, the average age of patients undergoing these treatments is 37.

The figures show that 47 per cent of in vitro fertilisation cycles using the patients' own ovules are carried out on patients aged between 35 and 39, while 67 per cent of the treatments using donated ovules are carried out on women over 40. In total, 70 per cent of in vitro fertilisations in Spain in 2015 used the patients' own ovules, and in 30 per cent of cases they were donated.



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We speak: 



Cancer association expands services in Marbella with a day centre for patients and their families

The town council has formalised the transfer of the Spanish Cancer Association headquarters into the premises of the old provincial tax office

by **MÓNICA PÉREZ**

MARBELLA. Said and done. A few months ago, representatives from the Spanish Cancer Association (AECC) made an agreement with local authorities that granted the former access to new facility which would serve as a headquarters and day centre. Last week, Doctor Juan Carlos Domínguez, head of the palliative care unit at AECC and the Costa del Sol Hospital and town councillor Manuel Osorio, signed a document to formalise the transfer of the premises of the old Provincial Tax Office to AECC.

Those in charge of the association, led by Maika Pérez de Cobas, have already set to work on the space - which covers more than 600 square metres - so that it can be transformed into a day centre "as soon as possible" in order to provide support to local patients and their families.

The association, currently immersed in preparations for their annual gala dinner on 5 August, has not yet scheduled a date for the official transfer of their headquarters from Avenida Severo Ochoa, as the new premises will need to be adapted. The group has revealed to SUR that they plan to use the proceeds from the gala dinner to help fund the works, and hope to have the centre open by the end of this year.

The new space will accommodate the association's existing services (all of which are free of



Maika Pérez de Cobas, with Juan Carlos Domínguez and the team working on the project. **by J-LANZA**

charge), such as awareness campaigns, voluntary work from medical professionals, psychological help, a smokers unit, a laryngectomy unit (which offers weekly voice rehabilitation sessions) and the palliative care unit, which has been open for 24 years and is nationally-recognised for its work.

Workshops and courses

In addition to the existing services, the new facility will also have

The new facility will have room for a host of new activities, including meditation, memory and cooking workshops

room for a host of new activities, like meditation, memory, exercise and cooking workshops and a television room. "We want people to feel at home. It is a challenge because this is a public establishment, but we have a responsibility to offer the best we can," explains Pérez de Cobas.

The president of AECC has the support and collaboration of a generous group of professionals, who continue to offer help uncondi-



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Moving from the existing headquarters will mean a monthly saving of 2000 euros

tionally. Carolina Rivero and Alberto Aranega, two young architects who have recently opened up a new business, Office For Co-working Architects, in Marbella, paid a visit to the facilities to give shape to the project and identify any necessary courses of action. "They need a new roof and to rewire the electrics. You can see that they've made the more urgent repairs, but no serious renovations," the pair observes.

Another challenge is making the space accessible. Acclaimed Catalan interior designer Sara Folch also visited the headquarters this week, another keen collaborator in the project.

In an effort to allow the new services to reach more people and better adapt to specific needs, AECC is considering expanding their staff and office hours. The hope is to be open 12 hours a day.

The move from the existing headquarters will mean a monthly saving of 2,000 euros in rent. This money can now be put towards better patient care.

The number of smokers in Spain has fallen to 22%, the lowest in 30 years

According to the 2017, National Health Survey, 74% of the population consider themselves to be in 'good' or 'very good' health

EF E

MADRID. The number of smokers in Spain has fallen to 22%, the lowest proportion this country has seen in 30 years, though the decline is slowing in pace, especially in women. According to last year's National Health Survey, 74% of the population perceives their state of health to be 'good' or 'very good'.

The survey, conducted using data from 29,195 people, indicates that men are healthiest, as 77.8% said that they feel well, compared to 70.4% of women. What's more, women make more use of health services.

Nevertheless, when surveyed about their lifestyle, women tended to smoke and drink less and were less likely to be overweight, although this gap closes beyond the age of 85.

Increased adult obesity

According to the data collected by the Ministry of Health, Consump-



The decline in smoking is slowing in pace. :: SUR

tion and Social Wellbeing, adult obesity has increased in the last 30 years from 10% to 17%. It is more frequent in men (18.2%) than in women (16.7%). The figure in children is at 10%. The survey states that obesity is more prominent among those with a lower income, especially for women.

In addition to reduced smoking, the consumption of alcohol has also gone down. According to the survey, 36.5% of adults drink alcohol on a regular basis, 12 percentage points fewer than in 2006. At 49%, the

amount of male drinkers is double that of women (24.6%).

With regards to young people, one in ten of those aged between 15 and 34 years old will binge drink on a monthly basis and one in twenty will do so every week.

The survey, which covers 30 years' worth of data, also shows improvements in nutrition, with an increase in breast feeding and in consumption of fruit, though the latter, alongside vegetables, must increase further. The data also indicates that the population perceives their own

health as improved. The largest change has been among those aged between 65 and 74. The proportion of this age group who believe they are in good health has increased by 15 percentage points since 1987.

Some risk factors remain

Risk factors for cardiovascular problems and other chronic illnesses remain prevalent: high blood pressure (19.8%), high cholesterol (17.9%), obesity (17.4%) and diabetes (7.8%). In fact, in many cases, these issues have doubled over the last three decades. 37.8% of the population lead a sedentary lifestyle during their free time. This problem is worse in women (41.9%) than in men (33.5%).

The proportion of the population that needs at-home carers has grown by five points since 2014 and the percentage of over-65s who have trouble carrying out household tasks has risen from 47% to 52%.

The use of health services has evolved over the last two decades. Spain has seen an increase in citizens who choose to use preventative methods such as observing their own blood pressure, cholesterol and blood sugar, as well as attending checks for breast, cervical and colon cancer.

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Change afoot as Spain digests World Cup penalty heartbreak

Missed spotkicks from Koke and Iago Aspas proved costly for La Roja



It is almost certain that Fernando Hierro will not continue as coach as Spain embarks on a new era without Andrés Iniesta

MALAGA. There are still questions to be answered after the curtain was brought down on Spain's terrible World Cup campaign with elimination at the hands of Russia on Sunday evening.

Spain's host-nation 'curse' continued in Moscow when a slow-paced 1-1 draw eventually concluded with a nail-biting penalty shootout in which Russia's captain and goalkeeper Igor Akinfiev saved attempts from Koke and Iago Aspas, while Russia converted all four of their spotkicks.

A strong start

After an own goal from Russia's Sergei Ignashevich gifted Spain the perfect start in the 11th min-



The Russian players celebrate after Akinfiev's final penalty save. :: EFE

ute, Fernando Hierro's men played it safe, settling into their trademark possession game.

Though the Spaniards completed a record-breaking 1,100 passes (73 per cent possession), their play lacked the necessary penetration and they were punished when Gerard Piqué's error of judgement saw him block a possible Russian goal with a high arm. The referee awarded a penalty and Artem Dzyuba levelled the score five minutes before half time.

Despite the level scoreline, the second half saw further conservative play from Spain and the match went into extra time as no goals materialised. As the Russians tired, substitute Rodrigo, courtesy of his quick feet, created two good chances in extra time, but the hosts held out and took it to penalties.

Ultimately, Spain buckled un-

der the pressure and the host team came out victorious, to the delight of partisan fans inside Luzhniki Stadium.

Pointing the finger

Inevitably in the fall-out after the game, the attention came back to 'Lopetegui-gate' and Spanish FA chief Luis Rubiales' decision to sack the coach a day before the start of the competition.

Fernando Hierro inherited a poisoned chalice and the effect of the change could be seen in La Roja's stuttering group stage results which yielded just a single win (1-0 against Iran), courtesy of a massive deflection.

The fluidity of the Lopetegui era quickly vanished and instead, massive defensive weaknesses became evident and the cracks which had previously been papered over came to the fore. Spain must now start over.

The majority-possession tactic that served them well in previous years has finally faltered: Spain's World Cup 2018 journey is over, almost certainly spelling the end for Hierro.

"It is, or rather, has been a pleasure coaching these guys," he said on TV following the game, repeating the phrase four times. "They have given everything and have been model professionals. Our objective was to go far in this World Cup."



Fernando Hierro in tears following the game. :: REUTERS

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Andrés Iniesta's final game, to be remembered for all the wrong reasons

The former Barcelona playmaker came on as a second-half substitute but couldn't turn the game in Spain's favour

BY DARYL FINCH

MALAGA. It was not an exit befitting one of the finest players ever to grace world football. "Sometimes the end is not as you dream; this is the saddest day of my career," said Andrés Iniesta who will leave a massive void to be filled both at Barcelona and in the Spanish national team as he moves on to a new phase in his career with Japanese side Vissel Kobe.

Sunday's defeat to Russia was Iniesta's final game in a Spain shirt. Surprisingly rested by coach Fernando Hierro, presumably for greater tests to come, the 34-year-old only came off the bench in the 67th minute and struggled to make an impact on the game as Russia got men behind the ball, and his teammates failed to make the runs for him to pick out.

The now former Barcelona midfielder's final international game will be remembered for all the wrong reasons, but he was philosophical about



Sunday's game was Iniesta's last in a Spain shirt. BY REUTERS

it when he penned an open letter to fans on Tuesday: "I think I've been lucky to live one of the best phases of Spanish football, with a generation of players who have been and are exceptional in every way.

"We have achieved great success, things that we all dreamed of when we were young, but we have also had great disappointments and we have experienced very difficult moments."

Iniesta first represented his country 14 years ago and went on to win

131 caps, scoring 13 goals, including the winner in the 2010 World Cup final against the Netherlands. Now, though, he says, "is the time to step aside". "The future is exciting, with a group of players who are incredible and who from now on will have me as a fan, supporting them unconditionally. I have no doubt that what is ahead will be wonderful and that great successes will be reaped, as the group there is impressive."



Luis Enrique at the 2002 World Cup. BY ABC

Luis Enrique, Míchel or Sánchez Flores? Who will be the next Spain coach?

BY COLPISA

MADRID. Ever since Julen Lopetegui's departure on 13 June, three names have been continually linked with the Spain head coach role: Luis Enrique, Míchel and Quique Sánchez Flores.

The trio, who are all free agents after their spells with Barcelona, Malaga and Espanyol, respectively, came to an end, continue to be the frontrunners now that Fernando Hierro's spell in the hotseat ended

in disappointment.

In a poll conducted by SUR, Luis Enrique was the overwhelming favourite among fans, with 52 per cent of the vote. The Champions League and two-time La Liga winner was capped 62 times by Spain, participating in two World Cups and one European Championship.

Quique Sánchez Flores and Míchel took second and third place with 30 and 18 per cent of the vote, respectively.



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A LOOK AT LA LIGA

Roberto to the rescue

He left Spain a nobody, but could Belgium manager Roberto Martínez be the perfect choice to revitalise La Roja?

We suspected it on the eve of the tournament, now we know it to be true. The “poaching” of Julen Lopetegui created more disharmony in Spain than a year of political arguments.

Ultimately it was like the stepfather standing in to take the kids to the zoo. Fernando Hierro thought he knew how to handle the behaviour and idiosyncrasies of the egos he was asked to babysit but he just wasn't able to gather their focus.

The plans for the World Cup finals started two years ago; Lopetegui's approach was similar to Gareth Southgate's – he was creating a pathway and legacy. How football federations love buzzwords like those!

In truth Spain's team is in a different sphere, in fact few of the England team would even get into the Spain squad. England have a plan though and Southgate managed to advance by following the long-considered ideas. Spain's plan was ripped



'Bobby' Martínez has been Belgium coach since 2016. :: REUTERS

up and scattered on the tarmac as Lopetegui jetted home to answer the call from Real Madrid.

Where there once was harmony and organisation there was now disharmony and distraction. The leaders of the team didn't lead. David De Gea looked far from the most respected goalkeeper in Europe. Gerard Piqué appeared diverted, Sergio Ramos was unable to pull the group together and Andrés Iniesta wasn't selected to start the

knockout game.

So what now for Spain? There has been a loud call in some quarters for Roberto Martínez to come home and take on the role.

In the interests of full disclosure I have to admit that I'm a big admirer of the man I met on his very first day in the country back in 1995. It was my idea to take him and his two Spanish compatriots to Wigan Pier, feed them Uncle Joe's mint balls and christen them the 'Three

ROB PALMER

Commentator, Sky Sports
@robbopalmer



Amigos'.

I've admired his scholarly approach to football as he advanced from being a third-tier player to World Cup manager. He's unified a Belgium changing room where half speak French, half speak Dutch and all have a high regard for themselves. The Spaniard does this by delivering his team talk in the neutral language of English.

Since his first game against Spain in 2016 he went undefeated all the way to the World Cup Finals.

The Everton fans didn't appreciate him even though he took them to two domestic semi-finals and the last 16 of the Europa League. This after securing 6th place in 2014.

At Wigan he goes down in folklore as the man who inspired the club to the FA Cup final win against the mighty Manchester City in 2013. The year before he'd kept them in the Premier League by beating Liverpool, Arsenal, Manchester United and Newcastle in a run of seven wins in nine games.

He is also one of the most genuine people I have ever met. Not in football, in life itself.

So his name has to be in the frame given his managerial achievements. He could be heading home after leaving the footballing outpost of CF Balaguer twenty-three years ago.

He left a footballing nobody and is now well qualified to return to the top job in Spanish football.

Vamos Roberto, Go Bobby Go.

What penalty curse? England progress to the quarters with win over Colombia

COLOMBIA 1 (3) ENGLAND 1 (4)

:: DARYL FINCH

MALAGA. England's World Cup penalty curse has finally been broken. Fourth time lucky, it was a spotkick from Eric Dier on Tuesday night which eliminated Colombia after Yerry Mina's late equaliser had forced extra time.

The Lions had taken the lead twelve minutes into the second half of the last 16 clash in Moscow when Golden Boot leader Harry Kane tucked the ball away from the spot after being wrestled to the ground by midfielder Carlos Sánchez.

However, just after Jordan Pickford appeared to have secured the win in stoppage time with a world-class save from Mateus Uribe's stinging drive, Colombia were level as Barcelona's Mina headed home the resulting corner.

Danny Rose spurned the only chance in extra time, before Pickford made himself the hero in the shoot-out. The Everton keeper flung out his hand to save Carlos Bacca's effort after Uribe had hit the crossbar with his, cancelling out Jordan Henderson's miss.

This gifted Dier the chance to secure a place in the quarterfinals and he duly obliged, tucking the ball into the side netting, out of the reach of David Ospina.

Gareth Southgate's side now take on Sweden in Samara tomorrow, Saturday, at 4pm.

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TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE



GROUP STAGE															
	14 Thursday	15 Friday	16 Saturday	17 Sunday	18 Monday	19 Tuesday	20 Wednesday	21 Thursday	22 Friday	23 Saturday	24 Sunday	25 Monday	26 Tuesday	27 Wednesday	28 Thursday
Ekaterinburg Ekaterinburg Arena		Egypt vs. Uruguay 0-1						France vs. Peru 1-0			Japan vs. Senegal 2-2			Mexico vs. Sweden 0-3	
Kaliningrad Kaliningrad Stadium			Croatia vs. Nigeria 2-0						Serbia vs. Switzerland 1-2			Spain vs. Morocco 2-2			England vs. Belgium 0-1
Kazan Kazan Arena			France vs. Australia 2-1				Iran vs. Spain 0-1				Poland vs. Colombia 0-3			South Korea vs. Germany 2-0	
Moscow Luzhniki Stadium	Russia vs. Saudi Arabia 5-0			Germany vs. Mexico 0-1			Portugal vs. Morocco 1-0						Denmark vs. France 0-0		
Moscow Spartak Stadium			Argentina vs. Iceland 1-1			Poland vs. Senegal 1-2				Belgium vs. Tunisia 5-2				Serbia vs. Brazil 0-2	
Nizhny Novgorod Nizhny Novgorod Stadium					Sweden vs. South Korea 1-0			Argentina vs. Croatia 0-3			England vs. Panama 6-1			Switzerland vs. Costa Rica 2-2	
Rostov Rostov Arena				Brazil vs. Switzerland 1-1			Uruguay vs. Saudi Arabia 1-0			South Korea vs. Mexico 1-2			Iceland vs. Croatia 1-2		
St Petersburg Krestovsky Stadium		Morocco vs. Iran 0-1				Russia vs. Egypt 3-1			Brazil vs. Costa Rica 2-0				Nigeria vs. Argentina 1-2		
Samara Cosmos Arena				Costa Rica vs. Serbia 0-1				Denmark vs. Australia 1-1				Uruguay vs. Russia 3-0			Senegal vs. Colombia 0-1
Saransk Mordovia Arena			Peru vs. Denmark 0-1			Colombia vs. Japan 1-2						Iran vs. Portugal 1-1			Panama vs. Tunisia 1-2
Sochi Fisht Olympic Stadium		Portugal vs. Spain 3-3			Belgium vs. Panama 3-0.					Germany vs. Sweden 2-1			Australia vs. Peru 0-2		
Volgograd Volgograd Arena					Tunisia vs. England 1-2				Nigeria vs. Iceland 2-0			Saudi Arabia vs. Egypt 2-1			Japan vs. Poland 0-1

GROUP A									
	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	PT		
1. URUGUAY	3	3	0	0	5	0	9		
2. RUSSIA	3	2	0	1	8	4	6		
3. SAUDI ARABIA	3	1	0	2	2	7	3		
4. EGYPT	3	0	0	3	2	6	0		

GROUP B									
	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	PT		
1. SPAIN	3	1	2	0	6	5	5		
2. PORTUGAL	3	1	2	0	5	4	5		
3. IRAN	3	1	1	1	2	2	4		
4. MOROCCO	3	0	1	2	2	4	1		

GROUP C									
	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	PT		
1. FRANCE	3	2	1	0	3	1	7		
2. DENMARK	3	1	2	0	2	1	5		
3. PERU	3	1	0	2	2	2	3		
4. AUSTRALIA	3	0	1	2	2	5	1		

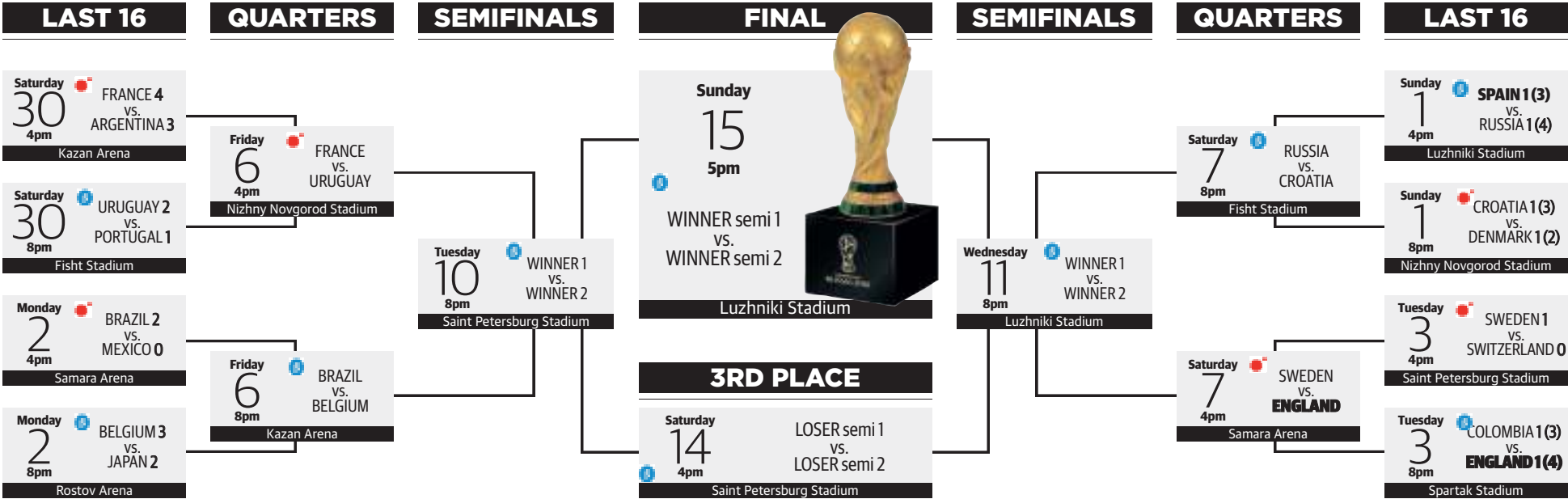
GROUP D									
	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	PT		
1. CROATIA	3	3	0	0	7	1	9		
2. ARGENTINA	3	1	1	1	3	5	4		
3. NIGERIA	3	1	0	2	3	4	3		
4. ICELAND	3	0	1	2	2	5	1		

GROUP E									
	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	PT		
1. BRAZIL	3	2	1	0	5	1	7		
2. SWITZERLAND	3	1	2	0	5	4	5		
3. SERBIA	3	1	0	2	2	4	3		
4. COSTA RICA	3	0	1	2	2	5	1		

GROUP F									
	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	PT		
1. SWEDEN	3	2	0	1	5	2	6		
2. MEXICO	3	2	0	1	3	4	6		
3. SOUTH KOREA	3	1	0	2	3	3	3		
4. GERMANY	3	1	0	2	2	4	3		

GROUP G									
	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	PT		
1. BELGIUM	3	3	0	0	9	2	9		
2. ENGLAND	3	2	0	1	8	3	6		
3. TUNISIA	3	1	0	2	5	8	3		
4. PANAMA	3	0	0	3	2	11	0		

GROUP H									
	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	PT		
1. COLOMBIA	3	2	0	1	5	2	6		
2. JAPAN	3	1	1	1	4	4	4		
3. SENEGAL	3	1	1	1	4	4	4		
4. POLAND	3	1	0	2	2	5	3		



Spain's basketballers resounding victors in WC qualifier in Malaga

Fran Vázquez, linked with return to Unicaja, was the star man in a comfortable 80-60 victory against Belarus

JUAN CALDERÓN

✉ jcalderon@diariosur.es

MALAGA. It was a golden opportunity and he didn't pass it up. Fran Vázquez, who could be on his way back to Unicaja this summer, put on a masterclass on his old patch as Spain ran out 80-60 winners against Belarus in the Palacio de los Deportes in Malaga on Sunday.

Vázquez scored nine points and eight rebounds to finish with a game score of 15, the highest of any Spain player in this first-round qualifying game for the World Cup in China next year.

"Returning to Malaga would be an honour for me because it is the club that first gave me my break," he said. "I am open to a return."

A strange atmosphere

There was a strange atmosphere at the start of the game with half of the crowd following the national football team's penalty shootout defeat against Russia in the World Cup. However, it didn't take long for Sergio Scariolo's side to assert their control on the game and but for the resistance of Maccabi pivot Parakhoushi, Spain's first quarter lead could have been much greater



Spain's players celebrate victory against Belarus on Sunday. :: F. SILVA

than 19-15.

Two three-pointers from Alberto Díaz and another from Vicedo, however, helped the home side, who were moving the ball around well, to increase their lead as they went into the break to 38-26.

In the third quarter, Spain were at a far superior level. Vázquez was at the centre of everything and Scariolo's men thwarted almost everything Belarus threw at them, as they added a mere nine points, 58-37.

A three-pointer from Beirán right at the start of the final quarter ended the game as a competition and Spain sat back, content with the margin of their lead with the result never in doubt, 80-60.

This was Spain's second victory in the space of a week, having beaten Slovenia in Ljubljana 83-72 last Thursday. Their next round of qualifiers will take place between 30 August and 18 September, with the 24 teams divided into four groups of six.



Abel Aguilera, after participating in an Ultraman in Australia. :: SUR

Crossing Loch Ness for a good cause

Ronda sportsman Abel Aguilera will swim the legendary 16 kilometres in aid of the Andrés Olivares Foundation

:: MARÍA GARCÍA

RONDA. The mythical Loch Ness will be the latest challenge taken on by Ronda sportsman Abel Aguilera, who will swim the 16-kilometre challenge on 5 August. He will do so to raise funds for the Andrés Olivares Foundation, one of Malaga's most active children's cancer charities.

The athlete, who has previously taken on a number of sporting challenges, including the Lanzarote Ironman in 2016 and the Ultraman in Australia last year (where he was the only Spanish participant), will now take on a new challenge, made even more daunting by his fear of "doing sport in very deep water".

Despite this, "any challenge

that I do is small compared to the struggle that some people have to go through every day," he says, explaining the motto of the event: "Together against fear".

The fundraising is already well on its way. Aguilera is leading a crowdfunding campaign, shared across social media, to which anyone can contribute however much they like, either by making a donation or by buying a t-shirt.

A fighter

Aguilera himself knows what it is like to take on cancer, having been diagnosed with stage four Non-Hodgkin lymphoma - news which rather than stop him, has encouraged him to take on extreme sporting challenges. The biggest challenge of all, he says, is "putting yourself to the test".

Aguilera, a cancer survivor, will put his fears to one side as he fights to make sure that any new cancer patient will have more options to overcome the disease than previous ones.

Davidovich puts his Wimbledon disappointment quickly behind him

The young tennis star bounced straight back with victory at the Malaga Open

:: J. CALDERÓN

MALAGA. Fledgling local tennis star Alejandro Davidovich put his Wimbledon disappointment behind him as he came out on top in the Open Málaga de Tenis Rincón Dental tournament held at Inacua over the weekend.

Davidovich saw off 15-year-old Carlos Alcaraz from Murcia in the final, 6-2, 6-6 (7-6).

The Malaga talent entered directly at the semifinal stage where he triumphed over Pedro Domín-

guez, to set up a final against the sensation of the tournament.

Having beaten Luis Diego Chávez and Tote Domínguez in the quarter and semifinals, respectively, Alcaraz won over the hearts of many on his journey to the final.

Despite falling comfortably in the first set, Alcaraz put up a fight in the second, forcing a tie-breaker which Davidovich ultimately won.

"On a good run"

The win, at a venue he calls his "second home", comes during a "good run" for Davidovich. "I'm in the best shape I've been in all season. I'm not carrying any injuries and I feel great," he told SUR.

Despite having been eliminated in the second round of qualifying for Wimbledon by veteran Canadian Peter Polansky, Davidovich believes the experience was positive, one that he can use to develop his game further: "Every day we suffer a little bit to push ourselves to a higher level."

"I have climbed a lot of places on the ATP ranking and in a short space of time I've got some of my best results to date."

While it didn't go exactly to plan for Davidovich at Wimbledon, there was better news for his compatriot Rafael Nadal who progressed to the last 32 with a 6-4, 6-3, 6-3 win over Mikhail Kukushkin on Thursday.



Malaga Open finalists Alcaraz and Davidovich. :: SUR

The Costa del Golf Tour hits halfway point at Cabopino

by ALEJANDRO DÍAZ

MALAGA. Almost a hundred amateur golfers took to the greens at Cabopino in Marbella on Saturday to participate in the second leg of the Costa del Golf Tour, organised by SUR and its publication Costa del Golf.

José María Gil Osorio and Pablo Ortega Briesenmester topped the leaderboard in the first and second categories, respectively, while María José Vegas Sillero came out on top among the women.

The top six classified players in each of the three tournaments qualify directly for the grand final to be contested at the Real Club de Guadalmina. In the first category (alongside Gil Osorio) Eduardo Delgado Rojas, José Antonio Benítez Domínguez, Francisco Javier López Mesa, Christian Far Boggiano and José Ramón Feito Feito also booked their spots in the final. In the second category, Julián Zurita Gadea, Juan Carlos López Grau, Sergio Orovio Borrego, Jorge Alonso Lopera and Jesús Podadera Guerrero also qualified.

In the women's category, Patricia V. Thiele Rico, Ana Isabel Irmia Diéguez, María del Carmen Noguero Aguililla, Mercedes Espiñeira Bañuelos and Carolina Pérez-Estrada Comejo will be joining those already qualified for the final from the first leg already contested at Alcaidesa.

The day, sponsored by the Da Bruno restaurant group, "was accompanied by a light breeze throughout the morning and after-

noon", said the tour's sporting director, Francisco Gómez.

The fine state of the facilities at Cabopino were applauded by participants who are now looking forward to the next stage of the tournament which takes place this Saturday, 7 July, at El Paraíso. Those who wish to participate can still sign up through Oferplan.

A consolidated tournament

The tour, now in its fifth year, has brought together, across its past editions, almost a thousand amateur players in its men's and women's categories. Following each game day, a prizegiving ceremony and raffle takes place - a factor which has helped the Costa del Golf Tour to become a well established tournament on the amateur circuit.

On Saturday, SUR's commercial director, Jorge Artero; its director of new business, Federico Moret; commercial delegate in Marbella, Leandro Rodríguez; external relations head, Pilar Perea; and marketing chief, Pilar Alcalá, were all in attendance for the prizegiving.

Also present were Da Bruno group owner, Bruno Filippone, and head of marketing and quality at the Marcos 1942 jewellers, Esther Ruiz. Both businesses sponsor the tour, as do Acosol and the Junta de Andalucía. Other collaborators include the four host courses, Andalucía Golf Select, Copyrap, Golfriends and FC&CO.



A light breeze accompanied play at Cabopino. **JOSELE-LANZA**

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Malaga CF to take on Nottingham Forest in first preseason friendly

The club has announced the first series of friendly games, all to be played in Malaga province, starting with the English side a week on Monday

■ **ANTONIO GÓNGORA**

MALAGA. Movement may be slow, but things are showing signs of coming together behind the scenes at Malaga CF as a busy week approaches.

With the players expected to return from their summer holidays for a series of medical tests today, Friday, the club announced a number of preseason friendlies on Monday.

The first will see the Blue and Whites take on English Championship side Nottingham Forest at the Marbella Football Center on 16 July - the only friendly so far confirmed this month.

There will be further fixtures against Antequera, at their home ground El Maulí on 4 August; Mallorca will be the opposition at the Marbella municipal stadium on 8 August; and on 11 August, the 'new Malaga' will be presented to fans for the first time at the Trofeo Costa del Sol. The opposition for the latter has not yet been confirmed, nor have kickoff times for any of the games.

This delay in scheduling can be put down to new coach Juan Ramón Muñoz deciding that he wanted pre-

PREPARATION

► **Return.** Medical examinations will take place on Friday before players return to the field on Monday.

► **Monday 16th.** Nottingham Forest, at the Marbella Football Center.

► **Saturday 4 August.** Antequera, at El Maulí.

► **Wednesday 8 August.** Mallorca, at the Marbella municipal stadium.

► **Saturday 11 August.** Trofeo Costa del Sol, opponents not yet confirmed.

season to take place on home soil. The initial plan was to head to central Europe for a training camp and

a series of friendlies, but this appears to have been cancelled or, at least, delayed.

A busy week ahead

While there has been progress on the footballing front, there is little to report on in terms of transfer business. Barring the players whose contracts came to an end (Chory Castro, Samu, Adalberto Peñaranda, Zdravko Kuzmanovic, Roberto, Maxime Lestienne, Borja Bastón, Alberto Bueno, Diego Rolán, Isaac Success and Brown Ideye), only Jony and Emanuel Cecchini have left (both on loan) and not a single player has been brought in.

This, however, is expected to change within the next week after Muñoz and sporting director José Luis Caminero met on Wednesday to make decisions over deals that are near to completion.



Preseason training gets under way on Monday. ■ **SUR**



Santos, during his loan spell at Sporting Gijón last season. ■ **D. ARIENZA**

Exit of Michael Santos could be the key to Malaga's transfer plans

The forward is looking for a move and his transfer fee could ensure that Miquel and En-Nesyri remain at La Rosaleda

■ **SERGIO CORTÉS**

MALAGA. Despite head coach Juan Ramón Muñoz stating his desire to keep hold of forward Michael Santos, the exit of the Uruguayan looks all the more likely after a number of La Liga sides, as well as FC Copenhagen, expressed an interest.

The forward, who scored 17 goals during a loan spell with Sporting Gijón last season, has a release clause in his contract which allows him to join a La Liga

side on loan now that Malaga have been relegated.

His departure could come as a blessing for Malaga who, if freed of his inflated wages (he didn't have a clause inserted in his contract that would see his wages halved in the event of relegation), wouldn't then be obliged to cash in on star players Ignasi Miquel and Youssef En-Nesyri.

However, whether Santos leaves or not, strengthening the frontline remains a priority for Malaga. Last week, SUR reported that veteran strikers Jorge Molina and Rubén Castro were on the wishlist. Now, it is understood that former Liverpool and Norwich forward, Dani Pacheco (currently Molina's teammate at Getafe) and Leganés' Mamadou Koné are also under consideration.

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■ **LA CALA RESORT**

GERRARD'S RANGERS HEAD FOR THE COSTA

Newly-appointed Rangers manager, Steven Gerrard, brought his new team to La Cala Resort in Mijas for a ten-day training camp in preparation for the start of the new Scottish Premiership season and the Glasgow side's upcoming Europa League clash against FK Shkupi. Gerrard met La Cala Resort director Sean Corte-Real (inset) and praised the facilities.

my home SUR

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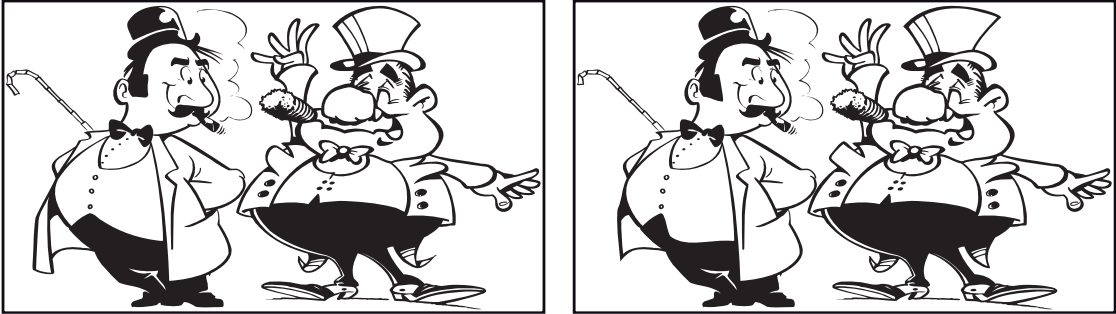
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THE SEVEN DIFFERENCES




THE STARS




Aquarius
January 21 - February 19
You are a magnet for good things at the moment. That may not, however, include good people.




Pisces
February 20th - March 20th
If love is in the air then be prepared for an electric storm! Optimism makes it smooth running.




Aries
March 21st - April 20th
With the emphasis on home and family, it could mean that planned changes come sooner than expected.




Taurus
April 21st - May 21st
With the emphasis on partnerships and love, you two need to talk. Be warned, though. Avoid telling others just what they want to hear.




Gemini
May 22nd - June 21st
You can be really lucky this week. Just tune in to what others are thinking and doing.




Cancer
June 22nd - July 23rd
Do you need help or advice? Ask now! Walk tall and have the confidence to be yourself.




Leo
July 24th - August 23rd
A new idea and an injection of money may come together this week. Certainly, something is putting a smile on your face.




Virgo
August 24th - September 23rd
Make it a week to pursue a tricky idea. Some things just slot into place naturally.




Libra
September 24th - October 23rd
At work you are also in more demand than usual. Maybe there are holidays to be covered.



Scorpio
October 24th - November 22nd
Bouncing ideas off a friend is useful but don't overdo it unless you have a crash helmet handy. Too much information can be confusing.

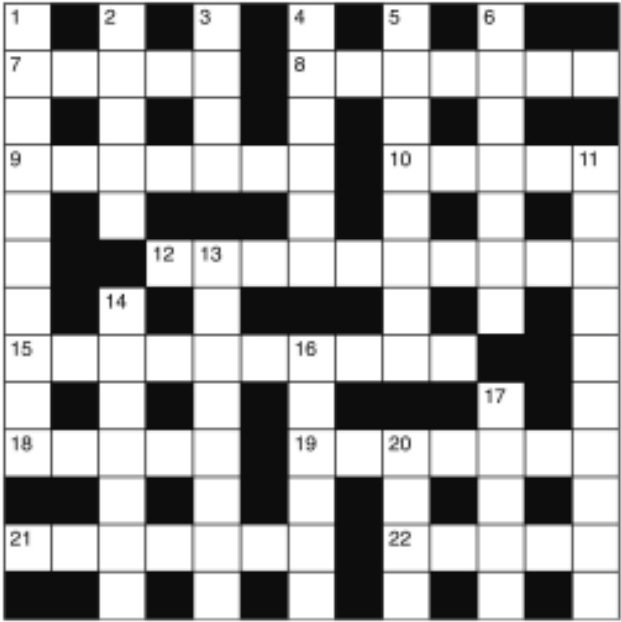


Sagittarius
November 23rd - December 21st
Be sure that you are noticed, but avoid flirting with a colleague if it could become complicated.



Capricorn
December 22nd - January 20th
Stability returns even if the odd sad feeling appears. Guess what? You are human!

CRYPTIC CROSSWORD N° 11302



Across

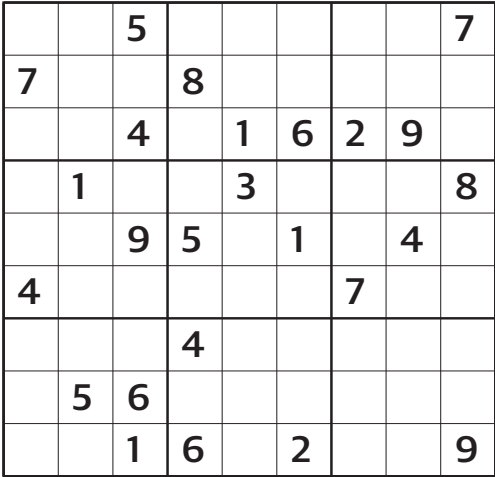
- 7 She comes from a peaceful branch (5)
- 8 Assert little Edward warded off (7)
- 9 Do grunts indicate the finding of metal? (3,4)
- 10 Took part as substitute? (5)
- 12 Paper won't move, we hear (10)
- 15 Quite open, but beyond the directors (5,5)
- 18 Cited a decree (5)
- 19 Give thanks to the rulers for the receipts (7)
- 21 Angered because put out of order (7)
- 22 Ship taken from Brazil in error (5)

Down

- 1 Make amends for having had dinner in company with 1000 writers (10)
- 2 From which actors hope to reach the heights? (5)
- 3 Showing one's fondness at some cost? (4)
- 4 Is unable to write article in hypocritical style (8)
- 5 Vote socialist and deliver a beating (8)
- 6 A good man may speak with a stammer (7)
- 11 By which thirst is calculated? (3,7)
- 13 Buying drinks for the patient? (8)
- 14 Drop in a dagger (7)
- 16 Have more tenants than others as a means of escape (6)
- 17 Stupid, partly in an endearing manner (5)
- 20 Things that are thrown are fired here (4)

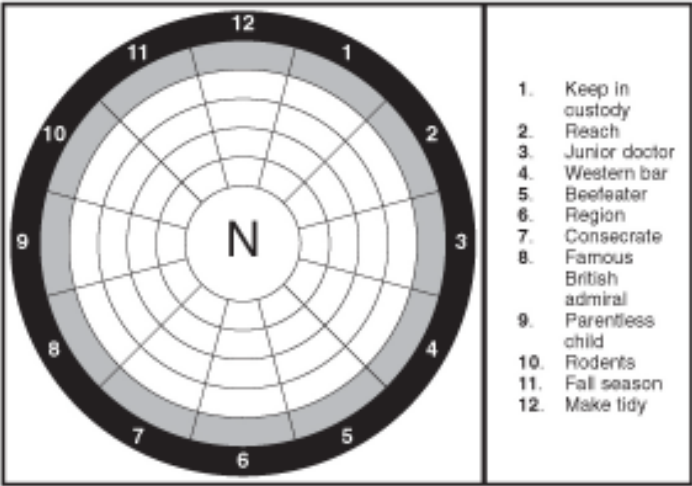
SUDOKU BY HANZO

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



CLOCKWORD

The solutions from 1 to 12 are all six-letter words ending with the letter N in the centre. Moving clockwise from 1, the letters in the outer circle will spell out the name of a TV presenter and actress.



THE WORDPUZZLER



- Can you identify the female counterparts of the people listed below?
- 1. Uncle
 - 2. Father
 - 3. Warlock
 - 4. Groom
 - 5. Lord
 - 6. Monk
 - 7. Nephew
 - 8. Husband
 - 9. Brother
 - 10. Sir

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The Beat fm (106 FM)
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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

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QUIZ

QUESTION 1

From what type of plant does a vanilla pod come?

- 1. A daisy
- 2. A mint
- 3. A rose
- 4. An orchid

QUESTION 2

What is the national currency of China?

- 1. Pula
- 2. Lilangeni
- 3. Renminbi
- 4. Rupee

LANGUAGE CROSSWORD FILL IN THE SPANISH WORD

- Across
- Down
- 1) To postpone (8)

5) Consecutive (11)

9) Roller (4)

10) Tenants (10)

12) Prism (6)

14) Sport (7)

15) Doubles (6)

16) Gone (f) (3)

18) Like that (3)

19) Pair (3)

21) It was (3)

23) Advantage (7)

25) Championship (10)

27) To extend (7)

29) You (pl) (2)

30) Eight (4)

31) 40 ____ Deuce (7)

32) Grass (6)

34) He ties (3)

36) Not subject to appeal (10)

38) Given (4)

41) Chaos (4)

42) To delay (8)

44) She sees (2)

45) Bit (3)

46) Nor (2)

47) Downpour (8)

49) Cathedral (8)

50) Training (13)

51) Lines (6)
- 1) Match (7)

2) He was jumping (7)

3) I heard (2)

4) Racquet (7)

5) Boys (6)

6) Lawn (6)

7) Tennis (5)

8) Organisation (12)

10) To go (2)

11) To interrupt (11)

13) To win (6)

17) Even (3)

18) Handle (3)

19) Pity (4)

20) Rhythms (6)

22) The (f) (2)

23) I would fly (7)

24) Bull (4)

25) Opponent (12)

26) Legendary (f) (6)

28) From Mallorca (10)

33) Freckle (4)

35) To lie down (8)

37) Court (5)

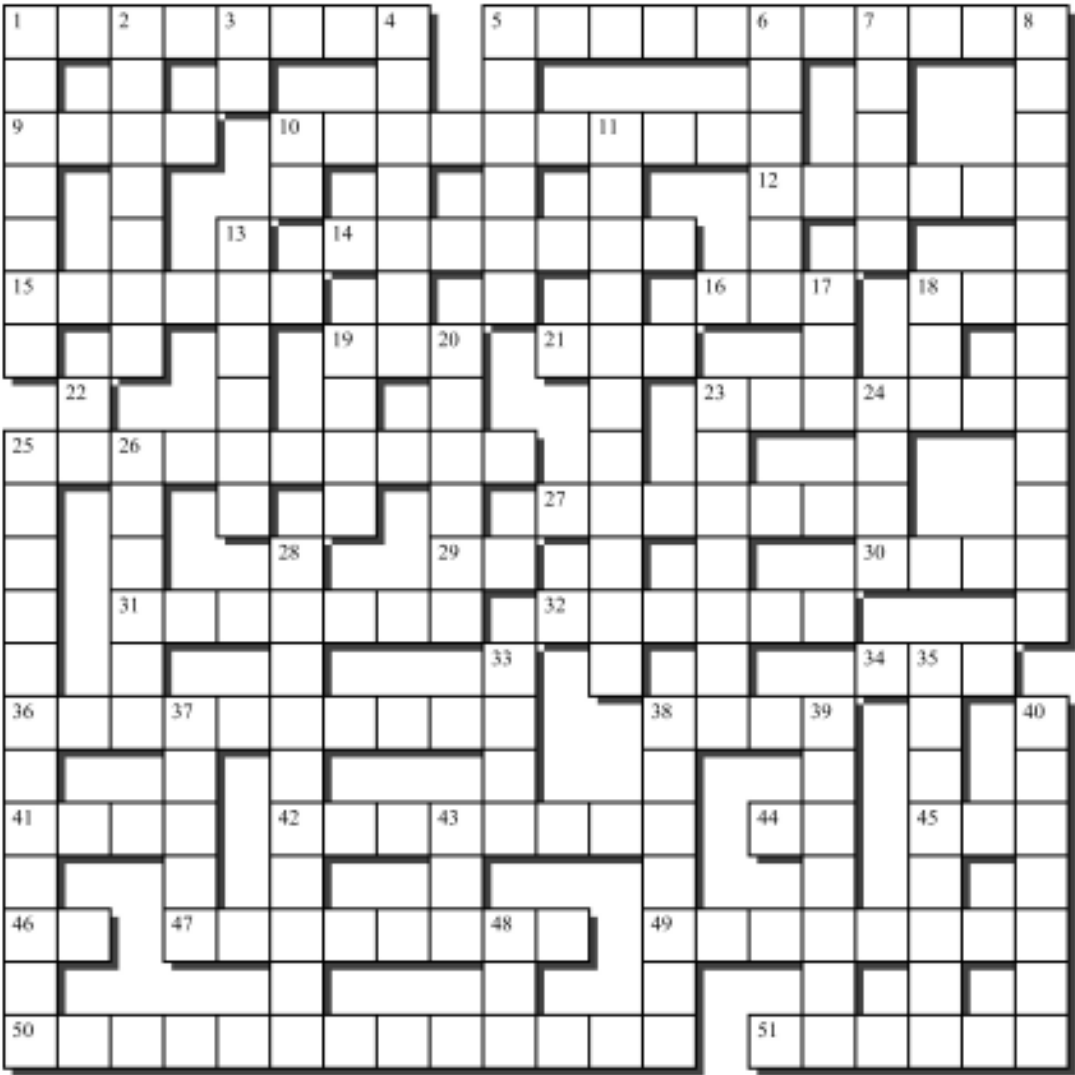
38) Right (7)

39) I obeyed (7)

40) Titles (7)

43) He laughs (3)

48) It gnaws (3)



ANSWERS

Quiz answers

Of interest: The renminbi is China's national currency. It means "the money of the people." The yuan is a unit of the currency.

Answer 1: Renminbi.

Of interest: Vanilla pods come from the orchid Vanilla planifolia. The word vanilla is derived from the Spanish word 'vaina' meaning 'sheath' or 'pod'. The Spanish conquistador Hernán Cortés brought it and chocolate to Europe (from Mexico) in the 1520s.

Answer 1: An orchid

Cryptic Crossword

Solutions: Across: 7 Olive; 8 Averted; 9 Pig iron; 10 Acted; 12 Stationery; 15 Above board; 18 Edit; 19 Takings; 21 Derange; 22 Liner; Down: 1 Compensate; 2 Wings; 3 Dear; 4 Cannot; 5 Belabour; 6 Stutter; 11 Dry measure; 13 Treating; 14 Poniard; 16 Outlet; 17 Inane; 20 Kiln.

Clockword solution

SOLUTION: 1 Delain, 2 Attain, 3 Intern, 4 Saloon, 5 Yeoman, 6 Domain, 7 Ordain, 8 Nelson, 9 Orphan, 10 Varnish, 11 Autumn, 12 Neaten, PRESENTER AND ADDRESS: Daisy Donovan.

Wordpuzzler solution

1. Aunt
2. Mother
3. Witch
4. Bride
5. Lady
6. Nun
7. Niece
8. Wife
9. Sister
10. Dame

Sudoku solution

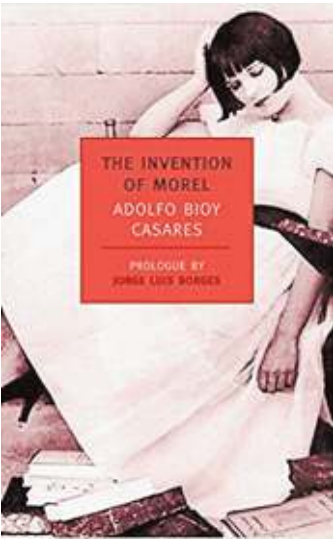
3	4	1	6	8	2	5	7	9
2	5	6	1	9	7	8	3	4
9	7	8	4	5	3	1	2	6
4	2	3	9	6	8	7	5	1
6	8	9	5	7	1	3	4	2
5	1	7	2	3	4	9	6	8
8	3	4	7	1	6	2	9	5
7	9	2	8	4	5	6	1	3
1	6	5	3	2	9	4	8	7

Language Crossword

ACROSS:
1. POSITIVE 5. CONSECUTIVE 9. RUDE
10. INQUIRIES 12. PRESSURE 14. DEPORTED
15. DOUBTS 16. IDEA 18. ASH 19. PAIR
21. AREA 23. VENTURE 25. CAMPFIRE 27. AMPLIFY 29.30. OCHO
31. JUVENILE 32. HIBERNIA 34. VATA
36. INAPPROPRIATE 38. DAVO 41. CAOS
42. RETRIBUTION 44. V. 45. BIT 46. NI
47. AGUACERO 49. CATEDRAL
50. ENTRENAMIENTO 51. LINEAS

DOWN:
1. PARTIDO 2. SALTADA 3. OI 4. ABUQUETA
5. CHOCOS 6. CESTO 7. TENIS
8. ORGANIZACION 10. IR
11. INTRUJEN 13. VENCER 17. ALUN
18. VATA 19. PENIA 20. TENIS 22. LA
23. VATA 24. TORO
25. CONTINUANTE 26. METICA
28. MALLORCA 33. JECIA
35. TUMBA 37. PISTA 38. DEPORTIVO
39. BODEGA 40. TITULOS 43. ASH 48. BOE

BOOK OF THE WEEK



The Invention of Morel
Adolfo Bioy Casares

Jorge Luis Borges declared The Invention of Morel a masterpiece of plotting, comparable to The Turn of the Screw and Journey to the Centre of the Earth. Set on a mysterious island, Bioy's novel is a story of suspense as well as an unlikely romance, in which every detail is at once crystal clear and deeply mysterious. Bioy Casares wrote that his novel La invención de Morel was inspired, by one of his favorite movie stars, Louise Brooks, and his disillusionment over the decline of her the screen career.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

A man who stands for nothing will fall for anything

MALCOLM X

MALAGA PORT INFORMATION

CRUISE SHIP MOVEMENTS (SOURCE: MALAGA PORT AUTHORITY)					
Ship	Date	From	Next port	Docks	Sails
Marella Spirit	08/07	Ceuta	Leixoes	06.00	21.00
Wind Surf	09/07	Gibraltar	Almeria	08.00	22.00
Braemar	10/07	-	-	09.00	18.30
Harmony G	13-16/07	St Tropez	Palma	18.00	05.00
Mein Schiff 6	14/07	Gibraltar	Barcelona	08.00	18.00
Marella Spirit	15/07	Ceuta	Leixoes	06.00	21.00
Europa 2	15/07	Valencia	Cadiz	08.00	19.00





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NAUTICAL ACTIVITIES

Leila Hatami, the Iranian actress who escaped a flogging, films in Marbella

The star of the Oscar-winning A Separation was reported to the Iranian authorities for greeting the Cannes Festival director with a kiss on the cheek

The actress is on the Costa del Sol filming a drama by Alireza Raisian about a woman who travels to Spain and finds it changes her life

FRANCISCO GRIÑÁN

MÁLAGA. We were told that an Iranian production team was in Malaga, shooting a new film with a well-known actress from that country, but then we discovered there was more to it than that. The actress is Leila Hatami, one of the few Iranians to be a member of the Hollywood Academy and the star of the first Iranian production to win an Oscar for a foreign film, A Separation (2011).

This week she has been filming with Malaga actress Elena Martínez on the seafront in Marbella, far from her home country where she is always a box office success and her fans follow her every move. However that once worked against her: in 2014 she



Leila Hatami. :: SUR



Martínez and Hatami (both seated) on the film set in Marbella :: J-LANZA

became embroiled in controversy and was denounced by extremists in Iran for giving a chaste kiss on the cheek to the director of the Cannes Festival,

Gilles Jacob. Some groups in Iran were incensed by that photo and they demanded that she be punished and an example made of her: they wanted

her to be flogged in public.

The scenario occurred when Hatami was on the judging panel at the Cannes Festival. The director

greeted her with a kiss without realising that it would cause havoc in her own country and quickly be reported in the international media. There was such an outcry that he felt obliged to intervene on her behalf and "take the blame" by saying it was he who had kissed her, and that he was not greeting her as a woman but as the representative of the Iranian film industry. It made no difference whatsoever to those who claimed that Leila Hatami had "injured Iran's feelings" by failing to obey the law that bans physical contact with men who are not family members.

Favourite actress

In the face of these accusations, the actress published a letter apologising to anyone who had been offended, but at the same time she said it was a "shame" that she had to give these explanations. Her case aroused considerable interest in the international media, who issued warnings about these chauvinistic attitudes and the risk of regression in Iran. Maybe it was that, or maybe for another reason, but Hatami was lucky. Nothing more was ever said about flogging her because of one polite kiss.

Four years on, the Iranian star is in Malaga filming a movie (the title could be translated as One Lone Man), directed and produced by Alireza Raisian. She is his favourite actress, and this time she plays the part of a woman who travels to Spain on business. It is the first time her character has ever visited the country, and it changes her life.



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