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GOLF

An exciting time for golf on the Costa del Sol

See how a number of courses are promoting the sport in this month's Costa del Golf **INSIDE**



LETTING THEIR HAIR DOWN

The people of Malaga celebrate the city's feria, the biggest party of the year **P10&11**

Visitors and locals dancing at the day fair in Plaza de la Constitución. :: SALVADOR SALAS

King set to attend memorial service for Catalonia terror victims

A year has now passed since sixteen people were killed in attacks in Barcelona and Cambrils

Spain will today mark the first anniversary of the terrorist attacks that left 16 dead. Attempts by some Catalan separatists to bring a political message to the day's agenda, amid the planned attendance of King Felipe, have been criticised. **P22**

A sad goodbye to a Costa showbiz icon. Legendary singer and performer Mel Williams died on Wednesday, aged 75 **P4**

Popular Torre del Mar beach bar destroyed. The Bere Bere chiringuito has been gutted after the fryer caught fire **P20**

Malaga province can now host a quarter of a million tourists a day

Holiday rental properties now represent 60% of the accommodation available

As the debate hots up over the control of holiday rental properties, figures show that there are now some 250,000 beds available across Malaga province - 60 per cent of which can be found in such properties.

Marbella is the municipality with the largest number of short-term rental properties with 31,867

beds, followed by the city of Malaga, with 23,478, which represents four out of ten of local beds.

Local authorities, especially in coastal areas, are seeking solutions to what is becoming an increasing problem for residents, for whom rental prices have gone up, as well as complaints of antisocial behaviour. **P2-4**

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Malaga province can accommodate 250,000 tourists a day

With a total of 150,000 holiday properties advertised in Malaga province, more places are available on Airbnb than in hotels

MALAGA. "People are buying properties just for holiday lets". This is something you often hear now in the property sector, which is already talking about a new bubble and one with a difference on the Costa del Sol and in other major cities and tourist resorts: holiday rental properties. The regional government's Minister of Tourism, Francisco Javier Fernández, asked the government a few months ago to regulate this type of business, because it is now becoming increasingly difficult to find properties to rent long-term. In Malaga city more than 600 people are eligible for housing assistance, but they can't find any-



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where to live. The advantages of platforms like Airbnb, where users comment on their experiences, and the amount of money owners can earn, means that many prefer holiday rentals to traditional ones. On average, the owners of a holiday rental property in Malaga province can earn 4,500 euros a month; those ren-



Tourists just after arriving at Malaga airport. :: MIGUE FERNÁNDEZ

ting out a bedroom can earn 2,000 euros, or 1,300 if the room is shared. The problem is that this goose with its golden eggs is damaging the market.

The phenomenon is not new in

Andalucía: the Junta has been regulating this type of rental for a few years now, demanding that properties meet certain standards such as air conditioning in each bedroom or direct outside ventilation, and this

has reduced the numbers of suitable properties considerably.

The more than 30,000 properties available on Airbnb in the province, plus the number of hotel beds, means that Malaga can now accommodate

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With Airbnb, users can comment on their experiences and hosts can make money

The increase in the number of holiday properties is putting up the cost of long-term lets

Barcelona is the leader in Spain with 24,029 beds advertised on Airbnb, followed by Madrid (22,909), Valencia (8,120), Seville (6,973) and Malaga (5,762), although the figure for Marbella is almost the same (5,721). In addition there are similar platforms such as HomeAway, HouseTrip and Only-Apartments.

DataHippo also shows that there is a considerable imbalance in some places: Mijas, for example, has 13,000 beds available in rental properties compared with 2,000 in hotels. If all the tourist properties in Frigiliana were to be occupied, the population

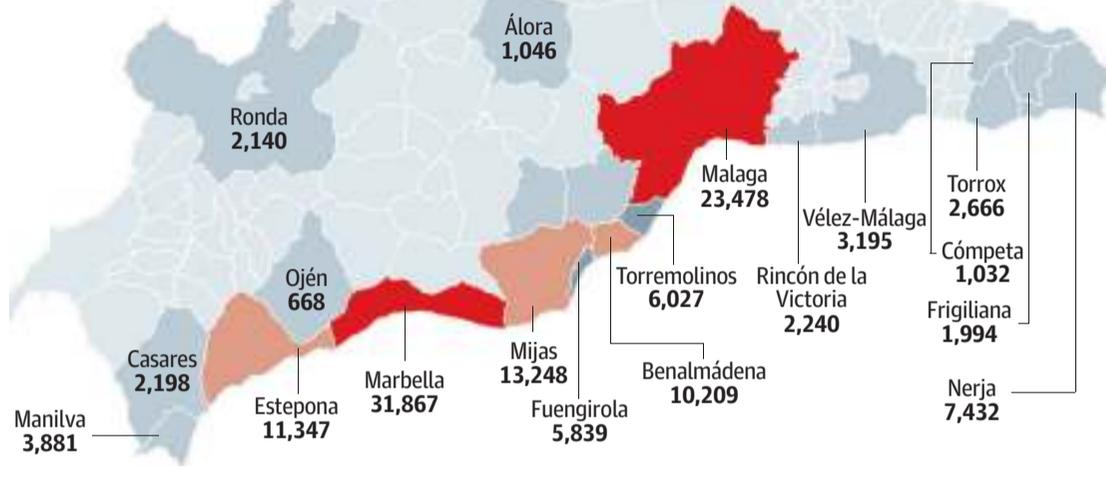
250,000 tourists a day. Of those, 60 per cent would be staying in a self-catering property.

The numbers are growing. The DataHippo portal, which collects data from digital rental platforms, says

Rental properties for tourism in Malaga

Number of beds in tourist properties by town

The coast attracts the majority of this type of tourism. Inland, Ronda's rentals match the hotels but Álora's exceeds what hotels can offer



would almost double, from 3,000 to 5,000. Benahavís would be the second, increasing from 7,300 to 12,200. However, the average price to stay in these villages also varies, from 122 euros a night in Frigiliana to 344 euros in Benahavís, the highest in the province.

Despite this 'boom', there are problems. The national markets

and competition commission is taking Madrid, Bilbao and San Sebastián councils to court because it believes that restrictions they have introduced are detrimental to the interests of consumers and users. However, these are not the only local authorities to have done so.

In April this year Palma, where

only six per cent of holiday rental properties are registered, became the first place to ban this type of rental altogether. The mayor, Antoni Noguera, said others would follow, and that has been the case. One month later the government of the Canary Islands drafted new laws to ban holiday rentals in tourist areas.

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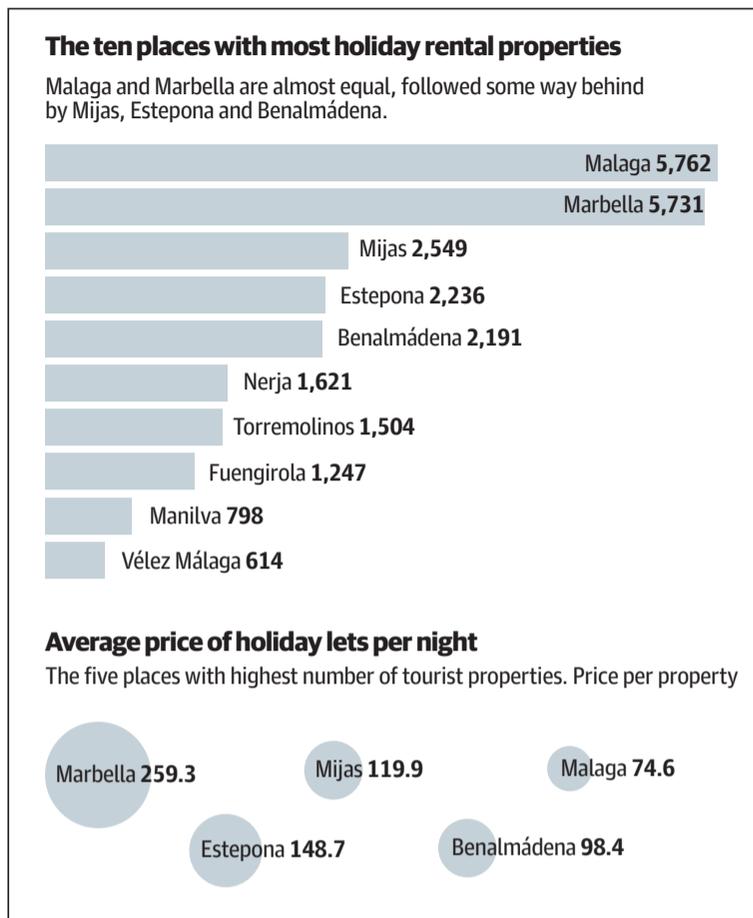
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> In June, Rincón de la Victoria also decided to restrict holiday lets. "We took the decision because of complaints from local residents and problems that we at the town hall have experienced ourselves when we have needed to find somewhere for people, such as the victims of domestic violence. The prices have shot up. Places that used to be available for 200 euros now cost 600 or 700 and in the end everybody ends up paying through their taxes," says the mayor, Francisco Salado. He insists that holiday lets need to be restricted "for the sake of coexistence".

Carlos Pérez-Lanzac, the president of the Association of Holiday Properties of Andalucía (AVVA), however, thinks differently. "Right now, no town hall in Andalucía has the right to restrict properties which are used for tourism. No mayor, of any political party, can take away the rights of private property or the citizens," he insists.

The municipalities on the coast are the most keen to find a solution, because they all have at least 2,000 self-catering beds listed. Inland, the town of Ronda now has the same balance of beds in hotels and Airbnb accommodation as coastal resorts. Antequera and Álora are not far behind, although in their case they only have about 1,000 beds each.

In Malaga city the mayor, Francis-



co de la Torre, is urging local people to report properties which are being rented out illegally to the police as soon as possible. He says holiday rental properties are a logical complement to the hotel industry, but they are not growing at the same pace. The hotel sector disagrees: they believe the increase in holiday lets is unfair

competition.

Carlos Pérez-Lanzac is positive about the future of regulation, especially now that holiday portals are only allowing legally registered properties to advertise. Details of every Spanish property advertised will now also be passed to Hacienda, the tax authority, as well. He also stresses the

economic impact of tourist properties in Spain, which amounts to about 124 billion euros, from a sector in which 85 per cent of clients are foreigners. "All this contributes to making the Costa del Sol a competitive destination," he says.

The increase in holiday properties is also putting up long-term rental prices in general and Malaga has become the most expensive province in Andalucía in this regard. To alleviate the situation, the government has announced plans to build 20,000 social housing properties in Spain to bring down rental prices, and in Benalmádena the council is offering a substantial discount on the IBI tax for people who rent out their properties to long-term tenants.

It seems that everywhere in the province is affected, apart from one small village. Alfamate, with just 1,113 inhabitants, has no hotels or holiday accommodation registered.

For Carlos Pérez-Lanzac, the market is now starting to regulate itself as supply increases and some holiday lets become less profitable. In the meantime, though, the word 'bubble' is frequently being heard in the property sector, and it is becoming increasingly common to see articles in the press saying, for example that long-term rental prices are increasing much faster than salaries.

The number of seats available on flights into Malaga set to increase

IVÁN GELIBTER

MALAGA. A report by Turismo Costa Del Sol on the seating capacity for flights offered from August until January 2019 at Malaga airport, estimates a 9.3 per cent growth on the same period last year. This increase represents 460,000 more places available.

The general manager of Turismo Costa Del Sol, Arturo Bernal, stated at a press conference recently that the report reflected a "clear upward trend" in the numbers of visitors expected to arrive at the airport. Good news for Malaga "which year after year is extending the [tourist] season."

Between September and January the number of seats available is expected to rise with a 26 per cent increase forecast for January 2019. According to the report, the UK will show a 0.2 per cent reduction in the number of travellers from August to January on the previous year, which equates to 3,000 less places. In spite of this, London will increase its seat availability by 1.7 per cent over the next few months, an equivalent of 8,800 more places, accounting for 9.9 per cent of the total places recorded.

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REF. T. I. A.

I am working in Spain and have Social Security and a health insurance card. Two years ago I had an accident and I am still waiting for surgery, but I am on a waiting list because they consider that my case is not urgent. I have private health insurance, and I wondered if I ask them to do

the surgery and then claim the cost from the Social Security. Is this possible?

If you went to a private hospital without the authorisation of the public health system, it would be unlikely that the social security would pay the costs, as these are only paid in case of a life-threatening emergency. You could lodge a claim before the Health Inspectorate for them to authorise surgery in a private institution, although it is unlikely you'll get permission if, as you say, your case is not urgent.

REF. A. N. A.

Four months ago I received an offer from a telephone company, which included my mobile phone, landline and pay television for a lower price than the one I was paying at the time, so I decided to change to this company. As soon as I signed the contract, I asked for the cancellation of the other one, but when I

checked my bank account, I discovered that during all this time the previous company has been taking money from my account, for a service that they were not providing, and moreover I am now paying both companies. What can I do to solve this?

In the first place, you should speak with the bank for them to return the payments that are still returnable, and cancel future direct debits. It would also be advisable to send a registered letter to the company informing them of the date when you cancelled the contract, and asking them to refund the money which the bank has not been able to return. If you have any proof of the date when you cancelled the contract, it would be advisable to attach it as well. If the company do not reimburse you voluntarily, there would be no other option than making a claim through the consumer office or at court.



Mel Williams passed away on Wednesday. **SUR**

Entertainer and Costa legend Mel Williams dies aged 75

DENISE BUSH

MALAGA. Hundreds of tributes from far and wide are flowing in to Mel Williams' Facebook page after the news broke that the great entertainer had died on Wednesday.

Mel was raised in the 40s and 50s and rose to fame performing alongside the likes of Bill Haley, Gene Vincent, Little Richard, The Rolling Stones, Jerry Lee, Joe Cocker, Van Morrison, the great Lonnie Donegan and many more. His book 'Nearly Famous' and many recordings have sold all over the world and since 1974 he became one of the most popular entertainers on the Costa del Sol performing at Mel's Beach, Banana Beach,

Mel's Club Banús and Bikini Beach.

Maurice Boland expressed his "shock and sadness" at the news and confessed that "Mel has always been an inspiration to me from stage to charity. He was a wonderful friend and a bigger than life personality."

Restaurateur Brigitte Pigani of La Fiorentina admitted she was 'Making plans with him for the winter' and felt "so sad" at the news.

Lesley Harrison, who was in his band performing in theatres, concerts, restaurants and bars said, "He was my protector, my best friend, my family, and music partner. I will miss him every day."

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Footbridge link over Guadalhorce estuary nature reserve "to start soon"

Malaga council will put the contract out to tender this month and expects the works, which will take six months to complete, to begin before the year end

:: JESÚS HINOJOSA

MALAGA. In November 2014 the mayor of Malaga, Francisco de la Torre; the Andalusian government's provincial delegate, José Luis Ruiz Espejo; and the president of the Diputación provincial authority, Elías Bendodo, held a press conference at city hall to present the project for a wooden bridge which was to be built over the Guadalhorce estuary nature reserve. This was to be a part of the 'Senda Litoral' path, the project to connect the whole of the coastline from Nerja to Manilva for pedestrians and cyclists.

This week, three years and nine months later, the same politicians held another press conference in the same place to announce that the bridge project can now be put out to tender and the work can begin. In the intervening period there has been a long bureaucratic process which, said Ruiz Espejo, has meant that the plans remained in the hands of the Junta de Andalucía's ministry of the Environment from December 2015 to April this year, when the project was finally given the green light.

He admitted that this had taken a long time, but stressed that it had been complicated because the authorities had to be certain that the plans would not affect the sensitive natural environment at the mouth of the Guadalhorce river. "The project is now fully guaranteed from the point of view of environmental protection," he said.

The mayor, Francisco de la Torre, announced that the city's Planning department would be putting the contract out to tender very soon and it should be awarded within two months, so the works could begin before the end of the year. They would take six months to complete. However, he also



An image of how the wooden bridge will look over the river mouth west of Malaga city. :: SUR

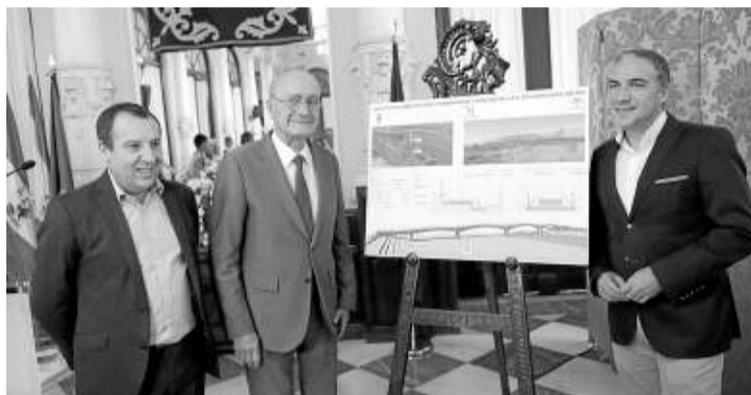
stressed that the construction could be quite complicated because the wooden bridge will have to be supported by concrete pillars.

The bridge, which will cross the easternmost branch of the river mouth, nearest the city, will be 270 metres long and three metres wide and will only be for walkers and cyclists. There will be seven sections in all, of which the central one will be the longest at 66 metres. The handrails will be curved to stop people climbing.

The bridge will be completed by a track 305 metres in length to connect it to the existing bridge over the other branch of the river. From this point, people will be able to continue towards the Guadalmar area. The total cost will be 1.9 million euros, paid equally by Malaga council and the provincial authority.

The longest in Europe

The president of the Diputación, Elías Bendodo, stressed that of all the parts of the long distance coastal pathway project along the Costa del Sol, this one is the most iconic and ambitious. "It is going to be the longest wooden bridge in Europe and it will link together



Ruiz Espejo, De la Torre and Bendodo, with the plans.. :: M. FERNÁNDEZ

50 kilometres of coastline, from Chilches to Fuengirola," he explained. At present 150 kilometres of the 'Senda Litoral' can be used, which is about 80 per cent of the total.

The stretches in Malaga city which have yet to be completed

are currently waiting for authorisation from the Junta. They are the area which runs past La Araña and others which connect Guadalmar with Torremolinos via Arraijnal and the Parador del Campo de Golf. The stretch by El Candado marina is currently in the study phase.

HERE & THERE

Lost dog found by night vision after 58 days

CÁRTAMA

:: **B. GUTIÉRREZ.** After 58 days missing, a dog called Luna is back home safe and sound. The two-year-old disappeared from Cártama in the Guadalhorce valley on 11 June. Its rescue owners commented that it was "an untrusting dog, and fled in fear". At the time it was wearing a pet-cone collar that added to their worries.

Knowing where she was hiding, a team of some twenty volunteers clubbed together to buy a night-vision camera and conducted twice daily searches. In the end they had to ask for the help of the ARIA rescue charity and two members travelled from Cordoba and Barcelona. After a silent night in a van with the lights and air-conditioning turned off, they managed to catch and rescue the "thin and weak" dog, and another one with it as well.

Coín hosts its annual fruit and veg contest

COÍN

:: **F. TORRES.** The Guadalhorce valley is known as Malaga's pantry, a rich source of local produce, and once again on Wednesday the best was on display in Coín.

The annual horticultural competition held in the town on the public holiday this week saw giant squash and super size garlic, among other specimens. But there was nothing as impressive as the local, giant Huevo de Toro (bull's ball) tomatoes, which attract more attention each year.

As usual, the winning lot of bulls' balls was auctioned in aid of charity. In a fierce competition, José Luis Santos, owner of Malaga's luxury Miramar hotel outbid the owner of Bodegas El Pimpi with a record-breaking 2,700 euros.

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The VTC to taxi ratio continues to rise and there is one per 2.5 taxis



FRANCISCO JIMÉNEZ

✉ pjimenez@diariosur.es

The Costa del Sol has become the place where there is greatest competition between taxis and private cars with driver

MÁLAGA. The attempted “balance” which the government has promised to achieve between taxis and private cars with drivers (known as VTCs in Spain) is looking rather complicated, at least with regard to the ratio of one VTC for every 30 taxis which is stipulated under transport regulations.

Although the regional governments will not be granting any new licences for these services, which are provided by digital platforms like Uber and Cabify, courts all over Spain are still dealing with claims against the change in the rules. This inclu-

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Source: National Institute of Statistics (taxis) and Ministry of Public Works (VTC)
(* By law the ratio is 1/30)

PROVINCE	VTC	TAXIS	RATIO*
Málaga	1.066	2.741	1/2,5
Madrid	4,955	16,070	13.2
Barcelona	1,813	11,777	1/6.5
Seville	197	2,526	1/12.8
Valencia	131	3,152	1/24
Zaragoza	137	1,944	1/14
Vizcaya	40	1,329	1/33
Balearics	213	2,793	1/13.1
Las Palmas	153	3,472	1/22.7
Tenerife	99	2,724	1/27.5
TOTAL ANDALUCÍA	1,710	9,742	1/5.7
TOTAL SPAIN	10,731	69,972	1/6.5

des Malaga, which is now the province with the most competition between these two forms of transport.

According to the latest figures from the Ministry of Public Works, which regulates the sector although the licences are managed regionally, there are currently 1,066 VTC licences in Malaga, compared with 825 in July, 796 in June and 571 a year ago. Also, of the 280 new licences activated in Andalucía in the last two months, 270 are in Malaga.

Looking back still further to 2014, there were only 240 VTC licences, but that was before this sector (which has been operating on the Costa del

Sol for years, mainly transporting tourists from the airport to hotels) was revolutionised by the arrival of the two multinationals, Cabify and then Uber. Their black saloons can often be seen driving along the Malaga coast, and they are only permitted to operate if their services are pre-booked. In other words, they are not allowed to tout for business.

After this new batch of licences, Malaga now comes below only Madrid in numbers (4,955 compared with 3,927 in June) and Barcelona (1,813 compared with 950 two months ago), but when compared with the 2,741 taxis which operate

in the province according to the National Institute of Statistics (the Public Works figures only show the 2,646 which are authorised to operate between towns), the reality is that this province is furthest from the ratio of 1/30 because at present there is one VTC for every 2.5 taxis. In other words, to comply with the ratio set down by law, there should only be 86 VTCs in operation or, looking at it the other way round, 31,980 taxis. In Madrid the rate is 1/3.2, and in Barcelona 1/6.5, the same figure as nationally.

Why is this ratio not being applied? The answer lies in the opening up of the sector which was approved by the previous socialist government. It cancelled this restriction between 2009 and 2013, which opened the way to numerous licences being granted. When the PP government came into power in 2013, it tried to put a stop to this by changing the law, but it took two years for the regulations to be drawn up so the 1/30 ratio did not come into force again until November 2015.

Since then, anywhere which did not comply with this ratio was unable to grant new licences, but the problem has arisen with applications

which were made in the intervening period. During that time the companies saw a great opportunity and applied for thousands of licences (the application costs 35 euros, but the licences can be sold for around 50,000).

Concessions in the courts

Because of this proliferation, the Junta de Andalucía turned the tap off, but the courts have been finding in favour of those who lodged an appeal. According to estimations from the taxi sector, 10,000 applications all over Spain which were made before November 2015 are awaiting a decision from the courts, more than 1,000 of them in Malaga. Will the 1/30 ratio ever be possible again? The only way would be for the VTC licences to be cancelled, but that would involve a great deal of public money being spent on compensation, and legal action could also be taken against the administrations.

In addition to this situation, which is not occurring in other tourist destinations, is the fact that in Andalucía there are another 644 licences (197 of them in Seville and 117 in Granada) which can operate freely anywhere in Andalucía as long as the service is pre-booked. For example Cabify, which also operates in Seville, Barcelona, Madrid and Valencia, has over 200 drivers who move around the two Andalusian provinces depending on demand.

A further 9,021 VTCs in Spain can work in other regions, as long as their takings do not exceed 20 per cent of their three-monthly turnover.

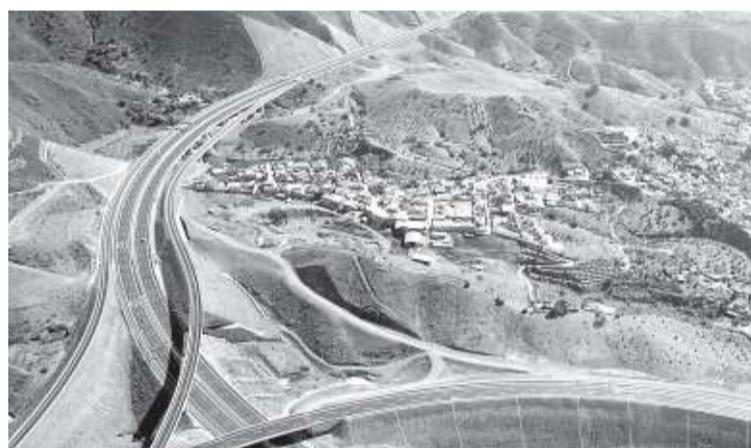
A consultancy firm will study potential demand for a new road between Chilches and Fuengirola

✉ JESÚS HINOJOSA

MÁLAGA. Although it is not directly within his powers, the mayor, Francisco de la Torre, wants to progress a project for a new stretch of fast road to link Chilches and Fuengirola, going around the metropolitan area of Malaga and making use of the city's second bypass. The draft of this initiative, which was presented last November, will soon include a detailed traffic survey of the area, which is to be carried out by Trn

Taryet, a Madrid-based consultancy firm with experience in this type of project analysis. Its fee will be 56,870 euros and the study will take about three months to complete.

The firm's mission will be to determine the demand for such a road and also the model for a toll motorway, which would be run by a concessionary company for a determinate period. A study carried out earlier by the ARCS company indicated that the new road would cost about



The new road would use Malaga's second bypass. ✉ S. SALAS

764 million euros.

This sum would include two new stretches of dual carriageway. One, 28 kilometres in length, would link the eastern motorway at Chilches with the second westerly bypass around Malaga city, east of the inter-

section with Las Pedrizas toll motorway. The second, 21 kilometres long, would connect the Hiperronda with Fuengirola, going around Alhaurín de la Torre to the north and crossing the Sierra de Mijas via a large tunnel. For the latter option, Promalaga has

asked the consultancy firm to consider a bypass running in an arch from Las Pedrizas motorway to the north of Alhaurín de la Torre, crossing the present toll motorway and the Guadalhorce highway.

Third option

It also includes a third option, to connect the northern part of the city with the Marbella area by a bigger road which would pass west of Cartama and through Coin. For all these options, the council proposes two lanes in each direction, separated by a 12 metre central reservation so new lanes could be added in future.

The idea also includes complementary actions such as widening the lanes on the existing stretch of dual carriageway between Chilches and the link with Vélez-Malaga, and an additional lane in each direction on the Guadalhorce highway.

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What can we expect from a higher UK interest rate?

By Chris McCann, Partner, Blevins Franks

The decision from the Bank of England (BoE) to increase the UK interest rate to 0.75% marks the first time since 2009 that rates have gone above half a per cent. What does this say about the UK economy, and how might it affect British expatriates?

A change in direction?

Rate rises have been scarce in recent times. Before the November increase to 0.5%, you have to go back over a decade – to July 2007, pre-financial crisis – to find the last time rates lifted, to what seems today like an unfeasible high of 5.75%. Then, after a series of steady decreases, a nine-year deadlock of 0.5% was only interrupted by a 15-month 'emergency' dip to 0.25% following the Brexit vote.

Now that the BoE has reversed the trend, is this a sign that the UK economy is back on track and higher rates are ahead?

Usually, rate increases are used to dampen an overheated economy and bring inflation closer to its 2% target. With UK inflation (measured by the Consumer Price Index) down to 2.4% in June – albeit still above target – and modest gross domestic

product growth, the economy is showing signs of recovery. There are other indicators of economic improvement, such as a 43-year low in unemployment, stronger retail sales and gradual wage growth. BoE forecasts put UK economy growth at 1.4% this year and 1.7% in the next.

However, many spectators see this growth as too sluggish to warrant sustained interest rate increases. With ongoing uncertainty around Brexit, plus President Trump's 'trade war', the UK economy is far from settled.

As such, this increase does not necessarily signal the end of static – or even decreasing – rates. BoE governor Mark Carney has not ruled out lowering rates to counteract Brexit pressures, reiterating that any future increases will be "gradual and limited" and unlikely to exceed 3% for the next two decades.

So what does the increased rate mean for UK nationals living in Spain?

Saving and investments

While higher rates can prove more

expensive to repay mortgages and loans, it can boost money held in bank deposits and other savings.

In practice, however, the link between the official base rate and savings rates is weak and takes time to trickle down. Nine months after November's increase to 0.5%, only half of UK savings accounts have increased their rates, and only at an average of 0.2%. When you add inflation at over 2%, this further erodes the real returns.

While you can achieve higher rates for locking your money away for longer, this stops you taking advantage of better opportunities if interest rates increase during the term.

With UK rates expected to only reach 1.1% by 2021, achieving better returns than money in the bank means considering other investments.

Although market dips can be unsettling, being invested for the medium to long-term in a well-diversified portfolio reduces risk. By spreading investments across different regions, asset types and sectors – with a strategy

matched to your particular situation, goals and risk appetite – you can limit your exposure in any one area.

Exchange rates

In the immediate aftermath of the rate announcement, the British pound rose against the euro before dropping and settling, but movement was slight, staying within the region of €1.12. Most commentators agree that Brexit is more likely to impact the value of sterling than the UK interest rate.

If you draw income in sterling while living in Europe, you are vulnerable to fluctuating exchange rates during this volatile period. Look for investment structures that allow multi-currency flexibility or consider transferring your UK pension overseas to help minimise exchange rate risk.

Pensions

Higher interest rates generate better returns from UK bonds, which are usually used to finance pension benefits.

If you are looking to buy a

retirement income through an annuity, an increased rate could potentially boost the amount you could secure. However, this may not be such good news for those looking to transfer a 'final salary' pension. Today's high 'transfer values' – offered in exchange for giving up generous lifetime retirement benefits – could decrease as providers find it easier to finance guaranteed pension payments. Anyone considering transferring should take regulated, personalised pensions advice now to secure the best possible outcome.

In any scenario, how you structure your finances should depend on your circumstances, aims, risk tolerance and time horizon. Take professional wealth management advice from a firm like Blevins Franks to make sure you are best placed to deal with the challenges of the moment – be they low interest rates or Brexit uncertainty.

All advice received from Blevins Franks is personalised and provided in writing. This article, however, should not be construed as providing any personalised taxation or investment advice.

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Blevins Franks specialises in cross-border wealth management and can provide personalised, UK regulated pension advice, including QROPS. If you are thinking of transferring your pension out of the UK, you may wish to take action now in case the UK extends its 25% Overseas Transfer Charge post Brexit. We can help you with all your pension options, including the tax implications in Spain.

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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The flamingos are given their ID

The young birds born at the Fuente de Piedra lagoon have been counted and ringed

FERNANDO TORRES



✉ En Twitter: @fernandotorresu

About 500 experts and volunteers took part in this year's event, which plays an important part in the conservation of the species

FUENTE DE PIEDRA. They hold them very carefully. Some stroke them to try to relieve their stress, others whisper to them to calm them. More than 500 volunteers, technicians, biologists, vets and people specialising in conservation and ornithology have just taken part in the ringing of young flamingos born recently on the lagoon at Fuente de Piedra. This year 600 chicks have been counted and analysed, and their details placed on an identity register run by the Network for the Study and Conservation of the Common Flamingo in the Mediterranean and Northwest Africa.

This is the 35th year that the process has taken place. Divided into several groups, those taking part started at 6am by driving the chicks towards the corral. The adults flew off, from pure instinct, but the babies hardly know how to flap their wings yet, so they were unable to escape. The previous evening, those in charge had set up a field hospital beside a large area where the chicks awaited their turn. Their size, weight, length of legs,



Two rings are put on each baby flamingo. :: F. TORRES

wings and beak were measured before a blood test, from which in most cases the sex of the birds can be de-

In just one day 600 chicks were counted, analysed and ringed before being set free. :: F. TORRES

termined. "In some larger or particularly striking birds we take a bigger sample to do a biochemical study," say Sebastián Palacios and Sol Rodríguez, biologists from the Doñana Biological Station who have been coming to the lagoon for three years. In adults, the sex can be distinguished by an expert eye, but in the young birds the only way to tell is through a blood test. Although this is hard work, the volunteers enjoy it and say it is almost like a social occasion.

Each bird is fitted with two rings. The first one, of metal, is "like its ID document, it will be there forever," says Carlos Torralbo, one of the experts. The second one, which is PVC, is used for long-distance reading and

can deteriorate over time. "It enables us to read the data with a telescope without having to catch the bird," he explains.

Despite the expert hands and the care with which the birds are moved from one place to another, some do suffer during the process. That's why a temporary veterinary clinic is set up every year by the Andalusian CREAS network (Centres for Recovery of Protected Species). "We treat the birds and help with any problems they experience, which are mostly from the blood test, although some already have injuries when they get here," says vet Juan Carlos Capuz. "Some of the birds are tired from being caught and they just need to be kept apart for a while and allowed to rest". Some have coagulation problems and after the blood test the vets

THE RINGING

600

flamingo chicks were counted, measured, registered and their sex determined by blood test

2,400

youngsters have been born at the lagoon this year after a year with plentiful rainfall

have to stop the bleeding, while other birds get very dirty and can't walk properly because of all the mud.

Volunteers

The ringing is a very valuable scientific process, but this was also a day to celebrate the presence of this pink bird in the Antequera region. Dozens of people volunteer and some come back year after year. Many live locally, others come from elsewhere in the province or other parts of Andalucía, but they all agree that it is a rewarding experience to be able to interact with birds of this type, and something everybody should do at least once in their life.

"My father is one of the people who puts the rings on," says Mercedes Espejo, a volunteer from Fuente de Piedra, as she waits in the queue at the blood test area to carry a bird to the place where they are released. The distance is only about 20 metres, but it is maybe the most emotional and satisfying moment, a reward for a long day of hard work.

"I did this for the first time last year and I didn't want to miss it this year. It is a wonderful experience - well, as long as they don't peck you, that is!" she jokes.

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The Malaga party is in full swing and runs until Sunday

The streets of the city centre during the day and the fairground at night are thronged with people taking part in the feria festivities

BY DENISE BUSH

MALAGA. The long-awaited Feria de Málaga started last Friday night (10 August) with a witty opening speech made by the writer and occasional SUR contributor, Pablo Aranda, on the Malagueta beach. Besides anecdotes about his past (when he had hair) and his experience on the big wheel (he had vertigo and had to close his eyes, praying it would be over soon), he ended with the fervent wish that he wouldn't be hit by a stray firework, although there couldn't be a more Malaga way of dying than 'espetado' (skewered) at the fair.

Luckily, the 13 minute firework display went off without causing any injuries; it was spectacular, colourful and very loud (the bangs could heard

as far inland as Antequera). After the pyrotechnics had finished, the Malaga band Efecto Mariposa, took to the stage and the party began in earnest.

On Saturday morning the traditional handing over of the city's flag took place accompanied by the Andalucía anthem and the Himno de España. The flag was then taken on the romeria

(pilgrimage) through the city to the Santuario de Santa María de la Victoria.

On Saturday night the thousands of light bulbs illuminating the Cortijo de Torres (the gateway to the night feria) were switched on by Malaga's mayor, Francisco de la Torre, or rather by a group of children who he al-



A tray of beautifully scented 'biznagas'. **BY S. SALAS**



The centre of the city filled with revellers enjoying the music on Wednesday.

lowed to push the button for him. The lights stay on until Sunday evening (19 August), and until then visitors can enjoy the restaurants, bars, fair rides and over a hundred 'case-

tas', some private, some open to the public. There are also afternoon exhibitions of riders and their mounts, all impeccably turned out, parading through the fairground.

Last Sunday's fair was a little quieter, with more families flocking into the city centre to watch and join in the dancing. Visitors enjoyed seeing so many 'locals' dressed in full flamenco gear and 'giving it their all' to the accompaniment of tradi-

tional clapping and Spanish guitar.

Another traditional sight at the Malaga fair are the 'biznaga' sellers who were out in force with trays of the deliciously scented flowers held high. 'Biznagas' are balls of jasmine flowers created by painstakingly attaching each unopened bloom to a spike on a dried thistle head.

An integral but controversial part of the Feria de Málaga are the bull-fights which are taking place daily

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:: SALVADOR SALAS

until Sunday in the La Malagueta bullring.

At 8pm on Monday, 20 August, a public holiday in the city, the recreation of the moment that King Ferdinand and Queen Isabella entered Malaga to collect the city keys in 1487 will take place. The mock ceremony is held by the Aduana and is followed by a parade through the city ending at Calle Alcazabilla.



Fireworks lit the sky last Friday night. :: NIÑO SALAS



Riders, musicians and dancers took part in the romeria. :: S. SALAS



Dancers of all ages demonstrated the art of flamenco. :: S. SALAS

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Police hunt occupants who fled a burning car in Puerto Banús

Four men were seen leaving the area after the top-end Audi caught fire. A Moroccan man with European citizenship is one of the suspects

:: HÉCTOR BARBOTA

MARBELLA. Police are looking for the four men that were reportedly seen running away from a burning car left in the middle of the street just after the entrance barrier to Puerto Banús marina last Sunday.

Eyewitnesses reported that, when the vehicle caught fire for as yet unknown reasons, the men promptly got out of the Audi Q7 and inexplicably left the scene while people nearby started gathering and the police were cordoning off the area.

The cause of the fire is still not clear and it will not be easy to identify, investigators said, as the vehicle was completely unrecognisable. At first, it was speculated that the fire could have been started by an overheating of the battery, however, it was later reported by people who were on the scene when the car started burning that the



One of the pictures showing the fire engulfing the vehicle. :: SUR

fire seemed to have come from the back of the vehicle. Explosions that were reportedly heard were later explained as tyres popping in the heat of the blaze.

Pass holder sought

To access the harbour area in Puerto Banús, a driver has to purchase a yearly pass that requires some sort of identification. Thanks to this security system, the police were able to rapidly identify the pass used as belonging to a Moroccan man who

has citizenship of another European country. Now the police are seeking to clarify if he was the individual that was driving the car, who were the other passengers and why they all left the scene of the accident.

No people were injured by the car fire, however, one woman's hearing was reported to have been affected by the explosion of one of the tyres. The fire was quickly contained and the remains of the car were removed.

112 REPORTS

Man fined for driving wheelchair on motorway

MALAGA

:: JUAN CANO / ÁLVARO FRÍAS. A disabled man has been told to pay a fine of 480 euros for driving with his electric wheelchair on the MA-21 motorway, near the airport, at 10.15pm on 15 July. The fine was set so high as he did not heed police warnings.

Gang of organised burglars arrested

MALAGA

:: J. C. / A. F. A criminal group of Spanish and Romanian nationals, who allegedly carried out robberies on high-profile business people in Malaga, Torremolinos and Benalmádena, has been arrested by National Police while on another burglary, officers said.

26-year-old man dies at the feria in Malaga

MALAGA

:: J. C. / A. F. A 26-year-old man died on Thursday at around 5am after suffering a suspected convulsive seizure while at the fair in Malaga. The deceased, who may

have been under the influence of drugs said eyewitnesses, was found violently convulsing on the ground outside the main fair-ground. The man was assisted at the scene by paramedics and taken to the nearby first-aid station where he was later declared dead. An investigation into the death has been opened.

Man attacks boyfriend and damages his car

BENALMÁDENA

:: J. C. / A. F.

A man, 33, has been held over an alleged violent attack on his boyfriend, also 33, in Arroyo de la Miel, injuring him and smashing the windows of the victim's car with stones. Police were alerted by a witness at 4.30am on Sunday and later arrested the attacker.

Arrest of eight young members of rival gangs

RINCÓN DE LA VICTORIA

:: SUR.

Eight men, aged 16 to 25, were arrested on Thursday by the Guardia Civil accused of illegal detention, torture, intimidation, violent robbery and injury in Rincón de la Victoria. Four of the men, who are said to be in rival gangs, have been remanded in custody.

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We hope the information provided in this article is of interest. If you would like to contact Línea Directa please call **952 147 834**.
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Vélez-Málaga wants to rebuild the chapel dedicated to its patron saint

The Asociación de Amigos de San Sebastián are calling for the fifteenth-century chapel to be restored

:: EUGENIO CABEZAS

VÉLEZ-MÁLAGA. The only battle in which King Ferdinand of Spain was involved during the Conquista del Reino de Granada (taking of the Kingdom of Granada), happened in Vélez-Málaga. It took place in April 1487, days before the surrender of the mayor, Abul Kasim Venegas. Sebastián Fernández 'El Pelao', a groom or a royal soldier, placed himself between the Muslims and the monarch, and was killed by an arrow that was meant for the king. In thanks, Queen Isabella ordered the construction of a chapel in honour of San Sebastián, who became the patron of the Axarquía town from then on. The event is also reflected in the municipal coat of arms. However, the remains of that chapel have been abandoned for decades, recently being used as a pen for goats.

The different councils that have passed through the town hall have announced, repeatedly, their intention to reform the remains of the



The chapel was constructed in 1497. :: EUGENIO CABEZAS

chapel and create a visitors' centre there. However, nothing has ever been done. The chapel, or what remains of it, continues to deteriorate, due mainly to a conflict over ownership, as there is a neighbour who maintains that he owns the deeds of the property

Last March, a group of concerned residents formed the Asociación de Amigos de San Sebastián, to demand that the authorities restore the old chapel. They also want Día de San

Sebastián on 20 January to be given more importance. They would also like the council to organise a historical reenactment of the surrender of the town and the entry of the Christian troops in April. The president of the association, Lucía Godoy, explained that they are trying to get the council to reach an agreement with the local resident who insists that he owns the chapel. "It could easily be solved with a lawsuit," she said.

IN BRIEF



Rubén Ruzafa with organisers of the charity swim. :: SUR

Swim raises over 4,000 euros for charity

RINCÓN DE LA VICTORIA

:: **E. CABEZAS.** The seventh edition of the annual sponsored Travesía a Nado Acantilados swim from El Cantal to Rincón de la Victoria, raised over 4,000 euros for

charity. The funds this year will go to the Fundación Vicente Ferrer which helps improve conditions for women in India.

More than 300 swimmers took part in the event which was organised by Brazadas Solidarias. One of the competitors was Rubén Ruzafa, several times world champion in the world of cross triathlon.

Two new walking routes connect with Gran Senda

AXARQUÍA

:: **E. CABEZAS.** The provincial government has budgeted 244,000 euros for two new inland walking routes that will link the Gran Senda path with Riogordo, Árchez and Canillas de Albaida. The new routes will take walkers through bucolic landscapes such as fields of cereal, olive, mango and almond groves, and past ancient flour mills.

Six-year-old in ICU after falling from balcony

ARENAS

:: **E. C.** A six-year-old girl fell two metres from a balcony of a holiday home in Cerro de Beas in Arenas at about 7pm on Saturday evening. She was taken by helicopter to the Hospital Materno Infantil with serious head injuries and, at the time of going to press, remains in the intensive care unit.

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IN BRIEF

Spectacular early-morning fire engulfs Torre del Mar beach bar

TORRE DEL MAR

• **EUGENIO CABEZAS.** A well-known chiringuito restaurant and bar on the beach in Torre del Mar went up in flames early on Thursday morning.

Three fire engines were called to the Bere Bere chiringuito, which is on the western side of the resort next to the annual Weekend Beach festival ground.

According to the owner of the bar and restaurant, the fire started in a fryer in the kitchen area. He explained that a person on the premises at the time had tried to



The flames and smoke could be seen from a long way off. • E.C.

put out the flames but "it spread very quickly and once the fire took hold the gas cylinders started to explode and no more could be done".

The flames and column of smoke were visible for many kilometres

and by 10am emergency services had succeeded in extinguishing the blaze.

No injuries were reported but the building, a popular beach venue for Axarquía residents and visitors, was completely destroyed.

No talks yet in ongoing Fuengirola rubbish strike

FUENGIROLA

• **IVÁN GELIBTER.** The refuse strike in Fuengirola is planned to last until next Monday, 19 August, and so far the two sides have not sat down at the negotiating table.

Staff at Urbaser, which collects all rubbish and cleans some of the streets on behalf of Fuengirola council, are demanding better pay and conditions and say the operator has gone back on promises.

Minimum services of between 50 and 65 per cent are being maintained during the action. However the strikers have complained that Fuengirola council, which cleans streets directly in some town areas, is also assisting in moving rubbish and cleaning in the strikebound areas. The council has denied this.

Town hall reduces debt by half in three years

BENALMÁDENA

• **I. GELIBTER.** The financial accounts of Benalmádena council are still a long way from being in as good a state as in Mijas or Fuengirola, but they are improving. A recent audit has shown that council debt now stands at 65 million euros, a reduction of almost half from the 123 million euros that the local authority owed in June 2015 after the last council elections.

The mayor of Benalmádena, Victor Navas, welcomed the news, adding that when he came to power it was taking up to 130 days to pay suppliers. Now he says that in some cases it takes under four days to settle bills.

"We can look forward to the future," he explained.

New Torremolinos gourmet market on schedule to open in November

The gastro venue will consist of 20 booths selling local produce that carries the 'Sabor a Málaga' quality seal

• **TONY BRYANT**

TORREMOLINOS. Torremolinos town hall has announced that the new gourmet market in the resort will be ready to open in the second week of November. Renovation work was halted early this year after workers discovered serious structural damage in the former town hall building. The building, which has been subject to several reforms over the last 20 years, was said to have run a serious risk of collapse after workers discovered that four supporting pillars had been removed.

Urgent work to restore the stability of the building has now been completed and municipal workers look set to have the market finished before the opening of the town's new boulevard and central plaza in December.

The project is financed by the Diputación provincial authority at a cost of 333,000 euros, but the structural work, which will add another 65,000



Structural restoration has restored the stability of the building. • TB

euros to the total, will be paid for by Torremolinos council.

The new market, consisting of 20 market booths, will carry the 'Sabor a Málaga' seal, a quality mark highlighting and promoting locally grown agricultural and food products.

Mayor of Torremolinos, José Ortiz, who visited the site in the Plaza de Independencia last week, said: "Following a period of uncertainty

caused by the discovery of the structural damage, we are now sure that the gourmet market will open in November. This will serve to provide a unique experience in our town and help Torremolinos promote its local gastronomic traditions."

The 'Sabor a Málaga' brand and promotional campaign offers numerous advantages for those who grow or work with local produce.

Council revives plan to redevelop the Los Nadales area of Benalmádena Pueblo

• **TONY BRYANT**

BENALMÁDENA. The town hall in Benalmádena has announced a new project that will involve the redevelopment of the Los Nadales district of Benalmádena Pueblo. The scheme will include the creation of an 11,000 square metre park, along with 325 new homes, of which 75 will be used for social housing. In addition, the revitalisation of the area, which is currently run down and abandoned, will include new road infrastructure, green areas, recreational spaces and shops.

The project was first proposed as part of the town's PGOU (gen-

eral plan) in 2012, but it was shelved due to complications. Benalmádena town hall has now revised the general plan - which received initial approval in the August plenary meeting - and is now hoping to receive the green light from the Junta de Andalucía.

Councillor for Urban Planning, Oscar Ramundo, said, "We have revived the project, analysed it, and have now proposed the new amendments. This is a very interesting proposal, since, not only would it develop an area that is quite untidy but it will also create an environmentally friendly green area in the centre of our village."

PP party says it will turn Mijas's horse track into sports complex

• **I. GELIBTER**

MIJAS. The Partido Popular (PP) opposition on Mijas council has said that if it wins next year's local elections it will turn the mu-

nicipality's disused horse racing circuit into a sports complex. Mayoral candidate Ángel Nozal said that he wasn't criticising previous PSOE councils' investment in the circuit, and admitted that when the PP were last in power they too tried to make it work for two years. However he added that rather than having it abandoned it was better to turn it into a multiuse sports facility that would benefit more of the local population.

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CCTV starts to go up in Marbella to monitor local crime hotspots

The first area to get the new system is Elviria; Puerto Banús, La Cañada and the Puerto Deportivo should all be connected by the end of this year as well

:: NIEVES CASTRO

MARBELLA. The installation of the long-awaited CCTV system in key crime hotspots in Marbella is underway.

The first area to get its round-the-clock surveillance equipment will be the Elviria shopping centre in the east of the municipality. Here 16 cameras will monitor activity.

A further 69 cameras will go up in three other areas of Marbella by the end of the year. In Puerto Banús, 50 cameras will be operating both along the quayside and the streets behind; in the Puerto Deportivo marina, by Marbella old town, eight cameras will monitor activity; and 11 cameras will be set up near the traffic entrance to La Cañada shopping mall. All four areas have been chosen because they have a higher-than-normal incidence of street crime, such as robberies and assaults, and of drug-related offences.



Local police and councillors discuss the camera project in Elviria. :: J-L

The new network marks the culmination of a 13-year campaign by Marbella's business community to improve security with CCTV. Permission was finally given by central government at the end of 2016 and the contract to supply the cameras was then put out to tender.

The town-hall controlled Local Police, who will watch the images, have stressed that monitoring arrangements will meet legal requirements and pictures will be kept for

a maximum of a month, except for those sequences needed in connection with a reported crime.

Marbella's councillor for Public Works, Javier García, said that Elviria had been chosen as the first of the sites to get the cameras so as not to disrupt the other three areas in peak tourist season.

Head of the Local Police, Enrique Lamelas, said: "The police's job is to prevent, and what better way to prevent than with CCTV in these areas."

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The new bridge over the Hornacinos stream bed. :: C. MÁRQUEZ

Latest coastal walkway footbridge forms key link by Estepona's El Ángel beach

:: CHARO MÁRQUEZ

ESTEPONA. A new section of the ambitious plan for a footpath the length of the Costa del Sol took a step forward recently in Estepona.

Last week contractors for the local council swung into place a wooden footbridge spanning a dry river bed at El Ángel beach. The new structure will connect the Playa del Ángel and Villas Andaluzas housing developments for the first time. Originally the developers of the properties promised to put in the bridge in 2003, but it was

never built. Now the council is calling in part of the developers' original deposit guarantee to pay for it.

The bridge measures 52 metres long by three metres wide and is expected to be open in September. It forms part of the 'Senda Litoral', a mega project to have a walkway along the Malaga province coastline. The overall scheme is sponsored by the Diputación provincial authority. Last week Diputación representatives were in the nearby Casares and Manilva municipalities unveiling more plans for different sections of the route.

IN BRIEF



The mayor (centre) by the new-look Palacio de Congressos. :: SUR

"Great Mural of Marbella" is finished

MARBELLA

:: SUR. The facade of Marbella's conference centre has a new look following the completion of a mural by Estepona artist, Curro Leyton. Visiting the revamped Palacio de Congressos entrance,

mayor of Marbella, Ángeles Muñoz, congratulated the artist for embellishing the arch-shaped walls. Leyton said he was very proud to have been involved in what he has termed "The Great Mural of Marbella" and thanked the council for choosing his design of interlocking triangles. Marbella council paid the 7,600 euros for the work.

Arrests after brawl at a beach nightclub

MARBELLA

:: SUR. Thirteen people were arrested this week after a brawl at a Marbella beach nightclub that took place on 30 June. Following a formal complaint by people at the club that night, the men, aged between 22 and 43 and of Spanish, Senegalese, Bulgarian, Russia and Portuguese nationality, were held.

Clean up in stream beds to stop fire and floods

MARBELLA

:: N. CASTRO. Marbella council has said it is spending 30,000 euros cleaning up around 20 dry stream beds across the municipality. Councillors said they aim to clear undergrowth that can help fire spread or cause blockages and flooding in heavy rain. The first clearance this week started in the Arroyo Benabola Baja dry stream.



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Costa companies grow stronger with higher average staff numbers

The small size of a typical Malaga company is still a "handicap" for the economy, says the local business association

NURIA TRIGUERO

MALAGA. One of the big weaknesses of the economy in Malaga province and the Costa del Sol is the small size of local companies. The problem of too many little firms, employing too few people, affects profit and competitiveness, along with causing financial risks as well as inadequate training, research and development.

Latest government data shows that, although the average size of a local firm is still below its 2008 level, the figures are definitely moving in the right direction.

At the start of 2018, according to the report, there were 4,503 companies with more than nine employees actively trading in Malaga province, including the Costa del Sol, which represents an increase of 6.5 per cent on the previous year. The overall number of companies registered in Malaga province grew by 3 per cent to 123,109 in 2017.

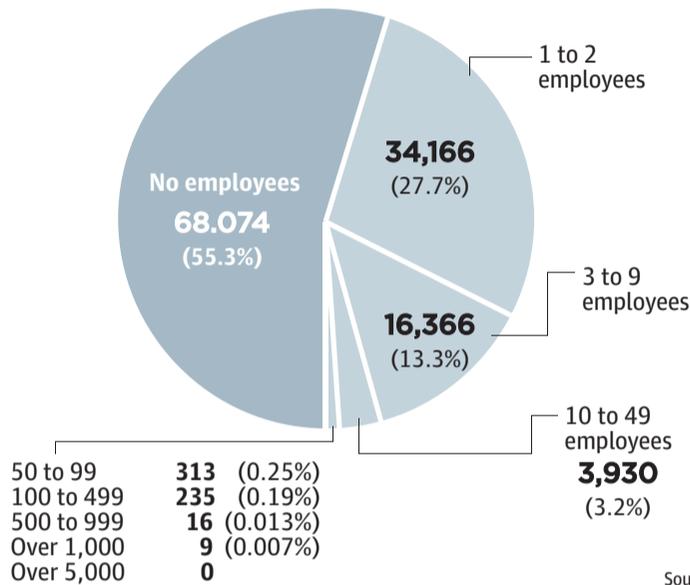
Despite evidence that these local companies are getting bigger, and therefore more efficient, there is still no limited company with its registered office in Malaga with more than 5,000 employees. Moreover, half the companies actively trading have no employees at all, representing hardly any change on a year earlier.

Rise in micro-enterprises

According to Natalia Sánchez, vice president of the Malaga business owners association, company size "is a subject that Malaga companies have pending and it got worse in the financial crisis", pointing

Snapshot of companies in Malaga province

Number of employees in each business



Source: INE

Sectors with most companies

Sector	Total	Change
Retail	22,037	-297
Bars/ restaurants / catering	12,536	198
Real estate	10,376	721
Building construction	9,776	458
Wholesalers and intermediaries	8,681	83
Finance and legal	6,715	169
Health	6,202	163
Specialist construction activities	5,966	409
Land transport	5,542	51
Other personal services	5,454	237

out that there are more micro-enterprises in the area than before 2008. Sánchez explained, "The small size is a handicap when confronting basic challenges like digitalisation, internationalisation and finance."

The sector of the economy with the most companies is retail, followed by bars and restaurants. The sector which saw the biggest growth in 2017 in terms of number of companies operating was real estate, followed by construction.

THE EURO ZONE
MARK NAYLER

A MAN WITH A PLAN?



On Tuesday, Spanish prime minister Pedro Sánchez announced that Spain would take in 60 of the 141 migrants collected by a rescue ship off the Libyan coast last Friday; the remaining passengers will be split between Germany, France, Luxembourg and Portugal.

It's not quite as generous a deal as that made by Spain two months ago – when Sánchez welcomed over 600 migrants off the Aquarius and two other rescue boats – but one that shows how different the new Spanish government's approach to migration is from that of its Conservative predecessor. One wonders, though, how Spain can support this change in policy direction.

Back in June, Sánchez agreed to take in 630 migrants aboard the Aquarius and two Italian navy ships, after both Italy and Malta turned the refugees away. A few days after allowing the ships to dock in Valencia, the PSOE leader announced his intention to reinstate free healthcare to undocumented migrants living in Spain (currently estimated at around 800,000), an entitlement that the Conservative government of Mariano Rajoy removed in 2012 as part of an austerity programme.

Italy's interior minister, Matteo Salvini, said that Sánchez's welcome of Aquarius encouraged "out of control immigration"; Spanish foreign minister Josep Borrell, meanwhile, argued that in turning down the rescue ship, Salvini was "doing politics at the expense not just of Spain, but at the expense of all of Europe".

Both seemed to have a point: Salvini highlighted the fact that Sánchez's approach to immigration might be too indiscriminate, while Borrell's remarks were a call for EU countries to work more closely together on the matter.

Indeed, Italy's recent crack-down on migration is one reason Spain is suddenly having to deal with more arrivals. The increased risk of taking the central Mediterranean crossing from Libya to Italy has resulted in more people heading directly to Spain; in total, 25,000 migrants have so far arrived here via sea-crossings this year. According to the International Organisation for Migration, that's three times as many as in the same period in 2017.

Like other decisions or policy announcements made by Sánchez, his recent welcome of migrant rescue ships seems like a PR move unsupported by thought for consequences. With such decisions, the PSOE leader certainly distinguishes himself from the Popular Party under Rajoy and other right-wing governments such as Salvini's. But where are his proposals for how local and regional infrastructures are to deal with a potentially unprecedented influx of migrants?

With his eye on the 2020 general election, Sánchez is trying to increase support for Spain's Socialist party. So far, he's succeeding: the PSOE has leapt from fourth to first place in opinion polls in just three months. But if he's to succeed long-term, Sánchez needs to concentrate less on PR and more on policy detail. The tough issue of migration would be a good place to start.

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Top, Pedro Sánchez and Angela Merkel take a walk through Doñana. On the right, with the lynxes. :: R.C.



Lynx effect: Sánchez and Merkel in Doñana

The two leaders visited the centre caring for the endangered species in the National Park

The holidaying German chancellor was invited to tour the El Acebuche conservation centre that has helped increase the number of Iberian lynxes

:: EFE

ALMONTE (HUELVA). The Spanish prime minister, Pedro Sánchez, and the German chancellor, Angela Merkel, enjoyed an outdoor excursion with their partners at Doñana National Park, near Huelva, last Sunday.

The focal point of the trip was a visit to the National Park facility where the endangered Iberian lynx

has been protected and bred since 1992.

Last Saturday, the PM and the Chancellor disembarked at Doñana, via the Guadalquivir river after having lunch in Sanlúcar de Barrameda and moved on to the Palacio de las Marismillas, the government-owned residence in the park where the Chancellor was guest for the night during her summer holiday.

On Sunday it was off to the nearby wildlife conservation centre, El Acebuche, which is dedicated to the protection of the Iberian lynx, considered the big cat most in danger of extinction in the world. Just recently, and thanks to the work of conservationists, the International Union for the

Conservation of Nature (IUCN) has moved the Iberian lynx from 'critically endangered' to just 'endangered', but the work goes on.

Both leaders toured the centre where the first Iberian lynx was successfully bred in captivity back in 2005, thanks to a team of scientists led by Astrid Vergas.

Recently, the Iberian lynx population at the centre has been joined by eight of the twenty-nine specimens of the animal that have been rescued from a centre in the Algarve, a precaution during the fires that have burned areas in the southern part of Portugal.

Sánchez and Merkel first observed the lynx from monitors inside the building, then they had

the chance to see the felines from just two metres away inside their enclosures.

They were accompanied by the coordinator of the programme, Francisco Villaespesa, who explained that the animals taken from Portugal are calm and in good health.

A common objective

There are five centres in Spain and Portugal that protect and help breed the Iberian lynx in captivity. Since the first three specimens that were successfully bred in the Doñana facility, Brezo, Brecina and Bris, 13 years ago, the number of lynxes has kept growing. Up to now, a total of 485 lynx have been successfully bred inside these cen-

tres, of which 215 have been released into captivity to strengthen the local population.

To breed an animal in captivity is never easy and it can take a lot of time for scientists to work out the best way to help these animals reproduce and, even after birth, it is usually quite a task to keep them alive.

Of the 49 kittens that were born this year at the centres, 39 survived, which is 80 per cent, a good result considering the 14-year average is 75 per cent.

The centres of El Acebuche, Silves (Portugal), Zarza de Granadilla (Cáceres), La Olivilla (Jaén) and the Zoobotánico de Jerez (Cádiz) are leading the world in the protection of this local endangered species.



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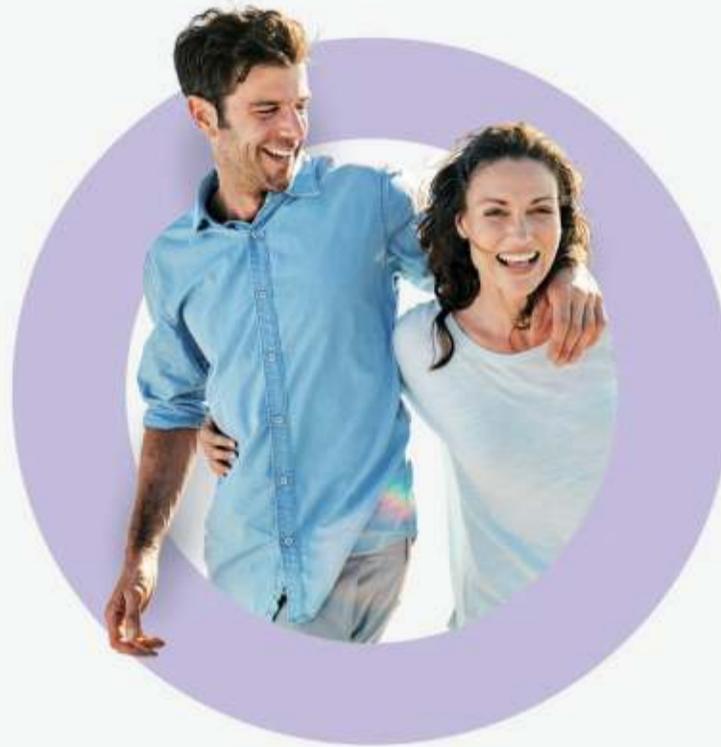


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King will attend commemoration of 2017 terror attacks in Catalonia

Madrid has insisted that the first anniversary, to be marked today, Friday 17 August, should centre on victims and not on Catalan separatism or anti-monarchy sentiment

:: SUR

BARCELONA. Spain, and Catalonia especially, will be marking the first anniversary today (17 August) of the terrorist attacks that left 16 dead and hundreds injured in Barcelona and the seaside resort of Cambrils.

Amid a desire to remember the shocking events, there has been criticism of attempts by some Catalan separatists to bring a political message to the day's agenda.

The controversy centres on the planned attendance of King Felipe. The pro-separatist Catalan government had refused to invite him, citing its anti-monarchical policy, which was fuelled by a critical public broadcast by the head of state during last October's illegal attempt to secure Catalan independence.

Some elements of the separatist movement have called on the anni-



Extra police on La Rambla, Barcelona, this week. :: EFE

versary to be used as a protest and boycott of the monarch. However others have distanced themselves from the idea.

Confirming that the king would attend, Prime Minister Pedro Sánchez said that Felipe VI "is the head of state; he can go where he wants". He continued: "We are all going to be there. No splits are possible in the fight against terror."

On 17 August 2017, an Islamic ter-

rorist plot saw a van driven at high speed down Barcelona's famous La Rambla walk and, early the next morning, other members of the group launched an armed attack on Cambrils seafront.

The king will attend the main memorial in Barcelona. There will also be tributes to the victims in Alcanar, where a bomb factory exploded the day before, and the town of Ripoll, where the terrorists came from.

Airport security-check personnel to strike in Madrid

:: J.A. BRAVO

MADRID. Airport security workers at Madrid's Barajas airport, Spain's busiest, have called industrial action for 24 August and 3 September.

The strike centres on what unions say is the failure of the companies that hold the contracts to security scan passengers to pay extras to their

staff on top of the normal hourly rate.

For the moment the dispute is focused on Madrid but there is potential for it to spread to other airports, as the origin of this industrial action goes back to four weeks of strikes by the same category of workers at Barcelona's airport last summer.

Following the disruption caused

in 2017, the government had reached agreement with airport-owner Aena that security staff would get small top ups for extra responsibilities, such as monitoring the x-ray screen or checking boarding passes.

However, since April, different companies have been carrying out security checks at Spanish airports after a new tender deal for two year contracts worth 345 million euros.

Unions say the new operators aren't respecting the agreement, while the companies say their own salary conditions are better than the old contractors' ones.



SPAIN TO SHARE AQUARIUS MIGRANTS

The Spanish government reached a deal this week with five other EU countries to share the 141 migrants on board the Aquarius rescue ship and another 114 rescued by Malta. Spain had previously taken all migrants from another Aquarius mission, but this time a collaborative deal has been reached. Meanwhile the boat's right to sail under the Gibraltar flag has been withdrawn. See page 24.

Granada woman who faces jail for keeping kids from "abuser father" visits them in Italy

:: SUR

GRANADA. Juana Rivas, the Granada woman who a Spanish judge has sentenced to five years in jail for taking her own two children without permission, has said that she will do all she can to bring them back to Spain. This week she travelled to Sardinia, where they live with their father, to stay with them.

She said that she felt "very happy" because she will see them

again. They were taken back to Italy by their father last August when a court order against Rivas was finally complied with. "I am going to do everything possible for my kids to come back," she explained.

Rivas brought her children from Italy to Spain in May 2016 "in search of protection and help" after reporting alleged abuse by the father, Francesco Arcuri.

"What keeps me going, above all, are my children and the need to guarantee them a life free of violence and worth living," explained the mother who is appealing her sentence for having illegally taken the children.

Despite the sentence, an Italian court has given permission for Rivas to spend at least two weeks with her children in Sardinia.

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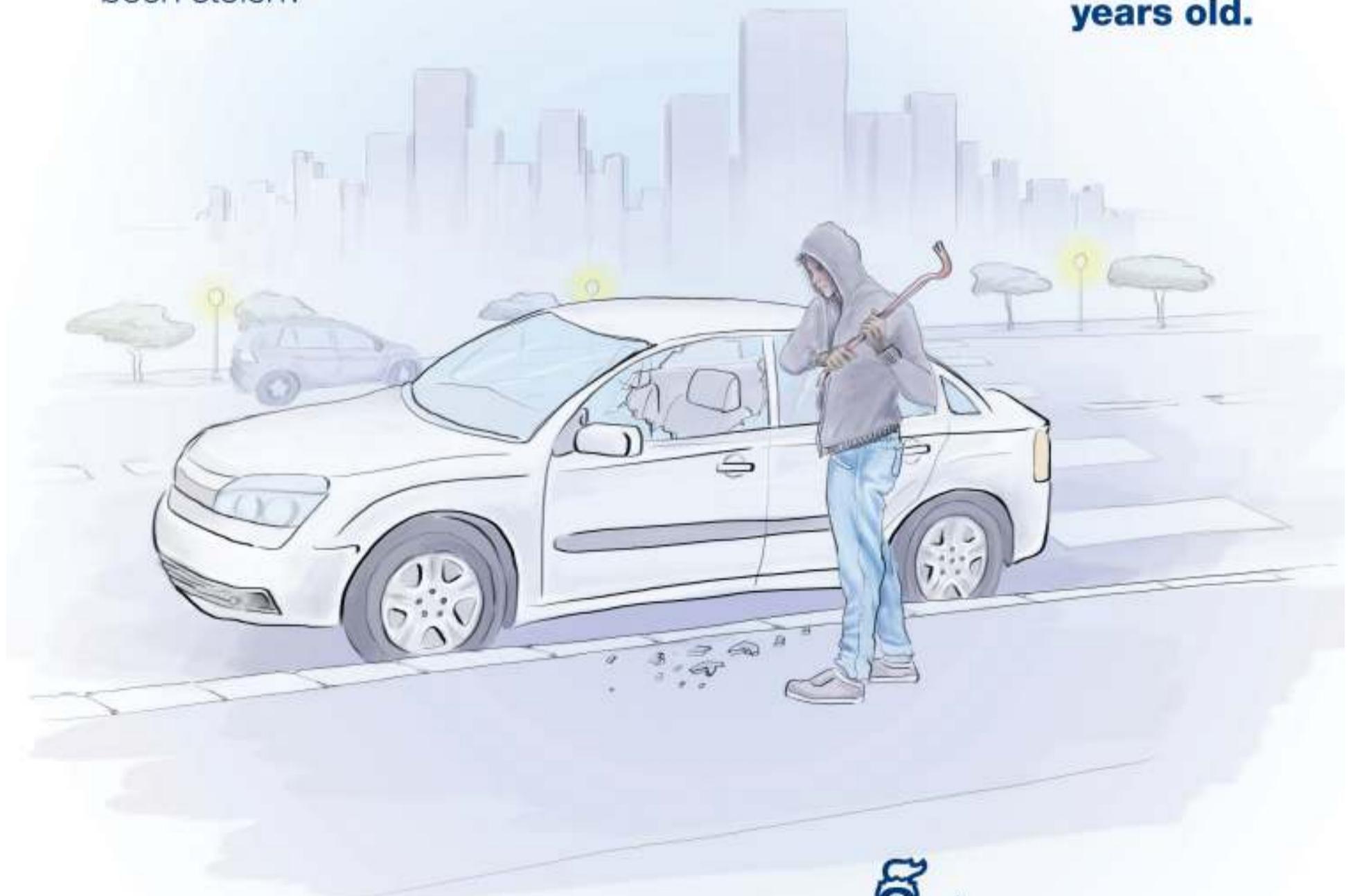


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Incidents at the border during Spanish police protest

The Gibraltar government believes the demo was hijacked by ultra right-wing extremists for their own ends and says it will take the matter further

:: DEBBIE BARTLETT

GIBRALTAR. Drivers and pedestrians trying to cross the border into Gibraltar on Wednesday morning found themselves caught up in a protest called by Spanish National Police and Guardia Civil officers who are demanding equal salaries to those earned by the regional police, and for help in dealing with drug and people traffickers. According to a leaflet, this was to have been an 'informative gathering' to raise awareness of the problems, none of which have anything to do with Gibraltar.

However, trouble ensued as some protestors are reported to have shouted insults at people driving Gibraltar-plated cars and to have kicked and scratched their vehicles. In one incident recorded on video, a woman from Gibraltar became involved in a violent altercation.

The Gibraltar government issued a statement saying it believed the



The protest was organised by pressure group Jusapol. :: SUR

protest "may have been hijacked by extremist, right-wing political elements".

The chief minister, Fabian Picardo, said "This demonstration was organised by an association of police officers and was totally unrelated to Gibraltar. It had no place being organised in the vicinity of the frontier. Whilst I always defend an individual's right to peaceful protest, it is absolutely unacceptable that such ac-

tion should be allowed to get out of hand in the way that it did. Furthermore, I am reliably informed that extremists of the ultra-right wing political party, Vox, were present and active at the demonstration. They were clearly present only to hijack the demo for their own political ends... that cannot be condoned or justified." He went on to say that he did not intend to let this rest and would be taking the matter further.



The ship is registered as a survey and research vessel. :: SUR

Controversy over the Aquarius as Gibraltar cancels its registration

This was not a knee-jerk decision to prevent the UK having to take in migrants, as some have claimed

:: D.BARTLETT

GIBRALTAR. The Gibraltar government was accused of political manoeuvring after the Italian government claimed the UK should take in the migrants on board the Aquarius because the ship is registered in Gibraltar, and it then be-

came known that the registration is to be cancelled.

However, it appears that this had nothing to do with the migrant crisis or the government: the Aquarius is registered as a survey ship, and when the Gibraltar Maritime Administration, after asking it to desist from working as a rescue ship in June, became aware that it was planning to resume, it officially notified its owners on 6 August that the registration would be cancelled on 20th of the same month. The ship will then return to its underlying owner's German registration.

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

The forgotten area of Mijas

According to local media, Mijas council received a bonus budget this year to spend on local amenities and services.

However, I believe not one euro has been spent in Pinares de Mijas residential development.

THIS WEEK'S WINNING LETTER

The white road and zebra crossing markings have faded

in to oblivion; the pavement kerbs are full of leaves and weeds. The three main roundabouts are full of weeds, one with two lovely olive trees which are being drowned by the weeds. The palm trees have not had the old bark removed, and the soiled floor area is full of weeds. Ironically the water tanker came last week and watered the olive trees which have been out grown by the weeds!

More importantly there are no speed restriction signs on the main road through the development. Cars are speeding up and down the hill section which is a long road. This is a residential area, families are here with children, one day there will be a serious accident unfortunately involving a child.

Four weeks ago there was an accident, a car speeding down

the hill section and skidding in to the roundabout, mounting the roundabout kerbs and rolling over and back on its four wheels. The skid marks are still visible on the road, and on the roundabout kerbs where it hit. The bang of the impact could be heard all around the apartment blocks; people including myself came out to see what had happened. Fortunately on this occasion no one was injured.

Pinares' own employee who looks after the three blocks of apartments on one side of the road, took it upon himself in his own time to trim the palm trees, weed the pavement kerbs and sweep up the dead leaves. He was so tired of seeing the state of the trees and kerbs, but unfortunately he only did one side of the road. I have been here for four months and during this period I have only seen two street cleaners on two occasions.

Come on Mijas council, where is your pride, where is your job satisfaction for your employees? I and others are paying an increased community charge this year... for what?

MRS J. MORTON
MIJAS

Cars or discos?

We all like to listen to music or the news as we drive, but some cars sound more like discotheques on wheels. What's more, if you dare to indicate to the drivers to turn down the volume, you risk facing all sorts of verbal abuse.

There are regulations that prohibit having the music on so loud in a car because it could distract the driver, who of course, is unable to hear if another driver needs to warn him of a danger with his horn.

The thing is that these mobile discos are more common than it seems, and they don't just come out at night, but all day long, and it's not just young people.

Apart from it being against the law, these drivers of mobile discos are also offending good taste. Techno, bachata, heavy metal, at full blast... it must send you

deaf if you listen to it for long. Sometimes I feel like locking them all up for hours in a small room to make them suffer... but then my good side says I should write a letter instead to see if it does any good.

ANGELA MARTIN
BY EMAIL

Wonderful Mad Bears

I just wanted to say that I was very impressed by the wonderful atmosphere at the Mad Bears Festival in Torremolinos. I was a little bit fearful at first, I've never been to an event like it before, but everyone was having a good time, gay or heterosexual, and after my initial 'OMG what have I got myself into?', I have to say I really enjoyed myself!

CHRISSE WALTERS
BY EMAIL

Net prophets

PETER EDGERTON
MUSIC MAKER WWW.E-PETER.COM

In the distant heady days of yore when people believed that there might actually exist something greater than themselves - like God, for example - they were generally fairly petrified of doing wrong lest they spend the whole of eternity wallowing in the burning flames of hell. By contrast, the current fashion of worshipping at the altar of thyself, has created a world where nobody ever really worries their pretty little botoxed heads about the prospect of infinite raging infernal flames. Luckily for all concerned, this state of affairs leaves us all with a lot more free time to post our gurning selfies and photos of our plates of pie and chips because, as we all know, there isn't anywhere near enough of this kind of thing knocking about on the virtual ether.

Interestingly, whereas beforehand we would modify our behav-

our because we were concerned that an almighty and omnipresent being might smite us across the chops by way of punishment at the very least, nowadays our greatest concern is that we may be caught on some bloke's camera while up to no good and, later, be publicly shamed on the net. That, in itself, is a kind of hell, I suppose, although nothing approaching eternal - more like a week or two at most, until the next poor unsuspecting sinner is locked in the virtual stocks of social media to be verbally abused and scorned at will by the uninformed masses.

Anyway, the end result of these two phases in history is much the same - whether it's the fear of God or the internet, people are forced to think twice before crossing the line in public (unless it's the feria in Malaga, of course, when such things are considered to be all part

of the fun of the fair. Literally.)

To be honest, of the two, I think I prefer the fear of God option. At least in that example, people might drop to their knees in humility from time to time rather than filming themselves proudly on some bucket list mountain top somewhere, yearning desperately for recognition. Also, giving thanks for a meal before we eat it, must surely be infinitely preferable to slapping a photo of our grub on InstaChatFaceGram hoping that our choice of victuals might somehow increase our social status among people we barely know.

John Lennon caused quite a kerfuffle in the sixties by saying that The Beatles were bigger than Jesus. These days, if a global pop star dared to say a belief in God was more important than the internet it might cause a similar level of incredulity and outrage. Strange how times change.

IDÍGORAS



The good and the bad

HÉCTOR BARBOTA

The wave of racism that has arrived with the summer is frankly unbearable. It's true that this way of thinking cannot be attributed to the whole of society, but possibly to a relevant minority that expresses itself with special virulence on social networks and forums where recent news is discussed.

In response to the news that Diario SUR published last Sunday about the recent rescue on the high seas, the majority of the comments attributed malicious intentions to the shipwrecked migrants, putting in doubt the condition of these people in their time of need and speculating about a Judeo-Masonic conspiracy involving the migrants them-

selves, the mafias that trade in their desperation, the non-governmental organisations that save them from drowning, the government and the mayors of Madrid and Barcelona.

Obviously not everyone that read this news thought that way, but for a while now, those who invent conspiracies to back up their prejudices, their moral misery and their deep ignorance, have become especially active. It is scandalous, for example, that the images of the aggression of an illegal street trader towards a tourist in Barcelona are repeated day after day on morning TV, with the unarguable intention of making an isolated event the rule, rather than the exception.

This wave of racist activism co-

incided with the government's decision to allow the 'Aquarius' to dock in Valencia, and the subsequent visit of Pablo Casado to the Algeciras port where he assured us that there are 50 million Africans waiting to invade Europe and then accused the Sánchez government of encouraging the migrants to come to here. Maybe it is unfair to blame the opportunism of the PP leader for activating the racists.

However, it is sad to see how this offensive that describes a non-existent invasion, which could be discredited simply by exhibiting non-invented figures, has already been on the verge of achieving its first victory.

The humanitarian crisis in the Mediterranean will continue and giving in to this racist campaign can only turn us into another Italy. It is time to remember Gandhi's words: "I am not afraid of the evilness of bad people, I am terrified of the indifference of good people."

IN THE FRAME

Making things up for children and adults

A British writer with a passion for all things Spanish has recently published his latest novel, *Paradise Por Favor*, an amusing look at the strained relationships of British expats and Spanish residents living on the Costa del Sol.

Robert Dodds, a 63-year-old author of both historic and children's novels has been widely published and broadcast. His short stories have been anthologised on radio and he has written short films for BBC 2, as well as working in stage production. He has had nine stories broadcast on BBC Radio Four, and has written and directed several short films shown on television and at film festivals.

Robert was born in England in 1955 and grew up in Yorkshire and Kent. He went to Oxford University to study English, and then became a teacher and lecturer. After several years working in England, Mexico and the USA, he settled in Edinburgh. In the mid-1980s he set up a degree course in film and television production at Edinburgh College of Art, which he led until later becoming head of the School of Visual Communication in the college. In 2008 he left the college to spend more time writing and has since had a string of novels published.

His first children's novel, *The Midnight Clowns*, was short-listed for the Kathleen Fidler Award. Other children's stories followed, including *The Secret of Iguando*, which was serialised on BBC Radio Four.

Robert also has two books in A&C Black's *Wired* series. Owned by the Bloomsbury Publishing Group, the *Wired* series encourages and supports reading practices by providing gripping, age-appropriate short stories for struggling and reluctant readers, or those with English as an additional language.

For adult readers, his collection of stories, *Rattlesnake and Other Tales*, was published by Polygon, the fiction imprint of Edinburgh University Press. In 2011 he published the comic novel *Sitting Duck*, which he describes as, "not a whodunnit, but a who will do it". A second collection of short stories was published in 2015, entitled *Secret Sharers*. His historic novel, *The Garden of Earthly Delights*, was inspired by the work of the 15th century artist, Hieronymus Bosch, considered one of the most notable representatives of the Early Netherlandish painting school.

In 2012, Robert decided to spend the winter months in Spain, renting a house at Lauro Golf, near Alhaurín el Grande. However, because of family ties in the UK, he has no immediate plans to live in Spain permanently, and so he spends his time between Edinburgh and Malaga.

"One of the attractions of Malaga is the sunshine. When I was in my twenties I lived in Mexico City for two years, working at an international school. I realised that one did not have to put up with grey skies and cold winds – although ironically I was to move to Edinburgh soon af-

terwards to take up a lectureship in film and television at Edinburgh College of Art," Robert explains to SUR in English

Passion for speaking Spanish

Not only did Mexico introduce Robert to the idea of living in a better

climate, but it also started his love affair with the Spanish language. A Mexican girlfriend was his first introduction to the language and he then took O level and A level Spanish, and went on to take courses at UNAM – the University of Mexico. He continued practising Spanish

by listening to the radio, watching telenovelas and reading Spanish novels.

"I've been lucky enough to make many good Spanish friends during my winters in Spain. I get together with people keen to improve their English, and we meet over a coffee

or a beer for conversation – an hour or so in each language. It's a free and enjoyable way to improve your language skills," he says.

Robert's circle of Spanish friends is diverse and includes people from the world of fashion to members of the Guardia Civil and a funeral director.

He also joined the Gerald Brennan Cultural Association, which meets weekly in Churriana and brings together Spanish, British and other nationalities to improve language skills and promote cultural exchange.

"I value the contact with real Spanish life going on around me. The separation of many expats from the life of the country they have chosen to live in is one of the issues I explore in *'Paradise Por Favor'*," the author points out.

Novelising life on the coast

Robert soon began to realise that his winters in Spain were offering material that he could weave into fiction.

"My previous novels have drawn less on personal experience. The

"I value the contact with real Spanish life going on around me"

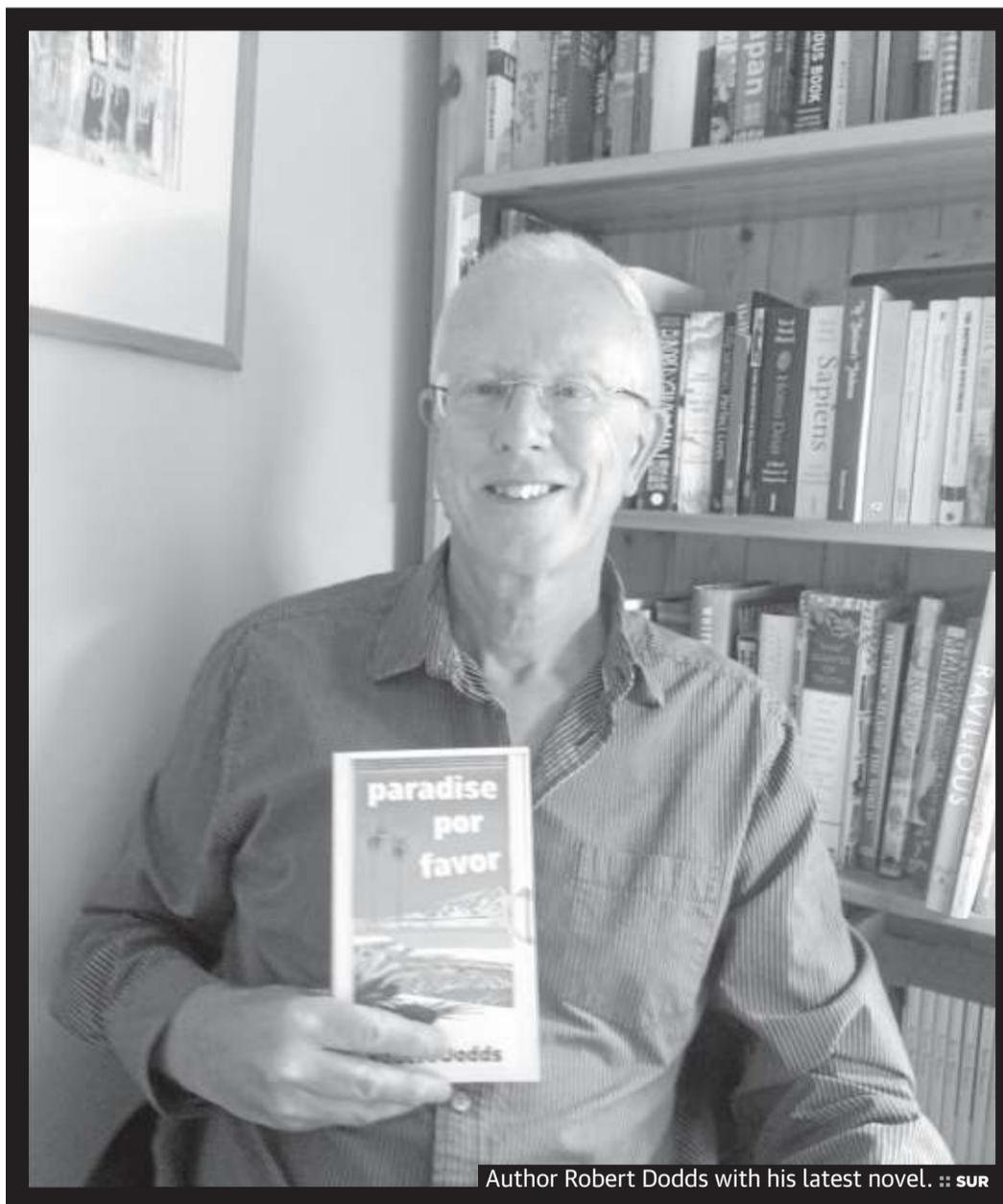
"I've been lucky enough to make many good Spanish friends during my winters in Spain"

themes of *Paradise Por Favor* are quite varied: marital and parental relationships are at the centre of the story, but there are many interconnected strands – dogs, houses and crime, to name but three. I couldn't have written accurately about either the Spanish or the expat characters without my own experiences of life in Spain," the author explains.

"However, as any novelist will tell you, there is no one-to-one correspondence between any character or event in the book and real life. After all, that's what novelists do – we make things up," he adds, with a smile.

In his latest book, Robert tried to invent situations that would do two things – invite readers to think about the different ways in which they create a sense of meaning and purpose in their lives, and at the same time make them laugh.

For his next project, Robert will draw on his experiences working in Edinburgh College of Art, which is provisionally titled *The Art School Murders*. He is also developing a series of stories for children based on a bumbling hedgehog detective called *Hodgepodge*.



Author Robert Dodds with his latest novel. :: SUR

Author of both historic and children's novels, former university lecturer, Robert Dodds, has been widely published and broadcast. His children's stories - one of which was short-listed for the Kathleen Fidler Award - have been anthologised on radio and he has had nine short stories broadcast on BBC Radio Four

TONY BRYANT





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International Homeless Animals Day to highlight overpopulation

A candlelight vigil will commemorate all homeless and abandoned animals that have been killed unnecessarily in municipal pounds

TONY BRYANT

MARBELLA. The Marbella-based dog rescue charity association, Triple A, will join forces with the International Society for Animal Rights (ISAR) during the 27th International Homeless Animals Day on Saturday 18 August.

The main objective of the day is to reduce, if not eliminate, the overpopulation of dogs and cats by emphasising sterilisation as a major solution to this ongoing problem.

Since 1992, ISAR has used the third Saturday of August as a platform to bring together animal protection organizations, rescue groups, veterinary professionals and caring individuals throughout the world to enlighten the public about animal overpopulation and the urgent need for neuter and adoption programs.

The event will be held in the Puerto



The Triple A animal rescue centre in Marbella cares for more than 500 abandoned cats and dogs. :: sur

Deportivo in Marbella from 8pm until 10.30pm, when there will be a candlelight vigil to commemorate all homeless and abandoned animals that have been killed unnecessarily in municipal pounds.

Sterilisation programme

The event has the support of Marbella town hall, and several local veterinary surgeons, who are do-

nating 50 percent discount vouchers for sterilisations of animals whose owners are on low incomes.

“Our aim is to make this event the first step in a campaign to overcome the overpopulation and needless killing of abandoned animals. We can only do this with the cooperation of the town halls, animal professionals and shelters”, Triple A representative, Lily van Tongeren,

told SUR in English.

Every year more than 150,000 pets enter animal shelters in Spain and many are euthanised.

Triple A, also known as Amigos of Abandoned Animals, is currently running a tee shirt campaign in order to further highlight the problem. The Tee-shirts, which carry the message, ‘Don’t Multiply the Problem - Sterilise’, will raise the funds to help the

INFORMATION

► **International Homeless Animals Day.** The event will be held in the Puerto Deportivo in Marbella from 8pm on Saturday 18 August.

► **Candlelight vigil.** A vigil will be held at 10.30pm in memory of all abandoned animals that have been killed unnecessarily.

► **Discount vouchers.** Local veterinary practices will offer a 50 percent discount for sterilisations of animals whose owners are on low incomes.

association continue helping homeless animals on the coast.

“Education about neutering is the only way to solve the problem. Several other countries have done it and our goal is to include Spain in these success stories,” Lily said.

Triple A is run by volunteers that are dedicated to caring for abandoned and abused animals on the Costa del Sol. The charity association, which has a no kill policy, is currently looking after more than 500 dogs and cats.

“We want to shed a light on the huge problem about abandoned dogs and cats in Spain. It is necessary to raise awareness about sterilisation as the first step to avoid the animal overcrowding in shelters and killing stations”, Lily explained.

For more information contact Lily on 622 910 214, or by e-mail: lily4triplea@gmail.com



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From Friday 17 to Thursday 23: 15:45, 18:10, 22:30



INCREDIBLES 2

Director Brad Bird
ANIMATION - 125 min.



From Friday 17 to Thursday 23: 15:45, 18:10



MISSION: IMPOSSIBLE - FALLOUT

Director Christopher McQuarrie
Starring Tom Cruise and Henry Cavill
ACTION - 147 min.



From Friday 17 to Thursday 23: 19:45, 22:30



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Director Ol Parker
Starring Meryl Streep and Lily James
ACTION - 102 min.



From Friday 17 to Thursday 23: 20:30

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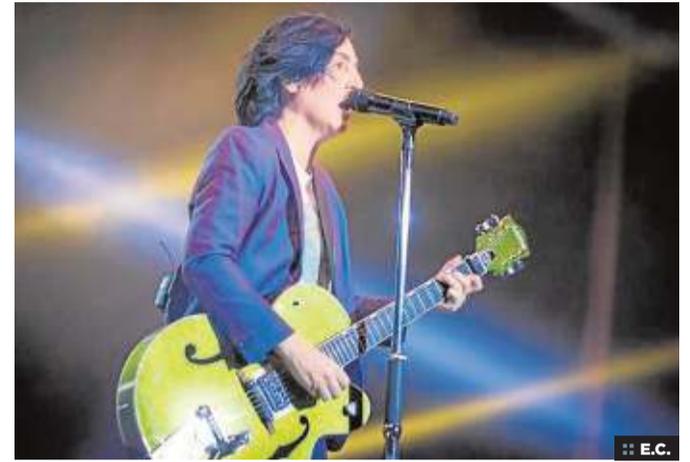
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THIS WEEK IN PICTURES



STARLITE GALA NIGHT RAISING MONEY FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

The Starlite Gala Night was attended by international stars, national celebrities and personalities from the business, social and cultural world. Its long-term promoter Antonio Banderas hosted the event with Sandra García-Sanjuan, director of Starlite and philanthropist.



FANS TAKE A TRIP BACK TO THE 90S WITH TEXAS

Texas, the legendary band from Glasgow, delighted fans at Starlite this week by playing all their greatest hits as well as songs from their new album, 'Jump On Board.'



THE BEARS TAKE OVER TORREMOLINOS

Beards, paunches, and tight swim trunks predominated in Torremolinos last weekend for the Gay Mad Bear 2018 Festival.



SAYALONGA CELEBRATES ITS DIVERSITY

Sayalonga recently celebrated the various countries living in the community with a Festival of Culture. Each country brought examples of their traditional dishes. British mince pies, German currywurst, Dutch cheeses, Swiss cakes, and Spanish gazpacho were examples of the food available.



THE LEGEND OF WOODSTOCK

Carlos Santana stopped off on his 'Divination Tour' to play at Sohail castle during the Mar-sotrum festival last week.

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DENISE BUSH



GARDENING

Parlour palm

An elegant palm that can be grown in a pot in a patio or a border of the garden as long as it has a shady corner

Native to Mexico and Central America, *Chamaedorea seifrizii* will be instantly recognised by some as the houseplant, the Parlour Palm, although there are several similar species. The common name for *C. seifrizii* is the bamboo palm as it's long

slim 'canes' have nodes similar to bamboo. Like bamboo, it also spreads by suckers and over time will form a large clump of dark green fronds up to three metres high. Each stem will

have 10 to 15 long, thin fronds.

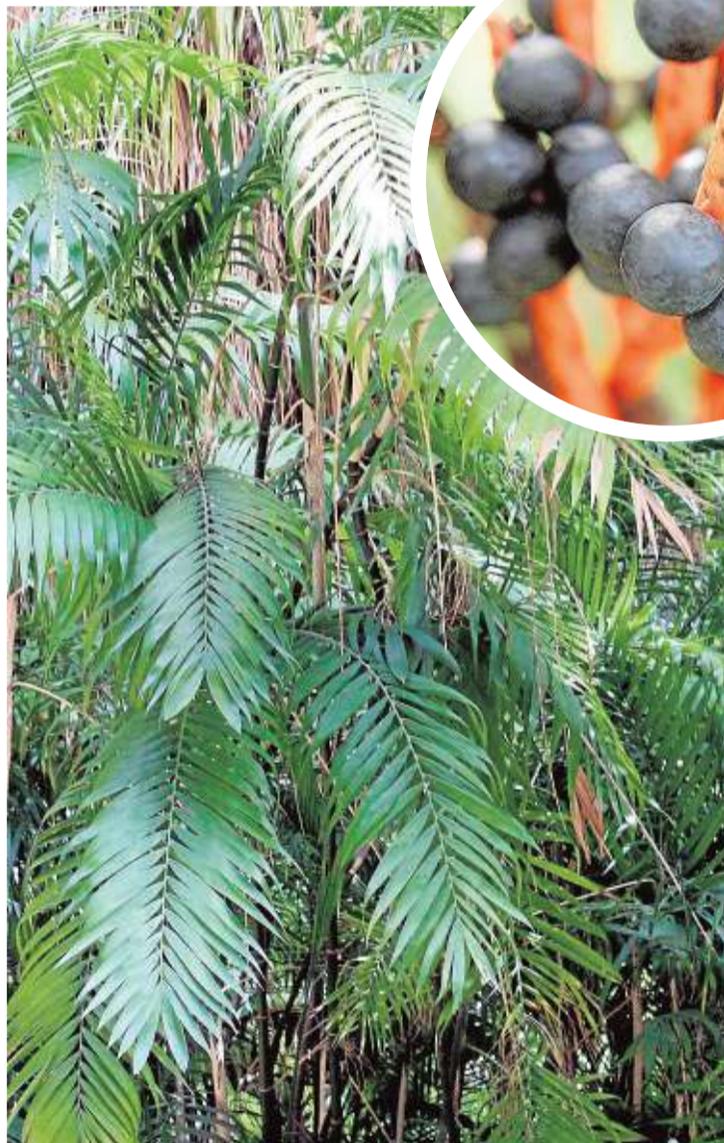
Garden centres often sell *C. seifrizii* in pots containing up to 30 individual plants in order to create the impression of a more mature plant, although each individual stem is capable of creating a clump on its own. As the older fronds die it is best to cut them off and leave the sheath to dry before removing that too. This will help to keep the plants healthy and expose the attractive light-green stems.

C. seifrizii is easy to grow; it needs to be kept moist, although it will withstand short periods of drought the tips of the fronds may turn brown. It grows in the understory of rainforests and so needs dappled shade not full sun.

Bamboo palms are dioecious, meaning that plants are either male or female. Female plants may produce small pea-sized orange or red berries which turn black as they ripen. These can be used to propagate new plants but germination can take up to six months and the flesh of the fruits is toxic. The best way to propagate is to carefully remove any suckers and pot them up.

The palm is named after William Seifriz who was a professor of biology at the University of Pennsylvania. He led an expedition to Colombia in 1932 and collected the palm from Mayan ruins.

Malaga's La Concepción Botanical gardens have a beautiful example of this palm (see photo left).



Parlour palm at the Concepción botanical gardens. :: JARDINES BOTÁNICOS

READERS' PHOTOS

RELUCTANT FLOWERER

This photo, of what is possibly a species of *Notocactus*, was sent in by reader Sheila Easton in Alhaurín. She says, "it has decided to finally flower after eight years in my patio. Just one bloom, in dead-centre." If any SUR in English reader can identify the genus and species we would love to know, it obviously is not prolific flowerer.



:: SHEILA EASTON



:: CAROLINE ALLEN

A LOVELY SURPRISE

Reader Caroline Allen has sent in this photo of an oriental lily which she admits to having no idea how it got into her window box. "When what I thought was a dry stick started developing green leaves I decided it was worth watering it to see what happened, and this is the beautiful result."

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](https://twitter.com/SUR_English))

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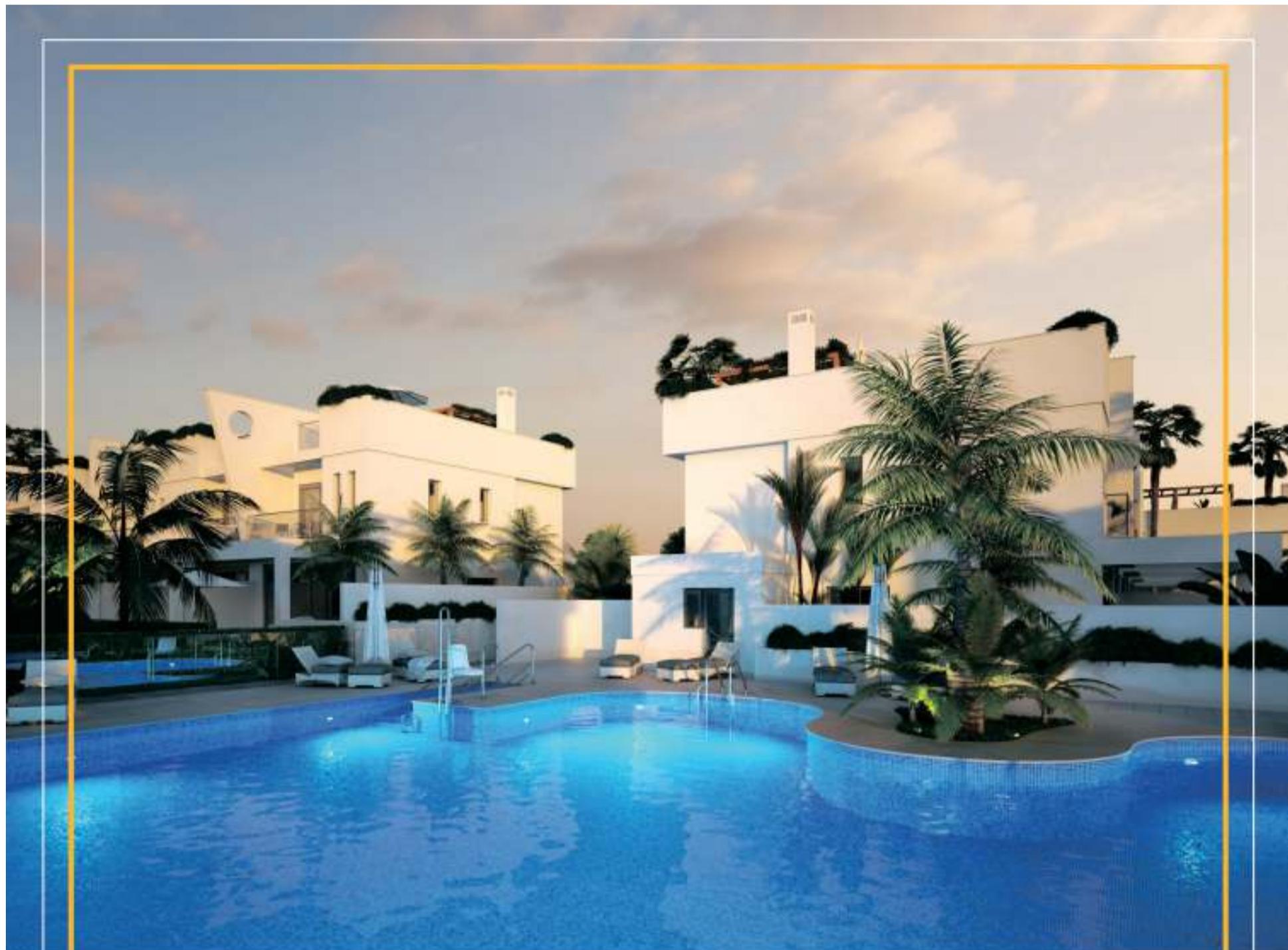


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The Love To Sing choir. :: A. BOLTON

A concert to show support

Hundreds turned up to support a concert in Manilva to help raise funds for the local emergency services

:: ASH BOLTON

MANILVA. A concert in aid of the emergency services that tackled the recent fire in Manilva has helped raise almost 2,412 euros.

The fundraiser was organised by several members of the foreign community in Manilva and saw around a dozen musicians perform at the historical Castillo de la Duquesa last Saturday night.

Several hundred people turned up for the event that raised funds thanks to donations and a raffle on the night. Together with a Go Fund Me page almost 6,000 euros is now set to be split between several emergency services.

Dean Shelton, 44, Councillor of Foreign Affairs at Manilva Council, told SUR in English: "It was an

awesome concert and saw hundreds of people coming through the evening.

"We had some fantastic acts and it was great to see the community come together for a great cause."

Acts included British country star Jade Helliwell, the Love to Sing Choir, Sam Oliver, Daniela Caballero, Paris Gibson, Rocking Johnny, Tony Watson, Steve Anderson, Gary Fearon and DJ Jonny Howard.

Dean added that the cash raised will fund plaques for the services involved, as well as gifts to improve their working environment, such as a coffee machine or whatever they need for their recreational areas.

These awards will be delivered by hand and there will be an opportunity for donors to get a first hand glimpse at the workplaces of the local emergency services.

Organisers then hope to split any remaining funds on putting a tribute to the emergency services on the Los Hidalgos roundabout and a replanting in the area affected by the fire.

The concert was the brainchild of local resident Bruce Lavelle, who

suggested the idea on a local online chat group.

Together with Gary Beaumont from The Resident newspaper, Dean Tyler Shelton, and Damian and Kirsty Platt from the Heaven Bar in Duquesa, the group set about organising the concert.

The fire started at around 1.30am on Monday the 30th of July and it took emergency services until 8.30am to get the flames under control.

Some 400 people were evacuated from their homes over night and the main A-7 coast road was closed in both directions near Manilva.

More than 40 firefighters tackled the blaze in the area of Los Hidalgos, Hacienda Guadalupe and El Goleto residential developments and campsites in the Duquesa area. No one was hurt or injured during the incident.

Donations can still be made online at the Gofundme page: www.gofundme.com/manilvafire2018 or can be dropped off in a sealed envelope with your name and telephone number at the Saint George Charity shops, at The Sabinillas Bookshop and at Mirror Mirror bar in Duquesa Port.

PET CARE

ERNY HARRISON



Nine out of ten cats prefer Mozart

To help your cat enjoy travelling play some classical music on the trip

It is an accepted fact: cats make very bad passengers. They express their displeasure in no uncertain terms. Our Dicky complains loudly all the way to his final destination.

There are very good reasons for their behaviour: cats are very independent and don't like being locked up. Then there is the unknown noise of the engine and last but not least the smell.

There is not much we can do about their independence. It is one of the reasons they fascinate us, but we can certainly help them with their feeling of being locked up.

Choosing the right travel carrier is most important. There are the plastic bag types, who look almost like ordinary shopping bags which close with a zip and have some small holes for breathing. I never understand how one can force a cat to go into one of those.

Then there are the pretty wicker baskets, a bit better but they still give your pet a locked up feeling.

The best ones are the metal barred carriers, who give your cat the chance to look around and take in the environment. He will still not like travelling, but at least he can be made more part of it.

There is not much you can

do about the engine noise, but it does help to create a more relaxed atmosphere by driving at an even speed, without too much revving and abrupt breaking.

It also helps to put classical music on. Seriously: research has shown that Mozart and Beethoven are most cats' favourite composers. On the other hand don't play jazz: they hate it!

Don't be too worried about the smell. They will soon get used to it and most cats find it interesting to work out the different smells that come their way.

Ever seen your cat with his mouth wide open, staring transfixed in front of him, where there is nothing to see? Your cat is actually 'Flehming' an action for which there is no translation. He traps an intriguing smell on the tongue, pressing it against the roof of his mouth where a tiny sac is located, called Jacobson's organ.

This increases the chemical information about the smell, from which your pet derives a lot of pleasure.

In your own interest do not feed your cat before you set off. Wait till you have arrived and then give him a special treat. He may start liking to travel after all!

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DARYL FINCH



WHAT HAPPENED TODAY?

17 AUGUST 2017

Sixteen killed in Barcelona and Cambrils terror attacks

It is still not fully known what led to the events on 17 and 18 August last year when a total of sixteen civilians lost their lives in the deadliest terror attack to occur in Barcelona since the 1987 Hipercor bombing.

On the afternoon of the 17th, 22-year-old Younes Abouyaaqoub drove a rented white Fiat Talento van on the pavement of La Rambla, zigzagging at high speed and crashing into pedestrians for about 550 metres before the vehicle ground to a halt on the Joan Miró mosaic. In the attack, Abouyaaqoub killed 13 people and injured at least 130 others, one of whom later died. Abouyaaqoub then fled the scene on foot before stabbing another to death in order to steal their car to make his escape.

Nine hours later, five men thought to be members of the

same cell drove into pedestrians in nearby Cambrils, killing a 63-year-old Spanish woman and injuring six others during a subsequent knife attack. The men, Houssaine Abouyaaqoub, Omar Hichamy, Mohamed Hichamy, Moussa Oukabir and Said Aalla were all shot and killed by police on the scene.

Three days later, on 21 August, police shot and killed the La Rambla attacker Younes Abouyaaqoub near a petrol station in Subirats, about 40 kilometres from Barcelona, after a woman called police after spotting a man which fit his description. According to the Mossos d'Esquadra regional police force, he had "an explosive belt attached to his body".

Subsequent investigations showed that the cell's plans were much greater than those which transpired. The night before the



Tributes paid to those killed on La Rambla. :: EFE

La Rambla attack, an explosion occurred in a house in Alcanar, destroying the building and killing two members of the terrorist cell, including imam Abdelbaki Es Satty, thought to be the mastermind.

The home had over 120 gas can-

isters inside which police believe the cell was attempting to make into large bombs to attack the Sagrada Família church.

The attacks were the deadliest in Spain since the March 2004 Madrid train bombings, with 16 peo-

LANGUAGE FOOTNOTE

Atentado	Attack
Terrorista	Terrorist
Atropello	Hit-and-run
Furgoneta	Van
Sospechosos	Suspects
Manifestación	Protest
Peatón	Pedestrian
Superviviente	Survivor
Homenaje	Tribute
Conducir	To drive
Conductor	Driver
Abatido	Dejected
Disparar	To shoot
Amenazas	Threats
Caminar	To walk
Huida	Flight/escape
Detenidos	Arrested people

ple of ten nationalities killed and over 130 people from over 34 nations injured.

The day after the attacks, a minute's silence, led by King Felipe VI, was observed at Plaça de Catalunya, which ended with chants of "No tinc por" ("I am not afraid"). On 26 August, a large crowd marched down the Passeig de Gràcia in a protest against the terror attacks. Some people booed the King, blaming him for arms sales. King Felipe is expected in Barcelona today for the first anniversary commemorations.

Bilingual crossword inside back page

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Genalguacil's art project continues to grow despite budget cuts

The popular two-yearly event in the town went ahead this month despite the provincial government cancelling a major part of its funding almost at the last minute

ANTONIO JAVIER LÓPEZ



✉ Twitter @ajavierlopez

Antonia is known as 'La Española' in Genalguacil, the tiny village in the Genal Valley where everybody is known by a family nickname which can date back generations. The front of her house in the steep Calle Caridad can be easily spotted because of its knitted decorations and her small, cool living room is filled with paintings, verses and other types of art.

"The village is full of people at these times. It's fantastic to see. The Art Encounters have changed my life, because once I met the artists I realised how much I love poetry, painting and singing," says Antonia. She has just celebrated her 80th birthday, but her blue eyes are as bright as ever.

Antonia's fame precedes her. When Violeta Niebla and Alessandra García, both from Malaga, were chosen for this edition of the Art Encounters in Genalguacil, the first advice they were given from others who had been there before was to go and see Antonia, because she knows everything there is to know.

Violeta and Alessandra have been creating a project called 'La lista de la compra' (The Shopping List), which they say aims to "bring the supermarket to the museum and the museum to the supermarket". Several women from the village have participated, giving out a fake publicity leaflet in the local museum, while in the supermarkets shoppers can hear a soundtrack produced by the girls themselves, commenting on their daily shopping.

'La lista de la compra' is a continuation of an aspect which has been seen in previous editions of the Art Encounters in Genalguacil, linking the art projects with

the everyday life of this village, through its history, countryside or people. The result is a very interesting combination of ideas, which have often come about through the close collaboration which exists between the artists and local residents.

Local people are enthusiastic about this event, which takes place every two years, but this year there was a last-minute setback. The provincial government withdrew its contribution of 80,000 euros (more than half of the overall budget), claiming that there were irregularities in the documentation provided in previous years to show why the money was needed.

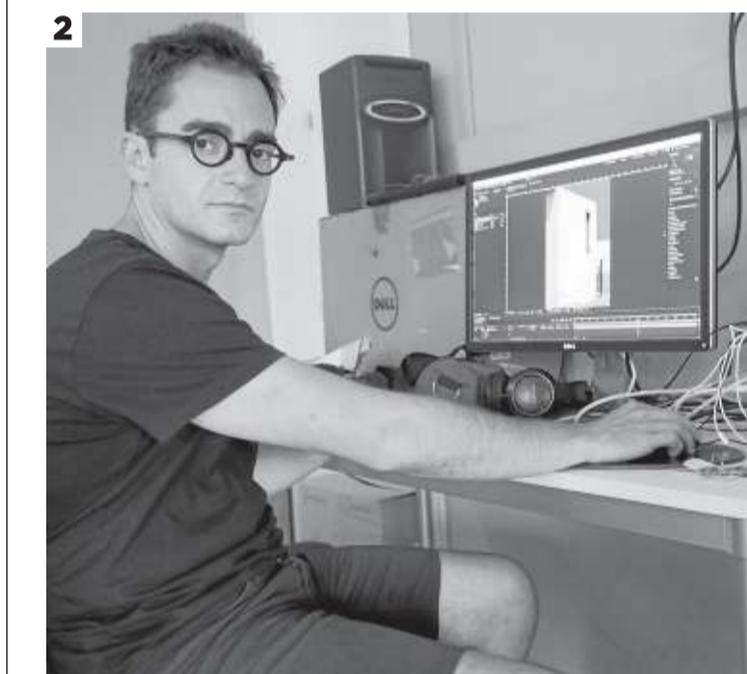
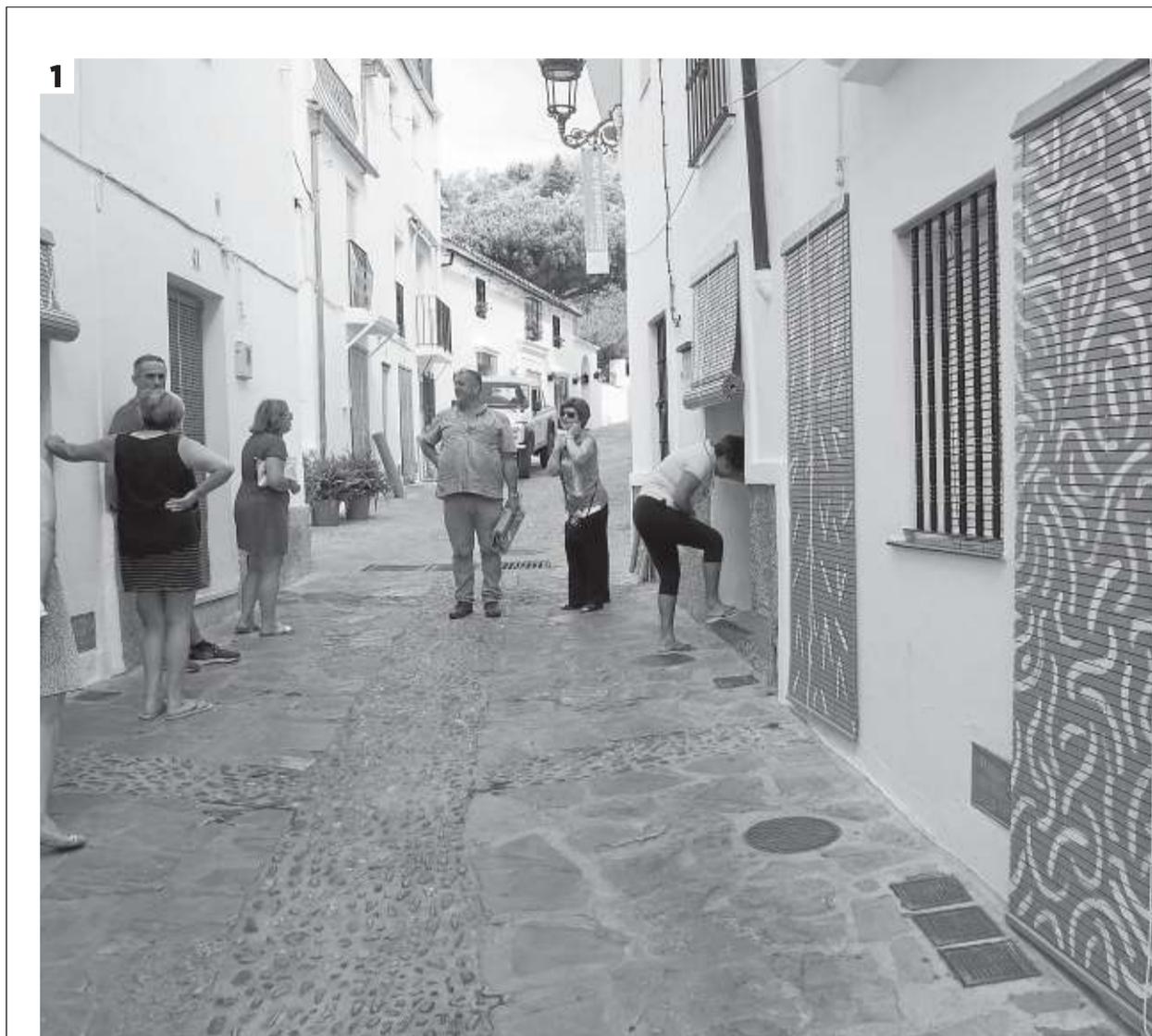
"From the most difficult moments come the most positive things," said the mayor of this village with only 400 inhabitants, Miguel Ángel Herrera, at the inauguration of a magnificent exhibition by Françoise Vanneraud and José Medina Galeote at the local museum, curated by Juan Francisco Rueda.

The display reflects the essence of Genalguacil, and is not confined within the walls of the museum. It includes the sculpture by Vanneraud which now stands on the spectacular viewing point over the Genal Valley in the Plaza de la Constitución, and 55 blinds which Medina Galeote painted for the windows of different houses in the village.

Support from the university

"We have had to contract fewer people, the monitors at the workshops aren't being paid this year, the budget for the art projects has been cut back as much as possible and we have had to cancel other cultural projects which we have been working on all year, so the event could go ahead," said Herrera. He also expressed his gratitude to the University of Malaga (UMA), for lending their support once again.

"We decided to become involved again and contribute 3,000 euros because this is a fantastic project, not just in the artistic sense but also because it is a way of helping



to stop the depopulation of the area," said the university's vice-chancellor for Culture, Tecla Lumbreras, who was there at the weekend.

Emigration, landscapes, memory, identity and territory; these are subjects which the works of Vanneraud and Medina Galeote, and most of the other projects selected this year, bring to mind. For example, there are scenes of the Genal river taken by Noelia García Bandera for 'Natural Background'.

"I look for the pictorial side of nature and make it one of the backgrounds which photographers used years ago for their portraits," says Noelia about her work, which includes an image of the river im-

printed on a 3-metre canvas. It will be installed in the main square of the village so people can make her work a feature of their own photographs.

Changing light

Florencia Rojas goes down to the same river every day, at 6.45am precisely, to take the same photo with the same frame, and the result is always different. The Genal river and Heráclito rivers change each time, and Rojas' work shows the different light, colour of the water, the sky and nature.

The village and countryside also feature in 'Simulacro de día. Una aproximación a la línea de tiempo de Genalguacil', the interesting

contribution by Javier Artero, who says he likes to research "visual paradoxes".

"From five in the morning till ten at night, in other words from before dawn until after dark, I took a photo of a house on the main road every 30 seconds," says Artero about a piece which is now a video showing this evolution of light as a loop.

The local landscape is also the backdrop for 'Flâneire', a work by Fuentesal & Arenillas, which consists of a series of drawings about their random walks through the streets of Genalguacil and is accompanied by a type of diary in which they record their experiences with local people.



SOME OF THE PROJECTS

1. Acciones urbanas

Artist: José Medina Galeote.
Project: In a joint exhibition with Françoise Vanneraud, this artist from Malaga has created 55 blinds which can be seen on different houses in the village.

2. Simulacro de día

Artist: Javier Artero.
Project: A video played on a loop which shows the “visual paradoxes” through the way the light evolves from dawn to darkness.

3. Cúpula de silencio

Artist: Eugenio Rivas.
Project: An open dome made from concrete and placed at the entrance to the village from the Estepona road. It shows the relationships between the urban environment and nature, human ambition and the search for spirituality.

4. Furtivo encuentro

Artist: Paloma de la Cruz.
Project: A sculpture made with 154 ceramic tiles in the form of a piece of lingerie, nearly three square metres in size. It has been installed not far from the village school.

5. Pinsapo

Artist: Álvaro Albaladejo.
Project: Wooden sculpture, using beech, inspired by the pinsapo forest around the village.

6. La lista de la compra

Artists: Violeta Niebla and Alesandra García.
Project: The idea is to bring “the supermarket to the museum and the museum to the supermarket,” and women from the village have participated in the project.

7. Flâneire

Artists: Fuentesal & Arenillas.
Project: The artists have recorded their strolls through the streets of Genalguacil in the form of a series of drawings and a diary of their experiences.

8. Natural Background

Artist: Noelia García Bandera.
Project: The artist went searching for the pictorial side of the landscapes of the Genal river and made it into a backdrop, in a way which is similar to those used by portrait photographers many years ago.

PHOTOS: A. J. LÓPEZ AND ENCUENTROS DE ARTE

The installation ‘The Sky Twist’ by José García Vallés is also accessible now: it is a type of luminous time tunnel which will remain in the municipality for a few days.

An open-air museum

During the Art Encounters the population of the village triples, because this event has become so popular. As mentioned earlier, it takes place every two years, and a group of artists live and work in the village for the first fortnight in August, leaving their creations there when they are finished.

People who go out for a walk will come across works of art in unexpected places, such as that of Paloma de la Cruz beside the Casa

de los Maestros, near the school: “I wanted to find a place in the village for my work which was private and hidden away, as if it were an item of lingerie which I have constructed from 154 ceramic tiles of different sizes,” says the artist about her piece, which will become a permanent part of the outdoor museum.

In a way this is similar to ‘Cúpula de silencio’, the work of art which Eugenio Rivas created at the entrance to Genalguacil from the Estepona road, which until two years ago had never been completely surfaced.

“It is a way of creating a space of transit and meeting between the urban and the natural,” says

Rivas about his open dome, made from pieces of concrete, which weighs more than 500 kilos.

Rivas works in a temporary studio beside the chestnut cooperative, where Alegría and Piñero are building their “looking machine”. This adapts the principle of black boxes to the form of a cubicle in the village square, from whose interior the outside can be viewed

through different lenses.

Another way of reflecting the environment, in this case the pinsapar forest, can be seen in the wooden sculpture carved by Álvaro Albaladejo. He has been working with pieces of beech, which are later carbonised so the piece takes on a “black skin” which will preserve the cracks and folds.

The passage of time may show

on the face of Antonia ‘La Española’, but she never stop smiling as she stands on the cross-stitch rug in her living room and chats with us. The hand-made rug consists of a white background with blue lettering and its words are almost like an emblem for the Art Encounters, a heartfelt message from the whole village: “You are welcome here”, it says.

The Philharmonic Society hopes to attract new members for its 150th anniversary

REGINA SOTORRÍO

@ReginaSotorrio



The institution, which brought Ravel, Albéniz and Rubinstein to Malaga, is organising special concerts, quarterly conferences and publishing a book

MALAGA. For decades, its stage was the epicentre of music in Malaga. Rubinstein, Albéniz, Ravel, Pablo Casals, Gayarre, Sarasate, Andrés Segovia... the list of personalities who performed in the city as guests of the Philharmonic Society is impressive, but the society didn't only organise concerts. Under the mandate of Eduardo Ocón, it began to hold singing classes, an educational project which grew to become the basis for the Conservatory of Music.

This story began 150 years ago, a century and a half in which the Philharmonic Society has passed from being a key agent in the cultural life of Malaga to occupying a second place. The city's oldest musical institution, which is based in the Sala Unicaja de Conciertos María Cristina (one of the loveliest venues in the country for chamber music), wants to recover its former position to mark its anniversary and has set itself a challenge: to attract new members so that it will be able to celebrate a further 150 years.

"This could be a turning point in making us better known in the city," says Pablo Lamothe, president of the Malaga Philharmonic Society, which is the oldest of its type in Spain. It may not have performed as much as it once did, but it has always been there: more than a century of work in all, only interrupted during the Civil War.

There are about 20 concerts at the María Cristina each year, and this year there is to be additional support from



The Philharmonic Society is based in the beautiful 'Sala Unicaja de Conciertos María Cristina'. :: SALVADOR SALAS

IN DETAIL

► **The Philharmonic Society.** This cultural organisation organises a season of concerts (mainly chamber music) at its headquarters, the Sala Unicaja de Conciertos María Cristina.

► **How to become a member.** There is a fee of 70 euros per quarter. For two or more members, the fee is reduced to 60 euros. There is no charge for children, or music students under the age of 18.

► **More information.** Send an email to info@sociedadfilarmonicademalaga.com.

the main sponsor, the Unicaja Foundation (Bilba, Soho Boutique and Gross Dentistas are also patrons).

The season opens on 3 October with the music of Bernstein, Copland and Gershwin, played by the Brass Band: 50 musicians playing wind, metal and percussion instruments. Between that date and mid-June next year, the Philharmonic Society has planned an extensive programme with some unusual features, such as the presence of the OFM and the "archaeological concerts" which re-enact events which took place on the same stage many decades ago.

For example, Ravel's visit in 1928 will be remembered on 22 November with a recital of pieces which were performed by the maestro, but this time by Juan Ignacio Fernández on piano, Santiago de la Riva on the violin, and the voice of Elena Garrido.

On 21 February the past will once

again be revisited at the María Cristina with a re-creation of the first concert the Society ever organised in this venue in 1904, with renowned cellist Pablo Casals. On this occasion the performers will be Trino Zurita and Ángel Sanzo.

This emblematic stage will also see performances by famous soloists such as Russian pianist Boris Berman (15 November), violinist Jesús Reina (10 January), guitarist Rafael Aguirre (4 April) and pianist Paula Coronas (16 May); groups such as Concerto Malaga (3 March); and new talent such as pianists Judith Jáuregui (13 December) and Juan Carlos Fernández Nieto (25 April). This year dance will be incorporated for the first time in this auditorium, with the show 'Océánica' on 18 October.

And in special commemoration of the 150th anniversary, close to 16 March (the date on which the soci-

ety was officially constituted) the teachers of the Malaga Philharmonic Orchestra will be filling the stage. This performance will be on 22 March, with Antonio Ortiz on piano and Salvador Vázquez conducting.

In addition to the concerts, the institution will also be holding quarterly conferences and, with the Unicaja Foundation, is to publish a book to commemorate its history, "which is also part of the history of Malaga".

With all this, they hope to reach the people who have not yet passed through the doors of the historic building in the Plaza de San Francisco. At present just 170 members sustain the institution. This is low, bearing in mind that the Philharmonic Society in the Canary Islands has 400 members and half the population. The Sala Unicaja de Conciertos María Cristina can seat 364 people: the challenge now is to fill it.

KEY DATES IN ITS HISTORY

1868

The Classical Concerts Society was formed, and managed by Antonio Capa. Members paid 40 céntimos per concert.

1869

The Society became the Philharmonic Society of Malaga, with

Antonio Palacios as president. It became so important that Eduardo Ocón Rivas was asked to manage the educational aspects.

1871

Eduardo Ocón, as he promised when he took up the position, started a music school where students could take classes in singing and violin.

1880

The number of pupils grew exponentially, and the council and provincial government decided to found the Conservatory of Music. The Conservatory and the Society, both of which were run by Ocón, moved to the 15th century Franciscan monastery of San Luis el Real, now the Sala María Cristina. Upon Ocon's death, the two entities separated.

1971

The Conservatory of Music moved to El Ejido. This considerably reduced the activity in the building in Plaza de San Francisco, which began to show signs of age.

1975

Because of its deterioration, the Caja de Ahorros de Ronda (now

Unicaja) bought the Old María Cristina Conservatory, which is where the Philharmonic Society holds its concerts to this day.

2009

The building reopened after being restored and took up its place in the city's cultural life as the Sala Unicaja de Conciertos María Cristina.



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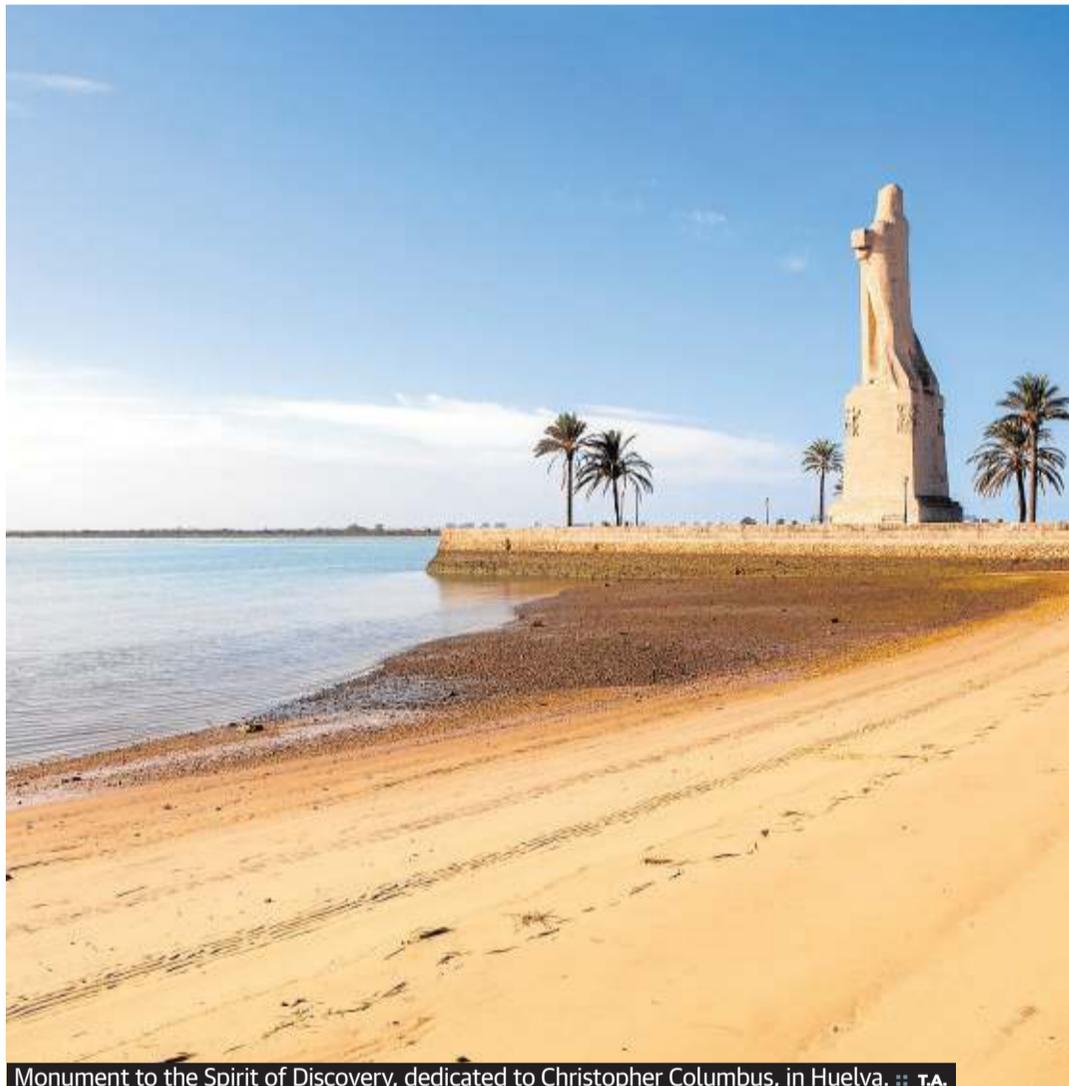
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DISCOVER ANDALUCÍA

Pearl of the Atlantic

JAVIER ALMELLONES



Monument to the Spirit of Discovery, dedicated to Christopher Columbus, in Huelva. :: T.A.

Huelva, which is on the Costa de la Luz and the Lugares Colombinos route, is a fantastic summer destination



How to get there Huelva.

To reach the city from Malaga, take the A-92 to Seville and then the A-49, which leads to the coast of Huelva province.

The coast of Huelva province is one of the most outstanding destinations on the Iberian Peninsula in peak tourist season, thanks to its beautiful beaches and its fantastic food, especially the fish dishes. However, we should not forget that the capital city of the province and other towns on the Costa de la Luz have also played an important role in history. In fact, visitors who choose to spend their summer holiday on this part of the coast will find excellent facilities and some very pleasant surprises.

In Huelva city, which is known as the 'pearl of the Atlantic' because of its links with the discovery of America and for its sea trading over thousands of years, the famous 'Fiestas Colombinas' have just finished, but it is still a great place to visit.

Among the places of interest which should not be missed are the Muelle del Tinto and the Puerta del Atlántico visitors' centre, both of which provide information about the city's historic links with navigation and fishing. The Muelle del Tinto has to be one of the most romantic places to take a stroll anywhere on the Huelva coast. It is an old quay from which material from the Riotinto mines used to be shipped, and although it is no longer in use it has become one of the emblems of the province.

The city has some interesting religious buildings, especially the Cathedral of La Merced and the Virgen de Cinta church, and there are some fine examples of civil architecture, especially in the Reina Victoria district with its collection of 20th century houses built in English Victorian style.

Huelva is also, of course, on a tourist route called 'Lugares Colombinos', of places associated with Columbus, and it is classified as a Historic-Artistic site. Moguer and Palos de la Frontera are other towns linked with Columbus and his discovery of America. Among other places of interest along this route which should not be missed are La Rábida monastery, the Carabelas wharf and the Casa-Museo Hermanos Pinzón, the house of the Pinzón brothers, which is now a museum.

Huelva city is also the capital of the Costa de la Luz, meaning Coast

WHAT TO SEE



Cathedral. :: TURISMO ANDALUZ

Monument to the Spirit of Discovery. Sculpture dating back to 1929, known locally as the Columbus monument. It is 37 metres high and situated at the Punta del Sebo.

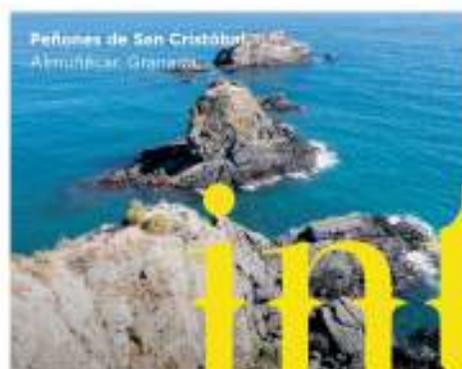
Muelle del Tinto. The quay from which material from the Riotinto mines used to be shipped.

Cathedral of La Merced. The most important church in the city, situated in the historic area. Its construction began in 1606, as part of La Merced convent.

Muelle de las Carabelas. Replicas of the Pinta, Niña and Santa María ships, which can be visited. They form a type of themed museum in the town of Palos de la Frontera in Huelva province.

of Light, which extends from the mouth of the Guadiana river to that of the Guadalquivir. This coastline, with its white sandy beaches, dunes and pine woods, is unique in Europe. There are also several marinas which, thanks to the lovely climate, are ideal for water sports.

Other towns on the Costa de la Luz in Huelva province include Ayamonte, El Rompido, La Antilla, Isla Cristina, Islantilla and Punta Umbría. In recent years, the latter has developed most in terms of tourism, but there is a long history behind its present prosperity. The British workers at the Río Tinto Company Limited made a good decision when they chose this town as a place to relax. That was in the late 19th century, and fishing was, as it is still today, one of Punta Umbría's principal sources of income.



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HOMENAJE A LAS MUJERES

STARLITE

18/8



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EL MUSICAL**

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EXHIBITIONS

Pedro Rodríguez
Marbella. *Permanent exhibition, Kempinski Hotel Bahía.*
Pedro Rodríguez 'Pedrín', a Malaga sculptor, has an exhibition of his works in the Galería de Arte de Pedrín in the Kempinski. One of his works 'Olly', can be found in the entrance to the hotel.



Pedro Rodríguez, Marbella

The Russian museum
Malaga. *Edificio Tabacalera, Avda Sor Teresa Prat.*
The seasonal exhibition 'La Mirada Viajera. Artistas Rusos Alrededor del Mundo' consists of 105 pieces including works by Krachkovsky, Clement Redko, Konstantin Makovsky and Alexandr Deineka among others. The permanent exhibition running until February 2019 is entitled 'Radiante Porvenir. El Realismo Soviético' and consists of 132 works. The collection covers the period between the 30s and the 50s in Russia. The interior staircase of the museum now has an abstract painting by D. Darko and entitled 'Primer Movimiento', completed as part of Málaga de Festival Cine en Español.

Pierre Louis Geldenhuis
Marbella. *Until 30 August, Kempinski Hotel Bahía.*
Fashion designer Pierre Louis Geldenhuis, who has developed the ground breaking technique of tessellation. "Tessellation is one step further from origami towards geometry and engineering" explains

Scots invade Teba for the Douglas Days Festival

TONY BRYANT

TEBA. Teba is preparing for the invasion of the Scots next weekend, when the town celebrates the fourteenth edition of the Douglas Days Festival. The festival celebrates one of the most epic stories in Teba's history, a 700-year-old legend about the exploits of Sir James Douglas.

The festival commemorates the adventures of the Scottish knight, also known as the Black Douglas, who was tasked with taking the embalmed heart of King Robert the Bruce to the Holy Sepulchre in Jerusalem. However, the Black Douglas failed to see out the king's wishes, as he was killed while assisting King Alfonso XI of Castile fight the Nasrid dynasty during the siege of Teba castle.

Although his mission was unsuccessful, the Black Douglas has remained such a legend in Scottish history that thousands of people descend on the town each year, including the Strathleven Artizans from West Dunbartonshire, who have been attending the event for more than ten years.

The once derelict tower of the old castle has been trans-



Strathleven Artizans have participated for over ten years. :: SUR

formed into the Sir James Douglas Museum, which includes displays of weapons and armour from the middle ages, as well as information about the battle in which he died.

The town also displays a memorial plaque dedicated to both James Douglas and King Robert the Bruce.

The festival will present a medieval market, mock battles, snake charmers, falconry displays, Scottish bagpipers, belly dancing and various workshops. Visitors can take advantage of

free sangria and porra, a local gazpacho-style tomato-based soup.

More than three-thousand people attended the festival last year and because of a rising interest in the legend of the Black Douglas and Robert the Bruce, this festival has become one of the most important of its kind.

The three-day event, which is held from today (Friday) until Sunday 26 August, is organised by Teba town hall.

More information:
www.teba.es

pieces of art situated around the town. There will also be live jazz, flamenco and rock music. Free.

Movimiento Espartaco
Marbella. *Until 18 April 2020. Museo Ralli Marbella.*

For the first time in Spain, an exhibition of works by the Argentinian collective of the 60s who expressed the political and social problems of the country through their art.

Ernst Kraft
Malaga. *Botanical gardens 'La Concepción'.*
A sculpture 'The Tree of Life' by Ernst Kraft will be on permanent display in the gardens on the lawns next to the pond. The minimalist structure of iron rods is five metres tall and is based on the pre-pharaonic pictogram representing the union of heaven and the underworld.



Movimiento Espartaco, Marbella

Guitar legacy
Malaga. *Museo Interactivo de Música Málaga (MIMMA).*
The museum is exhibiting instruments, documents and tools belonging to the Dominguez family. The workshop of Francisco Dominguez Valderrama and then his son José Dominguez García, was the last of the Malaga school of guitar makers which was started in the seventeenth century. They carried on the legendary Casa Lorca tradition making guitars, lutes and bandurrias (a type of lute).

the artist, and uses the power of light and origami with fabric to create stunning original works.

Benezra Gallery
Marbella. *Until 28 August. Avda Tomás Pascual, Urb La Quinta Golf.*
The gallery has a new collection of art and sculptures by artists Aderita Silva, Raborama, Luis Agullo and Rogerio Timoteo among others.

Magpie International Gallery
Marbella. *Until 29 August. C/Virgen del Pilar. 200m from port.*
The exhibition, Home Planning, consist of collages made with old blue prints, illustrations and drawings with architecture and design as the primary theme created by Anula Mixtura.

Entre Tierra y Mar

Marbella. *Until 7 September. Salón Enseñada Hotel El Fuerte, C/El Fuerte.*
An exhibition of watercolours by Adrián Marmolejo.

Encuentro Tolox. *21-22 September. Town centre streets.*
Artists will be working 'in-situ' in the open air adding to the wealth of sculptures, murals and other

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SUMMER The International Polo Tournament reaches its most exciting phase with the Gold Cup competition, plus fashion shopping and live music entertainment for everyone

THE PLACE TO MEET THIS SUMMER IS AT THE POLO IN SOTOGRANDE

SOTOGRANDE (SAN ROQUE)

If you've not yet visited the International Polo Tournament, you have until 1 September to enjoy the final stage of this Costa del Sol summer sporting and social festival that brings together famous faces, holidaymakers and lovers of a sport that is growing all the time.

The amazing horses are stars of the show at this five-week-long event in Sotogrande that offers a world-beating demonstration of horsemanship and speed on the lush green polo fields. And running alongside the sporting competition is a full programme of entertainment for every taste, including eating, drinking, live music and dancing, all within the polo club grounds. The Santa María Polo Club, (just by Sotogrande port, 25 minutes from Marbella), has been a must-visit destination for the past few weeks for Costa visitors and residents alike. So far the 47th annual competition is being hailed a huge success, both for the quality of the sport and for the numbers of visitors. Few sports offer such an exciting mix as polo and it is the perfect evening with friends and family as an alternative to the paseo marítimo or beach bar.

In the remaining fortnight of the tournament, there's a great line up of entertainment and activities to enjoy alongside the polo. The club opens its door almost every day at 5.30pm between now and 1 September. Entrance is completely free (except for a few semifinal days; 28/8 & 29/8 (5 euro) and final; 17/8, 31/8 & 1/9 (10 euro) with plenty of free parking. In addition to the spacious public viewing areas and seating there are also VIP hospitality packages available with access to reserved terraces or grandstand balcony seats, complete with extra luxury trimming.

EATING, DRINKING AND LIVE MUSIC EVERY DAY

Among the public areas to relax with friends by the polo fields include the Gastro Garden, a welcoming grassed, outdoor bar for anything from an ice cold Estrella Damm beer or a gin and tonic with Puerto de Indias, a spe-

Useful information:

WHEN? The polo tournament runs every day until 1st Sep. Tented village for shopping, drinking and eating opens at 5.30pm until late. Main game starts 6.30pm or 7pm, with extra earlier games on side fields some nights. Watching the polo is free every day (except a few major match days; 9, 11, 18, 28, 31/08 and 1/9 when it is just 5-10 euros).

WHERE?: At exit 133 of the A-7 / AP-7 coastal motorway, just before Sotogrande port.

See latest times and updates on social media: SantaMariaPoloClub or Torneo.Internacional.de Polo or www.tip.santamariapoloclub.com.



Horses and riders are the protagonists of the International Polo Tournament. :: SANTA MARIA POLO CLUB / SNOOPY PRODUCTIONS



Spectators on the VIP terraces of the Santa María Polo Club. :: SANTA MARIA POLO CLUB / SNOOPY PRODUCTIONS



Shopping Village. :: SANTA MARIA POLO CLUB / SNOOPY PRODUCTIONS

ciality gin brand from Seville that is attracting many admirers. And as the sun goes down over Sotogrande, enjoy a delicious supper with our food partners; Fubuki Sushi from Tarifa, Pizzas Mamma Mia, hamburgers by Almazara, Patagonia ice creams and the luxury of Amelié oysters.

There's a different musical performance every day from 8.30pm until around 10.30pm; jazz, soul, rock or latin rhythms among others. Latest news and timings on events can be found on the social media sites of The International Polo Tournament. Just

as examples, coming up in the next two weeks; on 18 August are What the Funk; 24 August, Swing Mostaza; 31 August, Bert Blackmont & The Burcks; and on 1 September, Cubason. And speaking of music, why not stay for the After Polo disco-terrace, the most popular in Sotogrande in the summer which starts up after nightfall?

One of the favourite things to do at the International Polo Tournament is browse the Shopping Village, complete with tented stores offering clothes and accessories of top fashion

brands, including bags, hats, sunglasses and watches. If you come with the children check out the Kids' Area complete with qualified supervisors.

Just a few days ago the club witnessed one of the main matches of the tournament, the Appletiser Silver Cup final. Several thousand spectators watched the thrilling game between ace polo teams Venezuelan-owned Lechuza Caracas and American-owned La Indiana. With packed stands and an electric atmosphere, Lechuza Caracas lifted the silver trophy for a

second year.

Now it is the turn of the Gold Cup, sponsored by Maserati, the most prestigious event of the tournament, which draws the best players in the world and is an important element of the international player rankings. 31 August is finals day, although there is unmissable qualifying polo every day until 1 September (except Monday 27). Don't miss the Costa del Sol's biggest summer sporting and social festival.

ADVERTORIAL



The Caribbean festival will offer typical Cuban products. :: T. B.

Highlighting Cuba's cultural traditions

TONY BRYANT

TORREMOLINOS. Plaza La Nogalera in Torremolinos will be transformed into 'Little Cuba' this weekend, when the town enjoys the Caribbean Gastronomic and Cultural Festival. Organised by the Association of Cuban States and Torremolinos town hall, the festival will highlight typical Cuban culture, including live music, salsa and bachata performances, domino competitions and traditional food and drink. There will also be a Cuban street market, offering crafts, clothing and accessories, artisan products, spiced rum and authentic Havana cigars.

In order to create a typical Caribbean ambiance, several bars, with names like Hemmingway's Corner and El Rincón Cubano, will offer Cuba libres, mojitos and piña

coladas, as well as a variety of popular Cuban beers. Visitors will have the opportunity to try Cuban street food like the 'mixto Cubano', a lunchtime snack enjoyed by the cigar workers; or a 'medianoche', a type of sandwich served in Havana nightclubs.

The festival, which started yesterday and continues until Sunday, begins each day at noon, when several DJs will get the event going with a selection of afro-Cuban dance music.

Live performances, which will include rumba, salsa and Cuban jazz, will take place on the main bandstand throughout the day until midnight. These will include King Falco, Cuban Night, the Guaracheros Dance Company and the Friends of Cuba Cultural Association of Albacete.

EXHIBITIONS

Pedro Reyes

Malaga. Until 2 September. Centro de Arte Contemporáneo. 'Prana' is a short video created by Mexican artist Pedro Reyes. It shows a black ball and a white ball which mold themselves into different shapes and forms. They grow, shrink, twist and writhe. 'Prana' is Sanskrit for 'vital energy'.

Ocho

Malaga. Until 6 September. Centro Cultural María Victoria Atencia, C/Ollerías 34.

The Malaga Provincial Government is displaying eight, large format works from its Colección de Arte Contemporáneo. The works are by: Manuel León, Javier Garcerá, Miguel Gómez Losada, Javier Calleja, Laura Brinkmann, José María Córdoba, Manuel Bautista and José Manuel Velasco. Entry is free.

Naturaleza

Malaga. Until 30 September. Museo Jorge Rando.

The latest exhibition by Malaga artist Jorge Rando is entitled 'naturaleza'.

Jean Dubuffet

Malaga. Until 14 October. Centro Pompidou.

The new temporary exhibition 'Traveller Without a Compass' focuses on the founder of the Art Brut movement, Jean Dubuffet.

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



Torremolinos Chic

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.

Monet / Boudin

Malaga. Until 30 September. Museo Thyssen.

The exhibition Monet/Boudin offers visitors the opportunity to discover the relation between the great Impressionist painter Claude Monet (Paris, 1840 - Giverny, 1926) and his master Eugène Boudin (Honfleur, 1824 - Deauville, 1898). The exhibition consists of 100 works by the two artists.

Hullo, Hullo

Malaga. Until 9 September. Centro de Arte Contemporáneo. Rose Wylie, an 84 year old British artist discovered the world of art just ten years ago and is exhibiting in Spain for the first time.

'Deja que la vida fluya'

Malaga. Until 18 September. Alfar, 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.

Torremolinos Chic

Torremolinos. Permanent exhibition, Casa de los Navajas.

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

PIAF jewellery exhibition

Torremolinos. Until 20 August. Casa de Los Navajas. Free.

The creations of designer Margarita Melero, founder of PIAF jewellery, are on display. She is known for her surrealist designs using gold, precious stones and silk among other luxury materials.

Galería Krabbe

Frigiliana. Until 9 September. C/Rosarico.

A new exhibition at the Krabbe gallery in Frigiliana.

Martín Corradini

Fuengirola. Until 14 September. Homes, Real Estate & Art. Avda Los Boliches

This exhibition consists of black and white photographs taken by Martín Corradini while he was on a trip to Gambia with the NGO Nakupenda Sana.



José Luis Puche, Malaga

Photo exhibition

Mijas Costa. Until 20 August. Centro Cultural La Cala

An exhibition by the Sociedad Fotográfica Costa del Sol, the first photographic club for English speakers on the coast. photoclub-spain@gmail.com

Marine collection

Vélez-Málaga. La Sala de Mezquitilla.

Francisco Javier Pastor Daga started collecting sea shells when he was little and went on to form a collection of shells, fossils and examples of marine life totalling over 1,500 pieces. He is also a talented wood-carver winning second prize for his work from the Universidad de Bellas Artes in Seville in 2016.

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EXHIBITIONS

Happy Artists

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.

Fuengirola. *Until 31 August.* La Libelula, C/Periana.

Artist Astrid Frida Zehetner has an exhibition of her acrylic paintings.

CHARITY

Triple A charity event

Marbella. *18 August, from 8pm* Marbella port in front of the Beacon gastro bar.

Triple A will be holding an evening of awareness and education on the importance of sterilisation/neutering. At 10.30pm there will be a candlelight vigil to commemorate all the abandoned animals that have been put down.



Happy Artists, Fuengirola.

Some vets are offering half price sterilisation vouchers and one vet is donating a day in September with a 50% discount for those on low incomes. lily4triplea@gmail.com

Spirits Jazz Band

Marbella. *1 September, 8.45pm.* Clínica Buchinger Wilhelmi. 20€. Charity concert in aid of Pozos Sin Fronteras. Bookings: 639462247 (10am to 2pm.) or email: info@pozosinfronteras.org

MUSIC & DANCE

Ocean Bar

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

18 August. Hermanas Sister. International funk jazz.

21 August. Chela Jazz. Chela Inglés and Javier Paloma.

25 August. Rosa Ruiz & Foky.

28 August. Daphne and Nicky. www.tallerblues.es

Louie Louie

Estepona. *Louie Louie Bar. 22 August, 11.30pm.* Velma Powell, Blues to the Bone. 10 or 15€.

24 August, midnight. La Tarambana. 7€.

25 August, 0.30pm. Deltó. 7 or 10€.

31 August, midnight. Okatudisco, karaoke. Free.

Pause

Until 19 August, La Donaira. Five open-air concerts. Tickets 50€ each or 200€ for all five. Includes wine reception, gourmet tapas, courtesy shuttle from El Gastor to La Donaira. info@pausefestival.com or call: 615381119 www.pausefestival.com

Music by the sea

La Cala de Mijas. *Plaza del Torreón. 9pm.*

17 August. Jitterbug Dance Group.

Jitterbug Jazz

Malaga. *29 August, 8.30pm.* St George's Anglican church, Avda de Pries. 10€.

The Jitterbug Jazz Group will be performing in the grounds of the English cemetery. Bar.



Hermanas Sister, Wall Bar

Música en Otros Espacios

Nerja. *Until 24 August, 10pm.* Hostal Mena.

This Friday, 17 August, the Chapi Pineda Quartet will be playing at the Hostal Mena in Calle Barrio. This is followed on 24 August by Flamenco dancer Águeda Saavedra. Tickets email: ventana.abierta.acp@gmail.com or on website: www.ventana-abierta.es

FLAMENCO

Taberna El Mentidero

Marbella. *Calle Sánchez Pastor, 12. From 5pm.*

17 August. Los Sin Arreglo.

18 August. Las Niñas.

19 August. Día del Flamenco.

Flamenco nights

Benalmádena Costa. *Thursdays until end of August.* Niña Bonita, Avda del Sol.

Flamenco and salsa nights with drink included 15€, with meal 45€.

Flamenco Festival

Torremolinos. *24 August, from 10pm.* Auditorio Príncipe de Asturias. 10€.

The thirtieth flamenco festival will include great artistes such as Jesús Méndez, Luis 'El Zambo', Samuel Serrano and Vanessa Fernández. www.unientradas.es

Flamenco in the Museum

Malaga. *Museo de Arte Flamenco Peña Juan Breva, C/Ramón Franquelo.*

23 August, 9.30pm. Carrete de Málaga and flamenco group.

25 August, 9.30pm. María 'La Manzanilla' and flamenco group.

30 August, 9.30pm. Sandra Cisnero and flamenco group.

For information and bookings call 687 607 526 or email: info@flamenka.com

Flamenco in the open air

Vélez-Málaga. *10.30pm.* The open air theatre on the top of the Cerro de San Cristobal. Free.

17 August. Javier Ruibal.

The Art of Flamenco

Ubrique. *Every Friday, 10.30pm.* Peña Flamenca de Ubrique.

The XXX Concurso Nacional de Arte Flamenco Ciudad de Ubrique takes place. www.flamencaubrique.es

Flamenco nights

Puerto Banús. *Fridays, from 8.30pm throughout August.*

Moma Food&People.

The terrace of the Moma restaurant on Friday evenings will be the

venue for flamenco performances throughout August. www.momamarbella.com

Louie, Louie Bar

Estepona. *Every Thursday. 9.30pm. 12€*

The show Estepona Flamenco El Patio will take place every Thursday. Reservations: 609543950 / 632736774 esteponaflamenco@gmail.com

FESTIVALS

Feria

Archidona. *Until 18 August.*

The feria coincides with the Día de la Virgen de Gracia, the town's patron saint. The night of 14 August will be a romería up to the Santuario de Nuestra Señora de Gracia.

Torremolinos. *Romería 23 September, fair 26 - 29 September.*

The Romería de San Miguel



Águeda Saavedra, Nerja.

Feria de San Luis de Sabinillas

Sabinillas. *24-26 August, day and night.*

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EVENTS

Maga Luxury

Malaga. *Until 30 August, Museo Automovilístico Y de la Moda*
The new temporary exhibition in the Malaga car museum is dedicated to luxury designer brands such as Dior, Chanel and Yves St Laurent.

RAF 100 years dinner dance

Mijas. *6 September, 7.30pm. Hotel Tamisa Golf. 35€.*
2018 is the 100th Anniversary of the formation of the RAF and the RAF Association Costa del Sol Branch are combining the celebration of this historic event with their Annual Battle of Britain Dinner Dance. The evening will commence with arrival drinks and aperitifs, followed by a three course dinner with wine and coffee. There will be entertainment throughout the evening. The event is not exclusively for RAF Association members. Tickets: 952567412, 656698194 or from Tamisa Golf Hotel. www.rafacostadelsol.co.uk

Trip to Ubrique and Grazalema

Torre del Mar. *27 September. Various departure points. 28€*
Visit Ubrique in Cadiz, the leather museum etc then Grazalema for lunch and a visit to the textile mill. Lux Mundi Torre del Mar. Tel:952 543 334 or e-mail: luxmundi@lux-mundi.org

Horse racing

Sanlúcar de Barrameda. *22-24*



Romería Torremolinos.

August from around 6.30pm.
The annual horse racing along the beach starts in the afternoon as the tide goes out and the sun starts get lower in the sky. The race has been in existence for 173 years and every year gets bigger and better with activities for children and stands on the beach. www.carrerassanlucar.es

'Luz de Luna'

Antequera. *Until 16 September.*
Throughout the summer, there will organised visits to the monuments and museums of Antequera in the evenings. Visitors will be able to visit the observatory and take a walk through the countryside in the moonlight.

Huelva, Doñana and Faro Torre del Mar / Fuengirola. *1-5 October. Various departure points. 375€ pp. sharing dble room.*

Visit Huelva, the Doñana National Park and Faro in Portugal. Price includes, coach, insurance, hotel (bed and breakfast), entrance to Doñana. Tel:952 543 334 or e-mail: luxmundi@lux-mundi.org

Festival of three cultures

Fuengirola. *23 August. Fundación Lux Mundi, C/Nueva. 19€.*
Lux Mundi trip to the Festival of Three Cultures (Islamic, Hebrew and Christian). Reservations: www.lux-mundi.org or call 952474 840 or e-mail: luxmundif@gmail.com

Polo and concerts

Sotogrande. *Until 1 September, from 5.30pm. Santa María Polo Club.*
Free admission for the majority of the evenings for the public to browse the boutiques, have a meal and listen to live concerts from funk, soul, jazz and Cuban to 80s tribute groups and a DJ. www.tip.santamariapoloclub.com.

Trip to El Chorro

Fuengirola. *19 September. Fundación Lux Mundi, C/Nueva. 33€.*
Visit the Caminito del Rey. Reservations: www.lux-mundi.org or call: 952474 840 or e-mail: luxmundif@gmail.com

O. V. FILM

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

only.

Cinesur El Ingenio

Avda. Juan Carlos 1, Vélez-Málaga. Tel. 667 77 31 87.
The Incredibles 2: 12.30, 16.45 (every day); 19.05 (every day except Thurs).

Cinesur Miramar

Avda. de la Encarnación, Fuengirola. Tel. 952 19 86 00.
Incredibles 2: 12.00, 16.15, 18.40.
Mission Impossible: Fallout: 21.10, 00.10.
Mamma Mia: here We go Again: 22.00, 00.20 (Tues).
The Darkest Minds: 18.05, 20.10, 22.20 (Tues).
The Equalizer 2: 18.40, 21.20, 00.00 (Tues).
Isle of Dogs: 21.00 (Thurs).
Carmen, opera from Sydney Harbour: 21.00 (21 August)



El Chorro, Lux Mundi.

Cines Teatro Goya

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

Mamma Mia: Here We Go Again: 20.300 (Fri-Thurs).
Mission Impossible: Fallout: 19.45, 22.30 (Fri-Thurs).
The Equalizer 2: 15.45, 18.10, 22.30 (Fri - Thurs).
Incredibles 2: 15.45, 18.10 (Fri-Thurs).

Yelmo Cines, Plaza Mayor

Centro de Ocio Plaza Mayor, Avda. Alfonso Ponce de León. Tel: 902 902 103 or visit www.yelmocines.es
The Equalizer: 12.05 (Sat, Sun); 16.55 (Mon, Tues, Thurs).
Mission Impossible: Fallout: 12.40 (Sat, Sun), 16.20 (Mon, Tues, Thurs).
The Incredibles 2: 13.30, (Sat, Sun); 16.30, 19.00, 21.30 (every day).
Mamma Mia: Here We go Again: 12.20 (Sat, Sun); 17.45 (Mon, Tues, Thurs).
The Spy Who Dumped Me: 12.35 (Sun); 16.45 (every day).
Hotel Transylvania 3: 14.15 (Sat, Sun).
The Darkest Minds: 14.50 (Sat, Sun); 17.00 (Mon-Thurs).

Cine de Verano

La Playamar beach between the Copacabana and Los Bandoleros beach bars. English subtitles.
Trolls: 21.30 (21 Aug).
Wonder Woman: 21.30 (23 Aug).
Ballerina: 21.30 (28 Aug).

Farrucito, the headline act at Estepona's flamenco festival

BY TONY BRYANT

ESTEPONA. Farrucito, one of Spain's most popular flamenco dancers, will headline the Estepona Flamenco Festival on Saturday 18 August. The festival will be held in the Plaza de Toros and along with the family of Farrucito - will present some of the most celebrated names of flamenco song, including Remedios Amaya, La Macanita, and Estepona's Rocío Bazán.

Born in Seville in 1982, Farrucito has become the most dazzling showman of the flamenco dance. Grandson of the late Farruco - one of the most orthodox gypsy dancers in the history of the art - Farrucito performs an electrifying show that will leave the spectators spellbound. His show presents a traditional style gypsy family fiesta, during which, he will be accompanied by the Montoya family, one of the most respected clans of flamenco.

This promises to be a night for lovers of authentic flamenco who will enjoy the ancient singing traditions of Jerez-born La



Farrucito, one of Spain's most dazzling flamenco dancers. BY T. B.

Macanita; Antonio Reyes from Cadiz, and Rocío Bazán, who will deliver songs in the style typical of Malaga.

A special treat will come in the shape of flamenco's most energetic fiestera - a performer who sings and dances the lively fiesta styles. Remedios Amaya began dancing in Seville at the age of four and today she is considered among the best of her kind.

Her colourful and extremely

visual show is driven by thumping rhythms, cutting guitars and the boisterous engagement of her group; all of which will be echoing around one's head long after they have left the bullring.

Tickets for the festival, which begins at 10pm, cost 24 euros and are available from www.emelleventos.es or at the ticket office on the night of the festival.

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The Biomechanical and Technical Assistance Unit at the National Paraplegics Hospital in Toledo, testing a new project. :: CARLOS MONROY/SESCAM

IN FIGURES

"Prostheses, electronic rehabilitation instruments, 'apps'... technology has improved the quality of life and access to work of people with disabilities. There is a before and after," says the Adecco report.

81%

of people with sensory disability use adapted technology in their work. The percentage drops to 60 per cent for those with physical disability and 26 per cent for those with psychiatric problems.

110,068

work contracts were signed by disabled people in 2017, compared with 98,802 in 2016 and 61,008 in 2012.

70%

say new technologies have improved their lives and 64 per cent say that it is only due to them that they can work.

The ability to work



ISABEL IBÁÑEZ

In 2017 a record number of employment contracts were signed by people with disabilities, mainly thanks to technology

In 2005 Carolyn Pioro, a young Canadian woman who was an artist with the Cirque du Soleil, launched herself off her trapeze. Her colleague failed to catch her and she fell onto her neck on the safety net; her spinal cord was totally broken at the level of the C4 vertebrae, and she was left paralysed, able to move only her head.

"In the beginning, I had to spend money on devices with specific assistance to activate things; by that, I mean a mobile phone. But then came smartphones and tablets; that isolated me, to a large extent, from the evolution of the communication culture. I knew that others could do things and I couldn't. It was another frustra-

tion to have to cope with, on top of the injury," she says.

However, during her rehabilitation, an advisor on technological assistance taught her to use a computer with new features such as an optic mouse (it is positioned via eye movements) and voice recognition software. Later, she was invited to be a guinea pig for a system he had invented, called Tecla.

"It meant I could send text message, check emails while I was travelling and use electronic book and magazine readers. As I can't turn the pages, it used to be impossible for me to read anything without help, but with a smartphone and this system I can!" she says.

She now works in magazine pub-

lishing and editing. "I was able to connect with my colleagues, friends and the world of work, which was impossible at first. I'm happy now," she says.

This could be a summary of the subject which the Adecco Foundation - which helps people with all types of difficulties to find work - has featured in its '7th report on technology and disability'. The results are encouraging: last year in Spain, the number of people with some type of physical, psychological or sensory problem who were able to enter the labour market was almost double that of six years ago: last year 110,068 contracts were signed, while in 2012 the figure was around 61,000.

Of these people with disabilities, 64 per cent say they have been able to work thanks to new technologies (compared with 52 per cent in 2014). However, the picture continues to be quite bleak: unemployment among this collective is 28.6 per cent, compared with 16 per cent for the rest.

Only about 35 per cent of people with this type of problem are working, compared with 75.4 per cent of the population in general, and the head of the Adecco Foundation, Francisco Mesonero, says that beneath this figure lies the fact that "people with disabilities suffer barriers from social and cultural clichés and, above all, over-protection from their families; mental barriers in companies; physical and accessibility barriers in the search for work; a lack of resources to tackle the process; a lack of educational programmes, especially for people with psychiatric problems... promoting inclusive technology is a stimulus for those who are not working to participate



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EXOSKELETONS

This is no longer science fiction

in employment”.

Another example similar to that of Carolyn Pioror, but closer to home, is Elena Buitrago, who works for the Adecco Foundation. When she was 22, Elena was snowboarding with her 15-year-old brother in Santiago, Chile, when she looked back to see if he was all right and suffered the accident which left her tetraplegic.

“I did the scorpion posture, heard a ‘crack’ and realised I had broken my back,” she says, calmly. She could only move her head, her shoulders, and her arms in a pulling movement, not a pushing one; her hands are immobile.

The following year, and 19 days after leaving the National Paraplegics Hospital in Toledo, where she had undergone rehabilitation, Elena went with another of her brothers to the Monegros Music Festival. It says a great deal for her ability to overcome obstacles, which is as important as the technology which has made it possible for her to find a job and live with her partner just like anybody else. However, she says something which makes you think about the power of tools which those without disabilities use without thinking twice about it: “Technology is winning the race over medicine in improving the quality of life of people with disabilities”.

Elena needs an adapted wristband to hold a pen or fork; “I can lift my hand to my mouth, but I can’t grasp anything,” she explains. Small adaptations to everyday devices also help her in her work and her everyday life: “As a tablet doesn’t have the capacity or system for many editing programmes, I complement it with a computer and the VNC Viewer programme, which duplicates the computer screen on the iPad, and that way I can use the mouse and tactile keyboard. In other words, I control the computer and its programmes from the tablet keyboard. Because I can’t move my hands, the tactile system works best for me. All this has opened numerous doors for me, like going to university and applying for jobs,” she says.

Pieces of Cyborg

“Technology makes us all equal and reduces a gap which seemed insurmountable,” says Francisco Masonero, and Yuri Cordero agrees: he was left hemiplegic on his left side after a motorcycle accident when he was 16, resulting in a total physical and sensory disability of 75 per cent. Now aged 32, he is an administrative assistant at the Inclusive Foundation in Pinto (Madrid). “Social media and WhatsApp help me a great deal, and so do some adaptations to my computer. Technology opens doors to us,” he says.

Also grateful for developing technology is Joan Pahisa, a 32-year-old from Catalonia who is one metre tall due to congenital spon-

dyloepiphyseal dysplasia (he is 66 per cent disabled). It has not stopped him achieving things: he spent six months in Japan learning the language - he also speaks Catalan, Spanish, English, French and Portuguese - and is a top table-tennis player; he gives motivational talks, and is a writer. Joan studied IT Engineering and the subject of his thesis was developing an application called Jocomunico, which is free and in Spanish and Catalan. It is based on pictograms for people whose speech is badly affected. “For example, it turns the drawings of school, go and want into normal speech, in other words you hear the words ‘I want to go to school’.



Alvaro, in 2016. :: R. C.

Due to the pain in his joints and because walking is hard work for him, he uses a manual wheelchair which he has adapted with a small motor, a ‘smart drive’, because the electric ones are heavy. He also uses Google Drive to find a place to park his adapted vehicle.

Carolyn Pioro, the former trapeze artist with the Cirque du Soleil, writes this about the future: “What hope is there for me and for the approximately 86,000 other Canadians who live with a spinal injury? They are making medical progress, but there is still a long way to go. I would be lying if I didn’t admit that it bothers me that my father will never walk me down the aisle at my wedding; I will never be able to hug my nephews or measure my hand against my mother’s, like we used to do. Would I change my human soul for pieces of Cyborg? In a mechanical heartbeat... yes.”

Designer goods inspired by Malaga’s traditional flowers

Carolina Herrera’s new range of bags, scarves and brooches carry the jasmine ‘biznaga’ design

:: ESTER REQUENA

MALAGA. Designer Carolina Herrera has just launched ‘The Bizn-

aga Collection’, a range of bags with matching purses, scarves, pashminas, brooches and earrings, all which carry Malaga’s famous flower emblem, the ‘biznaga’.

The ‘biznaga’, a thistle head onto which jasmine blooms are threaded, is traditionally sold during the Feria de Málaga.



A bag in the new range. :: SUR

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DIGIT. X - RAYS | BONE DENSITY
ULTRASOUND SCAN

3D casts from Malaga are now available all over the country



Raquel Serrano with some prototypes at her workshop in Alhaurín de la Torre. :: FERNANDO TORRES



En Twitter: @fernandotorresu

Unlike the old-fashioned plaster casts, the made-to-measure orthosis means patients can lead a more normal life

ALH. DE LA TORRE. In a restaurant one evening, Raquel Serrano noticed that at the next table there was a boy with his arm in plaster. Ingeniously, he was trying to scratch his elbow by using a piece of his cutlery, until his mother told him off. That innocent situation sowed the seed

that became Fix It, a company in Malaga whose product is now going on the market all over Spain. It has transformed the orthopaedic sector by creating a made-to-measure cast which leaves the skin open to the air and enables the wearer to shower and go swimming.

Raquel studied Industrial Design, but says she had always had an “entrepreneurial spirit”. That is why, when she saw the uncomfortable boy at the next table, her brain started working on finding a solution.

“Most things have improved considerably over time, but they still apply plaster casts the way they did years ago,” she says. It was four years ago that she gathered a team together and started to develop her product. In the meantime, she has won some important business awards: the UMA’s ‘Spin Off’ prize in 2015; the

Ikea Málaga Talento the same year; the Premio Yuzz in 2016, which included a trip to Silicon Valley; she was awarded second place by the Young Business Association of Malaga; recognition from La-Farola-

Open future; the Junior prize from Malaga council and SUR’s health-related business programme....

At the start of the 2017-2018 year, having learned more about business management, she decided to prepare

to launch her product on to the market this summer. The Fix It cast is now available from over 30 orthopaedic stockists in different parts of Spain. Before doing so, Raquel had to adapt it to meet Ministry of Health

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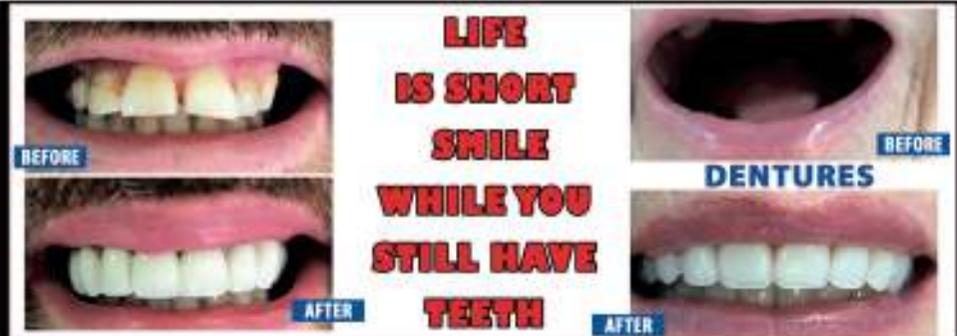
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We speak

Patients can swim, shower and do physiotherapy exercises in the cast

requirements so that doctors could prescribe it for their patients.

Now, specialists in most regions of Spain are able to recommend Fix It for their patients, who have to go to one of the orthopaedic stockists with whom Raquel collaborates. "They scan the patient's limb, then I design and print the orthosis and send it to them. In just over one day, the patient can forget about their plaster cast," she explains. The benefits of this way of immobilising the patient are numerous. The first and most evident is the comfort, because in many cases the cast has to be kept on for weeks or even months.

"The made-to-measure orthosis

The orthosis meets Ministry of Health requirements and can be prescribed by doctors

lets the skin breathe and that prevents some skin problems arising," she says. In summer the patient can go to the swimming pool or the beach, and can take a shower. "It's not the same to swim with one arm or leg wrapped in a bag or out of the water; the skin is kept clean and it is much more hygienic," she explains.

However, the improved comfort for the patient isn't the most important benefit. For some types of injury, this type of cast speeds up the recovery time considerably, because it makes it easier for the patient to do physiotherapy exercises. Fix It adapts to the type of in-

THE SYSTEM

► **Scanning.** The orthopaedic specialists scan the patient's limb with an iPad and a special device, following instructions provided by Fix It.

► **Design.** Engineer Raquel Serrano designs the made-to-measure components to suit the limb and injury in question.

► **Printing and moulding.** The 3D equipment prints and moulds the different parts of the cast.

jury and the physiology of the patient, so the discomfort of the treatment is as minimal as possible.

A single workshop

Fix It's commercial expansion all over Spain is being managed by Raquel from her workshop in Alhaurín de la Torre. There, she receives the scanned data (and advice from the orthopaedic specialists in some cases), creates the files and keeps the three huge printers running to mould the thermoplastic, which in this case is an ecological material made from corn which is later lined with an orthopaedic component known as perforated EVA. However, Raquel Serrano believes that "the future" of her business model will be for each orthopaedic practice to have its own 3D printing equipment, leaving her free to concentrate solely on the design.



A boy with a Fix It having fun in the swimming pool. :: F. T.

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He admits that he has sometimes had to go into an operating theatre and calm the extreme tension, especially when the transplant involved more than one organ. "Sometimes I've had to use more than just words," he says about those critical moments when everybody is trying to do their very best. He has also shown people out of his office because they have hinted about selling an organ. These are just two anecdotes from Miguel Ángel de Frutos' stressful 25 years as transplant coordinator for Malaga, Almería, Ceuta and Melilla. His three children had no wish to follow him into the medical profession: "they used to complain that they never saw me," he says. He retired two years ago and handed over to his "second in command", Domingo Daga.

His work over those 25 years has made Malaga a national benchmark for kidney and pancreas transplants and he says the progress since January 1979, when José Luis Gutiérrez and a British doctor carried out the first kidney transplant, to the 170 a year which are carried out now, "has been spectacular". He set up the system whereby Maritime Rescue helicopters were used to transport the organs for transplants; nowadays, fast planes are hired.

"Everything has improved, except the fact that kidney patients still need four hours of dialysis a day, three days a week, but you can't work any faster than the kidney does," he says. There are about 1,000 kidney patients in Malaga at present, but not all are necessarily waiting for a transplant.

"Malaga is very good, but we need more beds, more wards, more offices, the new hospital. The nephrologists in Pavilion A at Carlos Haya are four kilometres away from the urologists; that is impractical and isn't good for the patients. We have situations where a transplant patient may develop a slight complication, and the urologist has to travel to see them; or organs have to go somewhere else because there is no physical space in the hospital for the operation to be carried out. They are not wasted, of course, because they are given to someone else, but as doctors it pains us to have patients on a waiting list. The closest prob-

lems are the ones you feel most strongly about," he says.

When he started as coordinator they were doing about 20 transplants a year. "We believed in what we were doing, although when I started about 45 per cent of families were against

donation, nearly half of the total, and that meant that for years we were searching for what we called 'ideal donors', people aged between 20 and 40, many of whom had been killed in traffic accidents," he explains.

The situation is changing now and

is expected to alter radically in the future. He is excited about the prospect. "I am convinced of the huge potential of cellular regeneration and genetic editing as alternatives to transplants of sick organs," says this science enthusiast whose first introduc-

LIVES THAT MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Working against the clock for 25 years to save lives



When he began as transplant coordinator in Malaga, half of the families were opposed to donating organs. Three decades later, only about ten per cent refuse, thanks to the work of Miguel Ángel de Frutos and his team

**JOSÉ VICENTE
ASTORGA**



"The nephrologists are at the Carlos Haya and the urologists are at the Civil hospital, four kilometres away"

tion to medicine came as a child when he used to play in the laboratory of an uncle who was a doctor in Madrid.

The work done with the families of possible donors is more crucial today than ever before. The reduction of deaths on the roads means that this non-clinical aspect has to be reinforced. Medical handbooks give advice on dealing with people's emotions and feelings, but it is very hard to be the first person to face the families of dying patients and talk to them about the possibility of donation.

"We are starting to work with the Faculty of Psychology and we have advanced in techniques for interviews, strategies of awareness, how to speak about it normally, but this isn't something that can be achieved overnight," he insists.

The fact that organs are donated altruistically in Spain doesn't mean that some people wouldn't like to use it as a moneymaking exercise. "If people start to think someone is making money from this, or that the waiting lists aren't transparent, they will stop donating," he says. "Some people come from an environment where the sale of organs is not permitted but is tolerated," he explains, and it is something he has seen for himself. "I have given courses in some Latin American countries where the sale of organs is prohibited, but most transplants are carried out privately and it happens," he says. In Spain on the other hand, organ trafficking carries a jail sentence of ten years.

He stresses that there is a need for the donation process to be speeded up, although under Spanish law if a patient or their family does not specifically refuse to donate an organ, the doctors are allowed to go ahead.

"We have come under pressure to apply that law very strictly, but my colleagues and I have always resisted that," he says.



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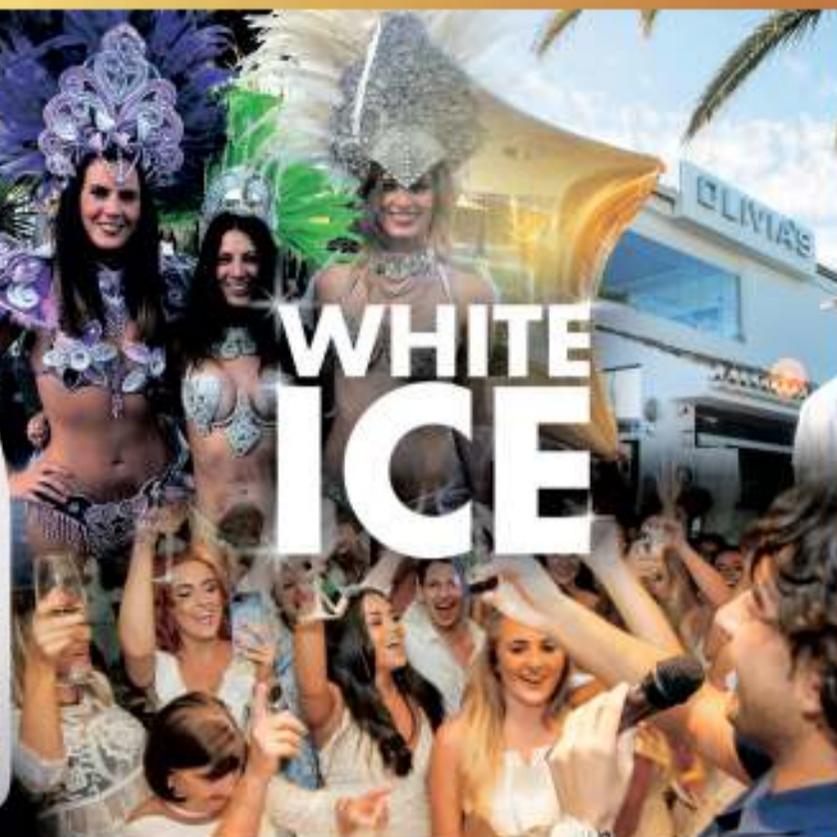
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Loved by the Incas, lucuma could soon be grown in Malaga

This exotic fruit comes from the Andes and is becoming popular in the United States

AGUSTÍN PELÁEZ

MALAGA. As everyone knows, the climate in Malaga is so special that the province is one of the few places in Europe that can grow tropical fruit. This has favoured the development of a tropical fruit culture along the Malaga and Granada coastline.

Currently the province produces avocados, mangos, lychees, carambolas, pitayas, papayas and longan... But there is another fruit, the lucuma, which although originally from Peru, Ecuador and Chile, is also capable of being grown in Malaga province.

International news agency Bloomberg recently released information on how lucuma, along with quinoa, is increasingly available in health food stores in the United States and is gaining more consumers.

The lucuma is a tree that belongs to the Sapotaceae family (soapberry) which includes other species with edible fruits such as canistel or mamey. Thanks to the discovery in tombs of pre-Inca cultures of weavings and ceramic items in which the lucuma fruit was represented, it is known that its consumption comes from pre-Inca times, more than two thousand years ago.

The lucuma can be eaten fresh as well as in milk shakes, desserts, yoghurts, jams and ice creams.



Lucuma has an unusual taste and yellow-orange flesh. :: SUR

It is high in betacarotene, iron, zinc, calcium, proteins and fibre. It also contains antioxidants and potassium, good for the heart, the immune system and the skin.

The increase in Peruvian restaurants in cities such as London, Dubai, and in the US, San Francisco, Los Angeles and Washington, are contributing to the presence of the fruit in markets. According to Bloomberg, lucuma can also be found in the United States in powder and frozen form.

The Subtropical and Mediterranean Hortofruticultura Institute

(IHSM) La Mayora has been cultivating lucuma for decades with good results.

The fruit can reach 10 centimeters in diameter. Its flesh is a yellow-orange. It has a floury texture and an unusual flavour. Its shape is round and its skin is dark green.

According to the Commission for the Promotion of Peru for Exports and Tourism (Promperú), lucuma helps combat depression, diabetes, and increases hemoglobin production. Peru exports lucuma to the United States, Australia and Canada.

ANDREW J. LINN

CUSTOMERS' REVENGE



A few weeks ago this column featured some of the typical complaints that restaurants make regarding their customers. No surprise that at the top of the list came the old chestnuts of leaving without paying and not turning up after making a reservation.

Now it is the customers' opportunity to give their side of the story, many comments having been made direct to the author, and many more via social media. There is no question that the mobile phone has tipped the balance in favour of the paying customer, and photos of inflated bills and tiny portions populate the Web – for posterity to see.

Hopefully the days are gone when we were charged for so many 'cubiertos', the now illegal cover charge that has almost fallen into complete disuse. Or 'pan y mantequilla' when this was never ordered, much less eaten. The kind waiter brings some tempting-looking tapas to the table that we assume to be on the house, but later find we are charged for them, but the most expensive trap is when it is announced there are certain items not on the menu, ergo 'specials'. Always sounding delicious and of course they must be fresher than the menu fare, we order like lambs to the slaughter without ever asking the price, which is

usually more expensive relative to the menu items.

A restaurant can charge what it likes, and what we eat has to be paid for. Spaniards secretly envy foreigners who ask the price of everything, even the tap water, before they order. They would never do that. This week a Spanish daily paper published the names of the beach bars that overcharge the most, the vast majority in Baleares and the Costa del Sol. The Ibiza chiringuito, Ibizeta Sol Sun, charges 13 euros for a Coca Cola or a Sprite, although Da Paolo in Puerto Banús 'only' charges 7. Café del Mar in Ibiza sells Coronita for 8.50, but Pedro's Beach (Marbella) is fairly reasonable in comparison so long as we don't order a glass of Rueda wine – 13 euros.

WINE OF THE WEEK Vardon Kennet

The Torres bodega has always, unlike nearly everyone else in the region, resisted making a cava, but has finally brought out a sparkling wine that is quite exceptional. Named after an English adventurer, this thrice-fermented and 30 months-aged Penedés extra brut, using Pinot Noir, Chardonnay and Xarel.lo, is truly delicious, though not cheap at around 30 euros.



Fernando Alonso leaves Formula 1

In an emotional letter he announced that he was leaving the competition for bigger challenges

The racing driver has not been happy with McLaren in recent years due to differences of opinion over choosing teams

MADRID. With half of Spain on holiday, Fernando Alonso posted something very mysterious on Twitter, as a warning that something was going to happen. Using a simple emoji of an explosion and a date, 14-08, he indicated that Tuesday was going to be a very great day. Many who read it were sceptical. "It's going to be some rubbish about his clothing brand, or a new sponsorship agreement," commented some. But no. The 'explosion' occurred in the mid-afternoon: Fernando Alonso Díaz, the greatest Spanish Formula 1 driver of all time, announced in an emotional letter that he was leaving the competition in which, to use his own words, he had grown up.

"You weren't expecting me and I wasn't sure I wanted to get to know you. You told me a lot of things, but I told you everything. When I barely knew how to walk, I was already running towards your noise, towards your race tracks, without knowing anything about you. Together we have had some very good times, some unforgettable ones and some other really bad ones. You have watched me grow up, get excited, we have played together against incredible rivals. I have seen you change, sometimes for the good and others, in my opinion, for the worse. Every time I close the visor of my helmet I feel your hug, your energy, and there is nothing like it. But today I have other, bigger challenges than the ones you can offer me. And this year, driving at my highest level, is how I want to remember



Fernando Alonso earlier this year, during the Chinese Grand Prix in Shanghai. :: DIEGO AZUBEL / EFE

you. I can only be grateful to you and to the people that you are, for having taught me so many cultures, customs, languages, wonderful people... for having been my life. I know you love me. And you also know that I love you," he wrote.

The decision to leave had not been a sudden one. Alonso admitted that in the statement with which McLaren confirmed the news, and in which it only had words of thanks for the driver who they still wanted to count on for the IndyCar.

"I took this decision some months ago and it is definite. Even so, I want to thank Chase Carey and Liberty Media sincerely for their efforts in trying to make me change my mind, and everyone who has contacted me during this time," said Alonso.

He came to the decision after getting into the MCL33 and Toyota TS050 for the first time. The idea of drinking champagne again at the wheel of the prototype with which he won the six hours at Spa and, which is more important, the 24 hours at Le Mans, is something he will never forget. And, above all, there was a bitter taste left in the mouth knowing that he was not going to relive that feeling if he stayed with For-

mula 1, a competition in which he would never stand on the podium again unless a miracle were to occur between now and the end of the season.

Not just about the wins

When thinking about Fernando Alonso's time at Formula 1, the numbers are not the main thing one remembers. There were, however, two world titles, 32 wins, 22 pole positions, 97 podiums... these are the figures with which he has shone in the biggest motor racing competition during 17 years, sharing a track with legends such as Michael Schumacher, Sebastian Vettel and Lewis Hamilton, who have shared the glory but also seen him as a feared and well-respected rival. His time at Formula 1 leaves a whole range of images: winning his first title in Brazil in 2005, overtaking Schumacher in the Suzuka 130r the same year. But also his victory in Singapore in 2008, marked by the 'crashgate' controversy, or 2007, a bitter year in his first stage with McLaren. But now he is thinking about the future and, as he said in his farewell letter, the other, bigger challenges. Fernando Alonso is off to try other things.

Focusing on the Triple Crown, with the Indianapolis 500

:: D. SÁNCHEZ DE CASTRO

MADRID. It is some time since the 'great Formula 1 circus' was Fernando Alonso's only professional priority. He said so himself in the statement issued by McLaren. "Let's see what the future brings; there are exciting new challenges

around the corner. This is one of the happiest times of my life, but I have to keep exploring new adventures," he said in the statement, while in an emotional farewell video he spoke of "other, bigger challenges". His main challenge is to emulate something

that only one man, Graham Hill, has ever done: the motor racing Triple Crown.

He already has two parts of the trident, the Monaco GP and the 24 hour Le Mans, which he won this year and is expected to win again next year, because the WEC superseason and his contract with Toyota finish in June 2019 on the Sarthe circuit. There is only the Indianapolis 500 Miles to conquer, although 'only' is an understatement. It is possibly the most difficult to achieve of the three legen-

dary races. He has mentioned it regularly, on Twitter, hinting in public, and for the American competition having him among their ranks would be excellent news. The most difficult thing is knowing what he would drive. McLaren has made it very clear that they would like to count on him for the Indy (and have also specified several times that they wanted to take him to the States), and Fernando Alonso is well aware that that may end up being the only way he is going to get to America.

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Women footballers want stickers too

The Malaga players are supporting an initiative by Íñigo Benedicto, a local supporter who wants a sticker album to be created for them like the ones that exist for men

MARINA RIVAS

✉ En Twitter: @MarinaRivasG

MALAGA. If a young child went to their football sticker album one day and couldn't find one of Messi, Iniesta, Griezmann or Isco, they would think it very strange, to say the least. Can you imagine the facial expression that would greet any parent who told their son or daughter it was because they had been forgotten? It's simple: it would be the same expression faced by others who tried to explain why women are not taken into account. This is happening, though, despite being well into the 21st century.

Still, major changes start with small details and with this in mind Malaga supporter Íñigo Benedicto started an initiative a few months ago which has now spread all around Spain, gained support from some important people and more than 38,000 signatures in favour: to create a sticker album for the Iberdrola women's football league, which is the highest category.

This engineer says the idea arose because of his seven-year-old daughter, June: "She isn't really aware of these things in general yet, but she asked why there are no stickers for women footballers, if they are equal to men," he explains.

Thinking about this in terms of equality, Íñigo joined forces with María Vázquez, a mother from Badajoz, who

had created an entire collection of stickers of the teams from the last season and has also designed some of Malaga for the women players themselves. They proved so popular that Iberdrola began to give her some support, by providing her with the images to complete the stickers.

"I'm getting a lot of support. People are congratulating me on what I'm achieving, including at my local school. My daughter told her teacher about it, and she played vid-



Malaga players Adriana, Ruth and Chelsea pose with their stickers.

THE STICKERS



eos of the players in class so the pupils could see them," she says.

More than just pictures

It is a fact that society is seeing things differently nowadays, and it is also a fact that more needs to be done to improve it. "Four years ago Mari Ángeles López, a woman from Valencia, launched a similar campaign but at that time nobody took any notice," says Íñigo. Now, an increasing number of children are fans of women footballers. June is one of them: she likes the Malaga goalkeeper, Chelsea.

"I know about this initiative and I support it," says Chelsea. "It's just a small thing and some people might think it stupid, but we don't. We consider ourselves equal to men's football and we want children to know about us." And women's football isn't gender specific. "These initiatives aren't just for girls. A lot of boys are collecting them as well,"

says Malaga forward Adriana Martín. "In Spain there are top quality players and a lot of girls dream of becoming professional footballers. Nothing that supports women's football is stupid".

Nor is it just a case of simple stickers. "It is a way of getting women players in Spain known," says Ruth Acedo. "This is important".

Awaiting a decision from the RFEF and disappointed by Panini

✉ M. R.

MALAGA. Íñigo Benedicto wanted more and, thanks to his perseverance, he is getting it. "I spoke to Rafael del Amo (current vice-president of women's football in the Spanish Royal Football Federation), and he is 100 per cent for it. He said they would support it, and would get in-

involved if they could," he explains. And it seems they might. The RFEF said at the end of June that after the World Cup it would study the viability of a sticker album of this type in conjunction with the Panini specialist company. "They have been very friendly, despite all that has been going on there recently. They

always said they were in favour of our idea," says Íñigo, referring to the Federation.

Social media was also very useful in getting the project known, and helped to gain support from footballers such as Manu García, the captain of Alavés, Chelsea (the Malaga goalkeeper), players from

the Royal Society, Levante etc. Unfortunately, not all the feedback has been positive: "I have spoken to Panini and it looks as if they're not going to get involved," says Íñigo. At first, the company's CEO said they were looking at the possibility, but later he told 'El Mundo' newspaper "We don't do charity. We are a company and we need to be profitable. It's not chauvinist, it's just business".

Disappointed, Íñigo Benedicto is continuing to look for other ways, such as incorporating the women players into the men's album in-

stead of creating one just for them. He still believes in the project and keeps looking for more personalities to join the cause. "I'm gong to try to talk to the Secretary of State for Sport, María José Rienda (a former skier), because I think she might like to get involved in this," he says.

His energy seems tireless, but he wants to make it clear that this isn't just something that he wants to do; it is for everybody. "If we manage this, it won't be us in the photos on the stickers but that doesn't matter, because we will have done what we set out to do," he says.

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New kit, new captains and new optimism as Malaga prepare for season opener

"Our objective is achieved; we are ready to compete," said coach Juan Ramón Muñiz ahead of Saturday's clash in Lugo

:: SERGIO CORTÉS

MALAGA. The long summer is over, as far as the football is concerned, and Malaga return to league action on Saturday as they head to Galicia to take on Lugo.

Speaking ahead of the clash at the unveiling of the club's new home kit on Thursday, head coach Juan Ramón Muñiz came out fighting, saying that his new-look side would "defend the badge" but wouldn't take the club's status for granted: "In Segunda, winning three games gets you nothing. Nor does the shirt nor your CV."

Muñiz considered the pre-season campaign to have been "positive", given that "we all know each other well and know that we need to work hard and compete".

"The most important thing is that we have a good team both on and off the pitch because the results are a product of the hard work that everyone is doing. Our most important objective has been achieved: the team is ready for the first game."

The recently-appointed Malaga coach says he has "more or less" his line-up settled for the season opener in Lugo on Saturday (kick-off 7.30pm): "I have one advantage: I can choose any player as they all know what we want to do. I don't just have 11 players, I have 24."

The armband

Over the summer, many will have noticed that the club's captains from last year, José Recio, Roberto Rosales and Miguel Torres were not given the armband during any of the pre-season games. The club has since confirmed that they have been relieved of their duties and replaced by Federico Ricca, Adrián and Mehdi Lacen, respectively.

The trio led the traditional floral offering to the Divina Pastora, the patron saint of sport on Wednesday, but the manager has played down the importance of the armband: "After a long and somewhat traumatic season, being a captain can be something of a burden. Personally, I don't give it much importance."

However, behind the scenes, it is believed that a lack of leadership was one of the main factors behind relegation last year and Muñiz sees Ricca, Adrián and Lacen as ideal candidates given that they have rejected offers to go elsewhere this summer



Muñiz, left, speaks to the press ahead of the Lugo game at the kit launch. :: SALVADOR SALAS



Adrián and Ricca make the offering to the Divina Pastora. :: S. SALAS

and have committed to the cause.

A new kit

When Ricca leads his team out on Saturday, he will do so wearing the new strip that was unveiled on Thursday. Once again, blue dominates with very few appreciable differences to last season's kit, besides the detailing on the collar, and the inclusion of 'Te quiero Malaga' (I love you Malaga) on the back.

The stand-out element is the return of sponsor Tesesa - a doors and furnishings company based in Malaga. The company was the official shirt sponsor during the 2007/08 season when Malaga last won promotion to La Liga.

The shirt can be reserved online, but will not be available in official stores until 23 August.



:: MIGUE FERNÁNDEZ

THE BEST POSSIBLE PREPARATION FOR THE SEASON

Malaga Femenino claimed the first ever women's version of the Trofeo Costa del Sol with a resounding victory over Benfica in Torremolinos on Sunday. Two goals from Celia and one each from María Ruiz and Natalia sealed a comfortable 4-0 victory for Antonio Contreras' side, three weeks ahead of the start of the season.

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Dani Pacheco signs as Malaga pause to reassess the market

The midfielder pens a three-year deal but the club's transfer dealings are not done quite yet with the En-Nesyri-Koné swap deal still pending

== SERGIO CORTÉS

MALAGA. Malaga's frenetic transfer activity over the past two weeks is set to come to a temporary halt after the club secured the signing of Getafe attacking midfielder Dani Pacheco.

The former Barcelona and Liverpool youngster, who was born in Pizarra, has signed a three-year deal, sealing a move which has been on the cards all summer. Despite reported interest from Las Palmas and Deportivo, Pacheco had his heart set on a return to the Costa del Sol, which he considers home.

Pacheco, whose set-piece expertise attracted the interest of coach Juan Ramón Muñoz, is now looking for his fifth promotion to the top flight having already done so with Norwich City, Betis, Alavés and Getafe.

His signing is likely to be the last for the time being with Malaga sporting director José Luis Caminero putting a halt to transfer activity until the end of the window when he hopes more players from first division clubs become available as other sides finalise their squads.

One exception to this is Mamadou Koné. The Ivorian was in Malaga on Thursday to complete his medical as part of a swap deal which will see Moroccan forward Youssef En-Nesyri join Leganés. Malaga will receive around five million euros, with Koné heading the other way on loan.

This deal had been agreed weeks ago but was dependent on Malaga club owner Sheikh Abdullah Al-Thani's go-ahead. Al-Thani is believed



Pacheco, right, completed his move on Wednesday. == SALVADOR SALAS

to have insisted on a buy-back clause in order to let the deal go through.

Koné will be the third forward to arrive this window, following in the footsteps of Héctor, who joined from Atlético, and Gustavo Blanco Leschuk from Shakhtar Donetsk. All three join on loan deals.

Four more

With two weeks still to go until the transfer window slams shut in Spain, Caminero hopes to add up to four more players to the squad. These are one or two goalkeepers, a right-back and a centre-back.

Munir and Andrés Prieto (who will be allowed to move if a team makes a firm offer) are the current first-team stoppers, while younger Iván is the only natural right-back in the squad. In the middle of defence, Luis Hernández, Diego González and Pau Torres are the only available options.

Conversely, the squad at present

includes six players who do not figure in the side's plans: Cenk Gönen and Adnane Tighadouini, who have been training separately from the squad; Roberto Rosales, who has asked for a move; and Cifu, Miguel Torres and Juanpi, who coach Muñoz has said won't feature this year.

Finding these six a new club will be key to the club's plans for the remaining weeks of the window.



The midfielder was unveiled on Calle Larios. == NIÑO SALAS

Alfred N'Diaye: "Segunda will be complicated but coming here is something special"

== SUR

MALAGA. Alfred N'Diaye became perhaps the most high-profile name to sign up to the Malaga project for next season after completing a season-long loan move from Villarreal last week.

N'Diaye, who spent last season on loan at Wolverhampton Wanderers, was officially presented by the club on Friday, on the central Calle Larios.

The high-energy anchorman, 28, will add both strength and leadership to the Blue and Whites' mid-

field and could partner Moroccan Badr Boulahroud in the centre.

"Malaga is a big team in Spain and it's also a very famous city. Everyone knows it; coming here is something special," he said.

The Senegalese midfielder added: "I know the club has high expectations of me but I don't feel under pressure. I have a lot of experience in football.

"I know what my qualities are and I've come to help the team have the best season possible. Segunda is a complicated division."

Pre-season comes to a close with win in Ciudad de Granada trophy

Malaga played two friendly games last Saturday, taking on Cordoba in the morning, before a trip to Granada

== PEDRO LUIS ALONSO

MALAGA. Malaga's pre-season ended on a positive note last Saturday as the squad played two friendly games in one day.

Winger Alex Mula scored a late winner in the first as an inexperienced side saw off Cordoba in a morning friendly at the Marbella Football Center. The youngster punished the Andalusians who lost possession in their own penalty area by firing into the top corner with just five minutes left on the clock.

The evening game, which saw Malaga compete for the Ciudad de Granada trophy, lacked goals and was ultimately settled by a penalty shoot-out, won by the visitors 4-3. Adrián, Iván Jaime, Pau Torres and Federico Ricca converted their efforts.



Javi Ontiveros challenges for the ball against Granada. == R. PÉREZ

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A LOOK AT LA LIGA

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Beware of Atleti

With too many variables at play for Real and Barça, Madrid's stable second team are much fancied this coming season

After an incredibly close battle with Barcelona last season Diego Simeone reasoned, "Give me Messi and we'll win La Liga."

A few months on, his team are much fancied by many experts to take the title in 2019. Ok, he hasn't acquired Lionel Messi but he has retained Antoine Griezmann and prevented Barcelona from signing one of the most coveted players in world football.

Atlético's threat isn't so silent after they rolled over Real Madrid in the European Super Cup on Wednesday and they did of course finish second in the Spanish championship last season.

When it comes to stability and consistency they are the envy of the Big Two. They have a coach who has been in place for seven and a half years. That's the envy of the whole of Europe.

He's built the team and maintains it immaculately and contin-

ues to rebuild it, brick by brick.

He's not only kept Griezmann but also Jan Oblak who is one of the world's best goalkeepers and Diego Godín who, in my opinion, is the best defender in the football.

So Atlético have the most solid spine in Spain; goalkeeper, centre half and centre forward.

Every ounce was squeezed out of Gabi in midfield and now Rodri will ease into his role after signing from Villarreal. He's also the heir apparent to Sergi Busquets in the national team and could spend many years playing for club and country alongside Koke and Saúl. This is Spain's future midfield.

It took until January last season to uncage Diego Costa and his effect was immediate. Already in the Super Cup he's shown that he's going to be an unpleasant man to face. It's a similar situation for Vitolo who was also made to wait

because of the transfer embargo. We'll see his full force also this season.

There's also a new element with the signings of Thomas Lemar and Gelson Martins. I commented on Lemar for France last season and was mightily impressed. Liverpool courted him and Jürgen Klopp has yet to make a bad outfield signing (goalkeeper Loris Karius is the exception).

Gelson Martins is a player who can bring another dimension and gives Simeone options. The only signing I'd question is Nikola Kalinic as back-up striker. He's the moody Croatian who refused to go on as a substitute and walked away from the World Cup finals. I'm assuming he won't be fronting up to Simeone who maybe needs to make it clear that Kalinic is filling Fernando Torres' boots.

I'm not dismissing the reigning champions Barcelona or the Euro-



Atleti saw off Real 4-2 after extra time in Tallinn. :: REUTERS

pean champions Real Madrid. With Barcelona there are so many variables. Arthur wore Iniesta's shirt with distinction in the Spanish Super Cup Final and Ousmane Dembélé finally displayed a moment worthy of a 105-million-euro talent with a spectacular match winner. Philippe Coutinho had an immediate impact when arriving in the winter and they'll need the same from Malcolm and Arthur.

There's also a lot of excitement about youngster Riqui Puig.

Real Madrid are about to find out just how much they relied on Cristiano Ronaldo and just how great a coach Zinedine Zidane was. The team needs a greater collective, Bale has to step forward, Asensio must fulfil his promise and Julen Lopetegui needs to impose himself immediately.

Let the fun begin.

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Malaga's rugby players, a powerful force off the field too

With success building on the pitch and a desire to help in their local community, Club de Rugby Málaga are making a name for themselves



HENRY FLYNN

Twitter: @quiqueflynn5

MALAGA. The scene is pleasant and good-natured. Tucked away within the dusty streets and alleyways of Malaga's La Trinidad area, a group of rugby players begin their weekend's work, and it's not the hustle of a scrum or the scramble of a mall they are engaged in, but instead the careful preparation of packed lunches which are to be delivered to disadvantaged members of the local community.

"We are not just beer-drinking guys doing stupid stuff," says Hamilton Bone, a hooker for Club de Rugby Málaga, who play in Andalucía's top division. "We are professional people."

The club has philanthropy at its heart and regularly helps out with local charities. On this occasion, they are assisting Los Ángeles Malagueños de la Noche, a non-profit organisation that strives to provide food and clothes to those in need. The soup kitchen is full of activity, as a conveyor belt of



Meals being prepared for the disadvantaged at Los Ángeles Malagueños de la Noche. :: HENRY FLYNN

bread is cut, filled with ham or cheese and then packed into bags along with a small tub of yoghurt and a magdalena cake, all to the rhythm of friendly chatter and co-operation.

"Two years ago, I thought we needed to do something different within the club. I thought that it would be a great way to show Malaga and the local people that we are mature and something serious," says Bone, who is also the club's philanthropy chairman and recruiter.

"Every month and a half I say to the guys: 'Let's organise an event!' whether it is with this charity, or any other non-profit organisation.

"The charities are very easy to collaborate with, and they often call us when they need help."

Greater team unity

Such a culture ingrained within the club has also had an impact on the pitch. Last season, the side were a whisker away from reaching Spain's semi-professional second tier, La División de Honor B, only to lose over two legs to Madrid side Cau Metropolitano in the play-offs.

"The more time that you spend together off the field, the better the team gels together. We had an amazing year last year when we finished second in the league.

"I think one of the key pillars of being a rugby team is looking after the other person. You help someone when they're down."

Jorge Martinez, 36, plays flanker, and credits the spirit within the

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C. R. MÁLAGA

► **History.** Club de Rugby Málaga was founded in 1994.

► **Divison.** They currently play in Liga AON 1º Territorial, Andalucía's first division.

► **Home games.** University of Malaga sports stadium. Free entry.

► **2017/18.** Last season the team won an impressive 14 games, drawing one and losing three, finishing in second place.



Club de Rugby Málaga compete in the Andalusian first division. :: SUR

squad: "We all have knowledge of how we want to play, and have a gameplan which everyone is learning well. It's not so much a team, but more a family," he says after a gruelling fitness session at the Eshmún Sport Clinic, a state-of-the-art facility in Malaga, where the boys are put through their paces to the sound of booming music, as the evening light dims.

"The key is in how we all know each other well on the pitch. Many members of the team have known each other for at least seven years.

"A sport like rugby is about sacrifice for the sake of the team and for the game. For the majority of time you are not playing with the ball. It's about contributing to the team so that the others can play."

"One big, giant family"

Club de Rugby Málaga is diverse, attracting people from far and wide.

"Our idea for our club is to have one big, giant family," says Bone.

"Right now we are a mix of boys and girls and men and women, from the ages of three up until some old boys who are probably in their sixties who come out to socialise with us.

"We have French members at the club, Italians, Irish, Spanish, Argentinian, Paraguayan, Americans, and more."

Spain's second division attracts talent from some of the world's most prominent rugby nations, such as England, Australia, South Africa and New Zealand. But should the team make the next step up, the target will not be to make wholesale changes to the group.

"Our idea is to play there with just the boys that we have here, and to compete with our own resources", says Bone.

The club is currently going through a transitional period, as members from the lower ranks are making the step up to the first team where they will be looking to make a contribution next season.

Martinez adds that the desire to compete for places and to improve runs throughout the squad: "The youngsters come here with a strong attitude, with an appetite to train hard, spend time in the gym and be professional. Next season the hope is to be promoted."

The club divide their home games between the University of Malaga's sports stadium and

guay, attended by over ten thousand supporters who packed Ciudad de Málaga stadium.

"I can not recall the stadium being so full before for a sporting event. It was sensational," says Martinez who admits that rugby is still a minority sport in Spain.

"The people who are strangers to rugby, don't know about the leagues in the country. I think that many compare it to American football," he adds. Despite this, though: "The people who are aware of the Spanish and Andalusian leagues know that Club de Rugby Málaga is a club with a lot of tradition in the region."

After narrowly missing promotion, Club de Rugby Málaga will once again battle Andalucía's best teams this coming campaign, which starts in late September.

Among their closest challengers will likely be C. A. R. Sevilla, who finished third behind the team last time around, and C. D. Universidad de Granada, added to the league after their relegation from División de Honor B.

The target for the new season is clear; to be promoted. And going by the club's unique spirit and attitude, this is a realistic aspiration. "We would love more people to come and watch," says Bone. "It motivates us when we play and the matches are always free to attend."



Rincón de la Victoria, where matches attract modest support.

A growing sport in Spain

Though club rugby has not taken off in Spain, it has shown itself capable of attracting respectable audiences at international level. In November 2016, a friendly match was organised between Spain and Uru-



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SPORT IN PHOTOS

▶ **Athletics.** Spain picked up a total of ten medals to finish tenth in the overall medal table from the European Athletics Championships held in Berlin. Álvaro Martín (right) and María Pérez (centre) claimed gold in the 20 kilometres walk, with Diego García (left) bagging silver. :: EFE



▲ **Football.** Barcelona ran out winners in the Spanish Super Cup final, controversially held in Tangier on Sunday, beating Sevilla 2-1. The Andalusian side opened the scoring through Sarabia before Piqué and Dembélé put the Catalans in front. Sevilla had an opportunity to equalise in the dying moments but Ter Stegen saved Ben Yedder's penalty. :: AFP



◀ **Padel.** There were no surprises at the weekend when the World Padel Tour in La Cala de Mijas came to a close. World number two pairing Sanyo Gutiérrez (in orange) and Maxi Sánchez (in black) won in the men's category, while the Alayeto sisters came out on top among the women. :: WPT



◀ **Tennis.** Spanish star Rafael Nadal made it eighty career titles as he lifted the Canadian Open trophy in Toronto on Sunday. Nadal beat Greek Stefanos Tsitsipas 6-2 7-6 (4). This was Nadal's fourth championship in Canada and his first Masters 1000 since Cincinnati in 2013. :: EFE

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Town Hall	952801100
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Bus Station	952475066
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Taxi Service	952471000
Tourist Office	952467625
Town Hall	952589300
Foreign Residents Dept.	952589440

MALAGA

Bus Station	952350061
Railway Station	902240202
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Taxi Service	952774488
Tourist Office	952768760
Town Hall	952761100
Foreign Residents Dept.	952768760

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Taxi	952478288
Tourism Office	952589034
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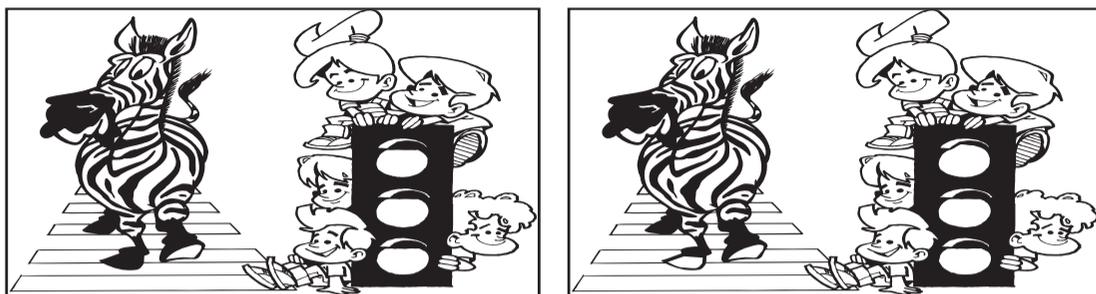
Ship	Date	From	Next port	Docks	Sails
Marella Spirit	19/08	Ceuta	Lisbon	06.00	21.00
Independence of Seas	21/08	Ajaccio	Cartagena	12.00	20.00
Mein Schiff 6	23/08	Gibraltar	Barcelona	08.00	18.00
Harmony G	24-27/08	Marbella	Marbella	00.00	05.00
Marella Spirit	26/08	Ceuta	Lisbon	06.00	21.00



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Belgium	Avda Ricardo Soriano 20-3C, Marbella	951516019	Austria	Alameda de Colón 26, Malaga	952600267
Denmark	Calle Córdoba 6 404, Malaga	952211797	Finland	Calle Blasco de Garay, 7, Malaga	952212435
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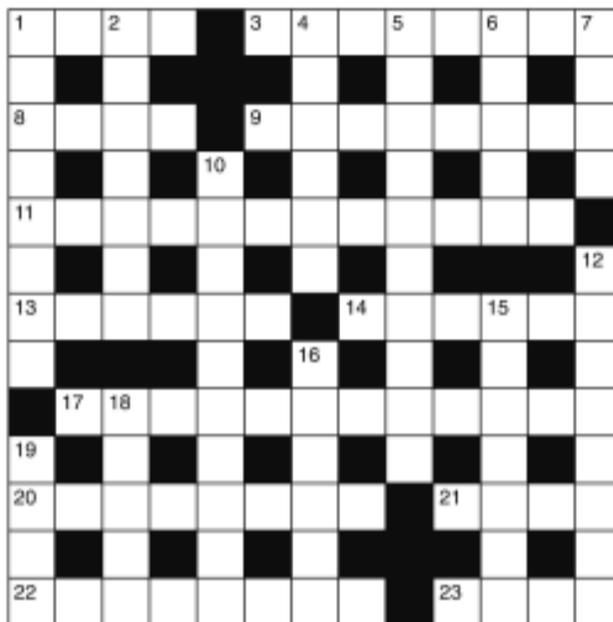
THE SEVEN DIFFERENCES



THE STARS

- 
Aquarius
 January 21 - February 19
 Work may be demanding but the rewards are high. Even so, keeping a balance between work and home can be tricky.
- 
Pisces
 February 20th - March 20th
 Of course there is always someone who wants you to do something for them. Either delay or make it snappy.
- 
Aries
 March 21st - April 20th
 We are meant to move on. It is all a part of being human. That perfect moment will probably come again in the future.
- 
Taurus
 April 21st - May 21st
 Wait until the weekend if you want to make any compromises. Why not be a little flexible?
- 
Gemini
 May 22nd - June 21st
 Put your toe in the water rather than regret, in the future, not even having tried.
- 
Cancer
 June 22nd - July 23rd
 This is an emotional week when you may have to let go of a favourite routine. Well all things change with time.
- 
Leo
 July 24th - August 23rd
 A close encounter with nature at the weekend reminds you of your childhood.
- 
Virgo
 August 24th - September 23rd
 In an exciting week for your social life, be more prepared to accept invitations even if they are casual.
- 
Libra
 September 24th - October 23rd
 Be prepared to try new things to get your social life fired up. The effort brings great rewards.
- 
Scorpio
 October 24th - November 22nd
 Over time you may have let a talent drop because it had no financial value. Fashions have changed and some old ideas do turn out to be the best.
- 
Sagittarius
 November 23rd - December 21st
 Keep an eye on your abilities and talents and update them. You will be called to use them.
- 
Capricorn
 December 22nd - January 20th
 Someone who relies on you at work could be singing your praises. Don't take unfair advantage though.

CRYPTIC CROSSWORD N° 11308



- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>Across</p> <p>1 & 8 Ac Choose a fish for preserving (8)</p> <p>3 Routes that may be described as pedestrian (8)</p> <p>8 See 1 Across</p> <p>9 Transport security man in the front (8)</p> <p>11 Those in danger from ill health won't be (4,3,5)</p> <p>13 Show the way without diversions (6)</p> <p>14 Sounds like a passable romantic intrigue (6)</p> <p>17 This will cause gradual deflation in the sphere of transport (4,8)</p> <p>20 Showing no fatigue until interminable phone call (8)</p> <p>21 & 7 Dn We desist from a change in American musical story (4,4)</p> <p>22 & 19 Dn A quest for a rich reward (8,4)</p> <p>23 When the theologian is around you changed colour (4)</p> | <p>Down</p> <p>1 It's staked by a friend with different ideas (8)</p> <p>2 Naturally a fir cone comes from this (7)</p> <p>4 She's seen in Nottingham and Ashbourne (6)</p> <p>5 What the ambitious aspire to is a bureau at the top of a skyscraper! (4,6)</p> <p>6 Turkish governor elected for a second time (5)</p> <p>7 See 21 Across</p> <p>10 Slogans or terms used by horologists? (10)</p> <p>12 Found one's bearings when one tried in a different way (8)</p> <p>15 How a vowel in French may be accented (7)</p> <p>16 One who painted "The Man at the Lathe" (6)</p> <p>18 Quantity of liquid ignited by the sapper (5)</p> <p>19 See 22 Across</p> |
|--|---|

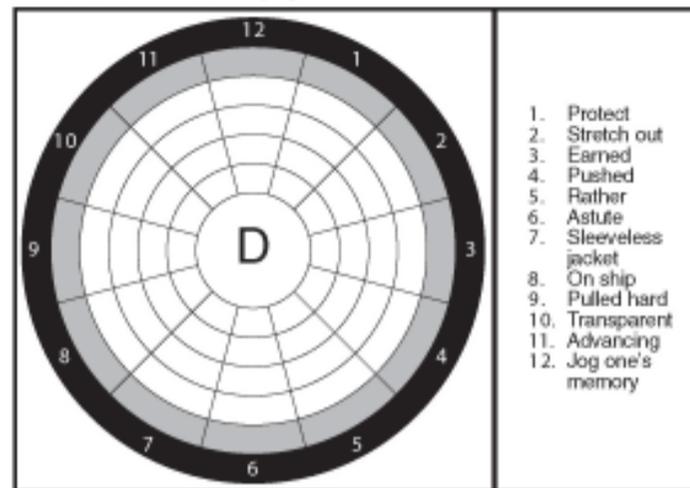
SUDOKU BY HANZO

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

		3	7	8				1
	8	9	6				2	
	7				4	5		6
2		1		3	6	8		
		8	2			3		
						4	6	
9								
		6	4	2				9
7		5			8	1	3	4

CLOCKWORD

The solutions from 1 to 12 are all six-letter words ending with the letter D in the centre. Moving clockwise from 1, the letters in the outer circle will spell out the name of a snooker player.



1. Protect
2. Stretch out
3. Earned
4. Pushed
5. Rather
6. Astute
7. Sleeveless jacket
8. On ship
9. Pulled hard
10. Transparent
11. Advancing
12. Jog one's memory

THE WORDPUZZLER



- Can you identify the words that may precede time from the clues listed below?
1. Spiteful
 2. Lazy
 3. First-rate
 4. Relative
 5. Feathers
 6. Surplus
 7. Large
 8. Pub
 9. Replete
 10. Tall

INTERNATIONAL RADIO

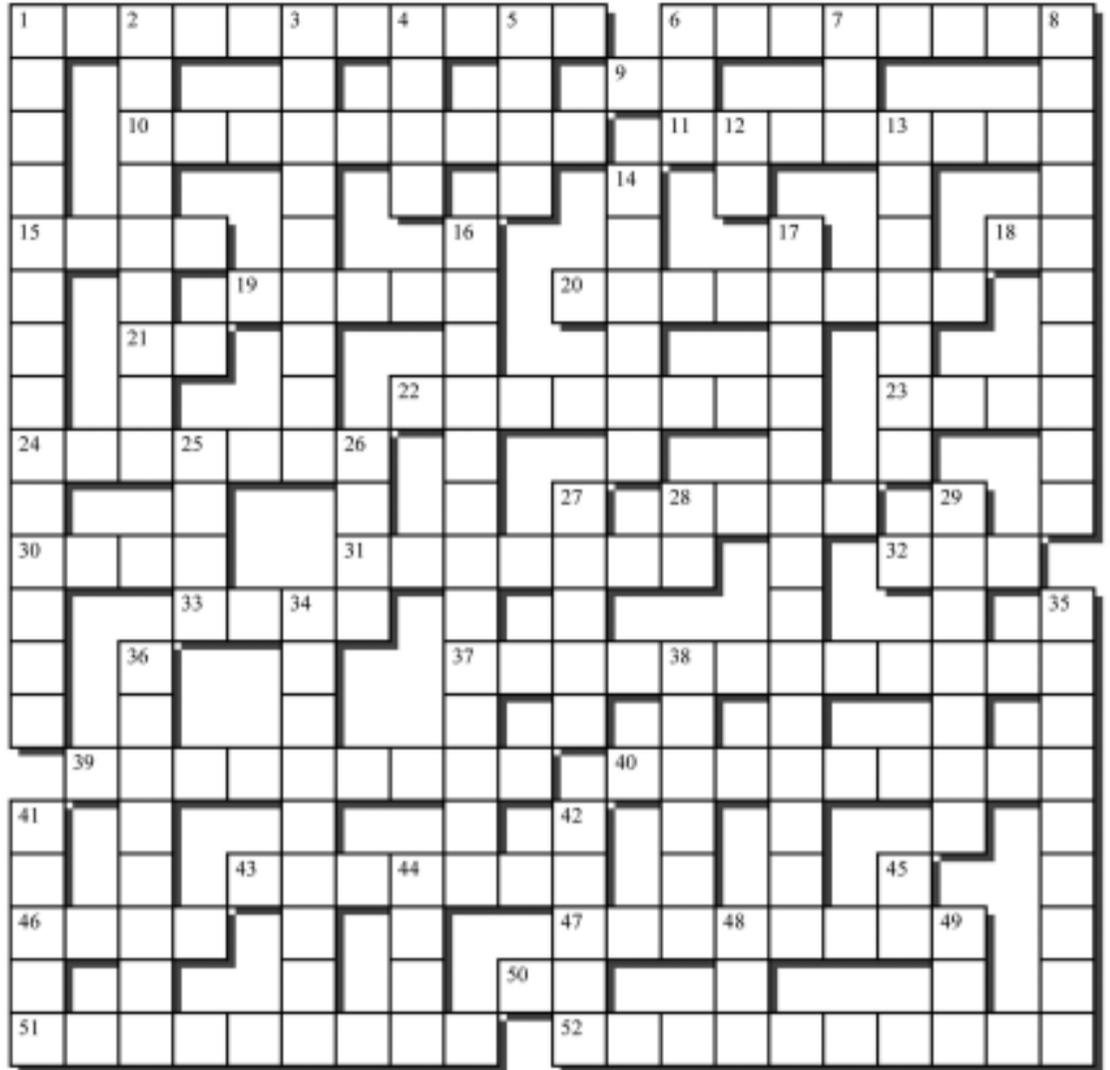
- Talk Radio Europe**
 105.5 Axarquía
 91.5 Costa del Sol East
 91.9 Costa del Sol West
 98.7 Gibraltar/Sotogrande
 News, interviews, lifestyle, sport and BBC World Service.
- Spectrum** (105.5 FM, Costa Almeria/Mojácar 92.6 FM)
 24 hour music and entertainment
- Radio Mijas** (107.7 FM)
 3 p.m. News, views and music
- Radio Sol Almirajara** (99.1 FM)
 Nerja radio in English and German and night time World Radio Network
- HeartfmSpain** (88.5 FM Costa, 96.1 FM inland) Music, entertainment, news
- Lick FM** (103.6 FM Marbella)
 Urban music broadcast between Gibraltar and Calahonda
- Rtv Puebla** (107.7 FM)
 Monday evenings, Rock music memories. 7 - 9pm. email: radiopuebla.musicmemories@yahoo.com
 Fb: Radiotelevision Puebla de Cazalla
- Global** (93.6 and 96.4FM)
 All week round the clock music and entertainment
- Radio Radio Network** (96 and 98.3 FM). Music 24 hours.
- Central FM** (98.6 FM, 103.8)
 All week, classic tracks and today's music broadcast to the Costa del Sol
- ACE FM** (106.8 FM)
 Inland radio, news and music
 The Beat fm (106 FM)
 24 hours, music and entertainment

QUIZ

- | | |
|--|--|
| <p>QUESTION 1</p> <p>Who wrote the poems Mandalay, Gunga Din and The White Man's Burden?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. George Orwell 2. Robert L. Stevenson 3. Rudyard Kipling 4. Roald Dahl | <p>QUESTION 2</p> <p>Which 1930s painting depicts a farmer holding a pitchfork and a woman?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Early Sunday Morning 2. Roustabouts 3. Thanksgiving 4. American Gothic |
|--|--|

LANGUAGE CROSSWORD FILL IN THE SPANISH WORD

- | | |
|------------------------|------------------------|
| Across | Down |
| 1) Suspects (11) | 1) Survivors (14) |
| 6) To drive (8) | 2) Security (9) |
| 9) I saw (2) | 3) Ringleader (9) |
| 10) Recorder (9) | 4) Wave (4) |
| 11) Threats (8) | 5) Other (4) |
| 15) Strange (4) | 6) Company (abbr.) (3) |
| 18) Of (2) | 7) They give (3) |
| 19) Figure (5) | 8) Respectful (10) |
| 20) Covered (8) | 12) My (2) |
| 21) He gives (2) | 13) Shot down (7) |
| 22) To shoot (8) | 14) To cross (6) |
| 23) Finger (4) | 16) Demonstration (13) |
| 24) They point (7) | 17) Collapse (14) |
| 28) Soul (4) | 25) To hoist (4) |
| 30) Nothing (4) | 26) Nape (4) |
| 31) Married (pl) (7) | 27) To hate (5) |
| 32) Time (3) | 28) Ace (2) |
| 33) Raffle (4) | 29) Naked (7) |
| 37) Parking space (12) | 34) Van (9) |
| 39) It would sour (9) | 35) Driver (9) |
| 40) Need (9) | 36) Tribute (8) |
| 43) Aerials (7) | 38) Hill (6) |
| 46) Imam (4) | 41) Flight (5) |
| 47) Pedestrians (8) | 42) Spy (5) |
| 50) If (2) | 44) This (4) |
| 51) Attacks (9) | 45) Faith (2) |
| 52) To run over (10) | 48) Uncle (3) |
| | 49) Sun (3) |



ANSWERS

Quiz answers

Answer 1: Rudyard Kipling is one of the best-known of the late Victorian poets and story-tellers. He received the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1907.
Of interest: Rudyard Kipling is one of the best-known of the late Victorian poets and story-tellers. He received the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1907.
Answer 2: American Gothic.
Of interest: The painting by Grant Wood depicts a farmer standing beside a woman who has been interpreted to be his daughter or his wife. The figures were modeled by Wood's sister Nan Wood Graham and their dentist Dr. Byron Mckeeby.

Cryptic Crossword

Solutions: Across: 1 Pick; 3 Pathways; 8 Ling; 9 Vanguard; 11 Safe and sound; 13 Direct; 14 Affair; 17 Slow puncture; 20 Unting; 21 West; 22 Treasure; 23 Dyed. Down: 1 Palisade; 2 Conifer; 4 Amanda; 5 High office; 6 Agair; 7 Side; 10 Watchwords; 12 Oriented; 15 Acutely; 16 Turner; 18 Litre; 19 Hunt.

Clockword solution

SOLUTION: 1 Defend, 2 Extend, 3 Netted, 4 Nudged, 5 Indeed, 6 Shrewd, 7 Tabard, 8 Aboard, 9 Yanked, 10 Limpid, 11 Onward, 12 Remind, SNOOKER PLAYER: Dennis Taylor

Wordpuzzler solution

1. Mean	E	S	T	A	M	E	L	B	I	G
2. Idle	C	H	I	G	H	L	E	D	I	
3. Prime	A	G	L	I	F	U	L	O		
4. Father	N	R	O	M	B	A	L	S	E	C
5. Down	T	A	R	E	X	T	R	A	P	T
6. Extra	E	L	B	A	S	H	R	O	I	E
7. Big	D	O	W	N	E	S	E	D	L	O
8. Local	D	O	S	P	R	I	M	E	M	
9. Full	N	A	D	I	W	E	R	O	M	B
10. High	Y	L	D	E	S	H	G	B	I	

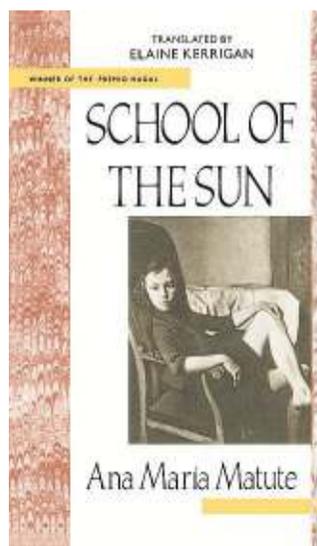
Sudoku solution

7	2	5	9	6	8	1	3	4
8	1	6	4	2	3	7	5	9
9	3	4	1	7	5	6	2	8
3	5	7	8	1	9	4	6	2
6	9	8	2	4	7	3	1	5
2	4	1	5	3	6	8	9	7
1	7	2	3	9	4	5	8	6
4	8	9	6	5	1	2	7	3
5	6	3	7	8	2	9	4	1

Language Crossword

ACROSS: 1. SOSPECHOSOS, 6. CONDUCTOR, 9. VI, 10. BARBARDORA, 11. AMBAZAS, 15. RABO, 18. DE, 19. CTRA, 20. CUBIERO, 21. DA, 22. DISPARAR, 23. DEBO, 24. INDICAN, 28. AMIA, 30. NADA, 31. CASADOS, 32. VEZ, 33. RIA, 34. AMANCANTO, 39. AMARQUIA, 40. NECESIDAD, 43. ANTENAS, 46. MAN, 47. PAVONES, 50. SI, 51. ASENTADOS, 52. ATROPELLAR, 53. ATROPELLAR, 54. ATROPELLAR, 55. ATROPELLAR, 56. ATROPELLAR, 57. ATROPELLAR, 58. ATROPELLAR, 59. ATROPELLAR, 60. ATROPELLAR, 61. ATROPELLAR, 62. ATROPELLAR, 63. ATROPELLAR, 64. ATROPELLAR, 65. ATROPELLAR, 66. ATROPELLAR, 67. ATROPELLAR, 68. ATROPELLAR, 69. ATROPELLAR, 70. ATROPELLAR, 71. ATROPELLAR, 72. ATROPELLAR, 73. ATROPELLAR, 74. ATROPELLAR, 75. ATROPELLAR, 76. ATROPELLAR, 77. ATROPELLAR, 78. ATROPELLAR, 79. ATROPELLAR, 80. ATROPELLAR, 81. ATROPELLAR, 82. ATROPELLAR, 83. ATROPELLAR, 84. ATROPELLAR, 85. ATROPELLAR, 86. ATROPELLAR, 87. ATROPELLAR, 88. ATROPELLAR, 89. ATROPELLAR, 90. ATROPELLAR, 91. ATROPELLAR, 92. ATROPELLAR, 93. ATROPELLAR, 94. ATROPELLAR, 95. ATROPELLAR, 96. ATROPELLAR, 97. ATROPELLAR, 98. ATROPELLAR, 99. ATROPELLAR, 100. ATROPELLAR.

BOOK OF THE WEEK



School of The Sun
Ana María Matute

On an island off the Spanish mainland where the Civil War's backlash is felt through the terrorist activities of the Loyalist Taronjis, Matia finds herself in her grandmother's domain. Her mother is dead, her father in disgrace. Matia and her cousin Borja live their secret lives, boating, fighting in their gangs, sharing the secret of Borja's thefts, probing the ways of men and women. Then Matia finds Manuel, returned from a monastery to care for his mother. Borja becomes jealous, pointing the finger for the thefts at Manuel.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

Not all of us can do great things but we can do small things with great love

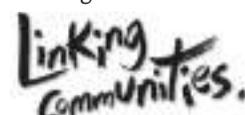
MOTHER TERESA

THE SUR IN ENGLISH CORNER

Winding down and gearing up

The Malaga fair is nearly over, people's holidays are coming to an end, the shops are promoting 'back to school' offers already... where did the time go? Although the heat of the summer is not ready to leave us just yet, it seems we are hurtling towards the autumn faster than in previous years. However, with the autumn comes more opportunities, more experiences and countless things to look forward to. Most of the clubs and associations in Malaga which took a break for the summer are starting to promote events and activities for their

members for the autumn. Malaga Philharmonic Orchestra have a series of concerts arranged to start in September and Malaga Football Club are back and getting ready for the new season with their first match (against Lugo) on Saturday. If you are part of a club or an association that is starting up again soon, contact SUR in English and let us know what is planned for the autumn. You can contact us by email at surinenglish.su@diariosur.es, or via Twitter (@SUR_English). We also are on Facebook (@SUREnglish).





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Marbella tops the list of Spain's priciest homes

According to Idealista, of the ten most expensive properties in Spain, five are in Marbella. The most expensive is priced at 50 million euros

∴ DANIEL DOLS

MARBELLA. Beach facing with 6,663 square metres, twelve rooms, ten bathrooms, two guest houses, spa, gym, swimming pool ... The list of characteristics for the most expensive house in Spain goes on and on. It is located in Marbella and costs 50 million euros.

According to the ranking by the online estate agents Idealista, that has categorised the ten most expensive properties in Spain, five of them are in Marbella.

There is another in Malaga province, in Mijas, for which the owner is asking 35 million euros, making it the second most expensive in Spain. Twelve bedrooms, 7,000 square metres, a tennis court and a 160 metre private beach are just some of its attractions.

Also sharing the podium is a house in Alcudia, Mallorca costing 30 million euros.

It has an amazing entrance,



One of the dining rooms in Spain's most expensive house. ∴ IDEALISTA.COM

The ten houses on the list are in three areas, the Costa del Sol, Madrid and the Balearics

reminiscent of the neoclassical architect Andrea Palladio.

Also in the Balearics is the fourth most expensive house, it is in Puigpunyent and costs 26.5 million euros.

The only property able to compete with those in Marbella and the Balearics is in Madrid. It is located in Boadilla del Monte and is the fifth most expensive in the country with a price tag of 24 million euros.

It has a plot of 41,000 square metres, the house is 4,500 square metres with a lift installed to contact each floor.

Marbella has the sixth on the list at 23.3 million, the seventh at 23 million, the ninth at 18 million and the tenth at 17.5 million euros. The eighth is in La Moraleja, Madrid which is up for 18.74 million euros.

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