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### TOURISM

## Andalucía at its best, all in one edition

Explore more of southern Spain in this special supplement prepared for the World Travel Market

**INSIDE**



## CHESTNUTS GALORE

Visitors and tourists turn out for an autumnal tradition in San Pedro, the Tostón festival



Roast chestnuts were handed out to visitors in the Parque de los Tres Jardines on Thursday. :: JOSELE -LANZA

## Mayors lead flood aid protests as authorities announce funds

Help has been promised for Campillos, Teba and Ardales by regional and central governments **P12**

### SPORT

## A double from Blanco Leschuk keeps Malaga CF on top **P48-49**



**Spain still speaks Spanglish.** A report reveals that this country's English is still mediocre and getting worse **P24**

# Tourism authorities prepare to win back British visitors in London

While a drop in tourist figures this year concerns the industry, an increase in winter flights to Malaga raises optimism

The winter season at Malaga airport began this week with news that the number of flights scheduled between now and March has increased this year by 15%, bringing a possible to-

tal of more than seven million people to the region. This, along with reports that fewer hotels are closing for the low season, comes as brighter news as the tourism industry heads

to the World Travel Market in London next week. The main concern for Costa representatives at the three-day international travel fair will be to recover British tourist figures which fell this year after several record-breaking seasons. The Junta de Andalucía has announced a change in strategy while the Costa del Sol has its own exhibition space at the show for the first time. **P2&3**

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# Malaga airport looks forward to a busy winter with more flights and new destinations

PILAR MARTÍNEZ

✉ pmartinez@diariosur.es

Between now and the end of March the airlines have made 7.1 million seats available for people to fly to the Costa del Sol

**MÁLAGA.** The airport which serves the Costa del Sol is expecting to be extra busy this winter, because from now until the end of March the airlines are offering a total of 7.1 million seats to fly here. This is 15 per cent more than the same period last year, and there will also be 13.7 per cent more flights, with more than 43,000 planes landing and taking off in Malaga during this time.

Malaga airport is the fifth in Spain in terms of plane seats over the winter, according to the Aena airports authority, after Madrid-Barajas, which is offering more than 29.5 million, Barcelona-El Prat with over 23.1 million, Gran Canaria with 7.9 million and Palma de Mallorca with 7.3 million.

A total of 43 airlines are offering direct flights between Malaga and destinations around the world between November and March, and 16 of the 186 routes are new.

These include the Vueling flights connecting Malaga with Algiers and Marseilles, and others which were announced this week by Norwegian, which is the fourth biggest airline in terms of passenger traffic in Malaga.

This company, which will base six of its planes in Malaga this win-



Intense activity at Malaga airport in the run-up to the winter season. :: M. FERNÁNDEZ

ter, is the one that has most increased the number of flights. It is now offering 45.5 per cent more seats on flights to Malaga, totalling more than 926,000.

Norwegian will be flying to 16

destinations altogether, including its latest addition, Dusseldorf.

Ryanair, which is the leading airline at Malaga airport in terms of volume of passengers, is also expanding its connections from the

Costa del Sol this winter.

The low-cost Irish airline recently announced that it will be flying from Malaga to Luton six times a week, and it has introduced a connection to Oslo and another

## Fewer hotels in Malaga are planning to close for the winter

Positive tourism figures in the winter months in recent years have led some hotel owners to take the decision to stay open during the low season instead of closing as normal. This is seen as a clear step forward in the attempt to attract year-round tourism to the region.

The president of the Hotel Owners Association of the Costa del Sol (AEHCOS), Luis Callejón Suñé, announced this week that 46 hotels in the province will be closed from November, five of them to carry out modernisation works which in total will cost 27.1 million euros.

Statistics from the Costa del Sol Tourist Board show that last November 8.4 per cent more people stayed in hotels in Malaga province than during

the same month in 2016, and there were 3.5 per cent more overnight stays. Average income per available room increased by seven per cent. The figures for January were close, but slightly lower.

Last winter 63 hotels in the province closed during the winter months, meaning that 25,500 beds were no longer available. This year it looks as if 22,000 beds will be taken off the market, principally between November and February.

## THE FIGURES

# 43,000

flights will be landing or taking off from Malaga between now and March next year.

# 103

destinations around the world can be reached on non-stop flights from the Malaga-Costa del Sol airport.

# 16

new routes have been introduced from Malaga during the winter season.

to Dusseldorf, which will be among 51 routes the airline is operating during the low season.

Sources at Aena say the two major markets for Malaga airport are performing strongly at present: Europe, with 152 routes, and elsewhere in Spain, with 29.

However, there will also be more flights to more distant destinations, such as the USA with 41.1 per cent more seats and 37.9 per cent more operations, and Africa, where the airlines have placed 30.4 per cent more seats on sale and programmed 17.2 per cent more operations so far.

## Year-around attraction

These important increases are in contrast to the scheduling for last summer, when the airlines increased their connections with Malaga by four per cent. It is a clear indication that the companies can

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# Tourism authorities head to London armed with strategies to win back British visitors

see the attractions of the destination at other times of year, and not just in the peak season.

The sector is also confident about the future of tourism within Spain, and has increased flights for the domestic market by 10.6 per cent to more than 10,400.

The number of seats on offer for flights within the country has now risen to 1.3 million, which is 10.8 per cent more than last winter.

However, most of the airlines have been focusing their attention on destinations elsewhere in Europe, with 16 per cent more seats and 14.7 per cent more flights.

There are 39.4 per cent more seats available to Sweden, 24.7 per cent more to Germany, 9.8 per cent more to Ireland and eight per cent more to Italy.

The UK continues to be the principal market, however, with a total of 44 routes to British cities, reinforcing its position as the country with the most connections and with 14.6 per cent more capacity.

This will no doubt compensate for the 5.5 per cent reduction which was registered in the numbers of travellers to Malaga from Britain between January and August this year.

The regional Tourism minister said this week that the industry needed to adapt to the changing visitor trends

by PILAR MARTÍNEZ

**MALAGA.** The regional minister for Tourism, Francisco Javier Fernández, said at a SUR event on Monday that action must be taken to deal with the recent evidence of a fall in British tourist figures in Andalucía.

This year's decrease in holiday-makers visiting the region from the UK, as well as Germany, among other countries, has caused the tourism authorities to adopt a last-minute change in strategy for next week's World Travel Market in London.

At the three-day travel fair, Andalucía and the Costa del Sol will come up against rival destinations around the world in their fight to attract British holidaymakers and convince tour operators to continue sending tourists to southern Spain.

Fernández said that this year's campaign would not just focus on London but would also reach out to places such as Manchester and Birmingham, where the collapse



Andalucía's Tourism minister, Francisco Javier Fernández, in Malaga on Monday. by S. SALAS

of Monarch caused a drop in tourists heading for Spain.

The Costa del Sol tourist board, meanwhile, promises a bigger and better presence at the fair this year, having its own exhibition area - of around 200 square metres - for the first time.

Its aim, said president Elías Bendodo this week, is to recover the 5.5% fall in British visitors recorded

in the first nine months of this year at Malaga Airport. Bendodo explained that around a hundred business owners will be in London next week under the umbrella of Turismo Costa del Sol with more than 300 professional meetings already set up on the stand.

Beaches, golf, cuisine, inland beauty and city are among the features to be promoted next week in

London with the help of the special SUR in English supplement (inside this edition).

The tourism special will be distributed from this newspaper's own stand at the fair as well as inside Monday morning's edition of the London daily business newspaper City A.M. which reaches thousands of commuters across the British capital.

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# Man killed in Torremolinos shooting linked to unexploded bomb in Marbella

A 33-year-old man was killed after a masked gunman opened fire in a restaurant in Playamar on Saturday night

**JUAN CANO / ÁLVARO FRÍAS / CHARO MÁRQUEZ**

**MALAGA.** A man who was gunned down while having dinner in a restaurant in Torremolinos last Saturday night has been identified.

The victim, who later died after emergency surgery in Carlos Haya hospital, was known to police, having been arrested a month ago in connection with an unexploded bomb found in a litter bin in the Alto de los Monteros area of Marbella. However, just a couple of weeks later, he was out of prison having paid his bail.

The 33-year-old Dutch national of north African descent, was shot at around 9pm on Saturday by an individual who burst into Tiki, a restaurant on the seafront at Playamar, with his face covered and opened fire, letting off seven shots without saying a word.

It was still quite early for a Saturday night and the only customers were the victim and his female companion who were dining at a table, and another foreign couple at the bar.

The waitress was about to serve the couple one of the dishes they had ordered when the incident occurred.

"I hadn't seen the man who fired the shots come in. When I heard the first shot I thought it was a balloon bursting. I didn't think it could be a gunshot, even though it was inside, but when I saw they were gunshots I dropped the plate I was carrying and ran to hide upstairs where we have a storeroom," said the witness.

She added that nearly all of the



National Police investigate the scene of the crime. **ÑITO SALAS**

employees did the same, while another colleague locked herself in the toilets. "I hid in the storeroom out of survival instinct," she said.

"His face was covered and he pointed [the gun] at everyone in the restaurant. He fired seven shots, but I was so nervous that I

didn't see what he was shooting at," continued the waitress.

Another of the employees who was in the kitchen said he went out with the intention of following the attacker but when he saw how serious the incident was he also hid."

## Quick response

The emergency services received numerous calls informing of the shooting and police were quickly deployed to try to intercept the suspects.

After the shooting, the gunman left the restaurant and escaped in a white van parked nearby where an accomplice was waiting. The van, which apparently had its back window missing, left in the direction of the motorway.

Sources close to the case said that police chased the gunman's van but lost sight of it on the motorway.

The emergency services rushed the victim to hospital with gunshot wounds to the head and upper body.

## The government says that policing on the Costa del Sol is "sufficient" at present

**J. C. / Á. F. / C. M.**

**MALAGA.** Despite the surge in violent crime on the Costa del Sol in recent months, the government has no intention of putting a special plan in place, said Maria Gámez, the central government representative in Malaga.

Just 36 hours after the shooting in Playamar, Gámez insisted that "the resources we have in

place are proportional to the problems we have in the province". She added that the police response to the recent spate of violent crime had been "efficient and forceful" and insisted that, for the moment, no special measures were being considered.

Gámez said that while these recent crimes were "attention-grabbing", overall crime had fallen by

four per cent in the province thanks to the work of the police in bringing down drug trafficking gangs.

Not everyone agrees with the delegate's assessment, however. Provincial head of police union UFP, Susana Correales, said that police numbers needed to be bolstered: "We are seeing that forces across the province have officer shortages of between 13 and 20 per cent. Obviously, being fully staffed will result in more efficient policing."

Similarly, Guardia Civil union AUGC's Andalucía representative, Javier Torrellas, believes that "a special plan, like the one in place in the Campo de Gibraltar, would give more power to the law enforcement forces in their investigations".

## Eighty-two arrested as part of insurance fraud car accident scam

**J. CANO / Á. FRÍAS**

**MALAGA.** An investigation has led to the arrest of 82 people, a dozen of them minors, accused of being part of a wide-reaching scam to gain money from insurance companies.

National Police investigated 21 suspicious vehicle collisions between 2015 and 2018, many of which involved buses and taxis in Malaga city.

The idea, according to the investigation, was for the scammers to provoke a crash involving as many people as possible, in order to claim compensation.

SUR sources believe that the fraud raised at least 260,000 euros.

## Rare Chucky doll, valued at 1,000 euros, returned after theft

**JON SEDANO**

**MALAGA.** A collectable doll, one of only 100 made to coincide with the launch of the Chucky film in 1989, was stolen from a computer repair shop in Malaga last Friday.

However, thanks to CCTV images which caught a man grabbing the doll and giving it to a woman who put it in her bag, as well as a campaign launched by SUR, the doll, valued at 1,000 euros, has been returned.

Its owner, César Gil, explained that the doll was dropped off at a roast chicken shop nextdoor, probably as a result of the CCTV images being shared. "In any case, I'm pleased it's back as it is a collectable and this incident has probably seen it increase in value".



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# Phone mast to be removed after 18 years of protests and cancer fears

Orange España has repeatedly refused to remove the antenna which neighbours believe has caused cancer-related deaths

✚ EUGENIO CABEZAS

**TORROX.** Residents of the Generación del 27 neighbourhood, situated between El Morche and Torrox Costa, celebrated the news that a telephone mast, which they say has caused “high numbers” of cancer-related deaths, is to be taken down in early November.

Mayor of Torrox, Óscar Medina, announced last week that town hall operatives would be dismantling the mast between 5 and 19 November.

The move follows 18 years of protests by people living in the area, who claim that radiation from the mast has caused the deaths. Neighbourhood spokesperson, David Ruiz, said that residents believe the number is “high” given that only 300 people live in the vicinity of the mast. He added that studies “have never been carried out regarding the level of radiation coming from the aerial and the high mortality rate in the area.”



Infrastructure councillor, Paola Moreno and Mayor, Óscar Medina. ✚ E. C.

In May 2014 Torrox town hall requested that telephone company, Orange España, remove the mast, which Orange refused to do. The matter went to court and eventually in December 2017 a court in Malaga rejected a last-minute attempt by Orange España to keep the aerial where it is.

### Refusal to remove mast

Since then Torrox town hall has been trying to get the company to remove the mast, a move which Orange has refused to act upon. The council has

also asked Orange to identify a new site for the mast as there are concerns that customers will have signal problems along the coast.

As the town hall has been unsuccessful in its attempts to get the company to take down the structure, Medina signed an order for the town hall to dismantle it last week.

The mayor told SUR last week that after 18 years of fighting, “We are going to remove that aerial.” David Ruiz said that he was “satisfied” they are finally going to remove it.

## HERE AND THERE



Nuestra Señora de Gracia convent, Vélez-Málaga ✚ E. C.

### Unicaja to pay for work to 16th century convent

VÉLEZ-MÁLAGA

✚ E. C. Unicaja bank has said that it will pay for work needed to be done to the Nuestra Señora de Gracia convent in Vélez-Málaga, which is commonly known as Las Claras.

The bank, which currently holds the deeds to the building, has applied to the town hall for a licence requesting permission to modernise the 16th century convent so that it complies with health and safety laws to open it to the public. The move comes after campaigning by a citizens’ group which is concerned about the future of the convent.

### Contract signed to build footbridges in Nerja

NERJA

✚ E. C. Nerja Town Hall has signed a contract with a company based in Asturias to build footbridges over the mouths of the Chillar and Seco rivers in the town. The bridges form part of a project being run by the provincial government, Diputación de Malaga, to construct a coastal pathway along the province.

### Youths who threw stones at cars identified

RINCÓN DE LA VICTORIA

✚ SUR. Five youngsters who had been throwing stones at vehicles travelling on the A7 motorway near Añoreta Golf have been caught. Following reports by motorists, police were able to identify the suspects, four of whom are under 18, including the ringleader, who is to appear at the youth court in Malaga.



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# Beach bars east of Marbella under threat of closure as council appeals ruling from Madrid

Coastal protection laws means the land the dozen 'chiringuitos' are on is classified as public and the government won't let their licences be renewed

■ MÓNICA PÉREZ

**MARBELLA.** A dozen beach bars, or chiringuitos, on the edge of the sand in Marbella are facing an uncertain future after a central government order that their licences cannot be renewed.

The chiringuitos affected are all along the beaches in the eastern part of the municipality, including Alicate, Costabella, Real de Zaragoza, el C, La Víbora, El Realejo and Río Verde.

The government says that the beach bars and restaurants are on public coastal land and so cannot stay there long-term, and blames Marbella town hall for the problem.

Now Marbella council has said it will launch an official complaint to Madrid and try and get the resolution overturned, while the opposition has complained that the ruling PP party on the council has been slow to react, since it found out about the order in August.

## Marbella town hall blamed

Two months ago, it was announced that the twelve chiringuitos were now on public land according to protection rules within the 1998 coastal law (Ley de Costas) that the government has been gradually enforcing since 2002. The resolution says that, as Marbella town hall had not registered or claimed ownership of the land the bars are on prior to the law being implemented, then



The chiringuitos affected are to the east of the resort. ■ JOSLE-LANZA

it has no rights to renew the operating licences for the bar.

At a meeting of the full council last week, the councillor for Beaches, Manuel Cardena, promised to make an official appeal.

The opposition PSOE party criticised the councillor for taking two months to do anything knowing that the popular beach landmarks were now officially under threat.

In reply Cardena said, "We are in this situation as you [PSOE] did nothing, referring to when the PSOE was in power in Marbella up to 14 months ago."

Spokesperson for Izquierda Unida, Manuel Díaz, complained that these are "established" businesses adding that "this subject is being dealt with in the council meeting now when it was urgent in August".

# Locals say they are fed up with work on busy street

Improvements to Estepona's Avenida de Andalucía started in May and delays mean the council is now aiming for a Christmas end date.

■ CHARO MÁRQUEZ

**ESTEPONA.** Delays in the resurfacing and landscaping improvement on Estepona's Avenida Andalucía, a key local thoroughfare, are causing misery for locals and forcing shops to close and others to lose money, locals say.

The plan for the avenue that acts as an inner ring road around the old town was divided into two phases. The project started in May with the

first part expected to have been finished in three months and the second part in six months.

However, almost five months on, there is still no sign of the works being close to finished, a problem that was compounded recently with the heavy rains and floods in the town.

Two franchised shops have closed and the Los Arcos bar has stopped trading as well, as the owner didn't want to renew the lease.

Pilar González is a partner in the Fusion hairdressers and is worried that, after investing her savings a year ago in the business, she is going to have to close. She admits that the business is kept going by its regular clients, "but in the summer we were hoping to make a comeback but it all went wrong because



Estepona's Avenida Andalucía is part closed to traffic. ■ CHARO MÁRQUEZ

the work should have been finished on 20 August and it's still just the same now". She added that the owner of the shop unit had reduced her rent.

Bar owners estimate a fall in sales of between 50 and 75 per cent and

complain that they see few people working on the site and that the contractor needs more supervision.

The council says that both phases are being carried out simultaneously now and all should be ready "by Christmas".

## IN BRIEF

### Estepona's IBI tax down for seventh year

#### ESTEPONA

■ **C.M.** Residents in Estepona should be benefiting from lower municipal IBI taxes in 2019. It is the seventh year in a row that this local tax for town hall services has been lowered and during this time the average bill has fallen 20 per cent.

This year's reduction is around 3 per cent for the total of 51, 253 properties that get the annual bills. Locals will also continue to benefit from a 3 per cent discount for paying by direct debit.

The council has also said that five million euros will be spent on subsidies for certain groups, for example pensioners and the unemployed will not pay rubbish collection charges. Local courses and activity programmes will also see costs lowered.

### Man held over thefts from 17 cars in one night

#### ESTEPONA

■ **C.M.** A 31-year-old man of Spanish nationality was held on Tuesday by National Police officers in Estepona in connection with break-ins in 17 different cars on one night.

The thefts all took place on a single night in the car park of a residential community at the junction of Calle Carmen Laforet and Calle Letonia, near Avenida del Mar in Estepona, to the east of the centre of the town.

The alleged thief, who is believed to have spent the whole night on the roof of the same building, broke the windows on the cars to get inside and removed valuable items.

He is also being linked to another theft from inside a car in Calle Faro on 4 October.

### App success for rubbish hit squads in Marbella

#### MARBELLA

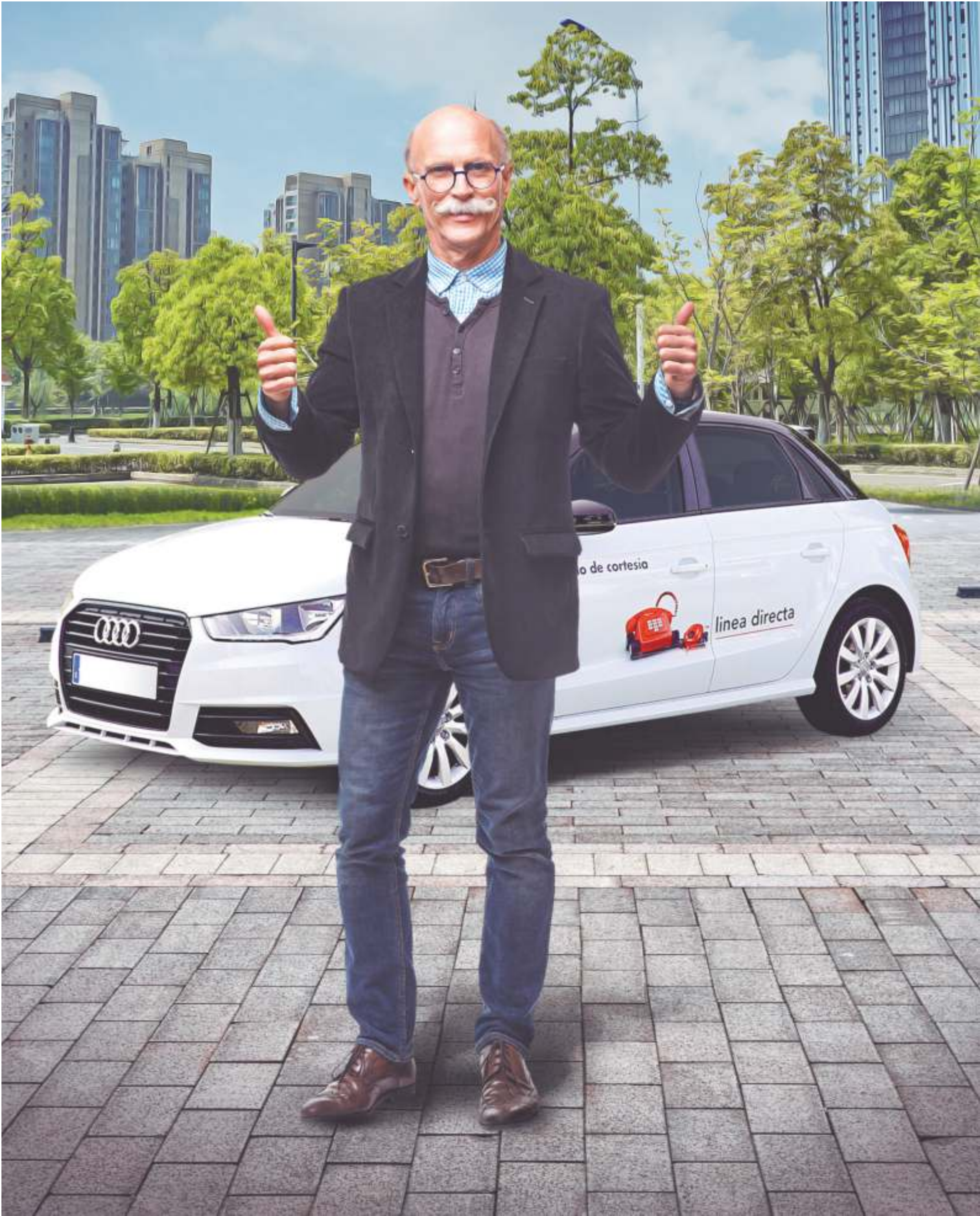
■ **M.P.** In its first month of operation, the mobile app 'Marbella Limpia' (Clean Marbella), has received well over 1,000 alerts from local residents who have used this new communication tool to let the town hall know when parts of the resort need cleaning.

The aim is to alert street cleaners immediately to problems. So far an average of 45 messages a day are being received. The number of downloads of the app to date is over 550.

The service runs from 8am to 10pm but the app can be accessed 24 hours. The rapid response team has five vehicles and 20 dedicated staff and users can follow progress in real time.

The council is hoping for 2,000 downloads by the end of the year.







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## Mijas defends its donkey taxis and says conditions have improved

Animal rights campaigners are calling for an end to the service; the donkey drivers say they are tired of attacks on social media

by IVÁN GELIBTER

**MIJAS.** Mijas town hall's announcement of new regulations to control the conditions of the animals providing Mijas Pueblo's traditional Burro-Taxi service has, far from being praised, revived calls from animal rights activists for an end to the tourist rides.

Manuel and Salvador have been driving the Burro-Taxis in Mijas all their lives, having inherited the job from their parents. When asked about this new controversy they explained how they are tired of the attacks on social media.

"They post photos of obese people on donkeys which weren't even taken in Mijas. The strange thing is we've only ever received one or two complaints to our faces," said the pair. It's clear from social media that the donkey taxis cause indignation among animal rights campaigners, although many of the photos posted are taken in Greece. A few hours



Donkeys in Mijas Pueblo last week. by ÑITO SALAS

watching the Mijas donkeys reveals that more than 90 per cent of the riders are small children; adults ride in the donkey-pulled carriages.

According to Manuel and Salvador, the donkeys only give three or four rides each a day and the route does not involve steep slopes, although they do walk to and from their stables to the village centre.

The local council, which studied the new regulations with the president of the Malaga law society and

the Refugio del Burrito shelter, has defended the service, which dates back to the early days of tourism in the 1960s.

"We like having this as our symbol and that's why we are taking care of it," said local councillor Nuria Rodríguez. She said that the donkeys' conditions had improved in recent years and that the aim of the new regulations was simply to put on paper what is already being done in practice.



by SALVADOR SALAS

## RAIN DAMPENS HALLOWEEN FUN

The persistent rain that fell on the Costa del Sol on Wednesday evening was enough to scare away hundreds of the ghosts, witches and zombies that normally take to the streets for Halloween. Numerous celebrations were cancelled or postponed until the weekend, although the more hardy Halloween stalwarts grabbed their umbrellas and braved the storm. In Malaga, rather than filling the city centre streets, the celebrations moved into bars where imaginative costumes and make up could be admired.

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A protest by locals blocks the A-367 road to Ronda on Tuesday. :: FERNANDO TORRES

## Mayors lead flood aid protests as authorities announce help

Initial central government estimates are that 128 million euros will be needed as it prepares to declare an "emergency zone"

:: SUR

**MÁLAGA.** Local mayors from inland Malaga province have been leading sit-ins and road blockages this week in protest at what they say is the slow and inadequate response by authorities with aid for the heavy flood damage in the area.

The municipalities of Teba, Campillos and Ardales were especially affected by the record-breaking rainfall last month, with many homes damaged and a lot of infrastructure swept away.

There was widespread disappointment last Friday that the national government, by coincidence holding a cabinet meeting away from Madrid in nearby Seville, did not declare an official emergency zone to release faster funds.

However on Tuesday the Junta de Andalucía regional government

announced emergency funding worth 37 million euros would be available from its funds for districts affected across parts of Malaga, Seville and Cordoba provinces. The regional president, Susana Díaz, also said that she expected the national government to announce an emergency zone this Friday, 2 November.

Despite the announcement by the Junta, the mayors said they would continue protesting. Mayors of Teba and Campillos, Cristóbal Corral and Paco Guerrero, both of the Izquierda Unida party, said it was "insufficient" and that they would continue protesting, including a rally in Madrid on Friday.

"We haven't been through a flood," said the mayor of Campillos, "We've been through a tragedy."

### "Political motives"

Susana Díaz urged the mayors this week to stop "pouring oil on the fire" and the national government representative in Andalucía, Alfonso Rodríguez Gómez de Celisro, stressed that help for private individuals affected had been available

since the first day and criticised the mayors for "taking advantage of the catastrophe" to gain votes.

Meanwhile on Wednesday, the national government's representative for Malaga province, María Gámez, said she had received requests for 128 million euros in aid.

### Damaged infrastructure

Of the 37.7 million euros aid announced by the regional government for 86 Andalusian municipalities for rain damage, 40 are in Malaga province. The majority will be spent on repairs to infrastructure, including roads, water courses, schools and health centres, while around ten per cent will go to town halls. Funds will come from a mixture of extra, authorised spending plus disaster contingency funds.

Meanwhile discussions have begun for four kilometres of unfinished AVE high-speed rail line to be brought into service as a quick way to replace the damaged normal gauge Seville-Málaga line, which along with other non-high-speed lines in the north of the province, has been out of action since the floods.

## Woman dies near Vélez trying to cross a swollen river after Tuesday's rain

An investigation is under way as to why the victim and her husband were crossing on foot after dark in the rural area

:: AGUSTÍN PELÁEZ

**VÉLEZ-MÁLAGA.** A 50-year-old woman was killed on Tuesday evening in the Vélez-Málaga municipality when she was swept away while trying to cross a swollen stream with her husband.

The tragedy happened at 8.30pm in a rural area towards the village of Arenas known as Haci-

enda Macarena. Her husband called emergency services as soon as the accident but it was too late to save her.

The woman's body was found later the same evening some two kilometres further downstream.

At the time that the woman was swept away, it had stopped raining in the area but the amount of water in the stream was significantly more than usual as almost 72mm of rain had fallen in Vélez-Málaga during the day.

A police investigation is underway as to why the couple were crossing the water on foot after dark. The autopsy confirmed cause of death was drowning



The Rio Seco was swollen with water (file photo). :: PROTECCIÓN CIVIL

## Rain on Wednesday forces cancellation of Halloween events and more water-logged streets

:: SUR

**COSTA DEL SOL.** The unusually long period of unsettled weather continued across Malaga province and the Costa del Sol into Wednesday with an amber warning in place for a time as more rain fell

A series of events planned for Halloween, on Wednesday eve-

ning, were cancelled by their disappointed organisers with other events moving from outdoor venues indoors, such as the planned events in Estepona.

Other festivities were moved to different days. Marbella and San Pedro, along with other municipalities, moved their traditional spooky celebrations to today, Friday, after yesterday's All Saints' Day public holiday. In these two towns the events begin at 6pm.

Traditional scary events planned for Maro, near Nerja have been moved to Saturday evening.

Temperatures are expected to improve to a more seasonal norm across the Costa del Sol and inland over the weekend.

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## The porpoise has not deserted the Costa del Sol, recent figures reveal

The common porpoise had barely been seen since 2002, but several sightings were recorded recently off Torrequebrada

:: IVÁN GELIBTER

**BENALMÁDENA.** The common porpoise, a species that experts believed had disappeared from this part of the Mediterranean, has made a comeback with seven sightings recorded in a recent report.

Scientists at OceanSea, in collaboration with Costasol Cruceros, have reported a total of 651 sightings of cetaceans between November 2015 and September 2018 in the Alboran Sea. These were mainly bottlenose dolphins (542 sightings), common dolphins (79), fin-back whales (12), turtles (7) and striped dolphins (4).

However it was the seven sightings of the porpoise off the coast of Torrequebrada, Benalmádena, that excited experts the most.

The species had barely been seen in the Mediterranean since 2002. "We're talking about a species that has almost disappeared from the

Mediterranean," explained the OceanSea researcher Samantha Blakeman, who revealed the recent figures at the Congress of the Spanish Society of Marine Mammals, held in Bilbao.

For the coordinator of the campaign, Juan Manuel Salazar, the sightings are important for the area, especially as the Alboran Sea is an area of conservation.

### Aula del Mar releases recovered sea turtle

A sea turtle, measuring 48 centimetres and weighing seven kilos, was released on Monday after being cared for by Aula del Mar marine animal centre in Malaga. The animal had been found distressed, but without serious injury. After spending a few days in a small observation tank under the watchful eye of marine experts, it was concluded that bits of plastic that the turtle had ingested were causing digestive and buoyancy issues, explained the Aula del Mar.

## Town hall hosts meeting to combat gender abuse

An effective network of support for abused women in Benalmádena was promised

:: TONY BRYANT

**BENALMÁDENA.** The Mayor of Benalmádena, Víctor Navas, hosted a meeting with representatives of the Democratic Women's Movement (MDM) in Benalmádena last week. The MDM works to raise awareness on issues such as gender-based violence and the group aired various concerns about the growing number of female victims of gender abuse. "We will analyse the measures taken by the different institutions to combat this problem," promised the mayor.

One of the commitments of the meeting was to enhance collaboration between MDM and the municipal Centro de la Mujer in order

to offer an effective network of support to abused women.

The meeting also supported a motion to name some of the town's streets after illustrious women; the first will be Josefina Samper, a historical figure of political activism who died earlier this year.

In a separate initiative, the town hall announced plans for a new grant for projects that promote equality between women and men. The grants are aimed at charity associations and non-profit organisations based in Benalmádena. The town hall is offering up to 20,000 euros for projects that promote equality in education; the prevention and intervention of gender-based violence; and the promotion of women's participation in social, political, economic and sports life.

Proposals for grants must be submitted to the town hall by Thursday 15 November.



The meeting with the mayor, Víctor Navas, in Benalmádena. :: SUR

## Local council pledges to eliminate single-use plastics

:: TONY BRYANT

**BENALMÁDENA.** Benalmádena town hall has supported a motion that will reduce and eventually omit the use of harmful petroleum-based plastics. The motion was proposed by members of Podemos and was supported by all parties during last month's plenary meeting.

In order to help combat damage to the environment and marine animals, the town hall has agreed to reduce the use of single-use plastic bottles and packaging in public buildings and at sporting and cultural events. It has also promised to raise consumers' awareness of the negative impact of petroleum-based plastics.

With the initiative, Benalmádena town hall takes on a commitment that adheres to the European Parliament's new proposals for a total ban on single-use plastics.

With the amount of harmful plastic litter in oceans and seas growing ever greater, the European Commission proposed new EU-wide rules to target the ten single-use plastic products most often found on Europe's beaches.

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## An environmentally friendly Christmas in the Mayor's Parlour

Members of the public are invited to make Christmas tree decorations from biodegradable materials

DEBBIE BARTLETT

**GIBRALTAR.** Everyone knows that Gibraltar has a strong interest in the environment and protecting the planet, and that every little can help. The mayor of Gibraltar, Kaiane Aldorino Lopez, is applying that philosophy to the decorations for the Christmas tree in the Mayor's Parlour at City Hall this year. She is inviting the public to create tree decorations from reused and/or recyclable materials.

This year Her Worship has been working closely with the Nautilus Project about the type of materials which should be used for the deco-



Kaiane Aldorino Lopez, the mayor of Gibraltar. :: sur

rations. They have advised that plastic should be avoided at all costs; people should use biodegradable materials which will break down within an acceptable timeframe. These include cardboard, paper, wood, leaves

and grass trimmings and cotton.

Anyone who would like to join in can place their environmentally-friendly decorations in the special collection box at City Hall before Thursday 22nd November.

### IN BRIEF

#### Cyber Centurion Club on STEM shortlist

**GIBRALTAR**

:: **D.B.** The Bayside School Cyber Centurion Club, represented by four students from Bayside and Westside, has been shortlisted for a Stem Inspirational Award. Previous winners include BAE systems, Cisco, RAF, Siemens and the University of St Andrews, so this is an outstanding achievement by this group of young people from Gibraltar.

#### Changes to residential parking zones

**GIBRALTAR**

:: **D.B.** The government is to make improvements to Zones 1 and 2 of the Pilot Residential Parking Schemes as part of an ongoing monitoring of the success of the new system. Full details of the parking schemes are included in an information booklet which can be downloaded from [www.gibraltar.gov.gi](http://www.gibraltar.gov.gi)

#### Gibraltar Literary Festival this month

**GIBRALTAR**

:: **D.B.** The Rock's biggest literary event takes place from 15 to 18 November in a variety of venues and with more than 60 speakers.

As some of the events coincide, it is a good idea to obtain tickets in advance to avoid disappointment, either online at [gibraltarliteraryfestival.com](http://gibraltarliteraryfestival.com)

or from the festival ticket office at the Garrison Library, which opens from 10am to 4pm Mondays to Fridays. Standard tickets cost £12, or £8 for children aged between four and 18 and people over 60.

This is an excellent chance to enjoy talks and interviews with well-known authors and local writers, on a wide variety of subjects. Full details of speakers and events can be found on the website.



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# Britons living on the Costa del Sol "will not be affected by Brexit at all"

Spain's foreign minister, Josep Borrell, sent out a calming message while speaking at a conference on energy, security and environmental matters in Malaga last week

■ ANA PERÉZ-BRYAN

**MALAGA.** With the UK's exit from the European Union fast approaching, Spain's Minister for Foreign Affairs, Josep Borrell, had a message of reassurance for British people resident in Spain, especially on the Costa del Sol, on his visit to Malaga last Friday.

Borrell, speaking at a conference for the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) at the Hotel Miramar, insisted that the Brexit process "will not affect [British residents in Spain] at all" and he called for calm.

"We have promised not to allow people to be used as hostages in the negotiations. Spain has made that very clear," he said.

The minister also stressed that this was an issue that worked both ways. "The rights of citizens, whether those Britons who live in Spain or Spaniards who live there,



Josep Borrell addressing delegates last Friday. ■ MIGUE FERNÁNDEZ

are a fundamental part of the Brexit negotiations," he said.

He added that those worried by Brexit could "rest assured" that the rights of the "hundreds of thousands of British people in Spain and the tens of thousands of Spaniards in the UK" would be the highest priority.

The meeting in Malaga focussed on discussing a common European policy on energy, security and the environment.

It brought together 170 specialist delegates and 15 ministers and deputy ministers from different European countries.

# New law to safeguard UK citizens' health post Brexit

■ JENNIE RHODES

**MALAGA.** The UK Department of Health and Social Care has published details of the Healthcare (International Arrangements) Bill which the department says on its website, has "been introduced to give the government legal powers to fund and implement healthcare deals after Brexit."

The announcement claims that the Bill "seeks to safeguard healthcare for 190,000 expats and 50 million people who travel abroad every year, through agreements with the EU or member states."

It goes on to explain that the proposed law will establish a legal basis to fund and implement reciprocal healthcare schemes and share necessary data after the UK leaves the EU.

The announcement seeks to reassure British people living in the EU 27 by stating, "For the 190,000 expat state pensioners who have chosen to live in the EU and those intending to retire to the EU, it will



Union Jack and EU flag. ■ SUR

help by safeguarding reciprocal healthcare if there is no EU deal."

Parliamentary Under Secretary of State at the Department of Health, Lord James O'Shaughnessy, said, "This Bill will allow us to implement new healthcare arrangements with other countries - in the EU and elsewhere - so that UK citizens can travel with confidence."

# Malaga hosts 30th anniversary of top UK-Spain diplomatic forum

The events started in 1988 and are held every year to foster closer ties between both countries and their respective governments

■ SUR

**MALAGA.** The city of Malaga played host last weekend to the thirtieth anniversary of a distinguished forum and discussion conference designed to strengthen bilateral relations between the United Kingdom and Spain.

The Hispano-Británicas Tertulias (Hispano-British discussions and debates) brought together leaders from Malaga city as well as representatives from both the British and Spanish governments, and intellectuals and experts on both countries.

The Spanish minister for Foreign Affairs, Josep Borrell was attending, as was David Lidington, UK Cabinet Office minister, UK Foreign Office minister Sir Alan Duncan and the British Ambassador to Spain, Simon Manley.

These conferences are held every year, alternating between venues



Attendees at the forum last week at Malaga city hall. ■ AYTO. MALAGA

in the UK and in Spain. They started in 1988 after an idea that came out of Queen Elizabeth II's visit to Spain.

The sessions are informal, giving as much emphasis to the working sessions as the working lunches and dinner.

Subjects discussed included the current international economic situation and particular matters of interest to international politics and Europe, including Brexit.

## HMS Echo

Coinciding with the bilateral event in Malaga, British naval survey ship, HMS Echo docked in Malaga port.

Earl Howe, a UK Defence minister, was also in Malaga to view the ship and welcome dignitaries on board.

The ship has recently been carrying out training and survey operations in the Mediterranean.

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## MISPLACED OPTIMISM



Spain's "glass-half-full" economy minister Nadia Calviño is convinced that her government's new budget will be passed, despite it needing support from hostile quarters in congress. Speaking to CNBC this week, Calviño breezily declared, "I don't think it's impossible to find agreement with these political parties." Among these potential allies, though, are Catalan separatist parties - and their backing for the Socialists' 2019 spending plan is unlikely to be forthcoming.

At the end of last week, Spain's Supreme Court finished investigating the cases of eighteen pro-independence Catalan politicians involved in organising last October's illegal referendum. Of these eighteen, nine have been held in custody since the vote and are to be tried on charges of rebellion, for which the maximum prison sentence is thirty years. Other, less serious, charges faced by these men

and women are misuse of public funds and disobedience. The Supreme Court has confirmed that all these politicians will be going on trial, probably early 2019.

The Court's ruling also proves that pro-independence Catalan president Quim Torra's ultimatums to the government have been ignored. For the past couple of months, Torra has been threatening to withhold parliamentary support for Pedro Sánchez's administration - specifically for its proposed 2019 budget - unless it allows Catalan separatists to proceed with secession plans and releases the imprisoned politicians.

One of the separatists behind bars is Oriol Junqueras, former Catalan vice president and president of the pro-independence Republican Left of Catalonia (ERC). A couple of weeks ago, Junqueras received a visit from Podemos leader Pablo Iglesias, whose party has made a budgetary pact with Sánchez's Socialists.

Iglesias was told by Junqueras that the ERC will only start cooperating with the government on fiscal issues if Sánchez takes "categorical" action on behalf of imprisoned separatists.

The PSOE leader, though, has repeatedly made it clear that he will not interfere in judicial proceedings against Catalan secessionists. Accordingly, the only "categorical" action that's been taken since the Iglesias-Junqueras meeting has been the Supreme Court's decision to put eighteen prominent independentistas on trial. One wonders, then, why Calviño is so sure that her government's budget will pass the parliamentary vote this month, in part buoyed up by support from Catalan separatists. Misplaced optimism, surely?

Yet there was another reminder this week that, macroeconomically speaking, Spain is indifferent to the Catalonia problem. During the third quarter of this year - which spanned the first three months of Sánchez's hamstrung minority administration - the country's GDP expanded by 0.6%, three times more than the eurozone average. Spain's overall expansion for this year is predicted to be 2.6% - down from the last three years but still a healthy growth. As Sánchez tries to secure Catalan parties' approval for his 2019 budget, Spain's GDP appears to be more than capable of taking care of itself.

## Locally based Unicaja Bank makes 142 million in first nine months of 2018

The net profit was a 18.4% increase on last year and was helped by an increase in interest income and less expenditure

■ NURIA TRIGUERO

**MALAGA.** The Unicaja Banco group closed the third quarter of the year at the end of September with a net profit of 142 million euros, an increase of 18.4% on the

first nine months of last year.

The drivers behind the rise, according to the company, were an increase in interest income - 4.6 per cent (20 million euros); a drop in operating expenditure of 2.5%; and a reduction in the need to make special provisions.

The Malaga-based group also highlighted other achievements in its announcement: an improvement in solvency levels; reduction in non-productive assets; an increase in new loan business; and, above all, an increase in customer deposits.



A Unicaja Banco branch in Malaga city. ■ SUR

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## HEIR TO THRONE'S DEBUT SPEECH AT EVENT FOR CONSTITUTION

The Princess of Asturias, heir to the Spanish throne, spoke in public at an official event for the first time on Wednesday. Princess Leonor, eldest daughter of Felipe VI, was celebrating her thirteenth birthday and the king and queen have been slowly increasing her public profile in recent months. The princess's birthday coincided with the fortieth anniversary of parliamentary ratification, ahead of a referendum, of Spain's post-Franco constitution and she read a part of it out loud during the commemorative event.



## Confusion after minister's Vatican meeting over moving Franco's body

A papal press statement has hurriedly had to clarify that no agreement has been reached with Madrid about the dictator's remains

:: SUR

**MADRID.** The deputy prime minister's meeting with the Pope's second in command turned into an embarrassing diplomatic faux pas for Madrid this week after the Vatican was forced to issue a press statement correcting what the minister said had been discussed.

Carmen Calvo was at the Vatican on Monday to talk about several issues, including taxation of Church property in Spain. But near the top of the list was a discussion on where the Church stood on the planned exhumation of the remains of dictator General Franco from his ceremonial resting place at the Valley of the Fallen Civil War monument.

If the removal goes ahead, Franco's grandchildren have said they want a burial in the public crypt of Madrid's Almudena Cathedral,



Carmen Calvo, deputy PM, with Cardinal Pietro Parolin. :: EFE

where there is a family tomb.

Faced with the likelihood that this could turn Franco's grave into even more of a tourist attraction and place of right-wing pilgrimage than now, the government has been searching for a way out of granting the Franco family what is apparently their legal right.

After the Vatican meeting with Pietro Parolin, Carmen Calvo said

that they had jointly agreed a way out that wouldn't involve the cathedral crypt.

But a rare rebuke from the Vatican in a statement said that the pair had only discussed that the government's engagement with the Franco family was a sound approach.

The Catholic Church in Spain has previously also expressed its wish to keep out of the controversy.



Snow chains being put on in León province. :: EFE

## Early snow on high ground brings misery and joy

Mountain roads were closed and rescues made but there is excitement in ski resorts at the prospect of a good season

:: SUR

**MADRID.** The blast of cold air stretching from the Arctic across western Europe this week brought unexpected snow to higher ground.

Nighttime temperatures plum-

meted below zero in towns and cities in Castile and the heavy snowfall caused problems on mountain passes, especially on the borders with the northern regions of Asturias and Cantabria.

People were unprepared for the unseasonal blast and rescue operations were carried out in some areas. Two lost walkers were found in the Pyrenees but a man swept out to sea by waves in Galicia was still missing.

There was excitement in ski resorts, which have started preparing their runs earlier than usual.

### IN BRIEF

#### Secret tape with suspect ex-cop adds to PP woes

**MADRID**

:: **SUR.** The next installments of a taped 2009 meeting about an apparent deal between top PP official, Maria Dolores Cospedal, and a suspected corrupt ex-senior policeman were eagerly awaited this week. The tape is being leaked in sections, adding to the suspense.

#### Spain may have first woman general in 2019

**MADRID**

:: **SUR.** Patricia Ortega, currently a coronel, has been asked to take a course to be promoted to the rank of general. She is one of 43 taking the course that would lead to promotion. Only one in three can be successful and Ortega would be Spain's first woman general.

#### Puigdemont launches Republican Council

**BARCELONA**

:: **C. REINO.** The self-exiled former separatist leader of Catalonia has set up a "Republican Council" based in Brussels. The new body, which is more symbolic than real, is not part of the Catalan regional gov-

ernment but has its support, and is not funded with public money.

The council will be led from Belgium by Carles Puigdemont, who headed the Catalan government before fleeing to avoid arrest on Spain's charges of rebellion, and it will initially be charged with furthering the cause of the Catalan independence movement internationally.

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

## Donkey taxis

It is not only in Mijas that donkeys can lead a miserable life.

An animal welfare group on the isle of Santorini has recently called for overweight tourists to be banned from using the donkeys there.

THIS  
WEEK'S  
WINNING  
LETTER

As a native of Blackpool in the UK I recall many years ago the RSPCA reporting on the appalling abuse of the beach donkeys there. This ranged from lack of care to outright abuse. Strict guidelines were issued resulting in a drop in the numbers of donkeys as some

owners were unable to comply.

Looking for information on this online I came across a report about a family having been secretly filmed mistreating their animals in a disgusting manner. It seems that despite all the safeguards these lovely animals can still be the victims of human bullies. Banning their use in the tourist industry might just lead to their abandonment or worse so any change must be undertaken with care.

HELENA MCGINTY  
ALHAURÍN EL GRANDE

## Care for rabbits

I read your article on having a rabbit for a pet (SUR in English, 19 October).

1. A rabbit should not be 'shoved into the other side' while cleaning. 2. Not all rabbits are ok with sawdust. Some have allergies.

3. Carrots should be given rarely as a treat; lettuce has no nutritional value to a rabbit. Bran is not good for their gut or cereal or museli. 4. Rabbits need space.

The correct information you should be giving out is as follows:

1. Rabbits need a hutch at least 6ft long by 2ft with an attached run of 10ft 6ft. 2. Rabbits need hay to be 85% of their diet. A handful of veg a day. A table-

spoon of pellets a day. 3. Rabbits need to have two yearly vaccinations as a matter of life and death. Vhd/Myxo and vhd2. These viruses can cause death within hours. 4. Rabbits should have a bonded mate; they love company of their own kind. (Rarely you will get a rabbit that wants to be by itself.) 5. Rabbits require a lot of love, patience and attention. They do not trust easily, they are a prey animal. 6. Rabbits can get all sorts wrong with them, very quickly if not looked after properly. If you need guidance then consult the Rwaf website.

SALLY DARK  
BY EMAIL

## Good evening

PETER EDGERTON  
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At the Oscar ceremony in the year 2000, Penélope Cruz famously shrieked 'Pedrooooo!' for what seemed like a fortnight, causing international eardrum damage as well as no little embarrassment to the Spanish nation, or at least to the members of it that I spoke to the following day. She'd just pulled the winning name out of the envelope in some category or other and had seen, to her unmitigated delight, that it was her long-standing chum and accomplice Pedro Almodóvar, famous for directing films with no discernible storyline.

I mention this disturbing incident simply because it's probably the only Oscar moment I have any knowledge of - oh, wait, there was that mix up with an old actor (Warren Beatty?) announcing the wrong winning film not

so long ago and also Ricky Gervais making the whole wide world squirm during a teeth-grindingly awkward speech a couple of years back.

Anyway, that's it, the sum total of my Oscar knowledge. This is because I wouldn't ever dream of watching the actual ceremony since it involves so many things that are anathema to me: excessively formal clothing, unbridled self-importance, fawning journalists, etc. Most of all, however, I wouldn't ever watch it because always it's far, far too long. Anyone else with the attention span of toddler goldfish will surely empathise.

This, then, is where I must wholeheartedly congratulate the Costa Press Club and their organisation of this year's Communicator Awards evening at the spectacular Tamisa Golf Hotel, Mijas,

which I was lucky enough to attend last week. It was a perfectly organised shindig from its punctual start to its punctual finish.

Neil Hesketh ran a tight ship as master of ceremonies, speeches were kept to a bare minimum and the tasty three-course food was served promptly and professionally. Awards were presented, photos were taken and then we all bowled home happy as sand boys and, in my case, in time for last orders which is always a bonus in any man's book.

I can't thank everyone involved enough for a splendidly enjoyable evening with special thanks going to the esteemed Liz Parry for inviting me in the first place.

I'll leave it at that, then, because there's only one thing worse than an interminable Oscar ceremony and that's an interminable newspaper article.

## IDÍGORAS

They know all about  
jazz in this place:  
the politicians  
are experts in  
improvisation



**SUR** in English

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Working  
dads

ANA BARREALES

Let's see who can explain to the Constitutional Court that once the first months of a baby's life have passed, when a mother has recovered from the birth, both parents can look after their child equally well.

And that not giving them equal leave is discrimination.

Malaga magistrate María Luisa Balaguer, who voted against the recent ruling that maternity and paternity could not be equal, had tried to get her colleagues to undersand this, but apparently without much success.

Balaguer says that the TC's decision ignores the evolution of society and perpetuates the discrimination against women in the workplace, as with leave of different lengths they are still less attractive

to employers. Some traditions are still very powerful.

I'm a big fan of the expression "working dad" and I've never un-

derstood why these concepts are never mixed in our everyday language, while it's normal to say "working mum". The latter sums

up in just two words that being a parent and having a job is only a problem for women. They can work outside the home, but looking after the family is still their department.

It's true that it would be reasonable for the government to take the decision to make maternity and paternity leave periods equal. In just a few years we have come a long way, from just three days for new dads to the present five weeks. However the Constitutional Court has let pass a golden opportunity to encourage the government to get a move on. The discrimination is not just because women interrupt their professional careers to be mothers for longer than the birth, but because sharing the bringing-up of a child is a duty and a right of

all parents. Of course when a company has to choose between a man and a woman, of new parent age, they will employ the man.

Dads should have a longer paternity leave to strengthen their links with the child, to be able to enjoy fatherhood and, as a friend once told me, to be left "holding the baby" as that's the only way to learn.

And on top of all this the court made its ruling allegedly to protect the health of the mothers. Well don't worry. Recovering from a normal birth does not require years off work. And as children don't come with an instruction book, the best way of learning how to be a parent is to practise.

This comes as a blow to anyone hoping to seek real equality between men and women.





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**AVENIDA RICARDO SORIANO 66, MARBELLA (29601), MALAGA (SPAIN)**



# Spain still speaks 'Spanglish'

The level of English in this country is still mediocre and in a recent test it scored lower marks than last year

JOSEBA  
VÁZQUEZ



Some experts believe the problem lies in the education system, because teachers are not properly trained

It's a classic. The years pass, trends pass, governments pass, trainers of Real Madrid pass, and Spain never manages to shake off the reputation it has had since time immemorial of a country whose inhabitants have a medium-low proficiency in English.

This has been highlighted by the EF EPI report 2018, which has just been published: it gives the results of the EF Education First test, which evaluates the level of English among adults and classifies non-English-speaking countries in accordance with the results obtained in the test.

The result this year is that Spain has passed, but only just. In fact, the study has shown that not only has Spain not improved its knowledge of English, it has gone backwards; and in two aspects, as well.

In the first instance, on a scale of 0 to 100, it obtained an average mark of 55.85, slightly lower than a year ago (56.06) and even worse than in 2016 (56.66) and 2015 (56.8).

It has also dropped down the international ranking based on the same index. In terms of knowledge of English, Spain occupies 23rd place out of 32 European countries, ahead of only Italy, France, Belarus, Russia, Ukraine, Georgia, Albania, Turkey and Azerbaijan. Globally, Spain is 32nd out of 88 nations, having dropped four places compared with last year and nine compared with 2015.

It seems unlikely that there are fewer inhabitants with a knowledge of English than a few years ago, so the data suggests that the number of people who took part in the study in this country is probably lower. In fact, the report says that worldwide, for the first time, more people aged be-



An English class at a school. :: OSCAR SOLORZANO

tween 26 and 30 speak English than those between 21 and 25.

It is also the case that this year's test, carried out to internationally approved standards among 1.3 million individuals worldwide, included 30 per cent more participants compared with last year and 13 new countries have been evaluated, explained EF Education First, the international language teaching company which carried out the study.

## "They can't speak it"

The results have "unfortunately" come as no surprise to Ana María Fraile, director of the English Language Department at Salamanca University.

"In our experience, when first year students who want to specialise in this subject come here they are supposed to have a certain level of English and a certain knowledge, but they tell us that at school the classes were very rarely taught in English and they hardly ever spoke it. They just did written exercises, which were very repetitive, to learn the grammar. They

## WORLD RANKING

# 70.72

points were awarded to Sweden, which tops the worldwide list of English proficiency among non-English-speaking countries with a 'very high' level. The table, which shows good scores for many European countries, closes with Iraq (40.82 points) and Libya (39.64), which is equivalent to a 'very low' level.

- 1. **Sweden:** 70.72 points.
- 2. **Netherlands:** 70.31
- 3. **Singapore:** 68.63
- 4. **Norway:** 68.38
- 5. **Denmark:** 67.34
- 6. **South Africa:** 66.52
- 7. **Luxemburg:** 66.33
- 8. **Finland:** 65.86
- 9. **Slovakia:** 64.84
- 10. **Germany:** 63.74
- 32. **Spain:** 55.85

come here and they can't speak the language. In fact, their written level is pretty poor as well," she says.

Ana María says it seems that "the system and the teaching methodology is failing", even in schools which in theory provide bilingual tuition.

"There seems to be a similar situation with bilingual schools. Either we have devalued the meaning of the word 'bilingual' or there are hardly any schools which merit that description. Bilingual means you are equally at home in your native language and another one," she says.

She believes the root of the problem lies in the education system in Spain. "We don't have enough fully trained teaching staff, so they are not teaching English properly. Some of the teachers can't even express themselves well in the language," she says.

Around 650 students a year study for a degree at Salamanca University, with moderate success. "Quite a few have to repeat the course, unfortunately," explains

Ana María. "They have to leave here with a C1 level, which shows a flexible, effective and spontaneous use of the language, and they don't all reach that level".

Everything she says is cause for thought. "In a situation where speaking English is key to being competitive, our average score, which is the worst in three years, shows a real loss of opportunities for the Spanish population," says Xavier Martí, the director of EF Education First in Spain.

"Although the level in Spain is above the world average, which is 53.34, for a European country it is very low and the results show that the level of English has dropped in the past few years," he says.

On this occasion his company evaluated more than 76,000 Spanish people through an online reading and oral comprehension test. The report, which is "used as a reference document by most governments in the world", does not analyse how many people among the whole of the Spanish population have some knowledge of English.

## Navarra, top of the class

To improve the scores in forthcoming tests, Ana María Fraile says it is essential that the teaching methods used from infant school upwards need to be reconsidered, and teachers should be properly trained. She also believes the ability of teachers in bilingual schools should be carefully monitored. She applauds the efforts of some universities for introducing courses which are also available in the English language, "not only for our own students but also to attract others from abroad".

However, not every area of Spain just scrapes through. Four regions passed with better marks and reached the "high aptitude" level in English proficiency this year.

Navarra topped the list with 58.17 points, followed by Madrid (57.94), the Basque Country (57.88) and Asturias (57.75). La Rioja (51.87) and Extremadura (51.29 puntos) came bottom of the list.

In terms of cities, Barcelona and Madrid scored higher than any others, with more than 58 puntos. Bilbao, in second place last year, has now dropped to fourth.

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**Hästens**

# Cycling from Faro to Gibraltar for charity



**ASH BOLTON**

ashbolton@hotmail.com

A team of Royal Gibraltar Police officers will use pedal power to get from Portugal to the Rock to raise funds for a number of charities

**GIBRALTAR.** Gibraltar police officers are saddling up to cycle from Faro to the Rock to raise money for various charities next week.

The team of 10 officers will cycle approximately 500 kilometres (311 miles) during the five-day trip that will take place between 6 and 10 November.

Under the banner of “It’s Coming Home” the officers will be setting off from the Estádio do Algarve, where the Gibraltar Football Association (GFA) has been hosting its home international games until recently.

The officers hope to raise several thousand pounds for local charities including Cancer Relief, the Red Cross, the Club House Gibraltar, Prostate Cancer and the Gibraltar Senior Citizens Association.

Organiser PC Donovan Galia, said that cycling has become a very popular sport among police officers in Gibraltar.

He told SUR in English: “Cycling



RGP officers at a recent fundraiser outside Morisson's supermarket in Gibraltar. :: A. BOLTON

has taken off in a big way with the police force and we thought it would be a good idea to combine the cycle run with a fundraising event. We are grateful to the sponsors for their support in making the Faro run possible.”

Commissioner Ian McGrail, added: “The Royal Gibraltar Police is keen to involve itself with charity and community events and this is a perfect example of the type of initiatives that we wish to encourage our officers to pursue.

“The cyclists involved will be undertaking a tough and strenuous sporting challenge for a worthwhile cause and we thank them for their efforts, spirited attitude and giving of their time to do this.”

For his part, GFA General Secretary, Dennis Beiso, said: “We are very pleased to be able to support the RGP with this excellent initiative. It will no doubt be a tough task for the cyclists and we wish them a safe and successful venture. We particularly like the symbolism of un-

dertaking a journey from the Estádio do Algarve to the Victoria Stadium - a journey our players and fans have been very familiar with. We look forward to the cyclists receiving a warm Gibraltarian welcome.”

The cyclists will be kitted out in proper blue and white cycling jerseys with the letters “RGP” emblazoned across front and back, and the badges of the RGP and GFA.

The GFA is the main sponsor of the event while Bland will be providing the transport for the eleven

cyclists heading to Portugal. Bicycle shops Ciclo Collado from La Línea and Bike Zoo Gibraltar are also providing technical assistance for the event.

On their return on Saturday 10 of November they will be riding to Casemates Square in the centre of Gibraltar to collect funds at around midday.

**To sponsor the officers visit:**  
www.justgiving.com/crowdfund/ing/stefan-davis



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## SOCIETY SCENE

# Trips and poppies star among autumn events

Clubs have been on excursions to the Alpujarras, Grazalema, Ubrique and Casarabonela while others are raising money for good causes

:: SUR IN ENGLISH

## The Field Club

### Excursion in the Alpujarras

Some members of The Field Club recently enjoyed a walking trip to the Alpujarras on the south slopes of the Sierra Nevada.

The Field Club meets every Monday from 10.30 to 11.30am in the Hogar de Pensionistas in Fuengirola. The club organises long and short walk programmes and various social events. [www.thefieldclub.org](http://www.thefieldclub.org) or email [thefieldclub.information@gmail.com](mailto:thefieldclub.information@gmail.com)

## Royal British Legion Molina

### The Poppy Appeal 2018

A prize draw held at Parque La Viña in Molina raised over 300 euros to start this year's poppy appeal. The day included not only a prize draw but entertainment by local comedian Laurie Arundalea. The meeting also saw the chairman present a record number of new members (five) with their badges.

## Shutterbugs

### Visit to the botanical gardens

Members of Shutterbugs met at the botanical cactus gardens in Casarabonela which has 2,500 species of cacti, the largest collection of cacti and succulents in Spain.

They also went on a guided tour of the town. For information of future 'shoots', meetings and competitions, go to Shutterbugs' website: [www.shutterbugs-spain.org](http://www.shutterbugs-spain.org).

## Lux Mundi Torre del Mar

### Trip to Grazalema and Ubrique

Friends of Lux Mundi, Torre del Mar recently went on a day trip to the villages of Ubrique and Grazalema. On arrival in Ubrique

they visited the Leather Museum for a guided tour. The group then travelled through the Parque Natural Sierra de Grazalema and visited the Artesanía Textil factory where there is a display of machinery from the 19th century and a selection of handcrafted woollen garments and blankets.

Tel.952 543 334 or email: [lux-mundi@lux-mundi.org](mailto:lux-mundi@lux-mundi.org)

## May Howard Fun Walk

### Raising money for Cudeca

The second edition of the Fun Walk organised by May Howard, raised almost 4,000 euros for the Cudeca Cancer Care Hospice.

Participants had the opportunity to visit several bars en route, all of which had supported May by donating a gift to the raffle.

El Zoco bar was the final destination and there the raffle took place with 57 prizes, including hotel stays, beauty vouchers, restaurant and bar vouchers and even the opportunity to have a tattoo.

## Age Concern Fuengirola and Mijas

### Packing bags and chatting

The Fuengirola and Mijas branch of Age Concern will be packing bags and answering customers' questions at Iceland Overseas, Miramar



Members of The Field Club on their trip to the Alpujarras. :: SUR

Retail Park, Fuengirola on Saturday 3 November, 11am - 3pm.

This is a great opportunity to talk to the volunteers about the charity - what they can do or how they could help.

Age Concern have three local weekly drop-in social clubs and a charity shop in Los Boliches.

The charity is dedicated to fighting loneliness and isolation within the expat community and are always grateful for new volunteers. Anyone who is interested in helping the charity will be welcome to come into Iceland Overseas and talk to Age Concern representatives.

## What are you up to?

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

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



The RBL Molina branch has started its Poppy Appeal. :: DAVID GREY



The Shutterbugs had a guided tour of Casarabonela. :: SUR



Some of the Fun Walk for Cudeca participants. :: SUR



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JENNIE RHODES



## WHAT HAPPENED TODAY?

2 NOVEMBER 2017

# Custody without bail for Catalan independence MPs

**Carles Puigdemont fled to Brussels with five other supporters and fresh elections were called**

**O**n Thursday 2 November 2017, prosecutors in Madrid called for former senior members of the Catalan regional government to be denied bail and held in jail following the attempted declaration of independence on 27 October when MPs voted to create a "Catalan republic as an independent and sovereign state".

Judge Carmen Lamela agreed, saying that there was a high risk of another crime being committed and evidence destroyed while investigations continue into their role

in the unilateral declaration of independence vote (UDI) in the Catalan parliament and the events leading up to it.

Of the regional leaders who were called to appear in Madrid's central Audiencia Nacional court on Thursday, only nine made the journey to the capital.

Eight of the attendees, including ex-vice president, Oriol Junqueras, were refused bail and faced possible charges of sedition, rebellion and misuse of public funds.

Only one who attended the court session, the former Business minister Santi Vila, was allowed free if he deposited 50,000 euros in bail. Vila had re-



Some of the Catalan MPs who appeared in court. :: EFE

signed his post in the Catalan regional government in protest at the planned UDI just ahead of the vote.

All the regional ministers, known as 'consellers', and former president Carles Puigdemont, were removed from their posts on 28 October, the day after the declaration, with the application of Article 155 of the Spanish constitution that imposed elements of direct rule from Madrid. Five of the former top regional government team were absent from the court session on 2 November having fled to Belgium, including Puigdemont himself.

At the time they claimed they had gone to the Belgian capital to seek legal advice and try to have their court appearance handled by video link, a move which the court refused.

Prosecutors also asked the judge to sign an international warrant to for their arrest, which was issued.

Meanwhile, in Madrid, the Supreme Court heard from lawyers of the rebel speaker of the Catalan parliament, Carme Forcadell, and five regional MPs who at the time controlled the parliamentary agenda. They were summoned on suspicion of the same offences as the leaders.

Having dismissed the rebel Catalanian MPs, the then president of Spain, Mariano Rajoy, announced that there would be regional elec-

## LANGUAGE FOOTNOTE

<b>Delito</b>	Offence
<b>Detenido</b>	Arrested
<b>Dentener</b>	To arrest
<b>Fianza</b>	Bail
<b>Riesgo</b>	Risk
<b>Decretar</b>	To make a ruling
<b>Asesorar</b>	To advise
<b>Castigar</b>	To punish
<b>Fiscal</b>	Public prosecutor
<b>Soberano</b>	Sovereign
<b>Denegar</b>	To deny
<b>Estado</b>	State
<b>Sedición</b>	Sedition
<b>Simpatizante</b>	Supporter
<b>Querrela</b>	Lawsuit
<b>Rebelión</b>	Rebellion
<b>Partido</b>	Party
<b>Gobierno</b>	Government

tions on 21 December.

In the event, while no party gained an absolute majority, between them the independence parties gained enough seats to govern, showing that there were still strong pro-independence feelings in the autonomous region.

Carles Puigdemont remains in Belgium where last Saturday, 27 October, he announced that he has launched a new party, Crida Nacional (National Call).

**Bilingual crossword inside back page**

## LEGAL ADVICE



### International Lawyers answers readers' queries

We speak English, German, French, Spanish and Russian

Please send your questions or contact us directly to arrange a personal appointment on:

#### Ilagason International Lawyers

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Tel: 952 77 12 13  
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#### REF. T. C. A.

When I had my first child, I decided to breastfeed him, and when he was weaned, my breasts were flaccid and empty. I did not like how they looked, and as I'm still young, I decided to undergo a breast augmentation surgery, in order to fill them out, and make them firmer. However, the result of

the surgery was not as expected, and now one of the breasts has "dimples". In the clinic I have been told that they can repeat the surgery within a few months to try to fix it, but I do not trust this doctor any more. Could I ask for compensation instead of a new surgery? This way, I could go to a different clinic that offers a sufficient guarantee. Is that possible?

In order to answer your question, it is necessary to know if the cause of the "dimples" has been due to malpractice or not, in order to report the issue at the criminal courts if that had been the case. Likewise, and even if the surgery had been done correctly, it would be advisable to know if you were conveniently informed about the risks you took when undergoing the surgery. If you were not informed that the result of the surgery might not be as expected, this

argument could be used in a possible negotiation with the clinic, or if you need to go to court.

#### REF. P. M. O.

My car has had a breakdown, and when going to the repair shop to ask for an estimate, I was told that I have to pay for an estimate, in case I don't decide to get the repair done there. Is it legal that they charge if they have not carried out any works?

According to the law, it would indeed be legal that they charge for the estimate. You have to take into account that the repair shop does actually do work, even if it is not a repair, as in most cases the mechanic has to invest time to dismantle the car in order to find out the cause of the breakdown. This amount will not be charged (or will be discounted) if you finally decided to have the repair done there.

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Eva María Ramada, Peter Edgerton, Mark Nayler, Paco Reguera, Stefania van Lieshout, Georgina Oliver and Regina Gómez. :: KARL SMALLMAN

## Journalists and writers receive Unicaja Communicator awards

### :: SUR IN ENGLISH

**MIJAS.** The Costa Press Club presented the Unicaja Communicator awards last week at a dinner at the Tamisa Golf Hotel in Mijas. The awards, each consisting of 300 euros and a trophy, went to Peter Edgerton, Stefania van Lieshout, Georgina Oliver and Mark Nayler.

Master of ceremonies Neil Hesketh mentioned innovations this year, which included different categories for the awards, changes made to allow for work to be submitted in languages other than English, and sponsorship by Unicaja. He also thanked Artenovum for designing and donating the trophies.

On behalf of Unicaja, area director Paco Reguera spoke of his satisfaction at being able to participate in the event and said that the international community "deserves all our support".

The awards were presented to the winners by Paco Reguera, Eva María Ramada, manager of the Unicaja branch in Las Lagunas, Regina Gómez of the Benalmádena Costa branch, and Jesper Sander Pedersen, president of the Costa Press Club.

A "Young Communicator" award of 150 euros was won by former English International College student Danny Al-Khafaji, who is now studying at King's College London.



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DENISE BUSH



## GARDENING

## American wintergreen

**Pretty white or pink bell-shaped flowers in summer and scarlet berries and purplish foliage in winter**

The genus Gaultheria is a member of the Ericaceae (heather) family and has pendulous, white or pink bell-shaped flowers and aromatic, glossy green leaves. In the autumn, large red, pink or white (depending on species) fruits form. Common names include eastern teaberry, creeping wintergreen, boxberry, American wintergreen, chick-

enberry and mountain tea among many others.

It is native to America, from Newfoundland to Manitoba and south to Georgia, where it is found growing in woodland clearings or in the shade of mountain laurels and rhododendrons. Gaultheria pro-

cumbens is a low growing species often used for ground cover. Its branches spread out around the plant just a few centimetres off the ground. The upright stems bear clusters of small oval, glossy leaves which are a paler tone underneath.

The dainty nodding flowers appear from early summer and are followed by striking red berries which may stay on the plant the entire year making it possible for a display of berries and flowers at the same time. The leaves of this species have the added advantage of turning purple and red in the autumn.

Although Wintergreen will grow slowly and remain fairly compact, it will benefit from being cut back into the old wood every second year to rejuvenate growth.

Some members of the heather family will grow in open, exposed areas but Gaultheria prefers a shady, sheltered spot with no direct sunlight. The soil needs to be fairly acidic and although it will grow in neutral soils it dislikes lime. It is not drought tolerant and needs to be irrigated regularly in summer and occasionally in dry winters.

Wintergreen was once used as a minty flavouring for toothpastes and chewing gum. The leaves contain methyl salicylate, a compound with similar properties to aspirin (acetylsalicylic acid). Traditionally a tea was made from the leaves to help ease headaches or fevers but it can be dangerous for children, the elderly, pregnant women or anyone allergic to aspirin. The berries are also edible and can be cooked in cakes or used to make ice-cream or wine.



The autumn colour of *G. procumbens* and flower (Inset). :: WIKIMEDIA

## READER'S PHOTO



ALAN HARRISON

## AN OASIS AT LA CALA

Alan Harrison sent in this photo and said, "this is a pic of our fabulous gardens at La Plaza - La Cala Resort, set off with the beautiful bird of paradise in the foreground".

## GARDENING HINTS FOR NOVEMBER

## Pamper houseplants

Winter is suddenly here and houseplants could do with a little pampering to help them stay healthy and rest, ready for a vigorous new start in spring.

With daylight hours reduced, growth slows down and therefore plants need less watering; some plants can be left until the soil has dried out completely before remoistening.

Houseplants need to be moved into a spot with as much daylight as possible but away from draughts and radiators.

Keep the leaves clean as a buildup of dust will restrict the amount of light getting through to the surface and remove any dead or dying leaves as soon as they appear to prevent diseases developing.

## PHOTOS

## Calling all gardeners

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

Email your photos to [english@diariosur.es](mailto:english@diariosur.es) or send them to SUR in English, Avda Dr Marañón 48, 29009 Malaga, with a caption and a few words of explanation. Alternatively, you can send them to us via Facebook ([surenglish](https://www.facebook.com/surenglish)) or Twitter ([@SUR\\_English](https://twitter.com/SUR_English))

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# Family Law and cross-border relationships

The number of "international" families is increasing each year. Whether it is because one of the parents is working abroad; separated or divorced from the other parent or for educational and social reasons it has become common to have an international family who require an international agreement for custody, visits and maintenance for families.

Fortunately in this area a number of legislative improvements have been brought in over recent years specifically to deal with these situations. Apart from a number of Conventions and Treaties at international level within the European Union there are extensive regulations that apply across member states. There are some other countries that also have bilateral agreements on family cases.

For families and couples who do not live in the same country, and in some cases do not share a nationality or applicable law at the time of a family breakdown, there are structures in place to deal with the new situation. In divorce proceedings it is

important to know which Courts are competent to hear the case. Where there are children involved it is also important to know which court should deal with issues such as maintenance. Establishing which court is competent to hear the matter means that the couple can be guided on what rules and laws will govern the financial split and the liquidation of the matrimonial regime. There is a difference between the procedural rules governing which court is competent to hear the case and the law that will be applied in court. For example an English couple with a number of different assets and properties might be able to divorce before the Spanish court but the financial split between them might be governed by English law. Most countries within Europe will apply their own national law to matters related to children.

It is very important that this is considered before taking any steps to go to court as some things, such as pension rights, might be much more difficult to deal with in one jurisdiction than another. Whilst you cannot



undertake "forum shopping" choosing the country that you think would be most advantageous, do take advice, particularly where an order to share a pension might be available in some countries but almost impossible to obtain in others. Surprisingly enough we have dealt with cases where each of the divorcing couple has gone to a different court, one in England and one in Spain. At the moment within Europe it is quite simply a case of first come first served.

A court who sees evidence that a previous claim has been made in another European country should immediately cease its proceedings. This rush to court may well come to an end Post-Brexit if no agreement is reached. The courts would then have to decide which country is the most appropriate to deal with the case.

With parent and child relationships a key factor in coming to agreement is that you must not take a child out of the country of habitual residence without the consent of the other parent. The country of habitual residence of a child is the place where they have established their home, educational and social life. For very young children this is acquired quite quickly after birth. The overriding legislation is the Hague Convention of 25.10.1980 dealing with Child Abduction. The procedure is an accelerated one and each country has a Central authority appointed.

While this legislation will protect the child and return the child to the country of habitual residence it is clearly in

the best interests of the child to come to an agreement beforehand rather than dealing with the courts with the attendant stress.

If the parents cannot agree a Judge may have to decide if a parent can leave with a judicial order from the court. This can be obtained if it is clearly in the best interests of the child. However, as soon as a move is considered it is best to discuss amicably and well in advance offering effective visits and communications.

Finally one thing that is often forgotten is that an order granted in say Britain or Holland, but dealing with assets such as property in Spain, needs to be properly drafted to allow it to be effectively enforced. At the risk of repeating ourselves yet again obtain the advice should be sought before the order is drafted to ensure you can divide, transfer or receive assets in Spain without paying unnecessary taxes and costs.

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## DISCOVER ANDALUCÍA



A man ziplines through the trees at The Juliana Nature Centre. :: SUR

JAVIER  
ALMELLONES

## Autumn capital of active tourism

**2 days in Bollullos de la Mitación**  
**Car and Walking.**

Duration of travel: 2 hours and 30 minutes from Malaga.

Fair of tourist activities: 6 hours.

Other visits: 3 hours.



Adrenaline-filled activity in the fresh air. This is what awaits those who visit the Seville town of Bollullos de la Mitación between the 9th and 11th of this month.

This town, located in the heart of the Aljarafe region, will host for the seventh consecutive year its Active Tourism and Nature Fair, bringing together many companies in this sector.

The event will be held mainly in The Juliana Nature Centre, where a lush pine forest will serve to give the best possible frame to this thematic meeting of outdoor activity fanatics.

In brief, this Fair of Active Tourism and Nature, which has an exhibition area of some five thousand square metres, serves to give a boost to the outdoor tourism business, which is increasingly important for Andalusia.

In this way, the fair will be a showcase of all the existing opportunities in active tourism and nature both in the province of Seville and in the rest of Andalusia.

It is no coincidence that the town of Bollullos de la Mitación becomes, if only for a few days, the capital of active tourism. Numer-

ous outdoor tourism companies are based in the town.

The fair held here is, in short, an opportunity for both professionals and enthusiasts of this type of tourism to come and enjoy the excitement and atmosphere of this seasonal event.

To showcase it at its best, there will be many outdoor activities and demonstrations.

Skydiving, equestrian activities, even flying in a plane and feeling like a pilot for a day are some of the possibilities offered in the town, located halfway between Seville and the Doñana National Park.

The Juliana Nature Centre itself is certainly worth a visit, especially at this time of year, when it is truly beautiful.

For the rest of the year families can enjoy the active tourism opportunities that the town and centre have to offer.

A very unique experience is what is known as the "Suspended Forest". This is considered to be the first highropes adventure course in Andalusia. It is a circuit that is suspended between trees, that users must navigate either with zip lines, Tibetan bridges or by swinging. All this, of course, with strict security measures.

In addition, you can also enjoy other attractions in La Juliana, such as a nature room designed especially for children.

Whether you enjoy high powered adrenaline rushes or prefer to watch safely from the ground, there is something for everyone.

## Short films and alternative cinema in Benalmádena

The Costa del Sol welcomes autumn to the big screen thanks to the International Short Film and Alternative Film Festival of Benalmádena (FICCAB).

The seventeenth edition of this film event will take place between the 8th and 11th of this month at the Casa de la Cultura in Benalmádena.

The main objective of this festival is to promote short fiction films that do not usually find commercial success, but that have the same quality and originality as some of their competitors.

It is also the ideal platform for new filmmakers to get their films out on a well known platform. The short film format is increasingly attracting more and more fans of both film and video making.

As in other years, there will be categories for both feature films and short films. Additionally, there will be screenings of shorts that address current issues, such as immigration or gender violence. Likewise, the screening of a medium-length film about Holy Week in Malaga, 'Por la gracia de Dios', is planned to be shown to guests.

The FICCAB includes much more than film screenings in its extensive programme this year. There will also be children's workshops, an exhibition by George Méllés and information about filmmaking and the films that will be screened at the event.



You are not going to have some good times here, you are going to make every moment count. Because living is not the same as living **intensely**.

Plan your trip at [andalucia.org](http://andalucia.org)





EXHIBITIONS

**Nimrod Messeg Marbella.** *Until 21 November. Kempinski Hotel Bahía.*  
Nimrod developed his method of sculpting iron by using ancient forging techniques, welding, power hammering, the plasma torch, etc. Enabling him to create unique textures and shapes and transforming metal into beautiful, gentle, light sculptures.

**Dizzy Bishop Marbella.** *Ristorante Conrad’s Avda. De Prado, Nueva Andalucía.*  
Sculptor Dizzy Bishop is staging a mini exhibition of some of her latest work.

**Fabrizio Arrieta Marbella.** *Until 3 November. Yusto / Giner Gallery, C/Madera.*  
‘Recuerdo un lugar imaginario’ is the title of this exhibition by Costa Rican artist Fabrizio Arrieta.

**Presence and Absence Marbella.** *Until 28 November. Salón Enseñada, Hotel Fuerte.*  
An exhibition of works by Enar Cruz and Antonia López Luque.

**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



Hernan Bas, CAC Malaga

their art.

**Chromatic Geometry Marbella.** *San Pedro de Alcántara. Until 22 November.*  
Este Arte Gallery exhibits work from multidisciplinary artist Aurora Cid. Sculptures, paintings and photography will all be on display.

**Miguel Gómez Losada Malaga.** *Until 25 November. Centro de Arte Contemporáneo.*  
The first solo exhibition of this artist, ‘Romanza’ includes nearly twenty paintings in different formats and techniques.

**Hernan Bas Malaga.** *Until 9 December Centro de Arte Contemporáneo*  
‘A Brief Intermission’ is the title of the new exhibition at the CAC in Malaga. It is the first time that American artist Hernan Blas has exhibited in a museum in Spain. Thirty six paintings are on display

of varying formats.

**Referencias Andaluzas Malaga.** *Until 3 February. Museo Picasso Malaga.*  
A collection of works demonstrating the influence of Mediterranean culture on Picasso’s art.

**Malaga Cathedral Malaga.** *Until 28 February, 10am - 6pm.*  
‘Unfinished Symphony’ is the title of the exhibition at Malaga Cathedral. It demonstrates the development process of the cathedral which has been in construction through several periods of history from the Renaissance, from 1527 to 1588; and the Baroque, from 1721 until 1782. This architectural treasure is yet to be completed.

**Fruta Madura Malaga.** *Until 4 November. Sala La Coracha, C/Santos 7.*  
Four artists are selected from the facultad de Bellas Artes in Malaga University every year to exhibit their work. This year the students demonstrate various techniques including video, drawings, sculpture and photography.

**Tails-Tales Malaga.** *Until 5 November. La Casa Amarilla, C/Santos 7.*  
In this her first individual show at La Casa Amarilla, Cristina Savage offers a series assembled from found objects – orphaned chairs – that the artist rescued from the tip and adopted to transform into

unique sculptural environments.

**Pianos of Malaga Malaga.** *Until 13 January 2019. El Museo del Patrimonio Municipal.*  
An exhibition exploring the creation and playing of the piano.

**Un Experimento Malaga.** *Until 4 January. University of Malaga Rectory. Open Monday - Saturday 10am-2pm, 5pm-9pm.*  
Works from the artist Francisco Ferrer Lerín.



Fruta Madura, Malaga.

**Naturalezas. Malaga.** *Until 30 November. Museum Jorge Rando.*  
Exploration of nature and the relation it has to humankind.

**Women in Art Progress**

**Malaga.** *Until 5 November. Sala Manuel Barbadillo, open Monday - Friday 10am-1.30pm, 5pm-8pm.*  
Works exploring women and how they are perceived and presented within art.

**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.

**Photography exhibition Mijas.** *9 November opening at 8pm in Casa de La Cultura.*  
Photography presented from the Asociación Nuevo Enfoque.

**Arte Base Mijas.** *5 November. Casa de la Cultura Las Lagunas, 6pm-8pm.*  
Poetry and music recital on the four elements.

**No Sé Pintar Gente Mijas.** *Until 12 November. Centro Cultural de la Cala, open from 10am-2pm and 5pm-8pm.*  
An exhibition of the works of Luis Martínez Valcabado. The works mainly consist of nature and landscape paintings.

**Amor y Deseo Vélez-Málaga.** *Until 8 December. Centro de Arte Contemporáneo.*  
The exhibition consists of 51 works by Pablo Ruiz Picasso and celebrates the fifth anniversary of the centre.



MOVIE LISTING  
From Wednesday 31st October  
to Thursday 8th November

ORIGINAL VERSION SUBTITLED SPANISH



**THE NUTCRACKER AND THE FOUR REALMS**  
Director Lasse Hallström and Joe Johnston  
Starring Mackenzie Foy, Keira Knightley, Morgan Freeman  
ADVENTURE - 99 min.  
Wednesday 31: 18:00  
From Thursday 1 to Saturday 3: 15:50, 18:00  
Sunday 4: 11:45, 15:50, 18:00  
From Monday 5 to Thursday 8: 18:00



**HALLOWEEN**  
From Wednesday 31 to Sunday 4: 20:30, 22:45  
From Monday 5 to Wednesday 7: 20:15, 22:30  
Thursday 8: 20:15



**GOOSEBUMPS 2: HAUNTED HALLOWEEN**  
Friday 2 and Saturday 3: 16:10  
Sunday 4: 12:00, 16:10



**BOHEMIAN RHAPSODY**  
Director Bryan Singer and Dexter Fletcher  
Starring Rami Malek, Lucy Boynton, Ben Hardy  
BIOGRAPHY - 134 min.  
Wednesday 31: 18:00, 20:15, 22:30  
Thursday 1: 15:40, 18:00, 20:15, 22:30  
From Friday 2 to Sunday 4: 15:45, 18:00, 20:15, 22:30  
From Monday 5 to Thursday 8: 17:45, 20:00, 22:30



**HUNTER KILLER**  
Director Donovan Marsh  
Starring Gerard Butler, Gary Oldman, Common  
ACTION - 122 min.  
Wednesday 31: 18:15, 22:45  
Thursday 1: 15:40, 18:00  
From Friday 2 to Sunday 4: 15:40, 18:15  
Monday 5 and Thursday 8: 17:45  
Tuesday 6 and Wednesday 7: 18:00



**THE GUERNSEY LITERARY AND POTATO PEEL PIE SOCIETY**  
From Wednesday 31 to Sunday 4: 18:15  
From Monday 5 to Thursday 8: 18:00



**A STAR IS BORN**  
From Wednesday 31 to Thursday 8: 18:00



## EXHIBITIONS

**Impressionism and photography**  
**Algeciras.** Until 28 December.  
Galería UFCA.

Exhibition by Manuela Quirós, from Algeciras, a photographer who alongside her digital images has a series of paintings that complement her photography.

**Galería Krabbe**  
**Frigiliana.** Until 24 November.  
C/Rosario.

A new exhibition entitled 'Habitat' features works by artists Caroline Krabbe, Amanda Arancibia and Hanne G. Email: galeriakrabbe@gmail.com



Galería Krabbe, Frigiliana

rabbe@gmail.com

## ANEDA

**Nerja.** Until 3 November. Sala municipal from 11am-2pm and 6pm-9pm.

Exhibition of the collected works of The Nerja Art Association.

## Caminos Cruzados

**Nerja.** Until 11 November. Museo de Nerja.

Oliver and Fernando de la Rosa present their sculptures at this exhibition.

## Rocinante no hay camino

**Nerja.** Until 18 November. Centro cultural.

The first photographic exhibition of well known sea painter José Melguizo.

## CHARITY

## Guy Fawkes charity party

**Marbella.** 4 November at 7.30pm. Villa Tiberio, tickets are 75 euros.

The event will be raising money for the Spanish Red Cross for the refugees in Malaga, and Cudeca. There will be aperitifs and a three-course meal with wines, liqueurs and coffee (included in the price), followed by a charity auction with celebrity-signed items and live entertainment followed by fireworks. All monies from the auction and 25€ from each ticket will be shared by the charities. Reservations tel: 952 77 1799 or email info@villatiberio.com.

# Granada jazz festival, one of the oldest in Europe

## :: SUR IN ENGLISH

**GRANADA.** The Festival Internacional de Jazz Granada is one of the most anticipated events of the autumn for jazz lovers every year. Running for nearly forty years, it is one of the oldest jazz festivals in Europe. Since the very first edition it has showcased the best of national and international jazz with musicians such as Miles Davis, Oscar Peterson, Abbey Lincoln, Art Blakey, Tete Montoliu, Dizzy Gillespie, Wayne Shorter, Dee Dee Bridgewater and Chucho Valdés among the many who have performed at the event.

This year the festival starts today, Friday 2 November, with an opening performance by saxophonist Melissa Aldana and her quartet. The following evening contemporary jazz musician James Carter will be in concert and on Sunday 4 November it is the turn of pianist Eliane Elias. On 7 November, Bill Evans and Randy Brecker joins drummer Simon Phillips in concert.



Melissa Aldana. :: SUR.

## INFORMATION

► **What:** International jazz festival. www.jazzengranada.es

► **Where:** Teatro Isabel La Católica, Granada city.

► **When:** From 2 until 10 November.

Joe Barbieri presents his recent recording, Origami, on 8 November. Stanley Clark, co-founder with Chick Corea of Return to Forever will be in concert on 9 November and Stacey Kent, winner of the British Jazz Award among many others, will perform for the closing concert on Saturday 10 November.

lowed by a charity auction with celebrity-signed items and live entertainment followed by fireworks. All monies from the auction and 25€ from each ticket will be shared by the charities. Reservations tel: 952 77 1799 or email info@villatiberio.com.

## TAIL Torrox Autumn Dog Show

**Torrox Costa.** 4 November from noon. Judging from 2pm. Chiriguito El Barco, Peñoncillo Beach. Fifteen classes, rosettes, cups and prizes, stalls and cake stand, bar and food. Parade of dogs for adoption. All proceeds go to Tail Dog Refuge. Fun for all the family as well as all dog owners.

**Armistice Remembrance Day Mijas.** 11 November, from 11.30am. Tamisa Golf Hotel. 25€. The minute silence and reflection at 12 (11am English time) will be followed by a two course lunch at

1pm. Live entertainment will be provided by 'Touch of Class' and quartet, 'Reflections Acapella'. Then at 6pm Lindsay Rose will be performing. Tel: 952 585 988 OR email: reservas@hoteltamisa-golf.com

## MUSIC &amp; DANCE

## The Wall Bar

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

**3 November.** Susan Valery & Adrian Lombardi. Voice and guitar. Jazz style.

**10 November.** Constanza & Javier Jazz duet.

**17 November.** Señor Blues. Jesús Aranda & Alberto Soler. Blues, country, rock and soul.

**24 November.** Victor Sánchez & Dani Harp. Blues, rock and roll and american folk music.

## Axel Concert



Sandro Morelli, charity night

**Malaga.** November 4. La Cochera Cabaret.

After two sell-out shows at the legendary Gran Rex Theater in Buenos Aires and his second time as a judge on the "La Voz Argentina", Axel arrives in Malaga on part of his tour. For tickets visit www.lacochera-cabaret.com.

## Louie Louie Live

**Estepona.** Louie Louie Bar.

**14 November, 10pm.** Robert Jon &

The Wreck. 10€ in advance, 13€ on the door.

**22 November, midnight.** Super-suckers. 20€ in advance, 24€ on the door.

**24 November, 11.45pm.** The Rob Sas Band.

## Tango show

**Estepona.** 9 November at Centro Cultural Padre Manuel, Estepona 8.30pm. 'Una Noche en Buenos Aires' live music and ballet. Tickets 10 Euros and already available at 660753246.

## Tribute to Pavarotti

**Almuñécar.** 2 November, 8pm.

Casa de la Cultura.

Tenor Moisés Molin and pianist Diego Rivera.

## Cuarteto Quimbo

**Almuñécar.** 3 November, 8pm.

Casa de la Cultura.

A concert of Cuban music with the Cuarteto Quimbo.

## Choir concert

**Almuñécar.** 4 November, 8pm.

Iglesia Parroquial de la Encarnación.

The Academia Vocal de Granada "Feelings" will be in concert. Free.

## A Touch of Class

**Fuengirola.** 16 November, 7pm.

Casa de la Cultura. 10€

A Touch of Class presents Variety Espectacular in aid of Lux Mundi. Reservations: 952026811 or email touchofclasstickets@gmail.com.

## Classical music mornings

**Malaga.** One Sunday a month at midday. El Palacio de la Aduana.

In total there will be thirteen concerts consisting of jazz, flamenco, Gregorian, gospel, chamber music and processional marches. Members of the Orquesta Filarmónica de Málaga, the Orquesta Joven de Andalucía, the Escuela Reina Sofía, the Joven Orquesta Nacional de España and the Las Chapas choir from Marbella will be performing among others. www.orquestafilarmonicademalaga.com

## Sleeping Beauty

**Malaga.** 28 November. Teatro Cervantes.

Russian National Ballet dancing to music composed by Tchaikovsky. Call 952224109 to book.

## Jazz Club concert

**Nerja.** 23 November at 8.30pm.

Hotel Plaza Cavana. Tickets are 18€ for an armchair seat and 12 euros

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for a stool. The ticket price includes a glass of Cava. Daniel Amat and Francis Posé in concert with Jorge Cid on the drums. Amat is a Cuban pianist and Posé a Spanish double bass player. The concert promises to be a colourful, rhythmic musical experience.

### Orquesta de Cámara de la Nueva Filarmónica de Hamburgo

**Nerja.** 3 November. Centro Cultural Villa de Nerja. 25 euros. Guest orchestral performance in Spain, playing Vivaldi's Four Seasons.

### Tango Spectacular

**Nerja.** 6 November. Centro Cultural Villa de Nerja. La Porteña Tango performs to celebrate their 10th anniversary.

### Finnish male choir Lauulu-Miehet

**Malaga.** 2 November, 8pm. Malaga Cathedral.

**Fuengirola.** 5 November, 8pm. Palacio de la Paz.

The choir is one to the oldest and most prestigious in Finland. The concert is free of charge.

### Malaga Philharmonic Orchestra

**Malaga.** Auditorio Edgar Neville 2 November 8pm.

Directed by Octavio J. Peidró, the orchestra will play a variety of compositions by Felix Mendelssohn.

**Malaga.** Museo de Málaga

### 4 November, noon.

VAN3uard Percussion and José Carlos Escobar Perianes.

### Malaga. Teatro Cervantes

8, 9 November, 8pm.

Directed by Manuel Hernández Silva, the orchestra will be playing compositions from Dmitri Shostakovich.

23, 25 November, 8pm.

La Traviata by Giuseppe Verdi.

28, 29 November, 8pm, Directed by Álvaro Albiach, the orchestra will be playing Gustav Mahler's Symphony number nine.

**Malaga. Auditorio Museo Picasso** 13 November, 8pm.

Music from Mozart and Brahms by Austri Musici. <https://tickets.museopicassomalaga.org>

16 November, 8pm.

Rachmaninov and Tchaikovsky played by Óscar Martín Castro (piano); Jesús Reina (violin) and Til

## EVENTS

### TOPS Halloween Party

**Coin.** 3 November at 8pm, Pedro Lucena's restaurant, tickets 20 euros.

Dance the night away to the rock group 'Revival'. After last year's very successful evening TOPS have invited them to play again for a Halloween Party. Includes a 2 course meal of either fish, chicken or the vegetarian option. Tickets can be purchased at Martin's or Cristina's bookshops in Alhaurin El Grande.



Aladdin Panto with cast from TAPAS, Coín

### MacBeth production

**Malaga.** 3 November, Teatro Echegaray. 8pm.

An adaptation of William Shakespeare's original directed by Eun Kang.

### Tapas Route

**Churriana.** 2-4 November.

In a Halloween special, take this Tapas route which includes 12 bars in Churriana.

### The Invaders

**Churriana.** 3 November, 7pm-11pm.

The Invaders race on three kilometres with scary stages through the streets of Churriana. Entertainment from DJ Ben Hassel.

### Age Concern coffee morning

**Estepona.** 6 November from 11am until 1pm. Rick's Gin and Tonic

Have a coffee and take part in the discussions or get those questions that have been bothering you, answered.

### Quiz Night

**Fuengirola.** 15 November, 6.30pm. Lux Mundi Ecumenical Centre.

Team up with your friends and pit your wits for a fun, light hearted evening. There will be a prize for the 1st and 2nd placed teams. A snack and one free drink included in ticket price of 4€. All proceeds to fund raising.

### A trip to Estepa

**Fuengirola.** 21 November, departing 8am from Feria ground or 8.05 from bullring. 23€.

Includes travel, insurance and entrance to the La Estepeña factory where the famous Christmas mantecados biscuits are made. Tel 952 474 840, e-mail luxmundi@gmail.com web. www.lux-

mundi.org.

### Panto Aladdin

**Coin.** 23, 24 November, 7pm. El Palacio, La Trocha. 12€ non members. 8€ under twelves.

The Andalucia Performing Arts Society (TAPAS) are performing the panto Aladdin.

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

### Coach excursion to Gibraltar

**Torre del Mar.** 15 November, 20 December. Various departure points. 12€

Transport, travel insurance included. Passport necessary. Lux Mundi Torre del Mar. Tel:952 543 334 or e-mail: luxmundi@luxmundi.org

### Excursion to Cordoba

**Torre del Mar.** 11-13 December.

Various departure points. 169€ pp sharing double room or 199€ single. In the Hotel Conquistador 4\* Bed and breakfast. Lux Mundi Torre del Mar. Tel:952 543 334 or e-mail: luxmundi@luxmundi.org

### Women on screen

**Malaga.** Until 13 November, in the Cine Albeniz.

Screenings of nearly fifty feature films, short films and documentaries reflecting on gender inequalities and analysing the role of transgressive women in their social, historical and political context and of the victims not only of discrimination based on gender but in relation to ethnicity, race, sexual orientation or social class.

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## EVENTS

**Viveros Guzmán and Fuengirola with Lux Mundi Torre del Mar.** 21 November. Various departure points. 15€  
A visit to Guzmán garden centre and then shopping trip to Fuengirola. Tel:952 543 334 or e-mail: luxmundi@lux-mundi.org

**Traditional Halloween Party Torre del Mar.** 21 November. In the town.  
Activities for the whole family, as well as Halloween themed events such as a haunted house.



Roasted chestnuts, Ojén

**Bring and Share lunch Torre del Mar.** 5 November. Lux Mundi Ecumenical Centre, 1pm. Widows, widowers and singles group. Meet new friends at the Centre. The group also meets on the other Mondays of the month for coffee, walks, visits to places of interest, etc. Tel:952 543 334 or e-mail: luxmundi@lux-mundi.org

**Autumn and Winter fashion show Torre del Mar.** 6 November. Lux Mundi Ecumenical Centre, 4pm. opportunity to purchase new and nearly new clothes, shoes and accessories to add to your wardrobe. There will be a welcome drink and refreshments available to purchase during the interval. Tickets 5 euros.

**National Dog Show Estepona** 10 November, 4.30 - 6.30pm. Registration between 3 and 4.30pm. Palacio de Exposiciones y Congresos.  
The third Concurso nacional Canino Ciudad de Estepona is organised by the Royal Spanish Canine Association and Costa del sol Canine Association.

**Royal British Legion Cruise**

**Mollina.** 15 November.  
The cruise around the central Mediterranean area will be for seven nights, eight days. Prices range from 850 -955 € depending on choice of cabin. Organised in conjunction with Halcón viajes and Pullmantur. More details from: jfloresmolina@halcon-viajes.es or call Dave Punshon 689455704 or email: punshon.dave@gmail.com

**Phoenix Club trips Christmas lights and market in Seville.** 15, 16 December. Depart Algarrobo Lidl 8.30am other pick ups to be confirmed. 100€ pp sharing dble room. Single 135€ . Includes B&B, coach fare and driver's gratuity.  
For more information email: phoenixsocialclub@yahoo.co.uk or go to www.phoenixsocialclub.co.uk.  
man Mahrenholz (cello).

**Malaga International Jazz Malaga.** Teatro Cervantes.  
**2 November.** Billy Cobham Band.  
**3 November.** Stefano Bollani quintet Que Bom.  
**4 November.** John Scofield's Combo 66.

**T. I. M. S Remembrance day Fuengirola.** 11 November. Salon Varieties no later than 10.15am. For more information visit www.tims.org.

**TIMS 30th anniversary Fuengirola.** 22 November. The Avanto at 8pm.  
The concert includes performances from Juliet Williams and Ricky Lavazza, also known as the 'Velvet Voice'. www.tims.org.

**Fiesta de la Castaña Alcaucín, Ojén and Pujerra.** 3, 4 November.  
Tastings of roasted chestnuts cooked in the traditional way and accompanied by anis or local mistela. Other local products such as raisins, roasted sweet potatoes and mantecados will be available. Saturday afternoon in Alcaucín, Sunday in Ojén and Saturday and Sunday in Pujerra.

## FLAMENCO

**Cata Flamenca Nerja.** 14 November at 7.30pm. Tickets are 50€. Bodega.  
The best wines in Andalucía with a combination of tapas and haute cuisine and flamenco. Reservations



Artist presents a collection of colourful abstract designs. :: SUR

## An investigation of the geometric shape

**:: TONY BRYANT**  
**SAN PEDRO.** The Es Arte Gallery in San Pedro Alcántara is currently exhibiting a collection of work by Cordoba artist, Aurora Cid. Chromatic Geometry is a deep investigation of the geometric shape and includes a collection of colourful abstract designs on paper, wood and metal. The colour becomes a key element, giving it a depth that is achieved through the use of the tonal gradation technique.

The pieces have been selected from her collections in the Antonio Saura Foundation

Museum in Cuenca, and the town halls of Ciudad Real and Cordoba.

Aurora Cid is an award winning painter, sculptor and photographer with a consolidated career within the art world. The artist has exhibited both individually and collectively in Spain, Belgium, Germany and Italy.

The free exhibition, which will run until 22 November, can be viewed from Monday to Friday between the hours of 10.30am and 2pm, and from 5.30pm to 8pm. The exhibition can be visited by appointment on Saturday mornings: 952039945.

690073871.

**Let the Christmas spirit start Alhaurin el Grande.** 17 November at 7pm until late. Venta La Recta. Tickets are 10 euros.  
The Andy Ross Singers invite you to their musical Christmas show. There will be a mix of traditional Christmas songs and sound tracks from musicals. Food is also available. Reservations or for more info call 617510758 or 952112057.

## O. V. FILM

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

**Cine Albéniz**  
C/Alcazabilla 4, Malaga. Tel: 902

36 02 95 or visit www.cinealbeniz.com or www.unientradas.es  
**The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society:** 18.15, 20.15.

**Cinesur El Ingenio**  
Avda. Juan Carlos I, Vélez-Málaga. Tel. 667 77 31 87.  
**First Man:** 20.10 (Tues).  
**Venom:** 18.30, 21.00 (Tues).  
**Cold War:** 18.05, 20.05, 22.05 (Tues).  
**The House With the Clock in the Wall:** 18.05, 20.15 (Tues).  
**A Star is Born:** 21.15 (Tues).

**Cinesur Miramar**  
Avda. de la Encarnación, Fuengirola. Tel. 952 19 86 00.  
**Bohemian rhapsody:** 12.00, 16.15, 19.00, 21.45, 00.30 (everyday)  
**A Star is Born:** 12.00, 16.00 (eve-

ryday).  
**The Nutcracker and the Four Realms:** 12.05, 17.00 (everyday).  
**Halloween:** 18.40, 21.00, 23.15 (everyday).  
**The House With A Clock On The Wall:** 18.05, 20.10 (Tues).  
**BlacKkKlansman:** 22.05, 00.30 (everyday); 16.45 (Mon, Tues, Thurs).

**Cines Teatro Goya**  
For tickets and information call 951196665. www.cinesteatro-goya.com  
**Halloween:** 20.15 (Mon-Thurs); 20.30, 22.45 (Fri, Sat, Sun); 22.30 (Mon-Wed).  
**Goosebumps 2: Haunted Halloween:** 12.00 (Sun); 16.10 (Fri, Sat, Sun).  
**The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society:** 18.00 (Mon-Thurs); 18.15 (Fri, Sat, Sun).  
**Hunter Killer:** 15.40, 18.15 (Fri, Sat, Sun); 17.45 (Mon, Thurs); 18.00 (Tues, Wed).  
**The Nutcracker and the Four Realms:** 11.45 (Sun); 15.50 (Fri, Sat, Sun); 18.00 (every day).  
**Bohemian Rhapsody:** 15.45, 20.15 (Fri-Sun); 18.00, 22.30 (every day); 17.45, 20.00 (Mon-Thurs).  
**A Star is Born:** 18.00 (everyday).

**Yelmo Cines, Plaza Mayor**  
Centro de Ocio Plaza Mayor, Avda. Alfonso Ponce de León.  
Tel: 902 902 103 or visit www.yelmocines.es  
**BlacKkKlansman:** 16.15 (every day except Sun); 12.40 (Sun); 18.55 (Tues).  
**The Nutcracker and the Four Realms:** 13.30 (Sat, Sun); 21.05 (Fri, Sat, Sun).  
**First Man:** 22.30 (Tues).  
**Hunter Killer:** 12.55 (Sat, Sun); 21.45 (Tues).  
**Goosebumps 2: Haunted Halloween:** 14.15 (Sat, Sun); 18.15 (Tues).  
**Bohemian Rhapsody:** 17.00, 19.40, 22.20 (every day except Wed).  
**Christopher Robin:** 12.20 (Sat, Sun); 16.35 (Tues).  
**Halloween:** 13.15 (Sat, Sun); 15.45 (Fri-Tues).

**Musica Con Encanto**  
Les Roches, Marbella: 689 000 944.  
**La Suite Iberia:** 17 November, 7pm. 25€ A piano recital by José Luis Nieto. Discounts for the unemployed, students and under 18s. www.musicaconencanto.org

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## SOLLO INSPIRATION

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### Duck bao

'Bao' is literally to 'enfold' and bao bread is Asian in origin. It is steamed with Peking style laquered duck, spring onions, pickled gherkins, hoisin sauce and aromatic herbs. For four people.

#### Peking style duck INGREDIENTS

1 Peking style duck.  
1 litre hoisin sauce.  
600g molasses

#### METHOD

Preheat the oven to 180°. Remove the internal organs from the duck; using a blow torch, pass the flame over the body to burn off any remaining feathers. In a bowl mix together the hoisin sauce and the molasses. Place the duck in a heat proof, shallow dish and baste generously with the hoisin / molasses mix. Roast in the hot oven for 20 minutes and then remove and baste again. Do this three more times after which the skin should be crispy. Remove from the oven and leave to cool. Chop the flesh very finely.



#### INGREDIENTS TO FINISH

4 bao bread rolls.  
400g chopped duck.  
80g hoisin sauce.  
30g spring onions.  
30g pickled gherkins.  
10g fresh mint.  
10g fresh coriander.

Steam the bao rolls for approximately two to three minutes in a steam oven or alternatively cook them in a microwave for 30-50 seconds.

#### PLATING UP

Cut the steamed bao rolls open and fill with finely chopped duck, spring onion and pickled gherkin cut into julienne strips. Moisten with a little hoisin sauce and sprinkle with the aromatic herbs.

*Diego Gallegos is at the helm of the Michelin-starred restaurant Sollo and Arara bistro bar, both in the Double Tree by Hilton Hotel Resort & Spa Reserva del Higuero, Fuengirola*

ANDREW J. LINN

## OUR LOCAL WINE REGION



**W**e on the Coast are very lucky to have Ronda as our nearest wine-growing area. The phylloxera bug wiped out the Malaga vineyards in 1878, and it was not until the arrival of outsiders like Alfonso von Hohenlohe and Frederic Schatz 30 years ago that vineyards started to flourish again in the Sierra.

Hohenlohe's bodega still exists but is unrecognisable, as is the wine it makes. Schatz's organic varieties are widely acclaimed. Currently there are many bodegas in the Ronda area making excellent varieties, officially classified as the Serrania de Ronda within the all-embracing official title of DO Sierras de Málaga.

Brought up, as most of us are, on Rioja and Ribera del Duero styles, we often erroneously compare Ronda, and indeed other areas' wines, with these Spanish references.

The problem for the wineries

has been to get Andalusian bars and restaurants to acknowledge their existence. The standard response, when asking your favourite local restaurant why there were no Ronda varieties featured on their list, was a standard "They are too expensive".

This may have been vaguely associated with reality ten or 15 years ago, but an effective price freeze over a decade has brought them into line with any other region's levels.

Of the better Ronda wines – and really it is hard to find a bad one – Chinchilla's two impressive reds from the Doña Felisa bodega are among the best. Chloe Chardonnay, the first white wine to be made in the area, is surprisingly good at around ten euros. The five reds range from eight euros for the most acceptable Encaste 2017, and 13 euros for the excellent Seis + Seis 2013 (see Wine of the Week below).

#### WINE OF THE WEEK

##### Chinchilla Doble Doce 2013

From the above-mentioned Doña Felisa bodega in Ronda, this blend of Merlot and Cabernet Sauvignon has 15 months barrel-age in French oak. It won a gold medal in Paris recently as the best Cabernet Sauvignon in the World. Around 19 euros.



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15\* SPANISH-SWISS CELLARS  
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22\* RIBEIRA SACRA  
An idyllic place for vines

29\* THE FRAMEWORK OF JEREZ  
Immerse yourself in its wine history and generous wines

December

13\* A CENTENNIAL TRADITION  
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20\* CHAMPAGNE TAITTINGER 50€  
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## Easy puddings in a glass

**Easy to prepare, versatile and delicious. Nearly all favourite cake recipes can be adapted to this format**

Working with just three basic elements -bases, custards and toppings- the only limit is the imagination

**ESPERANZA PELÁEZ**

**MÁLAGA.** Imagine you have just organised a get-together for friends at your home, or have offered to prepare your famous tiramisu for a party with 50 guests. In situations like these, puddings in a glass

are ideal. Easy to assemble, store and serve, there are endless combinations and you can even provide a dessert buffet by using different ingredients. So, let's look at some ideas for delicious puds in a glass.

There are basically three elements: base, cream or custard, and topping. Contrast is also important. The more you play with colours which will be seen through the glass, the more attractive your desserts will be, and the combination of creamy, juicy and crunchy



There are endless combinations that can be served in glasses. **D. MALDONADO**

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textures will make them more interesting to eat. But let's do this a step at a time:

### 1. The bases

The base goes in the bottom of the glass, and it needs to be something that will enhance the flavour of the cream or custard and harmonise with its texture.

If, for example, you want to offer a version of a classic strawberry and cream sponge cake, instead of making the cake you can buy sponge fingers and pour a light syrup over them. For the syrup you need 100ml of water and 100g of white sugar.

Put them in a pan and heat them until the sugar has dissolved. You can add lemon juice or a few drops of your favourite liqueur etc, to add to the taste, if you like.

Then put the sponge fingers into the glass, level them off and add the syrup with a basting spoon.

Then, for your strawberry cake, add whipped cream and sliced fresh strawberries. You can use more than one layer if you like, but it must always look attractive from the outside.

Other options can also be used for bases, for example digestive biscuits for cheesecakes or lemon pie in a glass.

For this, you'll need 80g of butter, 10 digestive biscuits and a pinch of salt. Crush the biscuits into quite large crumbs, add the melted butter and salt and use your fingertips to ensure that the butter mixes

## Look for crunchy toppings such as nuts, chocolate or even popping candy

properly with the biscuit crumbs. This will help to keep them crisp once the cream has been added.

'Tortas de aceite', almond cake or even pastry can also be used as a base for these puddings, but if you want them to stay crisp it is best to add them at the end in the form of a topping instead.

### 2. Creams and custards

This is where imagination and time come into it.

If you're short of time you can improvise and make some very good fillings with bought custard, for example. Like this 'Baileys tart' glass:

For six people, use sponge fingers for the base, and pour neat Baileys over them. For the filling, use 300g of bought custard, 200g of caramel and one sachet of instant coffee diluted in 20ml of whisky.

In a bowl, stir the custard ingredients until they're well mixed, and then use a piping bag to place the filling on the bases.

Finally, put whipped cream on the top and sprinkle chocolate-covered coffee grains over as a topping.

If you want to make a chocolate cake in a glass, you can use butter-free chocolate mousse as the fill-



finally whipped cream topped with a hot chocolate sauce.

The sauce is made by heating 20cl of single cream with 10cl of milk, and melting 150g of dark chocolate chips in it.

Stir until well mixed, and keep until needed. You can add a sprinkling of toasted almonds on top of the sauce, if required.

White chocolate yoghurt is also a very versatile custard for desserts in a glass. For this, you need 200g of whipping cream, 125ml of Greek yoghurt, 200g of white chocolate and two spoons of icing sugar.

Whip the cream. Melt the chocolate in a bain marie, and mix it with the Greek yoghurt. Next, stir the two creams together.

If you want a filling with a thicker, more cheese-like texture, you can mix 200g of whipped cream,

150g of sugar and 200g of cream cheese.

Both of these fillings combine very well with fruits and any type of jam.

### 3. Toppings

Look for crispy items, anything from pieces of chocolate or nuts to more unusual and entertaining elements like popping candy.

There are just three elements to these desserts. :: D. MALDONADO

ing: melt 150g of dark chocolate, and when it has cooled to room temperature mix in four beaten egg yolks. Separately, whisk the four egg whites until very stiff, and then fold them into the chocolate mixture, using a spatula and

gentle upward movements.

To assemble the dessert, put chocolate sponge soaked in a few drops of Cointreau in the bottom of the glass, then spread a spoonful of apricot jam on top.

Add the semi-bitter mousse, and

Puds in a glass are quick and easy to make. :: D. M



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# Myths and truths about flu and the common cold

**Colds and flu can be prevented by taking certain precautionary measures, but there is a great deal of 'fake news' about avoiding and treating them which is unsupported by scientific evidence and can cause far more harm than good**

## ■ SUR

Autumn arrives, and then comes the cold weather. It is a time of year when colds and flu are unwelcome but regular visitors. There are a great many myths about how to avoid them: contrary to common belief, keeping well wrapped-up and never going barefoot at home will be no use at all unless we take other, really effective, measures. In fact, catching a virus has nothing whatsoever to do with what we wear or whether we are outside in bad weather.

So if colds and flu are unrelated to the weather, why do so many people suffer from them at this time of year?

Well, there is a correlation, but

not the one that many people think. Yes, it is a fact that most colds occur in the autumn and winter; that is due to a combination of factors, such as people spending more time together at home and in enclosed spaces such as offices and schools, and that increases the risk of exposure to viruses. In some climates the combination of cold weather and low humidity means nasal passages dry up, and that makes them more susceptible to cold viruses.

The question to which everyone wants an answer is, how can we prevent colds and flu? Experts recommend washing our hands carefully and regularly, not rub-

bing our eyes, covering our mouths with our forearm when we cough, using disposable handkerchiefs and not sharing food, glasses or cutlery. It sounds simple, but it is effective. Weighing ourselves down with heavy coats, scarves, hats and gloves, on the other hand, isn't.

Something else to bear in mind is that a cold is not the same as flu. They are two different illnesses even though they have similar symptoms. It is important to know how to tell the difference, because in certain people flu complications can be fatal, such as the elderly and patients with pulmonary and cardiac problems.

A high temperature, cough, muscular pain and headaches are usually associated with flu (and are rare with a cold), while sneezing, nasal secretion and sore throats are signs of a cold and do not, or very rarely, occur with flu. They are two completely different viruses.

It is essential to take note of that, because a whole network of urban myths has developed about the 'world' of colds and flu, even

though they bear little or no relationship to the findings of scientific studies.

A classic example of a myth is the one about vitamin C, which for decades has been said to have properties which improve the immune system and help its defence against colds and flu.

Despite this or any other supposed anti-viral properties, no scientific tests have ever supported the theory. There is therefore no

need for us to stuff ourselves with vitamin C if we come into contact with a virus, and if we don't wash our hands properly we will end up transferring it to our eyes anyway.

We will also catch the virus if we don't keep at a cautious distance from someone who already has it, because it is mainly transmitted through the air.

In fact, not even a strong immune system is a guarantee: a healthy adult can easily suffer from two to four colds a year, and children can have twice as many.

The case of the common cold is similar: it can be the result of over 200 different viruses which cause inflammation of the membranes which cover the nose and throat. Among all these, the principal ones are the rhinovirus, adenovirus and coronavirus. Our bodies are incapable of developing all the defences they would need to battle them all.

As well as the recommendations above for preventing flu, there is scientific evidence that the flu vaccine is a preventive measure which has proven its effectiveness in groups with the risk of greater complications. GPs will already have recommended a flu jab to patients who belong to one of the risk groups. The campaign has already begun in Andalucía and patients only have to go to their

**Colds and flu are not the same thing; they are different illnesses with similar symptoms**

**An annual flu jab is recommended for over-65s and others at risk of complications**

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The viruses that cause colds are spread through the air. :: SUR

health centre to be given the vaccine. Remember that nowadays it is not only suitable for pregnant women, but is also recommended for them because they are part of a risk group and it is totally safe in this sub-group. It is also one of the safest vaccines, with the lowest side effects, and can never cause flu because it contains unactivated virus.

Children, elderly people and others in a risk group should have the flu jab every year. The risk groups include people over 65, those who live in residential or nursing homes, pregnant women and individuals with chronic medical problems.

Looking at another aspect of flu

or the common cold, what should we do if we catch them? Let's start with what we shouldn't do. There are many 'alternative' remedies, including medicinal plants and other treatments, which are used to alleviate the symptoms. People believe that ginger and propolis can help them to feel better because of their analgesic properties, although there is no scientific evidence for this, and it is probable that any improvement which occurs in these people is the natural evolution of the illness.

Garlic and onion have also been used as remedies for flu processes, to prevent them as well as relieving their symptoms; some see them as two 'powerful



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➤ antidiotes' which are capable of battling different respiratory afflictions. However, once again, no clinical tests have supported these beliefs. Putting a raw onion in a room so you don't get flu is just one more myth. All it does is 'perfume' the room with the rather unpleasant odour of the vegetable.

If you don't want to catch flu, it is important to avoid contact with people who have it, and wash your hands regularly and thoroughly.

With regard to echinacea, some studies indicate that it may slightly relieve the symptoms of the common cold in adults, but has no proven effects on prevention or improving the body's defences.

It also interferes with other treatments which affect the liver: paracetamol, cortisone, immune suppressants, anti-tumoral drugs...

For that reason, these 'remedies' can even be harmful. Not only do they not cure the flu or cold, but could be contraindicated if someone suffers from another chronic health problem.

Treating flu and cold with antibiotics is also a big mistake. Flu is an illness which is frequently uncomplicated and self-limiting and its treatment is purely associated with symptom relief: staying hydrated, relative rest and the use



The flu vaccine is now available at local health centres. :: SUR

of thermal analgesics like paracetamol or non-steroid anti-inflammatories should be sufficient.

Because flu is caused by a virus, antibiotics are no use because they only work against bacterial infec-

tions. Doctors will only prescribe anti-viral drugs for patients at risk.

Abusing antibiotics doesn't help people to get better faster, as many believe, and it can have an adverse effect. The indiscriminate use of

antibiotics makes the bacteria more resistant to them (which means that if that person needs them in the future they won't work).

Because of all this, as always, it is preferable to be aware of such types of 'fake news', and stick to treatments which are supported by clinical tests.

If the high temperature persists and antipyretics have no effect, it is important to consult your GP to see whether you need a different treatment.

The OCU consumers association warns of another false belief about treatment of colds and flu: "We think we have to make sure we drink enough liquids, but the traditional advice of 'drink lots of liquid' when you have a cold or flu isn't proven scientifically. People should also bear in mind that the water our body needs doesn't only come from the liquids we drink but also the foods we eat," says the organisation, adding, "It is true that the sweating associated with a high temperature (a common symptom of flu) can contribute to dehydration to a certain degree, but that makes us feel thirsty, the best and most unmistakable sign that our body needs us to drink water. It is sensible to be very careful with children and elderly people in this respect, however, be-

cause they don't always show the signs so clearly".

### Stop smoking

Smoking is one of the worst lifestyle habits as far as health is concerned. As well as being the cause of serious illnesses such as different types of cancer and cardiovascular problems, it is also an enemy when combating less important illnesses like flu and colds, and not just because it produces a change in the immune system.

Studies show that smokers, especially the most inveterate ones, have a higher risk of getting flu or catching a cold, and their symptoms are more intense once they have done so. Breathing in environments contaminated by tobacco smoke damages the mucus of the respiratory passages, encouraging the adhesion and penetration of viruses and bacteria.

To sum up, the best thing is to take basic hygiene measures as a precaution in order to avoid catching or giving colds and flu to other people. The flu vaccine is a form of prevention and, although it doesn't guarantee 100 per cent immunity, it significantly reduces the risk of catching the illness at this time of year.

Finally, ignoring advice which is not supported by medical evidence will save you time and also money.



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# Spanish doctor reconstructs face of man attacked by a hyena

Famed surgeon Pedro Cavadas carried out the operation at the Hospital de Manises in Valencia

:: D. GUINDO

**VALENCIA.** "I heard a woman screaming, I got closer and saw that she was being devoured by a hyena. I tried to defend her but it attacked me too and tore off my face and my fingers. I survived because I fell into a spot where it couldn't reach me." This is the tragedy that Lonunuko suffered six years ago, but thanks to Dr Pedro Cavadas, he now has a second chance.

The renowned Valencia surgeon has reconstructed his face and one of his hands which means the Kenyan can now eat and help to look after his seven children.

The pair spoke on Tuesday at the conference hall of the Hospital de Manises in Valencia. Lonunuko couldn't find the words to thank the surgeon who has restored his basic functions.

Following the incident in 2012, Lonunuko was transferred to a hospital in Samburu in northern Kenya where they found that his palate, his upper jaw bone and a third of his



Cavadas with Lonunuko at Tuesday's press conference. :: EFE

face had been ripped off. He couldn't swallow nor speak and he had severe injuries to his hand. With limited resources "they did what they could", said Cavadas.

The surgeon said that while there were still "a few aesthetic touches" to be added, Lonunuko could return

to Kenya in a week and will be able to live "a normal life" now that he "can eat whatever he wants and be understood when he speaks".

The recovery period, compared to being attacked by a hyena at least, "should be a walk in the park for him", joked the surgeon.



:: JOSELE-LANZA

## RECOGNITION FOR FREDDY SIMON

The distinguished career of Marbella-based gynaecologist Freddy Simon (centre) was recognised at a special tribute ceremony on Saturday. The doctor, who was born in an Amazonian hamlet in Bolivia, moved to the town in 1976 and has overseen an estimated 30,000 births. He currently is still working at QuironSalud Marbella.

## Expert warns of rise in sexually-transmitted infections among teenagers

:: ÁNGEL ESCALERA

**MÁLAGA.** The non-use of condoms is leading to an alarming increase in sexually transmitted diseases among teenagers in Spain, an expert has warned.

María Jesús Alonso, who spoke last week at the 32nd congress of the Sociedad Española de Pediatría Extrahospitalaria y Atención

Primaria (the Spanish society for outpatient paediatrics and primary healthcare), said that cases of herpes, gonorrhoea and chlamydia had increased steeply among teens in the last five years.

Alonso attributes this rise to a lack of education, with many pairs using condoms on the first sexual encounter, but not on subsequent ones. Reasons for this include the belief that they "ruin the mood".

The expert also pointed towards an overreliance on the morning-after pill and a misunderstanding of its function.

In Spain there are almost 10,000 pregnancies among girls under 19 every year, 80 per cent of which are unwanted.

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We speak

## International Rotary Club Mijas marks World Polio Day

Members of the Mijas branch set up an informative stand in the centre of La Cala to raise awareness to the foundation's End Polio Now campaign

■ **TONY BRYANT**

**MIJAS.** The International Rotary Club Mijas participated in the annual World Polio Day events last week, with an initiative aimed at raising funds for, and awareness of, victims of poliomyelitis.

Celebrated around the world on 24 October, the day is organised by Rotary International, the global foundation that has so far helped immunise more than 2.5 billion children in 122 countries. Rotary International has played a key role in the reduction of polio cases since the first project to vaccinate children in the Philippines in 1979. Over the last 30 years, it has contributed more than 1.8 billion dollars towards eradicating the paralysing and potentially deadly disease.

Members of the Mijas branch set up an informative stand in the centre of La Cala de Mijas to raise awareness to the foundation's End Polio Now campaign, part of the Global Polio Eradication Initiative.

Polio is an infectious disease that most commonly affects children under the age of five. The virus spreads from person to person, typically through contaminated water. There is no cure, but there are safe



Rotary Club members in La Cala de Mijas last Wednesday. ■ **SUR**

and effective vaccines. The strategy to eradicate polio is based on preventing infection by immunising every child until transmission stops and the world is polio free.

Rotary Club Member, Anita

Noordzij, said: "We were really encouraged by the interest in the End Polio Now programme because with everybody's help we can get one step closer to a polio-free world."

### Awareness march to support children's cancer research

■ **T. BRYANT**

**CÁRTAMA.** Cártama is preparing for the ninth edition of the Marcha Vecinal en Apoyo a la Investigación del Cáncer Infantil, an awareness march in aid of chil-

dren's cancer research.

The event, which is organised by Cártama town hall and the Casa de Castilla y León Cártama association, will take place on Sunday 18 November and will be sponsored by local retailers and residents.

As in previous years, two simultaneous marches will leave the Tenencia de Alcaldía in Cártama Estación and the town hall in Cártama at 10am. Both marches will end at the Ciudad Deportiva sports complex.



Joan Hunt accepts the car from Age Care Association. ■ **T. B.**

## Age Care Association sponsors Cudeca Hospice's new car

The new Volkswagen Polo will be used by the charity's home care teams who visit 1,400 patients every year

■ **T. B.**

**BENALMÁDENA.** The Age Care Association of the Costa del Sol has sponsored a brand new Volkswagen Polo to the Cudeca Foundation. The car, which will be used by the cancer charity's home care teams, was presented to Cudeca founder, Joan Hunt, in Benalmádena on Monday.

The ceremony was attended by members of Cudeca and Age Care president, Syd Weldon.

"We have a good liaison with Cudeca: they have the expertise

and we can raise money to help them continue their good work," Weldon told SUR in English.

The Mijas-based Age Care Association, which was founded in 2001, has been supporting Cudeca for several years.

The Cudeca care teams now have seven cars and these are used to make home visits to those who choose to end their days at home and those who live in remote areas. Each care team visits an average of 250 patients, while collectively they serve more than 1,400 patients throughout the province of Malaga each year.

Joan Hunt said, "I want to say how grateful we are to Age Care, because this is a wonderful gift and it will help our care teams to continue reaching people in their homes."

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# Spanish police to de-stress with the help of yoga

Members of the National Police force who experience psychological trauma will be given training in meditation and yoga to combat stress

## ■ MELCHOR SÁIZ-PARDO

Ever since it was announced last week that the National Police would be receiving classes in meditation to help them to deal with the stress of the job, little else has been spoken about during station coffee breaks.

But as many officers joked around and started doing the lotus position in the corridors, a majority, in fact, have expressed their interest in signing up for the classes.

This is the first time that yoga classes have been offered to the Spanish police. Not only is the course free, but officers will also have all their expenses paid.

The course is called 'Regulation of stress through yoga' and is aimed principally at officers further down

the chain of command who, according to the Ministry of the Interior, suffer the highest stress levels. Only deputy inspectors and those fighting crime directly on the streets, which is to say the majority of the workforce, can sign up.

The first classes will take place at the headquarters for police training in Madrid between 11 and 13 December.

## There is only limited availability for this pioneering course set up by the police

Although the course has been designed for all police officers, initially its organisers will give preference to those with job profiles considered the most stressful, more specifically, members of "units exposed to traumatic psychological experiences".



Places are limited so officers in the most stressful jobs will be given priority. ■ M. INTERIOR / EFE

As a result, judicial police will be prioritised, especially those in the family and women's units (UFAM). Forensics officers and those tasked to deal with violent crime will also top the list. These agents are the ones who, in their day-to-day work, face very difficult situations, inves-

tigating cases involving the dead and wounded, family violence and paedophiles.

Perhaps it is not a surprise that the ministry expects a positive response to this initiative. With the prospect of hundreds of registrants, which would exceed the capacity

the course has to offer, they have decided to do a "pre-selection", giving priority to those already mentioned.

The course is especially attractive as officers based outside Madrid will not have to pay for their accommodation, food or travel expenses.

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# Blanco Leschuk double returns Malaga to winning ways

The Argentinian forward scored a goal early in each half to ensure that the Blue and Whites return to the summit of the table

DARYL FINCH

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## 2-0

MALAGA-NUMANCIA

**Malaga:** Munir; Iván, Luis Hernández, Pau Torres, Ricca; Juanpi (Héctor, 90+2'), Adrián, N'Diaye, Dani Pacheco (Lacen, 84'); Koné (Ontiveros, 67'), Blanco Leschuk. Unused substitutes: Kieszek, Diego González, David Lombán, Hicham.

**Numancia:** Juan Carlos; Markel, Atienza, Dani Calvo, Ripa (Yeboah, 56'); Mateu, Diamanka, Kako (Borja Viguera, 56'), Fran Villalba, Oyarzun; Guillermo (Higinio, 74'). Unused substitutes: Campos, Noguera, Larrea, Grego.

**Goals:** 1-0 Blanco Leschuk (32 seconds), 2-0 Blanco Leschuk (47').

**Referee:** Pizarro Gómez. Yellow cards for Juan Carlos, Blanco, Viguera and Markel.

On-loan Mamadou Koné made his first league start of the season in place of the injured Jack Harper and laid on both goals

**MALAGA.** After last week's slip up in Elche, Malaga returned to their imperious best with a complete performance against Numancia on Monday night.

La Rosaleda proved to be a fortress once again as the Blue and Whites recorded their sixth straight victory on home soil thanks to their leading marksman, Argentinian forward Gustavo Blanco Leschuk.

It didn't take long for him to make an impact, heading home the go-



Iván and Juanpi congratulate Blanco Leschuk after scoring his first goal of the night. :: SALVADOR SALAS

## Three thousands tickets sold to help those affected by the recent flooding

:: ANTONIO GÓNGORA

**MALAGA.** Malaga's match against Numancia was special, not only because of three points picked up by Juan Ramón Muñiz's side, but also because it was also for an-

other good cause.

The club had already announced that the takings for this match would go to those affected by the recent flooding in the province. SUR sources confirmed

that 3,000 tickets had been sold at the gates despite the low temperatures on Monday.

The total amount raised will be distributed across the 31 municipalities directly affected by the torrential rain. The distribution of money, according to the sources consulted, will be carried out through the Diputación provincial authority.

The final amount, from the gate receipts and extra donations from the general public, has not been publicly announced.

### LA LIGA 123

#### Results

Sporting - Córdoba	0-0
Deportivo - Reus	2-0
Granada - Almería	1-0
Mallorca - Las Palmas	2-2
Tenerife - Alcorcón	3-2
Lugo - Cádiz	1-2
Gimnástico - Oviedo	2-1
Extremadura - Albacete	1-2
R. Majadahonda - Osasuna	1-1
Elche - Zaragoza	2-0
Málaga - Numancia	2-0

#### Next match day

Albacete - Gimnástico
Reus - Lugo
Numancia - Tenerife
Osasuna - Málaga
Córdoba - Extremadura
Las Palmas - Deportivo
Cádiz - Elche
Oviedo - Mallorca
Almería - Sporting
Alcorcón - R. Majadahonda
Zaragoza - Granada

#### Table

TEAM	PT	P	W	D	L	GF	GA
★ 1. MALAGA	25	11	8	1	2	14	6
★ 2. Granada	23	11	7	2	2	18	8
3. Deportivo	22	11	6	4	1	18	8
4. Alcorcón	21	11	6	3	2	13	6
5. Las Palmas	19	11	5	4	2	16	9
6. Albacete	17	11	4	5	2	17	12
7. Mallorca	16	11	4	4	3	13	11
8. Oviedo	15	11	4	3	4	13	15
9. Almería	14	11	4	2	5	12	10
10. Sporting	14	11	3	5	3	9	7
11. Elche	14	11	3	5	3	11	13
12. Osasuna	13	11	3	4	4	11	11
13. Numancia	13	11	3	4	4	10	15
14. R. Majadahonda	13	11	4	1	6	9	1
15. Lugo	12	11	3	3	5	11	13
16. Tenerife	12	11	2	6	3	11	14
17. Reus	12	11	3	3	5	9	13
18. Zaragoza	11	11	2	5	4	12	13
▼ 19. Cadiz	11	11	2	5	4	8	11
▼ 20. Extremadura	9	11	2	3	6	13	17
▼ 21. Gimnástico	9	11	2	3	6	8	18
▼ 22. Cordoba	9	11	1	5	5	11	22

ahead goal in the 32nd second despite keeper Juan Carlos getting a full hand to the effort. Much of this goal was owed to work of Mamadou Koné, making his first league start of the season in the absence of the injured Jack Harper. The Senegalese's trickery and pace down the left freed him of his man, before sending in a perfectly-weighted chip to find the head of the unmarked Blanco Leschuk.

Numancia's deep defensive line invited pressure and almost resulted in a second goal for Malaga minutes later when Dani Pacheco tried his luck from the corner of the box; the keeper had to react at the last second to fist the effort away with a number of men, including Blanco Leschuk, practically standing on his toes.

Something similar occurred later in the half as Juanpi's freekick from a tight angle was headed clear by a defender practically out of Juan Carlos' hands.

However, the one time the hosts breached the backline, Juan Carlos came flying out to clutter Blanco Leschuk, with half the ground calling for a red card. The keeper, however, got away with just a yellow

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Up next

## OSASUNA (A)

■ JAMES CHAPMAN

Malaga travel to Pamplona on Saturday to take on mid-table Osasuna (kick-off 6pm). The Reds' form at El Sadar is what has kept them afloat this season, picking up three wins and two draws from their home games while their away form has suffered (two points from six games).

The club was founded in 1920 and took its name from a Basque word meaning 'health'. Their stadium holds 18,500 spectators and, in fact, is smaller than the city's bullring which is the third largest in the world.

Osasuna are in somewhat unusual territory in the second division, having played in La Liga for a total of 37 seasons, putting them 16th in the all-time table. They have also qualified for European football on five occasions, the last in 2007 when they were beaten by Sevilla in the Europa League semi-finals.

despite making no attempt to clear the ball.

### Stepping on the gas

After a first half low on action, many were expecting yet another 1-0, a favourite scoreline of coach Juan Ramón Muñoz.

Blanco Leschuk clearly had different ideas, profiting from Koné's high press to bring out a superb save from Juan Carlos, seconds after the restart. From the resulting corner, though, the Argentinian scored his side's second after Juanpi helped to recycle play and fed Koné, this time on the right, whose low cross was swept home at the near post by Malaga's leading scorer.

Koné, clearly enjoying his time on the field and linking nicely with his strike partner, tried his luck himself with a left-footed shot from the edge of the area that was tipped acrobatically over the bar by Juan Carlos.

Seeing that Malaga were starting to run riot, Numancia coach Aritz

López Garai made a double change, bringing on two forwards in the shape of Yaw Yeboah and Borja Viegura.

Clearly content with his side's lead, Malaga's Muñoz responded in kind, bolstering numbers in his mid-field with the introduction of Javi Ontiveros and Mehdi Lacen.

This helped to limit the visitors to just a few half chances which didn't complicate life too much for keeper Munir. The one time he was troubled was deep into stoppage time when Alain Oyarzun tried to beat the Moroccan at his near post, but was thwarted by his quick reflexes and strong wrists.

"I don't know if that was our best performance of the season, but I hope to see many more like it," said Muñoz following the game. "We have to continue with the same hunger going forward."

With the victory, Malaga returned to the top of the table, two points clear of Andalusian rivals Granada.



María Ruiz and Chelsea show their frustration after conceding a goal. ■ NITO SALAS

# Femenino's winning run comes crashing to an end

MARINA RIVAS



✉ Twitter: @MarinaRivasG

A lack of cutting edge saw Malaga's women's team fall to their first defeat in four matches

# 1-3

MALAGA-GRANADILLA

**Malaga:** Chelsea; Ruth, Raquel, Mayara; Leticia (Celia, 83'), Dominika (Miriam, 78'), Pamela, María Ruiz; Adriana, Natalia (Armisa, 70'), Patricia Mascaró.

**Granadilla:** Aline, Simpson, Llamas, Prieto (Paloma, 68'), Borini, Tui (Koko, 60'), María José (Cindy, 86'), Estrella, Doblado, Gavira, Pisco.

**Goals:** 1-0 María Ruiz (13'); 1-1 Borini (39'), 1-2 Estrella (60'), 1-3 Paloma (90+3').

**Referee:** Frias Acedo.

**Venue:** José Burgos Quintana ground in Coin (around 200 spectators).

**COÍN.** Following wins over Espanyol and Logroño, Malaga Femenino coach Antonio Contreras stuck with the same eleven once again. It was an attacking line-up, one that caused Granadilla a lot of problems in the first half.

The hosts, playing temporarily at the Coin ground while the pitches at the Malaga Football Federation are changed for the winter, took the lead in the 13th minute. Captain Adriana picked up the ball in the centre of the field before laying it off to María Ruiz to convert at the near post and become the

side's leading scorer with two.

The joy was shortlived, though. With five minutes to go until the break, the side from Tenerife were level, seemingly with the help of a handball from Brazilian forward Borini. Despite appeals from both the players and the around 200 supporters in the ground, the goal was

allowed to stand.

Granadilla started to come into their own in the second half, spear-headed by the attacking trio of María José, Pisco and Borini, but the best chances early on fell to Malaga's Adriana who continues to be denied by posts and crossbars across the land. The latest and perhaps most spectacular came from near the centre circle where a combination of the bar and the goalkeeper's glove kept the ball from crossing the line.

However, the next goal of the game went the way of the visitors when Estrella scored with a precision strike in the 61st minute.

Adriana ought to have equalised three minutes later when she fired wide during a moment of chaos in the Granadilla box with the keeper on the ground. Ultimately, luck wasn't on the hosts' side and the visitors scored a third in injury time through Paloma.

Coach Contreras said following the game: "We're irritated because we lost but we realise that we lost to a good team. It's important to keep our feet on the ground."



Mamadou Koné received a standing ovation for his performance. ■ S. S.

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## A LOOK AT LA LIGA

**ROB PALMER**  
Commentator, Sky Sports  
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# Adiós Lopetegui

**There was little sympathy as the coach left Real Madrid after the Clásico humiliation**

In the end it was a quickie divorce of an arranged marriage that lasted just 139 doomed days.

Julen Lopetegui departed heartbroken, feeling unloved but reportedly 15 million euros richer after his painful parting from Real Madrid.

It was a tawdry affair. He'd courted secretly and was outed in the summer as news of his liaisons with Florentino Perez, the Real Madrid President, became public knowledge.

He turned his back on his first love, managing the Spanish national team. If there was an app to fix up these sorts of associations then it would have aligned the logarithms and worked out that the calm, cool headed coach was perfect for the job. With Spain he didn't lose a single game and they headed to the World Cup as one of the most fancied teams.

History now tells us that his head was turned by a more attrac-

tive offer. He'd have to sever his present relationship but the proposition was more head-turning. Luckily he signed a detailed prenuptial before plunging in.

He left without any sympathy.

None from the Real Madrid supporters who

were humiliated by the Clásico defeat.

None from the rest of Spain who felt betrayed in the summer. Even the club statement offered a parting shot that he'd failed with eight Ballon d'Or

contenders. The most important one of course was missing: Cristiano Ronaldo, who was allowed to leave in the summer without a Galáctico replacement.

The situation isn't dissimilar to the one inherited by Zinedine Zidane when he picked up the bits and pieces after the reign of Rafa Benítez. Maybe now people will recognise that Zidane is as great a manager as he was a player.

I stress manager because it is

management of individuals and not drills that leads to the success of a club like Real Madrid. A manager needs to massage some egos and often bruise a few as well. Nobody, not even Cristiano Ronaldo, could question the credentials of Zidane when he offered a stern lecture.

So who succeeds Lopetegui? Antonio Conte is enjoying a stress-free existence and has given the job a swerve. Roberto Martínez has apparently expressed an interest but his background is similar to that of Lopetegui and, as a friend, I don't want him subjected to the toxic atmosphere at the club.

Mauricio Pochettino has all of the credentials and has stated recently that he feels he can't raise expectations at Tottenham beyond a top four finish, given the limited finances derived from the uncertainty of the stadium move.

The Argentinian wouldn't take the job without assurances that he can dictate the football policy himself rather than work as a coach of the collection of players the president picks. He would want a welcome bursary to inject some life and competition into the changing room.

I suspect the door will remain ajar as youth coach Santi Solari



Julen Lopetegui during Sunday's Clásico against Barcelona. :: EFE

keeps the seat warm.

What the club could do with is someone like Ernesto Valverde who is not credited for the excellent job he is doing at Barcelona. The Clásico proved that well-considered planning and willingness to make alterations during the game can pay off. They hammered Real with Lionel Messi watching from the side lines. The new players have been assimilated. Arthur Melo, Clement Lenglet and

Philippe Coutinho are all settled.

His initial selection was strong and when change was required he was decisive. He brought on Nelson Semedo and moved Sergi Roberto into a position that won the game.

Valverde is firmly established and his relationship is firmly established.

Over at the Bernabéu it is once again 'Situation Vacant' and there are not too many takers.

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## Latest loss leaves Marbella in crisis

After going two goals down, Marbella passed up a chance to equalise from the spot

**MARBELLA 1 EL EJIDO 2012 2**

**Julio Rodríguez**

**MARBELLA.** Marbella FC president Alexander Grinberg was visibly dissatisfied following his side's latest loss, the third in four games and the first at the Antonio Lorenzo stadium on Sunday.

The hosts fell to a 2-1 defeat to El Ejido after going behind early on: Lolo Pavón gave away a penalty in the third minute, converted by Tomás.

What followed was an attritional battle with both sides unable to penetrate into the final third with any degree of success. Marbella's Mustafá, in spite of his tireless running, never found himself in a position to threaten the goal as the space afforded to Elías, Jürgen and Bernal was limited.

Marbella coach Padilla attempted to inject life into his side with the



Juanma after missing the penalty in the 83rd minute. :: J. RODRÍGUEZ

half-time introduction of Juanma, but less than a minute later, El Ejido doubled their lead when Rafa Muñoz dinked the ball over the advancing Wilfred.

Montero was then also thrown into the mix and, as a result, Marbella played much more direct football which eventually paid dividends when Montero converted fell substitute Juanma's cross from the left to halve the deficit.

The same pair found themselves at the centre of the action again with seven minutes to play. Montero won a penalty and his strike partner stepped up but hit his spotkick against the legs of keeper Aulestia, ultimately passing up any hope of a point.

This second defeat in a row leaves Marbella just one place above the drop zone and Grinberg with a decision to make over Padilla's future.





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Caroline Grahm rides the "Champagne War Horse" in the hills behind Estepona. :: SUR

## A late-blooming passion leads to a call-up for the regional team

A 47-year-old British woman has achieved one of her horse riding dreams after being selected to represent Andalucía in endurance riding

by DARYL FINCH

**ESTEPONA.** At 47 years of age, Caroline Grahm will be one of the oldest competitors on the course when she takes part in Raid Interautonomías - a 60-kilometre endurance horse race - this Saturday.

However, in this case, with age does not come experience. This is the first time that Caroline will represent Andalucía in these inter-regional games for a sport traditionally dominated by teenagers and young people because of their weight.

Caroline, who has lived in Estepona for 20 years and runs Ranch Siesta Los Rubios riding stables which

looks after in excess of 25 horses, only started competing in the sport four years ago when she was introduced to it by friend and fellow competitor Tracy Lewis from Manilva.

### A young person's sport

"I have ridden since I was four years old but had never heard of endurance racing. It wasn't big in Lancashire!" says Caroline. "It's a sport that's predominantly for younger people and not that many women compete but I thought I'd give it a go for fun and started in a 40-kilometre race. I worked up to 80-kilometre distances, won the Andalucía league title for best horse and then became addicted."

The single mum of four will compete in the 60-kilometre race on Saturday 3 November on her nine-year-old Anglo-Arab horse, Bambina RC. They will be going up against regional teams from the whole of Spain and two of her children will be on hand

as supporting "crew" to help at the breaks, water stops and vet checks.

"I bought Bambina in Seville last year after seeing her online. She had never done an endurance race before but there was just something about her I liked," Caroline explains. "People have nicknamed her the Champagne War Horse because she is totally fearless."

Endurance riding started officially as a sport in the USA in 1955. This equestrian discipline, dominated by the Arab horse which for centuries has been bred for both speed and stamina over any terrain, has been rapidly growing in popularity across Europe in recent years.

Aside from the mental fitness and stamina required of both horse and rider over a five-and-a-half-hour race, Caroline attributes a lot of their success to where they live: "We have hundreds of kilometres of steep mountain trails on our doorstep in the Sierra Bermeja natural park behind Estepona. It's beautiful, challenging and superb fitness training for us both."

### Travel costs

However, like in any amateur sport, endurance riding success does come at a cost. While a number of other riders have sponsors, Caroline does it on her own and pays all of her own travel costs.

Saturday's race is in Badajoz, almost 500 kilometres away, and in order to help out with transport costs for Bambina, friends have set up a Go Fund Me page for anyone who wants to contribute towards this fledgling partnership's maiden run in the colours of Andalucía: "She gives to so many people every day and works so hard for everyone. This is the thing that's just hers and she's fabulous at it. Let's help make that journey easier for her."

[www.gofundme.com/transport-to-compete-60km-horserace](http://www.gofundme.com/transport-to-compete-60km-horserace)

### IN BRIEF



### Marbella: first stop for the next year's World Padel Tour

#### MARBELLA

by J. RODRÍGUEZ. Marbella has been confirmed as the first stop on the 2019 World Padel Tour when it rolls into town from 17 to 24 March.

The preliminary rounds will take place in the Real Club de Pádel

with the participation of 150 pairs, 96 men and 54 women, before the final knock-out rounds at the Elena Benítez pavilion in San Pedro Alcántara.

The town hall signed a 600,000-euro one-year deal to host this open competition as a trial run for a possible masters in coming years.

The deal was announced on Monday by tournament director, Luis Torres, and Marbella councillors Manuel Osorio and Javier Mérida.

### Liuzhou Challenger quarters for Davidovich

#### MALAGA

by P. L. A. Young Malaga tennis star Alejandro Davidovich crashed out of the quarter-finals of the Liuzhou Challenger on Friday with defeat to Blaž Kavčič (6-7 6-2 7-1).

Davidovich (268th, ATP) reached the quarters after losing only three sets on the way.

The Spaniard is currently trying his luck at the Shenzhen Challenger II, making it to the last 16 having defeated Prajnesh Gunneswaran.



Alejandro Davidovich. :: SUR



Games start on Saturday. :: SUR

### Regional inline hockey league gets under way

#### FUENGIROLA

by SUR. The inline hockey season commences this weekend with Fuengirola co-hosting the first round of games in the Liga Andaluza.

Thanks to the continuing growth of the league, this will be the first time that games are played concurrently in two different locations: Fuengirola and Chiclana.

All the Fuengirola teams: Barona, Lions and Viking, will compete at the Santa Fe rink in Los Boliches this Saturday. Entrance is free.

### Grassroots football unites to help Campillos following flooding

#### CAMPILLOS

by F. MORGADO. The clean-up continues in inland Malaga province following the recent flooding which affected numerous municipalities. Perhaps worst hit was Campillos where the town's only football stadium, and home to CD Campillos, is completely water-logged and it is feared that no games can be played here for the rest of the season.

Support, however, has been forthcoming from a number of neighbouring clubs, also in the lower divisions.

CD Almagren UD have said that



Volunteers cleaning up. :: SUR

Campillos can use their facilities to train and play and will also put out donation boxes during their games.

Other clubs, such as Antequera, Archidona Atlético, Atlético Ardales, CD Abdalajís and Vélez, have also offered to help with fundraising and the clean-up.

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THE STARS




**Aquarius**  
January 21 - February 19  
When things are going well it's time to look ahead and get organised. You may not have the cash to get moving yet but, when you do, progress can be fast.




**Pisces**  
February 20th - March 20th  
Someone who is wanting to help you in a practical way could be just the companion you need. With such a bright mind, partnerships can sparkle.




**Aries**  
March 21st - April 20th  
Stick to that 'to do' list and avoid being distracted. So many of the demands made on you this week are really not that urgent.




**Taurus**  
April 21st - May 21st  
Face your demons and have a good blub if you feel like it! Don't feel guilty for speaking your mind if someone has been winding you up.




**Gemini**  
May 22nd - June 21st  
Is it really difficult to make a decision about something personal? Sometimes getting away from those who nag and cajole will help you to see more clearly.




**Cancer**  
June 22nd - July 23rd  
Get out of that rut and start things moving, Cancer. This may feel like the time of year to cosy up and hunker down, but not for you! Life can be so much more but it needs some effort.




**Leo**  
July 24th - August 23rd  
There are things out there that will change your whole attitude if you only find out about them. Taking a course or volunteering goes well for those who are able.




**Virgo**  
August 24th - September 23rd  
When we don't make plans or get organised in our lives, things tend to happen anyway. The problem is that the things that do happen are not what we would have wanted.




**Libra**  
September 24th - October 23rd  
Being the strong and silent type is great, Libra. Often it means that you see things clearly and are able to help others. At the moment, though, you need to help yourself.



**Scorpio**  
October 24th - November 22nd  
At the moment you could be giving out the wrong signals. Maybe not talking about something (even to yourself) is leaving you feeling alone.

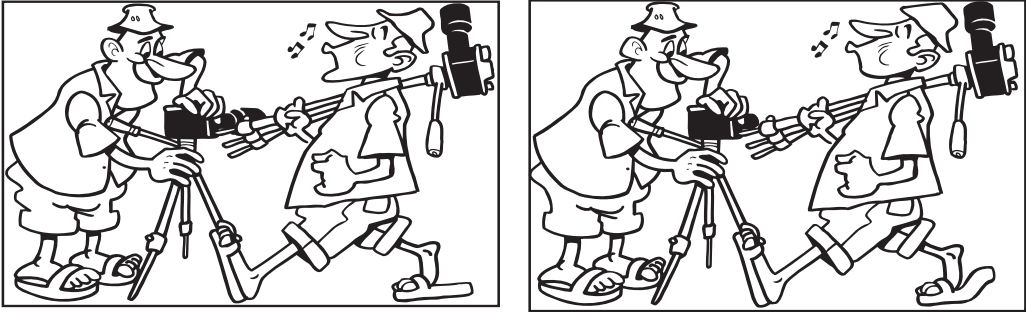


**Sagittarius**  
November 23rd - December 21st  
This week should be smooth running and even better financially. Take the chance to put things in place for the future. This could be either re. work or finances.

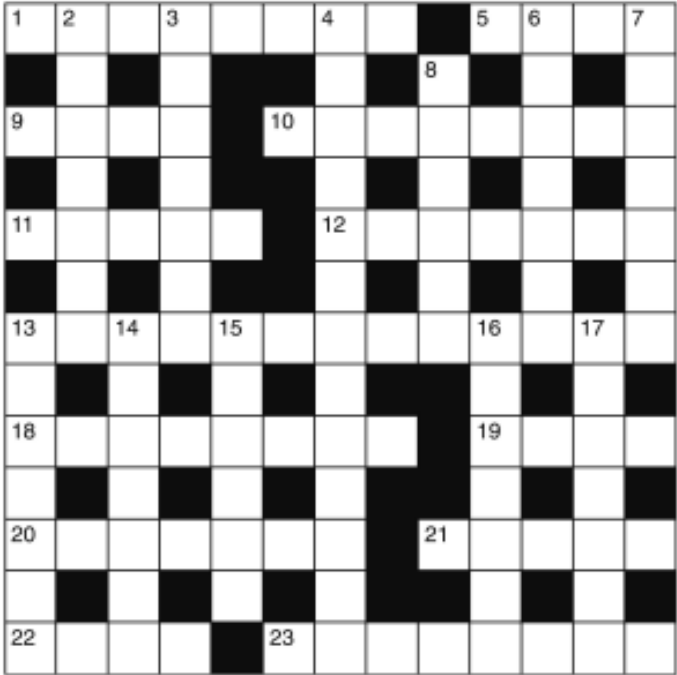


**Capricorn**  
December 22nd - January 20th  
There is something to be said, this week, for stopping the stress and 'going with the flow'. Live in the here and now instead of fussing over yesterday or tomorrow.

THE SEVEN DIFFERENCES



CRYPTIC CROSSWORD N° 11319



Across

- 1 Shell the vehicle quickly (8)
- 5 You serve one who engages labour inside (4)
- 9 Unfinished piece could become a great poem (4)
- 10 Uptains diverted for strict men of the church (8)
- 11 Sounds as though this will stop a pause in operations (5)
- 12 He'll swear it's a ship carrying soldiers (7)
- 13 Live rail (8,5)
- 18 Flatten a fellow journalist (8)
- 19 Cover an outlaw (4)
- 20 This covers the first person in train crash (7)
- 21 Should be an expression of disgust written in the Old Testament (5)
- 22 In puddings a good farinaceous substance (4)
- 23 Work to get better, as doctors do (8)

Down

- 2 Father returns with pearl re-set for dress (7)
- 3 One rebuilt chair in a hundred is antique (7)
- 4 Ask for trouble - tragedy at Wimbledon, maybe? (5,8)
- 6 Raise from white to black, musically speaking! (7)
- 7 Book a stand-in (7)
- 8 Give one a hint to unload (3,3)
- 13 They are shipped from obsolete harbours (7)
- 14 & 17 Dn Pressing apparel for formal wear (7-7)
- 15 He assays an old coin (6)
- 16 Use up a supply of this pipe (7)
- 17 See 14 Down

SUDOKU BY HANZO

**Instructions**  
Complete the square making sure that every row of nine numbers includes all digits from 1 to 9, every column includes all digits from 1 to 9 and every 3 by 3 subsection includes all digits from 1 to 9

7		4			1	6	9	
	6		4		9			8
					7			5
	9							
3				4		5	7	
5	4		8		3		2	6
1	7		5	6		9		4
	8	5				2		
			9	2				

THE WORDPUZZLER

E	L	M	E	A	R	A	N	D	O
S	T	E	A	L	A	S	T	A	N
R	E	D	U	E	S	L	A	N	T
I	D	E	S	C	H	I	M	E	I
P	O	S	T	A	I	D	E	S	H
O	R	C	O	S	H	E	X	S	G
F	L	A	S	T	I	L	P	T	U
T	U	N	P	E	L	D	I	A	R
C	I	T	E	N	T	O	M	I	G
U	R	H	A	D	O	R	B	N	O

Can you identify the words that can be made up of the letters of DELICATESSEN from the clues listed below?

1. Settled

2. Scandinavian

3. Blamish

4. Limited

5. Take unlawfully

6. Social group

7. Quote

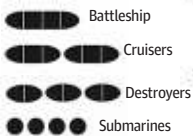
8. Playground feature

9. Final

10. Inclination

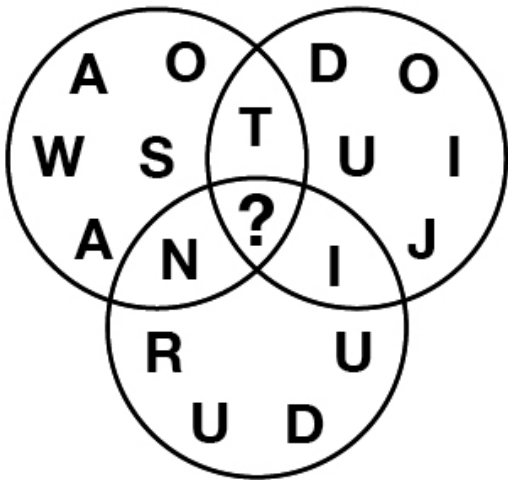
BATTLESHIPS

**Instructions** Find where the fleet of ships (1 battleship, 2 cruisers, 3 destroyers, 4 submarines) are hidden in the grid. The numbers to the right of and below the grid indicate how many of the squares in that row are filled in with ships or parts of ships. The ships do not touch each other, even diagonally. Some have been filled in to start you off.



	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
A											1
B											3
C											1
D											1
E											6
F											0
G											2
H											3
I											1
J											2
	0	3	1	3	1	2	5	1	3	1	

CIRCLEGRAM



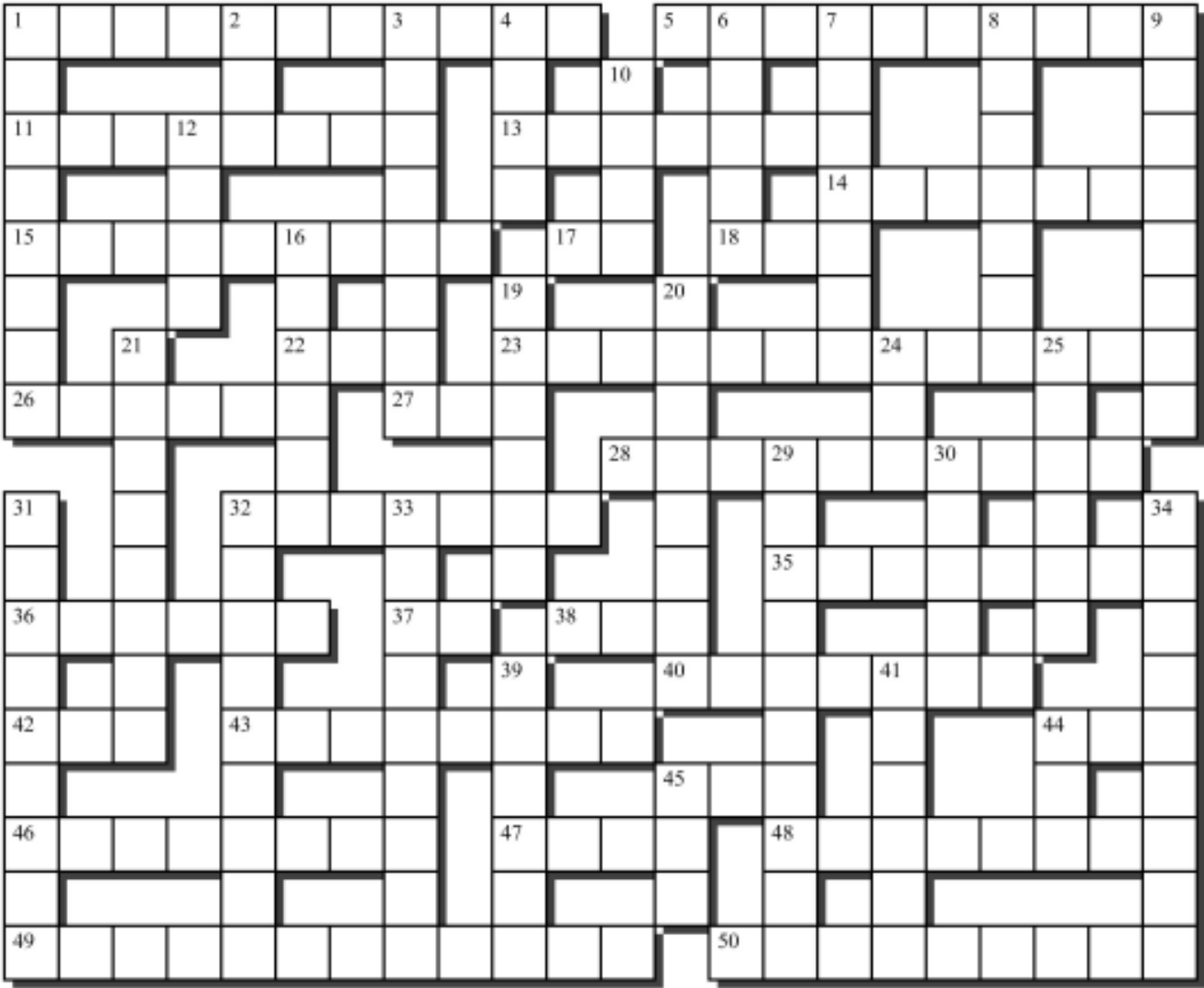
**Instructions**  
Replace the question mark with a letter so that the letters in each circle can be arranged to form words, names or terms on a common theme. What are the three words, and the letter represented by the question mark?



LANGUAGE CROSSWORD FILL IN THE SPANISH WORD

- Across
- 1) Declaration (11)
  - 5) Precautionary (f) (10)
  - 11) To punish (8)
  - 13) They inherit (7)
  - 14) Offences (7)
  - 15) They understood (9)
  - 17) Ace (2)
  - 18) South (3)
  - 22) Aunt (3)
  - 23) Independence (13)
  - 26) Risk (6)
  - 27) The (pl) (3)
  - 28) Forgiven (pl) (10)
  - 32) To deny (7)
  - 35) Sovereign (8)
  - 36) State (6)
  - 37) You (2)
  - 38) Eye (3)
  - 40) Our (7)
  - 42) That (3)
  - 43) Campaigns (8)
  - 44) Bird (3)
  - 45) I fell (3)
  - 46) Freedom (8)
  - 47) Finger (4)
  - 48) Sedition (8)
  - 49) Supporter (12)
  - 50) Arrested (pl) (9)

- Down
- 1) To make a ruling (8)
  - 2) There (3)
  - 3) Carnival (8)
  - 4) Eight (4)
  - 6) Networks (5)
  - 7) They'll come (7)
  - 8) Tukip (7)
  - 9) To advise (8)
  - 10) Three (4)
  - 12) Train (4)
  - 16) I detonated (6)
  - 19) Public prosecutor (6)
  - 20) Rebellion (8)
  - 21) Search (8)
  - 24) They give (3)
  - 25) To clash (6)
  - 29) You said goodbye (10)
  - 30) To make ugly (5)
  - 31) Lawsuits (9)
  - 32) I would dedicate (9)
  - 33) Stupidity (9)
  - 34) Governments (9)
  - 39) They add (6)
  - 41) I'll have (6)
  - 44) Like that (3)
  - 45) With (3)



ANSWERS

Quiz answers

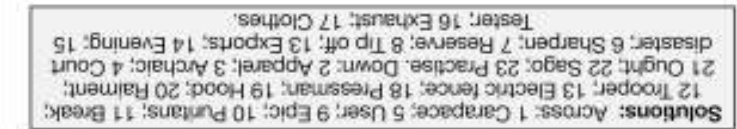
Answer : Spine  
Of interest: In anatomy, the atlas (C1) is the first cervical vertebra of the spine. It is named for the Atlas of Greek mythology, because it supports the globe of the head.

Answer : Potato  
Of interest: Yukon Gold is a large potato characterised by its thin, smooth eye-free skin and yellow-tinged flesh. Russian Banana are small potatoes, slender, and crescent in shape, averaging 6-7 centimetres in length.

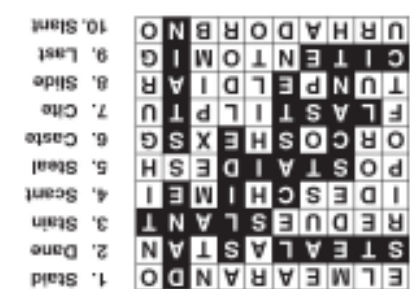
Language Crossword



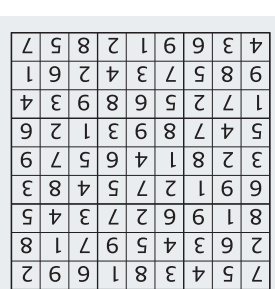
Cryptic Crossword



Wordpuzzler solution



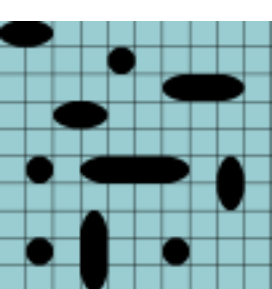
Sudoku solution



Circlegram

The letter represented by the question mark is B.  
Botswana, Djibouti, Burundi, all African countries.

Battleships



WHERE HAVE YOU SEEN THIS?



The king of 'copla'

Last week:  
The Monumento al Turista

This unusual monument, situated on a roundabout into Torremolinos from Malaga, was donated to the town by businessman Rafael Gómez Sánchez in 2002. It features a naked woman standing on a pillar of which the base is decorated in Egyptian style. In 2005 it was debated whether to replace it with something which reflected "the true spirit of Torremolinos".



THE SUR IN ENGLISH CORNER

Time for a change

You may (or may not) have noticed that we have recently changed this page from Pastimes to Time Out and have given it a bit of a facelift. We decided to give your brains even more of a workout by incorporating three new puzzles: the old favourite, battleships, a devilish circlegram and a test of your local knowledge, Where Have You Seen This? We've also extended the horoscopes a little so you can have more of an idea what next week may bring in the way of finances, social events and of

course, affairs of the heart. The photo puzzler is not a competition but just a test to see how observant you are. There's no need to write to us with the answer, we'll publish it the following week, but please feel free to send us a photograph of any statue or sculpture you pass regularly in Andalucía that might get other readers thinking. Email them to us at [surinenglish.su@diariosur.es](mailto:surinenglish.su@diariosur.es) or simply Tweet them to us @SUR\_English We are also on Facebook @SURI-English







# Donald Gray, the essence of traditional architecture

Marbella pays tribute to one of the designers of La Virginia, which is celebrating its 50th anniversary

The Australian, who won the Rafael Manzano Prize in 2015 and has lived in La Alpujarra for years, is a staunch defender of the Andalusian style of building

:: MÓNICA PÉREZ

**MARBELLA.** "This is the Casa de la Cascada (the Kauffman residence), the work of American architect Frank Lloyd Wright. He did it in the year I was born, 1935, and it is an example of modern architecture. If you took the house away, you'd see a beautiful waterfall, but he built an enormous block of reinforced concrete there. Why on earth was he ever famous?"

At the age of 83, Donald Gray is still highly critical of the contemporary and avant-garde architecture with which he has never agreed. On the contrary, he has spent his whole life defending a style which he fell in love with the first time he set foot in Spain, the traditional architecture of Andalucía. He has used it more than most in residential developments which are still inhabited today and which, especially in the case of La Virginia, in Marbella, retain their essence and authenticity even after 50 years. La Virginia shares the double merit of being one of the loveliest and yet least well-known in the municipality.

This Australian architect has just been back to La Virginia, to attend a tribute from the community of



Donald Gray, at La Virginia in Marbella. :: JOSELE-LANZA

the development, the mayor and councillors, as part of its 50th anniversary celebrations. The event was also attended friends and people who know, admire and are fond of him. "Today is a great day for Marbella and for Andalucía," said another master in his own field, Rafael de la Fuente, afterwards.

As its designer, Donald Gray was delighted to return to La Virginia for

this important anniversary. The idea for the project came from developers Juan Manuel Figueras and Freddy Wildman at the end of the 1960s, and Jurgen Vig Muller, María Luisa Larrañaga and Rafael Neville (all friends) were also involved.

At the tribute there were speeches and a screening of a video filmed three years ago, when he was awarded the Rafael Manzano Prize for New Traditional Architecture. The documentary explained that "space and light" is the essence of the buildings upon which Gray worked between the 1960s and 1990s. These include Las Lomas de Marbella Club, Pueblo López in Fuengirola, Nuevo Pueblo Mijas, the town hall in La Tana, in Pitres, and La Tartana hotel in La Herradura (Granada).

There was also a screening of a se-

ries of photographs provided by the architect, who was born in Australia and has lived in La Alpujarra for years. It was a showcase of examples of modern and avant-garde architecture, and the outrageous mass construction during the years of the property boom. For Donald Gray, these are examples of dehumanised buildings.

## On-site training

His particular commitment to recovering and defending traditional Andalusian architecture began when he arrived in Spain in 1959. He realised that it was something that was never taught at university, and decided to learn directly from master builders. He worked alongside them, designing and building his first houses. In 1961 he went to live in Torremolinos, and after that to La Alpujarra.

"Today is an important day for the town because we are paying tribute to a person who, with his enormous talent and sensitivity, has contributed to enriching the artistic heritage of Marbella with one of the loveliest residential developments on the Costa del Sol and a magnificent example of the best traditional Andalusian architecture," said the mayor, Ángeles Muñoz, at the tribute.

In the heart of the Golden Mile, La Virginia is a small community of about 68 houses set in secluded cobbled streets, which still seems far away from the bustle of the busy town. It remains today the calm refuge which its creators planned half a century ago.