

Malaga go all guns blazing into the play-offs

Beating Albacete lifts them to third ahead of the final match tomorrow

P52



Plastic is already posing a real threat to the Costa del Sol, research reveals

Pollution takes the form of textile fibres and plastics on the shore as well as microplastic particles on the seabed

Plastic waste is already taking its toll on the Malaga coastline. A report carried out by the Spanish ministry for the Environment has revealed that the Costa del Sol's beaches contain 30 microplastic particles in every kilo-

gramme of sand, which is the equivalent of 500 tiny particles per square metre. Sediment on the seabed has been found to contain an average of 130 particles per kilogramme. On top of this barely visible pollution, are

the macroplastics, the tens of thousands of pieces of plastic measuring up to five millimetres in diameter that accumulate on the shores. The tourism industry has been blamed for much of the pollution. **P10**



A COLOURFUL DEPARTURE

Pilgrims heading for the annual Rocío festival in Huelva set off from the Costa **P14**

The Marbella Rocío brotherhood, about to leave on Tuesday. :: JOSELE

Vox councillor forced to quit party for going to LGBT Pride rally

Lucía Cuín, who will now be an independent councillor, helped unfurl the rainbow flag in Torremolinos

The far-right party Vox has asked one of its two councillors in Torremolinos to give up her seat this week after she took part in the town's Pride celebrations. She has left the party and her vote could now affect the battle to control the council. **P2**

The Belgian acting mayor of Alcaucin has said he is reconsidering his future in politics after a "xenophobic" Whatsapp message **P3**

No signs of violence present in autopsies of Finns found in Mijas apartment in an advanced state of decomposition **P7**

Majority of Costa councils in favour of smoke-free beaches

The regional proposal will be studied and local regulations would need to be adapted **P4**

153 million euros proposed for Malaga province in new regional budget with the Malaga Metro and PTA access the biggest priorities **P8**

Among the best for cosmetic procedures. Malaga is becoming a benchmark for this type of medicine **P44&45**

Creative talent at its finest. Local students have been showcasing their skills for the EOI Short Story and Education & Learning competitions **P22&30-31**

Fireworks signal the start of Marbella fair. The town will be full of music and colour until Tuesday in honour of San Bernabé **P40**



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Record-breaking Pride event leads to Vox split at Costa town hall

The far-right group has called for a newly elected Torremolinos councillor to give up her seat after she helped unfurl the rainbow flag

:: ALBERTO GÓMEZ

TORREMOLINOS. Last week's Pride festivities in Torremolinos, which brought a record-breaking 60,000 visitors to the town, have also led to a local crisis among the newcomer far-right party Vox.

The second of the group's two councillors who won seats in the recent municipal elections has left the party after being reprimanded for attending the Pride events.

Lucía Cuín joined other municipal representatives on the town hall balcony last week to unfurl the



Lucía Cuín, fourth from the left, at the unfurling of the LGBT+ flag on the town hall balcony. :: SUR

LGBT+ rainbow flag as part of the festival. She did so, she said to show her support for the "culture, traditions and an important collective".

Her presence however angered the more reactionary factions in Vox, which called for Cuín to give up her council seat.

The new councillor has refused, arguing that she has "done nothing wrong", and instead has resigned from the party. Vox has since wiped

all mention of Cuín from its social media.

Cuín's switch from Vox to being an independent councillor could complicate the path of the PP's Margarita del Cid towards becoming mayor of Torremolinos.

Del Cid, with nine seats, can now only count for certain on one Vox vote to help her reach a majority on 15 June.

Meanwhile the acting mayor, the Socialist José Ortiz, who finished just 600 votes and one seat behind Del Cid, could retain his place in the mayor's office if Cuín, as well as centre-right Ciudadanos and left-wing Adelante Torremolinos, decided to support him.

Cuín has connections with the PSOE as her partner is the local Socialist group's municipal secretary, even though the political ideology of the PP is closer to that of her former party, Vox.

What started as the institutional opening of the town's annual event to call for visibility and recognition of the LGBT community could have influenced the course of local politics over the next four years.

The town still has a lot of pieces to fit into the puzzle though before the investiture session on 15 June.

More than 60,000 people attended the LGBT parade on Saturday

The Torremolinos Pride celebrations exceeded all expectations in Torremolinos

:: IVÁN GELIBTER

TORREMOLINOS. The Torremolinos Pride parade proved it can claim to be the biggest event of its kind in Spain after Madrid on Saturday.

A record 60,000 people, a third more than last year, turned out for the event, the highlight of the

week-long festival which is now in its fifth year.

Despite being an event celebrating the LGBT+ collective, the entire local community as well as thousands of visitors took part in the celebrations.

Families took to the streets with small children enjoying the music and water pistols, and even the elderly applauded the display from their doorways.

The parade boasted a larger number of floats than in previous years, stretching for 400 metres.

Firefighters, once again, made

an appearance and were a particular highlight for spectators, hosing crowds with litres of water while music played in the background.

This year's festival was opened by Víctor Gutiérrez, one of Spain's best waterpolo players and now an important figure in the LGBT+ community.

"Torremolinos has yet again put itself on the international LGBT+ map, bringing people from all over the world who are amazed at the town, its attractions and its people," he said.



Participants on one of the Pride floats. :: SUR

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Acting Alcaucín mayor considers future following "xenophobic" message

A Whatsapp message suggesting that residents of the Axarquía village don't want a foreigner as mayor has caused a serious rift between two parties

AGUSTÍN PELÁEZ

ALCAUCÍN. Acting mayor of Alcaucín, the Belgian Mario Blancke, said on Wednesday that he was considering whether to stay in politics due to a "xenophobic" Whatsapp message shared among villagers.

The handwritten message, which was photographed and shared via Whatsapp, read "foreigner [go back] to your country", which Blancke says he has taken as a "personal attack".

The message, written in Spanish, also said, "We want a mayor from Alcaucín and a government team who are also from here. We don't want pen



Acting mayor of Alcaucín, Belgian-born Mario Blancke. :: SUR

pushers in Alcaucín."

Blancke reacted saying, "I'm convinced that the message represents a minority, but its mere diffusion is making me wonder whether it's worth working at the town hall for the village. I'm asking myself whether

I should continue working in local politics."

Blancke, who has been mayor of Alcaucín for the last four years, has promised to make a decision by 15 June which is when councillors need to have reached agreements to be able

to vote in a new mayor.

The 62-year-old Belgian, who has lived in Spain for 30 years, 17 of them in Alcaucín, accused other parties via Facebook of encouraging xenophobia in the village. Domingo Lozano, the leader of Alcaucín's PP party, whose electoral campaign slogan included the words "We are from Alcaucín," called for a public apology.

Lozano vehemently denied any link between the campaign and the message being circulated. On Thursday morning Blancke published a message on Facebook stressing that he "had never mentioned that the message was posted by the PP-Alcaucín nor any other political party". He added, "I apologise if somebody from the PP-Alcaucín felt offended."

Blancke's Ciudadanos (Cs) party, which had four councillors elected, would need to form a pact with the PP (two seats) in order to govern in Alcaucín. The local Socialist PSOE group also won four seats.

New court investigation complicates Nozal's bid to be mayor of Mijas

I. GELIBTER

MIJAS. A court investigation into possible irregularities in the granting of sports subsidies threatens to complicate local PP leader Ángel Nozal's already difficult bid to be invested as mayor of Mijas next week.

The former mayor, who won the recent election but needs support from other groups, was called in to a Fuengirola court for questioning on Thursday, along with the PP spokesperson Mario Bravo, who is also under investigation.

This is the eighth court inquiry open against Nozal, whose party won nine seats, but would need the help of Ciudadanos, led by acting mayor Juan Carlos Maldonado, to be invested. While on a national level Cs has said that the PP is its "preferred partner", Maldonado, who has previously called for Nozal's resignation due to alleged corrupt practice inquiries, is unlikely to instruct his councillors to vote for him.

The option of Nozal resigning from politics to leave the way clear for a council run by a PP mayor supported by Ciudadanos gains strength.

Possible power share in Vélez-Málaga and "nothing ruled out"

E. CABEZAS

VÉLEZ-MÁLAGA Following a very close election result in Vélez-Málaga, with no party winning an absolute majority, the leader of the Partido Popular (PP), Francisco Delgado Bonilla, has offered the opposition PSOE the opportunity to split the four-year term between them.

Delgado Bonilla's suggestion would mean that the PSOE, which won seven seats on the council, continues to lead the town hall for the next two years, with the PP taking over the reins from June 2021 until the next elections in 2023.

In the last term of office the PSOE,

along with the independent Torre del Mar group, GIPMTM, and an independent councillor, formed a coalition government.

Speaking to SUR earlier this week, Delgado Bonilla, whose party won nine seats this time, said, "It is the moment to leave personal disputes aside." The PSOE won seven seats, as did GIPMTM, five more than the two it gained in the 2015 elections.

The PP leader said he was waiting for a response to his proposal from the PSOE and has asked for a meeting with GIPMTM about a possible coalition. He said, "All options are open. I am ruling nothing out."

Tolox's toss for power put off as PSOE disputes damaged paper

A. M. ROMERO

MÁLAGA. A draw, or the tossing of a coin, to determine who will be mayor of the village of Tolox for the next four years has been postponed until a dispute over the validity of a ballot paper has been resolved.

Both the PSOE and PP parties gained 603 votes each in the municipal election on 26 May after a paper in favour of the Socialist party was declared null and void due to cuts on either side.

Unhappy with the decision by the Malaga Electoral Commission, the Socialists have taken the case to the Central Electoral Commis-



The damaged paper. :: SUR

sion, claiming the cuts do not affect the names of the candidates or the logo of the political party.

If the central commission upholds the decision, the local government will be run by the winner of a draw, or the tossing of a coin.



Ángel Nozal. :: SUR

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Costa councils say they approve of banning smoking on some beaches

They will study the proposal from the Junta de Andalucía and will have to modify local regulations if they are to apply the measure

ÁNGEL ESCALERA

MÁLAGA. Most municipalities on the Malaga coast agree with the regional health authorities' proposal that there should be smoke-free beaches. However, they think the matter needs further study, especially regarding how the ban could be enforced. They would also have to change municipal regulations in order to put the measure into effect.

The plan aims to stop people smoking and throwing cigarette ends on the beach. One cigarette end contaminates eight litres of water, and the filter of the cigarette, which contains tar, lead and nicotine, takes up to ten years to decompose.

The acting Councillor for Beaches at Malaga city hall, Teresa Porras, says the PP's programme in Malaga already includes smoke-free zones beside the sea, so they would be prepared to test it on one of the city's beaches. "We are in favour of smoke-



The health authority wants to clean up the beaches. :: NITO SALAS

free beaches, but we would want to try it out first because there is no sense in implementing things and then finding they don't work," she says. She also says the council will have to determine how the no-smoking ban will be monitored to ensure that people comply.

Her counterpart at Marbella town hall, Manuel Cardena, thinks it is "a good idea" for people not to smoke on the beach because it is better for health and nobody will be throwing away cigarette ends, which are difficult to remove and take so long to decompose. "We need to make people

Seven regions of Spain already have smoke-free beaches

Smoking is already banned on some beaches in Galicia, Asturias, Catalonia, Murcia, the Balearic Islands and the Canaries, and in Andalucía too, although only on the Granada beach in Motril where anyone who throws a cigarette end on the sand can face a fine of up to 3,000 euros.

In the Canaries, smoking is banned on several beaches in Gran Canaria, where fines of up to 400 euros are imposed for smoking and 1,200 euros for leaving cigarette ends on the beach at Mogán and 300 euros for smoking at Las Canteras in La Palma.

aware of this," he says.

The cost of cleaning

José María Gómez, the acting councillor for Beaches in Rincón de la Victoria, agrees. "Beaches are public spaces, so we believe people shouldn't smoke on them. Also, they bury the

cigarette ends in the sand and it costs money to remove them," he says.

In Benalmádena, Encarnación Cortés, who is responsible for the beaches there, says she thinks it would be "great" to have smoke-free areas beside the sea. She also says it costs the council money to clean up the cigarette ends, and is concerned about the environmental damage caused by the filters. "Any measures which aim to stop people smoking in public are a sign of progress," she says.

Sources at Fuengirola town hall say they think smoke-free beaches are a good idea and they will be studying the regional government's proposal to see if it is viable. They will have to see whether the measure could be applied on local beaches, and how to ensure that people don't smoke there.

In Torremolinos, the councillor responsible for beaches, Maribel Tocón, says no official communication has been received by the town hall yet, so she would need to see it before commenting.

In Mijas, Juan Carlos Martín says he has nothing against the idea of smoke-free beaches if the measure can be applied after modifying local regulations and if there is legal support for banning smoking on the beach.

The president of the Association of Costa del Sol Beach Businesses, Manuel Villafaina, believes it would be difficult to stop people smoking in the open air, but is in favour of the idea. "We would be delighted if they stopped throwing cigarette ends on the sand," he says.

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Should you transfer a final salary pension?

Six questions to help you decide

By Chris McCann, Partner, Blevins Franks

If you were offered £235,000 now or an inflation-proofed £10,000 a year for the rest of your life, what would you choose?

This is a dilemma faced by many Britons with 'final salary' or 'defined benefit' employer pensions. Those figures represent today's average pay-out for members who forfeit their pension benefits for a one-off sum.

Final salary pensions pay a minimum income throughout retirement, usually with yearly cost-of-living increases, until the member dies. As they are considered highly valuable, the UK's Financial Conduct Authority stresses that most people are better off staying where they are.

While there is no right or wrong approach here, take extreme care before making major pension decisions. Start by considering six key questions.

1. What is your pension worth?

The £10,000-a-year example sounds low but could be enough to provide for a modest retirement, especially when combined with other savings and income. But a one-off sum of £235,000+ could also provide an adequate retirement income if properly managed over time, with

potentially more flexibility around withdrawals and currency options.

If you are considering transferring, beware the UK lifetime pension allowance. If combined UK pension benefits (excluding State Pension) breach the 2019/2020 limit of £1.055 million, charges of 55% on lump sums or 25% on income applies on the excess.

2. Do you have other resources for retirement?

The UK State Pension currently pays a maximum of around £8,700 a year, so most people need something extra to see them through. Is your pension transfer value high enough to outweigh the benefits of drawing a guaranteed income for life? Or will your other pensions, savings and investments provide for your future? If so, you may be more inclined to forfeit a final salary pension for a one-off reward.

However, if your final salary pension is a large part of your retirement wealth, the certainty of a regular lifetime income will hold more value.

3. How long do you need it to last?

Final salary pensions provide income

for as long as you live – with today's increased life expectancy, that could be 30 years or more from retirement age. Those in good health may benefit more from a guaranteed lifetime income; the opposite may be true for those who do not expect to outlive their resources.

4. How stable is your pension scheme?

Many final salary employers are struggling to meet their obligations. Benefits are usually financed through investments in UK bonds, which have generally under-performed through years of low interest rates. The government's Pension Protection Fund (PPF) found 3,117 schemes were in deficit at the end of February, with a combined shortfall of £8.6 billion.

While the PPF offers a safety net, its compensation is capped. If your pension is high value and your scheme is vulnerable, take regulated advice on whether transferring may be in your best interests.

5. What will happen when you die?

Most final salary pensions will transfer half the value of the pension to your spouse on death – then go no

further. Transferring funds could unlock more estate planning flexibility, such as the option to pass pension funds to other heirs, even across generations, and potentially even reduce inheritance tax liability.

6. What do you want to do with your funds?

Benefits in a final salary pension are protected – even if the value of funds goes down, the scheme provider is obliged to meet payments.

Once transferred, you gain more control over how you invest and access your funds, and can take advantage of tax-efficient opportunities for Spain. However, your income is no longer safeguarded and becomes vulnerable to unpredictable markets. Even money in the bank can be eaten away as inflation outpaces returns in this low interest rate climate. While investments can obviously go up as well as down, without proper guidance you risk losing everything to unregulated investments or pension scams.

Whether you should transfer a final salary pension depends on numerous factors and your unique set of circumstances and goals. Taking

regulated advice is compulsory if you have benefits worth over £30,000, but it is an important step for anyone considering their pension options.

Remember: once you transfer your pension, you cannot reverse your decision. Take locally-based, UK-regulated advice to fully understand the long-term implications and establish what is best for your financial future in Spain.

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

Worried that the next UK election could damage your wealth?

There has been much speculation about what could happen if an election were called and a change of government ensued. If you have built your wealth over a number of years (through business, savings, inheritance or property) and are considering a move to sunnier climes, talk to us about the tax-efficient options for Spain. We have decades of experience advising clients on the steps to take before, during and after such a move and the wealth preservation options you can potentially enjoy.

But if you are worried about what could happen in the future in the UK, perhaps the time to start talking to us is now.

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Police officers talk down Briton threatening to jump from balcony of an apartment building

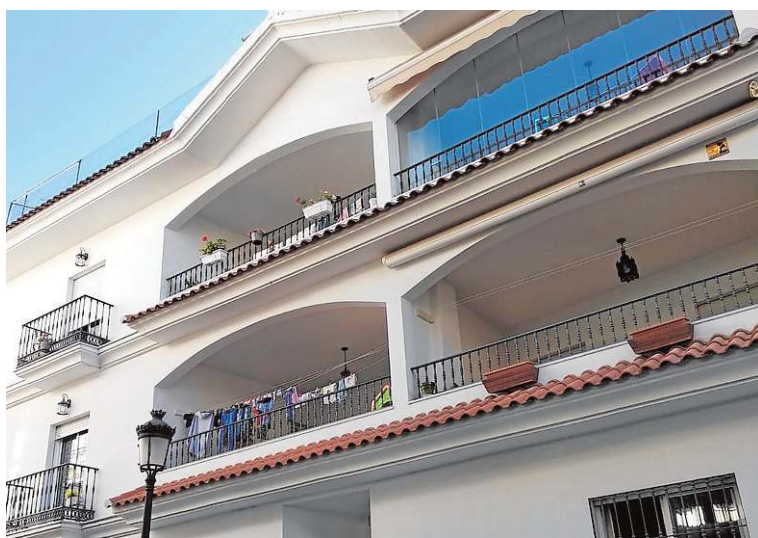
After 90 minutes talking to him in English with the help of a neighbour, the man returned inside and had to be sedated so medics could check him

:: FERNANDO TORRES

ALHAURÍN EL GRANDE. Four Local Police officers in Alhaurín el Grande took part in a call out late last month that went from being routine to a complete test of their psychological and negotiation skills.

A British national was threatening to jump from the balcony of a second-floor apartment and the coaxing of the police for an hour and a half led to a happy ending to the drama; the man was taken, safe and sound, to hospital.

The incident began when residents noticed their neighbour's unusual behaviour on the balcony and



Picure of the property where the man was found. :: SUR

called police. A two-officer patrol arrived and tried to calm the man down, but with everything they tried the tension grew worse with the man, shouting in English, threat-

ening to attack them or to jump. Having asked for reinforcements, two more officers arrived.

One of the officers spoke English relatively well and was gradually

able to relax the man and gain his trust. Seeing the man was wearing a T-shirt of a rock band, the officer started to talk about their musical tastes.

Reaching out with his hand, the officer eventually managed to make contact, taking hold of his left arm. In the meantime, different people had started to arrive.

Several neighbours gathered down below also helping, including the owner of the apartment that the man was renting. The man slowly recovered his composure, sitting down first on a seat on the terrace then back inside the apartment.

However he became unsettled again when medics tried to examine him and the officers were forced to restrain him so he could be sedated.

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Tonnes of hashish found stashed in hills behind Estepona as arrests are made

:: CHARO MÁRQUEZ

ESTEPONA. National Police have arrested 14 people as part of an ongoing anti-drugs operation that saw almost six tonnes of hashish seized, much of it hidden in the hills behind Estepona.

As part of the latest success in the fightback against drug smuggling from North Africa, officers seized seven vehicles that had been stolen and modified to move hashish once it was brought ashore from Morocco in powerboats.

Initial success came when officers seized 600 kilos and an arrest led them to finding 3.6 tonnes in a secret hiding place on the hillside near the toll road.

The gang was not put off and another one and a half tonnes was seized while being brought ashore.



ALARMED ABOUT GLOBAL WARMING?

Owner reported after leaving dog in a car for nine hours

After various calls to police a nearby resident opened the car to find the animal dehydrated and in its own urine

:: CHARO MÁRQUEZ

MARBELLA. Local Police in Marbella have reported a 47-year-old Swedish national of Ukrainian origin for an infringement against animal protection after she left her dog in a car unattended for nine hours.

The dog, a rough collie, was left inside a Volvo close to El Capricho shopping centre and was first spotted on Saturday at around 9am by a local resident. She checked that the car's windows were left open, that the car was in the shade and that the dog had water available.

When she passed the area again at around midday, the dog was still there and it was at this point that



The rough collie. :: C. M.

she decided to call the police who, in turn, informed Sanidad Veterinaria (the authorities responsible for animal health).

On arrival, they tried to read the animal's chip without success. But

having seen that the dog was calm and that the windows were partially open, they decided to wait for the owner's return.

The woman who first raised the alarm left the scene content that the situation was being taken care of. However, when she returned at around 6pm, she found the dog was still in the car, this time in full sun and its water had run out.

Because of this she decided to take action and opened the car, which wasn't locked, and told the police again who this time took the dog to the Triple A animal shelter.

She told them that the dog was dehydrated, trembling and covered in its own urine after more than nine hours in its cage.

The Local Police were then able to identify the owner who said that she had forgotten that she'd left the dog in the car. The woman who alerted the police has also reported the owner.

112 REPORTS

Boa constrictor offered for photos on beach is confiscated

MALAGA

:: E. P. The animal protection branch of the Local Police in Malaga have confiscated a 1.5-metre-long boa constrictor snake which was seen on La Malagueta beach being offered for photo opportunities in exchange for money.

It was confiscated after its handler, a 35-year-old Slovakian, was



The snake on show. :: L. NEWBY

unable to produce documents proving ownership and his transportation method, a leather bag, was deemed insufficient for a "dangerous wild animal".

Policeman saves woman choking on a grape

MARBELLA

:: C. M. A Local Police officer in Marbella saved a woman who almost choked to death at the town's market on Tuesday. Having received a radio call, he rode his motorcycle to where the woman was being treated for what was thought to be a collapse. "But I checked her airwaves then patted her on the back and a piece of grape came out," he said.

Four years 'not enough' for drink driver killer

BENALMÁDENA

:: F. TORRES. The family of Alona Pavlovskaya, killed by a drink driver who drove into a children's park in Benalmádena have reacted to the news that the driver has received a four-year prison sentence and must pay compensation of more than 600,000 euros. Her husband, Salvador Cubiles, is "sad" that "a life can be worth so little".

Two more big police operations on Costa deal blow to narcotraffickers

In the second of these Guardia Civil operations last week, offices raided a farm building seizing a powerboat of the sort used in smuggling

:: **ÁLVARO FRÍAS / JUAN CANO**

MALAGA. The Guardia Civil last week carried out two operations on the Costa linked to drugs and seized a shipment of 4,000 tonnes of hashish. In total, 17 people have been arrested in the latest blows dealt to the highly-organised smuggling gangs in the area.

The first operation took place on 30 May at around 11pm in Marbella when officers stopped two vans while 121 bails of hashish were being loaded into them, with a total weight of four tonnes. Fourteen people were arrested as a result with the help of National and Lo-



The speedboat was found in a rural near Malaga. :: **NITO SALAS**

cal Police.

In the second success, on 31 May, five people believed to be involved in the financing of drugs gangs were held in nine raids in Malaga and Ceuta. Three raids were in Malaga city; in a solicitors in the centre, a house in Puerto de la Torre and a

farm in the Carlinda area. The last site was the most important as there were several buildings to be searched. The investigators forced one door to find a fully-equipped speedboat of the type used in drug smuggling.

The investigation is ongoing.

Third arrest linked to death of Guardia Civil motorcycle patrol officer in 'drugs chase'

:: **SUR**

ALGECIRAS. The Guardia Civil has held a third person over the incident that led to an accident on the A-7 motorway in Los Barrios, near Algeciras, when a motorcycle patrol officer died while taking part in a drug-related chase.

The first arrests were made on 30 May, the same day the officer died, in Jerez de la Frontera when two people, of French and Moroccan nationality, were found with 200 kilos of hashish.

Their white Peugeot is alleged not to have stopped for the Guardia Civil patrol and one of the officers pursuing them fatally collided with a lorry.

A third person was detained the following day.

The dead officer, named as Fermín Cabeza González, was part of the road traffic patrol unit

in Algeciras and the circumstances leading up to the accident are still under investigation. He had joined the Guardia Civil in 1991 and went on to be decorated more than once.

At the funeral held last Friday, the minister for the Interior, Fernando Grande-Marlaska, and the national director general of the Guardia Civil, Félix Azón, were present.

In Algeciras, and nearby San Roque and Los Barrios, there were silent protests over the tragic death.

The acting mayor of Algeciras, José Ignacio Landaluze, said that the protest there was to show support and solidarity for the security forces, especially the Guardia Civil. "We are saying goodbye to a great Guardia officer and we are saying goodbye to a great person," said Landaluze.

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Police checks to crack down on pirate taxis at Malaga Airport

:: **FRANCISCO JIMÉNEZ**

MALAGA. Local Police in Malaga will increase their presence at the city's airport in an attempt to crack down on pirate taxis.

This comes in response to complaints from taxi drivers who on Sunday night stopped service for more than half an hour to appeal for greater action from the city town hall.

Now, four police officers have been deployed to Malaga-Costa del Sol Airport. Two will be in plain clothes to try and catch the perpetrators in the act with the other two in uniform and controlling the traffic and monitoring which vehicles are entering the airport premises.

In the past two years, 170 pirate taxis have been reported by the Local Police. Most of them have been detected at the airport, but some also at the bus station close to the city centre.

No signs of violence present in autopsy of Finns found dead in Mijas apartment

The bodies of a 26-year-old woman and a 36-year-old man were found in an advanced state of decomposition last Thursday

:: **JUAN CANO / ÁLVARO FRÍAS**

MALAGA. An autopsy has confirmed that the 26-year-old woman and 36-year-old man, both of Finnish origin, whose bodies were found in a flat in the Mijas area last Thursday afternoon, did not die as a result of violence.

It is thought that the bodies could have been there for at least three or four days, before being found at 1.15pm in an apartment block on Calle Río Retortillo, in Las Lagunas, Mijas.

Neighbours alerted the police after being concerned by a strong smell coming from the property.

Police initially considered the pos-



The building in which the events occurred. :: **SUR**

sibility that the woman had been murdered because of the stains of blood found in the flat. However, following the autopsy, investigators believe that the deaths are most likely drug-related - either that both had consumed adulterated drugs or that it was some kind of suicide pact.

Interviews with neighbours have provided more information about the pair. Primarily, it was thought that the two individuals were a cou-

ple, but neighbours' testimonies state that the woman lived in the property, not with the man, but with her boyfriend, who is of a similar age to the woman.

According to one neighbour, the younger man was seen entering the property on Wednesday. However given the stage of decomposition, the victims must have already been dead when he entered the building. The man has still not been located.



Marín Lara in 2015. :: **V. M.**

Former Ronda mayor Antonio Marín Lara dies aged 59

:: **VANESSA MELGAR**

RONDA. Antonio Marín Lara, mayor of Ronda between 2004 and 2011, died on Tuesday afternoon following a short battle with oesophagus cancer.

Toti, as he was known, was taken ill shortly before the local elections which took place on 26 May and during which he and two other candidates were re-elected onto the council representing the party he founded in 2015, Alianza por Ronda (APR).

Junta's regional budget promises 153 million euros of new investment in Malaga province

The 2019 plan still needs the regional parliament's approval, including the votes of Vox who say the plan isn't radical enough

ANTONIO M. ROMERO
MALAGA. The Partido Popular and Ciudadanos coalition government at the Junta de Andalucía last Friday gave details at last of its 2019 budget, which needs to be ratified by the regional parliament in Seville.

On Monday, the head of the Junta for Malaga, Patricia Navarro, explained how those spending plans would affect Malaga province, including the Costa del Sol, where a planned 153 million euros of new investment is expected.

However, approval of what will be the first annual budget ever in the autonomous region that hasn't been prepared by the Socialist PSOE party, needs the support of regional MPs from hard-right Vox. On Monday their spokesperson said that the spending plan was just the same as the PSOE's and he threatened to block approval if there weren't more radical initiatives in it.

The total annual budget at a regional level is 36.5 billion euros, five per cent more than under the last administration. Almost half, 17.2 billion, goes on the usual big-spending departments of education and health, services which the Junta de Andalucía controls.

In Monday's presentation of what the new budget would mean for Malaga and the Costa del Sol, Patricia Navarro explained that most of the new investment, over 100 million of the 153 million, would be on Malaga's metro lines.

Among other new schemes is initial work in linking the larger La Viñuela reservoir in the east of the province with the smaller La Concepción reservoir near Marbella. But there is no separate budget line for a new Malaga hospital nor for expanding the PTA technology park, although there is a small amount for improving the notoriously congested road access to that park.

Studies will be carried out on small improvements to the main road from Malaga to Ronda, where locals have been campaigning for



Navarro on Monday. :: sur

a motorway instead.

The money to open Estepona's new local hospital and finish the San Pedro health centre is also mentioned.

Navarro's speech was a return to presenting the budget on a provincial level and she said it aimed to "get out of the drawer the forgotten projects of previous Socialist [regional] governments".

At a regional level, the PSOE has criticised the spending plans, saying they weren't rigorous enough and opened the door to privatisation.

The regional parliament's debate on the budget is due to be held in Seville next Wednesday.

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THE JUNTA'S PLANNED NEW LOCAL INVESTMENT

Infrastructure
Malaga Metro: 29.8 million euros for work on lines 1 and 2 / 72.06 million euros for annual running costs.
Antequera logistics hub: 6m euros.
PTA access: 50,000 euros.
Study of link to PTA from A-7: 20,000 euros.
Improved A-367 from Ardales to Ronda: 50,000 euros.
Arriate bypass: 4m euros.
Vélez-Málaga tram 337,493 euros.
Study of dualling A-357 from Casapalma-Zalea (future motorway to Ronda and Campillos): 20,000 euros.

Health
Construction, equipment and health infrastructure improvements: 4.7m euros. Within this, but not broken out, is work linked the Costa del Sol Hospital and a new Malaga hospital plan.
Gamarra health centre: 200,000 euros.
El Palo health centre improvements: 90,000 euros.
Hospital Carlos Haya improvements: 1.7m euros.
San Pedro health centre: 3m.
Estepona hospital: 4.2m.

Agriculture and Environment
Link pipe project for La Concepción and La Viñuela reservoirs: 1.4m euros.
Cleaning dry stream beds and waterways: 802,000 euros.
Guadalmedina river work: 200,000 euros.
Fight against the harmful chestnut wasp: 100,000 euros.
Promotion of Malaga raisins: 100,000 euros.
North Guadalhorce sewage treatment: 90,000 euros.
Improve Guadalhorce reservoirs: 800,000 euros.
Arrajanal park (Malaga): 2.8m.

Culture
Museo Picasso: 4.37m.
Dolmens in Antequera: 2.4m.
City of Malaga orchestra: 2.4m.
Acinipo ruins (Ronda): 250,000 euros.
Festival de Cine Español: 150,000 euros.
Museo de Málaga: 100,000 euros to promote temporary exhibits.

Justice
Renovating courts: 506,882 euros.
New Torremolinos building: 118,460 euros.



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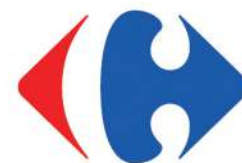
C.C. Costasol Centro.
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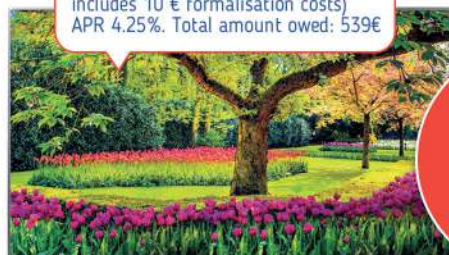
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PARTICLES KILOGRAMME OF SAND

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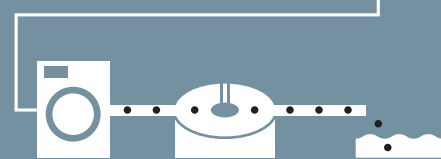
• LESS THAN
1
MILLIMETRE
IN DIAMETER

In marine sediment:

UP TO
300
PARTICLES
AVERAGE OF
130
PARTICLES

IN — **1** —
KILOGRAMME
OF SEDIMENT

Where they come from



Washing machines don't filter the fibres
In summer, the treatment plants can't cope
The fibres end up in the sea

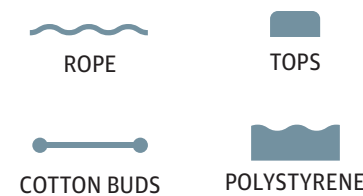
MACROPLASTICS

Collected: **25,000** OBJECTS in **72** CAMPAIGNS BETWEEN 2013 & 2018

The majority are unidentifiable fragments measuring between:

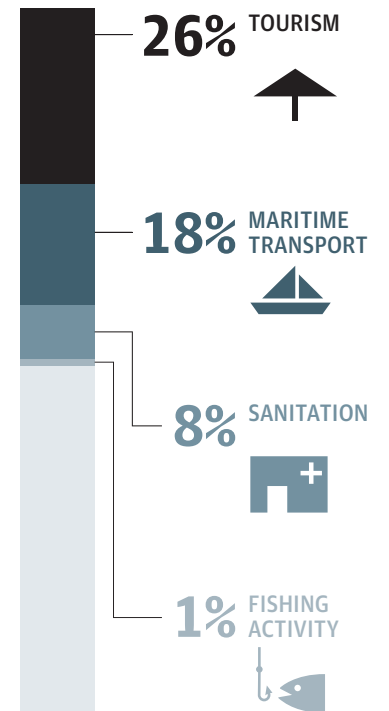
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MILLIMETRES IN DIAMETER MILLIMETRES IN DIAMETER

They come from:



MICRO & MACROPLASTICS

They come from:



Source: Ministerio para la Transición Ecológica

:: E. HINOJOSA

Plastic is already posing a real threat to the Costa del Sol

Textile fibres from some clothing combine with the plastic items strewn across the sand and the microplastics on the seabed

:: IVÁN GELIBTER

MALAGA. Plastic is already one of the main threats to the coastal ecosystem of the Costa del Sol and its surrounding Alboran Sea. The problem, say experts, is increasing and will continue to do so without specific policies to stop the massive use of plastic packaging.

Researchers can confirm their fears now thanks to a European Directive that in recent years has required, among other things, EU countries to track their marine waste. Studies, carried out in Spain by the Spanish Oceanographic Institute, measure the quantities of macroplastics - those that can be seen by the naked eye - and microplastics - particles smaller than five millimetres.

An expert at the Spanish Oceanographic Centre in the Balearics (responsible for studying plastic pollution in the Spanish Mediterranean), Salud Deudero, explains that microplastics can be made up of their original object (for example, cosmetics which are made up of these particles), or as a consequence of the fragmentation of bigger plastics.

Deudero pointed out that people often forget the plastics that can be found in textiles, such as acrylic sweaters. Washing machines are unable to retain these particles in their filters, and these end up in the sea



Plastic waste washed up on a beach. :: SUR

before the water can be treated.

"The pumping of microparticles into the sea is so great that they already form part of the ecosystem," said Deudero.

In the case of the Alboran Sea, the part of the Mediterranean that bathes the Costa del Sol, an estimated 25,000 small plastic objects were found on the beaches in 72 campaigns carried out between 2013 and 2018 as part of these studies. Many of these items were unidentifiable pieces of plastic, or originated as rope, bottle tops or cotton buds, among other items.

On the Costa del Sol's beaches, the level of microplastics is on average 30 particles in every kilogramme of sand, equivalent to 500 particles per square metre. In this

case they measure less than one millimetre; "smaller than usual", said the researcher. The majority are fragments of polystyrene.

The problem is even bigger on the seabed. The average there for the Alboran Sea is 130 microplastic particles per kilo of sediment, a figure that rises to as much as 300 particles per kilo in the province of Malaga - an "alarming" figure, said the expert.

The transparent blue microfibres come from bottles and cellophane. "If we moved away from using plastic packaging and bottles and use less textile fibres the change would be spectacular," stated Deudero. However, the expert recognises that quantitatively the negative effect of macroplastics is even greater as these are directly responsible for the deaths of many species.

In terms of who is responsible, 26 per cent of all the plastic in the Alboran Sea is produced by tourism; 18 per cent by maritime transport; eight per cent by sanitation and one per cent by fishing activities.

FRUIT AND VEG TATTOOED IN THE FIGHT AGAINST PLASTIC

Local companies in the Malaga area have been using technological advances to "tattoo" fruit and vegetables with lasers in order to reduce use of labels and limit plastic packaging. The mark only affects the skin of the product without damaging the flesh inside. Local business BioAlgarrabo, specialises in organic produce and has been tattooing its products for a year.



:: NITO SALAS



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Sustainable German technology designed in the Axarquía

The hybrid vehicle is 100 per cent carbon neutral and has a range of up to 180 kilometres when fully charged

✚ EUGENIO CABEZAS

NERJA. Nerja resident of 18 years, Joachim Aldfinger, last month travelled to a sustainability and mobility fair in his native Germany to launch a hybrid vehicle which was designed and built in the Axarquía town.

Along with his French business partner, Didier Helmsetter, Aldfinger, 54, has produced five prototypes of the Messerschmitt KR 25 E; a hybrid vehicle made from aluminum and carbon fibre which comprises three wheels, pedals and an electric battery. It is capable of reaching speeds of 25km/h and can cover 180 kilometres when fully charged.

The vehicle weighs 85 kilos, can carry up to 120 kilos of additional weight and has a market value of 12,500 euros. Aldfinger explained the idea is that "it can be used in big cities as well as rural areas for short distances".

The designer, also a self-confessed



Joachim Aldfinger with his hybrid vehicle. ✚ E. CABEZAS

"environmentalist", spent six years working on the model, which he says is "100 per cent sustainable."

The design is based on the iconic Messerschmitt three-wheeled cars, designed by the company which is best known for its World War Two fighter planes. The company closed

in 1968.

Aldfinger also claims to be the "ambassador in Spain for Westarctica", an micronation in the Antarctic, founded by former US soldier, Travis McHenry, in 2001 to promote and protect the Antarctic from environmental threats.

HERE AND THERE



English-speaking volunteers at last Friday's inauguration. ✚ SUR

Red Cross moves to modern facilities

VÉLEZ-MÁLAGA

✚ **J. RHODES.** The Vélez-Málaga Red Cross inaugurated its new premises in Calle Aceituneros in the town last Friday. During the opening ceremony, Cruz Roja head

for the Axarquía, Eduardo Recio, stated that the new facilities were "modern, accessible, well situated and functional", adding, "this will enable the Red Cross to provide a service to people in the area". British volunteer, Richard Weale, said: "The new office will enable us to offer workshops and activities in the heart of La Axarquía."

Bar licences extended for tenth year running

NERJA

✚ **E. C.** Nerja town hall has, for the tenth consecutive year, extended the existing licence for a number of beach bars located on Burriana beach in the town. The licences ran out in 2010 and councillors have been promising to renew them since then, but have continually failed to do so.

German tourist dies after drowning in pool

TORROX

✚ **E. C.** A 75-year-old German tourist died on Wednesday when life-guards were unable to resuscitate him after he drowned in the swimming pool of the Torcasol residential area in Torrox Costa. Emergency services believe he suffered a heart attack while swimming in the pool.

EDITORIAL CONTENT

MAD ABOUT MOTORING?

Whether you're a car enthusiast or rely on your car for just about everything, keeping your vehicle on the road is a costly endeavor. Prices for car insurance can vary greatly between providers depending on different risk factors. While reducing your annual mileage and keeping your car in a secure location will help keep your premiums down, Línea Directa recommend shopping around for insurance quotes to get the best possible price with the best possible cover.

MINOR CAR PROBLEMS

At this time of the year in the early morning sunshine, condensation is particularly troublesome especially in older vehicles. Motorists and other road users are at risk. Accidents can be caused when drivers try to wipe down the windscreen. Here are some handy tips to help you tackle condensation. Wash your car regularly as dirt and dust attract moisture and early morning dew. Remove any damp items like towels or coats from inside the car. When safe to do so, leave the windows open for a few hours. Switch on the air conditioning and wipe down the inside of the windows. Finally, you can fill a sock with cat litter and place it in your car to help absorb excess moisture.

BUT WHAT IF IT DOESN'T START?

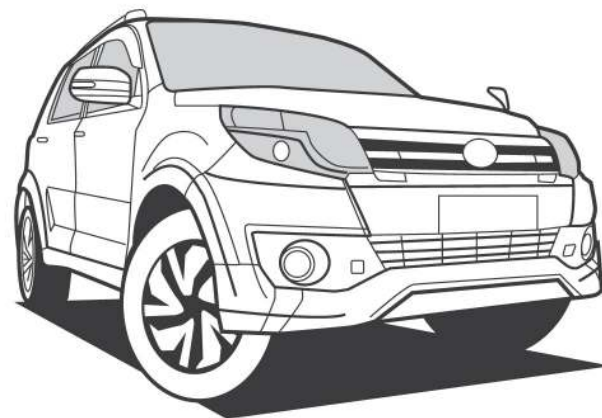
A flat battery is a great inconvenience, jump-starting your car from the roadside can be hazardous and new batteries are expensive and can be troublesome to fit. These tips can help prolong the life of your battery. Keep the terminals clean of residue that builds up over time. And remember to turn off air conditioning, lights, radio and other battery draining systems whenever possible.

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The iconic Equitativa building's tower in Malaga. :: SUR

Work begins to convert La Equitativa into two hotels

The iconic Malaga building will become home to a five-star hotel in the base and four-star hotel in the tower

:: PILAR MARTÍNEZ

MALAGA. Work to prepare the iconic La Equitativa building to be converted into a luxury hotel began on Monday. The demolition of partition walls took place, as well

as the preservation of elements which will form part of the new five-star hotel which will occupy the base part of the building.

Located between Calle Larios and the Muelle Uno marina, with the conversion, La Equitativa is set to become a main landmark once again.

The contract to turn the tower of the building into a four-star hotel this week awarded to Soho Boutique Hotels. Unlike the base, a works licence has not yet been granted but doors are expected to open in 2021.

The Titanic to dock in the city's port for the summer

The biggest travelling Lego exhibition in Europe will be installed in Malaga's Muelle Uno and consist of 110 figures made of more than five million pieces

:: JUAN SOTO

MALAGA. An impressive Lego exhibition will soon be settling in Malaga for the summer. The showcase, which is the biggest of its kind in Europe, will be taking over the corner of the Muelle Uno marina area, after the departure of the Art-senal centre.

The show, which will run from 16 June to 22 September, will cover an area of 1,400 square metres, exhibiting 110 figures made up of more than five million Lego pieces.

According to its creators, the exhibition will be divided into 12 zones, with one standout display being a 11-metre-long, three-metre-high Titanic replica, made up of more than 500,000 pieces. Other highlights include a huge Star Wars zone and an interactive map of Europe. Visitors can also greet their favourite sports stars, have a front seat view of important historical events such as the moon landings



The future exhibition space. :: SUR

and the fall of the Berlin Wall and get a glimpse at J. R. R. Tolkien's Lonely Mountain.

There will also be an area where children can create their own designs and, of course, a Lego shop.

With the spectacle having already been seen by three million people across seven countries, the organisers believe that, in Malaga, they "have found a phenomenal location, on the marina, where there is a huge concentration of Spanish and European tourists passing by", stated Mariusz Rozmiarek, in charge of organising the exhibit.

Entrance to the exhibition will cost between 6.50 and 9.50 euros.

Torremolinos introduces service for those affected by Diogenes syndrome

:: TONY BRYANT

TORREMOLINOS. Torremolinos town hall has initiated a new service that will address the problem of Diogenes syndrome, a condition characterised by compulsive hoarding of rubbish in the home.

Also known as senile squalor syndrome, people suffering from this disorder are often solitary individuals and the elderly, many of whom live in severe domestic squalor.

Several cases of the condition have come to light in the town recently so the Social Services department has joined forces with the municipal cleaning services and the local police and fire authorities in an attempt to prevent risks to health and hygiene.

A special helpline has been set up so that neighbours and relatives can report potential cases.

The new service offers help to people affected by the disorder and will include the removal of accumulated rubbish and the disinfection of properties, while also offering special treatment and monitoring for those suffering with the disorder.



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Pilgrims set off across Andalucía for the annual Rocío celebration

Decorated carriages set off from Malaga and Marbella this week to reach the Huelva village in time for this weekend's festivities

■ SUR

MARBELLA. Members of the Rocío brotherhood in Marbella paraded through the town on Tuesday before setting off on their annual pilgrimage to the village of El Rocío in Almonte, Huelva.

The group from Marbella will join

pilgrims from 124 brotherhoods around the region, most of them travelling in decorated carriages pulled by tractors.

The celebrations come to a head on Monday when the image of the Virgen del Rocío is carried out of the shrine surrounded by thousands.



Marbella pilgrims head off for their weekend of music, dance and religious ceremonies. ■ JOSELE

HERE AND THERE



Cruise ship The World on its stop in Puerto Banús. ■ JOSELE

The World makes three-day Banús stop-off

MARBELLA

■ **A. JIMÉNEZ.** The vessel known as the 'millionaire's cruise ship', spent three days docked in Puerto Banús from Sunday to Tuesday.

The cost of an apartment aboard The World varies between one and six million euros, not including travel and maintenance fees.

The ship has been a regular on the Costa, stopping numerous times in Malaga and Marbella ports since its inauguration in 2002.

Ventura del Mar beach drains to be removed

MARBELLA

■ **C. MÁRQUEZ.** A budget of 477,562 euros has been set aside by the western Costa water authorities to remove 380 metres of drains and seven manhole covers from Ventura del Mar beach in San Pedro. This is part of a bid to improve the image of the area and to reduce the risk of any leakages in the future.

Free public Wi-Fi points installed across Casares

CASARES

■ **C. M.** Connecting to the internet in Casares is now free with a number of free public wireless spots set up in Casares Pueblo, Casares Costa, in Plaza de la Paz de Secadero and in Plaza Andalucía. Users can access the Wi-Fi by connecting to 'Wifi publico Ayto de Casares'. Access is free for up to two hours a day.

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REF. B. Y. D.

I have a physiotherapy clinic and I am going to transfer it due to my retirement. The new owner has promised to continue the contracts of my two employees and respect their seniority and salary. One of them is very happy, but the other says she wants to change her working hours.

I have told her that this is something she will have to negotiate with the new owner, but she says that if this is not agreed beforehand, she will not sign. What can we do if she refuses to sign? Your employee's position does not make much sense, as she cannot demand anything more than what she already has. Because of the employer's retirement, an employment contract can be terminated by simply paying one month's severance pay. In this situation, your employee can leave, or require the new employer to maintain the same working conditions, which is something that is already being offered.

REF. R. A. E.

I am 65 years old and I am a pensioner. I married a Spanish woman in 1986. We have two daughters, one is 31 years old and the other 27, and both are still living with us, al-

though the older one has a job and the younger one will probably finish her studies this year. Things are not going well with my wife, and I am thinking of getting divorced. If I do, would I have to pay alimony to my daughters, even if they are of legal age? How much would I have to pay? Children continue to be entitled to financial support, even if they are adult, as long as they are financially dependent or completing their studies. Your eldest daughter would probably not receive any support, as she is working and is therefore not financially dependent. With regard to your youngest daughter, things change since she is finishing her studies. In her case, the exemption from this payment could only be requested if there was perceived apathy, incompetence or academic disinterest, which does not seem to be the case. As for the amount to be paid, it will depend to a great extent on what you are receiving of pension.

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Madrid area is Spain's richest and Andalusian towns are poorest

People in Pozuelo de Alarcón earn on average 25,957 euros a year, while in Níjar, near Almería, income is 6,253 euros a head

■ SUR

MADRID. To find the best place to live in Spain, at least in terms of the amount of money you'd earn in a year, you'd have to look to the centre of Spain and to Pozuelo de Alarcón, a dormitory town near Madrid.

Here each person has an annual average income of 25,957 euros, more than any other municipality in the country. Unemployment is also at its second lowest rate here, on 6.4%.

The data is part of a recently released survey from the INE, the national statistics office, called Urban Indicators, which looks at data on income and other factors from the 405 municipalities with more than 20,000 inhabitants.

According to the report, the bastions of the rich are in the Madrid region. After Pozuelo de Alarcón come the nearby towns of Bobadilla del Monte (19,702 euros a year per person) in second place and Las Rozas (19,340 euros) in third.

Of the top ten places, seven are in the Madrid area. The three that aren't are Sant Cugat del Vallès, just outside Barcelona, (19,151 euros) and also two Basque places; Getxo, a coastal town near Bilbao, (18,599 euros); and the city of San Sebastián (17,203 euros).

Andalusian unemployment

At the other end of the scale, nine of the least wealthy towns are in Andalucía. Bottom of the list is Níjar, a fruit and flower growing town near Almería, (6,253 euros),



A shopping centre in Pozuelo de Alarcón. ■ SUR

and Los Palacios in Seville province (6,552 euros).

More than two thirds of the 50 towns with the lowest incomes are in Andalucía. There is a close correlation between lower income towns in Andalucía and high rates of unemployment. The highest rate among the towns surveyed are Linares, in Jaén province (32.8%), and La Línea de la Concepción (29.9%).

The towns with the lowest amount of people out of work, apart from Pozuelo, are Sant Cugat (6.2%), Las Rozas (7.2%), San Sebastián (7.2%) and another Madrid dormitory town, Majadahonda (7.3%).

Richest Madrid 'barrios'

The survey also breaks down larger cities by district. In Madrid city it-

self, the richest area is El Viso, next to Real Madrid's Santiago Bernabeu football stadium, with 42,819 euros per person a year earned. It is also the wealthiest district in the country.

Two 'barrios' of Seville have the lowest income on about 5,000 euros per head, based on the 2018 data.

Costa towns not near top

Of the larger Costa del Sol towns, the range of annual income per head is between around 8,000 to 9,500 euros. Estepona is on 8,181 euros a year per person; Marbella, 9,016; Fuengirola, 7,885; Benalmádena, 9,276; Torremolinos, 9,574; Alhaurín el Grande, 6,628; Málaga, 9,745; Vélez-Málaga, 8,198; and Nerja, 7,936.

THE EURO ZONE
MARK NAYLER

MIND THE GAP



The recent wealth-mapping of Spain carried out by the country's National Statistics Institute (INE) revealed few surprises: as is normally the case, the most affluent areas are all in or around Madrid and Barcelona, while the poorest are in the south. What is worthy of note, though, is how large the discrepancy between the rich and poor in Spain is, and just how many of the poorest regions are here in Andalucía. Lurking behind the region's stunning landscapes and life-affirming "alegría" is a big problem with unemployment - an issue that should be a top priority for both local administrations and the incoming national government.

The INE project found that ten of Spain's richest neighbourhoods are in the Madrid region. Most affluent of all is the capital's "barrio" of El Viso, where the average per capita annual income is €42,819. By contrast, Andalucía is home to Spain's poorest neighbourhood - Polígono Sur in Seville, where that figure plummets to €4,897. In other words, the income difference between Spain's wealthiest and poorest "barrios" is a hefty €37,922. The same trend is present in distribution of wealth by city or town, too: the richest are all found within the boundaries of a triangle marked by Madrid, Barcelona and the Basque Country, while nine of Spain's ten poorest cities are here in Andalucía.

Reducing the extent of these problematic divides has to be a

priority for both municipal administrations and the next national government, once it's installed. It'll be a complex task, but there is clearly one area that is in urgent need of attention: unemployment. Research presented last year by Eurostat, the European Union's statistics agency, showed that Spain is home to five of the worst affected areas in Europe when it comes to joblessness, Andalucía being one of them. This year's data shows that little has changed in that respect: the three highest unemployment rates in Spain are in the Andalusian municipalities of Linares (32.8%), La Línea de la Concepción (29.9% and Sanlúcar de Barrameda (29%).

It was a flagship policy of Mariano Rajoy's former conservative government to reduce Spain's unemployment levels by creating half a million new jobs a year. Rajoy adhered to that target, but the latest research shows that it hasn't helped to improve things in the poorest parts of the country. This was largely because many of the new jobs were temporary positions, either not lasting long enough or not paying enough to really improve households' prosperity.

It should be an urgent priority of Pedro Sánchez's and of the PP-Ciudadanos-led administration here in Andalucía to work on a more durable solution. That, in turn, will help this beautiful part of Spain haul itself up from the bottom of the country's regional wealth rankings.

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Europa Stadium works reveal artefacts from the 14th century

The section of defensive wall and items of pottery support the belief that there was a settlement at Europa Flats in the Medieval-Moorish period

DEBBIE BARTLETT

GIBRALTAR. The works being carried in the area of the Europa Stadium have uncovered an underground section of a wall dating back to the Merinid dynasty in medieval times. It is located near the Shrine of our Lady of Europe, and would have overlooked the Strait of Gibraltar. It is likely that this is part of the original line wall which was constructed under the instructions of Abu'l Hassan between 1333 and 1374 (when control of Gibraltar passed from Merinid to Nasrid hands).

The Moorish wall has now been protected by a geotextile and covered, and full information about it has been recorded by archaeologists. This discovery appears to support documentary evidence that there was a settlement in the Europa Flats area during the Medieval-Moorish period (711-1462) and historians believe it was at this point that Emir Abu'l Hassan con-



The ceramics are being studied at the Gibraltar Museum. :: SUR

structed defensive walls all the way to Europa Point, making areas which were previously unsecure open for settlement.

It had previously been suggested that the Nuns' Well, located at Europa Flats, may date from this period, but archaeological excavations close to this site were inconclusive. However, excavations close to the present Shrine of Our Lady of Europe did reveal evidence of a 14th-century Moorish guardhouse. Until now, that has

been the only evidence supporting a Moorish presence on the Europa Flats.

The construction works have also revealed pieces of Moorish ceramics, which are now being studied at the Gibraltar National Museum. This reinforces the view that the area of Europa Flats was settled during the 14th century.

Dr John Cortes, the Minister for Heritage, says that slowly but surely a picture is being built up of Gibraltar's past through such discoveries.

Andrea Bocelli in concert in Gibraltar on 9 September

D.BARTLETT

GIBRALTAR. The government is looking for possible ways to provide extra seating for the Andrea Bocelli concert on 9 September, because tickets for the show at the Europa Stadium sold out within two days of becoming available even though the stadium can hold 10,000 people.

Bocelli, who is reported to be the the biggest-selling solo classical artist of all time with over 90 million worldwide album sales, will be performing with the Royal Philharmonic Concert Orchestra as part of Gibraltar's National Week Celebrations. It will be his first visit to Gi-

braltar, and forms part of his world tour.

Those lucky enough to have tickets will be able to enjoy a unique repertoire from Bocelli's landmark release "Si" - his first ever chart-topping album on the Billboard 200 chart. The world-renowned tenor will also treat audiences to his beloved traditional selection of arias, love songs and crossover hits.

Gibraltar's chief minister, Fabian Picardo, says he is delighted that Andrea Bocelli will be in Gibraltar as part of the National Day celebrations in an important year which also commemorates 50 years since the closure of the border with Spain.

Tourist Board shortlisted for Travel Bulletin Star Awards for culture and heritage

D. B.

GIBRALTAR. The Gibraltar Tourist Board has been shortlisted in the Travel Bulletin Star Awards 2019, in the Star Cultural & Heritage Destination category, and is compet-

ing against India, Israel, Italy, Jordan, South Africa and Thailand. UK travel agents will be placing their votes over the next three weeks, and the winner will be announced in September.

Tourism minister Gilbert Licudi says the nomination is the culmination of the Gibraltar - A Year of Culture campaign. It promotes different elements of Gibraltar's diverse heritage and culture and appeals to those interested in cultural heritage themes such as art, music and history in addition to the Rock's more traditional attractions.

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IDEAL
JOYEROS

Happy Father's Day

Kids' cancer fundraising scam causes outrage as police arrest five

Parents' associations across Spain unwittingly took part in the alleged fraud which supposedly fuelled lavish lifestyles for organisers

by FERNANDO TORRES

MALAGA. News of a scandal involving a charity raising funds for child cancer has caused anger across Spain among organisations that supported it. The charity, Linceci, offered different ways to donate or collect money and investigators believe those running it used funds to support "a lavish lifestyle". Police in Zaragoza, northern Spain, where the charity had a base, have raided its offices and five people were also arrested.

Following the police raids, companies, local authorities and schools who helped with fundraising have been coming forward to report their involvement in the network of organisations supporting the charity and that they may have been victims of the supposed illegal activity.

Police say that formal complaints have started to be received but that for the moment it is impossible to know the full extent of Linceci's



Police officers during the raid on the charity's office. :: CNP

operation.

"The charitable association widely promoted over its website and magazines the sale of fundraising products and events," said the National Police over the arrests. Their marketing reached into schools over social media and direct messages to the heads of educational establishments who were urged to collaborate.

In Malaga province, parents' associations in Alhaurín de la Torre,

Ronda, Vélez-Málaga, Sierra de Yeguas, Mijas and Malaga city told SUR that they had collaborated with Linceci and taken part in its supposedly fraudulent campaigns.

Julián Sesmero, chairman of the parents' association at Clara Campoamor school in Alhaurín de la Torre said, "They have conned us; me and all the parents who have taken part."

The charity generally asked schools and firms to sell fundraising merchandise on their behalf.



File photo of Franco's tomb in the Valle de los Caídos. :: AFP

Reburial of Franco's body is halted by Supreme Court

by SUR

MADRID. The Supreme Court has blocked the acting government's plan to exhume the body of dictator General Franco from his ceremonial resting place next Monday, 10 June.

The ban on reburial is temporary while objections are heard and comes after Franco's descendants and the foundation set up to defend his legacy objected to the plan.

When the Socialist government took over last June, one of its first decisions was to take Franco out of the Valle de los Caídos, a large monument in the mountains near

Madrid dedicated by Franco to victims of the Spanish Civil War. His body has had pride of place there since his death in 1975.

The government rejected the family's compromise of burying him in the crypt of Madrid's cathedral and went ahead with their plan to bury the general next to his wife in a small cemetery outside Madrid.

Now this has been stopped, with the court saying it was in the public interest to debate the move further. The acting government said the delay "wasn't a disaster" but sources expect Franco's family to take their case as far as the European Court of Human Rights.



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MINOR CAR PROBLEMS

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BUT WHAT IF IT WON'T START?

A flat battery is inconvenient, jump-starting your car from the roadside can be hazardous and new batteries are expensive and can be troublesome to fit. These tips can help prolong the life of your battery. Keep the terminals clean of residue that builds up over time. And remember to turn off air conditioning, lights, radio and other battery draining systems whenever possible.



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KING INTERVIEWS PARTY LEADERS

The leaders of the political parties with MPs in Spain's Congreso have met with King Felipe this week in a round of contacts which is the next formal step towards the formation of a new government. After talking to each leader to find out who their party's MPs would support as prime minister, the king will propose a candidate to go forward to the investiture debate. This is expected to be Socialist leader and acting PM Pedro Sánchez, who won the elections, but still needs support from other parties to reach the 176 vote majority. He was the last of the leaders to visit the king on Thursday afternoon, following Albert Rivera (Cs, pictured) and Pablo Casado (PP).

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Full marks from SUR in English

Young artists, storytellers and poets receive their certificates following their success in the Education and Learning supplement earlier this year

== RACHEL HAYNES

MALAGA. We have to go back to January to find the start of this story. That was when teachers at the international schools in southern Spain and Gibraltar received their annual emails inviting their students to send in work for the annual SUR in English Education and Learning supplement.

In February, with an inbox full of poems, short stories and artwork from both secondary and primary students, it was time to pick out the best work to be published in the supplement. This job was given to a panel of judges formed this year by former SUR in English editor Liz Parry; journalist and art critic Georgina Oliver; and singer-songwriter and columnist Peter Edgerton, who selected winners, runners-up and works that deserved a special mention.

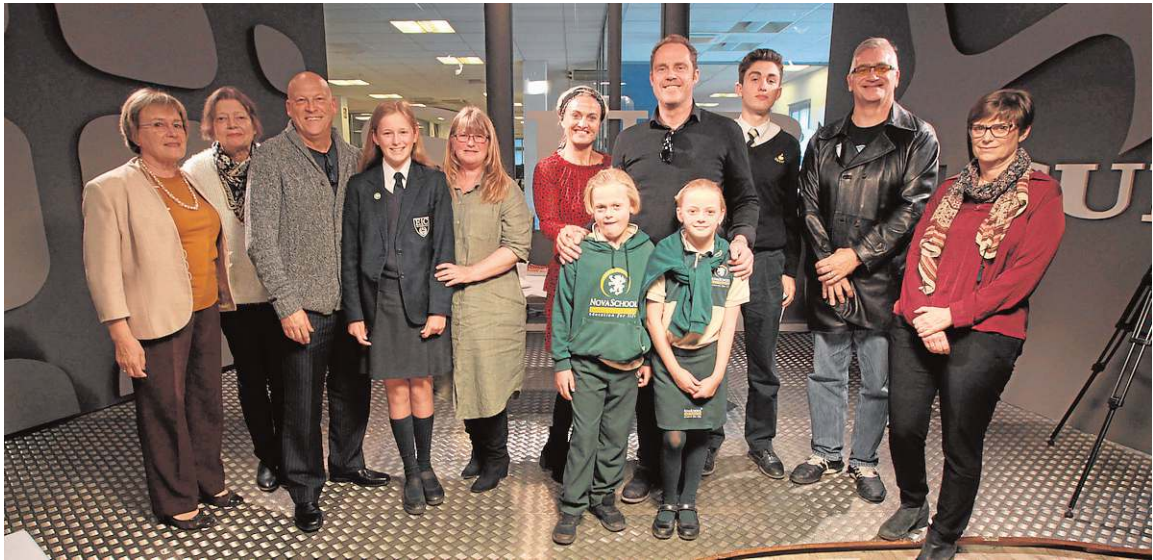
All this talent and creativity was then slotted into the pages of the special supplement that was published in March, along with information and news from local schools.

Having their work published is a prize in itself, however the students whose contributions were selected as the best poems, stories and artwork in the primary and secondary categories were invited with their families to the SUR offices in April to receive their certificates. There, they were able to visit the newsroom and enjoy refreshments, this year served in the television studio.

Students who were unable to attend were given their certificates by their teachers at school.

Winners

The best works chosen this year in the short story section were by Seve Bonvini of Swans International School (secondary) and Agastya



Students, parents, judges and staff at the SUR in English offices. == SALVADOR SALAS

THE ARTISTS

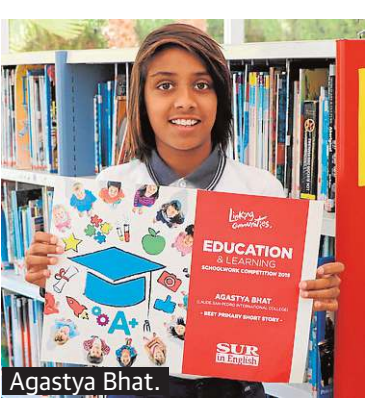


Izzy Blok with her headmaster and teacher. Bhat of Laude San Pedro International College (primary). Certificates for the best poetry went to Emily Simmons of English International College (secondary) and Mercedes Zurburg of Novaschool Sunland International



Sophia Kuznetsova next to her painting. sight, children will be looking forward to a well-earned rest - but if there are any moments of boredom in the summer holidays they could always brush up their talents ready for next year's SUR in English Education and Learning supplement.

THE WRITERS



THE POETS



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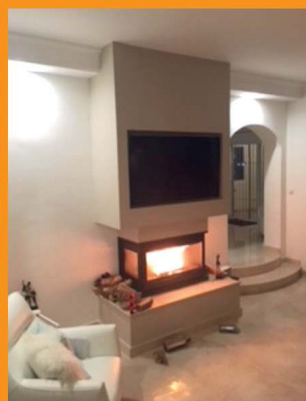
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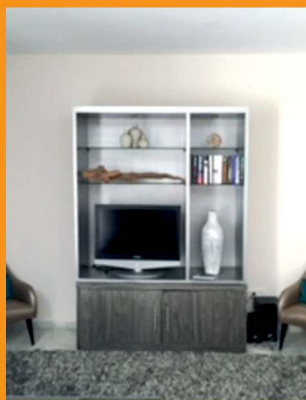
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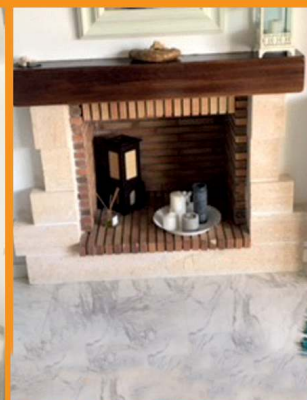
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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Eagles success

On Friday 17 May a group of us joined several hundred others at The Moonlight Bar in Benalmádena to totally enjoy The Desperados, Eagles tribute band, and by sheer chance it was a full moon.

The six highly skilled musicians led by well known entertainer Steve Nelson, played all the Eagles classics in a two-hour concert with a standing ovation after each number. We have seen The Eagles live twice, and the without doubt the Desperados were very close in every

way to the best selling American country rock band.

From start to finish with brilliant harmonies, and frequent guitar changes they were superb, and with the excellent sound system and dramatic lighting it was one of the best ever shows of this kind we have seen in our 30 years on the Costa. It was great to see Steve and Jeff Guitar Johnstone back together on stage.

BRIAN AND ELAINE HAYHURST
BY EMAIL

Don't drop your guard - the gas impostors are back

The dreaded gas men are back! I just had to get rid of a guy who had called at a house in Iznájar where some English people were staying.

He told them the gas installation needed to be inspected to comply with Rural Tourism regulations.

After a fairly heated argument (the couple rang me to talk to him as they don't speak Spanish) he put the phone down on me.

Perhaps because I told him that there had been no postal

notification of his visit and he would need to ensure a letter was sent to the address before he came back.

I said I was going to ring Cepsa and he cut me off and scarpered.

I think the hire car in the drive and the rural tourism sign probably convinced him to try his luck.

Incidentally the only gas appliance, the hob, was literally replaced just a week ago, with new hose and 'alcachofa' so I knew straight away his claim that it needed changing was a lie.

ANNE BANKS
BY EMAIL

We accept letters by email (surinenglish.su@diariosur.es), post or fax, but they must include identification and a telephone number, and be exclusive to SUR in English. We do not publish anonymous letters. Opinions expressed by contributors to this and other pages of SUR in English do not necessarily reflect those of the publishers. No part of this publication may be reproduced without written permission from the publishers.

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While some are still digesting the results of the 26 May local elections - and others have forgotten them already - we are still in that limbo period when the councillors have been elected but not yet installed in their seats.

More importantly, in a large number of cities, towns and villages where there has been no overall majority, we know who is going to occupy the seats but we still don't know who is going to be boss.

So, while parties hold their meetings to see who is going to give whom a leg up to the mayor's chair on 15 June, and what they'll get in return for their help, everyone else is "acting".

The Spanish expression used for

someone occupying their position temporarily until its rightful owner takes over is "en funciones" which at least sounds a lot more sensible and serious than the English version - "acting".

It ought to be quite disturbing to think that practically all the politicians in charge of governments on a local, regional and national level at the moment are just "acting". Disturbing, or at least

Everyone's acting

RACHEL HAYNES

Pink flawed

PETER EDGERTON
MUSIC MAKER WWW.E-PETER.COM

So, you started out searching for a video about how to fix a washing machine door hinge and seven hours later you're watching Betty Stove and Evonne Goolagong winning a women's doubles tournament in Philadelphia in 1975. Such are the caprices and the vagaries of the infinite internet resource which is YouTube.

Actually, this is just my way of explaining how I found myself staring agog at a song by the pop singer Pink yesterday.

What seemed like only minutes before I was idly perusing a very tubby Francis Lee diving clumsily in the penalty area for Manchester City and yet by some weird combination of osmosis and witchcraft here I was now, listening to a tune called Perfect (actually with an expletive in the real title) and it was, let me tell you, absolutely horrible on every level. Admittedly, the target audience for this stuff is twelve year old girls and I don't

suppose the baldy fifty-something bloke demographic is a market Mrs Pink would be terribly interested in, but even so it was astonishingly bad, especially the lyrics. The gist can be gleaned from this bewildering couplet:

'Pretty, pretty please, don't you ever ever feel

Like you're less than ***** perfect.'

I suppose the well intentioned idea is to help young girls with their self esteem but this guff is surely going to have totally the opposite effect. Nobody's perfect - except Kenny Dalglish, obviously - and that's the whole point. In my experience, people who understand this fundamental truth are generally far happier and more well balanced individuals.

So, I'm thinking of sending and alternative lyric to The Pinkstress and asking her to rethink her strategy.

'Dear Mrs. Pink,
Please consider the following

minor adjustment to the lyrical content of your song Perfect (which, ironically, is far from it):

Pretty, pretty please, don't you ever feel like you're more than just one of 7.7 billion people presently on the planet.. tum tee tum tee tum.. and swearing in a song doesn't make you look tough and independent just a bit rude and unimaginative to be honest, especially if you're twelve... tum tee tum tee tum...'

Ok, it's not quite Leonard Cohen but I think a few thousand teenagers singing along to that might make the world a better place. Who knows, some of them may even get round to tidying their bedrooms on an annual basis.

We can leave boys' songs and the damage they're doing to society to another occasion because right now I have to dash - there's a jolly decent chap called Chuck in Arkansas who's very kindly going to show me how to fix a washing machine door hinge.

IDÍGORAS



ironic, when you consider that even when immersed in their full role, politicians can often be accused of putting on an act.

In Spain at the moment we have an acting prime minister (Pedro Sánchez) who won the general election in April but needs a little bit of help from other groups in Congreso before he can carry on with his job and shed the "acting".

At the same time though, several regional authorities also need to negotiate pacts, agreements or coalitions, leading to the situation where parties are saying "I'll vote help you here, if you support me there".

No mention of "acting" in the interests of the people who voted for a party because they liked their proposals, their ideology and be-

lieved their promises.

Parties have to talk and compromise to allow leaders to stop acting and get on with the job. These compromises, though, ought to be based on what their potential partners want to do to improve the country, town or region, not on who is scratching whose back elsewhere.

On a municipal level we only have to keep writing "acting" before everybody's title for another week as Sunday 15 June is deadline day.

Hopefully the central government will also get its act together soon so that our politicians can stop acting and start working to keep all their promises.

That's if they can remember the difference between acting and real life.

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IN THE FRAME

Remembering a lifetime in showbiz

Starting off in revues produced by her aunt's dancing school during the 1940s, 82-year-old British expat Gloria Nicholls has enjoyed an entertainment career that has lasted for almost 80 years. Today, the Mollina-based performer has virtually retired from the stage, although she now uses her fascinating experiences to raise funds for several Malaga-based charities.

Gloria was born in Lambeth, London, and first set foot on stage when she was just three years old. Her grandfather was a showman called Isaac 'Jack' Nicholls, while her grandmother was a ballet dancer in a circus. Her parents were in the amusement business, so Gloria was surrounded by the entertainment world from birth. Her aunt owned and ran the Nichollet School of Dancing in Battersea until she died of cancer at just 27. The school was taken over by one of her cousins, and Gloria began to help with its daily running.

The aspiring dancer knew from a tender age that she was destined for the showbiz world, but her dreams were shattered by World War II. When the war ended, Gloria joined The Regal Entertainers concert party and this was to be the start of a long and enjoyable career rubbing shoulders with some of Britain's top entertainers. Gloria stayed with the company for two years, performing two shows a week and earning 35 shillings per show.

At the age of 17, she performed at a dancing competition held at the renowned Windmill Theatre, where she met Lillian Rowley. Rowley was a celebrated dancer and choreographer who helped many young performers towards successful careers, and she quickly noticed that Gloria had an incredible talent and advised her to take up dancing professionally. Gloria's father had no desire to let his daughter enter the world of entertainment, but her mother intervened and took her to a meeting at Rowley's office, where she was offered a lucrative contract with Cecil Buckingham Productions.

"I was offered seven pounds a week and a rise of ten shillings each year. It was a seven-year contract that would take me abroad, but I turned it down because my mother was very ill and I knew that she didn't have long to live," Gloria explains to SUR in English.

Instead, Gloria formed her own company called the Beaux Belles, with which she wrote and produced shows for 35 years. As well as producing the shows, Gloria also designed the costumes, and the com-

pany went on to perform at some of the UK's top venues, including Stars and Garters in Leicester Square.

"I formed the Beaux Belles, which I produced, costumed and ran for 35 years. I also wrote and produced pan-

tomimes and we performed at many of the major theatres in England and Wales," she says.

Mixing with the stars

The Beaux Belles went on to per-

form all over the UK, entertaining audiences at Butlins and Haven holiday camps, and venturing further afield to places like Spain, Germany, Dubai and Canada. They also regularly appeared on radio and television, collaborating with some of the top personalities of the era: these included Ted Rogers, Dick Emery, Hugie Green, Arthur English, Roy Castle and Ken Dodd.

"We worked with some wonderful people, especially Ken Dodd, who was someone very special. He was a lovely man. We performed with him at Butlins during the 1980s and he was so polite. He was a showman and he never stopped working: it was difficult to get him off stage," Gloria recalls affectionately.

"I thought it was time to retire, but I found that people were interested in my life"

Because of her husband's work commitments, in 2002 Gloria moved to Mollina near Antequera. She soon formed an amateur theatre group (Mollina Artist Group), with which she performed an array of shows for local charities, including La Asociación Los Girasoles de Ara, a Malaga-based association formed by a group of parents to cater for people with intellectual disabilities.

Gloria remained active on the local amateur theatrical scene for many years, before she decided that maybe the time had come to hang up her dancing shoes, but she soon realised that her days in the limelight were not quite over. Her friends in Mollina were fascinated by tales of the London music hall scene and the never-ending list of famous personalities Gloria had worked with over the years, and so she was soon persuaded to organise a series of talks based on her life in showbiz. Gloria has no plans to retire and she has decided to continue giving talks about her life in order to raise funds for worthy causes.

"I am 82 now and I thought it was time to retire, but I found that people were interested in my life in show business. I don't think I'll ever retire: showbiz is my life," the tireless entertainer concludes.



The 82-year-old entertainer during a recent talk about her life in show business. :: SUR

Gloria Nicholls first set foot on stage when she was just three years old and she went on to perform with some of the UK's most popular celebrities. She now raises funds for charity by offering talks about her fascinating life in show business

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SOCIETY SCENE

A new chairman, a club lunch and a mini-cruise

FOTA enjoys an end of season lunch while Age Concern Fuengirola and Mijas sail along the coast

:: SUR IN ENGLISH

FOTA

Summer Lunch

At the end of May, members and guests of FOTA (Friends Of The Theatre Association) enjoyed lunch at La Farola restaurant in Fuengirola. Their last event of the season will be on 13 June when they are holding an anniversary party at Valparaiso restaurant with entertainment by The Jersey Boys. The group have lots of activities planned for when they start up again in September. If you are interested in joining, call Val Williams on 951313257.

Age Concern Fuengirola and Mijas
Mini-cruise

Around 45 members and guests of Age Concern enjoyed a mini-cruise which took them from Fuengirola to Benalmádena. They were able to

take lots of photos of the beautiful coastline and have lunch in a restaurant of their choice. Age Concern holds weekly meetings and monthly lunches with plenty of social events inbetween.

41 Club Nerja

New chairman welcomed

Retiring chairman of the 41 Club Nerja, Bernard Clarke, handed over to Alfie Fornear at the club's recent AGM. This is the 15th year of 41 Club Nerja, which currently has 45 members who are all ex-Round Tablers from ten European countries. Under the new chairman, the club is looking forward to a year of new ideas as well as a birthday party in October. The club meets twice a month on the first and third Thursdays. Visit 41clubnerja.org or ring Alfie on 626998626.

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



Members and guests of FOTA had lunch at La Farola restaurant in Fuengirola. :: SUR



Bernard Clarke hands over to Alfie Fornear. :: SUR



Age Concern enjoy a mini cruise. :: SUR

Marbella dinner party raises 40,000 euros for charity

:: ASH BOLTON

MARBELLA. A fundraising dinner at Marbella's Villa Tiberio restaurant raised 40,000 for the UK's Children with Cancer charity last Sunday.

Hundreds of guests dug deep at the Italian restaurant on the Golden Mile during the event that also featured a raffle and entertainment.

The event was hosted by Sandro Morelli, who was originally encour-

aged to open the restaurant by James Bond star Sean Connery, told SUR in English: "It feels very good to have raised this amount of money for this worthy charity. As you get older you start to see life in a different way, and to help children with cancer is a wonderful thing. 'I'd like to thank everyone who came for helping.'"

Over the past few years Sandro has held a number of fundraisers at

the restaurant, raising over 500,000 euros for Children with Cancer UK and more than 160,000 euros for the Costa del Sol-based charity Cudeca.

As reported in SUR in English earlier this year, Sandro received Cudeca's Golden Pin Award at the charity's annual presentation last April, in recognition of his years of fundraising.

Since it opened 30 years ago, the restaurant has seen its fair share of celebrities walk through its doors such as Charlton Heston, Shirley Bassey and Andrew Lloyd Webber.

For more information, visit www.villatiberio.com



Sandro and guests at the dinner party. :: SUR

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WHAT HAPPENED TODAY?

7 JUNE 1969

Gibraltar border closure finalised

The 4,800 Spanish workers in Gibraltar had to leave but were promised by the Franco regime that they would not suffer in any way

On 7 June 1969 numerous meetings took place and the final preparations were under way for Spain to close the border with Gibraltar, a move scheduled to take place the following day after General Franco was angered at the prospect of Gibraltar's new Constitution. He feared this would negatively effect Spain's sovereignty claim over the Rock, which had been ceded to Britain in perpetuity under the Treaty of Utrecht in 1713.

According to the press of the time, which of course was State-controlled, the drastic decision to close the border and cut off all types of communication with Gibraltar was welcomed by the Spanish popula-



Franco. :: SUR

tion. There was certainly a great deal of gleeful rabble-rousing in the newspapers: the 8 June edition of SUR, for example, proclaimed that from the next day Gibraltar would be forced to halt all construction work because it would have lost its 1,500 Spanish building workers, as well as nearly 2,000 Spaniards employed in servicing ships, and it would lose a huge amount of income because of this, as well as the money spent by ships' crews in local shops. Spanish people from La Línea were also working in shops and as bakers, electricians and mechanics etc in Gibraltar. They all had to leave before the border closed: absolutely nobody was to be allowed to cross, under any circumstances,



The Rock was totally cut off from Spain for 13 years. :: AFP

and all communications and supplies were to be cut off.

The approximately 4,800 Spanish citizens who lost their jobs in Gibraltar were reassured by the Franco regime that they would not suffer in any way whatsoever. They would receive money for enough time to enable them to find another

job in Spain, and new industries would be built in the area. Sadly, the situation was not positive for La Línea. The population gradually reduced by half, from around 80,000 to 40,000, and the economy of the area suffered greatly. There were protests and demands for the border to be reopened.

LANGUAGE FOOTNOTE

Frontera	Frontier
Cerrar	To close
Cierre	Closure
Ordenar	To order
Soberanía	Sovereignty
Familias	Families
Trabajadores	Workers
Turistas	Tourists
Comunicaciones	Communications
Aislado	Isolated
Separado	Separated
Reabrir	To reopen
Vehículo	Vehicle
El Peñón	The Rock
Identidad	Identity
Constitución	Constitution
Protestas	Protests

The closure tore families apart. Gibraltar turned to Morocco for labour and food, and strengthened its ties with the UK. The closure also shaped Gibraltarians' sense of identity as a people. Franco's attempt to bring Gibraltar to its knees failed. It survived.

After 13 difficult years, the border reopened for pedestrians on 15 December 1982, and fully on 5 February 1985, as a prerequisite for Spain joining the EC.

Bilingual crossword inside back page

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Learning English and other stories

SUR in English collaborates with the EOI's annual short story competition

■ RACHEL HAYNES

MALAGA. The Escuela Oficial de Idiomas (official language school) gives its students of English extra

optional homework once a year: to enter its annual short story competition. While organised from the Malaga school, the contest is open

to students of English at EOIs across Andalucía.

Every year the school's own judges select their three top en-

tries and the SUR in English editorial team then have the honour and privilege of choosing the winner. Of all the tasks facing the

newsroom, this is one of the most enjoyable.

To be able to move readers when writing in a foreign language is a skill that few can claim to dominate. We hope you enjoy this year's three winning stories as much as we did.

2ND RUNNER-UP: ANNA GARASHCHUK

Among Wheat Fields

David was one of my high school mates. You know, one of those bloody charismatic blokes that all girls always fall in love with. I wouldn't say he was handsome, not even ruggedly handsome, with his enormous hooked nose, medium-sized pitch-black shifty eyes and thin, bloodless lips. Actually there was something devilish in his sophisticated gaze and cunning smile. Rumor had it that he was secretly in love with me.

However, a friendship developed between us, at first an uneasy one, then more and more solid - at times looking more like rivalry. We always competed to see who got better marks or who was the most amusing and popular in our crew while still seizing every chance to mock each other.

Well, long story short, let me tell you about something extraordinary that happened to us on 31 October. That evening the plan was to go together to our friend's ancient country house to celebrate Halloween. So, David asked me to pick him up from the gas station where he was moonlighting as an attendant. That year I decided to dress up as an angel, don't ask me why.

As it was a peak hour in that direction down the main road, I decided to do what I had already adopted as the best strategy, that is to drive around the traffic jam by using the narrow unpaved country road among wheat fields that only local farmers knew about.

So, I was driving alone singing just released local hits without a care in the world. Suddenly a nun with big sunglasses stepped out of the bushes and stuck out her thumb. I stopped. The first thing I could think of was that on the eve of Halloween someone had decided to play a hilarious joke on me. Although I must say that in spite of her eyes being concealed because of the darkened glasses, she looked so damned authentic in her nun's robes that I was about to exclaim "Nice gear, mate!" but a higher power buttoned my lips.

"Where are you going?" - I asked her hesitantly.

"It's near, my daughter, just over the gas station" - replied the nun in a polite but strangely static voice, almost as monotonous as the fields behind her.

She got in the backseat. Again I re-

Anna Garashchuk

Anna was born in Jabarovsk, Russia. She was part of the doctorate programme for Economy by the University of Malaga and has published an article on European and Asian economy. She confesses to be a passionate about classical Russian and English literature. Last year she came in fourth in our Short Story Contest.



minded myself that it was Halloween. Best not to say too much and just let the prank play itself out. However, the more I kept checking her pale, almost transparent and emotionless face in my rear view mirror the more I was convinced she was a real nun. I started feeling uncomfortable in my ridiculous 'angel' outfit. Maybe it offended her? "I need to pick up my friend at the gas station" - I apologized. She only nodded at me in the rear view mirror.

At the station I saw David all dressed up. "My God," I gasped, "not THAT!" - It was an authentic devil in the flesh! He could not have done a better job! Nun, devil and angel in the same car, can you imagine?! But who would have thought I would meet a nun on 31 October among wheat fields while on my way to collect the Devil himself! Knowing David, I was praying he would refrain from inappropriate jokes.

However, he greeted me without fanfare and got in the front seat as if oblivious to the nun sitting in the back.

"I have to give my passenger a lift, just behave yourself!" I implored him. He seemed confused but did not say a word. Odd. But I ignored it, worrying about our ridiculous costumes instead.

I had no choice but to drive on. Thankfully, it wasn't long before the nun said abruptly "Here".

"But there is nothing around here besides wheat fields!" I exclaimed. "We can bring you to the exact place, no problem!"

She did not hesitate in her reply. "There is a path toward God here, but not everyone can find it. Just leave me right here".

I shrugged and stopped my car. "Thank you my dear, you are an angel indeed. And don't soil yourself with a man like this devil. He is not your destiny. Angels and demons don't belong together." She slid out of the car.

I smiled at her. However, as I glanced back, I couldn't spot her. Apparently, she had vanished into the wheat fields.

I stopped my car again. "Where is she?" I asked David. "Who?" "The nun!" "Which nun?" "My passenger, who else?"

"What the hell you are talking about? Why did we stop again? I thought you were taking the mickey out of me because of Halloween, talking to yourself like that. Stop having me on! Let's go!"

The short conversation with David made my blood run cold. Despite being scared stiff I tried to conceal it and continued driving. We were quiet the entire rest of the trip.

During the celebration David became his usual self, but I kept thinking about that nun from the wheat fields. Nevertheless, in a few hours David started getting nervous, asking everyone if they had seen his friend Mary.

The doorbell rang. Everybody began whispering and giggling. When Mary appeared in her nun's robes and sunglasses, David and our crew collapsed in laughter. Never had I felt so foolish and deluded.

"Well done Mary! Great job! Impeccable! I almost believed you!" David was glorifying her while dying with laughter.

However, Mary remained silent and seemed a little surprised.

"Come on! Stop playing!" he exclaimed.

"I don't know what you are talking about. I fell asleep and woke up just two hours ago, too late for your prank. I'm so sorry about that."

An abrupt silence fell where laughter was supposed to erupt. With a snide grin that I had no control over, I stared at David. He immediately looked away, and despite all that paint smeared over his face I noticed him growing pale as death.

1ST RUNNER-UP: ALICIA RAMÍREZ CRESPO

Blue Morpho

Anne was on her way home after a long and stressful day. Her life had become a meaningless daily grind. She worked, ate and slept, and started over again every day, as in an infinite loop. She had worked so hard to achieve her professional goals that she had forgotten about her personal life. Or maybe that was her goal: to forget. Every day, when she came back home, she promised herself to change, to look at herself in the mirror without glasses. Nevertheless, the next day she would do the same: work and more work. It's so easy to fall into a routine, to find reasons not to do something, not to come out of your shell. However, unexpected life events happen, everything can change in an instant, and that day would be the day that the flutter of a butterfly's wings would change everything.

When she got to her apartment, she found an old red suitcase in front of the door. She thought it might belong to her neighbour, Jane. She was a pilot and her best friend in town, so she decided to keep the suitcase until her return. As soon as she took it into her living room, Leona, the cat, came over to sniff it. Its smell was a complete story to her. We, humans, use our eyes to read stories; cats use their nose to smell them. Leona climbed onto the suitcase, causing it to fall and open. Music came out of the suitcase. Music she had heard a thousand times, music which transported her in time and in space. The music was coming from an old wooden music box. The lid had a drawing of a four-pointed star. She opened it and she saw a butterfly breaking out of its chrysalis, twirling as the music played. It was a Blue Morpho, one of the

most beautiful butterflies ever, which gets its name from the Greek epithet for Aphrodite. She saw herself as a child, in her grandma's house, listening to the same music, hidden in the basement. Inside the red suitcase there was a letter and a flight ticket beside the music box. The letter had her name written in large curved handwriting: "To Anne." She opened the envelope. As she held up the letter, her heart started to beat very fast, she knew this handwriting. She had received many letters from the same person a long time ago. The person to whom she had given her first kiss, in her grandma's basement, while she was listening to the same music that she was listening to now.

"Dear Anne, I could tell you that I'm tired of pretending, I could tell you that I'm braver than ever, I could tell you that I finally understood who I really am, and I wouldn't be lying. But, I wouldn't be honest either. The truth is simpler than that. I'm dying. All of us are dying in some way from the moment we're born. But now, I'm aware that my life is really short, as that of a butterfly. And, like a butterfly, I have broken out of my chrysalis. I don't want to be the great pretender anymore. I want my last kiss to be with the same person I kissed for the first time, with no need to hide in the basement anymore. Fly with me, wherever the wind may take us.

Waiting for you, Olivia"

A tear rolled down her cheek. She didn't know if she felt sadness or happiness, or both. She opened the music box again and thought, while looking at the twirling butterfly, that this would be the easiest decision she would ever make.

Alicia Ramírez Crespo

Born in Jaén in 1976, Alicia holds a degree in Translation and Interpretation by the University of Granada. She works as a civil ser-

vant and is a passionate reader and traveller. Among her favourite reads she includes

Mary Shelley, Jane Austen, The Brontë Sisters, Virginia Woolf, Patricia Highsmith and many others. This is her first time she has been published.



WINNER: CARMEN PÉREZ MARTÍN

The Magician

When the magician pulled that dead pigeon out of the top hat, the audience fell silent. Then he held a revolver and pointed at them one by one. A skeptical chill spread through the room. The disturbing makeup of the artist reflected an icy image, as if the tricks with which he had entertained the crowd until then were only artifices used to lure them into that macabre trap.

While the illusionist was aiming at them silently, his look hardened. The uncertainty about the tenor that the show was taking had left everybody paralyzed. Taking advantage of the surprise, the magician lowered the weapon, opened it and extracted all the bullets. He showed them moving his hand from side to side so that the audience could count them carefully. Eight. Then, very slowly, allowing everyone to see all his movements, he took one, loaded it, closed the gun and spun the cylinder: they were going to

play Russian roulette.

The public remained expectant, not knowing what to think. Their eccentric host had invited them to a party in his house, as on other occasions. Anyone would say that he enjoyed surprising his guests, testing their limits and observing their reactions, but this time he was not in the room.

The magician now moved with stealth on the small stage located almost at eye level with the viewers, like a poacher stalking his prey. He stood next to a fat man in the front row who, pale and sweaty, looked at him, terrified. He aimed at his forehead and fired.

The sound of the hammer hitting the firing pin resounded in the room. The man, unable to react, opened a pair of frightened eyes. Then, he snorted and slipped down the chair, holding his chest with his hand. The magician smiled at him as if it had been fate and not him who wanted to spare his life.

Then, he walked away slowly

and went to the other side, selecting a new victim.

The host's wife made a nervous gesture and turned around looking for her husband once more. She scanned the room anxiously, but couldn't spot him in the semi-darkness.

She could barely control her agitation. She did not want to disturb the rest of the audience even more, but she found the whole situation too strange. She reached for her cell phone in the bag that was hanging on the back of her chair without success. Then she heard a few steps coming towards her. She turned her head and saw the pistol inches away from her head. She jumped up, stepped back and gave the magician the challenging look of a cornered beast in her last moments. He fixed his un-

Carmen Pérez Martín



Born in Granada in 1976, Carmen is a qualified pharmacist by the University of Granada. She is currently working as a vocational schoolteacher. Among her hobbies are reading, writing, mountain sports, music and the cinema.

hinged eyes on her, tensed his arm and shot. Nothing happened.

Before anyone could react, the artist returned to the centre of the stage laughing with irony. He looked at the observers mockingly, placed the barrel on his temple with a theatrical gesture, paused and pulled the trigger.

The sound of the shot caused a tremor that expanded throughout the room. The man collapsed heavily on the ground with his eyes open and a stupid expression of surprise. His black cape flew and covered him completely as blood trickled from beneath. At the end of the room someone fainted. The buzz of death rose to the ceiling.

From the first row, almost in shock, a boy sprang to his feet, approached the corpse and lifted the cloth cautiously. There was no one underneath.

At that moment the host entered the room clapping and laughing, shouting "bravo". His wife swung to him furiously. This time he had gone too far.

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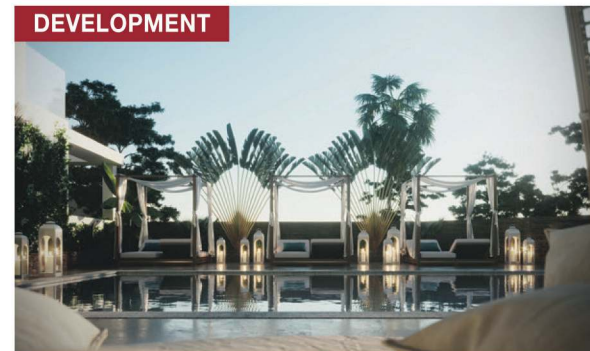
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GARDENING

Melianthus comosus

A low maintenance, drought resilient perennial with grey-green serrated leaves and striking flowers

There are a total of six species of Melianthus in the Francoaceae family, all of which are native to the arid regions of southern Africa, including Lesotho and Namibia.

One of the most popular species for gardens is Melianthus comosus

as it is of medium size, reaching around 70cm to one metre in height, compared to M. major which can grow to over two metres high.

M. comosus is not fussy about soil and is drought resistant once established. It should be cut back

regularly to keep it compact and encourage new growth as the leaves form in clusters at the ends of the branches and with time the older, lower stems become bare.

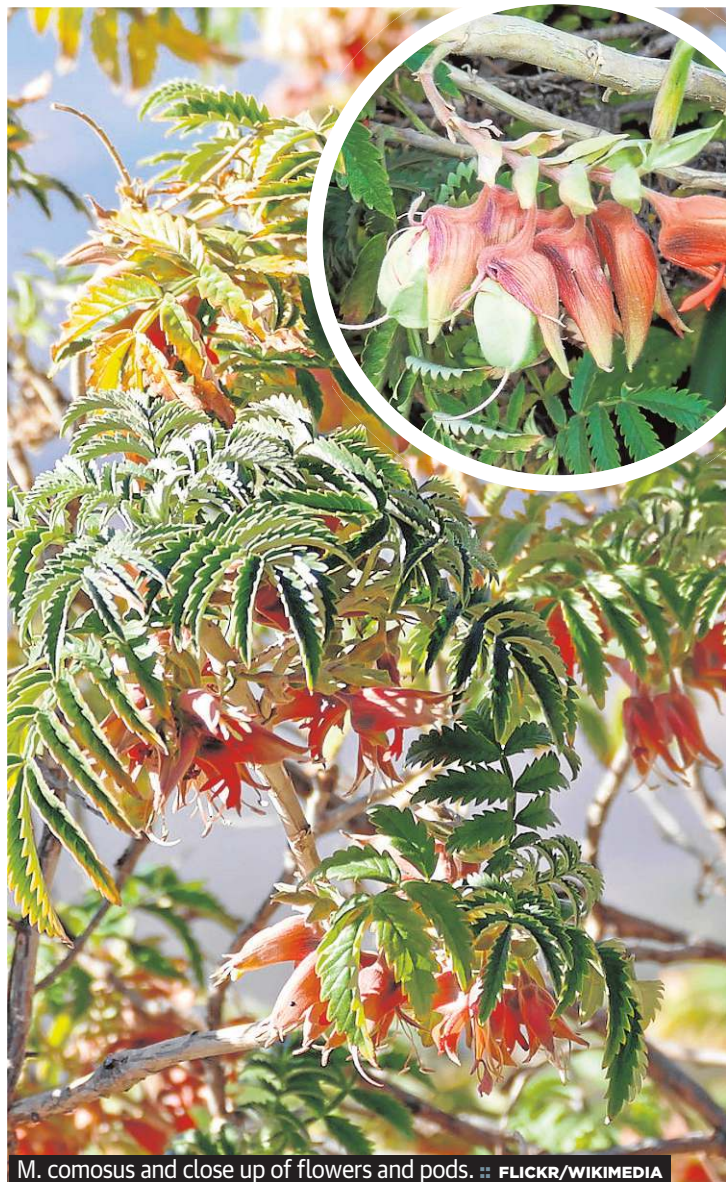
The leaves are finely serrated and a grey-green in colour on the surface and gold underneath. They produce a strange odour when bruised which some people find offensive while others compare it to the smell of fresh hazelnuts. This smell has earned it the name of 'touch-me-not' in its native country.

The leaves contain toxic compounds but are traditionally used externally in poultices and lotions to treat snake bites, infected wounds and sores, bruises, backache and ease rheumatic pain in joints. A decoction is also used as a face wash to cure skin conditions such as acne.

The green and pink flowers of M. comosus are produced in spring and the copious black nectar, which often overflows and runs down the stems, is visible through the semi-transparent sepals. This sweet nectar, which can stain if you get it on your clothes, attracts lots of insects, especially bees.

After the flowers are over, attractive four-sided capsules form and dangle from the stems. Each capsule contains around eight, shiny black seeds. M. comosus propagates easily from seed and can be invasive in damp conditions. In parts of Australia it is classified as a noxious weed as it has colonised river banks, using the flow of the water to carry the seed downstream.

The Greek word 'meli' means 'honey' and 'anthos' means 'flower'. Comosus means 'with a tuft of hair or leaves'.

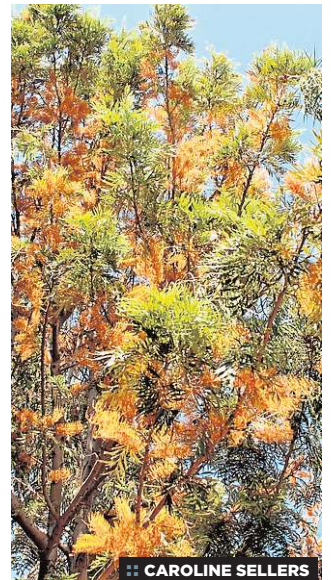


M. comosus and close up of flowers and pods. :: FLICKR/WIKIMEDIA

READERS' PHOTOS

ANTIPODEAN 'OAK' TREE IN MOTRIL

Caroline Sellers travels around the province and further afield with her camera and recently visited Motril where she saw this stunning tree in full bloom. It is a beautiful specimen of Silver or Silky Oak although not related to Quercus (true oak) at all. The botanical name is Grevillea robusta and it is native to Australia.



:: CAROLINE SELLERS



:: KATH BLYTH

PURPLE CLOVER

Kath Blyth brought this plant to Spain from her friend's garden in the UK. It's Oxalis triangularis and although this one has white flowers, some have pink. It grows from tiny corms and does best in full shade with infrequent watering.

PHOTOS

Calling all gardeners

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

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



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A very tasty outlook forecast for this weekend in Malaga

This year's 'guest territory' at Malaga's Gastronomy Festival is Jaén, famous for its 66 million olive trees and tender Segureño lamb

ISABEL MÉNDEZ

MALAGA. Eleven restaurants (Cávea, Takumi, La Niña Bonita, Batic, Yubá, Ali-Olé, La Medusa, Casa Bellota, La Calle Burguer, Bertani and Excelsia) today, and until Sunday in the Plaza de La Marina, will be offering their star dishes as part of the Malaga Gastronomy Festival.

They will be sharing the space with exhibitors from Sabor a Málaga and one dedicated to Jaén, 'guest territory' of this year's edition.

The stand for the provincial government will be promoting Malaga's wines and cheeses and



The Malaga Gastronomy Festival is on until Sunday. :: SUR

has invited renowned chefs for the Sabor a Málaga competition. They will also be demonstrating their skills at various cooking demonstrations. Cruzcampo will be of-

fering tastings of their range of beers (until Saturday) and Jaén, will be offering tastings of its olive oil and a chance to try tender Segureño lamb (on Sunday).

ANDREW J. LINN

CONQUERORS OR CONQUERED?



Leafing through the Spanish pages of Wikipedia, it is interesting to see the lists of writers, musicians, bullfighters and conquistadores featured. However, only two chefs are mentioned, José Andrés and Ferran Adrià, but since we are on the cusp of seeing, hopefully, a conquest that is newsworthy, that of Quique Dacosta, perhaps he will also earn a Wikipedia place.

By the time you read this, Quique's restaurant, known as Arros QD, with 140 covers and a thousand square metres, will have been inaugurated in Britain's capital. The theme is paella, and all the rice dishes will be cooked over open fires using different woods to influence and enhance the taste. We wish him well of course, but there is a long history of Spanish chefs who have tried to emulate their national triumphs in other countries - with a spectacular failure rate. David Muñoz, whose Madrid DiverXO restaurant has three Michelin stars, appears to have had problems with his London StreetyXO. He recently bought out the 38 investors who had financed the project, at a cost of three and a half million euros.

Nevertheless there has always been a mistaken belief that if a restaurant works in, say, Madrid, Marbella or Valencia, it must therefore be capable of taking London by storm. On the other

hand, experience shows that this risky formula is not backed up by historical facts.

Even Marbella's indomitable and highly capable Dani Garcia will never forget the day he turned up for work as usual at his New York restaurant. He found it closed by order of his financial partners - who had taken the decision without even telling Dani.

London, with Brexit pending and an unprecedented exodus of foreign workers, hardly seems the best location to open a new paella place. Even the UK's favourite chef, TV personality and cookbook writer, Jamie Oliver, has had to close six of his ten London restaurants recently, with ten million euros of losses, although he still has 89 restaurants in 24 countries.

WINE OF THE WEEK

Gonzaga 2016

There is such a plethora of red wine from La Rioja that even the experts get baffled occasionally. I often taste a wine and think 'Why do they bother?' Fortunately this Gonzaga 2016 is above average on a price/value ratio, made with 96% Tempranillo, and at €15.50 worth buying.





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EXHIBITIONS

Marbella Design Academy

Monda. 14 June, 8pm. Marbella design Academy, Camino Hoya. The graphic design and interior architect students will be displaying their projects and the fashion design students will be showcasing their collections on the runway accompanied by music. Food and drink available. Call: 952 45 70 90 ext. 1 or 5 or email: info@marbella-design-academy.com More information is

on the website:
www.designschool.com

Gibraltar border anniversary

La Linea. Until 14 June. General Franco closed Spain's border with Gibraltar on 8 Jun, 1969. The exhibition, organised by Gibraltar's National Archives, commemorates the events that led to the closure, the reprisals, protests and repercussions with a selection of photographs, propaganda posters, press cuttings and videos. The border was reopened in 1985.

International Archive Day

Malaga. From 9 until 14 June. Sala de Lectura, Archivo Municipal. To celebrate the creation of the International Council on Archives in 1948, all around the world people are holding an 'Archives Day'. Malaga's Municipal Archive will be displaying a document from 1491 which catalogues the purchase of an 'Arca de Tres Llaves' (an ark with three locks) in which to safely store municipal documents. The Sala is open 9.30am-2.30pm Mon and Fri and 9.30am-7.30pm Tues, Wed, Thurs.

Pop of the twentieth century

Malaga. Until 30 June. Antiguo Mercado de Mayoristas. The exhibition consists of 60 contemporary works by artists such as Mark Ryden, Haroshi, KAWS, James Jarvis, Erik Parker, Hajime Sorayama and Keiichi Tanaami and Malaga artists Javier Calleja and Julio Anaya.

Pedro de Mena Granatensis Malacae

Malaga. Until 14 July. Palacio Episcopal. The exhibition will consist of 63 religious works created by sculptor Pedro de Mena y Medrano.

Matisse

Malaga. Until 9 June. Centro Pompidou, Muelle Uno. A selection of 50 works by the French artist Henri Matisse are on display at the centre.



Picasso and Iliazd, Malaga

Sandra Art-Ceramik

Malaga. Until 11 June. Alfajar galeria, C/Cister. 'Caminando, dejando huella' is the title of this exhibition of ceramic art by Sandra Martínez.

Iliazd and Picasso

Malaga. Until 23 June. Salas de Exposiciones, Fundación Picasso, Plaza d la Merced (Casa Natal). This is the first time that the works of Georgian artist and editor Iliazd have been displayed in Spain. The Pushkin Museum in Moscow is collaborating with the Fundación Picasso to exhibit 200 works by artists including Picasso who illustrated Iliazd's books.

Van Gogh Alive

Malaga. Until 9 June. The marquee in Malaga port. 10am-8pm. A multi-media exhibition that brings the life and paintings of the Dutch artist Van Gogh 'alive'.

Back to School

Malaga. Until 29 June. La Casa Amarilla.

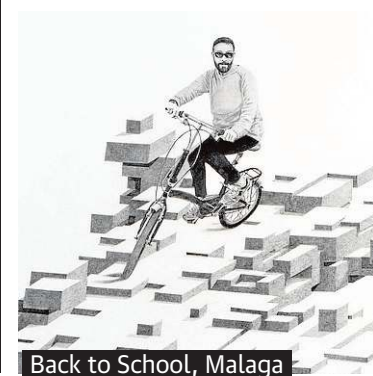
Back to school by Eryk Pall is all about the first great social confrontation: the first time in front of the world outside. It reflects on loneliness, monotony and the acceptance of oneself.

Make Something Different

Malaga. Until 30 June. Centro de Arte Contemporáneo. 'MSD-Make Something Different' takes a look at 21st-century pop art with 69 works by 25 artists including Mark Ryden, KAWS, Erik Parker, Todd James and James Jarvis.

Picasso ceramics

Mijas. Until 24 June. Casa Museo. This is an exhibition which focuses on the environmental impact of transport on the world's resources. It highlights the true cost in the terms of energy use, contamination and pollution etc.



Back to School, Malaga

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El Toko Pop Up Gallery

Frigiliana. Until 13 June.

C/Rosario la Joaquín, 18.

Exhibitions change every two weeks. The present exhibition is by German artist Christiane Schleye. For further information call 952500244.

The Arts Society Summer Festival

Cádiz. 12 June, 10.30am - 3.30pm.

Finca Monasterio, near San

Martín del Tesorillo. Free.

Fifty local artists will be exhibiting their works which will be for sale. The duo Bella Jazz will be playing two sessions at 11.45am and 1pm. Light refreshments available, free parking and free entry.

CHARITY

Diksha

Marbella. 15 June, 8.30pm. Hotel
Monteros. 85€.



Pop Up Art, El Toko, Frigiliana

A welcome cocktail, followed by dinner, authentic Indian live music and dance. Anette Taphorn, coordinator of the project in Ajmer (Rajasthan) India, will speak about the charity's achievements and its future plans. Asociación Diksha España works closely with the international charity RSDSS (Roman Catholic Diocese Social Service Society) to provide education to children and young people. The project also provides medical help. www.asociaciondiksha.com

Royal Ascot Ladies Day

Mijas. 20 June, from 1pm. Val-
paraíso Restaurant. 30€.

Royal Ascot Ladies Day with Cudeca Goldies will include a competition for the best dressed Lady Ascot and most creative Gentleman's buttonhole. Cava and canapés on arrival, then a three-course lunch and coffee. Live entertainment. In aid of Cudeca Cancer Care Hospice. Booking essential: 952485996 or 619444184

ARCH Fashion Show

Alhaurín el Grande. 26 June from
7.30pm. Alhaurín Golf. 25€.

Mapuchi Moda will be showing their summer collection followed by dinner at 8.30pm. There will be a free glass of wine on arrival. For tickets call: 952 595 800 or email: eventos@alhauringolf.com

Animals In Distress auctions

Alhaurín el Grande. 14 June, from
7pm. Peña Asfahal.



Iris Oboe, Wall Bar

Fifteen per cent commission from each sale goes to AID. Sellers need to advise AID (Chris 628239174 or Joe 626942427) at least 3-4 weeks before the auction and bring the items for logging in between 5 and 6pm. <http://www.animals-in-distress.eu/>

Animals In Distress Clothes Sale

Alhaurín el Grande. 10 June, 5-
9pm. Peña Asfahal.

Ladies' and men's wear, handbags, shoes and jewellery etc. All proceeds to AID and FAMA Field Dogs. Call Joe: 626942427 www.animals-in-distress.eu

TOPS Comedy Show

Alhaurín el Grande. 7, 8 June from
8.30pm. The Afahal, Polígono La
Rosa. 10€.

All proceeds from the show will go to Cáritas and a local animal rescue centre. Meals are available but must be pre-booked. All meals served at 7pm prompt, the show begins at 8.30pm. Tickets to include a meal 16 euros. Available from Martin's Paper Shop and Cristina's Paper Shop in Alhaurín el Grande.

MUSIC & DANCE

The Wall Bar

Malaga. Hotel Vincci Posada del

Patio, 11pm, entry free.

8 June. Daphne and Nicky. Guitar and vocals, jazz and bossanova.

15 June. Iris Oboe. Oboe and acoustic guitar. Adapted jazz, soul, rock and pop music.

Music in the patio

Mijas. 7, 14, 28 June, 8pm. Casa
Museo. Free.

The Casa Museo will be the venue for weekly concerts throughout June. Today, 7 June, Mireille Yaich and Javier Gómez present their new album 'Recapitulación'.

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VENTA DE ENTRADAS:

Marbella enjoys annual spring fair in honour of San Bernabé

BY TONY BRYANT

MARBELLA. Marbella's popular Feria y Fiestas de San Bernabé got under way on Wednesday with the official opening of the fair-ground attractions, the crowning of the feria queen, and a spectacular fireworks display on the Playa del Faro. This colourful festival pays tribute to the town's patron, Saint Barnabas, and offers all the charm and colour of a typical Andalusian summer celebration.

The feria continues until Tuesday 11 June - which is a public holiday in Marbella and one of the most important days on the town's cultural calendar.

The festivities, which commemorate the reconquest of Marbella by the Catholic Monarchs in 1485, take place in the Parque de la Alameda, where, daily from 1pm, the gaily-decorated marquees will present a programme of entertainment.

The day fair is a time to relax with family and friends, while participating in the dancing of the sevillanas and enjoying typical cuisine, especially 'fritura



The fireworks at the inauguration of the festival. BY JOSELE-LANZA

malagueña', a selection of fried fish and seafood traditionally washed down with plenty of manzanilla wine.

Local dance academies will offer performances on the main stage throughout the afternoons, while various children's attractions will be held in the Auditorio del Recinto Ferial La Cañada from 7pm. Live music can be enjoyed

in the Caseta Municipal de Juventud each night from 10pm and this will include flamenco, copla, hip-hop, pop and rock and is free.

A list of celebrated bands and solo musicians will also perform in the main auditorium: these will include award-winning Spanish singer Rosario Flores (daughter of the legendary Lola Flores); Madrid-based rock band Tequila,

CONCERTS

► Friday 7 June. 11.30pm: Tequila.

► Saturday 8 June. 11.30pm: Rosario Flores.

► Monday 10 June. 11.30pm: Lola Indigo.

► Tuesday 11 June. 7.30pm: Cantores de Hispalis.

and Lola Indigo, currently one of Spain's most popular singers.

The feria will finish on Tuesday with a special performance by Cantores de Hispalis, held on the stage in Avenida Ramón Cajal. The group first shot to fame in 1978 with its debut album, *Cosas de mi Tierra*, a collection of protest songs recorded in Zurich. Due to the content of the lyrics, the album could not be recorded in Spain, but it brought the band considerable success in the rest of Europe.

www.marbella.es

MUSIC & DANCE

Laura Gallego

Estepona. 8 June, 8pm. Teatro Auditorio Felipe VI. The concert Sin Fronteras with Laura Gallego celebrates her ten years in music since she won the Se Llama Copla competition in 2009. Her style is a fusion of blues, jazz and traditional Spanish music. Tickets: tafestepona.com, or from the theatre.

Leiva

Fuengirola. 8 June, 10.30pm. Marenostrum Castle Park. 38€. Singer and guitarist Leiva will be presenting his new album 'Nuclear'.

Miguel Zenón Quartet

Torremolinos. 8 June. Clarence Jazz Club, Calle Danza Invisible. 10-20€. Puerto Rican saxophonist Miguel Zenón will be accompanied by Luis Perdomo (piano), Hans Glawischtnig (double bass) and Henry Cole (drums) in a repertoire of fusion jazz. www.clarence-jazzclub.com

Rock The Coast

Fuengirola. 14, 15 June. Marenostrum Castle Park. The Rock The Coast Festival starts next Friday with performances by Scorpions, Rainbow, Europe, Opeth, UFO, The Darkness, Tarja and many more. A full programme of concerts and information on camping, facilities and tickets etc



MOVIE LISTING

From Friday 7th to Thursday 13th of June



Friday 7:
18:05
Saturday 8
and Sunday 9:
15:50, 18:05
From Monday 10 to
Thursday 13: 17:45



From Friday 7
to Sunday 9:
20:30
Wednesday 12
and Thursday 13:
17:45

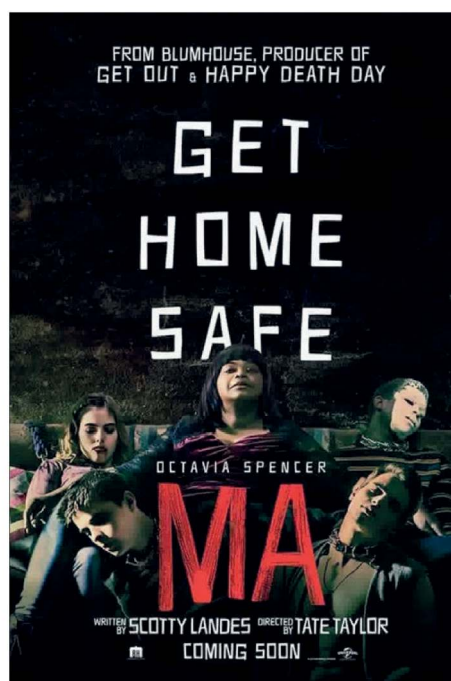


From Friday 7
to Sunday 9:
18:00, 22:45
Monday 10:
18:00, 22:30
Tuesday 11:
22:30

Wednesday 12 and Thursday 13:
18:00, 22:30



Friday 7:
18:05, 20:30, 22:45
Saturday 8
and Sunday 9:
15:45, 18:05, 20:30,
22:45
From Monday 10
to Thursday 13:
17:45, 20:15, 22:30



Friday 7:
18:30, 22:50
Saturday 8
and Sunday 9:
16:00, 18:30, 22:50
From Monday 10
to Thursday 13:
20:30, 22:30



Friday 7: 18:05
Saturday 8 and Sunday 9:
15:40, 18:05
Monday 10, Wednesday 12
and Thursday 13: 19:45

ORIGINAL VERSION
SUBTITLED SPANISH



can be found on www.rockthecoastfestival.es

Louie Louie Rock Live Estepona.

Louie Louie Bar. 7 June, *midnight*. Amann And The Wayward Sons plus The Hill Frequencies. 12€ (10€ in advance).

Tribute to Elton John 'Rocketman UK'

Fuengirola. 7 June, doors open 8.30pm. Alfil Cines. 10€. Tickets: 609488572

Nerja. 8 June, 8.30pm. Fitzgerald's Bar by the town bridge. 10€. Gary Setterfield (Rocketman UK) pays tribute to Elton John in the Alfil cinema to coincide with the release of the new "Rocketman" movie. Tickets: 951550585

Cabaret Circus Show

Vélez-Málaga. 8 June, 7pm. Teatro del Carmen. 8€. The Academia de Danza Oriental y Fusión Helena will be performing a cabaret show.

National Ballet of Cuba

Malaga. 8 June, 8pm. Teatro Cervantes. The ballet 'Cinderella' is in two acts and is performed by the National Ballet of Cuba. Tickets from 60-20€ from www.unientradas.es or www.teatrocervantes.com

Orquesta Málaga Camerata

Malaga. 7 June, 9pm. Hotel Melía Don Pepe. Conducted by Santiago J. Ortero Vela, and with soloists soprano Jennifer Rodrigues and baritone José Antonio Ariza, the orchestra will play pieces by Bizet, Handel, Monteverdi, Mozart, Mascagni, Verdi, Rossini and Puccini.

Wasabi

Almuñécar. 8 June, 8.30pm. Auditorio Casa de la Cultura. The group Wasabi will be playing soul, funk and blues hits.

The Rhythm of Waltz

Benalmádena. 7 June, 8.30pm. Castillo Bil Bil. Malaga concert pianist and teacher at the Conservatorio Manuel Carra, Paula Coronas will be playing pieces by Chopin, Schubert, Liszt, Granados and Ocón.

Classical Guitar

Almuñécar. 8 June, 8.30pm. Castillo de la Herradura. Albertus will be playing classical guitar as part of the series Maestros de la Guitarra.

International Festival of

Chamber Music

Malaga. 11-16 June. Teatro Cervantes, Cine Albéniz, Sala María Cristina. The Chamber Music festival will include Sonatas, Trios, Quartets and Quintets from composers such as Beethoven, Brahms, Grieg, Schumann and Mendelssohn as well as extracts from operas by Puccini, Bellini and Bizet among others. The concerts are divided into different 'moods' from Dramatic Contrasts to Heartfelt and Expansive., More information and tickets: [/www.teatrocervantes.es](http://www.teatrocervantes.es)

Malaga Philharmonic Orchestra

Malaga. Teatro Cervantes 7 June, 8pm. Le Corsaire by Berlioz, Concerto for violin and orchestra by Tchaikovsky. Followed by 'Enigma' Variations. Conducted



by Yoav Talmi.

Malaga. Auditorio Museo Picasso 16 June, *midday*.

Piano recital by Emin Kiourktchian with pieces by Mozart, Debussy, Rachmaninov and Chopin.

Malaga. Malaga Cathedral

28 June, 8.30pm. 'Music from the time of Pedro de Mena' will include works such as Gloria by Vivaldi and Te Deum by Charpentier. The orchestra will be accompanied by the Ópera de Málaga choir.

Lux Mundi Anniversary Concert

Torre del Mar. 14 June, 8pm. Various departure points. 8€. A concert at Malaga Cathedral by the Cappella Nuova and Stiftshof Orchester to celebrate the anniversary of the association. Lux Mundi Torre del Mar. Tel:952 543 334 or e-mail: luxmundi@luxmundi.org

Classical Concert

Gibraltar. 20 June, 8pm. Convent Ballroom. £20 The Gibraltar Philharmonic Society has organised this concert as part of the Gibraltar National Celebration of Opera. Grazia Doronzio, soprano; David Astorga, tenor and Elizabete Sirante, piano will perform famous arias, duets and operatic songs by G. Donizetti, P. Mascagni, G. Puccini and G. Verdi. Tickets: Sacarello's Coffee Shop, The Silver Shop or online: buytickets.gi. A limited number of

tickets £10 for senior citizens and students from the John Mackintosh Hall. For more info call: 200 72134 or go to www.philharmonic.gi



Pink Purple Zep Fest

Estepona. 28, 29 June, 6.30pm. Plaza de las Flores. Estepona Rocks 2 pays homage to the greatest rock bands such as Foo Fighters, Guns'n' Roses, AC/DC, Pink Floyd, Deep Purple and Led Zeppelin. SUR Oferplan is offering 40% off tickets: <https://oferplan.dariosur.es/ofertas-descuentos/entrada-the-pink-purple-zep-fest-21-10134.html>

María Terremoto

Vélez-Málaga. 22 June, 9pm. El Muvel (Museo de Vélez-Málaga), Free The famous flamenco singer from Jerez, María Terremoto, will be in concert.


#MGF19

malagastronomyfestival.com





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Young Irish pianist comes to Marbella

■ T. BRYANT

MARBELLA. International concert pianist Peter Regan will present a night of classical music at the Los Naranjos Golf Club in Marbella on Sunday 23 June. The concert, which begins at 8pm, will include a repertoire of classic works by Bach, Chopin, Liszt and Wagner.

The London-based Irish pianist - currently considered one of the most individual and developed pianists of his era - has performed at Dublin's National Concert Hall, Carnegie Hall in New York and the Four Seasons Centre for Performing Arts in Toronto.

The concert is organised by Project Management, a Marbella-based association that creates platforms and opportunities for young, up-and-coming musicians in Ireland and the Costa del Sol.



Peter Regan. ■ SUR

Tickets for the show cost 30 euros and include welcome drinks and canapés.

Email: pmmtickets@mail.net or call: 693 751 857

FESTIVALS

Livestock fair

Villanueva del Trabuco. 8, 9 June. A festival dedicated to farm equipment and animals with sheep, goats, horses and poultry.

Feria de la Tapa

Rincón de la Victoria. Until 9 June. A dozen bars situated in a large marquee will be offering different tapas at 2 euros which includes a drink.

EVENTS

Bloomsday reading

Fuengirola. 16 June, 7.45-10.30am. *La Cepa Playa, in front of Hotel Florida and the carousel.* Free. This is the ninth year of the Bloomsday event and the reading will start from chapter nine of Ulysses. Irish, Spanish, German, Danish, English and Finnish readers are expected this year. Please bring a copy of Ulysses in your own language.

Yunquera Guerrillera

Yunquera. 7-9 June. The town of Yunquera relives the War of Independence with a special reenactment of the battle against the French that happened in 1811. There will also be themed tours of the town, a craft market, workshops and activities. www.yunquera.es/turismo

Charter Night Ball

Mijas. 9 June, from 7pm. *The Tamisa Golf Hotel.* 45€. La Cala de Mijas Lions are holding a Charter Night Ball with three-course dinner, wine beer and soft drinks. Entertainment and dancing. Tickets from La Cala Lions charity shop or Hotel Tamisa Golf.

Trip to Jaén

Torre del Mar. 12 June. Various departure points. 31€. Coach trip to Jaén, three hour guided visit. Lux Mundi Torre del Mar. Tel: 952 543 334 or e-mail: luxmundi@lux-mundi.org

O. V. FILM

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

Cine Albéniz

C/Alcazabilla 4, Malaga. Tel: 902 36 02 95 www.cinealbeniz.com
The Sisters Brothers: 18.20.
Greta: 18.20.
Absolute Power: 20.00 (Thurs 6 June).

Cinesur El Ingenio

Avda. Juan Carlos 1, Vélez-Málaga. Tel. 667 77 31 87.
John Wick 3: 12.25, 15.50
Get Home Safe Ma: 18.10, 20.15, 22.20 (Tues).
Rocketman: 12.10, 16.10, 21.25, 0.00.
Aladdin: 12.15.
X Men Dark Phoenix: 117.00, 19.30, 22.00, 00.25 (Mon, Tues, Thurs).



Cinesur Miramar

Avda. de la Encarnación, Fuengirola. Tel. 952 19 86 00.
X Men: Dark Phoenix: 12.10, 15.50, 18.10, 20.40, 23.10.
Get Home Safe Ma: 12.15, 16.10, 18.15, 20.25, 22.30, 00.30.
Aladdin: 12.15, 16.20, 18.55, 21.35, 00.20.
John Wick 3: 12.15, 16.00 (Tues).
Rocketman: 12.00, 15.50, 18.15, 20.45, 23.10.
Opera: Romeo and Juliet: 20.15 (Tues).

Cines Teatro Goya

For tickets and information call 951196665. www.cinesteatrogoya.com
John Wick 3: 15.40 (Sat, Sun); 19.45 (Mon, Wed, Thurs); 18.05 (Fri, Sat, Sun).
Rocketman: 18.00 (every day); 22.30 (Mon-Thurs); 22.45 (Fri-Sun).
Aladdin: 15.50 (Sat, Sun), 17.45 (Mon-Thurs) 18.05, (Fri, Sat, Sun)
X Men. Dark Phoenix: 15.45 (Sat, Sun); 17.45, 20.15, 22.30 (Mon-Thurs); 18.05, 20.30, 22.45 (Fri, Sat, Sun).
Pokemon: Detective Pikachu: 17.45 (Wed, Thurs); 20.30 (Fri-Sun).
Get Home Safe Ma: 16.00 (Sat,

Sun); 18.30, 22.50 (Fri, Sat, Sun); 20.30, 22.30 (Mon-Thurs).

Yelmo Cines, Plaza Mayor

Centro de Ocio Plaza Mayor, Avda. Alfonso Ponce de León. Tel: 902 902 103 or visit www.yelmocines.es
Aladdin: 13.00 (Sat, Sun); 20.30 (Fri, Sat, Sun).
Brightburn: 20.50 (Tues).
Get Home Safe Ma: 19.45 (Tues)
John Wick 3: 13.05 (Sat); 21.35 (Tues).
Poms: 13.10 (Sat, Sun); 16.00 (every day except Sat); 19.55 (Tues).
Pokemon: Detective Pikachu: 12.10 (Sat, Sun).
Rocketman: 13.20 (Sat, Sun); 16.30 (Fri); 19.00 (Sun-Thurs).
Avengers: Endgame: 20.10 (Tues).
X Men: Dark Phoenix: 00.00 (Sat); 13.30 (Sat, Sun); 16.30 (Sun-Thurs); 19.00 (Fri, Sat); 21.30 (every day)..

Yelmo Cines, Rincón de la Victoria

Calle Arroyo Totalán. Tel: 902 220 922 or visit www.yelmocines.es
Aladdin: 18.30 (Tues).
Poms: 20.40 (Tues).
Rocketman: 20.10 (Tues).
Romeo and Juliet, Royal Opera House: 20.15 (Tues).
X Men: Dark Phoenix: 20.35 (Tues).

Yelmo Cines, Vialia

Centro Comercial Vialia. Tel: 902 220 922 or visit www.yelmocines.es
Aladdin: 22.30 (Tues).
Get Home Safe Ma: 20.15 (Tues).
Poms: 20.35 (Tues).
Rocketman: 19.25 (Tues).
X Men: Dark Phoenix: 21.00 (Tues).
Antony and Cleopatra, National Theatre: 20.00 (Thurs).
Romeo and Juliet, Royal Opera House: 20.15 (Tues).

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Beach located in front of Flecha del Rompido. :: TURISMO ANDALUZ



Nuevo Portil marina. :: T. A.



BASIC GUIDE

What to see in Cartaya

Ermita de Nuestra Señora de la Consolación.

Chapel founded by an indiano in the 16th century.
Avenida de la Consolación, 12 A. 21450 Cartaya.

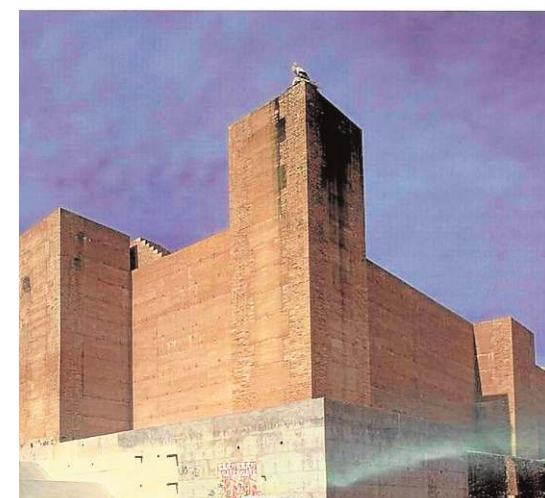


Iglesia de San Pedro.

Renaissance-style temple with Baroque details thanks to its restoration in the 18th century.
Plaza de la Redonda, s/n. 21450 Cartaya.

Castillo de los Zúñiga.

Fortress erected during the first third of the 15th century to defend the Piedras river.
Calle Gavia, s/n. 21450 Cartaya.



Reserva Natural de la Laguna de El Portil.

Valuable wetland located to the right of the mouth of the Odiel.
Avenida de Punta Umbría, 21100 El Portil.

Flecha del Rompido.

Unique sandy area that looks out to the Atlantic.
Paraje Natural de las Marismas del Río Piedra. 21459 Cartaya.

The paradise of Tierra Llana

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2 days in Cartaya

Car and .

Journey duration: 3 hours and 45 minutes from Malaga.

Beaches and natural enclaves: 5 hours.

Hiking: 3 hours.

Monuments: 3 hours.



An unspoiled beach, a surprising and dense pine forest and a fortress filled with history are some of the essential places to visit in the municipality of Cartaya.

This town in Huelva, located in the region known as Tierra Llana, is offered in high season as an alternative and peaceful destination, where visitors can enjoy the unique enclaves in the middle of the summer.

In its territory is Nuevo

Portil which belongs, from an administrative point of view, to the Punta Umbria town hall. But, of course, whoever goes there to enjoy a getaway is indifferent to this fact.

What's more enchanting about this town, which today is especially touristic and residential, is its coastline. There, between June and September, awaits the San Miguel beach, with fine, white sands sheltered by a dense pine forest which protects it from the

road that leads to it.

This coastal strip is found in front of the Flecha del Rompido, which is an area of sand that enters the Atlantic forming a beautiful vista. It is possible to reach this small peninsula through a boat that departs from Nuevo Portil.

Both the Flecha and the previously mentioned beach are actually bathed by the Piedras river on its way out to sea.

Upstream visitors can pass by the local marinas, which offer three points of attraction with an interesting nautical offering. This stop will be made before arriving to the heart of El Rompido, also belonging to Cartaya, which serves as a precursor to the Paraje Natural de las Marismas del Río Piedras.

This valuable coastline cannot eclipse another of the natural attractions of this municipality, known as Campo Común, a vast expanse of pine forests that total more than eleven thousand hectares. To this must be added the nearby Laguna de El Portil, a nature reserve of great ornithological interest.

In addition to beaches and nature, there are also interesting visits to be made to its urban centres. Above all in Cartaya, where there is a spectacular fortress of medieval origin.



Campo Común pine forest. :: TURISMO CARTAYA

The country's best cosmetic surgeons are flocking to Malaga

**ÁNGEL
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✉ aescalera@diariosur.es

Many doctors who practise cosmetic medicine in the province have a long career behind them and several years of experience

MALAGA. Cosmetic medicine in Malaga is in very good health and has a reputation for quality, thanks to the highly-qualified professionals working in the sector. With standards similar to Madrid and Barcelona, two cities at the top of the healthcare pyramid, Malaga is now a benchmark in Spain for the techniques and treatments involved in cosmetic medicine.

The provincial Health department has 432 beauty centres on its register, of which 151 are in Malaga city, and more than 100 professionals in cosmetic medicine are registered with the College of Doctors in Malaga. This branch of medicine places a special focus on minimally-invasive medical procedures which are used to make people look better.

Pedro Bonal, president of the Association of Cosmetic Medicine of Malaga (MEDESMA), says the level of training and the professional qualifications of these doctors in Malaga is extremely high and their clinics are equal to the best in Madrid and Barcelona. He stresses that many doctors who practise cosmetic medicine in the province have a long career behind them and so many years of ex-



Malaga is fast becoming a benchmark in Spain for the application of cosmetic procedures. : NITO SALAS

perience that their colleagues see them as role models.

One factor which highlights Malaga's reputation is that the Spanish Society of Cosmetic Medicine (SEME) has been holding its national conference at the Palacio de Ferias y Congresos in Malaga for the past six years and will be doing so again in 2020.

The president of MEDESMA says that as Malaga has so many excellent professionals in cosmetic medicine, patients are very satisfied. He also says the lovely climate for which the Costa del Sol is famous encourages people to take more care about their appearance; they want to look good, so many of them turn to cosmetic medicine to eliminate defects on their faces or bodies.

The medical director and owner of the Miramar Medical Institute, Fernando Urdiales, who has an excellent reputation for applying laser techniques, agrees.

"You find that people in the southern regions of every country are more sociable. In Malaga, specifically, people have an active social life. They go out a lot and they like to look nice. That means that more of them consider cosmetic medicine and especially the techniques which are becoming much less intensive," he says.

He also stresses the importance to Malaga's reputation of SEME having chosen to hold its annual conferences in the provincial capital for the past six years.

Master's degree

MEDESMA was created in 2003, pri-

"People need to be sure of whose hands they are placing themselves in"

✉ **Á. ESCALERA**

MALAGA. There are two sides to every coin. In the case of cosmetic medicine, the downside is practitioners who are not properly qualified and do not have the knowledge needed.

"People need to be sure of whose

hands they are placing themselves in," says the president of MEDESMA, Pedro Bonal.

"In some clinics treatments are applied without an authorised doctor being present," stresses Bonal, while Juan Antonio López Pitalúa warns of the possible side effects

of cosmetic treatment if carried out by someone who is not properly qualified.

The problem is so great that the Association of Cosmetic Doctors of Malaga has even used detectives and provided evidence to the law courts of illegal practices and the use of un-

authorised products. "Always check you are dealing with," says Fernando Urdiales. "Make sure they are qualified and registered."

The president of SEME, Petra Vega, says all clinics should have authorisation from the regional government, and patients should only be seen by qualified doctors. She also recommends asking for a written report about the treatment received or the product used. Finally, she says, be very careful about advertising which appears on social media, as much of it is fraudulent.



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marily to provide the best training for cosmetic doctors and to create a register of those who work in Malaga province. At present, it has 63 professional members.

"When a doctor does a Master's degree in Cosmetic Medicine, he or she acquires the basic knowledge they need to exercise their profession, but then they need to keep on training continually to stay up to date," says Pedro Bernal. "Anyone who joins our association has to comply with our code of ethics."

Although cosmetic medicine is not yet treated as a specialist subject, some universities do offer a Master's degree in it and Colleges of Doctors provide accreditation for those who want to dedicate themselves to this branch of medicine.

The president of SEME, Petra Vega, stresses that anyone who wants practise cosmetic medicine has to be a qualified doctor and also to have done a two-year Master's degree at one of the universities where the course is available. Some Colleges of Doctors also offer this facility.

Another reason that Malaga tops the list for cosmetic medicine in Spain is that it is internationally famous, and that attracts people from other countries who want to have treatment. This is what is known as health tourism, says Dr Juan Antonio López Pitalúa, the spokesman for SEME.

"Some people take advantage of their holidays in Malaga to have cosmetic beauty treatments while they are here. We have very highly trained doctors. They are professionals with a great reputation."

THE FIGURES

432

centres of cosmetic medicine are registered with the provincial Health department, and 151 of them are in Malaga city.

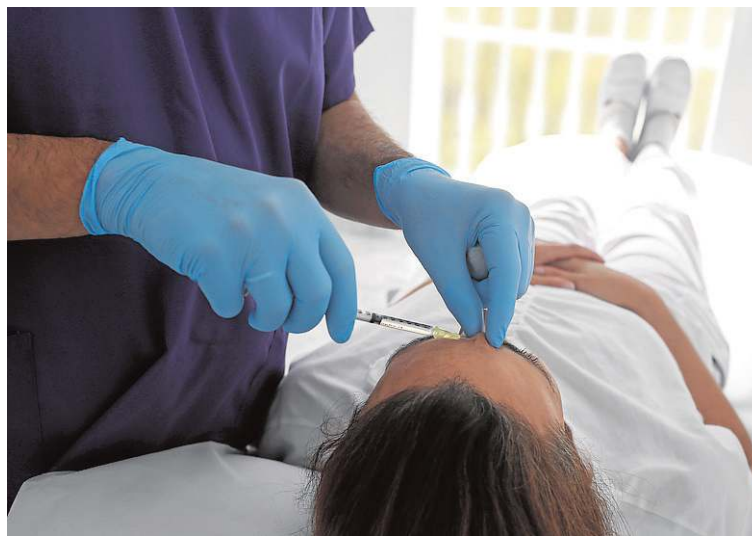
63

doctors are members of the Association of Cosmetic Medicine of Malaga (MEDESMA), which oversees the training of professionals in this field.

Marina Martín Fernández, a cosmetic doctor from Malaga who has just received an award from the International Society of Research, Health, Business Development and Technologies, says Malaga is one of the cities in which the cosmetic medicine sector has grown most, and it is among the top in Spain for treatments of this type.

At the forefront

Dr Martín says this growth is due to several factors. "On one hand there is a very high standard of professional training, which means we can offer innovative, safe, high-quality treatments to our clients. On the other hand, the large number of cosmetic medical clinics in the province directly benefits patients because as



The techniques are becoming less invasive. :: ÑITO SALAS



Cosmetic treatments are very popular now. :: ÑITO SALAS

"Nowadays cosmetic medicine is normal and within everybody's reach"

well as making treatment more accessible, it means that individually we have to maintain very high standards and be up-to-date about everything new that comes onto the market," she says.

Marina Martín explains that many patients turn to cosmetic medicine because they are looking for solutions but don't want to undergo surgery. For example, they might want to correct a chin, a nose, a dewlap etc. She is convinced that "this situation would not be possible if it were not for the open, modern and cosmopolitan mentality of the people of Malaga, who have realised that cosmetic medicine is something which can improve their quality of life," she says.

She points out that nowadays people no longer hide the fact that they have had cosmetic treatments and it is now openly discussed, compared and recommended. "Cosmetic medicine is normal and within everybody's reach. Just like we go to the gym, eat a healthy diet and protect ourselves from the sun, having cosmetic treatments completes the circle of things that make us feel better," she explains.

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The 'blue light' that stops youngsters sleeping

Excessive use of mobile devices at night affects the time and quality of sleep

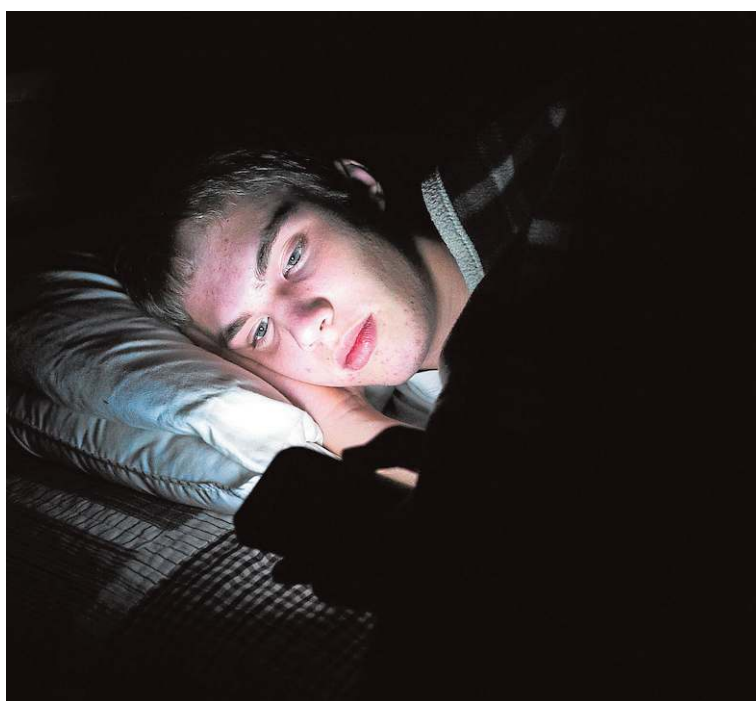
Three studies agree that the health problems associated with technology can be quickly resolved by limiting exposure time

DOMÉNICO CHIAPPE

Teenagers who use mobile devices for more than four hours a day sleep at least one hour less than normal. They fall asleep half an hour later and wake up half an hour earlier, compared with those who spend one hour or less in front of a screen every day, according to a study carried out by Neuroscience and Public Health institutes in the Netherlands, which was presented recently at the Annual Meeting of the European Endocrinology Society.

When these young people have less exposure to the 'blue light' which is emitted by mobile phones, tablets and computers, the symptoms of sleep disorder, which include fatigue, a lack of concentration and bad moods, disappear in just one week. The improvement is especially noticeable when use of the devices is restricted at night, because that is when more melatonin, which influences time and quality of sleep, is produced.

In Spain children spend an average of five hours a day in front of some type of screen and more at weekends, according to a study by the Association for Research into Means of Communication. The situation in neigh-



A teenager using his mobile late at night. :: R.C

bouring countries is similar.

"Teenagers are spending more and more time on devices with screens and sleep disturbance is becoming more common," says Dirk Jan Stenvers, a doctor at the Endocrinology and Metabolism department at the University Medical Centre of Amsterdam, who presented a study into sleep problems in adolescents in Lyon recently.

"We have shown that it can be easily reversed by minimising use of screens and exposure to 'blue light'

at night. According to our data, it is probable that these disorders are caused at least in part by the blue light of these screens."

The study by the Dutch university concluded that, as well as keeping youngsters away from the screens near bedtime, blocking out this 'blue light' with special glasses also proved effective. With these two measures the patients were able to have a refreshing sleep, without waking up early, in just one week, says Stenvers.

"In the long term we know that lack of sleep is associated with a greater risk of obesity, diabetes and cardiac illness. If we can introduce simple measures now, we can avoid greater health problems in forthcoming years," he says.

However, once an adolescent becomes quite dependent on using the screen other variables come into play, such as anxiety or the uncontrollable need to be connected, a loss of interest in other activities and a denial of the problem manifesting itself in defensive behaviour, say experts from the National Cybersecurity Institute.

Limiting use of the device is not going to be an easy task. Children, even the youngest ones, develop a tolerance to sitting at their screens, as with any addictive substance, and may suffer from withdrawal symptoms as well as irritability if use is restricted. There is also another factor: social approval from other users with whom the child interacts. Meanwhile the pathologies associated with excessive use of technological devices continue to increase.

Child obesity

Two other studies have related excessive use of mobile devices with health problems at increasingly earlier ages. One of them attributes the greater incidence of child obesity to this.

"We are bringing up a generation of sedentary children," warns Luis Blesa, president of the Valencian Pediatric Society. "Children are spend-

"Children are spending more time in front of a screen and, combined with an unhealthy diet, can increase the number of obese children"

ing more and more time in front of a screen. That, combined with an unhealthy diet, can increase the number of obese children."

Another study attributes excessive use of screens to a progressive loss of vision. Children aged between seven and 12 have more myopia than university students a generation ago. Specifically, half a dioptre more, which can reach as much as six dioptres, according to Fabio Delgado, the optical director of Cottet.

"The principal cause of myopia is the growth of the ocular globe and that doesn't only occur for genetic reasons," says Enrique Jiménez, an optician at the San Joan de Déu hospital. "There are other very important reasons, such as the excessive number of hours the children spend looking at devices such as computers, tablets and mobile phones".

He recommends the same solution: reduce exposure time to these devices. "We need to restrict the time children spend on close-up tasks, especially with electronic devices, and make sure they spend more time in open spaces," he says.

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Illnesses resulting from traffic pollution cost Spain more than 3.6 billion euros a year

EU countries are spending 72 billion euros, of which 52.86 billion is paid by governments, on treating these types of illnesses

EUROPA PRESS

MADRID. Spain spends more than 3.6 billion euros a year treating illnesses related to air pollution from traffic. This is the second highest amount in Europe (Germany spends 13.38 billion), according to a report carried out by the European Public Health Alliance for a project in which the Spanish Heart Foundation (FEC) is participating.

The study has analysed in detail the amount of money that nine member states of the European Union spend on health costs associated with traffic: Austria, Bulgaria, Estonia, Germany, Hungary, Poland, Romania, Slovenia and Spain. In total, atmospheric contamination caused by traffic is resulting in EU countries spending more than 72 billion euros a year in health costs, of which 52.86 billion are subsidised by the governments.

The report also estimates the saving in health costs which could be achieved if measures were im-

plemented to reduce traffic emissions on the roads by 2030. The most ambitious plan, which includes a significant increase in electric vehicles, the prohibition of diesel cars on highways and higher taxes on diesel, would save Spain around 2.83 billion euros, reducing its spending to about 770 million euros a year. In the EU as a whole, the saving would be about 58 billion euros a year.

Although traffic is not the only source of air pollution, the European Commission considers it one of the main factors, especially in urban areas.

"Ninety-three per cent of the Spanish population is breathing air which exceeds levels considered dangerous for health," says the vice-president of the FEC, José Luis Palma.

In fact, according to the World

Health Organization, around seven million people a year die prematurely through air pollution. This represents 25 per cent of deaths from heart problems and 24 per cent of those after a stroke.

"Environmental pollution has

become one of the main challenges for public health on a worldwide level. At the FEC we are well aware of this problem and its impact on cardiovascular health, and we are working on raising awareness and issuing guidelines about the mat-

ter, because it is of maximum importance. We are urging regional governments and local councils to take urgent measures to reduce the contamination figures for the sake of the health of the population," says Dr Palma.

"93% of the Spanish population is breathing air which exceeds levels considered dangerous"



A view of pollution over Madrid. :: SUR



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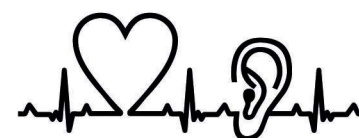
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Lions members present the family with a cheque to help fund Carmen's care. :: SUR

La Cala Lions offer a helping hand to baby Carmen

The parents of the 15-month-old girl who has nemaline myopathy need substantial extra support

:: SUR IN ENGLISH

MIJAS. A group from La Cala de Mijas Lions Club this week visited the family of baby Carmen Leyre, aged 15 months, at her home in Riviera. Carmen was born very prematurely

and suffers from an extremely rare condition, nemaline myopathy, which affects the muscles and the respiratory tract. There are only 28 such cases recorded in Spain.

The family is given limited support; they have been provided with the breathing machine to which she is permanently connected and without which she is unable to survive - but baby Carmen's needs are multiple. The damage is severe and her parents need to provide substantial extra support.

The local Lions have stepped in and purchased a special seat and stand which will allow Carmen to sit up: it can be placed on the stand which allows it to be used at floor level or on a chair or sofa. It can also be converted into a car seat.

The Lions have also paid for six months of special pulmonary physiotherapy.

Family, neighbours and friends are doing all they can and they have set up the Asociación Carmen Leyre which can be found on Facebook.

Pharmacies threatened with hefty fines if caught selling high-dosage paracetamol and ibuprofen without a prescription

Paracetamol and ibuprofen in 1g and 600mg formats respectively, will no longer be available to buy over the counter

:: SUR

SANTANDER. Pharmacies are facing fines of between 30,000 and 90,000 euros if found to be selling a number of drugs commonplace in most medicine cabinets across the country.

Since February stricter controls have come into force nationwide which mean that the authorities can see exactly what pharmacies are selling.

The law has not changed, however, confirms Rita de la Plaza, president of the Cantabria College of Pharmaceuticals. "[The law] has



600mg ibuprofen is freely available without a prescription. :: SUR

been like this since 1990." She says that higher doses of many household drugs, including paracetamol (1g), ibuprofen (600mg), as well as a number of stronger antacids and antihistamines "have always required a prescription" but that a number of pharmacies having been selling them despite the potential

risks to the patients.

De la Plaza says that the new controls mean that from now on you are unlikely to be able to buy any medication with the "subject to a prescription" label written on it anymore because "no one will want to risk it for the 1.97 euros a box of 600mg ibuprofen costs".

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Kitchen page 49
Removals page 50

Glass curtains page 51

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Iván, Koné, Blanco Leschuk and Adrián celebrate with N'Diaye after he scored Malaga's second goal. :: AGENCIA LOF

LA LIGA 123

Results	Final match day
Córdoba - Osasuna 2-3	Osasuna - Oviedo
Alcorcón - Gimnástico 0-1	Sporting - Cádiz
Las Palmas - Almería 0-0	Tenerife - Zaragoza
Oviedo - Majadahonda 4-3	Numancia - Las Palmas
Zaragoza - Numancia 0-0	MALAGA - Elche
Mallorca - Granada 1-1	Deportivo - Córdoba
Cádiz - Extremadura 0-1	Extremadura - Mallorca
Elche - Deportivo 0-0	Gimnástico - Lugo
Albacete - MALAGA 1-2	Granada - Alcorcón
Lugo - Tenerife 0-0	Almería - Albacete
(No match for Sporting)	(No match for Majadahonda)

Table	TEAM	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	PTS
★	1. Osasuna	41	25	9	7	58	35	84
★	2. Granada	41	21	13	7	50	27	76
■	3. MALAGA	41	20	11	10	48	31	71
■	4. Albacete	41	19	14	8	54	35	71
■	5. Mallorca	41	19	11	11	53	37	68
■	6. Deportivo	41	16	17	8	48	32	65
	7. Cádiz	41	16	16	9	53	35	64
	8. Oviedo	41	17	12	12	48	47	63
	9. Sporting	41	15	13	13	42	38	58
	10. Almería	41	14	15	12	48	39	57
	11. Elche	41	13	16	12	49	49	55
	12. Las Palmas	41	12	17	12	47	49	53
	13. Extremadura	41	14	10	17	43	47	52
	14. Alcorcón	41	14	10	17	35	40	52
	15. Zaragoza	41	13	12	16	49	50	51
	16. Numancia	41	11	15	15	43	49	48
	17. Tenerife	41	10	17	14	39	50	47
	18. Lugo	41	10	16	15	42	50	46
▼	19. Majadahonda	41	11	9	21	45	61	42
▼	20. Gimnástico	41	9	8	24	29	62	35
▼	21. Córdoba	41	7	13	21	48	77	34
▼	22. Reus	41	5	6	30	16	47	0

Mature display gives ten-man Malaga huge boost going into the play-offs

The win sees the Blue and Whites leapfrog Albacete into third place with just Saturday's home game against Elche left to play

1-2

ALBACETE-MALAGA

Albacete: Tomeu; Tejero, Gorosito, Gentiletti (Álvaro Peña, 84'), Fran García; Bela, Dani Torres, Febas, Eugeni (Manaj, 60'); Zozulya, Acuña (Susaeta, 69'). Unused substitutes: Caro, Caro, Borja Herrera, Barri.

Malaga: Munir; Cifu (Ivan, 49'), Luis Hernández, Pau Torres, Ricca (Diego González, 84'); Koné (Boulahroud, 87'), N'Diaye, Keidi, Ontiveros; Adrián, Blanco Leschuk. Unused substitutes: Kieszek, Dani Pacheco, Mula, Hicham.

Goal: 0-1 Ontiveros (16'), 0-2 N'Diaye (52'); 1-2 Zozulya (57').

Referee: Sagués Osoz. Blanco Leschuk sent off for two yellows (54'); bookings for Acuña, Ontiveros, Gentiletti, Zozulya, N'Diaye, Pau Torres, Gorosito and Barri.

Groud: Carlos Belmonte (11,649 spectators).



dfinch@diariosur.es

Blanco Leschuk was sent off early in the second half after his side had already amassed a two-goal lead through Ontiveros and N'Diaye

MALAGA. Malaga's chances of returning to La Liga received a massive boost on Tuesday as they recorded their most impressive win of the campaign so far, seeing off Albacete 2-1 away from home having played for almost 40 minutes down to ten men.

The visitors had already amassed a two-goal lead prior to Gustavo Blanco Leschuk's sending off in the 54th minute, when he picked up a second yellow card for a mistimed challenge on Nico Gorosito.

Until that moment, his side had been mostly in control against the team occupying the position di-

rectly above them.

In-form winger Javi Ontiveros gave his side the lead early on with a trademark finish. Cutting in from the left-hand side, the 21-year-old dribbled onto his favoured right foot before unleashing a stunning strike into the top corner, leaving Tomeu Nadal powerless to stop it.

Blanco Leschuk then also had an opportunity, this time with Ontiveros the provider, but the Argentinian couldn't get enough whip on his shot to get the better of Nadal as the angle worsened.

In the second half, Malaga picked up where they left off and just seven

minutes after the restart, Alfred N'Diaye doubled their lead. Blanco Leschuk laid off the ball to the Senegal international on the edge of the box and he dispatched his effort into the bottom left-hand corner.

Two minutes later, however, the game turned on its head with Blanco Leschuk receiving his marching orders and, moments later, Roman Zozulya reducing the deficit.

The Ukrainian forward nodded home Álvaro Tejero's cross from the right to add to the anxiety levels among the travelling fans, limited in numbers by the reschedul-

ing of the tie.

Albacete coach Luis Miguel Ramis had obviously sensed a weakness down Malaga's right-hand side and had gone to deliberate lengths to target the space inside Cifu. Winger Javier Acuña gave Cifu a torrid time until he was hooked off in the 48th minute,

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Up next

ELCHE (H)

La Rosaleda will be rocking on Saturday night for Malaga's final game of the normal season (kick-off 8.30pm).

Malaga must equal or better Albacete's result to finish in third place which will give a massive advantage going into the play-offs with the second leg of the semi-final (and hypothetical final) both to be played at home.

Standing in their way is Elche whose excellent second half of the season has lifted them well clear of relegation danger. They come into the game on the back of a goalless draw against promotion-chasing Deportivo La Coruña and face a Malaga side with doubts over key players.

Suspended Blanco Leschuk is definitely out but there are doubts over Ricca, who limped off injured against Albacete, and Munir and N'Diaye who are expected to (but it has not yet been confirmed) join their national sides ahead of the African Cup of Nations.

then likewise terrorised his replacement Iván.

Malaga coach Víctor Sánchez reacted by placing N'Diaye on the right, but the hosts continued to find openings down their left with Jérémie Bela whipping in a series of dangerous crosses. The best opening came when Aleix Febras got inside the full-back to square for Zozulya, but Munir denied him with a superb reaction save.

The Malaga goalkeeper came into his own in the second half, claiming a number of high balls into the box and showing safe hands when tested. He also helped to slow down the game when in possession and inspired calm around him to help see out the game.

The hard-fought win lifts Malaga above Albacete into third place with one game left to play ahead of the play-offs.

The football world mourns the loss of José Antonio Reyes, killed in a car crash

The former Sevilla, Real Madrid and Arsenal forward's car came off the road in Alcalá de Guadaira when travelling at 237km/h

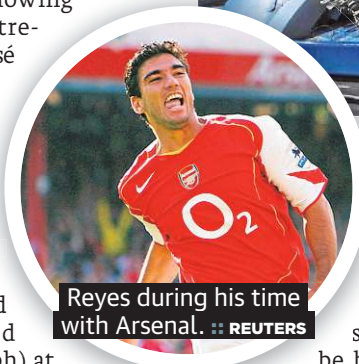
■ DARYL FINCH

Seven Segunda games to be played last weekend were postponed until Tuesday following the death of Extremadura forward José Antonio Reyes on Saturday.

Reyes, who was 35, as well as his cousin Jonathan, died after the car Reyes was driving came off the road at an estimated 237km/h (147mph) at 11.40am in Alcalá de Guadaira (Seville), according to the Guardia Civil's accident report.



The wreckage of the car. ■ EFE



Reyes during his time with Arsenal. ■ REUTERS

A puncture in a tyre on his Mercedes Brabus S550V, as well as the excessive speed, is believed to be blame for the car coming off the road, hitting some concrete blocks, before flipping over and bursting into flames.

The coffin of the former Spain international was taken to Sevilla's Ramón Sánchez-Pizjuán stadium on Sunday where it was visited by more than 11,000 fans.

Reyes' coffin was carried through the streets of his hometown Utrera the following day before his funeral took place at the Santa María de Mesa, with a flag of Sevilla

draped around his coffin.

Tributes from far and wide

Reyes, who was still a professional with Segunda side Extremadura, made his breakthrough with Sevilla, winning three Europa League titles during his two spells with the side, making over 200 appearances and scoring 40 goals.

Reyes was also part of Arsenal's 'invincibles' squad that went unbeaten on the way to winning the Premier League in 2004.

Thierry Henry, who played with Reyes during this time, said: "He was a marvellous footballer and an exceptional human being. I hope his family and friends have the strength to overcome this difficult moment."

Reyes also played for Real Madrid, Atlético and Benfica during his career, as well as winning 21 caps for Spain.

A minute's silence was held in his honour before the Champions League final on Saturday as the football world paused to pay tribute.

Carlos Aranda and Raúl Bravo, accused of being ringleaders in match-fixing ring, released on bail

The pair are among several current and former footballers detained in connection with corruption and match-fixing

■ EFE

ZARAGOZA. Former footballers Carlos Aranda and Raúl Bravo, ar-



Bravo (l) and Aranda (c). ■ EFE

rested as part of an investigation into corruption in Spanish football, have been released from prison in Zuera (Zaragoza) after both paid their bail.

Aranda, from Malaga, and friend Raúl Bravo were arrested alongside Huesca president Agustín La-saosa, recently-retired Rayo Valladolid captain Borja Fernández and former Huesca players Íñigo López and Samu Sáiz.

They are all being investigated for possible match-fixing of three games from the first, second and third divisions in Spain.

On Friday Huesca president La-saosa resigned from his post while on Tuesday, Rayo Valladolid announced that they would be carrying out an investigation after a recording came to light, supposedly of Aranda, speaking of "seven bribed players" in the team.

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A LOOK AT LA LIGA

ROB PALMER
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When a millionaire takes on a billionaire

Sergio Ramos thought he'd be granted his move to China but he'd forgotten about the ruthless businessman he would be dealing with

So now we know who wins when a billionaire fights a multi-millionaire; it's the same as when a president takes on a captain or father takes on a son.

You don't get to the top of the largest construction business in Spain and run arguably the world's biggest football club by ever losing a business negotiation. Sergio Ramos may be able to tackle Spain's best footballers, but he met his match when it came to going head to head with Florentino Pérez, one of Europe's most lethal businessmen.

On the fifth anniversary of Ramos scoring his famous Champions League final goal, it was let slip that he was considering a move to China. This was no coincidence. I'm sure in the minds of his advisors it was a great idea. "The video shows he's been a great servant, the club must let him see out his years elsewhere."

But what they forget is that they

were dealing with the man who exercised the clause in Luis Figo's Barcelona contract stating that he must move if the excessive buy-out figure was reached! The Portuguese did the unthinkable and moved to their historic rivals.

When he returned from a short social break with friends, Ramos was summoned to the president's office. There he was reminded that he was still in contract.

Ramos was forced to call a press conference. It was suggested that he'd been on a stag weekend - always a good excuse for not thinking straight!

"This is not about money," said Ramos. He failed to follow it up with a life-long desire to trek the Great Wall of China or grow the fledgling Chinese Super League. It was obviously irrelevant that there's a reported 25 million euros per season up for grabs.

"I told Ramos that it was impossible for Real Madrid let their

captain go for free" was the response from Don Pérez who had inserted an 800-million-euro buy-out clause when the centre-back last used Manchester United's apparent interest to strike a deal.

"At the end of the day, the president and I have a father-son relationship and we love each other a lot. The friction produces love." This was one of a multitude of sugary platitudes from Ramos on the affair. Father had nutmegged son and left him sitting on his backside looking stupid.

Father hadn't forgiven son for getting himself intentionally booked against Ajax so he would have a clean disciplinary slate for the Champions League quarter finals. Father's team didn't make it because his stupid son was absent when they lost 4-1 in the second leg.

So Ramos stays... for now. Notice that the president said no-



Sergio Ramos thought he was getting his move to China. :: EFE

body got the Real Madrid captain for free. Has he left the door open to off-loading him for a fee?

The only question that remains to be asked is: did the meeting make the season-long documentary on Ramos? Normally I give these publicity pranks a wide berth; they're all

about rubbing shoulders with the beautiful people, the latest tattoo or restaurant opening. However, I would subscribe if they promised an unedited version of the president carpeting the captain.

Sergio Ramos has cancelled his Mandarin lessons.

IN BRIEF

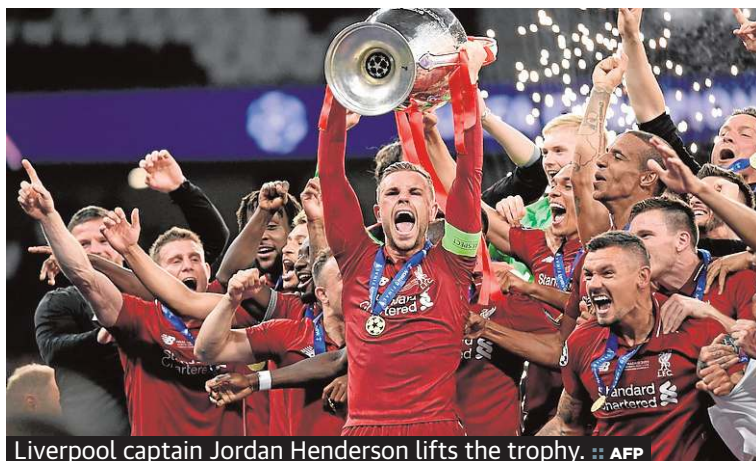
Liverpool come out on top in all-English Champions League final

MADRID

:: **D. FINCH.** Liverpool were crowned champions of Europe for a sixth time on Saturday after running out 2-0 winners against Tottenham in the Champions League final held in Madrid's Wanda Metropolitano stadium.

Mohamed Salah gave the Reds the lead from the penalty spot in the second minute before substitute Divock Origi calmed the nerves with a second late in the second half.

Spurs had a flurry of late chances but were denied on several occa-



Liverpool captain Jordan Henderson lifts the trophy. :: AFP

sions by Liverpool's Brazilian keeper Alisson who was named man of the match.

With almost 100,000 English fans descending on the capital, authori-

ties and locals were in agreement over the good-natured behaviour of supporters.

Overall, it was relatively incident free with only five arrests made.

Away goals have mixed results in Antequera and El Palo's promotion hunt

ANTEQUERA/MALAGA

:: **A. J. G. / J. R. P.** Antequera's dreams of being promoted to Segunda B came to an end on Sunday. Despite beating Utrera 2-1 at home, the side crashed out in the first play-off round to Álex Portillo's away goal after losing 1-0 in the away game.

There was better luck for El Palo, however. The side from Malaga city kept their hopes alive despite a 3-1 loss away in Illueca. Juanillo's goal in the 62nd minute sealed a place in the second (and penultimate) play-off round against Tarazona.

The first leg takes place on Sunday.

Julen Lopetegui appointed as new Sevilla head coach

SEVILLE

:: **SUR.** Former Spain and Real Madrid coach Julen Lopetegui is back in management. On Tuesday he was appointed the new head coach of Andalusian side Sevilla, replacing the outgoing Pablo Machin.

Lopetegui, who famously left the Spain job on the dawn of the 2018 World Cup to join Los Blancos, was presented to fans and press on Wednesday.

The 52-year-old has been out of work since his sacking by Real Madrid in October, following an embarrassing 5-1 defeat to Barcelona in the Clásico.



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Sarah Almagro, centre, with the organisers. :: SUR

Sponsored walk raises almost 2,000 euros for Sarah's fund

Organised by Our Bar and Walking Football Spain, the 8km walk raised money for the local girl who lost her limbs to sepsis

:: SUR IN ENGLISH

MIJAS. The sponsored walk organised jointly by Our Bar in Calahonda and Walking Football Spain in collaboration with the Somos Tu Ola association on Sunday resulted in a massive collection of 1,746.30 euros for the fund set up for Marbella girl Sarah Almagro who lost her limbs to sepsis.

The warm weather by the beach at Our Bar in Calahonda didn't deter walkers, paying five euros each and decked

out in Sarah's favourite colours of blue and orange, who set off at a steady pace and arrived as planned at Bar Tuah in La Cala de Mijas on time.

Sarah herself was there for the countdown, inspiring the walkers as they set off on the eight-kilometre route.

Most returned to Our Bar at approximately 4pm when the fun continued with bingo, a prize raffle, buffet and karaoke.

Youngster Josh Boscowan also agreed to have his long hair shaved off to raise money for the fund. The task was completed by local barber Tommy of The House Hairdressers in Calahonda and Josh secured a sponsorship total of 600 euros.



Before and after - Josh's transformation. :: SUR



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THE STARS



Aquarius
January 21 - February 19
It certainly does seem that a break from your usual routine has worked wonders. Pushing ahead with plans midweek could see some opposition.



Pisces
February 20th - March 20th
The person trying to push you into a corner is likely to be on shaky ground. Their argument could collapse at any time. Don't give in, just get on with something else.



Aries
March 21st - April 20th
Old gripes should be cleared away and new paths opened. Someone who you thought you had 'grown out of' is still able to put a twinkle in your eyes.



Taurus
April 21st - May 21st
Thoughts of love and romance come and go at the moment. This is maybe because you are occupied with more 'serious' matters? Rethink what you really need in life.



Gemini
May 22nd - June 21st
People seeking out your company is nothing new. Some of them want your time and attention because you are fun to be with, however someone has a rather more long-term hope.



Cancer
June 22nd - July 23rd
In a boost to your social life this week there is the chance of meeting some unusual people. This triggers your curiosity and is certainly mind-opening!



Leo
July 24th - August 23rd
Family matters are very upbeat. Celebrations are likely to trigger old memories. For once you won't be accused of being over-sentimental.



Virgo
August 24th - September 23rd
Someone is sending social sparks out in all directions and, if you are interested, speed is needed. Confidence can be built up gradually by always stretching yourself that little bit more.



Libra
September 24th - October 23rd
Being flexible about who you meet this week could see you out of your comfort zone but feeling as though you have made real progress. You are not one to put up with second best, however.



Scorpio
October 24th - November 22nd
Someone who annoyed you recently has spurred you on to show your inner feelings. Practical thoughts seem to fly out of the window when your heart is involved.



Sagittarius
November 22nd - December 21st
Jump out of that stiff shirt and feel the freedom of free choice. How good does it feel to be clear of all the expectations of others, not just your own?



Capricorn
December 22nd - January 20th
Do not see yourself as a workhorse or a convenience for others. Without you there are those who would fail. What you volunteer for at the weekend may give your confidence a boost!.

THE SEVEN DIFFERENCES



CRYPTIC CROSSWORD N° 11360

1		2		3	4		5		6		7	
8												
				9								
10												
					11				12		13	
14									15			
				16				17				
18			19					20				
		21			22							
	23						24					
25												
									26			
27												

Across

- 3 Noted for being whimsical perhaps (9)
- 8 Listen to half a cry of approbation (4)
- 9 Without feigning, because has to trust (9)
- 10 Give another appendage, but not wholesale (6)
- 11 Lower oneself to put empty pots back (5)
- 14 Animal with a sense of humour? (5)
- 15 Humour is about right in this legal document (4)
- 16 Capital animals on the farm (5)
- 18 Gas used in one onslaught (4)
- 20 Hitherto unknown work of fiction (5)
- 21 Then a change below in poetry (5)
- 24 Stand by half-deaf company (6)
- 25 Quite simple: it isn't Russian money (2,7)
- 26 Resigned from political wing (4)
- 27 Reduction through removal round pithead (9)

Down

- 1 Quick writing produced by small worker (9)
- 2 Not complete fowl on Greek temple (9)
- 4 Shout abuse as storyteller gets up (4)
- 5 Unspoken account taken in by bird (5)
- 6 Agricultural implement at famous school (6)
- 7 The story of tip-top beer (4)
- 9 He figured in the chapter of the Acts I last read (5)
- 11 The sheer laziness of this animal! (5)
- 12 Evil padre carried the day (9)
- 13 Nobody won: ship's officer was past his best (9)
- 17 Belief in kicking holds up cutting instrument (5)
- 19 Unreal damage of nerves (6)
- 22 Show confidence in great rustic characters (5)
- 23 Extreme European? (4)
- 24 Same coal sold, too (4)

SUDOKU BY HANZO

Instructions
Complete the square making sure that every row of nine numbers includes all digits from 1 to 9, every column includes all digits from 1 to 9 and every 3 by 3 subsection includes all digits from 1 to 9

5				2		3		
9	8				3			4
		7	4		1		6	9
4	6			3			2	1
	7		6			4		
		3			5			
	3		1	7	2			
		2			4	8	9	
		4				1		

THE WORDPUZZLER

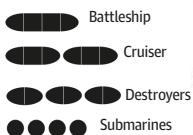
A	J	A	N	I	F	L	O	O	K
V	E	R	G	L	E	E	B	W	O
I	R	O	U	L	C	F	I	E	R
E	S	H	I	M	M	O	O	N	C
P	E	N	N	Y	O	R	D	I	M
A	Y	L	E	S	T	E	R	B	A
W	A	M	A	T	H	S	O	R	T
A	R	E	T	O	S	T	O	O	H
V	N	A	L	W	O	I	F	O	E
E	S	L	E	N	D	N	T	M	N

Can you identify the words that may follow 'new' from the clues listed below?

- 1. School subject
- 2. Wooded area
- 3. Urban area
- 4. Breed of cow
- 5. Besom
- 6. Satellite
- 7. Large ripple
- 8. 21 shillings
- 9. Regard
- 10. Girl's name

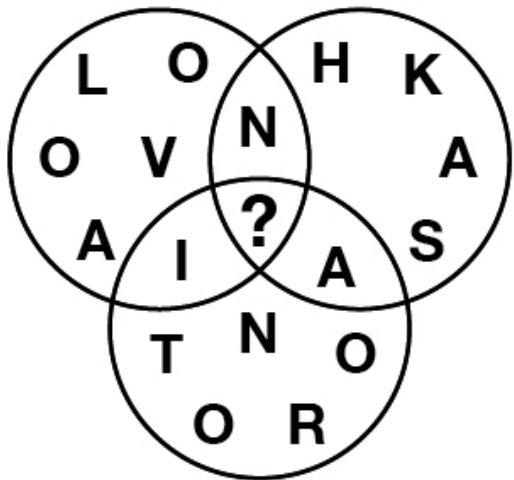
BATTLESHIPS

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	■										3
B											1
C											3
D			■								1
E							■				4
F											0
G				■							2
H										■	2
I											3
J											1
	2	2	4	1	1	5	1	2	1	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) Banned (9)

4) Responsible (pl) (12)

11) You (5)

12) Police (7)

13) Officers (7)

14) Cloud (4)

15) Controls (9)

18) Natives (8)

19) It floods (6)

20) Measures (7)

21) Tourists (8)

22) Ugly (3)

23) My (2)

24) It collides (9)

28) Sense (7)

31) Fine (5)

33) There (4)

35) Communications (14)

39) To fill (6)

41) They give (3)

42) Workers (12)

43) Delay (7)

44) We reopen (9)

46) I sang (5)

47) To order (7)

48) Thirteen (5)

49) Frontier (8)
- Down

1) Passports (10)

2) They offered (10)

3) Excited (10)

5) Separated (pl) (9)

6) Playing card (5)

7) Laundering (money) (8)

8) Sovereignty (9)

9) Phenomenon (8)

10) Tuna (pl) (6)

16) Ready (5)

17) If (2)

22) Families (8)

24) Shocking (8)

25) To go (2)

26) You'll go (4)

27) Travelling (10)

29) That (3)

30) They ignored (9)

32) Accountant (8)

34) Sadness (8)

35) Closed (7)

36) Blanket (5)

37) Elbow (4)

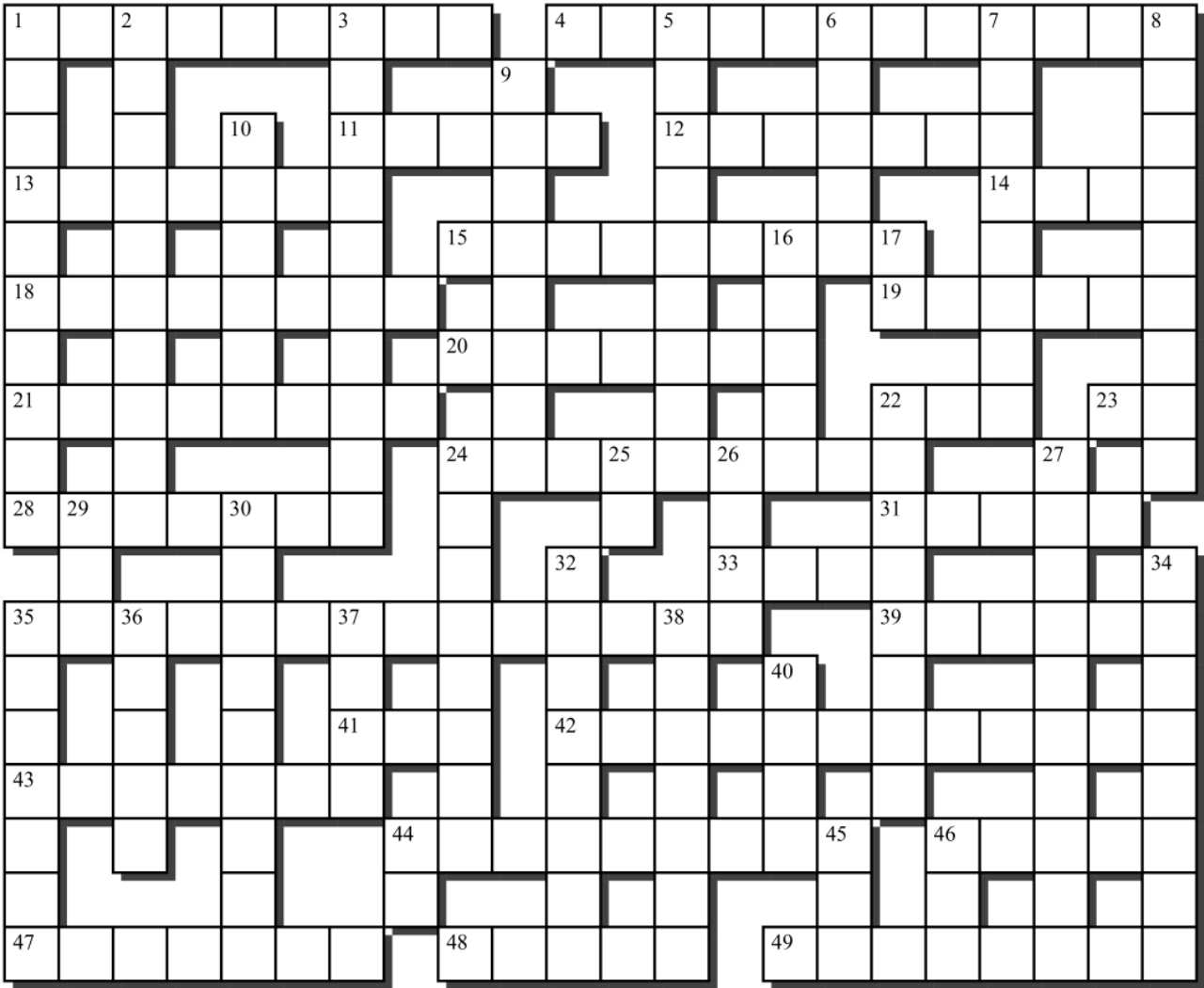
38) I examined (7)

40) Ribbon (4)

44) D (musical note) (2)

45) South (3)

46) With (3)



Down Clues

ANSWERS

Quiz answers

Answer: Spruce Goose.
Of interest: Built by eccentric millionaire Howard Hughes, the H-4 flying boat was the largest flying boat ever built. It was built of wood (birch) to avoid using restricted wartime materials and only flew once, just 21 metres. It was never flown again. Google moved in to the legendary plane's old hangar in 2018.
Answer: A small marsupial island. The pademelon is a small marsupial found in the forests of Australia and it's surrounding islands. It is most closely related to the wallaby and the kangaroo.

Language Crossword

ACROSS:

1. PROHIBIDO 4. RESPONSABLES

11. JUSTED 12. POLICIA 13. AGENTES

14. NUBE 15. CONTROLES 18. ORIUNDOS

19. IUNDA 20. MEDIDAS 21. TURISTAS

22. FEO 23. MI 24. COLISIONA

28. SENTIDO 31. MULA 33. ALI

35. COMUNICACIONES 39. LLENAR

41. DAN 42. TRABAJADORES 43. RETRASO

44. REARMIOS 46. CANTE 47. ORDENAR

48. TRECE 49. FRONTERA

DOWN:

1. PASAPORTES 2. OFRECIERON

3. ILUSIONADO 5. SEPARADOS 6. NAPE

7. BLANQUEO 8. SOBERANIA

9. FENOMENO 10. TUNES 16. LISTO 17. SI

22. FAMILIAS 24. CHOCANTE 25. IR

26. IRAS 27. TITNERANTE 29. ESO

30. INORARON 32. CONTABLE

34. TRISTEZA 35. CERADO 36. MANTA

37. CODO 38. EXAMINE 40. LAZO 44. RE

45. SUR 46. CON

Cryptic Crossword

Solutions: Across: 3 Crochety; 8 Hear; 9 Sincerely; 10 Retail; 11 Stoop; 14 Hyena; 15 Writ; 16 Stock; 18 Neon; 20 Novel; 21 Neath; 24 Affirm; 25 No trouble; 26 Left; 27 Depletion. Down: 1 Shorthand; 2 Parthenon; 4 Rail; 5 Tacit; 6 Harrow; 7 Tale; 9 Silas; 11 Sloth; 12 Prevailed; 13 Stalemate; 17 Knife; 19 Neural; 22 Trust; 23 Pole; 24

Wordpuzzler solution

1. Maths

2. Forest

3. Town

4. Jersey

5. Broom

6. Moon

7. Wave

8. Guinea

9. Look

10. Penny

A J A N I F L O O K

V E R G L E E B W O

I R O U L C F I E R

E S H I M O O N C

P E N N Y O R D I M

A Y L E S T E R B A

W A M A T S O R T

A R E T O S T O O H

E S L E N D N T M N

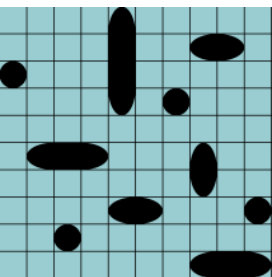
Sudoku solution

5	4	6	9	2	7	3	1	8
9	8	1	5	6	3	2	7	4
3	2	7	4	8	1	5	6	9
4	6	5	7	3	8	9	2	1
2	7	8	6	1	9	4	5	3
1	9	3	2	4	5	7	8	6
8	3	9	1	7	2	6	4	5
6	1	2	3	5	4	8	9	7
7	5	4	8	9	6	1	3	2

Circlegram

The letter represented by the question mark is D.
Vindaloo, dhansak, tandoori, all Indian dishes.

Battleships



WHERE IS THIS?



Last week:
Fuengirola

A bronze statue of the Catholic Kings, Ferdinand and Isabella was installed in the Plaza de Los Reyes Católicas (before known as Plaza del Ayuntamiento) in 2004.



MALAGA PORT INFORMATION

CRUISE SHIP MOVEMENTS (SOURCE: MALAGA PORT AUTHORITY)

Ship	Date	From	Next port	Docks	Sails
Star Pride	08/06	Almeria	Gibraltar	08.00	23.59
Riviera	09/06	Alicante	Cadiz	08.00	19.00
Independence of Seas	10/06	Valencia	Lisbon	07.00	16.00
Le Bougainville	10-11/06	Cadiz	Lisbon	14.00	01.00
Harmony V	14-16/06	Marbella	Marbella	06.00	23.59



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Here comes Celine Dion

French director and actress Valerie Lemerrier has been in Malaga to shoot scenes for a film about the world famous singer

The French company Gaumont is producing The Power of Love, and has chosen locations in La Malagueta district and the Miramar Hotel

FRANCISCO GRIÑÁN

MALAGA. She came out wearing slippers, a white overall and her hair held back in a net, looking comfortable and domestic. That was, of course, exactly how she was supposed to look because she is playing Canadian singing star Celine Dion in the film The Power of Love, and had been shooting a scene inside Dion's apartment. Or what was supposed to be her home, because as far as anybody knows the singer has never actually been inside the property she appeared outside in Calle Maestranza, in Malaga city.

During a break in filming, Celine turned back into French actress and director Valerie Lemerrier, and left the building in the company

of an assistant who held up an umbrella to protect her from the sun. Although by then she had taken the wig off, you could see the makeup and details of her characterisation as Celine Dion. It was difficult to tell the two apart.

When she was warned that the media were present the actress quickly put on the hat she had been holding, to hide what everyone wanted to see: her transformation into the singer who leapt to fame with the soundtrack to the film Titanic.

On the other side of the street was a large caravan where Valerie took refuge from the gaze of the media and prying lenses, but some of the blonde wigs which turn her into Dion

The film, which has a budget of 20.5 million euros, tells the life story of Celine Dion and her rise to fame

could be seen through a window.

The film, which has a budget of 20.5 million euros, is produced by the French company Gaumont and tells the story of the Canadian singer, whose hits include All by Myself, I'm Alive and, of course, My Heart Will Go On.

Although there had been speculation that Angelina Jolie was the favourite to play Dion, it was Valerie Lemerrier who finally convinced the star to support this authorised biopic and took on the role herself.

The film will show Dion's determination and personality from her birth in Quebec, her rise to fame and her marriage to René Angélil, who also discovered her and represented her until his death in 2016. Filming on the Costa del Sol was expected to take a week.



Valerie Lemerrier, in a break from filming. **SALVADOR SALAS**

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