

"Communication between humans with electrodes is possible"

British scientist, Kevin Warwick, talks artificial intelligence **P16**



SERGIO'S TITLE DEFENCE TEES OFF

The Spanish golfer is looking for his fourth successive victory in the Andalucía Masters at Valderrama this week **P47**



Sergio García sits one point off the lead after Thursday's opening day. :: EFE

British man held without bail over death of Irish man in Fuengirola

The victim, who was on holiday with his family, was attacked with two broken bottles in an Irish bar

The Dublin suburb of Shankill is mourning the death of a 53-year-old local who died of his injuries after a bottle attack at the end of last week in Fuengirola. A British resident in Mijas is being held without bail. **P13**

Granada's new AVE high-speed rail link with Madrid was opened by top authorities, despite a slow section near Loja **P4**

Business and pleasure meet in Saint Petersburg. Explore Russia's cultural capital in this month's Travel special **P28-32**

Costa's pulling power for new residents is as strong as ever

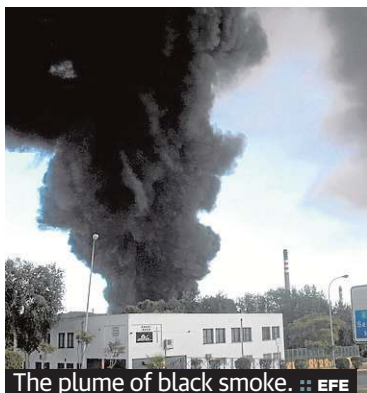
As areas of northern Spain complain of depopulation, last year Malaga province gained nearly 10,000 inhabitants

The population on the Costa del Sol continues to grow thanks to new residents moving from abroad and other parts of Spain. The figures released by the National Statistics Institute this week show that new

residents from abroad totalled more than 26,000 in 2018, with more coming from the UK than any other country. Another 20,000 left the country, however, among them 12,000 Europeans. **P2**



Police step up search for missing Romanian woman and search her boyfriend's house in Axarquía village **P14**



Fire at San Roque petrochemical plant alarms the Gibraltar area

The column of thick black smoke, which authorities said was not toxic, could be seen for miles **P13**



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Malaga, a magnet for new residents

Last year 26,506 foreigners and 17,519 Spanish citizens moved to the Costa del Sol

NURIA TRIGUERO

✉ ntriguero@diariosur.es

Malaga is the Andalusian province that gained most inhabitants last year and has some of the highest numbers of immigrants in the country

MALAGA. The depopulation that is such a concern for regions in the north of Spain isn't a problem for Malaga, at least when looking at the province as a whole. It appears to be a demographic magnet and every year new people come to live here, attracted by the climate, beaches or economic dynamism.

In 2018 Malaga was once again the province of Andalucía that gained the most population: 9,438 more inhabitants (about 0.57 per cent), taking the total to 1,660,944, according to figures published by the National Institute of Statistics (INE) this week.

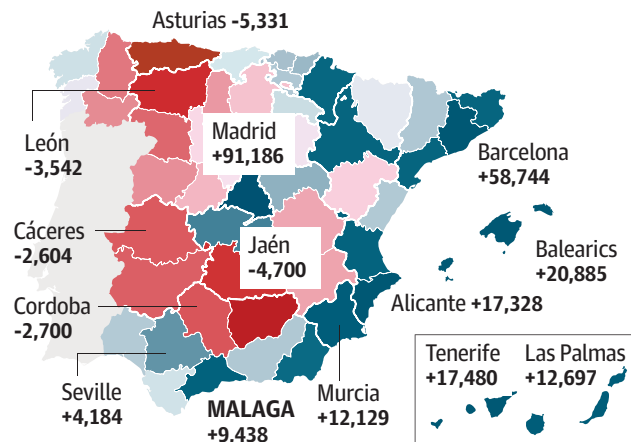
This was almost exclusively due to the arrival of people from elsewhere, because the natural growth of the population (the difference between births and deaths) was negligible. The figures show that there was a positive net balance of 6,379 from abroad and 2,993 from elsewhere in Spain.

Domestic migration

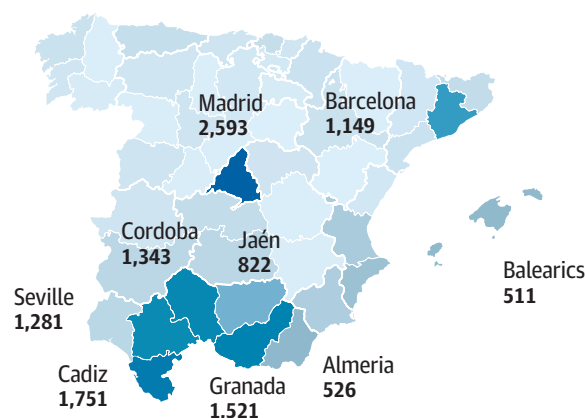
Malaga is the third province in Spain in terms of net interprovincial migration: the 2,993 mentioned above. Only Madrid and the Balearic Islands are ahead. The figure is obtained by the difference

Population of Malaga on 1 January 2019 (Figures show number of inhabitants)

Variation in population 2018-2019



Internal migration to Malaga: origin



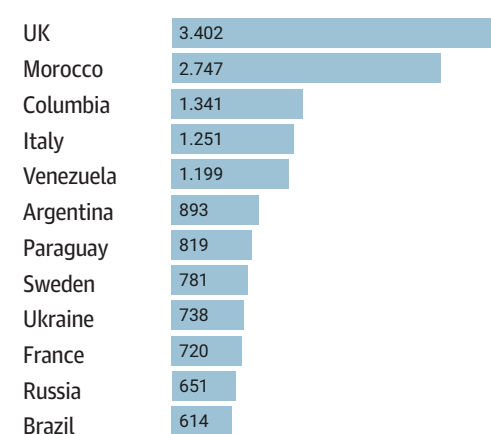
between people who came to Malaga from other parts of Spain (17,519) and those who left to live elsewhere in the country (14,526). This figure has increased compared with last year.

The main provinces of origin of these new residents were Madrid, Granada, Cadiz, Cordoba and

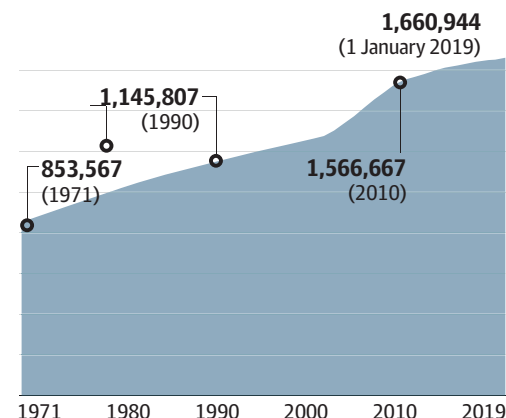
Seville. It is interesting to see that Barcelona is in sixth place, with 1,149 people moving from there to Malaga last year.

This increase in internal migration to Malaga includes a combination of profiles. Some people come for work (which increases the active population of the prov-

Foreign migration to Malaga: origin



Population of Malaga 1971-2019



The new arrivals include people moving for work, pensioners and refugees from countries in conflict

ince) while others are wealthy residents of places like Madrid, Barcelona or the Basque Country who find the Costa del Sol a restful place to live. As a result of both these circumstances, Malaga has become a magnet for new Spanish residents.

Foreign residents

Looking at migration to Malaga from abroad, this increased last year by 10 per cent to 26,506. The main countries of origin were the UK, Morocco, Colombia, Italy and Venezuela. Once again, these figures include different profiles. There were immigrants in the most classical sense, who came looking for work; pensioners wanting to spend their retirement years in a lovely place and even refugees from countries in conflict such as Venezuela and Ukraine.

As a result of this boost in immigration from abroad, foreigners currently account for 15.3 per cent of the population of Malaga province, while the national average is lower at 10.3 per cent.

At the same time, fewer residents of Malaga moved abroad last year. The number dropped by 14 per cent (20,127 Malaga residents moved to another country), so the migratory balance was more positive than in previous years, with an increase of 6,379 as mentioned earlier.

Thousands left Spain

The figures continue to show that many European residents have returned their countries of origin.

Of the 20,127 people resident in Malaga who left and went abroad last year, only 2,619 were Spanish. Of the other 17,000, 12,000 were from mainland Europe and nearly 5,000 from the UK. However, this flow out of Spain is slowing down compared with previous years.

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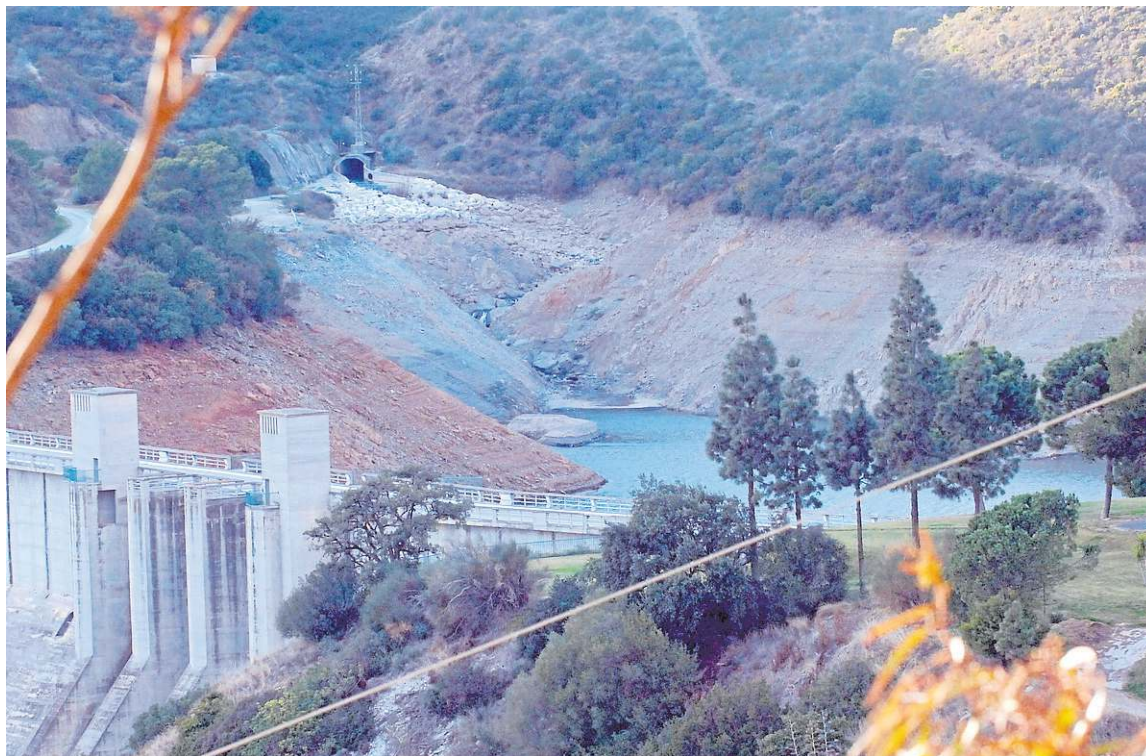
Costa water supply guaranteed for the summer season despite dry spring

La Concepción reservoir, which has been on pre-alert since May, will reach an emergency level in October if demand continues at the expected rate and there is no rain

:: NIEVES CASTRO

MARBELLA. Water supplies on the western Costa del Sol are guaranteed for the peak tourist season. The dry spring however has left reserves lower than they were a year ago, and the authorities are warning that if it doesn't rain later this summer and if demand remains as expected, water will have to be diverted from Malaga from October onwards.

La Concepción reservoir, which supplies Mijas, Torremolinos, Benalmádena, Fuengirola, Marbella, Estepona, Benahavís, Istán, Ojén, Casares and Manilva, is currently at 69% of capacity and contains 42.6 cubic hectometres of water, according to information from the Red Hidrosur, part of the regional government's Ministry of Agriculture, Farming, Fishing and Sustainable Development.



La Concepción reservoir currently contains 42 cubic hectometres of water. :: JOSELE

The level of water has risen by four per cent (1.68 cubic hectometres) since the present hydrological or water year began on 1 October. However, when comparing the

figures from exactly one year ago with those now the picture is not exactly promising. In June 2018 La Concepción was 94.8% full and contained nearly 59 cubic hecto-

metres, 16 more than now. Since then it has rained very little.

Since the start of the hydrological year the reservoir has collected 426 litres per square metre, com-

pared with 603 in the same period last year. The Marbella treatment plant has collected 322 litres per square metre, compared with 533. The main problem with La Concepción is that it is a small reservoir and since May it has been in a situation of pre-alert. According to the latest reports, if there is no rain it will be at emergency level in October.

No restrictions

The Costa del Sol, with its massive influx of tourists, needs about 33 cubic hectometres of water during the summer season. The authorities say there will be enough this year without restrictions having to be imposed, as water will be supplied from the reservoir, the Marbella desalination plant, various wells and transferred from the Campo de Gibraltar area under a purchase agreement signed in 2013 by the Arcgisa and Acosol companies.

However, action may have to be taken in October to guarantee supplies, including diverting water from Malaga at a rate of 200 litres per second, which is the maximum possible through the pipeline to the coast.

Manuel Cardeña, the head of Acosol, says there is no need for concern but he stresses that the regional government needs to create connections between the reservoirs so no water is wasted. At present when it rains heavily water has to be released from La Concepción and it just flows into the sea instead of being diverted and stored elsewhere.

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AVE high-speed trains reach Granada for first time but part of the line is incomplete

Politicians have declared the route open, however services are slower than planned as old tracks are still being used in the Loja area

IGNACIO LILLO

GRANADA. The AVE high-speed rail network has a new destination from this week. On Tuesday, the acting prime minister, Pedro Sánchez, was on the inaugural train journey to Granada from Madrid.

Granada will now be connected to the capital with three high-speed trains a day on a new branch line that connects with the existing Malaga-Madrid AVE line at Antequera, in inland Malaga province.

It's almost 20 years since the connection to Granada was first mooted. The line's construction began some ten years ago but was delayed during the world economic crisis. Despite ill-feeling between rival politicians over the length of time it has taken, this was put aside for the inaugural journey. The PM was joined by Andalusian regional president, Juanma Moreno, who got on when the train reached Antequera.

Granada linked to Costa too

The new line also opens the door to faster train journey times between Malaga and Granada as well. Passengers from the Costa will need to change at Antequera Santa Ana station until September when direct services of around an hour and a quarter start with Avant trains. But there has been criticism that this time is not much different to the bus or car. Next year a new Antequera Centro station will shorten the Malaga-Granada journey by a few more minutes.

The extension of the AVE network from Antequera into Granada is the latest in a long-term plan to



A couple take a photo with one of the distinctive AVE trains at Granada station. :: EFE

connect most parts of Spain to the much-praised services that reach speeds of 300 km/h. Spain has been able to sell the technology and expertise to other countries, most notably to Saudi Arabia for a new line to Mecca.

However services into Granada will be slower than originally hoped as trains need to reduce speed in the mountainous Loja area of Granada province. Here the new, faster route is only just being started and for the moment the path of the old route is still used but with the narrower, international AVE gauge in place.

On Tuesday's inaugural train from Madrid there was much ribbon cutting and the new mayor of Granada, Luis Salvador, was there to greet it when it reached the city.

Juanma Moreno used the opportunity to call for the national government to improve rail links to more parts of Andalucía. "We want to get over that divide that sepa-



The PM unveils a plaque in Antequera with dignitaries. :: EFE

rates us from the richest regions of Spain and Europe. We've got talent and potential, and above all the clear determination to reach that goal."

Also highlighting the benefits for tourism, Moreno added, "From now on, the world's moved closer to the Alhambra, the Albaicín, the Sierra Nevada and La Alpujarra."

Most of Spain swelters in June heatwave as the Costa misses out on the worst

SUR

MALAGA. Spain is expected to be hotter than Cairo or Abu Dhabi for the next three days from today (Friday). Amid advice on drinking lots of water and doing little exercise repeated across television and radio stations, forecasters are waiting to see if records for June temperatures will be broken.

The Costa del Sol looks set to escape the worst, with milder air giving broadly normal temperatures for late June.

The mass of hot air from Africa affecting much of Europe brought highs over 40 degrees to central Spain on Thursday and there are weather warnings in place for extreme heat, with highs five to ten degrees above the seasonal norm. Much of the valley of the northern Ebro river was forecast to be on red alert today and Saturday.

However, Malaga is forecast to be a cooler 30 degrees this weekend with Marbella a few degrees lower.

Popular Tamisa Golf hotel to close as administrators move in

SUR

MIJAS. The Tamisa Golf Hotel, next to Mijas Golf, has gone into administration and is due to close this Sunday, administrators Sánchez Medina confirmed on Thursday. The hotel has been a favourite place to stay for golfers as well as a popular venue over the years for expat meetings, gala dinners and charity events.

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Beach bars step up fight against plastic

This year's 'Chiringuito Day' launched a number of new initiatives to help keep these popular establishments at the forefront of the sector

by PILAR MARTÍNEZ

MÁLAGA. The look of surprise on the faces of a group of foreigners, already seated at their table, when a plate of sardine skewers, a jug of 'tinto de verano' and some prawns were delivered, prompted some explanation. These were complimentary, they were told, because Wednesday was a day of celebration for 'chiringuito' beach bars and their role in the local economy.

This day, organised by the Costa del Sol Association of Beach Businesses, is used annually to launch new campaigns to keep these businesses at the forefront of the hospitality trade. This year, reducing plastic usage is the focus, with the



Villafaina (top row, third left) with beach bar employees donning the campaign T-shirt. **by SUR**

target to cut them out completely.

The president of this association, Manuel Villafaina, highlighted the turnout for the day and said that he

was positive that this initiative, called 'Nuestra playa, nuestra casa' (our beach, our home), which has already seen plastic straws banished,

will be a success.

"A lot of people came up to me and congratulated me and wished us well with the initiative," said Vil-

lafaina, who pointed out that all of the details of the campaign were on display for clients on their table covers. The principal objective, he said, was to defend and protect the bars' surroundings, referring to the sea and beaches.

Torremolinos

To coincide with the day, Torremolinos town hall created an interactive map of the 64 establishments on its coastline. Specifically, the Tourism department has created a blog (<https://blog.turismotorremolinos.es>) with a post under the title 'Descubre los chiringuitos de Torremolinos' which, "in addition to talking about chiringuitos' decisive role in the tradition and history of local cuisine, it explains from the art of fish skewering and the diversity and modernity of the facilities, and their certified and accredited quality," according to the town hall.

"The post includes an interactive map, via Google Maps, which shows the beach bars, divided into four sections according to their specialisation: Fried Fish, Beach Club, Mediterranean and Italiana, with a brief summary of its menu and customer services."



FOR THOSE CAR OWNERS

Saudi magnate's megayacht, one of the world's most luxurious, arrives in Malaga

Lady Moura docked in Malaga's port earlier this week for maintenance and supplies

by IGNACIO LILLO

MÁLAGA. Lady Moura, one of the most luxurious yachts in the world, docked in Malaga port's city centre quay on Monday.

A regular in this part of the Mediterranean, the yacht moored alongside the Palmeral de las Sorpresas apparently on a break for technical reasons and to take in supplies.

The megayacht belongs to Saudi business magnate Nasser Al Rashed, owner of Rasheed Engineering and advisor to Saudi Arabia's royal family.

Measuring 105 metres in length and 20 metres wide, Lady Moura is not one of the largest yachts in the world, but is considered one



Lady Moura attracted the attention of passers-by in Malaga's port earlier this week. **by SALVADOR SALAS**

of the most luxurious. Its name is written in 24 carat gold letters.

Facilities on board include a spa, casino, party room, a helipad, and even an operating theatre.

The yacht was designed by Italian architect Luigi Sturchio and was built at the prestigious German shipyard Blohm+Voss in 1990. Since then it has undergone reno-

vations twice.

Up to 30 people can be accommodated on the yacht, while the crew doubles that figure, at 61. It is based in Palma de Mallorca.

Refuse collectors in Mijas and Alhaurín el Grande begin "indefinite" strike action

by SUR

MÁLAGA. Workers at refuse collection company Urbaser in Mijas and Alhaurín el Grande started an indefinite strike in the early hours of Thursday morning, refusing to collect rubbish over a dispute about working conditions.

The 127 workers (118 in Mijas and the rest in Alhaurín el Grande) are calling for the renegotiation of the collective bargaining agreement ('convenio colectivo') which expired on 31 December last year.

The workers are calling for a three per cent rise in salary, according to the trade union, CC OO. They also want the option to be able to work from Monday to Friday, with special shifts implemented for weekends and cover.

Mijas council edges towards a mayor-swapping coalition: two years for Cs, two years for the PP

A key dilemma is deciding who would be PP mayor in a job-sharing arrangement with Juan Carlos Maldonado (Cs), who refuses to work with Ángel Nozal while he is under investigation

IVÁN GELIBTER

MIJAS. Mijas is one of the few town halls in Spain where there is still no mayor sworn in following May's local elections. Now it is looking more likely that the centre-right Ciudadanos party (Cs) will do a deal with the conservative Partido Popular (PP) after the national leaders of both parties gave permission for the two sides to talk to each other.

No party won an overall majority in the May election in Mijas, so parties must agree a coalition to share



Flashback to the 2015 deal between Nozal (l) and Maldonado (r). :: SUR

the council, or a deal where one party abstains to let a mayor with minority support take charge.

Juan Carlos Maldonado (Cs), with six seats on the 25-seat council is still acting as mayor as he waits to

see who the new mayor will be. But he appears to have overcome his opposition to working with the PP, who won the election in Mijas with nine seats (ahead of PSOE on eight seats). Sources said this week that the

two parties are currently discussing who will get which council departments to oversee. The biggest dilemma is who will be mayor and the sides are believed to be talking about a job-sharing arrangement, where Juan Carlos Maldonado will be mayor for two years followed by a member of the PP for two years, until the end of the fixed four-year term.

The second biggest sticking point is who from the PP will be mayor after two years. Cs has refused to allow former mayor for the PP, Ángel Nozal, into the role. Maldonado broke a coalition pact with Nozal in 2016 a year after the last election, and Nozal is currently a subject of eight separate investigations linked to possible abuse of public office, of fences which he denies.

The investiture of a new council in Mijas has been delayed until 5 July over a separate, internal dispute within hard-right Vox over who is their rightful single councillor.

Final planning permission go-ahead for giant Intu leisure mall

ALBERTO GÓMEZ

TORREMOLINOS. The council in Torremolinos has got the green light from the Junta de Andalucía for its PGOU town plan.

The approval of this complex overarching planning blueprint for the town was the last hurdle to starting work on the 600-million-euro investment from developers Intu. The British firm will transform a large area near the town's conference centre into the Costa's largest leisure complex. A key outstanding issue was the significant improvements needed to access roads and the nearby motorway exit, which are covered at last by the newly-approved PGOU.

The completion of the planning blueprint marks the end of ten years of toing and froing between town hall and Junta and unblocks many new housing developments as well.

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Cervezas Victoria expands Malaga factory to increase production

The works, which have already begun, will cost 1.2 million euros and will allow for the launch of a new range of products

JUAN SOTO

MALAGA. Cervezas Victoria, which first launched in Malaga some 90 years ago, is hoping to continue its upward trajectory by expanding its factory located in the La Azucarera industrial estate close to the city's airport.

Works, which have already begun, will last a total of four months and will allow for a 27 per cent annual increase in production.

The project, expected to be completed by October, will increase the area used for bottling and packaging and also make improvements to the energy efficiency of the entire plant.

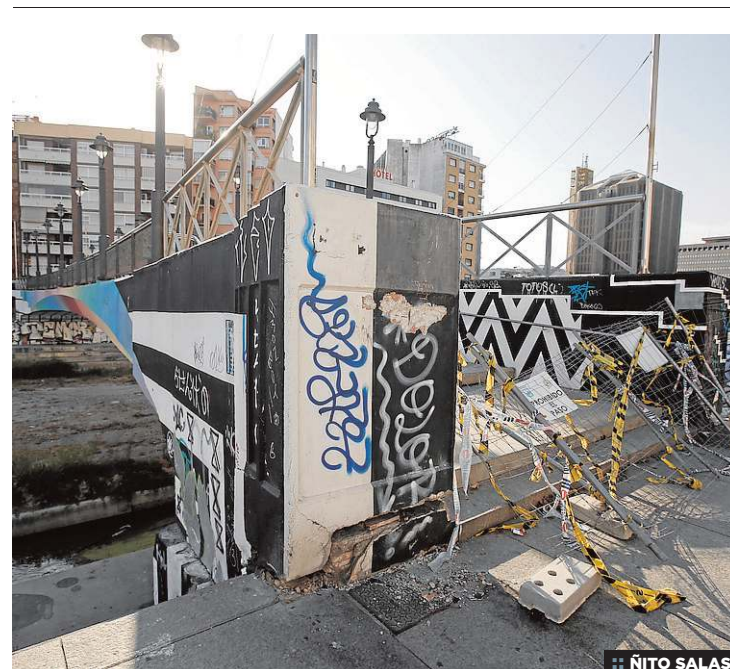


The site of the factory, close to Malaga Airport. :: SALVADOR SALAS

A total of 1.2 million euros has been set aside for the improvements which will allow, according to the company, for the "production of new and exclusive formats

for the province of Malaga".

The factory's normal activities will continue uninterrupted during the period of works, it has been confirmed.



NIÑO SALAS

CITY TO SWAP 'PADLOCK BRIDGE' BY CAC

Some may have crossed it rushing to the main station from the city centre, others might have attached a lovers' padlock. However you know it, the bridge by the CAC modern art centre in Malaga city is to go. The bridge was closed in May due to structural problems and now the council says it's as cheap to replace it completely as repair it. The new one will be a lighter, metal structure and take 18 months.

SAN JUAN IN PICTURES

Fires, music, and midnight fun greet summer

Beaches along the Costa were packed out on Sunday night for the traditional Noche de San Juan celebrations

:: SUR

Thousands of people descended on the beaches of the Costa del Sol on Sunday night to participate in the annual San Juan celebrations.

La Malagueta beach in Malaga city had one of the bigger celebrations with live music and entertainment continuing into the early hours of the morning, while nearby La Misericordia beach had a huge bonfire and a fire-

work display which was visible throughout the area.

Some areas burnt satirical scenes and effigies as part of the ritual of celebrating mid-summer, but there was controversy in Estepona when two of these so-called 'júas' had to be removed. One was deemed offensive and too critical of migrants who arrive by boat; the other critical of hard-right leader of Vox, Santiago Abascal.



As usual, people packed onto Malaga's La Misericordia beach for the celebrations. :: MIGUEL FERNÁNDEZ



A controversial effigy in Estepona. :: SUR



An effigy is burned in Rincón de la Victoria. :: E. CABEZAS



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"Churches can seem to take a very long time to catch up with social changes"

Reverend Nigel Stimpson Anglican priest

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Originally from Cambridge, Father Nigel is the new chaplain at St Andrew's in Los Boliches

FUENGIROLA. St Andrew's Chaplaincy in Fuengirola has recently welcomed its new chaplain, Reverend Nigel Stimpson, a priest who encourages the ordination of women in the Anglican Church and someone who welcomed the definition of marriage to include gay and lesbian relationships.

The Archdeacon of Gibraltar presided at the licensing service which took place at St Andrew's Church in Los Boliches in April, when members of the congregation were able to meet the new priest as he officially took over responsibility for the ministry.

Originally from Cambridge, Father Nigel trained for ordination at the College of the Resurrection in West Yorkshire. He then served two curacies in the Blackburn Dio-

cese on the Fylde coast, before becoming Team Rector of a large parish on the outskirts of Preston. His last appointment saw him in the Balearic Islands, where he spent five years serving in Mallorca.

The Anglican priest told SUR in English of his delight at taking up his new appointment on the Costa del Sol, where he says he is looking forward to new opportunities to serve the local community.

-What do you think of the Costa del Sol so far?

-I am enjoying getting to know the area very much and have already met some interesting and very friendly people. It's good to be here and I am beginning to feel settled and at home.

-Were you sad to leave Mallorca?

-In many ways I was rather sad to leave, but it seemed the right time after nearly five years serving that community. It was a lovely place to live and I felt part of the community in the north of the island, where I was based.

-What are your aspirations for your new position?

-The ministry and work of most clergy is about building up the Church family in each congregation and encouraging them to be active in their wider communities. It's about priest and people working creatively in what we do.

-What do you intend to do at St Andrew's: will you make any



Father Nigel Stimpson is starting to feel at home on the coast. :: SUR

changes?

-The Chaplaincy Council drew up quite a detailed 'Job Description' for their new Chaplain, so in part it's working within that framework, which is very much about building up the four different communities where our congregations

are based. Changes will naturally happen as we work together.

-Why is St Andrew's necessary on the Costa del Sol?

-Anglican chaplaincies in this part of Spain are not something new - there's been an Anglican presence in Malaga since 1850. The demand

for an English-speaking church in this part of the Costa del Sol grew as expats and others started to live and work in the area, and while that has changed quite a bit over the years, the demand is still there.

-What community activities do you offer?

-The Church Centre at Los Boliches is used by a variety of groups from the wider community, offering a space for choirs to rehearse, bridge classes and yoga to name a few, which is good. The church has an ongoing programme of study and prayer groups, which changes as the year moves, and I hope these can be developed.

-Does St Andrew's attract the younger generation, or just the elderly?

-There is a mix of ages in each of the congregations, with some families attending. They tend to be rather fluid gatherings as people come and go, so you could say that they very much reflect the demographics of the communities we serve.

-We live in very difficult times (wars, terrorism etc.), do you think that religion can give people hope?

-Religion is sadly often cited as causing problems - or rather the extreme interpretations of them. But in most faiths there is a strong message of peace, love and hope. But there also has to be a sense of mutual respect for those whose religious practices may be a bit different from our own. It's encouraging to find a really positive ecumenical attitude on the Costa del Sol, helped through the work of Lux Mundi.

-People's attitudes have changed over the years; has the Anglican Church changed with the times?

-Churches can seem to take a very long time to catch up with social changes - basically because we want to think these things through theologically - and the Anglican Church is no exception. Not least because we're a broad church with quite a wide range of views on most things and we want to keep everybody together.

-Do you think that the Anglican Church does enough to encourage the ordination of women?

-I think it was a struggle in the beginning but there seems to be a good number coming forward for selection these days and more senior posts being filled by women too.

-Do you support same-sex marriage?

-This is probably the most contentious question facing the worldwide Anglican Church at the moment (and other churches too), and I'd imagine that members of my congregations will be representative of those views of total support or being totally against. I personally welcomed the expansion of the definition of marriage to include gay and lesbian relationships, when it came into law.

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Graffiti-artist Doger was invited to paint for visitors. :: A.JIMÉNEZ

Summer art fills Marbella

Over 100 artists took part in an interactive street exhibition

Painting, photography and sculpture met over four days at the first 'Festiarte'

ANDREA JIMÉNEZ

MARBELLA. Over 100 artists took part in a new form of exhibition in Marbella last weekend. They had been invited to take part in the first 'Festiarte', an international art festival where participants are encouraged to interact with their audience so visitors can understand the artists and their work.

The main exhibition space was in the pedestrianised Avenida del Mar in the town centre, with white tents lining either side and the painters, photographers and sculptors inside to explain their work.

"I think it's key to these types of events to be able to defend our work and put ourselves in front of potential customers. It's really good that you can ask the author of the work directly," said Roberto Reula, a scul-

tor from Alicante. "The number of visitors is pretty good, with a lot of foreigners."

There was also space for art to be created live. Jonathan Morillas, a graffiti-artist, alias 'Doger', was among those invited to show how they worked.

"A lot of people are congratulating me," said the artist who is originally from Zaragoza but now living in the Malaga area. "Marbella is really well known, I can see a lot of tourism and this initiative is ideal for the town." Two other graffiti artists were also guests creating original works live.

Pedro Ángel Ayala, an artist from Murcia, summed up how many felt about the event. "I've never presented my work in a show and it's a really lovely experience."



One exhibitor's paintings being admired in central Marbella. :: A. J.

Lighthouse grounds get closer to being opened to the public

NIEVES CASTRO

MARBELLA. The council in Marbella is due to vote today (Friday) in favour of a plan to lease the grounds around the town's lighthouse for cultural and informative events.

Councillors need to decide on a budget and accounting change that will allow them to pay rent on the 2,000-square-metre plot around it for up to 15 years. This is above the maximum four-year cycle of budget restrictions permitted by law except in exceptional circumstances.

Once the council meeting gives the go-ahead, the agreement, first announced in April, can be signed with the Port Authority that controls the working lighthouse.

Marbella council also wants to use the gardens and outbuildings to create a space to promote sustainability in the resort.



The promenade lighthouse. :: A. J.

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Concern over potentially toxic smoke after fire breaks out at petrochemical factory

Emergency services received numerous calls to report an explosion and fire at the Indorama plant in San Roque around 3pm Tuesday

:: EFE / D. BARTLETT

SAN ROQUE. Fire brigades from around the Campo de Gibraltar area and elsewhere in Cadiz province had to be brought in to fight a blaze that broke out at around 3pm at the Indorama petrochemical plant in San Roque on Tuesday.

The fire at the plant on the Guadarranque industrial estate produced a huge column of thick black smoke which could be seen for miles.

The Junta de Andalucía activated its Plan de Emergencias Exterior on Tuesday evening, although nearby homes did not have to be evacuated. Five people, however, required treat-



Firefighters worked on the blaze throughout Tuesday evening. :: EFE

ment for smoke inhalation.

The first emergency calls reported the sound of an explosion in a storage warehouse at the Indorama plant, which makes purified terephthalic acid (PTA) for use in the production of polyester.

Gibraltar

When the fire started the wind was from the south and it was hoped that Gibraltar would escape the thick black smoke, but that changed during the afternoon and it began to be blown towards the Rock.

The Gibraltar government issued a warning to stay indoors and keep all windows and doors closed until an analysis had been carried out into the content of the smoke.

In Spain, people were advised to avoid the area if possible. By 6.30pm the fire was reported to be under control and the plume of smoke appeared to be moving west across the Bay and away from the Rock.

The company and authorities said there was no reason to believe the smoke contained toxic chemicals, although this was treated with scepticism by environmental groups, some of the workers at the plant and many local residents.



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Irish tourist is stabbed to death in bottle attack in Fuengirola bar

A 49-year-old British man living in Mijas has been arrested and refused bail in connection with the incident in a popular Irish bar

:: FERNANDO TORRES

FUENGIROLA. A 53-year-old Irish man on holiday with his family died on the evening of Thursday 20 June after reportedly being attacked and stabbed with two broken beer bottles in a popular Irish bar in Fuengirola.

A 49-year-old British man, resident in Mijas, is being held in connection with the death, which apparently occurred after the victim and the alleged attacker, who didn't know each other, got into an argument. The dead man was named as John Pender from Shankill, Co. Dublin by Irish newspapers and friends



John Pender. :: SUR

on social media.

At one point Mr Pender went to the toilet and the other man followed him, according to the National Police, attacking him several times with two broken bottles.

The dead man suffered cuts to sev-

eral parts of the body including one to the neck. He managed to reach the door of the bar where he collapsed. The emergency services were unable to save him and the man died at the scene.

The alleged killer, who has been kept in prison, without bail, under suspicion of murder, attempted to leave the bar after the attack but was held back by security staff until National Police officers arrived and arrested him.

According to police, initial investigations have revealed that the argument started after the alleged attacker, who works as a cook in a Costa restaurant, had been trying to start conversations with several women in the bar and had bothered Mr Pender's wife.

The Irishman was on holiday with his family and, SUR has learned, it appears his grown-up children were sleeping in a nearby apartment at the time of the attack.

112 REPORTS

Five-year-old British boy dies in pool

LA VIÑUELA

:: E. C. A five-year-old British boy died after falling into his grandparents' swimming pool in Los Romanes near La Viñuela on Thursday morning last week. The boy, who apparently did not know how to swim, had been on holiday with his family, who were eating breakfast when they lost sight of him.

Local Police were responding to a call nearby and were first to arrive at the scene, on Calle Las Coberteras in the village.

Officers called for further assistance on finding the boy unconscious and an ambulance and helicopter were sent to the incident. However, despite attempts to revive the child, emergency services were unable to save the boy's life.

The child's grandparents have lived in Los Romanes for more than 30 years. Their son, the boy's father, grew up in Spain, before moving to the UK. The parents also have a two-month-old daughter who was at the house.

This is the eleventh death of a child by drowning in Spain this year. Seven of the incidents have happened in private swimming pools.

Two held after alleged assault of Finnish tourist

FUENGIROLA

:: ALVARO FRÍAS. Two men of Moroccan and Indian nationality were arrested this week and placed under investigation after Local Police were called to help a Finnish tourist allegedly being assaulted.

The incident occurred at 6am on Monday morning after Noche de San Juan in the centre of Fuengirola near the Puerto Deportivo. A passerby reportedly spotted the female visitor being held down by one man and touched by another. The police arrived quickly and were able to arrest the two men, aged 27 and 24. One was still at the scene and the other found nearby.

Police intensify search for missing Romanian woman

A police helicopter was drafted in on Thursday morning to search the area around the building including an olive grove owned by the man's father

✿ E. CABEZAS / A. FRÍAS

ARENAS. Police stepped up the investigation into the missing Romanian woman who lives in Arenas on Wednesday evening, when they conducted a seven-hour search of the property she shares with her partner, Sergio Ruiz and their seven-month old daughter. Ruiz was then taken by car to the police station in Vélez-Málaga where he was questioned for five hours. He was later released without charge and sent home.

On Thursday morning a Guardia Civil helicopter was drafted in to search the area around the couple's house as well as an olive grove owned by the man's father, Esteban Ruiz in the village.

An investigation has been underway since Ruiz reported Dana Leonte, 31, missing to the Guardia Civil on 12 June. Police have taken statements from 15 people but no arrests have been made so far.



Dana Leonte. ✿ SUR

According to Ruiz, Dana fled the country to go back to her native Romania, as she was being "threatened" by money lenders, to whom she was in debt. "She went to the house while I was working, took money and clothes and said she was leaving," Sergio has said. The woman's brother, Florin Leonte, who also lives in the Axarquía, has said that he

knew Dana had debts but not that she was being threatened.

However, the couple are also known to have had ongoing relationship problems and on one occasion Dana is said to have reported Ruiz to the police for domestic violence, although Ruiz's sister, Eva, has told SUR that the complaint has been "archived."

Not normal

Florin Leonte has told SUR that he believes his sister "would never abandon her daughter," because she had "wanted to be a mother for many years." He also believes that Dana wouldn't have returned to Romania as he claims her identity documents are not up to date and therefore she would be unable to leave Spain.

Florin also pointed out that his sister is always using her mobile phone and social networks, so he is "very worried" that her two phones are switched off.

Dana had started running a café in Vélez-Málaga two months before her disappearance. She is described as being around 1.6 metres tall and slim, with long, dark brown hair and brown eyes. She is said to have been wearing black trousers and a black shirt at the time of her disappearance.



Rincón de la Victoria residents queue outside the new pool. ✿ SUR

Complaints as new swimming pool opens for registration

✿ E. C. / J. R.

RINCÓN DE LA VICTORIA. Long queues formed at the new swimming pool in Rincón de la Victoria on Monday morning as residents tried to reserve their places for the facility which is expected to open in mid-September.

Those queuing complained that not only had they been unable to register via the internet, but that they objected to having to pay a 10 euro fee in order to secure their place. The company in charge of managing the facility, Beone Servicio, said that the money would be discounted in the first payment. A message was also sent out via

social networking sites to ask people to pay in cash as the card machine has not yet been set up. The message also advised people to come later in the week, to avoid the lengthy queues. By Wednesday morning one potential user said that when she went to register her family there was "no information" and nobody there to help. "What a disaster," she said.

It is hoped that the covered pool, which has been planned for a decade, will open in mid-September to coincide with the start of the new school year. Beone Servicio asked for "patience" as it dealt with the situation.

HERE AND THERE

A week of activities organised to mark Stonewall anniversary

RINCÓN DE LA VICTORIA

✿ SUR. Rincón de la Victoria has been holding a series of activities this week in the lead up to today's LGBTI+ Pride day, which is being held across the globe to mark the 50th anniversary of the Stonewall riots in New York on 28 June 1969.

Speaking at the programme launch on Monday, deputy mayor, Antonio Fernández, said the objective of the week was to, "inform and give greater visibility to the LGBTI+ collective," and that people should be able to "live with pride and dignity." Three LGBTI+ activists will be recognised in a gala event today.



LGBTI+ Pride, Rincón. ✿ SUR



The dodgem cars. ✿ E. C.

Residents denounce for second time proximity of fairground attraction

ALCAUCÍN

✿ E. C. Residents of the Arco Iris building in Puente don Manuel have complained to Alcaucín town hall over the proximity of dodgem

cars to their properties for a second year running. Residents say that the dodgems, which have been installed ahead of the village's annual fair, raise serious concerns over noise and light pollution as well as health and safety issues. They have demanded to see technical reports, which the town hall says are all in order.

Town hall sends reminder to Brits ahead of Brexit

NERJA

✿ J. R. Nerja council's foreign residents department has reminded Britons who live in the town for more than six months a year to make sure they register as Spanish residents, register with the town hall as well, change UK driving licences for Spanish ones and to do tax returns in Spain ahead of Brexit.

Baby born in car on the way to Axarquía hospital

LA VIÑUELA

✿ A. P. A mother from Mondrón and her baby are doing well after the woman went into labour two weeks earlier than expected and didn't have time to get to the Axarquía hospital to give birth. The woman and her husband had got to Puente don Manuel when her waters broke and she gave birth to a boy in the car.

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Kevin Warwick: "Brain to brain communication will change everything"

NURIA TRIGUERO

✉ ntriguero@diariosur.es

The British scientist analysed the present and future of artificial intelligence at a forum organised in Malaga by SUR and BBVA OpenMind

MALAGA. Kevin Warwick talks about connecting the human mind to machines, of communicating between ourselves directly brain to brain and expanding our sensory, physical and intellectual capacities through technological implants. These sound like science fiction, but he has already tested them in experiments.

The scientist, engineer and cybernetics professor at Reading University has turned himself into a 'cyborg': a radiofrequency chip is implanted into his hand and he uses it to control the lighting and other devices in his office, and with a more complex group of electrodes in his arm he uses a robotic hand situated on the other side of the Atlantic Ocean and exchanges brain signals with his wife, who has the same implant.

Warwick recently explained his research and how artificial intelligence can change our lives, at a conference organised by Diario SUR and OpenMind, the scientific informa-



Kevin Warwick has turned himself into a 'cyborg'. :: SUR

tion portal of BBVA. The conference, titled 'Artificial intelligence: present and future', was held at the Pompidou Centre in Malaga.

Speaking straightforwardly and with a sense of humour, Warwick explained his research into brain-computer interface, through which the human nervous system communicates with different types of computers. He believes that in the future, the frontier between people and machines will become blurred, and human beings will be "enhanced" with sensors and electrodes which will en-

able them to overcome their "numerous limitations". For example, one of his students had an implant with ultrasonic sensors which enabled him to detect the proximity of an object without using sight or hearing.

Another limitation which Kevin Warwick is trying to overcome, and the more decisive in his opinion, is communication. He says telepathy, or brain-to-brain communication, is possible and will change everything. He has achieved a first step. His wife has a similar electrode to his own and they established a purely electronic

communication between the nervous systems of two human beings. They were only telegraphic signals, but served to demonstrate his theory. Through the same electrode, Warwick's nervous system was connected to internet at the University of Columbia in New York, and from there it was able to control a robotic arm at Reading University and obtain a response from sensors in the fingers. "In the future we'll be able to connect ourselves to cars and buildings," he said. "The mind and body don't have to be in the same place".

Intelligent assistants, the future of banking

The forum organised by SUR and OpenMind BBVA's director of engineering, Luis Javier Blas, analysed the challenges and opportunities generated by artificial intelligence, big data and other technological advances for the banking sector. "Intelligent assistants are the next step. They will enable us to attend to clients better because they will use all the knowledge obtained from the data and every interaction with each specific client to provide what they need," he said. "We have been aware for some time that our competition is not going to be other banks, but technology companies. However, we still believe offices and personal attention are important".

Warwick's research also has therapeutic applications. For example, through stimulating the brain with electric currents he has successfully stopped the trembling and other symptoms of a patient with Parkinson's. He now wants to create a device which predicts (through artificial intelligence) when the stimulus is necessary and applies the signals before the shaking occurs.

With regard to the ethical implications, he is aware of people's concern but says "If they are doing something in China, although it doesn't seem ethical to us we really need to research it and maybe use it differently. If facial recognition can be used to detect when one person is going to kill another, that person can be detained before he commits the crime. So the question is, do we want him to be detained, or not use facial recognition?" he says.

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Supreme Court increases sentence in high-profile 'wolfpack' sex case

Campaigners for women's rights celebrate as the six men from Seville, who were free on bail, are arrested and sent to prison for 15 years

■ SUR

MADRID. The Supreme Court has changed the initial trial verdict in the high-profile 'La Manada' (wolfpack) case and increased the sentence. Its decision last Friday brought widespread public praise, especially from women's rights groups.

The six friends from Seville who had been accused of repeatedly sexually attacking a woman in July 2016 during the San Fermin festival in Pamplona, northern Spain, were each given 15 years. One of the men will face extra time in jail for stealing the victim's mobile phone.

The original sentence after the men's trial in Pamplona made headlines for stating that the lesser offence of sexual abuse applied. The decision was upheld by a local appeal court last year, although the judge's panel had been split over it.

There were widespread street protests at the time and outrage at the apparent leniency of the sentence.



Women's groups celebrate at the Supreme Court after the verdict. ■ EFE

The Supreme Court has now overturned the original verdict. In its explanation of the decision, the Madrid-based court argued that the men were lucky not to have had each attack treated separately and have had their sentences lengthened to 150 years each.

The case centred on the friends who had labelled themselves 'La Manada', wolfpack in English, in a WhatsApp group ahead of visiting Pamplona. They came across the 18-

year-old woman in the street late at night before going with her into the doorway of a block of flats.

Mobile phone recordings were made by the men which were used as evidence. The Supreme Court said the victim had been too terrified to shout out while the attack took place, adding it felt that violence and intimidation had taken place.

Once the revised verdict was announced, the six men, who had been free on bail, were arrested.

Sánchez searching for way to win MPs' vote on next PM

Unidas Podemos wants ministerial positions in return for supporting the PSOE

■ SUR

MADRID. It looked increasingly likely this week that Pedro Sánchez, winner of April's general election with his PSOE party, would not secure a majority of MPs' votes to be the next prime minister in July's investiture debate in the Congreso.

Sánchez, who is acting PM in the meantime, has been in negotiations with Unidas Podemos to add the

support of its MPs to his own 123. Sánchez wants a government of collaboration, with second-level ministerial jobs going to some Unidas Podemos members. However, leader, Pablo Iglesias, is holding out for some full ministerial positions.

The Partido Popular and Ciudadanos parties have refused to abstain in the investiture debate due in mid-July to allow in a minority PSOE government.

Unidas Podemos said this week that they believed Sánchez would fail in the July vote and renegotiate with them to secure a government in another, September vote.



Iglesias (c) and his team met union leaders to discuss policy. ■ EFE

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A fund invests 200 million euros in the Costa del Sol property sector

The Velum Group's latest project is a development of eight luxury villas situated in the Río Verde area near Puerto Banús, 700m from the beach

■ HÉCTOR BARBOTTA

MARBELLA. The recovery of the property sector is once again attracting capital from a wide variety of sources and the Costa del Sol has become highly attractive to investors again. The Velum Group investment fund, which is of Russian origin, is currently developing projects worth more than 200 million euros and has just officially presented one of them, 'Los Palacetes de Banús', consisting of luxury villas in the Río Verde area of Marbella, 700 metres from the beach at Puerto Banús.

The group is in the process of building five developments in Spain, four of them on the Costa del Sol and one on the Costa Brava. It began by exploiting oil wells in

the former Soviet Union but later, after the fall of the socialist system, its members invested in different sectors of the European economy, principally in finance.

It was not until three years ago that they decided to venture into the field of property, and to focus on the Spanish Mediterranean coast.

The company, which set up in Spain in 2016, is based in Marbella and has an investment plan of over 200 million euros. It has 245,000 square metres of land on which to build.

The presentation of Los Palacetes de Banús took place on the site where they are going to build eight luxury villas, all in contemporary style but all different, designed by architect Oscar García De La Peña

The company, which began by exploiting Soviet oil wells, set up in Spain in 2016

of Estudio Arquim. Each villa will be more than 1,000 square metres in size plus another 500 square metres of terraces, porches and gardens. The prices are around five and a half to six million euros. The project already has a works licence and the properties are expected to be ready by 2021.

La Finca de Marbella

Another of the group's projects on the Golden Mile is 'La Finca de Marbella', a development of 104 villas whose first and second phases have been completed. The third phase will be ready in 2021.

The Velum Group is also building 'Alcala Valley' in La Cala de Mijas, which consists of 220 apartments. These are also expected to be completed in 2021. The fourth project is an exclusive residential hotel frontline to the sea in El Saladillo, Estepona. It will be run by an international group.

The only development outside Malaga province is 'Albacsari Villas' on the Costa Brava, consisting of 18 houses. The first phase is due to be completed next year.



A model of the 'Los Palacetes de Banús' development ■ SUR

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BUSINESS AS USUAL



Political uncertainty continues to reign supreme in Spain, but the economic effects have so far been minimal to non-existent. In fact, so unconcerned is the Bank of Spain about the current - and very familiar - governmental vacuum that it's raised its growth forecast for this year, from the 2.2% it predicted in March to a slightly-more-rosy 2.4%. In announcing the increase earlier this month, the Bank's Head of Research, Óscar Arce, said that there were still potential risks to Spain's GDP expansion over the next couple of years, such as Brexit and uncertainty about the Chinese economy. The fact that the country is currently without a government, on the other hand, was barely worth a mention.

It's fortunate that Spain's GDP seems able to take care of itself, as there is no end in sight to the current political deadlock: the first investiture vote for Pedro Sánchez as the next prime minister is unlikely to take place before mid-July. To win that vote, the acting premier needs an absolute majority of 176 - but Unidas Podemos leader Pablo Iglesias, dissatisfied with his ongoing negotiations with Sánchez, hinted this week that that's unlikely to happen. If Sánchez does lose the first round, everything grinds to a halt for the summer break and a second vote will be held in September, where only a simple majority (more votes for than against) is required for victory.

Meanwhile, Spain's economy will continue to expand as normal and, as is always the case over the summer months, employment levels will rise due to a spike in seasonal work, mainly in the hospitality sector. That doesn't mean, though, that the country's troublesome unemployment level is falling in a sustainable manner. Tackling that problem will be one of the most pressing tasks for the next government, whenever it eventually arrives (and there might well be another general election before it does).

The Bank of Spain has also recently expressed concerns about employment levels, but for an entirely different reason. Its researchers have predicted that Sánchez's 22% hike in the minimum wage, announced this January, could result in the loss of 125,000 jobs. That would rather defeat the point of introducing the raise in the first place, but it's best not to take this gloomy forecast too seriously. Admitting that it's far from a definitive statistic, Arce said earlier this month that "we don't have a crystal ball".

You don't need a crystal ball or telepathic powers, though, to predict that political confusion is likely to characterise the rest of this year in Spain, just as it did in 2016 after the inconclusive general election of December 2015. In the meantime, the economy continues to expand at a consistently impressive pace despite the absence of its supposed stewards. It's business as usual, in other words.

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Gibraltar creates an artificial nest to attract peregrine falcons

There are peregrines on the Rock but they don't usually nest on buildings, although they do so in cities in other parts of the world.

DEBBIE BARTLETT

GIBRALTAR. An artificial nest for falcons has been built and placed on top of a tall building at King's Wharf, in a joint environmental project by the Gibraltar government, an NGO and private developers and contractors.

Peregrine falcons are no strangers to Gibraltar, in fact seven pairs nest there regularly, but not on buildings. Environment minister John Cortes is pretty sure they will like the new invention. "However you feel about tall buildings, it is important that we use the opportunity they can provide to enhance urban wildlife. To a bird of prey, or a swift, what they see is a new cliff springing up, and for them they provide nesting opportunities, as long as we ensure that we cater for them in the new space created," he says.

The idea came about when, during a regular survey of urban wild-



The artificial nest is ready for new occupants :: SUR

life, Albert Yome, a member of GONHS (Gibraltar Ornithological and Natural History Society), spotted a peregrine falcon frequently using one of the cranes on the King's Wharf development as a hunting perch and mentioned this to Cortes, who is himself a keen birder. He suggested providing a nest nearby, and the developer willingly agreed to do so. The developer has already provided 24 artificial nests for swifts and is planning to

add more shortly.

The artificial nest is within the territory of one of the cliff-nesting pairs, but peregrines, like other birds of prey, will use alternative nest sites, and this one provides that possibility. It is also possible that kestrels, (another, smaller species of falcon that also nests on the Rock), may also consider the site to be suitable. The nest is ready for a new tenant. "Let's see when and whether they move in!" says John Cortes.

Shell applies for LNG bunkering licence at the port

D. BARTLETT

GIBRALTAR. The energy giant Shell is applying for an LNG bunkering licence at Gibraltar port, it was announced this week. Under a supply agreement signed between Shell and the Gibraltar government in 2016, the company delivers gas via ship to an LNG terminal for use in the plant which supplies electricity to the local population. A small-scale carrier supplies LNG to the Gibraltar terminal approximately twice a month during the night, to minimise any disruption to port activities.

Arjan Stavast of Shell told dele-

gates at the maritime conference that any LNG bunkering will be entirely separate from activities related to the LNG power plant, and LNG fuel supply at the port will only be carried out by ship-to-ship transfer.

The Minister for the Port, Gilbert Licudi, said he was pleased about the application. "LNG is a cleaner fuel with significantly less emissions than conventional marine fuels. Any steps taken to improve environmental efficiency must be positive news. We acknowledge the trust and confidence that Shell continues to place on the Port of Gibraltar," he said.

New pedestrian security barriers in the town centre are shaped like the Rock of Gibraltar

DEBBIE BARTLETT

GIBRALTAR. The security barriers to prevent attacks by vehicles in key areas of the town have just been replaced with new, more decorative ones shaped like the

Rock of Gibraltar. The barriers, known as 'Jersey barriers', are aimed at protecting pedestrians in Casemates Square, Main Street, Governor's Lane and Cloister Ramp. The decision to replace the existing ones was the positive response from local residents and visitors to the more ornate barriers which were placed at Chatham Counterguard last November.

The new Jersey barriers are designed to beautify and enhance the town area, whilst still providing the necessary protection to pedestrians.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The token foreign candidate

I have enjoyed your pages and pages of coverage of the local elections on the Costa del Sol in recent weeks. Well, perhaps enjoyed is not quiet the right word. Endured would be more accurate, which is not really the fault of your publication. Rather, there are simply so many town halls in the area that even a cursory overview can stretch to the length of a roll of loo paper.

Once one has worked out all the main characters in each piece of theatre being played out in a town hall near you - who is the villain, who is the hero and who is the pantomime dame -, as well as deciphering which party is which and what horrors they wish to subject us to, one notices something rather curious.

Lots of wide-eyed candidates from the foreign resident communities (who graciously are al-

lowed to vote) were wheeled out ahead of the elections. Then once the elections are over, their names are fewer and further between. What has happened is these poor creatures were so far down the electoral lists that even where a party won, these token foreigners are not blessed with a real council seat.

Come on town halls, next time round let's get more dynamic, multicultural residents into your monthly council meetings. Come on us foreign residents, let's start planning on how we can give back to our communities in time for the 2023 council election and ensure we are taking a bigger place at the top table of local politics. We have plenty of time to get ready.

ANDREW ROBINSON
MIJAS

ID documents

I read the amusing article by Peter Edgerton in Edition 21/6/19. However, I was surprised he referred to his EU Citizen Registration Certificate, green paper, as his ID document. Printed on that certificate, whether the A4 or credit card sized one, it says clearly it is not an ID.

I know we often "get away with a Driving Licence, or a

copy of this or that" but in Spain the only legal ID UK nationals have is their original passport or a copy of it certified by the British Consulate or by the UK passport office.

So anyone going to an official place, a notary, court, police station, etc. should take their original passport if they do not want a problem.

JULIAN WARD
BY EMAIL

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The Duke of Cambridge said on Wednesday that he would be "absolutely fine" if one of his three children came out, but admitted that because of their roles he would be "worried about barriers and persecution." It would be nice to think that the rest of society would embrace the idea of a gay royal, or better, simply not bat an eyelid.

Today, Spain along with other countries around the world is holding events to mark exactly 50 years since New York's Stonewall riots and it is heartening to see that along with some young royals, town halls in the province are actively supporting their LGBTI+ communities.

The Stonewall riots were seen as the most important event leading to the modern fight for LGBTI+ rights

in the United States, which had a knock-on effect in other countries and Spain was one of the first countries in the world to legalise same sex marriage in 2005.

Rincón de la Victoria is holding a gala event today, where three local activists are to be recognised for their

work with the LGBTI+ community and Malaga town hall's logo appears on a poster advertising a LGBTI+ Pride gathering starting on the city's Plaza de la Constitución this evening. With elections finished for another four years, it seems that some politicians don't just see their support as a vote-

Pride and prejudice

JENNIE RHODES

10,000 maniacs

PETER EDGERTON
MUSIC MAKER WWW.E-PETER.COM

If you want to become expert at something, ten thousand hours' practice will do the trick. Or so they say, anyway. This is one of those affirmations that somebody makes in a book or on TV one day and if they're wearing a white coat or glasses or both, people just presume it must be true, especially if there's no research or evidence to the contrary readily available.

One day, I might just put a pair of spectacles on and do a series of television interviews claiming that eating two raw Brussels sprouts with chopsticks every day for five years improves your IQ.

By the time everyone discovers that this is utter tosh, I'll have sold five million copies of my book Sprouting Neurons and will have retired happily to Bognor Regis, which is presumably what every-

body who's lived most of their adult life in Spain does in the end.

Back to the ten thousand hours thing, though. This is the equivalent of practising something for two and a half hours a day for ten years, or an hour and a bit for twenty.

At first glance it makes sense - that's probably what Paul McCartney did before he wrote Yesterday and what Justin Bieber most certainly didn't prior to unleashing his records on an unsuspecting world.

Look a little closer, however, and the theory begins to look a lot more shaky. According to my calculations, cooking for forty-five minutes a day over the last thirty years should have made me Jamie Oliver in the kitchen, rather than Oliver Hardy. Alas, the latter is far nearer the mark, I'm

afraid.

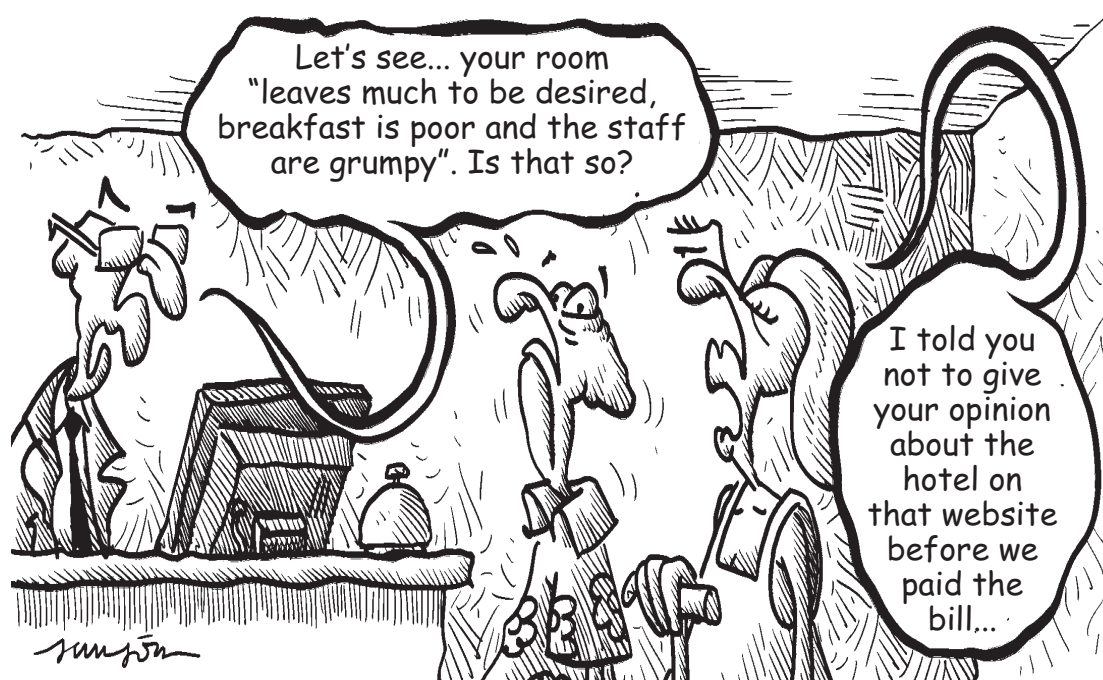
An even better example of this is to be found on our roads. All those drivers who, having invested their ten thousand hours behind the wheel, far from becoming experts, are still struggling to understand that checking your Twitter feed at fifty miles per hour in heavy traffic is the work of a lunatic.

Likewise cyclists - all that practice and no concept of what a pavement or a zebra crossing is actually for.

No, you may rest easy. Becoming an expert at something is not a question of hotheadedness or to within an inch of your life, rather having an innate talent and dedicating a reasonable amount of time to developing it.

Right, I'm off. It's time for my sprouts.

SANSÓN



winner.

Yet, it's still heartbreaking to think that 50 years after the events that took place at the Stonewall Inn, homophobia is still very present and appears to be on the rise again.

Last month images of a lesbian couple who had been beaten up by a group of men on a London bus because they allegedly refused to kiss each other went viral on social media and even made the Spanish news and closer to home, a newly elected Vox councillor in Torremolinos was forced to leave the party days after the local elections having been seen to support the town's Pride festival - an act which flies in the face of the party's homophobic views.

The party's leader, Santiago Abascal, has been recorded saying that the party believes, "marriage is the un-

ion between a man and woman", and that a different word should be used to describe same-sex marriage. In 21st century Spain, while on paper homosexual couples now enjoy the same rights held by straight couples for centuries, has this kind of discourse led to a rise in homophobic incidents?

Are these examples just coincidence or am I right in fearing the worst? It seems it's hard to tell which way things will go. On the one hand many public figures are speaking out about dignity and respect towards others, while others are actively trying to quash those same values.

Wouldn't it be wonderful if by Stonewall's 60th anniversary all communities could mark the occasion without "barriers and persecution" regardless of their status in society or sexual orientation?

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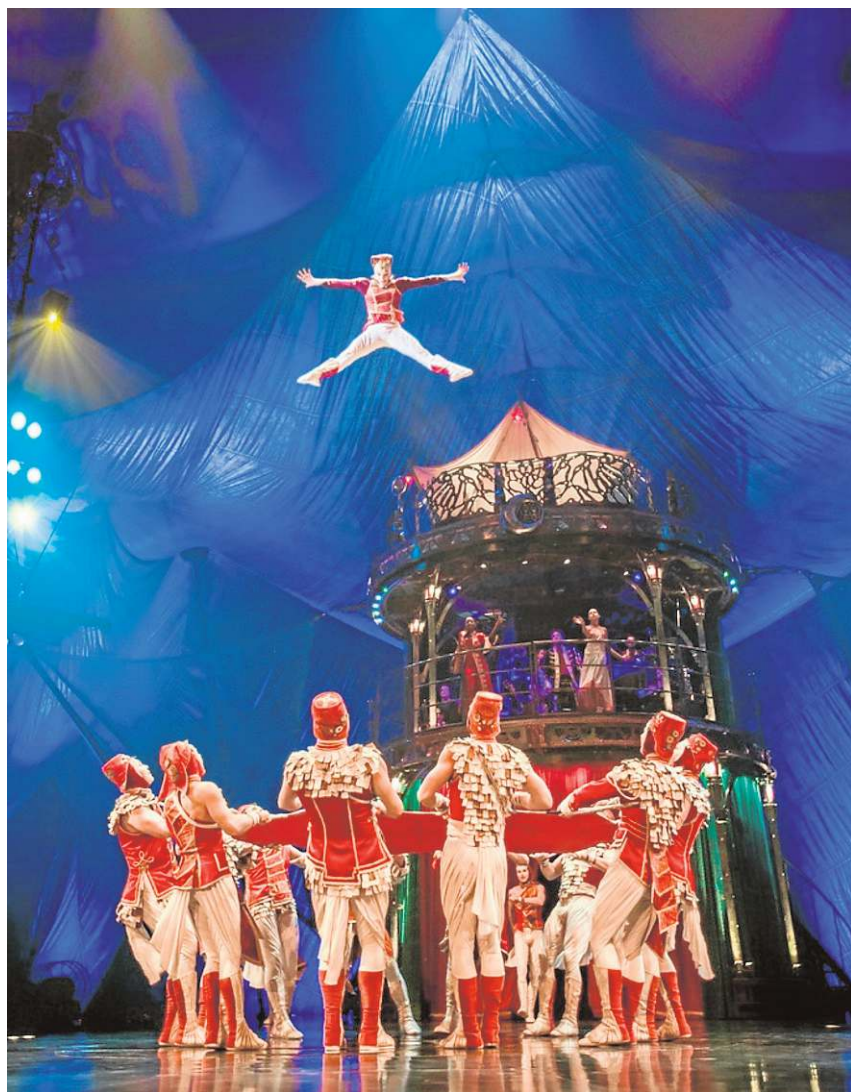
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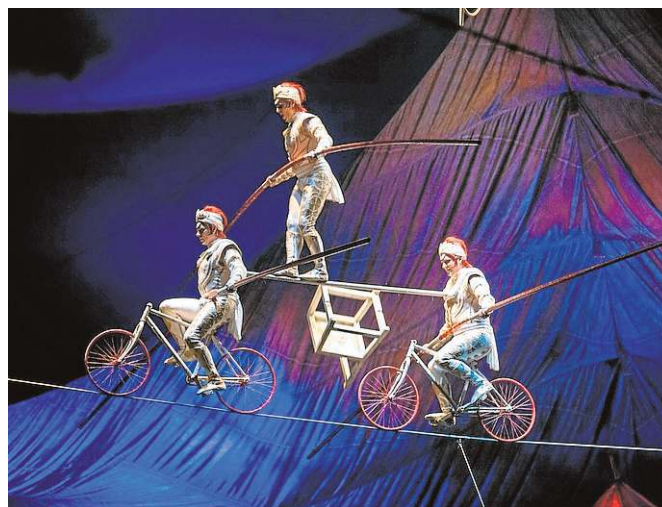
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Kooza includes some spectacular jumps. :: MATT BEARD



The Ba-ta-clan structure dominates the stage. :: M. BEARD



The impressive act on the slack rope. :: MATT BEARD

IN DETAIL

In Malaga

Dates: 13 to 29 September.**Where:** Cortijo de Torres fair-ground.**Tickets:** On sale from 34.95 at www.cirquedusoleil.com.

The show

The team: 'Kooza' employs 122 people, 50 of them acrobats and musicians.**Grand Chapiteau:** 85 people are needed to put the marquee up. It is 20 metres high and 51 metres in diameter.**The tour:** 95 containers transport around 1,000 tonnes of materials.

ing so close to others. "Sometimes it's very hard, you have to step back a bit because you see somebody who is like a brother to you doing something very dangerous. The artists take risks; I have to transmit confidence and security to them," he says.

The risk is part of the traditional circus which hides behind the curtains of the Ba-ta-clan, the large structure that dominates the Kooza stage. A mobile machine with different heights (the highest of all those created for the Canadian company) serves as a door onto a colourful universe in which there is magic, laughter and, above all, tension.

The Quirós Domínguez brothers from Madrid keep the audience's hearts pounding as they wander along tightropes at two heights with no harness or any type of protection. The safety net is only used minutes afterwards when they cross the slack rope on bicycles. In terms of danger they are competing with the daring acrobats on the Wheel of Death: while one double wheel turns several metres above the ground, they run and almost fly in and out of it before the astonished faces of the audience.

Just as it seems the situation is as extreme as it can get, even more difficult things happen. For example the acrobat who supports all the weight of his body on one hand on top of eight chairs standing one on top of the other. Or the gymnast on stilts who lands after jumping ten metres from a trampoline.

Kooza sparks those same feelings of admiration, surprise and stupefaction caused by the original circuses, and includes classic numbers that demonstrate human skills with the aerial hoop or unicycle. To relax the atmosphere there are three clowns, the "buffoons of the Kooza kingdom" who connect with the public from the first moment of the show. "They contribute in a very special way to our return to the excitement of the original circus," says tour manager Shalini Marimuthu.

The Cirque du Soleil means precision, coordination and impact, enveloped within a modern and universal set whose design cannot be classified but has recognisable Indian and Moorish touches. Just like the music, world rhythms ranging from funk to orchestral. The drum solo by Australian Paul Butler is spectacular.

"That's why I believe this show will go down well in Spain, it is very loyal to tradition but at the same time has progressed a great deal," says Lindenburg.

Kooza: this is real circus

El Cirque du Soleil returns to its original essence in Malaga in September

The daring acrobatics and presence of numerous clowns takes the show back to the origins of circus art

:: REGINA SOTORRÍO

VALENCIA. In the beginning there were no special effects or high-technology systems; there was just a man risking his life on a rope with no safety net above dozens of frightened faces, a woman amazing the audience with her impossible contortions and a clown making them laugh with his exaggerated gestures.

That's how circus used to be, and that is Kooza now, a journey back to the origins of the Cirque du Soleil with daring acrobatics and plenty of clowns. In fact it was the brainchild of one of their number, actor and clown David Shiner. The Canadian company recently began its Kooza tour of Spain in Valencia, and this 12th show in the company's history will also be in Malaga from 13 to 29 September.

In Valencia, an hour before the gasps of the public resound around the Grand Chapiteau, there is silence behind the scenes. Beside the hangers and shelves which hold nearly 1,000 items of costume which will be used during the show, two artists whose faces are already made-up



►▲ Inside the artists' tent.

An hour before the show, the artists prepare on the other side of the stage with stretches and relaxation techniques. One corner of the tent is used to store all the items of costume which will be used in the show.

:: R. S.



stretch, other gymnasts warm up with weights while a colleague powders his face in front of the mirror. Some are just lying with their eyes closed and arms outstretched on the mat, seeking a moment of relaxation before the adrenalin starts to flow.

A glimpse backstage

The Cirque du Soleil doesn't normally open this private space to the media so close to the start of the performance but today, they insist, they are making an exception. There is maximum concentration. We are not allowed to talk to them or interfere with their exercises. We are mute witnesses to the way they prepare their bodies and minds for what is to come.

"It's dangerous, it's strange and it's exciting," says management assistant Jaime Lindenburg about the show. After ten years as a singer with the Cirque du Soleil, he has now "crossed to the other side of the stage curtain" to head a team of 50 artists of 26 different nationalities. He jokes that it is a "dysfunctional" family, and says that sometimes there are disadvantages in be-

Charity celebrates a quarter of a century with cathedral concert

The Cappella Nova choir helped mark 25 years of the Lux Mundi centre in Torre del Mar

== SUR IN ENGLISH

MÁLAGA. The Torre del Mar Lux Mundi centre recently celebrated its 25th anniversary with a concert in Malaga Cathedral.



The audience listened to the choir in Malaga Cathedral. == SUR

The Cappella Nova Choir sang a varied repertoire including Te Deum, hymns and psalms and a violinist and pianist from the orchestra played a piece of music by Tomaso Antonio Vitali.

The audience's enjoyment of the concert was enhanced by the acoustics in the cathedral.

Gloria Uribe, the administrator of Lux Mundi, thanked everyone who attended the concert or made it possible. She gave a special mention to the Bishop Jesús Catalá Ibáñez and the Dean Antonio Aguilera for allowing the use of the cathedral.

Uribe also thanked the orchestra, the Cappella Nova Choir and their director, Daniel Tepper.

Walking football tournament adds further 305 euros to Sarah's Fund

== SUR IN ENGLISH

MIJAS. Walking Football Spain's recent Mini Charity Tournament in La Cala de Mijas raised 305 euros for the fund to buy new prosthetic limbs for local girl Sarah Almagro.

The tournament saw newcomers Smiles Fuengirola claim victory in the final against much-fancied Benahavis, 3-1.

The players and their guests then joined an audience at Our Bar in Calahonda for a traditional 'football pie'



Larry Lloyd told stories in his own inimitable way. == SUR

and a quiz.

Ex-Liverpool, Coventry and Nottingham Forest legend Larry Lloyd then rounded off the evening with humorous anecdotes from his career.

The funds were raised from a com-

bination of pitch fees (La Cala Lions allowed the use of the facilities free of charge), a very generous donation by Smiles who gave their 50 euros for winning the tournament to the fund and 140 euros from a raffle.

Photography competition focuses on the scars left by the real estate boom

The competition aims to highlight the negative impact of abandoned building projects

== TONY BRYANT

MÁLAGA. The Clic Clac Photographic Association and online legal experts Lexlegis have organised the second edition of the photographic competition, Ghost Urbanisations, under the banner of 'Scars of the Real Estate Bubble'. The competition, which is open to both professional and amateur photographers, will focus on the half-built or abandoned developments that blot the landscapes of the Levante and the Costa del Sol.

The competition aims to highlight the negative consequences and impacts generated by abandoned urbanisation projects on different stretches of the Span-

ish coastline.

Each participant may submit up to three colour or black and white photographs, no bigger than 40 x 50 cm. The images must be the property of the participant and delivered on high quality photographic paper. All images must be presented without mountings and submitted before 30 December 2019.

The competition offers cash prizes of up to 300 euros and the winners will be announced during a special presentation night in February 2020.

The jury will be selected by the Clic Clac Photographic Association and will consist of professionals and specialists of the photographic sector.

i More information and rules:
info:lexlegis@lexlegis.org



Abandoned projects are the focus of the competition. == SUR



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SOCIETY SCENE

Fundraising, awards and a gala dinner

Live Indian music and dancing at the Diksha gala dinner raised money for deprived Indian children

:: SUR IN ENGLISH

Diksha Spain

Charity Gala Dinner

The fifth edition of the annual Diksha Charity Gala Dinner, organised by the Association Diksha Spain, was held on 15 June at the Hotel Los Monteros in Marbella. Dr Jovanka Manojlovic, President of the Association, organised the event with the help of a team of volunteers. About 150 guests attended, including business owners and doctors and a raffle was held with prizes donated by local clinics, hospitals, hotels, restaurants, artists, shops and other businesses. The guests enjoyed live Indian music and dancing by Devi Diosa (Maria Sánchez Rulevskaya, Devi Diosa, Sylvia Shazadi and Saeed Khan). This was followed by a presentation by project coordinator

Annette Taphorn who detailed the association's achievements and future plans. Around 6,500 euros was raised in total which will go to help deprived children in India. Contact via www.asociaciondiksha.com/sponsor or 650752691.

Adana

Walk helps pay vet bills

Dog lovers have raised 250 euros for the Estepona dog shelter Adana (Association for the Rights of Abandoned Animals) by doing a 7km walk, Ash Bolton reports.

The event saw 25 walkers and their dogs make their way from the Palacio de Congresos to Estepona Port and back. Brit Michele Yanez-Bowker, 48, who has organised a number of walks for various local charities since last October and is an ex-president of Adana, told SUR in English: "The money will be spent on vet bills as they have just paid for a leg operation for a dog named Chardonnay. We are delighted to help Adana as we appreciate the voluntary work they do in our community and acknowledge that without donations they could not exist as they receive no govern-



Margaret Bobowicz with winners, staff and La Cala de Mijas Lions Club members. :: SUR

ment funding."

The money was raised by a 10-euro suggested donation to take part in the walk.

Michele, who is originally from London and has lived in Spain for 10 years, added: "Adana currently have a few seriously ill dogs. They all need special food, which is 85 euros a bag, and they need special medical attention. The dogs cannot be adopted until they are healthy and the medical treatment may take several months. The money will help to pay those bills, which is nothing to do with the normal running costs."

Michele has organised multiple walks in the past eight months that

have raised money for local causes including Heart Animal Rescue Estepona, The Royal British Legion and Asociación Gatos de Manilva. www.adana.es or facebook.com/funandfund.

La Cala de Mijas Lions Club Awards for students

Four students from Mijas secondary school IES Torre Almenara and six from IES La Cala received recognition from the Lions Club for their personal efforts to support their local community, family and colleagues. They received plaques and prizes of 100 euros each. The plaques were made by Encina Laura, an association

for people with intellectual disabilities, which has made these awards since 2017 when the club began recognising deserving young people to mark Lions International's 100-year celebrations. Margaret Bobowicz, the president of the La Cala de Mijas Lions Club, presented the prizes and congratulated the students on their achievement.

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

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REF. A. L. O.

I have a problem with my phone company. I signed a contract with a certain rate, but for the last three months I have been being charged a different rate, which is more expensive. In one of the many calls I made, I was told that the rate I had contracted no longer existed, and that was the reason why I was paying a differ-

ent rate. I have never been notified of this change, and I have not accepted it. What can I do? I am thinking of stopping paying the invoices, but I do not know if it would help.

Stopping paying the bill is useless, because in the end there are always more problems. The company could cut the line, suspend the service and still claim the amounts owed, through annoying phone calls, recovery companies, or including your data in a debtors' list. The telephone companies are obliged to notify their clients when they decide to eliminate certain rates or change them, so that the client has the opportunity to decide whether to continue with a new rate or cancel the contract with the company. If you have not been notified, you should file a written complaint with the company's customer service department, detailing why you do not agree with the amounts billed to you.

If after one month you do not receive a reply from the company, you should go to the Consumer Arbitration Offices or the General Communications Secretariat. If after this step you do not get an answer, or you are not satisfied with the decision they make, there will be no choice but to go to court.

REF. C. A. C.

I am working as an intern taking care of an old woman. I was hired by one of her daughters, but she has had a car accident and is in a coma, and I have not been paid for two months. What can I do?

The deadline for filing a claim is one year, so you must file a conciliation claim before that year passes. If the woman does not recover, you will have to wait, leave your job so as not to continue working without being paid, or talk to the rest of the family for an alternative solution.

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Guests at the Diksha Spain Charity Gala Dinner. :: SUR



Walkers who raised funds for Adana. :: SUR

IN THE FRAME

A new chair with a promise of fun

Alfie Fornear was elected Chairman of Nerja's 41 Club in April and will hold the title for a year.

Alfie has been a member of the club, which is one of the town's most well-established organisations, since he and his wife, Angela, first came to live in Spain 14 years ago. The couple spend half of the year in the village of Sayalonga in the Axarquía, returning to the UK and their home near Bristol for the rest of the year to be with their children and five grandchildren. Alfie explains that when he's in the UK he's also an active member of the Mendip 41 Club.

"Our love of Spain started when we stayed for a holiday with friends and caught the bug," explains Alfie.

Home and abroad

Alfie, 73, is originally from Morpeth, Northumberland, but he moved to Bristol when he was 19 to attend Bristol University Dental School, where he studied for five years. He then stayed in the area most of his working life, where he worked for the NHS, running three dental practices. Following a car crash when he was 50, Alfie explains, he was "pensioned off."

For 14 years of his working life, the former dentist explains that his "main hobby" was the Round Table movement until he had to leave, at the age of 40, due to the age rule. "This rule ensured that everyone left at the AGM after their fortieth birthday to keep the movement young," explains Alfie, who adds, "The idea of Round Table was to help people in need whilst having a lot of fun doing it."

When he and Angela moved to the area, Alfie wasted no time in joining the local club, where there was already a good number of ex-Round Table members who had decided to form a group in Nerja. "After some advertising, 14 ex-Tablers from Nerja and the surrounding area met and decided to form our Nerja Club 15 years ago this year," Alfie explains.

Nerja 41 Club has 45 members from 10 different countries through-

out Europe who are all former Round Tablers. The chairman explains that like him, not many members live in Spain full time so he says they have become somewhat of a "drop-in club" with members attending as many meetings as they can.

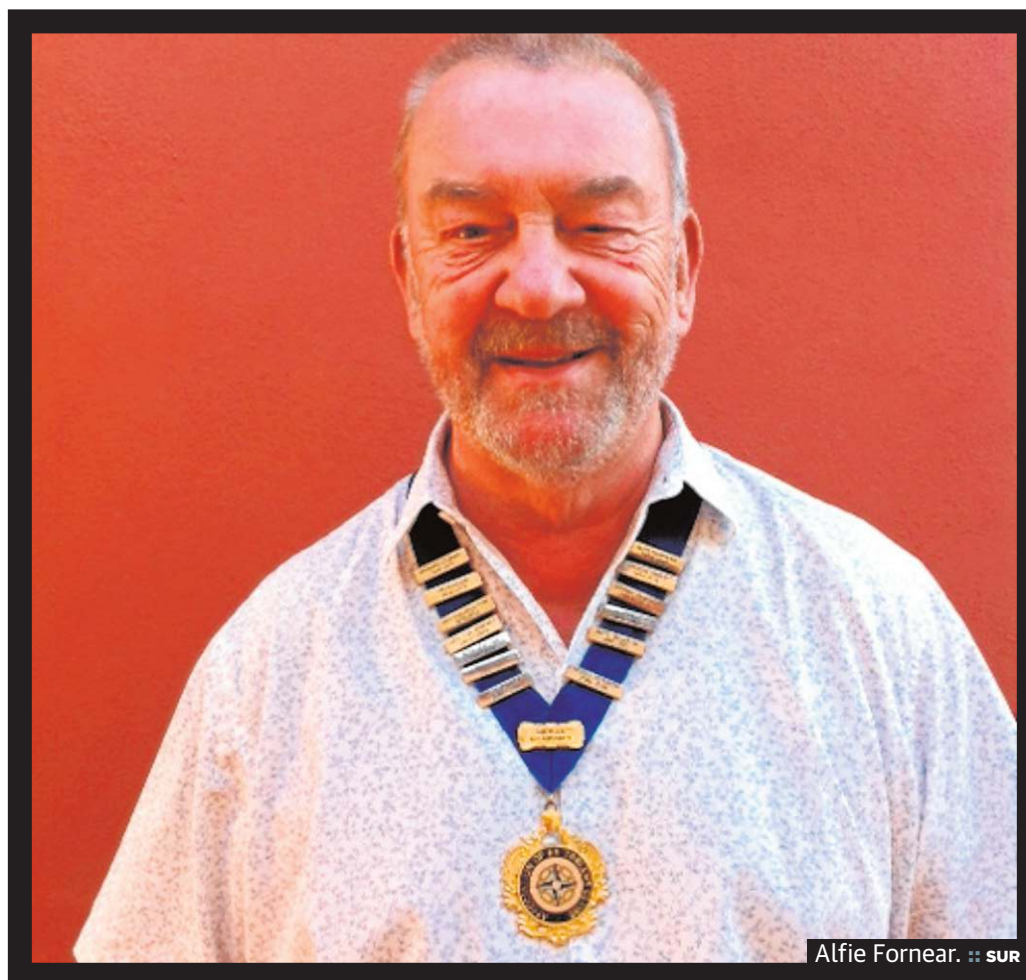
Men-only tradition

They meet on the first and third Thursdays of the month. Like the Round Table, the 41 Club remains a strictly men-only club. While in an age of political correctness and gender equality, the club justifies its traditions by pointing out that there are a lot of women-only clubs and societies. In Nerja, Alfie explains, even during their "normal" meeting, "the ladies" are "invariably invited to join us", or they meet together for a meal in Nerja.

"My main hobby for 14 years, while I was working, was the Round Table movement"

On becoming chairman for the third time, Alfie, who is well-loved among his fellow 41 Club members for his sense of humour, says, "My motto this year is 'Have FUN, I am'." He goes on to explain how at the AGM in April when he became chairman he was presented with a personalised bowler hat and all members received wind-up chattering teeth and sweets.

As for his plans for this year, he hopes to organise visits to Vélez-Málaga for his members with a tour on the road train, a visit to the Ron Montero rum distillery in Motril, a fifteenth birthday party when they will be joined by the National 41 Club president from England and a skiing trip to the Sierra Nevada. All of the activities are organised with the aim to raise money for local charities, which is at the heart of what the club does.



Alfie Fornear. :: SUR

Alfie Fornear is this year's Chairman of Nerja's 41 Club, which is an extension of the Round Table movement and organises events to raise money for charity

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GARDENING

The herb of the angels

A stunning architectural or accent plant with delicate umbels of frothy greenish-yellow flowers

In Spanish this plant is known as the herb of the angels (Hierba de los ángeles) whereas in English it has the less emotive common name of wild celery or garden/Norwegian angelica.

Angelica archangelica is one of approximately 30 species in the apiaceae family (celery and carrot

family) which includes toxic species such as Conium (hemlock) and Heracleum (hogweed). It is believed to have originated in Syria.

Angelica is a biennial

which means it will not flower until the second year from seed. In the winter it dies right back to the ground producing new growth the following spring. It is a big plant and can reach up to 2.5 metres in height however it is not drought tolerant and needs a damp, shady position.

The leaves are divided into serrated-edged leaflets and are arranged up hollow green or purple-tinged stems. The umbels of tiny greenish-yellow flowers appear in the summer and attract bees and butterflies as well as other pollinating insects. They are followed by oblong fruits.

The whole plant is aromatic with a pleasant odour said to resemble musk and juniper. This aroma comes from essential oils which for centuries have been used to flavour liqueurs such as Vermouth, Chartreuse, Bénédictine and Dubonnet.

Angelica archangelica's hollow stems are candied and used for cake decorations and the roots form a common ingredient in gin distilling. The leaves can be used in salads or blanched and eaten like spinach. The crushed seeds collected at Lammas (late August) were sprinkled onto heads to kill lice or made into a tea. The roots were once used to protect against the plague and other infectious diseases. It is very similar to its poisonous cousins and correct identification is paramount before consuming any part.

As early as the tenth century Angelica archangelica was used as a medicinal herb and English herbalist and botanist John Parkinson (1567-1650) wrote: "It is so goode an herbe that there is no part thereof but is of much use".



Angelica archangelica and close up of flower (inset). :: WIKIMEDIA

READER'S PHOTO



:: GRETHE SIMENSEN

THE QUEEN OF THE NIGHT

This photo of an Epiphyllum Oxypetalum was sent in by Grethe Simensen who says, "The first 13 huge flowers opened [a few nights ago]. Not only are they beautiful but they also have a lovely smell. It is a plant that blooms rarely and only at night. The flowers wilt before dawn." The common name for this plant is The Queen of the Night.

GARDENING IN JULY

Cuttings for next year

Tender perennials such as fuchsias, verbenas, gazanias, salvias, marguerites, penstemons, pelargoniums etc can be propagated by tip cuttings taken now. Choose stems that are not flowering (if not possible remove all flowers and buds) and snip them off about 10cm down from the tip. Remove lower

leaves. In a pot filled with potting compost and using a small dibber or pencil, make some holes around the rim (up to five around a 10cm pot). Insert the cuttings in the holes and firm the soil. Keep damp and in a shaded place. They should be ready to pot up or plant out next May.

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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WHAT HAPPENED TODAY?

28 JUNE 1978

The beginning of Pride in Madrid

The Spanish capital's now world-famous LGBT event started in 1978 with 7,000 participants, keen to mark the Stonewall anniversary

On 28 June 1978, more than 7,000 people took to the streets of Madrid for the city's first event in support of the LGBT equal rights movement. Organised by Frente de Liberación Homosexual de Castilla, the march marked the end of years of repression under the Franco regime, and followed the international wave of Pride demonstrations happening across the globe. With placards and banners reading statements such as "We are not dangerous" and "We are people, not clowns," participants bravely marched from Torre de Valencia to Marino de Cavia, a far cry from the carnival atmosphere that takes over the

city today. It was the previous year, in 1977, that Spain's first Pride event was held in Barcelona. By 1978, however, the authorities in Barcelona had forbidden a repeat of the event. Nevertheless, some 2,000 people still turned out in protest. The chosen date of Madrid's first pride event was no coincidence: the infamous Stonewall riots broke out on 28 June 1969. In Manhattan's Greenwich village, police raided a gay club named the Stonewall Inn in the early hours of the morning, arresting customers and sparking a series of violent demonstrations by members of the gay community. The events that fol-



The first march in Madrid in 1978. :: EFE

lowed led to 28 June becoming the most significant day in the gay rights movement with demonstrations commemorating Stonewall across the United States and the rest of the world every year since. When Madrid first held its march in 1978, individuals were still in prison for being gay in Spain and homosexuality was not legalised by the government until De-

cember of that year. Fifty years on from Stonewall, Madrid's Pride events are world famous. Compared with the few thousand that marched through the capital in 1978, today millions take to the streets in celebration. In 2017, Madrid held the World Pride event, a huge gathering organised by InterPride, connecting and promoting Pride movements

LANGUAGE FOOTNOTE

Orgullo	Pride
Manifestación	Demonstration
Movimiento	Movement
Pancarta	Placard/Banner
Peligroso	Dangerous
Acudar	To attend
Derechos	Rights
Liberar	To free
Convocar	To organise
Diversidad	Diversity
Matrimonio	Marriage
Carroza	Float
Igualdad	Equality
Exigir	To demand
Homosexualidad	Homosexuality

around the world. Two million people celebrated and protested throughout the city, making it one of the biggest events of its kind in the world. In recent years, Spain has set a global example for gay rights. It was the third country in the world to recognise the right to same sex marriage in 2005, putting it on the same footing as traditional heterosexual marriage. This year's Madrid Pride festival kicks off today and includes several days of events and live music, culminating on 6 July with the annual demonstration and parade through the Spanish capital.



Madrid Pride in 2018 :: EFE

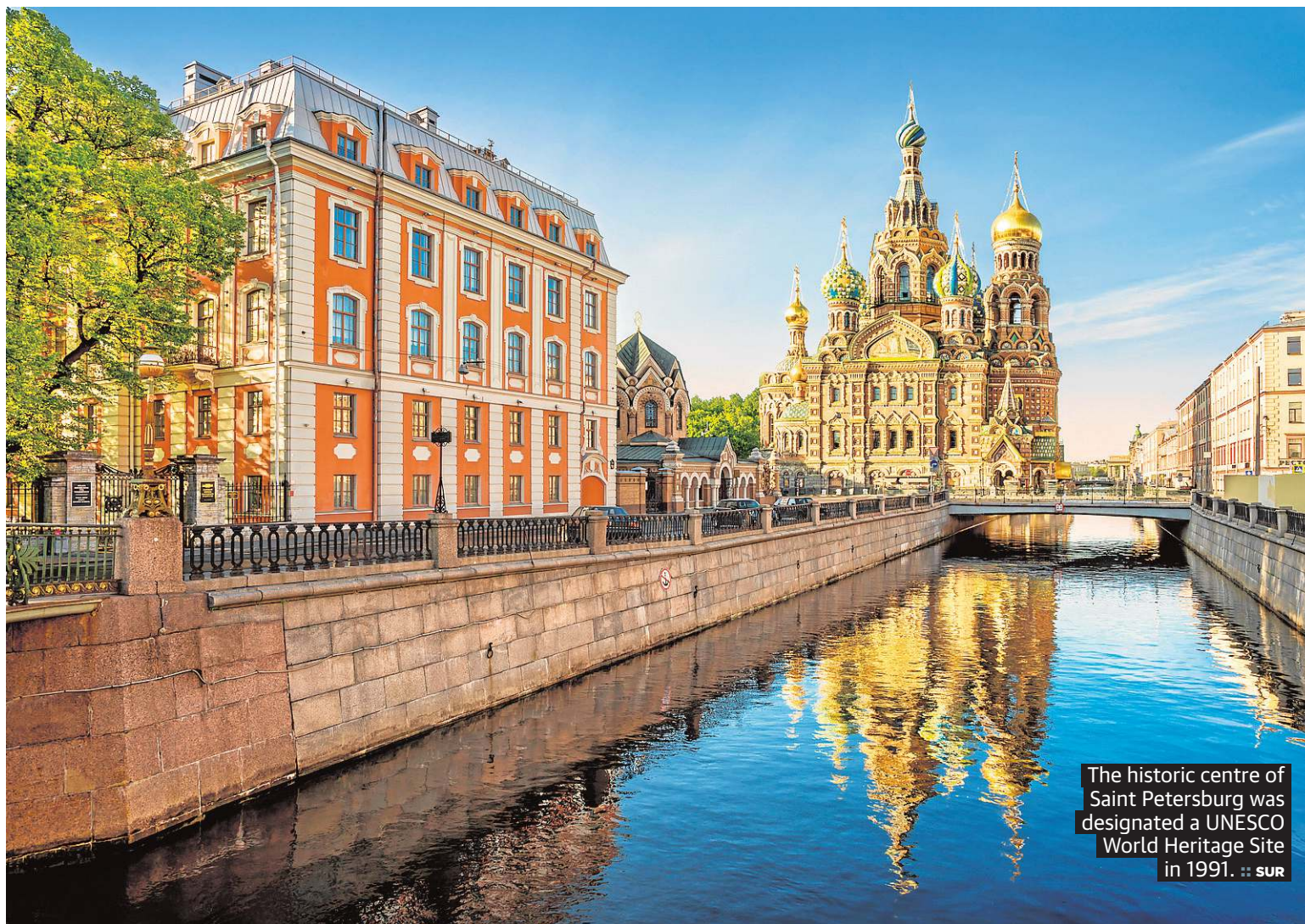

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The historic centre of Saint Petersburg was designated a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1991. :: SUR

A very MICE city

Russia's second largest city is a relative newcomer to international business tourism. It was only five years ago that the city established the Saint Petersburg Convention Bureau to develop the city's potential for being a meeting place for the world. In this short time, Saint Petersburg has emerged among the top 90 cities in the world for Meetings, Incentives, Conventions and Exhibitions (MICE).

Tourism officials are eager to share news of the city's modern economy, focusing on science and research – and its geographical proximity to Moscow, Scandinavia, and the rest of Europe. The city has over 200 MICE venues, from the world-class ExpoForum, to classic buildings such as The National Congress Palace. The city's museums and theatres (the famous Mariinsky Theatre of Ballet and Opera, The Russian Railway Museum, the Planetarium...) also provide unforgettable settings for meetings. The city's luxury hotels are also courting business travellers with new meetings spaces and ballrooms.

i saintpetersburgCB.com

I'll meet you in Saint Petersburg

Russia's cultural capital is endeavouring to be the country's most outward-looking city for leisure and business travellers

Before travelling to Russia's 'northern Venice' I have to admit that I was concerned about my trip. Media reports of aggressive nationalism, racism and anti-LGBT incidents in Saint Petersburg and across the Russian Federation in the recent years had made me cautious.

Yet my first impressions upon arrival were of a sophisticated and elegant city. Taking the taxi from Pulkovo airport to Saint Petersburg's city centre took a little more than half an hour. I'd arrived in the evening, so the heavy traffic that's typical of

ANDREW FORBES

✉ Twitter: @andrewforbes



the city had passed, and the car was able to cruise uninterrupted down the wide, peaceful avenues of the city towards my hotel. I began to grasp just how immense was this northern Russian metropolis. I was expecting the Baroque and Neoclas-

sical architecture, yet I wasn't prepared for the scale of the UNESCO city centre. This is understandable though when you consider that this was the Imperial capital of Russia for centuries before the 1918 revolution.

Imperial Capital

Even as a first-time visitor I quickly realised that this is a city not only impressive for its grand architectural heritage of palaces and cathedrals, of classical domes and spires, but also defined by its geography. The city is built on the Neva river delta that flows into the Gulf of Fin-

land. The city sprawls over former marshlands and islands. Navigating the city centre on foot gives you a better concept of these island neighbourhoods divided by rivers, waterways and canals, crossed by hundreds of bridges.

This Imperial capital was founded by Tsar Peter the Great, who wanted a progressive city, and one that was modelled on the sophisticated capitals of Europe.

Now Saint Petersburg once again wants to convey those progressive values, building on its success as a Host City for last year's FIFA World

Cup, when it welcomed thousands of international visitors and football fans who were allowed to travel without a visa, just a personalised spectator card (Fan ID).

The city wants to be recognised for more than just its palaces and museums but also as a modern metropolis, and a welcoming destination. Thankfully in my limited experience staying in the affluent UNESCO city centre, I felt safe, and although English is not widely spoken in this traditional and conservative city, welcome too.

Taste of Russia

Food is a great way to understand modern Saint Petersburg. The restaurant scene is vibrant, driven not only by growing tourism but also business travellers. President Vladimir Putin frequently returns to his home city, and often showcases Saint Petersburg for international meetings.

US and EU sanctions against Russia for its 2014 role in Ukraine and the Crimea have had a significant impact

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upon Russia's restaurants; and strangely led to a renaissance in Russian cuisine. President Putin reacted to the imposition of economic sanctions with bans on imports of American and European produce. This forced international restaurants to change their menus, or face closure due to unavailable ingredients.

These days in Saint Petersburg where once you might have dined at an Italian restaurant you now can enjoy national and regional gastronomy, using predominantly Russian ingredients. What the cuisine lacks in international credentials seems to be more than made up for by diversity in dishes, from traditional pre-revolutionary style food, contemporary cuisine, gastronomy from the former Soviet republics and even nostalgic Soviet restaurants. Menus of popular feel-good recipes and family dishes popular during the period of relative peace and prosperity from the 1950s have made a comeback.

Proudly different

In contemporary Saint Petersburg there is no shortage of such fascinating cultural differences – it's what makes travelling in Russia so rewarding. From US fast-food restaurants like McDonald's transformed into 'Russian restaurants' with even the logos and branding in Russian Cyrillic script, to strangely popular tourist merchandise decorated with images of President Putin (where no irony is intended), Saint Petersburg, despite its imperial past, is certainly very different to a typical European capital.



The city is divided by rivers, waterways and canals and crossed by hundreds of bridges. :: SUR

The Russian visa - a travel obstacle

:: A. FORBES

Saint Petersburg is repeatedly recognised as one of the world's leading cultural city destinations, yet there remains an obstacle for many leisure and business travels - the need for a visa in order to legally enter the Russian Federation. Although there are over 30 countries that can enjoy visa-free travel to Russia, at present most citizens of Europe, including the UK, require a visa.

In addition to the standard visa requirements (a passport that remains valid for at least six months after your intended departure,

travel and health insurance and two passport photos), you also need an official 'invitation' to visit Russia. These visa support letters can be provided by an approved travel agency, or the hotel where you have booked your accommodation - but for a fee of course, of around 25 euros.

In addition, if you are living abroad as a foreign resident, then expect your visa to be more expensive and take longer to process. Dealing directly with a Russian embassy or consulate is cheaper but requires a personal visit in Ma-

drid or Barcelona.

The alternative is to use a specialist agency like IberRusia in Barcelona (which offers a five-day service for British citizens living in Spain for 260 euros).

Expect to be asked a lot of questions on the application form, including details of every country you have ever visited, details of your work status, bank accounts, family, marital status (including name and gender of your partner) and details of your social media presence.

Once you arrive in Russia you must register your visa. Your hotel

can typically do this for you - but, again, for a fee.

So overall, the Russian visa application is time-consuming, complicated and expensive.

Yet, once you have a visa, expect swift passage through immigration at Saint Petersburg's airport.

Also, an increasingly popular way around the visa requirement is to visit Saint Petersburg on an approved, organised tour from a cruise ship, since passengers are given a 72-hour visa-waiver. This doesn't have to be from a long luxury cruise from Europe. Instead you could, for example, fly to Helsinki and pick up a ferry cruise to Saint Petersburg. It might even work out cheaper than getting a visa!

IberRusia.com

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THE INSIDER GUIDE

Saint Petersburg



Hotel Domina.

■ ANDREW FORBES

STAY:

Nevsky Forum

Nevsky Forum is a good option for those looking for a simple place to stay. Its location, on the Nevsky Prospect, the most central thoroughfare in this huge city, is excellent.

From here everything is accessible either by foot or via the metro (the Mayakovskaya station is nearby). Rooms are simple but clean and quiet.

ForumHotel.ru

Domina St. Petersburg

Confident, unconventional, contemporary Italian design has transformed this classic riverside imperial mansion into one of the most singular boutique hotels in the city. Found a few minutes' walk from Saint Isaac's Square and its cathedral, the main city sights, as well as the shops and cafés of Nevsky Prospect are around 15-minutes' walk away. Set on a tree-lined river embankment within the elegant island district of Kolonna, the Domina hotel is quite a surprise. As you walk over the threshold, you enter a light-

filled atrium bursting with bold colours - a signature style of the hotel by designer Gianmarco Cavagnino. It's a refreshing contrast to all the imperial grandeur of the city.

Room categories are defined by colour and design too, including bright colours of nature for the duplex, open-plan Lifestyle Rooms.

Cocktail Bar Nove mixes design inspiration from the Amber Room of Catherine Palace (think crystal chandeliers and amber orange sofas) with cultural references to the Dostoyevsky, including an over-sized bust of the famous writer and philosopher at the end of the bar. It's a relaxed and friendly place to enjoy a refreshing vodka with a side of pickles. For a meal head across to Arco baleno, the hotel's family-friendly restaurant, offering good-value lunches, special kids' menu and upscale dining.

The hotel also a wellness centre and gym. Business travellers have access to 24-hour services like scanning, printing etc and there are meeting rooms available.

SPB.DominaRussia.com

The Four Seasons Lion Palace

Saint Petersburg is home to some

of Russia's finest and most elegant hotels. Even if you are not a guest, it is really a pleasure to visit some of these temples of luxury for a drink or bite to eat - since most are found within magnificent imperial palaces that have been beautifully restored.

The Lion Palace, now the Four Seasons Saint Petersburg was designed by French architect Auguste de Montferrand and built for Princess Lobanova-Rostovskaya.

Indulge in belle-epoque glamour and modern Russian cuisine in the glass-roofed atrium Tea Lounge.

The spectacular Montferrand Ballroom is the sparkling setting for weddings as well as business meetings and conventions.

FourSeasons.com

EAT:

Banshiki Restaurant

Banshiki restaurant, offering contemporary Russian cuisine by chef Stanislav Levokho, is also part of the 'Degtyarnie Bani' steam rooms, including a VIP bathhouse spa. This is the way business is done in the city - Russians like to bathe and lunch.

Banshiki.spb.ru

Fontanka Restaurant

Cuisine from before the 1918 revolution is the idea behind this Saint Petersburg restaurant Fontanka. Imperial recipes prepared in a contemporary way.

Fontanka30.ru/en

Restaurant Centralny/Tsentralny

A kitsch time-warp experience. The theme is Soviet and Lenin-grad cuisine, featuring dated-looking, yet for Russians, nostalgic family dishes from a time when the Soviet Union was stable and at peace - like the salmon and mayonnaise Mimosa salad. There's food too from the former Soviet Republics, like lamb from Uzbekistan, or cheese from Georgia; and classics like black caviar with blinis and a shot of Beluga vodka; or Pirozhki, which are small pastries with onion, eggs and cabbage (or meat) inside.

centralrestaurant.ru

DO:

Oleg Suturin - Private Guide

Saint Petersburg native, Oleg, is an English, Spanish and Portuguese-speaking guide who will bring to life the fascinating and remarkable stories of wealth, intrigue and royalty from the City of Tsars.

Instagram.com/BestGuideSaintPetersburg

Yusupov Palace

There are innumerable art and cultural sights to enjoy in Saint Petersburg, from cathedrals, churches, palaces, castles and elegant parks, to the exceptional Hermitage and the unique collection



Yusupov palace.



ExpoForum.



Centralny restaurant.



Banshiki restaurant.

at the Faberge Museum.

Yet the Yusupov Palace encapsulates so much of this remarkable city. It was once the home of the richest family in the Russian Empire, the Counts of Yusupov. There's the most amazing private theatre to discover, art by old masters and plenty of marble, gold, crystal - and more. This was where Grigori Rasputin was murdered by Dukes and politicians, alarmed by his influence and intimacy with the family of Tsar Nicolas II. This is the best place to discover the inside perspective on one of Europe's greatest murder mysteries.

Yusupov-Palace.ru

MICE:

ExpoForum

Saint Petersburg is determined to put itself on the world stage for conventions and exhibitions. This was given a boost with the opening of Saint Petersburg's new high-tech ExpoForum. It certainly sets the bar for exceptional facilities - said to be the best in Russia and among the best in Europe. There are three exhibition pavilions, a convention centre for 10,000 people (with 35 conference halls) and two Hilton Hotels.

ExpoForum-Center.ru
SaintPetersburgcb.com

National Congress Palace

Saint Petersburg's Konstantin Palace is probably the city's most prestigious events venue, having already hosted a Russia-EU summit, as well as G8 and G20 leaders' summits.

KonstantinPalace.ru/en

BUY:

White Night 'matryoshka'

Most visitors want to buy nesting dolls. For a unique, intricately hand-crafted version, look out for the famous 'White Nights' artisan examples. Each typically feature city landmarks such as the iconic onion domes of the Church of the Saviour on the Spilled Blood, and the monumental Winter Palace. Be warned, prices can be the equivalent to hundreds, sometimes thousands of euros.

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WHERE IN THE WORLD?



Divide and conquer

Wrestling, horse racing and archery. These are the so-called “three games of men” which are practised throughout this country during the summer months.

These Games, held annually and competitively in the capital city (pictured) during the National Holiday from 11 to 13 July, is a tradition dating many centuries.

The origin of this festival is closely related to the abundant military history of the country, especially renowned for conquest and an infamous warrior emperor. One of the reasons for their

success is the sophisticated structure of the army, which was composed of groups of 10 soldiers. The leaders of the groups chose their warriors based on their strength, movement and flexi-

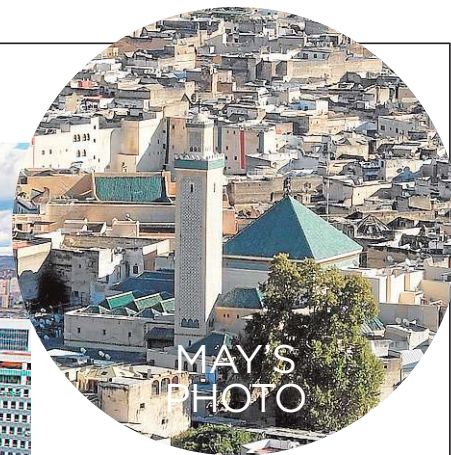
bility, as displayed during these public competitions.

If you know where this is, you could win a prize. Please send the name of this city, the Games that take place here and the country's infamous warrior emperor to english@diariosur.es. Only entries with your full name, address and telephone number will be considered.

Last month's photo showed the shrine of Idris I of Morocco, founder of the city of Fez. It is there that the Festival of World Sacred Music took place from 14 to 22 June.

Congratulations to Diego Rodríguez Martínez in Torremolinos who answered correctly. Your prize will be on its way to you soon.

Send your answer to english@diariosur.es



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The beautiful Sete Cidades lagoons, one green and one blue. :: AZORESPHOTOS.VISITAZORES.COM / GUSTAV

Azores: an Atlantic paradise

Horseback rides through a volcanic crater, beaches with crystal clear waters and a past which sounds like an adventure story. Nine islands to get away from it all this summer

by J. GARCÍA BLANCO

At first glance it is a simple building, three storeys high and a blue and white front, situated beside the port on a small island surrounded by the immensity of the Atlantic. Despite its apparent insignificance, Café Sport de Horta - or Peter's Café - on the island of Faial in the Azores, has given shelter to sailors from the five continents and has become a legend. It opened in 1918 and since then has been frequented by merchant seamen, sailors from the Royal Navy and US Navy, yacht captains, courageous whalers and even spies. Today it is one of the archipelago's tourist landmarks and the atmosphere inside transports you to a thousand adventures on the high seas. Without a doubt, if Moby Dick had been written in the 20th century, Captain Ahab would have gone to Peter's to look for harpooners to pursue the feared object of his obsession.

That same spirit of adventure, far from dispelling with modernity, can still be perceived on the nine islands of the Azores. Their volcanic origin and delightful and exuberant natural setting contributes to that and the beauty is difficult to describe. It is not surprising that the New York Times has named the Azores as one of the es-



The Caldeira Velha waterfalls. :: AZORESPHOTOS.VISITAZORES.COM / ALBA PIMENTA

sential destinations to visit in 2019.

The physiognomy of the archipelago was shaped by lava and ashes, leaving spectacular enclaves for geotourism. On Faial, for example, is Capelinhos, a volcano which last erupted in 1957, creating several

square kilometres of solid ground and partly burying an iconic lighthouse, beneath which there is now a very interesting information centre. There are impressive 'caldeiras' (craters) on all the islands, although the one called Sete Cidades on the

island of São Miguel is particularly spectacular. Its interior contains a picturesque hamlet and two lagoons, one green and one blue, the most photogenic in the Azores. On the other side is the Funas Valley, another crater covered with leafy

GUIDE

► **How to get there.** TAP flies to Terceira and São Miguel with a stop in Lisbon or Porto. There are internal flights and ferries between the islands.

► **Where to stay.** In Terceira, the Hotel Angra Marina has unbeatable views of the Atlantic.

► **Where to eat.** Restaurant Ti Choa in Terceira, has friendly service and typical dishes.

► **Further information.** Azores Tourism (www.visitazores.com/en).

vegetation. There you can try a traditional dish, 'cozido das Furnas', which is prepared by burying the saucepans for several hours to take advantage of the volcanic heat.

The intricate geology of the Azores also enables you to enter the entrails of the Earth, like characters in a novel by Verne. The Algar do Carvão, on the island of Terceira, is a volcanic chimney 90 metres deep which can easily be visited by steps leading into the interior. It is full of stalagmites and stalagmites and there is an underground lake. Other telluric enclaves are the Furna do Enxofre - one of the biggest volcanic caves in the world, on Graciosa - and the Gruta das Torres, a lava tube five kilometres in length on the island of Pico.

But the Azores are not all volcanoes and caves. There are more relaxing options too, such as the lovely beaches, most of them of volcanic sand - the Mosteiros beach on São Miguel, the biggest and most touristy island, is outstanding - but there are also white sand beaches such as Praia Formosa on Santa Maria.

It is also possible to swim in more exotic places such as thermal waters in natural pools created by the lava, for example the Termas do Carapacho on Graciosa, or the warm waterfalls of Caldeira Velha on São Miguel.

If you're looking for peace and quiet, it's best to take refuge on the smallest island of Corvo. With just 425 inhabitants, this diminutive enclave which used to be a refuge for pirates is now a paradise of tranquility. With its rugged cliffs and picturesque hamlets of black and white houses, it is the perfect place to disappear to.

Lovers of active tourism will also find plenty on offer. There are horseback excursions to see the volcanic 'caldeiras', mountain bike routes, diving trips with blue sharks and boat trips to watch sperm whales and other cetaceans. In fact, the whaling past of the islands has resulted in other tourist attractions. Until just over 30 years ago, many local people used to hunt 'baleas'. That past is still a recent memory and has been preserved in museums about the 'Whale Factories' on Faial, Pico and São Jorge, and the Scrimshaw Museum in the Café Sport, with authentic works of art made with the teeth of sperm whales. It is a legacy of which, without a doubt, Captain Ahab would have been proud.

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Trying to harmonise wine with food is not an exact science, and many thousands of words have been written that support this view. Maridaje, as such a pairing is referred to in Spanish, involves serving a wine with an accompanying dish to achieve the perfect gastronomic balance. However some foods are acknowledged to have no suitable partner.

Asparagus is one, since, like artichokes, a substance known as cynarin blocks any sense of sweetness. Another is smoked anchovies, the overpowering flavour of which makes any drink, except vodka, unpleasant. Caviar is a tricky one too, although vodka, again, and cava or cham-

ANDREW J. LINN

A HAM MARRIAGE



pagne are the primary options. Curry-lovers mostly reject any alcoholic drink except beer, but I find an old manzanilla to be perfect, even an oloroso.

Admittedly some maridajes are

acceptable. A recent example was a tasting in which the protagonist was acorn-fed ham (jamón de bellota). This was from Castro y González, whose production area spreads from south of Salamanca to the northern part of Huelva province.

I have consumed lorry loads of ham, but to be honest was never quite sure which part of the leg it was carved from. Each has a different taste and consistency, influenced by the length of time the ham has been hung; the tasty fat obeys the force of gravity and concentrates in the lower regions. The accompanying tasting wines were primarily from the Chivite Peralada stable, and included the notable Gran Claustro Cuvée cava and

Chivite's now well-known Las Fincas rosado.

Quite correctly, and adequately placed in the order of things, the tail-end Charlie was Tío Pepe fino sherry.

So if you think tasting food and wine together is a great way to pass a few hours, be aware that eight wines were tasted with four different cuts of jam. A total of 32 variations on what was really an outstanding sensory experience, and I wish everyone could have the same opportunity. Having said that, almost any quality jamón de bellota is delicious, and the number of occasions you can enjoy it will depend on your bank balance – or whether you have generous friends with good taste.

Laderas de La Horra 2017

There is always a conflict of interest when a wine is sold direct by the bodega while at the same time being available in stores. The unwritten rule is that the prices should be the same and no buyer benefits by going direct.

This excellent Ribera del Duero is also available via major department stores, and is as good as it gets at the very fair price of 16.50 euros.



Sardines: a basic Mediterranean food

Sardines at this time of the year are fat and juicy and now is the best time to eat them

::ESPERANZA PELÁEZ

MALAGA. It is traditionally said in Malaga that sardines are at their best “from virgin to virgin”, that is, from July, around the festival of the Virgen del Carmen, to early September, when the Virgen de la Victoria is celebrated.

The explanation is that in this period the sardine is preparing for its reproductive period, and has already accumulated the fat that makes their flesh so juicy.

This pelagic species (which swims in shallow or medium depth waters), scientifically called *Sardina pilchardus*, reappears in Malaga waters at the end of January. It is then much leaner, with its skin covered with a kind of glitter instead of the dark layer it now has on its back. It is no good for grilling but quite good fried, in casseroles or in marinades.

Mediterranean and Atlantic sardines are classified as distinct subspecies (*Sardina pilchardus pilchardus* in the Atlantic, and *Sardina pilchardus sardina* in the Mediterranean). At first glance, the ones in the Med are smaller, with thinner skin and tastier flesh. They are also more threatened by over fishing than those in the Atlantic, because stocks in the Mediterranean are less resilient. However in the past, their abundance was such that throughout the Mediterra-



The sardine, once abundant off Malaga, can be used in many recipes. :: DANIEL MALDONADO

nean and in the South Atlantic they became a basic and popular food, and from Turkey, Greece, French Provence and Italy, to Tunisia, Morocco, Portugal and of course Spain, there are numerous recipes, although a constant in every country is roasting over fires outdoors.

The sardine is also a popular fish for canning. At the beginning of the 1950s, the abundance of sardines along Malaga's coastline was such

that it attracted Galician canners such as the great Jaime Martínez de Ubago, founder of the firm of the same name. And the canned sardine, apart from for sandwiches and salads, is good for making appetisers such as Portuguese sardine paté.

Other even more traditional ways of preserving them include pickling or salting, which gave rise to the simple meals to fill people up in past times such as in a tomato stew, after desalt-

ing, or simple ‘salpicones’ made with broken-up fish.

Marinading is another very simple method used both in homes and, later, in industry. Introduced in Spain by the Arabs, with the expulsion of the Jews in 1492 it passed to other areas of the Mediterranean, such as Venice, where the local version, ‘sarde in saor’, adds raisins and pine nuts.

For the ‘sardinas malagueñas’ ‘en moraga’ (or ‘moruna’, as it is also

Sardines 'en moraga'

Ingredients
(6 people):
1kg sardines, 1kg ripe tomatoes, 2 large onions 4 green peppers, 3 cloves of garlic, 150ml white wine, saffron strands, 2 bay leaves, a pinch of ground cumin, 1 chili, extra-virgin olive oil, salt.

Method:

Remove the scales and rinse the sardines well. Cut off the heads, open them out and remove the backbone. Season with salt and pepper. Place in a large frying, keeping them in one or two layers only. In a saucepan add enough oil to cover the base and place on a low heat. Add the finely chopped onion, garlic and chopped peppers. When these are soft add the cumin, saffron, bay leaves and the peeled and finely chopped tomato. Leave to simmer until the tomatoes are soft then add the wine and reduce the liquid by boiling rapidly. Spoon the sauce over the sardines and cook for about five minutes over a low heat. Chop the chili very finely and sprinkle over the cooked sardines to add a spicy touch.

known) is very popular.

Marinated sardines are very much to today's taste for raw fish, as well as the stuffed, battered and fried Tunisian sardines, a recipe that very possibly comes from the Sephardic Jews. However it is served, this fish from Malaga can be enjoyed in a thousand delicious ways. Bon appétit!



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Henry Moore: the lightness of the stones

The Museum Jorge Rando is exhibiting a series of engravings of Stonehenge by the British artist

ANTONIO
JAVIER LÓPEZ

@ajavierlopez

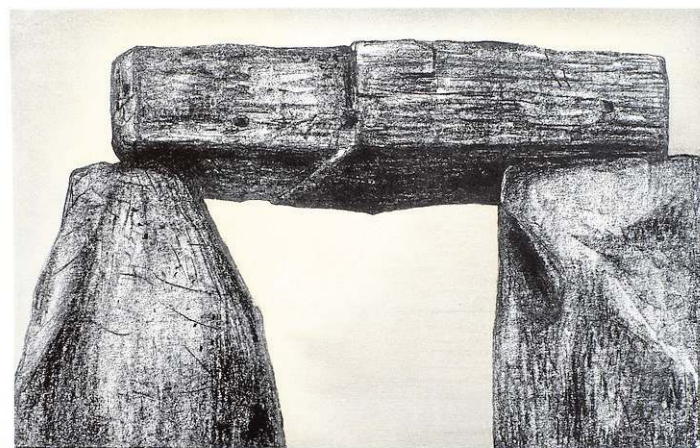
The new exhibition at the museum highlights one of the lesser known skills of the artist, that of a draughtsman and an engraver

MÁLAGA. The Museum Jorge Rando in Malaga is exhibiting a collection of lithographs by the British artist and sculptor Henry Moore. The series of works are entitled 'Henry Moore. Entre lo terrenal y lo eterno' (Between the earthly and the eternal) and were completed between 1971 and 1973.

"The occasions when we have been able to enjoy Henry Moore's exhibitions in Spain are few and far between, but an exhibition of graphic work is something exceptional", explained Vanesa Díez, the museum director.



The new exhibition runs until 28 September. :: SALVADOR SALAS



One of the engravings in the series. :: SUR

"For Moore, drawing was not simply the cornerstone of all his sculptural work, but represented a fundamental pillar in his artistic career, from the time he began his studies in York until his death in 1986," she added.

In this way, Díez has vindicated the importance of drawing in Moore's trajectory as "an independent way, a way to express his ideas in parallel with his sculptural work". Because, as the director of

THE EXHIBITION

► **What.** A series of 15 engravings called 'Stonehenge' created between 1971 and 1973.

► **Where.** Museum Jorge Rando. C/ Cruz del Molinillo, 12. Malaga city.

► **When.** Until 28 September.

the Museum Jorge Rando explained, "His sculpture has had so much attention that it has relegated his drawings."

The series exhibited this summer in the Malaga museum also investigates Moore's formal works which Díez described: "From 1920 onwards Moore developed drawing in a very personal pictorial language in which, in order to represent three-dimensions on paper, he eliminated the use of shadow

and light in order to do so through what he calls sectional lines."

The result is a set of engravings that concentrate on the textures of the rocks that make up Stonehenge, rather than the global images of the site built thousands of years ago, the purpose of which is still the subject of debate among specialists. A solar calendar, a burial site, an astronomical observatory? In any case, a place for pilgrimage and recollection. Similar to art.



MOVIE LISTING

From Friday 28h of June
to Thursday 4th of July



From Friday 28 to Thursday 4:
20:30, 22:45



From Friday 28 to Thursday 4:
15:30, 17:50



From Friday 28
to Sunday 30:
15:45, 17:30, 18:00, 20:10
Monday 1 and Tuesday 2:
15:45, 18:00, 20:10
Wednesday 3
and Thursday 4:
15:45, 17:30, 18:00, 20:10



From Friday 28 to Thursday 4:
15:40, 18:00, 22:00



From Friday 28 to Sunday 30:
15:40, 18:15, 22:45
Monday 1 and Tuesday 2:
16:00, 18:15, 22:45
Wednesday 3 and Thursday 4:
15:40, 18:15, 22:45

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EXHIBITIONS

Victorian Spain

Ronda. Until 31 August. *El Museo Unicaja Joaquín Peinado.*
'A vision of Victorian Spain' is the theme for this exhibition which consists of around 75 works by 20 British artists (including John Philip, Edwin Long, John Bagnold Burgess, John Haynes Williams, Robert Kemm and Edwin Roberts) who painted romantic landscapes of Spain in Victorian times.

Granada Mi Aire

Estepona. Until 31 August. *Patio Top Garden Furniture, Carretera A7 163- Urb El Pirata.*
Andalusian landscapes focusing on light and power.

SEAONE. Retratos.

Marbella. Until 22 May 2020. *Museo Ralli Marbella.*
The temporary exhibition is by Galician-Argentinian artist Luis Seaone.

José María Baco

Vélez-Málaga. Until 5 July. *Sala El Pósito, Plaza de la Constitución.*
The exhibition 'La Seda' consists of 50 works by Malaga artist José María Baco. It chronicles the life of the silk worm, the fine threads of silk and their use to manufacture beautiful fabrics. He uses colour to transport the viewer to the orient and materials such as linen and even plastic to highlight his works.

Galería JM live art Via Lucis

Malaga. 29 June, 8.30pm. *C/Duquesa de Parcent.*
The present installation from Marc Montijano (open until end of September) is called JMenvivo and this is the second performance linked to the exhibition Los Sueños de Dante. With poet and artist Bárbara Zagora.



Via Lucis, Malaga

Les Chant des Morts

Malaga. Until 13 October. *Casa Natal de Picasso.*
The exhibition consists of works created by Picasso to illustrate Le Chant des Morts by Pierre Reverdy.

Gay Pride

Malaga. Until 1 July. *El Patio Antonio Banderas, Malaga Town Hall.*
A collection of 16 photographs that reflect the diverse family groups present in Malaga. The exhibition is organised by GALEHI, the Asociación de Familias Homoparentale.

Veteranos de BBVA

Malaga. Until 29 June. *Salas Mingo-rance, Archivo Municipal.*
Malaga city is the theme of this collection of paintings completed by contestants of the 6th Asociación de Veteranos de BBVA-Memorial de Conchi Mendoza competition.
www.malaga.eu

Pop of the twentieth century

Malaga. Until 14 July. *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.

Bruce Nauman

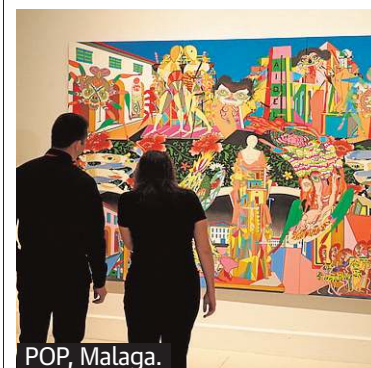
Malaga. Until 1 September. *Museo Picasso Málaga.*
Rooms, Bodies, Words is the title of the exhibition of around 100 works by contemporary artist and sculptor Bruce Nauman.

Max Ernst Historia Natural

Malaga. Until 13 October. *Carmen Thyssen Museum.* Free with ticket to visit the museum.
An exhibition of 34 works by surrealist painter Max Ernst.

Back to School

Malaga. Until 29 June. *La Casa Amarilla.*
Back to school by Eryk Pall is all



POP, Malaga.

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,

Estepona Rocks festival pays tribute to rock legends

:: SUR IN ENGLISH

ESTEPONA. The Pink Purple Zep Fest II - Estepona Rocks will, tonight (Friday) and tomorrow (Saturday), celebrate some of the greatest names in the history of rock music including Foo Fighters, Guns n Roses, AC/DC, Pink Floyd, Deep Purple and Led Zeppelin.

The concerts, organised by Pink Purple Productions SL, will take place in the Plaza de Toros in Estepona and include performances from tribute bands Foo Fighters GB, Guns 2 Roses and AC/BC tonight, followed by Deeper Purple, Whole Lotta Led and Think Floyd tomorrow.

Tickets are available online (www.pinkpurpleproductions.com), by email (info@pinkpurpleproductions.com) or by phone (659 772 448).



The concerts celebrate rock legends. :: SUR

KAWS, ERik Parker, Todd James and James Jarvis.

Anima Roos

Malaga. Until 28 July. Alfajar, C/Cister.

Congalese artist (Zaire 1956) Anima Roos trained at the Royal Academy of Fine Arts in Ghent, Belgium and attended Masterclasses with David Leach. www.alfajar.es

Banksy The Art of Protest

Malaga. Until 15 September. La Térmica.

The exhibition is La Térmica's most ambitious to date and includes iconic series such as the portrait of Kate Moss in the style of Warhol's Marilyn, The Bulldog and serigraph of the series Girl with Balloon.

Lego exhibition

Malaga. Until 22 September. Muelle Uno, Malaga Port.

The biggest exhibition of Lego models in Europe including an 11-metre -long replica of the Titanic, characters from Lord Of The Rings, the Statue of Liberty, Sydney Opera House etc.

'Colección MC Málaga, el arte de coleccionar'

Antequera. Until 7 July. Museo de Arte de la Diputación (MAD).

The new exhibition consists of works by artists such as Félix Revello de Toro, Eugenio Chicano, Enrique Brinkmann, Joaquín Peinado and Carlos Durán. It has been organised by the Diputación and the Fundación de Málaga with the backing of Unicaja Bank.

Jesús de Perceval

Antequera. Until 26 July, 5-8pm. Centro Fundación Unicaja.

Over 70 photographs by Almeria photographer, painter and sculptor



Bruce Nauman, MPM

Jesús de Perceval.

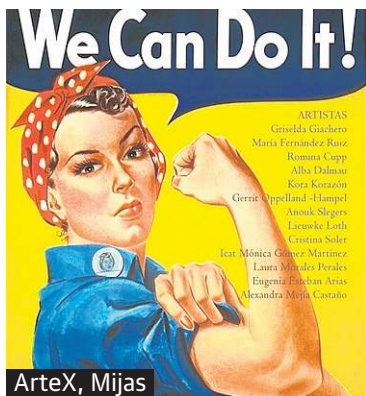
We Can Do It!

Mijas. Until 22 July. Centro Cultural de La Cala.

An exhibition by the artists in ArteX including Griselda Giachero, María Fernández Ruiz, Romina Cupp, Alba Dalmau, Kora Korazón, Gerrit Oppelland-Hampel, Anouk Slegers, Lieuwke Loth, Cristina Soler, Icat Mónica Gómez Martínez, Laura Morales Perales, Eugenia Esteban Arias and Alexandra Mejía Castaño.

Guajiros

Mijas. Until 16 July. Conjunto Residencial Los Olivos, Fase 1, Local 25. The Asociación Nuevo Enfoque has organised an exhibition of photographs by Juan Miguel Alba enti-



ArteX, Mijas

tled Guajiros.

Miradas de Al-Ándalus

Nerja. Until 30 June. Museo de Nerja.

The artist Miguel Ángel López Expósito, will be exhibiting a selection of his paintings inspired by Spain's Moorish past.

Mi Tierra

La Herradura. Until 30 September, 9am-3pm. Mercado Municipal.

An exhibition of around 50 photographs taken by five photographers from the Almuñécar Foto Club.

CHARITY

Classic Car and Bike Festival

Estepona. 29, 30 June, from 10am. Palacio de Congresos y Exposiciones Estepona. 10€.

Live music, food trucks, raffle, stands selling memorabilia and accessories and lots of classic cars and motorbikes. Ticket sales are donated to Cudeca Cancer hospice and Alzheimers Association. www.costaclasicos.com

Cudeca Day at Shazbar

Estepona. 29 June, from 10am. Shazbar, C/Colmenar. Urb Las Joyas.

Minimarket with stalls, raffles, tombola, competitions, food, wheel of fortune etc.

Charity Football Tournament

Mijas. 29 June, from 4pm. Municipal stadium.

La Cala de Mijas Lions in collaboration with Mijas Sports Department have organised a charity seven-a-side footie match for over 18s. There will be music and a DJ. Food and drinks from the bar. Cash prizes. Tel: 622184430

ACE Charity Summer Party

Estepona. 29 June, from 1.30pm. ACE, C/San Roque. 11€.

Entertainment provided by Colm Fitzpatrick, with a buffet lunch. Funds raised go to Cudeca Cancer Hospice and other charities.

Charity concerts for Red Cross

Almuñécar. 4 July, 9pm. Auditorio Casa de la Cultura. 5€ donation. Performances by La Bohemia, Isabel Sánchez and Batukada 2.0.

Cudeca Charity Jazz Concert

Marbella. 5 July, 8.45pm. Clinica Buchinger Wilhelmi. 20€.

The Anachronic quintet which specialises in trad jazz, blues and swing, will be playing in the gardens of the clinic. Tickets: 664248559 or email: pr1@cudeca.org

TAPAS 'Greatest Shows'

Cártama pueblo. 29 June from 6.30pm. Teatro Carthima. 12€ With songs from famous West End and Broadway shows such as Barnum, Les Miserables and Hairspray among many, the cast of TAPAS will be presenting their biggest-ever stage production to raise money for local charities. Tickets online (www.tapassociety.com) or by phone (678932284).

Animals In Distress auctions

Alhaurín el Grande. 12 July from 7pm. Peña Asfahal.

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. www.animals-in-distress.eu

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REF: SUR IN ENGLISH

Museo Carmen Thyssen Málaga

Suzanne Valadon, Femme aux bas blancs, 1924 (detail). Musée des Beaux-Arts de Nancy



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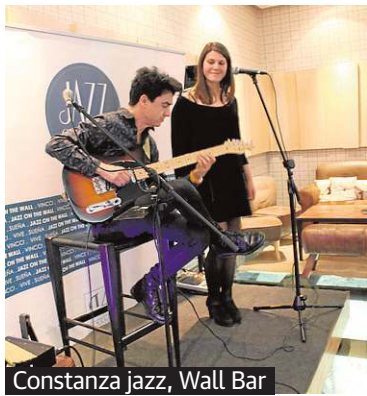
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MUSIC & DANCE



Constanza jazz, Wall Bar

The Wall Bar

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

28 June. Constanza and Javier jazz duet.

Arts and Circus Festival

Cadiz. Until 29 June.

The arts and Circus festival in Jimena de la Frontera starts officially at 8pm today in the El Corral de la Paca in Calle Ancha. Fifteen artists will be displaying their works. The Grand Inauguration takes place on 22 June with a live Cuban and Salsa music. Circus activities begin on 23 June with a display by circus student. Circus workshops run until 29 June.

Coral Magnum Mysterium

Estepona. 29 June, 9pm. Plaza Begines. Free.

The repertoire of the choir includes

Gabriel's Oboe and River by Ennio Morricone; The Lion Sleeps Tonight by George Weiss; The Pink Panther by Henry Mancini; Edelweiss by Richard Rodgers; West Side Story (Potpourri) by Leonard Bernstein; The Phantom of the Opera by A. Lloyd Webber; I have a dream by B. Andersson/ B. Ulvaeus and Oliver by Lionel Bart.

Movie Score Málaga (MOSMA)

Malaga. 2-6 July.

There will be seven concerts dedicated to famous movie scores with the first at 9.30pm in the Plaza de la Constitución on 2 July dedicated to composer Roque Baños. It is followed the following evening with two more concerts, the first at 8pm in the Sala Maria Cristina dedicated to the musicals of Yasunori Mitsuda. The second starts at 10pm in the Recinto Eduardo Ocón and is dedicated to music from TV shows. On 4 July, 9.30pm at the Teatro Echegaray the Orquesta de la Catedral de Córdoba play music by composers such as Leo Birenberg and Daniel Pemberton. On 5 July at 8.30pm the Malaga Symphonic pay homage to Robert Folk in the Teatro Cervantes. The festival finishes 6 July, 8.30pm in Teatro Cervantes with attribute to John Debney by the Malaga Philharmonic and the Catedral de Córdoba choir. Tickets from the theatre or from www.uniticket.es

Music from the time of Pedro de Mena

Malaga. 28 June, 3, 10, 17 July. Palacio Episcopal and Cathedral. Free.

"La música europea en tiempos de Pedro de Mena (1628-1688)" is the theme for the series of concerts at the Bishop's palace.



Ojeando festival, Ojén

Starlite Festival

Marbella. 5 July until 24 August. Cantera Nagüeles.

5 July, 20 August. Manuel Carrasco.

6 July. Juanes. Latin.

10 July. Nicky Jam. Reggaeton.

11 July. The Beach Boys. Then And Now tour.

Classical Music Concert

Malaga. 5 July, 9pm. St George's Church, Avda de Pries 1. 20€.

Three award winning artists from the Juilliard School, New York - Thomas Kaurich (pianist), John Sharp (cellist) and Liba Shacht

(violinist) will perform works by Hayden, Granados and Mendelssohn. Price includes a pre-concert glass of wine/cava. Reservations or more information call: 638339691.

Music in the patio

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

Los Malagatos will perform songs from Spanish folklore, maragatos and other typical songs of rural Malaga.

Ojeando

Ojén. 28, 29 June, from 9pm.

Three stages will be in use during the festival in Patio Victoria, Plaza and Molino. With live bands and Djs. More information and tickets sales: <http://ojeando-festival.es/>

Louie Louie Rock Live

Estepona. Louie Louie Bar.

28 June, 11pm. Charly and the Conuts. 5€

28 June, from 1am. Pink Purple Zep Fest after party with the bands and The Habituales (28th). 10€.

29 June, from 11.45pm. Pink Purple Zep Fest after party with the bands and Jet Stream. 10€

Joven Orquesta Provincia de Málaga

Malaga. 3 July, 8pm, 4 July, midday. Teatro Edgar Neville.

As part of the Festival de Orquestas de Jóvenes 'Bernardo de Gálvez' the Malaga Youth Orchestra will be performing in two concerts. Tickets from mientrada.net

Joven Orquesta Palestina-Fundación Barenboim Said

Malaga. 5 July, 9pm, Casa de la Cultura. teatro Edgar Neville

The Palestine Youth Orchestra made up of students from the Fundación Barenboim-Said in Ramala, Palestine will be playing pieces by Mozart. Tickets: mientrada.net

Malaga Philharmonic Orchestra

Malaga. Malaga Cathedral

28 June, 8.30pm. 'Music from the



Japanese drummers, Terral

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.

Festival Terral

Malaga. Until 7 August, 8.30pm. Teatro Cervantes.

28 June. Zenet.

29 June. Rufus Wainwright.

30 June. Ute Lemper.

1 July. Richard Bona's Bona de la Frontera.

2 July. Paquita D'Rivera Septet.

7 July. Michel Camilo & Tomatito.

7 August. Yamato drummers from Japan.

Tango

Malaga. 6, 7 July, 8.30pm. Teatro Echegaray

Tango dancers Natasha and Alfredo and Débora Godoy and Carlos Guevar will be presenting Tangos de Ayer, Hoy y Mañana (6 July) and Una Historia del Tango (7 July). Tickets: 902 360295 / 952 076262 or www.unientradas.es



Tango, Malaga

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FLAMENCO

The Art of Flamenco

Malaga 28, 29 June. Museo Picasso Málaga.

Today, 28 June Lela Sota and Rafael Riqueni will be performing at 7pm followed by Pepe Luis Carmona Habichuela and Diego Carrasco at 10.30pm. Saturday 29 June La Fabi and José del Tomate will be on stage from 7pm and Ana Crisman and La Negra performing at 10.30pm.

Daniel Romero

Nerja. 29 June, 9pm. Centro Cultural Villa de Nerja.

Flamenco dancer Daniel Romero will be performing with his dance group.



Flamenco Azúl, Malaga

Festival Flamenco de Málaga

Malaga 28, 29 June from 9.30pm. Plaza de la Alcazabilla

To celebrate the 40th anniversary of the Festival Flamenco Ciudad de Málaga there will be free performances by several local flamenco

dancers, singers and musicians including Virginia Gámez, La Re-pomilla and Carmen González.

Flamenco Azúl

Malaga 2 July, 8.30pm. Auditorio Edgar Neville, C/Pacífico.

French flamenco company Ana Pérez from Marseille will be performing as an 'ambassador' of French flamenco for the Flamenco Bienial de Málaga.

FESTIVALS

Las Noches Al-Loárabe

Álora. 28, 29 June from 8pm.

The town of Álora looks back to its past and celebrates its Arabic history with activities related to Al-Andalus such as an authentic souk with crafts, guided visits of the local monuments, concerts and free entry to the museum and Arabic water cistern.

Fiestas de San Pedro

Arriate. Until 30 June.

This festival marks the beginning of summer with another procession of Corpus Christi on Saturday morning.

Feria de la Cala del Moral

Rincón de la Victoria. Until 30 June.

La Cala del Moral has been celebrating this festival for the past fifty years. It includes the traditional 'jabega' (fishing boat) regatta, fishing competition, race, live music etc.

A musical reunion in one of Malaga's most tranquil spots

JENNIE RHODES

MALAGA. Malaga resident, Thomas Kaurich, will be accompanied by two former Julliard School colleagues, Liba Schacht and John Sharp, on Friday 5 July at the English Cemetery in Malaga. The three, will be forming a chamber music trio (piano, violin, and cello) for the first time since they left the school. The programme will include pieces by composers Haydn, Granados and Mendelssohn.

Pianist Kaurich has performed at the English Cemetery as well as other venues in Andalucía before.

Liba plays a Teckler violin from 1724, while John's cello is a rare Guanari from 1694. They explain that it belonged to the principal cellist of the Berlin Philharmonic in the 1920s and 1930s. "During the war he lost his position on account of being half Jewish, and the cello was hidden in a bank vault in Copenhagen." Both the cellist and the cello survived the war, and the instrument ended up in New York, where John acquired it. The cello



Liba Schacht and John Sharp during a previous performance.

INFORMATION

► **What:** Chamber music trio Thomas Kaurich, Liba Schacht and John Sharp.

► **Where:** The English Cemetery, Malaga (5 July), Bodegas Bentomiz (7 July).

► **Information and tickets:** English Cemetery: 638339691, or Bodegas Bentomiz: www.bodegasbentomiz.com

gets its own plane ticket and a window seat "It's almost a family member, in fact," laughs Liba.

Liba was born in Lithuania and grew up in Tel Aviv before coming to Julliard. John is originally from Waco, Texas. They now live in Chicago, where John is the Principal Cello of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, and Liba is a violinist with the Lyric Opera of Chicago. This is the first time they have been in Spain for over 30 years. The trio will also be performing at Bodegas Bentomiz in Sayalonga on Sunday 7 July.



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EVENTS

Summer nights in Antequera

Antequera. Until 14 September The Dólmenes, El Torcal, the Alcazaba and the Peña de los Enamorados will be open for many different activities and theatrical tours. Contact the Tourist office for more information: 952702505 / 952708305.

TOPS Western Garden Party

Alhaurín el Grande. 6 July, from 7pm. Off Cártama Road. A Western themed party. Costumes not essential. Bring your own food, drinks available from TOPS' bar. There will be a Western quiz and Western music. Tickets 5€ from Martin's and Cristina's shops in AEG. Contact Maggie: topsforcharity@gmail.com - or call Cath Bradley: 627 293 609.

Beach Clean-up

Almuñécar/La Herradura. 30 June, from 10am.

The community beach clean up will take place in Almuñécar and La Herradura on Sunday, 30 June from 10am until 11.30am. Register free at: <http://www.Playa-Patrol.com/register/>. Playa Mango (La Herradura) and Arena (Playa Puerta del Mar), will provide volunteers a complimentary drink and tapas.

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
Tell It To The Bees: 16.30, 18.05, 22.05.
Mid 90s: 21.30.

Cinesur El Ingenio

Avda. Juan Carlos I, Vélez-Málaga. Tel. 667 77 31 87.
Aladdin: 12.20 (every day); 17.40, 20.15, 22.50 (Mon, Tues, Thurs).
Men In Black: International: 12.15, 16.00.
Toy Story 4: 12.00, 12.30, 16.20, 23.45 (every day); 16.45, 18.55, 21.05, 23.15 (Mon, Tues, Thurs).

Cines Teatro Goya

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

Iconic Ronda locations to host 20th edition of contemporary music festival

BY TONY BRYANT

RONDA. The Real Maestranza de Caballería (RMR) will host La Semana de la Música de Ronda from Tuesday 2 until Friday 5 July. The four-day music festival will take place in the bullring and other emblematic locations in Ronda and presents a programme of concerts featuring contemporary music from the seventeenth century until the present day.

The festival, which is celebrating its twentieth anniversary, will offer performances by several renowned classical musicians and orchestras, including soprano Irene Román, pianist Isabel Puente, and the Metropolitan Symphony Orchestra of Seville.

The festival is organised by Ronda town hall and the RMR, a cultural institution founded in 1573 that is dedicated to the preservation, dissemination and research of the town's historical and cultural heritage.

The festival will begin with a special concert in the bullring on Tuesday 2 July at 9.30pm, when the New York Youth Symphony Orchestra (NYYS) will play pieces by composers such as Beethoven, Mendelssohn, Brahms and Shostakovich.

The NYYS is nationally recognised for its innovative educational programmes for talented young musicians and for providing opportunities to perform at world-class venues. The orchestra is made up of qualified students from all backgrounds and offers rigorous programmes in orchestra, chamber music, jazz, musical theatre composition and conducting for students between the ages of 12 and 22.



The NYYS will perform in the bullring in Ronda next week. :: SUR

The orchestra has performed at more than 20 concerts this season, including one at Carnegie Hall in New York, where they entertained an audience of 8,500 people. Under the baton of conductor Michael Repper, the NYYS will make their European debut during a ten-day tour of Spain that will take them to Valladolid, Madrid, Seville and Malaga. Following their performance in Ronda, the orchestra will perform at the Edgar Neville Theatre in Malaga on Wednesday 3 and Thursday 4 July.

CONCERTS

► **Tuesday 2 July, 9.30pm.** New York Youth Symphony. Maestranza bullring.

► **Wednesday 3 July, 8.30pm.** Isabel Puente. Biblioteca de la Maestranza.

► **Thursday 4 July, 9pm.** Metropolitan Symphony Orchestra of Seville. Picadero de la Maestranza.

► **Friday 5 July, 8.30pm.** Irene Román. Ermita de la Virgen de la Cabeza.

formance in Ronda, the orchestra will perform at the Edgar Neville Theatre in Malaga on Wednesday 3 and Thursday 4 July.

La Semana de la Música de Ronda will finish on Friday 5 July with a classical music concert held in the Ermita de la Virgen de la Cabeza, a tenth-century hermitage located in a cave.

Tickets for the festival cost between 10 and 15 euros and are available online (www.musica-ronda.com) or at the ticket office of the Maestranza bullring and the Casa de Cultura in Ronda.

Toy Story 4: 15.45, 18.00, 20.10 (every day); 17.30 (every day except Mon and Tues).

Men In Black: International: 20.30, 22.45.

Aladdin: 15.30, 17.50.

Godzilla: King Of The Monsters: 15.40, 18.00, 22.00.

Child's Play: 15.40 (every day except Mon and Tues); 16.00 (Mon, Tues); 18.15, 22.45 (every day).

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Aladdin: 15.55 (every day).



Beach clean up, Almuñécar

Godzilla: King Of The Monsters 21.50 (Tues).

Men In Black: International: 12.45 (Sat, Sun); 19.15 (Tues).

Rocketman: 12.40 (Sat, Sun); 18.55 (Tues).

Child's Play: 12.50 (Sat, Sun), 22.35 (Tues).

Toy Story 4: 12.00, 13.00 (Sat, Sun); 17.45, 19.50 (every day).

Yelmo Cines, Rincón de la Victoria

Calle Arroyo Totalán. Tel: 902 220 922 or visit www.yelmocines.es

Aladdin: 22.30 (Tues).

Men In Black International: 17.10 (Tues).

Rocketman: 19.00 (Tues).

Child's Play: 22.10 (Tues).

Toy Story 4: 13.00 (Sat, Sun); 20.40 (Tues).

Yelmo Cines, Vialia.

Centro Comercial Vialia. Tel: 902 220 922 or visit www.yelmocines.es

Aladdin: 21.10 (Tues).

Godzilla King Of The Monsters: 21.40 (Tues).

The Dead Don't Die: 12.50 (Sat, Sun); 19.55 (Tues).

Rocketman: 22.35 (Tues).

Toy Story 4: 12.00 (Sat, Sun).

Child's Play: 22.15 (Tues).

Tolkien: 15.50 (Fri, Sat).

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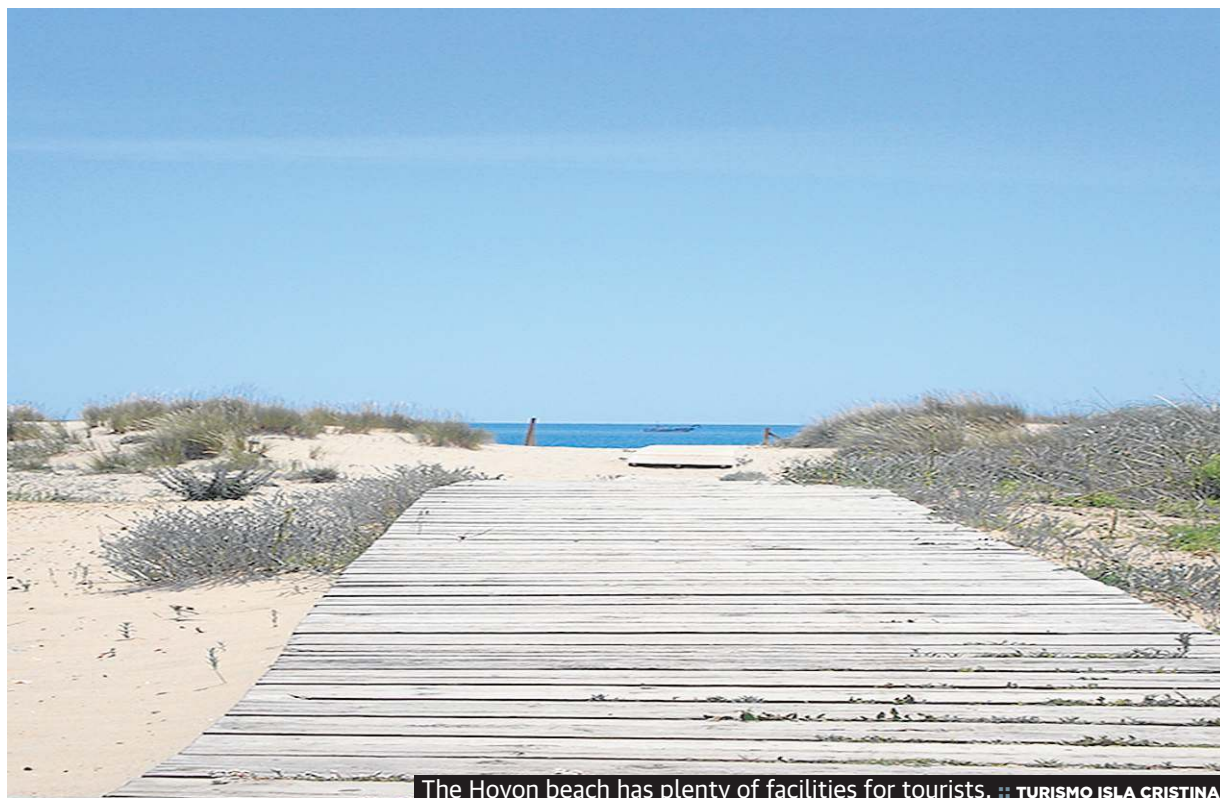
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Marshes with huge ecological value, a gastronomy specialising in Atlantic seafood and fabulous beaches make Isla Cristina one of the most coveted tourist destinations in Spain during the summer.

The origin of this pretty town date back to the second half of the 18th century, when people settled there to work in the fishing industry and salt mining. In fact, salt extraction is still

one of the economic motors of this town in Huelva province, in which Blas Infante, who became known as the 'Father of Andalucía' went to live.

As well as an important historical heritage with some impressive buildings from the 19th and 20th century, Isla Cristina today is famous for its tourist facilities on the shores of the Atlantic Ocean.

Along its 12 kilometres of coastline there are a dozen beaches of fine white sand,

the best-known of which are the Playa del Hoyo, Central, La Gaviota, Casita Azul and Islantilla, which is situated in an outlying district of the same name.

Tourists will find all the facilities and services they could wish for on these beautiful beaches, many of which are set in very natural surroundings. Visitors really are spoiled for choice.

The nearby marshes, called Marismas de Isla Cristina, form a valuable environmental area and beauty spot which is shared with neighbouring Ayamonte. This large expanse of wetland surrounds and protects the town, and there are sand dunes, woods of pine trees and lagoons. There are several designated walking routes, most of which start at Ayamonte.

These marshes can boast a wide variety of wildlife and walkers are likely to see herons, white storks and common avocets, as well as the unusual chameleons in their most natural environment.

Thanks to its location on the Atlantic, Isla Cristina also has an important port for fishing and leisure boats. Unsurprisingly, fish and seafood play an important part in the local gastronomy, served in a variety of ways ranging from fish stews to grilled or boiled shellfish.



Marismas de Isla Cristina. :: TURISMO ANDALUZ

QUICK GUIDE

Where to visit in Isla Cristina

Church of Nuestra Señora de los Dolores. The main church of the town, built in the 20th century.
Calle Gran Vía, 16, 21410 Isla Cristina.



Monument to sailors. At the junction of Avenida Federico Silva Muñoz and Avenida del Carnaval.
21410 Isla Cristina.



Marismas de Isla Cristina. Wetland with huge environmental value between the Guadiana and Carreras rivers.
21410 Isla Cristina.

Marina. A leisure port beside the fishing port, at the mouth of the Carreras river.
Punta del Caimán, s/n. 21410 Isla Cristina.



Blas Infante's house. The house in which, from 1923 to 1931, the man known as 'The Father of Andalucía' lived.
Calle Diego Pérez Pascual, 7. 21410 Isla Cristina.



IRMA CUESTA

The day they told him he had prostate cancer, Ben Stiller went into a panic. The actor returned home, trying to take the news in, and started looking on the internet for information which might help to calm him down. The list of survivors made him feel optimistic: John Kerry, Rudy Giuliani, Robert DeNiro... the star of *There's Something About Mary* has admitted that, like more than a million men who are diagnosed with a tumour of this type every year, he was shocked to hear the diagnosis.

"I didn't know what to do and I needed some sort of proof that this wasn't the end of the world. Neither my age nor family history had made me think anything like this could happen," he said in an interview about medical tests which can save lives. These include magnetic resonance, which urologists all over the world are enthusiastic about nowadays. They are convinced that this is the silver bullet with the ability to tackle an illness which affects one in every seven men in Spain and whose diagnosis is not always reliable.

In the near future magnetic resonance imagery, or MRI as it is known, could be a method of detection comparable to the mam-



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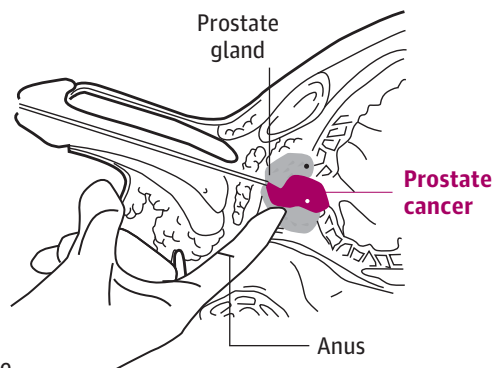
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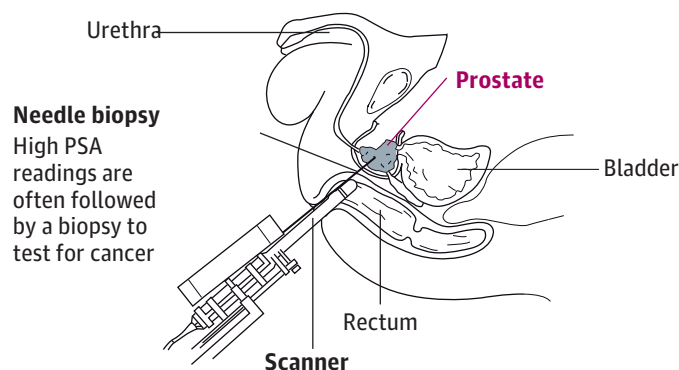
The doctor inserts a finger in the rectum and feels the prostate gland to examine its size, shape and hardness



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Prostate Specific Antigen (PSA) and biopsy

Men with prostate cancer generally have a high level of PSA, a protein produced by the prostate, which is measured with a blood test



Needle biopsy
High PSA readings are often followed by a biopsy to test for cancer

Reliability:
High PSA readings do not necessarily indicate cancer, just that there are alterations that may need treatment

GRAPHIC E.C.

mograms that have been available for women for a long time. At the moment a group of men in the UK are undergoing these non-invasive tests, which take images of the inside of the body to detect any abnormal growth of the prostate, so experts can decide whether or not to establish them as routine under the NHS.

The team doing the research at University College London said this week that it will soon be able to confirm whether MRI is the path to follow because it is considered infinitely better than rectal examination, blood tests and biopsies.

The PSA blood test for the prostate-specific antigen misses about 15 per cent of cancers and at the same time detects others which will never be a serious risk for the patient. In fact, approximately three out of every four men with a high PSA level will never develop cancer in their lives, but many are obliged to have a biopsy because of this type of analysis.

This involves taking small samples of tissue from the prostate gland, using a needle, so they can be examined under a microscope. This process sometimes fails to detect a cancer or doesn't show whether it is aggressive, and as if

José Gregorio Pereira
Urologist at **Clínica Zorrotzaurre**

"The MRI is the way forward, but there is still a long way to go"

José Luis Gutiérrez Baños Head of department at **Valdecilla hospita**

"It is a fact that resonance reduces the number of biopsies needed"

Antonio Prieto National Prostate Cancer Association

"Our aim is for a PSA analysis to be carried out as a minimum"

that were not bad enough, it can cause side effects such as bleeding, serious infection and even erectile dysfunction.

The leader of the project, Dr Mark Emberton, says that compared with this accumulation of negative or non-conclusive results, MRI, which does not involve injection or radiation, has been per-

fected and is definitive "in cancers which will affect the quality or length of life". He also says that around 90 per cent of the men who have this test before retirement age can have peace of mind and forget about this illness.

"Prostate cancer is quite slow-growing, so if the image of the prostate is perfectly clean at the age of 55 or 60, it is very probable that the man will never suffer from it," he says. He also says the test is very close to perfection.

"In future the results of examinations will be classified by a traffic light system: green means all clear, amber shows the need for more tests and red means seeing a specialist urgently," he explains. He is convinced that a magnetic resonance test could cost less than 200 euros and, in time, could be available at any shopping centre.

Too optimistic

Although the idea sounds promising, not all specialists are as enthusiastic as Dr Emberton.

Anthony D'Amico, a professor of radiation oncology at the Faculty of Medicine at Harvard University (Boston) believes there is insufficient data to confirm that MRI is the definitive solution, nor to propose it as a profitable



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➤ measure. "Data from other institutions shows that MRI only finds 80 per cent of serious tumours and fails to detect 50 per cent of other cases of high-degree cancer," he insists.

His call for caution is shared by some Spanish experts such as José Gregorio Pereira, director of the Robotic Laparoscopy Unit at the Zorrotzaurre Clinic in Bilbao, who until a few months ago was the head of Urology at the Galdakao-Usánsolo hospital. He says that resonance, which has been used in Spain for years, is extremely expensive.

"I know Dr Emberton person-

ally, and I know he is looking to the future but I believe it is too optimistic. The reality is that we would need highly specialised radiographers and they have to be trained. Also a negative resonance is not definitive in as many as 20 per cent of cases, and the tests are very expensive and would be difficult to cover under the health service," he says.

He recognises, however, that this type of technology is here to stay. "In an era of 'big data' and artificial intelligence it is easy to think of a future like the picture Emberton paints, but we're not there yet. Why don't they do MRI



A doctor and patient discuss a hypertrophied prostate. :: R. C.

which are over-treated. In fact, there is no general criteria at all about whether screening should be carried out as a matter of course among the population.

Antonio Prieto González, head of the Urology section at the Virgen de Arrixaca hospital in Murcia and president of the National Prostate Cancer Association, says this type of test used to be carried out quite regularly in Spain several years ago. "At first there weren't many radiographers to do this type of test, but now there are more and so we are asking specialists for them more often," he says.

He confirms that in Spain the PSA is still the first filter and that, when this marker is high or there has been a suspicious result from a rectal examination, they now request resonance scans whereas before they used to ask for a biopsy as a first option.

"Just as with breast cancer we automatically do a mammogram, we want a PSA analysis to be established as the way to test for prostate cancer, and it is cheaper," he explains.

The road is signposted now, but there is still a long way to go to reach the end.

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scans on breasts, as they are extremely reliable? Because they are very expensive and a mammogram only costs four euros," he says.

Dr Pereira's opinion is very similar to that of José Luis Gutiérrez Baños, the head of the Urology Department at the Valdecilla hospital in Cantabria. Both experts were among more than 1,000 who recently attended the National Urology Conference in Bilbao.

"The world of prostate cancer changes from one month to the next. At present, doing a resonance

before a biopsy enables us to detect the onset of risky cancer. It is a fact that resonance reduces the number of biopsies carried out unnecessarily, and the objective is for more MRIs to be done, but that also needs a high degree of specialisation from the radiographer," says Dr Gutiérrez Baños. He admits that they have been stabbing in the dark for years and that the debate is now on the table.

"We have early diagnosis based on the PSA, but that leads to diagnoses of insignificant tumours

PROSTATE CANCER

Very common

The Spanish Society of Medical Oncology estimates that this year the most common type of cancer diagnosed in men in Spain will be prostate, with more than 34,300 new cases. In fact, nowadays it is the second most common type of cancer in men. The positive aspect is that the survival rate has been continually increasing in recent years. The number of diagnoses all over the world every year is around 1,276,106. In the USA alone there are 185,000, and 47,300 in the UK.

5,500 deaths

In Spain, although the mortality

rate is reducing, about 5,500 men die every year from this type of tumour, which is 2.8 per cent of all deaths among the Spanish male population.

Advice

Every man over the age of 45 who has risk factors should be tested to detect prostate cancer as early as possible. Among those most predisposed to this type of cancer are black men and those whose closest relatives (father, brother or son) are diagnosed with prostate cancer at an early age (younger than 65).

75%

Three out of every four patients with localised prostate

cancer are cured. In addition, 80 per cent of patients with prostate cancer which is not aggressive and is very localised survive more than ten years without any treatment being necessary.

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Surgeons on charity mission in Sierra Leone

César Ramírez and Paco Gómez, from Malaga, have now taken part in seven campaigns in Africa and have operated on more than 1,000 people

■ SUR

MALAGA. César Ramírez, a surgeon from Malaga, recently operated on around 50 adults in Sierra Leone in just five days, as part of the Cirujanos en Acción group's 'Bisturí Solidario' (Solidarity Scalpel) campaign. The slogan of the campaign is: The formula for solidarity is work + science + humanism to achieve a more just world.

The temperature was around 40°C and the high humidity made the heat even more unbearable for the ten volunteers who travelled to Sierra Leone from different parts of Spain. Two were from Malaga: César Ramírez, the team coordinator, and Paco Gómez.

They have already taken part in seven campaigns together and have operated on more than 1,000 people, transported 2,000 kilos of medical and surgical material and trained dozens of professionals in countries where not everyone can access up-to-date medical training.



José Miguel Morán, César Ramírez and Paco Gómez with local doctors and nurses. ■ SUR

The Sierra Leone mission took place from 17 to 22 June. The team of doctors comprised César Ramírez, Teresa Butrón, Guadalupe Moreno, Hermelinda Pardella (surgeons); José Miguel Morán (pediatric surgeon); anaesthetists Beatriz Fort, Sandra Casares, Salvatore Ca-

tania and nurses Paco Gómez and Silvestra Barrena.

On the first day they saw 300 patients in three rooms set up for triage, two for adults and one for children. In the following days they performed surgery on 100 adults and 30 children.

In all, they carried out 160 surgical procedures, working marathon days of up to 16 hours in extreme temperatures and in tremendously difficult conditions. The operations included advanced pathologies of the abdominal wall and inguinal hernias, in some cases measuring

half a metre and weighing more than five kilos. These were extremely complex operations but they were successful and carried out with no complications.

"For a more just world it is essential for people to help others," says Dr Ramírez.

Extreme poverty

Hernias are problems which affect men and women equally, and prevent them doing anything which requires physical effort. In Sierra Leone this problem can result in families ending up in the most extreme poverty, because in this country work is the only way to bring money into a household.

This is a country where poverty and health mark the lives of the population, and life expectancy is only 55 years. It is a country desolated by the consequences of ten years of civil war (1991-2001), and the Ebola epidemic between 2014 and 2016.

This is just one of the projects which will benefit from the fundraising dinner which is to be held on Saturday 13 July at the Colegio de Médicos in Malaga, as all the money raised will be used for missions coordinated by Dr Ramírez in Sierra Leone, Liberia and Uganda. In Uganda, the works are now being completed on the surgical pavilion which Bisturí Solidario is building in Kamatur.

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Women start smoking, drinking and taking psychotropic drugs at an earlier age than men

Proyecto Hombre warns of an increase in young people seeking help for addictions to new technology and behavioural problems

■ ANTONIO M. ROMERO

MALAGA. Most women start smoking, drinking and taking psychotropic drugs earlier than men, with 27 per cent starting between the ages of ten and 14, whereas most males don't begin until at least 15. This information comes from the annual report produced by Proyecto Hombre in Malaga, which was officially presented this week. The association, which has been in existence for 33 years, specialises in helping people who suffer addiction as well as working towards prevention.

The report for 2018 warns that more young people are being treated for addictions, misuse of new technology (mobile phones, tablets and social media) and behavioural problems, especially disruptive behaviour.

These are called non-substance addictions, and they increased from



The Proyecto Hombre annual report was officially presented in Malaga this week. ■ SUR

eight per cent in 2016 to nearly 30 per cent last year.

Technology

"Nowadays it is rarely just a case of disruptive behaviour; they misuse new technology as well. We often find in the end, when children have come to us with another problem, that this is the real underlying problem or, at least, it is associated with their violence, self-

neglect or failure at school," said the director of Proyecto Hombre, Belén Pardo.

In 2018 the association attended to 612 people in Malaga province (459 men and 153 women). The association has different programmes; 392 people took part in the basic programme which is for people with serious personal, family, social or employment problems caused by their addiction.

Another 85 attended the evening programme for those with an addiction who are highly motivated to change and who have a family, social and work structure. Meanwhile the youth programme assisted 34 people aged between 18 and 25, while 36 attended the women's programme and 65 took part in the special programme for children.

The principal substance con-

sumed is cocaine, with an average of 46 per cent of people who attend the basic and evening programme addicted to it, and a high percentage of those who seek help also consumed cannabis or alcohol at an early age, said Belén Pardo at the press conference.

Employed and addicted

The profile of the typical user of Proyecto Hombre is a male with a full-time job (70.24 per cent), and 44.24 per cent of the women are working full-time. Twenty-four per cent of women using the services work part-time, and a further 18.4 per cent are housewives at present because they are unemployed.

Altogether, 63 people successfully completed one of the programmes at Proyecto Hombre in 2018. It was a year with a focus on preventive campaigns at schools and aimed at families.

Talks were given at 88 schools (60 per cent were private schools and the remainder state schools), reaching 15,734 pupils.

Training was provided for 698 teachers and the experts also worked with 8,040 families in the province.

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Sergio García begins Andalucía Masters title defence at Valderrama

The course at Sotogrande plays host to this European Tour tournament until Sunday

■ SUR

MALAGA. The Andalucía Masters, which returned to the European Tour calendar in 2017 after an absence of six years, is under way at Valderrama Golf Club in Sotogrande with Sergio García keen to seal victory for the third year, and fourth tournament, in succession.

García became the first Spanish player to win a tournament on strokes at the Real Club Valderrama thanks to his hard-fought triumph in the 2011 edition. Having won the 2017 Masters at Augusta and become a Ryder Cup record-holder, he went on to extend his relationship with the Cadiz course by taking the title when the Andalucía event returned to the international calendar of the European Tour.

Last year García added to his impressive record at Valderrama by lifting the trophy (which is backed by his Foundation) for the third time on this historic course for Spanish golf; it was here that the legendary



García finished the first day of action in joint second place. ■ EFE / A.CARRASCO RAGEL

Seve Ballesteros led Europe to victory in the Ryder Cup in 1997. However, this year the battle for the title of the tournament will be especially enticing to watch.

News sponsors

Estrella Damm is the new main sponsor of the Andalucía Masters

for the next five years. Thanks to this new incorporation, the prize money for the Estrella Damm N.A. Andalucía Masters will be three million euros - one million more than in 2018.

This sum is undoubtedly a reason why this year's edition, which will run until Sunday, has managed

to attract some of the best national and foreign players, with the headliner undoubtedly Jon Rahm.

García's title defence got under way on Thursday and he equalled his lowest ever round at Valderrama to sit just one shot off the clubhouse lead, held by Frenchman Victor Perez, on day one.

IN BRIEF

Ex-volleyball star dies suddenly, aged 46

MALAGA / MADRID

■ S. C. / AGENCIES. Miguel Ángel Falasca, considered by many to be Spain's greatest even volleyball player, died expectedly of a heart attack in a hotel in Italy on Saturday.

Falasca, 46, was born in Argentina but moved to Malaga aged 15. He was a member of Spain men's national volleyball team from 1993 to 2009, going to the Sydney 2000 Olympics and winning the 2007 European Championships during a distinguished career.

Fourth place for Malaga triathlete in Antwerp

MALAGA

■ SUR. Malaga triathlete Alberto González came in fourth in Sunday's round of the ITU Triathlon World Cup in Antwerp.

The 20-year-old finished just five seconds off a podium finish during a day in which he formed part of the leading group.

He recorded a time of 59:35, coming in behind Tayler Reid (New Zealand), Gabriel Sandor (Sweden) and Diego Moya (Chile).

Participants had to cover 750 metres swimming, 20 kilometres cycling and a final five running.



WILD CARD LÓPEZ TRIUMPHS AT QUEEN'S

Veteran Spanish tennis star Feliciano López, 37, became the first wild card since Pete Sampras (in 1999) to win the singles title at the Ferret-Tree Championships at Queen's in London on Sunday. López beat fellow veteran Gilles Simon 6-2 6-7 (4-7) 7-6 (7-2) after almost five hours on court. López then returned alongside Andy Murray later the same day to clinch the doubles title too.

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Vive Valderrama

Future still in the air nearly a fortnight on

Malaga take their time over decisions, making few moves since the promotion dream ended

ANTONIO GÓNGORA



✉ Twitter: @GongoraSUR

The club is expected to keep Víctor Sánchez on as head coach but conversations over the future direction are still ongoing

MALAGA. The clock is already ticking on Malaga and sporting director José Luis Caminero. Though the long Segunda season (made even longer by the side's participation in the play-offs) only concluded less than a fortnight ago, preseason training is just around the corner and there is plenty of work to be done behind the scenes to ensure that Malaga can remain competitive next season.

While the lack of activity so far is a concern to those outside the club, sources consulted by SUR say that a number of deals are close to completion and could be finalised within the next few days.

Priorities

Caminero has to manage three major priorities this summer: secure a new coach for next season, reduce the size of the squad and bring in new players who will improve the current group.

Víctor Sánchez is the club's first choice for the head coach role having turned around the team's fortunes during his brief tenure at the helm. A meeting was held with him and his coaching staff on Monday last week to outline the new reality for the club, in terms of financial limitations.

In this meeting it was made clear that a number of changes would have to be made in the way that the club operates, but principally with regard to the playing squad.

Though talks over a contract are yet to take place, within the club they are confident that a deal can



Víctor, during the last game against Deportivo. :: SALVADOR SALAS

Sheikh Al-Thani sends consultant to analyse the state of affairs

Malaga club president Sheikh Abdullah Al-Thani has sent a special consultant to analyse the state of affairs at the club following the side's failure to achieve promotion back to La Liga.

This is not the first time that the sheikh has employed an outsider to verify the information he is receiving from club employees.

But now with finances limited, the sheikh hopes that this independent advisor, who has been working on his own since his arrival on Monday and could be in the La Rosaleda offices for up to two weeks, will be able to provide feedback on possible changes to be made in the club's management.

be reached without the need for urgency.

More pressing is the need to move players on, especially those who are high earners, with the wage cap set to drop to around 50 per cent of what it was for last season. On this front, very little has been achieved so far, barring the decision not to activate the extension clause in Yevhen Seleznov's contract and Rajko Brežančić's imminent return to his home country and Partizan, as both parties look to terminate his contract by mutual consent.

However, it is only once the squad, currently consisting of more than 30 players, has been trimmed that new players can arrive.

Assuming that Víctor stays, Caminero already knows what profile of player he likes. However, if someone else is to take over, the list of targets may need to be recalibrated.

In any case, the hope is that half of the squad will be in place for the start of preseason in mid-July with the rest of the planning going down to the wire.



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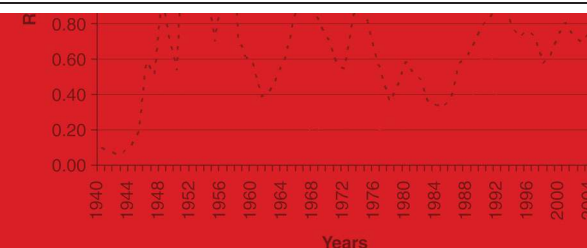
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The Atlético Malagueño squad last season. :: GERMÁN POZO

Youth budget to fall to less than 2.5 million euros

:: SERGIO CORTÉS

MÁLAGA. Once upon a time investment in the youth ranks at Málaga was a priority. However now, following relegation and a failed attempt at returning to the top flight, significant cuts are set to be imposed on spending.

The budget for youth development was set at 4.3 million euros last year but with the first team remaining in Segunda, and the reserve side Atlético Malagueño being relegated from Segunda B back to Tercera, that figure is set

to be slashed to around 2.5 million euros - a stark contrast to the six million euros afforded during the time when the Academy was the envy of many sides across Europe.

With the likes of Iván, Keidi Bare, Álex Mula, Hicham and Jack Harper graduating to the first team, Malagueño's squad next year is now likely to be made up of an even younger core, built around Hugo, Iván Jaime and Juan Cruz, with even less room for readying players for the first team.

Malaga Genuine given a hero's reception

The side were given an open-top bus parade and a reception at the city hall after winning the league

:: PEDRO LUIS ALONSO

MÁLAGA. Málaga's Genuine side, for players with intellectual disabilities, were given a hero's reception on Thursday last week after being crowned league champions.

Following refreshments in the VIP box at La Rosaleda, the team and the coaching staff were taken on an open-top bus to receive the

adulation of the city on the way to a reception at the city hall. There, they were welcomed by mayor Francisco de la Torre, councillor for Culture and Sport, Noelia Losada, and regional minister for Education and Sport, Mercedes García Payne.

The players were then invited to the balcony where they received recognition from the dozens of fans who had gathered outside.

Now that the season is over, Málaga CF's only victorious team this year already have an eye on the make-up of the squad for next year with around 60 new candidates vying for a place in the team.



The squad on the steps of the city hall last week. :: PEDRO J. QUERO

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A LOOK AT LA LIGA

The transfer merry-go-round

Big names are being linked with big moves; it only takes one to send the market into overdrive

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This summer is going to be a headline writer's dream, with superstar names screaming out from the front pages of the sports dailies almost every day.

Antoine Griezmann will head to Barcelona, possibly Neymar too. Gareth Bale is expected to depart Real Madrid with a 'Galáctico' taking his place (it could be Paul Pogba), and Atlético Madrid are also splashing the cash.

It's all gone quiet on the Griezmann front. It's clear he's moving and a press conference will be pencilled in once 1 July is reached, his buy-out clause drops and the ac-



Griezmann, Bale and Neymar will surely be on the move. :: AGENCIES

countants are happy.

The big question is will Neymar also join him at Barcelona? There's lots of newspaper inches discussing his future. Here I'm guilty of joining in with the charade!

It's clear that he's become too high maintenance for PSG who would be very happy to let him take his circus elsewhere and recoup most of the ludicrous 222 million euros they invested in his signature.

The Brazilian wants the highest profile move possible. It's been leaked that he'd quite fancy 'going home' to Barcelona. There seems to be a dignified silence from the Nou Camp. It's in their interest to be linked with a world class talent but I'm sure there are reservations about the baggage he brings. In fact, when he left he still wanted his loyalty bonus paying and the legal arguments continue.

Ousmane Dembélé still has to fully flourish at Barça and there are stories that Alexandre Lacazette could be on the recruitment radar. The French striker could be a more likely prospect given the complexities of FFP and the knock-on signing Neymar would have on balancing the books.

I'm not sure that too many people actually understand FFP but there must be somebody at Real Madrid who has got a handle on it and has told the president how many players he must shed.

It's obvious that Zinedine Zidane won't be pinning his faith in Gareth Bale and he needs to reduce his senior squad which is currently close to forty players. With the arrival of Eden Hazard's and Luka Jović there needs to be a couple of big sales. It's feasible that Isco may interest Manchester City, a club that's been linked with him in the past.

Bale's future is less certain. There's a limited number of clubs who could afford the expected transfer fee of around 80 million euros and only a finite list who could afford his

ROB PALMER

Commentator, Sky Sports
@robpalmer



wages. If we were all putting two and two together it would make sense for some deal to be bashed out with Manchester United where Pogba seems to be in a similar predicament as an expensive spare part.

The trend so far has been for clubs to invest in emerging young talent. Barcelona spent 75 million euros on Frenkie de Jong who was outstanding for Ajax last season; Real have invested 60 million in Luka Jović whose goalscoring record at Eintracht Frankfurt was impressive - although he looked like a young man with a million things on his mind at the European Under-21 Championships.

Atlético are set to invest 100 million to get João Félix from Benfica before any other club could swoop for the 19-year-old Portuguese wonderkid. It appears they have manoeuvred the market intelligently to invest the Griezmann money in Félix and Marcos Llorente from Real Madrid. Llorente cost 32 million from Real but he's replacing Rodri who seems to be heading to Manchester City for 72.

So by now I trust you are getting my drift? Every multi-million-euro move triggers the next multi-million-euro - or even pound - move. The transfer market is about to go into overdrive.

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Heartache as two penalties edge Spain out of the World Cup

The USA needed two spot kicks, one given by VAR, to get past La Roja and into the quarterfinals

SPAIN 1 USA 2

:: JAVIER VARELA

REIMS. In the end it took two penalties, one in controversial circumstances, to end Spain's World Cup dream. After reaching the last 16 stage for the first time, La Roja took on USA, the most successful women's team in history, in Reims on Monday evening and gave a good account of themselves as they fell by virtue of that single spot kick.

Jorge Vilda's side went out with the intention to make life difficult for the three-time world champions: gifting them a penalty in the sixth minute was certainly not part of that plan. Mapi León accidentally brought down Tobin Heath and co-captain Megan Rapinoe made no mistake from 12 yards out.

Nobody could have predicted what would follow just 169 seconds later. A lack of conviction on US keeper Alyssa Naeher's pass to Becky Sauerbrunn was seized upon and the ball broke nicely for Jennifer Hermoso to bend it into the



The Spain players following their elimination. :: J. C. CÁRDENAS / EFE

top corner. This was the first goal conceded by the US since the World Cup final last time out against Japan.

Naeher, visibly nervous after her error, transmitted this unease to her defenders and Spain were able to create their fair share of chances. In the second half, Patri Guijarro came closest as her strike from a tight angle grazed the far post.

However, just as in the first half, a penalty handed the US the advantage, albeit in a much more contentious manner. Rose Lavelle's delayed tumble after the slightest contact from Virginia Torrecilla required

the help of VAR, but the decision eventually went in the US's favour. Rapinoe stepped up again and while Sandra Paños went the right way this time, the strike had too much purchase and nestled into the back of the net.

With just 15 minutes remaining, Spain pushed for the equaliser but played more with heart than head and only a vague penalty shout from Torrecilla worried the tournament favourites.

Spain go home with their heads held high, safe in the knowledge that they gave one of the best teams in the world a tough game.

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Communion) Parroquia Virgen del Rocío.
Sotogrande, Sunday 12 noon. (Holy
Communion 2nd & 4th Sundays) La Iglesia
de Nuestra Sra. de la Merced. Chaplaincy
House. www.costachurch.com
Nerja: Sun 12 noon, San Miguel church,
Wed. 9.30am. (Church shop, C/Malaga 952
522 460.) Rev. Geoffrey Johnston,
952521339.
Almuñécar: Capilla de Nuestra Señora del
Carmen, (Fishermen's chapel) Chinasol.
Sun. 9.30am. (not August) Priest as Nerja.
Torre del Mar: St Barnabas IERE, 11am.
Morning Prayer 1st and 3rd Sunday, H.C.
2nd and 4th. Lux Mundi centre.
952030461.
Gibraltar: Cathedral of the Holy Trinity,
Sun 10.30. Tel. 78377.
Benalmádena Costa: Songs of Praise,
Interdenominational church service,
Castillo Bil Bil. Sun. 5.30pm. Oct. – May.
648666152.

MUSLIM

Marbella: Mezquita del Rey Abdulaziz.
Friday 2.30pm. 952774143.
Fuengirola: Mezquita del Centro Cultural
Suhail, Parque Doña Sofía. Friday worship
2.30pm. Tel 952473916.
Malaga: Mezquita, C/San Agustín 11.
Friday 2.30pm. 952228595.

ROMAN CATHOLIC

Marbella: Santo Cristo del Calvario Church,
Avda. del Calvario: Holy Mass in English,
11am. every Sunday. Tel: 952774 899.
Fuengirola: Capilla San José, Las Rampas
(Upper Level), Daily Mass (in English):
Mon-Fri 11am. Sat 7pm. Sun 11am.
Fuengirola: Lux Mundi, C/ Nueva, 12 Sun.
Arroyo de la Miel: Mass in English
Parroquia de la Inmaculada, Sunday
1.30pm.
Calahonda: Ermita de San Miguel, 12 Sun.
Benalmádena Costa: Parish Church of La
Virgen del Carmen, Avda. Bonanza. Bilingual
mass English/Spanish Sundays 10.30am.
Torre del Mar: Lux Mundi, Avda.
Moscatel,1-"I". Saturday. Winter 5pm,
summer 6 pm. 952543334.
Chiclana (Cadiz): Nstra Señora de Europa
church, Urb. Novo Sancti Petri, RC Mass in
English and German, Sunday 10.30am
**Pueblo Nuevo de Guadiaro -
Sotogrande (Cadiz)**: Mass in English,
Saturday 7pm and Sunday 10.30am at
Sanctuario de la Divina Misericodia
Malaga: Catholic mass in English, Avenida
Santiago Ramón y Cajal, Ciudad Jardín.
11.30am Sunday. 952260760.

METHODIST CHURCH

Gibraltar: Methodist Church, 297 Main
Street. Sun 11am and 8pm. +350 200
77491/+350 200 40870. Rev. Fidel Patron.
Sotogrande: La Iglesia de Nuestra Sra. de
la Merced 1st and 3rd Sundays 11.45a.m.
For more info. call 952 895 102.

CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST
OF LATTER DAY SAINTS

Mijas internacional: 10 am Sun Calle Rueda
7 , Los Boliches, 952469392 / 607521032.
Motril: Sun10 am. C/ Jesús del Gran Poder
34. 958 825665.
Malaga: Sun 10.30 am, C/Babel 1.
Algeciras: Sun 10.30 am. C/Sevilla 43. Tel.
956630894.
Nerja: Sun. 10.30 a.m. C/Granada,83. Tel.
607 522 671

JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES

Arroyo de la Miel: Avda Del Cerro de
Viento, s/n . Tues. 7.30pm. Sat. 4.30pm.
Tel. 952561170.
Fuengirola: Kingdom Hall, Plaza
Hispanidad, Service Meeting, Fri 7.30pm.
952469082.
Malaga: C/José Palanca, 20. Service Fri
8pm. Tues 7.15pm.
San Pedro: C/ Amor 6, Fuente Nueva.
English: Sun 11am & Wed 7.30pm.
Tagalog: Sun 1.30pm & Tues 7.30pm.
Kingdom Hall 952788855.
Torrox Costa: Local 17, Urb Costa de Oro.
Sun 11 a.m., Weds 7pm. Tel. 952526740.
Torre del Mar: Calle Infantes, Conjuntos
Islas del Sol. Scandinavian Sun 6pm, Thurs
7pm. German Sun 11am and Fri 7pm.
Coín: Calle Félix Rodríguez de la Fuente.
Weds 7.30pm, Sun 11.30am. 952499239.

EVANGELICAL CHURCH /
BAPTIST CHURCH

Los Boliches: Evangelical Church, Paseo
Marítimo 77. Sun:Worship and Bible
teaching, 4pm. Weds: Bible study and
prayer 7.30pm. Tel 952460728
Torremolinos: Evangelical Community
Church. Sun service 11am. C/Gregorio
Marañón 4. 952384706
Torremolinos: Gloryhouse International
Christian Center. African Pentecostal style.
Sun 11am C/ Danza Invisible, 7/8, Bloque
D, Nogalera. Pastor Moses. 679740825,
951210300
Nerja: Fellowship of the King, Pasaje San
Miguel, Sundays at 10.30am. 952 969 058
/ 958 658 439.
Nerja: Community Bible Fellowship, C/
Pintada 35, 2nd floor. English/ Spanish
Worship, Sunday 10am. 952521776.
Torre del Mar: Cornerstone International
Church. C/Solera 2. Sunday 11.30am.
Wednesday 6.30pm Bible study.
Calahonda: The Evangelical Christian
Fellowship, Ermita San Miguel. Sun
4.30pm. Rev. Peter Riggall, 952 588 160.
Arroyo de la Miel: Arroyo Baptist Church,
Sun 4pm. Conjunto Zodiaco, Edif. Aries,
C/ Sagitario. Tel. 95244796/952386716.
Calahonda: Baptist Church, Calle San
Jeronimo 1, Worship Sunday 11 am with
Sunday School. 952832533.
La Línea: Asambleas de Dios. C/San José,
41. Thurs 9pm. Sun 11am & 8 pm.
Marbella: Int. Christian F'ship. Sun
11.30am Ed. Milla de Oro. Tel 952810391.
Mijas Costa: Iglesias International Costa del
Sol, C/José de Orbaneja 10. Sun 11am and
7pm; Thur 7pm Tel:636 422 7
Puerto Banús: Christian Church (The
Wave) Worship Service: Sun 11am. The
Wave Café: Wed 11am. Prayer: Fri 12pm.
637408194/5 puertobanuschurch.com
Salobreña: Fellowship of the King. Various
locations. Sundays at 10am Tel.635 358
808 / 958 645 027
La Viñuela: El Puente Christian Fellowship.
Sundays 11am. Under Maroma
Inmobiliaria. 952117145 / 952518185
Fuengirola: Living Waters Community
Fellowship. C/Pintor Nogales, Las Rampas.
Sundays 11am.

Torremolinos: Christian ministry. Healing
of traumatic memories. Tel.604199751
Gibraltar: Brethren Assembly, Queensway
Quay. Sun 11am, Minister F. Baldachino.
Benalmádena Costa: Elim Family F'ship.
Sun 11am. Pastor Howard 647379564
www.elimfamilyfellowship.com
San Pedro: Elim Family Fellowship. Sun
3.30pm. 695 115 496
San Pedro: Faith Baptist Church. Sun
6.30pm, Edif Manantial. Tel: 911820806.
Fuengirola: Ark Christian Fellowship
Family Worship. Sun 11am, C/Rio Darro 2,
Plaza Juncal. Tel.: 952 592 171.
Fuengirola: Costa del Sol Bible School,
Healing Clinic and "The Beauty of Holiness".
Rev. Joyce McNaughton 663706806.
Fuengirola: The Way, Christian Counselling
Ministry. Tel. 634369414/ 951135441.
Malaga: Believers Loveworld Inc.(Christ
Embassy) Sunday11am, Wed 7pm, Sat 5pm.
C/Cantimpla 11, Av. de Europa
951955354/672805789.
Marbella: House of Judah (Jewish & Gentile
Believers) Bilingual Fri. Worship 7.30pm -
NH Marbella Hotel Tel: 605924555.
Mijas Costa: Baptist, Bi-Lingual services
Sun 11.30am and 7pm; Thur 7pm Tel:636
422 717 www.libertadmijascosta.com
Heaven's Gate Pentecostal Church Int:
Benalmádena: Carril de Sirocco 1,
Worship- Sun 11am- 6pm, F'ship- Friday
7.30pm, 602392139
Fuengirola: Christian Family Centre Int.
Worship Sun 1pm, Fellowship Tue 7pm
Church auditorium, C/Jacinto Benavente,
10. Tel: 605329074
Granada: Avda Andalucía, 53, La Chana,
Worship- Sun 6pm, 605329074
Malaga: Avda de Europa, 69, Worship-
Sunday 9am, Fellowship- Wednesday
7.30pm, 605329074

DUTCH EVANGELICAL

Fuengirola: Skandinaviska Turistkyran. Ed.
M del Carmen. Paseo Marítimo 77 Los
Boliches, Sundays 9.30.
Torremolinos: Sun 11.30 in Holland Huis.
Avenida Carlota Alessandri 12.

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND
(PRESBYTERIAN)

Fuengirola: Sun 10.30am at Lux Mundi
Ecumenical Centre, C/Nueva 3. Tel
952638245 or 952475474.
Gibraltar: St. Andrew's Church, Sun
10.30am. Tel 20077040.
Torre del Mar: Sun 11am, Legend's Bar,
C/Don Cipriano Maldonado Jiménez.

BAHAI

Bahai Information Office, C/Ricardo
Soriano, 35, Marbella.
Marbella: 952 90 21 21
Fuengirola: 951 259 742.
Malaga: 952 214 052.
Benalmádena: 952 442 424.
Alhaurín de la Torre: 952411496.
Rincón de la Victoria: 952 402 870.
Gibraltar: +350 200 73287.

SYNAGOGUES

Torremolinos: Beth Minzi, Av. Palma de
Mallorca 55; Castillo San Luis, Local 14.
Daily services. 952052550.
Marbella: Beth El, Urb. El Real, Km 184.
Services, Fri in summer 8.30pm winter
7pm Sat & holidays 10am 952859395

QUAKERS

Malaga: Quakers (Society of Friends). Info:
zvi@gotadsl.co.uk

NORWEGIAN SEAMEN'S CHURCH

Calahonda: El Campanario, Av del Cortijo
3. Sun 4 pm, 952939800
www.sjomannskirken.no/costadelsol

SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH

Fuengirola: Sat 10am. Bible study, worship
Calle Palangreros, 60. 952456672 /
633716651 ww.adventistasfuengirola.es.

CONSULATES

Great Britain	C/. Mauricio Moro Pareto 2- 2. Málaga	952352300
USA	Av. Juan Gómez 8. Ed. Lucía 1-C. Fuengirola	952474891
Belgium	Avda Ricardo Soriano 20-3C, Marbella	951516019
Denmark	Calle Córdoba 6 404, Malaga	952211797
Norway	Avda Los Boliches, 60, Edf Rosenkranz, Fuengirola	952667955
Canada	C/Cervantes, Edif. Horizonte, Malaga	952223346
Germany	Mauricio Moro Pareto 2, Malaga	952363591
Sweden	Calle Córdoba 6, 5th floor, Malaga	952604383
Ireland	Avda. Los Boliches, Fuengirola	952475108
France	1, Plaza de Santa Cruz, Seville	954293200
Italy	Calle Lagasca, 98, Madrid	912106910
Austria	Alameda de Colón 26, Malaga	952600267
Finland	Calle Blasco de Garay, 7, Malaga	952212435
Saudi Arabia	Mauricio M. Pareto 2 bloque Sur 2º, Malaga	952310358
Greece	Salitre, 16, Malaga	952311847
Iceland	Paseo Marítimo 91, 29640 Fuengirola	952661200
Philippines	C/Marqués de Larios 4, 2º, Malaga	952222757
Hungary	Av. de Andalucía 26 29007 Malaga	952308393

USEFUL PHONE NUMBERS

EMERGENCIES	
Emergency operator	112
National Police	091
Local (municipal) Police	092
Medical	061
Fire	080
Guardia Civil	062
Sea Rescue	900202202
Crime report	902102112

ENGLISH-SPEAKING HELP

Samaritans in Spain	900525100
Alcoholics Anonymous	600379110
Age Care	952933409
Age Concern (Estepona)	608458555

ANDALUSIAN HEALTH SERVICE

Salud Responde (doctors' appointments & advice)	955545060
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ESTEPONA

Bus Station	955038665
Taxi Service	952802900
Tourist Office	952802002
Town Hall	952801100
Foreign Residents Dept.	952809031

MALAGA

Bus Station	952350061
Railway Station	902240202
Taxi Service	952345693
Tourist Office	951926020

MARBELLA

Bus Station	955038665
Taxi Service	952774488

Tourist Office	952768760
Town Hall	952761100
Foreign Residents Dept.	952768766

MIJAS

Town Hall	952485900
Town Hall Las Lagunas	952473125
Taxi	952478288
Tourism Office	952589034
Foreign Resident Dept.	952589010

NERJA

Bus Station	902422242
Taxi Service	952520537
Tourist Information	952521531
Town Hall	952548400
Foreign Resident Dept.	952548401

TORREMOLINOS

Bus Station	902143144
Taxi Service	952380600
Tourist Office	952371909
Town Hall	952379400
Foreign Residents Dept.	952374231

BENALMADENA

Bus Station	902450550
Taxi Service	952441545
Tourist Office	952442494
Town Hall	952374231
Foreign Residents Dept.	952442494

VÉLEZ-MÁLAGA

Bus Station	952503162
Taxi	952540016
Town Hall	952559100
Tourist Office	952541104

GIBALTAR

General emergency	199/112(mobiles)
Fire/ambulance (emergency)	190
Tourist Office	(00350) 20074950
Taxi	(00350) 20070027

MALAGA PORT INFORMATION

CRUISE SHIP MOVEMENTS (SOURCE: MALAGA PORT AUTHORITY)

Ship	Date	From	Next port	Docks	Sails
Arcadia	28/06	Southampton	Messina	07.30	18.00
Norwegian Pearl	30/06	Cadiz	Palma	07.00	17.00
Wind Surf	03/07	Almeria	Gibraltar	09.00	23.59
Marella Dream	06/07	Gibraltar	Cartagena	08.00	16.00
Harmony V	07-08/07	Motril	Marbella	01.00	23.59
Marella discovery 2	11/07	Cadiz	Alicante	08.00	17.00



THE STARS

Aquarius
January 21 - February 19
Someone is long overdue to be told that they are not pulling their weight, especially recently. This causes amusement to a loved one who saw it coming!

Pisces
February 20th - March 20th
On the work front you have mixed feelings about a change in routine or method. Let your ideas be known to the right person rather than via gossip.

Aries
March 21st - April 20th
In what could be a busy, if not frantic week, be prepared! Make sure that everyone does their bit and pull in any favours.

Taurus
April 21st - May 21st
Are you noticing things about a partner that you didn't before? Could it be time to bring yourself up to date on what they are thinking and feeling?

Gemini
May 22nd - June 21st
Others may appear to be unhelpful but they have their own worries at the moment. All the more reason to get them out and thinking of something completely different.

Cancer
June 22nd - July 23rd
With your confidence up and down as this month begins you could be feeling sluggish. Look for someone who is full of energy and optimism.

Leo
July 24th - August 23rd
Have you decided to put a romantic attachment on hold? Well, to avoid conflict let them know what is going on in your mind. Someone who admires you will not wait around forever.

Virgo
August 24th - September 23rd
This week is all about building your confidence and knowledge. The New Moon is shining a light on ambitions and dreams. Write down the possibilities before you forget them.

Libra
September 24th - October 23rd
You really do need to start a new chapter in your life right about now! It could be internal changes at home or asking for changes at work.

Scorpio
October 24th - November 22nd
Much as you don't want to waste time doing it, try to explain your motives and plans. You need the help of others to move ahead even if it is just to make sure that they are not in the way!

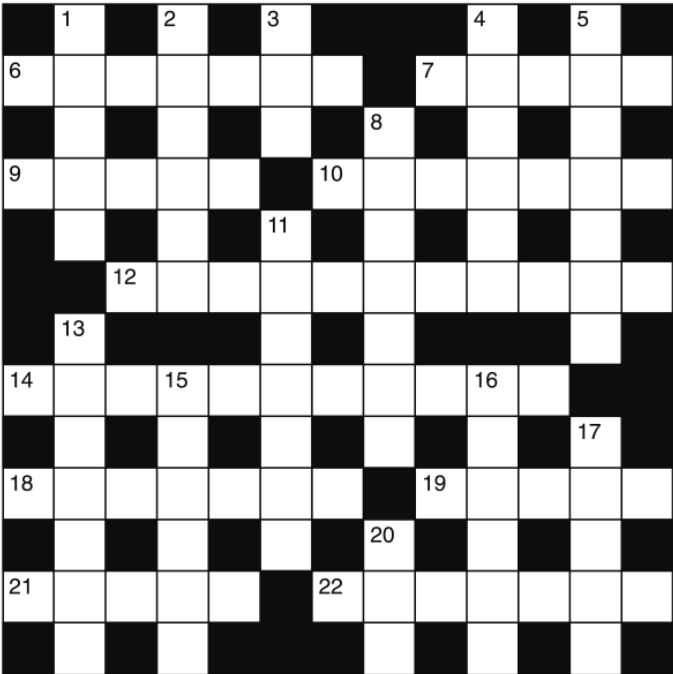
Sagittarius
November 223rd - December 21st
Take some quiet moments out and have a cup of tea or read that magazine! Whatever switches your intellect off for a while will certainly help. Avoid spending money or comfort eating.

Capricorn
December 22nd - January 20th
We all hold on to thoughts and feelings that could upset others. This does not help and, as you are finding now, those emotions will come tumbling out. See it as a good thing and don't hold back.

THE SEVEN DIFFERENCES



CRYPTIC CROSSWORD N° 11363



Across

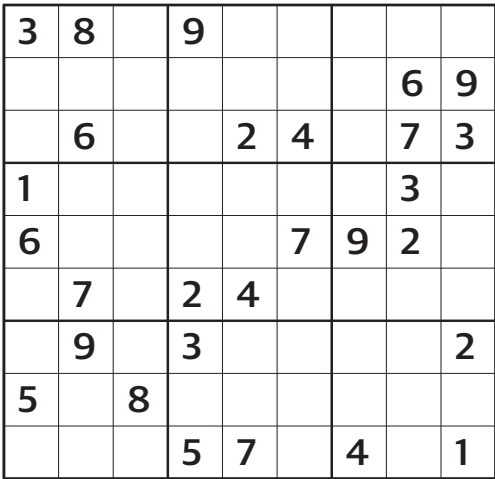
- 6 He tries rarebit (7)
- 7 Couples from Paris (5)
- 9 Appears to understand handwriting (5)
- 10 He's nice for providing a meal (7)
- 12 News being made? (11)
- 14 It won't keep you fully occupied (4-4,3)
- 18 One needs a couple of rings to get this number (7)
- 19 Bad organisation (5)
- 21 Nerve broken? Not at all! (5)
- 22 His initial confusion was amusing (7)

Down

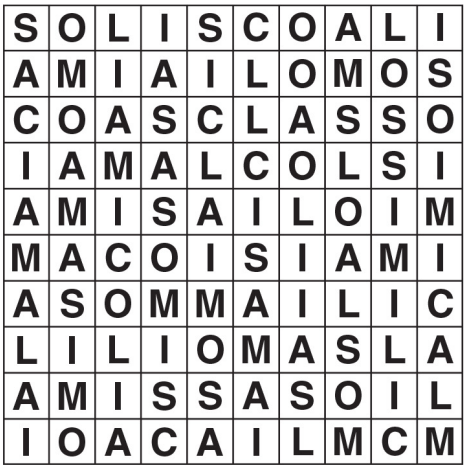
- 1 An award for tidiness (5)
- 2 Remain in trouble - these fly (6)
- 3 A high-pitched cry from somewhere (3)
- 4 Edible wood? (6)
- 5 Continue with the ironing (5,2)
- 8 My niche, possibly a cleft in a cliff (7)
- 11 Tree yielding a fir cone (7)
- 13 A tussle for military honours (7)
- 15 I tried a more orderly arrangement (6)
- 16 A speaker who is skilled at splitting alternatives (6)
- 17 Worker who's under-employed? (5)
- 20 A small point, but appropriate (3)

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



THE WORDPUZZLER

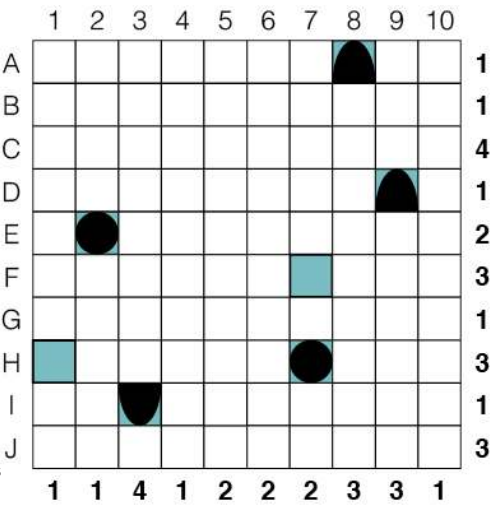
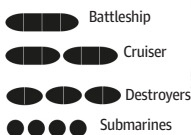


Can you identify the words that may be made from the letters of **SOCIALISM** from the clues listed below?

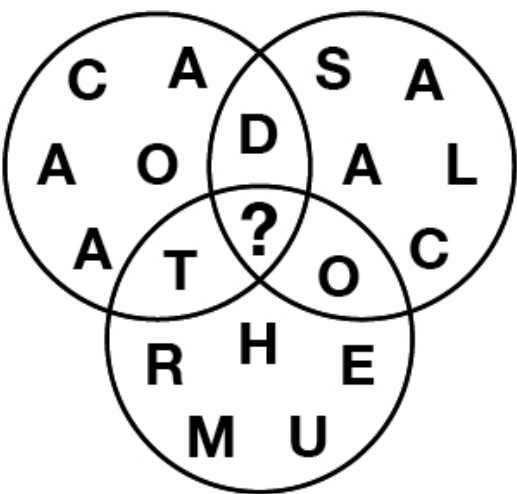
- 1. Too
- 2. Assert
- 3. Fuel
- 4. Earth
- 5. Form
- 6. Post
- 7. Wrong
- 8. Serene
- 9. Travel by boat
- 10. Bereavement

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.



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?

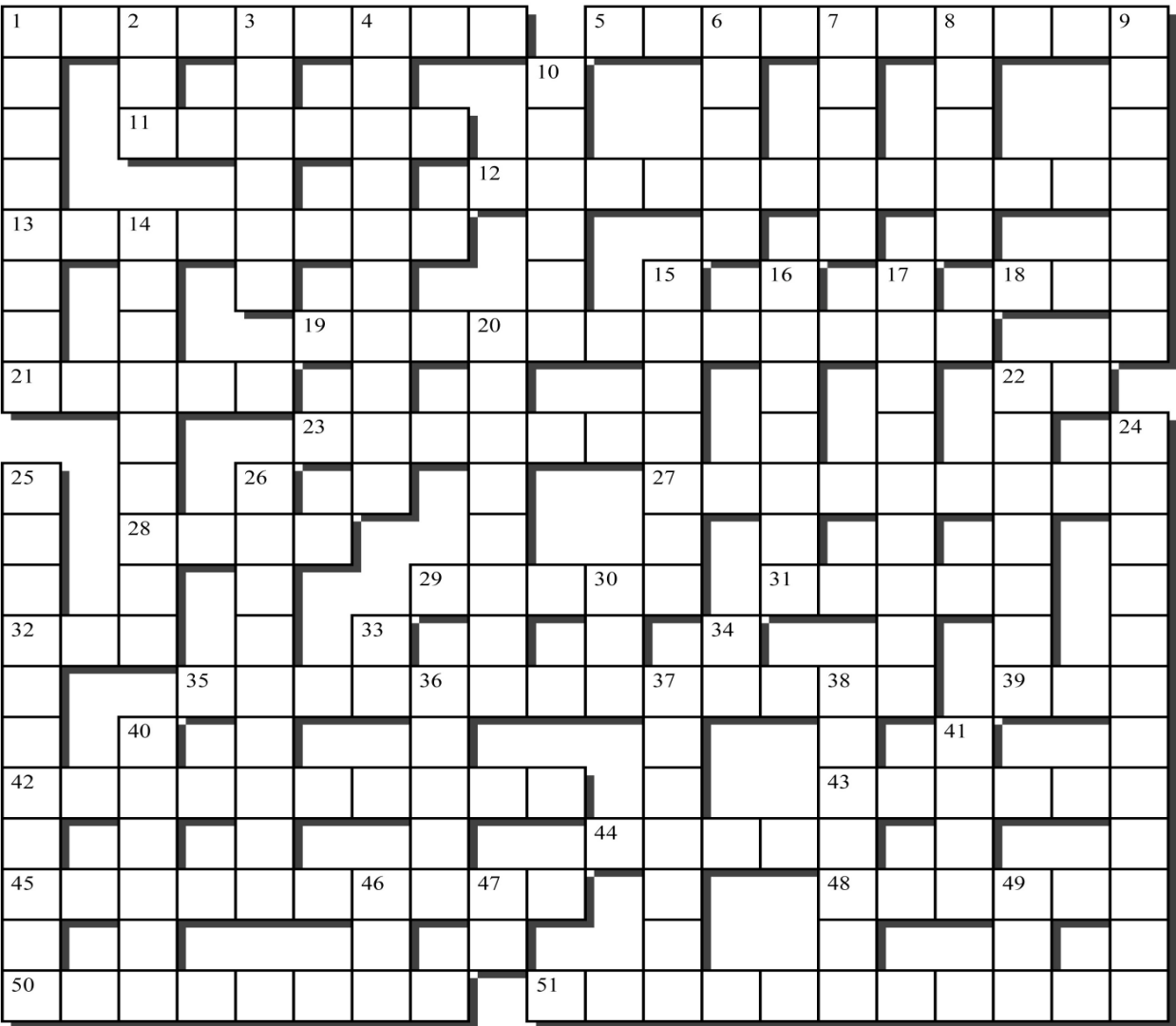
LANGUAGE CROSSWORD FILL IN THE SPANISH WORD

Across

- 1) Profession (9)
- 5) Difficulty (10)
- 11) He forces (6)
- 12) Ophthalmology (12)
- 13) Medicine (8)
- 18) Like that (3)
- 19) Degree (12)
- 21) Other people's (5)
- 22) Ace (2)
- 23) To sauté (7)
- 27) Outbreak (9)
- 28) Waves (4)
- 29) Sight (5)
- 31) To heal (5)
- 32) Road (3)
- 35) Figurehead (13)
- 39) Even (3)
- 42) Greeting (10)
- 43) I repeated (6)
- 44) Woman (5)
- 45) Disastrous (10)
- 48) To attack (6)
- 50) Rights (8)
- 51) Distraction (11)

Down

- 1) Controversy (8)
- 2) Eye (3)
- 3) Link (6)
- 4) Naivety (10)
- 6) Mistake (5)
- 7) Heat (5)
- 8) Far away (5)
- 9) Adversity (7)
- 10) Saying (6)
- 14) Advocate (f) (9)
- 15) Notebook (7)
- 16) Athletes (7)
- 17) Brilliant (9)
- 20) Studies (8)
- 22) Open (f) (7)
- 24) They convinced (12)
- 25) University (11)
- 26) Patients (9)
- 30) So/Such (3)
- 33) To go (2)
- 34) The (f) (2)
- 36) Success (5)
- 37) Qualifications (7)
- 38) Terrace (7)
- 40) To smooth (6)
- 41) Competent (f) (4)
- 46) River (3)
- 47) Her (2)
- 49) I fell (3)



ANSWERS

Quiz answers

Answer: Temple of Artemis.
Of interest: The temple is located at Ephesus on the western coast of Asia Minor (modern Turkey). It was built in the 6th century BC and was double the dimensions of other Greek temples. It was destroyed and rebuilt twice before its final destruction in 401AD. All that remains is one column.
Answer: Louis 14th
Of interest: Originally a hunting lodge and converted into a chateau by his father, Louis 14th extended and rebuilt it, often taking on the role as architect himself, to make it the palace it is today.

Language Crossword

ACROSS:
1. PROFESION 5. DIFICULTAD 11. OBLIGA
12. OFTALMOLOGIA 13. MEDICINA 18. ASIA
19. LICENCIATURA 21. AJENO 22. AS
23. SALTEAR 27. ESTALLIDO 28. OLAS
29. VISTA 31. SANAR 32. VIA
33. REPRESENTANTE 39. AVUN
42. SALUTACION 43. REPETI 44. MUJER
45. DESASTROSO 48. ATACAR
50. DERECHOS 51. DISTRACCION
DOWN:
1. POLEMICA 2. OJO 3. ENLACE
4. INGENUIDAD 6. FALLO 7. CALOR
8. LEJOS 9. DESAFIO 10. REFERRAN
14. DEFENSORA 15. LIBRETA 16. ATLETAS
17. BRILLANTE 20. ESTUDIOS 22. ABIERTA
24. CONVENCIERON 25. UNIVERSIDAD
26. PACIENTES 30. TAN 33. IR 34. LA
36. EXITO 37. TITULOS 38. TERRAZA
40. ALISAR 41. APTA 46. RIO 47. SU
49. CAL

Cryptic Crossword

Solutions: Across: 6. Arbiter; 7. Pairs; 9. Seems; 10. Chinese; 12. Information; 14. Part-time job; 18. Hundred; 19. Mafia; 21. Never; 22. Spooner. Down: 1. Order; 2. Airmen; 3. Mew; 4. Walnut; 5. Press on; 8. Chimney; 11. Conifer; 13. Salutes; 15. Tidler; 16. Orator; 17. Miner; 20. Apt.

Wordpuzzler solution

1. Also
2. Claim
3. Coal
4. Soil
5. Class
6. Mail
7. Amiss
8. Calm
9. Sail
10. Loss

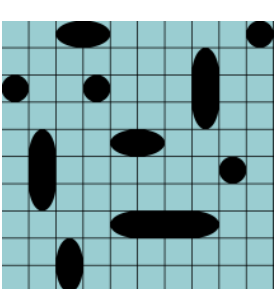
Sudoku solution

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

Circlegram

The letter represented by the question mark is 'V'.
Advocaat, Calvados, Vermouth, all alcoholic drinks.

Battleships



WHERE IS THIS?



A dedication to goats

Last week: Loja

This tilted cube is on the roundabout at the junction of Calle Rafael Pérez del Álamo and Calle Granada in Loja.



THE SUR IN ENGLISH CORNER

Welcome to SUR in English

If you're enjoying this newspaper after just arriving in southern Spain and sipping a cool drink on a sunny terrace, you might wonder why anyone who lives here would ever want to leave. But that is in fact what happens this time of year as some permanent residents leave to enjoy the brief warm weather in their northern homelands, avoid the hottest July and August heat, or make way for tourists renting their homes.

If you're about to nip 'home' for a few weeks, we wish you a

great trip. Don't forget to keep checking local news on surinenglish.com and SUR in English will be here to greet you again on your return. For those staying all summer, we'll of course be keeping everybody informed. And if you're here just for a temporary stay, welcome! You picked up the best way to get to know this place, every week.

Write to us at surinenglish.su@diariosur.es, Facebook @surenglish. Twitter SUR_English or online at www.surinenglish.com



Walking the English Way to give much-needed boost to Lux Mundi

Michael Griffiths came up with the idea to raise money for the local charity after a friend suggested they did the popular pilgrimage

by JENNIE RHODES

FUENGIROLA. Fuengirola resident and British retiree Michael Griffiths has recently completed one of the Camino de Santiago routes to raise money for the town's Lux Mundi ecumenical centre, which he attends regularly.

He raised almost 1,000 euros for the centre through donations from friends as well as students and teachers at the town's official language school (Escuela Oficial de Idiomas) where he helps out with conversation classes.

Griffiths, who is 74 and has lived in Fuengirola since 2005, admits that the idea to walk the Camino wasn't his, but he did come up with the plan to raise money for the centre, which he knows "is desperate for funding for much-needed structural work". It was his friend and fellow Fuengirola resident, Bernie Epton, who first suggested doing the trek and together with another British friend, Tony Ruiz, they set off on 11 May.

Griffiths is a keen walker and belongs to a number of walking groups, including the U3A one in his adopted town. He spent the weeks leading up to the trip training and practising carrying a rucksack.

The trio flew from Malaga to A Coruña, from where they took a train to Ferrol, which is where the English way (Camino Inglés) starts. "Someone suggested that we should do the English route as we're all English," said Griffiths.

They spent six days walking and



Michael Griffiths with one of the Camino de Santiago signs. by M. G.

Michael explains that they soon discovered they all had different walking speeds, so would set out together in the morning and then meet up later on.

"I actually enjoyed the solitude. Walking through forests and hearing nothing but water was a wonderful experience, it was so peaceful," Michael pointed out, adding that as the route they walked is much less popular than the famous Camino Francés, they only met a few other 'pilgrims' along the way.

Challenges

The Camino Inglés is 120 kilometres in total and Michael and his fellow walkers split the journey fairly evenly, walking a minimum of 15 kilometres per day, although he explained that on one day they walked for 28 kilometres.

"It included some really steep bits and we knew it was going to be the hottest day of our trip," Michael said, adding, "But I like a challenge."

He admits that while for the rest of the journey they carried their own backpacks, on that particular day they had them sent on to the accommodation where they were going to spend that night.

The biggest problem, Michael pointed out, was the food. "We were arriving at our accommodation mid-afternoon and they didn't start cooking until around 8.30pm and we wanted to be in bed by 10pm, so we were often hungry. With limited luggage we couldn't carry much food with us."

Michael, Bernie and Tony reached Santiago de Compostela on 17 May and returned to Malaga by train.

"The train journey was part of the adventure," Michael said.

He now hopes that the 917.29 euros he raised will go towards much-needed reforms to the Lux Mundi Fuengirola building.

Fuengirola centre makes urgent appeal for volunteers and donations

by TONY BRYANT

FUENGIROLA. Lux Mundi is urgently appealing for volunteers to help with the day-to-day running of the ecumenical centre in Fuengirola, especially in its second-hand boutique.

The shop, situated in the Lux Mundi building in Calle Nueva, opens from Tuesday to Friday from 10am to 1pm, and the organisation is in need of people to serve in the store and to help sort out and organise the stock.

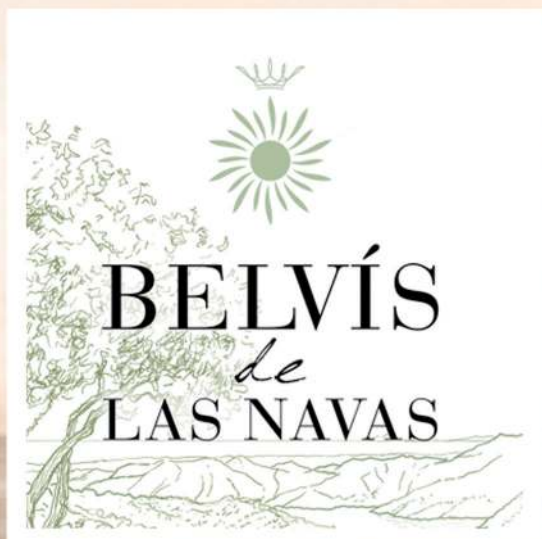
The organisation also needs help with the serving of food to the homeless in the twice-weekly soup kitchen, as well as assistance with the coffee mornings and weekly events organised by the charity.

The centre has sent out an appeal for donations of stock, in particular good quality, second-hand clothes and accessories for the boutique, as well as books, mobility appliances, cosmetics, toiletries, sleeping bags and blankets.

INFORMATION

► **Lux Mundi.** An ecumenical organisation with centres in Fuengirola and Torre del Mar, dedicated to charity work and helping both the local and foreign communities.

► **Help needed.** Anyone able to give some time to Lux Mundi as a volunteer, or to make a donation, is invited to call in at the centre in Fuengirola (Calle Nueva) or call 952474840.



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