

# SUR

## in English

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November 8th to 14th 2019  
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FOOD & DRINK

### Dani García to go out with a bang

The chef, with three Michelin stars under his belt, is leaving haute cuisine behind **P34**



Regional president Juanma Moreno (7th right) and Tourism minister Juan Marín (6th left) visit the SUR in English stand.

:: SALVADOR SALAS



## TAKING SOUTHERN SPAIN TO LONDON

SUR in English was at this week's World Travel Market supporting the region's tourism industry **P2-4**

# Spain heads to the polls this Sunday with the outcome still unclear

The general election campaign has been condensed into just eight days and Saturday will be an official day of reflection

The general election will be held this Sunday, 10 November, and politicians have been busy finishing off their last campaign appearances. On Monday, leaders of the five main parties met for a televised debate. The result of the debate was inconclusive, however, and as signs are put out for polling stations this weekend, it could still be a hung parliament, just as in the last election in April. Acting prime

minister, Pedro Sánchez, of the PSOE, the biggest party last time, hopes to add extra MPs for an overall majority to avoid failed pacts once again. He was campaigning in Torremolinos this week.

Whether far-right Vox will grow and how voters react to recent violence in Catalonia are other factors analysts will be watching out for as results come in by about midnight on Sunday. **P20**



Pedro Sánchez in Torremolinos. :: Ñ. S.

## Marbella FC leave it late to win again and remain the only unbeaten team left in Spain

The Costa del Sol side have risen to third in their Segunda B group after a 2-1 victory at home on Sunday

The new era under way at Marbella FC continues to thrill the side's fans as the team rose to third in Group IV of Segunda B following a 2-1 win at home to minnows Villarrubia on Sunday. Samu Delgado's late penalty was enough to help seal the win. **P44**



Oscar tucks away the equaliser for Marbella. :: JULIO RODRÍGUEZ

**Malaga is a world leader in organ and tissue donation** but further awareness is needed for Spain to remain a benchmark globally **P36**

**Costa priest in trouble for holding mass with an Anglican vicar.** The Bishop of Malaga's office apologised for confusing parishioners in Álora **P8**



# WTM brings confidence that British tourists will still choose Andalucía after Brexit

Travel agents and tour operators have brought some reassurance to industry professionals from the Costa del Sol

:: PILAR MARTÍNEZ / PEDRO LUIS GÓMEZ

**LONDON.** The uncertainty still surrounding Brexit was a central theme at this year's World Travel Market in the Excel centre in London, as destinations from around the world gathered to secure their slice of the normally lucrative British tourist market.

With the UK being the country that sends most holidaymakers to Spain, any potential effects of a hard or soft exit from the EU were on delegates' minds at the fair that ran from Monday to Wednesday this week.

Tourism authorities on a national, regional and provincial level were cautious when it came to making predictions for the immediate future after Brexit. "Not even Boris Johnson knows," pointed out one of the Costa del Sol mayors.

## Reassurance

Organisations such as the Association of British Travel Agents (ABTA), along with British Airways, as well as tour operators such as TUI and Jet2.com have given the Andalusian authorities and the around local 200 business owners who travelled to London for the event some reassurance. Whatever happens with Brexit, the British will still choose to holiday in Spain, was the message.

At different meetings travel agents and operators confirmed the confidence British tourists have in Spain as a destination, saying that businesses and British people "have ended up adapting" as the Brexit situation appears to drag out eternally.

At a meeting with the president of the Junta de Andalucía, Juanma Moreno, the CEO of ABTA, Mark Tanzer, said the British would continue to choose Andalucía, according to his organisation's statistics. These include a forecast of a 2% increase in British



The president and vice-president of the Junta with Costa del Sol mayors, councillors and other authorities. :: SALVADOR SALAS

tourists for the coming year.

At a previous meeting with the president of the Costa del Sol tourism authority, Francisco Salado, Tanzer did say though that the greatest concern now among the holiday industry was the upcoming election in the UK due to its timing. Any general instability generated by an indecisive election result could affect holiday destination decisions which many people in Britain make in December or January.

## Andalucía

The president of the Junta de Andalucía, Juanma Moreno, described the atmosphere of cautious optimism as vital for an industry which is "strategic for the Andalusian economy and the UK is a strategic market for tourism."

The president stressed the importance of the WTM which is now in its 40th year. "This fair is an invitation to the world to enjoy the paradise on earth that is Andalucía, with its quality and diverse [tourism] of-



Advertising manager Emma Vera on the SUR in English stand at the Excel centre. :: S. SALAS

fering," he said.

The tourism industry accounts for 13% of the region's GDP and, with reference to Brexit, Moreno stressed the work his authority has been doing alongside tourism professionals to be prepared for all circumstances.

"I think Andalucía is perfectly ready to deal with any situation," he said.

"Andalucía is an island amid all this fuss."

The vice-president of the Junta and regional minister for Tourism, Juan Marín, offered some facts and figures. His department has upgraded the general tourism growth forecast for 2019 in Andalucía to 3.3%. The British market has remained steady this

year with forecasted growth for 2019 of 0.7%, a significant increase given the 6% slump in 2018.

"We are convinced that British tourism will continue to grow in the region," said Marín. "It's a question of moving forward and continuing to gain presence."

He explained that between now



The Andalucía stand hosted dozens of business meetings over the three days. :: S. S.



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## Disturbances in Catalonia expected to take their toll on the tourism industry

An issue affecting Spanish tourism in general is the situation of instability and violence in Catalonia following prison sentences handed to pro-independence politicians for their role in organising an illegal referendum in 2017. Spain's acting minister for Tourism, Reyes Maroto, who visited the WTM this week, admitted that the situation is likely to

have had an adverse effect on tourism in Catalonia. Exact figures to reveal the extent of the damage will not be available for another few weeks, although the final quarter of this year is expected to curb the upward trend registered during the period between January and September, which saw a 2.6% increase in visitor figures.

"We can't ignore the huge importance of Catalonia for tourism in Spain, because it accounts for a quarter of the visitors who come to our country," said the minister during her visit to the Turespaña stand.

and the end of this year, tourism promotion would be stepped up, with an extra one-million-euro spend, and that the 2020 Action Plan, which will be launched after this weekend's elections, will see an increase of 42% in promotional ventures to attract British visitors, with a budget of 1.8 million euros.

### Costa del Sol

As well as delegations from local councils from the main Costa del Sol resorts and Mancomunidad district authorities, more than 60 local businesses had a presence at the WTM under the umbrella of the Costa del Sol tourism authority. President Francisco Salado said he was confident that the Costa del Sol's tourism offer "will continue to win over the British".

Airline statistics show a 0.5% decrease in the number of seats available on flights between the UK and the Costa del Sol between now and next March. Salado stressed, however, that this is not such bad news as "the Costa is in a better position than other parts of Spain". Figures for the rest of Spain have dropped by 3% for the coming season.

"So far we have no indication that Brexit is negatively affecting the arrival of British visitors on the Costa del Sol, quite the opposite. Neither does it look like it will have an effect over the coming months. 2020 is going to be good for this market, despite the uncertainties," said Salado. "We have to keep optimistic. The Costa is still a strong destination and we will continue to be [market] leaders."

## Tourism promotion innovations go from big data to art and culture

Amadeus and Orange offer technology to better define tourist trends, while Malaga prepares to sponsor a Picasso exhibition at the Royal Academy of Arts

by P. M. / P. L. G.

**LONDON.** The annual World Travel Market is an event where trends are set in terms of the tourism industry. This year the Costa del Sol hopes to improve the focus of its tourism promotion thanks to a more precise tourist profile provided by big data, through agreements with Amadeus and Orange. A report produced by the former, for example, used data from half a million internet searches and 50,000 reservations.

Meanwhile the city of Malaga continues to be a hit with British tourists in search of a cultural experience thanks to its two stars: Picasso and Banderas.

The actor has recently been in the limelight thanks to the international success of the film *Pain and Glory* directed by Pedro Almodóvar. This attention has



The Mayor of Malaga, Francisco de la Torre, (r) with the head of the Royal Academy of Arts, Alex Rüger. by S. SALAS

served as the perfect prelude to the opening this month of Banderas' new project, the Soho Caixabank theatre, and his production of the musical *A Chorus Line*.

"They don't know how lucky they are," said Craig Geles in the section at the WTM devoted to London's theatre scene. He was referring to Malaga and pointed out that the type of tourist who travels specifically to see a show is likely

to spend several days in the destination and have mid to high spending power.

And Malaga's own genius Picasso continues to pull in visitors from all over the world. With this in mind the mayor of Malaga, Francisco de la Torre, visited the Royal Academy of Arts this week to finalise details of the city's sponsorship of a new exhibition to open there in January, Picasso and Paper.

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The dinner was held in the Great Hall at The Honourable Society of Lincoln's Inn, London. :: SALVADOR SALAS

## SUR in English takes Andalucía onto the streets of London

:: R. HAYNES

**LONDON.** At this year's World Travel Market, SUR in English had its usual stand within the Spain section at the Excel centre. From there over the three days the Southern Spain supplement - inserted into this newspaper last week - was distributed to visitors, while members of staff were on hand to answer questions about Andalucía and SUR in English.

The attractions of this region also found their way into the hands of tens of thousands of commuters on Monday morning when a special SUR in English southern Spain supplement was inserted inside the free London daily City A. M.

# Celebrating tourism in style in London

The acting minister and the president of Andalucía presided over the SUR dinner

:: RACHEL HAYNES

**LONDON.** Following a tradition that goes back more than two decades, SUR, SUR in English and Unicaja Banco hosted a formal dinner on Monday night to bring together around 150 key players in the Andalusian tourist industry. This year's event, presided over by the acting Spanish minister for Tourism, Reyes Maroto, and the president of the Junta de Andalucía, Juanma Moreno,

was held at The Honourable Society of Lincoln's Inn in central London. Among the guests were the mayors of the main Costa del Sol tourist destinations, including Malaga, Marbella, Torremolinos, Benalmádena, Fuengirola, Mijas, Nerja, Benahavís, Torrox and Rincón; the president and vice-president of the provincial government, Francisco Salado and Juan Carlos Maldonado; the executive director of the World Tourism Organi-



The acting minister, Maroto. :: S. S.

sation, Manuel Butler, former British ambassador to Spain, Simon Manley; the president of the Spanish Chamber of Commerce in the UK, Eduardo Barrachina; as well as representatives of hoteliers and business owners on the Costa del Sol.

The significance of the tourism industry for Andalucía as well as Brexit were recurring themes in the speeches made by the authorities and SUR and Unicaja representatives.



The copy of City A.M. with the SUR supplement inside. :: S. S.

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# How much wealth tax do you have to pay in Andalucía?

By David Bowers, Partner, Blevins Franks

Andalucía continues to be a favourite destination for expatriates, including those making the most of their retirement years, and as we know, there are many benefits to living here. Taxation, however, can spoil the dream for some, particularly wealthier individuals and families.

Besides the expected income and capital gains taxes, Spain additionally imposes an annual wealth tax. While most people are exempt – in general, if you are resident in Spain, you are only affected if the net value of your worldwide assets is over €1,000,000 – it can have a significant impact on wealthy individuals. We know there are people who would love to live here but feel that wealth tax would have too big an impact.

However, with specialist advice and careful planning they may be able to achieve their dream of living here – you can often legitimately minimise your overall tax liability in Spain, particularly on investment capital.

## Are you liable for wealth tax?

If you are resident in Spain, wealth tax applies to your worldwide assets,

after tax-free allowances (see below). For non-residents it affects Spanish assets only. It is payable on the total net value of your taxable assets at 31<sup>st</sup> December each year.

The tax is payable on the net value of most of your capital assets, such as real estate, savings and investments, shareholdings, jewellery, art, antiques, cars, boats, etc.

## Wealth tax rates and allowances

Under state rules, each individual, resident or otherwise, has a personal tax-free allowance of €700,000. Spanish residents can get an additional allowance of up to €300,000 against the value of their main home (excluding properties owned through corporate structures).

Therefore, a married couple living here and owning property in joint names could potentially have a total tax-free allowance of €2 million for wealth tax purposes. That said, it is an individual tax in Spain so they have to submit separate wealth tax returns.

The Autonomous Regions can vary wealth tax rates and allowances. The

allowances above are those applied under the state rules, which also apply in the Andalucía. Other regions may have different limits.

Madrid currently provides a 100% tax-free relief, so that its residents do not have to pay any wealth tax, regardless of their total net worth, although they may need to submit a wealth tax return for information purposes. It is the only region to do this though.

Here in Andalucía, progressive rates start at 0.24% on assets up to €167,129 and rise up to 3.03% on assets over €10,695,996.

## Exclusions and limits to wealth tax

Wealth tax is not payable on general household contents (other than items like art and vehicles), pension rights (other than purchased annuities), certain shareholdings in family companies and business assets (subject to conditions). There can be some exemptions for antiques and works of art, but you need to follow specific rules.

When calculating net taxable wealth, loans are deductible provided they

were not used to buy or invest in assets exempt from wealth tax, but in some cases certain conditions must be met.

For Spanish residents only, there is a rule which establishes that your cumulative wealth and income tax liabilities cannot exceed 60% of your personal income taxable amount (but excluding gains on assets held for more than one year). However, you do have to pay a minimum of 20% of the full wealth tax calculation originally calculated. This depends on how you hold your wealth, and if you can control the amount of your taxable income your investments generate on annual basis – there are some tax-efficient investments that allow you to reduce your income and wealth tax liabilities in Spain. Note that your wealth tax liability cannot be reduced at all on assets that do not produce any income (i.e. jewellery, cars, etc.).

## Tax planning

If wealth tax or other Spanish taxes concern you, ask a specialist tax and wealth management adviser like Blevins Franks to review your tax planning and the way you own assets

to see if you can use Spanish tax compliant arrangements to lower your liabilities. With careful planning you could structure your investments to provide a number of advantages.

Expert financial advice tailored for your personal circumstances can help you make the most of living in Andalucía. A cross-border firm like Blevins Franks could also recommend tax-efficient opportunities in other countries, such as the UK, if you decide it is time to set your sights elsewhere or return home. [www.blevinsfranks.com](http://www.blevinsfranks.com)

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

*Keep up to date on the financial issues that may affect you on the Blevins Franks news page at [www.blevinsfranks.com](http://www.blevinsfranks.com)*

# Can I continue to use my UK Financial Adviser now that I live outside the UK?

Due to a change in legislation, UK based financial advisers may not have the correct regulatory permission to give advice in Spain or carry professional indemnity insurance for advising people who live outside the UK.

Blevins Franks is fully authorised in both jurisdictions. We are specialists in cross-border advice and fully conversant with both Spanish and UK tax. Please call us for more information.

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# Supposed culprit of huge 80km wildfire in 2012 may be asked to pay 32m euros

The investigating judge says that a gardener had been burning trimmings of trees and plants on a rural property in Coín

:: ÁLVARO FRÍAS / JUAN CANO

**MALAGA.** Many Costa del Sol residents remember with horror the massive forest fire that swept through inland areas around Coín, Mijas, Ojén and Marbella in the summer of 2012, killing one and destroying 80 square kilometres of countryside.

Now the case judge has finally presented her summary investigation for assessment by prosecutors. In the 43 volumes in 25 boxes,



Flashback to fire damage near Ojén iover seven years ago. :: S. SALAS

she says that a gardener who was allegedly trying to burn garden waste on a rural property in Coín on 30 August 2012 should be held criminally liable for what happened

next and pay 32 million euros in damages. Prosecutors must also decide what prison sentence to recommend, which could range from seven and a half to 15 years.

## Man held in Nerja for robbing a cafe and wearing its apron

:: EUGENIO CABEZAS

**NERJA.** A man has been arrested over at least four late-night attempted robberies in central Nerja within a few minutes of each other.

The 30-year-old was let out of prison just six months ago and was

found in a town square in a drunken state.

Officers were able to identify him as he was wearing a shop apron from a cafe, where he is alleged to have helped himself to organic beer and cash.



Damage in the cafe. :: E. CABEZAS

### IN BRIEF

#### Puente Romano mobile knifepoint robbers held

**MARBELLA**

:: **SUR.** Two youths, one underage, have been held for the violent robbery of a teenager's mobile phone near the Puente Romano hotel in Marbella. The victim was allegedly threatened with a knife by the suspects.

#### 101-tonne Marbella mall cocaine handover foiled

**MARBELLA**

:: **C.M.** Police say they have broken up two gangs after stopping the handover of a total of 101 tonnes of cocaine at a Marbella shopping centre to avoid detection. Investigators went on to find a further 400 tonnes at a Madrid industrial unit.

#### Man held for faking disability to get ATM cash

**MALAGA**

:: **SUR.** A 33-year-old Romanian man has been held for allegedly faking a disability to gain attention, then trying to force passersby to take money out of a cashpoint. Police started search-

ing for the accused at the start of September after reports that a man had stopped a person near the Muelle Uno shops in Malaga port with a board saying he was "deaf and dumb".

He asked for money and when the victim could not give any money, they were pushed to a nearby cashpoint and told to take out 20 euros.

#### Police hold fugitive after towing away his hire car

**MARBELLA**

:: **C. M.** A 25-year-old French man got a shock last week when he went to the police car pound in Marbella to reclaim his hire car. It had been towed away for being badly parked. Police checked his ID and held him after realising there was a Euro arrest warrant for him over drugs and organised crime.

#### Supersol fight sees staff and shoppers help out

**MANILVA**

:: **C. M.** Staff and customers had to intervene at Supersol in Sabinillas on Monday to stop a man being attacked at the cash till. The victim was waiting to pay with his pregnant wife and daughter when another man, apparently known to him, suddenly started hitting him. No arrests were made.

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# Álora parish priest in trouble with Bishop for committing sacrilege by holding mass with an Anglican vicar

Reverend Jenny Lancaster was in the church with a visiting choir from Newcastle and was photographed helping with Holy Eucharist on All Saints' Day last Friday

## :: JESÚS HINOJOSA

A seemingly innocent friendly gesture by the parish priest in the Guadalhorce valley town of Álora has not gone down well with his bosses at the Diocese of Málaga.

Juan de Jesús Báez, priest at the Roman Catholic Iglesia de la Encarnación had invited the Reverend Jenny Lancaster, a retired Church of England vicar from Newcastle, to take

part in the celebration of the Holy Eucharist (Holy Communion). The Reverend Lancaster was part of a singing visit by a choral society from northeast England arranged to coincide with Mass. Reports said that their British choirmaster has a home in the Álora area and is well-known locally.

However, when photographs emerged online within the church-going community of an Anglican minister holding the chalice in a Catholic church last Friday, All Saints' Day, the Bishop of Málaga was not best pleased. Apparently the same had happened in 2017 although no photographic evidence had been published at that time.

"I am very repentant. I ask for forgiveness from God and the Church," said the Mexican-born parish priest, who explained that it was never his intention to commit sac-

**Local priest: "I am surprised by all the upset caused, I have sinned unwittingly"**

rilege. "My only aim was to welcome [the choir] warmly. I am very fond of them and Reverend Jenny is a woman of God. I am surprised by all the upset it has caused; I have unwittingly sinned," he added.

## The reply from the Bishop

The office of the Bishop of Málaga reacted on Tuesday to the incident in a communiqué in which it apologised for the "confusion" that the Church of England reverend's participation had caused for the local



The Iglesia de la Encarnación had invited the Newcastle choir. :: SUR



## DO YOU HAVE ANY EXISTING POLICY WITH LÍNEA DIRECTA?

# Student instigates change in Torremolinos school's environmental policy

The eight-year-old student proposed switching to paper-based cartons of water rather than single-use plastic bottles

## :: TONY BRYANT

**TORREMOLINOS.** An eight-year-old student at Sunny View School in Torremolinos has seen an idea she proposed to benefit the environment transform into a school policy change.

Martina Ruiz Quesada and her Year 3 classmates had been learning about pollution and the devastating impact of plastic in the oceans. On average, the school used around 13,000 plastic water bottles each year, so their teacher asked them to submit ideas for reducing the use of plastic.

Martina had observed that during lunch in the school cafeteria water was served to the children from 1.5-litre single-use plastic water bottles. Martina proposed switching to paper-based cartons of water rather than plastic bottles, while also suggesting the implementation of reusable water jugs for serving.

She had seen water sold in paper-based cartons and even brought one in to show her teacher and classmates. Paper-based cartons are 100 per cent recyclable and the materials and processes result in around 70 per cent less harmful emissions compared to single-use plastic bottles.

Martina said she was "surprised and excited" when she saw that her idea had become a reality.

"I didn't think they were going to do it. I felt really good because I don't want the fish in the ocean



Martina and teachers with the paper-based water cartons. :: SUR

to get poisoned from pollution," the caring youngster explained.

Sunny View School co-owner John Pettis said, "Environmental education is imperative. Children understand that they don't need

to be told by adults to get involved because they have the most to lose. At Sunny View School we believe it is important that we listen to, encourage, support and implement their ideas."

# Sport and music items on offer as Cudeca launches annual auction

## :: T. BRYANT

**BENALMÁDENA.** In collaboration with Cadena SER Málaga, Cudeca launched its annual online charity auction this week. The auction will offer items donated by celebrated musicians, celebrities and companies from the world of music and sport. The list of items includes memorabilia from Cuban jazz pianist Bebo Valdes, renowned guitarist Raimundo Amador, copla and flamenco singer Pastora Soler and graffiti artist Darko.

The auction will also offer breaks at top resorts; health vouchers and sports activities and dinner at some of the coast's most luxurious establishments.

The auction ([www.subasta.cudeca.org](http://www.subasta.cudeca.org)) will end on Wednesday 18 December with a live broadcast by Cadena SER Radio at the Cudeca Hospice, which will feature interviews with personalities involved in the auction.



# Owner of La Cañada mall named among Spain's richest but trails Zara's Ortega by far

Catholic parishioners.

"Catholic priests and ministers of non-Catholic churches or religious communities can't both take part in the celebration of the Eucharist," it went on.

## Not part of the doctrine

"The Diocese of Malaga is very sorry for the damage this gesture has caused to those who don't know the doctrine and who have been confused," adds the statement.

"Through our prayer and our ecumenical efforts we hope that our differences can be overcome, and one day we can celebrate the sacrament of communion together."

## What do you think?

Was the Bishop of Malaga right to be upset with the priest or should the two faiths be allowed to worship together in this way?

If you have an opinion about this or any other topic in SUR in English, we want to hear from you. We may publish your comments.

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

Forbes ranking places Tomás Olivo at seventh with a 2.1-billion-euro fortune, somewhat below Amancio Ortega of fashion-giant Inditex who tops the list with 63 billion euros

## :: SUR

**MALAGA.** The owner of Marbella's La Cañada mall and other shopping centres has been named as the seventh-richest person in Spain. In the latest Forbes ranking for the country, Tomás Olivo has leapt up the rankings into the top 10 after a windfall from a court judgement against the Junta de Andalucía regional government of over 168 million euros. Olivo, who is originally from Murcia, took the Junta to court over a delay in the opening



Tomás Olivo. :: SUR

of his Nevada shopping mall in Granada. Forbes says he now has an estimated fortune of 2.1 billion euros.

However the wealth of Tomás Olivo pales into insignificance when



Amancio Ortega. :: SUR

standing alongside the man at the top of the list, Amancio Ortega, founder of the Inditex fashion group, which includes brands such as Zara, Pull and Bear and Bershka.

His personal wealth is estimated

at 63 billion euros. Put another way, this is more than the economies of 120 countries, or enough to give, if he wanted to, every man woman and child in Spain a cheque for 1,340 euros. Behind Ortega is his daughter, Sandra, with six billion euros.

Also featuring near the top of the list are other well-known Spanish business people. In second place is Rafael del Pino, president of construction and services giant Ferrovial with four billion euros, followed by the owner of Iberostar hotels, Miguel Fluxá, with three billion and Juan Roig of Mercadona, with 2.7 billion.

As well as Olivo, another well-known Costa businessman is high up the list. Rafael Domínguez de Gor, behind Mayoral children's clothing and linked to Adolfo Domínguez clothes stores, has a fortune, according to Forbes, of 50 million euros.



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## AN UNORTHODOX LOOK AT SPAIN'S TOP DIRECTORS' SUMMIT ON COSTA

The leaders of Spain's biggest companies were meeting in Malaga on Thursday in their annual directors' summit to share latest viewpoints and insights. Alongside the high-flying bosses of many household names including La Caixa, Repsol, Seat and Airbus, was a more unusual corporate look. Chema Alonso, Chief Data Officer of Telefónica and also a celebrated computer hacker made an impassioned plea for firms to do more on cybersecurity.

## Compromise reached on delayed plan for northern access road to airport

Junta and Madrid agree to integrate a separate local distributor road, clearing the way for the project, which now must wait for the election outcome

## :: IGNACIO LILLO

**MALAGA.** The Junta de Andalucía regional government and the acting national government appear to have reached an agreement over an important aspect of the planned northern access road to Malaga Airport.

Local residents and people catching flights from the Guadalhorce valley have been waiting for the new dual carriageway from the A-7 outer ring motorway to the terminal.

The original plan was to build the road, part of the national ministry of Infrastructure's budget, to integrate with a new distributor road

connecting industrial areas on the northwestern side of Malaga which was to be paid for by the Junta regional government. But the world financial crisis halted the plan.

Impatient to proceed, last year Madrid said it would go ahead with the airport road alone, which is urgently needed as it also improves access to Alhaurín de la Torre, where there are rush hour hold-ups off the motorway. However the new 26.7-million-euro airport access road plan didn't make allowances for adding the future local distributor road.

Now both the Junta and acting national government have agreed how to adapt the road design to allow for this local road.

Despite the compulsory purchase of land for both roads having long been completed, local drivers will have to wait to see what happens in Sunday's general election before work on this airport access road can start.



# The metropolitan sewage plant project is reactivated and it should be working by 2022

FRANCISCO JIMÉNEZ



✉ fjimenez@diariosur.es

The Junta and Malaga, Alhaurín el Grande, Cártama and Alhaurín de la Torre councils are progressing the 80 million euro project

**MALAGA.** The end is finally in sight. After decades during which time raw sewage has been flowing into the Guadalhorce river, urgent action is being taken to resolve this problem in the province once and for all.

The treatment plant in the lower Guadalhorce valley is now being used to treat the sewage from Álora and Pízarra and the pipes damaged by heavy rain in Coín a year ago are due to be replaced in the near future.

The regional government is now working on the plant for the metropolitan area, at a cost of 80 million euros. The project will be financed by the additional improvements charge that consumers in Andalucía have been paying on

their water bills since May 2011, which has accumulated over 700 million euros so far.

At the moment ten million euros have been allocated in the Andalusian budget for 2020 so that these works can begin. The sewage plant, which will be known as the Malaga Norte, will treat the waste from the other two towns who are still disposing of it into the river (Alhaurín el Grande and Cártama) and also that of Alhaurín de la Torre, which is currently dealt with by the plant on the Guadalhorce industrial estate in Malaga. That plant has been working at its limit for years because it also treats all the waste from the Torre-molinos area.

The year 2022, a decade after the initial plans were drawn up, is the target date for the Guadalhorce to stop being used as a dump for raw sewage from the area. Discussions are under way between the Junta de Andalucía's ministry of Sustainable Development and councils in the Guadalhorce area to define the characteristics of the new infrastructure and decide on the way in which the town halls will handle its management and maintenance. The first meeting was held two

weeks ago, at the request of the regional government's Water Infrastructure department.

With regard to the first point, two years ago all the administrations involved agreed that it should be built in Malaga city, (north of the airport and near the boundary with Alhaurín de la Torre) and that it would have the capacity to treat 70,000 cubic metres a day, the equivalent of the waste produced by a population of 280,000 inhabitants. As a reference, this is just

under half the capacity of the Guadalhorce plant (160,000 m<sup>3</sup>).

## Pending issues

Now two matters have to be decided before the contract to draw up the plans can be put to tender. The first is to finish the viability study with a regard to modifying the initial plans and equipping the plant with a tertiary filtering system. A third filter would make it possible to use the recycled water for irrigation.

So far the Junta de Andalucía has proposed that the town halls or those who use the water for irrigation should pay for the third filter, because of the cost of the pipes which will be needed to put the recycled water back into circulation and pump it to its destination. "We are looking at it, but the tertiary system probably will be incorporated because the objective should be to reuse the water in case of scarcity," say sources at the Andalusian ministry of Agriculture and Sustainable Development.

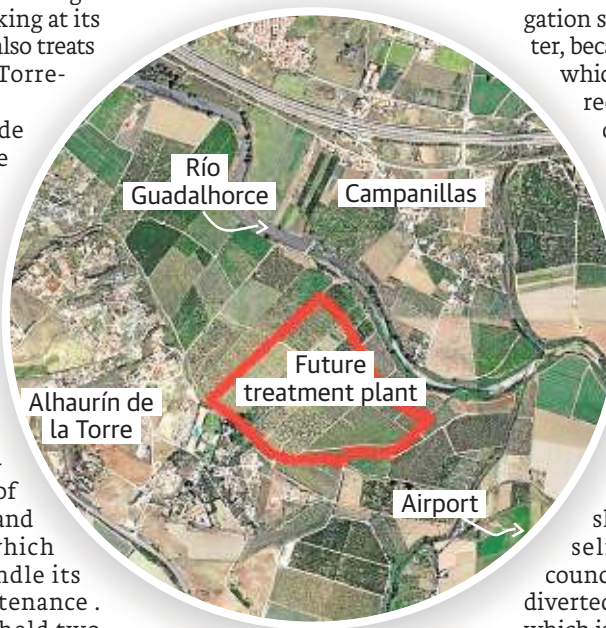
Also on the table is whether the sewage plant should treat the sludge itself or whether, as Malaga council believes, this should be diverted to the Guadalhorce plant which is run by the Emasa munici-

pal water company. This would only involve building seven kilometres of pipes, but the mayors of other municipalities are not convinced. Their doubts are not about the works as such, but about the fact that they would have to depend on the provincial capital to complete the treatment cycle.

## Management

With regard to managing the facilities in the future, the Junta de Andalucía has also made it clear that before the project goes ahead, the town halls should make a written commitment to pay for it to be put into operation and to maintain it once it is up and running. Emasa has offered to manage the plant in exchange for a fee from the councils, but another proposal is to create a special entity to manage it. In an attempt to speed the process up and not have any more delays, the Junta has told the councils that it will provide them with a draft agreement in the next few weeks.

Once these questions have been resolved and the design for the plant has been definitively agreed, the Water Infrastructure department will put the contract to tender with the idea that the plans could be completed by mid-2020, and then contract the works so the plant will be ready in 2022. Time is getting on.



## Green light for the park at Campamento Benítez after being blocked for two years

An agreement with the Junta will enable Malaga council to start work on the project to create a nature and recreation facility on the site

✉ FRANCISCO JIMÉNEZ

**MALAGA.** It doesn't seem long ago that a picnic area appeared at the Campamento Benítez, along with an array of waste paper bins and paths to walk or cycle through the pine woods, and since it opened in the summer of 2017 it has become a favourite leisure area for many people in Malaga.

It was always intended to be a temporary arrangement, a low-cost alternative while the council was waiting for approval for an ambi-

tious project which now, two years after first presented, is finally becoming a reality.

After the agreement between Malaga council and the regional government in September to unblock the administrative processes for the land to be developed, the Junta's ministry of Agriculture and Sustainable Development has now issued a resolution which means the local authority can go ahead and put its plans into effect.

The project has an estimated cost of 4.7 million euros, and the plans include sports tracks, children's play areas, more than 1,000 square metres of shade from pergolas, 770 new trees, 1,000 shrubs and 6,500 aromatic plants, and a lagoon in the hollow which was excavated for that purpose but which the Civil Aviation author-



The Benítez park opened as a temporary facility in the summer of 2017. ✉ MIGUEL FERNÁNDEZ

ity prohibited because it objected to the plans to install wooden walkways and blue netting to lie on.

The resolution from the Junta removes the two final obstacles which were holding the project up. It has accepted the appeal from city hall for this future park to be treated as a public works project

and not an urbanisation, because the plans aim to enhance its natural and environmental values.

The other objection from the regional government was to the council's plans to widen the Arroyo del Cañuelo stream, because it was in possession of a report saying that the stream is inhabited by spadefoot toads, a species which

is in danger of extinction.

The works, which will cost about 6.1 million euros, will now be able to go ahead as long as the council builds a pedestrian bridge over the stream and applies a series of corrective measures which will create a suitable habitat for these endangered toads, so they can remain in their chosen location.



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Artist's impression of the park with raised walkways. :: SUR

# Duquesa's Roman ruins to be turned into a visitor attraction with walkways

The contract for drawing up a design for the site by the castle will shortly be put out to tender after initial studies were successfully carried out

CHARO MÁRQUEZ

**MANILVA.** The project to recover the Roman ruins around Duquesa castle in Manilva has entered its second stage - drawing up a plan to turn the archaeological site into a visitor attraction. In the first phase, a

specialist heritage company carried out cleaning at the site and topographical plans.

Now the local council and the Diputación provincial authority are supporting taking the project a step further. The plans will need to include closing off the site and laying out walkways with information panels for visitors.

The Roman remains have listed status and are made up of a burial place, villa, baths and salted-fish factory dating from the first century to the fifth century. Tender requests to draw up a plan should go out shortly.



:: SUR

# ESTEPONA HOTEL SCOOPS TOP AWARD

Staff at the Kempinski Hotel in Estepona are celebrating after picking up an international award. The hotel won the Best Hotel Competition Prize for the professional way in which it trains its students. The accolade was awarded by EURHODIP, an international association supporting hospitality and tourism worldwide, in Istanbul last month.

# Mercedes-Benz starts setting up for the worldwide launch of its new model in Marbella

NIEVES CASTRO

**MARBELLA.** Trailers carrying Mercedes-Benz vehicles and vans full of exhibition materials have been surrounding Marbella's congress centre this week. Workers have until 13 November to set up the exhibition showcasing the German car-giant's latest model.

The private event for VIP clients, dealers and 400 journalists and influencers visiting from 24 countries will run for almost two weeks.

Satellite meetings and presentations will also be held at other points around the resort.



Vans outside this week. :: JOSELE

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# Study to start into environmental impact of Río Vélez flood defences

There have been plans to develop the land currently used for the Weekend Beach festival to build homes and hotels for over a decade

:: EUGENIO CABEZAS

**TORRE DEL MAR.** The regional government, the Junta de Andalucía, has given the green light to a study into the environmental impact of a flood defence system on the right bank of the mouth of the Río Vélez river in Torre del Mar.

The study will be paid for by property developer and land owner SALSA Larios, who own the land which has been earmarked for development to extend Torre del Mar to the west of the town.

## Music festival land

The project, which comes under Vélez-Málaga's PGOU urban plan, would see 1,221 homes as well as hotels and green spaces built on the area which currently hosts the annual Weekend Beach music festival and other events. However, it had been put on hold due



View of the land earmarked for development. :: SUR

to Spain's financial crisis which started in 2009 as well as concerns over flooding.

If the report is favourable, SALSA Larios has agreed to finance the flood defence wall, which has been costed at 1.4 million euros and will be built on the left side of the river.

Mayor of Vélez-Málaga, Antonio Moreno Ferrer, said that the admin-

istrative processes will now be "accelerated" so that the study can be done as quickly as possible. He added that the development would "revitalise the area and create jobs in our town."

Should the project go ahead, Vélez-Málaga town hall has said that the development should be complete within a period of six years.

# Police seize 150 kilos of stolen avocados and arrest two men as thefts of the fruit continue

:: E. CABEZAS

**EL MORCHE.** Two men from Granada province were caught stealing avocados from a farm in El Morche on Monday night. Police seized 150 kilos of the Hass variety of the fruit from the suspects who are believed to be part of a bigger group. Officers said that they were hopeful they would be able to identify a further

"two or three people over the next few days." The men had pulled down a fence in order to access the land.

This incident is one of a number that have been reported since the avocado picking season got under way last month. Police have increased their patrol of rural areas and are carrying out controls on vehicles that could be carrying stolen produce.



Police image of the fruit. :: SUR

## IN BRIEF



José Moyano (centre) with other councillors. :: SUR

## Councillors vote to give mayor huge pay rise

CÓMPETA

:: E. C. Councillors in Cómputa voted last week in favour of a pay rise for current mayor, José Moyano, from 10,000 to 42,452.24 euros per year, the maximum allowed by law for the position. The town's two

deputy mayors will also get a two per cent increase, which will mean an extra 650 euros in 2020. Justifying the rise, Moyano said that what he will earn is "exactly the same as [his predecessor] Obulio Pérez." Pérez, whose opposition PP party voted against the rise, criticised Moyano "for having boasted about lowering the salary to 10,000 euros when he took office in June."

## Green light for El Peñoncillo path

TORROX

:: E. C. Torrox town hall has given the go ahead to build a section of coastal path from the Punta del Faro residential area to the Rincón de Pepe beach bar in the Peñoncillo area of Torrox Costa. Last year two other sections were completed. Mayor of Torrox, Óscar Medina, said, "The objective is to connect the nine kilometres of Torrox coast."

## Police investigating Halloween assault

NERJA

:: E. C. Police are investigating an alleged sexual assault on an 11-year-old girl on Halloween in the Capistrano area of Nerja. According to police, the girl said her attacker was a tall, blond youth who was wearing a cap and scarf around his face and was riding a bike. The girl is said to have managed to get away from her aggressor with an injury to her arm.

## Shop owners consider protests after fall in sales

VÉLEZ-MÁLAGA

:: E. C. Shop owners in Vélez-Málaga are considering protesting over the pedestrianisation of the town centre after suffering up to 35 per cent fall in sales since the work started, according to spokesperson, Luis García. However, town hall sources have responded saying there is "more than enough evidence to show pedestrianisation of city centres has positive repercussions".

## Ukrainian man is fatal victim of car crash

TORROX

:: E. C. A 46-year-old Ukrainian man was killed when his car was involved in a head-on collision with another vehicle on the A-7207 road between Torrox Costa and Cómputa last Saturday morning. The driver of the other car, who is from Torrox, was taken to the Axarquía hospital with serious injuries. Police believe the road was wet from rainfall and that both cars could have been speeding.

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# A festive forest theme for the Calle Larios light show this Christmas

JUAN SOTO

✉ jjsoto@diariosur.es

The iconic shopping street in central Malaga will once again host a music and light show three times a day

**MALAGA.** Malaga city hall on Tuesday released plans for this year's Christmas lights on Calle Larios. The lights, all of which will be new, will be turned on on 29 November, while it has also been announced that there will once again be three daily musical light shows.

Teresa Porras, the city hall's councillor for Festivities, stated that the theme chosen this year was a forest, decorated with suns, angels and autumn leaves. Many of the decorations will be made of perspex, so that they can remain there for the entire festive season.



A computer-generated image of the new city centre illuminations. :: SUR

The decorations will be supported by 22 arches, and will be made up of 730,000 individual bulbs.

The installation of the lights started on Wednesday and will force the closure of some parts of the street.

As has been a feature over the last

few years, musical shows will take place three times a day, at 6.30pm, 8pm and 9.30pm. The songs will include Mariah Carey's All I Want For Christmas Is You and Hilary Duff's Jingle Bell Rock.

Aside from Calle Larios, 76 other city centre streets will feature deco-

rations this festive season, including Calle Santa Lucía, Calle Nosquera and Calle Comedias, all for the first time.

The lights will be kept on for 40 days and the total cost will be 806,000 euros, 532,000 of which will be spent on the Calle Larios decorations.

Marbella and San Pedro join in festive preparations

:: ANDREA JIMÉNEZ

**MARBELLA.** The assembly of Marbella's Christmas lights is under way, with the switch-on planned for 30 November.

In the town of Marbella itself, there will be a 20-metre-tall walk-through artificial Christmas tree, while in San Pedro there will be a 'cathedral' 12 metres in height.

The decorations in San Pedro will be similar to those seen last year in Malaga's Calle Larios, while Marbella's tree will be accompanied by matching Christmas decorations along the Avenida del Mar.



Assembly under way. :: JOSELE

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# Five firms bid for new low-cost high-speed rail services to Madrid as tracks are due to open up

Renfe is getting ready for competition by planning to launch a cheaper train to its own AVE eight months ahead of the new competitors

by IGNACIO LILLO

**MALAGA.** Five operators have put in bids to run low-cost rail services on the high-speed tracks from Malaga to Madrid from 2021, the railway infrastructure authority Adif said last week, after bids closed. These are in addition to the state operator, Renfe that also plans to start a cheaper fast service to rival its existing AVE.

Currently, Renfe has the monopoly on the rail services from the Costa to the nation's capital with its AVE service. But from 14 December 2020 that will all change as the government opens up some of the high-speed network to other operators, to keep up with EU competition rules.

Along with Renfe are five other operators who have put forward proposals to use the spare capacity on the lines at certain times of day.

These include the Spanish



The lines from Malaga and Seville to Madrid are seen as having most growth potential. :: REUTERS

branch of French operator SNCF, Rielsfera. SNCF has experience running cheaper high-speed services in France.

There is also a bid linked to the owners of Iberia airline regional franchise, Air Nostrum, and Treni-

talía; a combined bid from train-maker Talgo and Globalia, current owners of Air Europa; and separate bids from Globalvia and Eco rail.

The bidders' names haven't been officially announced and other groups like Avanza or Britain's Vir-

gin may enter consortia later, it was suggested.

Only some of the country's high-speed lines are seen as having potential for more healthy competition and the Madrid-Seville-Cordoba-Malaga routes are

considered the most promising. Malaga could see a 75 per cent increase in trains, going up from 13 to 22 trains a day to Madrid.

The pricing of the new services from Malaga, likely to be launched in early 2021 after the deregulation, would probably match the low-cost airline model, with discounts for early booking. They would have simpler trains than the existing AVE service but with more capacity.

## A headstart for Renfe

As well as outside private bidders, Renfe, the state operator, is to be given the chance to operate its own low-cost model.

Full details haven't been announced, but the company has said it aims to have cheaper services than its traditional AVE trains operating on the Madrid to Barcelona line by 5 April next year.

Services will be added to Malaga soon afterwards, as it plans to have an eight-month headstart on incoming new operators.

Of the new operators, sources said that only two are likely to be chosen from the outside bidders for the Malaga to Madrid line.

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**T**he polarisation that is marking Spanish politics ahead of Sunday's general election - the fourth in as many years - applies to the main parties' economic plans just as much as it does to Catalonia. That much was obvious during Monday evening's TV debate, when the leaders of the Socialists, the conservative People's Party (PP), centrist Ciudadanos, leftist Podemos and right-wing Vox laid out their fiscal pledges, amid the usual mudslinging and finger-pointing.

Socialist leader Pedro Sánchez and PP president Pablo Casado offer diametrically-opposed analyses of what is best for Spain, six years after the country officially exited recession. In the red corner is Sánchez, who has already increased the national minimum wage by 22

THE EURO ZONE  
MARK NAYLER

## A MIDDLE WAY



per cent, and who wants further hikes in public spending and tax raises, especially for high earners. Recent estimates show that the Socialists would have to raise around 5.5 billion euros to fund their ambitious social reform proposals.

Meanwhile, in the blue corner, Casado argues that raising taxes would stunt Spain's economic growth, which has been above the

eurozone average for the last five years. The PP, in fact, are promising a sizeable annual reduction of 16 billion euros in taxes. Either party, if in power, would also have to keep Brussels happy: the EU Commission recently expressed concern that Spain won't be able to meet its fiscal targets in 2020 and 2021, even though the country exited the Excessive Debt Procedure

earlier this year. Which party has got it right?

Both have. The main problem with the polarisation that characterises political debate in Spain is that it ignores the middle-ground - i.e. an approach to economic and social issues that is based on compromise and ideological flexibility (and that applies to the UK and Brexit, too). There's truth to both Sánchez's and Casado's arguments: some degree of increased public spending and the implementation of redistributive policies would help even out income inequality in Spain, which is well above the eurozone average. On the other hand, substantially raised taxes would squeeze the middle class and dent consumption levels; and that, in turn, might contribute to the country's

(as yet miniscule) economic slowdown.

The prospect that neither Sánchez or Casado want to contemplate is that they might have to work together during the next governmental term, as polls show that none of Spain's main parties will secure a majority on Sunday. Some kind of voting arrangement or coalition will therefore be necessary for passing legislation. And here lies the other problem with polarisation in political debate: it encourages a focus on differences rather than similarities, which is precisely the opposite (no pun intended) of what Spain needs. Spain requires a functioning government that can stay in power for four years - and for that to happen, the country's politicians are going to have to find a middle way.

## BA and Iberia group buys Spain's Air Europa for 1bn euros to bolster its Madrid hub

✎ LUCÍA PALACIOS

**MADRID.** IAG, the holding company for several airlines including British Airways, Aer Lingus and Iberia, has announced it is buying up one of its biggest competitors in Spain.

Air Europa is being acquired for one billion euros. Combined with Iberia, the two airlines fly 54.5 million passengers a year to and from Spanish airports, somewhat more than current biggest flyer in Spain, Ryanair.

Analysts said IAG's aim was to bolster its influence in Madrid, making it a key travel hub, and build share in Latin America.



An Air Europa plane. ✎ EFE

## Property prices are rising most on the Costa, says survey

The almost eight per cent increase in Malaga province is being driven by residential tourism on the coast as prices in Malaga city have hardly risen

✎ NURIA TRIGUERO

**MALAGA.** The feeling you get on the streets that property is dearer has just been confirmed with hard data; Malaga province, including the Costa del Sol, has seen the biggest increase in the price of housing in the country.

According to Pisos.com, a home search internet site, the average price of secondhand homes rose 7.9 per cent in the province in the last year, reaching 2,402 euros per square metre. The Malaga area is now the fifth most expensive province in Spain in which to buy a property, behind the Balearics, the Basque provinces of Gipuzkoa and Biscay, and Madrid.

The sharp rise in Malaga province is being put down to the influx of more residential tourists looking to buy a second home in the sun. In contrast, prices have hardly risen in Malaga city in the



A couple househunting on the Costa del Sol. ✎ SUR

last year.

This slowdown in the main city of the province is in contrast to other provincial capitals nearby - Cadiz has risen by nine per cent in the last year.

### Steady market growth

A spokesperson for Pisos.com warned that prices aren't going to give any "big surprises" in the coming months. He also highlighted that the market has undergone a

"very gradual" improvement in recent years, growing "slowly but surely". This growth means the market recovery has come "in a sustainable and, above all, solid way, so we can take an optimistic view on the future".

The highest price per square metre in Spain, in the Balearics, is 3,122 euros, while the cheapest provinces were in the Castilla-La Mancha region, where the average here is 890 euros per square metre.

### IN BRIEF

#### Wind makes nighttime electricity 'almost free'

**MADRID**

✎ J. M. C. The price of electricity at night, the time when least in being used, fell to almost zero on Monday, as demand was virtually covered by super-cheap wind turbine energy during heavy gales. The overall price fall last Sunday was due to 48 per cent of power across the whole day coming from wind and as much as 58 per cent from renewable sources overall. Forty-two per cent came from other sources, including coal and nuclear.

#### Malaga jobless total rose 6,000 last month

**MALAGA**

✎ N. TRIGUERO. There was disappointing news this week in Malaga province in the monthly figures from the Social Security department that showed the numbers signed on at local job centres rose by 6,027 last month. This took the total registered as out of work to 143,896 in the area. On a national level, there were 97,948 registered unemployed, an increase in October not seen since 2012 at the height of the recession. Experts said labour-market growth is slowing down.

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## BREXPATS LUNCH GUESTS INCLUDE BRITISH CONSUL

Brexpats in Spain held a special lunch at the Valparaíso Restaurant in Mijas last Sunday, arranged as either a "celebration or commiseration of Brexit", due to take place on 31 October. Hosted by president Anne Hernández, the event was attended by British consul Charmaine Arbouin.

## Expert speakers to give Brexit talk catered for British foreign residents in Marbella next Tuesday

This free, bilingual event will take place at the Palacio de Ferias y Congresos on 12 November from 5pm

ANDREA JIMÉNEZ

**MARBELLA.** Marbella town hall, in conjunction with the Foreign Residents department, has organised an informative talk for British residents in the town regarding Brexit and its possible effects on UK nationals living in Spain.

The Palacio de Ferias y Congresos Adolfo Suárez will host the event, called Dealing With Brexit, on Tuesday 12 November from 5pm. Numerous experts in immigration and tax matters will take part in the event which aims to "shine light on some of the uncertainty caused by Brexit", according to the councillor responsible for Foreign Residents, Remedios Bocanegra.

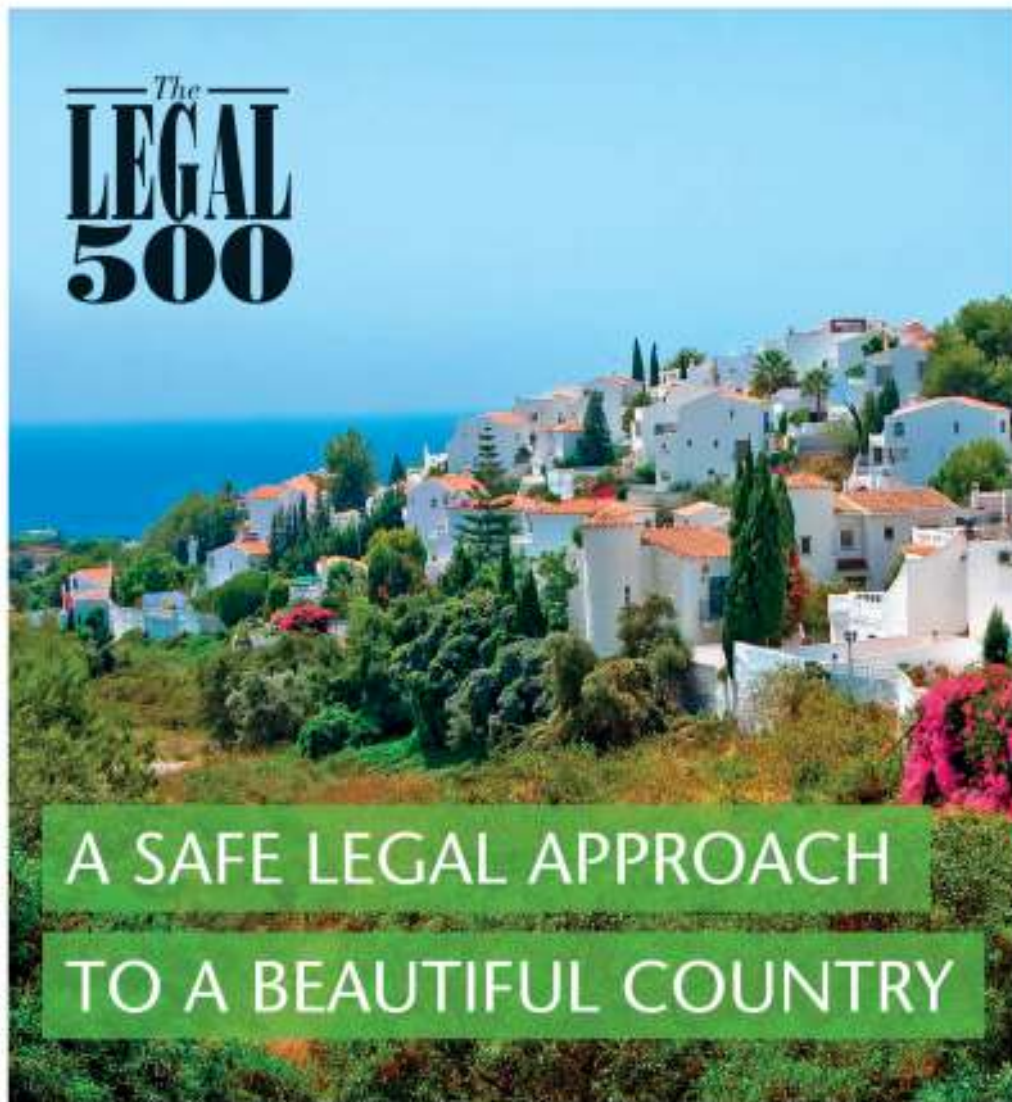
During the event, which will be in English and Spanish, topics such

as Gibraltar, travel, the fluctuation of the pound and the application of the Ley de Extranjería law to non-EU citizens will be discussed.

The talk will be presided over by the British consul to Andalucía, Charmaine Arbouin; Ricardo Bocanegra, lawyer and specialist in matters affecting foreign residents; and two members of the consulting firm UHY Fay & Co -the director of the tax department, Inmaculada Domecq, and managing partner, Bernard Fay.

"These talks are aimed at the community of international residents of our town, especially those from the United Kingdom. However, anyone who is interested can attend, regardless of nationality," said the councillor.

Remedios Bocanegra also stressed that there is an office for international resident care, which has itself launched a similar department aimed specifically at British people, "a community with around 4,000 people registered in our town, although the [real] figure is higher."



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A previous pop-up event in Torremolinos. SUR

## Consulate pop-up comes to Arroyo de la Miel today

SUR IN ENGLISH

The British Consulate will be holding another Brexit Information Pop Up at the Casa de la Cultura in Arroyo de la Miel today, 8 November.

A member of the consular team will be on hand, from 10.30am until 2pm, to answer questions individually on living in Spain and Brexit.

Consul Charmaine Arbouin said: "Many UK nationals here have already registered as residents, checked their healthcare and ex-

changed their driving licences, but we know that others still have questions about what they need to do to prepare for Brexit. That's why our consular team continue going out on the road - to answer those questions and point them to the right sources of information."

More dates and venues are constantly being announced. For details of future events, sign up for alerts to gov.uk/livinginspain and follow facebook.com/BritsinSpain.



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# Final campaigning under way before this Sunday's general election

The eagerly awaited televised debate between five leaders on Monday was inconclusive and commentators believe it will be a hung parliament once again

NEIL HESKETH

**MALAGA.** The political parties are finishing off their national election campaigning today, 8 November, before an official day of reflection as usual tomorrow, Saturday, and then voting on Sunday.

The campaigning will have lasted just eight days, a shorter period as the country only went to the polls as recently as April, meaning there has been little time for major incidents or significant straying from campaign messages.

Causing most comment in Spain this week was the only televised debate between the leaders of the five main national parties, up from four last time. Unlike April, the debate on Monday included hard-right Vox's leader, Santiago Abascal, who was allowed to take part for the first time having won seats in the general election six months ago.

The response to the separatist crisis in Catalonia was a key theme of the debate, with parties on the left advocating more tolerance and the right-wing more intervention. Media commentators were divided over which of the five leaders did best.

One thing they did agree on was that the debate, and the campaign itself, hadn't really shifted public opinion and that Spain was heading for a hung parliament once again after Sunday's vote.

While the PSOE look sure to remain the biggest party but without an overall majority, the sum of the left-wing vote may have declined to more or less match the right-wing parties, according to latest polls.

The fresh election was called after the Socialist PSOE, under acting prime minister, Pedro Sánchez, failed to form a government. They had been the largest party after the April 28 vote but couldn't build support to get a majority of MPs to back them.



The leaders of (left to right) PP, PSOE, Vox, Unidas Podemos and Ciudadanos line up to debate. :: EFE

## Costa plays its part in the national political scene

On Sunday, people registered to vote in national elections in Malaga province will choose by

proportional representation 11 MPs (diputados) of the 350 in the Congreso de los Diputados, as well as four upper-house senators.

National figures feature heavily locally. First on the conservative PP party local electoral list is Pablo Montesinos, the party's national communications direc-

tor, while top of the Unidas Podemos coalition list in Malaga is Alberto Garzón, national leader of left-wing Izquierda Unida.

Malaga was part of all leaders' campaigns. On Thursday, the PSOE's Pedro Sánchez was in Torremolinos for an important rally towards the end of his campaign.



## KING APPLAUDS INFANTA LEONOR'S FIRST BARCELONA SPEECH

Despite tension from separatists outside the Barcelona convention centre, the Princess of Girona awards, celebrating young people's innovation, went ahead this week. The Princess of Girona is the official title in Catalonia for the heir to throne, Infanta Leonor. On Monday, the young princess made her first speech at the annual event, addressing guests in Spanish, Catalan, English and even Arabic.

## Madrid gets ready to host December's UN climate summit at last minute as Chile backs out

DOMÉNICO CHIAPPE

**MADRID.** The United Nations has accepted the acting Spanish government's offer to organise the next Climate Change Conference in Madrid from 2 to 13 December.

A hasty change of venue was needed after public disturbances over the last month in Santiago de Chile, the planned host city. Originally the event, known as COP25, was due in Brazil but a change of government there had already seen it moved to Chile.

Organisers in Spain are now working flat out to prepare the private and public spaces that will be used by leaders and experts from 125 countries. The government has said that getting the summit ready "is priority" and that it will take place "in normal conditions" despite "the short timescale available".

While the mayor of Madrid showed his satisfaction at being chosen for the conference, there was some disquiet from police who will be responsible for the security of the estimated 25,000 delegates and support teams.

"We found out via the press," a police source said. "At the moment we've got in our heads the ongoing operation in Catalonia and the general election next Sunday, which could be complicated."

The main events will be held at Madrid's out-of-town exhibition centre, Ifema.

Malaga had also offered itself as main venue and still hopes to stage some side events.



The IFEMA complex. :: SUR

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# A strong focus on Gibraltar tourism and finance in London this week

The chief minister visited the World Travel Market, hosted several events to mark Gibraltar Day and held Brexit discussions with UK ministers

DEBBIE BARTLETT

**GIBRALTAR.** Gibraltar was well-represented in London this week, with the chief minister, Fabian Picardo, hosting several events around Gibraltar Day and making a visit to the Gibraltar stand at the World Travel Market.

The WTM is one of the most important tourism fairs in the world, and on Monday Picardo went to see the team from the Gibraltar Tourist Board and co-exhibitors Bland Group International, the Rock Hotel and Sunborn Gibraltar. He was welcomed by the new Minister for Tourism, Vijay Daryanani, and said he was delighted to witness such a great global tourism event.

On Tuesday the chief minister hosted a Finance Centre lunch at the Guildhall and an evening reception for 200 invited guests at the Gherkin office tower. He was very upbeat at the Finance Centre lunch, describing Gibraltar as a 'bastion of Euro-



Fabian Picardo with Vijay Daryanani and the team at the WTM. :: SUR

pean stability' and giving figures to highlight its constant and consistent economic growth. Having just won a third term in office, he pointed out that since winning the election in 2011, Gibraltar's GDP had risen from £1.2 billion to £2.4 billion and fewer than 40 people on the Rock are now registered as unemployed.

Even with Brexit, with the worst scenario of No Deal as an outcome, Picardo said the Gibraltar government expects growth to continue, and the Post-Brexit Economic Plan forecasts a growth of 15 per cent over

the life of the next parliament at the very least.

And, with Brexit as always very much on everyone's minds, on Wednesday Picardo was joined in London by deputy chief minister Dr Joseph Garcia for a meeting of the Joint Ministerial Council on Brexit, with UK ministers and officials. The discussions centred on issues relating to a possible no-deal Brexit and the future relationship between the UK and EU. Also on the agenda were bilateral issues between the Gibraltar and UK governments.

## IN BRIEF



Christmas in Gibraltar is very picturesque. :: SUR

## Festival of Lights starts on 22 November

GIBRALTAR

**D.B.** Some of those who love Christmas are already buying gifts and putting decorations up, but the official festive season begins in Gibraltar on 22nd of this month, when the illuminations are

switched on at 6pm in Casemates Square. The fun-filled family event includes singing and dancing, arts and crafts, a visit from Santa Claus and, of course, the younger members of the family can visit him in his grotto.

The inauguration festivities are scheduled to end at 8pm, but the lights will come on every day until 6 December.

## New pay and display parking zone

GIBRALTAR

**D.B.** A new pay and display parking zone came into effect on Thursday this week in South Pavilion car park. There are nine parking bays on the upper tier which visitors can use between 9am and 9pm Mondays to Fridays and 10am to 4pm on Saturdays. Parking is free outside those hours and on Sundays and public holidays.

## Exhibition to pay tribute to local artist

GIBRALTAR

**D.B.** If anyone has art works by or memorabilia relating to artist Elio Cruz and would like to lend them for an exhibition to celebrate his artistic life, they can do so by contacting Gibraltar Cultural Services Events Department at info@culture.gi. The display, called 'One Man, Many Talents', will take place on 20 January next year.

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## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## Fed up with litter

Armed with rubber gloves, buckets, trowels and bin liners, I start to clear the revolting mess off the streets to which I have become accustomed since moving here from the UK with my 15-year-old daughter and three cocker spaniels, as I can't stand to look at it anymore!

Is the Costa del Sol turning into a third-world shanty town, I ask myself as I tour the length and breadth of the "NOT-so-sunny side" of the Costa del Sol. Disgusted, disillusioned and shockingly repulsed, we will soon have the second coming of the Black Death - suffocation by filth - if something drastic is not done to stop the ignorance of people throwing this amount of litter, plastic and dog mess in every direction. I see it here, there and everywhere, every day on the many miles I cover, and simply don't want to live in a society of uncultured, uneducated litter bugs who seem to think and find it an acceptable part of life.

"Ama el lugar donde vives" springs to mind - love where you live - which clearly isn't the case here as many of the restaurateurs and residents on the Costa del Sol I spoke to just shrug and say, "It's Spain," or "No problem" as

they seat their diners only feet from the view of the litter glistening in the sunshine and the carrier bags clinging to the hedges and branches, which they enjoy over a bottle of sangría!

From Malaga to Sotogrande it's impossible to walk a few paces or drive anywhere without seeing not just a sprinkle of litter but piles of plastic, bottles, cans, paper, nappies and filth on every road, roundabout, sidewalk, ditch, river bank, etc. It's endless and depressing! The beaches are no better and the Costa del Sol is rapidly relying on volunteers to clean up other people's mess, where litter surprisingly slips through people's hands right by the many litter bins provided.

People need to be better educated to the effects of this anti-social behaviour; parents and teachers need to address this at home and schools as it's really NOT cool.

Fines need to be implemented by the appropriate authorities, signs and cameras installed to stop fly-tipping and perhaps they should pay the homeless to help clear the litter like other countries now do.

**SARAH BURGE**  
BY EMAIL

## Fast backward

Sitting having a coffee in Main St, Gib, reading p18 Fast Backward by Peter Edgerton (SUR in English, November 1st).

Brilliant piece of writing! Literally laughed out loud. More like this please!

**KEN RUIZ**  
BY EMAIL

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**C**oncern and reassurance. These are words we seem to have been reading and typing more than ever recently, and all in connection with one issue - Brexit.

The same words appear in the messages and statements we've been receiving from various representatives of the British government addressing UK nationals resident in EU countries. The concerns about healthcare, residency or pensions - among many others - are continually acknowledged by the powers-that-be who, in one way or another, go on to offer some sort of reassurance. Indeed the British ambassador to Spain, Hugh Elliott, used the same words in an interview with this newspaper last month.

It is of course in both countries' interests to reach bilateral agreements to protect citizens' rights. Common sense says that governments will not let tens of thousands of pensioners find themselves suddenly without healthcare. Reassuring.

Now the expression of concern

and message of reassurance has come out again, still in connection with Brexit, but in the context of the tourism industry in Andalucía.

The UK is the biggest tourist-origin market for Spain, Andalucía and the Costa del Sol. Concerns, therefore, over how the UK's exit from the

## Spoiler alert

**PETER EDGERTON**  
MUSIC MAKER WWW.E-PETER.COM

**A** twenty-four-year-old Spanish man - I use the term 'man' loosely - recently took his own (divorced) parents to court claiming that they should support him financially while he lolled about reading some books - or "studied" as he called it. The system saw sense and ruled against him. Phew!

One's first reaction is to sympathise with mum and dad although, on closer reflection, we might well reach the conclusion that their parenting style must have played a considerable part in creating the man-child presently giving them such grief.

I have very good friends in various different families who all tailor their meal times to their youngsters' whims, sometimes preparing three different meals so as to please and appease Harry and Olive and their capricious palates.

"There you go, darling, your favourite - aubergine bake with a sprinkling of Egyptian almonds. Harry, your Patagonian truffle salad with hand-picked olives will be

along as soon as mummy has done all of your trigonometry homework for you. Love you, sweetie."

Compare and contrast meal times in our house when we were children.

"What's for tea?"

"Egg and chips."

"I don't like egg and chips."

"Unlucky. We'll have yours. Now go and get your homework done."

The Spanish word for this approach is 'mimar' which might reasonably be translated as something like 'pamper'. This description doesn't cut it. The English expression 'to spoil' is much more apposite. An over-zealous parent bending wilfully to their little one's every caprice is, indeed, spoiling their charge. Trouble is, spoilt children then stride out into the world as adults still expecting the treatment they've always been used to.

I've lost count of the number of grown-ups who come to the pub to enjoy our free concerts or cultural activities and don't ask for a drink. What ensues is often some-

thing like this.

"Good evening, what would you like to drink?"

"I'm fine thanks."

"I'm sure you are, what with your humungous headphones and tattoos and everything but what would you like to drink?"

"Nothing. I've just had loads to drink somewhere else." (No, really, this happens quite frequently.)

"I'm afraid you need to have at least one drink if you'd like to enjoy the event."

(Sighing heavily) "What's the cheapest one you have?"

"Water - I'll bring you a bottle, then, shall I? And some complementary Patagonian truffles, naturalmente."

Not to worry. For the next time we play host to a spoilt adult (probably tonight), I've got a cunning plan.

"Hi - an orange Aquarius, please."

"Hi - sorry, I'm afraid we've only got lemon."

"I don't like lemon."

"Unlucky, We'll have yours. Now go and get your homework done."

## PACHI

## The debate

Spaniards! Vote for me!  
If I manage to sort out Malaga CF,  
sorting out Spain will be a breeze!



## Concern and reassurance

**RACHEL HAYNES**

EU could effect British people's holiday destination choices have been with the industry since the referendum in 2016 and more so with the prospect of a no-deal Brexit.

The tourism authorities and professionals had expected the situation to be a little clearer when they came to London this week for the World Travel Market, given the previous Brexit deadline of 31 October. Now though they still have the "deal or no-deal" question hanging over their heads and new elections thrown in to complicate matters.

So, as they are justifiably concerned, in comes the reassurance. The British love Spain and especially the Costa del Sol. They've been coming here since before both countries were in the EU, so why will they stop

coming now? Tour operators and travel agents have said this week that British tourist figures are expected to rise next year. Reassuring.

There is one other word, though, that always goes with the other two - uncertainty. None of the reassurance can go all the way and guarantee there's no call for concern. In the case of tourism, the industry cannot sit back and relax; other factors such as a slump in sterling could affect holiday reservations.

In the case of residents in Spain, reassurance based on the idea that common sense will prevail among governments and politicians is not the strongest kind.

And so, we can all rest assured that we're stuck with the uncertainty for a bit longer yet.





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IN THE FRAME

# A life of hard work and intuition

**N**eal Toplis has become respected on the Costa del Sol for his innovative work with the Royal British Legion. However, along with being the president of the RBL Southern Spain District, the multifaceted 48-year-old runs two successful businesses, as well as presenting a breakfast show on City FM Malaga.

A keen drummer - he has a drum kit permanently set up in his home - Neal has been resident in Spain for almost 20 years. In England, he had been working as a launch manager for Luminar Leisure, a private company that has the largest square footage of nightclub capacity in the UK. However, after becoming disillusioned with the company, Neal, who had also worked as a nightclub DJ, headed to Barcelona, where a friend informed him that the Club 18-30 was looking for an entertainment manager. He was offered the position and "had fun" organising special 80's gold nights. He was also able to work as a hypnotist, one of the numerous talents he possesses.

"I basically bummed around for a year before deciding to come down to the Costa del Sol and do what everyone else did: I brought a bar," Neal explains to SUR in English.

He brought a business in Torremolinos and turned into a successful cocktail bar, selling it 18 months later for almost five times the amount he had paid for it. It was while running the bar that he started a construction company, a business that he still runs today.

## Lucrative opportunities

Neal's ability to spot a possible lucrative business opportunity seems to be one of his best assets; although his next enterprise would take him into a totally different sector. After his former girlfriend's father became ill with terminal cancer, Neal began the difficult task of organising his funeral. He was astounded by the prices he was quoted and was eventually introduced to the person who would soon become his business partner. He originally intended to set up a helpline for expats who needed advice about funerals, but ended up founding his own company called Funeral Care Spain; although he is not the stereotypical funeral director.

"Times have changed. Funeral di-

rectors should not be imposing people, more of a friend who wants to help the family through a difficult period," he says compassionately.

Neal recently had a car accident, which has left him with back prob-

lems, but this has not dampened his eagerness to continue to push himself to the limit.

It would be his daily breakfast show on City FM radio that would lead to his introduction to the RBL.

"The RBL came to me because of my connections in the media. As with every other charity, they were struggling for personnel. Their membership was dying off because there was no new blood. I genuinely thought

there was something I could do," he explains with a hint of certainty.

Neal has now been President of the RBL Spain Southern for three years. His extensive connections have proved to be an asset on several occasions, including finding a pastor to lead the Remembrance service in Salon Varietés one year. He introduced the legion to a pastor that he used for his funeral business, but after the pastor returned to the UK, Neal, who is an ordained pastor, now reads the service himself.

"Consequently, I've got a very busy mind so I like to find things to do. I decided to do my bit, so I stepped up and I now do the services at the Salon Varietés," he points out.

He believes that a new direction is needed to attract interest, as he feels many of the traditional pastimes no longer interest the younger generation, who, as he points out, are needed in order for the RBL to survive on the coast.

**"I don't have any interest in those who don't want to wear a poppy"**

"The reality now is that there is young blood. We have people who were in Northern Ireland and some that fought in Afghanistan and the Falklands," he says.

It was the support of these younger veterans that helped rebirth the Benalmádena branch of the RBL, which closed several years ago due to falling membership. Neal believes that a fresh new approach is needed to give the legion the boost it needs and his policies seem to be showing progress.

However, he is not one to mince his words, a trait he shows when questioned about the controversy surrounding the wearing of poppies.

"I don't have any interest in those who don't want to wear a poppy. It is not a symbol of religion and it has never been political. In fact, the main function of the RBL is to stay out of all that rubbish. It's about helping people. If you don't want to be part of it, just leave us alone," he concludes.



Neal Toplis at last year's Remembrance Day service in Fuengirola. :: R. H.

**The multifaceted 48-year-old businessman runs two successful companies, as well as presenting a breakfast show on City FM Malaga. He is also an ordained pastor and President of the Royal British Legion Spain South**

TONY BRYANT





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# The Costa del Sol remembers the fallen with Armistice Day services

by T. BRYANT

**MALAGA.** The Royal British Legion Spain South has organised several Remembrance Day services along the Costa del Sol this weekend. Ex-military personnel and the families and friends of those who served will participate in parades and services in Malaga and Fuengirola, while smaller scale services will be held at different locations along the coast.

On Sunday 10 November a Remembrance Service will take place at St George's Church in the English Cemetery in Malaga. Organised by the Royal Air Forces Association Costa del Sol and the Torremolinos branch of the RBL, the service will

be followed by a wreath-laying ceremony at the Commonwealth War Graves.

Several branches of the RBL will come together in the Salon Varietés Theatre in Fuengirola on Sunday. The 1st Fuengirola Scout Group will take part in the opening parade, along with senior members and standards from the Mijas Costa, and Marbella branches of the RBL.

The Coin branch of the RBL will hold its Armistice Day ceremony in the Cemetery Chapel in Coin (Monday). As in previous years, the mayor of Coin, Fernando Fernández, and the Guardia Civil captain Bernabé Moya Ortiz will lay wreaths.

The Mollina branch of the RBL

will hold a service and parade in the Parque La Viña in Mollina at 11 am on Monday 11 November. Several members of the branch will also participate in the Governor's Parade in Gibraltar on Sunday.

## REMEMBRANCE SERVICES

► **Malaga.** St. George's Church. Sunday 10 Nov. 11am.

► **Fuengirola.** Salon Varietés Theatre. Sunday 10 Nov. 10.30am.

► **Benajárfé.** Puerto Niza Restaurant. Sunday 10 Nov. 11.30am.

► **Gibraltar.** John Mackintosh Square. Sunday 10 Nov. 11am.

► **San Pedro.** Church of Virgen del Rocío, Sunday 10 Nov. 10am.

► **Sotogrande.** Sotogrande Church, Sunday 10 Nov. 12 noon.

► **Mollina.** Parque Viña. Monday 11 Nov. 11.30am

► **Coin.** Cemetery Chapel. Monday 11 Nov. 11.30 am.



Wreaths will be laid at the War Graves at St George's in Malaga. **T. B.**



SUR



SUR

## FLOWERS FOR ALL SAINTS' DAY

The first day of November is the signal for many families in Spain to attend to the tombs, plaques and graves of loved ones. Laden with flowers, cleaning materials and occasionally a picnic too, family members spent the day visiting the final resting places of relations, polishing and cleaning the stones and plaques before decorating them with colourful flowers.

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## SOCIETY SCENE

# FOTA take part in a murder and mystery evening

**Witches and ghouls from Friends Of The Theatre Association celebrated Halloween with a night of terror and intrigue**

:: SUR IN ENGLISH

## FOTA Halloween

Friends of the Theatre celebrated Halloween at Salvador's in Fuengirola with a Halloween themed Murder Mystery evening at which over 70 members attended. Members 'went to town' to dress up in scary costumes for the event. FOTA continues to grow and currently there are over 300 members. The group is the fundraising arm of the Salon Varietés Theatre in Fuengirola. Members enjoy many social events, excursions, holidays and a monthly lunch club, etc.

## Language exchange Torre del Mar All levels welcome

A new language exchange has started in Torre del Mar. The group meets at Momentos Café in Calle del Mar every Monday at 11am and all levels are welcome to practise English and Spanish. For more information contact Mary on 693 534 590.

## Rotary Club Nerja Looking for members

A new Rotary Club in Nerja is looking for members. Billy Hamilton said, "Whereas there are Rotary Clubs in Malaga and the Western Costa del Sol there is no Rotary presence to the east of Malaga." As such the local Rotary district is seeking to expand and as part of its initiative is looking to form an international club to be based in Nerja. The new club will be sponsored by the Rotary Club of Marbella-Guadalupe and would like to recruit members from Almúñecar to Rincón de la Vic-



Members of FOTA enjoyed a Halloween themed Murder Mystery evening. :: SUR

toria. It is looking to attract current and ex-Rotarians living in this area as well as people who would like to serve their community through Rotary. Billy explained that Rotary International "has over 1.2 million members in 35,000 clubs worldwide. It seeks to provide service to others, promote integrity, and advance world understanding, goodwill, and peace through our fellowship of business, professional, and community leaders." For further information contact billyhamilton0611@gmail.com.

## Cudeca Goldies Christmas Fair promotion

The Cudeca Goldies were out in force last weekend to promote their forthcoming Christmas Fair which will be held at the Ilunion Hotel in Los Boliches on Saturday 16 and



A Touch Of Class help promote Goldies Christmas Fayre . :: SUR

Sunday 17 November. Amateur theatrical group A Touch Of Class lent its support to the festive gathering while Father Christmas made a surprise visit to collect the children's gift letters.

## What are you up to?

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

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

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## REF. E. A. L.

I am lately receiving a lot of promotional literature, leaflets, catalogues, etc., from different companies in a variety of fields: fashion, furniture, food, cosmetics, banks, telephone companies, NGOs... I have never provided my personal details to these companies, and I am not at all interested in the offers that they

send. I would like these companies, which have a lot of information about me, to immediately destroy that information. What should I do?

In order to solve this problem, you should contact each of the companies in writing, and ask for the cancellation of the data they have in their files and to immediately stop sending you any further offers. If you do not receive an answer within ten days, it is possible to submit a claim in the Data Protection Agency, as the law obliges these companies to remove from their files the personal details that they have whenever the interested person asks them to do so.

## REF. C. E. R.

My partner and I have been living in Spain for two years, and we officially became residents last year. I have just found out that I am pregnant and we think that if we get married all

the administrative formalities will be a lot easier. However now that we have decided to take the big step, we would like to get married in the Maldives, with a ceremony on the beach surrounded by all our friends and relatives, and we have information about a tour operator that offers this kind of service. What I would like to know is if this marriage would be valid in Spain, in order to avoid any possible problems in the future.

In principle, you should not have any problems as the law is clear: any marriage celebrated abroad is valid as long as it agrees with the law of the country where it is celebrated. In other words, what counts is what the Civil Code of the country where it is celebrated establishes on the issue, and the subsequent registration in the Spanish Civil Registry. If the wedding that you are going to celebrate is valid in Maldives, it will also be so in Spain.

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WHAT HAPPENED TODAY?

8 NOVEMBER 1975

Birth of Spanish dancer Ángel Corella

The renowned dancer is the only Spaniard to have achieved the position of principal dancer with The American Ballet Theatre

Considered one of the leading dancers of his generation, Spanish ballet sensation Ángel Corella was born in Madrid on 8 November 1975. His dancing career began when he was spotted by celebrated Russian ballerina Natalia Makarova, who recommended the youngster be auditioned for the America Ballet Theatre. He was accepted into the ABT as a soloist in 1995 and by the following year had worked his way up to the rank of principal dancer. Corella is the only Spanish dancer in history to have achieved the position.

He trained with some of the top dancers of the era, including Victor Ullate, former artistic director of the Ballet Nacional de España. At the age of 16, Corella won first prize in the National Ballet Competition of Spain, and three years later, triumphed once again at the

Concours International de Danse de Paris.

He has worked with some of the greatest ballet dancers of the 20th century and has also performed as a guest artist for numerous prestigious companies, including The Royal Ballet in London, the Scala Ballet in Milan and with the Kirov Ballet in St Petersburg.

In 2006, Corella established Kings of the Dance, a show with which he collaborated with world-class dancers from The Royal Ballet, The Royal Danish Ballet and the Bolshoi Ballet. Corella took the show to Russia the following year, performing to sellout audiences in the Moscow and St Petersburg. He also formed Ángel Corella and stars of American Ballet, a group with which he performed throughout Spain for seven years.

In April 2008, Corella estab-



Ángel Corella, one of the leading dancers of his generation. :: SUR

lished the Corella Ballet in Castilla y León, the first classical ballet company in Spain in 20 years: in 2012, the company moved to Barcelona and became the Barcelona Ballet. The company has received high acclaim and has gained a large following both in Spain and in the rest of the world.

Upon his retirement from the American Ballet Theatre in 2012, Corella received a 20-minute standing ovation from a sellout audience at the Metropolitan Opera House.

The following year, he made his debut at the Paris Opera House; while in July 2016, he was

Bailarín	Ballet dancer
Instituto	Secondary school
Danza	Dance
Clásica	Classic
Formación	Training
Estudios	Studies
Clases	Classes
Boxeador	Boxer
Concurso	Competition
Solista	Soloist
Compañía	Company
Contemporáneo	Contemporary
Coreógrafo	Choreographer
Galardonado	Acclaimed
Fundación	Foundation
Teatro	Theatre

appointed artistic director of the Pennsylvania Ballet.

Corella is renowned for encouraging young dancers: he is a regular judge on Spanish reality show Mira Quien Baila and has also taught at the Royal Ballet School in London.

His popularity has seen him appear in advertisements for Rolex and alongside Gwyneth Paltrow for the big-budget Christmas commercial for Freixenet: he has also featured several times on the cover of The New York Times -who described him as 'a force of nature'.



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## GARDENING

# Filipendula rubra

The queen of the prairie forms a tall clump that can be used at the back of a border or as an accent plant

Filipendula rubra 'Venusta' is a tall and elegant herbaceous perennial native to the US where it is commonly called 'queen of the prairie' or 'meadowsweet venusta'. In some catalogues it may be listed as Spirea Venusta.

Sprays of small, deep-pink flowers are held on stiff red stems above

the bright-green, vine leaf-like foliage. Each flower has several long anthers which give them a fluffy appearance. The blossoms are sweetly scented (said to smell like lilac) and change from dark pink to white

as they mature. The leaves are aromatic when brushed or crushed.

In ideal conditions a clump of Filipendula rubra (one of just 12 species in the genus, a member of the large Rosaceae family) can reach 2.4 metres by about 1.2

metres when mature, but to reach this maximum size they need damp, rich soil and a location that receives some shade during the hottest part of the year. Filipendula is not drought resistant.

Filipendula rubra can be used at the back of a border in cottage garden plantings as an accent plant or grown in a large container.

Although it attracts bees and other pollinating insects, it has little nectar. It does have lots of pollen though which is wind born, so may not be appreciated by people susceptible to hay fever. Filipendula rubra 'Venusta' is not self pollinating; in its natural habitat and where bees are becoming scarce, it is in danger of disappearing. Propagation is by seed although the clump will get bigger by sending out creeping rhizomes. These rhizomes are easy to remove and Filipendula rubra is not considered invasive.

Native American Indians once used extracts of the root to treat heart problems and as an aphrodisiac. Other parts of the plant were used to treat diarrhoea and dysentery.

In very dry summers or with insufficient irrigation it may die back but this can all be cut off and new growth should start to reappear with adequate watering.



Filipendula rubra 'Venusta' and close-up. :: FLICKR/WIKIPEDIA

## READER'S PHOTO



:: MARIA HILLEN

## PREPARING FOR CHRISTMAS

Maria Hillen has sent in this photograph of a Poinsettia (*Euphorbia pulcherrima*). Its leaves are yet to turn the festive red that we normally associate with these plants. Plant nurseries, to turn the bracts red, give them warmth and bright light during the day and an unbroken 14 hours of total darkness at night for about four weeks, not easy to emulate at home.

## GARDENING IN NOVEMBER

## Avoid drowning your plants

Most areas of Andalucía have seen some rain over the past week; it's been very heavy in some areas. To prevent your plants in pots getting waterlogged and rotting, remove any saucers and, as an extra precaution, raise the pots on little feet. You can buy

special terracotta feet at garden centres or be crafty and use pieces of broken tile, brick, small pieces of wood etc. They don't have to be raised very high, just enough to allow any excess water to run freely out of the holes in the bottom of the pot.

## PHOTOS

## Calling all gardeners

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

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

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## DISCOVER ANDALUCÍA



El Bosque will be repelling the Napoleonic invasion again between 15 and 17 November. :: SUR



Overlooking El Bosque. :: AYTO. EL BOSQUE



### QUICK GUIDE

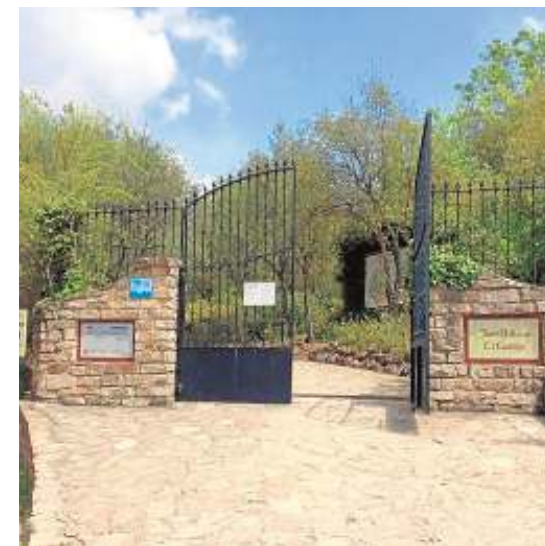
#### What to see in El Bosque

**Cheese visitor centre.** Themed museum that forms part of the iconic El Bosqueño cheese factory.  
Calle Antonio Machado, s/n. 11670 El Bosque.



**Abajo Mill.** Fine collection of folk artefacts housed in an 18th-century building.  
Calle Juan Ramón Jiménez, s/n. 11670 El Bosque.

**El Castillejo Botanical Gardens.** A garden where you can see the main species that grow in the Los Alcornocales natural park.  
Camino del Castillejo, s/n. 11670 El Bosque.



**Los Cañitos recreational area.** Specially equipped to maximise outdoor enjoyment.  
11670 El Bosque.

**Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe church.** Main parish church in the village, built in the 17th century and restored in the 19th.  
Calle Cadiz, 1, 11670 El Bosque.

# Grazalema takes on Napoleon

JAVIER  
ALMELLONES

### 3 days in El Bosque

**Car + walking.**  
Length of journey: Two and a half hours from Malaga.  
Relaxing: 5 hours.  
Walking: 4 hours.  
Other visits: 3 hours.



**N**apoleon's troops didn't exactly have it easy in Andalucía. And even less so in upland areas such as the mountains around Ronda and Grazalema.

Besides the historical tales that recall what went on, these days there's a series of reenactments in period costume set at that time in history that take place around the area, such as the one held from 15 to 17 November in the village of El

Bosque, in the mountains just inside Cadiz province.

The village, nestling between two of the most important natural parks in Andalucía –Los Alcornocales and Grazalema– will once again be playing host to the troops for the weekend for the tenth time, remembering events that took place from 1810 onwards.

Thanks to the participation of over 200 actors from the Villa de El Bosque historical association along with other local residents,

the enactment of the different episodes in the story gets better each year in both dramatic effect and realism.

The action starts on the evening of Friday 15 when the cue to start will be, what else but, the arrival of the French troops, who'll be faced with an ambush by local guerillas.

Also in this section of the reenactment, the reprisals by the Napoleonic troops for this attack will take place.

For the rest of the weekend, until Sunday, different characters from these stories will parade through Plaza de la Constitución, the heart of this mountain town, such as Andrés Ortiz de Zárate, a guerilla known as 'The Shepherd', and one of the biggest heroes, and Joseph Bonaparte himself, brother of Napoleon, who actually stayed in the village.

The final act of the story will once again be the granting of a special royal charter to this pretty Cadiz village for the bravery and tenacity shown by its inhabitants during the Peninsular War, which is known in Spain as the War of Independence.

Of course, this themed event is a good reason to get to know the area, including pleasant walks, such as the one that leads to the Pinsapar de Grazalema mountain fir forest, or interesting visits to local heritage sites.



Fir forest near Grazalema. :: JUNTA DE ANDALUCÍA





1. Juan Miguel Quiñones and Iván de la Torre. :: MIGUE FERNÁNDEZ  
2. Works by Lumbreras, Navas, Alva-

rado, Zabell, Naranjo. :: M. FERNÁNDEZ  
3 & 4. Works by Quiñones, Lokati and Calleja. :: MIGUE FERNÁNDEZ

# Trick or treat at CAC Málaga

The contemporary art centre is showing a collective display by local artists, called 'Dracula x Dracula'

The exhibition, which was in Seville until recently, features the works of Juan Manuel Quiñones and other creators, based on the legendary ice lolly

:: ANTONIO JAVIER LÓPEZ

**MÁLAGA.** The Contemporary Art Centre of Malaga is now hosting an exhibition called 'Dracula x Dracula', organised by artist Juan Miguel Quiñones, which until very recently was on display in Seville. The works are all based on the theme of the Dracula ice lolly or character.

The display echoes the formula which resounded in millions of homes at Halloween, the borrowed American custom of Trick or Treat which Spain has adopted as its own. The treat which Quiñones has set up with these locally-based artists is an eclectic and entertaining collection. And the trick is the Dracula

ice lolly, created with such diverse ingredients as its cola coating, blood-red strawberry jelly and vanilla ice cream centre.

'Dracula x Dracula' will remain at CAC Málaga until 2 February. It is a combination of 61 different works, starting as soon as one enters the building with Quiñones' own sculptures.

The composition called 'En el mar insípido' and 'Colección Fluor' (both from 2019) give visitors a taste of the entertaining tone of this exhibition. The central part of the montage consists of 'El empalador' by Chema Lumbreras, 'Extraña aparición' by Sebastián Navas, 'El túnel' by Rafael Alvarado, 'Dracula' by Simón Zabell and 'Mua-ha-haa' by José Carlos Naranjo.

The attenuated palette of all these finds a suggestive chromatic counterweight from the wall opposite, where there are 'Sweet bite' by Mina Hamada, 'Dracula Castle' by Zosen and, especially, the pieces by Miki Leal, Ana Barriga and José Medina Galeote. Colour then marks the way

with the matter paintings from Cristina Lama, Luis Pérez Calvo and Matías Sánchez and leads on to two other compositions. The first combines 'If you bite I scream' by Javier Calleja and works by Roman Lokati and Fernando Clemente, while the other is based on the stylistic triumvirate formed by Ana de Alvear, Santiago Picatoste and Santiago Ydñez.

## 'DRÁCULA X DRÁCULA'

► **Exhibition.** A collection of 61 works by 56 artists around the theme of a legendary ice lolly.

► **Where.** CAC Málaga.

► **When.** Until 2 February.

► **Opening hours.** Tuesdays to Sundays, 9am to 9pm. The centre also opens at the same times on the third Monday of each month.

► **Entry.** Free.

## A living project

It was with Ydñez that Quiñones came up with the first trick which was the origin of his collection and, by extension, the exhibition which can now be seen at CAC Málaga thanks to the proposal from the Laboratory of the Arts.

One of the curators of the display, Iván de la Torre, said at the opening that Quiñones' project "is a living project which will continue to grow" with new contributions from other artists.

He pointed out that the works gathered together as part of the 'Dracula x Dracula' project are based on the character and the ice lolly from different perspectives: from the iconographic evocation of polo to the literary or cinematic references to the most popular vampire in the collective imagination.

Also, De la Torre (who is the curator of the exhibition together with Juan Ramón Rodríguez-Mateo) stressed that the Dracula ice lolly became a symbol of that country in transition where polo began in 1977

thanks to Juan Viñallonga, who also created children's summer treats such as Frigodedo (1980), Frigopie (1983), Calippo (1984) and Twitter (1986).

Quiñones referred to this evocative power when explaining the origin of his project: "My work is based on my own memories from childhood, but every time I exhibit these works I find that many other people can identify with them."

That identification, in this case with creators from Malaga, was also mentioned by the acting artistic director of CAC Málaga, Helena Junco, who added that with 'Dracula x Dracula', the council-owned art centre "is now definitively open" after having been closed for three months between July and October because of delays in deciding who should manage it for the next five years.

That seems like a bad dream now, looking back on the night of Halloween when the dead are said to come alive again. Just like Dracula, in fact.

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## EXHIBITIONS

### Piel de Libro

**Mijas.** Until 25 November. *Mijas town hall.*  
The exhibition entitled 'Realidades Alteradas' is by the Piel de Libro collective. It is open from 9am until 2pm, Monday to Friday.

### Ángel Giró2

**Fuengirola.** Until 22 November. *Casa de la Cultura de Fuengirola, Avda Juan Gómez Juanito.*  
An exhibition of photographs and paintings by Ángel Giró Camacho and Ángel Giró Galacho.

### José Ant. Suvires Colorado

**Mijas.** Until 11 November. *Sala de Exposiciones Museo Histórico Etnológico, Plaza de la Libertad.*  
MIRUM is the title of the exhibition of photographs taken by José Ant. Suviren Colorado. It consists of 26 images which show the thin line between the conventional and the forbidden leaving the viewer with the decision whether to look or not.

### Nina Pauloff

**Mijas.** Until 18 November. *Centro Cultural La Cala de Mijas.*  
Internationally renowned Finnish photographer Nina Pauloff will be exhibiting a selection of her photos.

### La Luna

**Malaga.** Until 24 November. *Centro Pompidou.*  
'La Luna, un espacio imaginario por defender' is an exhibition dedicated to the moon which forms part of the 'Hors Pistes' cycle currently running at the Pompidou. It



Piel de Libro. Mijas.

includes videos, photographs and many other articles connected to the moon and space travel.

### Los Mismos Ríos

**Malaga.** Until 9 December. *La Casa Amarilla, C/Santos.*  
The exhibition by Malaga artist Javier Roz reflects the connection between man and nature.

### Estanislao Lanza

**Malaga.** Until 10 December. *Alfajar, C/Cister.*  
An exhibition of ceramics entitled Caronte by Estanislao Lanza will be open until the end of October. [www.alfajar.es](http://www.alfajar.es)

### Art Biennial

**Nerja.** Until 16 November. *Sala de Exposiciones, C/Almirante Ferrandiz 12.*  
Ten artists from the UK, the Netherlands and Sweden will be exhibiting their work.

### Josephine Quintero

**Benamargosa.** Until 12 November. *La Vaquería.*  
Exhibition of paintings and mixed media by Josephine Quintero.

### Japanese culture and traditions

**Macharaviaya.** Until 12 January 2020. *Museo Los Gálvez.*  
This exhibition includes a selection of traditional Ukiyo-e art from the nineteenth century with scenes depicting the countryside, sumo wrestlers, courtesans and some sexually explicit paintings.

## CHRISTMAS FAIRS

### Paws-Awhile-Dog-Rescue

**Benalmádena.** 24 November, 12-6pm. *Lewis's Irish Pub. Avda Antonio Machado.*  
A variety of stalls with crafts etc and live entertainment.

### Christmas Fair

**Estepona.** 23 November, from 11am until 3pm. *Palacio de Congresos.* Free entry.  
Food, music gifts plus Santa's Grotto and a free advent calendar. Proceeds for various charities.



Estanislao Lanza, Malaga.

### Last Chance Animal Rescue

**Benavista.** 29 November, 5-7pm. *Neli G's Bistro Cafe.*  
Christmas gift ideas, stalls, mice pies, mulled, wine, Christmas Bake Off, live music, tombola and much more.

### ADANA Christmas Fair

**Estepona.** 1 December, 10.30am - 4pm. *Palacio de Congresos.*  
Various stalls, entertainment, activities for children.

### Lux Mundi Bazaar

**Fuengirola.** 4 December, 10.30am - 12.30pm. *Lux Mundi Ecumenical Centre, C/Nueva.*  
Cakes, jewellery, books, toys, gifts etc. Free entry.

## CHARITY

### Love to Sing Broadway

**Estepona.** 8 November, from 7.30pm. *Centro Cultural Padre Manuel.* 10€  
The Love To Sing choir will be performing some of Broadway's greatest hits at a special concert to raise funds for Sarah Almagro who lost her hands and feet to sepsis. Tickets from MUSISOL, San Luis de Sabinillas Book Shop and Experience Group Centro Buena Vista. Facebook Love to Sing Costa Del Sol.

### Diabetes fun walk

**Mijas.** 17 November, 11am. *Plaza del Torreón, La Cala de Mijas.*  
Free diabetes glucose testing and information desk. Stalls, live music and more.

### Christmas Cookie event

**Álora.** 30 November, from 9.30am

until 5pm. *El Nido del Chorro, C/Conde del Guadalhorce20.*  
Mince piez and mulled wine, juice for little ones, churros and hot chocolate will be available, places are limited. Bookings: 663086637. 10 per cent of cookie sales will be split between Cudeca and Cruz Roja charities.

### ADANA Christmas dinner

**Manilva.** 6 December, from 7pm. *Duquesa Golf.* 35€.  
Three course Christmas dinner (fish option available), with glass of cava on arrival and glass of wine, beer or a soft drink with the meal. Entertainment provided by Neily Diamond, Ivan (80s hits) and guitarist Les Carter. Bookings: [adanaevents@gmail.com](mailto:adanaevents@gmail.com)

## MUSIC & DANCE

### Louie Louie Rock Bar

**Estepona.** *Avda Luis Braille.*  
8 November, *midnight.* Blaze tribute to Bon Jovi. 5€.  
9 November, *midnight.* 41 Ravens and YetiBlack. Rock music. 10€.  
15 November, *midnight.* Natura and Rockinger Z. 5€

### The Wall Bar

**Malaga.** *Hotel Vincci Posada del Patio.* 10pm, entry free.  
9 November. Dana and Gianni. International songs, jazz fusion and blues.  
16 November. Chema and Dani Harp. Blues, rock and roll, American folk music.  
23 November. Constanza & Javier. Jazz duet.

### Rob Sas Gig dates

**Estepona.**  
23 November, 11.45pm. Louie Louie rock bar, Estepona port. The Rob Sas band will perform classic rock songs from a wealth of artists such as Free, Whitesnake, Deep Purple, Jimi Hendrix, Black Sabbath, Led Zeppelin, AC/DC and many more. [www.therobsasband.com](http://www.therobsasband.com)

### Noches de Tango

**Nerja.** 8 November, 9pm. *Centro Cultural Villa de Nerja.* 18€.

The Porteña Tango company perform a renewed version of Argentinian tango. Live music with singer Mel Fernández and dancers Carlos Guevara and Dévora Godoy, David and Juana. Tickets: [www.mientrada.net](http://www.mientrada.net)

### Granada International Jazz Festival

**Centro Federico García Lorca**  
8 November Lizz Wright  
9 November Anthony Strong  
[www.jazzengranada.es](http://www.jazzengranada.es)

### Malaga International Jazz Festival

**Teatro Cervantes, Malaga**  
8 November. Charles Lloyd Quintet.  
9 November. Anthony Sánchez & Migration.  
10 November. Nils Petter Molvaer Group.  
11 November. Andrea Motis Quintet.  
[www.teatrocervantes.com](http://www.teatrocervantes.com)

### Sala Trinchera

**Malaga.** *C/Parauta, 25.*  
8 November, 9.30pm. Iberia Sumergida. Tribute to Héroes del Silencio.  
9 November, 10pm. Woodstock Malaga Edition celebrates its 50th anniversary.



Mismos Ríos, Malaga.

### Honky Tonk Cats

**Fuengirola.** 8, 9 November, 7.30pm. *Salón Varietés*  
A live tribute act celebrates 50 years of The Rolling Stones. <https://www.salonvarietes.theatre.com>



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# Promoting the gastronomic traditions of inland Malaga

■ TONY BRYANT

**MALAGA.** As autumn takes hold of the Costa del Sol and the summer festivals become a distant memory, many of the small inland towns and villages get ready to host a variety of gastronomic festivals. Most of these events promote local dishes and products, along with typical crafts and cultural traditions that are associated with the area. Others, like the Mushroom Gathering Weekend in Júzcar, offer visitors the chance to explore the surrounding countryside during guided walks, while learning about the different species of wild fungi that grows there.

Júzcar was one of the popular white villages until it was painted blue in 2011 as a setting for the movie *Smurfs II*. Appropriately, and especially as the Smurfs are known for their mushroom craving, Júzcar has a long mycology tradition and even boasts a mushroom museum: here, over the weekend, visitors will enjoy a variety of activities including displays of mushrooms, classifica-



Inland gastronomic festivals highlight traditional produce. ■ T. B.

tion workshops and gastronomic demonstrations.

The event begins on Friday (today) and continues until Sunday 10 November. For more information, see [www.juzcar.es](http://www.juzcar.es).

## Traditional pork stew

On Sunday 24 November, the village of Totalán in the Axarquía will host Chanfaina Day, an event that pays tribute to the Mediterranean diet and the village's agri-

cultural tradition. One of the town's traditional dishes, chanfaina is a stew made with potatoes, black pudding and pork, flavoured with spices, and visitors will have the opportunity to sample variations of the dish prepared by the locals of the village.

In addition, the event offers a wide range of activities including verdiales groups (folk music and dancing), a performance by the municipal orchestra and exhibi-

tions of local artisan crafts.

Another popular gastronomic festival is the Chacina Cured Meats Fair held in Benaolán on Saturday 30 November and Sunday 1 December. The event celebrates the area's cuisine and highlights its typical pork and sausage products, along with other traditional produce from the Sierra de Ronda, such as dried fruits and preserves, olives, honey and sweet pastries. Visitors can also visit the local factories and try a variety of specialty products like cured pork loin and sun-dried chorizo.

## Purple carrots

One of the more unusual festivals is The Purple Carrot Festival which is held in Cuevas Bajas on Sunday 1 December. The 'morá (purple) carrot' is cultivated exclusively in Cuevas Bajas, a municipality in the north-eastern region of Malaga. This product is unique and the festival highlights the town's famous 'migas con zanahoria mora', a dish of fried bread crumbs with spices and purple carrots.

The programme of activities, which includes folk music and dancing, exhibitions and children's activities, is complemented by a market where visitors can buy cured meats, cheeses, dried fruits and wines.

## Malaga. Museo Picasso de Málaga 12 November, 8pm.

Trío Mainake with flautist Jorge Francés will perform Trio N°1 by Franz Schubert and Beethoven's Serenade in D major and String Trio N°5 in C minor.



TIMS choir, Malaga.

## FLAMENCO

### La Semana de Flamenco

**Benalmádena.** From 15 until 22 November. Various locations. The seven-day event includes workshops, poetry recitals, films and concerts by up and coming and prestigious flamenco performers. For a full list of venues and artists: [www.benalmadena.es](http://www.benalmadena.es)

### A Flamenco Ritual

**Vélez-Málaga.** 9 November, 8pm. Teatro del Carmen. 12€ in advance, 15€ on the door. With Macarena Giraldez, Amador Rojas and Jesús Quintero.

## LECTURES

### U3A Lectures

**Fuengirola.** Lux Mundi room B3-R4, free to members, guests 5€. Email: [u3afuengirola@gmail.com](mailto:u3afuengirola@gmail.com)  
**Debating and Discussion Group:** *Should the vote be extended to 16 year-olds in general elections and referendum.* 13 November, 1pm. Group leader Geoff Cooke.

### The Arts Society Costa del Sol

**Fuengirola.** 11 November, 4.30pm. Salon Varietés Theatre. Visitors 10€. [www.theartsociety-costadel-sol.org](http://www.theartsociety-costadel-sol.org)  
**Nerja.** 12 November, 6pm. Centro Cultural Villa de Nerja.  
**'The Hands of Leonardo da Vinci'** The talk reviews the way in which Leonardo Da Vinci investigated the form and function of the human hand. Lecturer is Dr Guy Rooker. [www.theartsocietynerja.com](http://www.theartsocietynerja.com) Visitors 10€  
**Mijas.** 12 November, 10.30pm. The Danish Club, Haza del Algarrobo, Crta de Mijas. Visitors 10€.  
**'Three Spanish Painters'**

## MUSIC & DANCE

### Tribute to Charles Aznavour

**Torremolinos.** 9 November, 8pm. Centro Cultural Pablo Ruiz Picasso. A live tribute act with Jolis (José Luis Gualda) playing a Fender Swing guitar. He will perform a tribute to Charles Aznavour. Tickets: Canal Ticket, [minombre.es/jolis](http://minombre.es/jolis)

### Dragtastic and Elvis In Vegas

**Nerja.** 14 November, 8pm. Casa Grande, Río Chillar car park, C/San Isidro. 10€. Dragtastic and Andy King's Elvis in Vegas which will feature all the greatest Elvis classics. Tickets from various outlets and on the door. 691 934 626.

### Arturo Serra Trio

**Nerja.** 15 November, 8pm. Hotel Plaza Cavana, C/Granada. 18€ armchair, 12€ stool.



Robert Wells Trio, Mijas.

Vibraphonist Arturo Serra, cellist Rafa Sibajas and drummer Sergio Díaz will be performing 20th-century jazz. 690073871 / [ventana.abierta.acp@gmail.com](mailto:ventana.abierta.acp@gmail.com)

### Flute and piano recital

**Vélez-Málaga.** 15 November, 8.30pm. Teatro del Carmen. 8€. Lara Pytel and Gordana Kovericki will be playing compositions by Debussy, Albéniz and Granados.

### Robert Wells Trio

**Mijas.** 16 November, 8.30pm. Teatro Las Lagunas. The Robert Wells Trio perform with The Vocalettes 'Rhapsody in Rock'. Information and reservations: 670635786

### A Touch Of Class

**Fuengirola.** 19 November, 7.30pm. Casa de la Cultura. 10€. Welcome All Aboard. A spectacular show with ballads and songs from around the world. 952026811 or email: [touchofclasstickets@gmail.com](mailto:touchofclasstickets@gmail.com)

### The Animals III

**Vélez-Málaga.** 22 November, 8pm. Jardines de Trapiche. 20€  
**Cártama.** 23 November, 8pm. Carthima Theatre. 10€ in advance, 15€ on the door. One of the most iconic bands of the British music scene of the 60s and 70s will perform two concerts. Tickets: [www.costadeldisco.com](http://www.costadeldisco.com)

### TIMS concert

**Los Boliches.** 23 November, 6.45pm. The Masonic Hall. 10€. The popular choir will sing arrangements of Christmas songs. Tickets on door or 654 891 790.

### Santa Cecilia concerto

**Vélez-Málaga.** 24 November, 12.30pm. Teatro del Carmen. Tickets from town hall. With the municipal band, the Amigos de la Música choir and the Stella Maris choir.

### Malaga Philharmonic Orchestra

**14, 15 November, 8pm.** Conducted by Manuel Hernández Silva, the orchestra will perform Beethoven's Leonora Overture III, Concerto for Piano and Orchestra N°1 in C major (Daniel del Pino on piano); and Beethoven's Symphony N°2 in D major in the second. Tickets: [www.unientradas.es](http://www.unientradas.es)

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Lecturer Mannie Coe will look in depth at three iconic Spanish paintings by Diego Velázquez, Pablo Picasso and Salvador Dalí. [www.theartssociety-costadelsol.org](http://www.theartssociety-costadelsol.org)

### USA Art Appreciation

**Torre del Mar.** 18 November, 11am. *Lux Mundi Ecumenical Centre.* 3€ Andrew Graham-Dixon examines the history of French art, revealing how it emerged from a struggle between tradition, revolution and rules of the citizens. This will be followed by a short discussion.



Leonardo lecture, Fuengirola.

## FESTIVALS

### Muscatel Market

**Almáchar.** 9 November from 10.30am until 6.30pm. *Parque Cultural María Zambrano.* Stalls will offer a variety of products produced from the Muscatel grape including wines and raisins. Entertainment from verdiales bands.

### Tostón

**Ojén.** 9 November from 10am. *Plaza de Andalucía.* Ojén celebrates the roasted chestnut, with this gastronomic event which will include tastings of the local chestnuts as well as other products from the region. There will also be guided walks, activities for children and live music.

## EVENTS

### Red Friday Collectors Fair

**Malaga.** 8 November, from 7pm. *La Térmica.*

Over 60 stands dedicated to collectors, design and fashion with items ranging from pictures to records, antiques and toys. There are CDs, branded clothing and accessories, recycled objects and much more.

### Board Game Convention

**Torremolinos.** 8-10 November. *Palacio de Ferias y Congresos.* Over 5,000 people are expected to attend the event which will present new games which have yet to go on the market as well as an area where even the youngest visitors can take part in playing educational games.

### Trip to Motril and Almuñécar

**Fuengirola.** 13 November. *Various departure points.* Full details contact Fundación Lux Mundi Fuengirola, C/Nueva 3. Tel: 952474840. [www.lux-mundi.org](http://www.lux-mundi.org)

### Fashion Show

**Torre del Mar.** 13 November, 3.30pm. *Lux Mundi Ecumenical Centre.* 6€. A wide range of quality new and

second hand clothes, shoes and accessories, modelled by friends of Lux Mundi. During the interval there will be refreshments, drinks and homemade cakes for sale. After the show there will be a chance to purchase the items modelled.

### Cultural Tour

**Vélez-Málaga.** 16 November. Actors will recreate scenes from the past and the tour will include visits to see the Mihrab, the most sacred part of a mosque. [www.TheArtsSocietyNerja.com](http://www.TheArtsSocietyNerja.com), also on Facebook.

### Bridge tournament

**Puerto Banús.** Until 9 November. *H10 Andaluza Plaza Hotel.* The 6th International Bridge Tournament. Registration: [www.marbellabridge.com](http://www.marbellabridge.com)

### RBL Remembrance Sunday

**Mijas Costa,** 10.30am. *Salón Variedades, Fuengirola.*

Service of Remembrance **Salinas.** 12 noon. *Multicongregational church.* Service taken by Reverend Doreen Cage (the standard will be present). **Benajáraf.** 11.30am *Puerto Niza restaurant.*

Followed by optional lunch 15€. Reservations: 653108415

**Torremolinos/Málaga.** 11am. *St George's Church, Avda de Pries, Málaga.*

Wreath laying at noon. **Mollina and Duquesa.** *Gibraltar.* Contingents from both RBL branches will be taking part in the Gibraltar Parade.

### RBL Remembrance Day

**Coín,** 11.30am. *Coín Cemetery Chapel.*

Their 14th Service of Remembrance

**Los Romanes.** 10.30am. *El Trapi-che restaurant.*

**Duquesa.** 12 noon. *Duquesa Golf Club.*

**Mollina.** 11.30am. *Parque La Viña.* Service taken by Reverend Doreen Cage, medals may be worn.

### Fashion Show

**Torre del Mar.** 13 November, 3.30pm. *Lux Mundi Ecumenical Centre.* 6€.

A wide range of quality second-hand and new clothing, footwear and accessories. Refreshments available in the interval.

## 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, Málaga. Tel: 902 36 02 95 [www.cinealbeniz.com](http://www.cinealbeniz.com) **Sorry We Missed You:** 18.55, 22.15 (every day).

**The Farewell:** 16.30, 18.15, 20.45 (every day).

**A Rainy Day In New York:** 20.35, 22.15.

### Cinesur El Ingenio

Avda. Juan Carlos 1, Vélez-Málaga. Tel. 667 77 31 87.

**Hustlers:** 12.15, 16.00 (every day). **Maleficent: Mistress of Evil:**

17.00, 19.30, 22.00 (Mon, Tues, Thurs).

### Cinesur Miramar

Avda. de la Encarnación, Fuengirola. Tel. 952 19 86 00.

**Hustlers:** 19.30, 21.45, 0.00.

**Terminator: Dark Fate:** 12.00, 16.10.

**Doctor Sleep:** 22.00 (Tues).

**Maleficent:** 12.00, 17.00.

**Joker:** 12.00, 15.50, 18.20, 20.50, 23.20.

**Opera live: Turandot:** 21.00 (Thurs).

### Cines Teatro Goya

For tickets and information call 951196665. [www.cinesteatrogoya.com](http://www.cinesteatrogoya.com)

**Doctor Sleep:** 19.00, 22.00 (Mon-Thurs); 19.15, 22.15 (Sat, Sun).

**Hustlers:** 17.30 (Mon-Thurs); 15.45, 18.00 (Sat, Sun).

**Joker:** 17.00, 19.15, 21.30 (Mon-Thurs); 15.45, 18.00, 20.15, 22.30 (Sat, Sun).

**Maleficent: Mistress of Evil:** 19.15 (Mon-Thurs); 15.30, 19.45 (Sat, Sun).

**Terminator: Dark Fate:** 17.00 (Mon-Thurs); 15.15, 17.45 (Sat, Sun).

**The Addams Family:** 19.30 (Mon-Thurs); 15.30 (Sat, Sun).

### Yelmo Cines, Plaza Mayor

Centro de Ocio Plaza Mayor, Avda. Alfonso Ponce de León.

Tel: 902 902 103 or visit [www.yelmocines.es](http://www.yelmocines.es)

**Doctor Sleep** 22.00 (Tues).

**Terminator: Dark Fate:** 19.55 (Tues).

**Shakira in concert El Dorado**

**World Tour:** 20.00 (Wed).

**Madam Butterfly live from**

**MET:** 18.55 (Sat).

**Hustlers:** 12.50 (Sat).



Tostón, Ojén.

### Yelmo Cines, Rincón de la Victoria.

Calle Arroyo Totalán Tel: 902 220 922 or visit [www.yelmocines.es](http://www.yelmocines.es)

**Doctor Sleep:** 22.00 (Tues).

**Joker:** 20.00 (Tues).

**Hustlers:** 12.50 (Sat, Sun); 20.30 (Tues).

**Terminator: Dark Fate:** 22.15 (Tues).

**42nd Street:** 20.00 (Thurs).

**Yelmo Cines, Vialia.** Centro Comercial Vialia. Tel: 902 220 922 or visit [www.yelmocines.es](http://www.yelmocines.es)

**A Rainy Day In New York:** 17.30 (Tues).

**Doctor Sleep:** 19.20 (Tues).

**Joker:** 20.00 (Tues).

**The Farewell:** 12.20 (Sat, Sun); 19.55 (Tues).

**Terminator Dark Fate:** 22.35 (Tues).

**42nd Street:** 20.00 (Thurs).

**Hustlers:** 12.30 (Sat, Sun); 19.00 (Tues).



Former Olympic medallist Javier Fernández. :: SUR

# A shower of skating stars in Revolution On Ice

**MALAGA.** Olympic medallists and World and European champions with a total of 39 medals between them are performing in Revolution On Ice, an artistic ice skating show on 9 November in the Palacio de Deportes Martín Carpena at 7.30pm. Doors open at 6pm for the show which includes International ice stars such as Javier Fernández, Evgeni Plushenko, Jeffrey Buttle, Ashley Wagner, Anna Cappellini and Luca Lanotte.

## INFORMATION

► **When.** Saturday 9 November, 7.30pm.

► **Where.** Palacio de Deportes Martín Carpena, Málaga.

► **Tickets.** [elcoriteingles.es](http://elcoriteingles.es)

► **More information.** [www.revolutiononice.com](http://www.revolutiononice.com)



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Dani García and his team at DG Restaurante a few days ago. :: JAVIER PEÑAS

## Dani García to bid farewell to haute cuisine in a big way

The Marbella chef will close his Michelin three star restaurant on 15 November and hold a special closing dinner the following day

:: MARINA MARTÍNEZ

**MALAGA.** The countdown to Dani García's departure from haute cuisine began just a month after his restaurant in Marbella received its third Michelin star. It was then that he announced that 2019 would be his last year. He is now approaching the last furlong, winding the business down

"with a desire to celebrate, not melancholy".

His restaurant in the Puente Romano Hotel will close on 15 November but he intends to finish in a big way with a special dinner to celebrate his twenty years at the top of the gastronomic firmament.

The 'Last Supper' will be served by Dani García's team to a select number of guests who will have travelled from all corners of the globe and will include the source of much of his inspiration, his mother Isabel Reinaldo.

The first step will be to change the DG Restaurante into the Leña steakhouse. "We won't disappear off

the map, we'll still be the same," the top chef told SUR.

His new dream is no less ambitious than the old, and says the time has come for a 'second revolution'. He aims to professionalise catering so that Spanish cuisine can take its proper place in world gastronomy.

It was with this in mind that he decided to turn his world upside down and bring Andalusian cuisine "to millions of people."

After opening BiBo in Tarifa and Lobito in Madrid last summer, Dani García is preparing the inauguration of BiBo Doha next month. These are the first in a long list of restaurants he plans to open all over the world.

ANDREW J. LINN

## COPENHAGEN'S NOMA



**T**here are travelling gastronomes who spend a large part of their lives going from one top restaurant to another. I have even met Michelin-starry-eyes that enjoy nothing more than collecting Michelin-starred restaurants from Nova Scotia to Hong Kong. Three requisites are essential: a blind belief in the Michelin rating system, time and money.

Since these non-shrinking violets have no problem with personal publicity, their experiences are usually displayed online. In this way followers can check out which restaurants are worth the detour and which are a load of hype.

A permanent feature is Copenhagen's Noma, three stars and operated by owner-chef René Redzepi. It apparently receives 100,000 reservation requests annually, so it must be doing something right. And it is certainly different from other restaurants. The menu revolves around the seasons: during winter months mainly fish and shellfish, the rest of the year game and vegetables.

With all the hysteria it is not surprising that the fixed menu costs around 335 euros, with drinks and taxes extra. Once seated (there is no bar area to take a pre-meal aperitif) the customer is in for a two-hour marathon of 20 courses.

Almost none of the dishes served are recognisable on the plate. The forest broth with squirrel is a mushroom broth with no squirrel in sight, although the reindeer heart with egg yolk sauce crowned with ants is just that. The dish, carpaccio-style, is improved by using ants which are apparently more citric than lemon or lime. The



Noma. :: SUR

venison sweetbreads wrapped in moss, and the brains swathed in milk skin, are unique dishes not offered by any other restaurant. Nor is the mandrake breast that follows, or the duck's brains, served in its skull with the plumes still attached (more than one diner has admitted an urge to stroke them).

It is easy to finish the meal thinking you have just been visiting a natural history museum disguised as a restaurant, and definitely not for the squeamish or obsessive animal lover.

### WINE OF THE WEEK

#### Rioja Otoñal

An old-established but very reliable winery, Bodegas Olarra, has been producing this rather unexciting red Rioja for as far back as anyone can remember. The most exceptional feature of the 2011 crianza is the price, around seven euros.



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# RESTAURANTE EL PESCADOR, A MARINE EXPERIENCE FOR THE SENSES

## ESTEPONA / GUADALMINA

With a Mediterranean tradition, and in honour of its more than 180 kilometres of coastline, seafood cuisine is without a doubt the star of Málaga's gastronomy.

In keeping with the maxim that "the fresher the prime materials, the simpler the recipe", it is based on culinary methods such as oven baking or griddling, stewing or frying, with the correct techniques and the necessary care to get it just right. Therefore, when it comes to choosing a restaurant at which to enjoy it, one should always choose the best.

With fresh fish and seafood from the markets in Estepona and Marbella, El Pescador is a benchmark for seafood gastronomy culture in the province.

Owner and alma mater Alfonso Garrido's main goal is to "pass what the sea serves up every day on to his clients." A cuisine characterised by honesty and commitment to top quality products at all times.

As Garrido explains: "Our menu is based on the prime materials from the quality supplier in the area and the nearest markets, we're still renewing the menu and including dishes that combine prime materials from the area with a fusion of fashionable cuisines such as Asian. We also love using rich spices from our neighbouring countries such as Morocco in our dishes." The result of this union of tradition and innovation are culinary proposals that conquer and surprise all who taste them. All with an excellent service which has consolidated them as a top name on the Costa del Sol's culinary scene.

Alfonso is also a chef and head waiter, which means he is able to supervise product purchases as well as cookery and service.

Along with the fish, the backbone of the menu, there is also a selection of starters that refreshes the best of the area's gastronomic culture. Other specialties at El Pescador are the rice dishes: a la marinera, with lobster, with Carabinero prawns or black rice.

And for those clients who prefer meat, El Pescador has a selection of top-quality options.



## Trick-free product cuisine

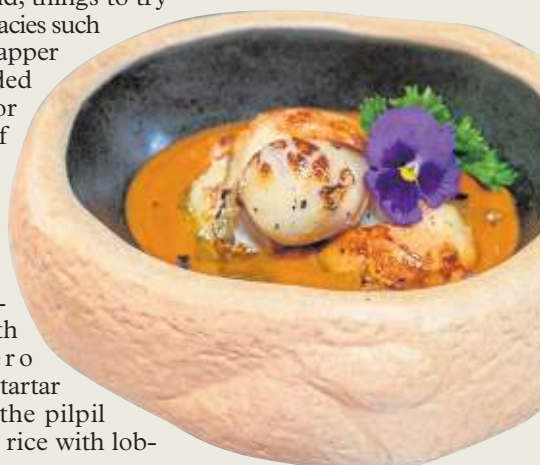
As the people behind them stress, the key to the success of the El Pescador restaurants is based on "good fish, seafood and meat, cooked with care." A philosophy that places the quality of the product above any sort of artifice.

To this end, things to try include delicacies such as baked snapper or red-banded seabream, or the skewer of anglerfish and prawns.

Specialties such as the carpaccio of octopus with Carabinero prawns and tartar of tomato, the pilpil prawns, the rice with lob-

ster or the anglerfish stew are also not to be missed.

All washed down with something from a well-stocked wine cellar including national and international wines with special attention given to local, Málaga province wines.



**With fresh fish and seafood from the markets in Estepona and Marbella, El Pescador is a benchmark for seafood gastronomy culture in the province**

### TWO LOCATIONS, THE SAME GOAL

The restaurant has two venues where they attend to their clients with dedication and care: one on the seafront in Estepona, a privileged location with sea views to enjoy a good meal in relaxed surroundings, and the other at Centro Comercial Guadalmina for those who decide to combine leisure and culinary pleasure in a dynamic, top-class shopping centre.

All with an attentive, professional service that takes care of every little detail to guarantee diners' enjoyment and comfort.

An excellence which is evident at both venues and has led to very loyal clients who, over time and through frequent visits, become real friends.



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**ADVERTORIAL**



# "Malaga is the absolute leader on a world level for organ and tissue donation"

**Beatriz Domínguez-Gil** Director of the National Transplant Organisation (ONT)



**ÁNGEL ESCALERA**

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"No other country in the world has matched Spain's donation figures," she says, and her organisation is looking at ways to improve even further

**MALAGA.** Spain is the world leader for organ and tissue donations, and Malaga in particular plays a leading role in that, says the director of the National Transplant Organisation (ONT), Beatriz Domínguez-Gil, who has just given a talk at a conference in Malaga on the keys to the success of the Spanish transplant model. The event was organised by IBIMA, the Instituto de Investigación Biomédica de Málaga. Last year, 5,314 organ transplants were carried out in Spain.

**-The donation rate in Spain has grown by 37 per cent between 2013 and 2018. Why was that?**

-Innovation is the key. We were already extraordinarily active in terms of donations and transplants, but they had levelled out although the waiting lists and number of people needing transplants were increasing. So we drew up a national strategy, aiming for a target of 40 donors per one million of the population by 2020. We are now working on reaching 50 per million in 2022.

**-What are your strategies?**

-One which is very important is



Dr Domínguez-Gil has just given a talk in Malaga on Spain's success in terms of donations and transplants. :: SUR

collaboration with the emergency services, because they now play an essential role in the donation process. Nearly 25 per cent of donors in Spain are identified in the emergency departments. The second pillar in our strategy has been a progressive change in the profile of potential organ donors. There are older people, in their sixties, seventies or eighties, who die from natural causes. Their organs are being transplanted with very good results. The third line is donation in asystole, which is from people who have died from cardiorespiratory failure. The numbers of

transplants from donors have risen from 24 at the beginning of this century to more than 1,000 last year. One of every three donors now is in asystole.

**-It must be a matter of pride that Spain is the world leader in organ donations.**

-Yes, we are the absolute leader in donations and transplants. For 27 consecutive years Spain has headed the international list, and no other country in the world has matched our record. Last year we had 2,241 donors, which was 48 per million of the population. The USA had 32.8, the EU as a whole 22.2 and even such

an important country as Germany only reached 11.6. We have nearly five times as many as Germany.

**-I imagine it has helped that we have a universal health system and organ donations are free?**

-The National Health Service is an essential element in our success, because it means anybody, with no discrimination whatsoever, can have a transplant. The solidarity among the Spanish population is also important. What makes Spain unique, however, is the organisational model it has developed. That is what makes us different to other countries. Only one to two per cent of people who die in a hospital are in a condition to be donors. If the system is not prepared to identify these situations and convert them into an actual donation, no matter how enthusiastic people in general may be about donating, that donation will not take place. The Spanish model is conceived with that in mind.

**-What is unusual about the Spanish transplant model?**

-It is based on transplant coordinators in the hospitals. They are professionals who act in accordance with specific protocols and undergo continual training. All that is orchestrated by the ONT and regional transplant coordinators.

**-What is the situation in Andalucía in terms of donations and transplants?**

-Andalucía as a region reached a figure of 52.5 donors per million of population last year, so it is ahead of our target of 50 for Spain as a whole by 2020. That has been thanks to conscientious and exemplary work over many years. It is a region with exceptional donation figures and is not only a leader

in Spain but also at world level.

**-And where does Malaga come within the excellent figures for Andalucía?**

-Malaga is the absolute leader for donations. Some years ago, the ONT carried out a study to identify the best hospitals for donations so we could learn from them. Malaga's Regional Hospital is a benchmark because of its excellent results. The transplant sector in Malaga has developed some fantastic programmes for organ and tissue donations.

**-What strategies are you considering in order to keep Spain as the world leader?**

-Apart from collaboration with the emergency services, our lines of work are to increase donation in asystole, where there is still a margin for improvement, and donations from older people. We are also working on other proposals. One is to be more flexible about the criteria for accepting organs for transplants, but always in accordance with safety regulations. So we have started to transplant organs from people infected by hepatitis C into recipients who are not infected, given that the new direct action anti-viral treatments enable us to do so with security. Another star project which is under way is cooperation with the private health sector.

**-What type of collaboration will there be with private hospitals?**

-Our objective is for private centres to progressively incorporate donation of organs and tissues, but not to carry out transplants. People need to be given the option to donate, if they are suitable, whether they die in a national health hospital or a private one.



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# An eye test could be the first step towards detecting type 2 diabetes

Specsavers Ópticas in Fuengirola is organising a free event called How Diabetes Affects the Eyes on 12 November

## ■ SUR IN ENGLISH

**FUENGIROLA.** Ahead of World Diabetes Day next Thursday, 14 November, the Specsavers Ópticas stores are encouraging customers to learn if they are at risk of type 2 diabetes through a free online assessment by the International Diabetes Federation (visit [www.worlddiabetesday.org](http://www.worlddiabetesday.org) to do the assessment). They are also highlighting the importance of eye tests in helping to detect the condition.

According to the federation, out of the 425 million adults suffering from diabetes worldwide, one in three has diabetic retinopathy and one in 10 will develop a vision-threatening form of the disease. As there are 3.5 million people with diabetes in Spain, 350,000

people could be at risk of losing their vision due to diabetes. However, by catching it early and managing it well, you can largely prevent vision loss from diabetes.

Throughout November, Specsavers Ópticas are offering free eye tests and eye-health information for diabetes sufferers (and those at risk of developing it) in store. What's more, Specsavers in Fuengirola is organising a free event (in Spanish) entitled How Diabetes Affects the Eyes on 12 November.

Amrik Sappal from Specsavers Ópticas in Fuengirola explains, "Diabetic retinopathy is a condition which affects some diabetics after a number of years, depending on how well their blood sugar levels are controlled. It is important for diabetics to have their eyes tested every one to two years, because the early stages of retinopathy might not result in any symptoms, but an optometrist can detect any changes so that treatment can be given as soon as the problem arises."

To attend the event, places need to be reserved by sending an email to [teresa@shawmarketingservices.com](mailto:teresa@shawmarketingservices.com).

■ For more information about diabetes and eye health visit [www.idf.org/eyehealth](http://www.idf.org/eyehealth)



One in three people with diabetes have diabetic retinopathy. ■ SUR

## IN BRIEF

### Clínico "staff shortage" is delaying test results

#### MALAGA

■ **Á. E.** The Csiif-Sanidad Málaga union is criticising a lack of staff in the laboratories at the Clínico hospital, saying it is directly affecting patients with delays in obtaining test results.

Csif says the department should have 27 technicians but is about ten short, due to long-term illness, retirement and reduced working hours, because the Health authorities have failed to provide sufficient cover.

The union claims that the situation affects routine and emergency tests, and is also critical of the fact that more samples are now being sent to private laboratories.

In response, official sources at the Clínico insist that the laboratory is "functioning normally".

### Union criticises lack of midwives at the Materno

#### MALAGA

■ **Á. E.** The Satse nursing union says the maternity department at the Materno Infantil hospital in Malaga is in "chaos" at present, due to a shortage of midwives and nurses specialising in gynaecology and obstetrics.

The union says the chaos is the result of bad organisation as well as a lack of personnel and supply staff, but sources at the Materno have said there have been no incidents affecting attention to patients, although they do admit that some staff have been signed off sick unexpectedly.

To cover the shortage, they say they have authorised three more midwives to be taken on.

## Glucose testing across Mijas

### ■ SUR IN ENGLISH

The La Cala de Mijas Lions Diabetic Support Group will be carrying out glucose testing across Mijas during the month of November to support Diabetes Awareness.

Testing will take place on 12 November from 11am to 12.30pm at Calahonda Baptist Church.

On 14 November it will be held

from 11am until 2pm at the La Cala de Mijas district town hall and the following day, at the same time, at the Las Lagunas Health Centre. On 16 November testing will be from 11am until 2pm in Mijas Pueblo's main square.

The event finishes on Sunday 17 November with a fun walk from the Torreón La Cala de Mijas starting at 11am.



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# Researchers at Malaga university show how heavy backpacks affect children's development

**JOSÉ MIGUEL AGUILAR**

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A pioneering study demonstrates that a pack which is 20 per cent of a child's body weight affects the way he or she walks and uses muscles

**MALAGA.** They came up with the idea as parents, and then carried it out as researchers. Podologists Joaquín Páez and Gabriel Gijón, of the University of Malaga, were concerned about the excessive weight their children were carrying in their backpacks, and they have now shown that carrying more than 20 per cent of their body weight in school materials affects not only their development but also the biomechanics of the way they walk.

This pioneering study was carried out by the PODUMA group at the university's Nursing and Podology department, and it has been published in the prestigious Scientific Reports journal.

"There had been studies into the effect of heavy packs on the back, but not on the lower body, not in Spain or anywhere else in the world. Nothing similar had ever been done to determine a recommended weight



The weight of a backpack can affect a child in later life. :: FOTOLIA

for a child's backpack. This has been made possible thanks to a new device called OptoGait, which is a system for optical detection made by a transmitting and a receiving bar. It measures different parameters which we can analyse as they walk. Before, we didn't have this technology to analyse the phase when they put the backpack on, the setting-off

phase, the walking times and distances," say Páez and Gijón, who are thrilled with the final result.

## Meaningful results

"To collect the data, we worked for a whole school year with pupils aged from six to 12 in Malaga, for thirty minutes per child. Through sample calculation, which is a mathematical formula, we saw that we would need to study 200 children for the results to be meaningful, and we monitored 213. The study took us more than two years, with the data base, analysing the statistics, carrying out the project, preparing the report, translating it and trying to get it published. And we were very lucky because the second magazine we approached published it, so it is obvious that they liked the article," they say.

"As parents, we were interested in knowing how the backpacks our children were carrying influenced the way they walk. External elements can modify walking patterns

and those of posture and pain. We have now demonstrated scientifically the point at which a child starts to become affected by the weight he or she is carrying," says Joaquín Páez.

For Gabriel Gijón, who is also a member of the research group 'Cron-

icidad, Dependencia, Cuidados y Servicios de Salud' at the Institute of Biomedical Research in Malaga (Ibima), "When you research you often obtain numbers that corroborate scientifically what you thought you were seeing at a clinical level. In this case, we have shown that carrying a backpack does affect the way children walk. This is something that nobody had looked into before, how a child walks and how the weight affects them."

Until now, all the research had been on the effects of a heavy weight on the back, "but nobody had suggested that if the patterns of walking are modified, some of the muscles work differently and that will have consequences in the future, because the muscles have been used in an unusual way without anyone realising, and that can lead to pain," says Páez.

Their project was quite a laborious procedure. "We used the OptoGait to carry out measurements when the child wasn't carrying a backpack, to see how they walked normally, then we added five per cent of the child's weight, then ten per cent, 15 per cent and finally 20 per cent. The significant changes occurred from 20 per cent, so we could see that when a child who weighed 40 kilos was carrying an eight-kilo backpack they walked differently. We also saw a change with 15 per cent. We also asked the children how far they walked to school and the average, there and back, was a kilometre and a half. We weighed their backpacks and 60 per cent were heavier than recommended. In fact some children were carrying as much as 30 per cent of their body weight. It would be ideal to monitor these children in ten years' time, to see the results then," says Gijón.

With regards to solutions, Páez and Gijón are clear: "Schools need to reduce their reliance on books and paper, and use digital formats more. We also have to remember that as well as carrying a heavy weight on their backs, the children have to go up and down stairs at school, and that increases the damage. Back-

## THE RESEARCHERS

**Joaquín Páez**  
Podologist

"We have shown scientifically the point at which the weight of a backpack starts to affect a child"



**Gabriel Gijón**  
Podologist

"We monitored 230 pupils from schools in Malaga; the study took us two years to complete"



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"Malaga university is in the 'top 10' for podology research"

:: J. M. A.

**MALAGA.** They can sum it up quite briefly: "Malaga university, in terms of podology, is among the top 10 in the world for research: we are doing a great deal of work, we are publishing, we are in many different places, we take part in conferences, communications, European projects. We may be very small, but we are fighting to place the university in the position it deserves," say Joaquín Páez and Gabriel Gijón about the PODUMA group, which also includes Jesús Montes Alguacil, Irene García Payá and Miguel Medina Alcántara.

"The next step should be to prepare a research project that competes to find funding, which is our great problem, because until now everything has been financed by the department's own resources.

"For example, those who have participated in this study did so altruistically and in their free time. Research needs to have adequate financing; that is extremely important in order for it to continue," says Gijón.

The research into the effects on children of carrying heavy backpacks "has been published in English in a magazine which anyone can read, although we retain the copyright for the article, so the information included in it will be more widely known. That opens doors for us to collaborate with other universities, such as the ones we have at present with universities in Manchester, France, Australia and the USA", he explains.

packs with a central grip are best because they don't swing as much, and it's better to push the cases on wheels rather than pull them. More needs to be done on prevention. There should be talks at schools about posture and the correct way to carry a backpack, and then there would be some progress," they say.

# Researchers are confident that genetics can help cure rare illnesses

A scientific session was held at the College of Doctors with Dr Antonio Cuesta, Dr Miguel Ángel Arráez and the president of the Isabel Gemio Foundation

:: FRANCISCO GUTIÉRREZ

**MALAGA.** About three million people in Spain suffer from some type of 'rare' illness, although perhaps a better term for them would be 'minority' or 'uncommon' illnesses. About 80 per cent have a genetic origin and most are chronic and disabling for those who suffer from them. In some cases these are invisible people, who society usually turns its back on, unfairly and cruelly.

This week the College of Doctors of Malaga hosted a scientific session to discuss these types of illness and, especially, understand more about how young people who suffer from them feel. Dr Miguel Ángel Arráez and Dr Antonio Cuesta participated, along with Isabel Gemio, who is president of an association which bears her name and who presented the documentary 'Jóvenes invisibles' (invisible youngsters) in which boys and girls who suffer from some of these minority illnesses talk about their lives.

Dr Cuesta, guest professor in the Department of Biomedical Sciences at the Pannun Institute of Copenhagen University (Denmark) and director of the International Genetic Institute of Diabetes, talked about the characteristics of these illnesses, their genetic basis and the importance of early detection, and said paediatricians need to have knowledge of genetics.

He said he regrets that researchers are still reluctant to carry out transnational work, in which different countries collaborate on the same project, and that in Spain very little money is allocated for research into these illnesses. (The Centre of Biomedical Research has a budget of 6.5 million euros.)

However, he also had a positive message: "Without going as far as



Miguel Ángel Arráez, Carlos Carrasco, Isabel Gemio and Antonio Cuesta. :: FÉLIX PALACIOS

optimism, I see the future as hopeful. Genetic editing with CRISPR is going to be a revolution and in a few years we will be able to tackle numerous pathologies," he said. This technique enables DNA to be manipulated, by cutting or removing, for example, the genetic material relating to a rare illness.

Dr Arráez explained that these rare or minority illnesses are one of the biggest problems for Medicine nowadays, because as they are so uncommon not enough research is done on them.

## 'Invisible youngsters'

Isabel Gemio's documentary shows young people affected by this type of illness, including her son Gustavo, who has lost his sight, and Antia and Regina, two sisters affected by an illness that dries their skin out. "Children with these ill-

**"Children with these illnesses are forgotten because you never seen them on TV or in films"**

nesses are forgotten because they never appear on TV or in films. We try to show what their lives are like, what they worry about, because if people don't know about them, there is no support and no research," she said. She also explained that

early diagnosis is essential so the work of paediatricians is vital.

Her foundation is funding seven research projects in private and public hospitals. "When there is a will, a passion and commitment, things get done," she said.

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# "Our cities are made for cars, not for bikes - it's inhumane"

**Luis Ángel Maté** *Cyclist*

**JULIO RODRÍGUEZ**

✉ Twitter: @1JulioRodriguez

Coming up to his fifteenth season as a professional, the Marbella-born cyclist has his sights set on next year's Giro d'Italia

**MARBELLA.** Wearing short jeans and a casual T-shirt, Luis Ángel Maté arrives at our meeting point in Marbella by bike. A smile is plastered across his face; he is, after all, on holiday, after spending 10 months cycling across the world. During this time, he suffered a fall in Poland which left him with 50 stitches on a serious head wound, but he insists he is over the worst of it and raring to go again. SUR spoke to him about his accident, the upcoming season, balancing his career with family life - his second child is due in December - and more.

**-How do you think last season went**

**for you?**

-Lots of ups and downs, but there's no doubt it was all marred by the serious injury I suffered in Poland. I wanted to go to the Vuelta a España, and I did prepare well for it, but unfortunately I didn't arrive in the state that I hoped to.

**-Was that fall the first time you've feared for your life in your career?**

-Yeah. I didn't say this in the documentary they made about me, but I remember really clearly the first thing I thought when they were rushing me to the hospital: "It's the third of August, and there's only three weeks to go until the Vuelta!" But when I finally realised how bloody my head was, everything changed. Suddenly, I was wondering whether I'd ever go back home.

**-Was making the documentary therapeutic for you?**

-It came about as a present that my press officer wanted to give me, so that I wouldn't just forget all the stuff I'd been through, and so that my son could see it. It wasn't exactly a big budget affair but it seems like people liked it and I'm pleased about that.

**-You're in Marbella now. How long do you actually get to spend at home**



**here each year?**

-Not much at all. If I add it all up, it's two and a half months. These two weeks now is the longest chunk of time I'm here for in one go.

**-And is it still too soon to think about next season?**

-Are you kidding me? [laughs] Even before I arrived in Madrid for the Vuelta I was thinking about the upcoming season. Do I look 'injured' to you? I'm already concentrating on the new season, even though I'm at home right now. I'm totally focused on what's to come. I think it's going to be a really, really exciting season. The team's going to be promoted to the First Division of the World Tour. We're going to have a whole new set of dates and commitments. We've laid the groundwork for a great season at Cofidis. There's continuity and we're

getting to know each other better, and I think you can see that in our performances.

**-What's the main goal you've set yourself?**

-The Giro [d'Italia] and the Vuelta [a España]. I've never done the Giro before, and this year it looks really challenging, with long stretches in the Dolomites. But the Vuelta is my race and I really want to be at 100 per cent when I do it.

**-What is the essence of cycling as a sport?**

-It's a sport that lets you travel to some really extraordinary places, but much more importantly than that, puts you in contact with yourself. I've spent my whole life cycling, and every day I go out to new places, I get to know myself better.

**-There are a fair few young cyclists**

**from Malaga coming through, with the Maté Academy standing out. But why aren't there more professionals?**

-Well, this coming year we'll definitely see two people from Malaga go pro. There's Pablo Guerrero and also Carmelo Urbano, the Spanish under-23 champion. They're both from Coín, and they're two real talents who are representing the province very well. I'm really proud seeing how well they're doing, because I saw them growing and improving before they went pro.

**-What needs to happen for more people to use bikes to get around cities?**

-A lot. We're lagging far behind other countries. Cities are designed for cars, not bikes. It's not right. I'm sick of going to Malaga Airport. You leave

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## TEERING OFF FOR CHARITY

A fundraising golf day has raised 18,615 euros for the Asociación Española Contra El Cáncer Marbella. Almost 100 people took part in the annual Captain's Charity Day event at the Santa María Golf Club, won by a team from the Orange Tree restaurant in Marbella's Old Town. An auction and raffle helped raise funds at a well-attended charity lunch afterwards.





Maté, who will compete in his tenth season for Cofidis in 2020, poses for SUR in Marbella. :: JULIO RODRÍGUEZ

**"Cycling is a sport that lets you travel to some really extraordinary places"**

ing lungs. So now they park further away and walk to the nursery. We need to put down our phones, forget about our cars and spend some quality time with our kids. A car journey with them isn't that.

**-You're a nature lover - where has the scenery impressed you most this past season?**

-Well, it's really far away, and I don't know if I'll ever go back, so I'd say South Lake Tahoe. We were there two weeks before competing in the Tour of California, and I really liked it. It's 2,000 metres above sea level, the lake is beautiful and the climate is great. It's a brilliant place for nature lovers, hikers and cyclists, of course.

**-You've got a bit of time on your hands now to catch up on football. How do you think Malaga and Marbella are getting on?**

-I'm excited about Marbella, because they're playing really well, and the team are getting the rewards for their work each weekend. But I'm really sad about what's going on at Malaga. I think the sheikh is acting like a despot. He may say the club belongs to him, but the real owners are the fans. I'm watching everything that's happening with real worry, but let's see what happens in the next few weeks and months.

## Davidovich knocked out of ATP Next Gen in Milan

The Malaga-born player lost all three of his group stage matches, but he undoubtedly saw his profile boosted by his participation

**:: PEDRO LUIS ALONSO**

**MALAGA.** Local tennis star Alejandro Davidovich failed to repeat his Liuzhou Challenger victory at the ATP Next Gen tournament in Milan, where he was eliminated after losing group stage matches against Álex de Miñaur, Casper Ruud and Miomir Kecmanović.

After his victory over Denis Istomin in China, Davidovich pulled out of the Shenzhen Challenger in case he was called up to participate in the Next Gen tournament. His gamble paid off last Friday when the Canadian Denis Shapovalov announced he would not be participating in the tournament due to fatigue.

The Next Gen tournament brings together the eight best under-21 players in the world. It is in its third edition this year, with both previous tournaments also having been played in Milan.

Davidovich went into his first



Davidovich, third from the left, with the other participants. :: ATP

match on Tuesday as the clear underdog, facing the world number 18 Álex de Miñaur. After a fairly evenly balanced first two sets, each player taking one, Davidovich crumbled, allowing De Miñaur to walk the last two sets, giving the Australian a comfortable (4-2, 3-4, 4-1, 4-1) victory.

On Wednesday he lost a five set encounter (4-3, 3-4, 2-4, 4-3, 4-1) to the Norwegian Ruud, which left him on the edge of elimination before his encounter with Kecmanović, a native of Serbia, which he also

lost (4-1, 4-1, 4-3) on Thursday.

The tournament is notable for its distinctive format, with a three-match group stage followed by semi-finals featuring the group winners and runners-up, before the final. Furthermore each set is won by the best of four, rather than six, games.

Other efforts to increase the speed of the game include the elimination of advantage after deuce. Players are also able to communicate with their coaches via headsets at the end of each set, and the conversations are broadcast to the crowd.

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Malaga forward Antoñín reacts after passing up an opportunity to score against Ponferradina on Sunday. :: AGENCIA LOF

# Malaga sent crashing back to earth with defeat in Ponferrada

The visitors fell back into the relegation zone on Friday night, and also may face a spell without the injured Lombán



FRANK GAVURIN

✉ english@diariosur.es

**MALAGA.** A glum Víctor watched from the stands as his side fell to a late Yuri goal against Ponferradina on Friday night. The game proved some-

thing of a reality check for a Malaga who “only lasted 10 minutes” in León, in the sober assessment of SUR’s Ser-

gio Cortés. The result put an end to Malaga’s recent renaissance, placing them back in the drop zone after not even a week outside of it.

The game’s opening stages, however, augured well for the visitors, who started with the same urgency and intensity that they had showed in their recent victories over Deportivo la Coruña and Real Oviedo. This season’s revelation Antoñín had the first real chance, nutmegging Franco Russo before hitting a low drive from the edge of the box that the keeper did well to save. Hicham’s dynamism also earned him several opportunities, but his inexperience was evident in his wayward finishing.

Malaga’s dominance soon faded, and the match settled into a dull monotony, with the ball spending a lot of time in the air, and neither mid-field showing the requisite quality to get the game under control. The hosts eased their way into the game, and began to forge their own chances. The pick of the bunch fell to Kaxe, but the number nine could only scuff a tame effort at Munir.

The lively Renato Santos could have put his side ahead just before the half-time whistle after weaving his way into the box, but as is often the case, his end product was no match for his talent as he drove the ball over the crossbar.

If Malaga had the better of the first half, there is no doubting which was the superior side in the second. The visitors’ momentum had begun to

dissipate in the last 10 minutes of the first half, while Ponferradina had accrued some momentum of their own, and this pattern only continued after the break. Munir made a crucial intervention to deny the impressive Son on 48 minutes, before David Lombán, so solid in recent weeks, was forced off by injury just three minutes later.

After this point, the game turned entirely one-sided, and as the prospect of Víctor’s side bringing all three points back to the Costa del Sol became more remote, the only question seemed to be whether they could hold on for one.

The answer to this question came



Suspended Malaga coach Víctor watched on from the stands. :: LOF

SEGUNDA DIVISIÓN			
Results		Match day 14	
Numancia - Albacete	1-0	Girona - Tenerife	
Cadiz - Sporting	3-1	Huesca - Oviedo	
Ponferradina - Malaga	1-0	Mirandés - Extremadura	
Oviedo - Almeria	0-0	Albacete - Lugo	
Fuenlabrada - Deportivo	1-1	Sporting - Numancia	
Alcorcón - Racing	1-0	Las Palmas - Alcorcón	
Tenerife - Huesca	0-0	Deportivo - Elche	
Extremadura - Girona	1-3	Almeria - Zaragoza	
Lugo - Rayo	1-0	Malaga - Fuenlabrada	
Zaragoza - Las Palmas	3-0	Racing - Ponferradina	
Elche - Mirandés	4-2	Rayo - Cadiz	

League table									
TEAM	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	PT		
1. Cadiz	14	11	1	2	23	11	34		
2. Almeria	14	6	6	2	21	13	24		
3. Fuenlabrada	14	7	3	4	19	14	24		
4. Huesca	14	7	2	5	14	9	23		
5. Zaragoza	14	6	4	4	20	16	22		
6. Albacete	14	7	1	6	10	15	22		
7. Ponferradina	14	5	6	3	20	15	21		
8. Numancia	14	5	6	3	16	12	21		
9. Alcorcón	14	5	5	4	19	17	20		
10. Girona	14	6	2	6	18	17	20		
11. Rayo	14	4	7	3	21	18	19		
12. Elche	14	5	4	5	15	15	19		
13. Las Palmas	14	5	3	6	15	18	18		
14. Sporting	14	4	5	5	17	16	17		
15. Lugo	14	3	7	4	15	20	16		
16. Mirandés	14	3	6	5	16	24	15		
17. Tenerife	14	3	5	6	17	19	14		
18. Oviedo	14	3	5	6	18	21	14		
19. Malaga	14	3	5	6	11	14	14		
20. Extremadura	14	3	4	7	14	20	13		
21. Racing	14	1	8	5	14	18	11		
22. Deportivo	14	1	7	6	13	24	10		

## 1-0 PONFERRADINA-MALAGA

**Ponferradina:** Caro; Son, Yac, Russo, Ríos Reina; Sielva, Larrea; Isi, Kaxe (Asier Benito, 71’), Nacho Gil (Pablo Valcarce, 61’); Yuri (Saul, 87’). Unused substitutes: Manu García, Trigueros, Manzanara, Buenacasa.

**Malaga:** Munir; Cifu, Luis Hernández, Lombán (Diego González, 51’), Mikel; Santos (Lorenzo, 85’), Keidi, Adrián, Dani Pacheco (Juanpi, 62’); Hicham, Antoñín. Unused substitutes: Gonzalo, Boulahroud, Rolón, Benkhemassa.

**Goals:** 1-0 Yuri (81’).

**Referee:** Varón Aceitón. Ponferradina fitness coach Tiago Moutinho sent off (90+2’). Bookings for Mikel, Keidi, Larrea.

**Ground:** El Toralín (5,767 spectators).

with 10 minutes to go, as Yuri beat Lombán’s replacement Diego González to a low delivery from substitute Asier Benito, poking the ball past Munir from inside the six-yard box. The veteran striker would have had a second minutes later but for a heroic goal-line clearance from Mikel.

Víctor, who began a two-game touchline ban on Friday, insisted that his side played well and deserved more from the game, but in truth it would be hard to agree with his assessment. Malaga were unlucky to play without the injured Armando Sadiku, but his absence was not enough to explain the passivity of the side’s display in Ponferrada, and the fact that they had no chances of note in the entire second half.

Though he was stoic in the post-match, Víctor will surely be fretting over his side’s game against high-flying Fuenlabrada next week. With Keidi Bare suspended, and doubts over Sadiku and Lombán’s fitness, the stability that the manager surely craves remains elusive. Nevertheless, a reaction is needed, and if Malaga are to produce it, they will need to play far better than they did in León.

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# Al-Thani could still be major stumbling block in Malaga saga

BlueBay are edging towards agreement with new Qatari investors, while Richard Shaheen is the new official CEO of the club

■ SUR

**MALAGA.** Negotiations are ongoing between BlueBay and new prospective Qatari investors over the sale of shares a June court ruling (which club president Sheikh Al-Thani is appealing) says is owed to the hotel group.

While the Qataris have moved closer to meeting BlueBay's conditions for a sale - the group's chairman Jamal Satli Iglesias has confirmed that he now knows the precise identities of the individuals behind the offer - there is still some way to go.

Satli Iglesias repeated BlueBay's official stance, which is that it will collaborate with the city hall, put the club's interests ahead of its own, and ultimately accept a credible offer from investors it considers reliable. Nevertheless, he insisted that the Qatari investors "need to present us their roadmap for the club; at the moment, we're still in the dark".

If progress is slow but tangible in the negotiations between BlueBay and the Qataris, it appears to be non-existent when it comes to any talks with Sheikh Al-Thani. The Qataris are thought to be interested in purchasing their compatriot's share in the



Satli Iglesias with lawyer José Carlos Aguilera. ■ MIGUE FERNANDEZ

club as well, but his attitude is still thought to be one of intransigence.

Little has been heard from the club president since he insisted a few weeks ago that he would not even consider selling one per cent of the club. He only broke his silence to send a cryptic tweet in Swedish, which when translated read "Hello Spain, I will be back soon!" This was the same message that Zlatan Ibrahimovic had sent out days before; why the controversial Qatari businessman chose to copy his words is a mystery. The tweet was soon deleted.

## Still no structural changes

Meanwhile, there is still no sign of Richard Shaheen, officially announced as the club's CEO on Mon-

day, announcing any structural changes at the club to make the necessary savings before January, when the club could face sanctions, including a points deduction from La Liga.

Given that there is also no indication of revenues increasing, the expectations placed upon new interim sporting director Manolo Gaspar have grown. He may well be expected to secure some sales in January, but this task will be difficult, as Al-Thani vetoed several deals in the summer, and it is not clear whether prospective buyers will return.

Gaspar described the constraints of his role as "like fighting in a nuclear war with a wooden sword", but assured Malaga fans that their star striker Antónín was not for sale.

## Coach Víctor and keeper Munir give their backing to Shaheen

■ SUR

**MALAGA.** New Malaga director general Richard Shaheen appears to be earning the respect of those at the club, despite fears that too little is being done to deal with the club's worrying financial situation.

Malaga's coach Víctor lavished praise on him recently, insisting that "there's been much more co-ordination at the club" since the American's arrival, and it is believed that rela-

tions between the two are very good. The smoother running of internal matters at Malaga may also have something to do with the departure of unpopular former sporting director José Luis Pérez Caminero.

Goalkeeper Munir also expressed his faith in Shaheen, insisting that "he's been very good for the club and players, a figure who makes us feel supported. He always has our back, and he brings a sense of calm."



Richard Shaheen. ■ CRISTINA PINTO



Malaga celebrate their equaliser on Sunday. ■ NITO SALAS

## Femenino bounce back from defeat with comeback win

After a 2-0 defeat to Granada last week, Malaga overturned a one-goal deficit to surprise Villarreal

■ MARINA RIVAS

**MALAGA.** Malaga pulled off something of an upset with a hard-fought 2-1 home victory over Villarreal on Sunday.

Though the game started off finely balanced, the visitors took an early lead through Salma Paralluelo. The 15-year-old, already an international footballer and athlete, was a constant thorn in the hosts' side, and Villarreal began to dominate the game after her left-footed effort put them in front.

Though they came under lots of pressure, the Malaga defence coped admirably, and when their lines were breached, Noelia was up to the challenge as well, making several key saves.

After soaking up this pressure, Malaga worked their way back into the encounter. Adriana and Buceta had chances, but it was María Ruiz who got her side back into the game, the winger ending her dry spell in front of goal by finishing a chance that had come from an Adriana free-kick.

# 2-1

**MALAGA-VILLARREAL**

**Malaga:** Noelia; Claudia (Farfán, 76'), Olmedo, Postigo, Encarni; Pamela, Adriana, Buceta, María Ruiz; Arantxa (Judith, 87'), Edna (Cintia, 90')

**Villarreal:** Pau, Palo, Sheila (Nazaret, 60'), Aixa, Naiara, Salma, Celia, Prades Iris, Medina, Mata.

**Goals:** 0-1 Salma Paralluelo (12'); 1-1 María Ruiz (41'), 2-1 Pamela (82', pen).

**Referee:** Santasella Higuera.

**Ground:** Francisco Romero (Rincón de la Victoria). 300 spectators.

Both teams were clearly out to win the game after the break, but it was now Malaga who were on top. Adriana again put in a fine set-piece delivery, with the ball falling to Buceta who was unlucky to hit the bar.

The hosts finally took the lead with eight minutes of regulation time to go, after Edna, who led the line for Malaga, was brought down in the box. Pamela stepped up to take the penalty and made no mistake. The win was Malaga's third of the season and puts them in seventh place.

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## A LOOK AT LA LIGA

**ROB PALMER**  
Commentator, Sky Sports  
@robbopalmer



# Magic or mediocre?

**Ernesto Valverde has led Barcelona to the top of the table both home and abroad, but that hasn't stopped the speculation over his job**

Ernesto Valverde's honeymoon is well and truly over and he's going through a period of domestic uncertainty that will decide whether he'll get a divorce from Barcelona Football Club.

If you judge by appearances in league tables, all is fine and dandy. The Catalans are La Liga leaders and top a Champions League group that also includes Borussia Dortmund and Inter Milan.

Under Valverde's guidance Barcelona have claimed the title in two successive years and lost only two games in Europe. When he cites those facts he has a strong case to stay but that hasn't stopped the writers filling their pens with poisoned ink.

The opinions are that Valverde is no longer taking the club forwards and the criticism is that they're regressing under his leadership.

For the Spanish football papers everything is black and white. They are either lauding



The pressure is increasing on the Barça boss. :: EFE

the success of Barcelona or speculating who should be the new manager.

They're suggesting a South

American manager or the coach who was drummed out of Everton just over a year ago as a potential replacement right now.

Marcelo Gallardi is making a name for himself as the boss at River Plate and the Spanish press do love a little bit of mystique. It's a little like the time Gerardo Martino was recruited - and he lasted just a season.

Ronald Koeman hasn't been shy to publicise the fact that he has a clause in his Netherlands national team contract which would allow him to leave for one club only.

He was quoted as saying: "I can safely say that I will not leave the Dutch national team for anyone else. I have said often enough that [Barcelona] is my dream club."

In other words: "Come and get me!"

Valverde's position is certainly under scrutiny. They may be top of the tables but they have the ninth best away record - the 1-3 defeat at Levante was their third loss of the season on their travels.

Also, he's never succeeded in Europe. It's true, he's only lost two games in Europe but both were disastrous defeats, to Roma and Liverpool respectively, and they left long-lasting scars.

Barcelona periodically change managers but it's rare that they do so mid-season. Some may compare the situation to Bayern Munich who sacked Niko Kovač but they were four points off the top of the table and lost embarrassingly to Eintracht Frankfurt, 5-1.

The last time they swapped during a season was back in 2003 when Louis van Gaal's second spell was curtailed. Back then they were thinking about Koeman but when Johan Cruyff approached Ajax he was told that there would be a compensation payment and Cruyff sternly stated that "Barcelona don't pay to sign coaches".

I predict that Valverde will see out the season and if he's not close to winning the Champions League then he will be replaced. His successor needs to have some stardust and recent success. It could be Koeman if he does well at the Euros, or even Roberto Martinez who is a proud Catalan and is handling the stars of Belgium with great competence.

For now though it's still 'situation not vacant'.

## Marbella win ensures they remain only unbeaten side in Spain

Samu Delgado hit a late penalty to seal all three points for the Costa del Sol side against Villarrubia

**MARBELLA 2 VILLARRUBIA 1**

:: JULIO RODRÍGUEZ

**MARBELLA.** Marbella came back from behind to defeat minnows Vil-

larrubia 2-1 on Sunday. The result leaves David García Cubillo's side in third place in Group IV of Segunda B, level on points with Badajoz in second.

It was the visitors who made the brighter start to the game, however, taking advantage of a sloppy pass in the centre of the pitch to set Fran Cortés away, who made no mistake with a clinical left-footed finish from the edge of the box.

Marbella had more of the ball

throughout the game, and did have opportunities, with Óscar and captain Aníón both passing up opportunities. Nevertheless, the visitors from Castilla la Mancha had a clear chance to double their lead, Arribas slicing at the ball when it fell to him in the box.

The hosts were stirred into action when they were again let off the hook as Ricardo Carvalho hit the bar. The equaliser came when Óscar plucked a searching ball from Redru out of the air and calmly finished from the edge



Óscar scores the equaliser on Sunday. :: JULIO RODRÍGUEZ

of the six yard box.

When substitute Mustafá was bundled over in the box 10 minutes later,

Samu Delgado stepped up to calmly slot the ball away and secure an important three points.



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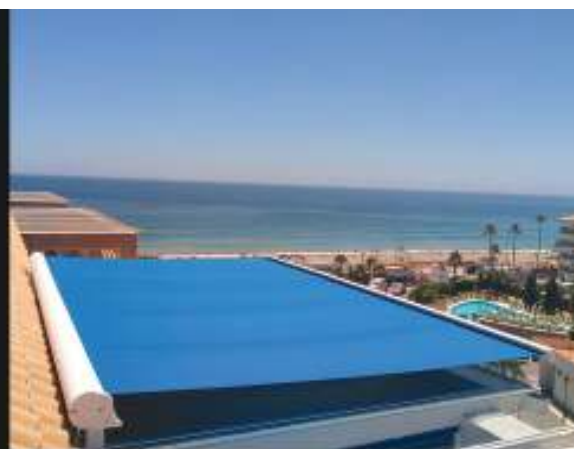


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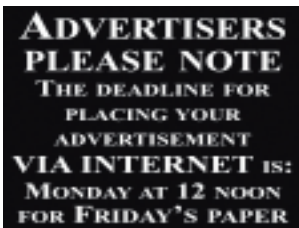
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email: chaplain@stgeorgemalaga.org or wardens@stgeorgemalaga.org  
**Malaga**, St George's Church (in the English Cemetery, Av. de Pries) Sunday Holy Communion 11am. Contact: 951 287 382  
**Velez-Málaga**, La Antigua Capilla de S. José, C/. Linares 7. Sundays 10.30am  
**Anglican Chaplaincy of St. Andrew, Costa del Sol (East)**  
Chaplaincy Office 952580600.  
**Los Boliches**, St. Andrew's Holy Communion 1st, 3rd Sun. Morning Worship 2nd, 4th Sun. Morning Prayer Mon, Tues, Thurs 9.30am. Holy Communion (BCP) Wed. 9.30am.  
**Benalmádena Costa**, San José chapel, 9.30am; Morning Worship 2nd, 4th Sun; Holy Communion 1st, 3rd Sun.  
**Calahonda**, Ermita de San Miguel, 9.30am. Morning Worship 1st, 3rd Sun; Holy Communion 2nd, 4th Sun.  
**Alhaurín el Grande**: Cemetery Chapel Sun. at 11.30am. All age service 1st Sun; Morning Worship 3rd Sun; Holy Communion 2nd, 4th Sun.  
**Costa del Sol (West)**  
**San Pedro**, Sunday 10a.m. (Holy 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.

**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 Santuario de la Divina Misericodia  
**Malaga**: Catholic mass in English, Avenida Santiago Ramón y Cajal, Ciudad Jardín. 11.30am Sunday. 952260760.

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**Gibraltar**: Methodist Church, 297 Main Street. Sun 11am and 8pm. +350 200 77491/+350 200 40870. Rev. Fidel Patron.

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**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 11am Upper room, Congress Centre. 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

<b>Great Britain</b>	C/. Mauricio Moro Pareto 2- 2. Málaga	952352300
<b>USA</b>	Av. Juan Gómez 8. Ed. Lucía 1-C. Fuengirola	952474891
<b>Belgium</b>	Avda Ricardo Soriano 20-3C, Marbella	951516019
<b>Denmark</b>	Calle Córdoba 6 404, Malaga	952211797
<b>Norway</b>	Avda Los Boliches, 60, Edf Rosenkranz, Fuengirola	952667955
<b>Canada</b>	C/Cervantes, Edif. Horizonte, Malaga	952223346
<b>Germany</b>	Mauricio Moro Pareto 2, Malaga	952363591
<b>Sweden</b>	Calle Córdoba 6, 5th floor, Malaga	952604383
<b>Ireland</b>	Avda. Los Boliches, Fuengirola	952475108
<b>France</b>	1, Plaza de Santa Cruz, Seville	954293200
<b>Italy</b>	Calle Lagasca, 98, Madrid	912106910
<b>Austria</b>	Alameda de Colón 26, Malaga	952600267
<b>Finland</b>	Calle Blasco de Garay, 7, Malaga	952212435
<b>Saudi Arabia</b>	Mauricio M. Pareto 2 bloque Sur 2º, Malaga	952310358
<b>Greece</b>	Salitre, 16, Malaga	952311847
<b>Iceland</b>	Paseo Marítimo 91, 29640 Fuengirola	952661200
<b>Philippines</b>	C/Marqués de Larios 4, 2º, Malaga	952222757
<b>Hungary</b>	Av. de Andalucía 26 29007 Malaga	952308393

USEFUL PHONE NUMBERS


<b>EMERGENCIES</b>		
Emergency operator	112	
National Police	091	
Local (municipal) Police	092	
Medical	061	
Fire	080	
Guardia Civil	062	
Sea Rescue	900202202	
Crime report	902102112	
<b>ENGLISH-SPEAKING HELP</b>		
Samaritans in Spain	900525100	
Alcoholics Anonymous	600379110	
Age Care	952933409	
Age Concern (Estepona)	608458555	
<b>ANDALUSIAN HEALTH SERVICE</b>		
Salud Responde (doctors' appointments & advice)	955545060	
<b>ESTEPONA</b>		
Bus Station	955038665	
Taxi Service	952802900	
Tourist Office	952802002	
Town Hall	952801100	
Foreign Residents Dept.	952809031	
<b>FUENGIROLA</b>		
Bus Station	952475066	
Taxi Service	952471000	
Tourist Office	952467625	
Town Hall	952589300	
Foreign Residents Dept.	952589440	
<b>MALAGA</b>		
Bus Station	952350061	
Railway Station	902240202	
Taxi Service	952345693	
Tourist Office	951926020	
<b>MARBELLA</b>		
Bus Station	955038665	
Taxi Service	952774488	
<b>TORREMOLINOS</b>		
Bus Station	902143144	
Taxi Service	952380600	
Tourist Office	952371909	
Town Hall	952379400	
Foreign Residents Dept.	952374231	
<b>BENALMADENA</b>		
Bus Station	902450550	
Taxi Service	952441545	
Tourist Office	952442494	
Town Hall	952374231	
Foreign Residents Dept.	952442494	
<b>VÉLEZ-MÁLAGA</b>		
Bus Station	952503162	
Taxi	952540016	
Town Hall	952559100	
Tourist Office	952541104	
<b>GIBALTAR</b>		
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
Wind Star	08-09/11	Cartagena	Tangier	07.00	21.00
Azamara Pursuit	08/11	Motril	Cadiz	08.00	20.00
Sirena	08/11	Cartagena	Seville	09.00	18.00
MSC Preziosa	09/11	Genoa	Casablanca	10.30	17.30
Marella Discovery 2	10/11	Cartagena	-	06.00	16.00
Marella Celebration	10/11	-	Funchal	06.00	21.00
Horizon	10/11	-	-	07.00	13.00
Crystal Serenity	10/11	Valencia	Gibraltar	08.00	23.59
MSC Opera	11/11	Genoa	Funchal	13.00	18.00
Costa Pacifica	13/11	Funchal	Civitavecchia	08.00	13.00
Costa Favolosa	13/11	Marseille	Lisbon	09.00	19.00
Viking Jupiter	16/11	-	-	08.00	18.00
Black Watch	16/11	-	Barcelona	08.00	18.00
Costa Luminosa	17/11	Marseille	Funchal	08.00	18.00
Amadea	19/11	Agadir	Cartagena	08.00	17.00
Sky Princess	19/11	-	-	10.00	20.00
Horizon	21/11	-	Cartagena	09.00	17.00



THE STARS


- 

**Aquarius**  
January 21st - February 19th  
There are some chances next weekend to relax and get some forward planning done. This will save you stress and time later.
- 


**Pisces**  
February 20th - March 20th  
Be sure not to base any criticisms on rumours. Always check your sources. There is a temptation to exaggerate. Rein that active imagination in, too!

- 


**Aries**  
March 21st - April 20th  
What is important right now is not to let yourself be bored. That includes spending time with people who are tedious; just to be polite. There are better ways to go forward.

- 


**Taurus**  
April 21st - May 21st  
Having had something brought to your attention it is hard not to react. Even so, choose your words carefully. Close relationships are under the spotlight.

- 


**Gemini**  
May 22nd - June 21st  
Luckily this is a week where agreements are well aspected and flexibility can be seen all around you. Could it be your charm that is having this effect?

- 


**Cancer**  
June 22nd - July 23rd  
Aim to be chatty and charming this week to avoid a disagreement. Partners could be especially difficult but, if you can nip it in the bud, it should be short-lived.

- 

**Leo**  
July 24th - August 23rd  
The thrust of your efforts should be to the future without thinking of the past. That is not easy but it is a waste of time to dwell on what has gone before.

- 


**Virgo**  
August 24th - September 23rd  
Confused about a decision that you have to make? Get the DIY done, the gardening, go running... anything that uses your body in a natural way will help to clear your mind of other clutter.

- 


**Libra**  
September 24th - October 23rd  
It would not be a bad thing to concentrate on business right now. Mistakes can be made and not necessarily by you! Someone may be very willing but inexperienced.

- 

**Scorpio**  
October 24th - November 22nd  
Odd things may crop up through this month, so be flexible on dates. A conversation midweek really cheers you up. This also shows promise for a plan in the future.

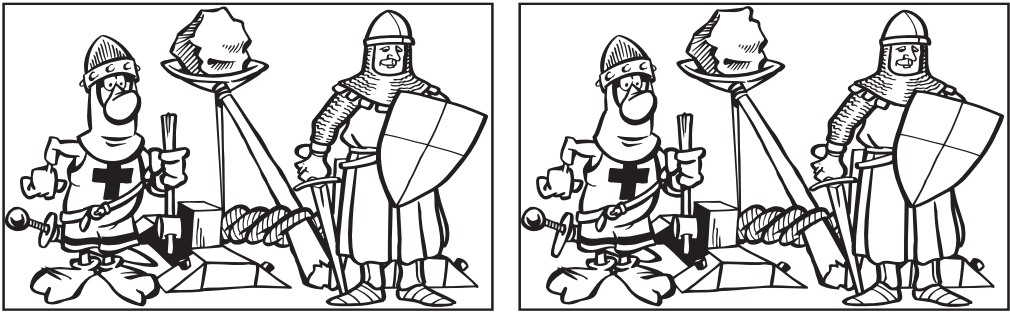
- 

**Sagittarius**  
November 23rd - December 21st  
What is on your mind? If it is something that cannot be solved immediately then do yourself a favour. Put it on the back burner until action is possible. Stress less!

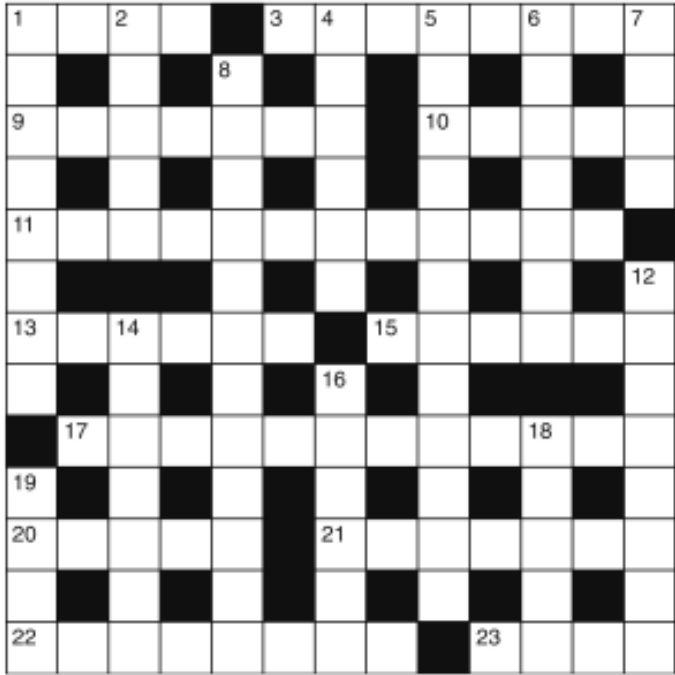
- 

**Capricorn**  
December 22nd - January 20th  
This would be an ideal week to practise being a hermit. There will be plenty of chances to be the life and soul of the party later.

THE SEVEN DIFFERENCES



CRYPTIC CROSSWORD N° 11382



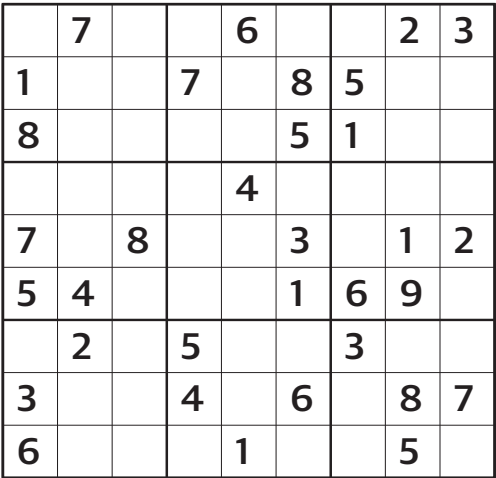
- Across

  - 1 Wicked activity could be gripping (4)
  - 3 Fail to detect lies about weapons (8)
  - 9 Cigar taken from main character in bed (7)
  - 10 Composer of 'In a Chapel Garden' (5)
  - 11 Do not remove warning sign - just ignore it! (4,2,6)
  - 13 Criminal who is clearly not a relation by marriage? (6)
  - 15 What he sells is ground (6)
  - 17 Mason's obstructive work in Parliament? (12)
  - 20 Possess about fifty to split equally (5)
  - 21 No dreamer about an inventory (7)
  - 22 Fairy hut was destroyed (8)
  - 23 Burn the tea? (4)
- Down

  - 1 Leaving? Take a holiday! (8)
  - 2 Verify the rebuff (5)
  - 4 Single-minded when camping, perhaps (6)
  - 5 Bill comes after honeyed flower (5,7)
  - 6 It's reasonable for American soldier to enter English pub (7)
  - 7 Kind of alternative letters (4)
  - 8 Climbers resume not in a muddle (12)
  - 12 Less in the dark because more intelligent? (8)
  - 14 Tartlet crumbled - idle gossip made it! (7)
  - 16 Turn aside to do duty round the point (6)
  - 18 In the chair is Henry from the Emerald Isle (5)
  - 19 Inform against retail establishment (4)

SUDOKU BY HANZO

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



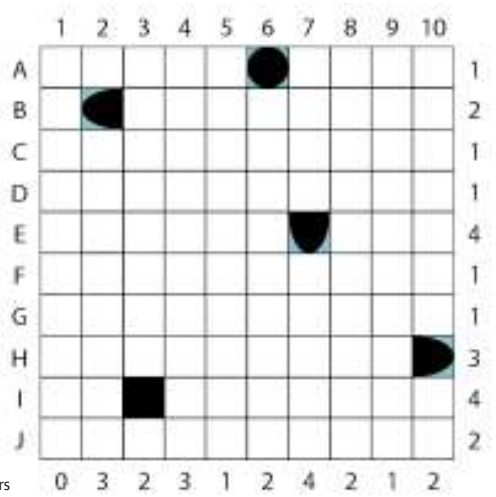
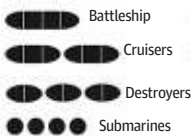
THE WORDPUZZLER



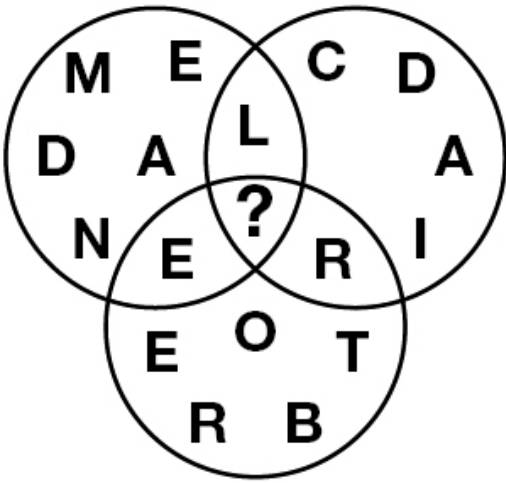
- Can you identify the words that may precede 'dog' from the clues listed below?
- 1. Firearm
  - 2. Train
  - 3. Regulate
  - 4. Summit
  - 5. Body of water
  - 6. Lead
  - 7. Treeless plain
  - 8. Very warm
  - 9. Banger
  - 10. Charlie Parker's nickname

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
- Down
- 1) Spokesperson (8)

5) They confirmed (11)

10) The (f) (2)

11) Scratches (8)

13) Security guard (9)

14) Of (2)

15) Aunt (3)

16) To go in (6)

19) Bang! (3)

23) Arrival (7)

24) I beg (5)

26) Relieved (8)

27) You have (pl) (6)

28) Arms (9)

32) This one (4)

36) Axis (3)

37) Podium (5)

38) To count (12)

41) I (2)

42) I smelled (3)

45) To go (2)

46) Hijackers (14)

47) Dog (5)

49) Defeated (9)

50) To damage (5)

53) Walnut (4)

54) Fishing boat (8)

55) To fish (6)

57) To hand over (8)

58) Crew members (11)
- 1) Piracy (9)

2) Ransom (7)

3) Tuna boat (7)

4) Gold (3)

5) To dig (5)

6) Fried (f) (5)

7) Dumbbell (9)

8) He laughs (3)

9) To sail (7)

12) To be (3)

17) They bring (5)

18) Contraband shipment (5)

20) Fleet (5)

21) Sailor (8)

22) Release (10)

25) Free (6)

29) River (3)

30) It is (2)

31) Uncle (3)

33) Sadness (8)

34) Helicopters (12)

35) My (2)

37) President (10)

38) Password (10)

39) Novice (6)

40) To set sail (6)

43) It happens (6)

44) Better (5)

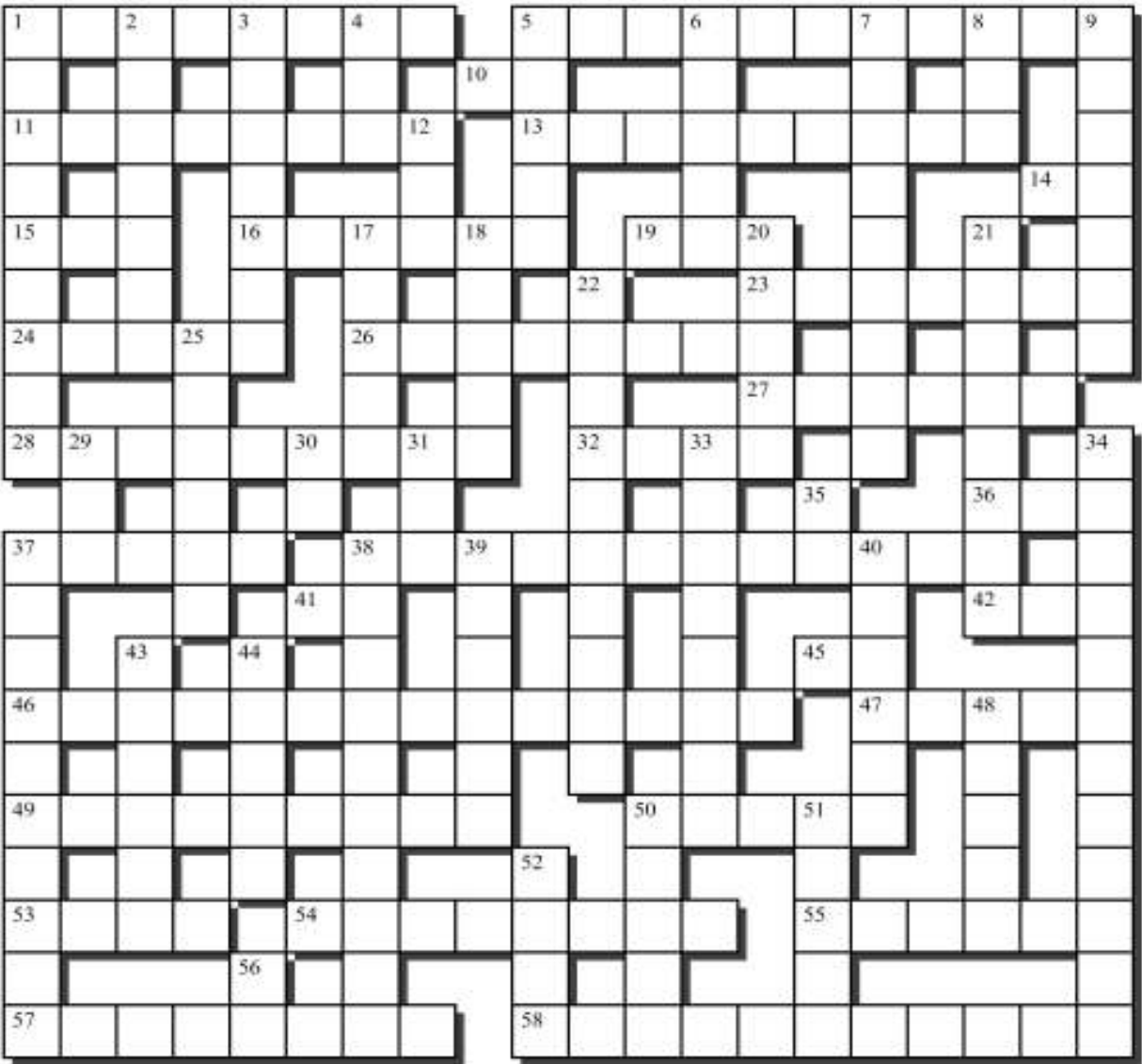
48) Hostage (5)

50) I slept (5)

51) Bishop (in chess) (5)

52) Thin cured sausage (4)

56) She sees (2)



ANSWERS

**Quiz answers**

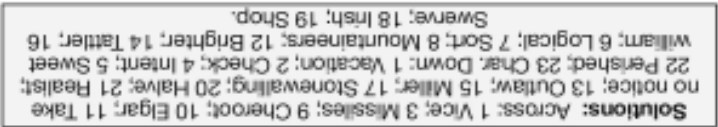
changed its name to Sony.  
subsequent success the company  
called Sony tapes and with the  
produce magnetite recording tapes  
never marketed. It went on to  
which was such a disaster it was  
Corporation produced a rice cooker  
Telecommunications Engineering  
Of interest: After WWII, the Tokyo  
Answer: Sony.

Gillette in 1979 for \$47.5 million.  
Paper', she sold her company to  
'Mistake Out', later renamed 'Liquid  
Monkees', was famous for inventing  
Nesmith, singer-guitarist for the  
Of interest: The mother of Michael  
Answer: The Monkees.

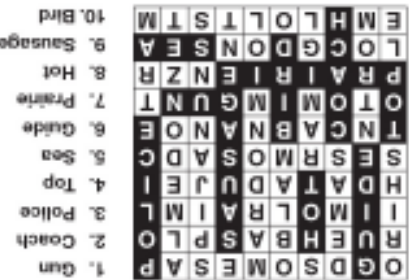
Language Crossword



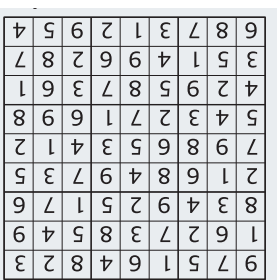
Cryptic Crossword



Wordpuzzler solution



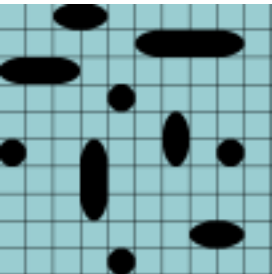
Sudoku solution



Circlegram

The letter represented by the  
question mark is O.  
Lemonade, cordial, root  
beer, all soft drinks.

Battleships



WHERE HAVE YOU SEEN THIS?



Last week:  
**Atarfe**

This amazing iron sculpture created by Atarfe resident Miguel Barranco is on the GR-3417 that passes through the Granada town of Atarfe. It is called the Monumento a la Concordia (monument to harmony), known locally as 'rotonda de los pinchos'.

THE SUR IN ENGLISH CORNER

Share your thoughts

How often does the news make you react in one way or another? How often do you make a comment to whoever happens to be in the same room? And what is the most common reaction? That something is silly, ridiculous, typical, boring or annoying? Or you might read something and think: that's nice, that's clever, that's interesting, that's a good idea or that's great news...

Whatever your thoughts, they are probably worth sharing with the rest of our readers.

We know that nowadays there's an emoji for all of those aforementioned reactions and we can indicate how we feel without having to type a single word. But an original letter to the editor - just a few sentences - contributes so much more than a little smiley (or angry) face.

Write to us at [surinenglish.su@diariosur.es](mailto:surinenglish.su@diariosur.es), or via social media. We're on Facebook (@surenglish), Twitter (@SUR\_English) and online at [www.surinenglish.com](http://www.surinenglish.com).

Linking Communities.



# Banderas honoured at the Hollywood Awards

It was a family occasion for the Malaga-born actor, with his step-daughter and daughter both present

The movie star received the Best Actor award for his role in Pedro Almodóvar's new film *Pain and Glory*

:: EFE

**LOS ANGELES.** Last Sunday (actually the early hours of Monday morning here in Spain), actor Antonio Banderas was presented with the Best Actor award at the Hollywood Film Awards for his leading role in Pedro Almodóvar's *Pain and Glory*, in which he plays a character based on the director himself.

This turned out to be a family occasion for Malaga-born Banderas, because not only was he accompanied by his daughter Stella del Carmen, but the award was presented by Dakota Johnson, the daughter of his ex-wife Melanie Griffith, to whom he has been close since she was a child.

*Pain and Glory*, one of the most highly praised films this year, is one of the favourites to win an Oscar for best international film. Some have also suggested that Almodóvar and Banderas could be nominated for Best Original Script and Best Actor, respectively. Last weekend's award was certainly a promising start.



Banderas receives the Best Actor award from step-daughter Dakota Johnson. Inset, with his daughter Stella del Carmen at the event last Sunday. :: REUTERS



The 23rd Hollywood Film Awards took place at the Beverly Hilton hotel in Los Angeles. This gala evening, which will soon be followed by the nominations for the Golden Globes and the Oscars, is the first of the awards season every year apart from the honorary Oscars, which took place last week but only recognise professional careers and not films or recent works. Others who were honoured at the awards ceremony include Renée Zellweger as Best Hollywood Actress for *Judy* (a biopic of the life

**Banderas and Almodóvar are strong favourites for the forthcoming Oscars**

of Judy Garland); Al Pacino as best supporting actor for *The Irishman*, the new and keenly awaited film by Martin Scorsese; and Laura Dern as best supporting actress for her role in *Marriage Story*.

Other awards were also presented to filmmakers James Mangold (*Ford v Ferrari*) and Bong Joon Ho (*Parasite*). Meanwhile, an emotional Charlize Theron received the Hollywood Career Achievement Award in tribute to her long professional cinema career.

Pablo Helman, from Argentina, also won an award for the best visual effects in the film *The Irishman*, Shia LeBeouf received the Breakthrough Screenwriter award for *Honey Boy* and the Song Award went to Pharrell Williams for *Letter to my Godfather*, from *The Black Godfather*.

**THE COUNTDOWN BEGINS FOR A CHORUS LINE**

The countdown to *A Chorus Line* has begun. The Teatro del Soho Caixabank has released the first official photos of the musical which will inaugurate Antonio Banderas' new theatre project on 15 November. In it, he plays Zach, the famous and demanding choreographer who selects the dancers for the chorus line at the audition.



:: JAVIER SALAS

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