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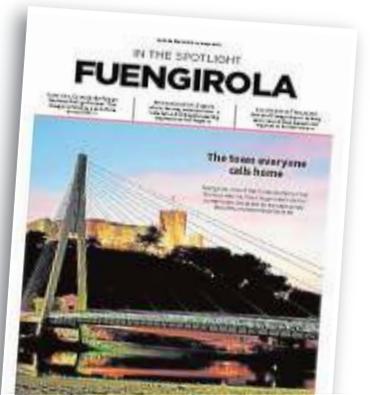
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October 30th to November 5th
2020

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INSIDE
IN THE SPOTLIGHT
FUENGIROLA

Who doesn't love a town that has everything? We look at Fuengirola's past, present and future in this special supplement



Andalucía closes its borders as Spain enters new state of alarm to slow the pandemic



LAST ORDERS FOR COVID

The 11 o'clock night curfew brought in around Spain this week has the hospitality sector calling for aid P4

A worker pulls down the shutters of a Malaga bar as curfew time approaches. SALVADOR SALAS

The government has opted for stricter measures as Covid-19 case figures approach March's peak in some areas

Spain's central and regional authorities have taken drastic steps this week in an attempt to slow this second wave of the coronavirus pandemic. The new state of alarm declared on Sunday came with a night curfew around the country and allowed regions to bring in harsher restrictions on movement. Andalucía, like several other regions, closed its borders to visitors for ten days from today, Friday, and residents in hundreds of towns and villages, 19 of them in Malaga province, are not allowed to cross municipal boundaries without a valid reason. P2&3

INSIDE

Inland Malaga gains a new high-flying tourist attraction with the opening of the El Saitillo walkway, the Axarquía's own Caminito del Rey P8

When a foreign holiday is out of the question treat yourself to a wellness staycation here on the Costa del Sol. This month's travel section tells you how P18-21

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New state of alarm brings nationwide night curfew as Andalucía closes its borders

The Junta de Andalucía has confined residents to their municipal boundaries in 449 towns and villages, 19 of them in the Antequera district in the north of Malaga province

SUR

MALAGA. A night curfew from 11pm to 6am, a general ban on moving in or out of the region of Andalucía and the closure of municipal boundaries for residents in hundreds of towns and villages. These are some of the fresh restrictions imposed since the Spanish government declared a new state of alarm on Sunday in a bid to control the spread of infection in this second wave of the Covid-19 pandemic.

The night curfew came into force across Spain (except for the Canary Islands) just a few hours after prime minister Pedro Sánchez declared the state of alarm, providing the necessary legal framework for regional governments to impose restrictions on the movement of the general public.

Closing regions

The declaration, as well as establishing the curfew, stipulated that the governments of Spain's autonomous regions can close the borders of regions, provinces or municipalities if they deem it necessary. This is different to the

state of alarm in March, when central government maintained responsibility for measures to control the pandemic.

On Wednesday this week, the president of the Junta de Andalucía, Juanma Moreno, responded by announcing the closure of the borders of Andalucía from today, Friday 30 October. No one is permitted to leave or enter the region without having an accredited valid reason, announced Moreno, bringing in the measure just in time to halt the expected influx of national tourists to Andalucía for this long All Saints holiday weekend.

Moreno made the announcement on Wednesday evening after a meeting with the committee of experts who are advising the authority on measures to control the spread of Covid-19.

Municipal lockdowns

Special restrictions prohibiting residents from crossing municipal boundaries have also been imposed by the Junta de Andalucía on the entire provinces of Granada, Jaén and Seville as well as the Córdoba Sur health district, the Jerez-Costa Noroeste and Sierra de Cádiz health area and the Vega de Málaga health district in the northern part of the province of Malaga. This locks down 449 municipalities around the Andalusian region.

Those places affected in Malaga province are Alameda, Almargen, Antequera, Archidona, Campillos, Cañete la Real,

Cuevas Bajas, Cuevas de San Marcos, Fuente de Piedra, Humilladero, Mollina, Sierra de Yeguas, Teba, Valle de Abdalajís, Villanueva de Algaidas, Villanueva de la Concepción, Villanueva de Tapia, Villanueva del Rosario and Villanueva del Trabuco.

Moreno also announced that he would not change the national curfew time of 11pm, even though the state of alarm allows local authorities to vary it by an hour. Instead he said that all bars and restaurants must close at 10.30pm.

Six people limit

The new restrictions limit family and social gatherings to six people, unless they are from the same household.

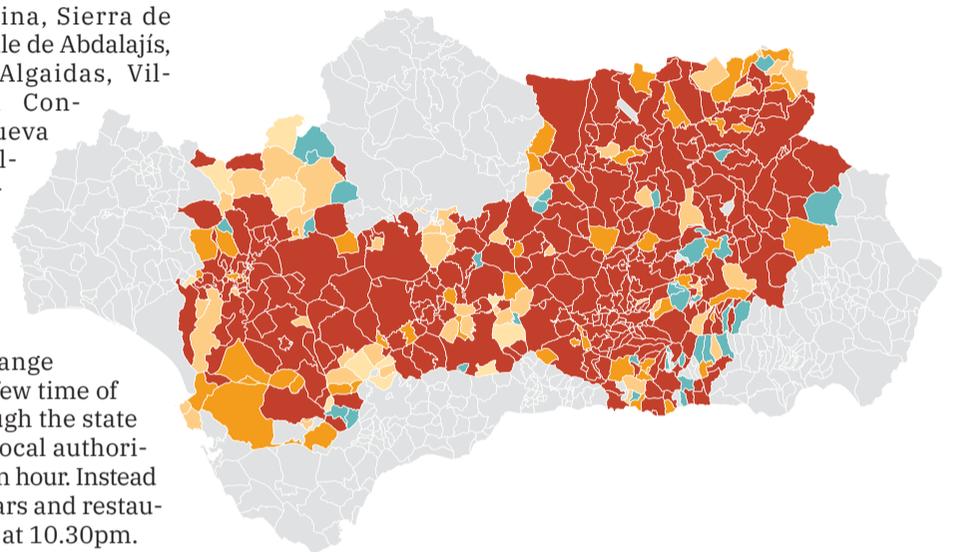
"Nothing will be as it was," said Moreno, calling for the maximum collaboration of the general public. This is the most serious situation we have ever faced, he said.

Until 9 November

The new restrictions will be in force until at least 9 November, when they will be reviewed.

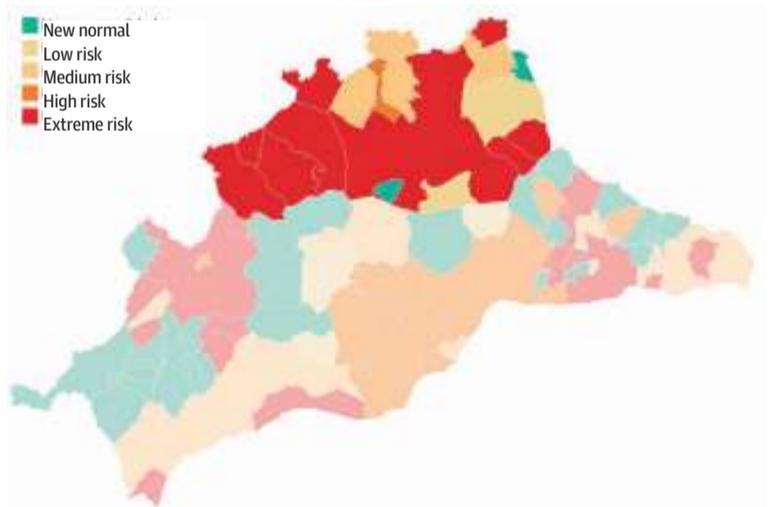
Manuel Barón, mayor of Antequera, the main town in the newly confined Vega de Málaga health district, said on Thursday afternoon that he would get tougher if rates did not drop there within five days.

Andalusian municipalities with borders closed



Antequera area health district in more detail

Risk level according to increase in cases of Covid-19



Regions roll out their own made-to-measure lockdowns, bolstered by the national decree

On Thursday, MPs in Congreso voted in favour of keeping the legal protection of a state of alarm in place until 9 May

SUR

MADRID. The growing number of Covid-19 cases detected in Spain plus the new state of alarm decreed by central government have already led to most of the 17 devolved regional governments taking their own action on closing borders or town boundaries to all but essential travel - exceptions include for work, health treatment and caring for the infirm.

"There's no general confinement in this new state of alarm, but we should stay at home as much as possible," said prime minister Pedro Sánchez, announcing the umbrella rule last weekend.

On Thursday, MPs in Congreso voted in favour of keeping the state of alarm in force as a legal device until 9 May, with a check on progress in March.

Speaking in the debate in parliament, Health minister Salvador Illa started preparing people in Spain for a disrupted Christmas. "We'll have different festivities than we've been used to that we'll have to adapt to," he said.

By Thursday, ahead of the traditionally busy All Saints' public holiday weekend, the regions of

Castilla-León, Castilla-La Mancha, Catalonia, Aragón, Navarra, La Rioja, Andalucía, Murcia, Basque Country, Cantabria and Asturias had stopped (or were about to stop) people entering or leaving their regions.

To be able to travel out of a region, both the region a person is leaving and the one they are going to have to be free of a border restriction, unless travel is essential. People are also allowed to travel across a closed region to get to their home destination providing they do not stop off.

In addition, some communities have been closing individual town boundaries to residents, as in parts of Andalucía. These included Aragón, the Basque Country and Murcia.



A quiet Las Ramblas, Barcelona. EFE

Some of the tougher action announced this week came in Catalonia, where the regional government announced a semi-lockdown on Thursday afternoon for two weeks.

As well as closed borders into the region, and stopping movement just at weekends out of individual municipalities, Catalan cinemas, theatres and gyms have been closed and shops other than supermarkets over 800 metres square are also shut.

Madrid was also taking its own particular path this week. Regional president Isabel Díaz Ayuso announced her decision to close the borders of Madrid for all but essential travel over the next two long weekends, which are both public holiday periods in Madrid. However borders would be kept open on weekdays.

This came as a surprise to the neighbouring region of Castilla-León, which thought it had agreed with Madrid on Wednesday to a seven-day minimum closure, as the state of alarm decree says. The national government said on Thursday that it wasn't going to change the state of alarm to suit Madrid.

NEW RESTRICTIONS

► **Night curfew.** People cannot go outside between 11pm and 6am without a justified reason. This is a national rule and regions can vary the time by one hour.

► **Regional borders closed.** Andalucía, like some other regions, has closed its borders until at least 9 November. International borders to Spain remain open.

► **Early closing.** Bars and restaurants must shut up shop at 10.30pm each day in time for the 11pm curfew

► **Municipal borders shut in some cases.** The Junta de Andalucía has joined some other regions in stopping people travelling out of their home town where the cases rates are the highest. The whole of Seville, Granada and Jaén provinces are affected this way. In Malaga province, 19 municipalities in the north, including Antequera are affected.

► **Six people rule.** Family and social gatherings are limited to six people, unless they are from the same household.

Virus cases in region's hospitals climb closer to March peak

14-day positive Covid-19 test results per 100,000 in Malaga province are now at 207 and the number in hospital locally has risen 45% in ten days

ÁNGEL ESCALERA

MALAGA. On Thursday this week (29 October) the Andalusian health service added 5,202 new positive Covid-19 cases to its regional rolling daily total. Thirty-one patients had also died of coronavirus in the previous 24 hours, according to the regional figures.

The number of people in hospital regionally with Covid-19 grew by 33 in Thursday's report, to a total of 2,345, of whom 296 were in intensive care.

At the peak of the pandemic in March there were 2,709 hospital patients with Covid-19 (368 fewer than Thursday's data) and 438 in intensive care.

Within Malaga province only

there were 238 in local hospitals on Thursday. This was a 45 per cent increase on 10 days earlier. Thirty-four were in intensive care locally.

On Thursday, the Andalucía region as a whole had an average of 404 reported cases per 100,000 people in the previous 14 days.

There were still wide differences between the region's eight provinces. Granada province, facing a tough lockdown, had an average of 907 cases in the previous 14 days, followed by neighbouring Jaén province on 629 per 100,000.

Malaga province had reported an average of 207.4 cases per 100,000. The highest rates were in the northern area of the province around Antequera. Cadiz province had the least in the region, on a 204.7 14-day rate.

Numbers steady in Malaga

In terms of new daily cases in Malaga province, there were 339 reported positive tests on Thurs-



There were outbreaks among staff this week at Malaga's main hospital. n. s.

day (29 October). The number of local cases was therefore down slightly on Tuesday's 377 notified positives and up on Wednesday's 316.

In terms of new daily cases in Malaga province, there were 339 reported positive tests on Thursday (29 October)

This week two small detected outbreaks of cases among staff at the main Hospital Regional in Malaga caused concern.

The first 12 incidences were in the Intensive Care departments and later four more cases were identified in the Infectious Diseases department.

The hospital has said that all staff have been following the strict protocols at all times and a systematic testing programme in the affected departments has been carried out.

HOSPITAL

«We must know the state of our heart to fight Covid»

Doctor Benito Zaya, from Helicópteros Sanitarios Hospital in Puerto Banús, explains the importance of preventing heart disease



Dr José Benito Zaya Ganfornina, cardiologist, Helicópteros Sanitarios Hospital. H. Sanitarios



Echocardiographic image of a heart with dilated cardiomyopathy. H. Sanitarios

MARBELLA

SUR. Many of the most serious patients suffering from Covid-19 infection previously had heart failure, explains Dr. Benito Zaya, a cardiologist at the Helicópteros Sanitarios Hospital in Puerto Banús. For this reason, now more than ever, it is important to know the state of our heart.

What is heart failure?

Heart failure is the final stage of many heart diseases, including diseases of the heart muscle (mycardiopathies), making it the leading cause of hospitalisation in people aged over 65. It is associated with a high mortality rate,

much higher than that of many types of cancer.

Among the different cardiomyopathies, the most frequent is dilated cardiomyopathy, which is characterised by a dilation and dysfunction of the left ventricle or of both ventricles. The main causes of primary dilated cardiomyopathy are genetic, while the

secondary causes include infectious ones, especially viral myocarditis.

How can I discover the state of my heart?

A meticulous medical history with physical examination, electrocardiogram and chest X-ray remain essential. Echocardiography has established itself as the

most important non-invasive method. Typically, a loss of overall strength of the heart is found, with the walls of the heart being thinned. Cardiac MRI can be performed to document possible aetiology

In many cases, mitral and tricuspid valve regurgitation is associated with heart muscle dis-

ease due to the dilation of the ventricles. Systemic or pulmonary embolism can also occur due to thrombosis that can form in both ventricles; as well as arrhythmias, the most frequent in this case is atrial fibrillation.

What can I do if I have heart failure?

Firstly, it is important to find the precipitating or triggering cause in order to achieve stabilisation. In the so-called dilated cardiomyopathy of ischemic origin, related to significant stenosis of at least one main coronary artery, the definitive treatment is percutaneous coronary revascularisation (by stenting) or surgery.

Another entity that we frequently see is dilated cardiomyopathy secondary to atrial tachyarrhythmias; flutter or atrial fibrillation; these require an approach from the electrical point of view of the heart. In these cases, ablation is the chosen therapy for the arrhythmias. Helicópteros Sanitarios Hospital is the leader in this therapy, thanks to Professors Pedro Brugada and Juan Seira.

Curfew at 11pm, the “final nail in the coffin” for the hotel and catering industry

Businesses show their frustration at the authority's refusal to put the curfew back to midnight

JESÚS HINOJOSA / JUAN SOTO

MALAGA. “They’re leaving us to die,” was the reaction of Javier Frutos, president of the Malaga association of restaurant and bar owners Mahos, to the 11pm curfew announced by the Spanish government on Sunday.

“Let’s see how many businesses get through November, after a September and October with a reduction in revenue of around 70 per cent,” he added.

That was Sunday, when the sector still hoped that the Junta de Andalucía would use the leeway given by central government to put the curfew back to 12 midnight which, business owners said, would make a difference between people deciding to go out to dinner or not.

When Junta president Juanma Moreno said on Wednesday that the curfew would stay at 11pm, and ordered establishments to close at 10.30, the sector’s frustration heightened. Frutos accused Moreno of “going back on his word” as he said he had promised to reach a consensus over the



Closed businesses and empty streets in Antequera after curfew this week. ANTONIO J. GUERRERO

measures. With that closing time, he said they would lose their evening meal business and said the authority “lacked empathy”.

The representative also expressed his indignation at the words of regional vice-president, Juan Marín, who said earlier this week that “international tourists have dinner at seven o’clock”, implying that Andalusians should be able to change their habits for a few weeks.

The recent developments have

also led to fears among business owners who were hoping that the Christmas holidays would mean a refreshing, albeit small, boost.

“A lot of businesses have closed but planned to open again in the Christmas holidays,” said Javier Frutos. If the curfew continues until then, however, the traditional festive dinners will be lost as well.

The president of the Costa del Sol hoteliers association (Aehcos), Luis Callejón Suñé, said earlier this week that the new restrictions

were “the final nail in the coffin” for the tourism industry.

“Who is going to travel under [curfew] conditions?” he said. “No one, only those whose obligations mean they have to travel.”

What do you think?

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

Tourism sector hopes measures will come with an aid package

P. MARTÍNEZ

MALAGA. The Costa del Sol tourism industry hopes that the restrictions introduced on Wednesday by Andalusian president Juanma Moreno will come with an aid package for businesses. The president of the Costa del Sol hoteliers association (Aehcos), Luis Callejón Suñé, said that businesses were “running out of oxygen”.

The fact that half of Andalusians cannot leave their towns and that the region has closed its doors to the rest of the country until 9 November has put paid to any hopes of business this All Saints holiday weekend. Saying the situation was “unsustainable”, Callejón Suñé called for urgent aid: “We hope they realise what we’re going through and that we can’t cope any longer.”

The president of the Andalusian Confederation of Tourism Businesses (CEA), Miguel Sánchez, said that the curfew and the closure of borders is a setback that has come at the worst possible time for the industry, and aggravates an already “chaotic” situation.

“If the authorities don’t act now, it will be a total disaster,” said Sánchez, demanding a clearly defined rescue plan for the tourism industry.



EUROPA PRESS

Flamenco goes into mourning to save its fashion industry

The important flamenco fashion industry in Seville staged an eye-catching and poignant demonstration on Wednesday. Workers are demanding more support as they say their industry, worth 70 million euros a year, will die due to the Covid-19 crisis as Spain’s traditional ferias have been cancelled. Women in black flamenco dresses walked solemnly in line near the city’s famous cathedral.



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Brexit: As banks start withdrawing services for expatriates, what next?

By Chris McCann, Senior Partner, Blevins Franks

Since the Brexit referendum, the focus for many British expatriates living in the EU has been the larger issues like residence, healthcare and pensions rights. But as we approach the end of the transition period, other practical challenges are coming to light.

The big issue to hit the news recently is whether UK banks can continue to provide services to EU residents after Brexit. It has been widely reported that high street banks are writing to clients in some EU countries to advise that their accounts will be closed by the end of the year.

Financial institutions need to be authorised and regulated to provide services to clients in their country of residence. So far this has been relatively easy since, as part of the EU, UK regulated banks and financial advisory companies can 'passport' their services into the bloc.

The UK will lose these passporting rights from 1 January 2021, unless an agreement is reached to allow the current pan-EU rules to continue. So far it does not look encouraging. If

the UK and EU fail to agree a deal, UK banks will need to apply for a banking licence in each country where they have clients. This would be very expensive and time consuming and, considering their overseas client base is relatively small, many (perhaps all) will opt not to.

The British banking industry body, UK Finance, told the Times newspaper that each bank is deciding whether to apply for the appropriate regulation to operate UK bank accounts or close accounts instead. A spokesman explained that "the impact on each customer will vary depending on the operating model of their bank or provider, the product or service being provided, and the legal and regulatory framework in the country in which they are resident".

So currently much remains uncertain, particularly as we do not yet know if the UK and EU will reach an agreement or not, and some institutions may take steps to be able to provide services to EU clients while others will not. You need to speak to your bank to establish what

their plans are.

Other financial services

It is not only banks which are affected, other regulated financial advice and services too. So if you continue to use a UK-based financial adviser, you need to ask them if and how they can continue to support you after Brexit if the UK and EU do not reach agreement on cross-border financial services.

Likewise, if you have UK investments, will you be able to retain them, and will there be restrictions? For example, you may be able to keep a UK policy and withdraw money but prevented from adding or moving funds and applying for new services.

And find out if you can continue to have a 'long-distance relationship' with your adviser in the UK, or will you have to fly to Britain to receive advice and sign paperwork there?

The benefits of local advice

While this may be unwelcome news,

and you may have a good relationship with your UK-based adviser, this could be the perfect opportunity to review your investments and financial planning and consider whether an adviser based here in Spain would actually be much more beneficial for you.

Advisers living in Spain have first-hand experience of the complexities of the local tax and succession regime. They keep up to date on the frequent legislative changes and can react fast where necessary. They can advise on the compliant tax and estate planning opportunities available within the local regime – the way you hold assets can make a considerable difference to how much tax you pay and how easily they can be passed to heirs.

You also need to ensure your investment portfolio is suitable for your current, personal situation. Is it designed to meet your objectives and risk profile today? Does it have enough global diversification? Are you holding some assets in Euros to avoid exchange rate risk?

With very limited time left before the end of the Brexit transition period, now is the time to talk to an experienced, locally based adviser to secure financial peace of mind for 2021 and beyond.

All advice received from any Blevins Franks firm is personalised and provided in writing. This article should not be construed as providing any personalised taxation and/or investment advice. All information is based on Blevins Franks' understanding of legislation and taxation practice, in the UK and overseas at the time of writing; this may change in the future.

Still using a UK-based financial adviser?

It is likely that UK-based advisers will no longer be able to use the EU 'passporting' system to provide regulated financial services to EU residents after the Brexit transition period. Ask your adviser if they can continue to advise you and carry out instructions, or if they may be restricted. We have already seen major UK banks write to clients in Spain withdrawing services.

UK-based advisers are also unlikely to have the deep understanding of the Spanish regime necessary to provide the most tax-efficient financial planning solutions. Our local advisers are regulated, authorised and have the experience and knowledge to advise on all aspects of financial planning in post-Brexit Spain.

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Junta rules in favour of Benalmádena in El Higuerón land grab dispute

Fuengirola council is looking into appealing the decision, which could have big financial implications, with the Andalusian High Court

ALBERTO GÓMEZ

MALAGA. The biggest land dispute on the Costa del Sol rumbles on. The regional ministry for Local Administration has ratified a previous ruling which means that Benalmádena is due back some 74,000 square metres in the El Higuerón area which were incorporated into the Fuengirola PGOU town plan in 2006.

Regional vice-president Juan Marín this week signed off on the order which rules that the original boundaries outlined in 1874 were to be respected, rejecting all objections put forward by Fuengirola town hall.

Fuengirola council points out that Benalmádena hasn't looked after the area in dispute (sanitation, waste collection etc) for decades and that the Junta hasn't taken into account the reality of the current situation.



The disputed land is in the El Higuerón area. **ÑITO SALAS**

That said, this is as far as the administrative procedure can now go, but Fuengirola council has already announced that it is considering the possibility of filing an appeal with the High Court of Andalucía (TSJA).

The outcome of this conflict could have huge financial implications. As it stands Benalmádena will be getting back an area with urban development possibilities in an area that barely has any land for new developments. This would bring in substantial revenue from building permits and the IBI municipal tax.

The problem started when Benalmádena's PGOU from the early 1980s mistakenly missed off the land in El Higuerón. Fuengirola then added the forgotten land to its own plan in 2006.

Benalmádena mayor Víctor Navas (PSOE), however, says he would like to reach out to his counterpart, Ana Mula (PP), to "open a line of dialogue" so that the transfer of the land can be carried out "without incident", since there are residents and businesses in the area "for whom we don't want to cause uncertainty".

112 REPORTS



Police photo showing the moment of the arrest. **SUR**

MARBELLA

Three arrested over robbery of 237,000-euro watch at gunpoint

F. TORRES. National Police have arrested three British nationals, aged 23, 25, and 27, in connection with an armed robbery in Marbella last Thursday.

According to witnesses, three

men armed with pistols entered a restaurant, aimed their guns at a customer, before fleeing the scene on a motorcycle with a watch valued at 237,000 euros.

After police traced the motorcycle, they located the alleged perpetrators. The watch, as well as three firearms, a kilo of ketamine and 400 grammes of hashish were found in a search of the property.

FUENGIROLA

Driver who fled after hitting minor is held

J. CANO. A French national of North African origin has been arrested in connection with a hit and run incident in the centre of Fuengirola on 5 October.

A 13-year-old required stitches in hospital after being knocked over on a pedestrian crossing. The driver fled the scene but witnesses were able to recall part of the number plate and describe the vehicle.

MARBELLA

Five held over Briton shot in the face are freed

F. T. The five British men arrested over the shooting of another Briton in Nueva Andalucía on 17 October have been released.

According to SUR sources, the judge took the decision after being shown a photograph which showed that the men were elsewhere at the time.

The victim, in his fifties, was shot in the face after a fight in a bar and was taken to hospital.

MALAGA

Over 20 arrested as drugs network is broken up

Á. F. / J. C. More than 20 people have been arrested as part of a province-wide police operation to bring down a criminal network dedicated to the trafficking of hashish. The gang has been using the Malaga coast as an entry point for the drug before distributing across Europe.

The Guardia Civil has set up operations in Mijas, Torre del Mar, Fuengirola and Marbella and expects to make further arrests.



Guardia Civil in Mijas. **SUR**

FUENGIROLA

Baby with cocaine in system taken off mother

F. T. A mother from Fuengirola has had custody of her child removed after the recently born baby tested positive for cocaine.

Doctors at the Costa del Sol hospital detected that the baby was suffering from neonatal abstinence syndrome, a medical condition that occurs when a foetus has been exposed to narcotic drugs during pregnancy.

The mother is under investigation for prenatal abuse.

MALAGA

YouTubers facing fine for 'parkour' antics

F. T. The cybercrime unit of the National Police are investigating the actions of a group of individuals who uploaded a video onto YouTube of them having entered the abandoned Correos building in Malaga and practising 'parkour' (high-risk acrobatic jumps) inside. The National Police have identified the two who appeared in the video, men aged 24 and 26, and have proposed a fine for illegal entry.



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Estepona seafront promenade improvement works get under way

All of the paving and street furniture will be replaced on the stretch between the Avenida Andalucía and Avenida Juan Carlos I roundabouts

JOSÉ MARÍA MARTÍN

ESTEPONA. Work has begun on the project to revamp the seafront promenade in Estepona, one of the council's signature projects for this term.

The first section under way is an area of 19,645 square metres between the roundabouts on Avenida Andalucía and Avenida Juan Carlos I. Here all of the paving and street furniture (benches, pergolas, fountains and litter bins, as well as upgrading to the more



Eighty per cent of funds will come from the EU. **J. M. M.**

energy-efficient LED lighting) will be replaced.

The total budget is 1,731,554 million euros (plus IVA), of which

80 per cent comes from EU Feder funds. The project forms part of the council's plan to boost local business.

New library will allow public to access more than 20,000 books which have been in storage

The site which formerly housed the Bonsai Museum is expected to open its doors early next year

HÉCTOR BARBOTTA

MARBELLA. The opening of the future central library in Marbella will allow some 20,000 books, which until now weren't available to the public due to lack of space, to be taken out of storage.

The construction of this new facility, on the site of the former Bonsai Museum, in the Arroyo de La Represa park, is 80 per cent complete and the building is expected open in the first quarter of next year.

The new library, for which



Construction on the site is 80 per cent complete. **JOSELE**

construction began last October, comes at a cost of two million euros. It replaces the former library, located at the municipal market, which was forced to close four years ago because of leaks.



FRANCIS SILVA

Applause for healthcare workers in Malaga

Regional president Juanma Moreno and Malaga city mayor Francisco de la Torre unveiled a new sculpture by artist Navarro Arteaga last Friday, paying tribute to healthcare workers during the pandemic. The piece of art, which shows a pair of hands applauding, is located on the roundabout in front of the Larios Centro shopping centre.

HERE AND THERE

MALAGA

St George's Church remembers the fallen

T. BRYANT. A special Remembrance Day service will be held at St George's Anglican Church in Malaga on Sunday 8 November. The service, which will be held at 11am, will be followed by

the laying of a wreath on the war graves in the church cemetery.

This year's service has been scaled down due to the coronavirus pandemic and so it will not include the traditional parade of veterans and members of the RBL and the RAFA.

Father Darrant said, "It is very important that we remember this day in our prayers."

FUENGIROLA

Fuengirola increases social services spending

I. GELIBTER. In light of the coronavirus pandemic, Fuengirola town hall has extended its social services budget to 722,000 euros.

This comes after a sharp increase in requests for benefits and use of food banks in the town.

Between January and September this year, 2,250 families required the help of food banks - triple the figure from the same period last year (785).

FUENGIROLA

Public transport will be free for all residents

I. G. Fuengirola town hall's policy to give all residents free bus travel was approved without a single vote against in a council session on Wednesday.

The council will now look into creating a new Municipal Mobility Card which can be acquired by anyone who is registered on the 'padrón' census at the town hall.

The card will also allow residents' pets to travel for free.



Provincial government chief Francisco Salado, left, opened the walkway on Monday. **SALVADOR SALAS**

Inland Malaga gains new high-flying tourist attraction

Regional and provincial leaders attended the opening of El Saltillo, the bridge that completes the Axarquía's own Caminito del Rey

ANTONIO M. ROMERO

MALAGA. It hangs about 50 metres above the Almanchares river, between the hillsides of Canillas de Aceituno and Sedella in the Sierra de Tejada y Almijara, and it is about to become a major tourist attraction. The wood and steel bridge, which is 52 metres long and 1.20 metres wide, is one of the three biggest of this type in Spain. The others are Los Cahorros in Monachil (Granada) and Congost de Mont-rebei (Lérida).

The 'Caminito del Rey of the Axarquía' as it has already been nicknamed, was officially inaugurated on Monday. "At times like these, when all we hear is bad news because of the coronavirus, it is good to have something positive such as this new tourism resource for Malaga and Andalucía," said Francisco Salado, the presi-



The new bridge is 50 metres above the Almanchares river. **SALVADOR SALAS**

dent of the Diputación (Malaga provincial government), after cutting the ribbon and uncovering the plaque to mark the official opening.

The project has cost 600,000 euros and forms part of the seventh stage of the Gran Senda, or Great Trail of Malaga, between Cómpea and Canillas de Aceituno. Since being created over two million tourists have done part of the Great Trail, which is 754 kilometres long in total and has 35 stages.

The part of the route called El

Saltillo starts in the main square in Canillas de Aceituno and is an eight-kilometre round trip with spectacular views. However, it is not an easy route due to the terrain, and walkers need to be careful and responsible, said Salado. Nor should they suffer from vertigo. The new bridge is accessed by a steep track which zig-zags down the hillside. Once across, there is a difficult uphill stretch along a narrow path. Numerous visitors are expected to try the new attraction this holiday weekend.

Cudeca and Unicaja sign support agreement

The home visit service of Cudeca has received a funding boost thanks to an agreement recently signed with the Unicaja foundation. It will allow the cancer-care charity to provide support to 1,500 patients and 2,250 family members this year.



SUR

COMMUNITY SPIRIT



British fundraisers relax after five-kilometre run last week. **SUR.**

Sponsored run raises 2,000 euros for those struggling during the pandemic

BENALMÁDENA

T. BRYANT. A group of British expats took part in a five-kilometre sponsored run in Benalmádena last Sunday to raise money for local people who are experiencing financial problems caused by the coronavirus pandemic.

The ten runners raised al-

most 2,000 euros for Benalmádena Relief, a charity set up by Leslie and Hayley Davies. Along with race organiser Matt Torkington, the couple are currently working alongside other local charities to see how the money can best be distributed.

Matt told SUR in English: "We would like to thank everyone that has been involved with the initiative. So many people have shown kindness by giving up their time. Several local bars participated and also put in a tremendous effort to help raise money. It was great to see everyone coming together for the community."



Rotary Club members during last weekend's campaign. **SUR**

Rotary Club marks World Polio Day with awareness initiative

MIJAS

T. B. The Mijas Rotary Club participated in the World Polio Day events last Saturday with an initiative aimed at raising awareness of victims of polio worldwide. Members of the

club set up an informative stand in Mijas Pueblo to highlight the Rotary International's End Polio Now campaign, part of the Global Polio Eradication Initiative.

Rotary International has played a key role in helping to immunise more than 2.5 billion children in 122 countries. The association has contributed more than 1.8 billion dollars over the last 30 years in a bid to eradicate the virus, which most commonly affects children under the age of five.

Triple A raises money with local restaurants' help

MARBELLA

SUR. Several restaurants from San Pedro to Elviria in Mar-

bella have joined forces with Triple A to help the animal rescue charity.

People can check the Triple A website or charity's Instagram or Facebook account for those taking part. By mentioning Triple A on paying, each restaurant will donate between five and 20 per cent to the charity.

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HERE AND THERE

MALAGA

University study rules out virus in seawater

E. C. A study carried out by the University of Malaga of beaches across the Axarquía has ruled out the presence of Covid-19 in the area's seawater. Samples were also taken from five wastewater treatment plants, which were also found to be free of Sars-COV2, the cause of Covid-19. "This study let's us establish controls for future outbreaks," said local spokesman on beaches, Jesús Atencia.

NERJA

Giner de los Ríos centre set to be demolished

E. C. The Giner de los Ríos cultural and social centre in Nerja town centre is set to be demolished within months, following a meeting between mayor José Alberto Armijo and the architect in charge of the demolition, Manuel Navarro, which took place last week. A five-million-euro multiuse and cultural centre is to be built in its place.

TRAPICHE

Passenger tried to land glider, report says

A. P. According to a provisional report by the civil aviation accidents and incidents investigation commission (CIAIAC), the passenger of the glider which crashed at the Axarquía airport on Sunday 11 October, tried to land the light aircraft with no prior piloting experience. The 26-year-old pilot was killed at the scene and the passenger was seriously injured.



The plant can treat 25,000 cubic metres of water per day. **E. C.**

Sewage treatment plant enters testing phase

NERJA

A verbal agreement between the town hall and central government over the management of the building has not been formalised in writing

EUGENIO CABEZAS

NERJA. Nerja's wastewater station officially entered its testing phase on Tuesday, following a five-year delay. Mayor of Nerja, José Alberto Armijo said, "Today, 27 October 2020, is a historic day. Nerja starting treating sewage water."

The testing phase is expected to last for six months, with Spain's ministry for the Environment expected to hand the plant over to Nerja town hall in April 2021. However, despite a meeting between the mayor, the secretary

of state for the Environment and the director general for water in June, the agreement has not been formalised in writing. "Despite the uncertainty, the town hall continues to work to take over the management," Armijo explained.

The town hall has contracted Ingeagua to write a financial viability report, which will be used as the basis for open negotiations between the council and the Axarquía public water company, Aguas de Narixa S. L, who are expected to take over the management and maintenance of the plant.

The wastewater station is capable of treating 25,000 cubic metres of water per day for a population of up to 125,000. The current number of people on Nerja town hall register (Padrón) is about 21,000, although this number rises sharply in summer.

Public prosecutor asks for 18 years for man accused of Quema de Algarrobo murder

MALAGA

J. C. / F. T. The public prosecutor has asked for an 18-year prison sentence for the man accused of murdering Antonio Camacho Reina, 63, during the Quema de Algarrobo festival in September 2018. Camacho Reina, who lived in the village, was working as a security guard during the annual event. The man is accused of murdering his victim following an argument between the two neighbours over the installation of a digital television system one year before.

Two hundred fincas benefit from road repairs under agricultural employment plan

VÉLEZ-MÁLAGA

A. P. Around 200 fincas (farms) have benefited from a series of rural road repairs carried out by Vélez-Málaga town hall. The roads are "indispensable infrastructure to guarantee agricultural and livestock productivity and to give access to workers and machinery," said Agriculture councillor, María José Roberto, who visited one of the roads at Bentomiz near Arenas on Monday. The investment of 165,000 euros forms part of the town's agricultural employment plan.



Halloween in Torrox. **SUR**

Images of Halloween replace colourful umbrellas on Torrox square

TORROX

E. C. Torrox town hall has decorated its Plaza de la Constitución with broken black and orange umbrellas, along with cats, bats, witches' broomsticks and pumpkins, all hanging above the square where colourful umbrellas have been an iconic sight for a number of years.

The idea, according to Salvador Escudero, councillor for Festivals and Popular Traditions, is for residents to take photos of themselves in the square and publish them on social media sites. He also encouraged families to eat roast chestnuts washed down with a glass of anis, which is traditional at this time of year.

In Maro, the traditional 'Maroween' will take place online, via Nerja town hall's popular traditions Facebook page on 31 October and will feature a fancy dress competition, a face-painting workshop and other virtual activities.

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Eating vegetables and greens is an essential part of a balanced diet, so the Carrefour centres in Estepona, Mijas, Fuengirola, Torremolinos and Valle del Guadalhorce place a wide selection of fresh and seasonal fruit, vegetables and greens at the disposal of their clients.

To guarantee freshness, quality and flavour, these hypermarkets have agreements with vegetable farms and local suppliers so clients can enjoy the taste of freshly harvested produce at the best prices.

That's why the entire fruit and vegetable section occupies a prime place in the

area known as La Plaza (The Square). This allows clients to see, in a glimpse, where each item on sale is displayed. A global vision that facilitates shopping and improves time optimization.

As well as local producers, Costasol has a wide range of Sabor a Málaga (Málaga Flavour) brand products and agreements with suppliers from the Axarquía and other places in the region. In addition, there is a selection of Bio and organic products for the more conscientious consumers. All of this makes their fruit and vegetables a benchmark for quality.



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Unemployment climbs to over 16 per cent as Covid-19 effect continues to grow

Over the summer, 355,000 jobs were lost in Spain, according to the respected quarterly EPA active population survey

L. PALACIOS / N. TRIGUERO

MADRID. The unemployment rate in Spain reached 16.26 per cent at the end of September. This is according to the government's latest active population survey (EPA, Encuesta de Población Activa), published every three months.

The regular survey is seen as the most reliable study on the real level of unemployment in Spain and is used by the EU to compare it with other countries.

At the end of last month, the number of people out of work stood at 3,722,900. This was half a million more than a year ago.



A queue at an employment office in Cordoba this summer. V. MERINO

Despite an increase in people back in work in the survey period from July to September, as employers took on staff on short-term contracts for the summer

months, this was not enough to reduce the jobless figure. The total went up 355,000 nationally over the three months, the largest increase ever recorded

in the July to September period.

The data, published on Tuesday, does not include the some 700,000 people who are still on ERTE furlough schemes in Spain. This amount is likely to increase again as fresh lockdown measures come in this week.

Malaga and Costa increase

In Malaga province specifically, including the Costa del Sol, there were 29,900 more jobless at the end of September than the start of July, despite the reopening of tourism in the area.

Locally there were over 180,000 out of work, a figure not seen since 2017. The provincial unemployment rate, according to the EPA survey, was 22.6 per cent, as of the end of September. The survey also shows there were almost 31,000 fewer people working in the province over the summer than a year ago.

Venezuela's banned opposition leader flees to Madrid and meets PM

SUR

MADRID. Spain received criticism from the Venezuelan president, Nicolás Maduro, this week after the main leader of the opposition in the Latin American country left the protection of the Spanish Ambassador's residence in the capital, Caracas, and travelled via Colombia to Madrid.

Leopoldo López, who opposes the controversial Socialist regime of Maduro, met with Pedro Sánchez on Tuesday at the PM's PSOE-party HQ and not on Spanish government property.

Regional police chief during banned Catalan independence vote is cleared

SUR

MADRID. Prosecutors at the Audiencia Nacional central court in Madrid have said that they will not appeal the decision to clear the Catalan police chief who worked with his bosses during the illegal independence vote of 2017.

Josep Lluís Trapero, who headed the Mossos d'Esquadra, was originally accused of rebellion, then sedition and disobedience before being cleared. He has been told he can have his old job back if he wants it.

IN BRIEF

MADRID

31.5m doses of anti-Covid vaccine acquired

EFE. Spain will have 31.5 million vaccinations against Covid-19, approximately 10 per cent of the 300 million doses which the European Commission, representing the member states, agreed to buy from AstraZeneca for 870 million euros on 27 August. The Commission has already paid 336 million. The vaccine will be distributed between December and June.

About three million doses will arrive within two months if they pass all security tests, says Health minister Salvador Illa.

A Vatican guard of honour for the PM

The traditional Swiss Guards, wearing facemasks, stood to attention on Saturday for Prime Minister Pedro Sánchez and his wife as they arrived to visit the Pope. Rain prevented a more elaborate Vatican welcome ceremony. It was the first time a Spanish PM has visited since 2013. Pope Francis told Sánchez that being a politician was also an act of charity and to care for national unity, respecting "roots" to build the future.



THE EURO ZONE

MARK NAYLER

Time's up



Pedro Sánchez's attempt to push a 2021 budget through parliament next month will be a severe test of his government's legitimacy and efficacy. Worryingly, though, the Socialist leader appears to think that the damage caused by his management of Covid will be repaired by spending vast amounts of money, most of which he still hasn't acquired.

This approach raises a

number of problems, which will hopefully be seized upon by the opposition when the budget is presented to Congreso. The first problem is where the money will come from.

The government is talking about requesting a 27-billion-euro advance from the EU against future Covid loans and imposing tax hikes on corporations and high earners. Yet not only is the EU advance not

agreed upon by Brussels as yet, the loans against which it's made are also far from approved: one wonders, then, how this non-existent amount can form part of next year's budget. As regards the classic left-wing move of targeting high earners and corporations, the usual free-market objections can be stated. Higher taxes, especially those imposed to fund controversial government initiatives, can also cause wealthy individuals and corporations to take their money elsewhere, or simply prompt them to find more ingenious ways to reduce their tax bills.

The second, more fundamental, problem is that money alone will not repair the damage caused by the government's disastrous handling of

Covid. The funds need to be well spent, and deployed as part of a more considered, rational approach to the virus - one which doesn't depend on over-empowered police, questionable "safety" regulations or arbitrary restrictions on movement, such as that currently favoured by Spain's national and regional governments. Post-lockdown recuperation won't be driven by increased public spending, or at least not primarily - it'll be more dependent on letting the economy function as normal, on people being able to get on with their lives. Foreign minister Arancha González can talk all she wants about Spain's recovery happening "as soon as possible", as she did in an interview with the Financial Times this week,

but it should have started a long time ago.

Thirdly and most importantly, this is a test that Sánchez should not be allowed to flunk. If he fails to pass a budget for a second time, his term should be up and the polls should be opened. It was, after all, the Socialist leader's inability to pass a budget that triggered the April 2019 election, which was so indecisive that another one was required seven months later.

If Sánchez can't get this one through, serious doubt will have been cast on his ability to pass legislation through the proper parliamentary procedures, as opposed to using Royal Decree - the no-votes-necessary mechanism that he's much too fond of.



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Costa train extension dream is left out of national budget plan

National government has unveiled its draft spending proposals for next year that will be debated in coming weeks

IGNACIO LILLO

MALAGA. Any hope that the rail extension from Fuengirola to Marbella would be carried out as part of EU Covid-19 spending appeared to be dashed this week.

The government has included just 82,930 euros for an ongoing study of the long-hoped-for scheme in its draft national budget for 2021, which was presented this week. This almost certainly means that the project will not be ready to take advantage of the upcoming EU cash injection.

In total, 195 million euros of

infrastructure spend is earmarked directly for Malaga province, including the Costa del Sol, in 2021. Malaga is among the provinces with the lowest level of planned expenditure.

Among the rail schemes that are included are: a shortcut rail curve in Cordoba province which will reduce journey times from Malaga to Seville; and, in the province itself, improvements to the Bobadilla (Antequera) to Algeciras rail line so more freight can be moved along it.

The good news locally is that the northern spur road from Malaga Airport to the A-7 outer ring road and Alhaurín de la Torre should finally be started, as 13.38 million euros has been allocated, which is half the total cost.

Funds are also being set aside to start work on the Provincial Li-



Terminal revamp will continue. N.S.

brary, in the old San Agustín Convent next to the Picasso Museum; continued renovation of the older T-2 terminal at the airport; and finishing the junction widening at the A-7/AP-7 Arroyo de la Miel exit.

Other items in the national spending plans, which will be debated by MPs in coming weeks, include improving the water desalination plant in Marbella and better sewage treatment for some villages in the Ronda mountains.

LOCAL INVESTMENT PLANS

- 1 31.35 million euros** for updating Bobadilla-Algeciras train line.
- 2 13.38m** for the north, A-7 access to Malaga Airport.
- 3 11.7m** for a rail connector to speed up trains between Malaga and Seville.
- 4 4.9m** allocated to the new Provincial Library in Malaga.
- 5 4.8m** towards renovation of the older T-2 airport terminal.
- 6 4m** to finish the wider exit off the A-7 at Arroyo de la Miel.
- 7 3.3m** to update Marbella's water desalination plant.
- 8 2.13m** for work by the Cruise Terminal in Malaga Port.
- 9 1.17m** for cleaning up polluted wastewater in parts of the Serranía de Ronda.
- 10 1m** for a wider Baños del Carmen in Malaga.

IN BRIEF

INFLATION

Prices drop again in September

L. PALACIOS. The IPC (Consumer Price Index) dropped sharply again in September, by half a percentage point. The year-on-year inflation rate in Spain is still negative, at 0.9%, the lowest level since May 2016. Driving the fall were cheaper electricity prices and telephone and internet services.

MARKETS

Stocks sink on news of Europe's Covid woes

SUR. The Spanish stock market was hit this week by investor fears over the economic effects of new lockdown measures in Europe to fight Covid-19. On Thursday lunchtime, the benchmark Ibex-35 index had fallen some six per cent since the start of the week.

THE BIGGER PICTURE JEREMY BLATCH

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Protecting purchasing power safely



Markets hate uncertainty. Markets also reflect human endeavour and behaviour. As investors, we find ourselves in uncharted waters when it comes to the economic effect of the monetary policies set up by governments and central banks accentuated by the pandemic. Investing as opposed to speculating over the short term requires the investor to make a determination of probable outcomes over the long term. The inconvenient truth confronting investors is that economic outcomes over the short term are extremely

difficult to evaluate with any certainty.

Opinions are divided as to whether we are likely to experience inflationary or deflationary pressures or perhaps stagflation (low growth and rising inflation) this year or next. In any event, a US index-linked Treasury Bond is a safe piece of paper issued in the deepest, most liquid market in the world, providing added protection against price inflation. In fact, the US 10-year Treasury Bond is the global benchmark for credit.

Sensible investors wishing to preserve the purchasing power

of their capital over time should construct a well diversified portfolio of assets that will protect against the economic pressures we may encounter. Among suitable assets are Inflation Protected Treasury Bonds (TIPs). TIPs are often mischaracterised by institutions as pure treasury bonds. However, they deserve a class of their own. They exhibit the same characteristics as a Treasury Bond but they offer the added safety of a coupon (interest received from the nominal amount invested), which is index linked to rising price inflation.

The acclaimed Wall Street author Jim Grant said that US Treasuries give 'return-free risk', meaning the risk of the US Government defaulting on payment is not offset by the interest (coupon) that investors receive on their capital as a result of owning the bond. 'Return-free risk' also

describes European sovereign debt. German Bunds and Swiss bonds have a negative real yield. A nominal yield is the interest paid to the investor based on their original capital for the duration of the bond. A negative real yield is a nominal yield minus inflation. Index-linked gilts and Index-linked European government bonds are available for sterling and euro investors who do not wish to take the currency risk of investing in USD-denominated TIPs.

For the investor wishing to preserve the purchasing power of their capital over the long term, TIPs provide protection against rising inflation. They also offer some protection in times of deflation (falling prices of goods and services), because at maturity the capital initially invested and the fixed coupon payments increase in purchasing power because prices of goods and services fall. Cash

wins in a deflationary environment because purchasing power increases when prices of goods and services fall but loses with inflation when prices rise. It is our view that over the next 18 to 24 months interest rates in the US, UK and Europe are unlikely to rise. Equity market corrections in recessions tend to be around 20-40%. Risk-averse investors wishing to preserve capital over the long term would be well advised to consider TIPs as a hedge against risk assets, as part of a well diversified investment strategy.

The author is a member of the Society of Trustees and Estate Practitioners and an investment counsellor. The comments and observations by the author are a reflection of his opinion and do not constitute an offer to buy and hold securities, nor does he receive any remuneration of any kind from names referred to.

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British Chamber of Commerce in Spain

Gibraltar introduces new Covid-19 measures and liaises with the Junta over restrictions

It appears that the Spain/Gibraltar border is treated as international rather than regional, so Andalucía cannot restrict movement across it

DEBBIE BARTLETT

GIBRALTAR. There was some initial confusion in Gibraltar and the Campo de Gibraltar area of Spain yesterday, after the Junta de Andalucía announced on Wednesday evening that the boundaries of the region were to close at midnight on Thursday. Nobody seemed sure how that might affect the Gibraltar border.

Earlier on Wednesday, Gibraltar's chief minister Fabian Picardo and the president of the Junta, Juanma Moreno, held a telephone

conversation in which Picardo explained the new measures he had announced for Gibraltar on Tuesday afternoon and Moreno gave details of what he was planning to announce later that day.

The Andalusian restrictions include locking down the cities and provinces of Granada, Seville and Jaén and mini-lockdowns in other towns, villages and areas throughout the region. In a press release following this conversation, the Gibraltar leader said: "We discussed the frontier crossing and I received assurances about essential traffic and workers being able to continue to enter and exit Andalucía as I confirmed also our random testing facility for cross frontier workers."

This sounded as if the situation would be similar to that of the State of Alarm and lockdown



Gibraltar airport. SUR

in Spain in the spring, when essential workers were permitted to cross the border into Gibraltar if they showed their contracts of employment.

However, on Thursday it appeared that the Gibraltar border

is considered an international border, not a regional one, in which case only the Spanish government has the power to restrict movement across it. This means that as long as people from Gibraltar comply with the regulations when in Spain, they can cross freely as usual, and vice versa, and people from Spain can cross the border to catch flights from Gibraltar airport.

In the meantime, with active Covid-19 cases continuing to rise, the Gibraltar government has stepped up testing, made masks obligatory in busy areas of the town centre such as Casemates, Main Street and Irish Town, among others, and is banning "loitering" at Chatham Counter-guard between 11pm and 1am on Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights.

Vertipools installed in Gibraltar harbour to increase biodiversity

D. BARTLETT

GIBRALTAR. Artificial rock pools known as 'vertipools' are currently being installed on the walls of the harbour to increase biodiversity. These are a simple but versatile solution for creating a new wildlife habitat and can help deliver ecological gains in the urban marine environment such as ports, marinas and harbours, otherwise known as grey infrastructure.

They increase the substrate available for colonisation by marine species and provide rock pool habitats in what are otherwise plain vertical walls with little biodiversity. This is the first project of its kind in the Mediterranean.



Authors Clive and Geradline Finlayson. GIBRALTAR NATIONAL MUSEUM

Gibraltar Literary Festival becomes Literary Week online

D. BARTLETT

GIBRALTAR. The Gibraltar Literary Festival is a highlight for many book lovers each autumn and though it cannot take place this year due to the pandemic, those who love reading now have an alternative: Literary Week online will take place from 9 to 13 November, with a decidedly Gibraltarian flavour.

One of the main events will be 'An Audience With...' at the Charles Hunt Room, John Mackintosh Hall, which will be livestreamed on Gibraltar Cultural Services' social media platforms.

There will be morning and evening sessions, including Gibraltar National Archivist Anthony Pitagala and artist Ambrose Avel-

lano, interviewed by Gino Sanguinetti about their new publication *Still Dancing under the Shadows*, on the Monday morning at 11am; and Professor Clive Finlayson and Dr Geraldine Finlayson talking to Alice Mascarenhas about their various publications on the study of human origins and the Neanderthals, and the implications of Covid-19 on their research, on the same day at 7.15pm.

Other authors interviewed that week will include Mark Montovio (in Spanish), Alice Mascarenhas, Humbert Hernandez, Dr Joseph Garcia, Dr Jennifer Ballantine Perera, Paulette Finlayson and Gino Sanguinetti, Dr Sam Benady and Sarah Devincenzi, Roy Clinton and others. A full programme will be issued shortly.



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LETTERS
TO THE EDITOR

Art, hope and spirit

In these trying times, art is a main factor in keeping up our spirits and our hopes for humanity.

So, rambling along Las Rampas in Fuengirola, I was delighted to come upon Studio33 art gallery and cultural centre. Inside, I met the likeable Mariusz Pakiela from Warsaw, painter-photographer; and the dynamic Monica Santiago from Madrid, director of the gallery.

As I admired Mariusz's photos, he told me how they welcome emerging artists, giving them an opening to share what's in their hearts and spirits; and at the same time keeping prices accessible.

He and Monica are not looking for big money; but rather to create a centre of art and culture, hoping for permission to hold concerts and poetry readings; giving classes, also online.

The gallery (C/ Pintor Nogales, 6, Las Rampas Loc. 12C) shows painting, photography, sculpture, and ceramics; and the exposition changes every month. The next vernissage will be on 30 October. Welcome to Studio33! **MARGARET DEAN**

A plea for the shops

While I sympathise with the hospitality industry about the effect of restrictions on their business, I must point out that the restrictions are much more far-reaching. Retail is also suffering, and many small shops have already put down their shutters.

As Covid rises, the number of shoppers decreases dramatically with all areas of retail seeing a real downturn in revenue and profit.

As a result, there will be mass redundancies and hardship for many families.

My plea would be to shoppers who don't want to venture out, to ring and see whether your local shop will deliver. If the whole world turns to internet shopping, retail will not survive and once 'Amazon' has no competition, just watch how fast prices will increase online.

MEGAN JONES

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THE MUSIC MAKER
PETER EDGERTON
www.e-peter.com

Mistake 'n pride entity

Sometimes I fantasise about bringing together all the professionals I know who take a pride in their work and who are, consequently, quite excellent at it, and forming a crack team in order to plan something quite absurd... like an expedition to Timbuktu riding on donkeys, singing every word of every number one song since nineteen seventy-three and eating only plates of scouse and oranges. I'm sure it could be done. After all, these are people who have an attitude to work which is a wonder to behold.

Unfortunately, it wouldn't be a very extensive team - they're a rare breed, these chaps. Come to think of it, they probably wouldn't have time either; as far as I can see they spend most of their working days resolving problems left in the wake of their polar opposites - people who see their job as an inconvenience, depriving them of their precious free time which they like to spend taking photographs of their feet with the sea in the background.

Last week, I went to the bank to order a cheque book (remember those? Well, they still exist and, somewhat pathetically, I still use one). My heart sank as I was greeted by a bloke whose whole demeanour screamed "I don't want to be here! It was only supposed to be a summer job my dad got me twenty years ago." The conversation was painful.

"Good morning. I'd like to order a cheque book, please."
"Yawn*. Er, ok - which type?"
Uh-oh, this didn't sound good. In the last five years, no-one had ever asked me this.

"The usual, it's blue and it says 'cheque book' on it."

"That might be type A, I think." Uh-oh again. The words 'might' and 'should' are never

what you want to hear in these conversations.

"Please, just check what I normally get."

"No, no, it should be fine." Uh-oh, times six.

Needless to say, an unidentifiable charge for seven euros was made to my account this morning, which upon further investigation proved to be for ordering the wrong type of cheque book.

Luckily, there's a man - let's call him Paco - at the bank who's a top professional. I pinged him an email and within five minutes all was resolved - money refunded and correct cheque book winging its way hither. Paco must spend half his working day rectifying other people's mistakes and this must surely make him really annoyed and - just sometimes - wish he was somewhere else.

I wonder if he knows how to ride a donkey?

IDÍGORAS



SUR in English

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THE BOTTOM LINE
DEBBIE BARTLETT

No point in complaining

I am a great believer in complaining in certain situations. For example, if it helps to improve customer service in general, because we all benefit from that.

If I order something online and the delivery company fails to bring it and is impossible to communicate with, I nag their Head Office like mad until they bring me my package just to shut me up. If they pretend they have tried to deliver and I know they're lying, I tell them so and threaten to report them to the consumer authorities.

That normally has an effect.

Or, as another example, if I have been waiting patiently in a queue for some time and someone pushes in front of me, it is like a red rag to a bull, but I stay polite and point out to the offending customer and the member of staff that I was there first and my time is just as important as theirs. My local shop used to be a shocker in this respect, but nobody tries to jump the queue in front of this battleaxe any more. It's one of the advantages of getting older, I find. You don't care

what people think any more, and it gets things done.

However, I also firmly believe that there are times when there is no point in complaining. When the luggage carousel takes ages to get going at airport Arrivals, for instance. Or, and I have to say it, because we have to wear a mask or find our movements restricted in Spain nowadays because of the coronavirus. Since Wednesday night's announcement that Andalucía was closing its boundaries and that many towns and villages are being put into mini-lockdown, a lot of people will have had to cancel their travel plans for this long weekend, which is very disappointing for them and for the owners of the hotels or self-catering establishments they had booked. But it can't be helped.

Complaining will have no effect whatsoever in stopping or even slowing down this pandemic. It is here, and we have to

go along with whatever measures are deemed necessary to keep the population in general safe.

People who complain about having to wear a mask are like pre-schoolers whining "I don't wanna put my gloves on" when Mum says it's cold outside and they have to. Is it really such a hardship to have to curtail an evening out and be home by 11pm because of the curfew? At least we can go out before then. Remember when we couldn't? When we had to stay inside our homes unless absolutely and justifiably necessary? That was only a few months ago. And if people don't comply, we will end up in that situation again. The whinging would reach epic proportions then.

Let's all do our bit, willingly, to save lives and get this pandemic over as soon as possible. Don't agree? Never mind. There's no point complaining to this battleaxe...

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A wellness staycation

Andalucía. From sailing to padel, tennis to martial arts, this autumn is the time to lose ourselves in the moment through an active and healthy break



Staycation experiences.
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◀ **Puente Romano.**
Mediterranean Health & Fitness Retreat.
PUENTEROMANO.COM

▶ **Six Senses Marbella.**
Spa treatments and therapies with CBD oil.
SIXSENSES.COM



ANDREW FORBES



I've always enjoyed following politics and current affairs. Listening to the morning news while preparing breakfast was always part of my morning ritual. Yet these days the news media seems more of a Halloween horror with its unrelenting, sad updates on the pandemic.

So, if you're anything like me, maybe your morning ritual has changed over recent months – no longer reaching for the news apps on the phone or switching on the wireless. Instead, probably a more mindful morning, with a coffee on the terrace in the autumn sunshine.

The pandemic has also brought wellness to the forefront - driving a desire to keep healthy both physically and mentally. So little wonder when put in the context of travel that wellness staycations are now a thing – a big thing.

Andalucía bound

As our travel options have become increasingly restricted, a wellness staycation in Andalucía makes sense.

Recently I joined a four-day Health and Fitness Retreat at Marbella's Puente Romano Beach Resort. It was the chance for me to have an insight into the contemporary trends in active lifestyle holidays. The classic elements of a Mediterranean escape were there

of course, but so were modern training facilities and varied sports activities complemented by nurturing, relaxing treatments and therapies.

As residents, most of us probably know the hotel best for its dining scene, with its popular restaurants set around La Plaza; or for the resort's tennis club that's home not only to top tournaments like this season's Marbella Open ATP Challenger, but legendary summer concerts too.

Here the recent decline in international tourism has been offset by a greater number of national and regional guests. The resort is also welcoming new visitors drawn to the resort's fitness facilities (as well as mainland Spain's only Six Senses Spa) and dining that can be tailored nutritionally.

Setting sail

For me, travel is about creating memories - and staycations shouldn't be an exception. Just because we're holidaying locally is no reason not to try something new. The concierge team at the Puente Romano has curated 100 experiences that guests can enjoy, from star gazing, having a flamenco dance lesson to driving on a race-track. Our retreat kicked off with sailing along Marbella's shore, aboard La Cruz, the hotel's fully

crewed yacht. It was an unforgettable afternoon, watching dolphins darting and diving beside the hull, and views of Sierra Blanca – a powerful reminder that a wellness holiday doesn't mean boring.

Acing it

Opened by Björn Borg in 1979, the famous clay courts of the Club de Tennis Puente Romano have hosted many tennis greats, so it was with some trepidation that the next day I joined a class with Juan Nieto, the Head Coach who is sometimes joined by Marko Djokovic, assistant coach to his brother and world champion Novak Djokovic.

Despite not picking up a racquet in years, I needn't have worried. Juan's enthusiasm and energy quickly boosted my confidence and the class made for a fun, satisfying and active morning. Rediscovering a love of a sport is just one of the benefits of a health and fitness break – there's also the chance to learn new ones too.

Mindful

Mario Simón García oversees the new health and fitness training facilities of Puente Romano's gym. He's a former member of the Spanish national kung fu team and championship medal winner, as well as a specialist in biomechanics (the science of body movement),

tai chi, qigong, and Taoist meditation. Under his patient and friendly guidance, I began to learn some of the basic fundamentals of tai chi. This Chinese martial art, sometimes called shadow boxing, is like a slow motion version of classical Asian self-defence. It's a mindful activity, demanding concentration, so your head is cleared of preoccupations and distractions, and you begin to feel much calmer.

This is part of growing trend to offer a more holistic approach to fitness, combining focus on flexibility, agility as well as breathing and relaxation.

It's reassuring to know that wellness holidays aren't about being a fitness fanatic – it's more about being open to varied activities, being willing to stretch physically and relax mentally. It also feels like the perfect opportunity to kickstart a healthier lifestyle guided by professionals, who can share relaxation techniques and fitness skills.

Hitting the gym

Over recent years Puente Romano Beach Resort has come out of the shadows of being one of the Costa del Sol's most traditional hotels and emerged as a trailblazer and innovator for hospitality trends, bringing new concepts to Andalucía. That's certainly the case with the resort's new gym. With a strik-

ing design, bringing together nature (thanks to a living wall of oxygenating plants) alongside the urban edge of a boxing studio and evening DJ sets as you train, this is no regular gym. It's the epitome of the new trend of health and fitness as a lifestyle – stylish, fashionable and inspiring. Well, something must have motivated me, as I managed to get through a 30-minute on-demand peloton bike spinning class!

Safe haven

Although the concept of a 'retreat' might evoke notions of barefoot simplicity, raw food and early morning sun salutations, increasingly guests are demanding style, design, and plenty of holiday indulgence as part of their wellness getaways – a sort of work-hard play-hard approach. So that means beautiful accommodation, plush amenities, and great dining that's not only nutritious but refined and elegant. Wellness trends are moving away from denial and detox towards a feeling of overall positive health.

Eating well

There's nothing more rejuvenating surely than a slap-up meal, but of course on a health retreat the goal is to try not to undo all the good achieved during the day. Chef Eleni Manousou, at the award-winning Nobu Marbella restaurant, for example, can tailor a super healthy menu for guests, creating dishes like the Vegan Garden (exquisitely prepared baby vegetables on a bed of mashed Edamame beans), together with sashimi, sushi and fresh Mediterranean fish that can be delivered to your room, or enjoyed on the heated open-air terrace over-looking La Plaza.

For guests that feel like something more substantial after a day of activities and training, then Dani Garcia's Bibo bistro has a menu that includes plenty of creative takes on comforting Andalusian food that promise to be as healthy as it is hearty.

Keep calm

Another new trend in wellness is the use of CBD oil in spa treatments and therapies. CBD (Cannabidiol) is the non-psychoactive compound from the cannabis plant. Massage oil infused with CBD is considered anti-inflammatory, helping in recovery and healing following heavy exercise or even injury.

Six Senses Spa Marbella, located above the Puente Romano gym, has developed a CBD massage therapy to ease aching muscles, sore joints and help relieve chronic pain. It is also suggested the oil can help with deeper relaxation and calming of the mind. Sounds good right? And it makes for the perfect end to an active staycation.

I'll try and keep up some of my new healthy habits and might just add tai chi to my morning ritual (and maybe, with the way things are going with travel and tourism, a few drops of CBD oil in my evening cocoa too!)

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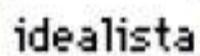
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Health and fitness staycation essentials



The rooftop infinity pool at the Higuieron Hotel. CURIO COLLECTION BY HILTON

ANDREW FORBES

Six Senses Spa Marbella

A relaxing sea-view oasis with hydrotherapy pool, cold plunge pool, herbal steam room, sauna, hammam and nurturing, private treatment rooms.

Relax aching muscles and calm your mind with the new CBD oil therapies available at Six Senses Spa Marbella. Choose also from a menu of Mediterranean inspired treatments offered by skilled wellness experts.

www.sixsenses.com/en/spas/marbella

Puente Romano Beach Resort

Built in the style of a Andalusian beachside village, this 'Leading Hotel of the World' offers Health & Fitness breaks hosted with professional coaches.

Guests looking to maximise privacy and social distancing will appreciate the private villas, and the guest rooms and suites dis-

tributed among the sub-tropical gardens with independent access, without the need to pass through a busy hotel foyer.

Puente Romano is also home to probably the most exclusive health and fitness training facility on the coast, with cutting-edge design, new Technogym equipment, and studios for spinning, pilates, yoga and boxing.

Puente Romano Health & Fitness also has an on-site clinic managed by Executive Health, providing comprehensive health diagnostics and expert advice on nutrition. This includes advanced body screening, providing information on heart and digestive health.

Residents can also have access to the facilities through membership of the Owners Club.

www.puenteromano.com



Mario Simón García.

Tenis Club de Puente Romano

One of Spain's most iconic clubs, with eight clay courts, two plexipave courts, four padel courts, as well as a fitness centre. Personalised programmes with world-class coaches. If you're making a day of it there's the new Lagom! café restaurant (from the creators of Rachel's Eco Love) offering healthy, organic Mediterranean dishes as well as smoothies bursting with superfoods.

tenis.puenteromano.com

Vive Aventura

Discover a fresh perspective of the region's natural attractions while enjoying adventure activities with professional guide Leo of Viva Aventura. Experience the great outdoors, from a rewarding climb to the top of la Cruz de Jua-

nar or La Concha; to the adrenaline pumping fun of Spain's longest zipline, in Comares.

viveaventura.es

Hammam Al Ándalus

An evocative and stylish modern day interpretation of Andalusian Arab baths in Malaga city, offering massages, rituals, and spa experiences.

malaga.hammamalandalus.com/en/

Racquet Club Villa Padierna

Padel is undoubtedly Spain's most popular racquet sport and Villa Padierna Racquet Club promises top class facilities, classes, and a well-established community of players.

Search @padelvallapadierna on Facebook

Vivir by V

This new destination Health & Fitness retreat is opening on 1 November in the hilltop village of Vejer de la Frontera. Based at the 13-room boutique Hotel V, the programme promises life changing results through fitness, nutrition, and restorative treatments.

Picturesque Vejer offers a calming location close to Atlantic beaches as well as mountain hiking.

vivirbyv.com

Higuieron Hotel Malaga, Curio Collection by Hilton

Upscale Fuengirola hotel with wellness breaks themed around golf and fitness at the extensive Higuieron Sport Club, and therapies at its Nagomi spa.

reservadelhiguieronresort.com

Grand Hotel Miramar

Malaga city's Grand Dame spa hotel, a member of Leading Hotels of the World, offers themed getaways including a Two-Day Detox Ritual with specially prepared meals and spa treatments.

www.granhotelmiramarmalaga.com



Six Senses Spa Marbella.



Puente Romano tennis club.



Spain's longest zipline is in Comares. VIVEAVENTURA.ES




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WHERE IN THE WORLD?

Orchestral home



SEPTEMBER'S PHOTO

A jewel of contemporary design, this building was completed in 2003. It was later visited by Bill Clinton, then president of the US.

It has become an architectural symbol of the city in which it is located and is also the home to one of the best symphony orchestras in the country.

The building appeared on a set of special stamps in 2005 and was also depicted on a commemorative coin.

Although initial approval for

the construction was given in 1977, there was some indecision as to the location with the project being abandoned at one point. Earth removal started in

1997 with the original construction budget of 30 million euros rising to 72 million euros by the time it was finished.

If you know the name of this building, where it is and the name of the architect, you could win a prize. Send the answers to english@diariosures with your name, address and telephone number.

Congratulations to David Knox who correctly identified last month's photo. It was Makap'u Beach on the island of O'ahu, which forms part of the Hawaiian Island chain.

Send your answer to english@diariosur.es

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DENISE BUSH

GARDENING

Serruria florida

A member of the Proteacea family, Serruria florida is native to South Africa and is often advertised as the most beautiful of the 55 species in the genus.

Common names include blushing bride and pride of Franschoek; the latter because it is found on the Franschoek side of the Hottentots Holland Nature Reserve in South Africa.

Serruria florida forms a perennial, evergreen shrub up to

about 1.8 metres tall with finely dissected, feathery leaves and beautiful ivory or pink flowers.

The flowering stems branch off the main stem and have around 1-8 flowers at the tips of each. The flowers are popular for flower arrangements.

It was first collected and recorded by Swedish botanist

Carl Thunberg in 1773 but then disappeared for the following 110 years. It is a plant that is highly dependent on a fire eco system. Ants collect the seeds and store them underground, creating seed banks that germinate after there has been a fire.

However, due to global warming, more frequent fires mean that Serruria florida doesn't have time to mature and produce seeds to keep underground seed banks stocked up.

The genus Serruria is named after J. Serrurier, a professor of botany at the University of Utrecht in the eighteenth century.

Serruria florida needs a sunny position and acidic, well-drained soil. It is not frost hardy but will survive some short periods of drought. It can be grown in a pot or large container that can be moved to a sheltered spot in the winter.

Propagation is difficult by seed; a better option is to take tip, stem or heel cuttings in the summer.

The common name blushing bride comes from South African folklore. A courting man would present his girlfriend with a Serruria florida flower; the depth of the pink colouring signified how imminent a proposal of marriage was.

Another version says a young man would wear the flower in his lapel, again the deeper the colour, the more ardent his affection. In both cases the young woman would probably blush, hence blushing bride.



Serruria florida and a darker pink bloom (inset). WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

READERS' PHOTOS



ANDREW SLOAN

Aloe reitzii

This photo of a beautiful Aloe reitzii in flower was sent in by Andrew Sloan.

Poisonous pokeweed

Phytolacca americana, also called pokeweed, poke sallet and dragon berry, is native to America. It is a herbaceous perennial that is poisonous to humans, dogs and livestock, although in hard times the young shoots and leaves were cooked and eaten after lengthy preparation to make them safe. This photo was sent in by Patricia Munden who found it growing in one of her pots.



PATRICIA MUNDEN

PHOTOS

Calling all gardeners

We know many of our readers have lovely gardens, or enjoy growing plants on their terraces or balconies and some like to take photos of plants they see when out and about. Why not share them with others? Email

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

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Former editor brings her Spanish phrase book up to date, just “for you”

¡Va Por Ti! is the title of the 2020 version of Liz Parry's Spanish Phrase Book, aimed at residents who want to get a little bit more out of life in Spain

RACHEL HAYNES

MALAGA. The former editor of SUR in English, Liz Parry, may have been retired a few years, but she continues with her mission to “link communities”.

The idea of making English-speaking residents feel more at home and integrated into life in Spain extended beyond the pages of this newspaper back in 2004. Then, she decided to compile material from her Spanish Language and Customs column into a useful Phrase Book, published by the now defunct Santana Books, which specialised in texts on Spain.

Now, inspired by comments she found noted in her late parents' copy, as well as the ongoing changes in society, Liz has revamped and republished her book under the new title ¡Va Por Ti! This is for you!

“The column I wrote every week in SUR in English, and the first book, and this new edition, all reflect my conviction that the more foreign residents know about Spain, and the more they can



The former editor and author of ¡Va Por Ti!, Liz Parry, at her home in Malaga. **MIGUE FERNÁNDEZ**

communicate with the Spanish, the more they are bound to enjoy living here,” said Liz.

“Brits in particular, I think, are often shy about practising speaking Spanish, but it is really worth trying. The Spanish are usually very receptive and appreciate that you are having a go,” she added, pointing out that one of the expressions in her book is precisely ‘Nunca es tarde para aprender’

(It's never too late to learn).

The book, as well as providing useful vocabulary and phrases to help English-speaking residents negotiate situations they are bound to find themselves in, includes background information to help readers understand some of the idiosyncrasies of life in Spain.

While many situations haven't changed, such as what to say in

Liz Parry: “¡Va Por Ti! is intended for each and every one of the foreign residents in Spain who would like to integrate into Spanish life”

the queue at the health centre or the bakery, other sections of the book have undergone a complete overhaul.

The outdated chapter on letter-writing, for example, had to be turned round to incorporate communication in the technological world of today.

Liz has also added a section on gendered language, which is very topical now.

“A couple of generations ago you wouldn't have had to worry too much about whether ‘jueza’ was a word, because a ‘juez’ was almost sure to be a man anyway,” she said.

This version of the book is also illustrated by humorous drawings, incorporating the work of SUR cartoonists Idígoras, Pachi and Sansón, as well as some of those by the late Elgar which appeared in the first edition.

“I think it adds a whole new dimension to have a commentary on Spanish life illustrated with Spanish humour,” she explained.

And the title ¡Va por ti!? “It's what the Spanish say when they want to dedicate something to someone. The book has quite an extensive dedication page, but it's also intended for each and every one of the foreign residents in Spain who would really like to integrate into Spanish life,” said the author.

As well as completing her own book, Liz revealed that she is also working on a project for hospice charity Cudeca, which she hopes will raise some much-needed funds.

And next up will be a book about the English Cemetery. “I'm spending as much time at my keyboard now as I did when I was working, but it's what I like doing,” she said.

Manilva residents get a dose of high spirits with community Jerusalema dance challenge video

The recording, in which around 200 people took part in different locations of the municipality, can be viewed on YouTube

R. HAYNES

MALAGA. When Manilva resident and former councillor Dean Tyler Shelton saw the Jerusalema challenge dance videos coming out of Africa, he decided to “jump on the bandwagon”, as he puts it himself.

Dean got together with friend and producer Craig Ruddock for the project whose aim, he explained, was twofold: “We wanted to promote and showcase Manilva, but more important to

us both was to promote happiness and positive feeling, not only locally but on the Costa del Sol and the world beyond. We made it for free and have not monetised its viewing on YouTube hoping to add to the feeling of positivity.”

After spreading the word around the community, some 200 people came forward to take part, which involved them learning the dance routine via video tutorials and with instruction from Jessica Quiñones Cabrera and Pilar Zúñiga.

Filming took place over three days (16-18 October, before the new Covid restrictions came into force, Dean stressed). Eight locations were used to show some of the most important features of Manilva, from the castle of Sabinillas to La Duquesa port, the

seafront promenade and the square in Manilva Pueblo.

Dean has sent out thanks to Manilva council, which, while not behind the project, permitted the recording in public and private areas, as well as to Marinas del Mediterráneo.

The video, which on Thursday had been viewed nearly 8,000 times since being posted on Sunday, can be found by searching for Jerusalema - Manilva Única 2020 World Challenge in YouTube.



Dancers in scenes from the Manilva Jerusalema video. **SUR**

TONY
BRYANT



WHAT HAPPENED TODAY?

30 OCTOBER 1910

Birth of republican poet Miguel Hernández

Raised in a poverty-stricken environment, Hernández had no academic background other than a limited state school education

Miguel Hernández Gilabert, the republican playwright and poet who received considerable fame during the late 1930s and early '40s, was born in Valencia on 30 October 1910.

Raised in a poverty-stricken environment, Hernández was associated with the collective of artists known as the Generation of 27. He was also part of the Generation of 36, a later literary movement active during the Spanish Civil War (1936-39).

Hernández had no academic background other than a limited state school education. His father, who took the youngster out of school after primary educa-

tion, is said to have physically abused his son for having a passion to further his studies.

Hernández befriended Ramón Sijé, a young student from an educated background who encouraged him to write poetry. Sijé's death from an intestinal infection on Christmas Eve in 1935 inspired Hernández's poem *Elegy*, considered one of his most important works.

Hernández was strongly influenced by Spanish baroque poet Luis de Góngora, and he published his first book of poetry at the age of 23, which was shaped by the European vanguard movements. He married in 1937, and it was his wife who inspired him to write his most prolific romantic works. He soon attached himself to the group of socially conscious authors and became a member of the Communist Party of Spain, rallying support for Republican troops at the outset of the Civil War.

Unlike many of his contempo-



Poet Miguel Hernández was a member of the Generation of 36. **SUR**

raries, Hernández did not flee Spain after the Nationalists took power in 1939. He was arrested several times for his anti-fascist stance, and eventually received the penalty of death by firing squad. However, he escaped the death sentence, which was commuted to a 30-year prison term, due to the intervention of Chilean poet Pablo Neruda, who was

the Chilean ambassador in Spain at the time.

He began serving his sentence in atrocious and extremely harsh conditions and he eventually died of tuberculosis in 1942.

Hernández produced a vast amount of poetry while in prison, much of which focused on the tragedy of the Civil War, and the loss of his first son, who died at

LANGUAGE FOOTNOTE

Poeta	Poet
Poesía	Poetry
Dramturgo	Playwright
Movimiento	Movement
Nochebuena	Christmas Eve
Camarada	Comrade
Generación	Generation
Embajador	Ambassador
Contemporáneo	Contemporary
Fusilar	To execute (by firing squad)
Exhumar	To exhume
Autodidacta	Self-taught
Romántico	Romantic
Sentencia	Sentence
Detenido	Arrested
Cebolla	Onion
Escribir	To write

the age of just ten months in 1938. Hours before his own death, the poet scribbled his last verse, 'Goodbye, brothers, comrades and friends, let me take my leave of the sun and the fields.'

One of his most celebrated works is *Onion Lullaby*, which he wrote to his wife after she had informed him she was surviving on bread and onions.

Bilingual crossword inside back page

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EXHIBITIONS

David Tomé

LAS LAGUNAS DE MIJAS. Until 16 November. Casa de la Cultura. DUALidades is an exhibition by photographer David Tomé. The photos show two different realities in the same location, in the same shot. There is no cheating or double exposure, just shots that seek the complicity of the observer. A proportion of sales will go to the Alzheimer's and other Dementias Association AFA in Mijas Costa and Fuengirola. For a guided tour email: contactme@davidtome.com

Arte Mijas Collective Exhibition

MIJAS. Until 9 November. Casa Museo de Mijas
The museum will be displaying artwork and sculptures by various Mijas artists.

Proyecto Cobachotix Ajedrez

ESTEPONA. Until 26 November. Casa de las Tejerinas, Plaza de las Flores. The project unites 32 international contemporary artists, poets and sculptors who have created a giant chessboard with pieces modified according to each artist's preferred medium and style.

Ana Barriga

MARBELLA. Until 21 November. Galería Yusto/Giner. La Ermita industrial estate, C/Madera, 9. The exhibition La Vida del Difunto by



Chess piece, Estepona.

Ana Barriga consists of 12 large format paintings using mixed media (oil, enamel, marker, spray can). Viewing is by previous appointment only. Email: galeria@yusto-giner.com Call: 951507053.

ACA exhibition

MARBELLA. Until 2 November. Magpie Art Gallery, C/Virgen del Pilar
The Art and Culture Association Mar-

bella has organised this exhibition by Granada resident Andrés Aguilera Teruel.

Centre Pompidou

MALAGA. Muelle Uno. **Nicolás de Staël.** Until 29 November. Born in St Petersburg in 1914 but exiled in France, Staël exhibited for the first time in 1944. His abstract works reflect an austere and sombre time, but gradually incorporate more light and colour towards 1952 when he adopted a more figurative style of painting.

Centro de Arte Contemporáneo - CAC Málaga

MALAGA. C/Alemania. **Philippe Pasqua.** Until 29 November. El Lado Oscuro is the title of this exhibition which encompasses 40 works completed by artist Philippe Pasqua over the last 30 years. It includes large format paintings, drawings and sculptures. The majority of the pieces portray faces and nudes of disabled children, transgender persons, prostitutes and members of his own family.

Macarena Pozo

MALAGA. From 30 October until 1 December. Sala Alfajar, C/Císter. The exhibition NO DOLOR by artist Macarena Pozo includes works completed since 2016 using the technique of mezzotint.

When words transform into art



The Cuban Jazz syndicate will be performing at the festival. SUR

Two stars of Malaga's music scene added to International Jazz Festival line-up

Saxophonist Enrique Oliver and bassist Francis Posé join a list of great jazz musicians for the festival which now must start an hour earlier

SUR IN ENGLISH

MALAGA. The Malaga International Jazz Festival will take place from 6 to 11 November and will include great soundtracks by composer and double bassist Kyle Eastwood, fusion

with flamenco roots with pianist Chano Domínguez and the multi-instrumentalist and singer Diego Amador, the contralto voice of Robin McKelle and the Latin rhythm of The Cuban Jazz Syndicate.

They will also now be joined by two well-known Malaga instrumentalists, saxophonist Enrique Oliver with his new sextet, and double bassist Francis Posé accompanied by Cuban pianist Daniel Amat.

The final line-up displays a wide stylistic arc in which

hybrids between various genres are present.

As a result of new curfew instructions brought in across the country, the concerts will now start at 7pm instead of 8pm as originally advertised.

Tickets cost between 24 and 30 euros per concert with discounts for bookings of more than four concerts. They are available from the Teatro Cervantes and Cine Albéniz.

For more information visit the theatre's website (www.teatrocervantes.com).

MALAGA. *Until 31 October. Sociedad Económica de Amigos del País, Plaza de la Constitución.*
 Patrimonio Bibliográfico Malagueño: La Biblioteca de la Económica. Una Herencia Compartida is an exhibition of around 60 books, magazines, photographs and documents from the 1850s that record the modernisation and culturalisation of Malaga.

Flex Your Camera

MALAGA. *Until 31 October. Espacio Cero, UMA, Bulevar Louis Pasteur, 23.* The exhibition traces 40 years of the history of the US record label Dischord Records which was an icon of Punk Rock. It consists of around 50 photographs and videos of the Punk Rock era at its peak.



Flex Your Camera, Malaga.

Malaga- Passau Cultural Exchange

MALAGA. *Until 1 November. MUPAM.* The exhibition consists of 34 works to commemorate the artistic exchanges between Malaga and the city of Passau in Germany over the last fifteen years. In total 21 artists from Malaga and 13 from Passau combine their works in this free exhibition.

Americans on parade

MALAGA. *Until 30 November. Fnac Malaga.*
 British photographer George Georgiou has won The British Journal of Photography Project prize in 2019 and two World Press titles for his photos. His exhibition shows that despite the segregations in US society due to race or wealth, the American people come together for the annual parades in these photos.

Armonía de Colores

UBRIQUE. *Until 20 November. Sala de Exposiciones, Antiguo Mercado de Abastos.*
 An exhibition of paintings created by Manuel Lozano.

LIVE CONCERTS AND MUSIC

Cervantes Theatre anniversary concerts

MALAGA. *Teatro Cervantes.*
 To celebrate the 150th anniversary of the theatre the concerts are free but seats must be reserved in advance.
6 November, 8.30pm. Camilla George, Jamaican jazz band.

OFM Chamber Music concerts

MALAGA. *Museo Picasso de Málaga auditorium.*
17 November, 8pm. Cuarteto

Mainake.
 Tickets: www.museopicasso-malaga.org

La Cochera Cabaret

MALAGA. *Avda de los Guindos.*
6 November. Malaga born actor, singer, composer and guitarist, Fran Perea will be in concert. Note: Check online for changes to start times due to Covid-19 restrictions.

Coyote Saloon concerts

LAS LAGUNAS. *Fridays and Saturdays throughout October.*
30 October. The Lost Boys. Reservations essential. More info Coyote Bowling Saloon Facebook page. Note: Check online for changes to start times due to Covid-19 restrictions.

Malaga Philharmonic Orchestra

MALAGA. *30 October 8pm. Teatro Cervantes.*
 Conductor José María Moreno guides the orchestra through Édouard Lalo's Spanish Symphony with violinist Sergey Malov in the first half followed by Tchaikovsky's Symphony N°6 (Pathétique). Tickets: <https://www.unientradas.es/>

Freddie Mercury and Cher

CALETA DE VÉLEZ. *1 November, 5.30pm. Baviera Golf. 50€.*
 Freddie Mercury and Cher tribute acts as entertainment and a three-course menu. Reservations: email info@RSB-golf.com or direct from the restaurant at the golf club. More info: 722490013

Casa de la Cultura concerts

ALMUÑÉCAR. *Cultural Centre. www.almunecar.info*
2 November, 8pm. Granada Brass Quintet.
7 November, 8pm. Jolis sings 100 years of Italian songs.



Maria João, jazz, Malaga.

Portuguese jazz

MALAGA. *4 November, 9pm. Museo Picasso Málaga.*
 Maria João and Carlos Bica, two important names in Portuguese jazz, will be in concert in the auditorium. Note: Check online for changes to start times due to Covid-19 restrictions. www.museopicassomalaga.org.

Terral de Málaga

MALAGA. *3, 4 November, 7.30pm. Teatro Cervantes.*
 Jarrillo Lata (3 Nov) and Daniel Casares 'Guitarrissimo' (4 Nov). Note: Check online for changes to start times due to Covid-19 restrictions.

Michael Bublé tribute

FUENGIROLA. *6, 7 November, 7.30pm. Salon Varietes, C/ Emancipación.*

Peet Rothwell, Europe's top Bublé tribute act, will be performing some of the singers greatest hits. Tickets from box office: 952474542 or email: boxoffice@salonvarietestheatre.com

41st Festival of Jazz Cancelled

GRANADA. *From 30 October until 2 November. Teatro Isabel la Católica www.jazzgranada.es* Cancelled due to new Covid-19 restrictions.

Giralda Brass

MALAGA. *8 November, 12pm. Museo de Málaga.*
 Trumpeters Ignacio Gallardo Leal and José Valero Hermoso, French horn player Erik Antúnez de la O, trombonist Miguel Ángel López and tuba player Marco Antonio Triguero Begines, will play a variety of soundtracks including Pirates of the Caribbean, Game of Thrones, Robin Hood, Gladiator and James Bond among others. Tickets: www.unientradas.es

FLAMENCO

A Marga

MALAGA. *31 October. Teatro Echegaray. 15€.*
 As part of the Danza Málaga 2020 festival, Nieves Rosales' Silencio Danza will be performed. Note: Check online for changes to start times due to Covid-19 restrictions.

Flamenco show

ALMUÑÉCAR. *13 November, 7pm. Casa de la Cultura.*
 Flamenco performance by Jaime "El Estampío."

THEATRE AND DANCE

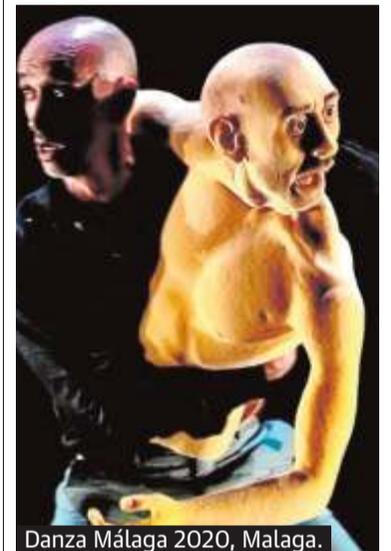
Danza Málaga 2020

MALAGA. *Until 6 December. Teatro Cervantes / Echegaray. www.teatro-*

cervantes.com
 As part of the Teatro Cervantes 150th anniversary celebrations the dance festival includes 29 events and 16 shows throughout October. Tickets cost 20 euros for Teatro Cervantes and 15 euros for Teatro Echegaray. There are also two shows for children (tickets 6 euros). Note: Check online for changes to start times due to Covid-19 restrictions.

Deshielo

MALAGA. *1 November. Teatro Echegaray. www.teatroechegaray.com/*
 A story about climate change through dance. La Coja Danza company. Note: Check online for changes to start times due to Covid-19 restrictions.



Danza Málaga 2020, Malaga.

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34th International Jazz Festival of Málaga
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Sa 7 **CHANO DOMÍNGUEZ & DIEGO AMADOR** PIANO DUO

Su 8 **KYLE EASTWOOD** Cinematic

Mo 9 **DANIEL AMAT / FRANCIS POSÉ TRIO** *Hermano. Dos culturas*

Tu 10 **ENRIQUE OLIVER**

We 11 **ROBIN McKELLE** *Alterations*

All the concerts will begin at 8.00pm
 Prices and discount information: teatrocervantes.es

ORGANISED BY COLLABORATORS

Tenor Diego Morales will perform at the event. **SUR**

Zarzuela and opera performance for Cudeca

TONY BRYANT

MARBELLA. Lovers of opera music will enjoy the annual Lyrical Concert for Cudeca which will take place at the Teatro Ciudad de Marbella on Friday 27 November at 9pm. The fundraising event will present a repertoire of Spanish zarzuela and opera, performed by some of the area's most celebrated chamber music performers.

The ensemble of musicians, all of whom come from Malaga, consists of soprano Sonia García, tenor Diego Morales and pianist Cecilia Martín.

Award-winning soprano Sonia García began her

singing studies at the Marbella Conservatory. She continued her studies in Malaga before completing her degree in Perugia (Italy).

A music teacher from the University of Malaga, Diego Morales has worked with some of the top classical musicians in Andalucía, while pianist Cecilia Martín has given recitals in different chamber groups throughout Spain in theatres such as the Gran Teatro in Cáceres, the Cervantes in Malaga and the Kursaal in Melilla.

Tickets for the show cost ten euros and are available from www.mientrada.net.

Capacity restrictions will apply.

CHARITY

Halloween Gala for Triple A

MARBELLA. 31 October. Puente Romano Supper Club. 150€
A three-course dinner, including house wines, live entertainment by The Purple Revolution, Purple Rain prince tribute. Halloween costumes requested but not mandatory. Raffle and jewellery auction. All proceeds go to Triple A. Reservations call 682 112 233 or Whatsapp.

Charity Golf Tournament

CASARES. 7 November, 9am. Doña Julia Golf Club. 65€.
Eighteen hole, two-person, best ball format. Trophies for first three classified couples and lots of prizes. Award ceremony and cocktails 2.30pm. In aid of the Asociación Gatos y Amigos. Registration: 952937753.

MORE IDEAS

Caminito pilgrimage

ARDALES 7 November, 10.30am for blessing. Caminito del Rey.
Father Louis Darrant from St George's Church in Malaga will lead the group of pilgrims on the Caminito del Rey. Pilgrims are encouraged to raise 100 euros through sponsorship for the event. Registration and more information call 630909131.

Tapas route

TORREMOLINOS. From 30 October until 8 November.
The tapas route through Torremolinos offers a tapa and a 'caña' (small glass of beer), soft drink or glass of wine for 2.50 euros. For a list of the 48 participating venues and more information about the event:



Pilgrimage, Caminito del Rey.

www.torremolinos.es

Lux Mundi Taize Prayer Meeting

TORRE DEL MAR. 30 October, 8.15pm. San Andrés parish church.
Place a candle with the names of loved ones who have departed and pray for all those who have lost their lives through the pandemic. Send an email or Whatsapp to be included in the prayers. Call: 952 543 334 or email: luxmundi@lux-mundi.org

Lux Mundi

TORRE DEL MAR. Fridays, 11am - 1pm. Lux Mundi Ecumenical Centre, Avda Moscatel.
19 November, 17 December. Trip to Gibraltar. Various departure times and pick-up points. Passport needed. Tel.952 543 334 or email: luxmundi@lux-mundi.org

O. V. FILMS

SUR in English advises calling cinemas to check for any last minute time changes.

Yelmo Cines, Plaza Mayor

MALAGA. Centro de Ocio, Plaza Mayor, Avda Alfonso Ponce León. Tel: 902902103.
www.yelmocines.es

The Secret: Dare To Dream: 17.50 (Tues).

The Craft: Legacy: 18.05 (Tues).

The Witches: 18.15 (Tues)

Tenet: 19.40 (Tues).

Yelmo Cines, Rincón

RINCÓN DE LA VICTORIA. C/ Arroyo Totalán. Tel: 902220922.
www.yelmocines.es

The Secret: Dare To Dream: 17.10 (Tues).

Emma: 19.45 (Tues).

Yelmo Cines, Vialia

MALAGA. Centro Comercial Vialia. Tel: 902220922

Emma: 19.50 (Tues).

Idiot Prayer: Nick Cave: 20.00 (Thurs).

The Human Voice: 18.50 (Tues, Thurs).

Six Minutes to Midnight: 19.45 (Tues).

Hope Gap: 17.40 (Tues)

Tenet: 19.35 (Tues)

Cine Albéniz

MALAGA. C/ Alcazabilla, 4. Tel: 902360295. www.cinealbeniz.com

Hope Gap: 16.30, 20.15 (every day)

The Human Voice: 16.45, 19.00 (every day)

Rifkin's Festival: 17.15 (every day)

Falling: 19.40 (every day)

Cinesur Ingenio

VÉLEZ-MÁLAGA. Avda Juan Carlos, 1. Tel: 667773187.

The Human Voice: 00.30, 17.00 (Sat, Sun, Weds, Thurs).

Salón Varietés pays tribute to music legends Queen and Cher

TONY BRYANT

FUENGIROLA. Tribute acts to two of the biggest icons in music history come to the Salón Varietés Theatre in Fuengirola this weekend. Two Legends: One Stage features Gary Goodmaze and Michelle Daniels as Freddie Mercury and Cher, respectively, in an explosive mini-rock concert. The show, which includes the musicians' most celebrated hits accompanied by a spectacular stage show with dancers, starts tonight (Friday) and will be repeated on Saturday.

Gary Goodmaze has been performing his tribute to Queen's frontman for more than ten years. The show has received rave reviews, making the London-based singer one of the most sought-after tribute acts in Europe.

Michelle Daniels is equally as convincing as the 'Goddess

Gary Goodmaze as flamboyant Queen singer Freddie Mercury. **SUR**

of Pop'. Her incredible stage presence and impeccable voice has earned her a huge following on the Costa del Sol.

Reservations for the show, which starts at 7.30pm, can be made on 952 474542 or at the theatre box office from 11am

until 2.30pm Monday to Friday. Tickets cost 18 euros.

Capacity restrictions and social distancing will be observed and masks must be worn in the theatre.

For more information, see www.salonvarietestheatre.com.

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"I volunteered for the Covid vaccine because I want all this to be over as soon as possible"

Ezequiel Martín, who lives in London, is one of the people who are taking part in the clinical trials carried out by Oxford University and AstraZeneca

ÁNGEL ESCALERA

MALAGA. Ezequiel Martín, a 46-year-old telecommunications engineer from Malaga, is one of

the volunteers taking part in the clinical trial carried out by Oxford University in conjunction with AstraZeneca pharmaceutical company to produce a vaccine against coronavirus.

Since 2009, Ezequiel has been living in London, where he works as a computer engineer. He told us what made him decide to be given the vaccine in this experimental stage.

"I want all this to be over as



Volunteer Ezequiel Martín. SUR

soon as possible, and when I saw that they were going to do testing in London I decided to do my bit and volunteer," he says.

When he made that decision, Ezequiel Martín firmly believed that the benefit of the vaccine must be far greater than any possible side effects.

"As I see it, the virus is just going round and round. It isn't going away. I'm very interested in helping in any way that stops the pandemic. This seemed a good opportunity to get involved and try to put an end to it as quickly as possible," he says.

Although he is aware that any vaccine can have adverse side effects,

"We are all keen for there to be progress and for this to work, so they can start vaccinating the population as soon as possible"

in the current circumstances he says the risk seems worth it. "The possible benefits outweigh the risks involved in taking part in the Oxford clinical test as a volunteer," he insists.

He was injected with the first dose of the vaccine in his shoulder in June and had no side effects: no fever or pain. Last Monday he was supposed to have had the second dose, but was told that the appointment was being cancelled and the testing stopped for a few days while they investigated the case of a volunteer in this phase of the trial who had suffered a transverse myelitis.

Some of those participating in the tests are injected with a vaccine against Covid-19 and the others (the so-called placebo group) are given an inoculation against meningitis. The side effects of the two vaccines are similar, so nobody knows which one they have been given, says Ezequiel, adding that when the test is over the scientists will

First Spanish coronavirus vaccine given go-ahead for testing

EFE

The RUTI anti-Covid-19 vaccine, which has been developed by a researcher at the Germans Trias i Pujol hospital, in Catalonia, and made by the Archivel Farma pharmaceutical company, is the first from Spain to be authorised for international clinical testing, which will be carried out in Argentina.

The company says the vaccine was originally designed against tuberculosis, but there are indications that it will also be effective against other viral infections such as coronavirus.

The tests will include the use of placebos and are scheduled to last for nine months. They will aim to evaluate the effectiveness of the vaccine in preventing infection and reducing the mortality rate of SARS-CoV-2 in healthcare workers.

also give the vaccine against coronavirus to those who had been inoculated against meningitis during the testing.

The Oxford tests began in June this year and are scheduled to continue until June 2021, although if there is sufficient information to be sure that the vaccine works before then they will tell the participants whether they are in the group which received the dose against coronavirus or the placebo.

"We are all keen for there to be progress and for this to start to work, so that they can start vaccinating the population as soon as possible," says this volunteer.

Marbella plans to turn Hacienda de Toros into a centre for mental health patients

The council has turned down requests to use the rural complex for other purposes, as it wants to keep it for the benefit of the local population

JOSÉ MARÍA MARTÍN / N.H.

Marbella council and the Junta de Andalucía are working on plans to turn a rural estate that was previously used for welfare causes into a centre for patients with mental health problems. Officials are drawing up a report on what will be needed to convert the public-owned Hacienda de Toros, on the road to Istán.

The idea was announced by the regional government's general secretary for Families, Ana Carmen Mata, after a visit to the complex with the mayor of Marbella, Ángeles Muñoz, and the president of local mental-health charity Afesol, Concepción Cuevas.

Mata said the Hacienda de Toros meets many of the requirements needed for a centre of this type, not only from the healthcare aspect but also from



The visit to the Hacienda de Toros took place earlier this week. J.M.M

a social point of view, enabling the patients and their families to live as normal a life as possible within their particular pa-

thology. "We are working on this together with the town hall, and I am convinced other institutions will join us so we can achieve it,"

she said.

The mayor said that once the report has been drawn up, "we will seek funds to carry out the conversion and create a pioneering centre to offer assistance to mental health patients and their relatives". She also said that "we have spent a great deal of time working on the idea of the Hacienda de Toros becoming an alternative for people with this type of health issue".

She explained that in the past the council has received numerous applications from people interested in acquiring the concession for Hacienda de Toros for other purposes, "but we have always wanted, and have always been committed, from the first minute to use this complex for a project which would help part of the local population".

Concepción Cuevas, the president of Afesol, also expressed her satisfaction at this joint project. "We have been thinking about these facilities for many years now, and having the support of the council and the Junta de Andalucía is very important," she said.

The pandemic has reduced early detection of melanoma on the Costa del Sol

HÉCTOR BARBOTTA

Delays in medical attention due to the Covid-19 pandemic are meaning that potentially fatal illnesses are going undetected, according to the Costa del Sol hospital, where a report from the Dermatology department warns that early detection of melanoma skin cancer has dropped by 62 per cent compared with last year. A study carried out of statistics between April and August this year shows that during the same period of 2019 specialists diagnosed 48 cases of melanoma, and this year just 18.

Magdalena de Troya, the director of the Dermatology department at the hospital, believes the reason is a combination of fear of the pandemic and delays in receiving appointments. She urges anyone who notes changes to moles on their skin to contact their GP as soon as possible. "With new technology, a diagnosis is possible within 72 hours," she says.

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Pumpkins as big as Cinderella's carriage

Manuel Planells Grower of giant vegetables

The amateur grower from Almeria, has set a new Andalusian record this year for pumpkins, with a giant weighing in at 456 kilos

ALEKK
M. SAANDERS



MALAGA. The official biggest pumpkin of 2020, weighing 1,174.8 kilos, was grown in Great Britain by Lymington twins Ian and Stuart Paton, and has been displayed in London's Covent Garden throughout October. However the amateur grower of giant vegetables Manuel Planells has set a new record in Andalucía with his 456-kilo pumpkin. To find the biggest pumpkins in the region you have to head east to Almeria where Manuel Planells lives and grows pumpkins as big as the one that was turned into Cinderella's carriage.

–Manuel, when and why did you start to grow giant vegetables?

–I have a home in La Cañada de San Urbano, close to Almeria, and have a vegetable plot behind the house. I have always admired the British and American growers who produce monster pumpkins around Halloween time. Nine years ago I made contact on social media with a Spanish grower and this made me modify my hobby and achieve new horticultural goals.

tural goals.

–I imagine the dry climate must be a struggle.

–Exactly, the climate here is similar to Malaga, possibly a bit drier, so it's important to get the watering right, especially if you're growing an organic product. I have to try and store rainwater for the irrigation. In the autumn I get excited to see the results of my investigation and effort.

–What do you mean by 'investigation'?

–To create giant vegetables it takes skill to select the seed. It is a technical challenge for me. My finca is a sort of green laboratory. Over the years I've improved my pumpkins through selective breeding. It is important to determine and select seeds that can give vigorous, disease-resistant hybrids. The results of these experiments can only be seen in the autumn: the size and shape, colour, texture and number of seeds. **–And now you have discovered the secret of growing Goliath pumpkins...**

–Yes and not just pumpkins. My record for tomatoes is 1.7 kilos so far and I'm trying to improve the size of my carrots, cabbages, beetroots and watermelons. I grow all of them especially to compete. However I can't take part in all the competitions because the climate in southern Spain makes crops ripen faster so they can be ripe by August. The most important giant pumpkin competitions, the Spanish Pumpkin Contest in Valtierra (Navarra) and the prestigious competition in San Feliu de Codines (Barce-



Manuel Planells with his monster pumpkin. **SUR**

“To create giant vegetables it takes skill to select the seed. It's a technical challenge”

lona) are held in October and November respectively.

–In any case the pandemic this year hasn't allowed you to compete.

–Unfortunately no, because of the pandemic most of the large horticulture events have been cancelled. I haven't been able to take part in any this year so my biggest pumpkin was displayed in the central market in Almeria and then sliced up and given away.

–That was a generous gesture.

–I like to share. I send seeds to people who cultivate pumpkins or want to 'have a go'. Many peo-



Being harvested. **SUR**

ple started growing vegetables at home during the lockdown. Vegetable growing keeps you busy and is therapeutic. In addition it is literally very fruitful.

–Manuel, tell me about this year's harvest.

–My biggest pumpkin was about 700 kilos lighter than the Paton

brother's giant. Even so it became Andalucía's heaviest-ever pumpkin at 456 kilos. I have used the Patons' seeds in the past and am in touch with other growers in the UK.

–Do you eat your own pumpkins?

–Of course, my wife regularly makes dishes using pumpkin. She'll be making sweet cakes and 'pebetes' for All Saints Day. However bigger pumpkins aren't as sweet, although my giant water melons are as sweet as the smaller ones.

–Are you and other giant vegetable growers bitter rivals?

–No, of course not. It is a very supportive community despite the fact we compete with each other every autumn. On the Spanish site www.giganteas.com we share some of our secrets and give advice. Some of us are also members of the European association evgga.eu and clubs in the USA.

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PUMPKIN RECIPES

Chicken with pumpkin



CHICKEN WITH PUMPKIN AND BEER

Ingredients

- 1 whole chicken, portioned
- 1/2 small pumpkin
- 2 cloves of garlic
- 2 small green peppers
- 1 large red pepper
- 2 tomatoes
- 1 leek
- 1 onion
- Beer
- Extra Virgin Olive Oil
- Chopped thyme

Method

Fry the chicken pieces with the chopped garlic in the olive oil. Add chopped onion, tomato, peppers and leek and sauté gently. Add the pumpkin cut into small cubes and pour in beer to cover. Simmer until chicken is cooked through and vegetables are tender.

Pisto andaluz



PISTO ANDALUZ

Ingredients

- 160g chopped onion
- 160g chopped green pepper
- 500g diced pumpkin
- 150g diced aubergine
- 1 garlic cloves

- 600g chopped, skinned tomatoes
- 230g tomato purée
- 50g sherry vinegar
- Sweet paprika
- Cumin
- Pinch of black pepper and salt
- Extra Virgin olive Oil
- Fried egg for serving

Method

Gently sauté the chopped garlic until golden. Add the onion and cook until translucent. Add a pinch of paprika (or more or if you want), the diced pumpkin and aubergine.

Cook over a low heat until starting to brown. Stir in the tomato purée.

Add the chopped tomatoes and peppers.

Cook until the vegetables are tender and the juice from the tomatoes has reduced.

Serve with a fried egg on top.

Sharpish practice



ANDREW J. LINN

Consumers are largely unfamiliar with what are known as buyer's own brand (BOB) or private label wines. Until now they have not been common in the Spanish market, but the countdown has begun, and very soon their wine shelves and those of big wine stores may look rather different. If a supermarket chain has, say, five best-selling wines, it will look for bodegas capable of supplying as near as possible perfect copies for marketing under that supermarket's own label.

The losers are the bodegas producing the original wine and the consumer, as what is effectively happening is that the retailer is pirating a good product and the customer is getting a poorer wine. The practice is immoral and unethical, but unstoppable.

Although El Corte Inglés was the first store to do this many years ago, probably with no evil intent, Lidl, Aldi and the like are now operating it aggressively. In the USA and northern Europe there is not a major wine retailer that has not adopted this deplorable practice. All supermarket chains now have their own private labels, but the problem is that these wines have no background or history. They are selected for their similarity to the

original wine that was better and perhaps cost more. Sometimes the bodega's name may appear on the back label in small print, but usually does not. By this method retailers maintain control, inviting buyers' brand loyalty for wines that would otherwise have none on their own merits. Another con is to number the bottles to convey the impression that production is limited, when in fact the producing bodega can supply unlimited quantities.

WINE OF THE WEEK

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A week of upsets as the Marbella Challenger draws to a close

A limited number of spectators will witness the closing stages of the AnyTech365 Marbella Open held at the Puente Romano tennis club

PEDRO LUIS ALONSO

MALAGA. It's anyone's guess who will come away from the AnyTech365 Marbella Tennis Open with the main prize this Sunday after a week of upsets saw the favourite, the rising star and all local players eliminated in the early rounds at the Puente Romano tennis club.

World number 89 and tournament favourite Federico Coria was knocked out in the round of 32 on Tuesday by 19-year-old Carlos Gimeno Valero (434th). Later in the day Carlos Alcaraz (138th), one of Spain's most promising young talents was also knocked out, in this case by Italian Lorenzo Giustino (146th). The 17-year-old, who came to Marbella on the back of victory in the Alicante Challenger will now have to wait until 2021 to make his push into the top 100.

The third major surprise also came on Tuesday when Roberto Carballés (100th) was dumped out by Czech national Vit Kopřiva (343rd) in a hugely unrecognisable performance by his usual standards.



Carlos Gimeno Valero is in the quarters. ANYTECH 365 MARBELLA TENNIS OPEN



Carlos Alcaraz made an early exit from the tournament. EFE

ment proper, Carlos Gómez Herrera (355th), was knocked out by Steven Diez (173th).

The quarter-finals of the tournament get under way today, Friday, with a limited number of spectators now allowed inside the complex.

Rank outsider Carlos Gimeno Valero will take on Alexandre Müller, while the new favourite to win the tournament, Pedro Martínez, faces Slovene Blaž Rola.

The tournament concludes with this Sunday with tickets for the semi-finals and final still on sale from entradium.com. Alternatively, footage will be streamed live on on Eurosport and LaLigaSportsTV.

In the absence of Alejandro Davidovich, the only Malaga player to make it to the tourna-

Davidovich now Spain's seventh highest ranked tennis player despite Schwartzman setback

P. L. ALONSO

MÁLAGA. Alejandro Davidovich, from Malaga, has once again reached a career-best ranking this week, climbing two places to 62nd in the ATP standings.

In doing so, the 21-year-old overtook Feliciano López to become the seventh best Spanish tennis player, though he is also very close to overtaking Fernando Verdasco (61st) and Pablo Andújar (56th).

Last Friday Davidovich came close to securing the biggest victory of his career so far, going 6-2 5-2 up against world number nine Diego Schwartzman. However, he ultimately missed out on a semi-final spot in the Bett1Hulks Championship, losing the second set 6-7 (3) and the third 1-6.



Draw for Malaga as season starts

Rugby Malaga had to settle for a 27-27 draw against El Pozuelo as they got the División de Honor B season under way on Saturday. Local rivals Marbella, meanwhile, lost 59-10 to Industriales on Sunday.

María Torres picks up yet another gold medal in the National League second phase

MARINA RIVAS

MALAGA. Local karateka María Torres continued her brilliant form since her return to action, picking up another gold medal at the weekend in the second phase of the National Karate League in Leganés.

Torres came out on top in the +68kg kumite, resoundly beating Andrea Salazar in the



Torres on the podium. SUR

final 6-0.

Having won in the first phase too (in Guadalajara two weeks previously), Torres will be looking to win the grand final again, as she did last year.

For his part, world number one Damián Quintana made his return and claimed gold in katas.





The Mirandés players celebrate their equaliser early in the second half. NITO SALAS

Keeper error gifts Mirandés a share of the points at La Rosaleda

Jozabed scored his first Malaga goal after 16 minutes, but Soriano allowed Jirka's effort to squeeze in at the near post, costing his side two points

DARYL FINCH



Malaga were forced to settle for a point at La Rosaleda on Sunday evening despite taking an early lead against a Mirandés side who were far superior on the night.

Given his side's busy schedule - with three matches in the space of a week - Malaga coach Sergio Pellicer made several changes to his starting eleven, including giving veteran defender and captain David Lombán his first start of the season, but also starts for Jairo and Jozabed on the wings. The latter repaid his manager's

1-1

MALAGA-MIRANDÉS

Malaga: Soriano; Calero, Lombán, Mejías, Juande (Ramón, 66'), Matos; Jairo (Chavarria, 61'), Escassi, Cristian (Luis Muñoz, 66'), Jozabed (Rahmani, 61'), Caye Quintana (Larrubia, 86'). Unused substitutes: Dani Barrio, Orlando Sá, Benkhemassa, Benítez, Cristo.

Mirandés: Lizoain; Víctor Gómez, Vivian, Berrocal y Jiménez; Javi Muñoz, Martínez (Caballero, 83'), Iván Martín (Andrés, 79'); Jirka, Ezzarfani (Djouahra, 72'), Moreno. Unused substitutes: Limones, Carlos Julio, Genaro, Letic, Trigueros.

Goals: 1-0 Jozabed (16'); 1-1 Jirka (53').

Referee: Vicandi Garrido. Yellow cards for Berrocal and Víctor Gómez.

Venue: La Rosaleda.

faith in the 16th minute when he converted wing-back José Matos' cut-back from the left to give his side the lead - albeit after a VAR review for a possible offside.

However, the Blue and Whites' strong start soon evaporated and the visitors pushed hard for the equaliser and Malaga keeper

Juan Soriano was kept busy throughout.

In the first 45 he stood up to the pressure, but just after half-time the on-loan stopper let himself down as he allowed Erik Jirka's effort to squeeze through at the near post as he mistakenly anticipated the cross - the first goal Malaga have conceded at home so far this season.

Iván Martín, who provided the incisive through ball for that goal proved to be a nuisance in the second half. His left-footed shot from the edge of the box almost squeezed its way in but for Soriano's sprawling save low to his left.

Mirandés' young striker Sergio Moreno then almost caught Soriano out at his near post again with a quick shot after the ball fell to him via a ricochet. This time, however, he struck the outside of the post.

Shortly afterwards Moreno was presented with an even better chance but his meek header didn't trouble the keeper and his side returned to Burgos with a point, knowing they could have had all three.

Juande bullet header seals win against second-placed Sporting

The defender gave the Blue and Whites the lead early in the first half, but the visitors pushed hard for the equaliser in the final 30 minutes

1-0

MALAGA-SPORTING

Malaga: Dani Barrio; Mejías, Escassi, Juande; Benítez, Luis Muñoz (Benkhemassa, 75'), Ramón (Lombán, 86'), Calero; Caye Quintana (Cristian, 61'), Chavarria (Orlando Sá, 86'), Rahmani (Jozabed, 75'). Unused substitutes: Soriano, Quintana, Eu, Jairo, Larrubia, Julio.

Sporting: Marino; Guille, Babin, Borja López, Saúl; Gragera, Pedro Díaz (Nacho Méndez, 64'); Cunic (Gaspar, 50'), Manu García, Aitor García (Álvaro Vázquez, 82'), Djurdjevic. Unused substitutes: Christian Joel, Pablo, Milovanov, Berto, Pelayo, Javi Fuego, Carmona.

Goals: 1-0 Juande (22').

Referee: Prieto Iglesias. Yellow cards for Cunic, Lombán and Djurdjevic.

Venue: La Rosaleda.

DARYL FINCH

MALAGA. In the first of Malaga's double header last Thursday night, Pellicer's side made it two wins on the bounce as defender Juande's first-half goal was enough to seal a 1-0 victory against second-placed Sporting Gijón at La Rosaleda.

Brimming with confidence following their 2-1 win away in Zaragoza, the Blue and Whites started the game on the front foot and Caye Quintana squandered the first chance, heading Pablo Chavarria's cross off target.

However, just halfway through the first 45 and they had the lead. A counter-attack led by Yanis Rahmani resulted in Quintana crossing the ball from the right to Juande, whose bullet header flew in past Diego Mariño.

Aitor García came close for the visitors when he flashed his effort wide of the post, leaving Dani Barrio, restored to the team, rooted to the spot. Besides that opportunity, the match lost

much of its competitive edge either side of the break.

In fact, it wasn't until the 55th minute when there was another flurry of action. First, Gijón's Gaspar hit the post, before Aitor had an equaliser chalked off by VAR for offside.

Gijón continued to move the ball around well in the final half an hour, but Malaga dug their heels in and could even have doubled their lead late on through substitute Mohamed Benkhemassa, who couldn't beat Mariño.



Juande's header gave Mariño no chance in the Sporting goal. S. SALAS

IN BRIEF

MALAGA

Former club directors under investigation say they acted legally

B. GUTIÉRREZ. Three of the four former Malaga CF employees under investigation for allegedly buying shares in the club using club funds - on behalf of ousted president and majority owner Sheikh Abdullah Al-Thani - ap-

peared in court in Malaga last Friday.

Former deputy director general Manuel Novo; ex-head of the legal team Joaquín Jofre; and ex-finance chief Roberto Cano were all questioned at length and insisted that they acted legally at all times.

Moayad Shatat, the former vice-president, didn't attend, saying he was quarantining in Lebanon with coronavirus.



Joaquín Jofre on arrival. SUR

MALAGA

Delayed AGM concludes with Al-Thani rejection

A. GÓNGORA. The much-delayed AGM for the 2018-19 season took place this week at Malaga CF. The accounts were approved, albeit with the minority shareholders' association (APA) formally rejecting the Al-Thanis management.

A date for the AGM for the next season, half under Richard Shaheen and half under administrators, still needs to be set.

MALAGA

A 'different' season ticket campaign next month

A. G. While fans are not yet allowed back into stadiums in Segunda, news on this front (a limit on numbers of fans) is expected in November. As a result, Malaga CF are planning a "different" season ticket campaign to keep fans engaged and recoup some of the income lost. Various formulas, even including an online season ticket, are being considered.



A LOOK AT LA LIGA
ROB PALMER
Commentator, Sky Sports

The end of a turbulent era

FC Barcelona president Josep Maria Bartomeu and all his directors resigned this week following defeat in the Clásico with elections now on the horizon



A football club owner once told me that when he finally sealed the deal, he found a closet full of skeletons he wasn't expecting. At FC Barcelona, the departing directors leave behind a whole graveyard of skeletons!

Normally a Clásico defeat shapes the sports news agenda for the whole week; this year it is merely a footnote to the drama in the Camp Nou boardroom. Sometimes managers get sacked, often players get dropped but in the aftermath of losing to Real Madrid the whole Barça board resigned.

It was a case of jumping before they were pushed. Twenty thousand 'socios' signed a petition of no confidence in the president Josep Maria Bartomeu and his cohorts and an election was called for. When Bartomeu



Bartomeu stepped down amid growing pressure. EFE

failed to convince the Catalan government it was unsafe to hold an election in these Covid times, he bowed out.

He didn't go gracefully; it was a 35-minute diatribe with a

hand-grenade of an aside thrown in at the end. Roughly it went: "It's not my fault, blah, blah, blah. Oh, yes... we've agreed to join a European Super League."

The Super League chat became a diversionary headline to the shambles he left behind. Almost every club that considers itself global is in negotiations for the proposed league. It's just that Barcelona made those negotiations... not so secret!

The new board inherits a growing debt, currently estimated at 100 million euros. They need to address losing Lionel Messi in the near future, what they should do with the ageing Gerard Piqué and Sergi Busquets and exactly how they manoeuvre through the nightmare of Covid.

Bartomeu rightly points out that they won the treble in his first year, and both LaLiga and the Copa del Rey four times. What he brushed over was selling Neymar and using the money to buy Ousmane

Dembélé, Martin Braithwaite and Philippe Coutinho, among others, who haven't made an impression.

Dembélé hasn't performed, Braithwaite was a panic buy and Coutinho came back to haunt Barça as part of the Bayern team which inflicted the 8-2 humiliation.

So, what of the future?

Entrepreneur Víctor Font wants to use Xavi as his running mate and promises reform. Toni Freixa is sympathetic to Ronald Koeman but less so to Lionel Messi. Joan Laporta is also back on the scene. He was the president who promised David Beckham but delivered Ronaldinho and later promoted Pep Guardiola when many wanted a superstar manager rather than the B team coach.

Remember once upon a time when FC Barcelona was regarded as the model club? The next president will inherit a fractured organisation with so many people pulling in completely different directions. Let's also not forget the social media scandal when there were accusations of fake news being leaked.

The White House has got nothing on this. Prepare for an election campaign that could make Trump versus Biden look tame.

Marbella seal historic thrashing on first game back in front of their fans

Goals from Tresaco, Edu Ramos, Callejón, Blanco and Manel secured the biggest win in the club's history at this level

JULIO RODRÍGUEZ

MARBELLA. Marbella's first game back at the Antonio Lorenzo stadium produced the biggest victory at this level in their history - a 5-1 win over Marino on Sunday.

The visitors made it more difficult than the scoreline would suggest. In fact, the first half ended level with a goal apiece. Tresaco gave the around 800 fans present their first goal to cheer after 17 minutes when he was sent through on goal before tucking past keeper David.

The side from Sabiñánigo were back in the game just six minutes later when Ahmed converted from the penalty spot after a bizarre foul from Busquets.

The second half was a completely different story. Despite being caught out playing a high line once after the break, Marbella persisted and dominated the game as



Granero crosses the ball. J. R.

a result.

In the 63rd minute, Edu Ramos scored the goal of the match day from 27 metres, and from then on the hosts smelled blood.

Granero, who had his best game since joining Marbella from Espanyol, then set up Callejón to open his account for his new team.

Centre-back Blanco then banished any memory of defensive uncertainty previously by heading home the fourth from a corner.

The icing on the cake came when substitute Añón teed up Manel for the history-rewriting fifth goal.

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Aries
March 21st - April 20th
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Taurus
April 21st - May 21st
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Gemini
May 22nd - June 21st
You are being urged by Mercury the messenger to be open about your life. Bring out bad feelings and the good will follow. We all make mistakes but we do not have to repeat them.

Cancer
June 22nd - July 23rd
Everyone has wanted a piece of you for so long, it's remember what you wanted for yourself. As the needs of others drop away there may be a gap that you instinctively want to fill. Don't.

Leo
July 24th - August 23rd
These can be exciting times as changes tumble all around you. The chance to have fun and also show your talents is to be taken in both hands. Run with it before anyone tries to stop you.

Virgo
August 24th - September 23rd
What is ahead of you is exciting and ground-breaking. Out of your comfort zone, at times it can seem a bit scary. Get the facts. Take control and get moving.

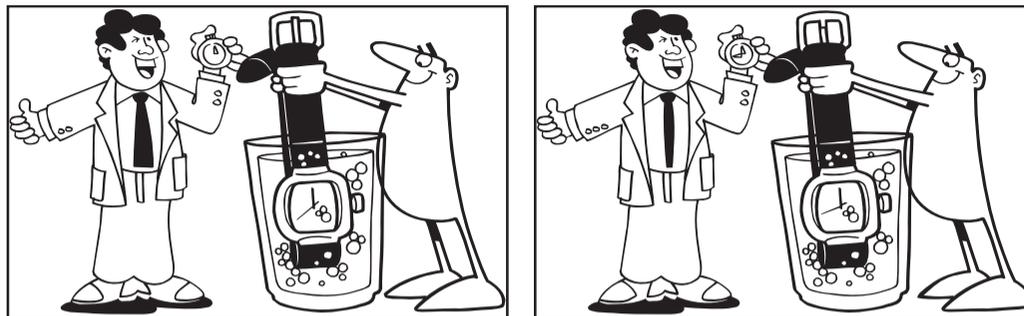
Libra
September 24th - October 23rd
You can see what needs to be done but may have been held back. This week shows more promise. Someone on the work front opens up and explains a matter that has been puzzling you.

Scorpio
October 24th - November 22nd
In a time when general flexibility is essential even more is being asked of you. When others seem to want to go too far, look at their alternatives.

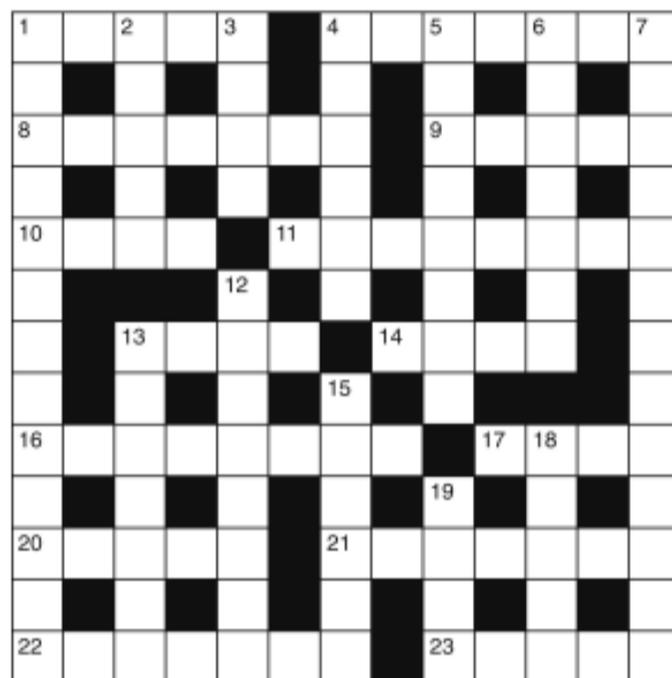
Sagittarius
November 23rd - December 21st
Be open about what you want from others without nagging. What you cannot get by charm alone this week is not worth having.

Capricorn
December 22nd - January 20th
Someone seems to be trying to confuse you this week. Keep a clear head and your eyes open. If you choose to deliberately misunderstand an offer this could buy you time.

THE SEVEN DIFFERENCES



CRYPTIC CROSSWORD N° 11433



Across

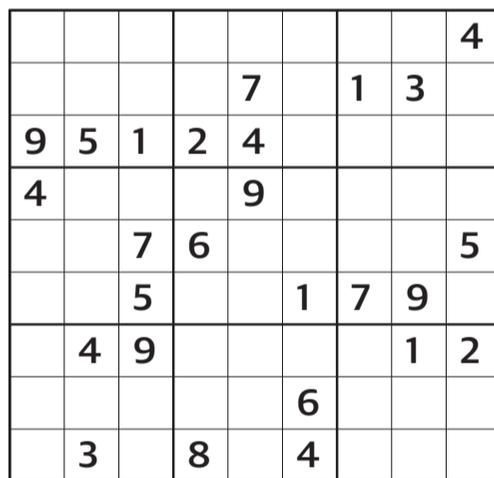
- 1 Partly bishops hold the prophetic back! (5)
- 4 Plan to put on the screen (7)
- 8 Uses good-humoured banter and gathers support (7)
- 9 and 10Ac It's not difficult to talk first of a shebeen (9)
- 10 See 9 Across
- 11 Race into revised production (8)
- 13 and 17AcA wife to assist a friend (8)
- 14 A damsel lacks direction unfortunately (4)
- 16 Mother and I will get nearly all the stuff (8)
- 17 See 13 Across
- 20 Unisex garment belonging to the girl? (5)
- 21 Gas inclined to be used when father comes in (7)
- 22 Giant tree - could be mahogany! (7)
- 23 Having members ready to get engaged (5)

Down

- 1 It takes two officers to make one (8,5)
- 2 See 18 Down
- 3 Put down face upwards (4)
- 4 Difficult questions for those preparing to be shot (6)
- 5 A hindrance to the production of best coal? (8)
- 6 They would like to see me in disorder! (7)
- 7 Getting into the van and stealing the metal (8,3,4)
- 12 Various flares needed by the company out of doors (2,8)
- 13 The bowler may be surrounded by it (7)
- 15 Dealt with the barrel, as the key operator did (6)
- 18 and 20n Do their tools cause apprehension? (5,5)
- 19 The girl upsets a staff (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

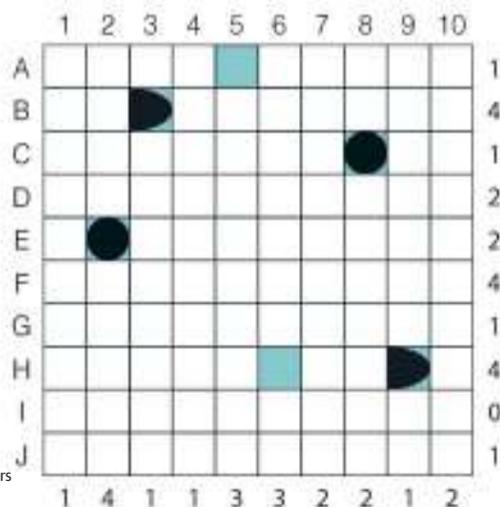
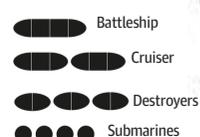


Can you identify the first name of the singers from the backing bands listed below?

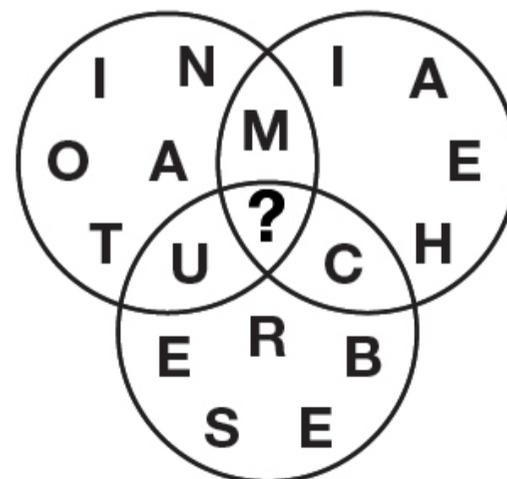
- 1. E Street Band
- 2. Miracles
- 3. Family Stone
- 4. Shadows
- 5. Crickets
- 6. Cryptickers
- 7. Heartbreakers
- 8. Hermits
- 9. Comets
- 10. Luvvers

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 and below the grid indicate how many of the squares in that row are filled in with ships or parts of ships. The ships do not touch each other, even diagonally. Some have been filled in to start you off.



CIRCLEGRAM



Instructions
Replace the question mark with a letter so that the letters in each circle can be arranged to form words, names or terms on a common theme. What are the three words, and the letter represented by the question mark?

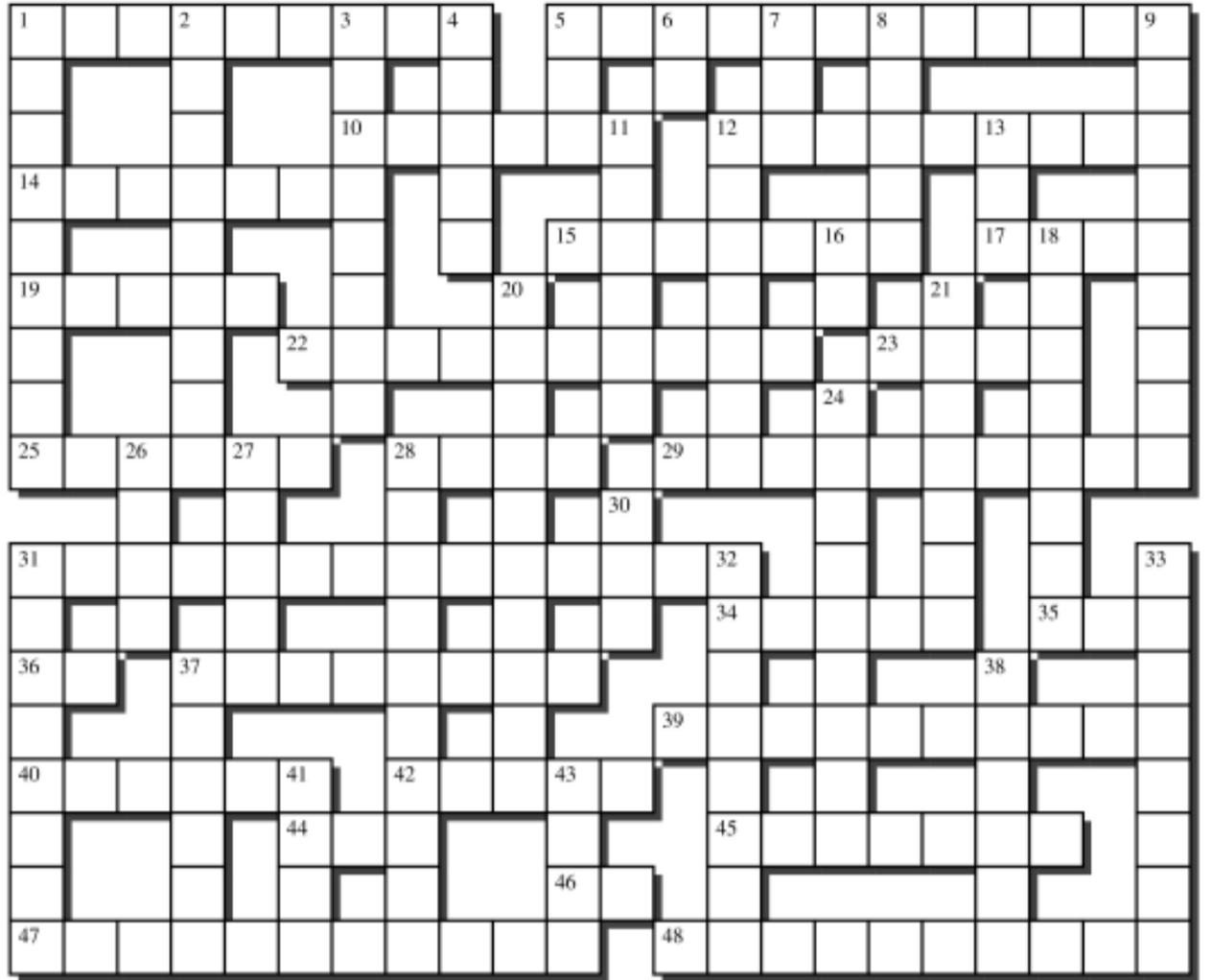
LANGUAGE CROSSWORD FILL IN THE SPANISH WORD

Across

- 1) Education (9)
- 5) Anti-fascist (12)
- 10) Poetry (6)
- 12) Sentence (9)
- 14) Helped (7)
- 15) Slim (m) (7)
- 17) I hated (4)
- 19) I attack (5)
- 22) Christmas Eve (10)
- 23) Long sausage (4)
- 25) To meet (6)
- 28) You are (4)
- 29) Movement (10)
- 31) Contemporaries (m) (14)
- 34) To speed (5)
- 35) He hears (3)
- 36) My (2)
- 37) To write (8)
- 39) Playwright (10)
- 40) Gusts (6)
- 42) Never (5)
- 44) Wing (3)
- 45) Diesel oil (7)
- 46) Me (2)
- 47) Self-taught (11)
- 48) Romantic (m.pl) (10)

Down

- 1) Ambassador (9)
- 2) Condition (9)
- 3) Impostor (m) (8)
- 4) New (m) (5)
- 5) Like that (3)
- 6) You (2)
- 7) It was (3)
- 8) Place (5)
- 9) Academic (m) (9)
- 11) Birch (6)
- 12) Second (7)
- 13) Ship (3)
- 16) From (2)
- 18) Arrested (m) (8)
- 20) Generation (10)
- 21) To execute (by firing squad) (7)
- 24) We visit (9)
- 26) Um (4)
- 27) Ideas (5)
- 28) Excited (f) (10)
- 30) To be (3)
- 31) Comrade (8)
- 32) Vote (8)
- 33) Onions (8)
- 37) I exhume (6)
- 38) I suggested (6)
- 41) I went out (4)
- 43) Bed (4)



ANSWERS

Quiz answers

Answer: A smile.
Of interest: An eccedensist is someone who hides their pain behind a smile. Someone who doesn't want people to know what they really feel on the inside. It is derived from Latin ecce, 'I present to you,' dentes, 'teeth,' and -last, 'performer.'
Answer: Beer mats
Of interest: A tegeestologist is someone who collects beer mats or coasters.

Language Crossword



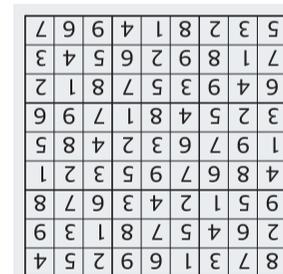
Cryptic Crossword

Solutions: Across: 1. Sibley, 4. Project, 8. Ralston, 9. Spoken, 10. Easy, 11. Creation, 13. Hairy, 14. Allow, 16. Memento, 17. Major, 20. Jumper, 21. Propaganda, 22. Redwood, 23. Armed, Down: 1. Sergeant major, 2. Belle, 3. Laid, 4. Peeper, 5. Coaster, 6. Enemies, 7. Taking the lead, 12. Allusion, 13. Harbored, 15. Tapped, 18. Alarm, 19. Lora.

Wordpuzzler solution



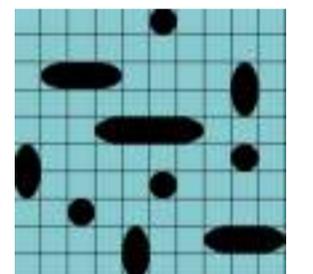
Sudoku solution



Circlegram

The letter represented by the question mark is R. Minotaur, Chimera, Cerberus, all monsters in Greek mythology.

Battleships



WHERE IS THIS?



Last week: Estepa

A young girl carrying a tray of small cakes stands on this roundabout in Estepa, a town famous for its mantecados and polvorones.



A martyred monk

CORONAVIRUS ADVICE

To notify symptoms of coronavirus

With symptoms and/or contact with persons with coronavirus or who come from an area of risk



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If the virtual test is **positive**, the health services will contact you by telephone

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“Time flies when you’re having fun”. Photographer Ralph John Perou – or somebody who says he is him, because he appears in a face mask, dark glasses and a hat - shares with us his two decades of experiences working with Marilyn Manson in a video. He uses the word ‘experiences’, not just ‘memories’, because those have become “fuzzy” in his mind. For that reason he decided to display his works with no information about where or when they were taken. It means that spectators have to try to put some sort of chronological and mental order to the expansive and maleficent magnetism he portrays of Marilyn Manson, an artist elevated from the music industry to the category of planetary icon and now the sole subject of ‘21 years in hell’, the brand new exhibition which has just opened at La Térmica and continues until 22 January.

This display of 30 photos by Perou at the cultural centre, which is run by the Diputación (the Malaga provincial authority), remains true to his commitment to contemporary photography as one of his signs of identity, as the director of La Térmica, Salomón Castiel, explained at the opening. He also pointed out that not only is the exhibition completely new, but it also reflects the Diputación’s commitment to culture, because despite the difficulties caused by the pandemic, it is continuing to organise events which can be visited in person or viewed online.

The exhibition ‘21 years in hell’ includes some images which are out of focus or frame. Perou is one of the most important (and coveted) portrait photographers of contemporary times, said the curator of the display, Toni García, and he explained that Perou had not only selected the works which were to be exhibited but had also decided how they were to be arranged. “Perou asked us for the plans and then designed the layout down to the last centimetre,” he said.



Marilyn Manson's Malaga show

Exhibition. La Térmica cultural centre has just inaugurated a display of photos of the music icon taken by Ralph John Perou

ANTONIO JAVIER LÓPEZ



The exhibition can be seen until 22 January.
FRANCISCO HINOJOSA



Unsurprisingly, as Perou added in the presentation video, “these are just some” of the photos he has taken of Marilyn Manson during 20 years of work and friendship. The result of that relationship is a book of 350 photos, published by Reel Art Press, some of which form part of this exhibition. However, as Perou also said, “It is very difficult to take a bad photo of Marilyn Manson”.

The person who began life as Brian Hugh Warner (Canton, Ohio, 1969) is portrayed in a combination of photos where the pose is often combined with a carefully designed visual production. Weapons, tattoos and coloured contact lenses, plus a search for controversy through the use of religious or sexual elements to portray a contemporary icon who has sold over 50 million discs all over the world.

Two cool characters

Perou is not just one of his most enthusiastic fans but the photographer whose name is most closely aligned with him. Just put the name Marilyn Manson into Google and you will see some of the outstanding images by this photographer, whose subjects have also included Al Gore, David Attenborough, Led Zeppelin, Coldplay, Damien Hirst, David Beckham, the Spice Girls, Tracey Emin and U2. However, Perou says he has spent much more time on Marilyn Manson than any of them.

“Probably every photographer who takes pictures of bands wants to be in a band. I have always had a very different way of dressing and liked to be the centre of attention. Sometimes I have had problems because I looked more ‘cool’ than the person I was going to photograph. But I have never been more ‘cool’ than Manson”, he says.

The exhibition can be seen until 22 January.

▲
Icon.
The exhibition consists of over 30 photos of the musician who is now a global celebrity. **PEROU**



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