

# SUR

## in English

**FREE COPY**  
THE NEWSPAPER FOR  
SOUTHERN SPAIN

Official market leader  
Audited by PGD/OJD

December 25th to 31st 2020  
www.surinenglish.com

News	2
Comment	16
Lifestyle	18
What to do	26
Health&Beauty	28
Food&Drink	30
Sport	31

SPORT

### ROWING IN ONE DIRECTION IN THE FACE OF CANCER

The local Breast Cancer Survivor team are pioneers on the Costa and have just got their own dragon boat **P38**



# Flight numbers drop again at Malaga airport after Spain's travel ban on visitors from UK

The block on all arrivals by air and sea except Spanish passport holders and residents in Spain has upset many people's Christmas plans

The number of passengers flying into Malaga airport from Britain was already down by some 90 per cent this past autumn.

However daily links to the UK fell even more this week as the Spanish government introduced restrictions along with many other countries because of a more contagious coronavirus strain there.

While 17 flights landed from Britain on Monday, the day before the new rules, on Tuesday it was down to eight, mostly from London.

British residents of Spain who were in the UK were left wondering when they could get back, while tourists wondered why they had spent money on Covid-19 tests without being able to travel. **P2**



Families reunited in Malaga on Monday, just before the ban. **ÑITO SALAS**

**Man arrested in Leeds in connection with the fatal stabbing outside Estepona involving white Mercedes** **P6**

**Christmas lottery joy in Mijas Pueblo, but no sign of 'El Gordo' on the Costa once again this year** **P10**

**+ The sky Doctor +**  
**INTERNET FROM 39€/MONTH**  
All IPTV & Satellite TV  
All TV Problems Solved  
Free Consultations  
Tel: 952 763 840  
info@theskydoctor.com  
www.theskydoctor.com

**OPEN SUNDAY**  
**DECEMBER 27<sup>TH</sup>**  
**MIRAMAR**  
SHOPPING CENTRE  
Fuengirola • Highway A-7 • Exit 208A

**MAX BEACH**

New Year's Eve 2020  
MOULIN ROUGE DINNER CABARET  
NEW YEAR'S DAY OPEN FOR  
BRUNCH, LUNCH & DINNER

TEL: 952 930 858 · www.maxbeach.es



A Spanish couple arrive at Malaga airport from the UK on Monday, the day the new restrictions were announced. **ÑITO SALAS**

### These reentering Spain from the UK and other high-risk places still have to carry a valid negative Covid-19 test

dependency document with them or new TIE plastic card, (as well as their passport), the British Embassy in Madrid said on Monday.

However a grey area emerged over what would happen to bona-fide residents in Spain who had forgotten to take proof with them to the UK or those who were still only applying for residency.

### The Padrón alone is not enough

The UK government's travel advice said that in the latter scenario, proof of having applied for residency would be needed, adding that "Padrón [town hall] certificates, utility bills and property deeds will not be accepted by Spanish authorities as proof of residency".

Spain has also said that it will step up controls at the border with Gibraltar for air travellers arriving there, however so far the restrictions do not formally apply to Britons arriving into Spain by land.

The restrictions will run until 6pm on 5 January, Spanish time, with the possibility that they could be extended.

Spanish authorities also stressed that those reentering Spain from the UK and other places deemed high risk still had to carry proof of a valid negative Covid-19 test taken in the previous 72 hours before arrival.

Passengers arriving at Malaga Airport in the first half of this week commented that even the few planes flying were quite empty, with mostly Spaniards and residents returning for Christmas.

Even before this new travel ban on UK visitors, the number of arrivals from Britain to the Costa del Sol was down an estimated 90 per cent this autumn, based on latest available data.

## Number of flights into Costa from the UK dives as ban on visitors kicks in

Only Spanish nationals and people with verified residency in Spain can enter the country from the UK until at least 5 January by air or sea

**PILAR MARTÍNEZ / N. H.**

**MALAGA.** On the first day of the Spanish government's ban on all except Spanish passport holders and residents of Spain entering from the UK, there were just eight flights into Malaga airport from Britain. The previous day there

had been 17, itself a big drop on a normal year.

The ban came into effect on Tuesday after Spain had earlier hesitated to impose one when London said last Saturday that it had discovered a much more infectious strain of Covid-19 driving case rates up in the UK in recent weeks. Spain had asked for a common EU approach to restrictions on movement.

Amid the spreading of restrictions on UK travellers in other countries, eventually Spanish ministers reached a common agreement with neighbouring

Portugal to go ahead. Passenger boats from the UK as well as flights are also affected.

Since the announcement on Monday, Britons due to fly to Spain had been frantically trying

to change dates or work out if it was worthwhile going to the airport in the first place.

As well as Spanish nationals, Britons are allowed into Spain if they have their original green resi-



Many Spanish hauliers are sitting on the M-20 in the UK county of Kent. **EFE**

## Madrid bends driving-hours limit but it's not enough to get lorry drivers in UK back for Christmas

**SUR**

**MALAGA.** The Spanish government announced on Wednesday that it was temporarily relaxing the restrictions on the number of hours lorry drivers can be behind the wheel to a maximum of 96 hours in a fortnight on the tachograph.

The UK is an important importer of Spanish fresh produce, especially before Christmas, and Madrid hoped the measure would get more local drivers trapped there by French cross-Channel

restrictions back in time for the Holidays. The relaxation will last until 13 January.

In addition, it has eased up rules on how often and where drivers can stop. Providing the cab is properly fitted out, drivers will also be able to take their statutory rest inside it, on the way back.

### Andalusian drivers

The Andalusian hauliers' association, CETM, said on Wednesday as trucks started to move

again from Dover, that drivers had not had any support from the Spanish government while the border was closed and had felt trapped, adding that it was, "another misfortune in a year in which they have been coping with the pandemic".

"We've never in our history lived through anything like this,"

CETM head Antonio Amarillo told Canal Sur radio.

He added that it was going to be impossible for the drivers to get home to the south of Spain for Christmas Eve as the journey from England is "two and a half to three days", explaining that the drivers were now resigned to spending some of Christmas away

from family on motorways and temporary lorry parks in the Kent area.

Amarillo said that drivers who were already on the road should have been allowed to cross into France from the beginning and Covid-19 tests carried out when they got to their designation.

The hauliers' leader also explained that the economic impact is huge as many of the drivers had stops in France to collect other merchandise. "Nothing can be done. We'll have to claim compensation from France," he said.

"It's an absurd situation," Amarillo added, commenting on how drivers have been living by the side of motorways in Kent. "There's a lot of camaraderie and drivers have been helping each other as much as they can."

# Andalucía further eases restrictions on travel as expected

The regional authority has not ruled out changing the current measures before New Year, depending on the pandemic figures

## SUR

MALAGA. The Andalucía region, including the province of Malaga, went into the peak days of Christmas this week still with relatively low case rates of Covid-19 and officials activated the more relaxed rules on travel as they had originally planned.

Until 6 January people can travel in and out of the region again in order to meet family and close friends and respecting all other social-distancing rules.

Despite the local good news, the regional president, Juanma Moreno, was keen to stress that the population needed to act sensibly. "People must only move about in this way to be with family on key days," he said. "The

effort over the past months has made it possible that Andalusians who study or work elsewhere can return home for Christmas. Let's look after the health of our nearest and dearest, it's the most important gift of all."

He added, "What we do over the next 15 to 20 days will help us avoid a sad and dark January with closures and reach an exciting February full of hope and to start with the vaccinations and recovery."

## Christmas Eve curfew

The current 11pm to 6am night time curfew is also being relaxed on Christmas Eve (24 December), allowing the movement of people until 1.30am on 25 December.

For the celebration of Christmas lunches and dinners on 24 and 25 December, the regional government has declared that "groups of people in spaces of public and private use, both indoors and outdoors, are restricted to a maximum of ten people, ex-



File photo of a checkpoint near Antequera earlier this month. NITO SALAS

## Moreno said he would make an announcement for 28 December about any possible New Year changes

cept in the case of cohabitants".

Moreno ruled out modifying the containment measures against the spread of Covid-19 before Christmas, but said that he would study the evolution of the virus and make any an-

nouncement for 28 December about possible changes into the New Year period.

There was more reason to hope for good news in the early new year on Wednesday this week as the regional government announced which health centres would be bases for the teams carrying out the first phase of the vaccination programme in the new year, a mixture of fixed and mobile teams, with 37 points in Malaga province.

## Andalucía keeps lowest case rate along with the Canaries but figure is now edging up

## SUR

MALAGA. In this week's local Covid-19 case-rate data, in the final countdown to the Christmas easing of restrictions, the rate of positive tests in the Andalucía region was still the lowest in Spain, along with the Canaries.

On Wednesday (23 December), Andalucía had a case rate of 146.7 per 100,000 people in the last 14 days. Malaga province, including the Costa del Sol, maintained a lower rate than the regional average with 122.8 per 100,000, although this was up on 107 a week ago.

Overall, the case rate in Spain was 236 in the middle of this week, up from its recent low of 189 per 100,000 over 14 days on 11 December. Highest rates are now in the Madrid region, Valencia area, Extremadura and Balearic Islands.

Numbers of deaths have continued to decrease with figures now broadly in line with the average for this time of year.



NERJA, MALAGA, MIJAS, MARBELLA, NUEVA ANDALUCIA

900 670 047 Freephone southernspain@blevinsfranks.com

SAN PEDRO, ESTEPONA, CADIZ, HUELVA, AYAMONTE

900 978 903 Freephone southernspain@blevinsfranks.com

www.blevinsfranks.com

BLEVINS  FRANKS

# Avalanche of Covid-19 tests: 'Nobody wants to infect their family at Christmas'

The increase in requests for private coronavirus tests overloads clinics and laboratories on the Costa del Sol, but experts warn: "They can give a false sense of security"

ALBERTO GÓMEZ

MALAGA. Requests for coronavirus tests have massively jumped in recent days along Spain's Costa del Sol. But not because there is a rebound in the disease, where the threat of a third wave already looms, but because Christmas is approaching.

The demand for tests has tripled and even quadrupled in recent days, according to many of the clinics consulted. In some places you can't even get an appointment now. They are overwhelmed.

The Muelle Heredia Clinic said, "Everyone wants to go quietly and safely to dinner with their grandparents, no one wants to infect their loved ones."

"We are fully-booked on the 23 and 24 December said the Clínica del Pilar," aware that often the requests for tests include several members of a family, if not all.

But a negative Covid-19 test result, experts say, does not guarantee anything.

## Other measures

Beatriz Escolar, head of Bioclon Laboratory says, "A test is useless if you do not take other preventive measures."

She refers to a voluntary quarantine during the days before family reunions. "I recommend between five and ten days of isolation,



There has been a surge in demand for private Covid-19 tests. SUR

tion, or at least that contacts are reduced as much as possible.

"No going to lunch or dinner with friends, having breakfast with colleagues or being in the office without a mask."

She says her laboratory has received an "avalanche" of requests, "But I don't want anyone to throw away their money. Without preventive measures, a negative result can give a false sense of security. It is not wrong to do so, but we must be responsible."

The PCR (polymerase chain reaction), more expensive and whose results take about 48 hours, and rapid antigen tests, which reveal the diagnosis in just fifteen minutes, are the most demanded tests.

Both require samples to be taken with a swab that is inserted into one of the nostrils, and in the case of PCR also down the throat.

Current market prices average 115 euros for the more reliable

PCRs and 45 euros for antigen tests.

But the increase in demand has also triggered discounts for the holidays. At the Guadalhorce Clinic they say that the prices of both tests have been lowered due to "the flood" of applications.

At Echevarne they offer a novel saliva PCR that can be purchased in their online store. They send the test to the customer's home who then takes a sample following the provided instructions. The centre then collects it and, between 24 and 48 hours later, sends a text message with a code that allows them to check the result on their website.

## Promotions

Other centres have launched special campaigns, such as the Boris clinic, with offices in San Pedro de Alcántara and Mijas saying, "This Christmas don't take risks. Per-

form your PCR to visit your family safely. Take advantage of our prices."

At Synlab they have launched a similar promotion, "Don't let the virus spoil your Christmas. Choose the safest test."

There are also tests available in pharmacies, but they cannot be obtained without a prescription.

"We receive between twenty and thirty calls a day asking for Covid-19 tests, but nobody buys them because they don't have a prescription from a doctor," explained a pharmacist who works in the centre of Malaga.

The Superior Centre for Scientific Research (CSIC) has reminded people that all tests can give false negatives. And at the start of the pandemic the World Health Organisation warned that testing should only be seen as a preventative measure.

## Black market

A black market has also appeared on the internet but Bicolon warn: "These samples must be taken by professionals, not a brother-in-law. They are unpleasant and if they are not taken correctly, they are of no use either."

A negative result, experts say, offers some reassurance but "it is not a panacea" and nor does it exempt you from taking the steps that work best to defeat coronavirus, namely the wearing of face masks - except for eating and drinking, the ventilation of closed spaces, small meetings and social-distancing between diners.

The Junta de Andalucía has already warned a third wave would be "a blow" for the public health system, which is preparing for the coronavirus vaccination campaign that starts next week.

## IN BRIEF



The restaurant in Torrox. E. C.

## TORROX

### Restaurant bosses forced infected staff to keep working

E. CABEZAS. National Police have arrested a couple who run El Cafetería de Javier El Chiclé in Torrox Costa after they allegedly forced three of their employees to continue working while they were infected with Covid-19 in September.

According to investigators the pair, both 40 and of Spanish nationality and Argentinian origin, took advantage of the "irregular situation" of the foreign workers, threatening them with dismissal or docked wages if they didn't comply.

Police said that when the couple had symptoms, they told the rest of staff they only had colds. Only a few days later, two cooks and a waiter, all working illegally, fell ill at the premises. They all tested positive for the virus, but were told to continue working after being threatened. One of the workers was even admitted to the hospital intensive care unit when his condition worsened.

## MARBELLA

### Police find 125 young people at secret party in luxury villa

J. CANO / Á. FRÍAS. National Police officers called to a luxury villa in Marbella on Saturday night found 125 young people partying and flouting coronavirus pandemic control measures. The police intervention took place at around 11.40pm, on a residential development in Nueva Andalucía. The young people were of different nationalities and had come from different parts of Spain.

When police entered the property they informed the attendees - most of them without a face mask - that they were going to be reported for not respecting the restrictions imposed due to the Covid-19 crisis. Some tried to avoid the police by hiding under beds or in cupboards.

Inside the house officers found numerous bottles of alcohol and nitrous oxide - better known as laughing gas.

## Andalucía studies ways of making a Covid vaccine mandatory to attend busy events

A card would be issued after vaccination and required to access sports or other crowded events; vaccines are due to arrive in the region next week

JOSÉ LUIS PIEDRA

SEVILLE. The Junta de Andalucía is proposing to issue a 'passport' for people who have been vaccinated against Covid-19, which would be required to gain access to events that attract large numbers of people.

This was announced last week

by the president of the regional government, Juanma Moreno, who explained that this "certificate will serve to know who has been vaccinated and who has not" after the vaccine starts to be administered next week.

During a visit to the Sierra Nevada ski resort at the weekend, Moreno said that the card could come in the form of a physical card or be available virtually, using a QR code.

It could be required, for example, to go to football matches or even for some

types of travel, suggested the regional head.

"The only way of allowing large crowds of people to gather without there being contagion problems would be through vaccination or by demanding proof of a negative PCR test 70 hours before the event," said the president.

Moreno admitted that people could not be forced to have the vaccine but he did stress that they have a "moral obligation to themselves and to others" to adopt a responsible attitude.



Juanma Moreno

## Vaccination to start in care homes in Malaga province on Monday

Malaga province's first shipment of doses of the Pfizer vaccine, authorised by the EU on Monday, is expected to arrive on Sunday, 27 December. Vaccination will start on Monday with elderly residents in care homes and the professionals who look after them. The health authority expects to take five or six days to inoculate 6,000 people in the Malaga health district against Covid-19. Other health workers will receive the vaccine from 7 January, starting with those working on the coronavirus 'frontline'.



# Why retirement planning matters at any age

By Steven Langford, Partner, Blevins Franks

Whether you are nearing retirement or it is several years away, it is never too early to start thinking about how you will finance your golden years. Even if you are already retired, you should regularly review your arrangements to ensure you continue meeting your retirement goals.

Whatever your situation, what do you need to think about to secure your dream retirement?

## Approaching retirement

Even if retirement is a way off, there are certain things you need to consider – the earlier the better – to ensure you are on the right track financially. There may be steps you can take today to help make your dream retirement a reality. Ask yourself:

- Will I be able to afford to retire when I want to?
- What is the best strategy for withdrawing from my business or employment?
- What options do I have for my pensions? Are they likely to change?
- Will I be able to retain my existing wealth and assets?

• Do I want to spend some or all of my retirement abroad?

Let's say that you plan to retire within the next five years in Spain. You may have concerns about whether you can afford your preferred lifestyle without having to sell existing assets. You may not want to have to downsize your home, for instance, as you would like this to eventually pass on to your family. Perhaps you have a business to sell and are unsure how best to convert your years of hard work into a retirement nest egg. Then there are the complex residence and tax implications of living in a different country.

Here, professional financial advice can prove invaluable. An adviser can take a holistic view of what you have – your savings, investments, assets, pensions – together with what you want – your timeline, income requirements, legacy wishes – and an objective assessment of who you are – your circumstances, goals, risk appetite – to design a personalised retirement plan for you.

## Already retired

If you have already reached retirement age or stopped working,

that doesn't mean you should forget about retirement planning. After all, you could be retired for thirty years or more!

Regular reviews allow you to adapt your strategy to suit your changing circumstances and goals, such as incorporating new family members, addressing health issues or relocating. It enables you to keep up with the ever-changing tax and pensions landscape, including opportunities that could work in your favour.

## Your pension options

Pensions are usually the foundations of retirement, so deciding what to do here may be one of life's most important financial decisions. Pensions are complex anyway, but with greater freedom and choice than ever – and an increase in sophisticated pension scams – you must take extreme care.

You might benefit from consolidating several UK pensions into one to provide a coherent, more cost-effective investment platform for your retirement income. However, this may not be the most tax-efficient approach if you live in Spain. By receiving pension income

in sterling, you would also be exposed to conversion costs and exchange rate risk.

Britons resident abroad have the option of transferring UK pensions to a Qualifying Overseas Pension Scheme (QROPS). This can unlock advantages you do not always get with UK pensions, such as flexibility to take income in euros and more freedom to pass benefits to chosen heirs. Transferred funds would also be protected from UK lifetime allowance charges and future UK pension rules that may adversely affect you – an increasing possibility after Brexit.

If you transfer UK pensions to an EU-based QROPS as an EU resident, you can currently do so tax-free, but transfers outside the EU/EEA invite a 25% UK tax penalty. Once outside the bloc, the UK government could potentially widen this taxation net to capture EU-based QROPS in the future.

Transferring is by no means a one-size-fits-all solution and the benefits of QROPS can vary greatly between providers and jurisdictions. Be sure to take regulated, specialist advice before making significant pension decision to protect your

benefits and establish the most suitable option for you.

## Retiring in Spain

If you have yet to move to Spain but wish to retire here, it is important to review your retirement strategy early. Not only will you need to consider your residence status and cross-border tax implications in a post-Brexit world, you will need to adapt your estate planning to suit the very different local succession rules.

In any case, careful planning is the key to minimising taxation and maximising the available opportunities so that you can enjoy the retirement you want for as long as you need. For the best results, take specialist, cross-border advice.

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

# Strategic financial planning for the New Year and beyond

After a challenging 2020 we are all looking forward to a better 2021. This is the perfect time to ensure your wealth management is on track to meet your objectives and provide long-term financial security in a post-Brexit world.

Blevins Franks has 45 years of experience managing our clients' capital. We provide a range of integrated financial services to give you peace of mind about your future. Our investment recommendations are based around your personal situation and designed to be tax-efficient and meet your estate planning wishes. And with our regular reviews, you will know your savings are well looked after.

BLEVINS  FRANKS

## Talk to the people who know

NERJA, MALAGA, MIJAS, MARBELLA, NUEVA ANDALUCIA  
900 670 047 Freephone southernspain@blevinsfranks.com  
SAN PEDRO, ESTEPONA, CADIZ, HUELVA, AYAMONTE  
900 978 903 Freephone southernspain@blevinsfranks.com



INTERNATIONAL TAX ADVICE • INVESTMENTS • ESTATE PLANNING • PENSIONS

Blevins Franks Financial Management Limited (BFFML) is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority in the UK, reference number 176731. Where advice is provided outside the UK, via the Insurance Distribution Directive or the Markets in Financial Instruments Directive II, the applicable regulatory system differs in some respects from that of the UK. Blevins Franks Trustees Limited is authorised and regulated by the Malta Financial Services Authority for the administration of trusts and companies. Blevins Franks Tax Limited provides taxation advice. Its advisors are fully qualified tax specialists. The provision has been approved and issued by IFFM.

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

# Man left paralysed after trampoline park tragedy

The family of Antonio Robledo, 38, who is being treated at the specialist hospital in Toledo, has received support from local organisations

JUAN CANO / ÁLVARO FRÍAS

MALAGA. A 38-year-old man has been left paralysed after a trampoline accident at a trampoline park in Malaga and doctors fear he may never walk again.

Antonio Robledo Díaz, a chestnut seller in the city, had taken his partner's son to the park at the Málaga Nostrum commercial centre but, after just 10 minutes of bouncing, he fell badly and broke a vertebra in his neck.

Staff at the trampoline park called the emergency services when they realised the severity of accident.

While waiting for them to arrive, a nurse who was there with her husband and son attended to him. She asked Antonio how he felt and he replied that his right arm hurt and that his mouth tasted like blood. But he wasn't bleeding recalled Eva Ordóñez, Antonio's partner.

"The woman pushed me away and said, 'I don't want to scare you, but when that happens, it's a neck injury.'"



Antonio's parents and partner in Toledo. IMAGE COURTESY OF EL ESPAÑOL

"Then we realised that his arm hurt because it was the only thing could feel," Eva recalls.

At Malaga's Carlos Haya hospital X-rays confirmed that Antonio had fractured the fifth cervical vertebra of the spine (C5) and when it broke it displaced and damaged the spinal cord. They operated on him twice before was transferred to a hospital in Toledo that specialises in treatment of spinal injuries.

His parents, Pilar and Paco, and Eva travelled with him. Their first two nights were spent sleeping in the car before they were offered a flat to rent by a woman who was left paraplegic in 2002 and bought a property during her long stay in Toledo.



Antonio Robledo

The Catholic charity Cáritas has offered to help the family with the rent. Antonio's stay at the specialist centre in Toledo is expected to last between six and nine months.

Friends from their local association and meat firm Famadesa have also stepped in to help the family.

"We are modest people. The few resources we have we cannot spend on a hotel," explained Eva.

Antonio and Eva are familiar figures in the Ciudad Jardín area of the city where they run a roast chestnut stall in the autumn.

It is unlikely that Antonio will ever walk again, but Eva clings on to the hope of a miracle. "I have faith in him. I can see him move his fingers..." she said.

# British suspect wanted for fatal stabbing in Estepona arrested in UK

Police in the north of England have detained the driver allegedly involved in the November knife attack in which a 19-year-old died

ÁLVARO FRÍAS / JUAN CANO

MALAGA. International cooperation between Spanish and British authorities has led to the arrest of a man in Leeds who was wanted in connection with a fatal stabbing on the Costa del Sol.

The suspect had fled to the UK after 19-year-old victim, Ulrich, was stabbed through the heart by a car driver after a traffic incident.

The wanted individual, a 21-year-old Briton, was arrested in Leeds by British police on Tuesday afternoon.

The events that led to his arrest took place on 18 November in the vicinity of the Diana shopping centre in Estepona. At around 2.30pm, a traffic incident took place between the victim and his alleged assailant as reported by the National Police.

The investigation determined that Ulrich, who lived in an apartment in the Las Acacias complex with his parents and two brothers, was out walking.

When he was going to cross a



The white Mercedes. SUR

pedestrian crossing, he was almost run over by the white Mercedes that the suspect was driving. The latter had to brake sharply.

Apparently, the driver left the scene in his car at first, before returning a few minutes later.

The National Police said that the man got out of the vehicle and stabbed the victim, without saying a word, in the heart, which caused his almost immediate death.

## Mercedes with British plates

After the driver fled the scene, the only lead police had was the suspect's white Mercedes with a British number plate, which was found when a transport company was preparing to move it from Spain to England.

Police then put a name to the alleged killer. In addition, they found that he had managed to leave the country and take refuge in England.

The courts in Estepona issued an international arrest warrant and the British authorities have confirmed that the suspect was detained on Tuesday afternoon, when he was travelling on the A58, near Leeds in Yorkshire.

The man was immediately taken into police custody, pending extradition to Spain.

The National Police force has highlighted the importance of international cooperation in this operation. In the investigation, they had the help of British police authorities stationed on the Costa del Sol.

**In the investigation they had the help of British police authorities stationed on the Costa del Sol**



WWW.PESTCONTROLMARBELLA.COM

## COMMUNITY SPIRIT

# Cavalcade of Santas collects gifts for Torremolinos children in need

### TORREMOLINOS

**T. BRYANT.** The sixth edition of the solidarity Toy Run organised by the Komando Amimoto motorcycle club and Torremolinos town hall took place last weekend. More than 150 bikers, many dressed as Santa Claus, took part in the initiative to collect toys for children in danger of social exclusion. The red and white cavalcade set off through the streets of Torremolinos, where they stopped off at dozens of shops and commercial outlets in order to collect gifts, before returning to the drop-off area in front of the town hall.



Mayor José Ortiz with some of the Santas outside the town hall. **sur.**



### A million food bank thank yous

Organisers have been celebrating raising over one million euros for Bancosol, the Costa's central food bank warehouse. With the pandemic, this Christmas the team successfully sought online donations.

**IT TOOK ME TWICE AS LONG TO DECIDE ON THE HELMET THAN THE BIKE ITSELF**

**BIKE INSURANCE  
HELMET & LEATHERS  
COVERAGE**

**FROM JUST €77**

**952 147 834**  
Phone number valid from anywhere in Spain.

**linea directa**

\*Offer valid for new customers only. Subject to conditions. Ends 31/12/20.

# Local community gets behind the Cudeca Sunflower Effect appeal

The cancer hospice's latest campaign was boosted by 3,000 euros raised by two local charitable enterprises

### T. BRYANT

**BENALMÁDENA.** Members of the La Cala Golf Resort presented 2,000 euros to Cudeca last week after holding a series of fundraising events to support the charity's current Sunflower Effect appeal.

The cheque was presented to Susan Hannam by Vice Captain Peter Bradley, who said, "At a time where Cudeca is going through so many losses, we wanted to keep on helping with anything we could. This is why we are presenting this money



Peter Bradley (l) and Susan Hannam (2l) at the presentation. **sur**

today, which is not as much as we usually raise for the charity, but we are happy that we can help the campaign".

To boost the appeal further, Cudeca accepted another donation of 1,000 euros which was raised during last month's Mistique Charity Fashion Show in

Mijas. The show featured the new autumn and winter collection of local designer Christina Stikma.

Cudeca spokesperson Esther Ráez said, "This crisis has hit us hard, but thanks to the community, we can continue caring for more people who need us."



Age Concern representatives at the draw. **t. b.**

### Overwhelming support for Age Concern Christmas hamper draw

### FUENGIROLA

**T. B.** Age Concern Fuengirola/Mijas/Benalmádena raised almost 900 euros during its Christmas hamper draw, which was held earlier this week.

The two festive hampers

were raffled in order to raise funds for the charity's annual Christmas dinner, which is offered to every member of Age Concern. Due to the coronavirus pandemic, this year's event was divided among four separate venues in order to comply with health regulations.

The draw was held at the Age Concern shop in Los Boliches and was attended by President David Long and Secretary Steve Marshall, who said, "It has been a very difficult period, but the support has been overwhelming."

# Council to carry on planting palm trees despite months of protests

## RINCÓN DE LA VICTORIA

Mayor Francisco Salado has said that around 12 mulberry trees will be planted as well near Avenida de Málaga

## EUGENIO CABEZAS

**RINCÓN DE LA VICTORIA.** The local council in Rincón de la Victoria announced last Friday that it would be going ahead with controversial plans to plant palm trees along revamped Avenida de Málaga in La Cala del Moral, despite residents' protests.

Mayor Francisco Salado defended the town hall's decision, saying it was "based on technical reports and factors".

He added that the palm trees would provide more light, greater road safety and that they would be better for local businesses. "The avenue needs to have a uniform look," he explained.

In September, a residents



La Cala del Moral residents protesting against the tree felling. **SUR**

group named La Cala no se tala, (don't fell La Cala) was formed after 80 trees, including mulberry, ficus and jacarandas, were removed. Only 30 of the trees have been replanted.

Although the town hall has said it will plant around 12 more mulberry trees near the same road,

the residents' group have said that their part in the consultation has left them feeling "cheated and used" and that the process has been "a joke and a humiliation".

The group had proposed species of trees that would offer more shade on this main thoroughfare.

## Runner completes charity challenge

Nerja runner Javier Martín Losada, 43, successfully completed his challenge to climb the Pico del Cielo mountain three times in 12 hours to encourage food donations for families in need in the town. His running partner, Pablo Martínez from Vélez-Málaga, was forced to abandon the challenge around the halfway point on the Axarquía range due to health problems. Twelve tonnes of food was donated.



**SUR**

## Spending EU Covid funds to build promenade is questionable, say protesters

## TORRE DE BENAGALBÓN

**E. C.** The residents' group opposed to a project to develop Torre de Benagalbón's promenade have expressed their disapproval at the possible proposal to use money from an EU Covid rescue package to carry out the work. The group known as ADN Paseo de la Torre (previously Lirios de Mar) said the use of EU funds was "questionable" for an "unwanted promenade" when the money should go towards "generating jobs".

## Council approves pedestrianisation of Nerja town centre's Calle Diputación

## NERJA

**E. C.** Nerja town hall has approved plans to pedestrianise Calle Diputación, one of the town's central streets which connects the Balcón de Europa and Avenida Castilla Pérez. The project should cost 360,000 euros, of which 300,000 will come from the provincial authority and the remaining 60,000 will come from council funds. Improvements will also be made to street lighting, water, electricity and telecommunications lines, sign posting and paving,



Salares residents. **SUR**

## Salares residents receive ham and wine by way of thanks for keeping village COVID-free

## SALARES

**E. CABEZAS.** Salares town hall has given away a ham and two bottles of wine to the village's 169 residents by way of thanking them for being one of the few municipalities in the province not to have registered any cases of COVID-19 since the start of the pandemic.

Mayor of the second smallest village in Malaga, Pablo Jesús Crespillo, said that instead of spending 3,000 euros on Christmas decorations and a tree, just 500 euros went towards decorating the village and the remaining 2,500 euros were spent on the ham and wine.

Crespillo added that he wanted to recognise the "responsibility and commitment" of residents to keep Salares "one of the few COVID-free villages" by giving them ham and wine, so that "no neighbour goes without and can raise a glass with the family at Christmas."

# FLAT IN MARBELLA

## CENTRAL FLAT FOR SALE

Avda Ricardo Soriano 57 / Juan Bosco, 2.

Just 4 minutes from the seafront promenade and the historical centre. Could be used as an office. 206m<sup>2</sup>, with lift and caretaker.

Call **608 397 390** for more information

**PLEASE,  
CLOSE THE  
WINDOW!  
THERE SEEMS  
TO BE A BIT  
OF A DRAFT**

FROM  
JUST

**€98\***

**HOME INSURANCE**  
WIND & RAIN  
COVER

**952 147 834**

 Phone number valid from anywhere in Spain.



**linea directa**

**BEST PRICE. BETTER COVER.**

\*Offer valid for new customers only. Subject to conditions. Ends: 31/12/2020.

# Christmas lottery joy in Mijas Pueblo as tickets sold locally land nearly a million

Part of the fifth prize was also won in Coín, but this year little other big money was won in the province of Malaga, where 71m euros' worth of tickets were sold

I. GELIBTER / A. M. ROMERO

MALAGA. Spain's celebrated Christmas lottery, the biggest in the world, brought joy to residents in Mijas Pueblo when it was drawn on Tuesday morning this week.

150 winning 'décimo' tickets with a share of a fifth prize totalling almost one million euros were sold in the village and another ten in Coín.

Each of the winning tickets sold in the lottery sales office on Calle Los Caños in Mijas Pueblo was worth 6,000 euros to the holder. The ten in Coín were sold in one batch in the La Trocha shopping centre, bagging the winner 60,000 euros. The fifth-prize winning series number was 28674.

Although it wasn't 'El Gordo', the famous top prize, that landed in Mijas, the winning number certainly brought Christmas cheer to those lucky enough to have bought their ticket at the lottery sales office nicknamed The Little Donkey (El Burrito), appropriately enough for the Pueblo.

"It wasn't much, but we can plug a few leaks with this and treat ourselves to a decent Christmas meal," said Ana and Orkhan, who have a restaurant in Torremolinos. "We've had a terrible time this year," said the couple at the doorway to the office in the whitewashed street where locals had gathered to celebrate.



Celebrations at the Little Donkey lottery office in the heart of Mijas Pueblo at Tuesday lunchtime. NITO SALAS

Their winning ticket had been a gift from their good friend, Victoria Ríos, who runs this lottery ticket office that sold the 150 'décimos', totalling some 900,000 euros.

"We've sold them to people in the village and this summer to lots of Spanish tourists," explained Victoria.

**This was the lowest amount to be won in the province since 2013 and the second year without a local 'El Gordo' winner**

"I'm thrilled about the prize, especially this really bad year, where sales of tickets have fallen over 30 per cent," she added

Nearby, Juan Antonio was also celebrating with his niece.

"This has come at the right time, some will have been put out of a job in a really difficult year," he explained, beaming cheek to cheek while showing off his winning 'décimo ticket'.

**Little luck elsewhere locally**

The huge Christmas draw, with a prize fund nationally of 2.4 billion euros, was carried out in Madrid's Teatro Real. As usual, winning numbers were sung out by school choristers in a well-honed

tradition with people glued to their television screens.

However just 1,098,000 euros of prize money landed in Malaga province this year, of which almost all was the 900,000 in Mijas. This was the lowest amount to be won in the province since 2013 and the second year in a row that not one of the top 'El Gordo' tickets was sold in the area.

For the Christmas lottery, almost 71 million euros worth of tickets had been sold in Malaga province, the second highest figure for an Andalusian province after Seville and the ninth highest in Spain. This was 12 million euros less than last year.

## El Gordo first prize delivers more than one thousand 400k winners in Andalucía

SUR

MALAGA. The winning El Gordo number, that was worth 400,000 euros for each 'décimo' ticket sold, brought good news for the 1,052 winners across Andalucía on Tuesday midday. In the Andalucía region, 420 million euros of this top El Gordo prize was won alone. The lucky 72897 was sung just after midday during the televised draw.

Six hundred winning tickets were sold in Punta Umbría (Huelva), 450 in Granada city, one

in Cordoba and another in El Puerto de Santa María (Cadiz).

The owner of the lottery office in Punta Umbría, Carolina Vázquez, said she was "very pleased" as it was the first time that she had ever sold one of the possible top prizes in the lottery.

The office has been open for over 50 years and she now had the honour of giving out 240 million euros for the tickets from the 72897 El Gordo number series that were sold there.

Vázquez explained, as she



People celebrate their share of 'El Gordo' in Granada on Tuesday. EP

waited for winners to congregate, that she didn't yet know if there were many smaller winners or a few bigger winners. She added that as the year had been so bad, "it was a joy" to give out the prize.

In other good news nationally, workers at a mechanical parts

factory in Catalonia found out they had won 200 million euros between them of the El Gordo first prize just as they were changing shifts at midday.

The huge 2.4-billion-euro prize fund across all prizes this year was up 28 million euros on 2019.

## Costa del Sol hoteliers fight back against Covid business devastation

PILAR MARTÍNEZ

MALAGA. Costa del Sol hotel owners are seeking European funds to fight their way out of the Covid-19 crisis and have presented their bold ideas for five new projects.

The initiative includes plans for smart hotels, an energy efficiency experience centre, a tourist intelligence platform, a cybersecurity experience and sustainability mobility proposals.

The Costa del Sol Hoteliers Association (Aehcos) has presented them to the Malaga province tourism delegate of the Junta de Andalucía, hoping they will be accepted and help enable the recovery of the sector that has suffered massively as tourists have stayed away from the coast in their droves.

The report was prepared in collaboration with the consulting firm PriceWaterhouseCoopers and the Technological Institute Hotelero.

Luis Callejón Suñé, chair of Aehcos, said, "These five major projects will bring benefits for employment, the tourism sector, society and the economy."

**Cybersecurity**

In the report handed to the regional government, the group proposes a project based on an improved connection of the entire Andalusian coastline to points of greatest interest inland - by improving infrastructure and promoting smart mobility and low emissions.

One of the more unusual proposals is to create a cybersecurity centre of excellence for advice, development, support and response to cybersecurity threats and incidents against the hotel sector.

**Bleak November**

Figures for November published by the National Statistics Institute (INE) confirm the current dire situation of the tourist accommodation sector on the Costa del Sol.

During last month Costa hotels registered 79,773 overnight stays (made by 39,549 travellers), compared with the 1,007,599 for the same month in 2019, when 325,050 guests walked through their doors.

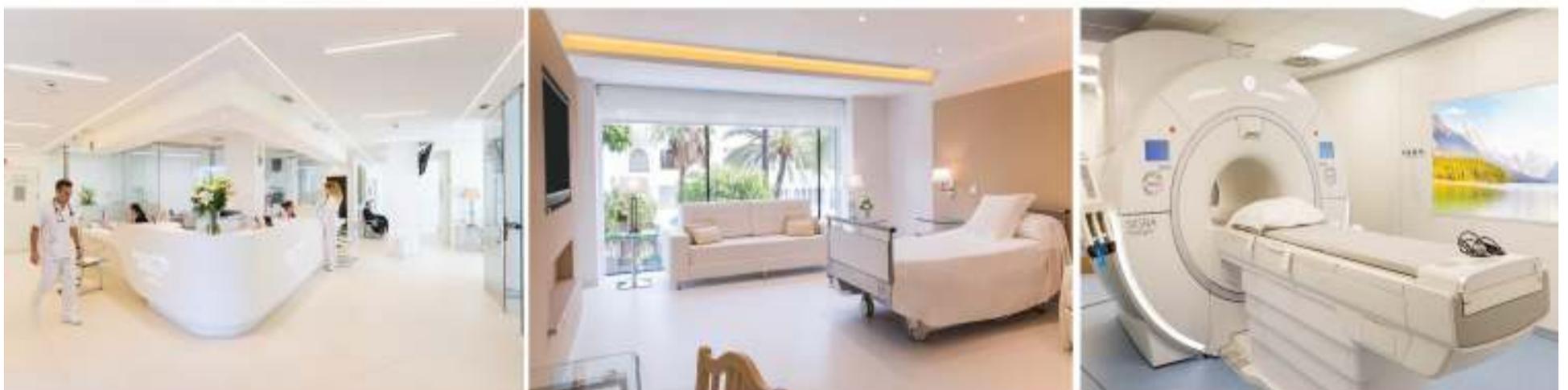
The poor results are also reflected in the sector's employment figures.

Last month 2,898 people worked in the Costa's hotels; in November last year there was work for 10,800 employees.



# Helicopteros Sanitarios Hospital

- The majority of Specialist Doctors including: Interventional Cardiologist - Arrhythmias, Cardiovascular Surgery, Traumatology, Urology, Digestive Doctor - Digestive Surgery
- Luxurious private rooms.
- Renowned specialist doctors.
- 3 Operating Theatres, including a Hemodynamic Operating Theatre.
- Diagnostic Center including: x-ray machines, mammogram, CTA scans and MRI.



# No agreement reached with Spain yet about Schengen-style arrangement, says Picardo

Speaking in response to an article which appeared in the Spanish media, the chief minister explained that talks are still ongoing

DEBBIE BARTLETT

GIBRALTAR. Social media has been agog since Tuesday when a Spanish newspaper published a story saying that Gibraltar was becoming part of the Schengen system. It would mean that British citizens arriving from the UK would be subject to passport control at the air-

port, while Spanish citizens could enter freely. Gibraltarians would be able to access Spain across the present land border with no controls. The article said that as Gibraltar refuses to allow Spanish officers to control its airport and port, officers from the EU's Frontex force would do so instead.

Unsurprisingly, the article caused a bit of a furore, with people claiming that Gibraltarians would have more rights than UK citizens, although Gibraltar is in a unique situation because of its geographical location and has unique



Fabian Picardo

issues to deal with, such as more than 14,000 workers crossing into Gibraltar from Spain to work each day.

The response, and misinformation, were so great that Gibraltar's chief minister, Fabian Picardo, was interviewed by a local television channel to explain the situation as it stands at the moment.

Nothing has been agreed, he said, and it is possible that it will not be, although he had said in a radio interview earlier in the week that "we are within a few phrases of a historic deal".

He declined to confirm or deny

the story which had appeared in the original newspaper, been picked up by the international press and then gone viral on the internet, but reiterated that Gibraltar had always made it clear it was seeking a deal which would allow unrestricted access across the land border for goods and people. This did not, he stressed, affect the sovereignty of Gibraltar in any way whatsoever, as this was a red line which had always been absolutely uncrossable.

Spain also has uncrossable red lines, he said, so what both sides are trying to do is find a solution for the border which means that

nobody's red lines are crossed.

Picardo pointed out that Gibraltar has a border with the UK at present, so if an agreement were reached it would be to maintain the existing circumstances, not impose extra controls or regulations. Meanwhile, the land border with Spain is lighter in terms of controls, although passports and ID can be checked and searches for illicit goods can be carried out, so the agreement would aim to maintain that relationship as much as possible. If no agreement is reached about Gibraltar's future relationship with the EU, border officials will have to wet stamp every passport, which would undoubtedly lead to very long delays.

When asked if any agreement of this type would mean Gibraltar is getting closer to the EU than the UK, he denied this, saying being British is in Gibraltarians' blood and nothing would change that.

## "Even if there is No Deal between UK and EU, travel to and from Gibraltar doesn't change"

**Vijay Daryanani** Minister for Business, Tourism, Transport and the Port

The pandemic had a major impact on tourism this year but there has been some positive news and it is hoped that the future will bring new air links

DEBBIE BARTLETT

GIBRALTAR. This is one of the quietest festive seasons ever in Gibraltar, with all the traditional events cancelled or moved online in a year in which coronavirus has left practically nowhere unscathed. However, Tourism Minister Vijay Daryanani is feeling positive.

**–What types of people normally come to Gibraltar on holiday, rather than just for a day trip?**

–Most of our tourists are from the UK, because that is where we have air links, and they stay for three or four nights. Our 'typical' visitors used to be people aged 55 plus, but since the Covid pandemic younger people have been coming, often with families. I think that will remain the case once the pandemic is over and more people realise what a lot Gibraltar has to offer.

**–The pandemic must have hit Gibraltar hard in terms of tourism, especially as cruise ships haven't been able to come here for months now and the number of flights was significantly reduced.**

–It has had a huge impact, and we have just had to deal with it. In fact, our figures were not bad in comparison with other places. Our hotels were 70 to 80 per cent full on average through July, August and September; as there has been no automatic quarantine requirement



Vijay Daryanani sees "light at the end of a very, very long tunnel". SUR

for travellers arriving in Gibraltar, we have still received visitors from the UK since coming out of lockdown, people who wanted to go somewhere nice for a break. We have received major press coverage, several well-known journalists have paid us a visit, and that has helped. There is quite a bit of interest in discovering Gibraltar's culture, history, and unique attractions.

**–Do you think that will continue?**

–Yes, I do. And after all, our flights are increasing. Wizz Air has just started a twice-weekly service between Gibraltar and Luton, and that will run all through the year.

**–What are your expectations for tourism in 2021?**

–I think we are starting to see some

light at the end of a very, very long tunnel. People in the UK are now receiving the Covid-19 vaccine and here in Gibraltar we are expecting ours to arrive in January. The vaccine will help to protect people's health and will also be good for the economy. I am confident that things will get better.

**–In general terms, Gibraltar has not had that many coronavirus cases and it seems to have handled the situation well. Is it likely that Gibraltar will gain a reputation as a Covid-safe destination for people who are nervous about travelling far?**

–I think that could be the case, yes. Especially with the vaccine available soon, it will create a sense of security. It's true that Gibralt-

tar has only had six deaths from coronavirus, but I have to make it clear that every one has been a tragedy for us. We are such a small community, we know our people, we are very attached to them, so we are very sad to have lost them in this way.

**–The Brexit transition period comes to an end on 31 December and the outcome of the talks between UK and EU is still not known. If there is no deal and it becomes more complicated for people from the UK to travel to Europe from next year, could that be to Gibraltar's advantage?**

–Even if there is no deal between the UK and the EU, travel to and from Gibraltar doesn't change, so yes. Flights will continue as usual, and in fact we are talking to different airlines about starting services to Gibraltar, as Wizz Air has just done. We are actively targeting different regional airports in the UK.

**–Are more flights to Gibraltar a possibility or a probability, would you say?**

–I'd say a bit of both, as things are at the moment.

**–Do you have any new attractions or events planned?**

–We are always looking to improve what we have to offer. In recent years we have opened a number of new attractions, and we have many exceptional events such as the music festival, which is the best in Europe, the wine festival, literary festival, and more. Obviously, these couldn't take place this year, but I hope they will be back to normal next year. And 2022 might bring some more.

### IN BRIEF

#### COVID-19

#### Special freezers arrive for coronavirus vaccine

D.B. Gibraltar's initial supply of the coronavirus vaccine is expected to arrive in early January and the special freezers ordered to store it arrived this week. Each freezer can store up to 60,000 doses of the vaccine at a temperature of -82 degrees Celsius.

Meanwhile, cases of Covid-19 have shot up in Gibraltar and the government has introduced new restrictions, including masks in all public places, closing restaurants and bars until January or possibly later and urging the over-70s not to leave their homes unless absolutely necessary. No tourists may currently enter Gibraltar by land or air.

#### CULTURE

#### A New Year's Concert in Gibraltar

GIBRALTAR. It is always a very popular event and is usually well-attended, but due to the coronavirus pandemic music lovers will be watching the New Year's Concert on the Music Box Channel or the Ministry of Culture's Facebook page on 4 January. The music extravaganza will begin with a Children's Performance at 6pm followed by the main event an hour later.

This year the Gibraltar Philharmonic Society will be putting forward a smaller orchestra to comply with lower numbers and social distancing measures, but music lifts the spirits and this will be a lovely way to begin 2021 in the hope that it will be a better year.

# Carrefour

Estepona | Fuengirola | Mijas |  
Torremolinos | Valle del Guadalhorce

## OFFERS OF THE WEEK



## PREPARE FOR THE FESTIVITIES WITH CARREFOUR

This holiday period, you'll find all the products you need at the Carrefour shopping centres in Estepona, Mijas, Fuengirola, Torremolinos and Valle del Guadalhorce

Although it looks like it will be rather different to usual this year, Christmas is a time to enjoy and to share with loved ones at home. A table laden with the best local and gourmet products, moments of leisure, play and laughter or relaxing with music and a good book. All of that, and much more, can be found at the Carrefour shopping centres in Estepona, Mijas, Fuengirola, Torremolinos and Valle del Guadalhorce.

These establishments stand out for their commitment to quality and customer service. A wide range of products which customers will always find at the best prices.

In this way, 'foodies' will be able to purchase fresh fruit and veg, meat and fish from the La Despensa (pantry) sections of these centres to triumph during the festivities with their most delicious creations. Those who wish to combine tasty flavours with taking care of themselves can choose from among the best Bio and Eco items on the market. Moreover, these establishments have a bulk section where customers can obtain a wide range of goods such as rice, pasta and legumes in paper bags, thus reducing on plastics and residues.

What better than to accompany these delicacies with something from the premium Bodega (wine cellar) with labels from different denominations of origin. Local wines, including a selection of Sabor a Málaga (Málaga Flavour) products, and international wines from benchmark countries in wine

production such as France, Italy or Chile, among others. To top it all off, nothing better than to choose from the wide range of Christmas desserts and sweets, from maritecados to roscos, nougats or panetones, which will be the delight of children and adults alike.

Likewise, the Hogar (home) section has everything you need to decorate your house and create a festive atmosphere, and in Textil you can find the best clothes to keep warm and look fashionable and stylish.

In Electronics and Multimedia, as well as the most sought-after gifts of this Christmas, the Carrefour centres in Estepona, Mijas, Fuengirola, Torremolinos and Valle del Guadalhorce have all the latest products and technology to liven up family moments. Video game consoles, music systems or smart TVs with offers and discounts. To overcome physical distances, there are computers, tablets and smartphones which will connect you to your loved ones with the maximum quality and definition. All arranged in a comfortable and simple manner, with professional staff to advise you or solve any queries.

And as Christmas isn't the same without the excitement of the youngest members of the household, these Carrefour centres have the most sought-after toys on the market. Educational games, dynamic games and games for the whole family. A selection aimed to provide happy experiences for people of all ages to treasure the best memories.

**12.90€**

**PACHA HOMBRE BE INSANE**  
100 ml Eau de Toilette + 10 ml spray + 75 ml gel.

**16.90€**

**AITANA BE MAGNETIC**  
80 ml Eau de Toilette + 10 ml vial.

**18.90€**

**VICTORIO & LUCCHINO ESSENCE BLACK**  
100 ml Eau de Toilette + 100 ml deodorant + 75 ml gel.

**18.99€**

**MARKWINS BON VOYAGE**  
make-up case

**11.50€**

**WILD SAFARI WALLET**  
make-up palette

**16.90€**

**ANTONIO BANDERAS THE SECRET TEMPTATION**  
100 ml Eau de Toilette + 75 ml After Shave + 150 ml Deodorant

**34.50€**

**BATHROOM SET, WOOD AND METAL LAMP**

**15.90€**

**ADIDAS COLLECTION FOR HER CARREFOUR EXCLUSIVE**  
Eau de Toilette Spray 30 ml Fruity Rhythm + 30 ml Pure Lightness + 30 ml Natural Vitality + 30 ml Get Ready.

**GIFT CARD**  
Their wishes in a card. Visit your nearest hypermarket to purchase one. YOU'LL BE SURE TO GET IT RIGHT.

**IMPORTANT NOTICE:**  
WE WOULD LIKE TO REMIND OUR CUSTOMERS THAT WE WILL BE CLOSED ON THE 25TH OF DECEMBER ON SUNDAY THE 27TH OF DECEMBER. WE WILL BE OPEN FROM 10AM TO 10PM

Offers valid at the Carrefour centres in Valle del Guadalhorce, Torremolinos, Mijas, Fuengirola and Estepona until the 31st of December, 2020.



**Carrefour Estepona**  
Ctra. Cádiz-Málaga  
Km 156.9

**Carrefour Fuengirola**  
C.C. Miramar,  
Avda. de la Encarnación s/n.

**Carrefour Mijas**  
Avenida de  
Los Lirios s/n.

**Carrefour Torremolinos**  
C.C. Costasol Centro,  
Avda. Circunvalación s/n.

**Carrefour Valle del Guadalhorce**  
C.C. La Trocha,  
Ctra. Coin-Cártama, Km 1. Coin

# King and Queen make unannounced visit to Catalonia amid nationalist political tension

This week the regional parliament was dissolved and there was a call for no pardon for jailed pro-independence leaders

**SUR**

BARCELONA. Catalan nationalist politics was in the headlines this week as the year drew to a close.

On Monday it emerged that King Felipe and Queen Letizia had travelled to the region to award a major national literary prize at a private meeting and not at a public engagement with press invited.

Reports said that it was the first time a monarch had travelled to an event “incognito” since the restoration of democracy.

Royal visits have been a sore

point for the nationalist parties in Catalonia, whose MPs’ votes support the Socialist-led central government. The nationalists have reportedly asked for lower profile visits.

The King and Queen were handing over the Cervantes prize to poet Joan Margarit after the original ceremony was cancelled in April during

the lockdown.

It emerged that the Prime Minister, Pedro Sánchez had been due to go with them, but is currently self-isolating.



Felipe and Letizia

The date of the King and Queen’s visit also coincided with the dissolution of the Catalan regional parliament, ahead of elections next year. This follows a split in the ruling

pro-independence coalition there earlier this year. After the banning of regional president Quim Torra from public office, two months have now passed without a new appointment and so an automatic regional election will take place on 14 February.

Also this week, prosecutors at the Supreme Court presented a report to judges there which argued against any possible government pardon of those politicians and civic leaders imprisoned for taking part in the illegal pro-independence referendum of 2017. They said that a pardon should not operate “as a form of political barter in order to gather parliamentary support”.

## MPs approve rules which will regulate euthanasia and they could be law by March

Spain will become only the sixth country in the world to legislate for who can have an assisted death and under what conditions

**SUR**

MADRID. Spain is close to becoming only the sixth country in the world with a law regulating euthanasia. MPs in Congreso voted overwhelmingly in favour last week and the planned legislation now only needs to go the Senado, the upper house, for approval.

The vote was 198 in favour and 138 against. Parties on the left and liberals voted in favour, as well as the Basque and Catalan nationalists. Against were the conservative PP, the right-leaning UPN (Navarre regional party) and hard-right Vox.



A group in Oviedo supporting the new law as Congreso met to debate. EFE

If the Senado approves, the law could come into effect as early as March next year. Its clauses include provision for the public health system to make

available its facilities and treatments to help people who choose to die.

It would give permission to those who had “a serious, incur-

able or debilitating illness”, which a medic would need to certify.

Health Minister, Salvador Illa, said that the text of the new law was, “modern and gave guarantees”. He added that, “Spain is a sufficiently mature democratic society to confront this issue”.

Healthcare professionals would be able to object to taking part in ending a life if they wished to.

Spokesperson for the ruling Socialist party, María Luisa Carcedo, who is also a doctor, said that opinion polls showed 85 per cent of people in Spain are in favour of an assisted-death law. “Nobody can force other people’s lives to be extended,” she argued.

As people both for and against the new law gathered outside Congreso and in other cities of Spain to express their views, voices from the right condemned the legislation.

Lourdes Méndez of Vox said in the debate that the law was “merciless, inhumane and illegitimate”. She said it would allow the State to kill disabled people and feed “a death industry”.

The conservative PP have recently been calling for improved palliative care in Spain instead.

## Spain makes clear to Morocco that the position of its N. African cities is non negotiable

**MADRID**

**SUR.** The Spanish government has given short shrift, dispensing with diplomatic niceties, to the Moroccan PM’s suggestion that Ceuta and Melilla, on the North African coast, should one day become Moroccan.

Saadedin Otmani had told Egyptian media that the Spanish cities “are Moroccan territory, like the Sahara”. Morocco has been bolstered recently diplomatically by Donald Trump’s seeming approval of their claim to the Western Sahara, another disputed territory that many there want to see self-governing. Spanish deputy PM, Carmen Calvo, said Morocco “knows full well” the position on Ceuta and Melilla, which have been Spanish for centuries.

THE EURO ZONE  
MARK NAYLER

## Shifting sands



Spain’s upper house, the Senado, has approved the Spanish government’s 2021 budget, which shows the stability of Pedro Sánchez’s minority coalition and its ability - previously in doubt - to remain in power until the general election of 2023. So say many commentators and analysts, anyway. But in fact, the length of time taken to pass the budget, as well as the nature of the deal required to do so, highlights the precariousness of Sánchez’s position,

not its strength.

Only now, two-and-a-half years since Sánchez ousted his conservative rival Mariano Rajoy with a no-confidence vote, is there a fully approved budget. False starts and thwarted efforts have resulted from constantly shifting allegiances in congress, as various combinations of parties tried (and mostly failed) to forge power-sharing arrangements.

This fractured, colourful landscape is still a relatively new aspect of Spanish politics,

resulting from the emergence of two new forces - anti-establishment Podemos and centrist Ciudadanos - in the general election of 2015. In 2019, Vox was added to the mix, spreading the national vote even further and dividing the Spanish right.

Although Ciudadanos and the Socialists are compatible in many respects, Sánchez wasn’t able to secure the party’s votes for next year’s budget. Yet there was no such animosity between the two in early 2016, when the centrist newcomer signed a wide-ranging policy pact with the PSOE, partly in the hope of joining a Socialist-led government.

This time, deserted by an increasingly hostile Ciudadanos (its new leader, Inés Arrimadas, is staunchly anti-separatist), Sánchez secured the pas-

sage of the 2021 spending plan with the votes of Basque separatists EH Bildu and the pro-independence Republican Left of Catalonia (ERC).

Both of these parties were instrumental in the PSOE leader’s victory in the no-confidence vote of June 2018, but they haven’t always acted as Sánchez’s allies since. On two occasions earlier this year, the ERC voted against Sánchez’s proposal to extend the state of alarm. It has also been critical of the Socialists’ anti-independence stance. Catalonia’s regional elections, due on 14 February, further threaten the uneasy truce between the PSOE and the ERC, brokered for the sake of the 2021 budget.

There are also simmering tensions within Sánchez’s minority commission. Podemos

remains in disagreement with the more centrist Socialists on key issues, most notably the viability and desirability of a referendum on Catalan independence, the size of the welfare state and the future of the Spanish monarchy. Indeed, the younger, more radical party halted negotiations with the PSOE after the 2016 pact with Ciudadanos was announced, arguing that its collaboration with a centrist group undermined its left-wing credentials. One imagines those doubts about Sánchez’s ideological flexibility remain.

If the Spanish prime minister enjoys any stability at all, then, it’s only of the temporary, easily toppled variety. The shifting sands underneath his feet are unlikely to solidify in 2021.



# Fashion giant Inditex to axe 79 stores in Spain - three of them on the Costa del Sol - by April

The retail group includes the Zara, Massimo Dutti, Bershka, Oysho, Pull & Bear and Stradivarius chains

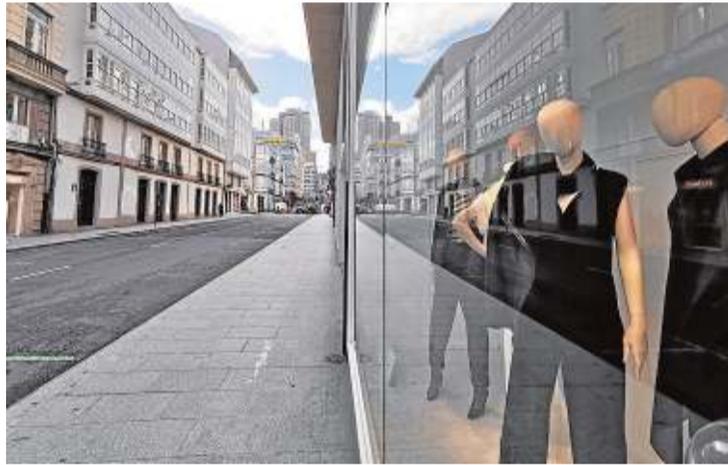
ALMUDENA NOGUÉS

MALAGA. Inditex - one of the world's largest fashion retailers - has started its massive restructuring plan that will lead to the closure of almost eighty of its stores in Spain between now and next April.

Between 250 and 300 stores will eventually be closed in this country, with the first 79 to be culled announced this week by the moda.es web portal.

The decision will hit around 800 Inditex employees from its Zara, Massimo Dutti, Bershka, Oysho, Pull & Bear and Stradivarius chains.

The Galician company announced in the summer that it would reinforce its digital business and reorganise its physi-



An Inditex store in A Coruña, Galicia, where the company began. EFE

cal commercial presence, with the closure of between 1,000 and 1,200 stores worldwide between 2020 and 2021. This will mean the disappearance of one in every seven establishments.

In the case of Malaga, according to the moda.es website, the first round of closures will affect three establishments: the Pull & Bear store in Rincón de la Victoria and the Bershka stores in

Marbella and Fuengirola.

The restructuring plans will also hit some flagship sites, including the Gran Vía in Madrid and the Paseo de Gracías in Barcelona, as well as seeing them leave a large number of shopping centres across the country.

Massimo Dutti is the chain most affected by the reorganisation process, which will affect 19 stores with 132 employees.

# Crunch week for Unicaja and Liberbank merger talks

MALAGA

Splits in the board of Fundación Unicaja over future control of any new firm are said to be complicating negotiations

NURIA TRIGUERO

Malaga-based Unicaja Banco and Liberbank are facing a crunch week in their merger talks. On 31 December, the initial period for due diligence that each bank is

carrying out on the other runs out and negotiators would need to start again using the accounts from the second half of 2020 instead of the first half.

Sources have said that the talks are at a difficult stage, although the merger of the two entities to create Spain's fifth biggest bank continues to make sense on paper.



The uncertainty is said to be driven by divisions within Fundación Unicaja, charitable majority owner of Unicaja, over how to ensure that the bank stays Malaga based long-term.

# Iberia to buy Air Europa at half the price it first offered a year ago

MADRID

SUR. More than a year since Iberia set out to acquire rival Air Europa for one billion euros in cash, and after the effects of co-

ronavirus have hit the aviation sector hard, a deal appears to have been reached but at under half the original price offered.

Air Europa has recently received a government bailout of 475m euros, a mixture of a loan for shares swap and a cash loan.

Iberia's owner IAG, which also owns British Airways, has approved the purchase that will not see any money changing hands for the sale until 2026 in order to give Air Europa time to settle its debts with the government.

**Fluent Finance Abroad (FFA)**  
SPANISH MORTGAGE SPECIALISTS SINCE 2006

Want to release tax free cash tied up in your home?

- Are you 65 years or over and have full Spanish residency?
- Do you own your home outright or have a small mortgage against the property?
- Would you like to release cash tied up in the property for a tax-free lump sum and receive a regular tax free monthly income?
- If you answered YES to all of the above you may qualify for the Spanish Lifetime Mortgage.

For a free consultation with a FFA expert call us now on 952 85 36 47

Spanish Lifetime Mortgages or Hipotecas Inversas are regulated under Spanish Mortgage Law 41/2007

FFA info@fluentfinanceabroad.com www.fluentfinanceabroad.com t 952 85 36 47  
Av. Marqués del Duero 76, 3º C, San Pedro de Alcántara, 29670 Marbella

LETTERS  
TO THE EDITOR

## It's time

We spent spring in lockdown, and then we were able to go out to greet the summer. Autumn arrived - relentless, difficult and strange. Now winter's here - cold, dark, sad, anti-social. But... it appears that the end is near, that we will soon wake up from this cruel nightmare.

Spring will return, and fill us with hope, with light, with lost aromas. And meanwhile... We've filled our houses with decorations and lights, because it's time to put some colour into our lives. It's time for difficult, tough, but necessary decisions. It's time to act, not to give in, to feel more alive than ever, to shed a tear for those who've gone, to not forget, to put away our impotence and frustration, to learn, to gather hope.

It's time to paint smiles and not tears. It's time to raise a glass. It's time to reflect, to be grateful, to look at the stars, to walk with confidence. It's time to look to the future, to believe in ourselves, to keep going step by step, and not fall back. It's time to be brave, to accept the suffering and learn from experience. It's time to progress, to propose challenges, to give the best of ourselves, to shine, to continue to add colour to moments. It's time to laugh, to stand up, to fly. Soon the hugging and kissing will be back... It's time to celebrate life. Happy Christmas!

MONTSE SALINAS

## Christmas excess

Excess at Christmas time invades our lives.

It's as if we lose our sense of responsibility and stop being aware of the waste we generate.

But among so many gifts and celebrations, where is our care for the planet?

It's important to spread awareness and try to find alternatives. For example, for several years now in my family we wrap our gifts in scarves.

The planet also needs our solidarity.

MARÍA GÁLVEZ

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

THE MUSIC MAKER  
PETER EDGERTON

www.e-peter.com

## Season's bleatings

Like most things this year, Christmas Day is going to be a bit weird. Still, we can nonetheless make an effort to ensure we enjoy the yuletide season to the maximum and, to that end, I'd like to do my bit and offer a few handy hints.

First, get a big fat chicken instead of a turkey; chicken tastes a lot nicer than turkey does (in fact so do Christmas crackers, come to think of it). No one will complain except for that family member who complains about everything anyway. In fact, everyone will probably thank you for it because it's one of the unwritten rules about Christmas - nobody really likes turkey but no-one dares say so. There, I've done it for you.

Next, make an effort to start drinking even earlier than usual this year, maybe even before you've got out of bed. The extra strain of these very odd few months needs some release af-

ter all, and what better remedy than a wee stiffener before you've bothered to take your jim jams off?

Now then, the TV schedules. This is important. Don't give the remote control to dad under any circumstances no matter how much he protests or you'll end up watching Snooker's Funniest Moments And Only Fools And Horses on a loop, even though it's not 1986. Anyone under the age of thirty doesn't want the remote - in fact doesn't know what one is - so that leaves grandparents or mum. I suggest grandparents because mum'll feel sorry for dad after half an hour of Brideshead Revisited and will cave in, offering him the zapper and, quite possibly, a cup of tea. Plus, grandparents might not know how the remote control works which. Let's face it, given the average Christmas TV schedule, could well be a mighty blessing. Teenagers sporting grumpy

faces will stare at phones, posting - somewhat ironically - smiley faces.

Next, games. Please no Monopoly - this is the turkey of the board game world in that nobody really likes it, although the board itself is almost certainly slightly more succulent than any turkey I've ever tasted. Ditto, charades. Teenagers aren't likely to sacrifice screen time to watch dad miming Del Boy falling through the open bar hatch and grandparents' hips aren't likely to be up any heavy acting action; after all, Hips Don't Lie - Shakira told us that, so it must be true.

Finally, throughout all of the above stages, be sure to top up your glass with anything vaguely alcoholic to keep reality at bay. As we all know, the moment that pesky blighter rears his ugly head, it's game over. A detached haze is, I'm sure you'll find, the order of the day.

Merry Christmas, everybody.

## IDÍGORAS



SUR in English

Published by: PRENSA MALAGUEÑA S. A.  
Director General: ANTONIO GONZÁLEZEditor in Chief  
MANUEL CASTILLO  
Publications Director  
Pedro Luis GómezEditor  
Rachel Haynes  
Assistant editor  
Daryl FinchAdvertising Manager  
Emma Vera  
Commercial Director  
Jorge ArteroTHE BOTTOM LINE  
ANA BARREALES

## I'd trade a Christmas parade for a leg of ham

Some towns are preparing a "static" Three Kings cavalcade this year. Yes, it sounds odd, but considering how things have been going this year, it's not the strangest thing to have happened. We've put Christmas lights up as if there were no tomorrow and then we tell people they have to stay at home and that these

Christmas holidays are going to be different, because if not there's the threat of a third wave.

What are we playing at? It's already hard enough to explain that the Kings bring gifts to all the children in the world in one night, but some get more than others; and now we have to explain that this year it

will be the other way round. The Kings will be the ones standing still and the children will parade past to look at them.

I understand that it's difficult to get the right balance between trying to keep the excitement in the air and avoiding crowds, but perhaps now's the time to consider something different.

Between lights and static parades, I'd rather have one of the 'pata negra' hams that Parauta town hall has given all of its residents.

This need to maintain all of the symbols of Christmas while at the same time calling for contention is like blowing and sucking.

The same goes for the no-alcohol rule between 6 and 8 in the evening.

They've announced that plainclothes officers are out making sure that the rules are complied with: not just not drinking

alcohol in those two hours, but also keeping social distance and wearing face masks. The latter seems easier to police; in terms of the contents of a glass, are they picking them up and smelling them, like a mother trying to catch a teenage child out drinking... or what?

On the other hand, there's also the danger that cafeterias and ice cream parlours will fill up more than ever during those two hours, if they are the only places allowed to stay open.

If the aim is to protect us from infection, there's no need to go around in circles.

It makes me think of the joke about two Basque mushroom hunters. One of them digs up a Rolex and when he holds it up like a trophy, he is scolded by his companion. "What are we hunting? Rolexes or mushrooms?" he asks. Well, quite.



UK Government

UK TRANSITION

# Settled in Spain? Apply for residency now.

Find out more at [gov.uk/living-in-spain](https://gov.uk/living-in-spain)

- ✓ Check
- ✓ Change
- ✓ Go

He wasn't the first star to walk down the steps of a plane at Malaga Airport. For example, the flamboyant Frank Sinatra had done so just a year before and the pioneering Maureen O'Hara had made a glamorous entrance during the previous decade. Nevertheless, never before had a flight aroused so much interest. The difference this time was that the press had been told and not one, not two, but a whole legion of reporters and writers were waiting in September 1966 for the arrival of the Air France plane bringing John Lennon from Germany.

Gone was the Beatle's famous long hair, but he was still instantly recognisable. There were so many members of the press waiting for him that the singer had no choice but to hold an improvised press conference, and when he had finally answered all their questions and thought he could get on his way, there was another barrier: dozens of fans were keen to obtain his autograph. This, remember, was long before the era of selfies.

"There was no way the presence of so many photographers would go unnoticed and a lot of foreigners, especially women, who were arriving at the airport to fly back to their own countries recognised him, so he spent ages signing autographs for them before he could finally leave," says Eugenio Griñán, one of those whose camera immortalised the arrival of the Beatle, who was killed 40 years ago this month in New York.

Griñán remembers seeing Lennon, who was just 25 years old when he came to Malaga, signing everything people waved at him, including banknotes which the fans then took home with them as a souvenir. Those notes were worth 1,000 pesetas at the time; they are worth a great deal more than that now, with John Lennon's signature on them.

Speaking of money, the Malaga press took the opportunity to ask the star how much he earned, to which he, already an expert in dealing with uncomfortable questions, had an answer ready: he said he didn't know, because all that was handled by their manager.

John Lennon sat on a wooden bench in a room in the international arrivals area of the airport to talk to the crowd of reporters and photographers. "The airport was a source of news and I had a contact there who told me if someone famous was due to arrive, but on that day I obviously wasn't the only one to hear about it," says Griñán, who remembers the Beatle as being friendly, smiling and not at all reticent despite recently having caused a worldwide controversy.

Just a few months earlier, during an interview in March 1966,



**Press conference.** John Lennon had an impromptu chat with journalists at Malaga airport in 1966. **EUGENIO GRIÑÁN**

## John Lennon's visit to Malaga, well worth 1,000 pesetas

**1966.** Although he no longer had his famous long hair the legendary Beatle, who was murdered 40 years ago this month, caused huge excitement as soon as he set foot in the airport. He wouldn't say how much he earned, but he signed numerous 1,000 peseta notes which are now worth a great deal

John Lennon had stated that the Beatles were more popular than Jesus. His remarks were republished in the United States in July, and they enraged religious groups to such an extent that there were protesters at every concert on the Beatles' American tour. Word of the controversy also reached Spain, causing the Franco regime's press to make disparaging remarks about 'el melenudo', (long-haired guy), as they referred to him.

### Short hair like Samson

On this occasion, that bad boy with the long hair arrived with it cut short in Samson style, something which the journalists lost no time asking him about. He told them he was on his way to Almeria to film Richard Lester's black comedy *How I Won the War*, in which he played a sergeant, Musketeer Gripweed. Logically, if he was going to play a soldier, he had to have short hair.

A German music magazine also took advantage of this situation by collecting up his long locks as they were cut off and distributing them to its readers.

Although the film team comprised about 30 people and the expedition also included actor

Michael Crawford, nobody at the airport had eyes for anyone but Lennon. Well, apart from Quique Herreros, who was handling public relations for the film and translated for the singer and vice versa. The press had no choice but to pay attention to him.

In response to questions, the Beatle said his top priorities during his visit were to shoot the film, swim in the sea and go to a flamenco club, an ambience that he already knew well because three years earlier he had spent a couple of weeks in Torremolinos with his manager, Brian Epstein, who was known as the fifth Beatle.

At one point the journalists did touch a nerve on the subject of bullfighting because it was already known that Lennon loved animals. When asked if he would be going to a bullfight, he told them bluntly that he didn't like that type of spectacle: "I'm an animal lover".

However, the ruffled feathers were soon smoothed by the star, when he said he thought Spain was a lovely country and said he felt happy here, referring to his holiday on the particularly libertarian Costa del Sol a few years earlier.

And that's where the interview came to an end, although the author of *Let It Be* and *Strawberry Fields Forever* still took a while to win the battle to get out of the airport. Ahead of him, the fans were waiting with their 1,000 peseta notes held out for him to sign.

Finally, John Lennon was able to set off on the road to Almeria to start filming. David Trueba based his film *Living is Easy with Eyes Closed* on this second visit. But that is another story.

### EL «BEATLE» LENON, EN MALAGA



SUR reported on the visit in September 1966.

**FRANCISCO GRIÑÁN**



# Due to COVID-19, we have all found out that being a resident in the 11 towns on the Costa del Sol has a lot of benefits

## SMALL GESTURE, BIG RETURN

IT IS IN YOUR HANDS

### ONE GARBAGE TRUCK

IS EQUIVALENT TO 2,400 REGISTERED INHABITANTS



THERE ARE OVER 250,000 PEOPLE LIVING IN MARBELLA AND ONLY 145,000 PEOPLE ARE REGISTERED.

### AN EVEN SAFER CITY

2,500 REGISTRATIONS GETS US 4 POLICE OFFICERS



THERE ARE OVER 250,000 PEOPLE LIVING IN MARBELLA AND ONLY 145,000 PEOPLE ARE REGISTERED.

THE MUNICIPAL REGISTER, OR PADRÓN, SHOWS THE NUMBER OF INHABITANTS IN A CITY AND IS IMPORTANT AS THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE REGISTERED AFFECTS THE ECONOMIC CONTRIBUTIONS AND RESOURCES THAT THE CITY RECEIVES FROM THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT.

## REGISTER!

[extranjeros.marbella.es](http://extranjeros.marbella.es)

## 11 REASONS TO VISIT

## WESTERN COSTA DEL SOL



BENAHAVÍS

BENALMÁDENA

CASARES

ESTEPONA

FUENGIROLA

ISTÁN

MANILVA

MARBELLA

MIJAS

OJÉN

TORREMOLINOS

# A taste for travel

**Let the destinations come to you. Evocative recipes and cocktail inspiration for the season to be jolly**



**Nelson Gallo.**  
The mixologist at work at the Marbella Club. **SUR**



**ANDREW FORBES**



Last week I was lost in the fragrant orange groves of Valencia. The sweet floral aroma of azahar seemed to surround me. Yet I hadn't broken our regional lockdown. Instead, I had been transported from my dining room table to the heart of Mediterranean Spain thanks to the sensory pleasure of sipping a Moscatel white wine from Valencia in between indulging in a spoonful of homemade Valencian orange marmalade! I know, the combination certainly sounds original, (if not a little strange), but it made for a deliciously captivating, fragrant combination that was so evocative of the Valencia region.

## Quintessential cuisine

As travel has become increasingly restricted and complicated, destination marketing is getting ever more creative by allowing food to bring the joy of travel into our homes. A growing trend in the Covid-19 era is for tourism organisations to send boxes of emblematic artisan foods and wines to travel agents, travel writers and online marketers.

My recent box of goodies had come from Bio Sense (an initia-

tive between the autonomous region of Valencia and its chamber of commerce). Bio Sense hosted a 'blind tasting' via zoom, with a top chef, together with video portraits of local food and wine producers.

After all, food and travel are inextricably linked. Getting stuck into some local grub is one of the best ways as a visitor we can connect with a culture. Sightseeing often feels obligatory when travelling, yet it's the markets, bars, restaurants and local homes where we gain an insight into traditions and culture, as well as creating some of the best, most delicious holiday memories.

So, during this holiday season like no other, when many of us are not leaving our homes, let alone our local communities, what better way to rekindle our taste for travel than with some international food experiences enjoyed at home!

## Arabesque allure

Looking back on my year of travel, I recall that my first trip away after the spring lockdown was to the picturesque Cadiz hilltop town of Vejer de la Frontera. This sparkling citadel of sun-bleached

whitewashed Moorish architecture looks out towards the Atlantic ocean. On a typically brilliant clear day the mountains of Morocco are visible, a tantalising glimpse of the exotic. A little of the magic of 1001 Arabian Nights can be enjoyed at El Jardín del Califa, the romantic restaurant created by James Stuart. Dishes celebrate North African cuisine, full of Moorish and Berber influences, redolent of the colours, aromas, and flavours of the exotic.

If you want to recreate a little of this enchantment at home, visit the news section of [www.califavejer.com](http://www.califavejer.com) where you'll find recipes as well as links to cooking videos where James shares his love of this most flavoursome cuisine, from easy-to-make babaganoush and hummus, tender, slow-cooked tagines, to sweet treats like lemon and almond cake.

## Flavours from the lagoon

If you're a regular reader of this monthly section, you'll recall that later in the year our summer travel was to Venice. The lagoon city was more romantic than ever. Without the cruise ship crowds it felt easier to blend in with the locals.



▲ **Chocolate delight.**  
From Il Palazzo Experimental hotel, Venice. **SUR**

▼ **Festive tipples.**  
Snowy Berries cocktail from the SUD Lisboa (left) and Annie B's sherry session. **SUR**

duce the dates into a compote.

## Meringue to garnish:

200g egg white

400g sugar creamy

Whip the egg whites, adding sugar little by little. When it reaches a foamy crème, put the meringue into a pastry bag and form small meringues. Bake at 120 degrees for 2 hours.

¡Buon appetito!

## Festive tippie

I'm sure you'll agree that this year has been enough to drive even the most resilient to drink. Although 2020 may not have given us much to celebrate, with lockdowns, restrictions, financial worries and, for some families, much worse, it's important to continue to enjoy life. Well, that's my excuse for a renewed interest in making cocktails at home; inspired by the bar men and women I've met at hotels and restaurants this year, whose signature creations have really enhanced each travel experience.

Last month our Portugal Road Trip feature took us to Lisbon and the urban cool of SUD Lisboa, a unique restaurant, bar, and pool lounge. Head barman Nuno Rodrigues has shared the secret of his festive signature cocktail, 'Snowy Berries'. Here's the recipe:

## Snowy Berries

Ingredients:

40ml Ciroc red berry vodka

30ml 'Funkin' Mixed Berry purée

10ml Belsazar Vermouth Rosé

20ml lemon juice

20ml sugar syrup

30ml egg white

Glassware: 'Old Fashioned' short tumbler.

Method: Shake the ingredients in a cocktail shaker with ice and then strain into the tumbler.

Garnish: Raspberry, a sprig of mint, cinnamon and icing sugar.

## Bubbles for everyone!

Closer to home, here on the coast we have one of Spain's finest cocktail bars at Marbella Club. Rudi's is the new Clubhouse lounge and bar, an elegant homage to Count Rudi, the hotel's first General Manager, who has been part of the Marbella story for decades.

Rudi's is described as a 'timeless Bohemian lounge', and the truth is the eclectic style of old school elegance and quirky collectables certainly immerses you in the Marbella Club ambiance of golden era nostalgia. Yet it is also fused with on-trend innovations in food and cocktails too.

Clubhouse mixologist Nelson Gallo has recently been hosting intimate Cocktail Masterclasses, sharing his skills and inspiration for stylish cocktails we can make at home this festive season. For Christmas he's created the 'Citrus

The secret canal-side garden of the Il Palazzo Experimental Hotel is the place for cicchetti and cocktails with the neighbourhood residents of the artsy Dorsoduro district. Executive Chef Attilio Franzoi has shared a recipe with us for the holiday season, a sumptuous, 'Dark Chocolate Cremoso with date compote and amaretti'. A pudding that will bring the beauty of Italy into your kitchen. Here's the recipe (for 8):

## Chocolate cremoso:

500g Arriba chocolate 52%

250g full cream milk

5g cornflour

Melt the cornflour in cold full cream milk. Bring to a boil continuing to mix with a whisk. Then pour into a bowl with the chocolate. Stir with a spatula until it has all completely melted and blended. Finally pour the mix into a silicone mold. Let it settle overnight.

## Date compote:

300g pitted dates

300gr Disaronno amaretto

Pour the dates and amaretto in a saucepan and bring to the boil, evaporating the alcohol and cooking the dates. Use a whisk to re-

# Making some legal sense out of the Covid mess for travellers

Blues', mixing the Clubhouse artisan gin of choice, GauGin, with Nelson's 'secret' citrus chili liquor (homemade with grapefruit, lemon, lime, orange, calamondin, chili and cinnamon) and ginger beer. Pop-in to try it... and banish those winter blues.

To try a festive tippie at home, Nelson suggests a Champagne Snowball, a Marbella Club twist on the classic winter cocktail. Here's the recipe:

## Champagne Snowball

Ingredients:  
60ml champagne  
30ml fino sherry  
15ml lime cordial  
60ml Advocaat liqueur  
30ml egg white

Glassware: Champagne flute  
Method: Add champagne directly to a frozen glass, shake the other ingredients in a cocktail shaker with ice and then double strain over the champagne (using a second small sieve over the glass to remove any small pieces of ice).  
Garnish: fine grated chocolate or nutmeg. ¡Salud!

## Sherry shenanigans

Well, before I sign off for Christmas, I couldn't ignore one of the classic drinks of Christmas - sherry! Yes, I know that many of us may have an old-fashioned misconception of these wines from Jerez, probably thanks to our parents or grandparents sipping a Christmas morning sweet cream sherry. Yet there is so much more to these diverse wines, so make 2021 the year you get to know your amontillados from your olorosos, or enjoy the difference between a fino and a manzanilla. If you are curious about Sherry, the iconic wine of Andalucía, now's your chance to learn all about it. Book a window with qualified Sherry Educator Annie B (based in Vejer) for a zoom Sherry Session. If you're reading this in the UK, your tasting kit can be shipped to you.

If Spain is home, then Annie can advise on a Sherry shopping list from local wines stores. Look for the courses section at [www.anniebspain.com](http://www.anniebspain.com).

So that just leaves me to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a safe and healthy 2021.

## Where in the world?

The where in the world question that normally accompanies this section will be back next month. For those who can't till next month for November's answer, it was Alnwick Garden in Northumberland, UK.

## Expert Sandra Wrightson clears up some questions raised concerning travel in times of Covid, fraught with restrictions and cancellations

A. FORBES

MALAGA. Regional, national, and international travel restrictions due to Covid-19 continue to create confusion and uncertainty.

To help us navigate this changing travel landscape, I shared a few questions with legal expert Sandra Wrightson, English Barrister in Spain, and partner of De Cotta Law, specialists in legal matters for foreign investors and residents in Spain and the Canary Islands.

### -I understand that Andalucía's border 'perimeters' are closed until further notice. Can I still go on holiday to Dubai this winter?

Yes, you can go on holiday from your nearest airport. You must comply with the testing regulations of your destination country and also comply with Spanish regulations when returning, such as completing the arrivals Health Declaration online at the Spain Travel Health Portal <https://www.spth.gob.es/>

### -I need to take a PCR Covid-19 test before going skiing. Can I use a home test kit from the pharmacy?

No, you need to go to an approved private clinic. Results can take up to two days to arrive and are usually only valid for 72 hours.

### -My airline has cancelled my flight due to Covid-19. I don't have travel insurance. What are my rights to a refund?

Firstly my advice is to always take out travel insurance even when travelling to the UK and within the EU. Travel insurers are navigating uncharted waters during this pandemic. Since the initial global lockdowns earlier this year, most travel policies have special clauses for Covid-19 related claims. Check the policy small-print to make sure it meets your needs and your level of risk. Some insurers are actively promoting policies with Covid-19 related support.

When it is a European airline that cancels your flight, you have a legal right to a refund. Often the easiest option is to access a credit and rebook, but there is always the risk the airline might fail in the future and you will lose your credit. Alternatively request a refund but don't expect any dialogue or response for some weeks.

When booking an airline ticket

check the terms and conditions. Many airlines are promoting flexible tickets that can be re-booked but often there are hidden charges and supplements to pay and restrictions on new dates.

### -Is it legal for airlines to force me to prove that I have taken an approved Covid-19 test before I am allowed to board?

At present the airlines have the right to refuse boarding without proof of a PCR or equivalent test. Once vaccines become more widely available airlines are likely to bring in further changes.

### -I have a holiday home in Nerja but live outside Spain. Can I drive down to Andalucía in the next few weeks for a winter break?

From 23 December till 6 January you can travel across regional borders, but only to share Christ-



Sandra Wrightson. SUR

mas with family. This is not only the traditional family model and would include partners who are not married. No other leisure travel in and out by train or car is allowed.

The borders of Andalucía are open for international tourism [usually in and out via nearest airport, although note that arri-

vals from the UK were banned for non-residents this week, due to the new strain of the virus.]

Arrivals must have a PCR negative test and comply with a period of self-isolation depending on where they have come from.

Once in Andalucía, visitors must comply with all travel and other Covid-19 restrictions.

If your home is a secondary residence, you cannot drive there from outside Spain. Andalucía is not allowing people to drive to second homes through other regions or from other parts of Spain or beyond.

**i More information:** Contact DeCotta Law at [info@decottalaw.net](mailto:info@decottalaw.net) or 952931781.

Please note that regional, national and international travel restrictions related to Covid-19 are changing swiftly and with little warning. Check the authorities' online resources for more information and look for updates on [www.surinenglish.com](http://www.surinenglish.com)

FASHION, ACCESSORIES, SPORT, TECHNOLOGY, LEISURE, RESTAURANTS, HOME, DIY, TOYS, FOOD, BEAUTY, HEALTH AND MUCH MORE

The Christmas you deserve

La Canada SHOPPING

HOPE

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/la.canada.shopping](https://www.facebook.com/la.canada.shopping)

Instagram: [www.instagram.com/la.canada.shopping](https://www.instagram.com/la.canada.shopping)

DENISE BUSH



GARDENING

# Puya alpestris

A distant relative of the pineapple, Puya alpestris is native to the Chilean Andes. It is an unusual plant, ideal for making a bold statement in the garden or in a container in the patio.

Commonly called sapphire tower or mountain puya, it is a bromeliad that grows on dry, rocky outcrops in its native country and is therefore very drought hardy once established.

Puya alpestris forms a large, silver-green mound, around 60cm high, of thin succulent leaves, each 'blade' edged with sharp thorns. The underside of the leaves are covered with white scales.

A clump may flower in its second year, or it may take five to six years to produce the

flower spike for which it is so sought after.

In a sunny spot and with adequate irrigation it will flower in spring, sending up a spike two or two and a half metres tall.

The individual flowers are about five centimetres across and an almost metallic turquoise colour, sometimes appearing black in the centre, and with bright orange anthers. Birds, bees and butterflies can land on the short branches that form all the way up the flower spike to feed on the rich source of nectar.

It is not frost resistant but will grow happily in a container but not too big a pot as it likes its roots to be crowded.

The flowers stay on the spike for up to six weeks and as they fade, the plant gradually dies. Around the base will be numerous 'pups' which can be removed below soil level and potted up for new plants. Puya alpestris will also grow from fresh seed although germination may be slow. The seeds need to be sown on the surface of moist soil and kept in a dark place until they sprout.

An ideal location would be in full sun or partial shade and in well-drained soil. Feeding with a liquid fertiliser in spring will help to encourage flowering.

Another member of the genus, Puya berteroniana is much taller and the colour of the flowers is not so stunning, being a softer green.



Puya alpestris and blooms (insert). WIKIMEDIA / FLICKR

READERS' PHOTOS



ROZ CAPLAN

## Winter pansies

"A bit of winter joy" is how reader Roz Caplan describes this colourful tub of pansies.

## Christmas cactus

The Christmas cactus (*Schlumbergera bridgessii*) is a tropical plant native to Brazil. Unlike most other cacti which are used to a hot, dry climate, *Schlumbergera* need more watering and less heat. Feeding during the summer will help promote prolific flowering like this specimen in the photo sent in by Edmund Doseman.



EDMUND DOOSEMAN

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](mailto: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](https://www.facebook.com/surenglish)) or Twitter ([@SUR\\_English](https://twitter.com/SUR_English)).



Join the  
**SUNFLOWER EFFECT**

Add life to the days of people with cancer and other advanced illnesses

Visit [sunflowereffect.org](http://sunflowereffect.org) and donate care



# R-DMCS

## Glass Manufacturers S.L.

The Official  
Distributor  
of Sunflex  
Glass Curtains

Enhance your  
property with  
a superior  
system



Specialist manufacturers of Glass Curtains, Stainless Steel,  
UPVC & Aluminium Windows, Doors and Bi-Folds.



Everything manufactured in house for all your glass needs:  
Glass curtains, Windows and doors, stainless steel, pool surrounds, roofs (manual & electric),  
steel structures, shop fronts, bespoke furniture, showers, double glazing, splash backs etc...



Pol Ind El Cañadon, Nave 16 & 18, Km 2,  
Camino de Coin, Mijas Costa, Malaga, 29650

Tel/Fax 952 477 963  
Mobile 677 712 742  
rdmcsglass@hotmail.com

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



SUNFLEX



RDMC's Glass Manufacturers SL,  
Glass Curtains & Stainless Steel Specialist



# Greetings of the season that go back hundreds of years

**Christmas cards.** The tradition of giving seasonal greetings cards began in the 19th century, although the custom is little practiced today

TONY BRYANT



The first commercial Christmas card commissioned by Sir Henry Cole. SUR

The custom of exchanging the time-honoured Christmas card during the weeks leading to Christmas is a tradition that took off in Britain in the middle of the 19th century. However, like so many customs related to Yuletide, this simple gesture is almost a thing of the past. Today, many people send their Christmas sentiments via the internet with platforms like Moonpig or social media, yet it was once a major part of the build-up to the festive season.

People sent cards to family, close friends and acquaintances, making the task a multi-hour chore in addressing dozens of envelopes.

The Christmas card custom did not catch on in Spain with the same intensity as in the UK and America, but, as with the appearance of Christmas trees and Santa, cards with the inscription *Feliz Navidad y Próspero Año Nuevo* are now available in tobacconists and stationers.

The first recorded Christmas

card, discovered in the Scottish Records Office in 1979, was sent to King James I in 1611. The card was sent by German physicist Michael Maier and contained the inscription "A greeting on the birthday of the Sacred King".

## First commercial cards

It would be more than 200 years, however, before British civil servant Sir Henry Cole, best remembered today as the founder of the Victoria and Albert Museum in London, commissioned the

painter J. C. Horsley to design the first commercial card. The card, which was produced in London in 1843, cost one shilling and offered an image of a family drinking wine, which, at the time, was considered somewhat controversial because it was thought to encourage underage drinking.

In 1873, Louis Prang began creating commercial Christmas cards in Britain, and, one year later, he became the first printer to offer cards in America, earning him the title of "father of the

American Christmas card". Although Prang began producing around five million cards a year, cheap imitations, and the invention of the postcard, eventually put him out of business and signalled the end of the elaborate Victorian style greetings cards.

By the beginning of the 20th century, cards with envelopes had made a come back and the tradition proved to be a profitable business. The hugely popular brand produced by the Hall brothers (Hallmark) began to market colourful Christmas cards with red-suited Santas, nativity scenes and cheerful messages inside; while the two world wars increased demand for more personalised greeting cards to send to soldiers.

Idiosyncratic cards with risqué humour caught on in the 1950s, but the Victorian and Edwardian designs have remained popular to this day.

Appreciation of the artistry of Christmas cards grew in the late 19th century, which was partly due to competitions organised by card publishers. Queen Mary amassed a large collection that is now housed in the British Museum.

Specimens from the golden age of printing (1840s -1890s) are especially popular at auctions, although the most expensive card ever sold was that commissioned by Sir Henry Cole, which was sold in the UK in 2001 for 22,250 pounds.

## WHAT HAPPENED TODAY?

25 DECEMBER 1942

# Birth of controversial flamenco singer Enrique Morente

Morente's work is now widely recognised by critics, but there are still those who disparage his contribution

TONY BRYANT

Enrique Morente, one of the most controversial singers within the world of contemporary flamenco, was born in the Albaicín district of Granada on Christmas Day in 1942. Since called the 'Pope of Flamenco', Morente, father of celebrated singer Estrella Morente, was a revolutionary artist who changed the course of flamenco history with his distinctive style of singing.

Without renouncing his tra-

ditional roots, the singer began performing with musicians from diverse musical genres, which, despite criticism from the dyed-in-the-wool aficionados, shot him from the close-knit circle of the flamenco world into an international star.

Enrique Morente Coteló, who recorded more than 20 albums throughout his career, began singing as a member of Los Seises, a group of children that uphold a 17th-century religious custom by singing and performing pietistic dances during religious festivals.

He became attracted to flamenco as a child and was inspired by family gatherings in Granada. While still in his teens, Morente headed to Madrid to embark on a professional career and he was soon



Morente (l) with Canadian songwriter/poet Leonard Cohen. EFE

noticed by some of the old masters, like Pepe de la Matrona and Bernardo de los Lobitos.

He was hired to sing at many of the top flamenco tablaos in the capital and enjoyed long stints at the prestigious El Zambra and El Café de Chinitas.

He soon became a favourite at the summer flamenco festivals and then went on to tour Europe and Japan with several different flamenco companies.

However, Morente's music strayed away from convention

as he continued to mix pure flamenco with different world music throughout the 1970s and '80s. One of his most critically acclaimed recordings is the *Flamenco Mass*, with which he mixed flamenco with other genres like the Gregorian chant.

In 1995, he produced his most controversial recording, *Omega*, together with Spanish rock band Lagartija Nick. For this much-criticised work, Morente mixed flamenco with punk rock and used lyrics by

Leonard Cohen and Granada-born poet Federico García Lorca.

Although Morente's work is now widely recognised by most critics, there are still those who disparage his contribution.

He died in a Madrid hospital in December 2010 after an alleged surgical error during a relatively straightforward stomach operation.

**Bilingual crossword inside back page**

## LANGUAGE FOOTNOTE

<b>Cantaor</b>	Flamenco singer
<b>Reconocido</b>	Recognised
<b>Polémico</b>	Controversial
<b>Papa</b>	Pope
<b>Raíz/Raíces</b>	Root/Roots
<b>Músico</b>	Musician
<b>Género</b>	Genre
<b>Escenario</b>	Stage
<b>Grabar</b>	To record
<b>Carrera</b>	Career
<b>Reunión</b>	Gathering
<b>Costumbre</b>	Custom
<b>Contratar</b>	To hire
<b>Compañía</b>	Company
<b>Hija</b>	Daughter
<b>Verano</b>	Summer
<b>Críticos</b>	Critics
<b>Letra</b>	Lyrics

**Oferplan**  
SUR

THE BEST DISCOUNTS FROM OFERPLAN



**ENJOY A DAY AT BIOPARC  
AT THE BEST PRICE**

**12€** BEFORE ~~21.10€~~ **43% DISCOUNT**



UNTIL 28 FEBRUARY



Bioparc  
C/ Camilo José Cela, 6, 29640. Málaga

**It's very easy  
to obtain these offers:**

**By telephone:  
902 945 946**

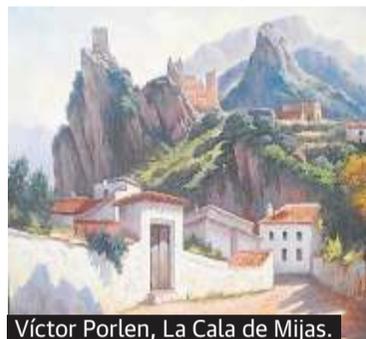
(Cost of calls from landlines:  
0.11€ call set-up + 0.075€/minute.  
For mobiles, check prices with your provider).

**BY internet:  
[oferplan.diariosur.es](http://oferplan.diariosur.es)**

## EXHIBITIONS

## Victor Porlen

**LA CALA DE MIJAS.** Until 7 January. Centro Cultural. Jaén artist Víctor Porlen will be exhibiting a selection of his works.



Víctor Porlen, La Cala de Mijas.

## Recycled Christmas trees

**MIJAS PUEBLO.** Until 5 January. The streets of Mijas are the location for an exhibition various Christmas trees made and decorated with recycled materials.

## José Manuel López Toirán

**MIJAS PUEBLO.** Until 7 January. Casa Museo, C/Libertad. Galician-born artist José Manuel López Toirán uses scrap pieces of wood to create his colourful sculptures.

## Cristianos Coptos

**LAS LAGUNAS.** Until 18 January. Casa de la Cultura. An exhibition of photos by Antonio G. Redondo entitled Cristianos Coptos, Una Forma de Vida.

## Isabel Rosado

**MARBELLA.** Until 19 January. Galería Yusto/Giner. La Ermita industrial estate, C/Madera, 9. The exhibition Still Living by photographer Isabel Rosado consists of still lifes with a twist. Viewing is by previ-

ous appointment only. Email: gale-ria@yusto-giner.com Call: 951507053.

## Flower Art

**ESTEPONA.** Until 30 December. Casa de las Tejerinas, Plaza de las Flores. An exhibition of ecological art by Lara Galán consisting of 25 canvases of various sizes with pictures created using dyes made from flowers, watercolours and pencil.

## Christmas Nativity scene

**FUENGIROLA.** Until January. Museo de la Ciudad de Fuengirola. The traditional display of belenes (Nativity scenes) will take place this year, but visitor numbers are restricted.

## Christmas art exhibition

**GAUCÍN.** Until 10 January. Town Hall, C/Convento. Fourteen artists from the Art Gaucín group are exhibiting their works in the new town hall. The display includes paintings, sculpture, photography and ceramics. www.artgaucin.com

## Centro de Arte Contemporáneo - CAC Málaga

**MALAGA.** C/Alemania. **Cabrita Reis.** Until 14 March. The Portuguese artist is exhibiting 224 works which include paintings, sculptures, drawings and pieces created with materials he has found. **Miki Leal.** Until 21 February. Sculptures and paintings by the Seville artist reveal his 'mikitology', reflecting his love of tennis, jazz and film, in the exhibition, Well-known People / Right to Entry. **JM Galería MALAGA.** Duquesa de Parcent, 12. De Gente En Gente is the title of the current exhibition at the gallery. It

# The Pompidou Centre in Malaga faces up to the pandemic

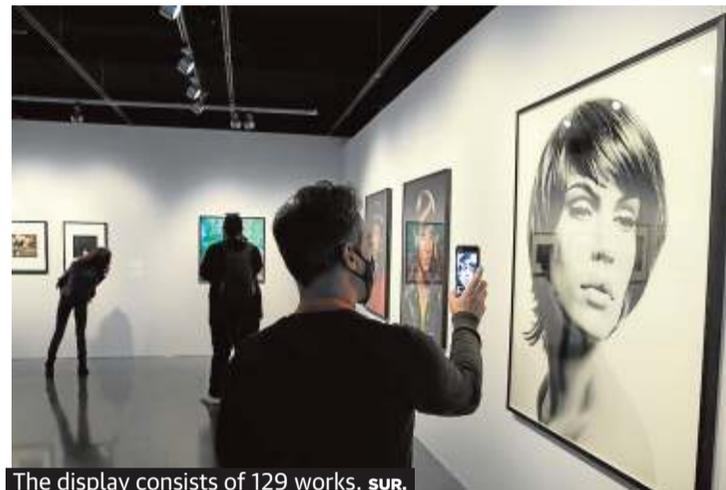
ANTONIO JAVIER LÓPEZ

**MALAGA.** The latest exhibition at the Pompidou Centre, which will continue until 11 April 2021, is called Dar la Cara and consists of photos and videos by 26 artists. Classic portraits are mixed with contemporary and innovative styles, sometimes surreal and disquieting.

The project reflects on the theme of identity, with 129 works by well-known names which include Esther Ferrer, Gilbert & George, Nan Goldin, Thomas Ruff, Cindy Sherman and Akram Zaatar, among others.

It is a chronological display from 1972 to 2011, and the works are from the collections of the Pompidou Centre in Paris, whose president, Serge Lasvignes, describes it as "a reflection on the way we perceive others and we perceive ourselves in the current situation".

It is ironic that Dar la Cara



The display consists of 129 works. SUR.

(which means to show your face or even to face the consequences) has come at a time when we can't see each other's faces because we have to wear masks to combat the pandemic.

The works are arranged in seven sections, forming a discourse "that shows how photography has gone from wit-

nessing a battlefield to confronting actual identity with perceived identity", says José María Luna, director of the municipal agency that runs the Pompidou in Malaga.

"Times like these make us reflect on life, and this exhibition is going to make us do the same."

consists of contemporary works created by artist José Miguel Chico López.

## Estrada - Mother and Son

**MALAGA.** Until 5 January. Salas Minogorance, Archivo Municipal. Mari Pepa Estrada and Rafael Pérez, mother and son, are exhibiting their works which are different in styles but linked by an invisible thread.

## Nativity Scene

**MALAGA.** Until 5 January. Archivo Municipal. The Asociación Belenista de Málaga La Alcazaba have created a special display entitled "Nace Jesús en un Pesebre" which is a fragment of a Nativity scene showing the birth of

Christ in a stable. The figures are made out of terracotta and hand painted by sculptor Joaquín Pérez and the buildings, lighting etc are all by ABEMA.

## Piña y Más Allá

**MALAGA.** Until 10 January. Casa Amarilla, C/Santos. An exhibition of art works by over 40 artists is on display in the gallery.

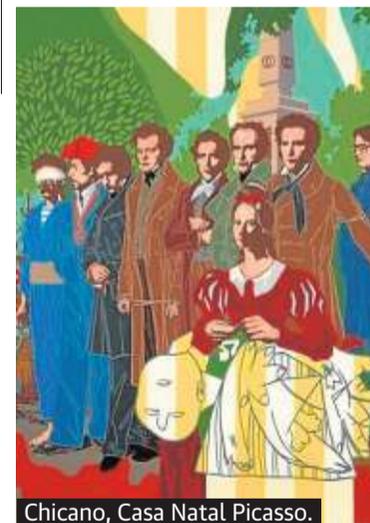
## Enrique Brinkmann

**CHURRIANA.** Until 5 January, 2021. Casa Gerald Brenan, Calle Torremolinos. Artist Enrique Brinkmann has an exhibition of 12 of his works entitled Estrellas para Brenan, Obra Gráfica, a personal tribute to the writer. Brink-

mann has exhibited in the MOMA in New York as well as many other museums and art galleries around the world.

## Eugenio Chicano

**MALAGA.** Until 16 March. Casa Natal Picasso. The first director of the Picasso birth house, Eugenio Chicano, died in November 2019 leaving a substantial artistic legacy. The artist had dedicated some of his works to Picasso and the museum has selected some of these for an exhibition in his honour.



Chicano, Casa Natal Picasso.

## Marilyn Manson, 21 Years in Hell

**MALAGA.** Until 22 January. La Térmica. Free. British photographer Ralph Perou took photos of the extravagant, dark and peculiar American rock star Marilyn Manson over a twenty-one-year period. Thirty of his photographs from the book '21 Years in Hell: Manson/Perou' are on display at La Térmica in Malaga city.



**ELECTRONICS EXPERIENCE**  
EXP-TV & INTERNET EST 1978

**EX-PAT FIBRE OPTIC & 4G INTERNET, TELEPHONE AND TV**

**DON'T PAY FULL SERVICE COSTS WHEN NOT HERE ALL NATIONALITIES**  
Don't get caught again  
**INTERNET & TV SERVICES DESIGNED FOR YOU**

**SWITCH TO OUR SERVICES NOW**

We turn off or reduce payments for your services when you are not here  
New installs within 24 hours or just Switch to this unique service

- ✔ The best and quickest install service,
- ✔ The best multilingual technicians
- ✔ The most professional after sale service,
- ✔ Come join the "Experience" family of thousands of satisfied clients

50 YEARS SERVING THE EX-PAT COMMUNITY ON THE COAST HAS BEEN A PLEASURE

**JUST RING**  
**952885379 · 952883168 · 617403103**

Email: alanj@exgspain.com · www.internetandalucia.com

This lady is listening to

**93.6 globalradio**  
The Official English Speaking Station on the Costa del Sol



**She's your next customer!**

Reach hundreds of thousands of customers on the Costa del Sol with radio advertising that really works!

Call 952 599 212, tune in to 93.6fm or listen online at global.fm.

**GET NOTICED. ADVERTISE ON 93.6 GLOBAL RADIO!**

EXHIBITIONS

Juxta Litus

**MALAGA.** Alféjar Sala, C/ Císter, 1. Until 31 January. Entitled Juxta Litus (Close to the shore), this exhibition includes the gallery's recent ceramic works.

Andrés Mérida

**ANTEQUERA.** Until January. MAD, C/Diego Ponce 12. The exhibition Del Trazo al Garabato consists of 40 artworks by Malaga artist Andrés Mérida.

Brujas sin Coloquios

**VÉLEZ-MÁLAGA.** Until 7 February. Granada artist Lucía Díaz has been working on a project that represents legends about witches that have persisted since Arabic times by way of the tradition of Andalusian ceramics.

Coby Bloemsma

**EL MORCHE.** Until 6 January. Bio Beach Club. Artist Coby Bloemsma paints in oils and acrylics, her favourite subjects are people, especially women.

Luz y Amor

**FRIGLIANA.** Until 3 January. Sala 98. A collective exhibition of works by Ana Bilon and Elke Weitenkopf. Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays, 11am - 2pm.

MUSIC

Malaga Philharmonic Orchestra

**MALAGA.** Teatro Cervantes. 3 January, 7pm. New Year's concert with works by Strauss II, Emile Waldteufel, Josef Strauss, Ruperto Chapí, Eduard Strauss, Piotr I. Tchaikovsky and Gerónimo Giménez. Tickets: <https://www.unientradas.es/>



Ana Cisneros - Jazz in Malaga. P. A.

Malaga Jazz Festival

**MALAGA.** 26 December, 1pm. Belle McNulty Quartet. Parque Virgen de las Cañas, Puerto de la Torre. 26 December, 4pm. Ana Cisneros Quartet. Parque el Brillante, Campañillas. 27 December, 1pm. Pareja Quartet. Plazuela María Santísima de Dolores y Esperanza, Cruz de Humilladero.

Gospel choir

**TORREMOLINOS.** 26 December, 7pm. The Coral Gospel Torremolinos will give a Christmas concert in the Plaza de la Independencia.

Spanish carols

**LA HERRADURA.** 26, 30 December, from 7pm. The Cosas Nuestras choir will be performing in the town centre (23rd), in

Calle Las Maravillas, Calle Real and Rambla de Espinar (26th) and in the old town (30th).

Family musical

**ESTEPONA.** Auditorio Felipe VI Sunday 27 December, 5pm. Tickets [www.tafestepona.com](http://www.tafestepona.com) El Legado del León (The Legacy of the Lion) is set in the African savannah.

Iris Nieto

**MALAGA.** 5 January, 4pm and 8pm. La Polivalente. C/Lagunillas. Iris Nieto Acoustic Covers Duet. Visit [www.tallerblues.es](http://www.tallerblues.es) for more information. Reserve tickets at [lapolivalente-lagunillas@gmail.com](mailto:lapolivalente-lagunillas@gmail.com)

FLAMENCO

Zambomba Flamenca

**MALAGA.** 26 December, 7pm. Teatro Cervantes. Spanish flamenco Christmas spectacular with Malaga flamenco singer Alejandro Estrada.

Rafael Riqueni

**MALAGA.** 27 December, 7pm. Teatro Cervantes. Flamenco guitarist soloist, Rafael Riqueni will be performing Herencias which will include legacies of the great flamenco maestros as well as new compositions.

O. V. FILMS

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

Yelmo Cines, Plaza Mayor

**MALAGA.** Centro de Ocio, Plaza Mayor, Avda Alfonso Ponce León. Tel: 902902103. [www.yelmocines.es](http://www.yelmocines.es). The Croods: 18.45 (Tues). Saint Maud: 20.20 (Tues) Super Concert in Gwangju (feat BTS): 17.30 (Saturday to Tuesday) Wonder Woman 84: 19.15, Friday to Tuesday.

Cinesur Miramar

**FUENGIROLA.** Avda de la Encarnación. Tel: 952198600. Until 29 December. Wonder Woman 84: 12.15, 16.30, 19.30. The Croods: 16.10. The Father: 16.50 (Monday & Tuesday). I Am Woman: 18.10 (Monday & Tuesday). Live Opera. La Traviatta: 18.45, Monday 28 December. Screened concert. Leiva, at the Madrid Nuclear: 20.00. Tuesday 29 December.

Cinesur Ingenio

**VÉLEZ-MÁLAGA.** Avda Juan Carlos, 1. Tel: 667773187. Wonder Woman 84: 20.00 (Friday & Saturday).

Cine Albéniz

**MALAGA.** C/ Alcazaba, 4. Tel: 902360295. [www.cinealbeniz.com](http://www.cinealbeniz.com) Until 29 December. The Father: 12.00 (Sat & Sun), 17.10, 19.45. It Snows in Benidorm: 11.45 (Sat & Sun), 19.20 (in English and Spanish). Martin Eden: 19.15

# Lockdown trilogy perfectly captures the world in 2020

JENNIE RHODES

**MALAGA.** Following his first Lockdown video, which brought together some of the many thousands of clips that went viral during the early stages of the Covid-19 pandemic, La Herradura-based Dutch filmmaker Jeroen Stultiens has made a further two short films and all three are available to watch online as a 'lockdown trilogy'.

The original film, Lockdown, which was posted on the internet in May, showed the initial reactions of people and governments around the world as Covid-19 took hold.

Unlocked is the second film in the trilogy and Jeroen wanted this time to capture the way the world reacted to opening up again slowly following the first



Jeroen Stultiens. SUR

lockdowns and how different rules and regulations were imposed across the globe.

The final part of the trilogy, Locked Out shows the later part of 2020, when countries were subjected to different types of restrictions as well as the introduction of tiers and the longer-term impact on society.

Jeroen, 44, explained that it was easy to find the clips on Twitter and Facebook as "everybody is uploading things". He added that from a legal point of view, as long as filmmakers just use a few seconds and not the full video, as well as crediting people, they can use them to reproduce their own videos.

"People relate to it and feel emotional when watching them," Jeroen said of his decision to make more videos. "I locked myself in the editing room for two days and just went looking for clips. I found so many videos by 'ordinary people' again and it fascinated me so I got to work."

**i To view the trilogy :** <https://lockdowntrilogy.com/>



**lawbird**  
Legal Services



**THE LEGAL 500**

*Independent and Reliable*



**A SAFE LEGAL APPROACH TO A BEAUTIFUL COUNTRY**

Lawbird is a firm of Spanish Lawyers specialised in property law, corporate law, litigation and immigration law. Whether you plan to buy a house, start a company or relocate to Spain, we offer a no-nonsense service to assist you. Lawbird your firm of solicitors in Spain, provides an independent and reliable service tailored for individuals and companies who are operating in or moving to Spain.

Take advantage of the great investment opportunities Spain has to offer with the help of a reliable partner



**Independent and Reliable**  
Lawbird, your firm of solicitors in Spain, provides an independent and reliable service tailored for individuals and companies who are operating in or moving to Spain.



**We put the Client First**  
Through our ethical methodology and attention to detail, we focus on client satisfaction as our top priority.



**Regular Updates**  
Clients are updated regularly of progress, and all ground work and research is streamlined using the latest technology ensuring fast and accurate service.

C/ RICARDO SORIANO, 19-4.  
29601 MARBELLA.

TEL. +34 952 861 890  
FAX. +34 952 861 695

info@lawbird.com  
[www.lawbird.com](http://www.lawbird.com)



# 'As well as helping the patients during this pandemic, we've also distributed food'

**Lina García** President of the 'Un Sí por la Vida' association

The association, which assists people with cancer, is seeking financing to continue providing its services to villages in the Guadalhorce valley area

ANDREA JIMÉNEZ

ALHAURÍN EL GRANDE. The 'Un Sí por la Vida' association provides assistance of various types for patients with cancer in Alhaurín el Grande and elsewhere in the Guadalhorce valley and Sierra de las Nieves area. Its president, Lina García, says funds are very low because Covid has made it impossible for the association to hold its normal events this year, so they

are looking for alternative financing so they can continue helping people in rural towns and villages. **-How have you adapted to the new situation?**

-During the pandemic it has been difficult to provide all the usual services because nearly all of them require physical presence, so we have had to reinvent them, and hold sessions online and by phone.

**-Have you still been able to assist people who aren't in Alhaurín el Grande?**

-Yes, we are still doing that, in fact we're helping more people now: the number has gone up by around 30 per cent this year. We cover the whole Guadalhorce area and part of the Sierra de las Nieves. Two days every month we hold sessions

in different villages with the psychologist, nutritionist and physiotherapist, and they see the patients in rooms allocated to us by the town halls. Thanks to the support of the provincial government and Alhaurín el Grande council we have been able to carry on travelling like this, when it has been possible to move around.

**-During the months of lockdown you also helped by making masks and gowns...**

-Yes. As our premises were closed we started making masks, gowns and foot coverings at home for different hospitals and care homes. We have provided services to those who needed us, the people who had to have chemotherapy and radiotherapy in the hospitals. During the pandemic we haven't just helped patients with the usual services, we have also had to deliver food, because we could see that many people with cancer had very little money to buy any. It's important to help those in need.

**-Has coronavirus meant that other illnesses have been left to one side?**

-Not everything is Covid, people still have other illnesses. Our users are scared to go to the hospitals because they are people whose defences are low, so this fear is affecting them badly. We go with them, to make them feel more secure. We try to arrange for their appointments to follow on from each other so they don't have to spend much time in the hospital, and we help them as much as we possibly can. It isn't just about helping the patients, either - their families also need help. Several people have died this year, and we have



Lina García. A.J.

ers. Now that they have all had to be cancelled, we've organised campaigns, like the donation of pesetas, which the Bank of Spain exchanges for us with euros. We also set up 'adopt a piggy', a piggy bank that children take to birthdays and communions, and with the money raised that way we have been able to buy new scarves and wigs for our ladies with cancer. We have also had to adapt the charity 'roscón', an event which always helps us a great deal, because people come out into the street to see the 169-metre roscón [traditional Three Kings cake]. This year, we are going to have to make individual ones, and that won't raise as much money. However, it's important to always look on the bright side. We are realising how much we all need one another, and we are not going to leave anybody out.

**-You have also made the traditional charity calendar...**

-We had to change the idea we had at the last minute because the make-up artists couldn't be with the patients because of the Covid situation. For us, the day we take the photos for the calendar is a lovely day of togetherness and it was a bit sad not to have been able to do it this time. But in the end it has worked out well and we have already distributed more than 3,000 calendars. The provincial government helps us with the printing. Every year our calendars are becoming more famous, and people ask us for them now. We have already started planning the one for next year.

**-What are your aims for 2021?**

-Our main aim is to seek financing so we can continue to visit the different villages, because most of us here are volunteers, always helping and doing what we can to organise new things, but we need money to pay the professionals. I'm positive that we will come up with new ideas. We are going to get through all this, because it's so important to keep helping those in need.

provided support for their relatives. These are things that can't just be abandoned, the psychologist needs to be there to help. Our professionals are tested regularly so they can keep working, but these are extra costs at a time when the association's funds are very low.

**-How many members does the association have at present?**

-We have lost quite a few because they were laid-off from their work or have lost their jobs, so they couldn't afford it any more. We currently have about 320 members and a lot of volunteers, although this year, because we can't organise events, the volunteers are providing transport, raising funds and helping us with administration.

**-You haven't been able to hold your usual fundraising gala this year. Is it difficult to keep going after losing so much income?**

-Events are our biggest fundrais-

**CLINICA SANDALF**  
we keep you going

DIGIT. X - RAYS  
BONE DENSITY  
ULTRASOUND  
SCAN

- CONSULTANT ORTHOPAEDIC SURGEON  
Dr. Alf Neuhaus
- OPHTHALMOLOGIST  
Dr. Mariano Salvatierra
- PHYSIOTHERAPISTS  
David Peromingo  
Tamara Abramovich
- COUNSELLING/PSYCHOTHERAPY  
Christie Nicholas
- OSTHEOPATH  
Christie Nicholas

C/ MERCURIO 75. 29631 ARROYO DE LA MIEL | (+34) 952 57 77 66  
info@clnicasandalf.com | www.clinicasandalf.com

Merry Christmas

**SONTEC**  
INTERNATIONAL  
HEARING CENTRES

FOR A FREE HEARING TEST 952 667 402  
www.sontec.es

Find our nearest centre in Torre del Mar, Vélez Málaga, Marbella and Fuengirola

DID YOU KNOW...?

# Who had only one testicle?

## A peek between the legs of Hitler, Franco, Mao and Napoleon

CARLOS BENITO



### "Göring has two, but very small"

The subject can be looked at two ways. Maybe some people of certain convictions believe that the lack of one testicle must unleash an inferiority complex in anyone in that situation, for which they compensate through a desperate need for power. Or it could also be that people like to associate the condition with dictators and tyrants, and slander them in a risible manner by saying that they were half-virile. The fact is that, if we take any notice of the

rumours, monorchidism, or the lack of one male gonad, would seem to occur with exaggerated frequency in this very small group of the population. The most emblematic case is that of Hitler; the situation between his legs has been the subject of debate for decades. There are a thousand versions, but the usual one is that the Nazi leader lost a testicle through an injury to the groin in the Battle of the Somme in 1916, although many historians maintain that the Führer's sac was completely normal. The Soviet autopsy recorded the monorchidism, but of course that could have been malicious propaganda, especially bearing in mind the disastrous state of his remains. Some researchers insist that the testicle in question was simply

less developed, while the more sceptical tend to attribute the urban legend to a British song, with one version going like this: "Hitler has only got one ball Göring has two but very small Himmler is rather sim'lar But poor old Goebbels has no balls at all."

As is well known, the Minister of Propaganda procreated five daughters and a son, so the words don't exactly aspire to reflect the absolute truth.

### A souvenir of the war in Africa

More recently, people in Spain started to talk about Franco's genitals: it was in 2009, upon publication of the book Franco, El

Republicano, in which journalist José María Zavala analysed the life of Ramón, Franco's brother. Zavala's investigation led him to discover, by chance, something about the dictator which had not been previously known. Andrologist Ana Puigvert, granddaughter of urologist Antonio Puigvert, told him something her grandfather knew because he had seen it for himself: Franco only had one testicle, because he lost the other one when he was young, during the Rif War in Africa in 1916. In other words, if the war theory about Hitler is true, it is curiously coincidental that the two dictators should have lost a testicle in the same year.

### Surprises during the first check-up

On the other side of the political spectrum there are also genital anecdotes. Among the many surprises Dr Li Zhisui found when he examined Mao Tse-tung for the first time (like, for example, the greenish film that covered his teeth), one of the most talked-about referred - you guessed it - to his lower region: "His left testicle was smaller than normal

and the right one was not in the scrotum or groin," wrote the communist leader's doctor in the book *The Private Life of Chairman Mao*. This obviously didn't stop him marrying four times, having at least ten children, accumulating numerous lovers and harvesting a fine collection of venereal diseases.

### A shoelace or maybe a dried eel

One could say that the original model for these murmurings was Napoleon, who is also said (surprise!) to have had only one testicle. It doesn't seem very credible, given that one of the eight doctors who participated at his crowded autopsy described him as having "extremely small testicles", in the plural. And it was a British doctor, so it can't be attributed to patriotic discretion. In reality, the most entertaining part of Bonaparte was possibly his penis, one of the many pieces of his body that were circulated in the form of relics. In 1916, when it was auctioned in London, a journalist described it as "a battered piece of shoelace or a dried eel".

## 24H GP HOME DOCTOR SERVICE



### Always by your side



- Helicopteros Sanitarios, is the leading complete GP Home Doctor and Emergency Service on the coast.
- English speaking professionals.
- No age limit or medical restrictions.
- Fleet of ambulances equipped with the most advanced technology.
- Less than the price of a cup of tea per day.

Established  
Since  
**1988**

**Become a member now**  
[www.helicopterossanitarios.com](http://www.helicopterossanitarios.com)

Phone: 952 81 67 67  
[info@helicopterossanitarios.com](mailto:info@helicopterossanitarios.com)  
MARBELLA - FUENGIROLA - MANILVA

## A Ronda pioneer

ANDREW J. LINN



**T**he Ronda region is the nearest red wine-producing area to the Costa del Sol. The Romans made wine in Ronda and shipped it back to Rome, and the productiveness continued until the phylloxera bug decimated all Europe's vineyards. For 200 years there was mass unemployment and poverty. Fast forward to 1982 and German-born Federico Schatz planted vines on his tiny three-hectare estate. This was the rebirth of the Serranía de Ronda's wines.

Currently there are 18 wineries established in the region. Probably the most successful, both in quality and financial stability is Cortijo de los Aguilares, founded in 1999 by José Antonio Itarte, who regrettably passed on a short while ago. Born in Vizcaya in 1939, he had a distinguished business career, serving on the board of the Banco Guipuzcoano and as a major shareholder of El Diario Vasco (part of the SUR publishing group, Vocento), as well as developing Spain's leading lock manufacturing firm. On retirement he and his wife, María Victoria, moved to

Marbella and he fulfilled a long-lasting ambition to make wine. Two decades later the Los Aguilares label is world-renowned and has won many international awards. Notable among these is the annual Swiss Pinot Noir prize for the world's best example out of 2,000 wines submitted for a blind tasting. Three times the Ronda wine has been voted into first place. According to Bibi García, the young oenologist who worked with him from the beginning, Itarte will be remembered for his high standards and his commitment to putting Ronda on the wine map.

### WINE OF THE WEEK

#### Pago El Espino 2017

One of Los Aguilares' most popular wines, and an excellent introduction to the bodega. Made from Petit Verdot, Syrah and Tempranillo, it is aged in oversized French oak casks for 15 months. Available direct from the winery at €19.90 per bottle.



## Resoli and mistela, two traditional drinks for Christmas

These two aniseed liqueurs have been made in villages such as Alfarnate and Arriate for centuries, and some local companies produce them

JAVIER ALMELLONES

**MALAGA.** Old recipes, which are not only still made but are also bottled and sold. Mistela and resoli are two liqueurs which have been popular for centuries in some of the villages in Malaga province. Although they can be drunk at any time of year, autumn and winter, and especially Christmas, are when they really come into their own.

In the case of resoli, this is an aniseed-type drink which is made in the villages of Alfarnate, Cuevas de San Marcos and Cuevas Bajas. In the first of these, it is also produced for sale. The Arrebola family (Ana Belén and her brothers Javier and José Manuel) created the De la Abuela brand in 2014, and its star product is resoli, an alcoholic drink (16° proof), made with coffee, anisette, dry anís, sugar and cinnamon. Made to the most traditional recipe, it is available in 100, 500 and 700 ml bottles. The half-litre size costs about eight euros.

Resoli goes very well with home-made cakes and sweets, such as the 'rosco carrero' which



A very traditional recipe. **sur**

**Mistela, which is made in Arriate, started off as a remedy, to which alcohol and sugar were added to preserve it for longer**

is so typical of Alfarnate. This drink, which originated in the province of Cuenca, is also known in other parts of the country as resol, rosoli, arresoli or resolí. As well as the villages of Cuevas de San Marcos and Cuevas Bajas in Malaga province, it is also traditional in some places in Jaén and Cordoba. Some people say there is a relationship between this drink and the villages which have a special devotion to San Marcos. At least in the case of those in Malaga and Jaén, that seems to be the case.

How did a recipe come from Cuenca to Malaga and elsewhere in Andalucía? The most logical explanation is that it has something to do with the repopulation by Christians which took place over 500 years ago, when people from all over the Iberian peninsula set-

tled in the south, bringing not only their material possessions but also many of their customs and traditions with them. Although the recipe may differ depending on where it is made, most of the ingredients and the method of making it tend to be the same.

As well as resoli, the Arrebola family business makes juniper, mango, quince and raspberry liqueurs as well, among others.

The other traditional drink, mistela, is most often found in the Serranía de Ronda, especially Pujerra, Igualeja, Montejaque and Arriate. This is another aniseed drink, and the most famous one these days is made in Arriate, where it is bottled and sold by Miguel López. The ingredients are saffron, aniseed, cinnamon, cloves, lemon verbena, orange and lemon peel and sugar, and the brand name is La Tradición de Arriate. It is sold in 250, 500 and 700 ml bottles, and one or three litres. It costs between ten and 12 euros a litre.

The mistela of Arriate can boast of being part of the heritage of Andalucía. Miguel López has been making it for the past 16 years "to my great-grandmother's recipe," and he says it started off as a remedy to which alcohol and sugar were added to preserve it for longer. It is a sweet, smooth, aniseed-tasting drink which is just 13° proof. People in Arriate often drink it at festivals, including Christmas.

### Where to buy them

It is not difficult to find the resoli from Alfarnate and the mistela of Arriate. The former is sold in the village where it is made, as 'De la Abuela' has its own shop in Calle Ote. Otherwise it can be ordered online from companies such as La Alacena de Malaga and LoyPar, among others.

The mistela called La Tradición de Arriate is stocked by almost all the shops in this village near Ronda, the Carrefour hypermarkets in Malaga and also those in Granada and Seville, or it can be bought from LoyPar.

**Restaurant Playa Bella** *since 1972*  
www.restauranteplayabella.com

**Merry Christmas**

Your favourite restaurant awaits you!

reservations@restauranteplayabella.com

Playa Bella. Ctra. N-340, Km. 162, 29680 Estepona, Málaga ☎ 952 80 16 45

www.kalakaalua.com

**KalaKalua**  
EMPRESAS Chiringuito

Casual snack bar  
for a good time ...  
**Family Business**

www.nuevoreino.es

**NuevoReino**  
EMPRESAS Restaurante

Restaurant with  
long experience  
since 1,957

# The Malaga 'dragons', showing how it's done

The Malaga BCS Dragon Boat Club, whose rowers are breast cancer survivors, took part in an event which they hope will become a regular tradition

MARINA RIVAS / N.H.

MALAGA. The 'dragons' have just shown once again that the best way to move on is to pull together for a common cause which can bring back smiles and help them to win in life.

Back in 2018 they started off as a group of strangers, but now they are setting an example for thousands of women affected by breast cancer. The ladies, who are competitors with Club Malaga BCS Dragon Boat, and backed by the Royal Mediterranean Club, were back on the water this week for an event which they hope will become a regular tradition: the BCS City of Malaga Fixed Bench Rowing Winter Regatta, which was run by the city council.

BCS is short for Breast Cancer Survivor. This is a special rowing category for women who have had or are suffering from this cruel illness and have a medical certificate which says they are fit to compete, based on the premise that this sport will benefit them and help them with their recovery. There are some 200 BCS rowing teams around the world.

This is quite an unusual event and Malaga is a pioneer in Andalucía, thanks to oncologist

Julia Ruiz Vozmediano, who is from the Costa del Sol.

Two years ago the women started to compete in dragon boat racing; a sport of Chinese origin for 12 or 22 crew members and regulated internationally. Since then there has been growing interest in the initiative. There are currently 37 rowers and a waiting list of others who want to do the same.

This week, thanks to La Caixa Foundation, they acquired the first dragon boat of their own, which they will use in the next competitions, and the club took a further step by creating a women's Mediterranean llaüt regatta, (a traditional vessel in Catalan-speaking areas with eight crew members and a coxwain), in which they competed together with other rowers from the Royal Mediterranean Club. The event was designed for local competitors and a group from the BCS Hispalense Rowing Club. The two best times over a distance of 750m classified for the final.

"This helps to show people that sport is life, that we are able to do it, and that we are competing on equal terms with club veterans. They can see that by doing sport after having cancer, you can live just as well or even better than before," said the president of the Malaga BCS Dragon Boat, Nikolaja Fiebiger.

This group of women is setting an example and showing that, every day, they feel even stronger.



One of the rowing boats, with the lighthouse and cathedral in the background. FRANCIS SILVA



Veterans from the Mediterranean Club with BCS competitors. F. SILVA



Pulling together. FRANCIS SILVA



Group photo of Malaga Dragon Boat BCS, which is backed by the Royal Mediterranean Club. FRANCIS SILVA

**www.sell4lesspain.com**

The No1 Online Estate Agent In Spain

**0% Commission**

Get your property online today...

**IT'S FREE!**

**David Lloyd**  
Executive Director  
Sell4LessSpain.com

We advertise to millions of buyers on all the major online property portals.

rightmove | idealista | Zoopla | PrimeLocation | thinkSPAIN | kyero | HUBIMMOBILIAR



Escassi was about to score off a header shortly before Rahmani was sent off. SALVADOR SALAS

## Malaga chalk up a home draw that tasted like victory

**0-0**  
MALAGA-LOGROÑÉS

Debilitated by a dubious VAR decision, Malaga defended their goal with ten men for an hour

ANTONIO GÓNGORA

MALAGA. Malaga's draw on Sunday at La Rosaleda against Logroñés felt more like a victory.

The home side managed to defend their goal against all odds, even after going a man down thanks to a dubious ruling by the VAR. To everyone's surprise Rahmani was shown the red card by

the referee after the video apparently showed him hitting opponent Iñaki in the face. The home side argued, however, that the encounter had been the result of normal arm movement when a player is running. Despite the blow, Malaga made sure the visitors never got to feel comfortable on the pitch and managed to keep the scoreboard at zero.

## Talks on track to bring in Alexander González to cover for injured Calero

BORJA GUTIÉRREZ

DATA. Saving last-minute surprises, Venezuelan player Alexander González is set to join the Malaga squad in the next few days. Negotiations are on track and the conditions are being supervised by LaLiga, which has to authorise the club to sign a new player to fill the gap left by long-term injured defender Calero, due to Malaga's 18-professional-player limit sanction.

The 28-year-old right-back is currently in Madrid after a bad experience with Dinamo București in Romania, where he, and a group of other players, went three months without pay. He said he was excited at the idea of returning to Spain's second division, where he played for five years before going to Romania.



A LOOK AT LA LIGA  
ROB PALMER  
Commentator, Sky Sports

## Back to the old or in with the new?

In a year like no other, football has offered some continuity in our fragmented lives



As La Liga takes a festive break it's a time for recuperation and reflection at Spain's major football clubs.

Real Madrid and Barcelona find themselves at completely different junctures in the modern history of their organisations. Inside the Santiago Bernabéu it's a case of sticking with the old, whereas at the Camp Nou it is very much a case of in with the new.

It's less than a month since a journalist summoned up the courage to ask Zinedine Zidane whether he thought he was going to be sacked. His response was diplomatic, his team's response was to win five successive matches, advancing to the knock-out stages of the Champions League and increasing pressure on the Spanish pacesetters Atlético Madrid by beating them two-nil.

Zidane's reaction to a shaky spell was to go back to the old guard. The base of the team which won him the Champions League back in 2016 and 2017 have formed the backbone of a side which was lacking backbone. Sergio Ramos leads the Dad's Army of Dani Carvajal, Marcelo, Casemiro, Toni Kroos, Luka Modric, Karim Benzema and Lucas Vázquez.

The spirits of Christmas past very much provide the spirit of Christmas present even though there must be serious doubt whether they have enough spirit to last to next Christmas.

Over in Catalonia, it needs to be a whole new start in 2021. The institution is just about ticking over as they wait for the presidential elections and revolution which must follow.

Eight candidates are competing for the honour and responsibility of rescuing a club that has lost an enviable identity.

Where do they start? Is it the reported €488-million debt, addressing the Lionel Messi situation or replacing coach Ronald Koeman with Xavi Hernández? Those are the priorities, and then there are the issues of a stadium rebuild and



Joan Laporta's poster. EFE

underperforming team who have taken a collective wage deferral.

The media darling is Joan Laporta who hired space on a skyscraper opposite the Real Madrid stadium to post a giant poster of his face with a message "Looking forward to seeing you all again." A reminder of his successful first spell in charge of the club.

When fans do return to the Camp Nou, the club will be unrecognisable from the one they last saw with their own eyes. New president, new coach, possibly no Messi and a stadium still in need of modernisation.

Elsewhere in La Liga, clubs are bearing up. Atlético are benefitting from a coach who runs the playing side with an iron fist. Diego Simeone continually rebuilds the team in his own image. That image is one of a serious-faced winner. We know they will be there at the final count.

Real Sociedad and Granada continue to over-achieve, Valencia continue to under-achieve and Real Betis continue to frustrate. Manuel Pellegrini is the latest previously successful coach to bang his head against the brick wall of Benito Villamarín stadium.

In a year like no other, football has offered some continuity in our fragmented lives. It has provided an escape from the uncertain and a much-needed semblance of normality. Hey, it gives us something else to talk about, other than Covid, over a socially distanced Christmas dinner.

Merry Christmas and stay safe.

talk radio europe  
Your voice in Spain

**COUNTDOWN TO BREXIT**

The latest news and analysis of the future of EU-UK relations as we head towards the end of the transition period.  
Expert guests and your questions answered.

**COUNTDOWN TO BREXIT**  
Mondays at midday in Europe Today, presented by Stephen Ratson on TRE.  
Starts November 16<sup>th</sup>

Download on the App Store  
GET IT ON Google Play

TalkRadioEuropeOfficial @TRETalkRadio

www.tre.radio

# MY HOME SUR in English

## MALAGA REMOVALS

**“Relax, your move is in safe hands”**

### REMOVALS

- Weekly full or part load removal service to & from UK, Costa Del Sol & the Algarve
- Full or part packing service
- One box to full load removals
- Villa to villa moves within Costa Del Sol

### SHOP ONLINE

- Shop at any main high street store or online and have items delivered the following week in Spain

### STORAGE

- Secure warehouses in both the UK and Malaga



**Call us now for a FREE quote**

#### UK Depot

Tel: 0044 (0)1621 850070

Mob: 0044 (0)7711 179842

#### Malaga Depot

Tel: + 34 951 121 857

Mob: +34 647 698 465

Email: [sales@malagaremovals.com](mailto:sales@malagaremovals.com)

**[www.malagaremovals.com](http://www.malagaremovals.com)**



# MY HOME

## REMOVALS



**St GEORGES EUROPEAN**  
EUROPEAN REMOVALS & STORAGE

*Weekly service to Spain, France, Portugal and Gibraltar*

St Georges European pride ourselves by professionally serving and relocating families, individuals and businesses across Europe for over 10 years.

With our fully trained experienced team, reliable fleet of purpose built vehicles and leading Insurance cover, we'll make your moving experience run smooth and hassle free. To help you, we also have a fully secured storage facility in both Spain and South East UK, just in case you need it.

So come and talk to our friendly team at St Georges European.





SPAIN + 34 952 485 984  
UK +44 (0)1322 383 233  
trade@stgeorgestransport.com  
www.stgeorgestransport.com

## Quality Moving Service




at competitive prices

# UK-SPAIN-UK




**EDWARDS**  
European Moving

**4 WEEKS FREE STORAGE**

www.edwardseuropeanmoving.com  
Tel UK: 01953 718 239  
Tel SPAIN: 0034 610 843 114  
info@edwardseuropeanmoving.com

## GLASS CURTAINS




**IDEAterrzas®**  
Your Terrace Specialist

**QUALITY | RELIABILITY | GUARANTEE**




**GLASS CURTAINS - PERGOLAS - MOBILE ROOFS - AWNINGS - PVC & ALUMINIUM WINDOWS**

(+34) 952 461 174 | (+34) 672 097 248 | info@ideaterrzas.com

www.ideaterrzas.com

YOUR CLASSIFIED AD, READ BY MORE THAN 260,000 PEOPLE EVERY WEEK

**Head Office:**  
Avda. Dr. Marañón, 48, Malaga,  
10 am to 1 pm  
and 5 pm to 7 pm

Tels.:  
**952 649 692**  
**952 649 669**

Fax:  
**952 611 256**

**Advertising administrator:**  
Teresa Canales

**SUR offices:**

**Marbella:** C/ San Juan Bosco, 2,  
2nd floor. Monday to Friday 9  
am to 2 pm. Tel. 659 344 816

**Fuengirola:** C/ Jacinto  
Benavente, 1, 2nd floor. Monday  
to Thursday: 9,30 am to 14 pm.  
Friday: 9,30 am to 13,30 pm.  
Tel. 952 580 142- 605 022 121  
Web:  
www.surinenglishads.com

**Mijas:** Centro Comercial  
Carrefour. Avda. Los Lirios s/n  
Monday to Friday 9.30 am to  
14.30 pm. Telephones  
952 580 726 - 670 643 488

**Coín:** Monday to Friday 9.30  
am to 14.30 pm.

Mobile 670 643 488

**Estepona:** Puerto deportivo de  
Estepona. Edificio Torre de Con-  
trol, local 44. Tel. 952 80 6408-  
659 344 816. Monday to Friday  
9 am to 3 pm.

**Representative offices:**

**U.K.:** Global Media Sales Ltd  
Tel: +44 (0)20 8464 5577  
Fax: +44 (0)20 8464 5588  
Web:  
www.globalmediasales.co.uk

**How much does  
an advertisement cost?**

58 cents per word  
+ 21% IVA.  
Minimum 10 words  
Deadlines TUESDAY 12 noon

**NOTICE TO READERS**

SUR in English accepts **NO  
RESPONSIBILITY** for the  
content of advertisements, nor  
for any claims made by  
advertisers. Thorough checks  
should be carried out before  
completing any transaction.

**NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS**

SUR in English reserves the right  
to make grammatical and spelling  
corrections to advertisements as  
and when deemed necessary, and  
to classify correctly any adver-  
tisement. Although every care is  
taken to ensure the correct publi-  
cation of advertisements, regret-  
tably mistakes do sometimes  
occur. If there is an error in your  
advertisement, notify your  
agency or agent at once as SUR in  
English can only accept responsi-  
bility for ONE insertion published  
incorrectly. We would like to  
advise advertisers that no free  
insertions will be given when the

advertisement/material received  
is not suitable for print media.

**INTERNET/Email address:**  
**Please be advised that it  
may not be possible for  
your internet or email  
address to be printed on  
one line. If it will not fit,  
advertisers and readers  
alike should bear in mind  
that a hyphen will be  
inserted at the end of the  
first line to indicate that  
the email address con-  
tinues on the line below**

**PROPERTY FOR  
SALE**

**Estepona**

**UNIQUE** opportunity, prime loca-  
tion, front line, sea view. Urb. Ber-  
meja Beach, 4 bedrooms, 2 bath-  
rooms unusual, large terrace. Pri-  
vate sale. 634300283

**Fuengirola**

**LOS BOLICHES:** Large 4 bedroom,  
2 bathroom apartment, terrace  
75m2. Excellent location. 258,000  
Euros ONO. Private sale. 634060560

**Inland**

**WWW.INMOANDALUZ.COM** Are  
always looking for inland and Mijas  
properties to sell to our interested  
buyers. Tel 952491609/667067269

**WWW.INMOANDALUZ.COM** Bar-  
gain inland properties for all budg-  
ets, fincas, village homes, apart-  
ments and villas. Legal building plots.  
Tel 952491609/667067269

**Marbella**

**STORAGE** Lowest price guaranteed!  
Packaging materials. Self Storage  
Marbella 952811311

Investing in Marbella city centre  
**Parking Spaces  
now on sale!**  
www.parkingmarbella.com  
Information: **25.000€**  
-15% (ONLY)  
**951 087 710**

**Property Wanted**

**REALTY** Plus Marbella: real estate  
buying, selling and renting services.  
Costa del Sol area. Tlf: 952 78 58  
06 sales.marbella@realty-plus.es

**PROPERTY TO LET**

**Benalmádena**

**BENALMADENA:** 2 bed apartment,  
furnished, parking, 550 Euros per  
month. Whatsapp 0044  
7955405153

**TORREQUEBRADA:** 3 bed town-  
house, parking, furnished, fantas-  
tic sea views. 1000 Euros per month.  
Whatsapp 0044 7955405153

**Inland**

**WWW.RENTINLAND.COM** Long  
term rentals Coín and surrounding  
areas. Phil 659537525

**Marbella**

**STORAGE** Lowest price guaranteed!  
Packaging materials. Self Storage  
Marbella 952811311

**MARBELLA** Banús, 2 bedroom, long  
term, full equip, by Marina,  
gardens, pools. bravoelezo-  
vic@gmail.com 34637439222

**Mijas**

**MIJAS** Pueblo, central. One bed-  
room apartment. Community pool.  
380€. 650192127

**SWIMMING POOLS  
AND GARDEN**

**Swimming Pools1**

**POOL Maintenance/ Repairs.**  
Málaga/Marbella.  
678791495/952756168 sparklen-  
ripple@hotmail.com www.spar-  
klenripple.net

**CALOREX Inverter Pool Heat  
Pumps. World leaders**  
(www.calorex.com). 8x4 pool  
4,749 Euros fully inclusive. Acair  
(www.acair.com). Established  
1986. 952486287

**DREAM Swimming Pool.** We cre-  
ate authentic designs according  
your needs. Also, we can turn your  
antic pool into a new pool design.  
www.dreamgarden.es  
+34610502623

**PROTEC Group:** We create and de-  
sign different kinds of swimming  
pools. Ask us for our portfolio or  
visit us at www.grupo-protec.com.  
Phone 952 587 573

**Garden**

**DREAM Gardens:** Landscaping ar-  
chitecture. Free designs (com-  
puter previsualization). Special-  
ising in beautiful gardens. Also  
planning/maintenance. Commu-  
nities special offers! 610502623.  
www.dreamgarden.es

**ARBOLISTA** Tree surgery. Nº1 for  
trees/palms. On the Costa since  
1998. +34711010971/  
+34600260534 www.spain-  
tree.com/ arbolista@spaintree.com

**SERVICES**

**Builders**

**PLASTERING,** rendering, artexing  
& coving specialist, 20 years on the  
Coast, 1st class job. Phone Rob-  
bie:679646185

**CONSTRUCTION** in general, all  
types of reforms. Quality building  
at the right price. Stuart 648153718

**OPEN FOR BUSINESS. COSTADIG-  
GERS AND CONSTRUCTION. DIG-  
GER AND DUMPER HIRE (WITH  
OPERATOR). BUILDING SERVICES.**  
costadiggers@hotmail.com  
www.costadiggers.com  
678450051

**PROTEC Group:** Construction com-  
pany dedicated to the construction  
and comprehensive refurbishment  
of villas and all types of houses in  
the Marbella area and the entire  
Costa del Sol. www.grupo-pro-  
tec.com or 952 587 573

**R.K.S. CONSTRUCTION: Full re-  
forms. Roofing. Plastering.**  
Kitchen/ Bathrooms specialists.  
Established 2005.  
634315264//652640871

**FOR ALL** kinds of jobs: www.home-  
improvement.es

**Plumbers**

**CITY** and Guilds. Qualified plumber.  
All areas covered. Adrian 677063272

**Electricians**

**DC ELECTRICAL SERVICES**  
Available 24/7 - 365 days a year  
Prompt, efficient service  
Quality merchandise, honest pricing  
Backed by 35 years experience  
in domestic, commercial and industrial  
Professional and friendly advice  
Tel: 952 567 514 / +34 608 864 683

**Decorators**

**THE BEST painter/decorator on  
the Coast. Call Nick 678889933**  
www.no1decor.com

**P&S INTERIOR / Design + Home  
Staging . Tlf: 95 278 86 05 /**  
sales@psinterior.es / www.psinte-  
rior.es

**Doors**

**DRAINS blocked? Call David**  
952568414, 661910772. HP Jet-  
ting, CCTV survey. Drain-tech So-  
lutions

**Gates**

**ELECTRIC** gate automation and ga-  
rage door motors. Servicing or Re-  
pairs. Call Colin  
951242873/636394641 expert-  
gates.com

**ELECTRIC Gates & Garage Doors.**  
Intercoms and access control sys-  
tems. New installations and re-  
pairs, for all your gate and garage  
door requirements call The Ga-  
rage Door Company & 2 Way Gates.  
tgdc@hotmail.co.uk www.the-  
garagedoorcompany.es  
952786178/605356469

**Pest Control**

**COCKROACHES,** all insects, fleas,  
wasps, rats, termite specialists. Bars,  
houses, apartments. Sanitary de-  
partment registered. Serving the  
Coast and Inland since 1985. NPS  
Pest Control. Phone Nigel  
606008940. Credit cards accepted

**Repairs**

**WASHING machines, dishwash-  
ers, refrigerators, boilers, cook-  
ers, hobs, microwaves, pumps,  
aircond, circuitboards. Profes-  
sionally repaired. Also sales. Chris-  
tian 608337497**

**Awnings-Blinds**

**SUNSHINE** blinds , awnings shut-  
ters repairs motorized cheap toldos  
persianas fix electrify cheap awn-  
ings shutters repair motorized cheap  
952467783/ 680323969

**ROLLER shutter repairs 7 days a  
week. Conversion from manual  
to motorised. New installations.**  
Also blinds, awnings, mosquito  
screens. All areas covered coast  
and inland. 655825931

**PROTEC Group** offers awnings and  
blinds for both interior and exterior  
use. Quality products selected to fit  
your particular needs. www.grupo-  
protec.com or 952 587 573

**Upholstery**

**ADVANCED** Cleaning Services. Pro-  
fessional carpet and upholstery  
cleaning, 27 years experience, wet  
or dry clean. Honest, reliable serv-  
ice. 678808837/952669701 or  
email acservs@outlook.com

**UPHOLSTERY** including leather  
cleaned as well as all carpets.  
685524921

**CLEANSOL** Established 19yrs.  
Family run. Carpets, sofas and  
mattresses cleaned. Reliable fast  
service. 7 days. All areas.  
952930861/607610578  
www.cleansol.business

  
**Selling a Property?**  
Advertise it here with over 260,000  
weekly readers and potential buyers  
MALAGA, HEAD OFFICE 952 649 689  
MARBELLA 659 344 816  
FUENGIROLA 952 580 142 / 605 022 121  
SOTOGRANDE/GIBRALTAR 683 298 887  
ESTEPONA 659 344 816 / 952 806 408

**SUR**  
in English

**TELEPHONE SERVICE**  
**952 58 01 42 - 952 58 38 50**  
**SUR**  
in English  
**NOW EVEN EASIER!!!**  
Send your advert by  
**605 022 121**   
Pay by credit/ debit card, deposit or bank transfer     
Monday to Thursday 9.30 - 14.00h. - Friday: 9.30 - 13.30h  
Send adverts by email: **ads@surinenglishads.com**  
All advertising information for the SUR in English: sizes, prices, supplements, examples are available: **www.surinenglishads.com**

**Floors**

**MARBLE POLISHING, CRYSTALIZING, LASTING, HIGH SHINE. REGRINDING, RESTORATION OF SALTY DEAD FLOORS. CYRIL 645840199**

**POLISH your marble or clean terrace professionally for 3 €/m2. 30 years experience guaranteed work. 671244683**

**CLEANSOL** Established 19yrs. Family business. Terracota cleaned and sealed. No job too small. 7days. All areas. 952930861/ 607610578 www.cleansol.business

**CLEANSOL** Established 19yrs. Family business. Marble floors polished. Fast service. 7 days. All areas. 952930861/607610578 www.cleansol.business

**Windows and Glass Curtains**

**UPVC and Aluminium windows and doors direct from our factory. We measure! We make! We fit! 952587482/ 678768454. genevawindows@gmail.com**

**www.dandmprojects.com** Specialist manufactures, installers. Highest quality UPVC windows, doors, enclosures, persianas. Glass replacement fully guaranteed. Trade/ public. Showroom. 952667761/ 680828000

**UPVC & ALUMINIUM WINDOWS & DOORS**  
Direct from our factory  
Tel. 952 587 482  
678 768 454  
genevawindows@gmail.com

**PROTEC**Group: Manufacturing, distribution and installation of UPVC and aluminium windows and doors as well as UPVC and aluminium enclosures. Our services include the supply and installation of UPVC windows from Salamander and Kömmerling but also aluminium frames from Reynolds and Technal. www.grupo-protec.com or 952 587 573

**REPLACEMENT of discoloured, plastic jointing, strips between the glass curtains. Also repairs. 655825931**

**Locksmiths**

**LOCKSMITH 24/7 Emergency/ Appointment. Doors opened without damage, locks changed, patio doors, windows secured. Paul 657466803**

**Air Conditioning / Heating**

**AIR CONDITIONING** installation. Service & repair to any make or model, also repair fridge/freezers, bottle coolers, car A/C & A/C on boats. All work guaranteed. All areas covered including campo. Contact Williams Refrigeration: 952596404/679284959

**SUPPLIERS** of refrigeration equipment, glass door refrigerators, ice makers, bottle coolers, dishwashers. Fantastic value and reliability, after sales service. Williams Refrigeration SL. 952596404/ 679284959

**FUJITSU Inverter 899 Euros fully inclusive. www.acair.com** Established 1986. 952486287

**AIR CONDITIONING** installations, repairs and servicing. Airflow 952443222 airflowspain@live.com

**AIR-CONDITIONING AND HEATING SPECIALIST**  
We Service & Repair any Make of Air-conditioning.  
The Family Company That Cares.  
On the Coast since 1993.  
Maintenance contracts available.  
Tel. 952 935 513  
coolandcosy@hotmail.com  
www.coolandcosy.es

**Cleaning Services**

**OVEN** cleaning domestic, commercial, professional cleaned from 40 Euros. 611283162

**ADVANCED** Cleaning Services. Professional carpet and upholstery cleaning, 27 years experience, wet or dry clean. Honest, reliable service. 678808837/952669701 or email acservs@outlook.com

**RUGS**, fitted carpet and upholstery including leather cleaned on site. 685524921

**CHIMNEY** sweep, clean, reliable, economical, all types of fireplaces. Chris 608337497

**General Services**

**STORAGE** Lowest price guaranteed! Packaging materials. Self Storage Marbella 952811311

**Mosquito Screens**

**MOSQUITO** Screens. Sliding. Pull-down. Pleated. Colours. Nick 647072861 www.mosquitonick.ws

**Others**

**SEWING** Services. Curtains, blinds, upholstery, made to measure, wide range fabrics/foam. 672800887 judeinspain@hotmail.com

**PROFESSIONAL SERVICES**

**Translators**

**TRANSLATIONS** All languages. 952028080 Email: info@localsoft.com Web: www.localsoft.com

**Others**

**STORAGE** Lowest price guaranteed! Packaging materials. Self Storage Marbella 952811311

**ADVICE** on specialized immigration paperwork ((Brexit, golden visas, renewals, nationalities, etc) Complete services for real estate. Info@adviaconsulting.es. www.adviaconsulting.es. 640331363

**REMOVALS AND STORAGE**

**MAN & VAN.** Anything considered. No job too small. FROM 15Euros per/hour+ fuel (IVA credited). 605215917

**STORAGE** Clean dry secure warehousing Marbella. Container, Pallet or Loose. Guaranteed best rates. Focus Transport 952816582/603860702 move@freinternational.com

**2 MEN & Van. 30 Euros/hr. Always on time. 651081610**

**MoveIT-StoreIT.com** Man van removals from 20E/Hr. Local & European. Storage containers in Marbella. David 696810618

**STORAGE** Lowest price guaranteed! Packaging materials. Self Storage Marbella 952811311

**SPAIN/UK, UK/SPAIN. Part full loads. Pet transport. Micknick0730@hotmail.co.uk 637980655**

**MOVING locally? Call 952426463/660563131. Fully legal British Removal Company**

**WORLDWIDE Shipping, door2door service. British Removal Company SL. www.brcspain.com 952426463**

**BUY/SELL MISCELLANEOUS**

**WANTED** all furniture and household items. Best prices. 697511071

**FURNITURE** wanted same day collection. Cash waiting. 697511071

**QUALITY Bric-a-Brac wanted. Top prices! Quick collection. 661402134**

**WANTED** household/ garden furniture. 20 years on the Coast. 6603660333

**LUXURY** kitchen gloss dove grey, brand new with transferable warranty, 10 units wall and base cost £4000.00 in UK will accept 995 euros no offers. Please call 711063797 for more details.

**MOTORS**

**Buy / Sell Cars**

**WANTED** all cars, any registration, runners or non runners. Embargos & finance no problem. Call now, cash waiting. 687049592/ 622229673

**WANTED: Best prices paid for proper cars, same day collection. 678808837**

**CARS & Vans** any registration, instant cash. Finance/embargos UK or Spanish...685524921

**CARS WANTED, UK or Spanish** best prices, also embargos/finance/lost papers. Problems solved. 678808837

**WANTED** Cars & vans. Free collection same day. 685524921

**WANTED**, wanted, wanted!! All cars, all years, all models...from exotic to classic. Spanish, English, Dutch plated. Call 951977329/606647597

**ALL CARS** Commercial wanted any age, any condition. Cash. Buyer collects. Transfer included. 605109796

**PHONE me first or last!! I pay more!!** Cars, caravans or commercial. 6603660333

**Repairs**

**ENGLISH** Bodyshop, fully equipped, Mijas Costa. No job too small. 952667074

**TRANSMATIC** Automatic gearbox specialists. All models including classic cars, serviced, repaired and re-conditioned. Also 4x4 transfer boxes and power steering. Call 952796166/ 615834322. info@transmatic.es www.transmatic.es

**MALAGA REMOVALS**  
Weekly removal service to & from UK, Costa Del Sol & Portugal  
sales@malagaremovals.com | UK: +44 (0)1621 850070  
Málaga: + 34 951 121 857 | Algarve: +351 289443202  
Depots & Storage in UK, Málaga and Algarve

**St GEORGES EUROPEAN**  
EUROPEAN REMOVALS & STORAGE  
Weekly service to Spain, France, Portugal and Gibraltar  
SPAIN + 34 952 485 984 UK +44 (0)1322 383 233  
trade@stgeorgestransport.com www.stgeorgestransport.com

- Fully trained experienced team
- Fleet of purpose built vehicles
- Leading insurance cover
- Secured storage facility in both Spain and UK.

**Insurance**

Good Insurance starts with a good Insurance Adviser Insuring expats in Spain for over 20 years

**Right Way INSURANCE**

Multi - Policy Discounts | Free Hire Car up to 45 days | Medical Insurance for Residencia | Policies in English | 36% Discount on Medical Insurance.

Tel. 952 934 963  
insure@rightwayinsure.com  
www.rightwayinsure.com

**SUR in English Advertisers**

Please remember that we do need your residence, NIE or passport number when placing your advertisement.

Thank you.

**CLOSER TO YOU**  
We have an agent in your area

MALAGA HEAD OFFICE: Emma 952 649 669  
MARBELLA: 689 344 816. Jules Franken 629 589 964  
SAN PEDRO DE ALCANTARA. Traducciones San Pedro 952 789 204 / 654 613 094  
FUENGIROLA. Diana 952 580 142 / 605 022 121  
MIJAS. Carrefour Mijas 952 580 726 / 670 643 488  
ESTEPONA. Carmen 659 344 816 / 952 806 408  
SOTOGRANDE / GIBRALTAR 683 298 897  
COIN. Rocio 951 315 113 / 600 513 343

**SUR in English**

**WEEKLY GROUPAGE SERVICE BETWEEN UK - SPAIN - PORTUGAL**

• Available storage in the UK - Spain - Portugal  
• Professional experienced courteous crews, all English speaking  
• From single baggage items, motorbikes, cars to full house moves we can move anything

Tel. +44 1925 630441 - 951 311 118 - info@movingmatters.net - www.roy-trevor.com

**Paperwork**

**CAR REGISTRATION** hassle free. Don't drive illegally. Ask specialists before buying or registering & save tax. [www.meexpress.net](http://www.meexpress.net) 952490028

**NAUTICAL**

**PUERTO** Banús 8M mooring for rental. Tel 630614252

**BILL BRADYCARS.COM**  
 WE WOULD LIKE TO WISH ALL OUR LOVELY FRIEND & CLIENTS MERRY CHRISTMAS & PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR  
 WE ARE OPEN OVER THE HOLIDAY PERIOD YOU CAN CONTACT US BY PHONE OR EMAIL  
[bill@billbradycars.com](mailto:bill@billbradycars.com) Tel. (+34) 952 838 842 (+34) 608 950 221



**DISTRIBUTION CALL CENTRE**

Contact the SUR in English distribution call centre for any queries relating to the delivery and distribution of SUR in English.

This service is available every Friday from 9:00 to 13:00, so for all your distribution enquiries in English call 952 649 669, in Spanish 952 649 720.

**DON'T MISS OUT! MAKE SURE YOU PICK UP YOUR COPY OF THE COAST'S LEADING ENGLISH LANGUAGE PUBLICATION**

**SUR**  
 in English

**CARAVANS**

**Storage**

**PARKING**, storage & sales. Caravans, motorhomes, cars and boats, etc. Short/long term. Safe & secure. Excellent rates. 5 minutes from Fuengirola. [info@eurodog.es](mailto:info@eurodog.es) 67978669/606101807

**RECRUITMENT**

**Situations Vacant**

**SALES REPRESENTATIVES** Hiring Now! Tel:952028080. Email: [info@localsoft.com](mailto:info@localsoft.com) Web: [www.localsoft.com](http://www.localsoft.com)

**HEALTH & BEAUTY**

**Massage**

**KOREAN** relieving massages that release tension and other stresses. Qualified masseuse working independently in Nueva Andalucia 656350401

**THAI** body massages. Private apartment. Benalmádena. Torrequebrada. Visits. Whatsapp. 612210289

**MASSAGE** specialist Benalmádena. Full package ensures absolute satisfaction. Reduced rates: over 65. Please wear your mask. 621395221

**MATURE** male masseur for men. Velez-Málaga. Tel. 00447566231704 Whatsapp

**THERAPEUTIC** male masseur: Relaxant massage for men. Whatsapp 632629075

**FUENGIROLA:** Balines, antistress, soothing full body massage by silk hands!! 600231544

**BENALMADENA** Costa by windmill roundabout: Remove pains and aches with an excellent body massage. 7 days. 691533101

**MALE** masseur, specialising in men. Competa area. Whatsapp 0032478253141

**Therapists**

**MARBELLA and Gibraltar** Counselling & Psychosexual therapy

**COSRT & BACP Accredited. Individuals&Couples +447813944146** [www.sextherapymarbella.es](http://www.sextherapymarbella.es) Richard

**Others**

**SILDENAFIL** (Viagra) & Tadalafil (Cialis) Various Strengths. 10 pack. From 22 Euros per pack 10. [gadgetman3b53@gmail.com](mailto:gadgetman3b53@gmail.com)

**MALE** female Viagra, kamagra jellies, cialis, mixed trial packs. [viagra4you19@gmail.com](mailto:viagra4you19@gmail.com). 672883025

**TV/SATELLITE**

**Satellite Installation**

**BBC SYSTEM** 150 euros uk channels iptv 25 Euros include Europeans channels. Smart TV 55, 4 K 395 Euros, 58, 440 Euros Jose Sotto Since 1973 mobile 670443838 Telephone 952 443 838, email: [jose-sottoamselem77@gmail.com](mailto:jose-sottoamselem77@gmail.com)

**COMPUTERS/ INTERNET / PHONES**

**Repairs**

**COMPUTER & LAPTOP:** Problems solved! Error messages fixed, viruses removed. Replacement screens/ hard disks/ upgrades/ repairs. Experienced, reliable service. Collection and Return available. Paul 630652338

**COMPUTER.** Wi-Fi, or UK TV Issues? PC's supplied, repaired/ upgraded. Data Recovery. 18 yrs helping people. [info@soltecs-pain.com](mailto:info@soltecs-pain.com) Neil: 662379899

**Phones-Mobile**

**REPAIR** your phone. Manzana Rota Fuengirola (Miramar shopping centre). We repair all mobile devices in just 1 hour. WhatsApp 623222595

**PETS**

**Kennels / Cattery**

**PETCARE Pet Hotel:** Alhaurin El Grande. Holiday accommodation for dogs & cats. Individually heated/aircon kennels. Call: 685400216 [www.petcarespain.com](http://www.petcarespain.com) Follow us on Facebook at Petcare Spain

**CAT & DOG** World Kennels and Cattery. 952112978/630197435 [www.catanddogworld.com](http://www.catanddogworld.com)

**EURODOG** Boarding Kennels & Cattery, fully licensed & sanitary approved, safe, secure and loving environment. Large kennels & play areas. Fully refurbished, inspections welcome. [www.eurodog.es](http://www.eurodog.es) 952464947/679786669



**cudeca**  
 A Special Kind of Caring

We are a non-profit organization that offers professional medical care to patients suffering from cancer or other advanced non-curable illnesses, as well as support to their families. All of which we give completely free of charge.

**HELP US BECOME A REGULAR DONOR**

952 564 910 - [www.cudeca.org](http://www.cudeca.org) - [socios@cudeca.org](mailto:socios@cudeca.org)

**USEFUL PHONE NUMBERS**

EMERGENCIES		FUENGIROLA		TORREMOLINOS	
Emergency operator	112	Bus Station	952475066	Taxi Service	952520537
National Police	091	Taxi Service	952471000	Tourist Information	952521531
Local (municipal) Police	092	Tourist Office	952467625	Town Hall	952548400
Medical	061	Town Hall	952589300	Foreign Resident Dept.	952548401
Fire	080	Foreign Residents Dept.	952589440	<b>BENALMÁDENA</b>	
Guardia Civil	062	<b>MALAGA</b>		Bus Station	902143144
Sea Rescue	900202202	Bus Station	952350061	Taxi Service	952380600
Crime report	902102112	Railway Station	902240202	Tourist Office	952371909
<b>ENGLISH-SPEAKING HELP</b>		Taxi Service	952345693	Town Hall	952379400
Samaritans in Spain	900525100	Tourist Office	951926020	Foreign Residents Dept.	952374231
Alcoholics Anonymous	600379110	<b>MARBELLA</b>		Bus Station	902450550
Age Care	952933409	Bus Station	955038665	Taxi Service	952441545
Age Concern (Estepona)	608458555	Taxi Service	952774488	Tourist Office	952442494
<b>ANDALUSIAN HEALTH SERVICE</b>		Tourist Office	952768760	Town Hall	952374231
Salud Responde	955545060	Town Hall	952761100	Foreign Residents Dept.	952442494
<a href="http://www.sspa.juntadeandalucia.es/servicioandaluzdesalud/clicsalud">www.sspa.juntadeandalucia.es/servicioandaluzdesalud/clicsalud</a>		Foreign Residents Dept.	952768760	<b>VÉLEZ-MÁLAGA</b>	
<b>ESTEPONA</b>		<b>MIJAS</b>		Bus Station	952503162
Bus Station	955038665	Town Hall	952485900	Taxi	952540016
Taxi Service	952802900	Town Hall Las Lagunas	952473125	Town Hall	952559100
Tourist Office	952802002	Taxi	952478288	Tourist Office	952541104
Town Hall	952801100	Tourism Office	952589034	<b>GIBRALTAR</b>	
Foreign Residents Dept.	952809031	Foreign Resident Dept.	952589010	General emergency	199/112(mobiles)
<b>NERJA</b>		<b>NERJA</b>		Fire/ambulance (emergency)	190
Bus Station	902422242	Bus Station	902422242	Tourist Office	(00350) 20074950
<b>CONSULATES</b>				Taxi	(00350) 20070027

**To notify symptoms of coronavirus**

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



**APP Salud Responde:** take the Coronavirus symptoms test



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

There is also a numero to notify symptoms, but to avoid jamming the line try the APP first

**900 400 061**

**Coronavirus information**

**955 545 060**

**Other emergencies**

**061 / 112**

For general health emergencies. **Avoid using this if not urgent**

<b>Great Britain</b>	C/. Mauricio Moro Pareto 2- 2. Málaga	952352300	<b>France</b>	1, Plaza de Santa Cruz, Seville	954293200
<b>USA</b>	Av. Juan Gómez 8. Ed. Lucía 1-C. Fuengirola	952474891	<b>Italy</b>	Calle Lagasca, 98, Madrid	912106910
<b>Belgium</b>	Avda Ricardo Soriano 20-3C, Marbella	951516019	<b>Austria</b>	Alameda de Colón 26, Malaga	952600267
<b>Denmark</b>	Calle Córdoba 6 404, Malaga	952211797	<b>Finland</b>	Calle Blasco de Garay, 7, Malaga	952212435
<b>Norway</b>	Avda Los Boliches, 60, Edf Rosenkranz, Fuengirola	952667955	<b>Saudi Arabia</b>	Mauricio M. Pareto 2 bloque Sur 2º, Malaga	952310358
<b>Canada</b>	C/Cervantes, Edif. Horizonte, Malaga	952223346	<b>Greece</b>	Salitre, 16, Malaga	952311847
<b>Germany</b>	Mauricio Moro Pareto 2, Malaga	952363591	<b>Iceland</b>	Paseo Marítimo 91, 29640 Fuengirola	952661200
<b>Sweden</b>	Calle Córdoba 6, 5th floor, Malaga	952604383	<b>Philippines</b>	C/Marqués de Larios 4, 2º, Malaga	952222757
<b>Ireland</b>	Avda. Los Boliches, Fuengirola	952475108	<b>Hungary</b>	Av. de Andalucía 26 29007 Malaga	952308393

**THE STARS**

**Aquarius**  
January 21st - February 19th  
The Full Moon can be a call to simplify your schedule and take things easier. A chance to unwind may be just what you need before the New Year takes off.

**Pisces**  
February 20th - March 20th  
Feelings may come to a head and you might find yourself sharing them, even if you vowed not to. Think about the consequences to avoid regrets.

**Aries**  
March 21st - April 20th  
Don't pass by an opportunity that's there for the taking. With the old year on the way out and 2021 coming in, you could miss it in all the excitement.

**Taurus**  
April 21st - May 21st  
Feelings can run high as the Full Moon encourages you to connect with others you may not have heard from in a while, and this might leave you brimming with emotion.

**Gemini**  
May 22nd - June 21st  
Avoid overspending around the early Full Moon, as shopping may be soothing. Investing in pampering sessions could be more beneficial.

**Cancer**  
June 22nd - July 23rd  
With Neptune on the playing field your mind might be on faraway places and the dreams you have for the coming months. With planning you could achieve them.

**Leo**  
July 24th - August 23rd  
An offer or opportunity may come your way while you're at an event or chatting online. Give it some thought as it might not be around for long and if it appeals you won't want to miss out.

**Virgo**  
August 24th - September 23rd  
Something someone says could galvanize you into action or inspire you to learn more. Keen to get to know someone better? You may be drawn by their mystique.

**Libra**  
September 24th - October 23rd  
Friends may be keen to connect, and you'll enjoy the chance to catch up if you haven't done so in a while. One person might want you to do something for them.

**Scorpio**  
October 24th - November 22nd  
You might be offered a chance of a trip if you and another haven't seen each other in a while, and this can leave you upbeat about what could transpire as a result.

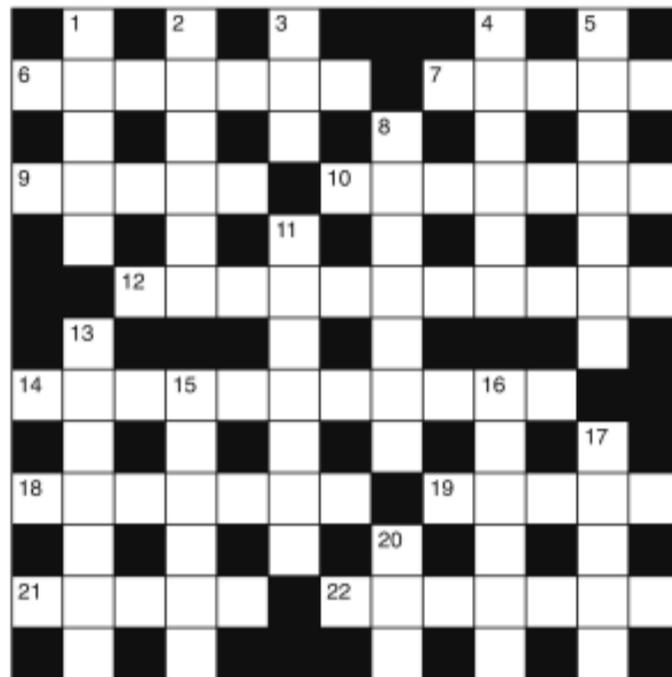
**Sagittarius**  
November 23rd - December 21st  
A desire for something to fill an emotional gap could encourage you to spend too much. Investing in something that will give a good return can be more satisfying.

**Capricorn**  
December 22nd - January 20th  
The Full Moon across your relationship axis could intensify your feelings concerning a partner and talking things over may leave you so much better.

**THE SEVEN DIFFERENCES**



**CRYPTIC CROSSWORD N° 11441**



**Across**

- 6 Opposing a person doing the stocktaking (7)
- 7 I'm sad about a legendary king (5)
- 9 Gee, soldier! It's a dog! (5)
- 10 Musician putting fish first (7)
- 12 The Lord's Prayer given a lift? (11)
- 14 Arranges and submits a requisition (4,2,5)
- 18 More godlike dowser? (7)
- 19 Father's 'thank you' for the food (5)
- 21 Drink that may be a knockout (5)
- 22 Stresses the money is on account (7)

**Down**

- 1 Two companies getting a drink (5)
- 2 Imagine one missing when solving the mystery (6)
- 3 Encountered the police in London (3)
- 4 Feels the absence of girls (6)
- 5 Aromatic plant players get out (7)
- 8 They prohibit flags (7)
- 11 Follow a winding course a repairer takes around one (7)
- 13 Peculiar collector's item given to American (7)
- 15 Exchange for a long flexible twig (6)
- 16 Rubbed out Red Sea, perhaps (6)
- 17 Give voice to a condition (5)
- 20 Caught after one part of the play (3)

**SUDOKU BY HANZO**

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

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

**THE WORDPUZZLER**

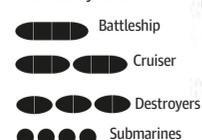
S	L	A	R	B	E	N	C	H	Y
T	A	L	O	E	S	A	H	V	A
A	L	A	S	S	O	F	A	R	M
B	I	D	E	T	T	I	I	O	I
L	N	I	B	O	I	N	R	I	D
E	D	V	L	O	O	C	A	F	E
A	R	A	I	L	L	O	N	E	S
S	O	N	O	D	A	U	G	A	K
T	V	D	N	I	R	C	L	I	L
E	D	Y	B	A	T	H	E	R	E

Can you identify the furniture items and fittings from the anagrams listed below?

- 1. Avind
- 2. Sked
- 3. Oafs
- 4. Hucco
- 5. Cebnh
- 6. Debit
- 7. Bhat
- 8. Bleat
- 9. Haric
- 10. Tools

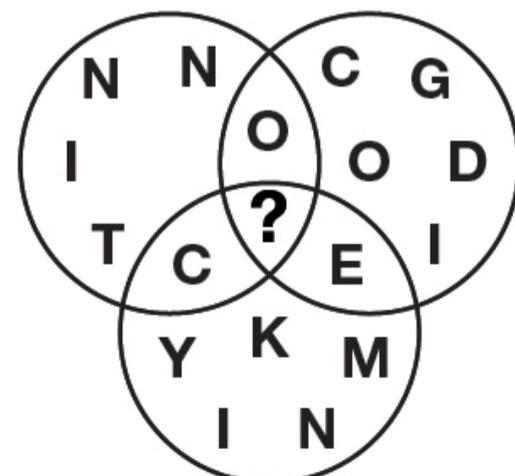
**BATTLESHIPS**

**Instructions** Find where the fleet of ships (1 battleship, 2 cruisers, 3 destroyers, 4 submarines) are hidden in the grid. The numbers to the right of and below the grid indicate how many of the squares in that row are filled in with ships or parts of ships. The ships do not touch each other, even diagonally. Some have been filled in to start you off.



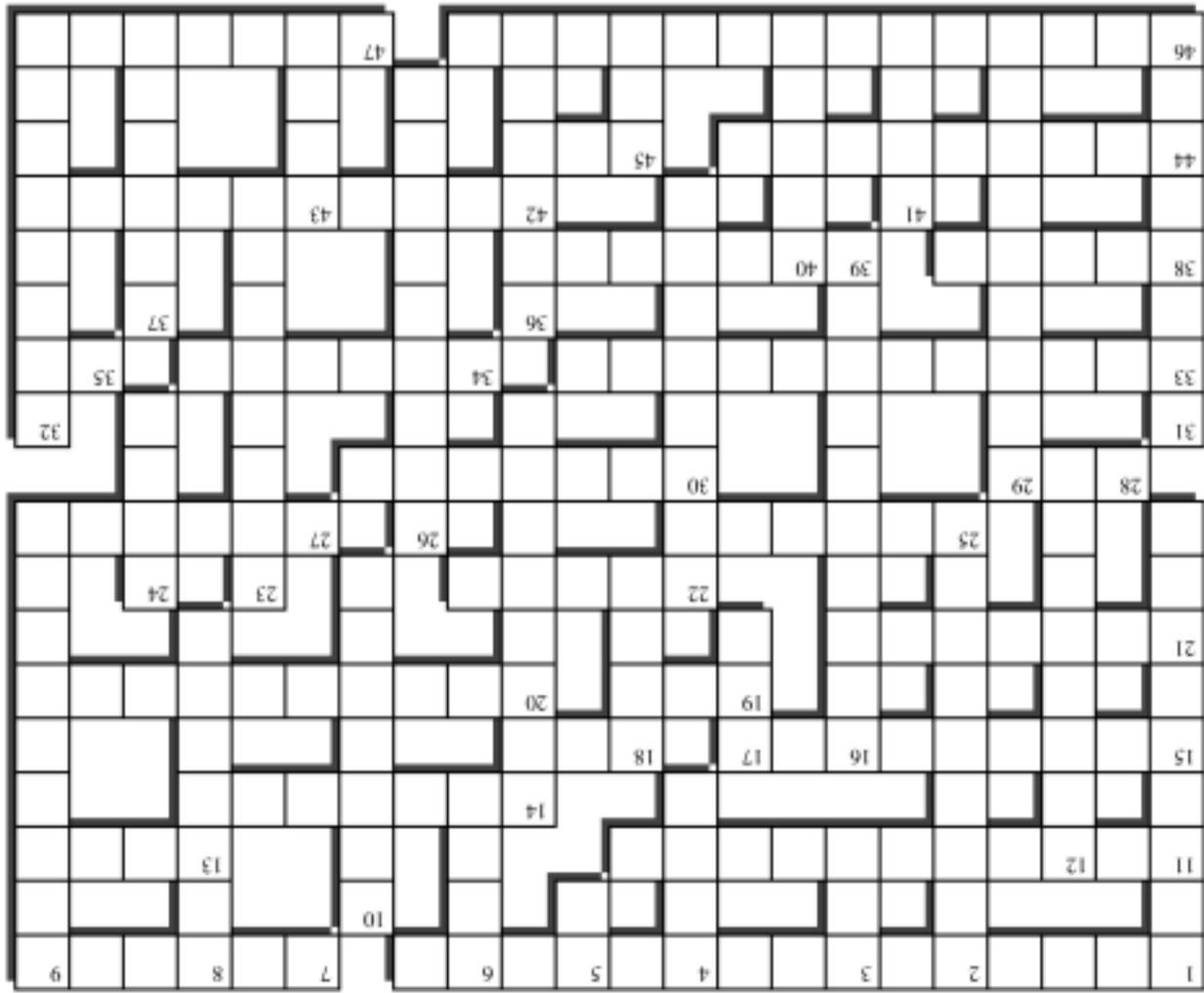
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
A					●					1
B								●		2
C										2
D										2
E										2
F				●						2
G										2
H								●		2
I										4
J	●								●	1
	1	1	4	2	1	6	0	3	1	1

**CIRCLEGRAM**



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

LANGUAGE CROSSWORD FILL IN THE SPANISH WORD



- Across**
- 1) Professionalism (15)
  - 7) To record (6)
  - 11) Show (11)
  - 13) Igloo (4)
  - 14) Career (7)
  - 15) Titanic (m pl) (9)
  - 18) I read (3)
  - 19) Wave (3)
  - 20) Hire (m) (10)
  - 21) Genres (7)
  - 22) She sings (5)
  - 25) Hidden (m) (6)
  - 27) Roots (6)
  - 28) To see (3)
  - 30) Musicians (7)
  - 33) Performed (f) (12)
  - 34) Summer (6)
  - 35) You (2)
  - 26) Controversial (m pl) (9)
  - 29) Resent (m) (9)
  - 31) To shoot (8)
  - 32) To merge (8)
  - 36) I seemed (6)
  - 37) It shines (6)
  - 45) It was (3)
  - 47) Flamenco singer (m) (7)
  - 46) Revolutionary (m) (14)
  - 40) I evaded (5)
  - 41) Taboo (4)
  - 43) Nothing (4)
- Down**
- 1) Prestige (9)
  - 2) Stage (9)
  - 3) One way (3)
  - 4) Classroom (4)
  - 5) To go (2)
  - 6) He walks (4)
  - 8) Asbestos (7)
  - 9) Gatherings (9)
  - 10) Plasters (7)
  - 12) Skating (8)
  - 14) Scar (8)
  - 16) Customs (10)
  - 17) They are (3)
  - 18) Wool (4)
  - 22) Company (8)
  - 23) Sailor (8)
  - 24) Eight (4)
  - 25) Sail (8)
  - 29) Resent (m) (9)
  - 30) To shoot (8)
  - 31) To merge (8)
  - 32) To merge (8)
  - 36) I seemed (6)
  - 37) It shines (6)
  - 40) I evaded (5)
  - 41) Taboo (4)
  - 43) Nothing (4)
  - 45) It was (3)
  - 47) Flamenco singer (m) (7)
  - 46) Revolutionary (m) (14)
  - 40) I evaded (5)
  - 41) Taboo (4)
  - 43) Nothing (4)

ANSWERS

Quiz answers

**Answer:** Pakistan  
**Of interest:** The name Pakistan means literally "a land abounding in the pure" or "a land in which the pure abound," in Urdu and Persian.

**Answer:** Seaweed.  
**Of interest:** Laverbread is a traditional Welsh delicacy made from laver seaweed. To make laverbread, the seaweed is boiled for several hours, then minced or pureed. The gelatinous paste that results can then be sold as it is, or rolled in oatmeal.

Language Crossword

**ACROSS:**  
1. PROFESIONALIDAD 7. GRABAR  
11. ESPECTACULO 13. IGLOO 14. CARRERA  
15. TITANICOS 18. LEE 19. OLA 20. CONTRATADO  
21. GENEROS 22. CANTA 25. OCULTO  
27. RAICES 28. VER 30. MUSICOS  
33. INTERPRETADA 34. VERANO 35. TU  
36. POLVO 39. SEMILLA 42. RECONOCIDO  
44. REBANADAS 45. JEJE 46. REVOLUCIONARIO  
47. CANTADOR

**DOWN:**  
1. PRESTIGIO 2. ESCENARIO 3. BIDA 4. AULA 5. IR  
6. GANDA 7. KAMIANTO 9. REUNIONES 10. TRITAS  
12. PINTAJE 14. CANTREZ 16. COSTUMBRES  
17. SON 18. LANA 22. COMPAÑIA 23. MARINERO  
24. OCHO 26. POLEMICOS 29. REENVIADO  
31. DISPARAR 32. FUSIONAR 36. PARECI  
37. BRILLA 40. EVADE 41. TABU 43. NADA 45. ERA

Cryptic Crossword

1. Divan
2. Desk
3. Sofa
4. Couch
5. Bench
6. Bidet
7. Bath
8. Table
9. Chair
10. Stool

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

Wordpuzler solution

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

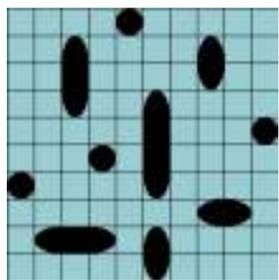
Sudoku solution

**Solutions:** Across: 6 Counter; 7 Micks; 9 Congo; 10 Bassist; 12 Paternoster; 14 Puts in order; 18 Diviner; 19 Pasta; 21 Punch; 22 Accounts. Down: 1 Cocoa; 2 Enigma; 3 Met; 4 Misses; 5 Parsley; 8 Banners; 11 Meander; 13 Curious; 15 Switch; 16 Erased; 17 State; 20 Act.

Circegram

The letter represented by the question mark is L. Clinton, Coolidge, McKinley, all former US presidents.

Battleships



**Alhama de Granada**  
Last week:  
The castle in Alhama de Granada is located in Calle Adarve Remedios, opposite the town hall. In the fifteenth century it was a key stronghold, one of Granada's defences. Nowadays it is privately owned.



WHERE IS THIS?

Dandelion fountain

**N**ot even the complications of a pandemic could stop a superhero from putting a smile on the faces of young cancer patients at Malaga's Materno Infantil hospital last week.

For eight years Eduardo Balboa, a 31-year-old National Police officer from the city, has been dressing as the superhero Spider-Man to visit the oncology wards of Andalusian hospitals. And he was determined that, despite the coronavirus crisis and all the social distancing measures, nothing was going to stop him doing it again this year.

Back in March, Eduardo recognised the difficulties and put his mind to finding an alternative. And that's when he thought of descending the façade of the children's hospital.

At the fourth-floor windows of the oncology ward, the children, who cannot receive outside visitors, were wowed by the appearance of Spider-Man. Meanwhile outside the hospital, several parents and other children gathered to watch the feat.

#### Fire station training

Eduardo's daring stunt took several months of planning and he roped in Gabriel Moya at the Marbella fire station who taught him how to abseil.

"This is my way of giving joy to these children who are having a bad time," said Eduardo when he was back on firm ground.

"They are living a double confinement."

The event had the support of the Andrés Olivares Foundation, which works to make life easier for children suffering from cancer. And it was authorised by the



The police officer greets one of the children in hospital.  
SALVADOR SALAS

## Superhero drops in on children's hospital

**Annual surprise. Police officer Eduardo Balboa dressed as Spider-Man and abseiled down the building to bring some Christmas cheer to youngsters on the oncology ward**

MATÍAS STUBER



▲ Eduardo Balboa abseils down the outside wall of the Materno hospital in Malaga. S. SALAS

hospital's management and complied with all security protocols. Eduardo even had to undergo a PCR Covid-19 test to enter the health facility.

On the ground outside, surveying the daring charitable act, was José Jaimez from Marbella. His four-year-old son was inside the ward and he was able to share the child's reaction to Spider-Man by videocall.

"My son has been really cheered up by this, and as a father, I have found the gesture quite emotional," he said.

When asked why he chose Spider-Man, Eduardo joked, "He's my favourite superhero, and with my physique it's the best option, as I don't really suit the Hulk."

Meanwhile, children, hospital staff and parents applauded the kindness of this real life superhero.

# De CottaLaw

Complete Legal Services

www.decottalaw.com

info@decottalaw.net

- ✓ Property-Buying, Selling and Renting
- ✓ Holiday & Tourist Rental Licences
- ✓ Litigation - Boundary Disputes
- ✓ Insurance Claims
- ✓ Mortgage Floor Clause Claims

Mijas Office C.C Valdepinos 1-3 Urb Calipso - 952 931781

