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Audited by PGD/OJD

March 5th to 11th 2021
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| | |
|---------------|----|
| News | 2 |
| Comment | 16 |
| Lifestyle | 18 |
| What to do | 24 |
| Health&Beauty | 26 |
| Food&Drink | 27 |
| Sport | 29 |

BIG BLOW FOR MALAGA AS CHAVARRÍA IS RULED OUT FOR THE SEASON

The striker had been the side's most consistent performer. Now the search for a replacement begins
P30



Regions call for unified travel ban around Spain at Easter to save the summer season

Restrictions remain much the same in Andalucía although businesses can open till 9.30pm in some health districts

Most regional authorities and the central government agreed this week on the need to ban travel around the country during the Easter holidays. Even some rep-

resentatives of the tourism industry conceded that it was better to remain closed over Easter to prevent a fourth wave of Covid-19 that could compromise the summer

season. Andalucía's restrictions remain much the same with extended opening hours for non-essential businesses in districts in Covid risk Level 2. **P2&3**



PET POWER

There are now twice as many registered pets as there are children in the province of Malaga **P10&11**

An owner takes his pet dogs through Malaga city in a pushchair. **SALVADOR SALAS**

Probe launched into US Navy device detonated in controlled explosion on Benalmádena beach

Residents close to Torrevieja were disturbed by two explosions on Wednesday night after the bomb squad detonated the explosive device found in the water. **P7**

Virtual or distanced events planned this year for Women's Day on 8 March

Women's groups stress that while there will be no massive demonstrations this year, the demands for equality in all areas are as necessary as ever. **P4**

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Some parts of Malaga province now allowed to open non-essential businesses until 9.30pm

Axarquía, Malaga city, Guadalhorce and Antequera area health districts go into Level 2, but Costa del Sol and Ronda area stay at 3 and 4

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MALAGA. The Andalusian government announced some tweaks to its general measures to curb the spread of coronavirus on Wednesday this week, as case rates continued to fall. This included good news for some parts of Malaga province, where non-essential businesses can now open until 9.30pm, although other areas were excluded. However the restrictions on movement between provinces and out of the region by land stay in place.

Outdoor meetings from 4 to 6

In the latest, small relaxation of the rules, the number of people permitted at social gatherings has been increased from four to six, in private homes and on open-air terraces of bars and restaurants.

Inside premises, the limit stays at four.

Meanwhile, in specific health service districts (groups of neighbouring municipalities) that have reached risk Level 2, non-essential businesses can now stay open until 9.30pm, instead of 6pm.

In Malaga province, districts to reach Level 2 this week were Malaga (city and surroundings), Guadalhorce valley, Axarquía and La Vega de Antequera.

However the Costa del Sol health district (stretching from Torremolinos to Manilva) is still in Level 3 and the Serranía de Ronda in Level 4, so 6pm closing applies.

A change in level in a health district also means changes to the capacities allowed in restaurants, venues and public transport. The levels are decided by

The 14-day average per 100,000 across Malaga province on Thursday (4 March) fell to 122, down from 228 a week before

experts in a more complex way than the rate per 100,000 inhabitants in the last 14 days, the easier-to-follow measure used on a municipality level to decide whether shops and business should shut overall or municipal borders should close.

That 14-day Covid-19 case rate continued to drop sharply this week. The average per 100,000 across Malaga province on Thursday (4 March) fell to 122, down from 228 a week earlier. Only three of the 103 municipalities in Malaga province still had rates over 500 in Thursday. Spain overall has continued to see its case rates fall this week, as well as numbers of Covid patients in hospital.

The Junta has said it will review these restrictions every week, with a possibility to relax movement between Andalucía's eight provinces in the next week, depending on how cases evolve.

However the big decision to open the region to the rest of Spain is being linked to a call for the national government to coordinate a strategy, and to act cautiously to avoid a fourth wave.

REVISED RESTRICTIONS

Throughout Andalucía

Night curfew: Stays at 10pm to 6am.

Maximum number of people per gathering: This goes up from 4 to 6, except for inside bars and restaurants.

Regional land borders closed: No leaving or entering Andalucía without a justified reason.

Provincial borders closed: No moving between the eight provinces of Andalucía without a justified reason.

Opening hours according to risk level

Non-essential businesses open until 9.30pm: In risk level 2 or below. From this Friday this applies to the **Malaga** (Almogía, Macharaviaya, Malaga city, Moclinejo, Rincón de la Victoria and Totalán), **Axarquía, La Vega (Antequera)**, and **Guadalhorce valley** (Alhaurín de la Torre, Alhaurín el Grande, Álora, Alozaina, Ardales, Carratraca, Cártama,

Casarabonela, Coín, Guaro, Monda, Pizarra, Tolox and Yunquera) health districts.

Non-essential businesses open until 6pm: In risk level 3 or higher. From this Friday this applies to the **Costa del Sol** (Benahavís, Benalmádena, Casares, Fuengirola, Estepona, Istán, Manilva, Marbella, Ojén, Mijas and Torremolinos) and **Serranía (Ronda)** health districts.

Movement according to infection rate

Municipal borders closed: When the cumulative incidence rate per 100,000 inhabitants over 14 days is above 500. In Malaga province currently Árchez, Benaolán and Montejaque.

Non-essential businesses closed completely: When the rate is above 1,000. In Malaga only Montejaque.

i Visit www.surinenglish.com for daily updates on Covid-19 figures and restrictions, including a handy interactive map.

Regional plan to jab 500k a week is given the OK, but there aren't enough doses to do it

On Thursday, Malaga's Palacio de Ferias centre became the first local drive-in mass vaccination centre

SUR

MALAGA. The infrastructure is ready. The roadmap is set out and approved. But the one thing that is essential for the Junta's plan to inject 500,000 coronavirus doses a week is missing... the vaccines.

The regional cabinet this Tuesday (2 March) gave the go-ahead for the Plan 500,000 mass vaccination programme and announced there would be 747 sites made available to deliver the jabs.

Andalusian government spokesman Elías Bendodo said, "The plan will be in force for as long as necessary and will include large outdoor spaces such as sports centres, stadiums, shopping centre car parks, university campuses and bullrings. In smaller towns we will also use the eight mobile units that we have been using for mass screening."

In order to carry out this vaccination, Andalucía will have "a strong network of volunteers, retirees and students from different branches of the health sciences with the capacity to administer the vaccines. We have trained 14,000 people to administer them," said Bendodo, who once again appealed for people to be careful: "The incidence rate is decreasing but we cannot relax."

Bendodo has also said that the vaccination process is progressing "slower than the Junta would like because we do not have the necessary vaccines", and he has asked central government to pressure the European Union so that the region can reach the summer with 70 per cent of the population vaccinated.

The Junta's Minister of Health and Families, Jesús Aguirre, explained that there are already 230,000 people vaccinated with the double dose in the region. "This represents 2.64 per cent of the entire Andalusian population and we trust that it will reach six to seven per cent by the end of March."

The president of the Junta de Andalucía, Juanma Moreno, also



A mass vaccination of teachers was held in Malaga on Thursday. **ÑITO SALAS**

spoke about the mass vaccination plan on Twitter and said: "Our community is prepared for mass vaccination: we already have the Plan 500,000, with almost 750 points in Andalucía."

Juanma Moreno: "Only the most important thing is missing; more doses to achieve the highest possible immunity"

Only the most important thing is missing; more doses to achieve the highest possible immunity," he stressed.

On Thursday, the first local drive-in mass vaccination centre swung into action in Malaga at the city's Palacio de Ferias congress centre, as teachers were called to get the AstraZeneca jab from their cars.

Other planned large-scale centres on the Costa include Marbella's congress centre and the Vélez-Málaga Feria ground.

EU starts approval process for Janssen and Sputnik vaccines

M. S-P. / A. S.

MADRID. The European Medicines Agency (EMA) will decide on 11 March whether to authorise the distribution of the Janssen (Johnson & Johnson) vaccine in the European Union.

If approved, as expected, this will be the fourth type to be distributed in Europe along with those developed by Pfizer-BioNTech, Moderna and AstraZeneca. Spain expects to receive 21 million vials although no dates have been given.

The efficacy of this type is below that of its rivals but it has the advantage that it is a single-dose vaccine and that its storage and handling are very simple.

Also this week the EMA has started its study prior to the authorisation of the Russian Sputnik V vaccine. If given the go-ahead the developers have offered doses for 50 million Europeans as of June 2021.

A rolling review of the CureVac vaccine is also under way as clinical trials continue.

February was the deadliest month of the pandemic so far

NURIA TRIGUERO

MALAGA. The third wave of the coronavirus pandemic has been the most explosive and its peak was reached in February, with almost 400 deaths in the province of Malaga.

The 391 deaths were 75 per cent more than the 223 deaths that were registered in January, the month that previously held the sad title of being the most lethal of the pandemic.

The province also registered a record number of infections in a month with 15,076 people infected by the virus, a figure that represents almost 18 per cent of the total infections (84,158) since the beginning of the pandemic a year ago.

Hospital pressure reached its daily peak in February, with more than a thousand patients admitted to Malaga hospitals at one point near the start of the month.

Spain's regions vote to keep travel restrictions at Easter to save the summer

The tourism sector is willing to withstand a bad Semana Santa in order not to harm the high season, amid calls not to repeat the mistakes of Christmas

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MADRID / MALAGA. The Junta de Andalucía's Minister of Health, Jesús Aguirre, has again called on Spain's Minister of Health, Carolina Darias, for a single strategy for all the regions so that common travel rules are adopted at Easter to fight the Covid-19 pandemic.

At a video meeting on Thursday, all the regional health ministers (except Madrid's) voted not to allow movement between the regions from Friday, 26 March until Friday, 9 April.

This week there have been many calls, including from tourism bosses, not to "repeat the mistakes" of last Christmas when 17 different regional regulations led to almost unlimited movement that unleashed the third wave of the pandemic. Bosses are



Distant memory - archive photo of a passenger at a busy Madrid Airport. EFE

anxious to avoid a fourth wave that could complicate the opening up of tourism in the summer.

Tourist industry urges caution

Despite the consensus among the regions, there may not be a firm decision made at a national level about what happens at Easter until at least next week.

The vice-president of tourism

industry association Exceltur, José Luis Zoreda, confirmed this week that many of his members were actively against opening over Semana Santa. "We can't let ourselves lose another summer season, the sector wouldn't withstand it," he said.

Tourism bosses are calling for the rate of vaccination to be speeded up as experts are saying

it needs to be four times faster. In addition, the industry wants to see travel passes or certificates to enable safe movement.

The sector is also still calling for a range of direct and indirect financial bailouts to end the "agony" of tourism firms. "We need a concrete plan," Zoreda said, calling on central government not to leave so much to the regions.

Local reticence over Easter

The president of the Costa del Sol hoteliers' association, Luis Callejón, said recently, "We see Semana Santa as already 100 per cent lost." He explained that there are less than a fifth of hotels open and it was only worth opening if movement between provinces and regions were allowed.

"The sun and beach segment has still to recover and the ability to take a risk is limited. Re-opening needs to happen when things are certain," he added.

Ana María García, representing Costa car-rental firms, said, "I don't see Semana Santa happening. Restrictions will continue to put a brake on moving around."

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LET'S GET SOCIAL:

Covid-friendly plans for Women's Day go ahead as pandemic highlights ongoing inequalities

Women's associations on the Costa del Sol are organising socially distanced or online events

JENNIE RHODES

MALAGA. Monday 8 March is International Women's Day and while there will be no big demonstrations to mark the occasion on the Costas, there are a number of events, both virtual and in person, that are taking place.

While the world's attention has been focused on the coronavirus pandemic, women continue the fight for equality.

Working from home and home schooling have brought to light, once again, that it is still women who carry most of the burden when it comes to domestic chores and looking after the children.

According to a survey carried out by the Spanish women's association Yo No Renuncio (I won't give up), 22 per cent of mothers have either reduced their hours or given up work altogether to look after their children during the various lockdowns in Spain.

More women carers

"The pandemic has shown that the percentage of care work carried out by women is excessively high," explained Isabel Jiménez Lucena, the vice dean of equality, diversity and social action at the University of Malaga, to SUR ahead of Women's Day.

The university has recently published a guide to homeworking and work-life balance and a

number of women shared their experiences of juggling work and family life.

Ana Chapman, who is a teacher at the university's Faculty of Philosophy and Arts, described her experiences of looking after two young children while teaching online and trying to do 'mini sessions' of work.

"Switching off is impossible from my point of view. These 'mini sessions' mean that I never switch off because I do little bits of work throughout the day and then I work into the evening because that's when [her two daughters] are asleep," she said.

Women continue to struggle to get to the top of their chosen professions and the assembly of women journalists in Malaga has organised a series of online events (in Spanish) to draw attention to the problem.

Coordinator Teresa Santos Garrote said, "It is socially unacceptable that women are still unable to get the decision-making roles in journalism."

Controversial celebrations

The large demonstrations of 8 March 2020 were blamed by many for a rapid spread in the number of coronavirus cases and critics condemned the government for allowing such events to take place up and down the country. Just one week later, on 15 March, the country went in to lockdown.

Marking the day this year has also been polemic, with outdoor events of up to 500 people being allowed to go ahead, as long as those taking part wear masks and



Ana Chapman has to balance looking after children and online work. CRÓNICA

respect social distancing rules.

In Madrid meanwhile a decision has been taken to prohibit any form of demonstration to mark the day. The government had previously said that gatherings up to 500 people would be allowed, but this has now been reversed. Director of Emergencies, Fernando Simón, who was criticised last year for saying he would encourage his son to take part in demonstrations, had already advised against participation in any gatherings, saying it is important to "avoid all situations where safety isn't guaranteed".

Despite the messages, women's groups in this area have found ways to celebrate the day.

Making it happen

Costa Women will be hosting

three one-day virtual sessions for the ninth annual Make it Happen summit. On 11, 25 and 30 March, from 3pm until 5.30pm, keynote speakers will be talking about different aspects of women in business, including contracts, charging the right price for services, technology and dealing with change in business. There is also the opportunity for individual networking. Each day costs 29 euros.

Costa Women founder and event organiser Ali Meehan told SUR in English, "We are putting this year's event online so we can reach and support more women in business, not just in Spain but internationally. The event again aims to support women through the challenges of running a business while

keeping a positive mindset in the process." For further information visit www.costa-women.com/events.

Meanwhile the Costa Tropical branch of Costa Women is marking Women's Day with a series of language exchanges throughout March in La Herradura and Almuñécar.

Feminist dance

The Malaga 8 March platform (Plataforma 8 de Marzo Málaga) is holding a feminist flashmob-style dance on Paseo del Parque in the city centre at 6pm.

While the outdoor, socially distanced event can hold no more than 500 people according to government restrictions, those who wish to attend are asked to wear something purple; the colour that represents International Women's Day, as well as wear a face mask and keep to social distancing rules. The dancing will be followed by a reading of the International Women's Day manifesto in Spanish.

The platform is also encouraging people to hang a purple scarf or banner from their balconies at 8pm in support of the day.

Marbella

Marbella town hall is organising a series of virtual conferences, workshops and concerts, which will run from 8 to 31 March and will be held in Spanish. All sessions will start at 10am.

The town hall will hold a physical event in the building's Salón de Actos, where the council's equality manifesto will be read. There will also be stalls on Plaza de los Naranjos and San Pedro church square with information about the town hall's women's and equality services.

Contributors to this article:

Claudia Aranda, Ángel de los Ríos, SUR

Breaking out of the vicious circle

RACHEL HAYNES



In the run-up to International Women's Day there's always talk about wage gaps and glass ceilings. Just last week we reported in SUR in English that a study had found that women earned 24 per cent less than men in Andalucía.

Of course people are quick to point out that these figures do not mean that employers are paying a woman 24 per cent less than her male colleagues doing the same job. In fact the gap is there not because someone somewhere thinks that a woman's work is worth less than a man's, but because there are

more women in lower-paid jobs than men. And of course more men than women in top executive roles.

So, why is this? Company bosses will quite rightly argue that it's not their fault if women employees choose to take a reduction in hours and salary to be able to spend more time with their children. They would love to have more female candidates for top jobs, but point out that in reality many women do not pursue promotion because of family commitments.

However, a father also has the right to reduce his hours and

salary when he has small children, so why is it the mother who chooses this option in the majority of cases?

The first reason is that it's still what's expected in society, despite the presence of equality in school text books and government policy for years. Now women can do any job outside the home, but the responsibility of managing a household and bringing up children is also mainly on their shoulders. A man announcing that he's going to put the brakes on his career so that he can do the school run and have time to cook dinner for

his family, is still rare, and making decisions that go against the grain of society requires that extra confidence and courage.

But there's another more practical reason: of course the mother should be the one to reduce her hours - she earns less than her husband. Exactly.

Not until we break this vicious circle, not until 'juggling' work and family is a task for both parents equally, will more women be able to crack that glass ceiling. It exists, but society as a whole, including the women in it, is responsible for keeping it there.



Modelo 720 March deadline – What do you need to do?

By Paul Montague, Partner, Blevins Franks

Long-term residents of Spain will be familiar with Modelo 720 (Form 720), but newer residents may be unclear on what they have to do. The penalties are prohibitive, so you need to get it right. The deadline, as every year, is 31 March.

If you were tax resident in Spain in 2020 you are legally obliged to submit a Modelo 720 declaring the assets you own outside Spain worth over €50,000. This is not a tax return as such; you need to complete it over and above your income and wealth tax returns.

Besides confirming what you have to declare this year, this is a good time to consider whether you are holding your assets in the most tax-efficient vehicles for Spain. If you have investments which were set up with UK taxation in mind, you may be paying more tax in Spain than you need be.

Tax residence rules

You are considered resident in Spain for tax purposes if any of these apply to you:

1. You spend more than 183 days in

- Spain in a calendar year, or
2. Your 'centre of economic interests' is in Spain, or
3. Your 'centre of vital interests' is in Spain (i.e. if your spouse lives here).

There is no split year treatment, you are either resident or not resident for the whole tax year.

Summary of Modelo 720 rules

You have to report all assets in a particular category if the value of your total assets in it amounts to over €50,000. This only applies to assets located outside Spain. The three reporting categories are:

1. Accounts held with financial institutions (banks)
2. Investments
3. Immovable property

With joint assets, each owner needs to declare the full value (even if your share is less than €50,000) and indicate your percentage of ownership.

In general, you are obliged to report assets if you are the owner, a settlor of a trust, an effective beneficiary from a trust, authorised signatory, or

you have the authority to dispose of the asset. This includes assets held by a company, trust or fiduciary.

Assets are valued using the wealth tax rules as at 31st December each year. For bank accounts you also need to declare the average balance over the last three months of the year. Investments held in other currencies need to be converted to Euros using the official exchange rate.

Your 2021 declaration

For your 2021 form, you declare the assets owned as at the end of 2020.

If you have already submitted Modelo 720 in recent years, you only need to report again if:

- The value of an existing asset grew by more than €20,000, or
- You sold an asset/closed an account, or
- You obtained new assets.

Penalties

There are severe penalties for failing to correctly report all your overseas assets on Modelo 720, so get help from your tax accountant if

necessary. Remember, with global automatic exchange of information under the Common Reporting Standard, omissions and inaccuracies will be uncovered by the Spanish tax office. The penalties are:

1. For failing to file *Modelo 720* or filing it incorrectly: €5,000 per infraction (minimum €10,000 for each category).
2. For voluntary, late submission: €100 per item (minimum €1,500 for each group of assets).
3. The undeclared assets can be treated as unrealised capital gains and consequently included in the general base of the income tax return for the earliest year *Modelo 720* was established.
4. An additional penalty of 150% of the unpaid income tax is levied (unless you have submitted a voluntary disclosure).

Where tax evasion exceeds €120,000 in a tax year it becomes a criminal offence in Spain and can result in a one to four years prison sentence.

In 2019 the European Commission

opened an infringement procedure against Spain with the European Court of Justice over these penalties, which would normally take at least two years to resolve. It is only challenging the disproportionate penalty regime, and not the reporting requirement itself.

Many Spanish residents are paying higher taxes as a result of Modelo 720. However Spain actually remains a tax efficient country for British retired expatriates if you take specialist advice. You may find that using other, legitimate arrangement would provide you with tax advantages you are missing out on now. Using compliant tax planning structures can save you tax and provide peace of mind. You should review your assets now to make sure they are in the best structures going forward.

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

Recently become resident in Spain? Looking for financial advice?

The Spanish tax and succession regime can be hard to navigate at the best of times, more so when we are social distancing. Blevins Franks has been providing effective tax and estate planning solutions to British expatriates for 45 years, along with investment and pensions advice.

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Puerto Banús launches five-year plan for a more sustainable marina

One of the main parts of the strategy is to gain Blue Flag status while decreasing paper waste and implementing a code of ethical conduct

JOSÉ MARÍA MARTÍN

MARBELLA. Puerto Banús has this week launched a strategic development plan in which economic development, social equity and environmental protection converge as part of the Sustainable

Marina concept. This is the objective set by the port's management for the next five years, aware that ports are facilities that cause great pressure on coastal ecosystems and adjacent communities.

According to Juan Núñez Insausti, CEO of the port, one of the main challenges will be to obtain Blue Flag certification, awarded by the European Foundation for Environmental Education (FEE) to beaches and ports which comply with a series of environmental conditions. This



View of iconic Puerto Banús. JOSELE

is an objective which the port hopes to achieve within two years.

Another of its objectives is the implementation of its Strategic Plan for Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR), which will establish the framework and general guidelines to be followed by the organisation over the next five years. It includes codes of conduct and good social and environmental practices which will apply to clients, employees, businesses, suppliers and port users.

Núñez also outlined the port's digitalisation plan, the goal of which is to establish a totally virtual customer relationship, to considerably reduce the use of paper and other materials, while offering a more agile and efficient service.

HERE AND THERE



The current track. SUR

ESTEPONA

Calls grow for path to connect Cancelada

J.M.M. The opposition PSOE on Estepona council has stepped up its calls for better connections between the Cancelada area and the nearby residential developments in the areas close to the river Guadalmanza.

After the council voted against building a bridge over the river, the PSOE is now calling for an alternative solution: developing Calle del Río, which is currently a gravel track, so that vehicles can travel in both directions, as well as a provisional crossing over the river.

BENALMÁDENA

New venue for Age Concern social centre

T.B. The Age Concern association has announced the relocation of its drop-in centre in Benalmádena. The weekly social meetings, which will resume on 8 March, will now be held in Eduardo's Restaurant in Plaza Ibenza every Monday between 11 am and 1 pm.

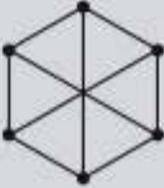
The association says that all the necessary Covid-19 protocols will be enforced to ensure the safety and protection of its volunteers and members.

MARBELLA

Padrón certificates can now be obtained online

J. DUEÑAS. In a bid to speed up administrative processes, Marbella council has now made it possible to get proof of being on the town hall census register (padrón) through its online portal. The process, which can only be completed by individuals (and not families) requires either a DNIe or a permanent Cl@ve PIN for identification purposes.

A manual is available on the town hall website to help with the process.

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US Navy explosive detonated on a Benalmádena beach

Two controlled explosions were felt by residents close to Torrevigía beach where the device was discovered by a walker

I. GELIBTER / Á. FRÍAS / J. CANO

MALAGA. Benalmádena was rocked by two explosions on Wednesday evening after a US Navy military device was found on a beach in the town.

The detonation of the American

military device, that was discovered by a walker, was carried out in a controlled manner by bomb squad experts from the Tedax branch of the National Police.

The discovery was made at around 2pm on the Torrevigía beach when a walker saw a floating object in the sea that caught his attention, so he removed it from the water and left it on the shore. It was a cylindrical device about 80 centimetres long. He quickly noticed references to the US Navy on the device as well as numbers and codes and immediately called



The cylinder hadn't been in the sea for long. Inset, flames from the controlled explosion. SUR

the emergency services on 112 and reported that he believed it was an explosive device.

Local and National Police travelled to the scene and verified that it could be an explosive, so Tedax specialists were called in and a wide security cordon was put in place by the police and firefighters.

Tedax bomb squad officers carried out a first controlled detonation around 7pm. A few minutes later, a second was heard. The detonations were felt in nearby homes but there was no damage or reports of personal injuries.

The National Police has launched an investigation to determine why the military object

was found in the sea and they have contacted the US Embassy, according to sources. The serial numbers on the device were still visible, meaning it was relatively new, and are being used to track where it came from and who it was used by.

SUR has been able to confirm that the cylinder is a military-grade signal device (or pyrotechnic smoke flare) which is used to locate shipwrecked persons or for warships to carry out shooting practice. When they fall into the water, they remain floating vertically and their ignition mechanism is activated, releasing the phosphorous they contain, creating dense smoke that serves as a target.

According to the sources consulted, these shooting exercises are usually carried out in the Atlantic Ocean, but tides and currents frequently drag objects from them to the Mediterranean.



Police arrest man over attacking former girlfriend and leaving her in a ditch in Malaga city

ÁLVARO FRÍAS / JUAN CANO

MALAGA. The National Police on Tuesday arrested the 26-year-old man for whom they had been searching since Saturday, when he allegedly brutally attacked his 16-year-old ex-girlfriend in Malaga city.

The manhunt began following the attack that came after she had broken off the four-month relationship. According to the young woman's account, the pair met in the La Pelusa neighbourhood where he began to insult and threaten her. Allegedly he took her mobile phone and left for the Playa Virginia area, while she followed him to get it back. The mother of the young woman claims that he kicked and punched her daughter and bit her on the nose at a small tunnel that runs under the N-340.

After that he allegedly left her badly injured in a ditch until a man found her and took her to the headquarters of the Local Police of El Palo. The young woman was transferred to the Regional Hospital, where she was admitted for 24 hours, until she was discharged on Sunday night.

It is the second time the man has been taken into custody for a gender violence crime and on Wednesday in court he accepted having carried out the attack, but also explained that he had been consuming alcohol and was on anxiety medication. He has been jailed without bail.

Dust cloud looms over the Costa

People with respiratory problems were being warned this week to avoid exposing themselves as much as possible to the dust cloud that rolled onto the south coast of Spain. The haze, carried in suspension from Algeria, had been present since the long weekend and reached its peak concentration on Wednesday. It is likely to remain in the area at least until today, Friday. Experts explain that the dust cloud can produce symptoms similar to allergies and, in people with chronic respiratory problems, it can lead to obstructive pulmonary disease crisis.



SALVADOR SALAS

Two men detained in Almogía for hanging 'useless' dog and throwing the body off a cliff

FERNANDO TORRES

MALAGA. Two men have been held on animal abuse charges after they were spotted hanging a dog in an olive tree in El Madroño, Almogía.

The pair ran away after a passerby reproached them for killing the animal but he reported the incident to the Guardia Civil.

The shocking events happened on 9 February and when officers from the Seprona branch of the Guardia Civil arrived at the scene of the alleged hanging they couldn't find the body of the 18-month-old dog.

However, thanks to information from the witness, officers learned that one of the suspects could be a resident of Villanueva de la Concepción. They found him some three hours later at the wheel of an off-road vehicle driving erratically. The result of a breathalyser test was positive for alcohol. Police said he was arrested after "refusing to identify himself, being threatening and disobeying the officers".

The next day a further search was carried out at the scene of the alleged hanging and eventually the dead animal was finally located. The body had been thrown over a cliff that was difficult to access. The animal, which had a microchip implanted, belonged to the arrested man.

The second person the witness saw, a resident of Almogía, was arrested after admitting the crime to the officers, justifying their action by saying that the dog wasn't suitable for hunting.

Active pensioner attempts 87K walking challenge for food banks

The 87-year-old Rotarian has used his birthday to focus on a sponsored walk with which he hopes to raise 5,000 euros for the needy

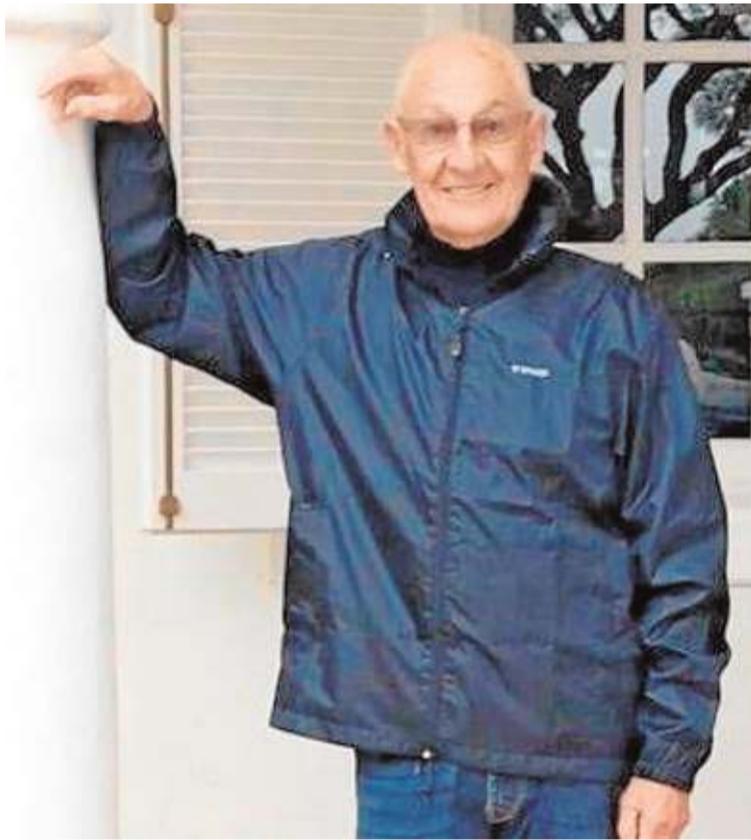
TONY BRYANT

MARBELLA. An energetic British pensioner is currently undertaking a charity challenge to raise money for local food banks and families affected by the coronavirus pandemic.

David Stanley, who is a member of The Rotary Club Marbella East, decided to use the occasion of his 87th birthday to promote an 87-kilometre sponsored walk, which he began on Monday and hopes to finish by the end of the month. David, who will celebrate his birthday on 21 March, will donate 100 euros to the campaign on completing the task, although he has pledged to double that figure if he clocks up 100 kilometres or more.

The North Londoner, who now lives in Elviria, came to live in Spain more than 35 years ago. A keen walker and, until recently, a member of The Field Club, David has never attempted to do anything like this before. However, as he is still "active and energetic" for his age, he decided to try and help those struggling because of the pandemic.

"As a Rotarian, I have been involved with several fundraising projects, but I thought that we really must double our efforts to try and help those in need at this difficult time. I like walking because it's fun, so I thought I would focus on this and make something



David Stanley hopes to raise 5,000 euros with his birthday challenge. **SUR**

of my 87th birthday," the sprightly pensioner tells SUR in English.

David has set a target of 5,000 euros and he is appealing for sponsors to help him reach the figure. He has also had tee shirts printed to boost the funds.

Confidence

Although he is confident that he will accomplish his challenge, David has decided not to try to do too much too quick, so he will be walking along the main promenade in Marbella on alternate days. Having contracted coronavirus last year, David feels that he has not recovered entirely and is mak-

ing sure to get adequate rest between each walk.

"I got off to a roaring start on Monday and managed to complete nine kilometres. I am sticking to a strictly alternated routine though. I am 87 and I have had the virus, so I have to recuperate fully in order to keep healthy," he explains.

The Rotary Club Marbella East is giving David its full backing and fellow Rotarians will accompany him on certain days of his challenge. The club will also track David's progress on its Facebook page. To sponsor David, see www.rotaryclub-marbellaeast.org

Developer to build 103 homes in Las Lagunas

MIJAS

The town hall has granted the works licence which will allow construction to get under way imminently

IVÁN GELIBTER

The number of works licences being granted in Mijas is picking up again despite the obvious long-term effects of the pandemic. The latest large-scale project to be given the green light came last Friday with de-

veloper Brosh now set to build 103 new homes in Las Lagunas.

This is the first phase of the project, which comes with an investment of 7.7 million euros. The entire 21-million-euro project aims to build 294 homes with parking spaces and storage across 9,600 square metres of land.

"This shows that investors continue to place their trust in our municipality, and with this type of initiative we are reactivating the economy and contributing to the generation of employment," said Planning councillor Andrés Ruiz, who also



Phase one will cost 7.7m euros. **I. G.**

highlighted the work being done by municipal technicians in facilitating the processing of both building and opening licences.

HERE AND THERE

TORREMOLINOS

Dedication to transgender collective

T.B. To mark the International Transgender Day of Visibility (31 March), Torremolinos town hall has announced that an area in the Camino de Pozuelo will be dedicated to the collective. The project will include the installation of two rainbow benches, a commemorative plaque and a flag in the colours of the transgender collective.

The town's councillor for Equality and Diversity, Carmen García, said, "Torremolinos has always been at the forefront of diversity and that is where we have to remain."

BENALMÁDENA

English-language mass to mark St Patrick's Day

T.B. An English-language mass to mark the feast of St Patrick will be held in the Parroquia Inmaculada Concepción in Arroyo de la Miel on Wednesday 17 March. The service will be conducted by Father Gerard Daly and will begin at 1.30pm.

Maximum capacity will be 120 people and Covid-19 protocol must be observed.

The English-language mass will also resume on Sundays at 1.30pm.

"We are looking forward to welcoming everyone back," Father Daly said.



Computerised image of the new elevator in Parque La Bateria. **SUR**

TORREMOLINOS

New elevator will facilitate access from Parque La Bateria to La Carihuella

T. BRYANT. Torremolinos town hall has announced that work on a new elevator which will facilitate access from the Parque La Bateria to Avenida Carlota Alessandri and the beaches of La Carihuella and Montemar will begin before the start of the summer. The glass-fronted lift, which is expected to cost approximately 700,000 euros and

take 12 twelve months to complete, will offer panoramic views of the coast on its 15-metre descent.

The lift will be located next to the underground car park in Avenida Carlota Alessandri, an area which is currently undergoing major refurbishment in a bid to revitalise commercial activity in the area.

MIJAS

Rotary Club extends aid project for homeless

T.B. The International Rotary Club in Mijas has extended its campaign to assist the homeless and needy during the Covid-19 pandemic. Since its inception in 2017, the Rotary Club Mijas has organised an annual Homeless Day Project on 6 January, offering assistance and food parcels to the homeless in Fuenquirola and Mijas. This year, following a donation of 2,500 euros from the he Rotary Club Horizon (Luxembourg), the Mijas branch has decided to continue the project until 1 July.



Rotarians helping the needy. **SUR**

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Pet ownership is a growing social phenomenon. These days, animals are increasingly seen as part of the family, with all the repercussions that go with that. This is a trend common to towns and cities in most developed countries, and Malaga province, including the Costa del Sol, is no exception. In fact, pet ownership has increased so much that there are now more domestic animals in homes in the area than there are children.

Figures from the College of Veterinary Surgeons of Malaga show that 428,779 dogs and 65,784 cats are registered (494,563 in total), which is practically one pet for every three people in Malaga province (1.6 million).

Meanwhile, the National Institute of Statistics (INE) shows a local population of 260,225 children under the age of 14. This means there are 234,338 more animals than children: almost double.

Rural areas have more pets

If we look at Malaga city on its own the difference is not as great, although pets do still outnumber children: 88,179 youngsters and 110,000 animals, which is 20 per cent more. The trend is similar in all large towns, but is more acute in rural areas, partly due to their lower birth rate and also because so many dogs are used for hunting and security.

Why has this happened? Luis Ayuso, professor of Sociology at Malaga University, says this is a very contemporary debate, and he points out that some political parties are now calling for pets to be regulated as family members, with all that that would entail from a legal and judicial aspect.

He points out the growing number of single-occupant homes, “where animals adapt very well as a tool for combating loneliness”. This is why a high number of elderly people are now enjoying what he defines as “animal warmth”.

Low birth rate

“We are heading towards more individualised societies. In 2050 Spain will be the country with the highest number of elderly people, after Japan. We have the lowest fertility rate in the world,” he explains. He also warns of the great difficulties families are having in creating new generations, because more young people are preferring to have pets rather than children.

Combined with the ageing population, there appears to be a progressive evolution towards a “society of emotions”, which Ayuso describes as the feelings people experience. “A dog is always delighted to see you, and that makes you feel happy,” he says.

He says the Covid-19 pandemic has accelerated the evolution of this new society. “We have more tools than ever to relate to others these days, whether face to face or digital. We are highly



An owner walks his dogs in Malaga city centre. SALVADOR SALAS

In Malaga there are now twice as many pets as children

Social changes. The number of domestic pets is growing in towns and cities, a phenomenon which sociologists attribute to individualism and loneliness

IGNACIO LILLO / NURIA TRIGUERO

connected, personally and digitally, but our feelings of loneliness are increasing, and that is a very interesting paradox,” says Ayuso.

More social awareness

Everything that has to do with pets, from food, hygiene and grooming to healthcare, is a growing business in this crisis. Juan Antonio de Luque, president of the College of Veterinary Surgeons of Malaga, says that in the past decade society has become more aware of animal health and wellbeing, especially for dogs and cats.

“Nowadays, people think of them as another member of the family, and that forces vets to be properly trained and have the latest technologies and knowledge for their treatment and care,” he explains.

In the spring, a Law of Animal Wellbeing is expected to be approved in Spain, so this public concern is on the way to being reflected in national laws and municipal bylaws.

Malaga is the Andalusian province with the most vets and also one of the highest number in Spain, a major network which De Luque believes covers people’s pet care needs. There are also five veterinary hospitals in the province.

De Luque also points out that a veterinary career is still one of the most popular with students, and this is leading to more pri-

vate veterinary clinics starting up. At the same time, more women are choosing this profession: at present 80 per cent of newly qualified vets are women.

People take more care of pets

The fact that a growing number of people are acquiring pets instead of having children also means that they look after their animals as if they were their offspring.

“These families think of their vets as pediatricians, for the whole of the animal’s life. They are very loyal to them,” he says. For that reason, he is among those calling for the IVA rate to be cut, because it has repercussions on animal health. “If they are considered part of the family, why should people be charged more for their care?” he asks.

Carmen Manzano, president of the ‘Protectora’ animal shelter in Malaga, strongly objects to the word ‘pets’. She says they are members of the family. “What is important is not just loving animals but also respecting them, because if they are respected they will not be neglected,” she says.

Malaga is the Andalusian province with the most vets and also one of the highest number in all Spain

She agrees that there is greater awareness nowadays, especially in cities. "It is much easier, more comfortable and cheaper to have a dog than a child, and they cause you fewer headaches," she says.

This explains why a growing number of young couples are reluctant to become parents, but are not afraid to adopt a dog or cat, because those don't interfere with their comfort and, if their life changes, many still think they can abandon the pet and nothing will happen. "The responsibility people feel for a child is not always extended to animals," she says.

Animals want to be animals

On the other hand, Manzano is critical of the trend in treating pets like human beings. "Animals want to be animals. They shouldn't be dressed up or have their fur dyed. They are part of the family, but that doesn't mean they want to be treated like humans," she says.

She agrees that many people who adopt an animal do so because they are lonely. Most are

looking for a small dog, because they live in small apartments and small breeds are easier to handle.

In terms of adoptions, the past year has been marked by the pandemic, because during lockdown they restricted adoptions due to fears that the animals would be abandoned afterwards. The number of pets adopted by people in other countries, on the other hand, has continued to increase.

"Dehumanisation"

"We humanise animals and dehumanise people; as bullfighter Paco Camino said, it is sad to see dogs in houses and grandparents in old people's homes". These are strong words from José María Mancheño, the president of the

A growing number of young couples are reluctant to become parents but are not afraid to adopt a dog or cat

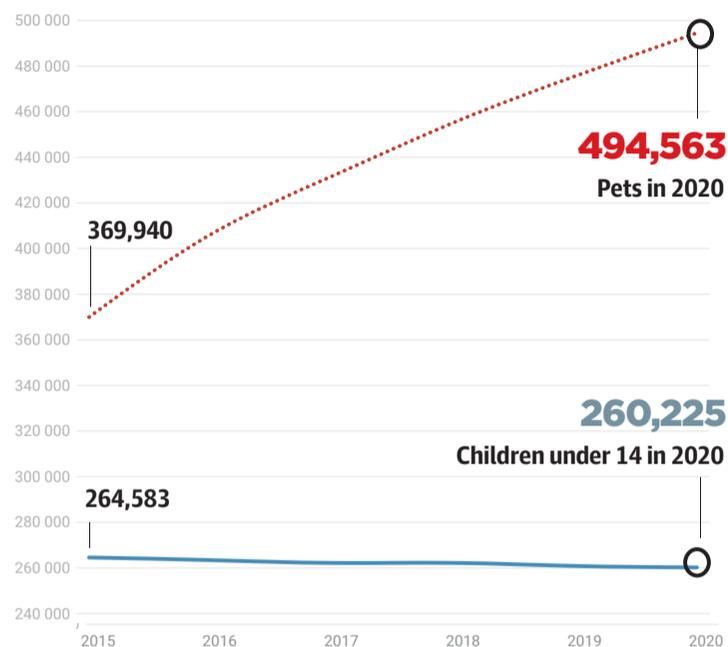
Andalusian Hunting Federation, who is critical of animal baptisms, birthdays and weddings.

"Many who attack hunting are people who treat their animals like members of the family. We suffer

these attacks on a daily basis and they are hurtful," he says.

Mancheño points out that "our dogs are much happier running in the countryside than curled up under a table," he insists.

Number of pets versus children in Malaga province



More pets are being given as gifts

A study carried out by Fundación Affinity has provided some clarity about the growing trend for pet ownership in modern Spanish society. Among its conclusions, it highlights that 21 per cent of the population are considering giving an animal as a gift to help their loved ones cope better with the coronavirus restrictions. Also, about 24 per cent of those surveyed said a member of their family had asked for a pet in recent months.

With regard to the reasons people gave for having a pet, these included a companion for their children (35%); having more time available to look after an animal (31%); the need for support due to loneliness (22%) and the intention to get outdoors more and take exercise (17%).

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Products and services for pets, a sector that is growing fast

The average amount spent per household on pet food and care has risen by over 60 per cent in ten years and is now about 200 euros a year

N. TRIGUERO / I. LILLO

MALAGA. It's an easy equation to work out. If the number of pets is increasing, and families are spending more on looking after their animals, this is obviously going to be of interest to entrepreneurs and investors: domestic pets are a growing business opportunity.

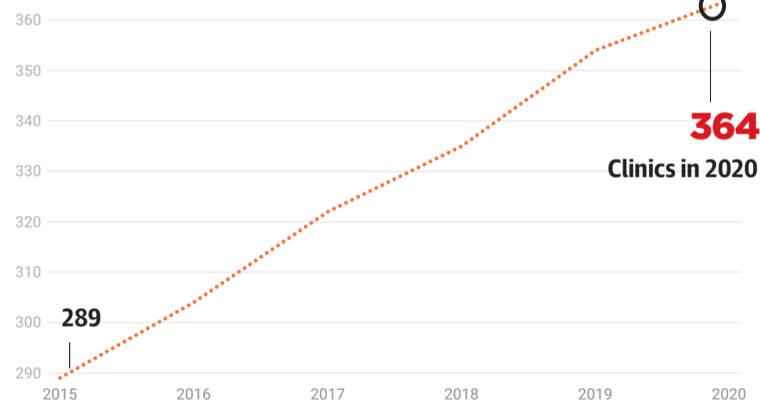
It is no coincidence that in recent years many more veterinary clinics have opened, along with shops selling specialist products,

dog grooming salons and similar businesses. Nor is it coincidental that investment funds are setting up operations worth millions of euros with companies in the sector. One of the most notable examples is Malaga-based Tiendanimal, which was acquired at the beginning of this year by Peruvian investors who also own the Kiwoko chain. The new owners aim to create a giant business that will lead the pet market in Spain.

Business worth millions

According to a survey on family budgets (the Encuesta de Presupuestos Familiares), carried out by the National Institute of Statistics, the average sum spent per home on "domestic animals, products and related services" has increased by 62 per cent in Andalusia

Number of vets clinics in Malaga province



lucía in the past decade, from 121 to 196 euros a year. In total, families in Spain spent 3.5 billion euros on pet care in 2019.

When Antonio Martínez, an Argentinian entrepreneur who came to Malaga two years ago, began thinking about setting up a business, he soon realised that the world of domestic pets offered a host of opportunities.

"I have a fox terrier and when I was looking for a dog grooming salon none of them could give me an

appointment for at least three weeks. That's a sign that demand is greater than supply," he says, speaking from the salon he opened two months ago: Victoria Canina, in central Malaga.

"An increasing number of people are living alone nowadays, and many of them want a pet for company. People are spending more time and money on looking after them, as well," he says.

"It hasn't been easy. I spent six months training in dog grooming

and hygiene and I had to wait four months for the environmental permit the local council insists on," he says.

The investment and his efforts are starting to pay off. "I didn't expect to be able to cover my costs this soon, so I'm actually doing better than I thought I would," he says.

Just as more businesses like Antonio's are opening up in towns and cities, the Internet is also buzzing with pet-related business initiatives. That is how Kome began in 2019. This is a high-end Malaga brand of pet food which is now also being distributed to shops.

An added advantage of this sector is that it has hardly been affected by the pandemic. In fact, it seems that the lockdown led more families to look for a furry friend. Everything points to the fact that products and services designed for pets will continue to increase in the future, as will the number of small-scale entrepreneurs and major investors. Indeed, there are already several investment funds which only invest in companies in this sector.



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Torre de Benagalbón residents reject EU funds for new paseo

RINCÓN DE LA VICTORIA

Members of the Plataforma ADN group say the money should be spent on business and employment, not on infrastructure projects

EUGENIO CABEZAS

The residents' association that opposes plans for a promenade on the beach in Torre de Benagalbón have "rejected" Rincón de la Victoria town hall's "questionable" proposal to use European Union funding to pay for the work.

The town hall has put forward a proposal, valued at 10.4 million euros, to the EU Next Generation programme, which has been set up to help alleviate the economic effects of the coronavirus pandemic.

The proposal includes the Torre de Benagalbón paseo marítimo as well as improvements to the almost eight kilometres of coastline belonging to the town, from



Benagalbón's coastal footpath is currently unpaved. SUR

La Cala del Moral to Rincón.

Members of the Plataforma ADN association said, "Funding should be used to alleviate the economic effects of the pandemic, not for roundabouts, promenades and other infrastructure." They went on to say the money should be spent on "supporting businesses and staff and creating sus-

tainable employment".

Residents voted for a more environmentally friendly option when asked to choose between two designs for a promenade in 2018. Members of the Plataforma ADN remain opposed to a promenade, claiming the area is "one of the last natural paradises in Malaga province".

Street cats get second chance thanks to animal-loving locals' online fundraising events

J. RHODES

COMARES. Following complaints by neighbours in Comares about the amount of faeces left by the village's street cats and a subsequent spate of poisoning, a group of local residents, led by Clair Spettigue and her husband Simon, have stepped in to help the cats and try to stop the complaints.

The group has set up a neutering programme and run fundraising events via Facebook. So far the events have raised around 1,500 euros, which has gone towards neutering around 30 cats.

The group reported the poisoning to Seprona, the nature protection branch of the Guardia Civil, and have also asked Comares town hall for their support with the programme. But Clair said they haven't had any response from either authority so far.

The aim is to establish cat colonies, which have been successful in other villages in the Axarquía. "I have seen and read that other villages have managed cat colonies successfully by sterilising and it's the only way forward," she added. Clair hopes to organise more fundraising events soon.



Clair and husband Simon. G. BROWNE



Filming of Toy Boy in Vélez. sur

Costa del Sol locations chosen again for popular Netflix series Toy Boy

MALAGA

E. C. Filming for the second series of the Netflix hit Toy Boy has started on the Costa del Sol.

The Pósito building in Vélez-Málaga was transformed on Tuesday into a National Police station before filming moved on to other locations including Rincón de la Victoria, Malaga city and Marbella.

Mayor of Vélez-Málaga, Antonio Moreno Ferrer, together with the head of the Axarquía Film Office, visited the set to meet the director, Javier Quintas, and the executive producer, Emilio A. Pina.

Moreno Ferrer remarked that "the successful series, once again, sets its eyes on various locations in Vélez-Málaga", and highlighted the opportunities that the town provides for all kinds of filming.

"We are delighted to have the recording of one of the most-watched Netflix series - which has become number one in countries such as the United States, Brazil, Argentina, India and Mexico - in Vélez-Málaga once again," he added.

House pulled down after fire which killed owner

TORRE DEL MAR

E. C. The home of Diego Moreno, who was killed when his house caught fire in February, has been pulled down. It was in the Casillas de la Vía shanty-town area outside Torre del Mar.

Vélez-Málaga town hall undertook the work on the illegal home where Moreno, 60 lived with his son. The house had been empty since the fire on 13 February.

British hikers raise alarm after finding malnourished dog

ALMAYATE

E. C. A malnourished dog has been rescued by volunteers from a finca in Almayate after two British hikers raised the alarm having spotted it trapped in the door of the property. The dog was taken to a local vet. President of El Refugio de Leo animal charity, Lourdes Peláez, told SUR that a foster home has already been found for it.

Playgrounds reopen as cases of coronavirus fall

VÉLEZ-MÁLAGA

E. C. Vélez-Málaga town hall announced on Monday that playgrounds and outdoor gym equipment would reopen the following day, almost a year after they were closed at the start of the coronavirus pandemic. The decision came after the number of coronavirus cases fell to 160.3 per 100,000 people across the towns and villages in the municipality.

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FROM THE FISH MARKET TO THE TABLES OF MÁLAGA

The fishmonger's departments at the Carrefour centres in Estepona, Mijas, Fuengirola, Torremolinos and Valle del Guadalhorce offer the best products, prepared to suit each customer's tastes

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To achieve this, the stock is purchased on a daily basis directly from the main fish markets in Estepona, Fuengirola, Marbella, Conil and Algeciras. The managers of each centre's fishmonger's department go to the markets every day to personally select the best fish available there.

The commitment to closely sourced fish is apparent in the products such as the purse-seine fish (sardines, anchovies, horse mackerel and mackerel) that come straight from the fishing boats to the centres' counters in little over an hour, resulting in unbeatable freshness.

Where varieties unavailable on our coasts are concerned, these centres are able, thanks to the Carrefour support platform, to purchase from fish markets all over Spain which offer the best quality at the best prices.

Aware of the needs of the new consumers, these Carrefour centres have the "Calidad y Origen" (Quality and Origin) range, which guarantees the excellence of salmon, sea bream and bass bred and fed under the best conditions and free of antibiotic treatments.

All to offer a constant selection of more than 120 varieties of fish, shellfish and seafood. Rock fish of

different species and sizes; red tuna of the highest quality prepared at their facilities and cut to the tastes of each customer; and, of course, the best seafood from the Andalusian fish markets, including those of Huelva.

It's worth highlighting that, as with the tuna, all these products are prepared both for customers who place orders and for the free service area. A fresh tray service is available to those who do not wish to queue.

Moreover, as is the company's custom, much attention is paid to presentation and to keeping the product fresh.

To check the offers and daily discounts with which to enjoy the best products at the best price, clients just need to look at the centres' promotional leaflets.

Trust in the best

To meet the demands of their customers with the maximum guarantees, the Carrefour centres in Estepona, Mijas, Fuengirola, Torremolinos and Valle del Guadalhorce have a team of professionals who provide the fish with the best treatment, preparing it as the customers prefer and packaging it so it reaches homes in the best condition and without breaking the cold chain. They also receive continuous training to satisfy the growing demands for new culinary styles, such as preparations for sushi, tartar or carpaccio, among others.

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Third wave of the pandemic hits unemployment figures hard

SPAIN

According to monthly Social Security data, the national jobless total is now four million again and Andalucía has suffered more than other regions

L. PALACIOS / N. TRIGUERO

The strict mobility and activity restrictions imposed to stop the explosive wave of infections during the third wave of Covid-19 have left a clear mark on national employment levels, according to monthly Social Security data.

A rise in registered jobless of 44,436 recorded nationally between January and February has pushed the total to just over 4 mil-

lion. These are the worst figures since 2016 and mean a rise of 762,742 in a year.

In addition to the 4 million, there are now: over 900,000 furloughed; 500,000 self-employed receiving support; and 705,000 unemployed on training courses or a similar restriction and so not counted. These numbers push the total to around 6 million.

Andalucía registered an increase of 14,418 unemployed compared to January, which makes it the region with the worst

These are the worst national figures since 2016 and mean a rise of 762,742 out of work in a year

evolution of the jobs market in February.

In Malaga province, February ended with 3,431 more people registered unemployed, bringing the total to 204,293, a third higher than a year ago.

In addition, there were another 7,473 added to the ERTE furloughing scheme in the province, taking the total to 41,516, the highest since July 2020.

Malaga is placed second among the Andalusian provinces for the highest rise in unemployment in February. The top position is taken by Jaén, where the olive harvesting season has come to an end.

The only province in the region that didn't see a rise in the unemployed was Huelva, mainly due to the start of the strawberry picking season.

Eight refused bail over arson of police van at Barcelona riot

A court has ordered that the eight young people arrested last Saturday for an arson attack on a police van during protests and riots in Barcelona should be refused bail. They are six Italians, a young French national and a Spanish woman who are allegedly responsible for the attack on the vehicle, when there was an officer inside, during demonstrations following the jailing of the Catalan rapper Pablo Hasél. The officer managed to flee.



REUTERS

THE EURO ZONE MARK NAYLER

Corruption's in the air



"Corruption is in the air, everywhere I look around," goes the famous song. This week, Berlin-based Transparency International released their 2020 Corruption Perception Index (CPI), ranking Spain 32nd with a score of 62, 100 being squeaky clean. During the last few days, it's also emerged that Spain's imprisoned former economy minister Rodrigo Rato is yet again being investigated for fraud, and that the country's apparently insatiable

merit king, Juan Carlos, has paid a second sum to tax authorities for earnings not previously declared, this time to the tune of four million euros. What do all these tell us about the state of Spain's politics and its establishment in general?

Spain hasn't moved on the CPI ranking since 2019, but it has improved five points since 2017, when it scored 57/100. The promotion might seem surprising, especially given the recent proliferation of high-profile scan-

dals, many of which concern the finances of the country's most powerful and wealthy figures.

The big story over the last few years has been the Gürtel scandal, in connection with which the Popular Party's (PP) former treasurer, Luis Bárcenas, received a 33-year prison sentence in 2018. That same year, CCTV footage was released that apparently showed PP heavyweight Cristina Cifuentes shoplifting from a Madrid department store, and accusations of forged degrees troubled PP leader Pablo Casado and prime minister Pedro Sánchez (as well as Cifuentes herself, although she eventually resigned over the shoplifting debacle). More recently, allegations of dodgy financing have even been flung at holier-than-thou Podemos. And last summer, dis-

credited king Juan Carlos fled his homeland amid accusations of fraud. All this and Spain inches up, rather than falling down, the CPI ladder.

Cash-guzzling Rato - a catalyst of Bankia's downfall in 2012 and one of the key players in the "Black Credit Cards" scandal - no longer surprises anyone with the extent of his greed. Perhaps, though, the very fact that he and other politicians like him have been prosecuted and imprisoned for their wrongdoings has contributed to Spain's slightly-improved CPI score: in compiling its rankings, Transparency International takes into account the way in which a country pursues the "effective prosecution of corrupt officials".

When it comes to Juan Carlos, the probability of "effective

prosecution", or even of an effective preliminary investigation, becomes smaller, principally because he enjoyed legal immunity during his reign (which itself is one of the most egregious aspects of the scandal). The once-popular monarch is also shielded by legislation that allows anyone to avoid prosecution if they pay their tax debts before being told that an official investigation has begun - which is apparently what's happened with Juan Carlos. Twice.

The specific allegations against Felipe VI's father haven't been proven as yet, but these hasty back payments don't exactly scream innocence. Again, the classic song drifts into my mind: "Corruption is in the air, everywhere I look around."

UK government moves to scrap 15-year voting law for Britons who live overseas

BRITS IN SPAIN

JENNIE RHODES. After many years of campaigning by Britons who live overseas, including many residents in Spain, the UK government looks set to keep its promise about lifting the 15 year limit on voting in general elections.

It was not one of the highlights of Wednesday's budget, but it was nevertheless included in the Treasury Red Book which provides the detail of every budget. This included the section, "Overseas Electors - the government is providing an additional 2.5 million pounds to remove the limit preventing British citizens who

live overseas from voting after 15 years." The reform is expected to be heard in parliament later this year.

Harry Shindler, a World War Two veteran who has lived in Italy for around 40 years and who has headed campaigns, tweeted on Wednesday, "It's very good news that the UK's 15 year voting rule is ending as part of #Budget2021. We fought to defend our right to vote in WW2 and now we will get to use it. This is an important day for freedom."

Scepticism

Sue Wilson, Chair of Bremain in Spain, who spoke to Mr Shindler on Wednesday when the news came in, said, "This finally feels like progress. It would be fair to say that there remains considerable scepticism - after all, the government have made similar promises before - but it does feel different this time."

"Let's hope our voting rights are fully secured before the next election."

More awkward explanations for the King as sisters get Covid-19 jab in UAE

MADRID

R. GORRIARÁN. There was embarrassment for King Felipe this week when it emerged that his sisters had had a Covid-19 vaccination on a private visit to see their self-exiled father, ex-King Juan Carlos, in Abu Dhabi (UAE).

Infantas Elena, 57, and Cristina, 55, issued a statement denying that it was done to jump the queue in Spain. "They offered

us the chance to get a vaccine and we took it," it said, adding that both hope to visit their father regularly and they needed to have a "health passport".

However, the UAE Embassy in Madrid said that vaccination there is for citizens and residents and only a negative PCR test is needed to enter.



Elena and Cristina

A Royal statement said King Felipe "isn't responsible for his sisters' actions". Although the Infantas are nowadays not referred to as part of the core Royal Family it is awkward for the King who has called for the monarchy to set an example. There has been widespread criticism from politicians of the Infantas' vaccination.

Gibraltar stands down from Major Incident posture as life starts to return to normal

The number of Covid-19 cases has plummeted in recent weeks and on Monday cafés, bars and restaurants were able to reopen again

DEBBIE BARTLETT

GIBRALTAR. Cafés, bars and restaurants reopened in Gibraltar on Monday after several weeks of being closed as part of the Covid-19 restrictions. All staff in catering establishments are having to wear double masks for the month of March, the maximum number of people who can sit at a table is six and no alcohol can be served between 3pm and 7pm, but a feeling of normality has finally begun to return to the town centre.

The hours of the curfew also changed on Monday, from midnight to 6am instead of beginning at 10pm, and this will be the case at least until the middle of the month, when it will be reviewed together with the licensing hours.

The Gibraltar government has been easing its restrictions in stages, with a gap between each to enable the authorities to monitor the evolution of Covid-19 cases. Schools reopened on 22 February and in the first week one positive case of the coronavirus was detected at Bay-side School, and 27 pupils were required to self-isolate as a result. In general, however, positive cases have plummeted in Gibraltar recently. On Wednesday there were 18 active cases and 84 people in self-isolation.



Bar and restaurant owners are looking forward to being busy again. SUR

39,322 doses of the vaccine had been administered by mid-week. Gibraltar is now vaccinating residents in their 20s and has started to assign appointments for the cross-border workers who are not employed in essential services.

People from Gibraltar are able to cross the border into Spain, and vice versa, although the government has warned that although the coronavirus situation there has improved somewhat it is still serious and people should only go if they have to. The Andalusian government has maintained its restriction on movement between provinces, so it is not permitted to travel into Malaga province to go shopping, for example.

The government also issued a reminder on Thursday that the Spanish authorities have banned arrivals by air from the UK unless the passenger can prove that they are a resident of Spain. This could affect people planning to fly into Spain and travel onward to Gibraltar. Some British passport holders have been refused permission to board flights.

IN BRIEF

ENVIRONMENT

Gibraltar becomes even greener and trees are featured in a major new art exhibition

D.B. Trees are in the news this week, and for two reasons: one is that Gibraltar has literally become greener than ever thanks to the planting of 69 trees of 12 species in the new Midtown Park, Trafalgar Cemetery, Red Sands Road and Governor's Parade. The other reason is a major art exhibition called Being With Trees, which was officially opened at the Gustavo Bacarissas Gallery this week. It features around 100 works by over 40 artists from the interna-



Art featuring trees. SUR

tionally acclaimed group The Arborealists, representing their vision and artistic response to trees and highlighting the vital role they can play in our lives. The exhibition will continue until Friday 30 April.

CULTURE

Classical concert to be broadcast on 14 March

D.B. The Gibraltar Philharmonic Society has organised a classical concert which can be seen on the Gibraltar Cultural Services Facebook page on 14 March at 7pm. It features the European Sinfonietta, conducted on this occasion by Gibraltarian Karel Mark Chichon. It was originally scheduled as the New Year's Concert on 7 January, but had to be cancelled due to the pandemic. This adapted version was pre-recorded to comply with social distancing measures and group numbers.

CRIME

Carer charged with jewellery theft

D.B. A 31-year-old Spanish woman has been charged with burglary and theft after numerous pieces of jewellery with a combined value of approximately £130,000 were stolen from two properties in Gibraltar whose owners employed her as a carer. The suspect, who lives in La Línea de la Concepción, is alleged to have taken the items between 31 December 2019 and 1 July last year. She was arrested after an extensive police investigation and forensic analysis of certain items.

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LETTERS
TO THE EDITOR

Electricity price hikes

I have been very sick and unable to walk. I have hardly used any heating and now I discover that my electricity bill has practically doubled from last year. On 15/10/2020 it was 97.53 euros and 08/02/2021 it was 185.76 euros.

Are they (electricity companies) aware of the devastating difficulties a lot of people are experiencing? No work, possible eviction as they cannot afford to pay their bills, inability to feed their families etc. and now this - an unacceptable increase in utility bills.

Is Endesa (my electricity supplier) just trying to take advantage of the horrendous situation we find ourselves in at this present time together with the abnormal cold weather we have been experiencing?

If there was a valid reason for the increase other than avaricious ones (especially

in these terribly hard times), I would be very interested to hear them.

Am I the only one to feel this way - or do any of your other readers feel the same as I do?

I feel there needs to be large protests at the utility companies to let them know how we, the people, feel! I would gladly join them - but at the moment I am not physically able to.

LORRAINE J. ELLETON

Problems with cancelled flights

I would like to know if any other British pensioners over here are having a problem booking a flight from Malaga to Manchester.

Flights are continually being cancelled.

CHRISTINE DUNCAN

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Mind your language

Very occasionally, I'll find myself bathing in a warm glow of smug, self-satisfaction. Sometimes it's because I've managed to get round to cleaning the bathroom; other times it's as a result of having convinced myself that I'll get round to cleaning the bathroom one day soon. Once on a blue moon, this over zealous surge in self-confidence will happen when I'm watching the news on television and it suddenly dawns on me that the bulletin is in Spanish and it has been no effort at all to understand absolutely everything that's being said. That's when, I begin to preen myself proudly to within an inch of my own life.

On one such occasion a few weeks back, I changed channels just after the news, still bursting with pride and feeling very much like the cat's whiskers. Unfortunately, I was just in time to catch the start of the quiz programme El Cazador, which is the Spanish version of what's known as The Chase in the UK.

The first part of the programme consists of the presenter reading out as many questions as possible in one minute to maximise the contestant's chance of accumulating a massive cash pot to take into the next round. The problem is, he was speaking so fast, I couldn't understand a single word he was saying - he simply sounded like a bloke hammering the roof of his mouth with his tongue with the speed and power of a pneumatic drill, occasionally sprinkling the incessant 'rrrr' sound with a few random consonants. Meanwhile the contestant interrupted occasionally with what appeared to be some equally random words until the sixty seconds was over and he'd got 8,000 euros. It went a bit like this:

"Your time starts... now!
RrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrSTVQrrrrrrrrrr
PRSSSSrrrrrrrrrrMNMNJKrrrrrrr."

"Tom Hanks!"

"Correct. RrrrrrrrrrrHGJDS
HrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrKXFSTrrrrrrrrr."
"A daffodil!"

"Correct. RrrrrrrrrBKL
MNRrrrrrrrrrrDFWBTrrrrrr."

"Cheese and tomato!"

"Incorrect, sorry. It's a three-pronged pitch fork.. rrrrrrrr LMATSZXC rrrrrrrr.'

By this time my eyeballs were swivelling uncontrollably in their sockets and my self-esteem was at an all time low - my Spanish, far from being a source of pride was clearly nothing short of lamentable. The next night I watched again in the hope that it had been mere blip in my incessant march towards bilingual mastery. It hadn't. If anything my comprehension was even worse than the previous evening. Now I watch the programme whenever I get the chance and dance a little jig of delight if I get the gist of a single question. The night before last, I understood two whole questions and my joy was unbounded.

Actually, the programme's just about to start, so I'll bid you a fond farewell until next week or, as they say in Spanish, "rrrrrrrrrrTYGFTZrrrrrrrrr".

IDÍGORAS



SUR in English

Published by: PRENSA MALAGUEÑA S. A.
Director General: ANTONIO GONZÁLEZEditor-in-Chief
MANUEL CASTILLO
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ALEKK M. SAANDERS

Electing women

2021 has already become a significant year for gender equality. Estonia became the first country to have both a female elected head of state and a female elected head of government. This small Baltic country has somehow caught up with its neighbour Finland, which is considered a pioneer in female politics. In 1907, no fewer than 19 women were allowed into the first meeting of the Finnish parliament. Since then, Finland has never stopped progressing. Today the country has a young woman in the PM's chair, as Sanna Mirella Marin, was only 34 when she was elected in 2019. The newly elected

Estonian Prime Minister, Kaja Kallas, is 43. Both women are far from being "made of iron", and apparently represent a new generation of female politicians to which also Zuzana Čaputová belongs. At 45 Zuzana was elected as president of the Slovak Republic, and is the youngest ever female president.

If we were to assume that such young female leaders are only possible in relatively small countries, then, we would expect other very small states to be also total matriarchies... But this is far from reality. For example, a couple of years ago, Gibraltar was ranked 154th of 191 countries

in a study of women in power by the International Parliamentary Union. The Rock was compared even to Iran and Qatar for its lack of women in government. Over the last 50 years, there has only been a handful of women in the Gibraltar Parliament. Despite these past tendencies, in March 2018 a woman in Gibraltar was appointed Acting Chief Minister for the first time, while the CM was in London for Brexit talks. Ironically, that happened just before International Women's Day and the move could have been considered as a political token, or rather just a gift.

Another micro-neighbour of Spain, Andorra, has progressed significantly in recent years. Ten years ago, Andorran women won 15 seats during their country's parliamentary election. The country became the first nation in Europe to have elected a majority female parliament. Before, Andorra had belonged to those countries that were slow to give women legal rights. Women's suffrage was not achieved until

1970. Compare this to the aforementioned Finland, where women were already able to vote in 1906. Even so, Andorra beats wealthy Switzerland, where women did not obtain the right to vote in national elections until 1971.

A country's wealth and development do not always reflect a higher level in gender politics. Nowadays, while wealthy countries compete for the highest GDP, countries like Georgia, Moldova, Bangladesh, Rwanda, Barbados or Ethiopia elect women and give them significant powers. We should also be aware, though, that this might be a façade in countries where women's social standing lags behind men's.

For me, one significant question still remains. Can a woman be a prime minister or president in the giant and powerful USA, China, or Russia, or again, in Britain? And how long is it going to take? Spain seems to be going in the right direction. The recent Socialist governments have even had a majority of women ministers.



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IN THE FRAME

From history teaching to historical memory

Malgara García Díaz. A historian, archaeologist, teacher and writer who is now president of the Casa de la Memoria Association

DEBBIE BARTLETT



In February 2020 Malgara García Díaz was elected president of the Casa de la Memoria Association, based in Jimena de la Frontera, in Cadiz province, but with the onset of the pandemic barely a month later, the activities and events she and her colleagues had begun to plan were unable to go ahead. That does not mean that Margarita, as she is known, has been idle. In fact, for someone who is officially retired from her profession as a teacher, she seems busier than ever, despite the limitations imposed by Covid-19.

In a way, Margarita has always been quite a pioneer. When she first went to university, Franco was still alive and the subjects she chose – History and Geography – were unusual for women at the time. There were still many differences in the way men and women were treated, and she recalls one incident when a friend was refused permission to withdraw money from her own bank account without her husband's signature. "The bank manager had to come out and intervene, because she and I made such a fuss about it. That was in 1977!" she says.

She originally dreamed of a career in journalism, but that course was not available at Malaga university, which was nearest to her home, and her parents refused to let her move away to study elsewhere.

She chose History because she found it interesting, but almost immediately discovered archaeology, which she describes now as "a true passion". She took part in excavations with some of the great names in archaeology and participated in research, but realised that there would be no jobs available after graduating. In the end, friends persuaded her to become a teacher.

"At first it was very painful to have to give up archaeology. I had been planning to do my thesis and had to abandon the idea. But then, I discovered that teaching is actually something wonderful. It's quite magical. I miss my pupils because they give you so much energy, I miss my History of Spain classes because they were always a challenge and I miss my colleagues a great

Women's rights in Spain: "there's still a long way to go"

March 8th is International Women's Day and although Spain has made significant progress in women's rights in recent decades, a great deal still needs to change, says Margarita.

She believes that this will be difficult while so many employers still treat mo-



Margarita at the Casa de la Memoria La Saucedá, with a student helper. **sur**

deal. They are extraordinary people, who are totally dedicated to what they do. For the first year after I retired, it was awful because it almost felt as if I had lost my identity, but then I was able to reinvent myself and do other interesting things that I hadn't been able to do before," she says.

Historical memory

One of those interesting things was to become more active in the historical memory movement. Her interest stems from her own family history. Her great-uncle was shot in 1939, after the civil war had finished, and she was instrumental in locating his body and ensuring that he was buried with dignity. She still recalls her grandmother's pain at the loss of her

brother. Another great-uncle was recruited by Franco's troops and died after being sent to the front. The family have tried to find his whereabouts, but so far have been unsuccessful.

So for Margarita, it was a combination of personal background and ideology that led her to contact a fellow historian, Fernando Sigler, who manages the archive at the Casa de la Memoria La Saucedá, a civil war information and research centre, and offer to help.

It is an environment she loves, and has led to other things: for example, she has written articles and books, the latest of which is about the way the closure of the Gibraltar border by Franco was portrayed in the Spanish, Gibraltarian and English press. It was while chatting to colleagues in the archive that the idea was proposed of forming an association to manage and promote the Casa de la Memoria, raise awareness of the historical memory movement, and organise a busy schedule of activities. Then, as mentioned earlier, Spain went into lockdown due to the coronavirus pandemic and these projects had to be put on hold.

Nevertheless, Margarita and her colleagues have continued working behind the scenes and online. "We keep the Casa Memoria website updated with information, and have just started a digital radio station called La Voz de la Memoria, which is a very powerful tool. We are digitalising the information in the archive, and working on publishing posthumously a book by the author Jesús Ynfante, called La Remonarquía. We are also preparing a series of talks and conferences, for when we are able to hold them again," she explains.

Someone as busy as Margarita must feel that there are not enough hours in the day, but she still manages to find time for hobbies and interests such as reading, writing, music, sport, and seeing friends. "But nothing relaxes me more than a walk in the woods, and then a shower," she says.

therhood as a problem and some sections of society find it more comfortable for women to look after the home and be responsible for care.

"Women's work is often undervalued and less well-paid and it is difficult for them to reach positions of responsibility. Women's achievements need to be recognised and be seen as normal," she

says.

Gender violence also continues to be a major problem. "So many women have been killed by their husbands, partners, boyfriends etc. I just hope their deaths will never be forgotten, and that women will stop being considered someone else's 'property'. The law needs to act inexorably in this respect".



Malgara García Díaz



WHAT HAPPENED TODAY?

5 MARCH 1871

The birth of Red Rosa, one of the founders of Women's Day

Born in Poland in 1871, Rosa Luxemburg created her own revolutionary theory within Marxism; her foundation is active in several countries, including Spain

Rosa Luxemburg's activity within gender equality and women's empowerment is remembered in many countries. The Women's Day that has become especially popular in Spain over recent years, was actually co-founded by this woman who was born in Poland 150 years ago, on 5 March 1871.

Rosa Luxemburg is considered, together with her close friend Clara Zetkin, a beacon of the women's liberation movement. Her passionate commit-

ment to support women's suffrage also made her a role model for feminists despite the fact that Luxemburg herself never fully identified with the feminist movement.

Her writings created Luxemburgism, a specific revolutionary theory within Marxism and communism, and nowadays the International Luxemburgist Network is formed by activists from different countries including the United States, the United Kingdom and Spain.

"Red Rosa" was born into a middle-class Jewish family in the Polish city of Zamosc, but lived most of her life in her adopted home of Germany. Since childhood Rosa had developed a certain affinity for Enlightenment ideals and eventually became one of the great Marxist theorists of the 20th century.



Rosa Luxemburg speaking at a rally in Cardiff in 1907. **sur**

At the International Socialist Congress held in Copenhagen in 1910, Rosa Luxemburg and Clara Zetkin proposed that 8 March be proclaimed an international day for proletarian women. The next year, in March, more than one million women and even men attended rallies in Germany, Denmark, Austria and Switzerland.

In Spain a women's march was held for the first time in 1936. The Basque communist leader, Dolores Ibárruri, led hundreds of women in Madrid, prior to the Spanish Civil War.

The popularity of International Women's Day in Spain was rekindled in 2018, when larger crowds than ever, supported by a young left-wing Podemos party, went out onto the streets and squares.

In 1990, the Rosa Luxemburg Foundation, known also as Rosa-Lux, was established in Germany as a transnational alternative policy group and educational institution.

As a branch of the Brussels centre, the Rosa-Luxemburg-Stiftung liaison office was opened in Madrid to coordinate the de-

velopment of left-wing forces in Spain and Portugal. Central issues are the socio-ecological transformation of Spanish society impacted by the austerity regime, as well as the interesting developments around so-called "rebellious cities" and municipalism. Additionally, Rosa-Lux supports migrant self-organisation projects and other areas of exchange on the topics of feminism, climate and trade.

LANGUAGE FOOTNOTE

| | |
|----------------|---------------|
| Igualdad | Equality |
| Género | Gender |
| Recordar | To remember |
| Mujer | Woman |
| Movimiento | Movement |
| Apasionado | Passionate |
| Feminista | Feminist |
| Revolucionario | Revolutionary |
| Libertad | Freedom |
| Derechos | Rights |
| Teoría | Theory |
| Judío | Jew |
| Pionera | Pioneer |
| Sociedad | Society |
| Compromiso | Commitment |
| Desarrollo | Development |

Bilingual crossword inside back page

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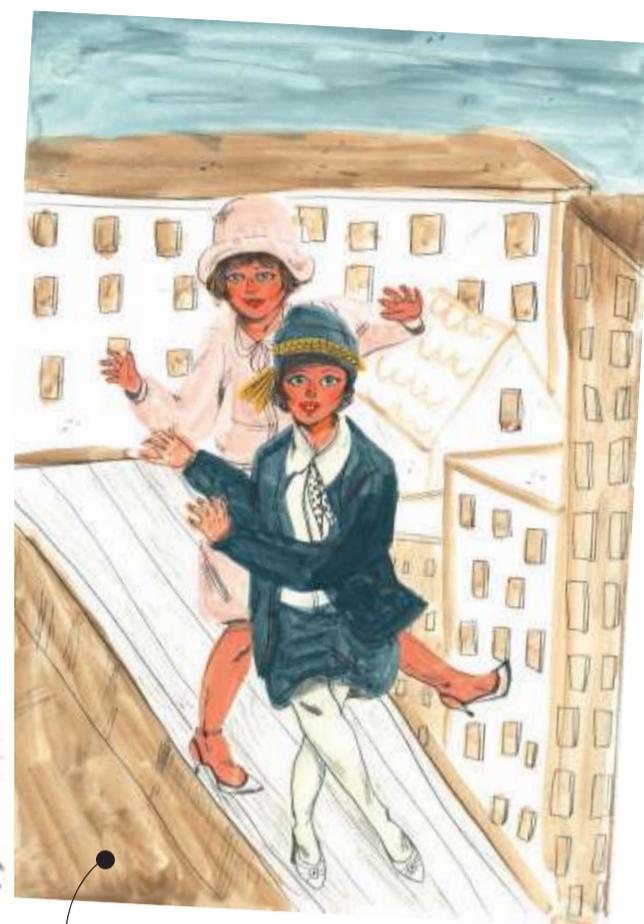
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Bloomers. The first experiment with women's trousers. Around 1850, long loose breeches tied at the ankles appeared.

Northern soul. In the 60s, women enjoyed the sound of Motown, dancing in long flowing skirts.



Flappers. Wild and hedonistic, in the 1920s they wore necklaces, gloves, felt hats, feathers, fringes and high heels.

The beauty standards of the nineteenth century meant that many women of the time had to wear corsets to define their waists, leaving them literally out of breath.

"Uncomfortable pieces that crush the torso causing serious health problems: from breathing difficulties to internal bleeding, as well as causing complications due to organs having to alter their natural positioning to adjust itself to the body's new form," Laura Castelló explains in her book *Vestidas para la Revolución* (Dressed for the Revolution).

And what about trousers! Towards the middle of that same century in the US, laws were introduced banning women from wearing them, classifying the garment as "a clothing item that didn't belong to their sex". As such, women wearing them would not become the norm until a hundred years later.

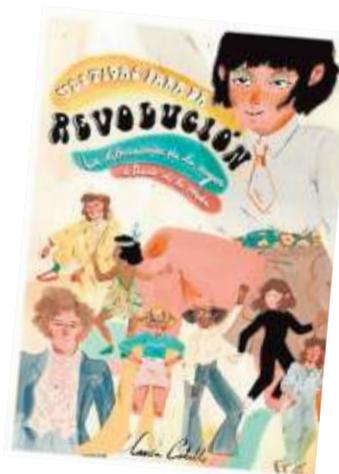
But around 1850, Elizabeth Smith Miller, an advocate for women's rights, appeared; with long loose breeches tied at the ankles or pants acquiring the name "bloomers", named after Amelia Bloomer, suffragette and magazine editor, who made them popular.

She defended dressing like this due to being faced with another kind of abomination; hoop skirts, a system of wires to keep skirts flared which caused falls and serious burns when getting too close to candles, fireplaces etc.

But those who dared to wear bloomers had to put up with ridicule from men and also women, even in cartoons and jokes - hence the expression 'make a bloomer' or make a mess of it - explains Castelló. And feminists, believing

The glamour of the revolutionaries

Fashion. Clothing trends have helped to inspire the movement for women's equality throughout history



▲ Illustrations show how fashion and music influenced social changes in the book *Vestidas para la Revolución* by Laura Castelló.

ISABEL IBÁÑEZ



that their discourse would not be taken seriously, ended up throwing this controversial garment back in the closet. It wasn't until 1890 that they became fashionable again, becoming a common garment in the world of sports.

Promiscuous and crazy

Achievements in terms of equality were happening alongside wardrobe changes which got rid of garments that prevented women from moving freely. And these changes often came alongside the changes in music trends, as was the case with jazz and the Charleston in the 1920s.

This also happened with "flappers", a name which, according to the author, referred to "their wild character".

With the integration of women into the workplace, they partly managed to free themselves from sexist oppression and swapped heavy dresses for lighter ones.

The flappers "were androgynous, promiscuous and danced jazz or Charleston in private clubs". They smoked and used cocaine.

They wore, as Castelló describes, a corset with a built-in garter belt to hold the stockings up, but they did not use it to define their silhouettes but instead used it to blur their body shapes. It reduced breasts and hips to show a more childlike, vulnerable and masculine figure.

Voluminous dresses reaching below the knee, dropped belts to accentuate a thinner form and a bob haircut. In France, the 'garçonnes' adopted a similar style.

Another curiosity noted in the book is how a figure as objectified and sexualised as "pin ups", images of women in swimsuits with pointed breasts like missiles which ended up being popular with soldiers, used to be a "symbol of the liberation of female sexuality".

Castelló places their origin in the burlesque actresses of the 19th century. "Scantly clad dancers, promoted themselves by putting up posters. In those times of conservatism, it is understandable that the liberation and lack of inhibition surrounding sexuality was groundbreaking and revolutionary."

In 1946, swimsuits gave way to the bikini, which, created by the Frenchman Louis Réard, left the abdomen exposed for the first time.

Their brothers' trousers

But jazz and swing became more and more popular in society during the 30s and 40s, causing a desire for change among young people.

In Germany, the 'swingjugend' copied fashion trends from the British and Americans, with skirts shorter than normal and a dancing style viewed as degrading and immoral. It goes without saying that Hitler made a point of targeting this anti-militarist and anti-racist movement which clashed with his ideals.

In Spain, there were the 'chicas Topolino', girls from rich families of the Salamanca neighbourhood of Madrid, nicknamed as such either because they drove Fiat 500s (also called 'topolinos')

Rockers. 1950s. Turn-up jeans, below-the-knee pencil skirts and hair tied up with scarves.



Indie girls. In the 90s, they mixed punk, grunge and mod looks with mohair jumpers, fishnet stockings and short fringes. Carefully dishevelled.



'Modettes'. Female version of the British 'mods' of the 60s. Bob or garçon cuts. Knitted cardigans and trousers with buttons on the side with flat shoes.

or because of some huge soled shoes inspired by Hollywood.

They imitated the American style with skirts flared at the knee and preferred swing to the paso doble. They drank Martinis and smoked openly. They were free and independent, very modern, something unheard of in Franco's Spain, where they were perceived as rebels.

In the words of writer Carmen Martín Gaité, "Those scatter-brained girls were out of tune with a society that urged women to stay in the background, not to progress in any way and not to attract attention."

Continuing with the trends, rock and roll triumphed in the

50s and the 'teddy girls' emerged, later evolving into girl 'rockers'.

The former, the author explains, "made their own jackets and wore shirts and scarves tied around their necks, stole their brothers' trousers and rolled them up at the ankles".

She continues: "Their motto was 'Our clothes are our answer to a boring world'. According to photographer Ken Russell, "These girls were tough, they were born in years of war and food rationing that didn't end until 1954. They were proud and knew their worth. They just wore what they wore'."

The 'beatnik' movement also had an impact on young women,

with its tendency towards cynicism and existentialist philosophy and jazz, explains Castelló.

They wore, like men, black or sober colours.

"They wore their hair and clothes somewhat unkempt, berets, turtlenecks, different types of sunglasses, striped sweaters, they listened to jazz and smoked

rolling tobacco." Additionally, they wore "black leggings or tight trousers reaching the lower leg, knotted shirts or large sweaters: hair either long or very short".

The 70s saw the arrival of the well-known hippie movement and a commitment towards equality: maxi skirts, bell-bottoms, sandals, Indian or African clothing, long hair and the rejection of the bra and waxing.

And after the punk of the 80s, whose greatest representatives in Spain were Las Vulpes, Ana Curra or Alaska, the 90s burst in with the arrival of 'indie girls'. According to Sam Knee, author of *Untypical Girls*: "The sense of sexual equality within the 'indie' guitar scene was, in hindsight, a rare phenomenon, compared to the stupid macho mentality of most other rock scenes from the 80s."

The book ends with the current 'genderless' movement, which advocates, in terms of fashion, removing the differences between feminine and masculine "to get rid of any label and focus on who we are in essence".

If those ridiculed 'bloomers' could only raise their heads...

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An urban walk down memory lane

Mural route. Torremolinos is striving to become a serious cultural hub with a series of spectacular giant artworks by local graffitists that offer the ultimate artistic experience

TONY BRYANT



In its bid to become a serious cultural destination, Torremolinos is promoting a new Ruta del Murales, a route intended to recover its history and heritage through a series of spectacular murals. Prior to the pandemic, the town was focused on its new reputation as an outdoor museum, and this new project is intended to help Torremolinos re-surface as a benchmark for modernity, nonconformity, tolerance and creativity.

Along with Hollywood stars like Frank Sinatra, Brigitte Bardot and Ava Gardner, the new route boasts colourful murals of some of the most renowned national and international celebrities. Spanish artists, such as Picasso and Salvador Dalí, flamenco legends Camarón de la Isla and Paco de Lucía, along with actors such as Laurence Fishburne, Samuel L Jackson and Anthony Hopkins, are among the familiar faces that a visitor can discover on the walls and buildings in the town.

French actress Brigitte Bardot, who stayed in the town in 1957 while filming *The Night Heaven Fell*, is painted on the facade of Adriano Hotel in Plaza Costa del Sol. The mural has caused some confusion among the Spanish

community, as many of them at first believed it to be Spanish singer and actress Marisol. There is no mistaking the face of Sinatra in Calle de los Perros in La Carihuela (painted to celebrate the 55th anniversary of his controversial visit), or that of his wife Ava Gardner, in Calle de Las Mercedes, both of which were painted by local artists Pablo Sánchez and Sergio Jiménez.

Highlighting culture, gastronomy and diversity

One of the biggest murals can be found in Avenida Carlota Alesandri in Montemar. Painted by 30-year-old graffiti artist Guillermo Paz, aka Nesui SRC, this piece highlights the culture, gastronomy and diversity of the town. Images of Picasso, Dalí, Anthony Hopkins and Spike Lee share pride of place with those highlighting the town's long fishing

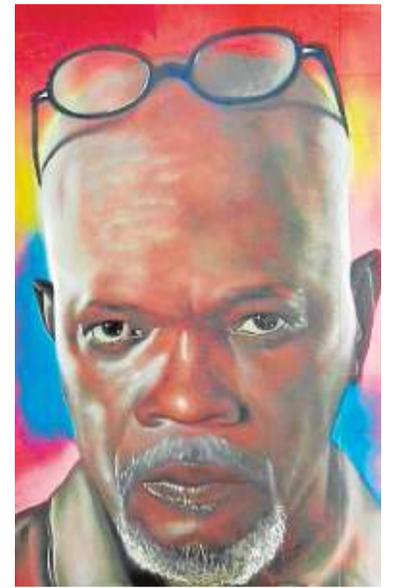
The route includes images of Frank Sinatra, Samuel L Jackson, John Lennon, Camarón de la Isla, María Zambrano and Picasso



John Lennon. The image of the former Beatle in Pasaje Begoña. T. BRYANT



Flamenco legends. Camarón de la Isla and Paco de Lucía. T. B.



Hollywood actor. The life-like image of Samuel L. Jackson. T. B.

tradition and the LGBT community.

The town's gay-friendly standpoint is further endorsed in Pasaje Begoña, with a large mural recording the raid of 1971, when police cracked down on the liberal nightlife scene for which the area was famed. Here, a visitor will also find an image of former Beatle John Lennon, who visited the town with Brian Epstein in the 1960s.

From here, one should head to the Plaza de España, where some of the most impressive work of Nesui SRC can be found. These include a large mural dedicated to Gypsy singer Camarón and his long-time guitarist Paco de Lucía, who were regular performers at the celebrated El Jaleo flamenco tablao (now Pepe López) in Torremolinos during the 1970s.

Others include life-like images of Laurence Fishburne and Samuel L Jackson, as well as one dedicated to the rap culture.

The Pablo Picasso Cultural Centre is the final destination on this route. Here you can discover a large mural depicting well-known local characters like dancer El Carrete, singer Miguel Molina and essayist and philosopher María Zambrano.

**Covid restrictions...
Bad weather...
Self-isolation...**

You know you can rely on SUR in English to be out on the streets every Friday without fail - but if for any reason you can't pick up your copy as usual, don't forget to download the pdf version of the print edition at

<http://print-edition.surinenglish.com>



DENISE BUSH



GARDENING

Hakea laurina

Hakea laurina is an evergreen erect shrub or small tree native to Western Australia. Its common names include emu bush, pincushion hakea and kodjet.

Hakea is a genus of around 149 species in the Proteaceae family and Hakea laurina is one of the hardier species, suitable for warm coastal ar-

reas as well as colder locations which don't drop below -5°C in winter.

It can reach up to six metres in height by five metres spread when fully mature but can be kept smaller by pruning in the winter when dormant.

The stunning globu-

lar red flowers covered in white 'pins' appear in spring and have a very light honey scent.

Although the flowering period is relatively short (over by midsummer), the flowers can be cut and brought indoors. The blooms are followed in the autumn by hard brown seed pods.

The bark is smooth and grey-brown and the olive-green leaves are between 7 and 15cm long. They resemble those of laurel (hence the specific epithet laurina) and are narrow with pronounced veining.

Propagation from cuttings is rarely successful but the hard seed pods of Hakea laurina can be opened by exposing them to heat and the two black papery seeds extracted. These are best sown in the spring.

Drought tolerant once established, the pincushion hakea needs a position where it will get full sun, the more hours of sunshine, the more prolific the flowering although it will also grow in partial shade.

The soil needs to be neutral or slightly acidic and free-draining. In its native environment, Hakea laurina is found in dry, sandy soils. It is often grown for screening or as an informal hedge.

Fertiliser containing phosphorous should be avoided for all plants in the Proteaceae family as it can kill them.



Hakea laurina tree and close up of flower (inset). PIXABAY / WIKIMEDIA

READERS' PHOTOS



MARIA HILLEN

A mass of daisies

Reader and keen gardener Maria Hillen sent in this photo of a mass of Osteospermum in bloom in her garden. Commonly called daisy bush they flourish in the Mediterranean climate.



BARBARA BASSADONE

The art of flowers

The publicist for the Estepona Floral Art Club, Barbara Bassadone, sent in this photo of a beautiful Amaryllis. She says although the club have been unable to hold meetings for nine months, they will be having a video conference via Zoom on 16 March, 2pm. For more information: jcartercoyne@gmail.com

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

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EXHIBITIONS**Mesopotamian art**

ESTEPONA. Museo Arqueológico Municipal. Temporarily closed. The exhibition at the archaeology museum consists of various pieces from different periods in the history of ancient Mesopotamia. The collection is owned by Estepona resident and French architect, Jacques Cavro.

Exposicion de Taller de Grabado

MARBELLA. Until 10 April. El Museo del Grabado Español Contemporáneo. The exhibition includes artwork from around thirty students and displays different techniques such as Mokulito and the use of a baren (a tool used in Japanese printing.)



Taller del Grabado, Marbella.

From Oaxaca to Surrealism

MARBELLA. Museo Ralli. Tuesday to Saturday 10am to 3pm. The Museo Ralli in Marbella is celebrating its 20th anniversary by reopening its doors with two new exhibitions. The first, Contemporary art in Oaxaca, will be presented on Saturday 6 March and provides an overview of the various artistic manifestations that emerged from this southwest Mexican state. The second, 'Surrealism. From Giorgio de Chirico to Francis Bacon' opens on Saturday 13 March and explores the different languages and trajectories of some of the most prominent surrealist artists in history, such as André Masson, Salvador Dalí, Man Ray and Joan Miró.

Torremolinos Street Art

TORREMOLINOS. Caseta Municipal de Asociaciones. The initiative includes workshops and activities for persons between 14 and 35 will include exhibitions of hip hop and break dance. On 13 March there will be workshops on creating graffiti, urban dance and customising tee-shirts. To register email: juventud@torremolinos.es or call: 659 870 542.

Tiempo de color

TORREMOLINOS. Until 7 March. Casa de los Navajas. The exhibition by local artists Graciela Inés Valinoti and Sara Farias consists of 33 works, 18 by Graciela and 15 by Sara.

Photography exhibition

MIJAS. Until 8 March. Casa Museo Mijas Pueblo.

Afternoon of fun and games in aid of Mijas donkey sanctuary

TONY BRYANT

MIJAS. An afternoon of fun and games has been organised by the Simply Surviving charity platform in order to raise funds for Donkey Dreamland, a Mijas-based donkey rescue and educational centre.

The event will be held at the Cerros de Águila restaurant in Mijas Costa on 11 March. As well as a fun quiz, the afternoon will include book signings by Val Williams, former president of The Salón Varietés fundraising arm, FOTA, and Mijas councillor Bill Anderson, both of whom have recently published their memoirs.

The fun starts at midday, with book signings from 1pm, followed by the quiz at 2pm.

Those interested in the quiz, which offers a prize for the winners, are invited to enter a team of four people at



The event will raise funds for the Donkey Dreamland refuge. SUR

a cost of one euro per person. To register, send a WhatsApp message to Alan Boardman on 610522605.

The event will be held on the restaurant's open-air terrace and Covid-19 protocols must be observed. Food and refreshments will be available. The venue also

offers ample parking.

The Simply Surviving group has been created to support businesses and individuals that need help during the pandemic. The volunteer-run group has a range of future events planned to help local businesses and charities.

Open from 10am until 2pm, the exhibition 'Pareidolia' consists of photographs of nature by María Jesús Campos.

Malaga Picasso Museum

MALAGA. Museo Picasso Málaga, Calle San Agustín.

It is possible to see works from the Meret Oppenheim exhibition in the museum on the website www.museopicassomalaga.org under 'exposiciones digitales'.

Collection. Dialogues with Picasso. Collection 2020-2023 is formed of 120 works by the artist. These include the cubist sculpture Glass of Absinthe (1914) and the painting Susanna and the Elders (1955).

James Turrell. Until June. The exhibition entitled Cherry, is an experiment with light, space and time.

Hilando Diseño. An enormous tapestry mural of colourful squares created by over 500 students in primary and secondary schools, art and college students as well as vulnerable adults in care homes in Malaga.



Manu Guayre, Malaga.

Metamorfosis. Until September. An exhibition of around one hundred paintings, ceramics, drawings and bronzes by artist Miquel Barceló will be on display. www.museopicassomalaga.org.

Colección del Museo Ruso

MALAGA. Edificio Tabacalera, Avda Sor Teresa Prat.

Temporary exhibitions. The two temporary exhibitions currently at the museum are Rompiendo el Silencio. El cine Mudo en Rusia (Breaking the Silence. Silent Film in Russia) and Andréi Tarkovsky. Maestro del Espacio (Master of Space). Andréi Tarkovsky was one of the most influential Russian artists of the 20th century and forerunner of innovative techniques in the cinema of the time. In conjunction with this exhibition is a series of silent movies, with some of the most iconic Russian, Italian and American films available until 4 April. **Annual exhibition.** True-to-life works from the past three centuries. From still lifes of the 18th century to everyday scenes painted only a few months ago, the museum has created a tour consisting of 163 works in a succession of rooms. Until April.

Centre Pompidou

MALAGA. Muelle Uno.

<https://centrepompidou-malaga.eu/>
Dar la Cara. Until 11 April. This latest exhibition consists of photos and videos by 26 artists. Classic portraits are mixed with contemporary and innovative styles, sometimes surreal and disquieting.

Centro de Arte Contemporáneo-CAC Málaga

MALAGA. C/Alemania.

Pedro 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.

Aaron. Until 4 April. In the Sala Coracha. The CAC presents the most important exhibition to date by Santiago Navarro, known under the pseudonym Aaron. The exhibition Soy Mi Jardín is composed of several pieces, a video projection and sixty pictorial works, most of them created during the periods of confinement last year.

Galería JM

MALAGA. C/ Duquesa de Parcent, 12. Selva de Tiempo is the title of the current exhibition at the gallery. It consists of works created by artist José Luís Valverde.

Carmen Thyssen Museum

MALAGA. C/ Compañía, 10. 9.30 - 2.30pm. 7-9pm Tuesday to Friday. 9.30am-9pm Saturday and Sunday.

Collection. A journey through mainly Spanish art from the Old Masters through to Romantic Landscape and Costumbrismo, Précieux Style and Naturalist Painting and Fin-de-Siècle. The past collections of the Thyssen museum can be viewed online at www.carmenthyssenmalaga.org

Museum Jorge Rando

MALAGA. C/ Cruz del Molinillo. www.museojorgerando.org
Expressionist museum of work by painter and sculptor Jorge Rando. www.jorgerando.org

Galería Benedito

MALAGA. Calle Niño de Guevara. The current exhibition of works by

Juan Tenorio consists of a series of landscapes of New York and London full of colour and movement. They can be viewed as well as other art works on the gallery web site: www.galeriabeneditoshop.com

Fundación Unicaja

MALAGA. Centro Cultural Fundación Unicaja, Plaza del Obispo.

The XIV Certamen Fundación Unicaja de Artes Plásticas is a new exhibition of 35 works acquired by the Unicaja foundation.

Brigitte Bardot

MALAGA. Until 6 June. La Térmica. Free.

The new exhibition at La Térmica is a series of photographs of Brigitte Bardot taken during the filming of the French film Les Bijoutiers du clair de lune in 1957. It was directed by Roger Vadim and many scenes were shot in various locations in Malaga province.

www.latermicamalaga.com

Manu Guayre

MALAGA. Until 7 March. Casa Amarilla, C/Santos.

#Off Yellow is the title for a series of irreverent works in the style of poster art by young Catalan artist Manu Guayre.

The Beatles versus The Rolling Stones

MALAGA. Until 31 March. Centro Cultural La Malagueta, C/ de Cervantes.

The exhibition consists of a collection of photographs taken by Terry O'Neill and Gered Mankowitz of the two legendary bands from the start of their careers and through their 'boom' years. There are also some photos taken by Baron Wolman and two documentaries, Eight Days A Week by Ron Howard and Charlie is My Darling by Peter Whitehead.



Creadores con Consciencia, Malaga.

Creadores de Conciencia

MALAGA. Until 19 March. Salas Mingorance, Archivo Municipal y Sociedad Económica de Amigos del País de Málaga.

An exhibition by 40 journalists consisting of 120 photographs which reflect on the situations which connect with the conscience of the viewer. The photos have all been published in major newspapers around the world and feature some upsetting scenes in far away places such as Syria, Colombia, Venezuela,



Sambuke Trío, The Hall Malaga.

Iraq and Egypt and others closer to home.

Being With Trees

GIBRALTAR. Until 13 March. Gustavo Bacarissas Gallery. This exhibition, entitled 'Being with Trees', will showcase around 100 works from over 40 artists. These form part of the internationally acclaimed group of artists The Arborealists, also featuring the Urban Contemporaries with some Gibraltar artists. Email: info@culture.gi.

Sobre la Mujer

RINCÓN DE LA VICTORIA. Until 8 March. La Casa Fuerte Bezmiliana. Twenty-eight art works in different styles and media all on the theme of women.

LIVE CONCERTS AND MUSIC

OFM Chamber Music concerts

MALAGA. Auditorio del Museo Picasso de Málaga.
7 March, 12pm. Jazz quintet plays songs made famous by Frank Sinatra, Chet Baker, Billie Holiday etc with vocals by Raquel Pelayo.
9 March, 12pm. Austri Musici
28 March, 12pm. Harmoniemusik play music by Mozart and Soler.
6 April, 8pm. La Spagna.
11 May, 8pm. Cuarteto con Fuoco and Tilman Mahrenholz.
1 June, 8pm. Trío Círculo.
 Tickets: www.museopicasso-malaga.org

Malaga Philharmonic Orchestra

MALAGA. Auditorio Edgar Neville, Teatro Echegaray or Cervantes.
18, 19 March, 8pm. Tchaikovsky's piano concerto N° 1. with pianist Nicolai Demidenko. Teatro Cervantes. Tickets: entradas.mientrada.net

The Hall

MALAGA. 6 March, 4pm. Calle Heroe de Sostoa, 65. 8€. The Sambuke Trío play music influenced by jazz, Brazilian, classic and African melodies.

THEATRE AND DANCE

Theatrical March

TORREMOLINOS. 6-27 March. Auditorio Municipal. Torremolinos are holding a month of theatre with four plays, each 6€ entry fee. The plays are in Spanish and tickets are available online: http://latiendadelasentradas.com/ or by calling: 615652453.

La Psicología del color

MALAGA. 20, 21 March, 12pm. Teatro Cánovas, Plaza de el Ejido. David Segura's company, Beyond Dance, will be performing his new show filled with passion, humour and fantasy.

TALKS / LECTURES

The Arts Society Costa del Sol

FUENGIROLA. Lectures online. The Arts Society Costa del Sol streams lectures to its members via Zoom. You can also register for a single lecture - 10€. To join email: costadelsol@theartsociety.org
8 March 4.30pm. The Imperial Easter Eggs of Carl Faberge-After The Revolution. Lecturer Toby Faber. Between 1885 and 1916, Carl Fabergé made fifty jewelled eggs - Easter presents from Russia's last two emperors to their wives. They have become the most famous surviving symbols of the Romanov Empire.

The Arts Society

NERJA. Lectures online. The Arts Society Nerja season of lectures free online via Zoom for members and 10€ for supporters. www.theartsocietynerja.com
9 March 6pm. The Imperial Easter Eggs of Carl Faberge-After The Revolution. Lecturer Toby Faber.
23 March 6pm. Seville. Great Babylon of Spain. The Arts Society UK has started up their Lectures at Home again. Check their website. https://theartsociety.org/lectures-at-home

Floral Art Club

ESTEPONA. 16 March, 2pm. Via Zoom. Gill Mc Gregor, Chairman of London and Overseas NAFAS will be presenting the demonstration. Gill is a qualified teacher of floral design and has performed over 1,000 Floral Art Demonstrations to many audiences in the UK and around the world. More information: jcarter-coyne@gmail.com

CHARITY

ARCH

ALHAURÍN EL GRANDE. Open every Sunday 9am - 2pm. The ARCH team at the Rescue Centre for Horses and Donkeys has resumed its popular Sunday open mornings. Visitors can come and meet the volunteers and the current residents. More information on Facebook: Cen-

tro Andalusi de Rescate de Caballos or www.horsescuespain.org

MORE IDEAS

Natura Málaga

MALAGA. 14-16 May. Palacio de Ferias y Congresos, Malaga. The annual health and sustainable living fair is planning to be held in May as usual. This year it will include the new Naturauto where the latest in ecological and sustainable vehicles will be on display. There will also be stands promoting a variety of products, workshops and conferences. www.naturamalaga.com

Trails for Hikers

CÁRTAMA. Throughout the spring. Cártama town hall has launched a new season of hiking trails within its Cártama en Ruta initiative. The routes will pass through the Alhama Natural Park, Sierra de las Nieves and the Tagus trail of Los Bermejales -Río Cacin in Granada. Registration is 15€ at the Sports Delegation in the Cártama town hall or call: 951010872

Photography workshops

MIJAS. Casa Museo de Mijas. Free. Learn how to take good photos. Register by email: cultura@mijas.es or call: 952590380. Free but each participant should donate 3kg of non-perishable foodstuffs to the food bank at the start of the course.
Portrait Workshop. 6, 7 March. 10am-2pm, 4-7pm and 10am - 1pm Sunday.
Urban Photography Workshop. 20, 21 March. 10am-2pm, 4-7pm and 10am - 1pm Sunday.

Lux Mundi

TORRE DEL MAR. Fridays, 11am - 1pm. Lux Mundi Ecumenical Centre, Avda Moscatel. Coffee mornings with coffee, tea or fruit juice with a piece of cake. A boutique with a range of new and nearly new clothing and accessories and also a wide stock of second hand English books.
Craft Group. Mondays, 10am-1pm in the centre. The craft group will be making cards in various styles including Iris paper folding, decoupage and other projects. 5€.
Knitting and crochet. Mondays, 10.30am-1pm in the centre.
Art Group. Wednesdays, 10am-1pm in the centre.
Taizé Prayer. 26 March, 7pm. Nuestra Señora del Carmen church. San Andrés church. Taizé prayer is a monthly invitation to join in prayer. Send an email to be included in them.

Lux Mundi

FUENGIROLA. Fridays, 10am - 1pm. Lux Mundi Ecumenical Centre, C/Nueva 3. Only the Boutique open at the moment in the Lux Mundi Centre. Opening hours: Tuesday to Saturday 10am to 1pm. Call: 952474840 or email: luxmundif@gmail.com.
Taizé Prayer. 17 March, 7.45pm. San José church.
Taizé Prayer. 25 March, 7pm. Nuestra Señora del Carmen church. Taizé prayer is a monthly invitation to join in prayer. Send an email to be included in them.

Collective Calling charity spring fair



Collective Calling supports communities through the pandemic. SUR

SUR IN ENGLISH

ESTEPONA. The charity Collective Calling is holding an Easter fair on 20 March from 12 to 5pm at the TikitanoBesaya Restaurant in Estepona. There will be live music by the Soulicious band with Simone Kennedy, an Easter Egg Hunt and Easter Workshop for the children as well as other fun and games including an Easter Hat Competition - with a prize for the winner.

A raffle, stalls with hand-crafted items and a pilates

class for a donation (Whatsapp Millie on +44 7790700075) will be held on the day.

Tikitano will be offering a two-course meal for 35 euros for adults and 18 euros for children. Reserve at eventos-grupobesaya.com.

The charity Collective Calling has been supporting the homeless and vulnerable families on the coast throughout the pandemic. It also has a project in Tanzania which rescues and rehabilitates street children.

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Why do we get grey hairs?

More reasons than one. Stress has an influence but genetics even more... and it's a lie that three will grow if you pull one out



CARMEN BARREIRO



Beatriz Sevilla decided to stop colouring her hair on her 58th birthday, a couple of years ago. "I didn't have many grey hairs, but I was tired of having to colour it every few weeks. Two of my friends had let their hair go grey naturally and I thought it looked great, so I decided to do the same," says Beatriz, who works as a secretary.

It is fashionable nowadays to leave hair to go grey, but why do we have grey hairs in the first place? Are they hereditary? And is it true that if you pull one out three others will grow in their place? David Saceda, a dermatologist

with the Trichology Group of the Spanish Dermatology and Venereology Association (AEDV), answers our questions about those silvery grey hairs that often bother us so much.

Not grey or white - transparent

In reality, a grey hair is simply a hair that has lost its natural colour. It doesn't turn grey, it just isn't black, brown or blonde any more.

"If you look at a grey hair under a microscope, you will see that it is transparent. What happens is that the structure of the hair and the way the light shines on it makes it look grey or white,"

says Dr Saceda.

Something else can also occur when grey hairs are damaged, for example from the chlorine in a swimming pool, the use of unsuitable shampoos or contamination: they appear more yellow in colour. "That's why it is always best to use products which are designed specifically for grey hair," he says.

Why does hair lose its colour? Because the melanocytes - the cells which give our skin and hair their colour - continue to produce melanin until, over time, it runs out. "We also know that the melanocytes of the hair are much more sensitive than those of the skin, and that's why our skin doesn't lose its colour but our hair does," says Dr Saceda.

It is a process which is highly determined by genetics, because if your father or mother goes grey at a young age, it is highly likely that you will as well. However, there are other factors which can accelerate or slow down - but not stop - the process.

"These are basically the same as those that favour ageing. Bad lifestyle habits, such as a diet lacking in vitamins and antioxidants and high in saturated fats, not taking exercise, drinking alcohol... all these increase oxidative stress in our body, and make our skin and hair age more quickly".

Starting at the temples

Genetics plays a determining role in greying hair, much more than any other aspect. The way you look after yourself can reduce or delay their appearance, "but when you

see someone very young with grey hair or an older person without any, that is due to pure genetics," says the doctor.

He also explains that some people have a white streak in their hair while the rest is their normal colour, and this is usually something that occurs at birth because there are no melanocytes in the area of the skin where the hair emerges.

This is not like the traditional type of grey or white hair, which is scattered all over the head. Generally, the first ones appear around the temples - especially in men - and then spread over the rest of the scalp. White hair on the body or in the beard follows the same process as on the head. There is no difference, except they normally appear a bit later.

The myth about pulling out

How often have we heard that old wives' tale, that if you pull a grey hair out three will grow in its place? Because it isn't true. "Pulling out a grey hair doesn't affect any of the others. They will grow in their own time," says trichologist David Saceda.

Are the grey hairs coarser than the rest? Yes, that bit is true. "As we age, our grey hairs are a bit

"A grey hair is simply a hair that has lost its colour. It doesn't actually turn grey. It just isn't black, brown or blonde any more"

thicker than the rest and can even appear to stand out more. That's because they tend to be curlier and frizzier".

Is it true that stress can make hair go grey? This year scientists have discovered that there is a direct relationship between stress and grey hair. Until now, nobody had known for certain, but they have discovered that it is the case. Stress can cause grey hairs due to two mechanisms. One is hormonal, for example the mechanism that produces the adrenaline that we all know and have experienced, and cortisol. These hormones increase with stress and have a negative effect on the hair. There is also a direct relationship with the central nervous system. There are nerve fibres which reach just to the base of the hair and they know when we are under continual and constant stress. This can affect the melanocyte early, so grey hairs appear. In fact, it is very common for something like a divorce or death in the family to result in hair going grey within two or three years.

When Barack Obama became president, experts monitored him to see how his hair colour changed from the time he took office to the end of his second term, and the difference was very noticeable. "Until recently it had not been scientifically proven whether the grey hair appears just as a result of time passing or because of stress, but there is no longer any doubt about that. Stress is an important factor," says Dr Saceda.



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New rules for old wines

ANDREW J. LINN



It would be tedious to list here the new regulations that must be applied to Rioja wines.

When bureaucrats get involved in such a complicated issue as what is allowed and not allowed on labels, the final result is not always positive; although it has to be acknowledged that the decisions of the

Consejo Regulador are made for the right reasons.

Firstly, if the label says, 'matured in bodega', no reference can be made to barrels or wood, and the term 'aged' is forbidden.

If there is an allusion to 'limited production', then the total amount of that production must be shown. Nor can

'old vines' be referred to unless they are at least 35 years old.

Descriptions such as 'estate bottled', 'own vineyards', 'high vineyards' must all be transparent and verifiable, and if the wine is described as matured on its lees, in clay or concrete vats, this must also be justified.

All this is fine but not wholly

If the label says 'matured in bodega' no reference can be made to barrels or wood

enforceable. Nothing prevents a bodega selling unlabelled bottles to whoever it wants, and the buyer can stick on anything that looks pretty.

I knew someone who had a very successful business in London some years ago that involved buying mediocre Spanish wine in plain bottles and then affixing an extravagant and eye-catching embossed label with lots of gold trimmings and medals, packing them in expensive individual wooden boxes, and selling the finished product for six times his initial cost.

He made a fortune, and no-one was looking over his shoulder.

WINE OF THE WEEK

Azabache Garnacha

This is an unusual Rioja in an attractive flask-shaped bottle, matured for 12 months in oak and six in the bottle. Made with grapes from old vines (see article to the left) picked as late as possible to maximise the concentration of flavour. Well worth splashing out €15 on at Vinacoteca La Cartuja, Marbella.



From the mountainside to the kitchen

Besides wild asparagus, spring is the season for gathering fennel and other edible wild plants

JAVIER ALMELLONES

MALAGA. In the last days of winter and the first few of spring, the Malaga countryside starts to burgeon with plants which still form a part of traditional Spanish recipes.

The most well known is wild asparagus (trigueros) which are highly coveted by lovers of traditional cuisine but there are many more, although most are in clear decline both in homes and in restaurants. Nowadays, the collection of wild plants is regulated and in the case of parks and nature reserves, it is prohibited. On private land, explicit permission from the owner is needed. Neither is it permitted to collect and sell plants to third parties; only

domestic use is allowed as long as the biological species is not protected.

Wild asparagus

During a good part of the winter and in spring, if there has been sufficient rainfall, wild asparagus proliferates on the mountain ranges of Malaga. There are three types of wild asparagus in Spain, morunos, amargueros (early winter) and trigueros (early spring). Trigueros are the most prized and used in many traditional recipes.

Wild asparagus is commonly used in omelettes, scrambled eggs -called morrete in many villages- or soup, although many prefer to simply grill the slender spears with a sprinkle of salt.

Thistles and cardoons

Tagarninas and cardos have edible stems and are both members of the thistle family. The tagarnina, which is very abundant at this time of year, is a type of this-



A bunch of bladder campion or 'collegas'. sur

tle and like the thistle, has a covering of prickles. However, to take advantage of its stems for cooking, it must be picked when it is still growing, taking great care not to draw blood.

It can be used in much the same way as wild asparagus, in scrambled eggs and in omelettes as well as in stews with chickpeas. Combined with cardoons, it is a typical dish of the Vega de Antequera area. In Villanueva del Rosario a fiesta is held every February (but not recently because of the pandemic) to celebrate the tagarnina.

Fennel

From the end of winter and

Wild asparagus proliferates on the mountain ranges of Malaga, especially in years with high rainfall

through the first half of spring, wild fennel bring an aniseed touch to dishes from the Serranía de Ronda to the Axarquía. There are many different types of dishes prepared with this herb, such as potajes (stews)-sometimes called bolos in some villages. It is usually accompa-

nied by chickpeas or white beans with black pudding or fatty bacon. In Malaga the stems and leaves are normally used although you can sometimes find the bulb in local markets.

Bladder campion

Known as collegas, the bladder campion grows abundantly in inland Malaga. A few decades ago it was common in humbler homes where it was used as a substitute for some green vegetables. It has been replaced in recent years by spinach or chard although it can still be found in some old recipes for omelettes and stews.

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Local sailor granted a surprise chance to realise her Olympic dream

Ana Moncada is one of four contenders to be granted a ticket to Tokyo by the Spanish federation after New Zealand pulled out in her category

MARINA RIVAS

MALAGA. With the Tokyo Olympics now just months away, one of the many athletes hoping to compete is Estepona-born sailor Ana Moncada. The 19-year-old is one of four contenders to represent Spain in the Laser Radial sailing category in Japan this summer. Moncada is the reigning European under-21 champion in this category, in addition to having finished runner-up in the most recent world youth championship.

The upcoming sailing meet in Hyères in France from 17 to 24 April had been due to act as a qualification event for Laser Radial in the Olympics but, after the New Zealand team pulled out, Spain was automatically granted a place. Now, it is up to the Spanish sailing federation to decide which athlete will take the ticket to Tokyo. Moncada is seen as one of the frontrunners and commented: "It's exciting but there's



Moncada competes during a recent regatta. SUR

still a lot of uncertainty as to who will be given the place." Her fellow contenders for the spot are Cristina Pujol, Fátima Reyes and Martina Reino.

Moncada believes her youth could be an asset to her but stresses: "I don't know if they'll take this into account when making the final decision. Whatever happens, I'm going to keep working and fighting to go to the Games."

Moncada has a few opportunities to stake her claim for the place, not only at the Hyères event but also through the Spanish Cup and the European championship in Bulgaria from 15 to 22 May. She underlines: "The two international regattas will be particularly important in the selection process. We know that the Federation will be watching, so we'll all be keen to perform to the best of our abilities."

Estepona teenager makes a name for herself in endurance horse riding

DAVID BALMER

MALAGA. Thirteen-year-old Jazmin Grahm from Estepona looks set for a bright future in endurance horse riding and is already giving her mother, former Andalusian champion Caroline Grahm, a run for her money.

Jazmin has spent her whole life around horses as Caroline, who is originally from Lancashire in England, runs Ranch Siesta Los Rubios in Estepona. The teenager, who already has years of showjumping experience, began competing in endurance riding this winter. In December, she earned a place on the Andalusian youth team after impressing at a 40km event in Cadiz. This led to her competing in the inter-regional competition in Badajoz later that month. Unfortunately, Jazmin could not finish this race because her horse slipped, though the Andalusian team finished second overall.

The youngster, however, has some way to go to emulate mum Caroline's success. The elder Grahm won the 2018 and 2019 Andalusian horse and rider titles at both 60km and 80km distances. Last weekend, the mother



Jazmin on Misty. E. BECCAR VARELA

and daughter duo both competed at an event at Puerto Real in Cadiz. Jazmin rode an Arabian horse called Misty, trained by Yeguada Sultan, who are also her sponsor. In what was her first 60km event, Jazmin actually rode 67km, finishing second and winning the prize for best-condition horse.

What makes this achievement even more remarkable is that she was the youngest competitor taking part and finished a place ahead of her mother.

These early successes will no doubt stand her in good stead in her quest to become an international competitor.

Alejandro Davidovich to take part in ATP 250 in Marbella this April

Pablo Andújar, winner of the 2019 edition, will also play in the AnyTech365 Andalucía Open at the Puente Romano

M. RIVAS

MALAGA. Malaga-born tennis player Alejandro Davidovich will compete in the 2021 ATP 250

AnyTech365 Andalucía Open taking place from 4 to 11 April at the Puente Romano tennis club in Marbella, it has been confirmed.

Davidovich, currently ranked 51st in the world, said he was excited at the prospect of playing in his home province and expressed his hope that fans would be able to attend the tournament. The 21-year-old, who played at Puente Romano in 2018 and

2019 on the Challenger Tour, was complimentary of the way in which spectators got behind him at these previous tournaments.

Davidovich will hope to use the tournament to get his season back on track following a difficult start to 2021 which saw him miss the Australian Open after testing positive for coronavirus.

Former champion returns

Fellow Spaniard Pablo Andújar, who won the 2019 edition of the tournament, this week also announced he would take part not only in the ATP 250 event but also the ATP 80 Challenger tournament beginning on 29 March in the same place.

The veteran has had an easier start to the year, reaching the



The local tennis star has recognised the impact of home support. SUR

second round of the Australian Open. This performance means he currently lies 57th in the world rankings, six places behind Davidovich.

The pair will be joined by the likes of Jannik Sinner, Stan Wawrinka, Andrey Rublev and Pablo Carreño who have all confirmed their participation.



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Mirandés snatch unlikely victory with their only chance of the game

One shot on target against the run of play was all the hosts needed to claim all three points against Malaga on Monday night

DAVID BALMER

MALAGA. Malaga's poor recent form continued after they somehow fell to a 1-0 defeat away to Mirandés on Monday evening despite seemingly being in control for most of the match. A goal from defender Daniel Vivian - the only chance created in the game by Mirandés - left Malaga to reflect on an almost incomprehensible loss.

The visitors certainly started the stronger and had the first real opportunity of the game when Luis Muñoz saw his shot blocked by the Mirandés defence and deflected onto the post. The rebound then fell to Yanis Rahmani, who could not hit the target. Later, Rahmani played in a decent cross on the left-hand side which found Pablo Chavarría at the far post. The Argentinian forward headed downwards, provoking a reflex save out of Raúl Lizoain; another good defensive block from the home side's defence prevented Jozabed from converting the rebound.

Accordingly, Malaga went into the break without having made



Malaga striker Orlando Sá disheartened as the Mirandés players celebrate their triumph. AGENCIA LOF

their good attacking play count. Into the second half, Mirandés began to grow into the game, but still could not trouble Dani Barrio's goal. Indeed, it was still Malaga who seemed more likely to break the deadlock, particularly when a cross found Joaquín Muñoz on the edge of the penalty box. Although he did well to cut inside and get his shot

away, his effort went straight down the goalkeeper's throat. The increasingly familiar feeling that it was not to be Malaga's night was heightened after Chavarría and then Luis Muñoz were forced off due to injuries.

In the 73rd minute, the breakthrough finally came, but it came for Mirandés with their first effort on goal. An indirect freekick

found centre-back Daniel Vivian, whose sliced shot found the bottom right corner of the goal. His celebrations were initially curtailed as the referee judged him to have been offside. However, the decision was overturned by VAR and Mirandés took an advantage that was completely against the run of play.

The timing of the goal gave a

1-0

MIRANDÉS-MALAGA

Mirandés: Lizoain; Víctor Gómez, Vivian, Berrocal, Carlos Julio; Javi Muñoz, Mesequer (Álex López, 61'); Jirka, Pablo Martínez, Djouhra (Genaro, 78'), Cristo (Mario Barco, 90'). Unused substitutes: Limones, Caballero, Simón, Letic, Jackson, Trigueros, Moreno.

Malaga: Dani Barrio; Alexander González, Mejías (Jairo, 82'), Juande Matos; Escassi; Joaquín (Julio, 82'), Luis Muñoz (Ramón, 72'), Jozabed (Orlando Sá, 82'), Rahmani, Chavarría (Caye Quintana, 66'). Unused substitutes: Juan Soriano, Lombán, Benkhemassa, Ismael, Cristo, Guerrero, Larrubia.

Goal: 1-0 Vivian (75').

Referee: Vicandi Garrido. Yellow cards for Carlos Julio, Djouhra, Álex López and Orlando Sá.

Venue: Estadio Anduva.

shell-shocked Malaga little time to respond and Mirandés managed to hold on for what had seemed an unlikely victory for much of the match.

In his post-match comments, boss Sergio Pellicer summed up the feeling in the Malaga camp, saying: "I feel really annoyed because our performance was good. Football can be unfair sometimes, and we've experienced that as a team today". He went on to add: "I think this was our most complete performance of the season, both in terms of defence and attack".

Next up for Malaga is the visit of relegation-threatened Sabadell to La Rosaleda on Sunday afternoon.

Malaga searching for a new forward as Chavarría is ruled out for the season

ANTONIO GÓNGORA
PEDRO LUIS ALONSO

MALAGA. Malaga's worst fears were confirmed on Tuesday when scans revealed that forward Pablo Chavarría had suffered a tear to the anterior cruciate ligament in his left knee during Monday's loss against Mirandés. The Argentinian, 33, has been ruled out for the rest of the season and, most likely, the start of next season too. Now, Malaga must search for a solution.

In principle, they can give up Chavarría's place in the squad and sign a free agent as an emergency replacement. However, they have a significant handicap in this regard: La Liga's wage cap restrictions mean they can only offer a player 25,000 euros in wages for the remainder of the season (the proportional part of the minimum wage).



Chavarría will undergo surgery. LOF

This comes as a very serious setback for coach Sergio Pellicer whose team had started to rely heavily on the forward (four goals and two assists from 21 games). His natural replace-

ments in the squad meanwhile, Caye Quintana and Orlando Sá, have so far failed to adapt to the level required.

That said, given the clear limitations in the market, it's not clear whether Malaga will sign anyone at all. For such a small fee and for a player who cannot have been with a club during the last transfer window, there are no guarantees that any such player would be able to contribute anything to the cause. On the other hand, a player of this profile would have a lot to prove and could use a move to Malaga as a springboard.

In the meantime, Chavarría will undergo surgery on his knee once the swelling has subsided. He is the second Malaga player to be ruled out for the season after right-back Iván Calero, whose spot in the squad was taken by Alexander González.

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A LOOK AT LA LIGA
ROB PALMER
Commentator, Sky Sports

A defining week for Barcelona

The Catalan giants scraped through to the Copa del Rey final in dramatic circumstances, while off the field we should soon know who will spearhead the club's new project



It's been just another average week at FC Barcelona. Outgoing president Josep Maria Bartomeu and his executive team were arrested as investigations deepen into 'Barçagate', just as club members are pondering who they want to lead the club out of a crisis and how they can get to the polling station to cast what could be the most important vote of their lifetime.

But let's not forget the football... The players reached the Copa del Rey final in the most dramatic style on Wednesday night. The way Barcelona made it sums up their on-field desperation. With minutes remaining they threw the 'big fella' up front. Gerard Piqué stretched his ageing legs to score the goal which took Sevilla to extra-time.

Thirty-odd minutes later there were mass celebrations as the dark cloud lifted and the players finally had something to celebrate in a mediocre season.

Shall we put things into context? The victory was ultimately against 10 men, requiring a penalty save from Marc André ter Stegen and a winner from the most unlikely hero.

Martin Braithwaite, whose last honour was a Danish Cup winners medal eight years ago, emerged as a match-winner. It isn't a personal slight on a footballer who is living the dream, but should the mighty Barcelona be depending on a striker who has journeyed many average clubs, including Middlesbrough and Levante?

This is a dilemma for the incoming president. The last time Joan Laporta won the vote he was promising Ronaldinho or David Beckham. For his comeback, 18 years later, his best promise is picking up Sergio Agüero when he becomes a free agent in the summer. The best he can do on the Lionel Messi predicament is opine that "Messi will weigh up the offer we will make him."



The Barça players celebrate their third goal, scored by Braithwaite. AFP

Laporta is the greater showman, which is important when it is a popularity contest. Votes will be cast by 110,000 socios.

At the other end of the candidates' scale, Toni Freixa's plan is a slow-build with Koe-man remaining in charge and Xavi joining the club to learn his trade as coach of the development squad.

Víctor Font is somewhere in-between. His running mate is the respected former captain Carles Puyol with a promise of Xavi being appointed as coach.

By next Monday morning, one of the candidates will be arranging papers on the presidential desk and will have to turn promises into policy.

He will have a cup final to look forward to, but also a date in his diary with Messi's 'people' who have to be persuaded by the new project.

The biggest question is the billion-dollar question. How do you turn around a billion-euro debt? Answers on a post-card (or a voting card), please.

IN BRIEF



José María Muñoz, during the press conference last week. SALVADOR SALAS

FINANCE

Administrator calls on city's big companies for greater support

A. G. / B. G. During his third press conference in a year as Malaga CF administrator, José María Muñoz reiterated that the club was not for sale and instead encouraged businesses to support their local club in order for it to emerge from its dire financial situation.

Muñoz said: "More than advice, we need sponsorship. I'm envious of other cities that are a little more

involved with their clubs; we've been thrilled by the affection with which individuals have helped us, but it's nowhere near what we need. We estimate that because of the pandemic, we've lost up to six million euros."

Muñoz also ruled out a capital increase, which he described as "high-risk", and also maintained that he would only stay at the club as long as was necessary.

"Whoever owns the club in the future is not down to me," he said, while maintaining that the Al-Thani family were innocent until proven otherwise.

WAGE CAP

Malaga's salary cap now the lowest in the league

A. G. As expected, the salary cap imposed by La Liga will be even lower next season for Malaga, dropping 700,000 euros to 2.9 million - the lowest in professional football (by contrast Espanyol are allowed 44.7 million).

Almost all clubs saw their permitted wage bill reduce on Tuesday as they struggle to fill the void left by ticket sales.

SPECTATORS

Tebas opens the door to fans' return this season

S. CORTÉS. La Liga president Javier Tebas on Tuesday expressed the "hope" that it would be feasible "in the last week of April or the beginning of May" for fans to return to stadiums.

If this were to come to fruition, Malaga fans could attend four matches at La Rosaleda before the end of the season, although it remains to be seen who would be given priority entry.

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It's sad to think that there are women across the world who still don't have the right to decide their own future. Fortunately, here and now, even if there are still obstacles, becoming a mother is a woman's choice. In the world of elite sport, however, women have to ask themselves a lot of questions: will I be able to return to the same level? How will my team react? Will they still want me when I'm ready to come back? Fortunately for Lorena Bardera, everything went smoothly.

This 31-year-old was this week, alongside María Flores, presented as Malaga's latest signing for the final stretch of their second division campaign. Like many others, she started playing football as a child, in her neighbourhood team (La Elipa). She then went on to train and compete for Rayo Vallecano, Madrid CFF, Tacón and Samper de Costada. During this time she met her current husband, Javier, a coach in several of these teams. Shortly after the wedding, both wanted to become parents.

Ainara arrived to complete their lives a year and a half ago. "When you're pregnant your priorities change completely and, from the moment I found out, my priority was my daughter, so I stopped training immediately," she recalls.

Her club at the time, Samper, didn't object, knowing that none of their players would be able to make a living from football. However, Bardera doubts what would have happened if she had been at a top club. "It was clear to me that when I became a mother I would have to give up football," she admits. However, her desire to get back into her boots couldn't be suppressed and she returned to the field, albeit intermittently.

"I had a good pregnancy, a good birth and a good recovery but I worked for it. I didn't stop; I worked with a physio, I was

Bardera, during her presentation at La Rosaleda.
MALAGACF.COM



▼ Lorena, wearing her Malaga kit, with her daughter Ainara.



The difficult journey back after becoming a mum

Lorena Bardera. Malaga Femenino's latest signing has returned to the field almost two years after her daughter's birth. Unfortunately she doesn't believe her journey would have been possible at an elite club

MARINA RIVAS



swimming and running, I didn't put on too much weight... After two months I started training again with Samper and after four or five months I played a match and in truth it was a disaster. The opposition were completely passing me by," jokes the midfielder.

Arrival in Malaga

That setback didn't put her off, however, and her determination eventually resulted in her move

to Malaga.

She made contact with the club through her friend and midfielder Gabi. After several conversations, she moved to the Costa del Sol with her husband and daughter to start a new life here - close to the beach and with a better quality of life, as they always wanted - and joined the team's pre-season training camp last summer.

All went well. She impressed

the coaches but refused the offer to join the team at the start of the season because she wasn't quite ready to balance being a player and a mother having only just moved city. Months later, though, and circumstances changed. Now she is a member of the first-team squad and featured in the side's last two games (the latest a 2-0 win over Cáceres, their last game of the normal season).

Now she hopes to be able to

contribute as much as possible in the next phase during which the side will fight to remain in the second tier. "We have to fight in every game to get as many points as possible. It's like playing in the play-offs. We have to give one hundred per cent because it's life or death," she says.

A double life

As for her personal life, she trains in the mornings, while her daughter is at nursery and dedicates the afternoons to her family, with whom she lives in Mijas.

She admits that sometimes she gets "strange" looks because she goes to pick up her little girl in her Malaga kit having just come out of training. But the truth is that she doesn't mind, because now she's happier than ever. "I wanted to feel like a footballer again," she admits.

"While I'm still involved in the game I'll give 100 per cent - all my desire, all my motivation. Football gives me life.

"I haven't thought about how long I'll play for but right now I feel very good. As long as I feel good physically and I can compete, I will continue."

Three players with Costa connections in Spain's handball squad for Olympic qualifiers

Rincón Fertilidad's Merche Castellanos and Sole are part of the squad, along with Malaga-born Marta López

M. RIVAS

MALAGA. Three players with connections to Malaga will be part of the Spanish women's hand-

ball national team for the Tokyo Olympics qualifying event in Liria, Valencia from 19 to 21 March.

These players include goalkeeper Merche Castellanos and winger Sole, who both play for local club Rincón Fertilidad. Also included is another winger, Marta López, who was born in Malaga, just like Sole.

It is unsurprising to see these three names included in the 18-

player squad given that they were all part of the team that finished runners-up in the World Championship in 2019. All three were also part of the team that took part in the 2020 European championship in Denmark.

Spain go into the Olympic qualifying event as one of the favourites and will hope to grab one of the two Olympic spots available. Standing in their way are Sweden, Senegal and Argen-

tina, with the Scandinavian side also hotly tipped to earn a place.

There are four changes to the squad that competed in Denmark in December. The new faces are goalkeeper Darly Zoqbi, fullbacks Irene Espínola and Ivet Musons along with pivot Eli Cesáreo.

Before the qualifying event begins, the two Rincón Fertilidad players will meet up with club teammates Silvia Arderius and Estela Dorio to attend a training camp in the same Valencian town. This will be used as part of the national team's preparation for the World Championship that Spain will host at the end of this year.

GOLF

Azahara Muñoz misses the cut in Florida

SUR. Marbella's Azahara Muñoz missed the cut in her return to competition at the Gainbridge LPGA, held in Orlando (Florida, USA) last week.

The local tennis star finished with four strokes over par after the first two rounds. On the Thursday she recorded a +3, then a +1 on the Friday, after four birdies, three bogeys and a double bogey.

The eventual winner was Nelly Korda, who finished on 16 under par.

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| Town Hall | 952559100 | |
| Tourist Office | 952541104 | |
| GIBRALTAR | | |
| General emergency | 199/112(mobiles) | |
| Fire/ambulance (emergency) | 190 | |
| Tourist Office | (00350) 20074950 | |
| 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 number to notify symptoms, but to avoid jamming the line **try the APP first**

900 400 061

Coronavirus information

955 545 060

Other emergencies For general health emergencies. **Avoid using this if not urgent**

061 / 112

THE STARS

- 

Aquarius
January 21st - February 19th
It's important to take back control of your money, and to find ways to curb any excess spending. If you haven't yet set your financial goals for the year ahead then it may be time to do so.
- 

Pisces
February 20th - March 20th
The New Moon in your sign is a call to stand out and champion those plans and projects that have deep personal meaning for you.
- 

Aries
March 21st - April 20th
The New Moon in Pisces suggests this is a good time for a fresh start, but as your perception might be skewed, get a second opinion.
- 

Taurus
April 21st - May 21st
There are some people you meet this week who may not have your best interests at heart. They could appear sincere, but their motives might be questionable.
- 

Gemini
May 22nd - June 21st
This can be a week of new beginnings, with the New Moon in your sector of goals and ambitions encouraging you onwards and upwards.
- 

Cancer
June 22nd - July 23rd
Ready to embrace a new opportunity? What might seem so very perfect could end up wasting time and resources. It won't hurt to do some research before you dive in.
- 

Leo
July 24th - August 23rd
Some things may be destined to remain a mystery unless you have the clarity of mind to pierce the fog and see what is really going on.
- 

Virgo
August 24th - September 23rd
An ethereal line-up could highlight all that is perfect about a romance or new relationship. Thinking of taking things further? If so, be sure you understand what you're letting yourself in for.
- 

Libra
September 24th - October 23rd
The New Moon could be a call to be honest with yourself in relation to your job, current lifestyle or certain habits. It's an opportunity to get to the truth of whatever you're hiding from yourself.
- 

Scorpio
October 24th - November 22nd
If there have been any difficulties in a relationship, they can be swept away in a tide of positive feeling. The New Moon suggests a new beginning may be on the cards.
- 

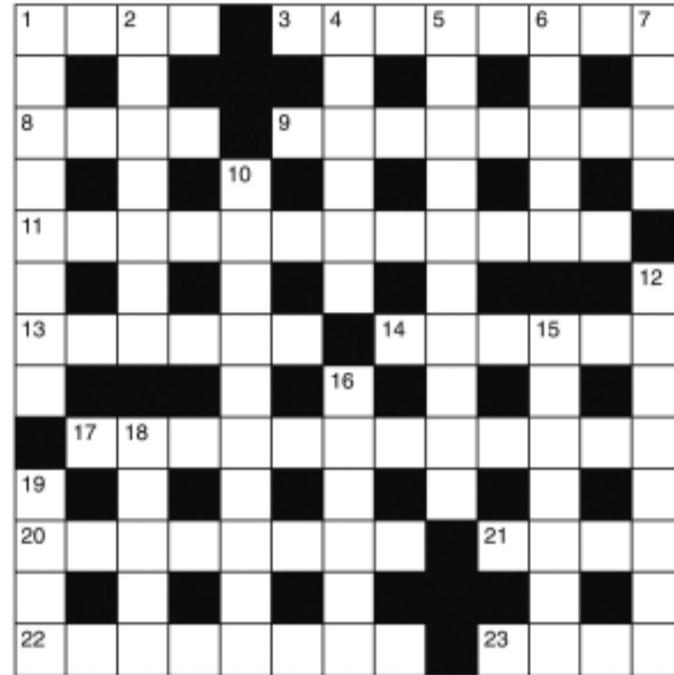
Sagittarius
November 23rd - December 21st
Energy levels next week could dip. Bearing this in mind, it may help to simplify your schedule this week and to focus on enjoying some self-care.
- 

Capricorn
December 22nd - January 20th
The current star map brings out your compassionate side. Whether this means fetching and carrying, or just listening, your efforts could help rebuild someone's trust in human nature.

THE SEVEN DIFFERENCES



CRYPTIC CROSSWORD N° 11451



Across

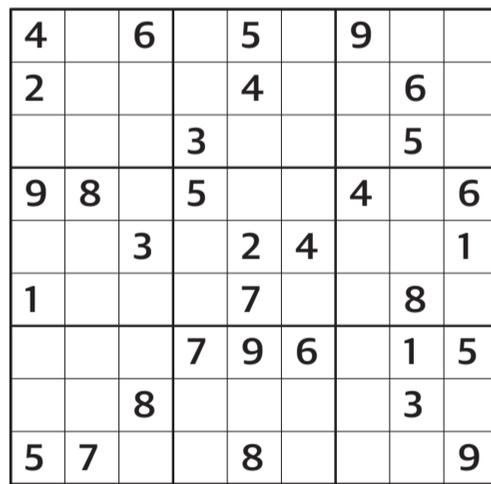
- 1 & 11 Ac Drama not the first swindle to take subordinate part in? (4,6,6)
- 3 Go beyond the second gospel - it will get one through (4,4)
- 8 & 22 Ac Concerned because getting return on investment? (4,8)
- 9 Altering shape (8)
- 11 See 1Ac.
- 13 As a single item singularly discounted? (3-3)
- 14 Smooth and suave city egghead (6)
- 17 Brave, but thick at the core? (5-7)
- 20 Opening to mimic redhead with true adaptation (8)
- 21 6, you and I return to look at (4)
- 22 See 8Ac.
- 23 Type of soil 100 put down (4)

Down

- 1 Where to buy chessmen back? (8)
- 2 This thing - clear it out! (7)
- 4 A doctor one foot out (6)
- 5 Face the court in test of witness box? (5,5)
- 6 Heavenly messenger in evangelistic campaign (5)
- 7 Enthusiastic and sharp (4)
- 10 Agitated when betting? (2,1,7)
- 12 Dispatch as new day breaks (4,4)
- 15 A rise for workers? (3-4)
- 16 Sort of drinks that go with athletic wear? (6)
- 18 Give patients rare pleasure? (5)
- 19 Thanks team for vehicle to hire (4)

SUDOKU BY HANZO

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



THE WORDPUZZLER

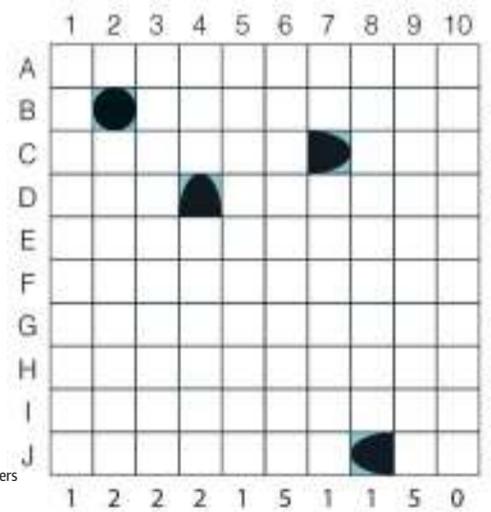
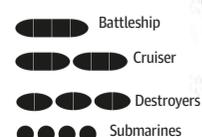


Can you identify the words that may be made from the letters of **BOARDROOM** from the clues listed below?

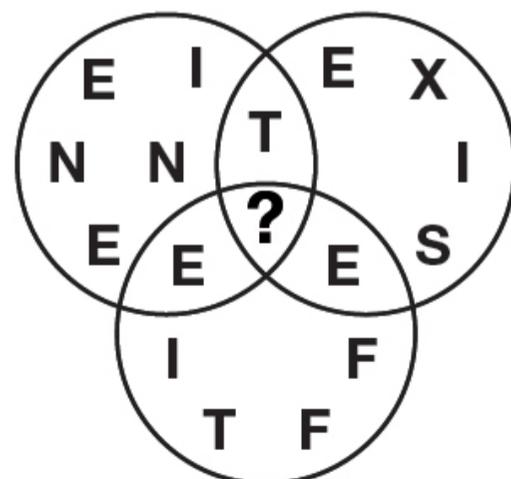
- 1. Dull
- 2. Fate
- 3. Tract of unenclosed ground
- 4. Period of prosperity
- 5. Litter
- 6. Wander
- 7. Poet
- 8. Street
- 9. Temper
- 10. Entrance

BATTLESHIPS

Instructions Find where the fleet of ships (1 battleship, 2 cruisers, 3 destroyers, 4 submarines) are hidden in the grid. The numbers to the right of and below the grid indicate how many of the squares in that row are filled in with ships or parts of ships. The ships do not touch each other, even diagonally. Some have been filled in to start you off.



CIRCLEGRAM



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

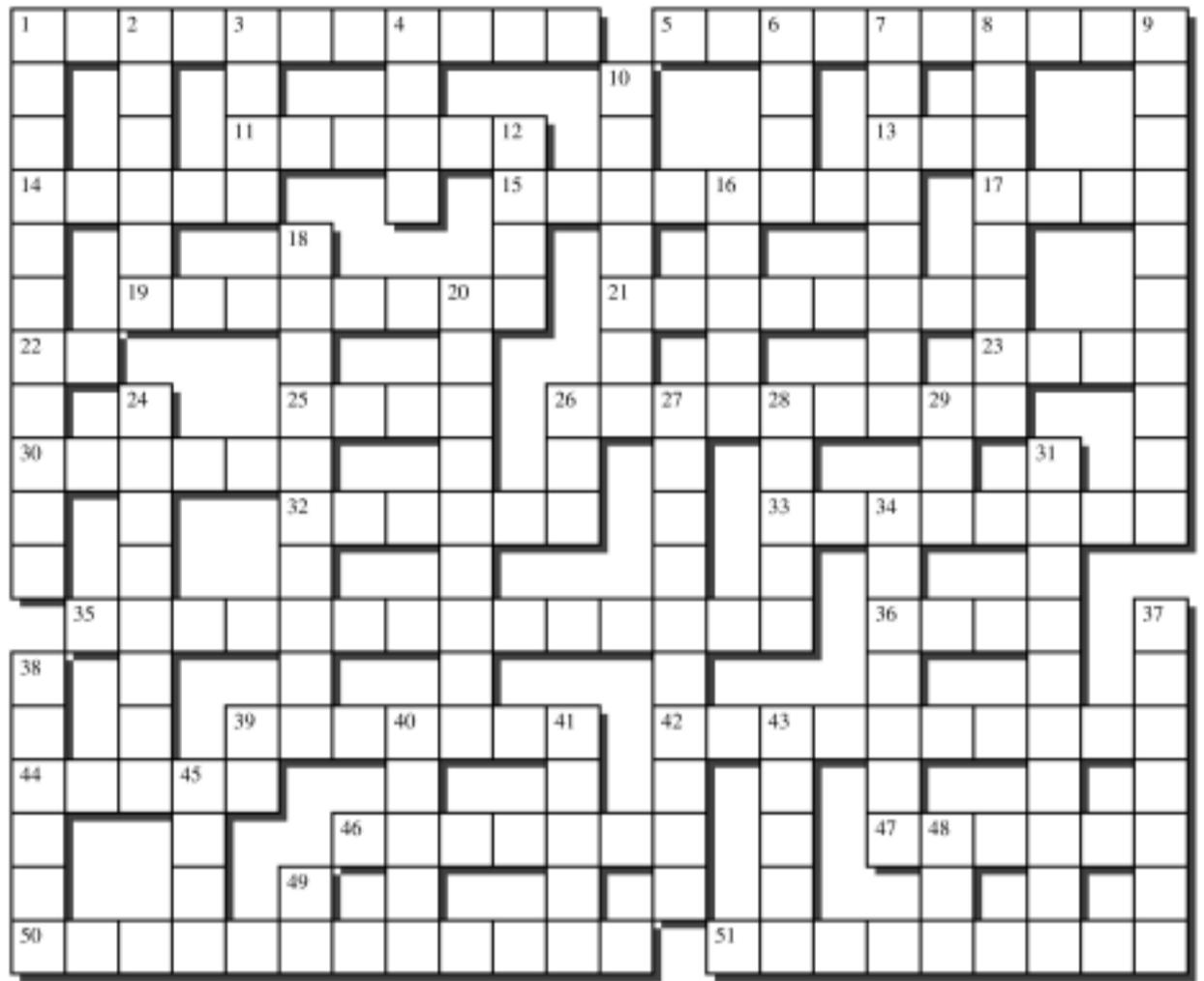
LANGUAGE CROSSWORD FILL IN THE SPANISH WORD

Across

- 1) Exchange (11)
- 5) Passionate (f) (10)
- 11) Doorway (6)
- 13) I used (3)
- 14) North (5)
- 15) Germany (8)
- 17) I went up (4)
- 19) Reef (8)
- 21) To remember (8)
- 22) Faith (2)
- 23) Years (4)
- 25) They love (4)
- 26) Fitted together (f.pl) (9)
- 30) To crash (6)
- 32) Gift (6)
- 33) Rights (8)
- 35) Revolutionary (f) (14)
- 36) Ditto (4)
- 39) Dozens (7)
- 42) Movement (10)
- 44) Nobody (5)
- 46) Women (7)
- 47) I'll go out (6)
- 50) Organisation (12)
- 51) Feminist (9)

Down

- 1) To identify (11)
- 2) Theory (6)
- 3) Monkfish (4)
- 4) Myth (4)
- 6) Tuna (4)
- 7) Equality (8)
- 8) Our (f.pl) (8)
- 9) Activists (10)
- 10) They close (7)
- 12) I washed (4)
- 16) Wide (f) (5)
- 18) Development (10)
- 20) Foundation (9)
- 24) Society (8)
- 26) That (m) (3)
- 27) Commitment (10)
- 28) Jew (f) (5)
- 29) Bird (3)
- 31) Worthless trivialities (10)
- 34) We were laughing (7)
- 37) Pioneer (f) (7)
- 38) Gender (6)
- 39) Of (2)
- 40) She educates (5)
- 41) Serious (m) (5)
- 43) Journey (5)
- 45) Island (4)
- 48) Even (3)
- 49) My (2)



ANSWERS

Quiz answers

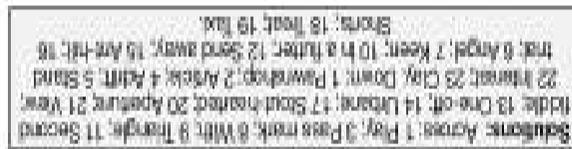
Of interest: In Cuba in 1862, Don Facundo Bacardi Maso set up Bacardi's first distillery in a downtown warehouse with hundreds of fruit bats living in the rafters. In Cuba the bats are a symbol of good luck so the family decided to use it as their logo. **Answer:** Vodka

Of interest: The drink is believed to have been called a screwdriver by oil workers in the Persian Gulf who secretly added vodka to glasses of orange juice while on the job. The only thing to hand to mix it together was a screwdriver.

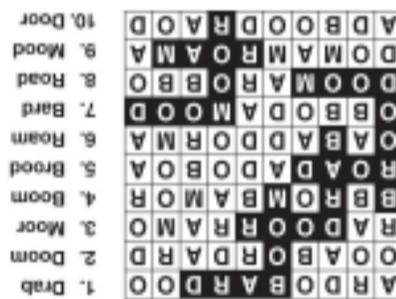
Language Crossword



Cryptic Crossword



Wordpuzzler solution



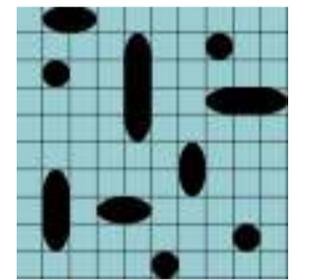
Sudoku solution

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

Circlegram

The letter represented by the question mark is N. Nineteen, sixteen, fifteen, all numbers.

Battleships



WHERE IS THIS?



A roundabout with a goat

Last week: Cuevas de San Marcos

Plaza del Ángel is the name of this quiet little square in Cuevas de San Marcos.



THE SUR IN ENGLISH CORNER

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A street in Álora, in Denmark

Painting. In 1889 the Danish artist Jens Ferdinand Willumsem did a painting of Calle Chozuelas, and that work is now on display in Copenhagen

ANDREA JIMÉNEZ

In the spring of 1889, a young man from Denmark came to Álora in search of inspiration. His name was Jens Ferdinand Willumsem (1863-1958) and he was a painter, sculptor, architect, photographer, engraver and art collector who visited the town during a trip to explore Spain. It was there that he noticed Calle Chozuelas, a street which remained fixed in his mind and portrayed on his canvas.

A year before he died, the artist offered all his works to the Danish government and they included this painting, called 'Gade Gaaende Nedad', which in English means Street Going Downhill. It is also known as Street In Álora, and is currently on exhibition at the David collection in Copenhagen.

At the time, the painter, who was 25, said he wanted to "integrate well" into the local community, say sources at the Álora Museum.

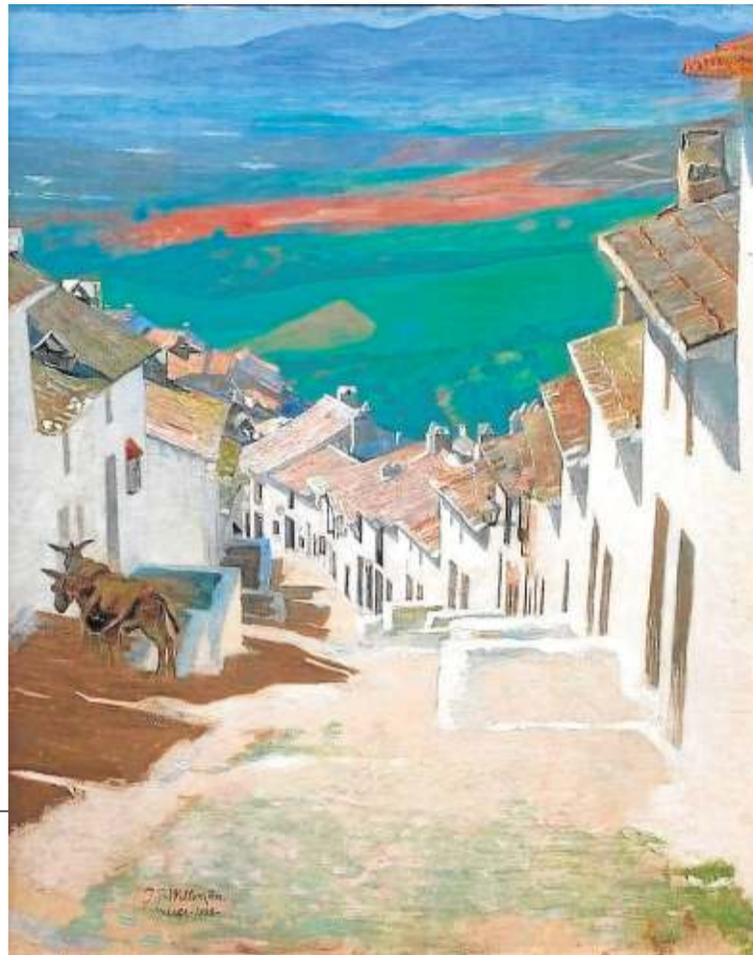
Before painting Calle Chozuelas, Willumsem did a previous pic-

ture of the municipality, called Big Orange Trees, from the gardens of the railway station, but the whereabouts of that painting are currently unknown.

In Street Going Downhill, Willumsem portrayed a view of Calle Chozuelas from its junction with Calle Bootello. The line of houses on both sides of the street ends in views of the horizon, including Pizarra, Monte Hacho and the Sierra de Mijas, Coin and Alhaurín el Grande.

In his memoirs, collected by the Álora Museum, the painter said of this work: "In Álora I painted Gade Gaaende Nedad, a new and previously unseen subject," he said, and described it as one of the "best works" arising from his first trip to Spain.

These days, the street still has a very similar structure to that portrayed by Willumsem. This work was also displayed in Paris in 2006, as part of a temporary exhibition about the painter at the Musée d'Orsay.



◀ **Original.**

The painting Street Going Downhill, by Jens Ferdinand Willumsem in 1889.

▼ **Today.**

Calle Chozuelas still retains its original structure, that so attracted the artist.



Willumsem, who died at the age of 95, was active as an artist until well into his 70s.

In 1888 and 1889 a French exhibition of contemporary art led him to leave Denmark and head for Paris and then for Spain, a decision which marked the way his style later evolved. On his railway journey from Paris to Álora he passed through Madrid, Toledo, Burgos, Cordoba, Seville and Granada, accompanied by fellow artist Anna Petersen.

Calle Chozuelas is also known, although to a lesser extent, as Calle Alemania. That name dates back to the Spanish Civil War, because the government of Francisco Franco gave some streets the names of fascist countries, such as Germany or Italy. The change back to the original names was carried out during the time that D. José Fernández López de Uralde was mayor, in the late 1950s and early 1960s, and those streets returned once again to the names we know them by today.

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