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**WAR AND
PEACE AT
THE RUSSIAN
MUSEUM**

The Malaga gallery has opened one of its most ambitious shows yet, a walk through the horror of war via Russian art **P30**



End of state of alarm means no curfew and midnight closing

From Sunday Andalucía begins a three-phased easing of restrictions, as the vaccination rate advances

The state of alarm declared by the central government last autumn to enable Covid restrictions comes to an end this Sunday. With it goes the night curfew and the right to ban travel between regions, some of the few measures imposed by Pedro Sánchez's government for the whole of Spain.

From now on, it will be left to

each region to decide on Covid measures although without the state of alarm, any rules affecting freedom of movement will need to be backed up by the courts.

In Andalucía, the president, Juanma Moreno, has announced three phases of restriction-easing from Sunday, providing the infection rates remain under certain levels. With no curfew, bars and restaurants will be able to stay open until midnight, with groups of eight people allowed to sit together inside and ten outside.

The regional border will also no longer be closed after the state of alarm ends. **P2**



THE SAME PROBLEM, YEAR AFTER YEAR

The long search for solutions for the Costa's storm-battered beaches **P8**

The state of a Benalmádena beach after the most recent storm. **ÑITO SALAS**

Work now under way on new-look megayacht marina in Malaga Port **P4**

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End of state of alarm will mean no curfew and staged easing of other measures

In Andalucía bars and restaurants can stay open until midnight from Sunday with groups of up to ten people outside

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MALAGA. This Sunday (9 May) the state of alarm in Spain officially ends. Prime Minister Pedro Sánchez's central government said this week that it will not extend this special decree that limits rights and freedoms in exceptional circumstances such as the coronavirus health crisis.

The national state of alarm decree has been used by the authorities to provide legal cover

for many of their restrictions. With its expiry, the main consequences in Andalucía are the end of the nighttime curfews and the border closure out of the region. Many regional governments are calling for urgent new legal mechanisms to be able to control people mixing together.

National government argues that regional authorities can seek backing from their local courts for any measures they want to continue to impose. This week the Cabinet approved a decree so that the regions can fast-track appeals against regional court decisions to the Supreme Court.

Changes in Andalucía

The Junta de Andalucía's president, Juanma Moreno, an-

nounced a three-phased easing of restrictions on Thursday after a meeting with the committee of experts.

He stressed that the measures will depend on the level of alert based on the infection rates of individual areas. In an initial 'stabilisation' phase from 9 May, bars and restaurants will be able to stay open until midnight with groups limited to eight people inside and ten outside.

The second phase of easing in Andalucía will start on 1 June and run until 21 June, when it is expected that 70 per cent of the population will have received a Covid-19 vaccine.

Also from this Sunday, nightclubs will be able to open until 2am but with limitations.

Moreno had said earlier this week, the first request that the regional government would take to the courts would be to obtain judicial endorsement for the perimeter closure of those municipalities that exceed the 14-day rate of 500 infections per 100,000 inhabitants. This request would also be extended to the provinces, although the latest data shows the region is still far from that situation.

Moreno justified keeping some current restrictions "because coronavirus has not gone away and people are still getting infected, suffering and dying every day".

Public health law

Public health law allows the regions to take the necessary measures to control transmittable diseases, but in practice these decisions must have the approval of courts. And experience shows that judges can be inconsistent considering regional government requests to be legal.

In February local courts allowed the bars in the Basque Country to reopen, ruling that they did not pose a serious risk despite the escalation of the third wave. This time round, however, the Balearics courts have so far already backed that region's request to extend the curfew.

Juanma Moreno said earlier this week that he thought the legal cover was now insufficient and claimed.

The end of the state of alarm, therefore, also means the beginning of a new struggle between the central government and the regions.

Gradual drop in regional and national Covid-19 case rates continues

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MALAGA. The 14-day rolling case rate was declining further in the Andalucía region this week. On Thursday (6 May) the rate per 100,000 stood at 193, down from 225 a week earlier.

However the slowdown in case rates was not being felt as much in Malaga province, including the Costa del Sol. One week after the provincial borders within Andalucía had reopened, the 14-day rate in the province was 127, down from 131 a week earlier.

The slowdown in case rates was not being felt as much in Malaga province and the Costa del Sol

The numbers in hospital in Malaga province were falling however, with 141 compared to 158 a week earlier in wards. Of these, 29 were in intensive care.

Seven people died of coronavirus in the province in the last week.

Nationally, the 14-day Covid-19 case rate per 100,000 people showed a similar drop off to Andalucía this week. By Wednesday, it was as at 206, down from 229 a week earlier.

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



A busy Marbella seafront last Saturday on the first weekend after the Malaga provincial border reopened. JOSELE

Costa businesses are waiting in suspense for the return of 'key' British tourists

PILAR MARTÍNEZ

MALAGA. The British tourist is key to the Costa del Sol and vital to help save the summer season.

However, days before Britain launches its traffic light travel system, the Costa is waiting in suspense to learn what colour - red, amber or green - will be applied to Spain when Britons are allowed to take holidays abroad from 17 May.

There is a fear that the Spanish mainland could be placed in the amber bracket, which would mean that when holidaymakers

return to the UK they will have to quarantine for 10 days, in addition to carrying out a pre-departure test, as well as a PCR on the second day of arrival and also the eighth. They have the option of paying for a Covid-19 test on the fifth day, and if the result is negative, they can end their isolation.

However, sources suggest that the Balearic and Canary Islands will start in the green category because they are considered safe corridors. This means that these travellers will not be quarantined, although before their return to Britain they will have to undergo

a preliminary test as well as a PCR on the second day of arrival.

Travellers from countries in the red category face a mandatory ten-day confinement in an authorised quarantine hotel near the airport upon return to the UK from holidays, in addition to pre-departure tests as well as a PCR test on the second and eighth days of isolation.

José Luque, of the Costa del Sol hoteliers association (Aechos), said he hopes that this week the British government will clear up all doubts and concerns and recognise that the difficulty of cre-



Tourists at Malaga Airport. S. SALAS

ating a safe air corridor has placed the Costa at a disadvantage to the islands.

The stakes are high because the UK is the number one source

of foreign tourists to the Costa. Malaga Airport data for 2019 estimated that 2.9 million passengers were from Britain.

Mari Francis Peñarroya, director of the Holiday World resort in Benalmádena, which has a high dependence on the British market, has called for the authorities to pay for the PCR tests for these holidaymakers.

The businesswoman warned that "other destinations are taking the lead" and emphasised that "the return of the British is essential for the Costa".

The Holiday World complex was among other well-known hotels and resorts announcing their opening dates for May and June. Villa Padierna in Estepona, a Leading Hotel of the World property, reopens today, 7 May, managers said this week.

Junta steps up plan to reach a million jabs a week and summer vaccination target

So far, Malaga province has lagged slightly behind much of Andalucía in the speed of roll out of the vaccines

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MALAGA. The Andalusian regional health service continues to scale up its vaccination plan and regional president Juanma Moreno has said his government is aiming for a million doses a week.

This week a mass 'vaccine-drome' was opened at the Palacio de Ferias y Congresos conference centre on the outskirts of Malaga city. The local health district was predicting it would give out up to 6,000 doses a day at the facility by the end of May, when bigger quantities of vaccines are expected arrive.

The Andalucía region is now giving about 600,000 injections a week, and larger-scale vaccination centres across Malaga province are expected to be used more in the coming weeks.

On Monday, the main vaccina-



Locals queue up at the Malaga conference centre 'vaccinedrome' for their Covid-19 jabs this week. NITO SALAS

tion centre in the Mijas area moved to the larger El Cortijo Don Elías buildings, close to the Las Lagunas fairground.

With four brands of vaccine approved and more expected, the country is aiming to have vaccinated at least 70 per cent of the population by the summer to reach expected herd immunity.

But with the Costa del Sol dependent on tourism, a few weeks' difference can make a big economic difference, say officials.

Malaga province has been lagging slightly behind other Andalusian provinces in its vaccination rates. On Thursday this week, 23.66 per cent of the province had had at least one jab, com-

pared to Cordoba province on almost 30 per cent and a regional average of almost 26 per cent.

Further Costa mass vaccination sites to be used include Centro Pablo Ruiz Picasso in Torremolinos, the sports hall in Arroyo de la Miel, Palacio de la Paz de Fuengirola and the Palacio de Congresos in Marbella.

Those aged 57 to 59 can now request a vaccine appointment

ESTER REQUENA

MALAGA. People in Andalucía born in 1962 to 1964 (aged 57 to 59) were told to request an appointment for their first Covid-19 jab from this week. In addition, the call for those born in or before 1953 and previous years also continues.

The Junta de Andalucía said the request should be made through the regional health service's ClicSalud +, Salud Responde mobile phone app or the Salud Responde telephone number 955 54 50 60.

This appointment facility for the first jab is for people included in these age groups who are registered in the public health system database, regardless of whether they have public or private health-care.

Only people of the age groups detailed can make an appointment, while for others in the prioritised groups they will be contacted for their jabs by their local health centres.

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LET'S GET SOCIAL:    

Work gets under way on new-look megayacht marina in Malaga Port

The facility, which will be able to accommodate 31 boats of up to 180 metres, will offer the ships' occupants high-power electricity, water and Wi-Fi

IGNACIO LILLO

MALAGA. More than five years after the idea was first mooted, on Monday, very close to the lighthouse a ceremony took place to mark the start of work on a new-look marina close by the Muelle Uno complex in Malaga Port.

The event, with all the pomp of pre-Covid times and consisting of the laying of a commemorative plaque, was attended by numerous guests, including mayor Francisco de la Torre, regional government spokesman Elías Bendodo, Port Authority president Carlos Rubio and businessmen Domingo de Torres and José Luis Almazán, representing the concession holder, led by the American multinational Igy Marinas.

The works, which are still pending an archaeological report from the Junta's Culture department, are scheduled to take eight and a half months to complete. Once ready, this will allow some of the most luxurious private yachts on the planet to moor for winter or summer transit calls.

The planned investment of 11



Computer-generated images showing the docking facilities spread around the corner by Muelle Uno. SUR

million euros will see the landscaped berths accommodate 31 boats of up to 180 metres in length.

The vessels' owners and occupants will have access to high-power electricity (2,000 amps), as well as water, pumped waste collection, Wi-Fi, private security and a concierge service, among others.

"There is not going to be a facility like this in the world," said the mayor "Not even London or New York can offer what Malaga has just a stone's throw from these berths."



Rubio, De la Torre, Bendodo, De Torres and Almazán on Monday. NITO SALAS

Cruises with national itineraries can be expected in Malaga from June

P. MARTÍNEZ/ I. LILLO

MALAGA. Cruise ships will finally make a return to Malaga Port in June, albeit only on domestic routes, according to the president of the Port Authority, Carlos Rubio. Now that the Junta de Andalucía has approved the safety protocols for ships with Spanish itineraries (international stopovers are still prohibited), cruise companies have shown an interest in operating through Malaga this summer, Rubio has said.

"The forecast is that by June we will see the first stopovers, initially with limited capacity and with all the security measures in place, but it's a start... a gradual return for an activity which is so important for this city, which in a normal year should bring more than 500,000 passengers," he said.

Despite the pressures to handle the pandemic response, Rubio praised the Junta's willingness to devise a protocol for cruise travel, calling Andalucía "a pioneer".

"Any cruise ship that has an exclusively national route can dock in Andalusian ports," he explained, pointing out that several companies are planning routes within Andalucía to showcase its "diversity", while others will include stops in Cartagena, Valencia and Barcelona.

Green light for Golden Mile development with luxury property market unaffected

MARBELLA

The Benalús project, which consists of 28 homes in the first phase, is the first new-build project in this exclusive area for 20 years

J. DUEÑAS / J. M. MARTÍN

It has taken eight years and multiple modifications to comply with changing town plans, but this week the Gailur Group finally obtained the licence to begin work on its Benalús project, a residential complex of 28 homes in its first phase, in the heart of the Golden Mile, just 100 metres from the sea.

The developers, from the Basque Country, expect to be able to complete the project, the first



Image of the new Benalús development in the heart of Marbella. SUR

new build in the exclusive area in 20 years, within four years.

Part of the 50-million-euro investment includes the obligation to create a public promenade with a cycle path along the Palomera stream adjacent to the luxury gated community.

Seventeen of the 28 units have

already been sold. According to a study from the CIT Marbella business association, this sector has been largely unaffected by the pandemic. Interest in the Costa del Sol has remained high - with prices keeping steady - with particular growing interest from wealthy professionals able to work remotely.



Europe's most expensive mansion is sold

A deal worth 32 million euros has been closed for the sale of the exclusive Villa Cullinan on the La Zagaleta luxury estate. The new owner will enjoy an ultra-modern 3,000-square-metre villa on a 14,000-square-metre property which, when it was completed, won the award for best villa in Europe at the European Property Awards. It has a total of 10 bedrooms, 14 bathrooms, large gardens, a gym, a spa centre, a cinema room, two kitchens, two garages for up to 20 cars, an indoor, heated pool and a 20-metre outdoor pool with views of the Mediterranean.



Understanding 'lawful' and 'tax' residence in Spain

By Andrew Southgate, Partner, Blevins Franks

Brexit has highlighted the importance of understanding and correctly following Spain's residence legislation, and anyone who has not yet applied for a residence permit has new rules to navigate.

There are two different concepts of residence you need to plan for:

• **Lawful residence** – your rights, as a national of one country, to live and work in another.

• **Tax residence** – the country which has taxing rights over your worldwide income, gains and wealth.

Getting these wrong could have serious consequences, such as being deported or facing a tax investigation. On the other hand, if you take specialist advice and follow the procedures correctly, you can continue to live the dream in Spain and enjoy a long and secure future here, as UK nationals have done for decades. And Spain can be a more tax-efficient place to live than you may realise.

Lawful residence in Spain

If you were lawfully settled in Spain before the end of 2020 and hold an

official residence card ('green card' or new TIE), you should have nothing to worry about.

UK nationals can continue to apply for residence in Spain, but you now do this as a 'third-country national'. This involves stricter requirements, more advance planning and paperwork, but is generally still possible provided you can support yourself. Work visas are harder to obtain now though, especially if you are self-employed.

Retirees can apply for a **Spanish non-lucrative visa** and residency permit, where you need to prove you have sufficient means to live in Spain without employment (plus other basic requirements). This commits you to spending at least half the year in Spain – you cannot apply for this visa and just spend a couple of months in your Spanish holiday home.

If you have capital to invest in Spain and want more freedom to spend as much or as little time here as you wish, you can apply for the Investor or 'Golden Visa'. You need to make a qualifying minimum investment in Spanish real estate (€500,000) or other qualifying

investment (€1 million or €2 million) along with other basic requirements.

Without a residence visa, UK nationals are only permitted to spend up to 90 days in any rolling 180-day period in the whole Schengen area, even if you own a property here. Those overstaying could be deported/prevented entry.

Tax residence and liabilities in Spain

You do not have a choice; you either are, or are not, a tax resident under the domestic rules. When applying for legal residence, you need to be aware of whether your tax status will change and prepare for this. Careful advance planning could help you save considerable amounts of tax in Spain.

Spanish tax residents are liable for income, capital gains and wealth taxes on worldwide income and assets and subject to Spanish succession and gift tax rules. They are obliged to submit Modelo 720 declaring assets outside Spain.

You are resident for tax purposes in Spain if any of the following apply:

- 1) You spend more than 183 days in Spain in a calendar year, whether or not formally registered. Temporary absences are ignored unless you prove you are habitually resident elsewhere for over 183 days.
- 2) Your 'centre of economic interests' (the base for your economic or professional activities) is in Spain. If you earn more income or have more assets here than any other single country, Spain is deemed your centre of economic activity.
- 3) Your 'centre of vital interests' is in Spain. If your spouse and/or minor children live here you are presumed Spanish resident even if you spend less than 183 days, unless you prove otherwise.

The Spanish tax authorities carry out inspections on tax residency and are focusing on this as part of their 2021 'Tax Control Plan'. If you meet any of the tax residence criteria, you must register for tax and submit annual declarations.

Residency in Spain is nothing to fear

Spain can still be everything you dreamed it would be. Take advice to

secure the best residence permit for your circumstances and to meet your tax obligations. Then relax and enjoy your future in Spain.

If you are worried you will pay too much tax in Spain you may be surprised. The local tax regime provides opportunities for tax efficient investing; how you hold assets can make a significant difference to how much tax you pay. Speak to a cross-border wealth management specialist with in-depth knowledge of the Spanish tax regime, and who can provide holistic advice covering residence, taxation, estate planning, investing and pensions.

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.



The Spanish tax authority has published its tax control plan for 2021, which focuses on individuals' tax residence position, tax avoidance structures, and wealth and succession tax returns. It is using automatic exchange of information and big data to aid its investigations.

Cross-border tax planning can be extremely complex, so take care to correctly declare your income and assets and with the structures you use. Talk to the wealth management specialists at Blevins Franks for peace of mind and advice on tax-efficient, compliant arrangements in Spain.

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Tourist awarded 100,000 euros after water park accident

The young woman was seriously injured on the Black Hole ride at Aqualand in Torremolinos, some 10 years ago

JUAN CANO / ÁLVARO FRÍAS

MALAGA. A Dutch tourist has been awarded 109,182 euros in compensation for an accident on an attraction at the Aqualand water park in Torremolinos some 10 years ago. The victim, who was 28 years old at the time, suffered serious injuries in the incident.

The accident happened on an attraction called the 'Black Hole' - a curved and closed tunnel slide - when she was travelling on a double float with a friend. She weighed 60 kilogrammes and the friend approximately 110. According to the victim, they followed "the instructions of the lifeguard who was at the start of the attraction". But as the float picked up speed, the young woman was thrown from it, hitting her head and losing consciousness. She was rushed to the Santa Elena clinic in Torremolinos and diagnosed with trauma to

the skull and shoulder, as well as a fractured collarbone which was operated on.

The lawsuit detailed that, since the accident, the woman has suffered neck pain, loss of vision, migraines and dizziness that can cause nausea and vomiting and now has "limited ability to carry out everyday activities".

She had to undergo surgery again in 2012 to relieve collarbone pain and has been receiving physiotherapy and treatment from a psychologist for a post-traumatic stress disorder.

The woman, represented by the lawyer Juan Antonio López, from Legal 10 Abogados, sued the water park and its insurer for the accident, which she says= has prevented her from working as a

The victim said that the effects of the accident have prevented her from working as a sports instructor

sports instructor.

The lawsuit was filed in 2014 claiming compensation of 70,247 euros. The lawyer argued that the attraction should only have been used by one person at a time; although the 'doughnut' was provided for two people, and the lifeguard told them both to climb onto it despite a sign indicating the rules of use and prohibitions.

Additionally, according to the young woman, the lifeguard should have placed them in the opposite position, so that the heaviest person was at the back to prevent her from being thrown when the float picked up speed on the descent.

Initially, the defendant refused to compensate the woman, considering that the injuries were due to the "action and negligence of the victim or a fortuitous event", also challenging the expert report on injuries provided by the victim.

A court in Torremolinos dismissed the lawsuit in 2018 saying that no negligence was proven on the part of the water park. The young woman appealed to the Provincial Court of Malaga, which now, 10 years after the accident, has ruled in her favour.

112 REPORTS

MARBELLA

Hero pulls unconscious man from marina

Á. F. / J. C. Police have launched an investigation after an unconscious man had to be pulled from the sea in Marbella after he was attacked and kicked into the water on Sunday evening.

Witnesses described how one of a group of young people outside a bar allegedly punched another man several times in the face. When the man fell to the ground a further kick in the head launched him into the water.

The attacker fled the scene but



The victim pulled from the sea. SUR

a young man visiting the port jumped into the water when he saw the victim lying face down in the sea.

With the help of onlookers and two National Police officers the victim was hauled to safety and he regained consciousness.

MALAGA

Some of Spain's 'most active traffickers' held

SUR. Eight people connected to one of the most active criminal organisations introducing drugs into Malaga, Cadiz and Almeria provinces from Morocco have been arrested. Almost five tonnes of hashish were seized and several house searches were also carried out in Marbella and Estepona, where more than 200,000 euros in cash, jewellery, vehicles were found.

BENALMÁDENA

British pensioner held after high-speed chase

F. TORRES. A British man, 79, was arrested in Benalmádena last week after he accelerated away from a police checkpoint and sparked a high-speed chase. When police finally stopped him, they found he had an arrest warrant against him and faces a prison sentence for drug trafficking. He was also using someone else's licence and had illegally modified the car's number plate.

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BENALMÁDENA

Santa Ana, Malapesquera, Bil-Bil and Arroyo de la Miel beaches are especially vulnerable to storm damage.



2021. NITO SALAS

SAN PEDRO ALCÁNTARA

San Pedro, Linda Vista and Guadalmina beaches all suffer storm damage every winter.



2020. JOSELE

TORROX

The breakwater built in 2017 at Ferrara beach hasn't brought a stop to the damage. There are plans for a second.



2021. EUGENIO CABEZAS

MARBELLA

Sand has to constantly be replenished on La Fontanilla, La Venus and Casablanca beaches.



2017. JOSELE



2007. EUGENIO CABEZAS



2016. JOSELE



2017. EUGENIO CABEZAS



2012. JOSELE



2002. SUR



2005. JOSELE



2005. SUR



2003. JOSELE

The recent storms have shown once again how fragile the Malaga coastline is against the onslaught of the sea. Although Storm Lola was not as intense as some of its predecessors, once again it has caused the waves to ravage the beaches in different places in the province and damage beach bars and other infrastructure. They are nearly always the same ones. It has been like this, every year, for decades. Emergency solutions are carried out to repair the damage and tonnes of sand are brought from elsewhere, but they are only ever temporary. The worst black spots are the busiest beaches of Benalmádena and Marbella, La Cala de Mijas, Ferrara beach in Torrox and Los Baños del Carmen in Malaga city. They have been waiting years for breakwaters to be built to protect them.

For a long time the Coastal Authority, which comes under the Ministry for Ecological Transition, has been working on plans to prevent the continual loss of sand, but a lack of decision-making, lack of funds and the bureaucracy involved have meant none of them has come to anything and the problem continues.

The same beaches, damaged by storms time after time

A recurring issue. The lack of decisive action and bureaucracy have held up a definitive solution for a series of black spots on the Malaga coast for decades

FRANCISCO JIMÉNEZ



Marbella and San Pedro

Waiting for new breakwaters to be built

The coast at Marbella has two areas which are particularly vulnerable to storms: the urban beaches in Marbella town centre and San Pedro Alcántara. The government has projects on the table to protect them and, although it is a slow process, it does look as if something may be done soon. The most advanced plan aims to stabilise the beaches between the Guadalmina and Guadaiza rivers in San Pedro by building six breakwaters to provide a stable area of sand between 40 and 50 metres wide.

These works will cost 7.4 million euros and will be carried out in two phases. The first consists of creating five breakwaters between 100 and 200 metres in length, and the second will install a sixth. Around 5,000 cubic metres of boulders will also be removed in the area closest to the mouth of the Guadaiza, and some 200,000 cubic metres of sand will be distributed.

The plans and environmental impact study are also being drawn up for stabilising three kilometres of coast between La Venus and Punta del Ancón beaches. The de-

tails of these are not yet definite.

Benalmádena

The extension to the dyke that just never happened

The Santa Ana, Malapesquera, Bil-Bil and Arroyo de la Miel beaches always suffer badly in storms and Lola had the same effect, with waves carving out two-metre-high ledges in the sand and damaging several beach restaurants. The mayor, Víctor Navas, has demanded immediate action from the authorities. He wants the environmental reports and authorisations to be speeded up so that once and for all the dyke between Santa Ana and Malapesquera beaches (near the marina) can be extended.

This should be simple, because it basically involves extending the dyke which already runs parallel to the coast by 80 metres, but it is held up by environmental bureaucracy. The town hall has offered to pay up front and co-finance part of the cost, to make things easier.

Mijas

Three alternative solutions for El Bombo and La Butibamba

The beach at La Cala de Mijas also needs to be stabilised. The Coas-

tal Authority has just received authorisation to put the contract for the plans to tender, to bring an end to the continual storm damage caused to El Bombo and La Butibamba beaches. Next, a decision will have to be made between three different alternatives. The first, and least invasive, consists of distributing sand in different areas; the second proposes to construct two breakwaters perpendicular to the coast to enclose and protect the beach; and the third, to add a barrier out at sea, parallel to the coast, to slow down the waves. Once the plans are drawn up, the relevant environmental impact report will also be needed, so it could still take years to put into effect.

Torrox

A second breakwater for Ferrara beach

On the eastern side of Malaga, the beach which has always been most affected is Ferrara, in Torrox Costa, at least until 2017. In that year a semi-submerged 115-metre breakwater was built near El Faro

Mayors call for regulations to be drawn up for solar energy parks

RONDA

The mayors of Gaucín, Casares, San Martín del Tesorillo and Jimena have expressed concern about the "massive" photovoltaic projects

VANESSA MELGAR

The mayors of Gaucín and Casares in Malaga province and San Martín del Tesorillo and Jimena de la Frontera, in Cadiz, have expressed their joint concern over plans to create "massive" photovoltaic parks in their municipalities. They are calling on the authorities to regulate such projects.

Pedro Godino, the mayor of Gaucín, says his council has re-



Over 200 people from Cañete took part in a protest march last week sur

ceived six applications from different companies so far. "We all agree that we are not against renewable energy, but these projects are enormous. This needs to be done in a regulated, sus-

tainable and controlled way to protect our environment and heritage," he says.

These mayors have agreed to create a working group and have asked for a meeting with the Jun-

ta de Andalucía to discuss the matter further.

The Silvema Ecologistas en Acción association says it is aware of 25 projects for solar panel and wind energy parks in the area around Ronda, including Cañete La Real, Almargen, Teba and Cuevas del Becerro, as well as those mentioned earlier. Local people have formed protest groups, created petitions and organised demonstrations.

The situation also affects other places in Malaga province, such as Coín and Antequera. According to Silvema, there are currently 53 projects of this type on the table. "There is no regulation and no restriction from the Junta de Andalucía or the government in Madrid," they say, and this is likely to lead to speculation.

They are also concerned at the sheer size of some of these projects and their effects on the countryside, and say some of the companies behind them are dividing their applications into smaller sections in an attempt to get around environmental restrictions.

after a wait of 25 years, at a cost of 307,000 euros. However, damage still occurs, although to a lesser extent: the latest storm destroyed about 300 metres of beach. It was decided to create a second breakwater, but nothing has been heard since the contract to draw up the plans and environmental impact study was awarded in July 2019.

Malaga

More defences and a larger beach at Los Baños del Carmen

In 2015 plans that had been in a drawer for years were reactivated to regenerate the coastline at Los Baños del Carmen and enlarge the beach on the western side. However, after complaints from local associations, the project was reduced to minimise its environmental effects.

In 2019, a further environmental study ruled out the idea of a breakwater in the rocky area and recommended reducing the size still further. If this is approved, the next step will be to put the contract for the works to tender. They will cost approximately 3.3 million euros, but the timing will depend on when funding is assigned in the annual budget.



Martín visits the car park that is nearly finished in La Candelaria. i. g.

Three new car parks in Las Lagunas set to cost 50 million

MIJAS

I. GELIBTER. Mijas council has confirmed that plans are under way for three new underground car parks in the Las Lagunas area: in Parque Fernán Caballero, Parque Andalucía and Los Santos. Councillor José Carlos Martín said that the three new car parks, with 1,252 spaces in total are expect-

ted to cost nearly 50 million euros and are part of a plan devised in 2016 to solve the ongoing parking problems in the area.

These three new projects are in addition to the two car parks already under construction in El Juncal and La Candelaria, where 668 new parking spaces will be available for use this year, said the councillor.

HERE AND THERE

MADRID

Virtual 'comunidad' meetings permitted

S. ZAMORA. The Cabinet this week has approved a change to the law which clears up the legal ambiguity over any official meeting of property owners carried out virtually.

In many cases during the pandemic, emergency 'comunidad de propietarios' meetings have taken place by video-conference call or Whatsapp, albeit with doubt over their validity. This is because until now the law stipulated that owners had to either be present in person or nominate a third party to act on their behalf.

This new law will come into effect from 9 May, provisionally to cover emergency meetings until the end of the year. At that point, the obligation to hold annual meetings (suspended because of the pandemic) will return.

MALAGA

New 30km/h limit to affect 7 out of 10 streets

I. LILLO. Motorists are reminded that from next Tuesday, 11 March, the maximum speed limit in towns will be reduced to 30 km/h on most streets.

According to the new regulations from the DGT (Directorate-General for Traffic), this new limit must be respected on urban roads which have one lane in each direction (which are the majority). The speed limit will be reduced to 20 km/h on semi-pedestrianised streets (where there is no difference in level between the road and the pavement). The current 50 km/h speed limit will remain the same on urban roads which have two or more lanes in each direction, apart from a few exceptions.

In the case of Malaga city, it has been estimated that seven out of ten streets will now have a 30km/h limit.

Buddhist centre gets institutional backing to promote its work

The Karma Guen centre in Aldea Alta near Vélez-Málaga is set to offer courses, seminars and conferences to students and professionals

EUGENIO CABEZAS

VÉLEZ-MÁLAGA. Vélez-Málaga town hall has signed an agreement with Malaga university and the Karma Guen Buddhist centre to work more closely together to promote the centre and its work nationally and internationally.

The agreement, which was signed on Tuesday, will allow the centre to offer a number of courses including professional development for university students and local businesses, as well as run seminars, courses and conferences about Buddhism. The agreement also includes the possibility of offering courses on Tibetan philosophy.

The Karma Guen centre is dedicated to researching and translating important Buddhist texts as well as studying Buddhist



Town hall, university and Karma Guen representatives on Tuesday. **SUR**

philosophy and linguistics.

Its library boasts over 1,000 artefacts, some of which are over 2,000 years old. Centre director Pablo Gómez said the collection is possibly one of the biggest of its kind in the world.

Gómez went on to thank Vélez-Málaga town hall for its “constant support” over the years and that the agreement could “turn Vélez-

Málaga and the Axarquía into a national and international place of reference for Buddhism”.

Vélez-Málaga mayor Antonio Moreno Ferrer said the agreement was “another step” to strengthening the existing relationship between the town hall and the university and gives the Karma Guen centre “huge educational and cultural potential”.

Council approves reclassification request for Maro golf course

E. CABEZAS

NERJA. Nerja town hall approved last Thursday a declaration of will to request that the regional government reclassify the Vega de Maro agricultural land as urbanisable as the first step to push ahead with golf course project.

Opposition parties PSOE, Adelante and an independent councillor rejected the agreement.

Protesters gathered outside the town hall building while the vote was taking place.

Afterwards, Urban Planning councillor Nieves Atencia said that they had not approved a “spe-

cific project” but a declaration of will to take the reclassification request to the Junta de Andalucía.

When she was challenged by the Adelante councillor, José Juan Aído, who said that the project so far had been “a failure”, she replied that she didn’t have a “crystal ball” to see whether the project would be a failure or not and that “voters know what they want for Maro and they are in favour of growth”.

Aído called on more residents to be involvement in the plans.

HERE AND THERE



Frigiliana mayor Alejandro Herrero with Nuria Rodríguez. **SUR**

FRIGILIANA

New footpath connects Frigiliana to mountains

E. C. A new footpath that links Frigiliana to the Sierra Tejeda, Almijara and Alhama mountains was opened last Thursday by Nuria Rodríguez, the regional government’s delegate for Tourism.

The 610-metre-long path runs along the left-hand side of the Frigiliana to Torrox road and passes a number of tourist properties in the area.

It is made of clay with wooden railings and offers views of the mountains and coast.

The footpath forms part of a number of projects in the Axarquía designed to attract tourists to the area’s inland villages.

NERJA

Sewage plant technical specifications approved

E. C. Nerja town hall announced on Wednesday that councillors had approved a document detailing the technical specifications for the town’s sewage treatment plant. The document forms part of the requirements for the plant to be handed over to the town hall from Spain’s Environment ministry, the town hall said in a press release.

VÉLEZ-MÁLAGA/TORROX

Ten arrested during Axarquía drugs raids

E. C. Ten people were arrested on suspicion of drug smuggling during raids on properties in Vélez-Málaga and Torrox on Tuesday. A number of homes in both towns were targeted in a coordinated police operation. Documents and personal items were seized. The quantity of narcotics found has not been disclosed.

TORROX

Torrox golf and marina project reactivated

E. C. The Torrox golf course, marina and homes development planned for the Calaceite area of the town has been reactivated this week after the town hall acquired 78 per cent of the com-

pany Calaceite Developments S.L, which has been declared bankrupt, on Wednesday. The town hall paid 400,000 euros for its share.

Torrox mayor Óscar Medina said that he was “confident of finding solvent investors” for the project. The Junta de Andalucía committed its support to the marina project at the end of 2020.

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Find out what happens after you pass away in Spain as an Avalon funeral plan holder

It's probably the last thing most of us want to think about but planning ahead for your funeral is something all British expats in Spain should do.

Arranging a funeral is a stressful experience, but when you're having to navigate a foreign funeral system, it can make a tough time even more difficult. Having a funeral plan from Avalon makes things simple, but what happens when your family puts the plan in motion? Tania Bustos from Avalon Funeral Plans shares how Avalon supports and cares for families when they experience a bereavement here in Spain.

"Avalon is the fastest growing funeral plan provider in Europe, we're based in Spain and provide specialist funeral plans to support expats and their families with the complicated funeral system here in Spain. We've helped more than 85,000 customers over the last 25 years.

"My role is to support the families of our Avalon members after they have passed away, providing both practical and emotional support and ensuring everything runs smoothly concerning the funeral. A key part of the role is tailoring the support by family as their needs are all different depending on the circumstances, where the family is located and what arrangements they would like," says Tania.

When a person passes away, Tania explains what the family needs to do, "If someone passes away at home in Spain, the first thing the next of kin needs to do is call the emergency services. Then, if they have an Avalon plan - just one call to me or my colleague Mike puts the plan in motion. It is very important we are your first call, after a doctor, so we can contact the correct funeral director. We have a very close relationship with local funeral homes and know exactly what to do. We will liaise with the funeral director informing them of the type of plan you have with us and make sure there is someone that speaks English there to assist."



Tania Bustos.

When it comes to round the clock support, Avalon is always there to offer support. Tania explains, "Mike and I are on hand 24 hours a day, 7 days a week to help as much as the family need us to. We have a bereavement phone line that the next of kin and family can call and you'll speak directly to us - not a call centre, so you can be comfortable knowing we have all the information about the funeral arrangements. Plus, we're bilingual, so can help with the language barrier when liaising with the funeral director and authorities.

"This past year we have found ourselves having to offer quite a bit of extra support, as family members are unable to travel abroad. There are a lot of people alone, in foreign countries and they just need someone on the other end of the phone for reassurance."

She continues, "Also as funerals happen very quickly here in Spain, there isn't much time to request authorized travel. We do have additional time built into our plans for time at the mortuary which does help with the speed of things here. But with COVID, things are taking even longer."

Avalon has introduced a new COVID Guarantee which means if any of the elements included in your funeral plan can't take place, Avalon will support your

family with making the alternative arrangements. Tania notes, "We'll provide a refund for any features of your plan that cannot be used. We're the only funeral plan provider for expats to offer this unique guarantee for your complete peace of mind."

The care Tania and the Avalon team has for its members is clear in its 5-star rating on Trustpilot, with over 2,500 reviews by customers such as this review from Mrs Susan Thomas, "First class service. Easy payments. Can be used [in the] UK and Spain. Sadly, we recently lost a good friend here in Spain. Avalon were first class in their care and wishes of the family. Easily recommended."

If you're looking for peace of mind that comes with having an Avalon Funeral Plan, Avalon offers a free, no obligation home, video or phone consultation where one of their specialist funeral advisors will chat you through your options and answer any questions you may have - simply call 865 616 550 or go to avalonfuneralplans.com/expat.

MORE INFORMATION

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A 230k challenge in aid
of Mijas dog refuge

Polish expat Kasia Slomianna intends to walk from Cordoba to Mijas in seven days to raise funds for the ACE animal sanctuary

TONY BRYANT

MIJAS. A Polish expat who has lived in La Cala de Mijas for eight years is gearing up for a gruelling sponsored walk to raise funds for the Animal Care España (ACE) dog shelter. Kasia Slomianna will begin her journey in Cordoba and continue along part of the ancient Camino Mozárabe, which links up with the Camino de Santiago. The route will take her from Cordoba to Baena and Antequera, and then on to the refuge centre in La Cala de Mijas.

Currently furloughed because of the pandemic, Kasia, who expects to finish the hike in seven days, will set off on the 230 kilometre walk on Monday 10 May. She will attempt to walk approximately 35km each day, and she has set her sights on a target of 2,000 euros, although she is hoping that, with the support of the public, she will raise much more.

Kasia will log her journey on her Facebook page and she has also set up a GoFundMe page for donations.

She originally intended to walk solo, but she will now be accompanied on the journey by ACE volunteer Paul Shafto. Paul only decided to offer his support on Wednesday, and Kasia said she is "thrilled" that she will now have company on the walk.

Kasia is a keen hiker, although she admits that she has never un-



Kasia Slomianna in La Cala de Mijas earlier this week. SUR

dertaken a task of this magnitude.

"I have never done anything like this, so it will be a big mental and physical challenge, but I think I'll handle it as I'm doing it for a good cause and this will keep me motivated," Kasia told SUR in English.

The animal lover decided to organise the walk because she wanted to help raise urgent funds needed to keep the charity afloat during the pandemic, and also because she has always wanted to walk part of the Camino de Santiago.

"I wanted to help out in the shelter, but seeing all those poor souls in cages was just too much for me, so I thought I could help in a different way.

"I've always wanted to walk at least part of Camino de Santiago, but taking so much time off work before the pandemic wasn't an option. Now I have the opportunity to do both," she explained.

For more information, see Kasia Slomianna's Facebook page.



The protest outside the amusement park entrance. SUR

Staff demand reopening of Tivoli World

BENALMÁDENA

IVÁN GELIBTER. Tivoli World workers protested on Monday at the gates of the well-known amusement park to demand that its owners reopen the attraction and not close it down.

The demonstration followed the announcement by Benalmádena

council that it was granting extra protection to the site to prevent the redevelopment of the park for other uses.

The future of Tivoli is viable, said the bankruptcy administrator of the park, Juan Carlos Sánchez, although this would require taking on a high debt and making heavy investments.



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A month with no new cases of Covid-19 among the local population

GIBRALTAR

The successful vaccine campaign is thought to be the reason for this, as 37,614 people have now had the first dose and 34,280 the second

DEBBIE BARTLETT

GIBRALTAR. It is now a month since there have been any cases of Covid-19 at all detected among Gibraltar's resident population. The government issues statistics every day and the last time any cases were reported among local people was 6 April.

There have been a few cases among visitors to the Rock and

these people are immediately put into isolation.

The figures for Wednesday this week show that there have been 4,286 cases of the virus detected since the beginning of the pandemic, and 4,189 recoveries. There are currently three visitors who have tested positive for Covid-19 and 27 people are in self-isolation, although this figure includes those who have been in contact with positive cases or who are vulnerable and shielding for health reasons.

This successful record is strongly believed to be due to the fact that the vast majority of Gibraltar's population and most of its nearly 15,000 cross-frontier workers have had at least one dose of the vaccine. This is very en-



Life is returning to normal in Gibraltar. NITO SALAS

couraging news as it indicates that the vaccine not only provides high immunity but may also prevent or reduce transmission.

Many of the pandemic restrictions have now been lifted in Gibraltar and the atmosphere is one of near-normality. The government is keen to attract tourism

this summer, especially from the UK, but this does not mean that the authorities have relaxed and dropped their guard over the possibility of new infections brought in by visitors. Controls will still be in place, but Gibraltar in general is hoping for a good summer season.

IN BRIEF



Preparing for summer. SUR

TOURISM

BA City Flyer brings Gib flights forward

D. B. In response to the expected announcement that Gibraltar will be on the UK's green-light countries for travel this summer, BA City Flyer has decided to bring forward the start of its new service from London City Airport to Gibraltar to 11 June. It had originally been planned to begin on 25 June, as previously announced.

Tickets for flights on and after 11 June are now on sale. The move has been welcomed by local tourism authorities.

CRIME

Teacher arrested for sexual offences

D. B. The Royal Gibraltar Police have announced that a local teacher has been arrested and charged with five counts of sexual activity with a child by a person in a position of trust.

The woman, who is a 25-year-old British national and lives in Midtown, Queensway, was arrested in November last year by members of the RGP Safeguarding Team following a report made to the police.

She appeared in court on Wednesday.

CULTURE

GEMA prepares for new exhibition

D.B. The Gibraltar Exhibitions of Modern Art Gallery (GEMA) at Montagu Bastion in Line Wall Road is now closed until 8 June while preparations are made for an Open Day which has been planned for 9 June.

The Open Day will be from 11am to 3pm and will mark the opening of a new exhibition.

Further information can be obtained by phoning Gibraltar Cultural Services on (+350) 20075669 or by emailing info@culture.gi.

Winner of the boxing gloves signed by Whyte and Povetkin is announced

SPORT

D. B. Following the successful night of boxing at the Europa Sports Park on Saturday 27 March, the Gibraltar Sports and Leisure Authority carried out a draw to select the winner of the Rumble on the Rock boxing gloves signed by Dillian Whyte and Alexander Povetkin.

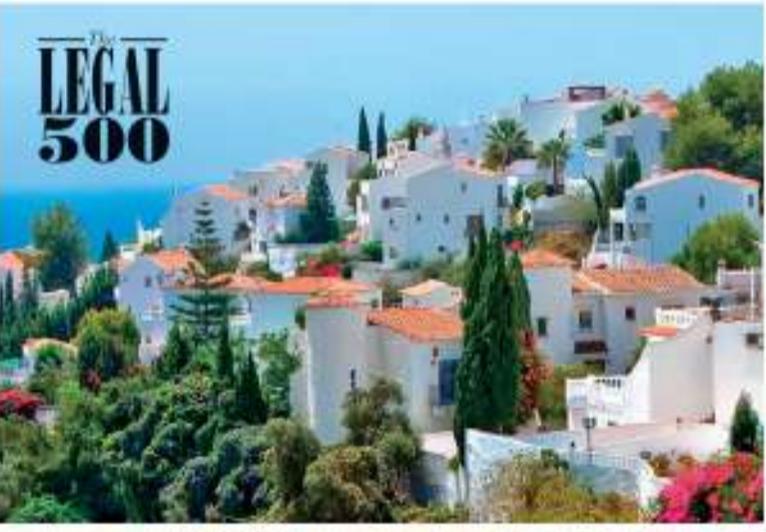
The draw took place on Thursday 22 April at the Bay-side Sports Complex, live on Facebook and coordinated by the GSLA's Matthew Reoch and Shane Martinez, and the lucky winner was declared to be Steven Anthony Gordillo.

The draw was organised to encourage people who had attended the boxing event to undergo a Covid-19 test eight to ten days afterwards, as this was seen as a way of providing valuable information to Public Health Gibraltar on the spread of the virus in an enclosed area during this pilot event.

All necessary Covid-19 measures were put in place at the event by the Ministry of Sport, in conjunction with the Safety Advisory Group and the Director of Public Health. The event proved a great success, as no positive cases were detected after the match.



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The 'blue economy' supports over 50,000 jobs and 700 companies in Malaga province

The Costa is a leader in underwater robotics, marine wind energy and conservation, which have continued to grow during the pandemic

IGNACIO LILLO



MALAGA. Spain and other countries in Europe are once again turning to the sea as a source of wealth, and this 'blue economy' creates a clear opportunity for Malaga and the Costa del Sol.

Several companies at the Clúster Marítimo Marino de Andalucía, a maritime business group, are currently involved in this type of project. However they are little known because they are usually classed under other industry sectors such as training, energy, tourism or technology.

With this in mind, the group is currently involved in drawing up an overview of the sector. Its preliminary analysis shows that there are about 700 companies in the blue economy in Malaga province, employing over 50,000 professionals. Their projects include underwater robotics, environmental engineering, shipbuilding and maintenance, nautical tourism, aquaculture, heritage, knowledge, security, training, biotechnology and services. Companies associated with so-called blue tourism are the biggest generators of jobs, says Mar Recuna, who runs the maritime cluster.

The blue economy generates a significant part of the GDP of Malaga, bearing in mind that the port and supporting industries alone cover 200 companies. In Andalucía there are about 300,000 workers in the sector; that is ten per cent of all those in the region, and its contribution is around 17 billion euros, which is 10.5 per cent of GDP. Malaga leads some of the sectors in the region, especially tourism (cruises) and technology.

"Malaga needs to talk about a model for developing the blue economy, because in ten years turnover could double. It is a strategic sector," says Javier Noriega, president of this association of innovative companies in different maritime sub-sectors.

Robotisation of Malaga Port

One of the biggest pillars of this development, current and future, is Malaga Port, which Recuna says is "a leader in the cruise market and a benchmark in the model of integration with the city". There is also an opportunity for growth



Two divers work on a project to regenerate the seabed. SUR. ARCHIVE

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in its hinterland and as a complementary logistics hub for Algeciras. On this point, Noriega is calling for urgent digitalisation and robotisation of the facilities to make them more competitive. "A strong port makes Malaga strong too," he says.

In shipbuilding, the benchmark is the Mario López shipyard, although there are 19 companies

in this field in all. There is also increasing demand for wooden boat building, in which the Nereo shipyard is a leader. For pleasurecraft, there are 11 marinas with 4,800 berths, 20 per cent of all those in Andalucía, and 53 companies providing different services.

With regard to fishing, the future lies with sustainable aquaculture and high quality produc-

tion, because consumption is far higher than the ability to produce. "The problem in Andalucía is that this market is not valued very highly, so fishing could become a luxury in the future," warns Mar Recuna.

In Malaga there are also companies like Algaqua, which study algae and new species that may be suitable for marine farming.

SECTORS AND COMPANIES

► **Marine wind energy:** Several firms are involved in this field, including Enerocean.

► **Underwater robotics:** The main centre for this is the Marine Vision company. There are also numerous diving centres.

► **Conservation and environment:** Firms such as Alnasur, Ahyresa and Tecnoambiente, among others, work in this field.

► **Tourism:** The main generator of jobs, especially those associated with cruises and marinas.

► **Malaga Port:** Needs to progress in digitalisation and robotisation of its facilities in order to be more competitive.

► **Shipbuilding:** The local benchmark is the Mario López shipyard, although there are 19 companies in this field.

There is also increasing demand for wooden boat building, such as at the Nereo shipyard.

► **Fishing:** The Caleta de Vélez fishing association is one of the main operators but there are also companies like Algaqua, which studies algae and new commercial species for sustainable aquaculture.

Malaga escapes Norwegian's cull of its short-haul bases in Spain caused by restructuring plan

P. MARTÍNEZ

MALAGA. Troubled airline Norwegian announced this week its plan to cut 1,191 workers from its bases in Spain. This would affect 85 per cent of the total crew, the USO union has claimed.

In Spain, three of the five short-haul bases would go - in Barcelona, Gran Canaria and Tenerife South. Norwegian would maintain its two operational bases in Malaga and Alicante, although with only one aircraft in each of them for this year. This would be increased to three planes in each in 2022 in the plan, which is being negotiated with unions.

Norwegian says the restructuring process is being carried out in "each and every one" of the markets where it operates. The company's plans to cease long-haul operations and downsize short-haul flights considerably.

IN BRIEF

SPAIN

Glovo hit by customer data hacking scare

SUR. Customer and delivery rider details of the Glovo on-demand food delivery service in Spain have been offered for sale on the internet as the result of a security breach that the company is currently investigating.

Hackers accessed Glovo's systems and obtained account details but the company has confirmed that no data from its customers' credit cards was accessed, since this information is not stored.

MALAGA

Province leads the way with house price rise

N. TRIGUERO. A property valuation firm, Sociedad de Tasación, has published an updated market study comparing real estate in the Catalonia, Valencia, Murcia and Andalucía regions in 2020.

Overall prices did not drop during the Covid-19 pandemic and Malaga province prices have actually risen the most - by 1.9%. This is double the national rate. A square metre in the area sold for 1,755 euros, 400 above the national rate.



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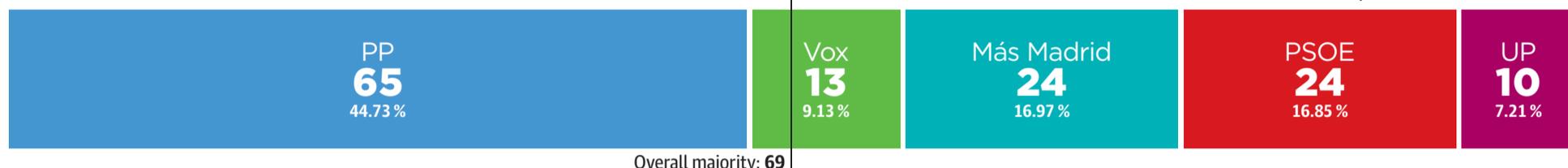
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Landslide victory for Partido Popular in Madrid regional election

After a poor overall showing by the left, leader of Unidas Podemos, Pablo Iglesias, who headed his group's list in the region, has decided to quit politics

SUR

MADRID. Isabel Díaz Ayuso won a landslide victory in the regional election held this Tuesday in Madrid. After a bitterly fought campaign between parties on the left and right, the conservative Partido Popular (PP) candidate maintained her control over the regional government, more than doubling her 30 seats to a total of 65.



Díaz Ayuso celebrates her victory with PP leader Pablo Casado. EFE

This fell just four short of an overall majority, although far-right Vox, now holding 13 seats, has already pledged its support to enable Ayuso to govern.

"Freedom has triumphed once again," said Ayuso in her victory speech.

It was a very bad night for parties on the Left, with Ayuso's PP

winning more seats in the 136-seat regional assembly than the left-of-centre parties put together.

The Socialist PSOE candidate, Ángel Gabilondo, admitted defeat after dropping from 37 to 24 seats, the same result obtained by Más Madrid, a regional left-wing group that had won 20 representatives in the regional parliament in 2019.

Pablo Iglesias leaves politics

Left-wing Unidas Podemos (UP), whose campaign was headed by Podemos leader, Pablo Iglesias, won ten seats. Iglesias, who until two months ago was a deputy prime minister in the national coalition government with Pedro Sánchez, announced on Tuesday evening that he was resigning

from all his political roles.

"I will keep my commitment to my country but I am not going to be a block on the leadership renewal which is needed in our political movement," he said.

The new government in the Madrid region, which Ayuso will lead, will only be sworn in for two years before the next scheduled election is held. Ayuso had called this snap mid-term poll when she became worried about the weakening coalition arrangement with Ciudadanos.

Centrist Ciudadanos (Cs) dropped from 26 regional MPs in 2019 to none in this week's vote, after failing to win the minimum five per cent of votes overall in the proportional representation system. Cs leader, Inés Arrimadas said, "Defending the liberal centre isn't easy, it never has been in Spain."

The turnout for this early election in Madrid was 76.2 per cent, a record amount and up 12 points on the last regional elections two years ago.

THE EURO ZONE MARK NAYLER

After effects



Pedro Sánchez sent his spending plans for Spain's EU recovery funds to Brussels this week, but he might not be in power long enough to execute them. The regional election in Madrid on Tuesday - in which one of the Socialist leader's few outspoken critics more than doubled her seats in the region's assembly - was in essence a vote of no confidence in the PSOE-led coalition government. And it lost

that vote, badly.

Throughout 2020 and for the first part of this year, Isabel Díaz Ayuso has often been alone in questioning Sánchez's shotgun Covid tactics, and arguing instead for lighter restrictions to keep the economy healthy. When her Popular Party's national leader, Pablo Casado, ought to have been railing against the national administration, Ayuso took his place, becoming the voice of an other-

wise neutered opposition.

She argued that the lockdown restrictions were too tough, that they were ruining lives and businesses, and that Spain's regions should be able to decide, for themselves, how to tackle the pandemic. Tuesday's result proves that Ayuso's libertarian, federalist approach enjoys more support in the Spanish capital than the Socialists' methodology - namely, shutting everything down, indiscriminately, for indefinite periods.

The PSOE's junior coalition partner, Podemos, is also losing momentum, even though it increased its number of Madrid seats on Tuesday. But when Pablo Iglesias quit politics that same day, the party was suddenly robbed of much of its identity and appeal. It can't rely

on his first-pumping speeches of defiance and hope any more, nor is it obvious what will replace them as a means of galvanising voters. Perhaps Podemos' best work is already behind it, though: in his farewell address, Iglesias said that he was proud to have "led a project that has changed the history of our country".

Podemos' rise from rebellious newcomer to national government within seven years is a remarkable achievement. But since realising its wildest dreams, the party has struggled for clout in the Socialist-led coalition, a task which will be even harder for Iglesias' successor, employment minister Yolanda Díaz. There was also something wasteful and anti-climatic about Iglesias' departure from

politics this week: it's as if, after working so hard to achieve national presence, the changes he sought didn't come soon enough, so that's it, he's off. Or perhaps, like Sánchez's cannily timed resignation as PSOE leader in late 2016, this retirement is merely the first move in a long game.

The ricochets of the Madrid election - itself triggered by seismic shifts in the government of Murcia earlier this year - are headed in Sánchez's direction. Rather than settling down to spend Brussels' recovery funds, the Socialist leader first needs to survive the political earthquake that's rumbling towards Moncloa. Unless he succeeds, he may lose his sliding, shaking grip on power completely.

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COMMUNITY SPIRIT



Kara Jaye Caradas accepts the cheque from Val Williams. SUR

Support group offers aid to Food Fairies

The Simply Surviving platform donated 700 euros and food parcels to the charity which had been collected during its monthly campaign

TONY BRYANT

MIJAS. The Simply Surviving support group spent the month of April raising funds in aid of The Food Fairies (Asociación Hadas Caradas), a registered charity that provides food parcels to families in danger of social exclusion. During a presentation held last weekend, founder Val Williams presented the charity's president, Kara Jaye Caradas, with a cheque for 700 euros that had been raised by the group's members. She also donated 300 euros worth of food that had been collected during

a charity quiz event. The Simply Surviving group, which raises funds for a different charity every month, has a number of events planned throughout May to support the Mijas-based Last Chance Animal Rescue centre. These include a concert and dinner at the Club Miraflores in Mijas Costa on Saturday 22 May; a fundraising quiz hosted by John Sharples at the Cerros de Águila Restaurant on Thursday 27 May; plus, the twice weekly historical walking tours around Mijas Pueblo.

Founded in 2020, the Simply Surviving group has been created to support businesses and individuals that need help during the pandemic.

For more information concerning future events, contact Val Williams on 951313257 or Alan Boardman on 610522605.

Salón Varietés Theatre set to reopen in September

FUENGIROLA

T. B. The Salón Varietés Theatre has announced that it hopes to reopen its doors in September. In December 2020, a new fundraising committee was formed to support the theatre in raising 30,000 euros to maintain the building throughout the pandemic. Donations have been received from numerous organisations, individuals and various anonymous donors. The target is at the 97 per cent mark and the board are hoping that a series of summer events will further boost the fund. The first of these is a Hawaiian fancy dress beach party at the Chiringuito Vedera (Fuengirola) on Saturday 29 May.

Town hall initiative to highlight charitable services

FUENGIROLA

T.B. Fuengirola town hall is to promote local charitable organisations with an event held in the Plaza de la Constitución between 13th and 15th May. Around 15 organisations will participate in the event, which will highlight the activities that they offer. The initiative will begin with a Volunteer Gala at the Ilunion Hotel on the 13th.



Rotarians and Caritas volunteers with the food parcels. SUR.

Rotarians serve up tasty treat in Marbella

MARBELLA

T. BRYANT. Members of the Rotary Club Marbella East were out in force this week to offer support to Caritas. Rotarians visited the organisation's headquarters in Las Chapas on

Tuesday to make a donation of 500 euros. They also helped with the organisation of hot food parcels, which were distributed among the needy. The food was supplied by the Mini India Restaurant in Elviria.

Rotarian Maxine Porter said, "Today was a special day marked by the incredible generosity of the Mini India Restaurant, who supplied food to 80 people who otherwise wouldn't have had the luxury of a hot meal."

Local businesses pull together to feed the needy

MARBELLA

T. BRYANT. Specsavers Ópticas Marbella continued its charitable campaign last month by donating 100 hot meals to the vulnerable. Working together with Restaurante Sofia in San Pedro, the opticians was able to provide meals containing fresh and healthy produce to members of the community who are struggling due to the effects of the

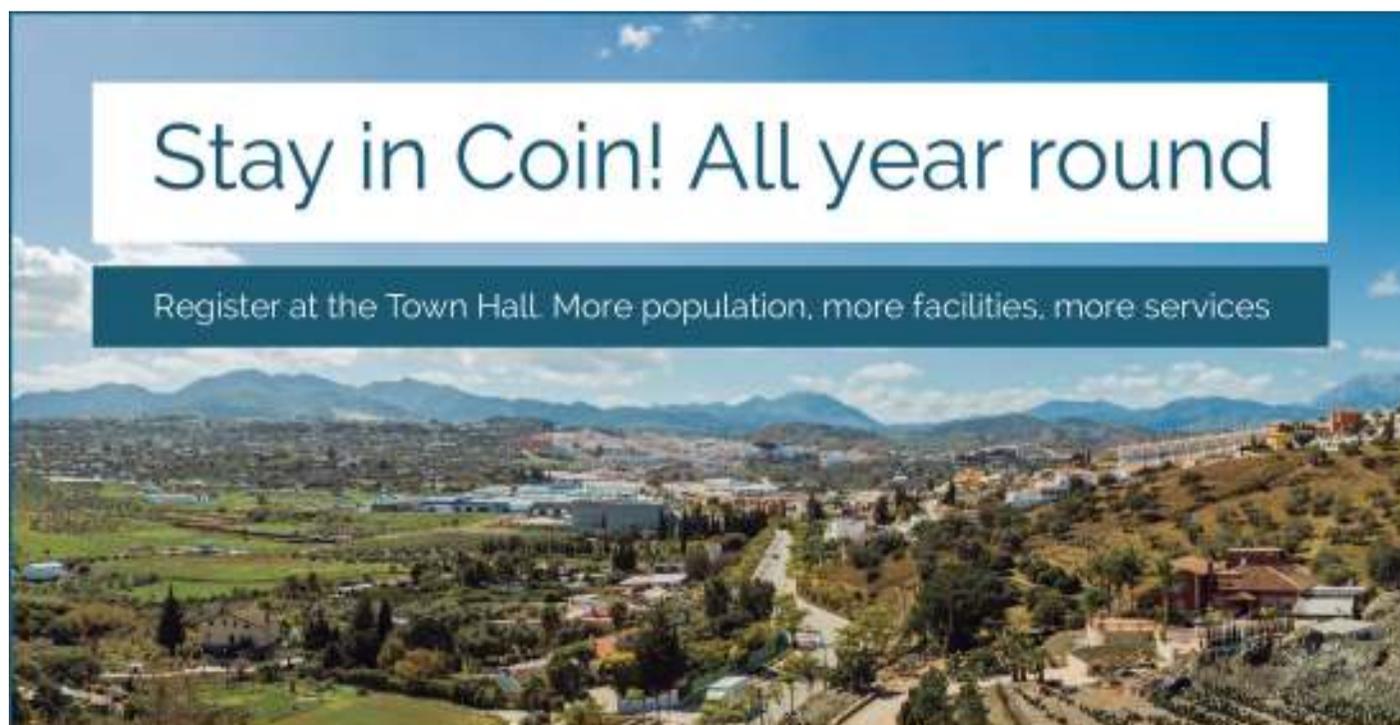


Meals for the vulnerable. SUR

pandemic. Specsavers came to the rescue after Caritas and the Association Hermandad Cristo del Amor compiled a list of recipients who most needed support.

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LETTERS
TO THE EDITOR

Mega disappointment

I was extremely disappointed to learn last week that construction of the megayacht marina is about to commence. One of the reasons I live in Malaga city and not Puerto B anus or Marbella is precisely because it is not overrun with show-boating magnates.

Malaga still has a Spanish feel, unlike so many other places on the costas, where you hear more English or Russian than you do Spanish, but the development of this megayacht marina runs the risk of transforming the port into an exhibition arena for the ultrarich. I understand that this demographic provides cities with money, but if such projects keep being approved then the port of every town on the Costa del Sol will end up looking identical – and megayachts are hardly a treat for the eye.

The plans also expose how Malaga is not genuinely committed to sustainability, as encouraging more large vessels to dock in the port will increase water pollution. Once again, as with the powerlines in Benahavis, this Junta has shown that it values money above local culture and the environment. **MARCUS WARREN**

Racist trope at municipal museum

I was incredulous when I saw the graphic image used to promote the exhibition La Huella de Manolo Prieto at the MUPAM museum in Malaga. The image at the very least is insensitive and perpetuates racist stereotypes and disparages and ridicules the many black people who

live and work in Andaluc a. Incredibly they had over 70 images to choose from and they chose that one! It reflects badly on the claims of the authority to represent all the people of the region that this image is displayed in their building. Even more incredible when even the most unaware person knows of Black lives Matter movement.

BARRY CAMPBELL

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THE MUSIC MAKER
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Communication breakdown

Although regular readers of this column are, by their very nature, extremely hip, such is the pace at which modern communications are changing, there may be the odd soul over the age of sixteen who isn't too au fait with all the latest developments. To this end, I thought it an appropriate moment to avail readers of a glossary of modern options for getting in touch with others.

In no particular order, then. Facebook: this is used by approximately 2.6 billion people worldwide as a means of showing other users what they've just had for lunch. Unsolicited, ill-informed, misspelt political diatribes are also available. You can react to any of these by choosing one of seven symbols, each depicting a different emotion, leaving people from Yorkshire wondering what the extra five are for. Facebook is favoured by middle-aged and old people who possibly carry skateboards un-

der their arms during daylight hours.

Twitter: this is a kind of seventh circle of hell where a bunch of sad saps insult each other from the safety of their mother's spare room but call it trolling instead of the childish vindictive tosh it really is. I've never used Twitter but know people who do - they all sport a facial expression which betrays a constant terrified bewilderment. It's the dark side.

TikTok: Thirteen-year-old girls miming to Billie Eilish.

Instagram: Despite in-depth enquiries (asking a few people in the pub) nobody has ever been able to tell me the difference between this and Facebook. They always mumble something about photographs and comments before staring at their shoes after realising that that is exactly what Facebook is. A lot more innocent than Twitter but, then again, so is the dark web.

WhatsApp: Weird labyrinth of

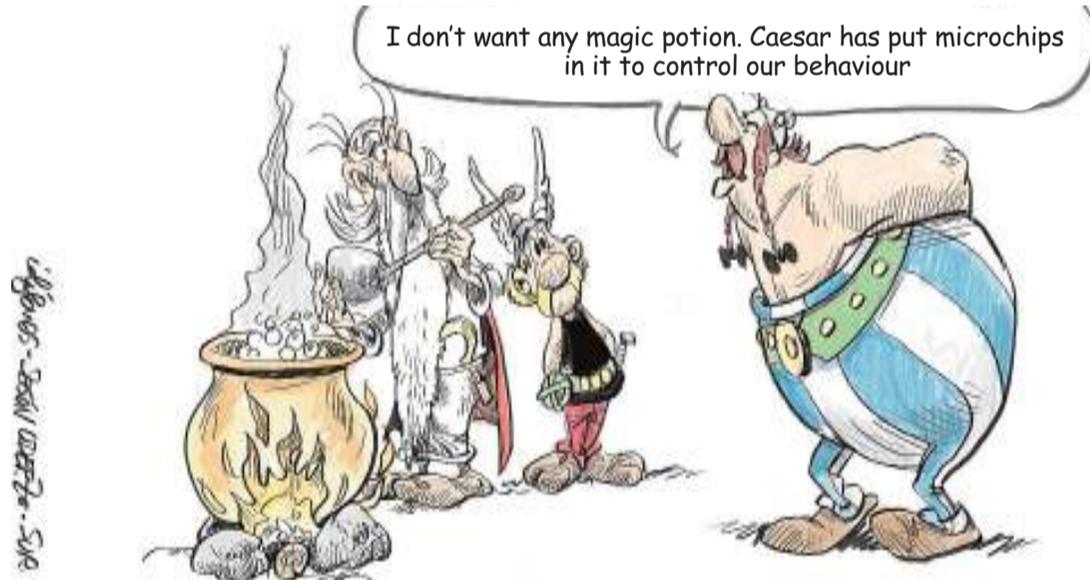
cliques and little gangs who maybe met in a bothy in the back of beyond one summer and who are now compelled for all eternity to respond to benign messages regarding weather prospects in Perthshire. WhatsApp is especially useful for narcissists in that it allows you to leave uninterrupted voice messages for your recipient. These are messages which would have definitely been interrupted had they been made in real life. Probably by loud snoring.

The telephone: an antiquated function available on the device you are carrying in your pocket. It involves dialling a number and waiting for someone to pick up and speak into their own device; you both then take turns to say something until a resolution is reached. Rarely used.

The letter: Pen on paper technique useful for complaining to newspaper editors about rubbish articles.

LOL.

IDIGORAS



SUR in English

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THE BOTTOM LINE
IGNCAIO LILLO

Laws just for show

Every man and his dog knows that the new speed limit of 30 kilometres per hour on roads in towns and cities is not going to be respected by anyone in Malaga. And I say in Malaga because the law is a state law and not all of Spain works in the same way.

In Bilbao, for example, the town is full of speed cameras and whoever goes over the limit is automatically crucified. Here they will do what they always do: a mobile speed checkpoint every now and then, more for

show than anything else, in a flashy place, and if they catch you, then you'll get caught.

But that's it: the rest of the time, let live, which is the municipal philosophy as far as traffic is concerned. There won't even be any signs, so it will take years for some people to even realise that the limit has been lowered on no fewer than seven out of ten streets. In other words, except on main roads, the new limit will have to be respected... No way.

You see, with the previous limit almost

nobody complied with it. Now that it's almost half that, it's going to be much worse. At a push, we might even get people to start driving at 50, which would be a triumph in itself.

You don't have to go very far either to get proof of this. Nobody respects the new '30 lanes' in which bicycles, skateboards and whatnot have priority... that's unless they come across a bicycle directly in front of them and they have no choice.

While many drivers, the most respectful ones, move over to the left lane so that they can go faster and comply with the rules, for many others it has become a dangerous overtaking lane. And the truth is that they are frightening. Just ask the daring cyclists and skateboarders who venture there without sufficient life insurance.

My electric scooter doesn't do more than 30, unless I'm going downhill without brak-

ing. On those occasions I sometimes get up to 40, which is a lot for such a little thing. So in Malaga I'm betting that the new DGT regulations will only be complied with by bikes, personal mobility vehicles and some 'abuelo' with his Mobylette from back when the polka was in fashion. That's all.

Since the announcement of imminent new rules, the few times I've driven around town I've been rehearsing going 'despacio', much like Luis Fonsi. And I have to admit it's difficult. With minimum gas and in third gear it feels like you're going to stall. But that's the way it is.

Those of my generation will remember when we all went around on mopeds without helmets; then we were fined until we were forced to wear them. Well, that's the only way to bring drivers into line. Anything less than that is just a matter of having laws just for show.

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"It's a pity that flamenco was born in Spain," says the artist, who will be performing this dance in its purest form in Malaga on 16 May

REGINA SOTORRÍO



MALAGA. A few days ago he was explaining during an online masterclass how he had learned to dance flamenco with his grandfather, Farruco. A group of Japanese students who were taking part were crying with emotion. This was in one of the courses he teaches all over the world, except Spain. "I offered it to a lot of places here but they weren't interested," he says. With very few performances in over a year, these lessons have become his main source of income. He feels, "like everyone in flamenco does", abandoned by a country that doesn't "appreciate" its artists or its most universally known art form. On 16 May he will pay tribute to flamenco in its most primitive form in his *Íntimo* show at the Soho CaixaBank Theatre (7pm, tickets start at 25 euros), kicking off the Flamenco in Soho series of performances.

–**Íntimo is raw flamenco.**

–Exactly. *Íntimo* is the get-together we sometimes have at home with family and friends, or with other flamenco artists after a festival. These are also the moments when you're practising on your own, creating, away from the spotlight.

–**Does flamenco change much in private compared with on stage?**

–Of course it does. It is like another form of it. You never show exactly who you are as a person in public, and flamenco is the same. When you're at a party, you dance when and how you feel. That's when some really great things happen. In the show I have tried to recreate those moments without forgetting that we are on stage.

–**Do you think original flamenco is a rarity now?**

–Yes, and that's why I do it. People, and I mean all of us, are always in a hurry to know where we are going and when, and sometimes we forget our roots, our foundations, where we came from.

–**Do you sometimes feel flamenco has lost its way? It has always been a dance with racial origins.**

–A lot of people make that mistake, thinking that purity means not evolving. It is actually the opposite. Purity is synonymous with truth, with being honest and if I want to dance flamenco, why would I dance a contemporary version of it? Because I would be more successful and reach more of the public? No thanks, I will continue to

'In Spain only two cultures matter: football and what your neighbours are up to'

Farruquito Dancer



Farruquito stars in *Íntimo* at the Soho CaixaBank Theatre on 16 May. ANTONIA MORENO

evolve in my own way of dancing.

–**So you're saying it's possible to be a modern dancer in the 21st century, but still based on tradition. Is that right?**

–If you watch a video of Carmen Amaya or Farruco, we young dancers have still not reached their level of modernity. Let's be a bit more humble and more honest. It takes time, learning and a strong foundation to evolve. You can't start mixing with the contemporary when you are still on the basics.

–**Was your grandfather Farruco more modern than you are?**

–Oh yes, definitely. Just as Camarón is more modern than the singers of today, and Paco de Lucía is more modern than the guitarists of today. Nowadays young people make the mistake of believing that being fashionable is the most important thing, and we forget that the people who have created a trend were artists who had personality. And I'm not saying that

HIS WORDS

IN THE PANDEMIC

"I'm living on my savings and from the online courses that I teach all over the world"

EVOLVING

"We young dancers have still not reached the modernity of Carmen Amaya or Farruco"

you're not open to sharing what you do with others. I have imitated Michael Jackson, I have danced American tap with Savion Glover and I have danced *seguiriyas* with Gustavo Dudamel's orchestra. What happens is that for me it isn't important to post a piece of news on Instagram with 2,000 photos. I post one photo, and that's that. But when you realise that today people don't care whether they are dancers, guitarists or singers, all they want is to be famous... that's a completely different road to take.

–**Flamenco makes its living from foreigners. How has the situation been during the pandemic, with theatres closed?**

–That is the absolute proof that if flamenco had been born in America instead of Spain, we would be the kings of music all over the world. Spain never appreciates what it has, it always appreciates things from elsewhere more. When there is a pandemic like this one

and you are an artist who has represented Spain all over the world since you were five years old, you feel totally abandoned. Not only is there no assistance for artists, but the high-speed trains are full of passengers while theatres are only allowed half as many people as usual. And if your finances were not looking healthy before the pandemic, you're not going to have the money to go out now. It's a pity that flamenco started in Spain.

–**Have you felt helpless?**

–Not me, all flamenco artists. I, thank goodness, am well-known and things are going well, but I'm speaking for many colleagues who earned their living by performing in flamenco clubs. They don't know how to do anything else. People think that if someone has flamenco in their blood, all it takes is for them to move about a bit on stage. Well, no. Behind flamenco there is studying, dedication and a profession for life. When something like this happens you realise that the best thing you can do is take a course to become an electrician. It's very sad and it's happening because we live in Spain and here only two types of culture matter: football, and what your neighbours are up to.

–**At least the pandemic has brought you more work outside Spain.**

–I am giving online courses all over the world. I offered them to lots of places in this country and they just ignored me, so I took the idea abroad. I'm living on what I make from that, and my savings. Thank God I am organised about money and am not extravagant. I'm about to work in Malaga now and it looks as if things are getting better. But I have spent nearly two years with no work, proposing different things in Spain. But if you go on TV and don't talk about your personal tragedy, nobody's interested. If you're on a programme and you don't act like a clown they're not interested, either. That's how it is, and I'm a bit disillusioned at the way they treat you.

–**Is that what some programmes have asked you to do?**

–No, it's an example. It's not easy to keep a profession for so many years. It's not a passing phase, it has been 25 years. There comes a time when you say "I'd do whatever it takes for my profession," but for me it is throwing away all the sacrifices I have made if tomorrow I sell myself for something which isn't what I have worked for. An example: I started to be asked for autographs after I was in *People* magazine as one of the 50 best-looking men. As if I had spent my whole life looking after myself to be a model. I like people to call me because of my work. I'm 38 and I've spent 30 years in a dance studio and the theatre. That's my life.

A passion for history inspires new book about Fuengirola's past

Published by British expat Patrick Meehan, Fuengirola Revisited offers an insight into the town's rich historical tapestry

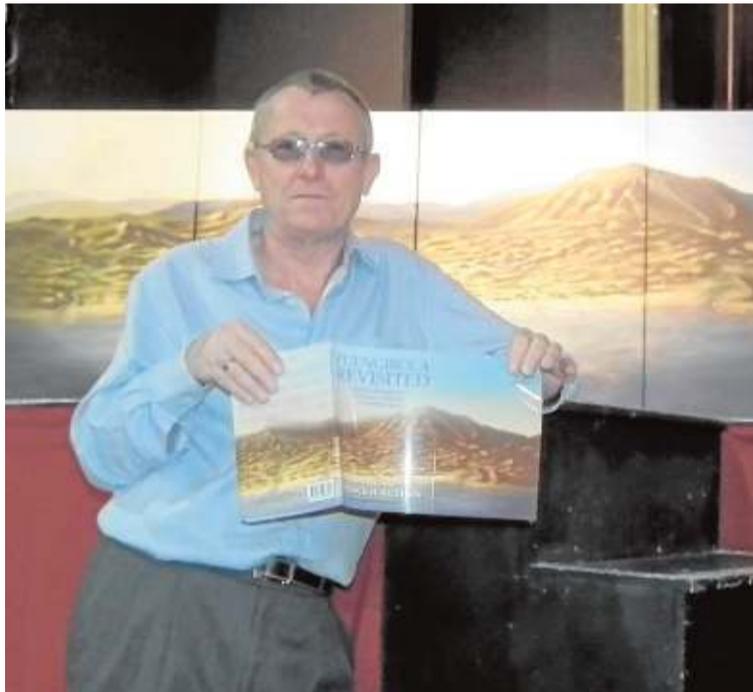
TONY BRYANT



FUENGIROLA. A British expat with an ardent passion for history has published an English-language book about the history of Fuengirola, the town where he has lived for the past 20 years. The book, which was presented at the Salón Varietés Theatre last Saturday, is called Fuengirola Revisited, and it reveals how the events of the past 3,000 years have contributed to the town's rich historical tapestry.

The author, Patrick Meehan, who was born in Herne Bay in 1958, has a degree in Sociology and Social Anthropology, which he acquired while studying at the University of Kent.

His love of local history inspired his new book, which began to bear fruit after an incident that happened in 2017. Patrick's daughter and her husband were due to visit that Christmas.



Patrick with a copy of his new book at last Saturday's presentation. T. B.

Patrick's son-in-law also shares a love of history, so Patrick had assembled a collection of information to give him a sense of the importance of the location. However, due to problems at Bristol Airport, their flight was cancelled.

"Everything I had planned was suddenly cancelled and the question arose of what was I going to do with all that research I had prepared. Had that plane landed safely, this book may never have materialised," Pat-

rick explains, smiling as he recalls the incident.

The book takes the reader on a journey through time. It includes informative chapters on the influence of the Romans, Vandals, Visigoths and the Moors, as well as concentrating on important events like the Battle of Fuengirola, the installation of the railway line and the advent of tourism. The cover of the book was painted by British artist Teresa Henry, who attended the presentation.

The text is complemented by a collection of 50 photographs and a copy of a 1970s map created by British artist John Drummond, who lived in the town for 50 years.

However, Patrick did not at first realise the scale of the project he had undertaken.

"I didn't realise there would be this much work involved. I thought I would complete it in six months, but it actually took almost three years," Patrick says.

The book was published by Costa Women, a group founded by Patrick's wife Ali, who said she was "extremely proud" of her husband. Both Patrick and Ali expressed their gratitude for the amount of help they had received from the expat community, and the town hall, who supported Patrick "wholeheartedly".

Deputy mayor Rodrigo Romero Morales, who is also councillor for Foreign Residents, expressed his gratitude at the presentation.

"This is the first time a British citizen has written a book about Fuengirola. The Spanish are not normally very proud of their history. We don't normally look back. The expat community have always shown an interest in our history, so, in the name of the town hall, I would like to say thank you to Patrick for helping us understand ourselves," Romero Morales said.

Lions club recognises dedication of long-serving members

T. BRYANT

MIJAS. La Cala de Mijas Lions Club recognised the hard work of two of its long-serving members during a special presentation in Mijas last week. Membership secretary Rosemary Brabrook, who has been a Lion for 16 years, was presented with the coveted Gold Pin award for her dedication for encouraging membership to the club.

The second award went to Anne Bowles, who, among her many tasks, runs the Diabetics Support Group. Anne was given the Chevron Award, which is presented to members who have given ten years of service to the association.

Both awards were presented by President Graham Rutland, who described Rosemary and Anne as "great assets to the club", adding, "We wish them both many more happy years with the Lions."



G. Rutland and R. Brabrook. SUR

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TELLING TALES

PETER EDGERTON

Betty's bloomers

Mary had had to keep the name; it was part of the deal on the rental. Well, it's never a good idea to lose the good will of the landlord and half the townsfolk when you're taking over a business, is it? So, Betty's Bloomers it was, then. The original flower shop had been

called that by its founders in the nineteen sixties; now, three generations on, young Stephen Carberry had decided to sell up.

Following a first week of frenetic activity powered principally by local curiosity, by the following Monday, trade had all but dried up for Mary, the only

customer all day being a man in his eighties who bought a single rose and a bunch of mixed flowers, having first spent half an hour or so walking around the shop, stopping to smell individual blooms and to stare admiringly at the rich banks of colour that adorned the walls. For the next three or

four months, the same man followed exactly the same routine. In he would come first thing each Monday, always impeccably dressed and unfailingly polite and always taking quite some time to look around.

"I'll take this rose, please... oh, and a few chry-

santhemums wouldn't go amiss. Oh Lord, no, they certainly wouldn't." He chuckled to himself.

"That's twelve forty, please," said Mary.

"There's fifteen. Keep the change. Oh Lord, yes, do keep the change."

By autumn business was booming. In fact, Monday was the only day of the week Mary made no profit but it didn't matter, she had come to look forward to the old man's dawn raids. As she pulled up the shutter, she heard his familiar burr.

"A very good morning to you, Mary."

"Good morning, David." She even knew his name by now.

As usual, David spent a good thirty minutes looking around, smiling to himself before eventually choosing a single rose and a cluster of rhododendrons that had caught his eye.

"David?" Mary surprised even herself with the curiosity in her tone.

"Yes, my dear?" "Do you mind me asking..? I mean the roses and the flowers.. well, who..?"

"Oh yes, yes, of course. Well, they're for my dearest Elizabeth. My Lord, yes, my dearest Elizabeth. I do miss her so, but we like to keep her headstone clean and brighten the place with a few flowers each week, you know. I'm heading down there now. Oh, Lord, yes, I am. Good day to you, Mary." His words trailed behind him as he doffed his hat and closed the shop door with a deft flick of the wrist.

Shortly afterwards, young Stephen Carberry burst in.

"Sorry, can't stop, Mary. Just to let you know, there'll be no rent this month. Family orders. It's my grandparents' anniversary and, well, it's just a small gesture, for you being such a formal tenant and keeping the shop name and everything. That meant a lot to us."

"Gosh, that's very kind of them, Stephen, thank you. You know, I don't think I've ever even met your grandparents."

"Well, my grandmother Elizabeth you certainly haven't. She died fifteen years ago but she's the one you can blame for inspiring the name Betty's Bloomers. Granddad David's still sprightly, though. I'll ask him to call in one of these days and say hello."

- 30 APRIL - 16 MAY -

MODA con gusto

NOW IS THE TIME FOR MALAGA FASHION

An initiative by Málaga de Moda and SUR to promote local fashion designers.

An exhibition of designs in several restaurants around Malaga. More information at www.modacongusto.es

SPONSORED BY

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SUR mueve

Local fashion labels showcase designs in 26 restaurants

Fashion and gastronomy join forces in Malaga until 16 May to boost these two sectors seriously affected by the pandemic

CRISTINA PINTO

MALAGA. Twenty-six restaurants in Malaga province are currently showcasing the work of a selection of local fashion designers. The Moda con Gusto initiative, which continues until 16 May, has been organised by SUR and sponsored by the provincial authority - Diputación - and the fashion brand Málaga de Moda.

Juan Carlos Maldonado, vice-president of the provincial government, described the project as a "necessary activity".

"In this way we will achieve the perfect communion between fashion and gastronomy," he said at the launch at the end of last week.

Antonio González, the director general of SUR publishers Prensa Malagueña, presented the campaign at one of the 26 restaurants taking part in the initiative, the Michelin-starred José Carlos García in Muelle Uno.

At one of the tables a mannequin displayed a wedding dress from the latest collection by local designer Rafael Urquizar, which was supposed to come out in March 2020 but was delayed due to the pandemic.

"The fashion industry has come to a standstill," said Ur-

quizar. "The only hope we have is that people don't forget about us, which is why we give our thanks to initiatives such as this one that support fashion."

A design by one of 26 local labels will be on display at each of

the participating restaurants until 16 May. As well as Urquizar, the designers include Rocío Bellido, Jesús Segado, Ángel Palazuelos, Lucy Clip, Pilar Arregui, Kai and Koa, Astrid Hohle Moda Flamenca and Teresa Ninú, among others.



The launch was hosted at the restaurant of Juan Carlos García. **ÑITO SALAS**



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RESTAURANTS

Establishment	Location
Asador Don Joaquín	Pizarra
Bienmesabe Santa María	Antequera
Hotel Cortijo Chico	Al. Torre
Cantina Niña Bonita	Malaga
Lo Güeno	Malaga
Matiz Molina Lario	Malaga
Mentidero	Malaga
Restaurante Bendito	Malaga
Casa Amigos	Malaga
Verum	Malaga
Cayetana	Malaga
Araboka	Malaga
Caserío de San Benito	Malaga
Rest. José Carlos García	Malaga
Lígula	Malaga
Aire Gastrobar	Malaga
Asador Iñaki	Malaga
Guitiérrez Puerto	Malaga
La Sole del Pimpi	Malaga
Rest. Casa Eladio	Marbella
Santiago	Marbella
Florida Beach	Mijas
Casa Navarra	Mijas
Mesón Carmen La de Ronda	Ronda
Taberna Quinto Tramo	Ronda
Asador El Puerto	Vélez

DENISE BUSH



GARDENING

Euonymus alatus

Winged spindle, winged euonymus and burning bush are all common names for *Euonymus alatus*, a large spreading shrub valued for its amazing autumn colour.

Native to central and northern China, Japan and Korea, this deciduous plant is a member of the Celastraceae family, the majority of which are tropi-

cal, however *Euonymus alatus* is frost resistant.

During late spring and early summer the shrub is smothered by small greenish flowers which don't make much of an impact, even against the dark green, glossy leaves. The flowers are followed by pinkish-red fruits which split into four lobes revealing the

bright orange seeds inside and this is when *Euonymus alatus* starts to become interesting.

With the arrival of the colder weather the leaves start to change colour and become bright red, making the whole plant look as if it is on fire. It is one of the best shrubs for autumn colour but it is not drought tolerant and will need some shade from the hot sun during summer afternoons.

The root system is fibrous and fairly shallow so mulching around the base will help to retain moisture. It is not fussy about soil type except that it needs to be free-draining, and is an ideal, single-trunked specimen shrub for a mixed border, patio garden or it can be grown with multiple trunks for a hedge.

Euonymus alatus usually reaches a height of about 2.5 metres with a spread of three metres and dense rounded crown but in the perfect location and climate, it can reach up to six metres. A smaller cultivar 'Compactus' is available.

The young stems of *Euonymus alatus* have four ridges or wings (alata is from the Latin for wings) made by a cork cambium layer. This cork is used in traditional Chinese and Korean medicines to treat cancer, hyperglycemia and diabetes. The wings diminish as the branches age and the bark becomes deeply grooved.

Although toxic to cats, dogs and humans, the berries provide a source of food for birds during the winter months.



Euonymus alatus and close up of fruits. WIKIMEDIA / PIXABAY

READERS' PHOTOS



TANJA FOLKERTS

Wisteria floribunda

The wisterias seem to have bloomed exceptionally well this year and many readers sent in photos of the purple flowered cultivars, however this white one appears to be *Wisteria floribunda*, which has elongated clusters of flowers. Photo taken by Tanja Folkerts.



JO AND JOHN MABEY

Patio Petunias

Jo and John Mabey sent in this photo of their back terrace with its pretty planters filled with Petunias, Alyssum, Campanulas, Impatiens and Pelargoniums among others.

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](https://www.facebook.com/surenglish)) or Twitter (@SUR_English).

Join our walk at home and help us to give end-of-life care



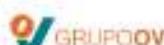
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Members of the Aloha Interact group from Aloha College who entertained the children. **DAVID ANDREWS**



Members of Rotary Club Marbella with Gemma and Paul Carr. **D. A.**

Spring fair raises 3,000 euros for Collective Calling

Live music and children's activities entertained supporters at the event in aid of the charity that works with people in need in Spain and Tanzania

SUR IN ENGLISH

ESTEPONA. After two cancelled dates due to bad weather it was third time lucky last Saturday

for the Collective Calling Spring Fair held at Tikitano by Besaya in Estepona.

Guests browsed a variety of stalls set up in the restaurant's gardens, as well as enjoying lunch and supporting a raffle which helped raise a total of 3,020 euros for the organisation.

Children's activities were laid on by the Aloha Interact group from Aloha College, while live music came from Simone Kennedy

and Soulicious.

Collective Calling founders, Gemma and Paul Carr, were on hand to provide information about the charity, which works with vulnerable children through projects in Tanzania and here in Spain.

Set up in 2017, the charity has worked with refugees in Greece, Serbia and Turkey and has set up a 'Centre of Hope', in Tanzania, to act as a transitional rescue cen-



Alistair and Susan Spence Clarke. **D. A.**



Paul and Gemma Carr with Veronika and Martin Tye (Mariposa Energía). **D. A.**

tre for street children in Kasula.

During the pandemic Gemma and Paul have been helping local families with emergency food parcels and help them to "get back on their feet". In the province of Malaga, more than 1,200 families have been supported with food

and hygiene assistance so far and the charity continues to reach out to 140 families every month.

The spring fair was sponsored by the Rotary Club Marbella, Mariposa Energía, Spence Clarke Accountants, Helicopteros Sanitarios and IbeX Insurance.

WHAT HAPPENED TODAY?

7 MAY 1487

Ferdinand II and Isabella lay siege to Malaga

The Catholic monarchs captured the wealthy Moorish city after four months of siege warfare and showed no mercy to its inhabitants

LAURENCE CRUMBIE

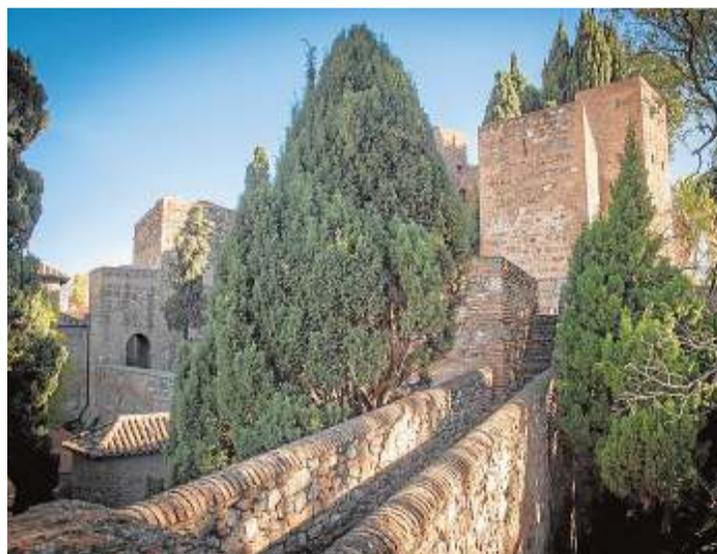
With Cordoba already under their command, King Ferdinand II of Aragon and Queen Isabella of Castille turned their attention in 1487 to Malaga, the second largest city in the Emirate of Granada. Málaga, as it was known then, was a prosperous Moorish city thanks primarily to its port, making it a key target during the Reconquista.

Ferdinand set out from Cordoba with 20,000 cavalry, 50,000 labourers and 8,000 auxiliary troops and, on 17 April 1487, arrived in Vélez-Málaga,

which capitulated ten days later. Other settlements en route to Malaga also flew the white flag, but Hamet el Zegrí, the city commander, rejected all of Ferdinand's attempts to negotiate a peaceful surrender, confident that Malaga's imposing fortifications, which included the grand Alcazaba and the impregnable Gibralfaro fortress, would keep the enemy at bay.

The siege commenced on 7 May 1487. Ferdinand had initially planned to starve out the city, but patience, it seems, was not one of the king's virtues. Fed up with the various delays, he began building siege towers and digging mines beneath the walls, hoping to breach the city from above and below.

It was a tactic doomed to backfire. Bolstered by their corps of African mercenaries, the Moors launched an effective counterattack, driving out the Catholic forces and deploying armed vessels against their



The Alcazaba surrendered five days after the enemy entered Malaga. **SUR**

fleet. Eventually, though, the attackers took an outlying tower attached to the city by a bridge, enabling them to penetrate its defences. They entered to find shocking scenes - people eating the flesh of horses, cats, dogs and even boiled animal hide,

their food supplies having long dried up. Within a week, all of Malaga had surrendered.

Ferdinand and Isabella rode in victorious on 18 August 1487, but after four draining months and numerous refusals to negotiate, the conquerors were not

feeling merciful. Except for a group of 25 families that were permitted to stay as Mudéjars, the entire population of Malaga - some 11,000 to 15,000 inhabitants - was either enslaved or executed. In five years, Granada would fall as well, ending over seven centuries of Muslim rule in the region.

LANGUAGE FOOTNOTE

Asedio	Siege
Próspero	Prosperous
Caballería	Cavalry
Bandera	Flag
Intento	Attempt
Negociar	Negotiate
Imponente	Imposing
Virtud	Virtue
Demora	Delay
Táctica	Tactic
Eficaz	Effective
Flota	Fleet
Estremecedor	Shocking
Provisiones	Supplies
Rendirse	Surrender
Rechazo	Refusal
Misericordioso	Merciful
Esclavizar	Enslave
Ejecutar	Execute

Bilingual crossword inside back page

SOUL MARBELLA | AEDAS HOMES



Soul Marbella. AEDAS Homes

QUALITY AND BEST LOCATION. The project exploits the ever-present Mediterranean light which floods into every room through the glass doors and windows, forming an integral part of your new home

Soul Marbella, designer apartments and villas in Marbella

MARBELLA

SUR. A true paradise waiting to be explored, Marbella's East Side district is the ideal spot for those seeking the city's authentic Mediterranean essence. A great location to enjoy a relaxed, healthy lifestyle with the best beaches nearby, and all within easy reach of the main towns on the Costa del Sol.

One of AEDAS Homes' most important and its latest development, Soul Marbella, has seen the kick-off of the first phase of this incredible complex revealing everything Soul Marbella has lined up for you. Conceived as a global project in which every line and angle has been carefully designed to achieve a perfectly balanced follow through; the stunning plant life in the gardens, together with the water in the pools and the rock-clad walls, provide a natural touch that helps the whole complex blend into its surroundings.

The project exploits the ever-present Mediterranean light which floods into every room through the glass doors and windows, forming an integral part of your new home.

Surrounded by Santa Clara Golf Course, this incredible 18-hole, par 71 course was designed by



Enrique Canales Busquets. It is undoubtedly one of the best golf courses on the Costa del Sol and has been created specifically to respect the natural environment, the wildlife and the vegetation.

Soul Marbella Sunset offers an unbeatable opportunity to buy a new build

Forming part of Soul Marbella, Soul Marbella Sunset is an exclusive residential development comprising 3- and 4-bedroom homes: 28 multi-family homes, 14 single-family houses (12 semi-detached and 2 detached) making a total of 42 units in all.

The complex will include 5 swimming pools, including a 3-m deep infinity pool that will be west facing and located next to the recreation area, a second feature pool, together with 3 other pools sited in different areas of the project



The complex will include 5 swimming pools, including a 3-m deep infinity pool that will be west facing and located next to the recreation area, a second feature pool, together with 3 other

pools sited in different areas of the project. Furthermore, it also comes with a fully equipped gymnasium, spa, coffee shop/clubhouse, concierge services, co-working facilities and landscaped

garden areas.

Soul Marbella community amenities, a resort lifestyle

Soul Marbella is more than just a residential project and new homes for sale in Marbella. Our goal is to provide additional services to meet all your essential needs on site, so you don't have to leave the complex.

AEDAS Homes has included a spa area where you can bathe in the relaxing thermal waters. If you want to stay active and keep fit, you'll find the gym located opposite one of the main pools. Likewise, it also offers a business centre providing a suitable professional environment, which can be reserved for private use by residents and is conceived as an open space to meet all your professional requirements.

Book a live tour of Soul Marbella

We bring our homes to your screen. You can now connect live with Soul Marbella directly from your mobile or computer. A professional real estate adviser will show you the location, the amenities and the units. And you will be able to ask any ques-



◀ **Malevich.** Red Cavalry Riding (c. 1932). **ÑITO SALAS**

▼ **War.** Detail of one of the pieces in the earlier rooms of the exhibition. **ÑITO SALAS**



Siberian Partisans (1927) by Yuri Khrzhanovsky. **Ñ. s.**



◀ **Victims.** A display of war wounds. **ÑITO SALAS**

▶ **Filonov.** The fascinating Russian artist returns to Malaga. **ÑITO SALAS**



Russian Museum exposes the horror of war in imposing new annual exhibition

War and Peace in Russian Art features more than 180 works by artists including Filonov and Malevich

ANTONIO JAVIER LÓPEZ

MALAGA. In the midst of uncertainty created by a global pandemic that has been particularly hard on culture, the Russian Museum in Malaga has opened one

of its most ambitious annual exhibitions yet, accompanied by two new temporary shows.

War and Peace in Russian Art is made up of 180 works that together present a vibrant journey through the history of Russia guided by the horror of war.

The collection ranges from wooden 16th-century icons to 20th-century avant-garde pieces, focusing on the consequences of wartime horrors. It puts generals alongside wretched paupers, great battles and conquests

alongside famine and the wounded, the common thread being the title of the famous novel by Leo Tolstoy, who has his own specific show alongside.

The exhibition's curator Pavel Klimov, explained that the new exhibition is not just about Tolstoy's novel:

"The war and peace of the novel coincide over time like two aspects of a life full of sharp, often unbearable contrasts, where the distance between happiness and sadness, life and death, is sometimes insignificant. The reality of the Napoleonic wars, as described by Tolstoy, could be extended, with some reservations, to the entire history of Russia, which has known few times of peace. And art is a mirror of this history, through which the bitter memory of those who died lives on, and the sound of the drums of war can be heard," he said.

The works in the exhibition, which has been put together in collaboration with Fundación La Caixa, are displayed mainly in chronological order. This starts with a selection of icons, which share space with outstanding

paintings such as Viktor Vasnetsov's Battle between the Scythians and the Slavs (1881).

Ivan the Terrible and the so-called Time of Troubles (1598-1613) give way to the wars against the French troops led by Napoleon. A stopping point in this section is Council of War in Fili in 1812 by Aleksey Kivshenko, which shows the moment just after the Battle of Borodino in which Field Marshal Mikhail Kutuzov takes the decision to abandon Moscow to withdraw troops and, later, win the war.

The most imposing room of the exhibition contains Pavel Filonov's fascinating canvas The German War (1914-1915).

Kazimir Malevich also makes a welcome return to the Russian Museum with Red Cavalry Riding (c. 1932), which has been deservedly given pride of place on the presidential wall of this exhibition.

The room devoted to the Leningrad siege brings more horror, with scenes by Andrei Mylnikov. He depicted streets full of death and desolation, disturbed faces: horror around every corner.

NEW EXHIBITIONS

War and Peace in Russian Art

Content: A selection of more than 180 works running through the history of Russia through its conflicts.

Dates: Until 24 April 2022.

Large format: Nearly half of the works, especially on canvas, are large format.

Ivan Aivazovsky and marine painters in Russia

Show: A collection of 39 works, mainly seascapes.

Date: Until 12 October 2021.

Leo Tolstoy. The Journey of Life

Content: Small format works focusing on the writer's life.

More information

Where: Colección del Museo Ruso. Tabacalera. Av. de Sor Teresa Prat, 15, 29003 Malaga.

Opening times: 9.30am to 8pm. Closed Mondays.

The Russian Museum also unveiled two temporary shows last Friday. The first is a collection of 39 seascapes by Ivan Aivazovsky (1817-1900), introduced as Russia's great marine artist. The second is the aforementioned exhibit devoted to Leo Tolstoy himself, and includes portraits and pencil sketches of the writer.



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'Piano Man' brings the music of the Rocket Man to Mijas

MIJAS

The Elton John Experience is a tribute to one of the most influential artists in musical history

TONY BRYANT

A unique tribute show presenting the music of one of the most revolutionary and influential artists in the history of music will be held at the Las Lagunas theatre in La Cala de Mijas on Friday 14 May.

The Elton John Experience is a journey through the professional career of Reginald Dwight, the English singer, pianist and composer who shot to fame in the early 1970s with hits like Your Song, Rocket Man, Candle in the Wind and Honky Cat. The show is performed by Paul Maxwell - a pianist who has acquired the pseudonym of the Piano Man - and his backing band, who reproduce Sir Elton's character-



Paul Maxwell has acquired the pseudonym of the Piano Man. SUR

istic gospel-chorded rock songs and poignant ballads.

Paul Maxwell, who has been entertaining audiences on the coast for more than 30 years, has shared stages with celebrated stars like Michael Bolton, Lionel Richie, Simply Red and George Benson. His tribute show has received rave reviews and it promises to be a night of nostalgia for fans of an artist who has sold more than 300

million records in his 50-year career.

Tickets for the show cost 20 euros in advance and 25 euros on the door. Organised by Ocio Music and the Festival of Legends, the show, which will adhere to all coronavirus protocols, will begin at 7pm.

For information about reservations, see the Ocio Music Facebook page, or phone 633647260.

EXHIBITIONS

Cristina Harillo

ESTEPONA. Until 13 May. Casa de Las Tejerinas, Plaza de las Flores. The exhibition Mis Paraísos consists of fifteen, large format works by artist Cristina Harillo and can be visited from Tuesday to Saturday, 9am to 6pm.

Imon Boy

MARBELLA. Until 16 May. Galería Yusto/Giner. Cute But Cop is Imon Boy's first solo exhibition at the gallery. Born in 1992 Imon Boy has spent years in the world of graffiti, alternating between street art and other studio projects. He uses graffiti, videogames, internet, cinema, music, and travel to create stories. His works are full of bright and colourful detail. Viewing is by previous appointment only. galeria@yusto-giner.com / 951507053

Gallery Art Club

FUENGIROLA. Until 18 May. Calle Quemada.

The new exhibition consists of a collection of paintings by Elena Shcherbakova, Larissa Golubeva, Michele Uzac, Elizabeth Williams, Magga Nancy, Daniel Huss and Lars Hedin.

Así Somos

TORREMOLINOS. Until 16 May. Casa de Los Navajas.

An exhibition of around fifty photographs of people who live in Torremolinos. They were all taken by pho-

tographer Miguel Ángel Linares.

Centro de Arte Contemporáneo

MALAGA. CAC Málaga. C/Alemania.

Jules de Balincourt. Until 30 May. After The Gold Rush is a series of 40 paintings by artist Jules de Balincourt.

Nalini Malani. Until 30 May. Can You Hear Me? is the title of this exhibition by Indian artist Nalini Malani. It consists of an hour long video of her works which are influenced by feminism around the world.

Botanical Garden exhibition

MALAGA. Until 29 May. Jardín Botánico Histórico, La Concepción. The vibrant paintings of Belgian artist Jean-Rémi D'Aubonne and French artist Martine Muller-Million are on display at the Botanical Gardens La Concepción.



Botanical Gardens, Malaga.



MIQUEL BARCELÓ METAMORFOSIS

museo **PICASSO** Málaga



Miquel Barceló en su taller de cerámica, Villavieja de Borsari, Málaga, octubre 2019. © Foto: Francisco Nalón. 2019. © Miquel Barceló. YUSTO GINER. MALAGA. 2020.

LIVE CONCERTS AND MUSIC

OFM Chamber Music concerts

MALAGA. Auditorio del Museo Picasso de Málaga.

11 May, 8pm. Cuarteto con Fuoco and Tilman Mahrenholz.

Tickets: www.museopicasso-malaga.org

Malaga Philharmonic Orchestra

MALAGA. Various venues.

7 May, 7pm. Schuman's Overture to Genoveva, Brahms Concerto for violin and orchestra in D major followed by

Brahms Second Symphony in D major. Teatro Cervantes.

9 May, 12pm. The Orfeón Universitario de Málaga will be playing a wide selection of music in the Museo de Málaga.

Tickets: www.entradas.mientrada.net

La Cochera Cabaret

MALAGA. Avda de los Guindos.

7 May, 8pm. Mr Kilombo. Madrid musician Miki Ramirez.

8 May, 8pm, 9 May 4pm. Rupatrupa.

9 May, 12.30pm. Melifluo. Duo formed by the Baeza brothers,

Juanca and Gómez

Tickets: <https://lacocheraentradas.com/>

Quimirock

MIJAS. 9 May, 12pm. Teatro Las Lagunas, Camino del Albero.

A musical and theatrical show for children over the age of three. Tickets: <https://lacocheraentradas.com/>

Fíguro

ONLINE. 8 May, 7pm. Via Zoom. 10€

Three operas, three composers and one protagonist: the immortal Fíguro.



Call: 654013232. Reservations: reservas@musicaconencanto.org / 654013232 / www.musicaconencanto.org

FLAMENCO

Ábrego

MALAGA. 8 May, 12pm. La Cochera Cabaret, Avda de los Guindos.

A flamenco concert formed by the quartet made up of flautist Javi León, saxophonist Juan Diego Sáez, guitarist Alberto Torres and drummer Chico Carmona.

The Hall

MALAGA. 7 May, 8pm. Calle Héroe de Sostoa, 65. 10€.

Flamenco and jazz jam session with special guest Juan José Suarez (Paquete). Reservations: 679441801

TALKS / LECTURES

The Arts Society

NERJA. Lectures online.

The Arts Society Nerja season of lectures comes to an end with this online talk via Zoom. Free for members and 10€ for supporters. www.theartssocietynerja.com

11 May, 6pm. Political Intrigue, Sex and Murder at the Court of the Cordoba Caliphate. Lecturer Ian Cockburn.

25 May. Arts quiz via Zoom.

The Arts Society UK has started up their Lectures at Home again. Check their website. <https://theartssociety.org/lectures-at-home>

CHARITY

Fashion show for ACE charity

LA CALA DE MIJAS. 12 May, 7pm. The Times Sports Bar & Grill, C/Cár-tama. 10€.

The event features live entertainment by Paul Anthony, former lead singer with the Jersey Boys. The ticket price includes a selection of meals including vegetarian options. They are available from The Times Bar or call: 647647671. www.ace-charity.org/en

Charity concert

COÍN. 13 May, 7pm. The Olive Tree restaurant. 5€.

Amelinde (a member of the ABBA tribute band) will be in concert to raise funds for the bowel cancer charity. All the money raised on the door will go to the charity. Reservations: contact@theolivetreecoin.com

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Arts Society lecture, Nerja.

MORE IDEAS

Malaga Picasso Museum workshops

MALAGA. Museo Picasso Málaga, Calle San Agustín.

Intaglio engraving. 8 May 11am. Intaglio engraving is the most common engraving technique among artists. The technique demonstrated will be drypoint, Dürer, Rembrandt, Goya and Picasso exploited the multiple possibilities of this technique. The workshop for adults is 2.5 hrs and costs 30€ per person which includes entry and all materials.

Totems, Wood carving. 9 May 11am and 12.30pm. This workshop is aimed at families and is inspired by the giant sculptures in clay, pottery and bronze by Miguel Barceló. The cost is 8€ per person (children must be accompanied by an adult) which includes entry to the museum and all materials.

Botanical Garden Bee Workshop

MALAGA. 9, 23 May, 11.30am. Jardín Botánico Histórico, La Concepción. For World Bee Day, the Bee Garden company has organised two fun mornings to educate families about bees. Price is 7.50 euros per person (under 3 years free) for the two-hour tour and workshop. Reservations: 951926180 or 647585457.

O. V. FILMS

SUR in English advises calling cinemas to check for any last-minute



Workshop, Museo Picasso Málaga.

time changes. Lunchtime and late night screenings weekends only.

Yelmo Cines, Plaza Mayor

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

www.yelmocines.es.

Four Days: 18.15 (Tues).

Those Who Wish Me Dead: 20.25 (Tues).

Chaos Walking: 19.45 (Tues).

Lord of The Rings The Two Towers: 13.00 (Sun); 17.30 (every day).

Nomadland: 19.40 (Tues).

Great White: 18.10 (Tues).

Promising Young Woman: 20.05 (Tues).

La Traviata from the MET: 18.30 (Fri).

Yelmo Cines, Rincón

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

Promising Young Woman: 20.00 (Tues).

Nomadland: 20.10 (Tues).

Those Who Wish Me Dead: 20.30 (Tues).

Lord of The Rings The Two Towers: 19.00 (Tues).

Yelmo Cines, Vialia

MALAGA. Centro Comercial Vialia. Tel: 902220922

Promising Young Woman: 19.55 (Tues).

Those Who Wish Me Dead: 17.40 (Tues).

Nomadland: 19.20 (Tues).

The Father: 17.55 (Tues).

Lord of The Rings The Two Towers: 19.05 (Tues).

Great White: 18.05 (Tues).

La Traviata from the MET: 18.30 (Fri).

Cinesur Miramar

FUENGIROLA. Avda de la Encarnación. Tel: 952198600.

Chaos Walking: 20.00 (every day).

Nobody: 18.00 (every day).

Minamata: 17.00 (every day).

Cine Albéniz

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

Nomadland: 12.15 (Sat, Sun); 19.45 (every day).

Opening Night (1977): 11.30 (Sat).

Donovan's Reef (1963): 12.00 (Sun).



The Blues Stompers Jump Review will perform in Fuengirola. [sur](http://sur.es)

Home-grown country from the Blues Stompers

TONY BRYANT

Lovers of traditional country, Delta and Chicago blues will enjoy a concert by The Blues Stompers Jump Review, the coast's most celebrated blues outfit. The gig, which is free, will take place at the Bonnet Bar in Fuengirola port on Sunday 23 May.

Formed in 2014, the Blues Stompers' repertoire includes a selection of home-grown blues and boogie, although performed in their own distinctive style. The band is fronted by Víctor 'Elmore'

Sánchez, a celebrated name on the Spanish blues scene. He will be accompanied by some of the best blues musicians on the coast.

The band has gained a lot of respect on the European blues circuit, and also on the local blues scene in Malaga. The concert starts at 5.30pm and capacity is restricted due to Covid-19 protocols. Reservations can be made on the Bonnet Bar's Facebook page.

Those making a reservation are asked to arrive 15 minutes before the performance begins.

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The problem of sleeping with your mouth open

Medical issues. Pharyngitis, sleep apnea, even tooth decay and bad breath... snoring is by no means the only consequence

ELENA MARTÍN



Our mouths were not designed for breathing, although they do help at times. In fact, nasal respiration is the natural form of breathing for several reasons: hair and mucus in the nose act as a filter and hold back the dust particles so they don't enter the body, which prevents infections; and the turbinates (bony structures) help to regulate humidity and air temperature, conditioning it before it goes into the lungs - extremely cold air can be harmful and cause dryness.

"When we breathe through the mouth, none of these processes are done properly and it is common to wake up with a dry mouth, acid reflux, dried mucus, saliva in the corners of the mouth, cracked lips, blocked nasal passages or a rasping and hoarse voice," said Javier Puer-

tas, vice-president of the Spanish Sleep Association (Sociedad Española de Sueño - SES).

There are various reasons for breathing through the mouth rather than the nose while sleeping. These begin with something as simple as poor nasal respiration, which can be caused by deviated nasal septum (when the thin wall between the nostrils is off-centre), polyps, excessive mucosity through poor hygiene, allergic rhinitis (including hay fever) or infection of the upper passages of the nose (a cold).

Childhood

In children, another very common cause is adenoidal hypertrophy (an increase in the size of the adenoids, also called vegetations), a pathology which reduces the nasal space through which the air passes, making

someone open their mouth to breathe.

This problem can lead to alterations in craneo-facial growth, such as ogival (narrow) palate or dental malocclusion (incorrect alignment of the teeth). These children often suffer from persistent nasal obstruction and snoring, have a nasal-sounding voice and rhinorrhoea (runny nose), dryness in the mouth and cracked lips.

The main advice from experts when oral respiration is detected is to see an ear, nose and throat specialist to determine the reason for sleeping with our mouth open and suggest a treatment.

For example, this could be nasal washes with saline solution if the problem is due to excessive mucosity; it could also be surgery, if the problem is polyps or tonsillar hypertrophy; or orthodontics, for an ogival palate or dental malocclusion.

Sleep on your side

"Sleeping with your mouth open isn't especially serious, but it can have some negative consequences because it facilitates chronic pharyngitis, problems with the voice, snoring and sleep apnea (respiratory pauses while sleeping)," said Javier Puertas. The last two of these are common when someone is overweight.

"When you sleep with your mouth open, the jaw slides backwards and the tongue moves towards the pharynx, narrowing the opening of the throat and obstructing the passage of air, and this causes snoring and sleep apnea. If there is also a lot of fat in the neck, which is often the case in middle-aged men who are overweight, this contributes to narrowing the throat even more," he said.

Poor nasal hygiene, allergies, infections or an off-centre wall between the nostrils are just some of the causes of sleeping with your mouth open"

You can place several pillows behind your back so you can't turn over when you are sleeping on your side

Rinsing, step by step

To do a nasal rinse, you need a rubber bulb syringe or a neti pot. "Some people use a normal syringe, but that is less recommended because it only hydrates and cleans part of the area and not the whole cavity," said Puertas.

You can buy a saline solution from a chemist or prepare a home-made version with 240 mls of filtered water (or water which has been boiled and left to cool), half a teaspoon of iodine-free salt and half a teaspoon of bicarbonate of soda.

To apply it, breathe the liquid up through the nostrils and expel it through the mouth. "That is the only way to ensure that the solution passes through the whole nasal area," said Puertas.

"It isn't always easy to do, but you get used to it with practice."

Sprays are available to make it easier for children.

Afterwards, blow your nose lightly to clear the remaining water and mucus.

Research published in the Journal of Oral Rehabilitation in 2015 also showed that people who breathe through their mouths are more likely to suffer tooth decay, because sleeping with the mouth open dries out the oral cavity and reduces the pH value.

It also makes it easier for germs to enter the mouth, and these can colonise the gums, causing problems such as halitosis (bad breath).

Although it is true that sleeping on your back is the ideal position, "to balance the weight of the body and keep internal organs aligned", as the European Sleep Institute says, it is the least recommended for people who breathe through their mouths. But how can we avoid it, if we are asleep?

A disturbance

If someone is sleeping next to us, the easiest thing is for them to warn us or give us a bit of a push so make us turn onto our side.

However, this is not always the case and nor is it the best option, because it means someone else is being disturbed.

We can therefore opt for homemade alternatives to encourage us to sleep on our side, such as putting several pillows behind our back to make it difficult for us to change position.

In Puertas' opinion, good nasal hygiene is also helpful, even if we don't think that our nose is blocked, because it helps to clear pollen, dust and other residue that has collected in the nasal passages during the day. Good hygiene also removes excess mucosity and moistens the area, so we can breathe more deeply and send oxygen to the entire body.



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Helicopters to the rescue

ANDREW J. LINN



A third of French wine production could be lost after the recent freak frosts. They also did massive damage to budding vines in many European wine-growing areas. Spain has mercifully been spared the worst, even though the north-east region has seen the lowest

spring temperatures for decades.

Newspapers were full of photographs of spectacular beauty – entire vineyards lit up by small fires dotted over hundreds of hectares – lit in the hope of warding off the killer frosts. Some Burgundy vineyards will have a zero

crop.

Italy's northern growing areas had their coldest nights since 2003, with temperatures at -3°C, although Prosecco seems to have escaped the worst. Growers in Switzerland, Belgium, and Austria, as well as Slovakia and the Czech Republic, also resorted to extreme measures that had entire families in the vineyards every night. The huge candles and other measures are all costly, but when a family is faced with financial ruin, the simple choice is spend or starve.

Others sprinkled water continuously on the vines so the

buds are protected when it freezes. Straw bales are lit not to provide heat, rather smoke that cocoons the vines.

Wind turbines can raise temperatures but are hugely expensive, as indeed are helicopters, fleets of which fly at low altitudes moving the freezing air upwards. The cost is 'only' about 250 euros per hectare, more economical than installing heaters.

Not only do winegrowers suffer from frost damage but the entire wine industry (coopers, companies producing and selling bottles, labels, laboratories, wine unions ...) all do.

WINE OF THE WEEK

5 Finques 2016

From cava producers Perelada, this red uses a blend of six grapes from vineyards bordering the sea in Ampurdán (Catalonia). It stands out for its amazing value, quite unrivalled at around 12 euros a bottle.



A unique black sausage that has stood the test of time

CANILLAS DE ACEITUNO

This handmade product is typical of Canillas de Aceituno and is made unique by the addition of onion and a variety of spices

JAVIER ALMELLONES

MALAGA. Roast kid and the amazing Saltillo suspension bridge are two of the great tourist attractions of Canillas de Aceituno, but not even these can surpass one of the star products of this village in the Axarquía, the canillera black 'morcilla' sausage.

Nobody remembers when this sausage, unique for its texture and flavour, was first made.

It takes two people, two days to make as it is all done by hand and no artificial ingredients are used.

Together with pig's blood and pork fat (called pringue), chopped onion is added which gives the black sausage a different flavour and with less fat than

other traditional sausages.

Adorín Marín and Adorín Hidalgo run a butcher's shop in the village which was founded 43 years ago and claim that the black sausage has been made by the family for more than seven decades.

Just a short distance away is another butcher's shop, managed by the third generation of a family that also continues the tradition of the canillera black sausage. The couple who manage the shop, Alejandro Martín and Patricia Moreno, inherited the business from Alejandro's grandparents.

Ancestral recipe

Each family add their own personal touch to the ancestral recipe for the sausage - the Adoríns add a little cinnamon for example. In both, the quantity of onion is of paramount importance and it usually makes up between a quarter and a half of the whole sausage.

In addition, a variety of spices are used including pepper, paprika, cumin and anise, which



This locally made blood sausage has a unique texture and flavour. JAVIER ALMELLONES

The sausage is made with pig's blood and pork fat, chopped onion and a variety of spices

are mixed with the blood, fat and onion before the sausage is cooked.

The canillera sausage can be eaten as it is with crusty bread, or it can be fried or grilled.

It is also added to traditional

stews such as the famous local potaje de hinojos (fennel stew) and some customers at the Adoríns' shop like to chop it finely and add it to a thick bechamel sauce to make it into croquettes.

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Malaga handballers with one hand on a European trophy after home win

Rincón Fertilidad came out on top in the home leg of the EHF Cup final which concludes this Saturday

32-28
RINCÓN FERTILIDAD
LOKOMOTIV ZAGREB

MARINA RIVAS

MALAGA. Malaga-based handball team Rincón Fertilidad have made a good start to their EHF Cup final, winning the first, home leg against Lokomotiv Zagreb 32-28 on Saturday evening.

Just under 400 spectators were in attendance and filled the hall in Ciudad Jardín with colour and life.

The hosts had a very clear game plan: build a solid defence, press high and start strong, using the speed of their forward players to great effect.

The plan worked from the get-go and Rincón Fertilidad quickly racked up a four-goal advantage (6-2), with Espe especially strong and with Estela Doiro dominating in the creation of play.

The goals kept coming and Rincón Fertilidad began to en-



Captain Sole López led her team by scoring three goals. SALVADOR SALAS

joy themselves, but Lokomotiv began to press to reduce the gap, mainly thanks to their powerful distance shooting and some occasional lapses in defence and goalkeeping.

Fortunately, the three penalty goals scored by Sara Bravo and strong focus on the field ensured a 14-11 half-time lead.

But it was not to be all plain sailing in the second half. Lokomotiv, led by international

Larissa Kalas (who scored 11) once again put up a fight and the hosts made several changes to try and disrupt any comeback. One was to bring even the shorter players back into defence in order to strike on the counterattack. With the extra solidity, the goals came back and in style, with a brilliant Sara Bravo, who propelled the team to their biggest lead (21-16) from the right wing.

Rincón Fertilidad's lead increased to seven with only six minutes to go, thanks to Arderius, but inaccuracies in the final moments mean that the side go into the second leg, to be played in Croatia this Saturday (8pm), with just a four-goal advantage.

This is the third final the side have played in this year and they fully intend to bring home the trophy on this occasion too.

Davidovich and Alcaraz knocked out as Madrid Open reaches climax

PEDRO LUIS ALONSO

MALAGA. Malaga-born tennis star Alejandro Davidovich made a good impression at the Mutua Madrid Open, a Masters 1000 event, this week, giving a scare to world number three Daniil Medvedev before eventually being eliminated in the round of 32 on Wednesday.

After a hard-fought victory in the first round against Pierre-Hugues Herbert on Tuesday (6-7, 7-6, 7-6) the following day the 21-year-old put any fatigue to one side, winning the first set. However, Medvedev went on to show why he is the tournament's second seed, winning in two hours and 13 minutes (4-6, 6-4, 6-2). As a result, an exhausted Davidovich pulled out of the doubles' competition where he was due to partner Fernando Verdasco later that day. He will instead focus his attention on upcoming tournaments in Geneva and Rome before the French Open.

Meanwhile, top seed Rafael Nadal made it into the quarter-finals on Thursday after a 6-3, 6-3 win over Alexei Popyrin. A day earlier, he beat compatriot Carlos Alcaraz 6-1, 6-2 on his wildcard opponent's eighteenth birthday. In the first round, Alcaraz had caught the eye by thrashing world number 34 Adrian Mannarino 6-4, 6-0.

IN BRIEF

HANDBALL

Antequera loss sees Spain miss out on cup win

D. F. A 28-30 defeat to Hungary in Antequera last week meant that despite a 27-21 win over Slovakia in Valencia on Saturday, Spain's men's team were already out of contention for victory in the EHF EURO Cup 2022, the preliminary showpiece tournament before the main event next January.

BASKETBALL

Favourable Eurobasket draw for Spain

COLPISA. The draw for the first phase of Eurobasket 2022 produced a favourable group for Spain, with Russia, Turkey, Georgia, Belgium and Bulgaria as opponents.

The top four finishers from each group will advance to the last 16, so Spain, who will play their first five games in Tbilisi (Georgia), should be among the top 16.



Malaga humbled away at the table toppers

Controversy surrounded the hosts' opener, where Malaga felt a handball occurred in the build-up yet a VAR check didn't take place

ANTONIO GÓNGORA

MALAGA. Malaga's defensive frailties were again on display as they were comprehensively beaten 3-0 away to league leaders Espanyol on Sunday afternoon. Although Malaga felt Raúl de Tomás had handled the ball in the build-up to the first goal, the decision was upheld.

After an even first fifteen minutes, the game's opener came after Espanyol picked up the ball and broke forward through Javi Puado. He found de Tomás, who rifled into the top left-hand corner. However, TV replays showed that before Puado was played in, the goalscorer had controlled the ball with his hand. Despite Malaga's protests, the officials saw nothing untoward and no VAR review was held.

Even with this setback, Malaga continued to hold their own but, despite several good moves from Caye Quintana, they could not carve out an equaliser. Approaching half-time, Espanyol doubled their advantage when Puado headed home a corner but questions ought to have been asked of the Malaga defence that



Midfielder Alberto Escassi grapples with former Malaga man Keidi Bare. AGENCIA LOF

let him in so easily. Moments later, Alberto Escassi had a chance for Malaga on the half-volley which produced a decent save from veteran keeper Diego López.

Malaga could perhaps count themselves unlucky to go into the interval two goals down and, to their credit, continued to work hard after the interval. However,

their determination was not matched with goalscoring opportunities. The game was put to bed in the 77th minute when Puado and De Tomás combined once more and the latter scored from a header. The former Real Madrid man had a chance to complete his hattrick in the closing stages but the ball was hooked from him before he

could get his shot away.

Following the game, Malaga coach Sergio Pellicer remarked that the scoreline did not tell the full story but said: "Such a high-quality team will be able to seize upon any sort of error. If we'd kept it to 1-0 at halftime, things could have been different." He also avoided criticising the officials regarding the handball

3-0

ESPANYOL-MALAGA

Espanyol: Diego López; Óscar Gil, Cabrera, Lluís López, Pedrosa; Sergi Darder (Fran Mérida, 62'), Keidi (Melendo, 83'), Embarba (Nico, 71'), Puado (Pol Lozano, 83'), Dimata (Wu Lei, 71'), De Tomás. Unused substitutes: Ángel, J. García, David López, Didac, Vadillo, Vargas, Pujol.

Malaga: Dani Barrio; Alexander, Ismael (Haitam, 82'), Lombán, Juande, Cristo; Escassi, Cristian (Joaquín, 62') Rahmani, Jairo (Ramón, 62'), Caye Quintana (Scepovic, 70'). Unused substitutes: Soriano, Orlando Sá, Matos, Benítez, Guerrero, Larribia, Loren, Roberto.

Goals: 1-0 De Tomás (15'), 2-0 Puado (40'), 3-0 De Tomás (77').

Referee: Ortiz Arias. Yellow cards for Embarba, Keidi, Pol Lozano and Alexander.

Venue: Cornellá-El Prats.

incident, commenting: "Their job is very difficult and these things happen." Overall, he was quick to note that his side lost to a better team; a team which was able to capitalise upon the opportunities it was granted.

Malaga slip one place to eleventh following the result but are almost mathematically assured of avoiding relegation. Their next fixture is not much easier - second-placed Mallorca visit La Rosaleda on Saturday evening (kick-off 9pm).

Relegation now inevitable for Malaga Femenino following yet another loss

Javi Ramos' new side have just three games left to save themselves from the drop

MALAGA 1
ALMANSSORA 3

MARINA RIVAS

MALAGA. Malaga Femenino slid closer to relegation to the third division after they were beaten 3-1 at home to Joventut Almussora on Sunday afternoon.

The game's opener came after ten minutes when the visitors were awarded a penalty when Buceta brought down Iris in the box and the same player converted the spot-kick. This sparked a reaction from Malaga in the 23rd minute when Claudia Jiménez found the equaliser after being brilliantly played in by María Ruiz.



Malaga are quickly running out of time to earn salvation. SALVADOR SALAS

However, parity didn't last long and the Valencian side went back in front when Paula collected a rebound unchallenged and scored from outside the box.

In the second half, Malaga were kept at arm's length and in the 74th minute, Iris wrapped up the win by scoring a direct freekick.

Malaga are now second-bottom out of nine in Group South D and lie five points off safety. They will hope to turn things around when they travel to the team directly above, Aldaia, on Sunday as recently appointed boss Javi Ramos continues his search for his first win with just three games left.

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Covid-19
Regular Updates

IN BRIEF



Muñoz and Salado at the presentation last week. SUR

SPONSORSHIP

Diputación to become club's main sponsor

B. GUTIÉRREZ. The Diputación provincial government has signed an agreement with Malaga CF to become the club's main sponsor for the next two seasons. The provincial authority's logo

will appear on the side's shirts, replacing that of Tesesa, after increasing its annual support (200,000 euros from Turismo Costa del Sol) by half a million euros to 700,000 euros a year.

The agreement was presented by the club's administrator José María Muñoz and Diputación head Francisco Salado at La Rosaleda last Friday.

LALIGA

Club hopeful 18-player cap will be lifted

A. GÓNGORA. There is optimism around Malaga that the 18-player squad limit imposed by LaLiga for the last two seasons will be lifted.

With the club now complying with salary and spending limits, it is expected that the sanction will no longer be in place next season and the club can build a larger squad capable of loftier ambitions.

TRANSFERS

The future of Isco, of special interest to Malaga

S. CORTÉS. After eight seasons at Real Madrid, it would appear that the days are numbered for Benalmádena-born Isco who has found game time hard to come by. This situation is of particular interest to Malaga as they stand to earn one per cent of any transfer or loan fee should he join a team outside of Spain. Given his current valuation, this could be in the region of 300,000 euros.

ACADEMY

Haitam, sixth youngster to take the field this year

B. GUTIÉRREZ. With little left to play for, Sunday's match against Espanyol provided a further opportunity for coach Sergio Pellicer to give youth a chance. This time it was Haitam who enjoyed ten minutes on the field at Cornellá.

The 18-year-old winger, capable of playing on both sides, became the sixth academy graduate to make his league debut this year.



Haitam on the ball. AGENCIA LOF

SCHEDULING

Dates confirmed for final two fixtures

B. G. LaLiga has this week confirmed the scheduling for the final two fixtures of the normal Segunda season.

Malaga will travel to Butarque to play Leganés on matchday 41 on Monday 24 May (kick off 9pm).

Meanwhile, at the same time, for the final game of the season the Blue and Whites will host Castellón at La Rosaleda on matchday 42, on Sunday 30 May.

TRANSFERS

Oviedo poach three Malaga youngsters

A. G. Real Oviedo have secured the signings of three Malaga youngsters, according to the El Comercio newspaper.

The players, poached by former Malaga sporting director Francesco Arnau, are Juan Cruz, Hoyos and Da Costa.

Juan Cruz is the standout player of the trio. The 21-year-old attacking midfielder has appeared for the first team 11 times this year (three times in Segunda).



A LOOK AT LA LIGA
ROB PALMER
Commentator, Sky Sports

The blame game

Eden Hazard is an easy scapegoat for Real Madrid's issues but the problems run much deeper than that



In the UK, television audiences have been gripped by a drama, *Line of Duty*, where the failure of an institution is pinned to an insider known only as 'H'. Without creating a spoiler, the top man gets away scot-free whereas the failures are blamed on one hapless individual.

In Spain it has been similar. The scapegoat in the fiasco at Real Madrid was 'H'. It stood for Hazard, and the inquest took place in the garden of Eden. The top man also escaped scrupulous attention.

Eden Hazard has been a complete waste of 100 million euros, don't get me wrong, but his performance in the Champions League semi-final was not the crux of a much wider issue. He took all the flak while the decision-makers at the footballing institution escaped blame free.

My former commentary colleague Terry Gibson summed it up when he likened the situation at Real Madrid to the Chicago Bulls which prompted the award-winning documentary *The Last Dance*.

A once great team exceeded all expectations by trying to squeeze a final season out of its mega stars although they acknowledged their best days were a couple of seasons behind them.

It's remarkable that Real managed to make it to the final five minutes of the Champions League semi-final before conceding that the dance was over. Zinedine Zidane squeezed every ounce of talent and energy out of his veteran players.

His conclusion was as accurate as one of his legendary passes. "We tried but they deserved it. We have to be proud to have come this far and to congratulate Chelsea."

The music hasn't stopped and there are still a few dances left as the Real Madrid Old Boys can still claim the 2021 La Liga title. Many would make them favourites as they sit just a couple of points behind Atlético with four tracks to play.

No longer can they rely on the bunch of thirty-somethings to rekindle the memories. No longer can they use an image of Eden Hazard smiling after defeat as a smokescreen for financial mismanagement.



Hazard struggled in the semis. EFE

Just look at the money they have blown in recent years. A reported 160 million on Hazard, 91 million plus ridiculous wages for Gareth Bale and 60 million to secure Luka Jovic on a six-year contract before he was loaned back to Eintracht

Frankfurt. Around 80 million was written off when signing James Rodríguez and it's unlikely they will recoup any of the desired millions from the sale of Martin Ødegaard who doesn't seem to have a future in the Spanish capital.

Zidane should be exempt from blame as he attempts to shape a team out of a bunch of expensive individuals and seasonally goes back to his trusted tribe.

The buck stops at the top. Just like *Line of Duty* where the decisions are made by the Chief Constable, it is the president who pulls the invisible strings.

So, ignore the tabloid press and don't fall into the trap of buying into the theory that it is 'H' who is to blame for everything. The plot is far more complicated than that.

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The local coach who has helped Watford back to the top flight

Axarquía-born Álvaro Reina has held several coaching roles across the province, most notably as assistant to Juan Muñoz during his most recent stint as Malaga boss. A spell in England is his latest adventure

BORJA GUTIÉRREZ



Álvaro Reina oversees a training session at Watford. **WATFORD**



Álvaro Reina, while assistant to Juan Ramón Muñoz. **SUR**

Watford FC have returned to the English Premier League at the first time of asking thanks in no small part to their Spanish coaching team led by manager Xisco Muñoz. A more recent arrival to the setup is Álvaro Reina, a 41-year-old from Benamargosa, in the Axarquía area of Malaga province, who was appointed as the club's performance coordinator in November. Reina had previously worked as right-hand man to Juan Ramón Muñoz, including during his several spells as Malaga boss.

Reina notes that performance coordinator is a newly created position at the club but one which has much in common with his previous roles. His new job marks a break in his partnership with Muñoz, but he explains his long-time boss encouraged him to seek

pastures new, saying: "Muñoz told me to send my CV to Watford and explained how difficult it can be to get a job in England if you're coming from abroad. I sent it, went for an interview where I outlined my proposals and I was offered the job a few days later."

Reina's first coaching job came in 2005 when he worked as an analyst with Malaga's first team under Antonio Tapia before going on to work with El Ejido, Granada 74 and spending time abroad with Dnipro in Ukraine and the Panama national team. He then returned to Spain to take up roles with Alcorcón, Levante and Malaga.

Regarding his appointment, Reina said that Watford were looking for "someone with not only a physical education degree, but also with technical and tactical nous and experience as an assistant manager".

Explaining his day-to-day responsibilities, he said: "I oversee all the different aspects of the first-team's performance." It is not the first time Watford have turned to some-

one with a Malaga connection- the Blue and Whites' former boss Javi Gracia had a spell in charge of the club until 2019.

On top of this, Reina ensures that

Javi Gracia sacked by relegation-threatened Valencia

Former Malaga manager Javi Gracia was sacked as Valencia boss on Monday with the club in fourteenth-place and just six points above the relegation zone with four games left in the season.

He will be replaced by perennial caretaker Salvador González, better known as Voro, until the end of the season. His first game will be a crunch fixture at home to fellow strugglers Valladolid on Sunday.

the club's backroom structure, which includes six coaches and seven analysts, can run as efficiently as possible. This will be even more important as Watford seek to compete among the titans of the Premier League next season. Indeed, Reina compliments the high standards of even the second division of English football is, saying: "The clubs are economically strong and can have very high-quality players and infrastructure. Also, I believe the old myths about English football being physical and defensive are fading and we now see more teams with very exciting playing styles."

He is also quick to stress how important backroom staff are in modern football: "Clubs spend so much money on signing the best but can often neglect other roles which are equally important in building a successful team. Our role is particularly important given that we usually play every few days, meaning there is a lot of work to do in the background."

Although Reina is still something of an unknown, his passion and understanding of the game are clear. With his involvement, Watford will be one to watch next season in the Premier League.

Marbella fail to ease double-relegation fears

Abraham García's team's form has dropped off with only three left games to go

EL EJIDO
MARBELLA

2
0

MANUEL DELGADO. ADG

MURCIA. Marbella's fears of double relegation deepened following a 2-0 loss at El Ejido on Sunday afternoon. Following back-to-back defeats, they now occupy a relegation spot in their playoff group.

In the sixteenth minute, the first opportunity fell to the hosts when Toni Arranz's long-range effort went wide. However, ten minutes later, Arranz had another crack from about 40 metres when he saw Alfonso Herrero off his line, this time scoring with a spectacular strike.

After failing to trouble the opposition goal in the first period, Chumbi and Gustavo were brought on at half time to change things up. The substitutions gave Marbella an extra dimension; Callejón had a decent opportunity saved before Edu Ramos went close with a header.

However, it was during this pe-



Captain Añón, under pressure from an opposition player. **ADG**

riod of Marbella pressure that their opponents scored again when, in the 77th minute, some good work from Boris played in Juanje.

A dejected Marbella had little time to respond and fall one place to fourth in their eight-team group.

The bottom five teams will be relegated to the new Tercera RFEF (fifth tier), as will the worst third-placed team across the five groups.

In their quest to avoid this fate, Marbella will next host Recreativo Granada on Sunday.

UD Torre del Mar earn fourth consecutive promotion

JUAN RAMÓN PADILLA. UD Torre del Mar have secured promotion to the new Tercera RFEF with two games of their current campaign to spare.

The league, which will be the fifth tier of the newly restructured Spanish league system, is a step up from the División de Honor where they have been playing this season.

Despite a 0-0 draw against Bergijar, Atarfe's defeat against San Pedro was enough for Torre del Mar to secure their fourth consecutive promotion and their first to this level.

San Pedro themselves are also in with a chance to be promoted in the remaining matchdays.

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THE STARS

Aquarius
January 21st - February 19th
Although you are slow to criticise others, you are often too fast to criticise yourself. Think of what it is about you that people like.

Pisces
February 20th - March 20th
Something is needed now to give your life a new direction. Use your imagination on your social life and see what comes up.

Aries
March 21st - April 20th
There is the chance of romance and unexpected progress at work. A new workmate may not yet be on your radar but could surprise with an unexpected suggestion!

Taurus
April 21st - May 21st
As your attraction level rises good reactions from others come thick and fast. A bold approach inspires others. Now is a time to ask for what you want and have a good chance of getting it.

Gemini
May 22nd - June 21st
Although you want to impress someone this week, take it slowly. Revealing all your talents at once could overwhelm them! Quiet moments give you the chance of making long-term contact.

Cancer
June 22nd - July 23rd
Being open and smiling brings the right reactions. The whole month is full of chances to be out and about and bright. Your charms are strong, especially next weekend.

Leo
July 24th - August 23rd
Although you may not be aware of it, there is a sort of shyness coming through this week. It is very appealing to someone who wants to get closer to you.

Virgo
August 24th - September 23rd
Being persistent pays off this week in many ways. Keep putting your view or needs across. People should soon come to your way of thinking, if only to get a bit of peace!

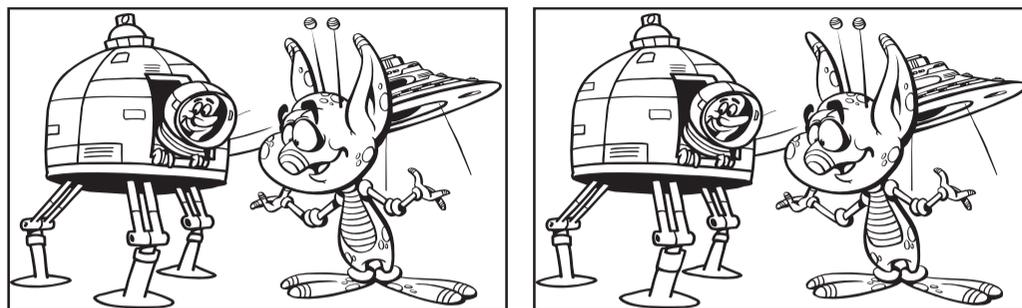
Libra
September 24th - October 23rd
The freedom to be who you want to be and the freedom to be with the right person are strong. Changes to your usual routine need to be started.

Scorpio
October 24th - November 22nd
A little flirting pays dividends even if you know that it cannot turn into a grand passion! Hand out compliments like sweets but do keep those one-to-one encounters discreet.

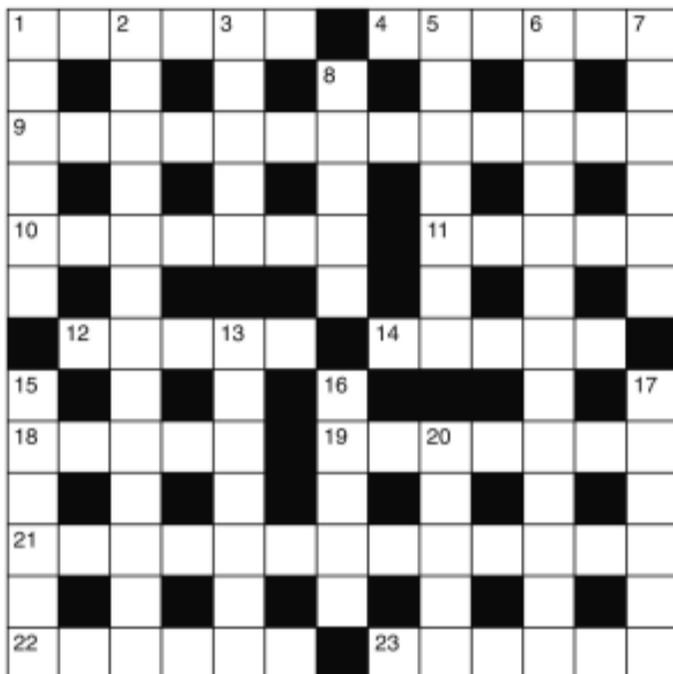
Sagittarius
November 23rd - December 21st
Get out that imagination and give it a dust-down. A loved one may feel that this is long overdue. Progress comes from making a special effort.

Capricorn
December 22nd - January 20th
When things start to go too smoothly you often start to worry. It is your nature to be on your toes. Still, try to relax more and go with the flow of life.

THE SEVEN DIFFERENCES



CRYPTIC CROSSWORD N° 11460



Across

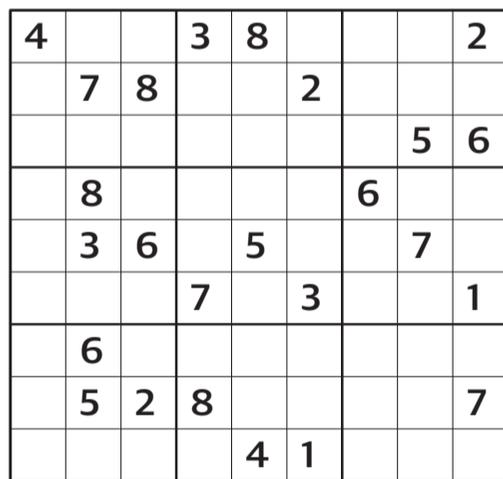
- 1 It's mad going back to request fabric (6)
- 4 Three times a singer (6)
- 9 A means of getting round entry requirements? (9,4)
- 10 Unpunctuated? (7)
- 11 Wasn't Oliver straight? (5)
- 12 Girl about right to take as partner (5)
- 14 The vehicle will travel as freight (5)
- 18 Shakes boulders (5)
- 19 Cut flat in diplomatic move (7)
- 21 Grind up stolen currency (5,8)
- 22 Untidy discarded wrappings for newly born animals? (6)
- 23 Loss of match despite fine achievement by half the side (6)

Down

- 1 Sweetheart losing a pound means being bold! (6)
- 2 Emotive story about the bill for changing one's address? (6,7)
- 3 Division in Croatia (5)
- 5 A target for boat races (7)
- 6 One approaches it with reservations in mind (7,6)
- 7 Thanks after correcting rare mistakes (6)
- 8 Quick when it's cold (5)
- 13 What's left of unusual rise owing (7)
- 15 Cause to move in ship, up rope ladder (6)
- 16 Disclose country (5)
- 17 Escape by air? (6)
- 20 Famous chemist was one in healing (5)

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

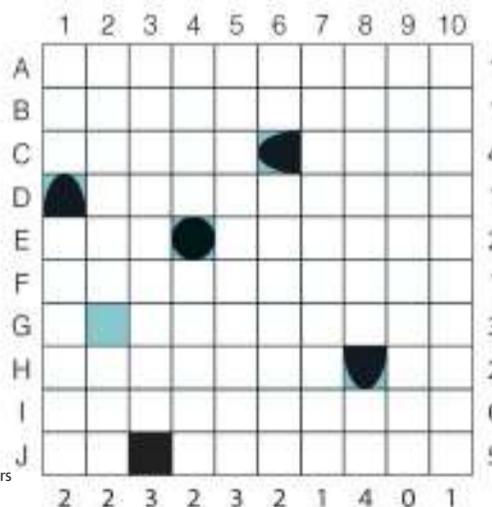
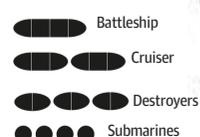


Can you identify the reptiles from the anagrams listed below?

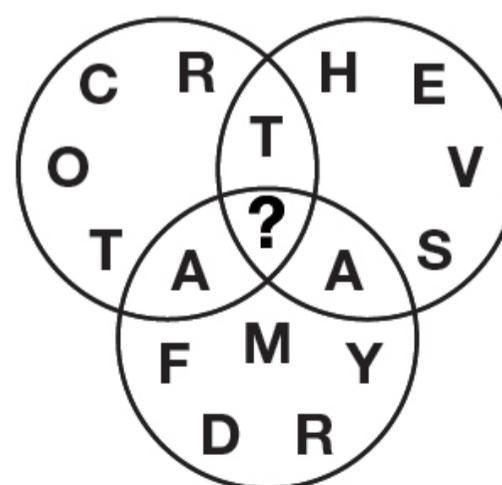
- 1. Bacor
- 2. Notphy
- 3. Nikks
- 4. Lettur
- 5. Kanse
- 6. Cogek
- 7. Prive
- 8. Abo
- 9. Zladir
- 10. Uaaing

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?

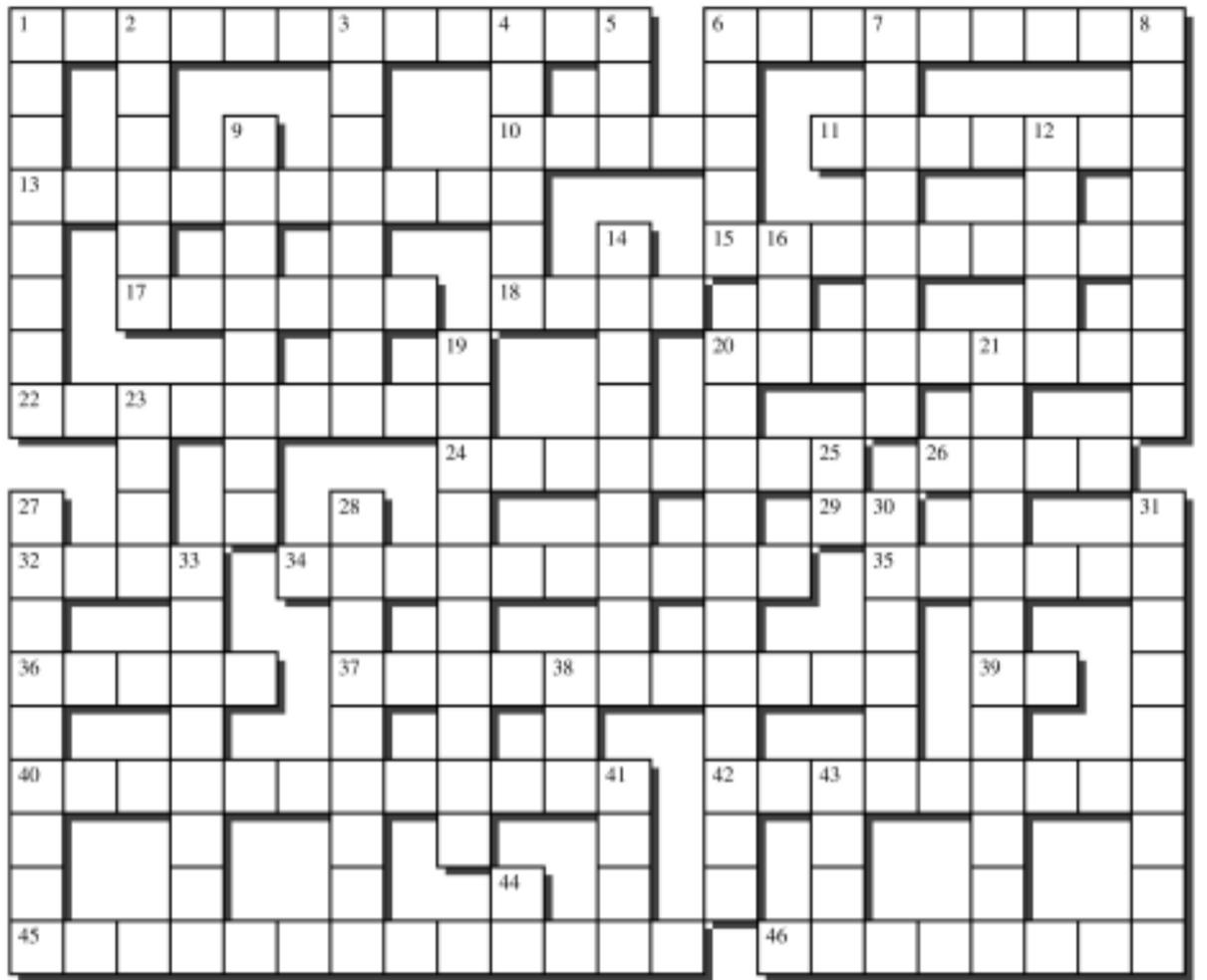
LANGUAGE CROSSWORD FILL IN THE SPANISH WORD

Across

- 1) Shocking (m) (12)
- 6) To deploy (9)
- 10) Grown-up (5)
- 11) They cook (7)
- 13) Mercenary (m) (10)
- 15) I surprised (9)
- 17) Siege (6)
- 18) Love (4)
- 20) You manufacture (pl) (9)
- 22) Sections (9)
- 24) Cigarettes (8)
- 26) Eleven (4)
- 29) To go (2)
- 32) Another (m) (4)
- 34) Cavalry (10)
- 35) Error (6)
- 36) Confusing (m) (5)
- 37) Binoculars (11)
- 39) To the (2)
- 40) Conqueror (m) (12)
- 42) Handmade (9)
- 45) Negotiations (13)
- 46) Flags (8)

Down

- 1) Enemies (8)
- 2) Land (6)
- 3) Station (8)
- 4) Delay (6)
- 5) King (3)
- 6) Hard (f.pl) (5)
- 7) Prosperous (m) (8)
- 8) To surrender (8)
- 9) I need (8)
- 12) Never (5)
- 14) Fortress (9)
- 16) Wave (3)
- 19) To enslave (10)
- 20) Fortified (m) (11)
- 21) Counterattack (12)
- 23) To fall (4)
- 25) If (2)
- 27) Population (9)
- 28) Peasant (f) (9)
- 30) You laughed (6)
- 31) Castles (9)
- 33) Gift (8)
- 38) Mine (m) (3)
- 41) I stole (4)
- 43) Fabric (4)
- 44) I (2)



ANSWERS

Quiz answers

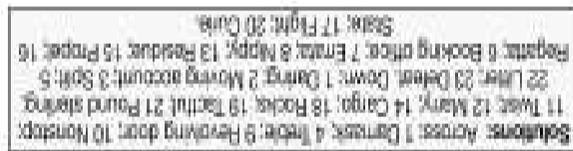
Answer: Brazil
Of interest: Although the coffee harvest in Brazil this year has been reduced by severe drought, they are still the biggest coffee producer and exporter in the world, closely followed by Vietnam.

Answer: Greenland and the Faroe Islands
Of interest: The krone is the official currency of Denmark, Greenland, and the Faroe Islands, introduced on 1 January 1875.

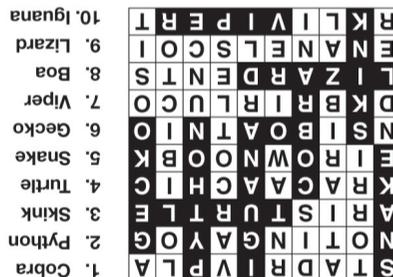
Language Crossword



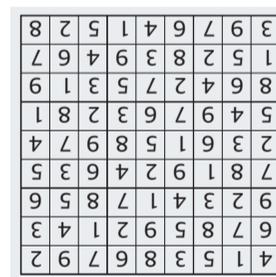
Cryptic Crossword



Wordpuzler solution



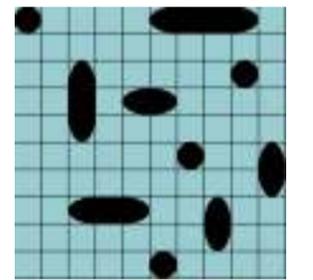
Sudoku solution



Circlegram

The letter represented by the question mark is R. Tractor, harvest, farmyard, all agricultural terms.

Battleships



WHERE IS THIS?



A fortified village, home to a bandit

Last week: Alora

The Museo Municipal Rafael Leria in Plaza baja, is inside a building dating back to the sixteenth century and known as the Antigua Escuela de Cristo, built in the Mudejar style and once part of a hospital.



THE SUR IN ENGLISH CORNER

What do you think?

How often does the news make you react in one way or another? How often do you make a comment to whoever happens to be in the same room? And what is the most common reaction? That something is silly, ridiculous, typical, boring or annoying? Or you might read something and think: that's nice, that's clever, that's interesting, that's a good idea or that's great news...

Whatever your thoughts, they are probably worth sharing with the rest of our readers.

We know that nowadays there's an emoji for all of those aforementioned reactions and we can indicate how we feel without having to type a single word.

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An expedition from San Pedro to the Himalayas

Marbella. Five members of the Ama Dablam mountaineering club are going to Pakistan in an attempt to reach the peak of one of the highest mountains on the planet

JOSÉ MARÍA MARTÍN

The Ama Dablam mountaineering club of San Pedro Alcántara is preparing for an expedition to climb Nanga Parbat in Pakistan - the ninth highest mountain in the world. Ahead of them lies a trip of approximately 6,750 kilometres to Islamabad, the capital of the country, and a climb of 8,125 metres.

This is a serious challenge, but the members are looking forward to taking it on and it will not be their first experience of the Himalayas. In fact, since 1988 the club has been organising expeditions to the 14 mountains on the planet which are more than 8,000 metres high, and the last one they did was in 2016. Among other achievements, they were the first Andalusians to reach the top of Everest.

So far they have climbed 11 of these 'eight-thousanders', as

they are known, and have reached the summit of six. This is already an impressive record, but it could become even more so over the next few years, thanks to the Proyecto 8.000 programme. This will enable them to try Nanga Parbat this year, Shishapangma (China) next year and Kangchejunga (Nepal) in 2023. If they achieve their aims, they will have attempted to climb every peak in this select club of Asiatic mountain ranges.

Looking ahead to this adventure are Enrique Osiel, Íñigo Delgado, Sergio Carrascoso, Carlos M. Santafé and Manuel González, known as 'Lolo', who will be training in the Sierra Nevada in forthcoming weeks to prepare for the expedition. The trip will take 50 days in all, and they will set off on 29 May for the two-day journey to Pakistan. From Islamabad, it will take two days of



Some of the climbers, with their sponsors. **SUR**

walking to the foot of the mountain. They will be using a local company which organises routes and provides material and personal support in setting up the base camp.

"We will spend between 35 and 40 days in the base camp to

The mountaineers will try to establish a new, safer route up Nanga Parbat which they hope will become the standard one in the future

do all the preparatory work for the ascent, exploring, equipping ourselves for the climb and acclimatising to the altitude. Our aim is to attempt it at the end of June or early July," says González. It will take five or six days to do the climb and return to the camp.

To achieve the feat, they will cross the Diamo glacier, trying to redesign routes which have already been explored before and establish a new one which will be "safer and faster, and could become a habitual route for others in the near future," he says.

The risk is high: Nanga Parbat has the second worst acci-

dent rate out of all the eight-thousanders.

Luckily for these mountaineers from San Pedro, expeditions have changed a great deal in recent decades. "To give you an idea, in 1998, when we went to Annapurna in Nepal for the first time, the only system we had to communicate with Andalucía was a postman, a sherpa contracted to come up to the base camp with us and collect up the letters we had written. They were then sent by the agency, and the sherpa would come back up with the answers from our families. He did that twice during that expedition," says Lolo González.

For their attempt at Nanga Parbat, they will have latest-generation satellite technology. "We will even have Wi-Fi in the base camp and will be able to send reports, photos and videos. It's an amazing change in terms of communication," he says. A change for the better, which has also made climbers feel more secure in recent years.

Sponsorship

The mountaineers of Ama Dablam are really looking forward to this challenge, among other reasons because they have sponsors and support for the first time since 2009.

"We are very happy because apart from going back to the eight-thousanders, we are doing it this way," says González. Marbella council, through the San Pedro Alcántara brand, is supporting the adventure, and this week there was a presentation about the expedition, which will also have a private sponsor, the Línea Vertical company. Essential support for a challenge which will arouse strong emotions not only for those taking part, but those who follow this club on social media. The climbers will be flying the flag for Marbella and Andalucía on one of the highest peaks in the world.

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