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May 28th to June 3rd 2021
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News	2
Comment	18
Lifestyle	20
What to do	30
Health&Beauty	33
Food&Drink	36
Sport	37

**GUADALHORCE
VALLEY**
THE ORCHARD
OF MALAGA

A closer look at the
towns of this inland
district in this month's
In the Spotlight special
supplement **INSIDE**



Andalucía confident that all over-40s will have at least one Covid jab by end of June

The vaccination rate has increased in the last few days, and case rates locally remain steady

The Junta de Andalucía said this week that the Covid-19 vaccination process of the region's population was now running "like clockwork". Speaking on Thursday the regional president said that Wednesday saw a record number of jabs - nearly 100,000 in one day. According to the authority's vaccination schedule, all of the over-40s in the region should have been offered at least one dose of a vaccine by the end of June. Next week people in their late-40s have been told to expect a call. The 14-day infection rate per 100,000 inhabitants had gone down to 125 in Spain on Thursday, with the figure for Malaga being 126. Among the new cases reported on Thursday was the Andalusian president Juanma Moreno himself, who tested positive after being in contact with an infected person, an official statement said. **P3**



BRITS STEP BACK ONTO THE COSTA

This week saw the first passengers fly into Malaga from the UK without needing to show a negative Covid test **P2**

Now is the time to talk about the menopause

No more stigma. Recent media attention has led to calls for more awareness of a problem that most women don't talk about **P33-35**

Electricity bill savings possible from 1 June for careful users **P14**

Law to give expats 'votes for life' in UK elections announced **P2**

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Malaga Airport on Monday. Visitors from the UK must still go into quarantine for up to ten days on their return home. **SALVADOR SALAS**

The British start to return to the Costa

Visitors from several other countries, including Australia and New Zealand, do not need to present a PCR now either

JUAN SOTO / PILAR MARTÍNEZ

MALAGA. With a broad smile that could still be seen behind their masks, Sasha and Samuel went looking for a taxi on Monday to take them their apartment in Benalmádena.

The British couple had just landed at Malaga Airport after not setting foot on the Costa del Sol for more than a year because of the Covid crisis. "We are pleased to be back; Malaga is our second home and we don't

know how to survive without spending a few months here," he confessed, in broken Spanish.

Since Monday, travellers from Britain haven't had to provide a PCR test to enter Spain, which will undoubtedly help increase the arrival of tourists. Visitors from Japan, China, Australia, New Zealand, Singapore, Israel, South Korea, Thailand and Rwanda, which are now considered safe non-EU countries, do not need this document either.

Sasha and Samuel plan to stay for at least two weeks. Their plan is to get everything ready for the family to come in July, "We British love the Costa because the weather is very good and we are tired of being at home."

Although their afternoon flight from London was full, most of the passengers were on business. For now, the obligation to quarantine on return to the UK has stopped many holidaymakers, who will wait for the situation to improve.

Louis Williams appreciated being able to travel without having to present a negative Covid test. "I understand that it is a measure to contain the virus,

The Spanish government has defended relaxing rules for the British while other countries were getting tougher

but it makes tourists think about it more when travelling." In his case, he was flying on business, something he had not done for five months. "The plane was full, although at the moment there are only a few flights from London," he explained.

The Spanish government has defended relaxing rules for the British while other countries, such as France, were getting tougher. Minister of Health Carolina Darias said, "The conditions are right," to welcome Britons back.

There is still a way to go to fill the resorts though. Costa hoteliers are predicting only a 40 per cent occupancy rate for June in the hotels that are open to visitors.

Andalucía president tells UK ambassador to ask London to axe 10-day quarantine

HÉCTOR BARBOTTA

SEVILLE. The president of the Junta de Andalucía, Juanma Moreno, has asked the UK's ambassador to Spain, Hugh Elliott, to mediate with his government to allow tourists to travel to Spain this summer without restrictions.

Currently, visitors who return to the UK from a Spanish destination are obliged to quarantine for ten days as Spain is on the UK's amber travel list. Next month the UK is due to review the countries on the green, amber and red travel lists.

Elliott was on a visit on Tuesday to the Palacio de San Telmo, the seat of the Andalusian government, in Seville.

Moreno updated Elliott on the progress of the region's vaccination plan and the forecast that by the end of June all of those over 40 years will have had at least one dose.

Moreno stressed that Andalucía "is fully prepared to open up tourism with the maximum guarantees for everyone".

The region normally welcomes three million UK visitors a year.



Moreno with Hugh Elliott. **SUR**

More details released of law to allow expats 'votes for life' in UK elections

No longer will Britons living in Spain lose their right to vote after 15 years, says government as it outlines its plans

SUR IN ENGLISH

MALAGA. The British government has set out more detail on plans to scrap the rule that prevents UK citizens from voting in General Elections if they have lived abroad for more than 15 years.

All British citizens living overseas who have been previously

registered or previously resident in the UK will be able to cast a vote.

These changes will come into effect in time for the next scheduled General Election in 2024, says Whitehall.

In addition, new rules will mean overseas residents can stay on the UK Electoral Roll longer without renewing their information - once every three years, rather than annually.

Electors will be able to reapply for a postal vote or refresh their proxy vote at the same time as renewing their voter registra-

tion. The changes will form part of the Elections Bill to be voted on by MPs in the UK parliament.

British Ambassador Hugh Elliott, said, "In an increasingly connected world, most British citizens living in Spain retain deep ties to the UK.

Many still have family there, worked there for many years, and some have even fought for our country."

British citizens resident in Spain can also vote in local municipal elections in Spain once they have been resident for more than three years.

British residents urged to swap their green certificate for a TIE

The UK and Spanish governments are now strongly recommending the change, although there is no deadline

SUR IN ENGLISH

MALAGA. The British Embassy said this week that both the Spanish and British authorities are now strongly recommending Britons living in Spain to swap their old, green certificates or cards that show their residency to the newer TIE photo ID cards.

While there is no deadline or requirement to do so, the UK

ambassador said in a video message on the embassy's Brits in Spain Facebook page that both governments now recognised that having a TIE card is going to make day-to-day tasks in dealing with Spanish authorities and border crossings easier.

Many thousands of UK residents in Spain have already swapped their green documentation to the TIE cards, which show they benefit from the Withdrawal Agreement from the EU.

The ambassador said more online appointments to make the swap at National Police stations are now available.



Queues were moving quickly this week for jabs at Malaga's congress centre. SALVADOR SALAS

Andalucía confident all over-40s will have one jab by end of June

The Junta says '99%' of those younger keyworkers given a first dose of AstraZeneca are choosing to have the second dose rather than Pfizer

SUR

MALAGA. The coronavirus vaccination campaign in Andalucía

continues to gather speed and is entering a decisive phase to achieve the long-awaited herd immunity.

This week the regional government said the process was running like "clockwork" and announced a record-breaking day on Wednesday with 100,000 vaccines in Andalucía given out in a single day.

"In June we will vaccinate

people between 40 and 50 years old and from 7 July we will begin to vaccinate those under 40 years old," said Elías Bendodo, regional government spokesperson, on Tuesday.

Speaking in the Andalusian parliament on Thursday, the regional minister for Health, Jesús Aguirre, said that he was confident that all those over 40 will have had at least one dose of a

Case figures steady but regional president tests positive

The Covid-19 case rate in Spain on Thursday (27 May) this week was 125 per 100,000 in the previous 14 days, down from 140 a week earlier. In Malaga province the rate was steady, at 126 on Thursday, similar to seven days earlier.

Among the new Andalusian positive cases this week was Junama Moreno, regional president. It was announced on Thursday that he had no symptoms and was self-isolating.

vaccine by the end of June.

AstraZeneca choice

National government agreed last week to allow those people who got a first AstraZeneca dose - mostly keyworkers under 60 - to voluntarily choose to have the second one or receive a Pfizer dose, amid concerns in the national Health ministry over the AstraZeneca jab in younger age groups. Andalucía has said that so far 99 per cent of those affected have chosen to stick with AstraZeneca. National government had wanted to insist on Pfizer only, but some regions resisted to avoid wasting stocks.

Spain's regions agree to issue the EU's Covid 'health passport' for travel

SUR

MALAGA / MADRID. Spain's Ministry of Health reached an agreement on Wednesday that will see the 17 regional Health authorities in Spain separately issuing the EU Covid health passport that will come into effect from 1 July.

The agreement with the regions also included the commitment of the Ministry of Health to provide all "technical means" to the regions so that they can issue the so called Digital Green Certificate.

The document will include, in addition to the holder's name and date of birth, the date of issue of the certificate and information on Covid-19 vaccinations, coronavirus tests or recovery from the disease.

Central government will also be able to generate this document itself in certain instances.

The certificate will preferably be in an electronic format although it may also be issued on paper.



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Woman in court over seven fires deliberately started in Mijas in 2015

The Malaga Public Prosecutor's office is calling for an 18-year prison sentence after the arson incidents in Mijas

JUAN CANO / ÁLVARO FRÍAS

MALAGA. A 50-year-old woman is appearing in court in Malaga this week accused of intentionally starting seven fires in Mijas in less than a month during the summer of 2015. The Public Prosecutor's office is calling for an 18-year prison sentence.

The fires happened between 19 July and 14 August 2015. According to the prosecutor, the Spanish woman used flammable materials, including alcohol and fire lighters to start the fires, all of them in the Calanova area of the resort.

The flames affected plots owned by the Riviera International company and, at that time, the land was scrubland, but very close to plots that were already built on, according to the prosecutor.

The first of the fires took place on 19 July and affected an area of approximately one hectare. Seven



The last fire that was attributed to the 50-year-old woman. SUR

hours later, the defendant apparently acted again, where the fire burned an area of about 200 square metres. The next fire attributed to the woman, that affected one hectare, was recorded on 25 July.

On 31 July, another fire was started but neighbours who saw the flames at around 9.30pm proceeded to smother them, so the affected area was very small.

Between 4 and 10 August two more fires were recorded in Mijas, which affected half a hectare and twenty square metres of land.

The last of the fires was re-

corded on 14 August and was the largest of all those attributed to the accused, burning an area of two hectares and causing the evacuation of the Tropical Hills residential development. The suspect was arrested immediately after this last fire.

The Public Prosecutor's office considers that the woman is guilty of arson crimes and, in addition to an 18-year prison sentence, is calling on the court to order her to compensate the Junta de Andalucía some 13,459 euros for fire-fighting expenses.

British man, wanted for child sex offences in the UK, is arrested in Mijas

SUR

MALAGA. National Police officers in Mijas on the Costa del Sol have arrested a 67-year-old British man who was wanted for child sexual abuse.

Thanks to the information received from international organisations and as a result of police cooperation between Spain

and the United Kingdom, the possible presence of the British fugitive in Malaga province was established.

After investigations, the officers located the man and arrested him in Mijas, under the terms of an international arrest warrant.

The man was detained on 17 May and had been on the run since November 2019. He was wanted for abusing the daughters of his former partner when they were aged nine and 13 years old, some years ago in London.

The arrested man now faces a court appearance ahead of deportation proceedings.

112 REPORTS

MARBELLA

Two held for snatching luxury watches

SUR. National Police officers in Marbella, working in collaboration with the Local Police, have arrested two Italian men, aged 31 and 41, who allegedly specialised in the theft of luxury watches from individuals, with the use of force or intimidation.

The police have attributed eight thefts in recent weeks to them - seven in Marbella and one in Fuengirola.

ANTEQUERA

Police save the life of a man having a seizure

Á. F. / A. J. G. Two National Police officers in Antequera have been praised for saving the life of a 21-year-old man who went into cardiorespiratory arrest after having an epileptic seizure in a popular drinking spot, surrounded by 200 onlookers.

Jesús, 25, and Pablo, 41, had to perform CPR after the young man fell to the ground and badly hit his face in the fall. "He had no nose," said Jesús. "He only had the hole left there."

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Is your Spanish tax planning in order?

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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A 'historic moment' for Estepona animal shelter Adana

The charity has officially been given a home - but it still needs the public's help to fund infrastructure improvements to secure it

ASH BOLTON

ESTEPONA. Charity bosses at the animal charity Adana are celebrating after being awarded a 75-year lease for their shelter on the outskirts of the town. However, before the lease can be granted, the council has asked the charity to make a number of infrastructure improvements - totalling 160,000 euros.

Adana president Susie Brown, who has volunteered at the charity for 18 years, told SUR in English: "It's good news because we have been here for 30 years. It was a run-down goat shack when we first moved in, but over the years the volunteers have built it up. So we feel more stable now as we have officially been given the place. It's a historic moment for the charity."

Susie, who is originally from Newcastle and has lived in Spain for 27 years, explained that the monthly running costs for looking after some 120 dogs are around 10,000 euros.

"We receive no financial support from any government organisations, every single euro comes from donations," she continued.

"For the past year and a half



File photo of a previous event held at the Adana shelter. SUR

we have not been able to organise any fundraisers or open our shop. Our volunteers have kept us going, but it's been a struggle," she said.

The charity, which has three members of staff and scores of volunteers, is now appealing to

the public to help it raise the remaining funds needed to get the Zoological Licence.

Susie added: "So, if you could see yourself donating towards a fantastic new future for all the abandoned dogs we rescue, please give generously."

Torremolinos recognised as Smart Tourist Destination

TORREMOLINOS

T. BRYANT. Torremolinos has recently been awarded the certification of being a Smart Tourist Destination (DTI), a recognition given by the State Corporation for the Management of Innovation and Tourism Technologies (SEGIT-TUR).

The award is given to resorts that improve competitiveness through the inclusion of measures linked to innovation, sustainability and digital transformation.

The recognition was presented to the town's mayor, José Ortiz, by Minister of Tourism Reyes Maroto during the Fitur international fair in Madrid last week.



Work starts on new 990-home development in Mijas

A groundbreaking ceremony on Tuesday signalled the start of a new residential development project on the hillside above Mijas Costa. Mayor of Mijas Josele González joined representatives of developers One Eden and other local and provincial authorities to help bury a time capsule on the site of the future show apartment. The capsule contained daily newspapers and other timely items. The future development, Royal Palms Mijas, will consist of 990 new homes, including apartments, townhouses and villas, with a focus on environmental sustainability. The construction will take place in tandem with the development of parkland and outdoor activity areas.



Plan approved for new sports and leisure complex on the eastern side of Estepona

ESTEPONA

The new infrastructure will be equipped with a gym, at least six sports courts, meeting rooms, office space and a 50-vehicle car park

J. M. MARTÍN. Estepona council has approved the specifications for a project to develop an 8,000-square-metre plot of land on the eastern side of the town into a new sports and leisure facility.

The plot, located on Calle Lima close to Selwo Adventure, will house a complex equipped with a gym and a minimum of six sports courts, as well as meeting rooms, catering services, local amenities and offices. Also, there will be car park large

enough for 50 vehicles.

The project will also facilitate the creation of a new green zone with public access and gardens, as well as a park created beside the banks of the Las Cañas stream.

According to municipal sources, the concession to build and operate the facilities, which will soon be put out to tender, will have a maximum term of 50 years. An annual levy to the council of 26,594.30 euros has also been established.

This will be the latest project which forms part of efforts to improve infrastructure in the eastern part of the municipality. This new one will connect to the path that runs along the stream, thus connecting Calle Lima to the coastal pathway, enabling pedestrians easy access towards town centre.

Benalmádena mayor pleads for financial support to help save Tivoli World

Víctor Navas has called on the regional and provincial authorities to support the amusement park after hundreds joined a protest last Friday

IVÁN GELIBTER

BENALMÁDENA. Víctor Navas, mayor of Benalmádena, this Monday added his voice to the campaign to try and avoid the possible permanent closure of the Tivoli World amusement park in Arroyo de la Miel.

Navas, accompanied by councillor Salvador Rodríguez, proposed to the Junta de Andalucía and the Diputación de Málaga the formation of a joint working group to find solutions - such as possible sponsorships or debt relief.



Hundreds of people joined the protest last Friday to call for the amusement park to reopen. **NIÑO SALAS**

“We need to sit down and work together in pursuit of the common goal to keep Tivoli World open,” Navas insisted, “to

protect jobs”.

This announcement came on after hundreds of people joined a demonstration last Friday, de-

manding the reopening of the attraction. Unions and the around 90 employees who have been furloughed for the past 15 months

argue that the park is financially viable, as described in the administrator's most recent report, and that the park is a symbol of the town, “just as valuable to Benalmádena as El Torcal is to Antequera”.

One of the problems that directly affects the chance of reopening Tivoli lies in the high debt level of the park. Navas suggested that sponsorship or exemption from the payment of taxes for a certain period could help, although he warned that in order to take any of these measures, the current owner of the park, the Tremón Group, must first declare its intentions “clearly and unequivocally” as to whether it plans to continue to run Tivoli as a business.

On the question of the aid, Navas cited that the Málaga provincial council sponsors Málaga Football Club: “Tivoli is at the same level of tourist importance as this football club,” stressed the mayor. He also quoted the Junta's annual sponsorship with “significant amounts” to Isla Mágica, the amusement park in Seville.

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Representatives of Debra and the Blevins Franks Charitable Foundation. **SUR**

Blevins Franks Foundation delivers donation to Debra

MARBELLA

SUR IN ENGLISH. Debra, the Butterfly Children charity based in Marbella, recently welcomed a donation from the Blevins Franks Charitable Foundation.

Debra, which offers support to families of patients with Epidermolysis Bullosa (EB), a genetic skin blistering condition, is facing an economic crisis due to the

pandemic. Despite salary cuts and reduced spending, the charity lost over 80 per cent of its income in 2020.

The Blevins Franks Charitable Foundation donation will contribute to the running costs of dispatching specialist nurses to EB families. More information about Debra can be found online, at www.pieldemariposa.es.

New film about Torremolinos to promote the town's history

TORREMOLINOS

T.B. Filming has begun on a new film titled Torremolinos Siempre, a production that will be broadcast to promote the town's history through stories of the present.

The film, which features a cameo role by Mayor José Ortiz, is being shot on location by Milyuna Historias Productions and is expected to take around three weeks to complete. Directed by Fernando Monzón and featuring actress Veronica Gregory, the film is based on a young girl who travels to the town for a vacation, but, after falling in love, decides to stay.

“We're very excited because we know the impact this film will have,” the mayor said.

Casa de Cultura in Arroyo de la Miel reopens its doors after extensive renovation project

BENALMÁDENA

TONY BRYANT. The Casa de Cultura in Benalmádena reopened its doors to the public last week after undergoing an extensive renovation project to improve the centre's facilities. The refurbishment, which has respected the building's characteristic identity, has included the opening of a new multipurpose function room on the second floor, along with the installation of new lighting, air conditioning and improved accessibility to the building, which is located in the centre of Arroyo de la Miel.

The opening ceremony, which was attended by the mayor of Benalmádena, Víctor Navas, and councillor for Culture, Education and Citizen Participation Elena Galán, included a performance by the town's Municipal Band.



The mayor of Benalmádena cuts the ribbon at the ceremony. **SUR**

Malaga province has seen the highest growth in self-employment in Spain despite the pandemic

However, figures show that only 58 per cent of new businesses set up by 'autónomo' workers are still in operation one year after opening

NURIA TRIGUERO



MALAGA. The self-employed sector in Malaga has not only managed to survive during the pandemic but appears to have achieved a somewhat difficult feat: there are now nearly 6,000 more people on the Régimen Especial de Trabajadores Autónomos (RETA), the register of self-employed workers, in the province than there were two years ago, when the economy was doing well and the word 'coronavirus' had not yet become part of our normal vocabulary.

The latest figures from Social Security, which are for April this year, show that 123,974 workers in Malaga are self-employed. This is an increase of 5,855 compared with the same month in 2019, which is five per cent higher and puts Malaga at the top of the list of growth in self-employment in Spain. In fact, most other provinces have lost self-employed workers during the past two years. Nationally, there was a very slight increase, of 0.8 per cent. Only two other provinces have seen an increase of more than four per cent in people registered as self-employed in the past two years and they are also in Andalucía: Seville and Cadiz.

It is also striking to note that between April 2019 and April 2020 in Malaga, only 716 people de-registered themselves as self-employed.

Undoubtedly, during the state of alarm because of the pandemic, the financial assistance for those who were unable to continue working was a decisive factor in preventing many more doing the same, but even taking that into account it can be seen that more self-employed businesses closed in other provinces than in Malaga. The figures also show that between April 2020 and April this year, the province gained 6,571 self-employed workers, placing it above the level of registrations prior to the pandemic.

Profile of the self-employed

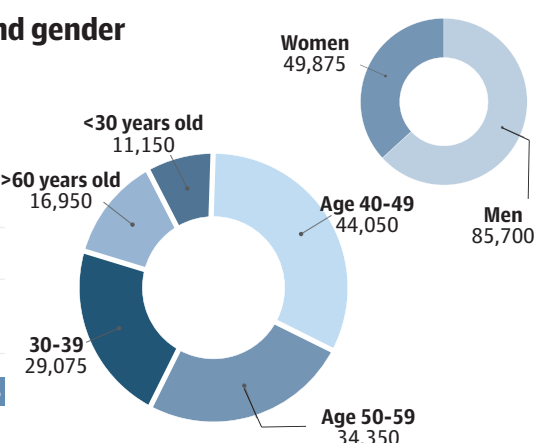
What is the average profile of someone who is self-employed in Malaga? According to a study

People registered as 'autónomo' by province

	2019	2020	2021	Variation 2019-2021	Variation % 2019-2021
MALAGA	118,119	117,402	123,974	5,855	4.96
CADIZ	60,663	59,931	63,353	2,690	4.43
SEVILLE	110,353	109,485	115,002	4,649	4.21
GRANADA	63,970	63,805	66,384	2,414	3.77
S. C. DE TENERIFE	62,384	62,639	64,719	2,335	3.74
ALMERIA	58,992	59,052	61,046	2,054	3.48
HUELVA	27,804	27,361	28,628	824	2.96
ALICANTE	131,628	130,672	135,228	3,600	2.73
MURCIA	99,997	98,819	102,638	2,641	2.64
JAÉN	41,004	40,823	41,998	994	2.42
LAS PALMAS	64,093	63,845	65,469	1,376	2.15
ALBACETE	29,704	29,348	30,318	614	2.07
MADRID	402,997	397,807	411,089	8,092	2.01
CORDOBA	52,694	51,882	53,716	1,022	1.94
GUADALAJARA	14,972	14,664	15,235	263	1.76
TOLEDO	49,378	48,582	49,988	611	1.24
VALENCIA	177,923	175,241	179,942	2,019	1.13
BARCELONA	396,668	389,979	400,819	4,151	1.05
TARRAGONA	54,055	52,913	54,563	508	0.94
PONTEVEDRA	66,956	65,944	67,277	322	0.48
CIUDAD REAL	35,603	34,876	35,667	64	0.18
NAVARRA	47,637	46,759	47,498	-139	-0.29
CASTELLÓN	41,253	40,219	41,076	-177	-0.43
CANTABRIA	41,502	40,633	41,236	-266	-0.64
BADAJOS	49,181	48,508	48,864	-317	-0.64
ÁVILA	14,236	14,059	14,124	-112	-0.79
VICAYA	84,350	82,875	83,548	-802	-0.95
LA CORUÑA	85,626	83,857	84,683	-942	-1.1
SEGOVIA	14,429	14,136	14,265	-164	-1.14
SORIA	7,882	7,728	7,788	-94	-1.19
CÁCERES	31,466	30,932	31,043	-422	-1.34
GIRONA	62,002	58,908	61,083	-919	-1.48
VALLADOLID	36,162	35,444	35,602	-560	-1.55
ÁLAVA	20,628	20,242	20,298	-330	-1.6
BALEARICS	93,454	89,911	91,898	-1,556	-1.67
CEUTA	3,451	3,327	3,391	-60	-1.75
BURGOS	27,638	27,126	27,144	-494	-1.79
ASTURIAS	73,775	71,894	72,413	-1,362	-1.85
LLEIDA	38,934	38,227	38,107	-827	-2.12
GUIPUZCOA	67,023	65,702	65,510	-1,513	-2.26
CUENCA	18,951	18,390	18,500	-452	-2.38
TERUEL	13,316	13,059	12,982	-334	-2.51
SALAMANCA	26,728	26,032	26,042	-686	-2.57
HUESCA	22,220	21,655	21,649	-571	-2.57
ORENSE	23,894	23,264	23,256	-638	-2.67
PALENCIA	13,328	13,007	12,943	-385	-2.89
LA RIOJA	26,112	25,250	25,339	-773	-2.96
LEON	37,238	36,048	36,013	-1,225	-3.29
LUGO	34,167	33,346	33,028	-1,139	-3.33
ZAMORA	17,023	16,479	16,390	-633	-3.72
ZARAGOZA	68,311	64,482	65,559	-2,752	-4.03
MELILLA	4,863	4,696	4,606	-256	-5.27

The self-employed in Malaga by sector, age and gender

Sector	Number	Percentage of the total
Agriculture	4 800	3.54%
Industry	5 800	4.28%
Construction	15 200	11.21%
Retail and catering	51 250	37.8%
Other	58 525	43.17%



Sources: INSS and IECA

carried out by the Institute of Statistics and Cartography of Andalucía (IECA), the average self-employed worker is a male aged 40, (the most common age range is between 40 and 50), who works in the services sector and pays the lowest amount of contribution for social security.

Self-employed workers do still tend to be mainly male: only 37 per cent of those registered in Malaga are women. The older the age group, the more pronounced this difference becomes: women represent 40 per cent of those under the age of 40, and the percentage drops to 33 per cent in the over-50s.

With regard to age, the figures show that seven out of every ten self-employed people in Malaga are over the age of 40. The most numerous age range is 40 to 50, accounting for 32 per cent of all those registered. People aged between 50 and 59 represent one quarter of the total, and 21 per cent are aged between 30 and 39. About 12 per cent are over 60 and only eight per cent are under the age of 30.

The minimum contribution

A recent proposal by the government to change the contribution system for self-employed workers has led to concern among this group, whose members normally pay the minimum rate of 286.15 euros a month. This applies to two-thirds of self-employed people in Malaga, who are paying the lowest possible rate.

If the new range of options which is being considered by the Ministry of Inclusion and Social Security comes into force, which would involve payments of between 90 and 1,220 euros a month, some of these self-employed workers would end up paying less (those whose income is less than 17,000 euros a year) while others, who earn more than that, will find themselves paying more.

The difficulties involved in setting up and running a business are reflected by the length of time they tend to last. About 42 per cent of professionals in Malaga who register with the Social Security as self-employed close their businesses within a year.


The survival rate for businesses set up by self-employed workers drops to 22 per cent after five years; in other words, eight out of every ten do not last long enough to celebrate the fifth anniversary of their business. The statistics also show that only 14 per cent are still going after ten years.

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COMMUNITY SPIRIT

Cudeca WalkaHome raises more than 20,000 euros for the hospice foundation

MALAGA

More than 1,100 supporters signed up for the event and shared photos of their activities in their own homes and neighbourhoods

TONY BRYANT

BENALMÁDENA. Supporters of the Cudeca Foundation from all over the province of Malaga came together on Sunday to participate in the hospice charity's annual walkathon fundraising event.

In order to avoid the spread of the coronavirus, a virtual initiative under the banner of WalkaHome was repeated again this year to replace the traditional seafront walk.

More than 1,100 people took part in the initiative, organising an array of activities in their homes and neighbourhoods.

The event raised more than 20,000 euros for the charity, almost double the figure raised during last year's edition.

Participants posted photographs and videos of their activities on social media networks, and these included exercise workouts, runs, walks,



Participants published images of their activities in support of Cudeca on Sunday. **SUR**

swims and an assortment of fun activities.

To coincide with the event, which began at 10am and finished at 8pm, Cudeca hosted a YouTube broadcast presenting different participatory ac-

tivities such as Zumba and yoga classes, along with cooking lessons, messages of support from local celebrities and live entertainment.

The prize for the biggest group participation (59 peo-

ple) went to the Colegio Palma de Mallorca in Torremolinos.

A spokesperson for Cudeca said, "We would like to thank everyone that participated again this year, and also a special thanks to all of our sponsors."



Almost 100 people enjoyed the charity event in Mijas last week. **SUR**

Support group serves up a treat for local animal charity

MIJAS

T. BRYANT. The Simply Surviving support group held a fundraising dinner and concert at

Club Miraflores in Mijas Costa last week. Guests enjoyed a three-course dinner and entertainment by local singers Paul Anthony and Layla Vocalista. Nearly 100 people attended the event, which raised more than 400 euros for the Last Chance Animal Rescue. A total of 1,000 euros was raised by the volunteer group throughout May for the Coin-based animal charity.

Sport shirt raffle to raise money for Triple A

MARBELLA

SUR. The Marbella-based animal welfare association Triple A has organised a fundraising charity raffle to help it through the difficult economic situation brought on by the outbreak of the Covid-19 pandemic.

To increase awareness of the work it carries out, the association has joined forces with the top sports teams in Malaga city: Malaga CF, Unicaja basketball and Rincón Fertilidad handball, as well as the Marbella football and basketball clubs. The five groups have supported this cause by donating a shirt signed by all the players of each respective team.

Anyone wishing to take part in the raffle is asked to transfer

a donation to the Triple A bank account (ES20-0081-7460-6300-0101-0211) and include the word 'sorteo' as well as their telephone number. The minimum amount for entering is ten euros, the equivalent of one ticket.

"If anyone wants to have three chances of winning one of the shirts, for example, they must transfer 30 euros," explained Alfonso Sánchez, who works in the animal shelter.

Each entry will be a boost to Triple A, which has spent months raising awareness for its campaign 'SOS Pandemia', through which it hopes to help alleviate the current financial situation.

The raffle will close on Saturday 29 May, and the winners will be notified on Sunday.

Age Concern to hosts open days to highlight its services

COSTA DEL SOL

T. BRYANT. Age Concern Fuenigürola / Mijas/Benalmádena has announced that it will be holding a series of open days throughout June in order to highlight the services the charity offers to English-speaking senior citizens. The organisation will also have volunteers on hand to give confidential welfare advice, help, support and friendship.

The events will take place between 11am and 1pm on Mondays at the Stagecoach Bar in Benalmádena; at Julio's Gastro Bar in Mijas Pueblo between 12pm and 2pm on Wednesdays; the Pensionistas Club in Los Boliches between 11am and 1pm on Thursdays; and at the Peña Flamenca del Sur in La Cala de Mijas between 11am and 1pm on Fridays.

Locals invited to take part in Plastic Soup Action Day

MARBELLA

J. RHODES. The Rotary Club Marbella-Guadalmina, Diving with Nic and Mi Moana are organising an event as part of the EndPlasticSoup International Action Day. It will be held at the Plaza de Puerto Deportivo in Marbella on Saturday 5 June, from 10am to 3pm.

The aim of the day is to raise awareness of the increasing levels of plastics in waterways and on land.

Organisers will be showing videos and providing downloadable information on plastic pollution and recycling, as well as demonstrating the work being done on beaches and in the sea by environmental groups and divers.

There will be activities for children, beach clean-ups and information stalls.

For more information on the event go to: www.mimoana.org, www.marbella-guadalmina-rotary.club or www.divingwithnic.com.



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The new rules will see summer opening until 30 September. **SUR**

Malaga city shopping centres allowed to open their doors on Sundays from 20 July

MALAGA

JUAN SOTO. The Junta de Andalucía has approved the declaration of a new ‘area of great tourist influx’ for Malaga city, which will allow all the provincial capital’s shopping centres to open on Sundays and public holidays from 20 July. The approval had been sought by Malaga city council.

The new plan will let commercial centres be open every Sunday and on public holidays from

20 July to 30 September, and will apply to the entire municipality.

From 2022, the period will be extended to between 1 June and 30 September and also include the Sundays of the Easter holidays.

However the CCOO trade union says the authorities have failed to get the agreement of unions over the changes and that Sunday working risks affecting the work-life balance of people employed in the retail sector.

Sierra de las Nieves wins parliament’s approval to become a National Park

MADRID

SUR. The Sierra de las Nieves has been declared a National Park at last by the Spanish parliament. All political parties on the approving committee voted in favour of the designation. It is the sixteenth National Park in Spain and third in Andalucía, after the Sierra Nevada and Doñana.

The area, inland on the western Costa del Sol, behind Marbella, will have maximum levels of protection and the decision marks the culmination of activity first started in 1917 to preserve its beauty and sensitive environment.

The new National Park has 10 out of the 27 natural land systems in Spain’s National Parks legislation and stands out for its Pinsapo pine forests. Over half the surface area where this protected species grows is in the Sierra de las Nieves. The regional government now has to present a master plan for the park’s management.

IN BRIEF



The former main post office. **SUR**

MALAGA

Old Correos tower may become a hospital

J. HINOJSA. Malaga’s old Correos building, a landmark in the city centre, could become a private hospital.

The Israeli fund that bought it a year and a half ago wanted to open a hotel but, as the building has been designated for use as a public facility, it would mean changing the designation and thus giving the city the equivalent space elsewhere.

For the moment, the owners are seeing if using it as a hospital would be easier.

MALAGA

Muelle Uno coworking centre given go ahead

J. H. It looks like a large, empty shop unit in a prime location in the Muelle Uno development in Malaga port will soon be used as a coworking centre as planned. The regional government has approved change of use of the corner site, leaving the way clear for the council to give permission for the centre, to be run by Urbania International. Known as the ‘golden corner’ it is close to the planned Google cybersecurity centre.

COÍN

Town closes key streets in favour of pedestrians

A. JIMÉNEZ. Coín is to shut central streets and the Rodeo area to traffic on weekday evenings. Normally the town closes these roads each summer but this year officials have brought the date forward.

The council says that with the arrival of the warm weather, more people are crowding into busy areas and owners of bars and restaurants have asked to be able to spread out terraces.

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Work starts to clean up and seal the Río de la Miel illegal tip

The regional government is putting 1.9 million euros into the Nerja cleanup operation, which is expected to finish by the end of 2022

EUGENIO CABEZAS

NERJA. The Andalucía government has started work to clean up and seal the Río de la Miel illegal tip in Nerja, which saw 800,000 tonnes of construction and demolition waste dumped from 1998 to 2016.

Speaking last week about the work, which is expected to take around 12 months, the regional sustainable development representative in Malaga, José Antonio Víquez, said, "We are working to keep our commitment to a green



Work has started to clean up and close the Río de la Miel illegal dump. E. C.

revolution in the province."

He went on to say that the project was a "priority" for the Junta de Andalucía in order to reduce the environmental and health and

safety risks caused by dumping.

Environmental impact

Víquez highlighted possible pollution of nearby waterways as well

as risks to wildlife and people as consequences of the waste left at the site.

Work includes cleaning up the area, stabilising the entrance to the old quarry site, the reintroduction of native species of plants, drainage and a plan for environmental control and surveillance. The regional government is set to invest 1.9 million euros in the operation.

According to Víquez, the project to clean up the Río de la Miel falls under the regional government's new decree; 'Towards a Circular Economy 2030' (PIRec2030), which sets out plans to reduce municipal waste deposited at tips by 10 per cent over the next decade.

The court case into the scandal is ongoing, with prosecutors calling for two year prison sentences and an 18 month ban on public office for Nerja mayor José Alberto Armijo along with councillor Nieves Atencia. A number of local business owners are also facing possible sentences for their links to the illegal refuse site.

Sand from Cadiz brought to Torrox beach facilities in time for Euro handball finals

E. CABEZAS.

TORROX. Almost 2,000 tonnes of white sand has been transported from the beaches of Cadiz to the sports facilities set up on Torrox's Ferrara beach.

Visiting the facilities on Tuesday, mayor of Torrox, Óscar Medina, said, "The Ferrara sports zone is going to be one of the most attractive on the eastern Costa this summer."

The town will be hosting the European beach handball finals in early June as well as beach football competitions. Medina said he hoped the installations would attract sports events all year round and as such keep hotels busy during low season.

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A computer image of the building with factory chimney feature. SUR

El Trapiche council office to reflect area's industrial past

EL TRAPICHE

E. C. Vélez-Málaga town hall approved on Tuesday plans for a new council district office for El Trapiche. The existing office is a prefabricated construction.

The town hall said that the new building would incorporate the

post office, a doctors' surgery, library and multipurpose room.

The architect responsible for the project announced that the design would reflect the area's industrial past, incorporating features from old sugar cane, flour and oil factories. A start date for the project has not been confirmed.

Rincón unveils plans to celebrate LGBTI Pride with focus on values

R. DE LA VICTORIA

E. C. Rincón de la Victoria town hall unveiled on Tuesday plans to celebrate LGTBI Pride in the town on 26 June.

Most of the events will take place on Plaza Gloria Fuertes in La Cala del Moral, with some activities being held in the Casa Fuerte Bezmiliana, including with local writer, Pablo Wessing, who will be signing his new book there.

The day will include musical performances and an awards ceremony for people in the town who work to defend the rights of the local LGBTI community.

The town hall said that the day will focus on the values of diversity, respect, equality and dignity.



The bell at the hospital. SUR

Bell installed in hospital inspired by the idea of a US admiral

TORRE DEL MAR

E. C. A bell has been installed in the outpatients wing of the Axarquía hospital as a symbol of hope and celebration for cancer survivors. The idea was first started in 1996 when Admiral Irve Le Moyne gave the bell from his ship to the MD Anderson centre in Houston, Texas, to thank staff after finishing his course of radiotherapy and fighting the disease.

Plan approved for coastal path to connect Salón and Torrecilla beaches

NERJA

E. C. Nerja town hall has approved a draft plan to construct a coastal path linking the El Salón and Torrecilla beaches in the town. Mayor José Alberto Armijo announced that the project would be funded by the Diputación provincial authority and said that it would extend Nerja's tourism offer.

Work is ongoing to complete the footpath connecting the Carabineros and Burriana beaches, which has been closed for 19 years due to the danger of falling rocks from the cliffs above the path. Additionally a contract has gone out to tender for the management of a new beach bar on the town's Calahonda beach.





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Savings on electricity bills will be possible from 1 June

By changing the time they use household appliances, consumers in Spain could save several hundred euros a year

JOSÉ M. CAMARERO

MADRID. Householders in Spain will be wise to keep an eye on the time when using domestic appliances from 1 June, as changes which come into effect on that date could mean lower bills if electrical items are used outside peak hours. Even people who make no changes at all could benefit from a reduction of 3.4 per cent, which for an average bill of 60 euros would be a saving of a couple of euros, according to the National Markets and Competition Commission (CNMC).

The days will be divided into three consumption periods: peak, which is the most expensive, between 10am and 2pm and from 6pm to 10pm; flat, from 8am to 10am, 2pm to 6pm and 10pm to midnight; and low, which is the cheapest, between midnight and 8am, and also weekends and public holidays.

However, there are some 'buts' to this new scheme. First, consumers who are already on



Electricity will be cheaper at night and weekends. SUR

the nighttime tariff will be charged two euros a month more. Second, people will need to change their habits to gain the most benefit.

For example, the CNMC says that a household could save up to 300 euros a year by not using several appliances at the same time (such as the washing machine and the cooker), or by charging electric vehicles at night instead of during the day. It estimates that electricity in the lowest periods of the day will be up to 95 per cent cheaper than during peak times. Even doing the ironing

during the cheap period instead of peak times can save about 38 euros a year.

The Commission also says it is aware that this new way of encouraging people to change the times they use electrical appliances could lead to further modifications in the future, depending on the load on the electricity supply at certain times. However, no great changes are expected to occur to the consumption curve in the next two years. "In fact, not that many households changed their habits after the last modifications," say sources there.

Spain's government aims to move retirement age to 67

SUR IN ENGLISH

MADRID. The Spanish government has recently drawn up a 676-page policy guide for the country for the next 30 years, called Spain 2050, with objectives including overcoming the gender pay gap, improvements in employment, the economy,

equality and climate change, and even making people's lives happier in general. However, it also confirms that the official retirement age needs to rise to 67 by 2027, because of the ageing population. At present it is 66, although those who have paid Social Security contributions for more than 37 years and

three months are entitled to retire at 65.

The government says that by 2050 one in every three people will be 65 or older, and for everybody in that age range there will only be 1.7 people aged between 16 and 64 (at present there are 3.4). It also warns that no matter how much the birth rate may rise or migration there may be, nothing can completely reverse this scenario, and it also says that other measures are going to be needed in order to sustain the pension system.

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Misconceptions about gold ownership



How we own gold is a function of why we own it. We may buy gold as an ornament, as a speculation or as insurance against the depreciating purchasing power of crisis insurance, currencies and other assets.

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Investors who doubt the solvency of the banking system, which was severely tested in the financial crash of 2009, hold gold bullion in vaulted secure storage. London, Switzerland and Singapore are the three most popular. Physical gold may also be held by joining other investors in buying shares in a trust company such as Sprott Inc. This trust is regulated and audited to ensure that the gold held for shareholders always matches sales liabilities.

Some banks and government refiners, like the Perth Mint in Australia, offer custody and storage of physical gold in certified allocated and unallocated form. Investors need to be aware of the risk of owning gold in an 'unallocated' form. In this case, the custodian does not store gold belonging to you. An investor holding unallocated gold has a claim against a deposit receipt, not physical gold, leaving himself as an unsecured creditor.

The risk of holding unallocated gold lies in the fact that the custodian uses it for production, and assets do not match sales li-

abilities. Although a pool of investors have certified deposit receipts, the custodian does not allocate gold to specific liabilities. As it is being used in daily production, the producer ensures the ability to deliver physical gold with a third party. Should the insurance company be unable to cover claims, the investor will not be able to redeem the deposit receipt. This was the case in 2009, when AIG, the largest insurance company in the world, filed for bankruptcy.

In contrast, 'allocated' gold is a claim on a specific amount of gold that is held in storage and segregated from refining and production. The fact that it is allocated to investors off balance sheet means they will receive delivery in case of bankruptcy. Regular audit guarantees that sufficient gold is segregated by the custodian to match their liabilities and that in a crisis every investor will receive delivery of physical gold bullion. Investors should only buy bullion from an accredited refiner which is assayed as 'London good delivery', indicating that it is 99.5% pure. To maintain integrity, gold should only move between accredited bullion dealer vaults.

Investors should refrain from being seduced by the low costs of ownership of 'unallocated' gold. This defeats the purpose of owning gold as an insurance against market risk and devaluation.

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

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Elaborate phishing and money laundering scam being investigated by police

GIBRALTAR

People are receiving emails which appear to be from their banks, and money stolen from their account is used to fund a Mystery Shopper scam

DEBBIE BARTLETT

GIBRALTAR. The Royal Gibraltar Police Economic Crime Unit is currently investigating several email ‘phishing’ attacks which have resulted in money being stolen from local bank accounts, and five people have been assisting police with their enquiries. The police have recovered £3000 in cash so far.

The authorities say this is an elaborate scam and there are two aspects to it. Bank customers are sent phishing emails, and when they open them they are directed to a fake website where they are asked for their online banking details, including passwords.

At the same time, say the police, ‘Mystery Shopper’ jobs, tar-

geting people in Gibraltar, are being advertised on Facebook groups. When someone applies for one of these jobs, they are told that they will be sent money to purchase items as a mystery shopper. They are also asked for their bank details in order that the funds can be transferred. Several thousand pounds are then transferred into the Mystery Shoppers’ accounts and they are asked to buy something costing a few hundred pounds, usually vouchers that can be used online. The shopper is then told to send the vouchers to the fraudsters. Finally, the Mystery Shopper is asked to withdraw the rest of the money in cash and convert this to cryptocurrency and send this to the fraudsters or to transfer the funds to another bank account outside Gibraltar.

All the funds used by the shoppers are those that were stolen in the first part of the fraud, from the clients of the bank.

Anyone who has been involved as a Mystery Shopper following a Facebook advertisement is asked to phone the RGP’s Fraud Squad on (00 350) 20072500



Adolfo Canepa (centre) with the chief minister and mayor. SUR

Freedom of the City awarded to Adolfo Canepa

GIBRALTAR

D. BARTLETT. Adolfo Canepa, a former government minister, mayor, chief minister, leader of the opposition, acting governor and Speaker of the Gibraltar parliament, was awarded the Freedom of the City at a ceremony on Wednesday.

He was presented with the Keys of Gibraltar by the chief minister, Fabian Picardo, who paid tribute to his service to the community and finished by saying: “Adolfo, on behalf of Gibraltar, I thank you for your many years of devotion and service to the

community you love. What you have received today is the highest accolade that your fellow Gibraltarians can give you. You deserve this Freedom but now you also deserve many more years of happy and healthy retirement. As a memento and keepsake for you and for many generations of Canepa’s to come, it gives me great pleasure to present you with ‘The Keys of Gibraltar’. You have earned them and I know will guard them safely. Congratulations, my friend.”

In 2014, Mr Canepa published his memoirs, a book called Serving my Gibraltar.

IN BRIEF

TOURISM

Eastern Airways now flying to Gibraltar

D.B. The first Eastern Airways flight to Gibraltar from Southampton arrived on Monday, and this new service will now be operated twice a week, all year round.

The plane was given a traditional welcome upon landing, with water sprays from the Fire Brigade, and all passengers on board were presented with Visit Gibraltar branded gifts to mark the occasion.

NEWS

New mayor's investiture on Tuesday

D.B. The investiture of the new mayor and deputy mayor of Gibraltar, Christian Santos and Carmen Gomez, will take place on Tuesday 1 June at City Hall. Mr Santos, who will be replacing the present mayor, Mr John Gonçalves, whose two-year tenure is coming to an end, will be Gibraltar’s 19th mayor and says he is enthusiastically looking forward to the challenge.

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New Catalan leader asks for a referendum and an amnesty

BARCELONA

The regional coalition of the ERC and Junts parties was made possible by the fragile support of anti-capitalist CUP

SUR

The new pro-independence Catalan government was sworn in on Tuesday, just before the end of the time limit to avoid having to repeat regional elections.

In front of new president Pere Aragonès, of republican ERC, the 14 regional ministers promised “loyalty to the president” but without customary references to the King and the Spanish constitution.

In his first speeches this week, Pere Aragonès called for the resolution of the Catalan independence conflict “without delay” through a referendum on self-determination and an amnesty for those sentenced for previous separatist disobedience. In addition



Aragonès at his investiture. AFP

he said a priority would be the economic and social reconstruction of Catalonia after the pandemic.

The new Catalan government is a coalition of left-wing ERC and more centrist Junts. Both are pro-independence but don't agree on exactly what to do next.

ERC is in favour of continued roundtable discussions with the

PM errs towards pardons for separatists

SUR

MADRID. The new Catalan government is hoping to negotiate pardons from central government for the 12 local leaders found guilty of offences, including sedition, after the 2017 illegal independence declaration.

PM Pedro Sánchez has suggested he is not against pardons, but has denied this is due to needing Catalan MPs' support in the national parliament.

The Supreme Court said this week there was no evidence for pardons under nineteenth century laws, as, among other factors, the offenders had not shown any repentance.

Socialist-led central government, but Junts is less convinced.

The investiture was made possible with the additional support of the regional MPs of anti-capitalist party CUP. However members of its youth wing occupied the headquarters of the ERC in a protest on the first day of the new government - an indication of the delicate level of their support.

THE EURO ZONE MARK NAYLER

Mending their ways



There are countless documentaries about murderers on TV today, but hardly any focused on officials who pocket millions of taxpayers' money through subterfuge or bribery. Many such offenders occupy Spanish jail cells, some of whom have been protagonists in the country's biggest corruption scandals; yet once they're imprisoned, we rarely hear about them - about their motives in committing their crimes, their remorse (if they have any) or whether they're undergoing any kind of therapy or rehabilitation. But that might be changing.

In March, Spain launched a programme aimed at rehabilitating corrupt politicians and officials. Currently operating in nine prisons across the country, it consists of group therapy sessions in which offenders are encouraged to recognise their wrongdoings and, eventually, to ask for forgiveness from their victims. Already enrolled in the programme are the King's brother-in-law, Iñaki Urdangarín, who's serving a six-year sentence for embezzlement and tax fraud, and Francisco Correa, a key player in the notorious Gürtel case, who was sentenced to 33 years in 2018.

The programme's leaders say that there's one major problem in working with Spain's corrupt public figures - that money and power have convinced them that they're immune to justice, and/or that they've done nothing wrong. By a process that psychologists call “moral disengagement”,

they also tell themselves that they're helping other people, not just themselves. Thus, by a warped process of internal justification, the sinner becomes a saint, at least in self-reflection.

Imagine, as a thought experiment, that Spain's former monarch Juan Carlos has been found guilty of his alleged financial misdemeanours, that he's serving jail time for them and has enrolled on the rehab programme. Imagine how hard he'd be to work with. Presumably not many of the workshops' participants can say their old job gave them legal immunity - that they were literally, in the eyes of the law, incapable of committing a crime while they had it. Imagine how many layers would have to be broken down to secure a humble admission of wrongdoing from Spain's emeritus king, how much psychological graft would be required to achieve his moral “re-engagement”.

Back in the real world, Spain's former economy minister Rodrigo Rato, ringleader of the “Black Credit Cards” scandal, has yet to enrol for the therapy sessions. Perhaps the greater your power and wealth is, the more effective your tools of denial and self-justification become, which in turn makes reform and rehabilitation harder to achieve (although Rato publicly apologised before starting his sentence in 2018). If the workshops are able to reform the former IMF chief and prepare him for a cheat-free life on the outside, we'll know they're really succeeding.

Vox told it cannot protest over migrants in Ceuta

CEUTA

SUR. Police, authorities and volunteer workers have continued the task this week of identifying and repatriating hundreds of children and teenagers who entered Ceuta from Morocco last week.

The migrant crisis in Ceuta has caused tensions between parties on the right. While far-right Vox wanted to arrange a demonstration in Ceuta against what it considers an “invasion”, the conservative PP distanced itself from the idea. In the end, the protest didn't

go ahead after a court order.

“The government has blocked the right of the biggest party in Ceuta to meet and to demonstrate, all with the collusion of the PP,” said Vox leader Santiago Abascal. “They want to shut us up because there is a plan to bring in 250,000 immigrants a year.”

The disagreement between PP and Vox over Ceuta is putting extra pressure on the PP-led government in Andalucía which, for the moment, is supported by Vox.



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LETTERS
TO THE EDITOR

It's a flying cheek

We live three hundred metres from the little aerodrome in Trapiche. Apart from a few years ago when the aerodrome had a heavy number of private pilots using the space above our heads to practice noisy and dangerous 'aerobatics' continuously - I am pleased to say this is no longer an issue - the aerodrome has not really been a problem - just the odd propeller aircraft passing over from time to time which is no trouble at all and quite a delight.

But in recent months the air traffic has risen, with the opening of two pilot schools, and within the local community a protest group was formed on social media which has become very active, and followed especially by those living in north Vélez and Benamocarra.

This has now become a big local controversy which we have been following from a distance. However, when the President of the Real Aeroclub de Málaga, which runs the aerodrome, was recently asked for comments on the recent

protests from local residents, by SUR, I was shocked and infuriated to read his answer.

Translated, he said, "The majority of protesters are foreigners who have bought country houses that are illegal as they are agricultural buildings that they are letting out to tourists."

As a person with a real estate business in this area for twenty years, I could not believe my eyes, at such an arrogant and prejudiced answer. Every 'foreigner' I know in this area lives in a legal or legalised residential house, and thanks to the hard work of local lawyers, notaries and some agencies, I know of no case of 'foreigners' living in or letting out agricultural buildings to tourists as residences. Does anyone know of such a case?

I would like all local 'foreign' residents in this area to know that I intend to defend them, in a letter to the editor, explaining this, and suggesting that if that was the president's only response to a genuine question, then he clearly has no argument.

TONI WATERMAN

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

The needle and the homage done

In normal circumstances, getting off the bus and walking into El Corte Inglés by mistake isn't the end of the world. In fact, it gives a chap the chance to gaze upon racks of televisions the size of Kazakhstan and then spend the rest of the day wondering who actually buys one.

Anyway, these weren't normal circumstances; no, this was quite literally a matter of life and death - I was cutting it a bit fine for my Covid vaccination appointment. The vast banks of female lingerie on display had given me a fair indication that I wasn't in the right place, so I hotfooted it to an even bigger building on the other side of the road, the Palacio de Ferias y Congresos. This was more like it. Here I joined a long, fast-moving, socially distanced queue and, in record time, reached the entrance where our temperature was to be taken on a thermometer thingy standing at about waist height. This would have been

fine if the required part of the anatomy to be used weren't the forehead. It meant that the poor chap in front of me, whose stature was somewhat akin to that of the Eiffel Tower, needed various attempts to complete the required manoeuvre successfully, all the while offering a splendid impression of a wading bird at feeding time.

The comedy antics didn't end there. As we stepped into the humungous Palacio structure, a disembodied voice boomed through the speakers in order to ask if anyone had an appointment before 12.42pm (they were running ahead of time). There was no way of replying to the owner of the voice, which resulted in The Wading Bird and I waving our arms about and spinning in ungainly circles to try to attract someone's attention. Luckily - and before we were able to lose any more dignity - we were ushered discretely through a nearby doorway by a nice fellow who could, quite un-

derstandably, barely keep himself from laughing.

A very patient woman then took our details, gave us an appointment for the second jab and pointed to the final, hallowed doorway with her biro. Cunningly, and in order to ensure that no blokes would make any fuss, they'd stationed some very pretty nurses behind the screens to perform the vaccinations. Consequently, we all wore the stoic look of middle-aged men that says "Don't worry about me, love. I fought in six world wars." The nurses all wore the stoic look of young women that says "I bet he holds his stomach in at the beach."

And that was that. Job done. A fifteen-minute wait in case you keeled over from all that stoicism and stuff, and back into town to celebrate with a tapa and a pint of beer, not necessarily in that order.

Magnificently organised, the whole thing. Hats off to all concerned.

IDÍGORAS

Government announces plans to raise retirement age



SUR in English

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THE BOTTOM LINE
ALEKK M. SAANDERS

Traditions, fading like flowers

It is a tradition - every May Cordoba boasts its blooming patios. Traditionally, travel agencies promote the city because of its Mezquita (mosque-cathedral) and of course, the May patio festival. For one hundred years, people have flocked to Cordoba from practically everywhere to admire the display of flowers in spectacular courtyards. However, my Cordoba visit recently will be remembered only for the mandatory taking of my temperature (this new 'ritual' was obligatory before entering a patio). Fortunately, I had no fever, but unfortunately, neither did I have the slightest hint of emotional fever.

Of course, everything is relative. We, who

live in the resorts of the Costa del Sol, are definitely 'spoilt', being surrounded by flower murals and façades covered with sunny blossoming plants on a daily basis.

While wandering through tiny streets of the old town of Cordoba, I found myself thinking of Estepona which, over recent years, has really begun to flourish in every sense of the word. In contrast, it seemed to me that the patios tradition in Cordoba is fading, just like the condition of the flowers in them.

Traditionally, Andalucía is proud of its Muslim monuments. A worth-a-visit triangle was even formed for this purpose: Seville, Cordoba and Granada have always been

recognised for their sightseeing value.

A pity, though, that other capitals of the Andalusian provinces still remain underestimated, and not only by tourists, but by the locals as well. However, there are good examples of less attractive cities, or rather ugly ducklings, turning into swans after a lot of hard work to get their name on the map.

Take, for example, Malaga, which over the last 20 years has transformed itself from an insignificant city to a popular tourist destination. Another example is the aforementioned Estepona, which today really lives up to its slogan Garden of the Costa del Sol.

After always being in the shadow of Marbella, Estepona now seriously competes with its neighbour for the throne of the most glamorous and mesmerising.

Another good example of rebirth is Torremolinos. This resort eventually realised that it had lost its enormous attraction after years of international fame. The legend of Costa del Sol tourism really had faded after several decades of continuous rule by

the same mayor. The new party came to power thanks to a campaign promising to recover the glamour of the 70s, and be "charming" once again.

Charm is something that is possible to achieve, and mountainous villages of Malaga province can confirm this. Genalguacil acquired its charm thanks to the most original, or rather non-traditional of artistic initiatives, and the neighbouring Júzcar is different and enchanting thanks to its change in colour from white to blue.

In our fast-changing times, legends of historical personalities and anecdotes based on visits by celebrities may no longer be sufficient to maintain interest. Even Paris has waned somewhat, while, for example, Dubai is becoming more appealing by offering more emotional experiences.

It looks like tradition is losing its significance and many things that before seemed to be outstanding, are today, probably, just a habit that 'makes' us ignore the reality and new beauty that surrounds us all - when we take the time to look.

VANIAN GARDENS | AEDAS HOMES



Pictures of Vanian Gardens.

AEDAS Homes

QUALITY AND BEST LOCATION. Estepona, one of the most important towns on the Costa del Sol, is set in a privileged location

Vanian Gardens, a unique project in Estepona

ESTEPONA

SUR. Estepona, one of the most important towns on the Costa del Sol, is set in a privileged location. Lying right between two of the most acclaimed marinas on the Mediterranean, Puerto Banus and Sotogrande, its 20-kilometre-long coastline offers innumerable beaches, golf courses, leisure attractions and shopping centres.

It is also the location of Vanian Gardens, an exclusive residential complex of designer homes, situated to assure its residents breath-taking sea views and surrounded by spacious gardens and modern pool facilities. VANIAN Gardens comes with a full range of community amenities that promote a lifestyle perfectly suited for families because they foster an active and healthy social life. The fact that it forms part of the VANIAN estate, moreover, ensures that the entire surrounding area is developed by AEDAS Homes, a new-generation property developer that prioritises low density and sustainability in its projects.

Its exceptional setting, striking design and complete infrastructures make VANIAN Gardens an ideal project for investment, given the above-market return it will attract and its great revaluation



potential. It is a secure, exclusive development set in a natural enclave with stunning views of the Mediterranean; a unique combination making it perfect for use as either your permanent home or for holidays dreams are made of.

Phases I and II, ready to move in

Located in one of the most privileged districts in Estepona (the town dubbed the Costa del Sol's new "Golden Mile"), your new home in Estepona is move-in ready. Surrounded by green spaces spread over 20,000 m², this new-



build development in Estepona, where you are still in time to buy your new home (including ground-floor flats with gardens and pent-houses), also comes with commu-

nity facilities, among which you will find swimming pools and landscaped areas where you can relish the 300+ days' sunshine the Malaga coastline enjoys every year.

Superb community areas, an-AEDAS Homes' concept

AEDAS Homes has planned every detail so you can enjoy and share an active and healthy social life. Take a stroll through the well-tended gardens, have a swim or sunbathe in the 4 areas each with their own swimming-pool, get together and work out in the Work&Fun Area, cook up gastronomical delights or arrange private events in a gourmet kitchen, keep fit in the well-equipped gym, indulge your body and mind in the Spa. Likewise, for our younger residents we have included a Youth Club equipped with everything they need to have fun, as well as a spectacular cinema.

Book an online tour of Vanian Gardens

We bring our homes to your screen. You can now connect live with Vanian Gardens 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 questions you may have without moving from your sofa!

Ronda's inspiring social chef

Miguel Herrera shares his generous appetite for life, supporting disadvantaged youngsters and saving lost plants

ANDREW FORBES



I'm surrounded with the abundance of nature; from the sound of songbirds along the riverbanks, the gentle curiosity of Sofia, a white donkey that leans towards me for attention, to colourful, if somewhat nervous, hens and cockerels that clear the path as I walk onwards. Each side of me is verdant produce, from wild artichokes to climbing beans, and ahead, is kennel, vibrant with 12 Spanish Mastiff puppies that cuddle and clamber among themselves.

Hotel Cueva del Gato

I'm enjoying an informal tour of the idyllic grounds of Hotel Cueva del Gato, near Ronda. My guide is Mohamed, a young immigrant from Morocco, whose time here on the finca is giving him the opportunity to start a new life, to learn valuable agricultural and hospitality skills, whilst also feeling part of an extended family in Spain.

Soon enough Chef Miguel Herrera joins me, and enthusiastically explains his intentions with this diverse organic fruit and vegeta-

ble 'huerta' on the banks of the River Guadiaro.

"We're saving historic species of fruits and vegetables here," Miguel tells me, pointing out freshly cultivated plots on this rolling countryside that faces the iconic Cueva del Gato cave system and its beautiful, natural river pool.

Reclaiming lost produce

Vintage species of Ronda pears, and Ronda tomatoes are being saved from extinction. They hope to recover the art of Ronda perry-making too, using the pears to make a kind of cider. Miguel is even planting vines from times before phylloxera, when the nearby ancient city of Acinipo was at the heart of winelands that exported across the Roman empire.

This charming estate is more than just an agricultural experiment though. It provides much of the organic produce for Rustic Experience Andalucía, Miguel's hospitality and catering business that has inspiring social and environmental goals.

"The Covid-19 crisis has been our biggest challenge," explains



Chef Miguel Herrera helps the community and the environment. **SUR**

Miguel. But as a former amateur boxer, he tells me he's "experienced at rolling with the punches".

The small family business, which includes the delightful Cueva del Gato Hotel & Restaurant (reopened in 2019), also encompasses El Golumbreo, an inclusive cooking school in nearby Ronda.

This supports his catering service El Cuchareo, which delivers events and wedding cuisine; as well as L17 Rustic Food which has on trend 1940s style food trucks - "slow food on wheels" he says.

Already at 33, Miguel has created a reputation as a talented chef who has a passion for this part of

the world, its local ingredients, and regional recipes. He tells me his business is not only about sharing the culture, traditions, and food of Ronda with visitors, but also about promoting and teaching sustainable agriculture as well as supporting disadvantaged youngsters through training.

It's an ambitious project. Yet, as our conversation continues, I cannot fail but be captivated. Last June Ronda's town hall marked Miguel's significant contribution to the local community during the Covid-19 crisis with an award - recognition of how in times of hardship, some businesses rise to the occa-

sion and encourage a community's altruism and solidarity.

Cocina inclusiva

Earlier in the day I visited El Golumbreo, Miguel's organic cooking school on Ronda's Calle Jerez. Courses are available for holiday visitors, and children. The kitchen also supports young vulnerable people who can learn valuable cooking and hospitality skills, while creating a delicious daily menu available for eat-in and take-away.

The kitchen collaborated with the town hall and the Red Cross, enabling it to also offer meals to local families in need. It's an extraordinary undertaking and one that shows the passion Miguel not only has for 0km food, but also for the local community. The school has already touched the lives of so many. "It's probably my greatest achievement," admits Miguel.

Born in Algodonales, in Cadiz province, about 40km north west of Ronda, Miguel had a challenging upbringing, learning to cook at home as a child, so he could care for his ill mother. It shaped his view of the world and motivated him to make a difference, to create positive change.

As clients of the cooking school's kitchen, the Cueva del Gato restaurant and Hotel or the local catering business, locals and visitors alike are helping make that change a reality.





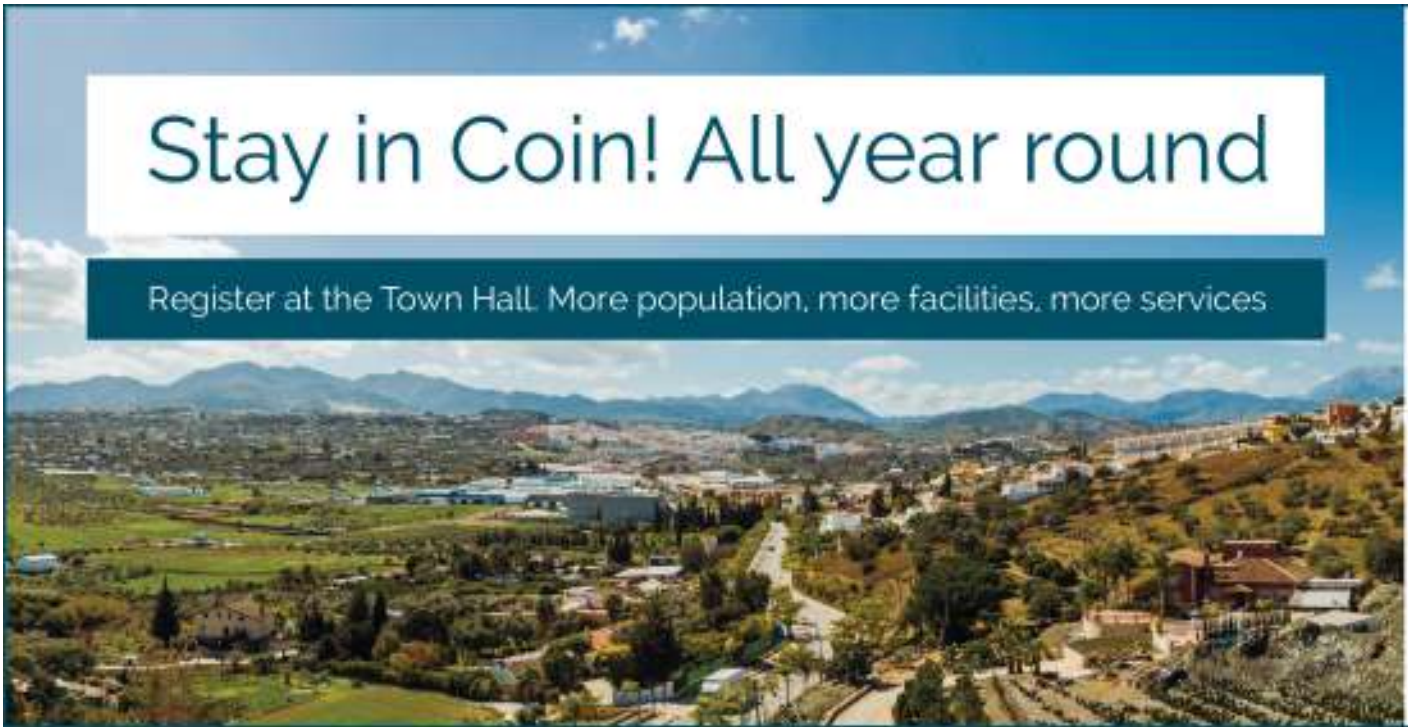
A highlight of a stay at Cueva del Gato rural hotel is a meal in the riverside restaurant. It's the chance to be immersed in the culinary culture of the Sierra de Cadiz, Serranía de Ronda, and Genal Valley.

Making a difference never tasted so good.

i Ronda insider guide : P22

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The intoxicating creativity of Marian Beke

The award-winning bartender visits Andalucía to train a new generation of mixologists

ANDREW FORBES

Estepona appears to have been leading the way recently with the recuperation of the Costa del Sol's tourism sector. Home to not only the Kempinski resort, and the re-opened Anantara Villa Padierna Palace Resort (where Michelle Obama once stayed), the municipality is also where visitors will find Spain's only Ikos resort.

Opened this month, Ikos Andalusia is a 400-room beachside property west of Marbella; an 'infinite lifestyle' resort with designer suites, exclusive leisure and wellness facilities (including an Anne Sémonin Paris spa) and gourmet menus designed by Michelin-star chefs. It's surely set to raise the bar for visitors' expectations of the Costa del Sol.

Cocktail inspiration

It's here, at the resort's main bar that I met with Marian Beke, the renowned bartender and mixologist, and owner of London's award-winning cocktail bar, The Gibson. "These mixology seminars are

all about inspiring the team," explains Marian, who flew over from London last week to train the resort's team.

"I'm sharing some of the techniques we use in London. I want to excite the team and bring a smile to the guests' faces."

Designed by Madrid-based architectural firm Studio Gronda, the Main Bar of Ikos Andalusia is an architectural masterpiece. Opening onto an Ibiza-style Mediterranean beach terrace, the bar is an elegant, continuous oval, with sweeping, drinks shelves above, stocked with hundreds of bottles, that seem to climb (thanks to the ingenious use of mirrors) up beyond the ceiling, to infinity.

This stylish space is the setting for Marian Beke's cocktail workshops, showcasing his new collection Exclusive Elixirs cocktails for the Ikos Andalusia, as well as teaching a few tricks of the trade this master bartender has learnt in his illustrious career in mixology and hospitality.

Mixology magic

Marian Beke is from Slovakia. His father was in the wine business, so from an earlier age Marian was immersed in the world of hospitality. Although he could well have gone on to become a sommelier,



Marian Beke during his visit to the Ikos hotel in Estepona. SUR

it was a teenage trip to Prague, and a visit to a cocktail bar that was to change the course of his life.

Seduced by the freedom and creativity of a bartender, able to mix a drink to suit a client's mood and appetite, Marian made a leap of faith and moved to the UK, where he learnt the language and honed his creative mixology skills at some of the city's most iconic bars.

The Gibson, on London's trendy Old Street, is Marian's first bar of his own and is already recognised as one of the top 50 cocktail bars in the world.

For the Andalusian workshops, Marian has also brought with him

a large collection of his unique cocktail glasses and accessories. It's a captivating display of vintage ceramic designs and porcelain cups, customised items made from coconut shells and even candle sticks, together with kitsch and fun creations like floating glass holders for the pool and even an incredible hulk hand!

This is all in the name of inspiration. You won't see these quirky items on the menu, but they are fun and evocative tools used by Marian to communicate the power of story-telling that lies in each unique, artisan concoction.

Marian wants to nurture crea-

MAKE YOUR OWN

Try a flavour of Marian Beke's Exclusive Elixirs at home, with this simple and refreshing recipe for the Andalusian Julep, "a light, refreshing Mediterranean cocktail", confirms Marian.



► **Ingredients.** 50ml 10 años Spanish brandy; 10ml of mango syrup; 10ml of vanilla syrup; chocolate bitters.

► **Method.** Build and mix the ingredients, serve with lots of ice in a julep cup, garnished with mint leaves and a dehydrated nectarine wheel.

tivity, motivate the team to create their own stories and "continue their journey as bartenders. It's not just about preparing the cocktails on the menu," explains Beke. "Guests may want to order off the menu and ask the bartender to create a drink. I want them to offer the wow factor. These days, guests expect more than the typical resort pina colada or mojito."

That's where the mixology magic of Marian Beke comes in, creating evocative and beautiful drinks that use international and locally sourced ingredients, with garnishes from the Mediterranean gardens.

The opening of Ikos Andalusia begins a new chapter in the story of the Costa del Sol's reinvention as a 21st century tourism destination that can compete with the finest resorts of Europe.





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THE INSIDER GUIDE

While in Ronda...

ANDREW FORBES

STAY

Hotel Cueva del Gato

Riverside rural hotel with charming restaurant and terrace. Enjoy traditional recipes made from 0km produce, like pumpkin and chestnut soup, local pork cheek slow cooked with Ronda wine and a homemade yoghurt sweetened with village honey. "It makes so much sense, for our health and our communities, to eat locally," explains owner and chef Miguel Herrera.

hotelcuvadelgato.com

Hotel Cortijo LA Organic

Hotel Cortijo LA Organic, once an abandoned Andalusian country house, has been given a new lease of life as a stylish boutique five-room hotel, surrounded by olive groves in Ronda's picturesque Llano de la Cruz valley.

www.laorganic.es/cortijo/

Casa del Río 'Boho Chic Retreat'

Stylish riverside B&B rural retreat and wedding venue in the Genal valley. Bright rooms with extremely comfortable beds overlook the picturesque river. A delicious breakfast basket is delivered to the room to be enjoyed anywhere on the property. Ideal base for hiking and exploring the white villages.

casadelrioretreat.com

Hotel La Fuente de Higuera

A Ronda favourite for decades, this boutique property in an an-



Casa del Río.



Hotel Cueva del Gato.



Rustic Experience Andalucia.

cient mill offers the quintessential rural Andalusian escape.

www.hotellafuente.com

DRINK AND EAT

Rustic Experience Andalucia

Heading out hiking? Then order an organic takeaway meal or picnic from Ronda's El Golimbreo kitchen; or if you're renting a villa or Airbnb, order catering from El Cuchareo.

rusticexperienceandalucia.com

Bar Panorámico Hotel Catalonia

Hotel Catalonia offers one of the best views in Ronda, right over the historic bullring towards the Serranía de Ronda. Visit the rooftop bar for a pre-dinner cocktail or maybe a sundowner.

www.cataloniahotels.com

Tragatá

On-trend creative tapas, in Ronda's Calle Nueva, from the kitchen of chef Benito Gómez.

tragata.com

Restaurante Bardal

The flagship restaurant of Michelin-star chef Benito Gómez.

restaurantebardal.com

Restaurante Escudero

Found just off the Ronda ring road (formerly Venta del Mirador), the newly opened Restaurante Escudero, by José Manuel López Marfil and his wife Rocío Guerrero Pérez, offers contemporary cuisine, with one of the finest views of Ronda's old town.

restaurantescudero.com

Restaurante El Muelle de Arriate

Gourmet restaurant that has stood the test of time. Housed in a historic former railway building in the village of Arriate.

elmuelle-arriate.com

Restaurante Audalázar

Taking the scenic route from Ronda to Gaucín, through the Genal valley, is a must - and a good place to stop and eat well is Restaurant Audalázar in the delightful hamlet of Atajate. They promise traditional regional cuisine, and exclusive, contemporary recipes.

www.audalazar.com

DO

Ascari

Elite private racetrack offering unforgettable track experiences in extraordinary cars. Check website for when the site re-opens.

<https://ascari.net>

Ronda's bullring

A visit to the Real Maestranza de Caballería de Ronda is a must.

www.rmcr.org/m/

Ronda Tauro

Unique estate, renowned for breeding Andalusian horses and bulls, offers visitor tours.

www.reservatauro.com

LA Organic Experience

Become familiar with Andalucía's gourmet extra virgin olive oil in one of the most beautiful settings, with stylish 'surprises' by designer Philippe Starck.



Hotel Cortijo LA Organic.



Panoramic view of Ronda.

www.laorganic.es

Mr Henderson's Railway

Manni Coe, founder and the creative talent behind Toma & Coe, has created a unique day tour experiencing the Andalusian railway built by Victorian Englishman Mr Henderson. Expect some wonderful food and the chance to hike the local countryside too.

tomaandcoo.com/tours

Walk the Tajo

Ronda is built upon the extraordinary river Guadalevín gorge, offering 100-metre-high walking routes with views out across the landscape, as well as less well known routes that pass from the old town down along the gorge. Each year more routes are being restored and the town hall has commissioned the architect behind the Caminito del Rey to create a new hiking experience.

Winelands Tour

Ronda's countryside is punctuated with small boutique wineries, many offering private tours and tastings. You can create your own itinerary, or alternatively Toma & Coe offers a curated Ronda wine experience.

tomaandcoo.com/tours

WHERE IN THE WORLD?

Famous for its forest fruits, every year between the end of May and mid-June, locals in the town pictured come together to celebrate the local strawberry harvest.

During the annual festival, which takes place on the first Sunday of June, carnival processions take place, locals dress up in costumes and the town is beautifully decorated.

Visitors can sample the local delicacy in many different ways: in their purest form, as a granita, in pastries, liquours and even risottos.

If you can name this town and the festival you could win a prize. Only answers with your name, address and telephone number



Sweet variety



will be considered.

Congratulations to Paivi Manninen in Torremolinos who correctly identified last month's photo. It was of the Helsinki Cathedral (Finland) and the festival was Vappu Day. Your prize will be on its way soon.

Send your answer to english@diariosur.es

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Authorities, organisers and sponsors at the festival launch this week. S. SALAS

No red carpet but lots of movies for the 2021 Malaga Film Festival

The event in June will dispense with any acts that may generate crowds to guarantee a 'friendly and safe' 24th edition

REGINA SOTORRÍO

MALAGA. The coronavirus situation is improving, but it is not yet the time for Malaga's Film Festival to return to the streets. Instead, the organisers have opted for "prudence"

and dropped its traditional format, for the second consecutive year, and will prioritise the films over social events.

The event, which runs from 3 to 13 June and focuses on Spanish-language film, will dispense with the red carpet and any other acts that may generate crowds to guarantee a "friendly and safe" 24th edition.

The 2021 edition will be the longest festival in its history and will span 11 days to accommodate all the planned screenings, as well as complying with the health measures including the disinfection of the theatres after each show and the 50 per cent capacity limit with the separation of a seat between audience members.

The big screen of the Cervantes theatre will show 23 titles over the course of the event and, between the Official and Zonazine sections, some 42 per cent of the films are directed by women.

The Malaga Festival unveiled its 24th edition at the Cervantes theatre with the usual script: a massive presentation attended by political authorities and sponsors in a show of strength and support for Spanish cinema. Along with the mayor of Malaga, Francisco de la Torre (whose administration contributes the most to the event, with 1.8 million euros), were representatives from the Junta de Andalucía, and sponsors Atresmedia, the La Caixa Foundation, Cervezas Victoria and Starview Style.

As the official media partner for the event, SUR's editor-in-chief Manuel Castillo congratulated the festival "for maintaining the pulse and defence of culture" in a complicated situation and he reiterated the newspaper's commitment to the contest so that it "remains a great festival of Spanish cinema".

Tickets for the annual film festival went on sale on Tuesday, 25 May, and the team is already working on the 2022 edition, when the event will celebrate its silver anniversary on its regular date, in the second half of March.

We want to get back to putting the world to rights



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FESTIVAL FACTS

► **Dates.** 3 to 13 June.

► **Venues.** Cervantes and Echegaray theatres, Cines Albéniz, Gran Hotel Miramar, Picasso Museum, Carmen Thyssen Museum and open-air venues around the city.

► **Films.** Feature and shorts in Spanish

► **Tickets.** festivaldemalaga.com

WHAT HAPPENED TODAY?

28 MAY 1998

Spanish air traffic control strike causes chaos

Flights were cancelled at airports across the country and delays of up to four hours affected outbound as well as incoming passengers

Chaos reigned across Spain on 28 May 1998 as a 24-hour strike by Spanish air traffic controllers affected 100,000 passengers across the country's 40 airports.

The reason for the strike was that air traffic controllers were unhappy about having to work overtime due to a shortage of staff. They were negotiating new terms with Spain's airport operator, Aena.

The 1,200 air traffic controllers were demanding an extra 709 staff to al-

leviate the 470,000 extra hours they claimed they worked cumulatively each year.

The strike started at 8am, but the real effects did not start to be felt until midday, with the situation coming to a head by mid-afternoon.

At Malaga Airport, some 10,000 passengers were affected and around 100 flights faced delays of up to four hours or even cancellations.

Madrid's Barajas airport was forced to cancel 91 Iberia flights while 38 were cancelled at Barcelona.

SUR journalist Pedro Tornay, who covered the strike, reported seeing "faces of desperation and indignation" as the departures hall at Malaga Airport filled up with disgruntled passengers. Queues formed at



The check-in area at Malaga Airport fills with anxious passengers. F. G.

the different airline desks, but staff were unable to provide information about when, or even if, flights would be leaving.

It was a similar situation in the arrivals hall, with family members and friends who had gone to meet passengers flying in to Malaga uncertain as to how long they would have to wait.

Information screens sometimes flashed up with estimated departure and arrival times, only for the details to disappear as the situation changed.

Airports and authorities were already predicting that Friday 29 May would be even worse, as they tried to handle, not only the backlog of passengers from

Thursday, but also the larger number of travellers arriving that day due to the extended flight schedule at weekends.

Aena called for "responsibility to restore normality and quality of service as soon as possible" and said it was negotiating with staff to reach a deal.

Bilingual crossword inside back page

LANGUAGE FOOTNOTE

Controlador	Controller
Aeropuerto	Airport
Huelga	Strike
Caos	Chaos
Cancelado	Cancelled
Queja	Complaint
Retraso	Delay
Cola	Queue
Desesperación	Desperation
Indignación	Indignation
Disgustado	Disgruntled
Espera	Wait
Pantalla	Screen
Restablecer	To restore
Desaparecer	To disappear
Responsabilidad	Responsibility
Calidad	Quality
Pronosticar	To predict



A couple await their flight. C. M.

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DENISE BUSH

GARDENING

Delosperma cooperi

Several plants share the common name ice plant and the family Aizoaceae. Delosperma cooperi is one of them. The common name comes from the tiny hairs which reflect the light and cover the plant making it sparkle like ice crystals. Ideal for hot, dry gardens, Delosperma cooperi (synonym

Mesembryanthemum cooperi) has small, fleshy needle-like leaves and purplish-pink, daisy-like flowers. It is a vigorous grower and will form a large mat of vegetation which is smothered with flowers in the spring and through most of the summer. It is usually grown as ground cover,

spreading up to a metre wide by about 10cm tall, but can also be used in containers and hanging baskets where it will trail over the sides.

Although drought resistant, occasional watering during the hottest months will keep it healthy and it prefers a situation in full sun or light shade.

The soil must be free-draining and allow it to dry completely between waterings; it may rot if kept too wet.

Delosperma cooperi is not fussy about soil and will grow in even the poorest. It does not need fertiliser although an occasional watering with a liquid feed will encourage it to spread and produce more leaves.

Removal of dead stems and faded flower heads will promote more blooms which will attract lots of beneficial insects to the garden such as bees and butterflies.

Propagating Delosperma cooperi is simple and can be carried out by taking cuttings at any time of the year except the winter, it can also be propagated by seed. Cuttings root easily in water or soil. Seeds need to be sprinkled on the surface of potting compost or the ground and left uncovered as they need light to germinate.

Native to Africa, Delosperma is moderately cold hardy; in land, in cold areas, it will need some protection or it may die back in the winter.

The specific epithet cooperi is named after Thomas Cooper (1815 - 1913), an English botanist and plant collector.



Delosperma cooperi and close up of blooms. A. PENNINGTON / WIKIMEDIA

READERS' PHOTOS



ROSALIND CAPLAN

Sweet columbine

Columbine, (also called granny's bonnet), comes in a wide range of colours and is a cottage-garden favourite. Its botanical name is Aquilegia and it is a member of the Ranunculacea family. This photo was sent in by SUR in English reader Rosalind Caplan.



DAVID BULLOCH

A barrow full of flowers

David Bulloch planted a few petunias in an old wheel barrow three years ago and they have reseeded themselves every year giving a wonderful display.

PHOTOS

Calling all gardeners

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

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



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EOI SHORT STORY CONTEST

A passion for writing - in English

SUR IN ENGLISH

MALAGA. Every year the official language school in Malaga (Escuela Oficial de Idiomas - EOI) runs a short story competition

for students of English as a foreign language.

Teachers at the school select their top three stories from the entries submitted by students at EOIs around Andalucía. They

then invite the editorial team at SUR in English to help decide the winner.

The task was a pleasure once again this year. Writing fiction is an admirable achievement,

Winner María del Mar Ruiz Navarro

Carpool

Bloody hell! Not again!" -Lizzie sighed. Her phone had died, something she should have got used to, now that using Google Translate and calling Nana's lawyer nonstop were her morning routine. Even though she was 27, Lizzie had never faced bureaucracy before, let alone do paperwork in a country and a language that weren't hers. But after Nana Rose died of coronavirus, that was the only thing she had been doing.

As soon as she could, Lizzie moved to Spain to take care of everything. She knew that was what Nana would have wanted. After all, Nana had left the guesthouse, the money, and even her large collection of eccentric teapots to Lizzie; leaving Pierce, Lizzie's father, and Rue, her half-sister, empty-handed.

Lizzie's father knew he deserved it. Since he remarried, he hadn't seen his mother more than a few hours every

year when he would travel to Fuengirola to drop Lizzie at the guesthouse. And the moment Lizzie came of age, not even that. Pierce, Tracy - Lizzie's stepmom -, and Rue used to travel abroad every summer; however, Lizzie begged all year long to go to Spain and stay with Rose.

As a child, she loved being at the guesthouse, cooking with Nana, the karaoke nights, going to the ginormous cash-and-carry and getting lost in its infinite aisles so that Nana had to call her name over the Tannoy... and when Lizzie grew older, she wouldn't miss a few weeks helping out grandma and getting tipsy off Nana's disgusting homemade brandy while singing Tom Jones's songs together every night.

With those tender memories still fresh in her heart and after some family drama with Rue trying to challenge the will, Lizzie was finally in Malaga ready to start a new

life in charge of the old guesthouse. And there she was, running in the middle of a downtown street in Malaga, exhausted after dealing with civil servants the whole morning - god-damned Brexit! - and realising her phone had died.

"What am I gonna do?" she thought, "What was the car make? Was it blue or black? The driver's name was Antonio for sure... or maybe Paco?" Lizzie tried desperately to remember as she had found a ride in a carpool app from Malaga to Fuengirola the day before and she was running late. Her happy-go-lucky nature - which made her really lovable and easy-going, but had also caused her a few otherwise easily avoidable problems - had prevented her from taking any notes or even paying much attention when booking the ride.

"Blue, definitely blue... Yay! There it is!" she thought, glad

THE AUTHOR

María del Mar was born in Malaga in 1986. A real foreign language lover, she holds a degree in Translation and Interpretation and has completed her C1 levels in English and French at EOI Malaga. She is also studying Italian. She works as a secondary school teacher in Andalucía and is a lover of Victorian novels, writing, cinema, fashion and coffee. This is the second time she has won the EOIMA Short Story Contest.



to have found the blue car pulled over with the driver inside checking his phone, probably trying to reach her. He was young, maybe in his late twenties, had dark hair and was wearing a black face mask. Lizzie would have sworn the driver looked older in the app picture, but since she didn't even remember his name, she blamed it on her memory.

"Hola," she waved and smiled through the open near side window "Soy Lizzie, siento que soy tarde. Uhm..." she tried to find the words in Spanish but couldn't. "Do you speak English?" she asked, and without even waiting for the answer, she opened the door, sat down, fastened her seat belt and started telling the young driver the ordeal she had experienced that morning.

Then, she noticed the young man's puzzled face. "Am I speaking too fast? My bad... Let's start over. I'm Lizzie and you are... Antonio?" she tried her luck with the name... and failed.

"Javi," he said.

"Oops!" she replied grinning. "Too many carpools these days... I mess up names, you know," she excused herself. "Thank God you waited!"

First runner-up Lourdes Vergara Camuña

The journey

Soon after dawn, on what should be considered a ritual rather than a daily routine, Pepe was drinking his cup of strong coffee calmly, as he had no need to rush. Unquestionably, one of the perks that retirement has provided him with was the benefit of being the owner and lord of his time.

Having eaten breakfast, he kissed and said goodbye to his beloved wife and left home, determined to seize the day.

It was sunny day, as if some-

thing promising were about to happen, far away from worries or infirmity.

On his head, he was wearing his dull grey beret and an axe had been placed inside his shoulder bag. Both of them had been accompanying him for more than fifty years; since those days when he had dedicated himself to cut olive and almond trees down, among another chores, which had allowed him to sustain his large family long ago.

Every now and then, he

found going to the countryside to do some tree felling a cheap thrill, which not only did it keep him entertained, but also active.

On that particular spot, surrounded by the trees he had planted and not that distant from that picturesque white-painted village where his home was located, he was able to enjoy himself, feeling at ease and younger than ever, no matter how many wrinkles scored his octogenarian body.

THE AUTHOR

Born in Málaga in 1988, Lourdes took a degree in Business Administration and is currently working in banking. She enjoys learning foreign languages, English and German especially, and reading practically everything, from Victor Hugo to Megan Maxwell. This is the first time she has had her work published.



The sun had reached the point of midday, when Pepe decided to give the axe some rest and pampered himself with a loaf of bread and a chunk of cheese. At that moment, a few sparrows approached him, expecting some leftovers.

All of a sudden, he heard a noise and glimpsed something. "Who's there?" - he asked.

"One, two, three, you can't catch me!" - was the answer said in a playful way, next a giggle was heard. As baffled as he was, Pepe was capable of distinguishing a little boy, not older than five, who was running. While dashing after him, Pepe could not help but wonder who that lad was and what he was doing there, all on his own.

That chase proved Pepe that the years do not go by in vain.

and writing it in a language that is not your own is even more commendable.

The best ten entries to the competition are published every year in the Malaga EOI's

own magazine, Martiricos. Meanwhile, the top three are published here to share with SUR in English readers.

We hope you enjoy them as much as we did.

"But, I..." the boy tried to say something but Lizzie noticed how late it was and blurted "I think we should probably get going now if we want to get to Fuengirola before lunch time". Lizzie didn't quite understand why he was still staring at her speechless, so she continued "Can I charge my phone, please?" Now, a brief smile could be perceived in the lad's face as he closed his eyes in an amused gesture.

"Yes, yes, charge. Fuengirola, no?" he replied with a grin that was now very clear as his cheeks squinted his eyes and some soft charming wrinkles appeared around the sides of his eyes. "Let's go, then!" he said.

All along the way, Lizzie and the young driver used a hilarious Spanglish to natter about the pandemic, Nana, how Lizzie was seeking a name change for the guesthouse... The boy was certainly good company, she would definitely write a good review! When they finally got to the guesthouse, the boy thanked Lizzie for the lovely chat and gave her his number in a piece of paper saying: "if no battery in your phone again!" Lizzie appreciated the gesture and

headed for the guesthouse's back door while attempting to turn on her phone.

And as she was walking in, the deluge of notification sounds coming from her mobile startled her, making her phone fly off and fall right in the middle of the teapot collection, breaking a particularly misshaped clay teapot. While cleaning it up, she noticed some childish writing on one of the pieces. It read "For Nana", it was Lizzie's own writing. Her heart skipped a beat as her memory went back to the moment she gave it to Nana for her birthday, and suddenly understood her grandma's peculiar obsession with teapots.

And while trying to hold back her tears, Lizzie looked at the phone, which wouldn't stop blinking, and gasped to immediately burst into laughter. The notifications were all from Antonio, the actual carpool driver... Yikes! And embarrassed but unable to stop laughing, she finally came out with the new guesthouse name, "The Nutty Teapot" and couldn't help reflecting about what the weird new normal had brought her: an unspeakable pain, but also a new country, a new job and certainly... a new friend!

In spite of being concerned about his health, his legs were not as strong as they used to be; sure the slope, the dirt and the stones were not any help either. Breathless and with his heart pounding, he saw that the nipper had stopped on the top of the hill, awaiting him.

"C'mon! They are waiting for us!" the child yelled. "Who?"- the question was raised in a challenging way. "You'll see"- was the reply. When Pepe managed to get closer to where the boy was, he was beside himself with astonishment. "How bizarre! It isn't possible, is it?"- thought Pepe.

A familiar face was right in front of him, those sparkling coffee-coloured eyes and that wry smile, full of kindness though. Might it be a resemblance? Was the heat playing

a dirty trick on him?

Against all odds, Pepe could not be mistaken; the little boy was actually one of his grandchildren, the one who had passed away about two decades ago, beaten by a dreadful illness. Unable to pronounce a word, due to the shock and the unexpectedness of the situation, he did nothing but listen carefully to these tender words: "It's high time we left, grandpa. Your time here is running out". Pepe cuddled his grandson, held his hand firmly and with no trace of fear and no regrets, encouraged by a certain sense of serenity deep inside his soul, he turned back to contemplate the breathtaking view that he had always loved: a landscape full of almond and olive trees. And then, only then, he went on "the journey".

Second runner-up
Dominika Nozkiewicz

Usual

She woke up early, as on any other day, but didn't jump out of bed with her natural energy, instead kept on snoozing and wondering if she could maybe find another job allowing her to sleep longer and indulge in this very "cosy" and perhaps, from now on, "favourite" piece of furniture, a bed.

Same morning activities again, kitchen, coffee with no sugar and no milk, black and strong, the smell started to make her feel more excited, more than usual. "Weird" crossed her mind but she ignored it and prepared her toast and peanut butter. She's been eating the same food for the last ten years and got used to it but today the taste was more sophisticated, it began to caress her taste buds strangely, almost indecently. She felt somewhat alarmed and shook it off quickly by having her usual cold shower. "At least the shower feels the same," she thought, relieved, when little by little, the drops of water left on her skin, attracted her attention. She found them quite beautiful, shimmering with different colours and flowing slowly over her skin. After a few seconds a strange feeling awoke her from numbness and she heard her own voice saying out loud "What are you doing? You are wasting your time with unnecessary stupidities, there are far more important things to be done," so she quickly got ready, a little bit ashamed of her previous sensations and cracked on with the job for the day. Emails, emails, more emails, then a few meetings and writing some reports, nothing unusual but suddenly she felt this sudden creepy feeling of boredom and annoyance altogether, feeling that nothing had really changed recently and she kept doing exactly the same every day, nothing surprised her anymore and every activity was automatic, repetitive. She killed this feeling quickly with her sharp mind and drank a few glasses of water, convinced it might be caused by dehydration after a night's sleep. "Yes, now things will get back to normal," she sighed, a little bit unnerved by her state of mind this morning which luckily didn't last for too long as she immersed herself in her daily

routines, typing emails in a moderate speed, as requested by professionals, making sure to stand up from time to time and have a little walk around her beautiful flat, nicely arranged with all the right things in their right places. She had her own gym where she exercised with her handsome Trainer. Trainer was smiley and happy as usual, shouting encouragingly and motivating her to push up and squat to maintain a healthy body with just the right amount of fat and muscles shaped perfectly. "Hmmm, was Trainer a little bit louder today, happier, or am I just starting to get a headache? I haven't had headaches for ages, not since the new normality."

She sat down at her desk again, focusing her eyes on a screen and trying to work but still she could not find peace and return to her beloved state of insensitivity and non-reaction to unnecessary external stimuli. It kept bothering her, so reluctantly she picked a phone dreading a conversation with a human being, her Doctor. Not because Doctor was rude, quite the opposite, it's just that social interactions tended to wear her down easily plus obviously, were not recommended in abundance. Luckily, it wasn't necessary to speak to people face-to-face anymore, thanks to technology

THE AUTHOR

Born in 1989 in Lima-nowa, Poland, Dominika holds a degree in Indian studies and works as an English teacher in Spain. She is passionate about contemporary Indian writers, dancing, learning foreign languages and yoga, among others. This is the first time she has had her work published.



advancements. The same familiar voice greeted her but she could sense a note of concern while she was explaining her symptoms, thinking she would get some prescriptions for vitamin supplements and a few other pills, as usual, and hearing the assurances that there was no need to worry, when suddenly strange words reached her ears. She took a few long deep breaths and kindly asked the Doctor to repeat. "Excuse me," said She, unable to contain her irritation which irritated her even more because letting go of emotions was not normal people's behaviour and, clearly, it was triggered by some nonsense the Doctor was repeating.

"Is it some kind of a joke?" she screamed and bit her tongue quickly after that, aware that she couldn't control her words anymore. "Ms She, I'm terribly sorry but you need to come to my office quickly, right away if possible. We'll have to run some tests, there's a chance that you might be a victim of a new disease but do not panic, I'm sure we can easily cure it. It's a little bit contagious so please be yourself and keep your distance, no smiles, no eye contact, just the usual. We would send an ambulance for you but it's better if you walk alone. Do not take a bus." "Why would I take a bus?" asked She, surprised at this mention of public transport as she started making her way out of the house, slowly putting on gloves, hat and other garments making her less susceptible to germs. While she was walking, deep in her mind, she realised she could not stop her galloping thoughts, she couldn't stop thinking and it seriously worried her. "What is happening, what is wrong with me?" she started running, wanting to get rid of that sickness as quickly as she could, looking down on the ground, when suddenly she bumped into something causing her a little pain. She gazed up annoyed and saw Someone smiling at her. Smiling at her directly, showing teeth. "Oh no, weird. I need to get out of here," thought She but Someone kept smiling and unwillingly her face started moving too, she could feel the corners of her lips lifting upwards. "I'm done," She concluded, still trying to run but suddenly she felt the warmth spreading over her body and was unable to move her legs; actually, she didn't want to move anymore. "Hello," She said and Someone replied "Hello."

EXHIBITIONS

Exposición de Taller de Grabado

MARBELLA. Until 30 June. El Museo del Grabado Español Contemporáneo. An exhibition of artwork by Manolo Millares.

OVO, Carlos Pesudo

MARBELLA. Until 24 July. Galería Yusto/Giner. La Ermita industrial estate, C/Madera, 9. A selection of artwork by Carlos Pesudo.



Carlos Pesudo, Marbella.

Gallery Art Club

FUENGIROLA. Until 20 June. Calle Quemada. Monday, Wednesday, Friday, 11am - 2pm.

The new exhibition consists of a collection of paintings by a group of international artists.

Álvaro Hidalgo

MIJAS. Until 21 June. Centro Cultural La Cala.

The Walking Drone is the title of this exhibition which consists of aerial photos of nature by Álvaro Hidalgo.

Nela Dip

TORREMOLINOS. Until 20 June. Casa de Los Navajas.

Artworks by contemporary artist Nela Dip. The project, which consists of over 40 bright, colourful, designs painted onto wooden boards and varnished, was conceived and completed during the quarantine.

Malaga Picasso Museum

MALAGA. Museo Picasso Málaga, Calle San Agustín.

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

Marenostrom begins with show by celebrated violinist Ara Malikian

FUENGIROLA

The Lebanese musician will perform his fusion of world music with Cuban pianist Iván 'Melon' Lewis

TONY BRYANT

The Marenostrom cycle of summer concerts in Fuengirola starts on Friday 4 June with a concert by Lebanese electric-violinist Ara Malikian. The 52-year-old musician will make his second appearance on the coveted stage in the grounds of Sohail Castle, though this time he will be joined by Cuban pianist Iván 'Melon' Lewis, a Latin Grammy nominee who is recognised as one of the most talented and influential pianists of his generation.

Malikian, who has released more than 25 albums, is currently promoting the Petit Garage tour, which has already taken him to Dubai and Mexico. He will stop off to perform in Fuengirola before continu-



Ara Malikian will open this year's Marenostrom festival. SUR

ing with more than 30 dates in Spain.

Ara Malikian was born in Lebanon in 1968 to a family of Armenian origin. His gift for playing the violin was discovered at an early age and he has since developed into a composer and unique musician. His talent was noticed and at the age of fourteen, when he won a scholarship to study at the Graduate School of Music in Hanover, Germany. After this, he moved to

London to train at the London Guildhall School of Music and Drama.

The musician continues to expand his own blend of music, fusing it with the music of different cultures such as Jewish klezmer, Gypsy flamenco, Argentinean tango and Cuban jazz.

Tickets for the show, which begins at 10pm, cost 45 euros and are available online, from www.marenostromfuengirola.com.

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

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

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

Picasso exchange. Until February 2022. The MPM has made an exchange with the Musée National Picasso-Paris and will be able to exhibit the wood and oil paint sculpture Copa, Periódico y Dado that Pablo Picasso created in 1914. The same year he created the sculpture The Absinthe Cup which is currently



Giovanni Battista, Thyssen.

on loan to the museum in Paris. www.museopicassomalaga.org.

Colección del Museo Ruso

MALAGA. Edificio Tabacalera, Avda

Sor Teresa Prat.

Annual exhibition. Until 29 May 2022, the museum will be exhibiting 183 works entitled Guerra y Paz en el arte Ruso (War and Peace in Russian art). Many leading artists with close ties to Russia formed an international school of battle painting. Among them were Gottfried Willewalde, Theodor Horschelt, Aleksandr Kotzebue, Adolph Charlemagne, Franz Roubaud and Rudolf Frenz, with Englishman George Dawe. Sculptors Piotr Klodt and Yevgueni Lanceray also devoted themselves to this theme. The paintings weren't limited to battles but also reflected the effect of war on everyday living. The exhibition includes works by Kazimir Malévich, Sofía Dímshts-Tolstaia, Aleksandr Labás, Izrail Lizak and Yuri Jrzhanovski among others.

Centre Pompidou

MALAGA. Muelle Uno.

<https://centrepompidou-malaga.eu/>
From Miró to Barceló. The semi-permanent exhibition is entitled De Miró a Barceló. Un siglo de Arte Español (From Miró to Barceló. A century of Spanish art). This chronological journey through a century of Spanish art shows that the generation of contemporary artists has kept alive the spirit of the avant-garde with extraordinary energy.

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.

Rafa Macarrón, Quince. Until 6 June. The exhibition consists of canvases, drawings and four large bronze sculptures.

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.

Pasión II. Permanent collection. From the collection of Carmen Buqueras on permanent loan to the CAC.

MALAGA. CAC Málaga - La Coracha. Museo del Patrimonio Municipal.

Ana S. Valderrábanos. Borderline.

Until 20 June. The artist's first solo exhibition features more than fifty works, including paintings and embroidery on different mediums, using vibrant colours, prominently featuring a woman's silhouette.

Galería JM

MALAGA. C/ Duquesa de Parcent, 12.

Selva de Tiempo is the title of the current exhibition at the gallery by artist José Luís Valverde depicting the connection between the living and the dead. There is also a collective exhibition called Panorama by artists such as Miki Leal, Alejandro Castillo and Chema Cobo among others. It is on display until 23 July.

Manuel Camino

MALAGA. Until 13 June. Salas Mingo-rance, Archivo Municipal de Málaga, Alameda Principal.

Xebius y el arte de los sueños is the title of this exhibition of works by Xbox 360 designer, publicist and artist Manuel Camino. The exhibition consists of large format paintings reflecting visions in his dreams. Besides his art he has also worked on advertising campaigns for Nike, Suzuki, Heineken, Kia, Microsoft and



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Ibn Gabirol, Malaga.

Nestle among others.

Carmen Thyssen Museum

MALAGA. C/ Compañía, 10. 10am - 8pm Tuesday to Sunday.

Collection. A journey through mainly Spanish art from the Old Masters through to Romantic Landscape and Costumbrismo, Précieux Style and Naturalist Painting and Fin-de-Siècle. **Giovanni Battista Piranesi.** The Italian's artist's work may seem at first glance like a selection of 14 of his very obscure and detailed engravings which the Thyssen has received from the Museo de Bellas Artes de Valencia. However, he is considered the precursor of the nightmares of reason that later influenced Goya. The legacy of the Italian artist is now on display and demonstrates in great detail his imaginary prisons. Created in a feverish moment, the painter has recreated a convoluted world, dark and full of staircases.

The past collections of the Thyssen museum can be viewed online at www.carmen Thyssen malaga.org



Coby Bloemsma, Nerja.

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.

Museum Jorge Rando

MALAGA. C/ Cruz del Molinillo. www.museojorgerando.org

The Jorge Rando museum is celebrating its seventh anniversary this year and has a special exhibition entitled Soldados by Jorge Rando and is announcing a new exhibition of Chinese contemporary art. www.jorgerando.org

Brigitte Bardot

MALAGA. Until 6 June. La Térmica. A series of photographs of Brigitte Bardot taken during the filming of the French film Les Bijoutiers du Clair de Lune in 1957. It was directed by Roger Vadim and many scenes were shot in various locations in Malaga province. www.latermicamalaga.com

One thousand years since Ibn Gabirol

MALAGA. Until August. Municipal public library Manuel Altolaguirre (Cruz de Humilladero). To commemorate a thousand years since the birth of Jewish philosopher and poet Salomon Ibn Gabirol, the

city hall has arranged an exhibition in a comic strip style presentation based on the life and works of this illustrious Malaga resident.

Coby Bloemsma

NERJA. From 6 June until 19 September, Wed to Sat, 5-10.30pm, Sun from 2 to 6pm. Hostal Alegre.

An exhibition of all new art works by the Dutch artist Coby Bloemsma including colourful abstracts and objects made from recycled materials.

Gary Elderfield

EL MORCHE. Until 23 June. Bio Beach Club, Paseo Marítimo.

Artist Gary Elderfield is exhibiting a selection of his works completed while in Vietnam, Colombia, Philippines and here at his home in Spain. The majority are in oils and a few in acrylics. <https://garyelderfield.com/>

Francisco Martín Molina

NERJA. Monday to Saturday 10.30am - 2.30pm. C/ Pintada 27.

Collection of paintings and sculpture by local resident Francisco Martín Molina, responsible for several public pieces in the town. www.escul-torfmartin.eu

Itinerant art exhibition

NERJA / TORRE DEL MAR. Until 29 May. The Cultural Centre and the Azucarera respectively.

Organised by the Gabinete de Estudios de la Naturaleza, the exhibition consists of twenty informative panels about the biodiversidad of the region and the endemic species in danger of extinction.

Fernando Robles

RINCÓN DE LA VICTORIA. Until 11 June. La Casa Fuerte Bezmiliana.

Around thirty works completed in 2018 by Fernando Robles are on display.

(Des)arraigos

RÍOGORDO. Until 19 June, Thurs 10am-2pm; Fri, Sat 10am -6pm; Sun 9am-5pm. Museo Etnográfico, Municipal de Ríogordo, C/de la Iglesia. Artist Belén Millán is exhibiting a series of pictures that were influenced by the slow disappearance of thousand-year-old olive trees from the countryside.

Danielle Paglino Belin

ALMUÑECAR. Until 12 June. Mesón del Gusto, Avenida Europa, 28. American artist Danielle Paglino Belin is exhibiting her works.

Mario Finlayson National Art Gallery open day

GIBRALTAR. 2 June.

The open day marks the sixth anniversary of the opening of the gallery and also to promote the new curation. Works by Gibraltar artists Gustavo Bacarisas, Jacobo Azagury, Rudesindo Mannia, Leni Mifsud and Mario Finlayson will be joined byworks by artist and playwright Elio Cruz. Guided tours at 10.30am and 2.30pm, booking essential. There will also be a Children's Hour between 4.30 and 5.30pm to encourage younger visitors, with a variety of activities on offer. More information:



Gary Elderfield, El Morche.

development@culture.gov.gi

LIVE CONCERTS AND MUSIC

OFM Museum concerts

MALAGA. Various venues..

1 June, 8pm. Trío Círculo. Museo Picasso de Málaga.

Tickets: www.museopicasso-malaga.org

Malaga Philharmonic Orchestra

MALAGA. Various venues.

28 May, 7pm. The Piano Concerto

No. 5 in E major, by Ludwig van Beethoven was popularly known as the Emperor Concerto. Conducted by José María Moreno with guest pianist Ryutaro Suzuki followed by Beethoven's Symphony No. 6 in F Major, Pastoral. Teatro Cervantes.

4 June, 7pm. The orchestra will play The Happy Slaves by Juan Crisóstomo de Arraiga and Joaquín Rodrigo, Fantasia for a Gentleman with special guest guitarist, Javier García Moreno in the first half and Gustav Holst's St Paul's Suite and Edward Grieg's Holberg's Suite in the second half.

Tickets: www.entradas.mientrada.net

ELO and Queen tribute concerts

MIJAS. 29 May, 9pm. Teatro Las Lagunas, C/Albero. 18€ in advance, 20€ on the door.

Two tribute acts, Queen of Magic and Elosphere, will be in concert. Reservations call 633647260 or from www.eventbrite.es and El Corte Inglés.

Michael Jackson tribute concert adapted for children

MIJAS. 30 May, 12.30pm. Teatro Las Lagunas, C/Albero. 15€ adults, 12€ upto 12 years. Under 3s free.

The story of the King of Pop, music legend Michael Jackson. Reservations call 633647260 or from www.eventbrite.es and El Corte Inglés.

Cazbah Live Lounge

MIJAS COSTA. 28, 29 May, 9pm.

Ameline and the Q Band will be performing hits by Adele, Amy Winehouse, Blondie and the Scissor Sisters among others on 28 May. This will be followed on 29 May by The Money Makers, one of Malaga's most popular cover bands. Their repertoire includes the songs of Bob Dylan, The Beatles, Oasis, The Police and The Rolling Stones. book:602535710 or <https://www.facebook.com/The-CazbahLiveLounge>

CODA Jimena Festival 2021

JIMENA DE LA FRONTERA. 12 June, 5.30pm. 70€

A musical excursion to the CODA Festival in the Convento de Nuestra Señora de los Ángeles. Guest violinist Hanyeh Elders and pianist Sander Sittig. Ticket price includes trip, concert and evening meal. Call: 654013232. Reservations: reservas@musica-conencanto.org / 654013232 / www.musicaconencanto.org



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LIVE CONCERTS AND MUSIC

Sala María Cristina

MÁLAGA. Sala Unicaja de Conciertos María Cristina.

4 June, 7pm. Aldo Mata (cello) and José María Oyola (piano).

16 June, 7pm. Josu de Solaun (piano), one of Spain's greatest pianists, performs works by Chopin and Liszt.



Sala María Cristina, Málaga.

La Liebre de Marzo Sacral Music

19 June - 10 July.

FRIGILIANA. 19 June, 1pm. The Orquesta Barroca de Málaga will be playing Mozart's quartets in the San Antonio de Padua church, Frigiliana.

26 June, 1pm. The Coro de Cámara of Malaga University. San Antonio de Padua church, Frigiliana.

ALMÁCHAR. 20 June, 1pm. The Orquesta Barroca de Málaga will be playing Mozart's quartets in the San Mateo Apóstol church in Almáchar.

27 June, 1pm. The Coro de Cámara of Malaga University. San Mateo Apóstol church in Almáchar.

CÓMPETA. 3 July, 1pm. The Coro de Cámara of Malaga University. Nuestra Señora de la Asunción church, Cóm-peta.

Tickets from the town halls.

Street musicians

TORREMOLINOS. Mon - Sun, 11am - 2pm and 5-11pm.

To support local musicians who have been unable to work during the pandemic, will be allowed to perform in the streets of Torremolinos (under licence from the town hall). They will be in the town centre, Parque de Bomberos, Av. Palma de Mallorca, Plaza Costa del Sol, Plaza de la Unión Europea, C/ San Miguel, Plaza San Miguel, Plaza de La Nogalera, Plaza Andalucía, Plaza del Remo and from the Paseo de La Carihuella to Plaza Chiriva, El Bajondillo and Playamar.

Concerts in the bullring

TORREMOLINOS. 11, 12, 13 June, 10pm. Plaza de Toros.

The bull ring is the venue for three live concerts based on flamenco music.

11 June. Juanlu Montoya, grandson of Enrique Montoya, whose meteoric rise to fame was fuelled by over a million hits to his Youtube video of his song, Arrebatado de Amor.

12 June. Macarena de la Torre presents her show Rocío de Luz.

13 June. Flamenco artiste Saramaya, part of Los Rebutitos.

Relax and piano concert

Cabaret and live music in aid of Lions Alzheimer's support group

MIJAS

The Summer Party will present some of the coast's top musicians and theatrical groups

TONY BRYANT

La Cala de Mijas Lion's Club will host its Summer Party event at the Club Miraflores in Mijas on Sunday 20 June. The event, which will raise funds and awareness for dementia and Alzheimer's, will begin at midday and will offer an afternoon of live entertainment performed by many of the coast's top musicians and amateur theatrical groups.

These will include Laura Elen's Diva to Disco; Gemma Lloyd and her vintage jukebox selection; and the Nick Cripps Rat Pack Review. The Costa Soul Singers will perform a medley of Motown classics, while A Touch of Class will offer a mixture of music hall memories.



A Touch of Class will perform at the Lions' Summer Party. sur

One of the highlights of the afternoon will be the performance of Drang, a children's steel drum band.

In order to comply with Covid protocols, the music and cabaret will take place outdoors around the swimming pool.

The event will also offer a variety of stalls offering arti-

san and second-hand goods. Stalls are available to rent for ten euros by phoning Anne Bowles on 607879450.

Tickets cost 10 euros – five euros will be donated to the charity - and include a drink on arrival and two tapas.

Tickets are available from the Lions charity shop in La Cala de Mijas or 663529280.

BENAHAVÍS. 19 June, 8pm. Torre Leoneras park. Free.

The concert will be held outside on the grass and attendees are encouraged to bring a yoga mat or blanket and a pillow so that they can lie back and relax to pianist Herman Rijks playing a selection of soothing music from Sting, Pink Floyd and Adele mixed with some Beethoven, Chopin and various own compositions.

Sister Sledge

MARBELLA. 30 July. Marbella Arena. Heatwave Promotions present Sister Sledge 2021 We Are Family. Tickets: 629056720. www.heatwavepromotions.com

FLAMENCO

Flamenco Wednesday

MIJAS. Every Wednesday, 12pm. Plaza Virgen de la Peña.

Live flamenco performance weekly in the plaza.

Paseo Flamenco

MÁLAGA. Sundays, 9.30 - 11am. May and June. 10€.

6 June. Vida de Juan Breva.

20 June. In the El Palo district. Reservations call 687607526 or email: flamencamalaga@hotmail.com

CHARITY

In memory of Christine

MANILVA. 29 May, from 4pm. Kin-sale Bar & Bistro.

A charity afternoon in memory of Christine, a valued member of the community, who lost her battle with cancer. Entry is 5 euros and this



Street musicians, Torremolinos.

includes a quiz, buffet and later in the day some music in the bar to raise funds to help the Cudeca Hospice who cared for her prior to her passing.

Tribute concert for charity

BENALMÁDENA. 30 May, 4pm. Municipal auditorium. 15€.

A charity concert for people with Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD) will include three local tribute bands who will play a variety of music from legendary rock bands such as Bon Jovi and Queen. Tickets: https://entradium.com/events/corazon-azul-tributo-al-autismo

ARCH open day

ALHAURÍN EL GRANDE. 30 May, 9am - 4pm.

Come and meet ARCH mascot little Bonnie, Rosie the blind donkey and her friends Spotti, Duke the little black stallion and all the other resi-

dents. At 2.30pm the Phoenix Singers will entertain visitors, and food and drink will be on sale. For more information about the charity, see www.horserescuespain.org or Facebook page Centro Andalusi de Rescate de Caballos.

Costa Animal Society

NERJA. 29 May, 10.30am - 12.30pm. Fitzgerald's bar and restaurant. 5€. Charity raffle and coffee morning with coffee or tea and three bakes or cakes. Tickets from the CAS shop or ring 643515428.

MORE IDEAS

Botanical Garden El Molino de Inca

TORREMOLINOS. Jardín Botánico El Molino de Inca.

The site, which has been remodelled to make the gardens and facilities accessible to everyone, has now reopened. The gardens cover 40,000 square metres of land and contain nearly a thousand plant species of which there are 150 varieties of palm. There are also several different species of birds, including some unique in Spain.

Tapas Routes

ALMUÑÉCAR. Until 4 June. A drink and a tapa for 3.50€. More information on participating bars etc: www.almunecar.info

TORREMOLINOS. From 28 May until 6 June. A drink and a tapa for 2.50€. More information on participating bars etc: www.torremolinos.es

Malaga Film Festival

MÁLAGA. From 3 until 13 June.

The 24 edition of the Festival de Málaga presents the best of Spanish films and documentaries. Besides the screenings there are also exhibitions and tributes to individuals in the industry. More information: https://festivaldemalaga.com/

Collage workshop

MIJAS. 12, 13 June, 10am-4pm. Casa Museo de Mijas. Free.

For anyone who wishes to learn how to make collages and let their creativity flow. Register by email: cultura@mijas.es or call: 952590380. Free but each participant should donate 3kg of non-perishable food-stuffs to the food bank at the start of the course.

O. V. FILMS

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

Yelmo Cines, Plaza Mayor

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

Cruella: 12.30 (Sun); 17.30, 20.30 (every day).

Spiral: Saw: 19.00 (Tues).

Let Him Go: 20.40 (Tues).

Nomadland: 20.40 (Tues).

Wrath of Man: 17.35 (Mon-Thurs); 18.15 (Fri-Sun).

Romeo and Juliet MET: 18.30 (Fri).

Yelmo Cines, Rincón

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

Cruella: 19.00 (Tues).

Wrath of Man: 20.30 (Tues).

Let Him Go: 19.40 (Tues).

Yelmo Cines, Vialia

MÁLAGA. Centro Comercial Vialia. Tel: 902220922

Cruella: 19.00 (Tues).

Let Him Go: 17.20 (Tues).

Wrath of Man: 17.40 (Tues).

Romeo and Juliet MET: 18.30 (Fri).

Cinesur Ingenio

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

Let Him Go: 18.30 (Tues).

Cruella: 12.15 (every day); 18.00, 21.00 (Mon, Tues, Thurs).

Spiral: Saw: 18.05 (Tues).

Wrath of Man: 20.00 (Mon, Tues, Thurs).

Cine Albéniz

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

First Cow: 19.55, 22.00 (every day).



Weekly flamenco, Mijas.

We need to talk about menopause

Women's Health.
Davina McCall's programme on UK's Channel 4 about menopause has generated a more open conversation about a subject which has been taboo for many generations

JENNIE RHODES



LAURA LIEDO

International Day of Action for Women's Health has been celebrated on 28 May since 1987 and is recognised by organisations and governments around the world, including Andalucía's regional government.

Among its objectives the 28 May

organisation lists better access to quality healthcare and health sector reform.

One area of women's health which has come to the fore in recent weeks in the UK and Spain has been the seemingly taboo subject of menopause.

There are a number of words that are being used to describe different stages of a women's journey to the end of her menstruating years; perimenopause, menopause and post menopause. Women at the different stages are described as 'perimenopausal', 'menopausal'

and 'post menopausal'.

Experts explain that the menopause itself is just one day; it's the 12 month anniversary of a woman's last period. However the perimenopause - the time leading up to that anniversary - can last for many years, with women typi-

cally getting first symptoms in their mid 40s, although the onset can be from around 35.

Since British TV presenter Davina McCall presented a programme called Sex, Myths and the Menopause on the UK's Channel 4 television earlier this



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📍 MARBELLA - FUENGIROLA - MANILVA



HELICOPTEROS
SANITARIOS

LET'S GET SOCIAL:

➤ month, women's collectives and individuals have seized the opportunity to provide much more open conversations about something that half the world's population will experience.

Other public figures including Michelle Obama and Penélope Cruz have also spoken out about their own experiences in recent years.

Valencia-based medical translator Iseult Harrington started a Facebook page called 'Shining Through Perimenopause and Beyond' because of the overwhelming reaction to the Davina McCall programme here in Spain.

"It was really the first time a celebrity had talked about perimenopause. There's such a lack of information about it and it's incredible how many women didn't link symptoms they were experiencing until they watched the Davina programme or joined the Facebook group," Iseult told SUR in English.

The most common symptom, and even perhaps the most 'acceptable' to talk about are the hot flushes, which, according to Maisie Hill, author of the books *Period Power* and *Perimenopause Power*, 88 per cent of women in western



Many women don't talk about their symptoms. NIGEL COOK

societies will experience at some point.

However, the list of other symptoms is infinite and not all women will experience them. They can include irregular, heavy and painful periods, depression and anxiety, loss of libido, brain fog, itchy skin, insomnia... the list goes on.

What worries menopause experts is that access to the right treatment and support is still very lacking, as is the awareness and sometimes willingness of doctors and even gynaecologists to pro-

There is still an awareness and information deficit, not to mention the stigma surrounding it, so many women don't make the link between their symptoms and perimenopause

vide help.

Take the case of Sue (not her real name). Sue is in her late 40s and lives in Malaga. She'd started to get hot flushes and night sweats. She also found that she was becoming more irritable than before. However, when she went to her GP, she was refused any kind of hormone tests, being told that there was "no need" because she was "obviously in menopause" and sent on her way.

After speaking to other doctors and watching the famed Davina McCall programme Sue has decided that HRT is the best treatment in her case.

HRT, or Hormone Replacement Therapy, still divides opinion, almost 30 years on from a US study into the treatment, which alarmed women taking it at the time, due to apparent links to increased risk of cancers, heart attack and stroke.

Even the name Hormone Replacement Therapy is controversial. Maisie Hill argues that the use of the word 'replacement' suggests that women need to replace hormones, although the menopause is a natural process of the body getting rid of hormones it no longer needs.

Many women SUR spoke to said that, as with medication for other aspects of their health, they have tried to avoid using clinical chemical treatments for perimenopause and menopause and all agreed that above all else, information and education is key.

Amelia (not her real name), who lives in the Axarquía and is 57, said that she suddenly started to feel "flat" about seven years ago. "I knew about the hot flushes, which were the first symptom I had - about two years before anything else - but nobody had talked about mood," she explained.

"Nothing had changed, so I didn't know what was going on. In hindsight I realised that it was a symptom of perimenopause."

Amelia stressed that if she'd been made more aware of the plethora of symptoms that perimenopause can bring, she would have known how to deal with the sudden change to her mental health.

Lack of awareness about menopause and indeed women's reproductive, or sexual health in general, is something that all experts and those who have been through it agree on.



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COMMENT

Iseult Harrington
Shining Through Perimenopause

"It's incredible how many women didn't realise that their symptoms were related to perimenopause until they joined the Facebook group. There needs to be more visibility through social media"

Fiona Catchpowle
The Menopause Directory

"We don't talk about menopause because we don't talk about menstruation. Periods are described using negative words and expressions and we're taught to put up and shut up"

Amelia
English teacher

"No one talked about mood. In hindsight I realised that the flat feeling I was experiencing was one of the symptoms of perimenopause. If I'd known what to expect, I'd have been more prepared"

Corey Schuster
Integrative Nutrition Health Coach

"The first thing we need to do is normalise women's health so that we can talk about it. There's so little knowledge about menstruation, yet it affects 50 per cent of the world's population"

Anastasia
Retired HR manager

"I was working in a high profile, high stress environment. The hot flushes were quite obvious at times, although I tried to hide them as societal expectations kicked in"

"We don't talk about menopause, because we don't talk about menstruation," said Fiona Catchpowle, who created the blog The Menopause Directory and The Menopause School - an online doctor-led course about menopause.

"Society has taught women that periods get in the way and that they can just to get on with it, mask it with an ibuprofen," said Corey Schuster, who is a qualified integrative nutrition health coach, focusing on women's wellness.

Anastasia (not her real name), a retired HR manager described how, while still "at the top of her game professionally", she would try to "hide the hot flushes and brain fog" because, "Societal expectations and stereotypes kicked in and I felt like I would be seen as weaker if people knew I was going into menopause."

Famous women who have been



Iseult Harrington. **SUR**

speaking out about their own experiences have instigated a much-needed conversation.

Experts are keen to stress that while many women do experience symptoms, these can vary enormously in severity and some sail through the transition without reporting any significant side effects.

Either way, they all agree that information, openness and being prepared is key. Catchpowle pointed out, "Women are so in need of support with evidence-based information. Menopause is not optional, but how you navigate the hormone highway is."

Harrington wrote in a recent blog post, "Removing the stigma of menopause and instead normalising this period of our lives and even celebrating it as a rite of passage, is something we need to change in the narrative when we talk about menopause."

ASSSA

HEALTH INSURANCE WITH AND WITHOUT COPAYMENTS

MÁLAGA

SUR. We live in a time when the health care has become a priority. In this situation health insurances play a crucial role and when it comes to choose a policy, attention should focus on all terms and conditions of the contract, especially if it has copayments or not.

When we talk about copayments we refer to the amount that has to be paid by the policyholder each time he/she makes use of the medical services included in the policy. This amount is independent of the premium paid by the insurance.

Health insurance with copayments

Copayment is usually applied to GP and specialist consultations, diagnostic tests and therapeutic acts and even to hospitalisations and emergencies. It can therefore result in an important increase in the insurance cost.

The price of the copayment may

vary depending on the medical service and the terms and conditions of the contract. Hospitalisations and advanced diagnostic tests normally involve a high copayment.

Health insurance without copayments

Only the insurance premium has to be paid, thus giving peace of mind as no additional payments are requested to have access to the benefits and services guaranteed by the policy.

In case the private medical insurance is needed to get the residence permit in Spain, having a policy without copayments is essential, as it is one of the requirements to get it.

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Wine glasses

ANDREW J. LINN



Most of us will doubtless admit to being prepared to drink wine out of anything, provided it is not a chipped cup or a plastic beaker. Indeed, we may either be ashamed of our powers of improvisation or proud of being able to identify a wine under any circumstances. Nevertheless, it is probable

that 90 per cent of wine is drunk from stemmed glasses, copas in Spanish, as opposed to tumblers (vasos). But there are two elements that influence matters. Traditional wine glasses are delicate, and, we are conditioned to believe, maintain our wine at the right temperature by holding the stem rather than clutching the bowl.

This can be an issue at cocktail parties where we carry our glasses around for hours, as opposed to being seated at a formal table. And how do we clink tumblers for a toast?

Just to make life more exciting, and of course send us to the store to spend money, the current fashion is for stemless glasses.

We are conditioned to believe that traditional wine glasses maintain our wine at the right temperature

Like many such things this got going in the USA and appears unstoppable. Even top restaurants that should know better are putting their stemmed glasses into storage, so a place setting will feature a water tumbler and a wine tumbler. Horror of horrors!

But there are clearly less breakages, and all tumblers can be machine-washed, unlike delicate stem glasses. But how can they ever be as appealing? Supporters say wine drinking is becoming more democratic, and classic wine glasses are elitist.

What next? Screw caps and wine in cans? Where will it all end?

WINE OF THE WEEK

Pagos de Araiz Rosado

While the tendency these days is for drinking light-coloured rosados, many people still prefer the classic darker varieties. From the home of Spain's best, this very tasty wine was last year voted Navarra's best rosado out of a selection of 115 other wines in a blind tasting. Superb value at under five euros from many outlets.



Sardines on the beach to boost local businesses

Fuengirola town hall is aiming to help local chiringuitos by organising a two-week gastronomic event

SUR IN ENGLISH

FUENGIROLA. Over twenty chiringuitos (beach bars and restaurants) are taking part in Fuengirola town hall's initiative aimed at supporting local businesses that have suffered during the Covid pandemic.

Each establishment will be offering the typical espetos (sardines threaded onto a skewer and roasted over coals), accompanied by a drink, for four euros.

The Semanas de Espeto initiative, which will run from 31 May to 4 June and then from 7 to 11 June, will also allow customers to enter into a draw to win an evening meal at one of the restaurants taking part.

At the presentation of this gastronomic event, the councillor responsible for Business, Javier García Lara, said: "The hospitality industry, and especially the beach bars, are among the businesses most affected by the Covid-19 crisis as they are businesses that mainly depend on foreign tourism."

"In order to help them in these difficult times we are promoting this gastronomic event which we hope will attract both local and foreign customers, by offering the typical espeto de sardina at an affordable price."

All the beach bars taking part will display the town hall's poster



The town councillors at the presentation (above) and typical espetos (left). SUR

advertising the event.

They will serve the grilled sardines and a drink for four euros during kitchen opening hours on the days mentioned previously.

In addition, customers will be able to take part in a draw to win ten evening meals costing 50

The hospitality industry, and especially beach bars, are among the businesses most affected by the Covid crisis

euros, at one of the participating establishments.

"If the current situation contin-

ues, we hope to add more events to help promote tourism in the town," added Javier Hidalgo, the councillor for Beaches.

Other initiatives planned include Las Noches al Relente (nights of live music in the chiringuitos), and Noche Blanca de San Juan with music and partying on the beach but all the events will be strictly regulated to prevent any spread of Covid-19.



'Superman' López, the first Colombian to win the Vuelta a Andalucía

After an impressive third stage, the Movistar rider never looked in danger of surrendering his lead, despite two stage wins from Briton Ethan Hayter

DARYL FINCH / JAVIER BLANCO

PULPI. Miguel Ángel López, also known as Superman, became the first Colombian in 67 years of the competition to win the Vuelta a Andalucía on Saturday after what turned out to be an eventful final day ride between Vera and Pulpi (both in Almería province).

Just when it was about to conclude without a hitch, a crash between Robert Stannard (BikeExchange) and Daryl Impey (Israel) just a few metres from the end came as a massive stroke of fortune for 22-year-old Ethan Hayter (Ineos), who was in third place at the time and ended up winning the race and securing the green jersey.

Overall victory was already pretty much in the bag for Miguel Ángel López (Movistar) from Thursday. The third and most difficult stage (Beas de Segura-Villarrodrigo, 176.9 kilometres) saw a shake-up in the classifications with 'Superman' coming out on top in the Jaén route which included two first-category climbs. His win placed him top of the overall classification, a position he didn't surrender, despite pressure from Dutchman Antwan Tolhoek (Jumbo-Visma), who finished 20 seconds off the pace. In third place was Spaniard Julen Amezqueta (Caja Rural-Seguros RGA).

The team jersey went to Movistar, who controlled this



López, centre, on the podium with main challenger Tolhoek, left, and third-placed Amezqueta. **DEPORINTER**

edition of the Ruta del Sol from start to finish.

Penultimate stage

In the penultimate stage between Baza (Granada) and Cúllar Vega (Cordoba) on Friday, German André Greipel (Israel) came out on top, ahead of Colombian Álvaro José Hodeg (Deceuninck-Quick-Step) and Dane Mads Pedersen (Trek-Segafredo).

By Friday, even with a stage still to go, the general classification for the mountains was already decided. Marbella-born Luis Ángel Maté (Euskaltel), enjoying something of a renaissance at 37, secured his status with first-place at Alto del Baúl, a second category mountain pass in Granada, located at kilometre 30 of the stage.

A dramatic finish

As for Hayter, it had looked like the young Briton's inexperience was going to count against him

STANDINGS

Fifth stage

Vera-Pulpi	107 kilometres
1. Ethan Hayter (IGD)	2h. 27:12
2. Phillipp Walsleben (AFC)	m.t.
3. Toms Skujins (TFS)	m.t.
4. M.Ángel López Moreno (MOV)	m.t.
5. Sven Bystrom (UAD)	m.t.
6. Gonzalo Serrano (MOV)	m.t.
7. Óscar Rodríguez (APT)	m.t.
8. Antwan Tolhoek (TJV)	m.t.
9. Gebremariam Grmay (BEX)	m.t.

General

1. Miguel Á. López (Movistar)	21h. 06:55
2. Antwan Tolhoek (TJV)	+ 20 seconds
3. Julen Amezqueta (CJR)	+ 1:10
4. Carlos Rodríguez (IGD)	+ 1:43
5. Toms Skujins (TFS)	+ 1:47
6. Jonathan Lastra (Caja Rural)	+ 2:06
7. Ethan Hayter (Ineos)	+ 2:13

during the fifth and final 107-kilometre stage. The stage was decided in a reduced sprint of about fifteen riders, those who had broken away from the peloton at Alto de la Geoda. But Hayter, with momentum in his favour, mistakenly started too early on the very long finishing straight and was overtaken by Stannard and Impey with about 50 metres to go. Fortunately for Hayter, though, the pair collided and he regained the lead just over an inch from the line.

The Vuelta a Andalucía was initially due to be held in February, but had to be postponed due to the third wave of the pandemic, this time coinciding with the Giro d'Italia, which runs until the end of the month.

But despite these complications, organisers managed to overcome the difficulties and offer spectators a very worthy spectacle, with some new and very striking stages.

IN BRIEF

HANDBALL

Rincón Fertilidad's Copa defence ended

M. RIVAS. In what was a rerun of the Spanish Supercup, Super Amara Bera Bera exacted their revenge against Rincón Fertilidad in the quarterfinals of the Copa de la Reina, last Friday.

The reigning league champions ended the Malaga side's defence of their trophy with a 31-28 win in Telde, Gran Canaria.

BASKETBALL

Katsikaris' renewal a priority for next year

J. CALDERÓN. Despite the uncertainty hanging over the future of the club, Unicaja basketball team are looking at tying down coach Fotis Katsikaris to a new contract and will ask him to take a pay cut.

The Malaga-based side ended a poor season by missing out on the play-offs and will likely have to revamp the entire squad after the bank's foundation decreased its funding.

ATHLETICS

Oumaiz pulls out in pre-Olympic event

M. RIVAS. Nerja-born runner Ouassim Oumaiz saw his ambitious dream of a place on the Spanish Olympic team for Tokyo this summer effectively ended after retiring during the 5,000 metre event at the Diamond International Meeting in Gateshead (England) last Sunday. The 22-year-old was unable to showcase his talent, pulling out after a difficult race.

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A LOOK AT LA LIGA
ROB PALMER
Commentator, Sky Sports

Fear of the unknown

Spain coach Luis Enrique has announced an experimental squad for the upcoming Euros, with not a single Real Madrid player earning a call-up



Luis Enrique's trademark has been revealing his Spain national squads with stunts and gimmicks.

We've had giant Panini stickers, bottle tops, QR codes, and shirts hung onto training ground dummies over the years.

His face was stern and serious as he announced who would be representing the country at this summer's Euros. Or not representing the country, as the headlines screamed.

Not one single Real Madrid player made the cut.

Most of the attention was on the omission of Spain's rock. The team has been built around Sergio Ramos for the past decade. His battered body has made it through just 61 minutes of Liga football in the past four months, hence the pragmatic explanation: "It was a difficult decision but he hasn't been able to play this season and has hardly trained since January."



Coach Luis Enrique during the squad announcement. **RFEF**

His demise is timed with the rise of the Manchester City pair Aymeric Laporte and Eric García.

Laporte has finally pinned his colours to the Spain flag

after 51 appearances for France at youth and under 21 level. He should slot in alongside 20-year-old García who belies his age.

Alongside them could be two

veteran full backs - César Azpilicueta of Chelsea and the re-called Jordi Alba.

David de Gea appears to be the number one goalkeeper providing he can overcome the disappointment of missing the vital Europa League final penalty.

His back-up is one of the great stories. Robert Sánchez was keeping goal for Rochdale last season; he didn't establish himself at his parent club Brighton until seven months ago.

Sergio Busquets has been named as captain, yet seems to be under pressure from Rodri of Manchester City for the middle-man role. Another Premier League star, Liverpool's Thiago, should be a given and Liga winner Koke is back in vogue.

Gerard Moreno's thirty goals for Villarreal will earn him the central attacking position. There are so many attacking options. I'd go for Ferrán Torres who has been nurtured by Pep Guardiola and Mikel Oyarzabal, one of the country's most underrated players.

Álvaro Morata is a worthy alternative to Moreno. Pedri, just 18 years of age, could be an exciting substitute and no tiring defender would want to see the introduction of Adama Traoré's turbo charge with thirty minutes remaining.

Nobody of note has really been overlooked. Isco and Marco Asensio have been part of the Real Madrid malaise and have paid the price. Ansu Fati, Barcelona's wonderkid, is re-

THE 24-MAN SQUAD

Goalkeepers

Unai Simón (Athletic)
David de Gea (M. United)
Robert Sánchez (Brighton)

Defenders

César Azpilicueta (Chelsea)
Marcos Llorente (Atlético)
Eric García (M. City)
Pau Torres (Villarreal)
Aymeric Laporte (M. City)
Diego Llorente (Leeds United)
Jordi Alba (Barcelona)
José Luis Gayà (Valencia)

Midfielders

Sergio Busquets (Barcelona)
Rodri Hernández (M. City)
Pedri González (Barcelona)
Thiago Alcántara (Liverpool)
Koke Resurrección (Atlético)
Fabián Ruiz (Napoli)

Forwards

Gerard Moreno (Villarreal)
Álvaro Morata (Juventus)
Dani Olmo (Leipzig)
Ferran Torres (M. City)
Mikel Oyarzabal (R. Sociedad)
Adama Traoré (Wolves)
Pablo Sarabia (PSG)

covering from injury and his time will come.

Unlike many tournaments, Spain approach the Euros as outsiders to take the title. Coach Luis Enrique has habitually tinkered; this squad does have a hint of experimentation.

It is a break from the past and there is a freshness about his approach. Opponents will fear the unknown.

Marbella, relegated to the fifth tier of Spanish football

Despite a comfortable final-day win, their fate was sealed by other results not going their way

MARBELLA **3**
YECLANO **0**

JULIO RODRÍGUEZ

MARBELLA. Despite a 3-0 win at home to Yeclano on Sunday afternoon, Marbella have been double relegated and will spend next season in the Tercera RFEF (Spain's new fifth tier). Other results meant that the Costa side finished fourth in their relegation group and one point adrift of avoiding a second drop.

Needing a win to have any chance of survival, Marbella flew out of the blocks and took the lead after five minutes when Chumbi scored from a corner. They dou-



Callejón celebrates scoring his side's third goal. **JULIO RODRÍGUEZ**

bled their advantage barely 10 minutes later through Granero, who scored on what could be his final appearance for the club. In the 37th minute, Marbella were out of sight when Callejón made it 3-0.

In a low-key second half, Marbella encountered little fightback from an already double-relegated Yeclano team. Unfortunately for Marbella, the two teams directly above them (Las Palmas Atlético

and Recreativo Granada) were up against each other and played out a tepid goalless draw that suited both sides. This was enough to ensure that Marbella will spend next season in Spain's newly restructured fifth division.

With this, the curtain comes down on the club's worst ever season. Only a handful of players stayed to salute the 400-strong crowd after the game finished.

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Covid-19 Regular Updates



◀ **Ten years of retirement.** Eliseu carries Arnau on his shoulders during his last game as a player in 2011. **SUR**

▲ **Arrival in 2001.** Arnau during his presentation. **SUR**

▶ **Executive.** Arnau, with advisers Ben Barrek, Benítez and Martín Aguilar. **S. SALAS**

The keeper celebrates a Malaga goal. **SUR**

Malaga's youth team win league championship after brilliant season

BORJA GUTIÉRREZ

MALAGA. Malaga's youth team secured the league title in their Juvenil División de Honor group after a 3-0 win over Real Betis at La Rosaleda on Wednesday.

This means that Malaga are Andalusian champions and qualifies them for the Copa de Campeones, a prestigious tournament which determines the best youth team in Spain.

Victory comes after a stellar season in which they have won all but three of their 23 league games, drawing two and losing once.

Several youth players have already featured in the first team, such as Loren Zúñiga and Haitam.

Haaland's Norway to play friendly double-header at La Rosaleda next month

PEDRO LUIS ALONSO

MALAGA. One of football's brightest talents, Erling Haaland, will be at La Rosaleda in Malaga to play two international friendlies with Norway at the start of June. The Norwegians play Luxembourg on 2 June (kick-off 7pm) before a game against Greece on 6 June (kick-off 6pm).

This is not the first time the team will play in Malaga - they lost 3-0 to Turkey in a friendly at the same venue on 27 March. As was the case with that fixture, the upcoming games will be played behind closed doors.

Neither Norway nor their opponents will compete at Euro 2020 this summer, having failed to qualify.

Football world shocked by the sudden death of Francesc Arnau

The former Malaga goalkeeper, captain and sports director, who had latterly been working in Oviedo, died after falling onto a railway track near the Asturian capital

BORJA GUTIÉRREZ / SERGIO CORTÉS

MALAGA. Tributes have poured in from the world of football after the sudden death of Francesc Arnau at the age of 46.

The former goalkeeper, captain and sports director of Malaga CF, who until now had been working in the latter role for Real Oviedo, died after falling onto a railway track near the Asturian capital.

Born in Las Planas (Gerona), Arnau came through Barcelona's

academy and spent several seasons as a back-up to the likes of Vítor Baía, Ruud Hesp and Pepe Reina. In order to find first-team football, he moved to Malaga in 2001, albeit against the wishes of then-coach Joaquín Peiró. Eventually, however, he established himself as first choice under the management of Juande Ramos and Antonio Tapia and became a leader on the pitch, eventually earning him the captain's armband.

After making more than 100 appearances, Arnau hung up his gloves at La Rosaleda stadium after the last league match of the 2010/11 season in a match, coincidentally against Barcelona.

The club was quick to offer Arnau a management position and he remained there in various roles for most of his professional career until 2017.

First of all Arnau was the dep-

uty director of the club's youth team under the tutelage of Manel Casanova, then manager of the Academy, before eventually becoming the sports director after the departure of Mario Husillos at the end of 2015.

This period didn't go exactly to plan. After a good start, relations between Arnau and president Sheikh Abdullah Al-Thani began to deteriorate, with the latter refusing to sign off on the personal terms offered to star midfielder Pablo Fornals. As a result, the player departed on a cut-price deal and the summer ahead of the 2017-18 season was a disaster. It eventually resulted in Malaga's relegation from La Liga, but Arnau was fired just months into the new season.

Close ties with the area

After leaving Malaga during his more than decade and a half of

stay on the Costa del Sol, Arnau still maintained close contact with numerous friends both at the club and in other areas, such as his padel group in Benalmádena.

He was signed a year and a half ago by Oviedo, the club that published the news of his death early on Saturday morning.

Social media networks were filled with messages of shock and sadness. Among them, of course, was one from the Malaga club, "A member of the Malaguista family as a player and executive at La Academia, he leaves us too young. A big hug to his family and friends," said the message.

The squad, led by coach Sergio Pellicer who knew Arnau well, held a minute's silence in his honour before training.

The first hypotheses about Arnau's death point to suicide.

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What would José Alberto bring to Malaga?

The 39-year-old, currently in charge of Mirandés, is first choice to take over from Sergio Pellicer at the end of the season

SERGIO CORTÉS



MALAGA. José Alberto López, currently in charge of fellow Segunda División side Mirandés, has been identified as the leading candidate to take over from Sergio Pellicer as Malaga manager at the end of the season. The club believes that the prospective boss, who has a similar tactical and player management profile as Pellicer, would be the right man to be able to improve Malaga's fortunes after a mediocre season.

It is understood that a verbal agreement with the club's director of football Manolo Gaspar was reached just days after Pellicer announced he would depart Malaga at the end of the season following 18 months in charge. Although no formal announcement has been made at this stage, he is expected to sign a two-year contract with the club.

José Alberto has been in charge of Mirandés since July last year and previously had a spell as manager of Sporting Gijón. After a very modest playing career, he went into coaching at a young age and gained much experience working with youth teams before being given the top job at Sport-

ing in 2018.

One of the reasons for his interest in the Malaga job is his desire to work for a team with a more ambitious project than his current employers, who do not have the same resources available as the Blue and Whites. However, this would bring with it greater pressure and scrutiny on his decision-making, something with which he appeared to struggle in his second season with Sporting, where he departed in December 2019 after just over a year in charge.

In the past, he has spoken of his admiration for Athletic Bilbao manager Marcelino, who is known for his 4-4-2 formation based on defensive rigidity. However, José Alberto has also played with a 4-1-4-1 formation on occasions this season, employing a defensive midfield anchor in the same way as Pellicer has done. On top of this, he at times has played a secondary striker between the lines. On the other hand, it is very rare that he plays three at the back, preferring the more orthodox four to maintain solidity.

It is perhaps unsurprising that Manolo Gaspar has identified José Alberto as the man to take Malaga forward given the quality his Mirandés side demonstrated when they came to La Rosaleda in October where they were unlucky not to come away with more than a 1-1 draw. José Alberto's coaching philosophy rests on creating chances through passing movements and avoiding opposition pressure by



José Alberto leads a training session during his time at Sporting Gijón
ARNALDO GARCÍA

paying attention to what is happening off the ball. In this way, the midfield anchor becomes very important - this position is currently occupied by Alberto Escassi at Malaga.

For José Alberto, commitment and desire among his players is non-negotiable and his Mirandés side have been one of the most high-intensity teams in the league this season. When his teams are in possession, they try to keep it for as long as possible through a fluid passing system. Although these tactics do not always succeed, they can be very effective in wearing down the opposition. In order to do this, Malaga will need several dynamic players.

A striking detail of José Alberto's Mirandés team, along with his side at Sporting, is the importance of his full-backs. He likes to employ them in attacking positions, particularly as an additional threat at the far post. He also places great emphasis on his wingers, who are required

to carry out work in the centre of the park and to arrive in the box as an extra attacking option.

This season, Pellicer's Malaga have found most joy through winning the ball off the opposition while pressing high. In contrast, José Alberto and Mirandés have shown an ability to defend in different ways, whether it be through a high line, a well-

drilled block or sitting deep with all players in their own half. He is able to adapt his tactics according to the opposition and to his team's situation in the game. Even when his team is winning, he has been able to maintain his tactical rigidity.

Like Pellicer, he scrutinises his opposition meticulously before each game before deciding upon his tactics. These performances mean that Mirandés sit in a very credible ninth position in the table going into the final game of the season. Indeed, the team have never fallen below 13th place and have instead spent most of the campaign sitting in the top half and even threatening to push for a promotion playoff spot.

Another notable aspect of his Mirandés team is how willing his players have been to take shots from outside the box. Coupled with this, his defence has been set up to limit the opposition's chances of doing the same. That Malaga managed to score from long-range during their clash at La Rosaleda speaks volumes of the quality of Jozabed's strike that evening. Moreover, he employs a high defensive line for freekicks and, as for corners, his players will group together in a 'train' formation to attack them.

Particularly while with Sporting, José Alberto demonstrated a willingness to give young players a chance, handing debuts to nine homegrown players. At Mirandés, he has also demonstrated an ability to work with an inexperienced team. As Malaga's current financial predicament shows, the integration of young players into the squad can become a very useful tool over the season.

Late goal condemns depleted Malaga to third straight defeat

Sergio Pellicer's injury-hit side came out second-best in a largely forgettable encounter

LEGANÉS
MALAGA

1
0

DAVID BALMER

After a 1-0 home defeat to Sporting Gijón last Thursday, Malaga's season continued to peter out in underwhelming fashion with a loss

by the same margin away to promotion-chasing Leganés on Monday evening.

The Blue and Whites, weakened by injuries and suspensions for Joshua Mejiás and Cristian (a red card and a fifth yellow against Sporting, respectively), put in a resilient defensive performance for most of the game, but were let down by a lapse of concentration in the closing stages.

Sergio Pellicer, himself suspended for protesting Mejiás' red card, made three changes to the team beaten at home by Girona on Thursday and his side got off to a good start. Less than a minute into

the game, Jozabed shot just wide after a cutback from Yanis Rahmani, who was at the forefront of a few decent moments of play in the opening stages. However, the encounter soon fell into a lull and the rest of the first half was a forgettable affair in which neither side could really impose themselves.

In the second half, Leganés began to take control, dominating possession and creating chances. They felt they were due a penalty when Stefan supposedly handled the ball but their protests were waved away by the officials.

Moments later, the best chance of the game fell to Miguel de la



Jozabed reacts after missing an early chance. AGENCIA LOF

Fuente, who was denied by a close-range save from Juan Soriano. Shortly after the hour mark, the Malaga keeper was again needed when he produced a spectacular

reflex save to keep out Javi Hernández's header.

Ultimately, Pellicer's fears of having to play a goalkeeper outfield due to the injury crisis did not come to fruition, but he did give minutes to young prospects Haimtam and Loren Zúñiga.

Although Malaga failed to create a single chance in the second half, it seemed they were on their way towards a point until Jonathan Silva broke down the left for Leganés and played a ball into the box in the 88th minute. With four home players onrushing, the ball fell to Rober Ibáñez, left unmarked by captain David Lombán, who scored, earning his team a vital win.

Following the result, Malaga fell two places to 15th in the table. On Sunday, they will face relegation-threatened Castellón at La Rosaleda in their final game of the season (kick-off 9pm), where they can equal last season's tally.

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THE STARS




Aquarius
January 21st - February 19th
Next week's Quarter Moon suggests that you might need to spend more than intended to get a project off the ground. But if you're almost there and it's going well, it's likely worth it.




Pisces
February 20th - March 20th
Channel your energy into plans and projects that serve you, rather than get involved in a dispute with a friend or group.




Aries
March 21st - April 20th
This week can be a journey of discovery that encourages you to stand up for yourself rather than play nice. Tempers get easily frayed, so take things slowly.




Taurus
April 21st - May 21st
You are inclined to see the best in people and may think a certain person has your best interests at heart, the fact that they don't could soon become apparent.




Gemini
May 22nd - June 21st
Adopting a realistic approach can see you going from strength to strength, whereas hoping for the best might disappoint.



Cancer
June 22nd - July 23rd
There are opportunities to enjoy yourself but be prepared to stand your ground. While your often rely on your instincts, there could be some doubt about what they are telling you.



Leo
July 24th - August 23rd
You could come down to earth with a bump if you pursue an idea or scheme that is unrealistic. Whatever seems amazing at the start of the week might be your downfall unless you research it.




Virgo
August 24th - September 23rd
You may get a lucky break as lovely Venus aligns with Jupiter. With some planning this could become a lucrative deal.



Libra
September 24th - October 23rd
Diplomatic Venus moves into your sector, oiling the wheels of commerce and keeping things sweet. This week though with Mars facing off with Pluto, it's the family you may need to placate.



Scorpio
October 24th - November 22nd
A compassionate approach could take the sting out of a tricky situation. As the week gathers pace you may become irate unless you take a step back and deal with it sensitively.

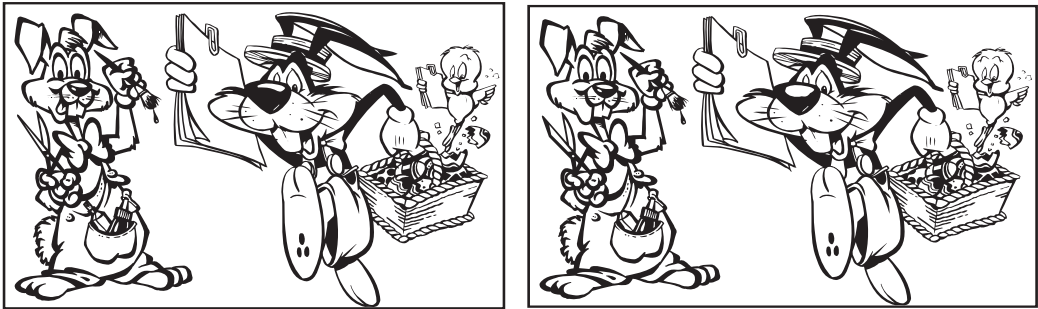


Sagittarius
November 23rd - December 21st
There could be muddles involving finances, so it's best to investigate and get to the bottom of any discrepancies, especially if an urgent issue needs sorting out.

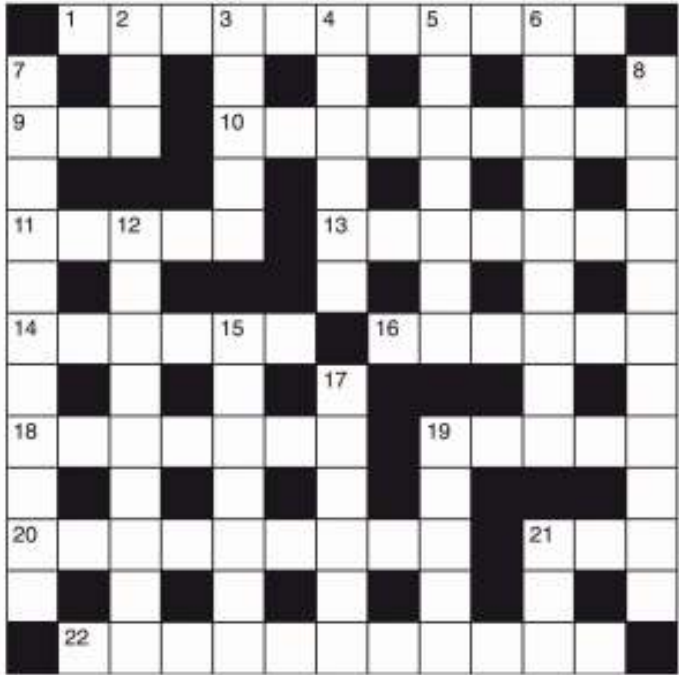


Capricorn
December 22nd - January 20th
With Mars angling towards Neptune and Pluto you do have a choice, and it all depends on how valuable a relationship is to you. Either mend it, or let it go.

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CRYPTIC CROSSWORD N° 11463



Across

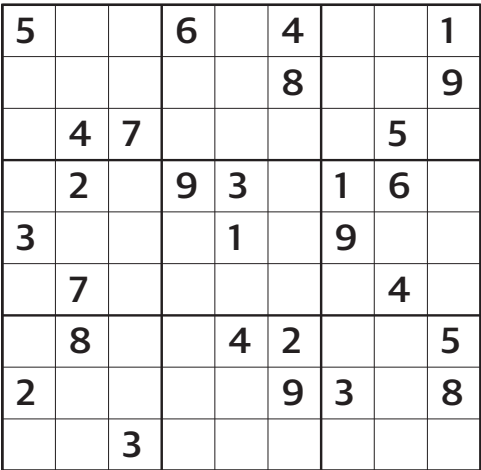
- 1 A little ship ordered for a collector (11)
- 9 Poem that's outstanding, say (3)
- 10 Small worker with a way of writing quickly (9)
- 11 Ant encountered by them (5)
- 13 Is more keen on favours (7)
- 14 Idle - certainly not a toiler (6)
- 16 Like a bird aft of the vessel (6)
- 18 Takes small bites of snacks (7)
- 19 Out of date like some of Grandpa's secrets (5)
- 20 They give you a testing time (9)
- 21 Help with an endless opera (3)
- 22 The tenacity of recent spies, possibly (11)

Down

- 2 A tool from Plymouth? (3)
- 3 Register, say, as a composer (5)
- 4 Group of performers upsetting our pet (6)
- 5 Characters' missives (7)
- 6 Hassles me, perhaps, being brazen (9)
- 7 He has interest in his work (11)
- 8 Send Don's dad over for miscellaneous items (4,3,4)
- 12 Chief couple getting spliced? (9)
- 15 Cakes Sir Alec ordered (7)
- 17 Evaluate animals going to the south (6)
- 19 I step over the ski slope (5)
- 21 A curve in the car circuit (3)

SUDOKU BY HANZO

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



THE WORDPUZZLER

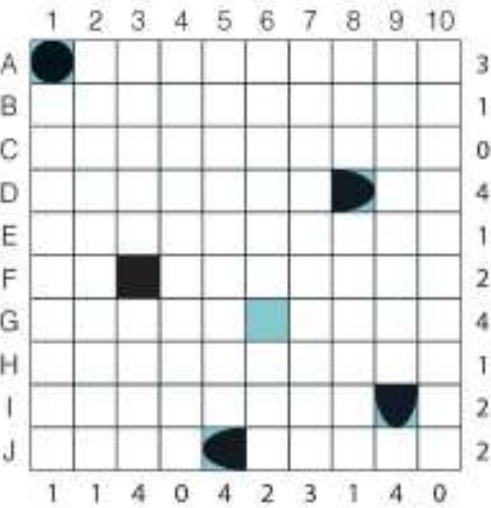
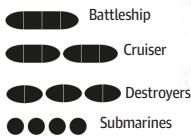


Can you identify the words missing from the titles of the Cary Grant films listed below?

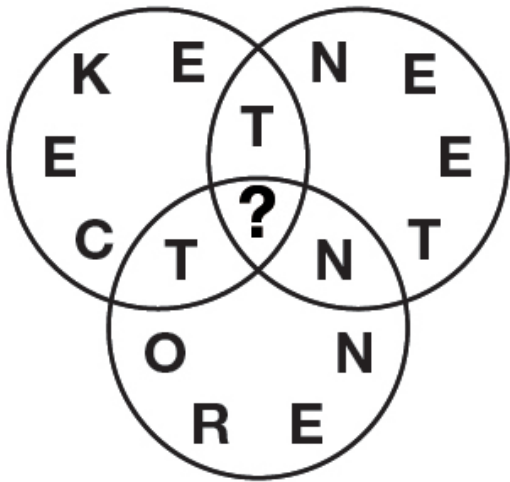
1. TheAwful ---
2. To Catch a ---
3. Bringing up ---
4. --- by Northwest --
5. The Philadelphia --
6. Arsenic and Old ---
7. Gunga ---
8. She Done Him ---
9. His Girl ---
10. Blonde ---

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) Controllers (13)

7) To claim (8)

11) Queue (4)

12) Delays (8)

13) Mountain range (10)

15) Faith (2)

17) Broken (f) (4)

18) To bark (6)

21) To predict (11)

23) Desperation (13)

25) Swell (6)

27) To gnaw (4)

28) Strike (6)

31) Chaos (4)

32) To repair (8)

33) Heights (9)

34) Quality (7)

36) Anxious (m) (7)

38) On purpose (6)

41) Wheels (6)

43) Of the (3)

44) Complaint (5)

47) She sees (2)

48) Authorities (11)

49) Normality (10)
- Down

1) Cancelled (m) (9)

2) To take a long time (6)

3) To ovulate (6)

4) Ace (2)

5) Killer whale (4)

6) She (4)

7) I dared (6)

8) Estimated (m) (8)

9) Responsibility (15)

10) To restore (11)

14) Wait (6)

16) Indignation (11)

19) Disgruntled (m) (10)

20) En... Not at all (8)

22) Smile (7)

24) To disappear (11)

26) Legends (8)

29) Screen (8)

30) Score (8)

35) Malice (6)

37) Order (5)

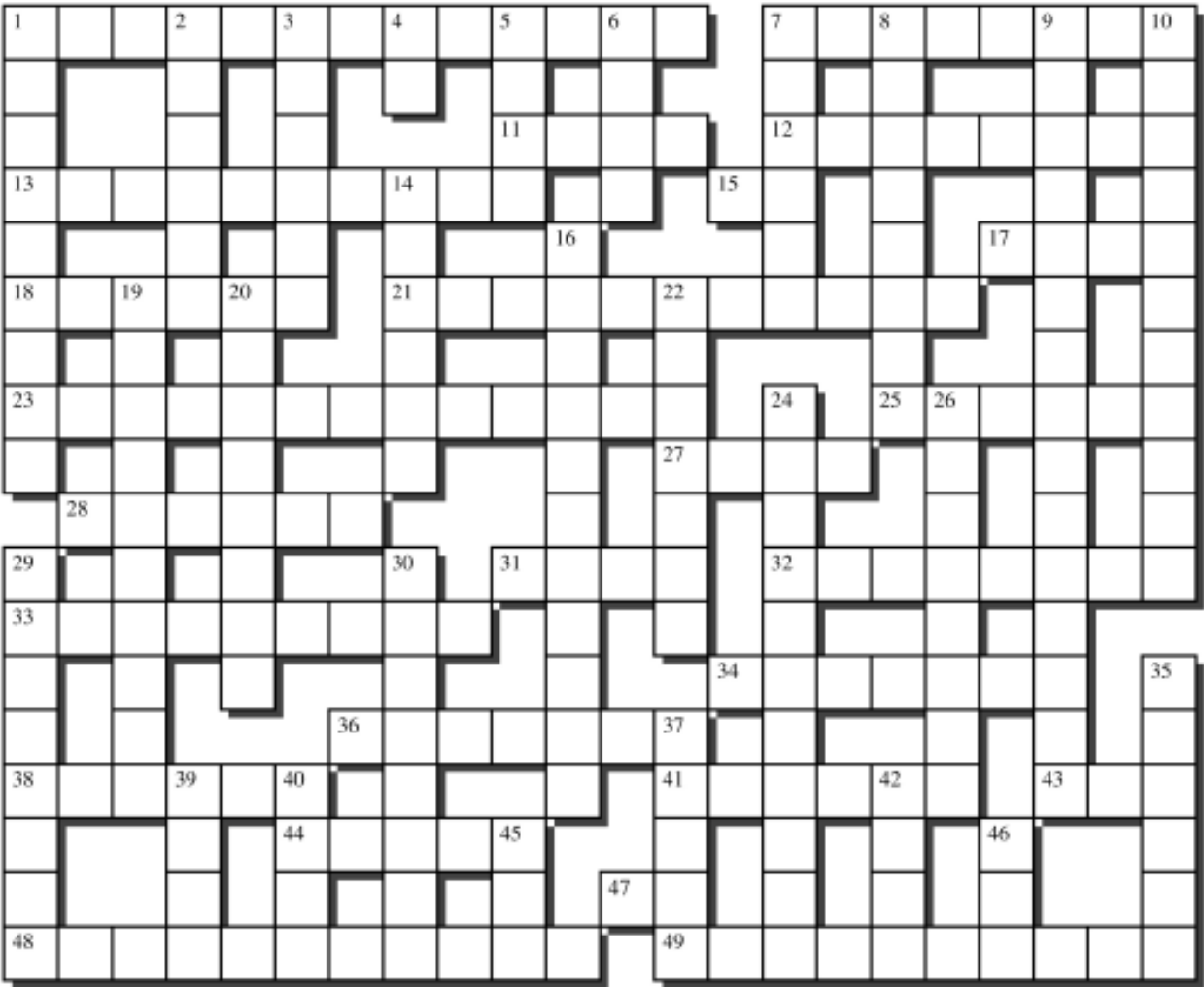
39) Dry (m) (4)

40) Here (4)

42) Soul (4)

45) Bird (3)

46) Like that (3)



ANSWERS

Quiz answers

are popular social places.

is available at "tej houses," which

brewed, but throughout Ethiopia it

The beverage is usually home

species of buckthorn called gesho.

leaves and twigs of an indigenous

mead. It is flavoured with powdered

Of interest: Tej is essentially a

Answer: Ethiopia

herbs.

and apricot kernels and Amaro from

oranges, Amaretto from almonds

quinine). Aurum is distilled from

gentian and cinchona (a source of

orange liqueur made with rhubarb.

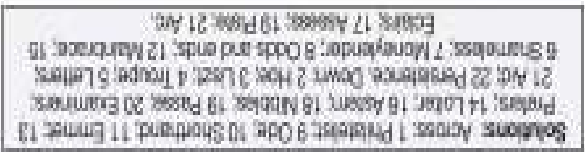
Of interest: Aperol is a bright

Answer: Aperol

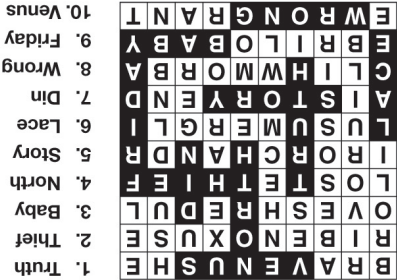
Language Crossword



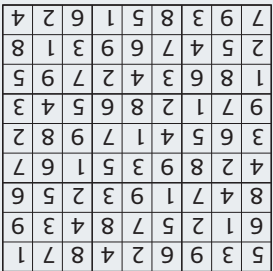
Cryptic Crossword



Wordpuzzler solution



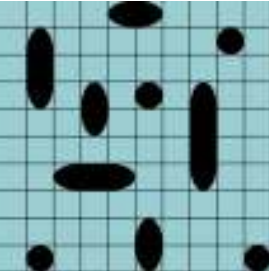
Sudoku solution



Circlegram

The letter represented by the question mark is B. Beckett, Bennett, Brenton, all playwrights.

Battleships



WHERE IS THIS?



CORONAVIRUS ADVICE

To notify symptoms of coronavirus

If you have symptoms and/or have been in contact with someone with coronavirus



APP Salud

Responde: take the coronavirus symptoms test

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

Coronavirus information

If you have symptoms call

955 545 060

900 40 00 61

Dali Rust belongs to those creative people who are willing to share what they see and interpret it with the rest of the world. The filmmaker came to the Costa del Sol from Lithuania to discover a new world in the south, full of appreciation for the Andalusian lifestyle and the people's way of thinking.

"I noticed that Andalusian people are almost never alone. It looks like they intentionally surround themselves with people. Perhaps they do it to disguise the fact that an inner loneliness exists. Our norms still dictate that we are basically extroverts dependent upon each other's company - crowds, flocks, festivals etc. and even in the 21st century, we are still scared of not fitting in with society's norms," she explains.

Dali doesn't dislike people. She simply spends more time on her own because it allows her to exercise her imagination. She assumes she prefers to be by herself because this helps to get rid of her social phobias.

"We all have fears: some more, some less. One of the fears is of being alone, or abandoned, or isolated," she said.

Dali once even decided to seek solace in the middle of the forest. "I made a conscious choice to re-route my daily activities. In the forest I didn't need a lot. The lack of television was compensated by enjoying my young children and watching nature. I had plenty of time to re-examine my purpose in life," she says.

That experience helped her to "survive" during the recent lockdowns. "I don't mind confinement because I am self-sufficient," she told SUR in English.

In her films, Dali tries to reveal what is hidden beneath the everyday social norms, the visible façades. However, it was precisely the façades of Nerja that attracted her to settle there and inspired her to start a new documentary. "All my films are devoted to the



Miguel, one of the characters in the documentary, has always socialised from his balcony. **DALI RUST**

Isolation on the balconies of Nerja

Before the pandemic. Dali Rust's almost prophetic documentary, which takes its name from the famous Balcón de Europa, shows local characters who live in isolation, while at the same time surrounded by people

ALEKK M. SAANDERS



▲ **Dali Rust.** Originally from Lithuania, the filmmaker has captured the solitude of some characters in Nerja. **JURIJ GRIGOROVIC**

social ambience, inner world, isolation and loneliness. One of my significant documentaries was the film Nadiezhda, about the solitude of a woman in need. Another film, Marina's House, is a portrait of a sister of the famous filmmaker Andrey Tarkovsky, who preserves the traditional values of dignity, sincerity, respect and honesty. My last film, The Balcony of Europe is about a few peculiar inhabitants of Nerja," said Dali.

In this Nerja documentary Dali wanted to show two worlds - the visible one and the characters' closed little worlds. One of the people of the film is Eloi, a middle-aged craftsman, who lives in a cave. Two other town-dwellers - a cobbler, Serafin, and an elderly seamstress, Juana - devote most of their time to their favourite, but lonely, work and communicate, generally, only with their pets. Serafin works and sings with his caged birds in his workshop, while Juana has a little helper by her side - a purring cat.

In the Nerja film, Dali has managed to show a different style of living on the Costa del Sol - with self-imposed isolation and 'social distancing' existing even before the pandemic came, making living on balconies routine.

"During the first lockdown the balcony became an improvised shelter for social interaction. Some neighbours played different games, others cheered themselves up by playing musical instruments. My character in the film, 67-year-old Miguel, has always socialised with people via his balcony," Dali said.

Miguel is a creator of illuminated model ships and his works are located on a balcony, clearly visible to people passing by. "For him, his small balcony has always been an arena of self-expression and social interaction," she added.

Dali is hoping to show her film in Nerja but for now it can be seen on YouTube.

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