



A big day for a city longing for its processions

Magna. After two years of cancelled Holy Week events, Malaga city was the scene last Saturday of one long 14-hour procession. Sixteen images were carried through the streets to celebrate 100 years of the association of brotherhoods. **P14**

British tourists will be back in 2022, concludes travel industry

Tourism authorities from Andalucía and the Costa del Sol attended a quiet but optimistic World Travel Market in London

Recovery was the key word mentioned throughout the three days of the World Travel Market held this week in London. The quieter-

than-usual trade event, back in face-to-face format after going virtual in 2020, still gave the delegation from the tourism industry in southern Spain reason to be optimistic. Figures and forecasts point to numbers of British visitors to Andalucía and the Costa del Sol approaching pre-pandemic levels during 2022, with flights between UK airports and Malaga expected to return to previous figures. **P2&3**

Alhaurín de la Torre, an inland town set to become a haven for surfers with a new wave pool project **P8**

Costa del Sol Hospital and Malaga Metro, the big beneficiaries of the Junta de Andalucía's budget for 2022 **P12**

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Representatives of the regional and provincial tourism authorities with mayors of some of the most important destinations on the Costa del Sol, including Marbella, Malaga, Mijas, Benalmádena, Torrox and Nerja. **SALVADOR SALAS**

2022: the year of the return of British tourists to Andalucía

The region expects to receive in the first half of next year 60% of the visitors from the UK it had before the pandemic

PILAR MARTÍNEZ

LONDON. The 2021 World Travel Market (WTM) was back to its face-to-face format, opening the doors of London's ExCel centre to the tourism industry after holding a virtual edition in 2020 due to the pandemic.

Open between Monday and Wednesday this week, the travel trade fair saw a significant reduction in professionals attending, with only a third of the countries that took part in 2019. Coronavirus did not prevent this year's event from going ahead, but did make its presence felt with security controls requiring a Covid certificate from all attendees.

There was a general sensation of hopeful optimism, however, among the colourful stands where representatives from the world's

tourism industry aimed to recover their British tourists, the most important visitor market for numerous countries.

The Spanish contingent at this year's WTM was formed by representatives from all levels of the tourism industry, including the minister for Industry, Commerce and Tourism, Reyes Maroto; the president of the Junta de Andalucía, Juanma Moreno; the vice-president of the Junta and regional Tourism minister, Juan Marín; the president of the Costa del Sol tourism authority, Francisco Salado; and the mayor of Malaga, Francisco de la Torre; along with mayors and councillors from the main tourist resorts on the Costa del Sol, including Marbella, Torremolinos, Mijas, Torrox, Benalmádena and Nerja; and the Costa Tropical, with delegations from Almuñécar among others.

All of their speeches during the fair in London carried the same message: the tourism industry is on its way to recovery as British holidaymakers prepare to return to their favourite destinations for



Juan Marín and Juanma Moreno of the Junta de Andalucía with the Spanish Tourism minister, Reyes Maroto on the Andalucía stand. **S. SALAS**

next year's summer holidays.

Quality not quantity

The different authorities also coincided in saying that now is the time to reposition the Costa del Sol brands as holiday destinations of quality rather than quantity.

Their aim is not necessarily to recover the figures of 2019, but rather to attract a visitor with higher spending power who takes longer holidays.

On Monday, the president of the Junta de Andalucía stressed the importance of recovering the British market as soon as possible.

"They [the British] are vital for the reactivation of tourism in Andalucía as a whole. We are working to recover the pre-pandemic situation and the signs are positive. We are going in the right direction, and so we can be reasonably optimistic with our forecasts," he said as he inaugurated the An-

60%

In the first half of 2022 Andalucía expects to recover up to 60% of the UK tourists who visited in the same period of 2019.

1.2

million British tourists are expected to visit Andalucía in the first half of 2022.

550,000

seats on flights have been programmed by airlines to fly to Andalucía in the last quarter of this year.

dalucía section of the fair.

"We are the salespeople for Andalucía. We've come to sell the great things of our land to tourists and to investors with an interest in Andalucía; we want them to come to our region," he added.

He listed some of the things that would help them sell their product. "We've lowered taxes, removed bureaucracy and we're making sure they know that we are a safe destination. What better way of creating trust than to say that 91% of our target population has been vaccinated against Covid-19."

The message to British holidaymakers was simple: now they can plan the holiday in Andalucía that they have been dreaming of for months.

On the Costa del Sol stand the president of the provincial tourist authority Francisco Salado, said, "We'll put all our resources and hard work into winning back the British market," mentioning the new Suntalgia promotional video, among other initiatives.

Referring to the pandemic, he added, "Now the British are better on the Costa del Sol than they are in their own country in terms of safety, protection measures and infection rates." Salado reflected the optimism of other authorities. "We mustn't worry too much about recovering the pre-crisis volume of tourists, but with attracting visitors with more means. That change of mentality is essential."

Mark Tanzer, CEO of ABTA

London wakes up to a taste of Andalucía in the form of the SUR in English supplement

RACHEL HAYNES

LONDON. Commuters in London woke up on Monday morning this week to a taste of Andalucía and the Costa del Sol, when they found the SUR in English Southern Spain supplement inserted in their copy of their free newspaper City A.M.

Train and tube journeys into central London were brightened up with colourful images of the beaches of the Costa del Sol, of Andalucía's great cities and of the region's inland beauty.

"I love Spain," said finance officer Helga Morady, who found the supplement on her first day back at her office in London af-

ter working from home since the lockdown. "We travel a lot."

For her, Monday's return to normality in her workplace in the City had the added advantage of a sign that international travel is once again a real possibility, in the form of the SUR in English special supplement inside her morning newspaper.



A London commuter finds Andalucía in her morning paper. **S. SALAS**

Brexit opens doors to retail tourism

The exit of the United Kingdom from the EU has opened up the opportunity for the industry to attract another type of tourism: retail. Brexit has meant that residents in the UK (except Northern Ireland) can now claim back IVA (value added tax) on their holiday purchases in Spain. While France is leader in attracting visitors from across the Channel for shopping trips, the Costa del Sol, already the favourite Spanish holiday destination for British tourists, has plans to claim its share of this new niche in the market.

(the Association of British Travel Agents), continued the flow of optimism at his meeting with the Junta de Andalucía representatives.

"If the current trend continues and no new restrictions are brought in, we'll be in a situation very similar to the one just before the pandemic by 2022," he said.

The same expectations were shared by directors of airlines such as Jet2.com, who said, "If travel conditions do not get worse, there are high hopes for the 2022 season."

Flights between UK airports and Malaga approach pre-Covid numbers

The Costa del Sol Tourism chief, Francisco Salado, says that in the last quarter of this year seats will reach 90 per cent of 2019 figures

P. MARTÍNEZ

LONDON. One of the best indicators that the tourism industry on the Costa del Sol is getting back to normal is that it is recovering the number of flight connections with the UK.

Before the pandemic connections with UK airports made up 30 per cent of activity at Malaga Airport, some 150 flights a day in summer and 115 in winter.

On the second day of the World Travel Market in London, the president of the Costa del Sol Tourism authority, Francisco Salado, said that in the last quarter of this year, they would reach 90 per cent of the pre-pandemic figures in terms of seats available on flights from the UK.

The Costa del Sol has recovered flights to 18 British airports, with the fastest growth in flight



The Costa del Sol section at the WTM this week. SALVADOR SALAS

numbers noticed at the London airports, followed by Manchester and Birmingham.

Recovering and improving the Costa del Sol's air connectivity is one of the challenges that Malaga city council is working on and for this reason it has included meetings with airline managers at the WTM.

Mayor Francisco de la Torre defended the importance of be-

ing more visible and stronger than ever at the World Travel Market. The mayor, together with the head of Tourism at the city hall, Rosa Sánchez, held meetings with various representatives of the British press, including The Times and Daily Telegraph, as well as with operators such as TUI and Jet2Holidays; and with airlines such as Qatar Airways and Aer Lingus.

Direct flights between Costa and Canada ready for take-off

P. MARTÍNEZ

LONDON. Malaga Airport will resume direct flights between the Costa del Sol and the Canadian city of Montreal from next month, after the route was suspended as the coronavirus pandemic swept the world.

The Mayor of Malaga, Francisco de la Torre, announced the news at the World Travel Market (WTM) in London and said that it is a key connection for the city to improve its connectivity with long-distance destinations.

The route to Montreal will be the only direct means of access to the North American market, and De la Torre said the city needs to recover the flights to the United States as soon as possible. "It is a connection that we cannot afford to miss out on. It is key," he said.

De la Torre pointed out that the data provided by the airline shows that the connection with Malaga generates even more traffic than the one with Madrid.

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Group photo of guests at the tourism dinner at Merchant Taylors' Hall in London on Monday. **SALVADOR SALAS**

Looking forward to the future of tourism at the SUR in English dinner in London

Authorities and professionals in London for the WTM got together at the annual SUR dinner after a forced break last year due to Covid

R. HAYNES

LONDON. It was more important than ever this year to pay tribute to the tourism industry. After being cancelled, along with all other World Travel Market events last year, on Monday representatives of SUR and SUR in English were proud to welcome guests to the traditional tourism dinner, held

this year at Merchant Taylors' Hall. The nearly 100 diners had at least one thing in common: they were all hopeful that the tourism industry will get back on its feet next year.

Among representatives of the tourism authorities at the dinner were the vice-president of the Junta de Andalucía and regional Tourism minister, Juan Marín,

who said, "We must all stick together because after each crisis there is always an opportunity."

Guests included the president of the Costa del Sol Tourism authority, Francisco Salado; the mayor of Malaga, Francisco de la Torre; Lord Daniel Brennan; the former president of the WHO, Manual Butler; the Gibraltar Minister for Tourism Vijay Daryan-

ani; the president of the Spanish chamber of commerce in London, Eduardo Barrachina; as well as the mayors of tourist destinations such as Torremolinos, Benalmádena, Mijas, Nerja and Torrox, tourism officials from Almería, the region of Murcia, Córdoba and Almuñécar, and the president of the Costa del Sol hoteliers association (Aehcos), José Luque, among others.

Special tribute was paid to the until recently Director of Publications, Pedro Luis Gómez, who has been behind the participation of SUR in English at the World Travel Market for the last 35 years.

'People have realised Gibraltar is not just shopping and apes'

Hon Vijay Daryanani
Gibraltar Minister for Tourism

Gibraltar has attracted a different type of tourist this summer due to Covid restrictions elsewhere; the Tourism Minister hopes to keep those younger visitors

RACHEL HAYNES

LONDON. The delegation from Gibraltar at the World Travel Market in London shared the same sense that 2022 would be the year of the return of British tourists, although they were happy that their destination has not fared so badly as some this year.

Gibraltar's Minister for Tour-

ism, Hon Vijay Daryanani, spoke to SUR in English during his busy schedule of appointments in London this week.

Do you agree that 2022 will be a year of recovery for the tourism industry?

In 2020 we were coming to terms with the fact that we had Covid; this year has been the year of vaccination - as you know in Gibraltar we were one of the first countries to have our population fully vaccinated. Of course we were able to publicise the fact that we were safe. We were one of the first European countries to be on the UK's green list for travel. The coverage that Gibraltar has had in the UK has been unprecedented. And now 2022 is the year



Hon Vijay Daryanani. **SUR**

for recovery. We need to look at how we can get back to numbers of 2019. And then after that, growth.

How is the current situation of tourism in Gibraltar?

Being small is an advantage. We've always been able to do things faster and our hotels have been full in general throughout the summer; flights have been busy to Gibraltar so we've done well.

Daytrippers still haven't reached levels that we would like but that's due to general travel. And the third part, cruising, has just taken off. Hopefully by next year come the summer we will be in a situation where we have reached 70 or 80% of the 2019 figures.

The number of flights to Gibraltar from the UK actually increased this year when Spain had stricter travel restrictions.

Through Covid we attracted three airlines. Wizz Air, BA CityFlyer and Eastern Airways. CityFlyer was only on a seasonal basis so hopefully they will come back in the summer, Wizz Air are continuing to fly to Luton and Eastern Airways have taken the decision not to fly during the winter months.

Do you see the Costa del Sol and the Cadiz coastline as allies or rivals when it comes to attracting tourists?

They're not rivals as in Gibraltar we don't have enough space, so we can't compete with the amount of hotels. So it's in our interest that the Costa del Sol fills up and people visit us for their day trips or their shopping and their sightseeing. We will continue to market Gibraltar with the idea that people should stay but we have a certain amount of

hotels so we fill up very quickly. It's something we're working on; hopefully we will have new hotels in Gibraltar.

What are you promoting here at the World Travel Market?

In particular what we would like is to continue the influx of overnight tourism that we've had over the summer. It's been unprecedented as normally our hotels in the summer months are low as people have been travelling to other places. This year we've seen different kinds of people - we've had families we wouldn't normally have. We've had younger people: stag nights, hen nights. People have come to spend three or four days and they've come back saying that it was too short. People have realised that Gibraltar is not only about going shopping - and not only about apes.

How is tourism in Gibraltar affected by Brexit?

Gibraltar is in the process of negotiating a treaty with the EU and therefore we have to wait to see what the outcome of that is. If there is a treaty it opens up a whole range of different possibilities, and if there isn't then we know what we have to do. I won't go into detail about that at the moment, but we know what we have to do if there's no treaty.

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The Andalusian budget for 2022 includes funding for city metro and Costa del Sol hospital extension

Altogether, the province is due to receive 351 million euros of investment in 2022, which is nearly 90 million more than it was allocated this year

ANTONIO M. ROMERO



MALAGA. The metro, a new hospital in Malaga city and the extension to the Costa del Sol hospital in Marbella are the biggest projects included in the Junta de Andalucía regional government's budget for Malaga in 2022, details of which were announced on Wednesday. These spending predictions, which will now be reviewed by the regional parliament, have assigned 351.5 million euros of investment for the province, which is nearly 90 million more than the amount for this year, when it was allocated 262 million.

The document which shows the budget for the different provinces on the Ministry of Finance and European Funding website breaks down these investments, which include the sum of 25.7 million euros to complete the ongoing works on the metro into Malaga centre. No date has been set for this part of the project, but it is expected to be finished by the end of next year.

In addition there are an extra 685,712 euros to extend the underground line to the city's Hospital Civil, an initiative for which the plans are currently being drawn up.

With regard to the Malaga metro, a further 88 million euros have been assigned to cover the running and maintenance costs of the existing service next year.

In the field of health care, one of the Junta's biggest commitments is to construct a new hospital in Malaga city. It will be built on land behind the Hospi-



Vice-president of the Junta Juan Marín; President Juanma Moreno; and regional Treasury minister, Juan Bravo, on Wednesday. **SANTANA DE YEPES**

tal Civil and will be 270,000 square metres in size. Next year, the sum of 9.4 million euros has been allocated for it.

Sources at the regional government have explained that this sum does not appear in the provincial figures but is included as part of an overall plan for health care infrastructure.

This new hospital project was announced last summer and the draft plans have been drawn up by architects Carlos Lamela and Alfonso Casares.

European funds

Although it does not appear in the details for the provinces either, the sum of 43.5 million euros has been earmarked to enlarge the Costa del Sol hospital in Marbella. This money will be coming out of the EU funds for economic recovery, say sources at the Junta.

Malaga, third province in terms of investment in Andalucía

With 351.4 million euros, Malaga is the third province in Andalucía in terms of amount of investment under the regional government's 2022 Budget. Seville tops the list with 528.9 million, and Cadiz is to receive 466.4 million.

After Malaga, the order is as follows: Granada (346.4 million); Jaén (329.6); Cordoba (283); Almeria (241.9) and Huelva (223.8), according to the information in the appendix regarding investment by province which has been produced by the regional Ministry of Finance, which is headed by Juan Bravo.

Another sizeable sum is the 46 million euros assigned by the Junta de Andalucía for different water and sanitation projects in Malaga province. Of this amount, nearly six million euros are allocated for water supplies to certain areas, nearly five million are for security measures at dams and reservoirs and 7.5 million for sewage treatment, although the details do not mention the specific projects.

For projects in rural areas and for agriculture and farming in the province, the regional government has allocated an overall investment of 41 million euros for infrastructure (10 million), irrigation (10.3 million), modernisation of olive farms (3 million) and nearly six million euros for programmes to encourage young people into the agricultural sector.

In this field but as a separate

item, the Junta is also to spend 120,000 euros on the Special Plan for Promoting the Raisin Grapes of La Axarquía (known as Sipam).

The regional budget also allocates 33 million euros to Malaga for preventing and fighting forest fires and for forestry policies. This is a particularly important issue for the province in light of the recent devastating fire in Jubrique and the Sierra Bermeja.

The Dry Port in Andalucía is to receive 12 million euros of investment, while the project to restore the Convento de la Trinidad in Malaga city has been assigned 145,000 euros so the plans can be drawn up to convert it into a cultural and heritage centre. Another 120,000 euros have also been allocated to build a National Park office in the Sierra de las Nieves.

SOME OF THE PRINCIPAL PROJECTS

Malaga City Metro: 25.7 million for the works which are already under way to extend the metro line as far as the city centre. Also, 685,712 euros to expand the line to the Hospital Civil.

Antequera Dry Dock: 12 million euros have been allocated for the first phase of the urbanisation works and the electrical substation.

Ronda-Ardales motorway study: 700,000 euros.
Regional public spaces programme (funding for carrying out improvements to squares, streets and urban areas): 1,572,927 euros for a variety of projects in Álora, Antequera, Archidona, Villanueva del Rosario and Malaga city. The largest one is the Cau footpath (775,000 euros) and the Gibralfaro by-

pass – a footpath between Malaga city and Monte Gibralfaro hill.
Third hospital in Malaga city: 9.4 million euros.
Extension to the Costa del Sol hospital: 43.5 million.
Construction, equipment and improvements to health centres: 1,022,251 euros.
Investment in irrigation: 10.3 million.
Water supplies: 6 million.

Sewage treatment: 7.5 million.
Convento de la Trinidad: 145,000 euros.
National Park office in the Sierra de las Nieves: 120,000 euros to build an office.
New law court in Torremolinos: 475,000 euros.
New law court in Estepona: 200,000 euros.
Sipam Special Plan to Promote Raisin Grapes in La Ax-

arquía: 120,000 euros.
Financing for the PFEA: 4.8 million.
Infrastructure for preventing and fighting forest fires: 4 million euros.
Restoration, conservation and maintenance of waterways: One million euros.
Modernising agricultural facilities: 6.5 million.
Arraijnal metropolitan park in Malaga city: 91,000 euros.

The Junta awards the contract to put an end to sewage in the Guadalhorce river

The metropolitan treatment plant for Malaga, conceived 15 years ago, will cost 105 million euros and will not be ready until mid-2025

FRANCISCO JIMÉNEZ

MALAGA. It has taken longer than expected, but at last the Junta de Andalucía has awarded the contract for the biggest sewage treatment project still outstanding in Malaga province: the metropolitan plant which was con-

ceived 15 years ago to stop sewage being released into the Guadalhorce river from Alhaurín el Grande and Cártama.

These are the two biggest places in Andalucía which lack sewage treatment facilities, and every year 5.9 cubic hectometres of waste end up in the principal river in Malaga province. This is the equivalent of 1,750 Olympic-size swimming pools or 200,000 tanker lorries. It will also ease the pressure on the treatment plant on the Guadalhorce industrial estate in Malaga, which is at full capacity as it also



Sewage flowing into the Guadalhorce at Estación de Cártama. NITO SALAS

treats waste from Alhaurín de la Torre and outlying areas as well as all the future development north and west of the city.

Just over a year after putting the contract out to tender, the regional Agriculture ministry

has awarded it to a temporary joint company formed by Aquambiente, Dinotec and Sando for 104.9 million euros.

The project is expected to take 42 months to complete, so the plant will not be in operation

until mid-2025. Until then, the cost of the penalty from the EU for the lack of sewage treatment in Alhaurín el Grande will continue to rise.

In July it was 4.07 million euros and there is an extra charge of 634,320 euros for every six month delay. This means that by the time the plant is ready, the amount will be around nine million euros. As if that were not enough, it is not yet known what action the EU will take about the problems in Cártama.

Complaints over the location

Around 300 families from different areas of Alhaurín de la Torre are unhappy about the proposed location of the sewage plant and have formed a protest group because of the impact it will have on their homes and agricultural land. These complaints were rejected, to prevent any further delays in treating the waste from Cártama and Alhaurín el Grande, and, at the same time, stop the fines from the EU increasing even more.

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Torremolinos squatters forced to leave after nearly 10 years

A specialist firm contracted by the owner of the building has successfully evicted the occupants of 16 of the apartments

ÁLVARO FRÍAS/JUAN CANO

MALAGA. After nearly ten years, the situation at number 4 Camino de Villaflores in Torremolinos took a turn for the better this week. The people who had been squatting in this block of apartments are being evicted by a company which specialises in this type of action. The squatters were occupying 16 of the homes, and the last ones are now packing up their belongings. Very soon, the owner of the building will be able to take possession of it again.

Exit Okupas is the company re-



The block of flats. SUR

sponsible for their departure. Álex Caro, one of the four partners, says his staff blocked the access door to the building, so that if the people living there without permission went out, they couldn't get back in. They acted legally, and were contracted by the building's owner.

"We act as mediators. We are helping the occupants with their move and my partners and I even paid for a woman who really didn't have anywhere to spend the night to stay in a hotel," says Caro.

They found the apartments in a poor condition, especially the car park where there was a lot of rubbish and an electrical generator had been connected, posing a fire risk. Inside the building they even found a marijuana plantation.

And so ends a period of occupation which began in 2012, when several people took over apartments in the block. Some then registered that as their address at the town hall. A local lawyer, José Cosín, expressed his surprise that the owner of the building had resorted to this. "Residents of that block have a trial coming up in a few months to have the squatters evicted," he says.

HERE AND THERE

MALAGA

Casa Invisible refuses to be moved

J. HINOJOSA. For nearly fifteen years, the Casa Invisible cultural group has been 'occupying' numbers 9 to 11 Calle Nosquera in the city. In all this time, while the group has continued to carry

out cultural events of all kinds, the city council have not been able to find a way to evict them in order to renovate the property, despite cutting the water supply to the building. The spokespersons for the Casa Invisible argue that the works could be carried out in phases without them having to leave the premises.

MIJAS

Sheltered housing for mental health patients

I. GELIBTER. Mijas will soon have nine sheltered apartments for people with mental health problems thanks to an agreement between the town hall and the Afesol association. The council has ceded land in Camino de Campanales, in Las Lagunas, and has also contributed 350,000 euros towards the cost. The first stone of the building was laid this week.

FUENGIROLA

Work begins on improvement projects

SUR. Fuengirola council has started nearly 50 per cent of its planned improvement works in different areas of the municipality, with projects now under way in Los Boliches, Los Pacos, El Boquetillo and Miramar. The works, which include paving, car parking and street lighting, among others, will cost over two million euros.



The wave pool at Wavegarden in Brasil, which is already operational. **WAVEGARDEN**

Alhaurín de la Torre, closer to becoming a haven for surfers thanks to wave pool project

ALHAURÍN DE LA TORRE

The council is to approve the permits so the investors behind the 14-million-euro project, located at Lauro Golf, can start works

**JUAN CALDERÓN /
ANDREA JIMÉNEZ**

There is good news for surfing fans in Malaga province and Andalucía after months of stalemate. Alhaurín de la Torre council is moving ahead with Wavegarden, which is to be built at Lauro Golf in the next few months.

After a lot of to-ing and fro-ing, the wave pool with the best technology on the market looks as if it will finally make it to Malaga. It will be the first of its type to open to the public in Spain and the third in Europe, after the ones in Bristol and Switzerland. Wavegarden is the leading company in this field and has already opened pools in South Korea, Brazil, Japan and Australia.

The project planned for Alhaurín de la Torre goes beyond that, because it also includes a 200-room hotel to accommodate surf fans from all over Europe who are expected to come to the town to enjoy these high quality and frequent artificial waves. The golf and the proximity to Malaga airport are other attractions, as is the climate, giving it a major advantage over other facilities of this type in Europe.

The project came to a halt because of the pandemic, but has

now been reactivated. The standstill led to many rumours, including that the project had been moved to another town instead. However, sources say they cannot rule out the possibility of a second project of this type being built in Malaga in the future.

Process

The process that has to be followed is the following: once Alhaurín council grants all the necessary permits, the investment fund behind this 14 million euro project will release some of the money so the works on the two-hectare site can start. It is expected to take about two years to complete, although the lagoon which will hold the technology

used to produce the waves may be operative sooner.

Surf fans are also keen to find out how much it will cost to use the pool. To give an idea, according to Wavegarden the one in Bristol costs between 45 and just over 57 euros per hour for adults and about 35 euros for children. There are also courses with an instructor from 70 euros for an hour and a half. The prices may change depending on the time of year, and include a wetsuit and surfboard.

At the moment several companies work in the field of producing artificial waves for surfing, especially in the USA, but the Spanish firm Wavegarden is the one that offers the most useful product. Its machinery can generate a large number of different-sized waves, more than 1,000 an hour, Wavegarden has said in the past, although in Alhaurín the number will be smaller because the movement of water is enormous and needs to be stabilised so it does not affect the quality of the waves. The pool provides series of perfect waves, both right and left - in other words in both directions - and for different levels of surfers.

With six pools in operation: Praia da Grama (Brazil), Alaia Bay (Switzerland), Wave Park (South Korea), Urbnsurf (Melbourne) The Wave (Bristol) and Surf Snowdonia (Wales) and a Wavegarden Cove at Surfland Brazil, this Basque company has a portfolio of more than 46 projects in different phases of execution on all five continents. Wavegarden is considered by investors as the leader in the emerging market of wave generation technology.

"Alhaurín will be on the international surfing map without having a beach"

The mayor of Alhaurín de la Torre, Joaquín Villanova, says this project will place the town "on the international surfing map without having a beach" and will be a quality addition to the existing sports tourism facilities. He says that in about a month, the detailed study of the plans will be approved and the works will be able to start. "It is an initiative to attract year-round tourism, because the surfers will be able to enjoy the pool 365 days a year," he explains.

112 REPORTS

FUENGIROLA

Police save life of fleeing house burglar

A.F. / J.C. Police officers from the Fuengirola Local and National Police Force (CNP) managed to prevent a robbery and save a life at the same time last Friday.

The burglar had fled from the police by jumping from terrace to terrace, and after a brief chase hung off a fifth floor balcony to avoid being arrested.

Police grabbed the thief and pulled him onto the roof before arresting him.

PIZARRA

One dead, two injured in A-357 head-on crash

A.F. / J.C. A 22-year-old Romanian man has died after a head-on crash at kilometre 44 on Malaga's A-357 road, in the municipality of Pizarra.

According to the emergency services four other people were injured in the accident, and two of them were rushed, in a serious condition, to the intensive care unit of the Regional Hospital in the city. All of them were male. The accident was reported at around 8am last Sunday.



Emergency services at the scene of the accident on Wednesday. **SUR**

MALAGA

Wrong-way driver involved in A-45 head-on crash that left two people injured

A.F. / J.C. Guardia Civil traffic officers are investigating the circumstances that led up to a serious crash on the A-45 motorway between Malaga and Antequera on Wednesday morning that left two people injured.

Sources have told SUR that five minutes before the smash the 112 emergency services control room received calls alerting that there was a driver travelling in the opposite direction to regular

traffic, heading towards Malaga on the Antequera carriageway.

Witnesses claimed that the motorist had driven for several kilometres in the opposite direction of the road and due to the speed could not even tell the emergency services the colour of the vehicle.

Firefighters cut free the victims, both men, aged 44 and 58 years old, and they were taken to hospital to receive treatment.

FUENGIROLA

Swede shot outside adult club in Fuengirola

A.F. / J.C. A 29-year-old Swedish man was seriously injured after being shot outside an adult nightclub in Fuengirola at 3am last Sunday. He suffered a gunshot wound to the abdomen and was rushed to the Regional Hospital in Malaga city. He was admitted to the intensive care unit and sources reported that he was operated on to remove the bullet. The second injured person, also Swedish, is 18 years old and broke a wrist while fleeing.



The scene of the shooting. **A.F.**

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Green campaigners appeal to Torrox council over new beach bar

GENA-Ecologistas en Acción say that opening a chiringuito is "incomprehensible" due to the threat to endangered plants

EUGENIO CABEZAS

TORROX. Environmentalists and local residents have called on Torrox town hall not to give permission for a new beach bar in a cliff area next to the mouth of the river, despite getting the green light from the regional government.

The environmental association GENA Ecologistas en Acción sent a letter to the town hall this week requesting that it appeal against the concession for the construction granted by the regional government.

According to GENA, in July 2020, a company presented to the Junta de Andalucía an application for a licence to build a beach bar in the area.

In the letter, GENA said it was "incomprehensible" that the Junta had granted a concession for the installation of this establishment "in a place of very high visual and landscape impact".

President of GENA, Rafael Yus, said that the frequency of traffic and waste caused by the bar "could increase the already threatened state of the Malaga evergreen ('Limonium malacitanum') and other threatened coastal rock plants".

Town hall sources have denied that a building permit will be granted to this new establishment, despite having been authorised by the Junta. "If the town hall decides to allow any more chiringuitos, it will hold an auction and agree on their location with the sector," they said.

The town hall added, "The Junta reports that it sees no obstacles to allowing a chiringuito in this area, but it is the town hall that authorises and gives the permits, as well as regional government."

HERE AND THERE



The El Pinarillo beauty spot reopened on Monday. E. CABEZAS

NERJA

Town hall reopens popular El Pinarillo beauty spot in time for long weekend

E. CABEZAS. The El Pinarillo recreational area in Nerja was reopened in time for the All Saints bank holiday last Monday. It has reopened after a year closed due to the pandemic to avoid crowds and reduce the risk of Covid-19 infection.

Located in the Sierras Tejeda, Almijara and Alhama natural park and next to the Nerja cave, it is a popular beauty spot with facilities such as barbecues, a children's playground and picnic areas, and from which several walking routes lead to the summit of the peaks of the Sierra Nerja.

Nerja's environment councillor, Javier Rodríguez, said in a statement, "Given the progress in vaccination, the improvement in the situation, the low incidence, and therefore the decrease in the health alert level, the council considers that it is no longer necessary to maintain the aforementioned ban on access to this recreational area."

Nerja's environment councillor, Javier Rodríguez, said in a statement, "Given the progress in vaccination, the improvement in the situation, the low incidence, and therefore the decrease in the health alert level, the council considers that it is no longer necessary to maintain the aforementioned ban on access to this recreational area."

NERJA

Police looking for Halloween vandals

E. C. Nerja town hall and police are appealing for witnesses who may have seen the perpetrators of a series of acts of vandalism which happened around the town on Halloween last Sunday. Considerable damage was caused to street furniture, shops and restaurants, including graffiti and eggs and dirt being thrown at them. Local police are asking members of the public to call 952 521 545 or go to the local police station with any information or to report further damage.



Halloween vandalism in Nerja. E. C.

FRIGILIANA

Judge orders demolition of illegal rental property

E. C. A judge in Malaga has ordered the demolition of a holiday home in Paraje Loma de la Cruz near Frigiliana, 12 years after the first complaint was lodged against the owner. The judge considered that a Frigiliana resident converted a farmhouse having obtained a licence for a rental property. The owner, a local woman with the initials S.M.N.D, has been ordered to pay a fine of 1,080 euros for an urban planning offence.

AXARQUÍA

Green light given to recycled water plan

E. C. The Junta de Andalucía on Wednesday announced an allocation of 1.7 million euros for emergency works to introduce recycled water for irrigation in the Axarquía region.

The Andalusian government will improve wastewater treatment in four plants in Vélez-Málaga, Torrox and Rincón de la Victoria to provide between eight and ten cubic hectometres per year to sub-tropical crops. The work is due to finish in spring 2022.

The project will benefit sub-tropical fruit growers in the Axarquía, especially those in Almáchar, Benamargosa, El Borge, Comares, Cútar, Iznate, Macharaviaya, Moclinejo, Rincón de la Victoria, Vélez-Málaga, Totalán, Algarrobo, Torrox and Nerja.

La Viñuela reservoir is in a situation of severe drought, at less than 20 per cent of its capacity. Experts warn that if there is no significant rainfall in the coming months, the reservoir, which supplies 14 municipalities and a large part of the subtropical sector, could become a desert, an image never seen in the three decades since it was built.

The works have already been awarded and will begin in the next few days.

VÉLEZ-MÁLAGA

Man arrested for animal cruelty as dogs starved

A. F / J. C. A 38-year-old man was arrested on 27 October on suspicion of animal cruelty after two dogs were found in a property in Vélez-Málaga. Police were alerted to the situation by a neighbour who was concerned about the dogs' condition. The animals were found to be extremely malnourished, had no access to food or water and were surrounded by their own faeces. One was tied up. The animals are now in a shelter in the Axarquía.

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Expats brand Blue Badge process as 'a travesty'

Furious British residents show their concern and air their opinions about the difficulties and delays in obtaining a disability permit

TONY BRYANT

MALAGA. Disabled expats living on the Costa del Sol are continuing to air their anger at the time it takes to receive a parking permit - a Blue Badge.

Following an article published in SUR in English (22-28 October), numerous furious British residents contacted the newspaper to share their concern about the difficulties the delay has caused them. UK citizens are particularly affected by delays as British-issued badges are invalid since Brexit.

Several readers explained that they had just about given up with the process, especially seeing as their local town halls were unable to offer any alternative help or reasonable explanation as to why the process take so long.

In order to qualify for the permit, it is necessary to go through a difficult and frustrating disability registration process, many say, and yet there seems little that can be done about the delay.

One expat, Jean Merry, explained that her husband had waited for two and a half years, but unfortunately, his assessment appointment came far too late.

Her husband had had three major strokes and a triple bypass, and she said that the experience was "a complete travesty".

"I have personal experience of it all, which, unfortunately, ended very sadly, as my husband passed away two weeks before the appointment. What nonsense: a Blue Badge in the UK takes approximately three weeks. I do understand that people have to be assessed, but good grief, surely there could be a points system to speed



Many people are waiting. SUR

things up when some people are desperate. They should be ashamed of leaving people that long knowing that it is so necessary," she said.

Joanne Coote said her husband, who has multiple sclerosis, held a Blue Badge issued by the local council when they lived in the UK. Joanne paid to have her husband's medical notes confirming his condition, and also his neurologists' confirmation that he qualified for the UK Blue Badge, translated in to Spanish to accompany the application, although she claimed that this made no difference.

"As we had heard absolutely nothing with regard to the application - not even an acknowledgment that they had at least received it - we made an appointment with Social Services at our town hall, and at that appointment, we were advised that there was nothing they could do to help speed up the process," she

declared.

Others claimed they had been told that the validity of their British permit depended on the policy of the town hall where they reside, only to find out that this is not the case.

Mijas councillor Bill Anderson - originally from Scotland - has been approached by numerous foreign residents. He told SUR in English that "legally it would be very difficult for a town hall to overturn a national policy".

"These badges are not issued by the town hall, but through a complicated process which does take around two years," the councillor explained.

The gov.uk website declares that UK disability parking badges are not recognised or valid anywhere in Spain. It states that Spain is one of several EU countries that no longer recognise the UK permit following Britain's exit from the EU. The website goes on to say that those wishing to park on disabled spots in Spain must be in possession of a Spanish disability badge.

"The bottom line is that they are no longer valid. I have had this conversation with the Local Police chief and he confirms this to be the case. Spain has decided that they are no longer valid," Anderson added.

Renewal problems

Another concern aired is the time it takes to renew an existing badge, as Terry Taylor explained.

"When my mother's Spanish blue badge was up for renewal the first time it took 16 months to receive the new one. We have now had to renew the badge again and we are still waiting. The process began about 20 months ago. Unfortunately, my mother passed away in August, and she was still waiting for her badge. It's absolutely crazy.

"God knows what I'll need to do to cancel it," he said.

Covid-19 case rate stays at a low risk level in the Andalucía region

The rolling 14-day case rate per 100,000 was 32.9 on Thursday (4 November), with Malaga province, including the Costa del Sol, on 45.4

SUR

MALAGA. The incidence rate for Covid-19 remained low this week in the Andalucía region and dropped slightly on Thursday (4 November), having shown signs of a possible increase a few days earlier.

The 14-day case rate per 100,000 people across the eight provinces of the region was 32.9 on Thursday, down slightly on



Eighty per cent of the region is now fully vaccinated. EP (FILE PHOTO)

33.6 a week earlier. This is classified as low risk.

Huelva province was at the head of the list with 60.8, inside

the medium risk band again. Almeria province was on 47.7 (low risk), followed by Malaga province (including the Costa

del Sol) on 45.4; Cordoba on 41.3; Jaén on 33.9; Granada on 22.7; Cadiz on 19.3 and Seville on 19.

Spain overall had a case rate of 49.31 on Thursday this week.

On Thursday, Malaga province had the most new cases in the day with 68 positives reported.

There were 174 in hospital with Covid-19 across the Andalucía region on Thursday, of whom 39 were in intensive care. Malaga is the province with the most in hospital, with 51 of whom 15 were in intensive care.

Vaccination rates

According to the Andalucía government, 80% of the population in the region had had a complete Covid-19 vaccination by this week, including 90.9% of those over 12 years, while 81.4% of the population and 92.5% over 12 had had their first dose.

Of the 7.45 million people on

the padrón census in 2020 living in the Andalucía region, 6.9 million have had full jabs, leaving just over 555,000 people with no jab.

According to the regional ministry of Health figures, 100 per cent of those over 60 have had their two doses.

In terms of other age groups, 96.4% of those aged 50 to 59 have had a complete dose regionally; 40 to 49 years, 89.7% complete; 30 to 39 years, 80.2% complete; 20 to 29, 80.7% complete; 12 to 19, 86.7% complete.

Malaga is the province with the most in hospital regionally, with 51 of whom 15 were in intensive care

Council approves plan for area of future Four Seasons hotel

MARBELLA

The 650-million-euro project for land east of the town centre by the A-7 will also see new public facilities and homes

JOAQUINA DUEÑAS

MARBELLA. Councillors in Marbella have given the green light to the initial, local development plan that paves the way for the construction of a Four Seasons hotel resort and other facilities.

The site for the planned 650-million-euro project is alongside the A-7 coastal road, just east of Marbella's entrance arch.

Councillor María Francisca Caracuel, in charge of Planning, explained that the project for the area will entail a "big economic boost for the Costa del Sol" and during its construction will employ between 3,500 and 4,000 people, as well as creating another thousand jobs when it is up and running.

This is one of the highest profile projects currently in the pipeline in Marbella and affects a site of 325,000 square metres. Of this 103,000 will be used for public facilities, with resources



The site of the future Four Seasons hotel, east of Marbella. JOSELE

aimed at culture, education, sport, roads, parks and gardens all planned.

The remaining 220,000 square metres will be occupied by the five-star Four Seasons luxury resort, which will have 200 rooms, as well as the construction of 486 houses and apartments, with over half being detached and the others semi-detached.

Councillor Caracuel said, "This is a project of great rele-

vance to the town, with construction expected to last between two and three years."

The land is located just a few kilometres from Marbella's town centre; initial works began on the access roads in 2018.

It has taken several years to get the go ahead for this plan. Councillor Caracuel put this delay down to needing various reports from different sectors, which required coordination between different authorities.

Royal British Legion Spain South on parade for Armistice Day

MALAGA

Branches of the RBL in Malaga province will participate in several Remembrance Day services next weekend

TONY BRYANT

After the disruption the pandemic caused to last year's events to mark Armistice Day, The Royal British Legion Spain South is looking forward to several Remembrance services that have been organised to take place throughout the province next weekend.

With the Costa del Sol now at level 0 (low risk), ex-military personnel and the families and friends of those who served, and those who still serve, will be able to participate once again in services in Malaga, Fuengirola, Coin,

Alhaurín el Grande and Benajárfate.

The Remembrance Service at St George's Church in the English Cemetery in Malaga will be held at 10.30am on Sunday 14 November. After the service, given by Father Louis Durrant, British consul for Andalucía, Charmaine Arbouin, along with representatives from the Armed Forces and The



RBL on parade in 2019. SUR

English Cemetery Foundation, will participate in the habitual wreath laying ceremony at the Commonwealth War Graves.

Senior members and standards from the Mijas Costa and Marbella branches of the Royal British Legion (RBL), along with the 1st Fuengirola Scout Group, will come together in the Salón Variedades Theatre in Fuengirola to mark the occasion from 10.30am on Sunday 14 November.

The Coin branch of the RBL will hold its Armistice Day ceremony in the Cemetery Chapel at 11.30am on Thursday 11 November. Services will also be held in the San Gaudencio Cemetery (Alhaurín el Grande) and at the Puerta Niza restaurant (Benajárfate) at 11.30pm on Sunday 14 November.

Poppy Appeal

The RBL Spain South is currently calling for support for this year's Poppy Appeal. The organisation is asking businesses, shops, bars and restaurants to participate in the campaign by applying for a collection tin and poppies.

For more information, see the RBL Southern Spain Facebook page, or phone Neal Toplis on 660659857.

Local council planning to build four new car parks in Las Lagunas area of Mijas Costa

MIJAS

IVÁN GELIBTER. Parking is a problem that Mijas is currently working on fixing. The town hall is planning to build four new car parks in the Las Lagunas area, which will boost the municipal parking plan that has been coordinated by councillor José Carlos Martín for the last six years.

"We're looking ahead, not only to solve current parking issues but to ensure they don't happen again," Martín said.

Since 2016, the town's infra-

structure department has proposed ten public car parks, some of which have been built, others are in development and others have their budget allocations. In 2022, the municipal government will put out to tender the 364-space car park at Los Santos.

Of all the proposed projects, this is the one that has advanced the most. Mijas also has plans for another three car parks to be built in different areas - one in Doña Ermita, another in Las Cañadas and the third to further improve parking in the area around the local health centre in Las Lagunas.

The first hour of parking in municipal car parks will be free, two to nine hours will cost a euro and to park from nine to 24 hours will be a maximum of nine euros prorated in fractions of five minutes.

New-look expanded artisan market opens on city's Muelle Uno shopping area

MALAGA

ISABEL MÉNDEZ. Malaga city is set to get a new artisan market at Muelle Uno from this Sunday, 7 November.

El Zoco Maravilla will take place regularly on the first three Sundays of each month on the popular shopping and leisure dockside area of the city's port.

The new project will replace the previous market and be divided into four sections: Villa Artesana, Villa Shopping,

Villa Gourmet and Villa Solidaria, all of them distinguished by different colours to make them easier to identify by shoppers.

For example, in Villa Shopping (blue stripes) visitors will find fashion and accessories and the customisation of garments, while in Villa Artesana (red stripes) there will be 100 per cent handmade items to choose from.

In Villa Gourmet (black stripes) there will be 12 exhibitors from Sabor a Málaga with local food produce offering flavours of the province.

To complete the setup, Villa Solidaria (beige stripes), will give space to Malaga charitable associations and NGOs that previously had a presence at the market.



Muelle Uno

Marbella Old Town firms go digital to win new customers

MARBELLA

J. DUEÑAS. An association of shop traders in Marbella's Old Town has created a virtual tour and directory on its website to help people plan their visit before they leave home. It aims to help the traditional businesses compete more effectively.

The association's website has its own GPS-located entry for each business and a 360° image showing inside and outside the store. Each entry has links

to a shop's own website or social media pages. It also has a route planner to help customers get around between the shops they wish to visit.

"A lot of people don't realise that in the Old Town there's a shop selling Spanish omelette in a tin with a personalised date on, or another specialised in produce with denomination of origin from Italy and Spain," said Carmen Martínez, who runs Angel's House, a clothes and accessories shop in one of the picturesque streets. Like many, she is a great supporter of local shops having an online presence to boost trade and working together like an open-air shopping centre.

At the moment there are 50 shops, hotels and restaurants featured and more are being added all the time.



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MALAGA'S GREAT PROCESSION DAY - IN PICTURES



Brotherhood of Jesus 'The Rich'. Historically, the Cofradía de Jesús El Rico can release a prisoner each year on Holy Wednesday. **MIGUE FERNÁNDEZ**



Brotherhood of Pollinica. The image of the Cofradía de la Pollinica represents the moment that Jesus made his triumphal entry into Jerusalem. **SALVADOR SALAS**



Brotherhood of the Holy Sepulchre. The Hermandad del Santo Sepulcro is official brotherhood of the council, and members of local government participate in the procession. **M.F.**



Brotherhood of the Dove. The Virgin of the Dove from the Hermandad de la Paloma is one of the heaviest. **M.F.**



Our Lady of the Brotherhood of the New Hope. The Virgin of the Hermandad de Nueva Esperanza. **M.F.**



Brotherhood of the Gypsies. The image of the Cofradía de los Gitanos being carried from San Juan church. **M.F.**

La Magna: an uninterrupted 14-hour display

The great processions dominated the streets of Malaga on Saturday to celebrate the centenary of the Association of Brotherhoods

NEVE MATTHEWS

Following months of planning, postponing due to the pandemic and panic over the wet weather forecast, La Magna went ahead without a hitch last Saturday in Malaga.

Marking the centenary of the foundation of the Agrupación de Cofradías - the association that includes all the brotherhoods that process their images every year in the city's famous

Holy Week - sixteen images were taken to the streets in a 14-hour procession.

Each image represented one of the participating brotherhoods, weighing up to 5,000 kilos with the load shouldered among an average of 240 people.

The first image to begin its procession was that of the Brotherhood of Rescue (Hermandad

del Rescate) at 1.30pm, marked by the tolling of a bell by the president of the Association of Brotherhoods, Pablo Atencia.

The final image, Our Lady of Sorrows from the Brotherhood of the Christ of the Expiration, returned at 4.40am.

The event was made all the more special as Malaga had not seen these grand images since Holy Week in 2019, due to the

pandemic.

The excitement surrounding the processional day was reflected in the estimated 250,000 spectators who flooded the streets to witness this demonstration of fervour and devotion.

Those wishing to secure a front-row view could purchase one of the 24,000 seats which lined the Alameda, Plaza de la Marina and Paseo del Parque.



The house where Joan Hunt lived will become the first ever in-patient facility exclusively for children. **SUR**

Cudeca launches the Joan Hunt - One in a Million campaign

In association with Talk Radio Europe, the initiative has been organised to raise money to convert the house where Joan lived into a children's unit

TONY BRYANT

BENALMÁDENA. The Cudeca Foundation launched its latest campaign on Tuesday under the banner of Joan Hunt - One in a Million, an initiative that continues to pay tribute to the founder of Cudeca.

In association with Talk Radio Europe (TRE), the campaign has been organised to raise money to convert the house where Joan lived into a children's unit, or room 10, as it will be known.

Hosted by Financial Director Rafael Olalla Martinez, the launch was attended by vice-president

Susan Hannam, and Medical Director Marisa Martín, who paid a moving tribute to Joan Hunt's life and legacy.

Joan had left special instructions in her will for the house, situated in the grounds of the hospice, to be used to enhance the charity's facilities. Cudeca are hoping to complete the adaptation and refurbishment of the premises by the summer of 2022.

Martin Nathan, Chairman of TRE, who devised the campaign, explained that to honour Joan's legacy, Cudeca would create the first ever in-patient facility exclusively for children and teenagers. The name of the campaign, he went on to say, was chosen "in recognition of the founder and driving force of Cudeca, who was a one in a million human being".

"While nobody chose to think about children dying, this campaign was designed to ensure that they could spend their last days in a dedicated facility with the very best of care and their family by their side," he added.

In order to raise the approximated 160,000 euros needed for the project, the campaign will focus on a crowd-funding weekend hosted by TRE from 26 until 28 November.

All pledges made during the weekend will be doubled by the campaign's sponsors.

For more information, see www.oneinamillion.es

Bancosol food bank prepares its annual collection

CLAUDIA SAN MARTÍN

MALAGA. Bancosol is preparing for its grand food collection, a charitable action that they organise every year.

Their campaign will begin on 19 November and will run until the 25th. With a team of 4,000 volunteers, Bancosol is accepting online and in-person donations at 360 supermarkets across Malaga province.

Bancosol, which saw a record number of people use their services in 2020- from 46,350 in 2019 to 53,412 last year- due to the pandemic, also changed the way they accepted donations, which has been simplified thanks to online services and social media.

Their objective for this year is to surpass the 1.002 million euros they collected last year. "For us at Bancosol, this new method is a joy. We're improving and increasing the quality of the food we give to the people, especially to the 12,992 children that we feed," said Diego Vázquez, president of the charity.

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Alcoholic drink supply chain problems could dampen the Christmas spirit

The president of the Malaga Distributors Association, Salvador Pérez, acknowledges that the situation is "quite worrying"

JUAN SOTO

MALAGA. After overcoming the worst of the Covid crisis, the hospitality sector in the south of Spain is facing a new challenge in the run up to Christmas with some popular alcoholic beverages already missing from their shelves.

The distribution and logistics

problems being suffered worldwide have hit the producers of alcoholic beverages and spirits hard and for a few weeks they have not been able to find a way to get their products to consumers.

The stock shortage has already been noticed, mainly in bars and clubs, and some have not received all the items they have ordered for more than two weeks. At the moment, there are only shortages of specific drinks and certain brands, although the situation shows no sign of improving in the short term and could worsen with the increase in consumption that occurs dur-

ing the forthcoming holidays.

Behind the drinks shortage are a number of factors, especially the increase in the cost of maritime transport, the lack of raw materials and even Brexit. All of them, combined, have dealt a blow to the distributors, restaurants, bars and consumers facing the run up to the Christmas holiday celebrations.

Logistical problems

The hospitality sector recognises that certain brands are currently out of stock and the Spanish Federation of Spirits explains that it is not due to increased consumption but to logistical

problems. The association recognises that the Covid crisis has impacted on the entire chain needed for the marketing of spirits, including the supply of bottles, cartons, aluminium and the raw materials necessary for the distillation of alcohol.

Could get worse

The president of the Malaga Distributors Association (Adisabes), Salvador Pérez, acknowledges that the situation is "quite worrying" and does not rule out that the situation will worsen over the next few weeks; particularly when business dinners and Christmas lunches begin.

"Distribution problems are affecting all sectors and that is why we are concerned," he says.

Pérez confirms that they cannot currently order certain brands because "the manufacturers themselves don't know when they will be able to send them".

He adds that in all the catalogues there are out-of-stock products and confesses that everyone is trying to stockpile to avoid shortages on key dates. "I have serious doubts that we can have a normal Christmas; we are going to have problems with all the suppliers," he warns.

Although the main problems are being experienced in the hospitality sector, Pérez does not rule out that the situation will end up spreading to supermarkets, which are the ones that are resisting the most for now - although there are already empty shelves in some.

Inquiry starts into whether blasts from cement plant have put at risk prehistoric caves

SUR

MALAGA. Public prosecutors have ordered an investigation into a possible offence of causing a risk to prehistoric caves to the east of Malaga city.

The blasting carried out by the La Araña cement factory, near the Malaga district of El Palo in the summer, could have damaged the ancient underground sites, they say.

The prosecutors' report claims that "aggregate exploitation activities have been carried out in the area, with blasts using high-calibre explosives during the months of June, July and September 2021 by the FYM-Heydelberg cement company. The blasts were in the vicinity of Navarro IV Cave, declared to be of cultural interest and part of the La Araña karst complex, with possible damage to the cave named La Maravilla Blanca (The White Wonder) that was subject to inspection and a report by the Junta de Andalucía regional government on 25 June, with all extractive activity frozen as a result of that report".

Prosecutors add, "it seems that the cement company continued its activity underhandedly and there were explosions on 2 and 10 September that may have affected the site of the Navarro IV Cave and the newly discovered cave."

The cement works' owner has denied any recent explosions in the area directly affected.



Aerial view of La Bajadilla port, with the affected beach partly shown bottom left. SUR

Locals concerned over plans for new parking spaces on Marbella's Playa del Cable

Politicians and residents' groups want the popular, impromptu beach barbecue area - which was removed during Covid-19 - put back instead

JOAQUINA DUEÑAS

MARBELLA. Community groups and green activists have expressed their opposition to a project to extend an esplanade in Marbella that, they say, would actually take away public access to part of a popular beach.

The regional government wants to improve the eastern esplanade next to its La Bajadilla port, including adding 47 parking spaces.

Green group Ecologistas Ma-

Restrictions to pedestrian access to the sand and private use of part of the beach are the principal concerns

laka was the first to object, saying the plan would restrict access to part of the sand on the neighbouring beach known as Playa del Cable. They say the planned work won't solve problems in the area and will "increase the area of the beach that will be privatised and concreted over".

Locals are also unhappy that a public area for beach barbecues, which was dismantled because of coronavirus restrictions, has not been put back again so far.

Victoria Morales, local coordinator of the Izquierda Unida party says the plan "in the end will take land out of public use for the use of just a few people".

This summer, La Kavra, an association seeking more public spaces for art in Marbella, held an event on the beach with 100 giant sardine 'espetos' in a bid to get the area for impromptu barbecues put back again.

Man released after alleged abduction attempt of a nine-year-old girl from a petrol station

J. CANO / A. FRÍAS

RINCÓN DE LA VICTORIA. A man has been arrested by Guardia Civil officers after an alleged child abduction attempt at a petrol station car wash on the A-7 in Rincón de la Victoria but later released without charge, with the judge provisionally closing the case.

The incident happened at around 2.15pm on Monday, 1 November, at the Tamol petrol station at kilometre 254 on the A-7, but details have only just been released.

A father took his nine-year-old daughter with him when he went to wash his vehicle at the service station. Parking it in the first car wash bay, the parent cleaned the vehicle while the child waited.

After a few minutes, another vehicle arrived at the car wash area. A man got out of the car and appeared to watch the child. He then got back into the car and drove within a few metres of the girl and apparently said something to her.

When the father became aware of what was happening the man quickly left.

The images from the security cameras were given to the Guardia Civil as the behaviour of the man and registration number of his vehicle were captured on film.

The man was arrested a few hours later and questioned but was released on Thursday without charge as the judge could not find evidence of an offence.



Tomás Olivo. **SUR**



Amancio Ortega. **SUR**

La Cañada owner ranked richest local man again

The 2021 Forbes list of the world's wealthiest still has the founder of Zara at the top of the Spanish ranking with his 67bn-euro fortune

ALBERTO GÓMEZ / **SUR**

MALAGA. Malaga and the Costa del Sol have lost a bit of influence within the Spanish contingent of the annual Forbes list of the richest people in the world. Only Tomás Olivo - owner of La Cañada shopping mall in Marbella - appears this year again among the top positions. Olivo is, according to Forbes, in 16th place among Spanish multimillionaires, with a wealth of 1.3bn euros, 400 million less than last year, when he was ranked 9th among Spain's richest.

Off the list this year is Rafael Domínguez de Gor - founder of the Mayoral children's clothing chain based in Malaga city. He had asked to be removed: "When they wrote to me, I explained that they were attributing the assets of the whole group, when in reality we are 19 shareholders and my wife and I only have 20 per cent between us," he said.

Tomás Olivo is a developer and majority shareholder in General de Galerías Comerciales (GGC), one of the most important shopping centre owners in the coun-

try. Originally from Murcia, he has been linked to the Costa del Sol for decades. As well as La Cañada in Marbella, his group owns eight other centres.

Olivo isn't the only person linked to Malaga province in the list. Carmen Cervera, who loaned part of her art collection to Malaga city, has one of the biggest fortunes in Spain. Widow of Baron Hans August Thyssen-Bornemisza de Kaszów, from whom she takes her surname, she is owner of the Museo Thyssen collection in Madrid and Malaga's Museo Carmen Thyssen collection. Cervera appears at number 39 of Spain's richest, with a wealth of 750 million euros.

Julio Iglesias

Just above Cervera on the list is singer Julio Iglesias, whose local connection extends to having a second home on his estate within Ojén municipality, overlooking Marbella's Las Chapas district, with a 750-million-euro fortune.

The richest man in all of Spain is once again, by a long way, Amancio Ortega - the Galician founder of Inditex, owner of Zara and other brands. His fortune is 67bn euros. Ortega is followed by his daughter on 6.3bn. Also towards the top of the list are the founder of Mercadona, Juan Roig Alfonso and his wife, Hortensia Herrero.

has not yet said how many of these jobs will be created in Malaga province, although they do anticipate that those selected will be deployed both in Malaga city centre and Mijas. Those interested must be available from November to January. El Corte Inglés has said that previous experience is not essential.

Additionally, the company is also looking for staff to work in its Supercor and Supercor Express stores on the Costa del Sol to stock the shelves and work on the checkouts.

El Corte Inglés is looking for 6,000 extra staff for Christmas

JUAN SOTO

MALAGA. El Corte Inglés department store group is looking to boost staff numbers for the peak Christmas and Three Kings shopping period. The company plans to hire an extra 6,000 staff but

Unicaja sees profits surge after Liberbank merger

The Malaga-based banking group will be negotiating redundancies and branch closures with unions this month

J. V. ASTORGA / A. GÓMEZ

MALAGA. Locally based Unicaja Banco has recorded a profit of 156 million euros in the year so far to the end of September, a 41% increase year on year, after taking out merger costs and bad assets.

In the third quarter of the year, business growth was driven by an increase in deposits in investment funds and new residential mortgage business. Unicaja is now Spain's fifth biggest bank after its merger with Liber-



A branch of Unicaja in central Malaga **SUR**

bank earlier this year. Its share of the mortgage market is now 10.6%.

Unicaja Banco is currently negotiating a redundancy scheme with staff after its merger. The

larger group wants to lose 1,500 staff and close 400 offices where there is overlap. It will be talking to unions during November and wants to have a final decision in less than a month.



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UK PM Boris Johnson, Spanish PM Pedro Sánchez and UN Secretary General, António Guterres in Glasgow. EFE

Sánchez announces 50% climate funding increase at COP 26

Spain will now invest up to 1.35 billion euros from 2025 and beyond, directed towards developing countries

SHAY CONAGHAN

MALAGA. Spain's prime minister, Pedro Sánchez, announced this week that the country will be putting more money into climate funding for developing countries at the United Nations Climate

Change Conference, more commonly known as COP26, currently being held in Glasgow.

Sánchez, the first to speak at the event after Madrid hosted COP25, revealed that Spain will increase how much it will spend on fighting climate change, with the intention of investing 50 per cent more by 2025 and beyond. "Our objective is to reach 1.35 billion euros annually from 2025 in financial aid to underdeveloped nations, so that they can undergo a sustainable and fair en-

ergy transition," he said.

The announcement means that Spain will contribute to the 100 billion US dollars that countries have pledged to give annually to developing countries so that they too may have an ecological transition, which Sánchez said is a "big test" for the nations involved.

"Spain will play its part"

"This will allow us to recover the confidence between Northern and Southern countries. Spain will play its part," he added.

Sánchez believes that "this decade is key" and wants to "align short-term ambition with a long-term outlook"

During his speech to delegates, Sánchez highlighted the need for greater political determination as well as immediate action to start up a new international order that recognises the roles of governments, citizens, businesses and the financial sector as essential actors for change.

He also called for working together and in a coordinated fashion so that COP26 can be the turning point that drives a real change of course for the planet through unified and urgent action.

"This decade is key"

In a similar way to how the UK's prime minister, Boris Johnson, warned at COP26 that there's "only one minute to midnight" to prevent a climate catastrophe, Sánchez believes that "this decade is key" and wants to "align short-term ambition with a long-term outlook" by reducing greenhouse gas emissions and sticking to the G20's objective of limiting the planet's temperature rise by at least 1.5°C.

In order to do so, Sánchez has demanded the end of fossil fuels, the protection of biodiversity, the preservation of oceans and the Antarctic, by getting behind renewable energies, energetic efficiency, clean transport, the conservation and restoration of ecosystems and urban rehabilitation. Sánchez also announced that Spain had reduced its coal electricity generation by 90 per cent over the last four years, aligning public and private investments with the objective of reaching carbon neutrality. He believes that "dialogue and social cohesion" are essential because "the transition must be fair or it won't happen".

Spain will donate 50 million Covid vaccines to developing countries

DARIO MENOR

ROME. Spain will accelerate the donation of vaccines to developing countries, particularly Latin American nations, in the coming months, reaching 50 million doses delivered before the end of the first quarter of next year.

"It will be a little more than one for each Spanish citizen," said Pedro Sánchez last Sunday when announcing the measure during the G20 summit held in Rome.

The fight against the coronavirus pandemic and the need to take relevant measures to face the climate emergency were the main themes of the meeting.

"I am satisfied with what has been achieved," said the Socialist leader, saying the expectations of the summit "have been far exceeded" by the commitments reached.

He acknowledged that now it will be necessary to "measure" with "facts" that the measures agreed in the final document of the summit are now delivered.

Among these is facilitating access to vaccines for developing nations so that, by the middle of 2022, some 70 per cent of the world's population will be vaccinated against Covid-19.

This G20 objective was proposed by the World Health Organization (WHO), which has also set a target of 40 per cent global coverage with vaccines before the end of 2021.

THE EURO ZONE
MARK NAYLER

Half the story



Both September and October of this year were historic months for Spain's employment/unemployment levels. The former saw more than 20 million people employed for the first time since 2008, when the last economic crisis hit; and the latter was the first time that unemployment dropped in the tenth month of the year - the month that typically posts a sharp decline in tourist-orientated la-

bour - since 1976. October was also the eighth month in a row to feature a fall in the jobless rate. Things, it seems, are definitely on the up.

Now, I don't want to sound like a grumbling, joyless cynic here, but I'm always initially sceptical when I see such figures. This isn't to say that I think they contain no positive message at all, because they do: in this case, they are a solid indication that general post-

Covid economic activity is continuing apace and that the hospitality sector hasn't suffered from more restriction-induced setbacks. These are both welcome pieces of news. But a breakdown of the figures reveals that the recovery they advertise isn't quite as stable or long-term as it might seem on the surface.

The September statistic is the product of job-creation in the third quarter, during which 359,300 more people were employed than in the second quarter. Unsurprisingly, though, the majority of these new positions were in the tourist-dominated services sector, which always thrives during summer months - Spain, after all, is the world's second most-visited country after France. Of

the 409,100 new contracts signed in Q3, 264,100 (64.5 %) were temporary, keeping Spain's temporary worker rate at around 20%, six points above the EU average of 14%. The same was true of a supposedly-bumper October, in which 88.8% of the 1.8 million new contracts were for temporary work.

Clearly, jobs with a short life-span continue to play an oversized role in the Spanish labour market, much to the detriment of large sectors of its workforce. Another persistent stain on Spain's employment record is joblessness amongst under 25s, which increased by 2.3% last month. The country's youth unemployment rate remains the highest in the EU at 37.1%, almost seven points

higher than second-placed Greece.

Employment minister, deputy prime minister and Podemos member Yolanda Diaz seeks a complete overhaul of the labour market measures introduced by Mariano Rajoy a decade ago, which gave businesses greater flexibility at the cost of worker stability. But she faces staunch opposition from the Socialists, who have greater clout in the coalition and favour a softer approach to the sector-wide problem - although they've yet to explain exactly what it is. But until something's done about this perennial scourge, record-breaking statistics such as those posted in September and October will only tell half the story.

Exhibition to mark centenary of City Council and first step to self-government

GIBRALTAR

The display includes 243 photographs and other materials and will continue at the Mario Finlayson gallery until 17 December

DEBBIE BARTLETT

GIBRALTAR. The Gibraltar National Archive is to host a commemorative exhibition to mark the centenary of the establishment of the City Council of Gibraltar, which was the first step towards self-government. The Council's first meeting was held at the City Hall on 1st December 1921.

The exhibition, which will be at the Mario Finlayson gallery, is to be officially opened by deputy chief minister Dr Joseph Garcia on 10 November.

It includes 243 photographs, and aims to introduce the City Council of Gibraltar to younger generations, highlighting how in 1921, for the first time in lo-

cal history, Gibraltarians had the opportunity to elect their Council representatives.

The display also aims to honour and remember the councillors, staff and many others that supported the Council in its 48 years of existence.

It is divided into 11 sections: Forerunners, Creation & Premises, Elections, Personalities, Responsibilities, Suspension, Housing, Leisure, Freedom of the City, Concepts and Abolition.

The exhibition contains material held at the Gibraltar National Archives), as well as other with material donated by the public. Archivist Anthony Pitaluga points out that considering the size of the City Council collection held at the Archive Public Repository, it would be a physical impossibility to include everything that is publicly accessible.

The exhibition will open to the public on Thursday 11 November, the day after the launch, and will continue until Friday 17 December. The opening hours are from 10am to 7pm, Mondays to Fridays.



The prostate cancer campaign was launched by the mayor. **SUR**

It's 'Movember' on the Rock, so prepare for facial hair!

D. BARTLETT It's the time of year when more men in Gibraltar have moustaches and beards than usual, and if you're wondering why, then you need to know more about the 'Movember on the Rock' campaign which was launched on 1st of this month by the mayor, Christian Santos. The campaign is organised each year by Prostate Cancer Gibraltar to raise awareness of this disease as early detection can save lives as there are often no noticeable symptoms in the early stages.

At the launch, which took place in the Mayor's Parlour at

City Hall, Derek Ghio, the chairman of Prostate Cancer, gave a short speech in which he thanked past and present members of the committee who voluntarily give their time to ensure that the public are aware of the importance of screening and give families support if they are affected by the illness.

The mayor said he felt privileged to officially get Movember off to a start, and he was sure there will be a great response with men growing their facial hair to support the charity and spread their message.

IN BRIEF

ENVIRONMENT

Gibraltar minister at COP26 in Glasgow

D.B. Dr John Cortes, the minister for the Environment, Sustainability and Climate Change in Gibraltar, is attending the COP26 summit as part of the UK delegation. He is one of the delegates representing the Overseas Territories at the conference. Among other engagements he will be giving a talk on Saturday, and Gibraltar's own climate change strategy will be launched during COP26.

CRIME

Arrests for indecent images of children

D.B. Three men and two women were arrested last Friday on suspicion of offences relating to the possession and distribution of indecent images of children. The arrests were made after the police received information from international law enforcement agencies including Interpol. Four of those detained are Gibraltarian, the other is Spanish. Police stress the children in the images are not local.

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LETTERS
TO THE EDITORNinety-day rule
scuppers plans

This issue of SUR in English (October 29th) was a wonderful guide to all things good for and about Spanish tourism.

However one serious stumbling block was not mentioned which adversely affects my desire to spend my latter years and ample funds in this remarkable country.

Let me explain.

I have owned an apartment beachfront in La Cala de Mijas for 22 years only for my personal use and for my family who all have spent large amounts of our leisure time over these years in and around Andalusia.

Now I am retired and the idea of being able to escape from the UK winters is what my dream and my planning was aimed at.

This was coming together nicely till the Brexit 90-day rule raised its head and truly scuppered my plans and those of many others already jumping ship.

Does the Spanish winter economy not require our off-season spending powers?

My apartment will now lie empty with my Spanish car locked up and my wallet busy

elsewhere for at least three winter months each year plus the other three month period we cannot now use.

I am too old to consider residency as are many others who now are leaving.

Do I also have to sell up now in the Costa and take my spending power elsewhere?

I am currently in Portugal for two weeks, where I have had timeshare weeks for 30 years. I usually drive from Spain with my wife to use these weeks then return to our home in Spain to continue living in the sun.

This visit I am studying if there are any options in Portugal which I hope might offer a solution to the dilemma facing us.

PETER HONTHY

Timeless promotion

This supplement for the World Travel Market in London (inside SUR in English October 29th) really is superb. Both for Andalucía residents and to attract visitors.

All hotels should have one. It's timeless. I would love to promote this to friends and family.

MARTIN HAYNES (FACEBOOK)

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THE MUSIC MAKER
PETER EDGERTON
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Long to rain over us

It's just not happening. Raining in Malaga, I mean. In spite of various weather forecasts over the last few weeks predicting torrential downpours and comedy, base-over-apex, falling over antics in the city centre owing to its being paved in materials especially designed to make the most agile of pedestrians slip and slide at the first hint of any moisture, not a jot precipitation has, as yet, been forthcoming. This is a shame because I'm happy when it rains. (That, you may recall was the name of an excellent 1980s song by The Jesus And Mary Chain which, given the fact they were Scottish, presumably left them in a state of almost perpetual ecstasy).

Anyway, here are a few reasons why, contrary to conventional wisdom, rain is rather marvellous.

First, it keeps a lot of other people indoors. This means you can put your favourite beige anorak on and step boldly out-

side, secure in the knowledge that there won't be any queues anywhere and you can get two hours worth of stuff done in half an hour.

Next, it refreshes the parts other weather phenomena cannot reach. As we all know, the sun's a complete waste of everybody's time and the wind is just a pesky irritant, especially if you're wearing a hat or playing frisbee. Or, indeed, playing frisbee in a hat. No, only the rain can make you feel gloriously alive and want to do that outstretched arm thing that Tim Robbins did when he escaped from prison in *The Shawshank Redemption* after swimming through a sewer pipeline and emerging, exhausted, into a full blown storm. Anyone who didn't like the rain and found themselves in the same situation would, presumably, roll their eyes, tut ostentaciously and then swim all the way back again.

Another great thing about the rain is that it gives you a

chance to assess other people's mettle. Imagine you're on a first date and your partner starts whinging about a few droplets falling from the sky. This would mean you were more than justified to pretend you'd just got a message on your phone to say that your house was on fire and to leg it sharpish, possibly with your arms outspread like Tim Robbins.

Likewise, wedding days. I haven't been to many weddings but I did once attend one where it poured down all day, soaking the poor woman getting hitched to the bone. She just laughed a lot and seemed completely unfazed by the whole thing. Now, that's what you call a beautiful bride.

Last but by no means least, they need the rain out in the fields to supply us with the raw materials to be able to stock the shelves in the supermarket where, if it's chucking down, there will, of course, be no queue. That, I believe, is what they call a win-win situation.

PACHI



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THE BOTTOM LINE
LIZ PARRY

Joan's legacies

It is a story that has often been told, and always gets a laugh. When Joan decided to create a hospice on the Costa del Sol, her first staunch ally was Dr Marisa Martín, who had cared for Joan's husband Fred in his last days.

Marisa loved the idea but just didn't

think it was possible.

"How will you raise the money?" was the obvious question.

"People will help me, there will be volunteers," said Joan.

And when Joan decided that a charity shop would be one way of raising funds,

again Marisa demurred.

"Spanish people just don't buy second hand things," she said.

Marisa ends the story: "Cudeca now has 25 shops, several of them in Malaga city" (cue laughter, not least from Marisa).

That is just one of Joan's legacies. A string of charity shops, manned by volunteers of all nationalities, and contributing a large proportion of Cudeca's funds.

Cudeca itself, of course, is Joan's greatest legacy: to date the only hospice in Spain, though Joan herself knew that palliative care, what she referred to as Cudeca's "special kind of caring", should

be available to everyone, and a training programme and soon-to-open research centre are also a part of her legacy.

We now know that she also left something else.

The house she paid for and lived in, adjoining the hospice, was adapted not only to her own needs but with a view to forming part of the hospice after her death.

She left it to Cudeca, and it will become Room 10, earmarked for children and people with special needs, just as Joan intended.

Thousands of people inspired by Joan helped build her legacies, and thousands of us will now ensure that they go on.



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IN THE FRAME

How art, autism and Andalucía all came together in 2020

Art. Helen Purdie gave up her job in the NHS to go back to her artistic roots and a diagnosis of autism at 46 set the tone for her future in Spain

JENNIE RHODES



British artist Helen Purdie has lived in Torrox Pueblo since July 2020. Despite the pandemic, she decided that the time to move was right.

Helen has been coming to Torrox to visit for about 11 years. She came as part of a two week trip to Granada but also wanted to visit the coast. She stayed with a Spanish couple through Airbnb and is still in touch with them now.

Although the idea of moving permanently had been “bubbling away” for a while, once she made her mind up, she said “that was it.”

“I am so at home and so happy to be here,” Helen admits, adding that although she grew up in a village, she spent a long time living in big cities and at 52 and about to become a grandmother, it feels like “the right time” to be living in a small town, which Helen describes as “a delight.”

Coming from a background of mountaineering and mountain rescue in Sheffield, Helen says she loves being near the mountains. She also swims in the sea every week, but admits that her “first love is the mountains.”

She climbed La Maroma on

her own to see the sunrise on this year’s summer solstice. “I have had a very active year and the area I have been least active in is my painting. I have been mainly exploring and meeting people,” she admits.

Although Helen was a talented artist from an early age, she decided not to go to art school and she says that she believes that it was “the right decision” for her at the time. Instead she went on to have an extremely successful career with the NHS, as a surgical care practitioner, where she operated alongside the surgeons within cardiac and vascular fields and worked as a medical researcher.

In 2008 Helen decided to give up her career in medicine and concentrate on her art. Although it took a couple of years to completely detach herself from the world she was so familiar with, going back when invited to research projects. “Starting out as an artist I didn’t have an identity and having come from a world when I had a strong identity as well as reputation, I struggled with that for a while” Helen confesses.

For a time, her two worlds came together and In 2014 she explains that she “spent many



Helen Purdie at her home in Torrox with two of her paintings on the wall behind her. SARAH STILO

hours, over a few months, sitting in the operating rooms of a hospital in Sheffield drawing the surgical team as they worked.”

The result was a book of her work, which is free to download from her website and is quite different from Helen’s other work, which has changed from early self-portraits and portraits of other people, to landscapes.

Autism confirmation

Helen was confirmed as autistic at the age of 46. It followed eight years of doctors’ and psychologists appointments and a long-held suspicion of her own that she might be autistic.

Helen says that the confirmation helped her to explain relationships with close family members including her mother and daughter.

The artist has since become passionate about helping other

“I want to show how people can be supported and how those around them can get support to help with personal and work relationships”

people, and in particular adults who have autism. “I want to show people how they can be supported and those around them can get support, to help relationships be they work or personal relationships.”

She is involved in running online workshops with people in Sheffield. “COVID opened up my way of working in a way that I hadn’t anticipated and it opened up an opportunity to people who may not be able to access resources otherwise,” she explains.

She is also keen to start face to face workshops for English-speaking people living with autism here in Spain.

Another book that is available on her website is a colouring book designed for people with autism. The inspiration comes from Helen’s own experiences as a young girl of colouring in and “getting angry when I coloured over the lines.” She hopes the book will help other people with autism and says she has had a lot of “positive feedback.”

The exhibition is on at Torrox Costa Town Hall’s Edificio de Usos Múltiples on Avenida de Andalucía until 29 November. It features 39 of Helen’s works inspired by Spain and the UK. Opening hours are 8.30am to 8pm Monday to Friday and 9am to 1pm on Saturdays. For more information about Helen visit: www.helenpurdie.co.uk.



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Kyle Eastwood: 'I enjoy working with my father; I have a pretty good idea of what he likes'

Clint Eastwood's son, who has composed the music for several of his father's films, fuses two of his "big passions": cinema and jazz at the Cervantes theatre in Malaga this Sunday

REGINA SOTORRÍO / RACHEL HAYNES

MALAGA. He's used to the shadow of his father hovering over his conversations. Kyle Eastwood has become a regular component of Clint Eastwood's work as a composer and arranger in many of his films. His signature is on the soundtracks of *Mystic River*, *Million Dollar Baby*, *Invictus* and *Gran Torino*, among other titles. "I enjoy working with my father, we get along very well. I've grown up watching him work, how he makes films, so I have a pretty good idea of what he likes and doesn't like," the musician explains during a telephone interview with SUR in English.

Some of his own songs and other great film compositions will be heard fused with jazz this Sunday 7 November at the Cervantes Theatre in Malaga, a place he knows well and is "looking forward" to coming back to.

Kyle Eastwood (Los Angeles, 1964) and his quintet will be at the 35th International Jazz Festival to present *Cinematic*, an album that symbolises the union of his two "big passions": music and film (8pm, 30 euros).

Kyle is the second of the Hollywood actor and director's eight children (of six different mothers) and the eldest from his marriage with the model Maggie Johnson. And being an Eastwood has, he points out, "its advantages and disadvantages".

"Sometimes it captures people's attention and they take notice. Sometimes it gives people a preconceived idea of who you are, what you are, what you're all about. I hope the music speaks for itself," he says.

Beginnings as an actor

He politely answers all the questions put to him, but without giving long explanations. Kyle Eastwood is discreet, he doesn't search for the limelight or seek fame. In fact he chose to go down the alternative route of jazz, when he had the red carpet under his feet.

At just eight years old he made his debut with his father in the western *The Outlaw Josey Wales*. This was followed by other sporadic appearances (in *The Bridges of Madison County*, for example)



Kyle Eastwood is performing this Sunday at the Malaga jazz festival. RICHARD DUMAS

and he even studied film at the University of Southern California. "I was interested in being a director," he says. But that idea lasted no more than a year. "At that time I was 18 or 19 and started to get into playing music more and more seriously."

He swapped the cameras of

Hollywood for bars in Los Angeles, where he played with different bands, some of them pop.

In New York he focused more on the jazz he had known since childhood (he recalls doing his homework with Duke Ellington, Count Basie and Miles Davis in the background), playing the dou-

ble bass and the electric bass guitar in other people's jazz bands and one of his own.

"From there I moved over to Europe, I spent around a year and a half in London playing with a lot of people there," he says. His next stop was Paris, where he has spent "the better part of 15 years".

"I've grown up shooting guns but I think they should be more regulated"

R. SOTORRÍO / R. HAYNES

MALAGA. Firearms have formed part of his life, in fiction and reality. Clint Eastwood is a classic of Westerns and his son, as a child, made his film debut in

one of his father's films. But the director is also one of the great defenders of the right to own firearms in the United States. And his enthusiasm has inevitably been passed down to his offspring.

"I've grown up shooting guns, my father owns guns, I've grown up being safe around guns. I've enjoyed target practice and things like that," says Kyle. "I don't hunt or shoot animals, but I think it's got a bit out of control. It should be more regulated, unless people want to live with these tragedies happening all the time."

Incidents related to access to firearms in the US are "far too

"Sometimes my surname gives people a preconceived idea about me. I hope the music speaks for itself"

"I'm here for half the year and the rest of the time I'm in the United States to work and see all my family in California," he adds.

When asked whether music was an escape route from the Hollywood he'd known through his father, he replies: "I think I decided I loved music more than acting. I've always loved it; it's always been a passion of mine."

And within the world of music, for obvious reasons, he has veered towards film. He is "sure" that a bad soundtrack could ruin a good film.

"Sometimes music is very subtle in film. You wouldn't necessarily be able to hum a soundtrack after watching a film or notice it. But you would notice it if it were taken out. It works as an atmosphere and it can help enhance certain emotions or aspects of the film and the characters," he says.

When he composes with or for his father they get on well. "He has some very specific ideas sometimes about the music that he wants, and other times he's very open to whatever you want to bring to the table, [he] gives you creative freedom."

If he had to choose another director to work with, Kyle Eastwood mentions Paul Thomas Anderson (*Magnolia*, *Phantom Thread*): "He always does interesting stuff, picks interesting people to do his music. It would be fun to something with his projects," he adds.

However what for him is most "musically satisfying" is playing live on stage in front of an audience. Eastwood has resumed his international agenda, after being forced to stop by the pandemic, with concerts in Malaga and Madrid. "I'm happy to be back at work after a long break. I miss it."

prevalent", he regrets.

Kyle Eastwood expresses this in reference to the "terrible" incident during the filming of Alec Baldwin's latest movie, when the actor accidentally killed the director of photography Halyna Hutchins when an apparent prop gun turned out to be loaded.

"It was horrible," he says of the death that has reopened the debate about the control of firearms in the street and in films.

TELLING TALES

PETER EDGERTON

La Bella Vista

Retired engineer, Luigi Bianchi stepped out from his solicitor's office into the cool Mediterranean evening, beaming from ear to ear. He had, at long last, achieved his dream: the purchase of a small, five-room, guest house on the coast of Tuscany where he would live for the rest of his days in the company of his beautiful wife Sofia.

In truth, Luigi had acquired the property on very favourable terms owing to its reputation. The Bella Vista guest house was, you see, haunted. Well, that's what the locals said and, apparently, that was why the previous owner had left in such a hurry but Luigi and Sofia didn't believe in such things. All they knew

was that they had a bargain on their hands.

Sadly, the first few months at the Bella Vista were something of a disaster. Being an old romantic, Luigi hadn't taken into consideration the modern trend for rental apartments, booked so easily on the internet at prices they simply couldn't afford to compete with. When their first summer season fell flat, they knew they were in deep trouble. What were they to do?

After many sleepless nights, one evening, over a glass of local wine, Luigi and Sofia came up with an ambitious plan: they would market the Bella Vista as a haunted guest house, hoping to pique the curiosity of modern travellers, so desperate as they all were for 'experiences.'

The next morning, Luigi set

to work in the basement and it soon became clear why he'd once been regarded as something of a genius among his peer group.

What he devised was truly extraordinary: a system of pulleys, levers and buttons which operated ghostly sights, sounds and even smells throughout the premises.

Luigi pulled something and a faint puff of smoke would waft along a corridor; he pressed something else and eerie, childlike laughter could be heard coming from an unoccupied room. The beauty of the creation was in its subtlety.

No loud bangs or crashes, just occasional hints of all not being well. He was very patient too, using the system really sparingly, so that only a

few reports of strange goings-on filtered out over the next few months. Sure enough, as word spread, reservations increased and soon the Bella Vista guest house was receiving bookings from all over Italy and beyond.

The evening that Luigi and Sofia realised that they were truly on the map was when a reporter from Corriere della Sera, the country's leading newspaper, knocked at their door. This was unbelievable! The best-selling paper in Italy had sent someone to visit their humble little guest house.

'Good evening, I'm Piero Rossi, journalist with Corriere della Sera writing for a feature where we turn up spontaneously to interview people with interesting stories to tell, in order catch them in the most natural of circumstances. I do hope you'll agree to take part.' He was clutching an old school pen and note pad.

Luigi could barely contain his excitement.

'Si! Si! Come in, please. Si!

Come in, come in.'

The interview was as long as it was fascinating. Despite being somewhat cold and distant for an Italian, Piero managed to entice endlessly entertaining stories from both Luigi and Sofia until, eventually, it was time for him to depart.

'Thank you so much. Someone will be in touch to let you know when the feature is to be published. In about a month, I'd guess.'

A month soon went by, then two and then three until Luigi couldn't bare it any longer.

He called the newspaper directly but the young man on reception wasn't very helpful at all. It was then that Sofia suggested they try to get in touch with Piero personally, through social media.

She fired up the search engine and typed in his name.

'Piero Rossi - journalist, Corriere della Sera. Born January, 1902 - Died, April 1977.'

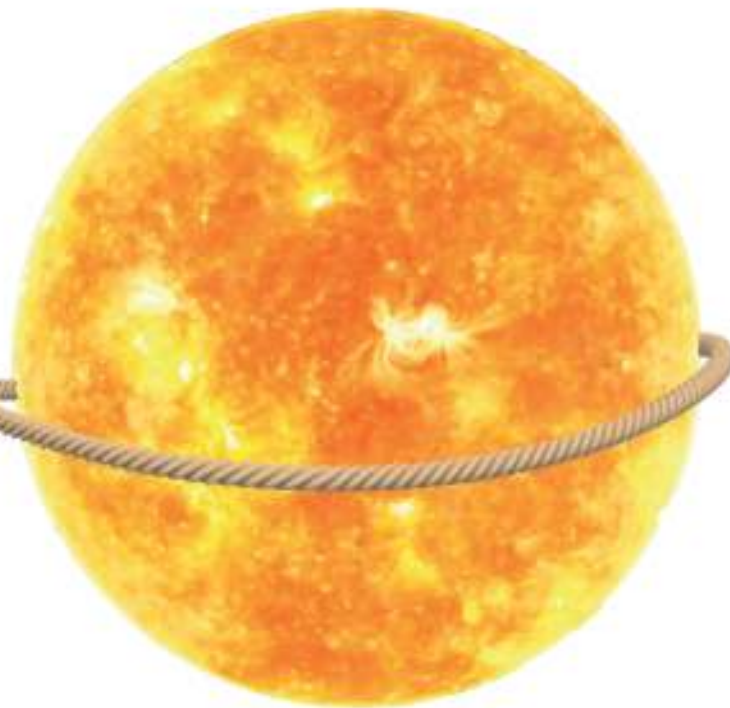
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DENISE BUSH



GARDENING

Byrsonima crassifolia

Byrsonima crassifolia is a slow growing shrub or small tree native to Mexico, Central and South America. It is extremely drought tolerant once established and is found growing in open pine forests and on grassy plains.

It is valued for its small, aromatic, yellow fruit which

can be eaten raw or cooked, made into ice-cream, juices etc. The berries are also fermented to produce a popular drink called chicha and distilled to produce a rum like liqueur (crema de nance).

Common names include golden spoon, hogberry, changunga, nanche and nance. The

genus Byrsonima is a member of the Malpighiaceae family which includes vines, trees and shrubs.

It is a very ornamental tree with elliptical or oval leaves 8-15cm long which are paler green underneath and deeply veined. The short, straight trunk develops deep fissures in its bark as it ages.

The tree, which can reach around eight metres in height, has a rounded crown and is evergreen in temperate climates.

It has attractive, terminal racemes of yellow or orange flowers 5-15cm long which attract lots of pollinating insects.

The flowers don't last long and are followed by the greenish-yellow fruits which are about the size and shape of a cherry. The unripe fruit and the bark are used in dyeing and in curing leather as they are high in tannins and very astringent.

Medicinally the leaves are used to treat high blood pressure, lower fevers, treat snake bites and ulcers. The bark is used to treat gastro-intestinal problems and promote menstruation. The wood releases a pleasant smell when burnt.

Propagation can be carried out by seed or by taking cuttings. Byrsonima can grow in poor soils of any type but needs full sun and is not cold hardy preferring a tropical or semi-tropical climate.

The genus name comes from the Greek byrsa meaning skin (as it was used for tanning leather) and the specific epithet crassus is from the Latin meaning thick or fat, and folium meaning leaf.



Byrsonima crassiflora and fruit (inset). WIKIMEDIA

READERS' PHOTOS



ANNIE PENNINGTON

Quince, the scent of autumn

There's nothing quite like the scent of a bowl of ripe quinces and Annie Pennington has an abundance of the fruit this year. Although they cannot be eaten raw, quince (membrillo in Spanish) are ideal for adding a 'bite' to stewed apples and for making the Spanish traditional quince jelly, carne de membrillo.



ANDREW SLOAN

A border of Aloes

Reader Andrew Sloan sent in this photo and says, "I was given a couple of cuttings of this aloe hybrid eight years ago, rooted them and now they have expanded. Lovely red flowers and dark red leaves. In East Africa aloes like this are used as a fence."

PHOTOS

Calling all gardeners

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

your photos to english@diariosures.es or send them to SUR in English, Avda Dr Marañón 48, 29009 Málaga, with a caption and a few words of explanation. Alternatively, you can send them to us via Facebook ([@surenglish](https://www.facebook.com/surenglish)) or Twitter ([@SUR_English](https://twitter.com/SUR_English)).

IN BRIEF

EXHIBITION

The legendary Brigitte Bardot in Torremolinos

TONY BRYANT. Torremolinos town hall is hosting a new photographic exhibition devoted to Brigitte Bardot, the Hollywood actress who, since first visiting the resort in 1957, has become firmly etched into the town's long and illustrious history.

The exhibition, titled Myth and Clichés in Malaga, is located on the first floor of the town hall in Plaza Blas Infante. It consists of 50 photographs that show the "sex kitten" during her visit to the province in 1957 to film the controversial Roger Vadim movie, Les Bijoux du Clair de Lune. The filming took place in various locations such as Mijas, Álora, El Chorro, and Torremolinos, the town that Bardot, who was Vadim's wife at the

time, called the "Spanish Saint-Tropez". When not filming, Bardot relaxed on the beaches of Bajondillo and La Carihuella, although the locals are said to have been somewhat alarmed by the blond bombshell in a revealing bathing suit, something almost unheard of during the Franco era.

The collection, which is currently touring the province, can be visited from Monday to Saturday from 9am to 1pm until 7 January.



Brigitte Bardot filming in Malaga in the 50s. SUR



WHAT HAPPENED TODAY?

5 NOVEMBER 1982

Ángela de la Cruz
beatified by Pope
John Paul II in Seville

The beatification of the Spanish nun was the first in history to be held outside Rome

More than 500,000 people braved torrential rain to witness the beatification of the revered nun, María de los Ángeles Guerrero González, better known as Ángela de la Cruz, during a special ceremony presided by Pope John Paul II in Seville on 5 November 1982. It was the first beatification in history celebrated outside Rome.

The Pope first visited the cathedral, where he prayed before the tomb of Marcelo Spínola (1885 -1906), a cardinal of the Roman Catholic Church who

served as Archbishop of Seville. He then visited the Convent of the Sisters of the Cross to pray before the uncorrupted body of Guerrero.

She achieved sainthood after an apparent miracle, approved by the Vatican in 1982, when she is said to have healed a woman suffering from pneumonia whom doctors had been unable to treat.

The Church recognised a second miracle, when Guerrero is said to have restored the sight of a child who was blind in one eye. The Medical Consultation of the Congregation for the Cause of Saints declared that the healing of the child was scientifically inexplicable.

Born in Seville in 1846, Guerrero founded the Sisters of the Cross, a Roman Catholic relig-



María de los Ángeles Guerrero González, Ángela de la Cruz. sur.

ious institute dedicated to helping the sick and the poor.

She was one of 14 children, of whom only six reached adulthood.

At the of age 12, she found her calling to serve God; four years later, she applied to enter the monastery of the Carmelite nuns in Seville, but her application was denied due to her state of health.

She began working with the sick, especially those suffering from cholera, which was rife in

Seville at that time. Three years later, she applied again to enter consecrated life and, although she was still suffering from poor health, she was accepted by the Daughters of Charity, a Society of Apostolic Life for women within the Catholic Church.

In 1875, Guerrero was joined by three other women, who established themselves as a religious community. They organised a support service for the needy and infirm, and this is

LANGUAGE
FOOTNOTE

Cruz	Cross
Santo/a	Saint
Monja	Nun
Convento	Convent
Monasterio	Monastery
Ceremonia	Ceremony
Hermana	Sister
Arzobispo	Archbishop
Santidad	Sainthood
Milagro	Miracle
Ciego	Blind
Tratar	To treat
Mayoría de edad	Adulthood
Rezar	To pray
Enfermo	Infirm
Catedral	Cathedral
Solicitud	Application
Beatificar	To beatify

when Guerrero took the name of Mother Angela of the Cross - Ángela de la Cruz.

She died in Seville on 2 March 1932 from natural causes.

She was later declared a saint on 4 May 2003 by Pope John Paul II in Madrid, after which her body remained on display in a glass-sided coffin in Seville's cathedral for seven days.

Bilingual crossword inside back page

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EXHIBITIONS

Art Gaucín 2021

GAUCÍN. Until 28 November. In the new Town Hall, C/Convento 156. The Human Presence and the Vision of the Artist is the theme for this year's edition of Art Gaucín, a collective exhibition by many international artists.

Kjell Sporrang

ESTEPONA. Until 17 November. Casa de Las Tejerinas, Plaza de las Flores. Twenty-six works of various sizes and using different techniques by Swedish artist Kjell Sporrang.



Ana Tonda, Estepona.

Ana Tonda

ESTEPONA. Until 10 November. Casa de Las Tejerinas, Plaza de las Flores. Los Colores de la Vida is the title of this exhibition by artist Ana Tonda. The small format works are constructed using small, coloured pebbles.

BioGuitar exhibition

ALHAURÍN EL GRANDE. Until 6 November. Biblioteca Municipal de

Alhaurín el Grande.

Malaga artist Pedro Aragón is exhibiting a collection of guitars made from recycled materials.

Malaga Picasso Museum

MALAGA. Museo Picasso Málaga, Calle San Agustín.

El París de Brassai. The museum will be exhibiting a collection that not only concentrates on the photographer Brassai but also reflects the topography of Paris in the 30's and 40's. 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. The paintings weren't limited to battles but also reflected the effect of war on everyday living. The exhibition includes works on this theme by Kazimir Malévich, Sophia Dímshits-Tolstaya, Aleksandr Labás, Izrail Lizak and Yuri Jrzhanovski among others. **1%.** Until May 2022. A joint project between Eryk Pall and David Burbano decorates the staircase at the entrance. The conceptual work represents the precarity of artists during the Covid crisis and how it has left many without the possibility of finding work.

Centre Pompidou

MALAGA. Muelle Uno.

<https://centrepompidou-malaga.eu/>

El Sentido del Viento / Le Sens du Vent. Until May, 2022. A mural by Erik Pall is painted on the staircase at the entrance to the museum.

Pablo Capitán del Río. Located inside

the cube is a sculpture by Pablo Capitán del Río representing the famous 'elephant's foot' inside the reactor at Chernobyl: a radioactive mass created after the explosion and one of the most toxic on earth. Just a few minutes in its presence will bring certain death to any living organism. The sculpture, which can only be seen from a distance, symbolises that which inhibits life in all its forms.

Centro de Arte Contemporáneo MALAGA.

Uncertainty's Grace. Until 30 January, 2022. Markus Muntean (Austria, 1962) and Adi Rosenblum (Israel, 1962) produced this eight minute video clip to reflect the diverse possibilities of non-religious spiritualism in a consumer society.

Mark Whalen. Until 28 November. I Am Just Here is an exhibition of twenty aluminium sculptures and wall reliefs by the Australian artist Mark Whalen.

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

Viajes Extraordinarios Until 7 November. The exhibition is of over 80 works by Sebastián Navas. The works include oils, acrylics and traditional Chinese inks, completed on canvases and paper, depicting rural landscapes and human figures. **Málaga 2021.** A total of 182 pieces of art work were submitted for the Muestra Joven de Artes Visuales Málaga 2021. The eleven finalists will be on display until 7 November. The exhibition includes sculpture, paintings, photography, installations and video-art. Those participating in the competition were aged between

15 and 35 and were born, studying, working or residing in Malaga.

Centro de Cultura Pedro Aparicio

MALAGA. Until 12 November. Teatro Cervantes.

The 150th anniversary of the Cervantes Theatre is celebrated with this exhibition of old posters, photographs, tickets etc from some of the very first shows at the theatre.

La Luna en Málaga

MALAGA. Until 14 November. Museo de Patrimonio MUPAM.

An exhibition of 60 photographs by ten photographers which reflect their feelings and emotions about the city of Malaga.

Semana Santa exhibition

MALAGA. Until 13 November. Malaga Cathedral.

The exhibition consists of 13 images of Christ and the Virgin Mary which reflect the religious, artistic and cultural phenomenon of the 'hermandades' (brotherhoods) of the province. Each image is displayed on a plinth that has been decorated by Malaga artists.

Carmen Thyssen Museum

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

Sorolla in Javea. Until 16 January 2022. Sorolla's summer vacation in Javea in 1905 was the catalyst for a series of paintings which demonstrate his recognised style coming to maturity with rocky coves and bright light reflecting off the sea with figures in the water. Around 20 canvases from that period have been



Hua Mulan, Museo Jorge Rando

lent by the Sorolla Museum in Madrid.

Paul Strand. From 16 November until 6 March 2022. The exhibition includes over one hundred photos taken by the legendary New York photographer.

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

Museum Jorge Rando

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

The Jorge Rando museum is celebrating its seventh anniversary this year and has a special exhibition entitled Soldados by Jorge Rando. A new exhibition, in conjunction with The Chinese Art Museum is called Huellas de Oriente. The exhibition will include pieces by Dao Zi, one of the main promoters of Christian contemporary art in China; Zhang Fuye, professor at the Academy of Fine Arts among many other accolades; and Liu

A class act to raise essential funds for St Andrew's Chaplaincy

Remember the Days will present music hall songs and dance routines performed by A Touch of Class

TONY BRYANT

FUENGIROLA. The Costa's favourite amateur theatrical group, A Touch of Class, have lined two shows to raise money for the St Andrew's Anglican Chaplaincy, the Los Boliches-based church that has been providing outreach help to the local community since 1968.

The group, run by former dancer and choreographer Pauline Hulme, will present its Remember the Days show, a production full of favourite music hall songs, dance routines and sketches that will rekindle nostalgic memories of the 1940s and 50s. The cast have been busy preparing for the shows, the first major production of the group since the coronavirus pandemic, and they are hoping to raise much



Local theatrical group A Touch of Class raising funds for charity. sur

needed funds to help the church continue its work helping the homeless and the needy in the Fuengirola area.

"The cast and I have been working so hard to make a wonderful nostalgic emotional concert full of classic songs like Land of Hope and Glory and plenty of traditional British music hall fun," Hulme said.

Tickets for the shows,

which will be held at the St Andrew's Church Hall on 12 at 7pm and 13 November at 4pm, cost 10€ and are available by E-mail (touchofclass-tickets@gmail.com) or by telephone: 684 395 018.

The group will also perform the show in aid of Cudeca at the La Vinea restaurant (next to the Yarama Hotel) in Fuengirola on Sunday 14 November.



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Helen Purdie

TORROX COSTA. Until 29 November. Edificio Usos Múltiples, Avda de Andalucía, 7.

This first exhibition in Spain will consist of thirty paintings created in acrylic and watercolour on canvas, wood and paper. She is inspired by the energising and soothing blue sky of Andalucía.
www.helenpurdie.co.uk

Luis Contreras La Galería

ALMUÑÉCAR. Until 13 November. Sala de Exposiciones La Galería.

Artist Luis Contreras is a member of the Asociación Arte Sur and will be exhibiting around fifty pieces of his work.

48th International Art Exhibition

GIBRALTAR. Until 13 November. Gustavo Bacarissas Gallery.

Artists from Gibraltar, Spain and Romania submitted a total of one hundred and twenty-eight works to the art competition. The entries are on display to the public.



Luis Contreras, Almuñécar

MUSIC AND DANCE

Jazz Concerts

VÉLEZ-MÁLAGA. From 5 November until 10 December, from 7pm. Centro de Arte Contemporáneo.

5 November. The Anachronic Quintet. Traditional jazz, swing and blues.

12 November. The Malaga Tomaselli Guzmán Quartet.

El Arte de Violín

MÁLAGA. Teatro Echegaray.

5 November, 8pm. Joachim El Maestro. With pieces by Clara Schumann,

Festival of Legends continues in Mijas



The Abba Experience tribute will perform in Mijas on Saturday. SUR

The tribute concert at the Teatro Las Lagunas will present El Señor de las Voces and The Abba Experience

TONY BRYANT

FUENGIROLA. Ocio Music continues its Festival of Legends series with a double tribute concert at the Las Lagunas Theatre in Mijas Costa on Saturday 6 November (tomorrow).

The concert will get going with the show, El Señor de las Voces, a musical journey through the greatest hits of renowned performers like Louis Armstrong, Jon Bon Jovi and Rick Ashley, among others. The show is performed by popular vocalist Roberto Ortega, who has gained a dedicated following for his distinctive voice and his

ability to recreate the sound of some of music's greatest singers.

Roberto is also the frontman of Granada-based group Icover The Band, a group that has gained recognition on the local rock scene performing hits of some of the greatest bands of the 1980s.

The concert will also present popular tribute band The Abba Experience, who will perform many of the chart-topping hits of the 70s Swedish pop sensation, including Mamma Mia, Dancing Queen, Chiquitita and Fernando.

Tickets for the show, which starts at 9.30pm (doors open at 9pm), cost 15 euros in advance or 20 euros on the night and are available from El Corte Inglés, Rubens Exchange or from Evenbrite.

Tickets can also be reserved by WhatsApp: 633647260.

Brahms, Beethoven and Joseph Joachim

6 November, 8pm. El Virtuoso y el Diablo. pieces by Paganini, Tartini and Spohr.
Tickets: <https://www.teatroechegaray.com/>

Loque Synergie de Arte

ALMUÑÉCAR. 7 November, 7pm.

Casa de la Cultura. 9€.

Pop, Indie and rock concert. Tickets: www.giglom.com

From Bach to Piazzola

ALMUÑÉCAR. 13 November, 8pm. Casa de la Cultura. 15€ on door, 13€ in advance.

With guitarist José Luis Merlín, violinist Daniel Hurtado and dancers

Arlene & Luis. Tickets from the box office.

Ventana Abierta Jazz Club

NERJA. Hotel Plaza Cavana, C/Granada.

12 November, 8pm. Cookin Organ Trío. www.ventana-abierta.es

The Malaga Philharmonic Orchestra

MÁLAGA. Various venues.

11, 12 November, 8pm. Teatro Cervantes. Music by composers Beethoven, Brotons and Stravinski. Conducted by Pablo González.

More information: www.orquestafilarmonicademalaga.com Twitter: @filarmonimalaga or Facebook: www.facebook.com/Filarmonica-Malaga.

Festival Internacional de Jazz en tu Zona

MÁLAGA. Various venues.

5 November, 5pm. Teatinos-Universidad. Auditorio del Parque Héroes del Combate de Teatinos. Nono García and Tito Alcedo Cuarteto.

6 November, 1pm. Carretera de Cádiz. Parque de Huelin. 4 Chicas.

6 November, 5pm. Cruz de Humilladero. Plazuela María Santísima de Dolores y Esperanza. Antonio González Trío.

7 November, 1pm. Este. Auditorio Playa Virginia. Fernando Brox Sexteto.

7 November, 5pm. Bailén-Miraflores. Bulevar José Iturbi. Nono García and Tito Alcedo Cuarteto.

35th Festival Internacional de Jazz

MÁLAGA. Teatro Cervantes.

6 November, 8pm. Richard Bona and the Alfredo Rodríguez Band.

7 November, 8pm. Kyle Eastwood Cinematic quintet.

8 November, 8pm. Tino di Geraldo.

9 November, 8pm. Tete Leal and Five Elements.

10 November, 8pm. Robin McKelle. Alterations.

Abierto Jazz Málaga

MÁLAGA. Various locations in Malaga city.

In conjunction with the 35th Festival Internacional de Jazz, there will be over 70 jazz concerts around the city throughout the day until 7 November. A full list of the concerts can be found: <http://abiertojazz.com/>

International Jazz Festival

GRANADA. Until 13 November, 9pm.

Teatro Municipal Isabel La Católica. With the Moisés P. Sánchez Trio, Jazz granada Ensemble, Ernesto Aurignac, Chucho Valdés, Cecile McLorin Salvant, The Andrea Motis Quintet and Myles Sanko.

FLAMENCO

International Flamenco Day

ALMUÑÉCAR. 13 November, 1pm. Parque El Majuelo.

Flash mob flamenco performance for International Flamenco Day. Tickets: www.latiendadelasentradas.com



Cookin Organ, Nerja

THEATRE

Salon Varietés

FUENGIROLA. 7.30pm daily, 7pm Sunday. The Salon Varietés Theatre, Calle Emancipación.

Agatha Christie's The Mousetrap. Until 7 November. The Salon Varietés Theatre is thrilled to have obtained the performing rights for this play. Tickets: boxoffice@salon-varietestheatre.com or call: 952474542

CHARITY

Opera for the regeneration of the Sierra Bermeja

ESTEPONA. 12 November, 8pm. Centro Cultural Padre Manuel. 15€ Clarice Williams, opera and classical singer is organising a night of classical music and opera for the Ayuntamiento de Estepona's Fund For The Regeneration of the Sierra Bermeja. She will be accompanied by baritone David Geary, the Magnum Mysterium choir, pianist Katie Rowlands and flautist Cat Wadell. There will also be a raffle with prizes donated by the sponsors. Tickets on the door.

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The Russian Museum exhibits the hidden treasures of the avant-garde movement

The gallery invites visitors to broaden their view on 20th-century art in an exhibition where Kandinsky, Malévich and Chagall share a room with lesser-known European artists

REGINA SOTORRÍO

MALAGA. The Russian Museum's collection *Las Vanguardias en el arte Ruso*, proposes a deeper exploration into 20th-century art with an exhibition in Malaga that goes beyond the fame of Kandinsky, Malévich and Chagall.

"Our goal is to expand the knowledge of European viewers about universal culture," said Commissioner Evgenia Petrova.

The collection invites the visitor to discover revolutionary artists of that time who hold their own against the big names with whom they share a wall.

An explosion of colour, shapes and techniques is distributed in five sections, which signal five ways of understanding artistic creations that coexisted simultaneously at a time of constant innovation and the breaking of tradition.

Neoprimitivism

The tour begins with Neoprimitivism, a movement that in Russia combined the influence of African and Oriental art with icons of Russian folk art.

Natalia Goncharova (noted for her works *Sunflowers* and *Washerwomen*), Vladimir Burliuk, Mikhail Larionov and Pyotr Konchalovsky (with his great painting *Family Portrait with Chinese panel*

in the background) are some of the artists in the collection, with a modern painting style where simplicity and clean lines prevail.

Goncharova is one of the recurring names in the exhibition, with her works being present in almost all of the rooms.

She is one of the standard-bearers of futurism, a movement from Italy based on industrial themes and movement reflected in her works *Cyclist* and *Factory*.

The style has marked ironic, playful and grotesque components, evident in the piece *Bridge*. Landscape *From Four Points of View* by David Burliuk that shows the countryside from different angles.

For some Russian artists, however, futurism is mixed with cubism to create a new style in emblematic paintings such as *Perfected Portrait of Ivan Kliun*, signed by his friend Kazimir Malévich.

Cubo Futurism

Cubo Futurism gives way to the Abstract with examples of Malévich's Suprematism and the original techniques of Wassily Kandinsky's works such as *Saint George on display*. In the latter, the saint's struggle with the dragon can be sensed through the movement generated by the colours used. Goncharova also had an ab-

stract phase at the end of her life, as revealed by this exhibition.

Metal, cork, cardboard and wood become artistic materials for Malévich's Suprematism, such as *Wladyslaw Strzemiński (Tools and Industrial Products)*, *Nadezhda Udaltsova (Cubist Composition)* and *Alexander Rodchenko (Constructions)*.

This innovative use of the elements leads to the last and one of the most powerful sections of the exhibition: *Figurative art*, which has always been present in Russia despite the heavy presence of all the avant-garde artists.

Malévich's two paintings (*Two male figures* and *Peasants*), Bo-

ris Grigoriev's fantastic portrait of director Vsevolod Meyerhold and Marc Chagall's *Walk* are all essential to this artistic movement.

The Russian avant-garde is one of the three temporary exhibitions that were inaugurated on Friday 29 October in the Russian Museum, along with a space dedicated to the poet Khrakovsky and a tribute to the famous writer Dostoevsky on the bicentennial anniversary of his birth (along with his funeral mask, which is exhibited "very rarely").

All three exhibitions have collaborated with La Caixa Foundation and can be visited until 17 April.

In addition, the luminous sculpture *The Triumph of the Sun* (2016-2020) by the artist Vasily Klyukin was inaugurated, which is now at the southern entrance of the Russian Museum.



The space dedicated to Futurism, with a piece by Malévich in the centre. **ÑITO SALAS**

LECTURES AND TALKS

The Arts Society

COSTA DEL SOL. 8 November, 4.30pm. *Salon Varietés Theatre, Fuengirola.*

Barcelona 1900: Wealth, poverty and violence in society and superb creativity in art. Lecturer Helen Sijssling. www.theartsociety-costadelsol.org/

NERJA. 9 November, 6pm. *Centro Cultural, C/Granada.*

The same lecture as above, live at the culture centre or watch it at home via zoom. www.theartsocietynerja.com

An Audience With:

GIBRALTAR. *Charles Hunt Room, John Mackintosh Hall.*

8 November, 11am. Former politician and educator, Clive Beltran will discuss 'Yodo Morao and all that...' His recent book describes Gibraltarian customs, practices and sayings, based on his childhood and early youth, reminiscing on life in Gibraltar

in the 50s and 60s.

8 November, 7pm. Dr Sam Benady. *A Lifetime in Writing*, from the medical history of Gibraltar and a biography of Sir George Don to the Bresciano novels and online blogging.

9 November, 11am. Rosanna Morales and Justin Bautista will come together to talk about vegan food and lifestyle. Discussing Rosanna's book *Ageing in the Garden of Vegan* and Justin's cookbook, *'Mama Lottie's Vegan*.

9 November, 7pm. Karl Ullger. The artist's publication focuses on a selection of figurative paintings produced during the Pandemic and lockdown periods (March 2020 - June 2021), representing Karl's creative escape and outlet, connecting with artists and others online.

10 November, 11am. Richard Garcia will discuss his trilogy of books on Gibraltar's social history.

10 November, 7pm. Rebecca Calderon. *Ten Thousand Words* is a col-



lection of short stories, unusual in that each tale is exactly 1,000 words. The stories offer the reader a sharp and poignant glimpse into a variety of worlds, eras, and situations.

11 November, 11am. Humbert Hernandez and Cecil Gomez *A Time Remembered* is described as a slice of

cultural history, and insight into the life of Cecil Gomez and his drama group's journey, now known as Group 2000.

11 November, 7pm. Dr Ballantine Perera and poet Trino Cruz, will discuss literary culture and art expression.

12 November, 7pm. The writer and musician Gabriel Moreno will discuss his work looking at his poetry, lyrics and music. Accompanied by his guitar, he will be performing several songs and will talk about his experiences in relation to living abroad. Pre-recorded.

Information and tickets www.buytickets.gi

MORE IDEAS

VI Orchid Fair

ESTEPONA. 6, 7 November, 10am-7pm. *Orchidario de Estepona, Calle Terraza.*

A free workshop on the cultivation of orchids (in Spanish) as well as exhibi-

tions of rare orchids and sales of various plants as well as orchids. Reservations: info@orchidariumestepona.com Call: 951517074 10am-1.30pm and 3-5pm).

Inspiring Futures course

SAN PEDRO DE ALCÁNTARA. 15 November.

The free Inspiring Futures programme is aimed at supporting those who are seeking to rebuild their lives and careers in the aftermath of the pandemic. It is organised by Collective Calling, a non-profit organisation and consists of two mornings a week. The course includes modules on building confidence and self-esteem, efficient problem-solving and SMART goal setting. Also pro-tips on CV-building, mastering job interview techniques and basic IT-skills comprehension. Call 951742495, send a WhatsApp to 655 679007 or email jacqui@collectivecalling.org

Workshops

MIJAS COSTA. Aula de danza Teatro Las Lagunas. Donation of 3kg of non-perishable foodstuffs on first day of course.

Making short films. 6, 7 November, 9am - 2pm. Lecturer Javier Gómez Bello.

Register: cultura@mijas.es or call: 952590380

Friday activities for pensioners

TORREMOLINOS. From Friday 12 November. Palacio de Congresos. Aimed at the older generation, Torremolinos Town Hall have announced three new events starting with Viernes de Guateque which will take place once a month between 5pm and 9pm and will include a light afternoon tea and live music. This Friday, 29 October, 9am, there will be a walk from the town hall to the Molina de Inca park where participants can enjoy breakfast in the open air and see the bird aviaries. The town hall has also organised a trip to Cadiz from 26 until 28 November visiting Chipiona, Costa Ballena, Cádiz, Sanlúcar de Barrameda and Jerez de la Frontera. Price is 180 euros per person. Registration for all these events at the El Pozuelo, Playamar and Plaza Goya centres or call: 952371486.

Trip to Caminito del Rey

FUENGIROLA. 9 November. 18€ if lunch required.

The association Tecera Edad are organising a walk along the Caminito



English cemetery days, Malaga

del Rey. Contact the town hall for more information.

Remembrance Day

COÍN. 11 November, 11.30am. Coín Cemetery Chapel. Service of Remembrance led by the TAPAS choir. Bell ringing ceremony with reading of the names of fallen heroes. Laying of wreaths attended by British Consul, Coín mayor, town councillors and Guardia Civil. The Royal British Legion Riders Branch will also be attending. Further information and to add a name to the bell ceremony contact: 663157776 or www.coinrbl.info

Family English Cemetery Days

MALAGA. Saturdays, 10am-2pm. Avda de Pries, 1.

Are you looking for a family activity for Saturday mornings, which is fun,

educational and in the open air? Book a family visit to the English Cemetery and they will provide a route to follow to discover some fascinating Malaga history, and games to play along the way - in both English and Spanish. Reserve a time slot on <https://cementerioingles-malaga.org/en> under the "visits" tab. The entrance fee, (5€ per adult, 4€ per child) is payable on arrival and includes all materials for the games, which are adapted to all age groups.

Lux Mundi

TORRE DEL MAR. Lux Mundi Ecumenical Centre, Avda Moscatel.

Catholic Mass in English. Every Saturday from 6 November, 5pm at the Ecumenical Centre.

Trip to Gibraltar. 18 November. Various departure points. An opportunity to purchase Duty Free items and typical English items of food etc but be aware certain items are not allowed to come across the border into Spain. Passport needed. 14€ with Friends of Lux Mundi card or 16€.

Lux Mundi

FUENGIROLA. Fridays, 10am - 1pm. Lux Mundi Ecumenical Centre, C/Nueva 3.

Taizé Prayer. 25 November, 8pm at San José church. Taizé prayer is a monthly invitation to join in prayer. Send an email to be included in them: luxmundif@gmail.com.

Christmas Fair

ALMOGUERA. 27, 28 November,

from 11am until 8pm. Hacienda Almoquera, Crtra Vieja de Los Barrios. Asiatic and vegetarian foods, sushi, cheese, honey, jewellery, clothing, ceramics and gifts etc. The organisers will also collect non-perishable foodstuffs and good second-hand clothing for the Food Bank and Red Cross. feriachristmas@gmail.com

O. V. FILMS

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

Yelmo Cines, Plaza Mayor

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

Dune: 19.25 (Tues).

No Time To Die: 12.10 (Sun); 18.40 (Tues).

Venom: Let There be Carnage: 22.45 (Tues).

The Courier: 20.15 (Tues).

The French Despatch: 19.50 (Tues).

The Last Duel: 12.40 (Sun); 19.05 (Tues).

Eternals: 13.00 (Sun); 17.30, 20.45 (every day).

Yelmo Cines, Rincón

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

The Last Duel: 19.10 (Tues).

Eternals: 20.15 (Tues)

The Courier: 22.30 (Tues).

Yelmo Cines, Vialia

MALAGA. Centro Comercial Vialia. Tel: 902220922

Venom: Let There be Carnage: 22.05 (Tues).

Dune: 21.45 (Fri-Sun, Wed); 21.50 (Mon, Tues, Thurs).

The Courier: 19.35 (Tues).

No Time To Die: 19.15 (Tues).

The Last Duel: 19.20 (Tues).

Eternals: 19.30 (every day).

The French Despatch: 19.45 (Tues)

Cinesur Ingenio

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

The Last Duel: 19.30 (Tues).

Eternals: 2.05, 18.05, 21.10 (every day)

No Time To Die: 21.35 (every day)

Venom: Let There be Carnage: 18.10 (Tues)

Cine Albéniz

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

Blithe Spirit: 16.30, 18.30, 22.30 (Every day except Thursday).



Christmas Fair, Almoquera



Brassaï (1899-1984). Lovers at a café. Place d'Italie, Paris, c. 1932. Gelatine silver print (modern copy), 47.8 x 37.9 cm. Estate Brassaï Succession, Paris. Inv. Pt. 70. © Estate Brassaï Succession-Philippe Ribeyrolles

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Hard Seltzer

ANDREW J. LINN



Maybe we should breathe a sigh of relief when we see no-one ordering hard seltzer in our local bar. This Aussie-invented low alcohol drink has been the subject of massive investment, but returns are disappointing, and if the product is aimed at beer

drinkers, it is not setting the world on fire. Hard Seltzer is usually a combination of carbonated water with neutral spirit with flavourings or fruit-based alcohol. Alcohol content is around 5%. The product was developed in Australia in 1993, where it was

promoted as ‘the world’s first brewed alcoholic lemonade’. Nevertheless, by 2019 several of the initial investors anticipated the boom was over.

Too many brands

There are too many brands and drinkers are confused, although if we had to invent a new alcoholic drink from zero, this would be it: cheap, gluten-free, low calorie and low alcohol. Brewer Mahou San Miguel has been the first to make it here, recommending its Hard Seltzer be taken with water and a slice of lime, or just drunk straight from the can.

The challenge is of course whether beer drinkers, young people and soft drink consumers will go overboard for a completely innovative product. The drinks business is one of the hardest of any category in which to launch a new item. It is highly conservative, and we only have to look at the percentage of wine drinkers still opting for the two routine regional choices, Rioja and Ribera del Duero (there are more than sixty other regions available), to understand the difficulties of expecting a completely new product to obtain a reasonable market share.

WINE OF THE WEEK

Los Vientos Rufete 2018

Here is a wine that proves the rule in the last paragraph of the main article: a marvellous red made from 80-year-old vines in the Sierra de Salamanca, possibly the last place one expects outstanding wines to come from. A touch of spices and tannin with the acidity right on the nose. If you hurry you may find a bottle at Contracata in Marbella, also online: astonishing value at 14 euros.



The chestnut harvest, a tradition that’s lost its original meaning

For centuries the fruit was prepared for All Saints’ Day but now it goes on sale while everyone is still walking around in flipflops

ANA VEGA PÉREZ DE ARLUCEA

MALAGA. Autumn and the smell of roasting chestnuts go hand-in-hand. Their relationship is so naturally symbiotic and undeniable that during the last few days we’ve witnessed the grotesque spectacle of the poor vendors stirring the braziers while everyone else walked around in flip flops. Global warming, you might say. There is some of that, yes, but also there is the desire to prolong the consumption period. In the same way that supermarkets now want us to buy traditional Christmas sweets three months before the festivities, the start of the chestnut season has slowly been brought forward, in the hope that people might want them early or it might coincide with a cold spell. Chestnut stands used to not open until the last week of Octo-

ber. During the first few days they started up the braziers and stocked up on what they needed for the two important festive days: All Saints’ Day and All Souls’ Day, the 1st and 2nd of November, respectively. For those not aware, All Saints’ Day is celebrated by the Roman Catholic Church to honour each and every saint in existence- and families would take advantage of the day-off and visit their deceased relatives at their resting places- while the following day was set-aside to pray for their souls in Heaven. As pious as the intention may be, the truth is that it wasn’t uncommon for the prayers to end in a bit of fun and games. Anecdotes of those who had passed quickly turned into songs, jokes or horror stories with everyone huddled around the fire, eating sweets, dried fruit and drinking wine. The chestnut harvest ended up being identified with these festivities and others that traditionally would be celebrated at this time of the year such as magusto, amagüestus, castañada or calbote. Sounds unfamiliar? Maybe that’s because they’re celebrations of a



An old photograph of Malaga Castañeros from the Museo Unicaja de Artes y Costumbres Populares. R. C.

regional nature, very rural and are at risk of disappearing. **Plagues** Chestnut trees have suffered various devastating plagues that have considerably reduced both their numbers and the quality of the fruit. It has only been in the last 100 years that the trees have become the victims of the so-called ink disease, chestnut blight and the Oriental chestnut gall wasp. In 1904, Emilia Pardo Bazán explained in her La Ilustración Artística column that chestnuts - and the traditions they entail - were in grave danger. “Our characteristic chestnut is disappearing. A wrong

The desire to prolong the consumption period, the start of the chestnut season has slowly been brought forward

that science doesn’t know how to cure is ending this magnificent forestry essence, of incorruptible and fireproof wood, of fresh and murmuring foliage, with a flower that resembles a green velvet fringe, of a fruit that, if better prepared and conserved, would keep farmers afloat for a third of the year and would resolve the shortages of

wheat, sweetcorn and rye...” Chestnuts are rich in carbohydrates, fats, proteins and vitamin C and were one of the basic dietary elements in Spain until the 19th century. Roasted, boiled, stewed or ground into flour, these fruits provided energy during hard winters. One hundred and seventeen years ago the celebration for the dead hadn’t yet descended into a party. It was the chestnut that ruled in stoves and in hearts, “women and children’s bliss, the base of get-togethers where lies and scary stories were told and, of course, whisperings of the land”.



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The illustration features three digital devices displaying the SUR in English website. The laptop screen shows the desktop version with a large headline: 'Costa del Sol airport gets a 90-million-euro investment to increase passenger capacity'. The tablet and smartphone show the mobile-optimized version of the same content. Stylized, colorful human figures are depicted around the devices, some appearing to interact with them. Decorative elements include a large yellow sun, a red heart, a green umbrella, and a red building outline in the background. The overall theme is modern digital media and accessible news.

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Positive psychology and breast cancer

A study by Malaga University shows that having hope and managing emotions well are key to patients' psychological wellbeing

SUSANA ZAMORA



MALAGA. Her life has never been very easy. Her mother and grandmother died of cancer, her father had diabetes, she went through a divorce and brought up her two children in Spain after leaving her native Argentina. She learned from all that, and, most importantly, not to look the other way when problems occur but to face up to them and do whatever has to be done to put an end to them.

A year ago she was diagnosed with breast cancer after a self-examination in the shower set off all the alarms. She sensed something ominous.

"The worst cancer is the one that isn't diagnosed," says Elvira Sánchez, who after the initial shock decided to take the bull by the horns. "At that moment your whole approach to life changes. When the doctor confirmed that it was cancer, but that there was a solution, I decided to fight it," she says.

Elvira doesn't deny that it is hard (she finished her treatment two months ago and is having regular check-ups) and that there are days when she feels low, but what worked for her was "focusing on what was necessary" to carry on enjoying life.



Participants in the study by Malaga University at Muelle Uno. **SUR**

She has managed to take on board the fact that being ill doesn't have to mean grief, sadness or depression. In her case, she focused on hope, positivity and her personal wellbeing and that of her family. To do so, she grabbed hold of some "lifelines" to prevent her sinking emotionally: cycle rides, adopting a dog, her faith, which made

her stronger, the unconditional support from her children, who always respected the schedules that Elvira set, and laughter in the company of her friends.

Her example and her lesson in life have formed part of the study 'Scale of satisfaction with life in breast cancer patients: psychometric characteristics', carried out by Malaga University.

Positive emotions

The team that developed this project started with the thesis: can you suffer from breast cancer and be happy? After a year and a half of work, they have concluded that you can. But how is it possible to face up to the illness with this type of attitude?

"Women with this type of cancer tend to experience positive emotions, they expect good results in life and they are hopeful. They find a purpose in it and they also regulate their own emotions well," says María Victoria Cerezo, a lecturer in Social Psychology at the university. She is the lead author in this work, which has been published in the International Journal of Clinical and Health Psychology.

Working with her have been María José Blanca and Rafael Alarcón, who are lecturers in the department of Psychobiology and Methodology of Behavioural

Breast cancer is different from other cancers because it has a specific impact on a visible part of the body

Sciences at Malaga university, and researcher Lorena Soria-Reyes, who is also a psychologist with ASAMMA, the association to support women who have breast surgery in Malaga, which collaborated with the study.

A glass half full

Like other experiences in life, the way of handling a situation depends on the person, their experiences and their social and family environment. All these determine how they deal with a setback at any given moment in their lives.

"Objectively, two people can be in exactly the same situation but each of them will interpret it in a different way, depending on a series of variables (self-esteem, emotional wellbeing, resilience, emotional intelligence and optimism), which need to be worked on from childhood. They see a glass as being half-full or half-empty as a result of their previous life experiences," explains Cerezo.

To carry out this project, which was developed within the line of research 'Positive psychology and breast cancer' of the university group 'Analysis of data in psychology', the Satisfaction with Life Scale (SWLS), an international research instrument which measures life satisfaction and cognitive wellbeing, was used. It was created in 1985 and the Spanish version is from 2013.

This 'SWLS' reference determines that 24.1 is the average measure of satisfaction with life in the general population and 27.1 in cancer patients. However, the figure drops slightly in the case of women with breast cancer, where the measurement is 22.14.

María Victoria Cerezo points out that even so, it is a good result and that this difference is largely due to the fact that breast cancer is different from other cancers because it has a specific impact on an external and visible part of the body, which has cultural and sexual connotations among others.

In total 222 women from the ASAMMA association were analysed, of whom almost half had recently been diagnosed and were therefore having treatment, and the remainder - 50.5 per cent - were cancer survivors.

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Silvia García, between Rosa Mena and Enrique Ruiz, on the steps outside the Materno. **ÑITO SALAS**

Silvia García, the first child to have heart surgery at the Materno: '40 years ago they changed my life'

The hospital in Malaga has carried out more than 4,000 pediatric heart operations since October 1981

ÁNGEL ESCALERA

MALAGA. It was by chance that six-year-old Silvia García became part of the history of the Materno Infantil hospital and the first child to undergo heart surgery there for a congenital condition (she had an atrial septal defect).

A doctor drew heads or tails to decide which of two children who were waiting for an operation should be first. The coin came down on Silvia's side, and her operation took place on 23

October 1981. The other little girl had her surgery four days later.

"The heart operation they carried out on me changed my life. I have nothing but words of gratitude for them. I was able to go to university (she has a degree in History of Art), I have a job, I do sport and live a healthy life," said Silvia García at a recent event held at the hospital to commemorate its 40 years of pediatric heart surgery.

In these four decades, more than 4,000 children have been operated on for heart conditions at this hospital in Malaga.

The first one was carried out by the head of the cardiovascular surgical unit at the Carlos Haya hospital, Norberto González de Vega, accompanied

by fellow cardiac surgeons Julio Gutiérrez and Manuel Ferreiros, as the present head of children's cardiovascular surgery at the Materno, Enrique Ruiz, explained.

Silvia García, who was visibly emotional, said she only had good memories of her stay at the Materno Infantil.

"For me, the operation was nothing traumatic. I had a great time in the hospital, they were lovely to me. The nurse who looked after me was like my second mother," she said.

Before being operated on for her heart condition, Silvia couldn't even play with her brother because she tired so quickly, but that situation took a 180° turn once she was out of hospital and had recovered.

González de Vega: 'I would have liked to have been at the anniversary event to see Silvia'

A. ESCALERA

MALAGA. The cardiovascular surgeon who performed the very first child heart surgery at the Materno hospital on 23 October 1981, Norberto González de Vega, remembers that during the operation he was listening to Juan Manuel Serrat's song 'Hoy puede ser un gran día' (To-

day can be a great day).

"I always liked music on when I was operating. For this first one of its type, I thought Serrat defined very well the importance of that moment. We had to overcome a number of different problems to be able to start car-



Norberto González de Vega

rying out pediatric heart surgery at the Materno," says Dr González de Vega. He carried out the operation, assisted by cardiovascular surgeons Julio Gutiérrez and Manuel Ferreiros.

"I would have liked to have been at the event at the Materno to commemorate the anniversary and to see Silvia García, the little girl I operated on 40 years ago, but they didn't invite me, nor did they invite Dr Gutiérrez or Dr Ferreiros. All three of us are retired now, and living here in Malaga," he said.

"After I came home they bought me a bike and then nothing could stop me," she told the press conference, smiling at the memory.

She also recalled that while she was in hospital she lost a tooth and received a lot of presents from the Tooth Fairy.

40 years of miracles

Also at this anniversary event with Silvia were Enrique Ruiz; the provincial delegate for Health and Families, Carlos Bautista, and operating theatre nurse Rosa Mena.

"It was forty years ago that they started to perform miracles at the Materno with these heart operations," said Bautista, emphasising the "marvellous work" carried out by cardiac surgeons, cardiologists, intensive care staff, gynaecologists, anaesthetists and nurses, among other professionals.

Enrique Ruiz explained that every year at the Materno hospital between 100 and 110 cardiac operations are carried out on children, and on average they last about five hours.

Most of these involve open heart surgery, in which an extracorporeal surgery machine acts as the patient's heart and lungs, because while the operation is being performed the heart muscle is stopped and emptied of blood, Dr Ruiz explained.

Torrox town hall to hold talks and workshops on the menopause during November

E. C. / J. R.

TORROX. Torrox town hall is organising a series of informative workshops and chats about health during the menopause.

For the 'de mujer a mujer' or 'from woman to woman' sessions the town hall has invited experts including sexologist Nuria Ballesteros, psychologist Natalia Ayelén, the physiotherapist María Noguera and dietitian Elisa de la Torre.

Torrox mayor, Óscar Medina, said that the council aims to promote healthy lifestyle habits and improve the quality of life of all residents with this activity, designed for a specific period in a woman's life.

The sessions will take place in the Salas de la Almedina in Torrox pueblo between 4 November and 9 December.

For further information and to register call: 952532526 or visit the town hall website: www.torrox.es. The sessions will be given in Spanish.



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Malaga hit another dead end and fail to stop an in-form Borja Bastón

The team picked up another away defeat on Sunday but did enough to deserve more in Oviedo

ANTONIO GÓNGORA

MALAGA. Malaga had all three points and a first away win of the season within reach last weekend although they came away from Oviedo without a single point.

This made a home win at La Rosaleda this Thursday (the game was still being played at the time of going to press) all the more essential to lift them up into the first half of the table.

In Oviedo on Sunday, Antoñín's shot in the dying minutes of the game struck the post and came agonisingly close to crossing the line. But shortly after it was ex-Malaga player Borja Bastón who snatched the win for his side as the Andalusian defence failed to pick him up in the box, gifting him a free header and completing his brace.

Malaga's game plan coming into this match was no different than usual when on the road: a two-man defensive midfield with a constant pressure so as to take the opposition by surprise on the counter attack.

Surprisingly, Pablo Chavarría



Genaro celebrates the equaliser. AGENCIA LOF

Malaga's game plan was no different than usual when on the road: a two-man defensive midfield with a constant pressure

Right now it seems very difficult for the team to mount a serious challenge for promotion

made a return to the starting XI after eight months on the sideline, Oviedo did well to hold their own against Malaga, essentially handcuffing their visitors following Borja Bastón opener in the

20th minute. The Blue & Whites struggled to create chances in the first half, which meant it was cruise control for the hosts, who sat back and soaked up the pressure. The visitors improved in the

SECOND DIVISION

Results of Matchday 14

Ponferradina - Huesca	1-1
Sporting - Almería	0-1
Leganés - Cartagena	1-1
Amorebieta- Valladolid	4-1
Mirandés - Lugo	3-2
Eibar- Oviedo	1-0
Las Palmas - Fuenlabrada	2-1
Burgos - Zaragoza	0-0
Girona - Alcorcón	0-0
Ibiza - Tenerife	-
Malaga - Real Sociedad B	-

Table

Team	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	PT
1. Almería	14	10	1	3	27	11	31
2. Eibar	14	8	3	3	20	16	27
3. Las Palmas	14	7	5	2	21	14	26
4. Tenerife	13	7	2	4	19	12	23
5. Ponferradina	14	6	5	3	17	12	23
6. Valladolid	14	6	4	4	18	16	22
7. Sporting	14	6	4	4	16	14	22
8. Oviedo	14	4	7	3	15	14	19
9. Cartagena	14	6	1	7	18	21	19
10. Mirandés	14	5	3	6	22	23	18
11. Ibiza	13	4	6	3	17	18	18
12. Huesca	14	4	5	5	17	15	17
13. Burgos	14	4	5	5	13	14	17
14. Malaga	13	4	5	4	11	14	17
15. Lugo	14	3	7	4	16	17	16
16. Girona	14	4	4	6	13	16	16
17. Fuenlabrada	14	3	6	5	12	14	15
18. R. Sociedad B	13	3	5	5	13	15	14
19. Zaragoza	14	1	11	2	9	11	14
20. Amorebieta	14	2	6	6	16	20	12
21. Leganés	14	2	5	7	13	19	11
22. Alcorcón	14	2	2	10	10	27	8

second half and started connecting with the attackers more frequently, but their 75th-minute equaliser was not enough in the end.

And so, after coming tantalisingly close to picking up another point on the road, José Alberto López's men returned empty handed.

Despite doing enough to deserve at least a draw from the match - after a woeful first half where the team created anything but danger for their hosts - Malaga now

have the worst away record in the league, picking up just three points from three draws as well as four defeats.

This lack of form makes it very difficult for the team to mount a serious challenge for promotion, as the loss of crucial points sinks them down the middle of the table.

Thursday's game against Real Sociedad B at la Rosaleda will be followed by another away fixture, this time at FC Cartagena on Sunday 7 November at 6.15pm.

Contest launched to create the new official Blue and White mascot

Malaga Football Club are looking for a figure to entertain and liven up the crowds at the La Rosaleda stadium

BORJA GUTIÉRREZ

Malaga Football Club are looking for a mascot. They want to liven up the atmosphere during matches at their home ground La Rosaleda and have had the idea to fill a gap that is currently unoccupied. The club has no official 'mascot' to represent the team and entertain the crowds at matches.

The chosen formula has been to launch a public contest in which any interested designer can present their proposal until 30 November.

The club has released the conditions this week: participants are invited to send their designs to marketing@malagacf.es in JPG,



Poster for the competition. SUR

PNG or PDF format, accompanied by a signed and scanned document that transfers the intellectual property, copyright and commercial exploitation of the image to Malaga.

The name of the mascot and the full name of the creator should be written in the subject of the email.

The next phase will be the judging of the entries. Between 1 and 7 December it will be possible to vote through the club's website for the ten best options preselected by judges established by club members (yet to be confirmed).

The chosen winner will be sent through to the final phase which is expected to take place from 8 to 15 December.

In this phase, the proposal chosen by popular vote will compete with two more designs selected by the club. The judges will make the final selection.

"We are looking forward to hearing your proposals. Participate and vote!" is the encouragement from the club which is looking for a way to re-engage the fans, something that they have already begun to achieve by holding some events with the supporters' clubs.

The aim is to increase the list of season ticket holders, which is currently around 13,000, still a long way from the goal they set themselves of 20,000.



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The happiness of Real Sociedad

The proud northern club are exceeding expectations by following tradition, building a team with locally produced resources, and making light of any adversity



Harmony is in short supply in La Liga as we are deep into the sacking season and clubs take it in turn to top the table. Of the five clubs who have led the league this past week, none are as content with life as Real Sociedad.

The proud northern club is exceeding expectations by following tradition, building a team with locally produced resources, and making light of any adversity.

Their tradition isn't as stringent as local rivals Athletic Bilbao who insist on a Basque-only policy. The signing of John Aldridge ended that back in the eighties. Their approach is different to Athletic who recruit the best players from all outlets in the region and tempt many back to the area with generous terms.

La Real, as they are known, boast one of the most productive youth academies in the whole of Europe. This season is typical; they have given more Liga debuts to youth team players than any other club.



Real Sociedad coach Imanol Alguacil. EFE

When David Moyes was manager, I asked why he'd chosen the less prolific Imanol Agirretxe ahead of Willian José as his main striker for a vital game. He explained that he had a mix of five non-Basques and five ex-academy players. He said the unwritten rule was there should never be more Extranjeros than locals in the starting eleven, and so the Brazilian Willian José sat on the bench.

Moyes's finest legacy, possibly his only legacy, was fast-tracking a skinny teenager to the first team. Mikel Oyarzabal has since scored the winner in the Spanish Cup Final, and goals in both Nations League

and Olympic finals. He's on the radar of every major club at the age of twenty-four.

For now, he's content to captain his boyhood club to glory. He finally lifted the Copa del Rey trophy won in April 2020 in front of his own supporters as it was mothballed until they could have a proper homecoming. After weighing in with six early season goals, he's been largely on ceremonial duties as he recovers from a minor injury.

Real Sociedad are not reliant on individuals. That's lucky as the couple of names most fans outside of San Sebastián would know, David Silva and Asier Illarramendi, have been largely absent so far this season.

Coach Imanol Alguacil has formulated a system which is interchangeable with whatever players are available. So far it is working at home and in Europe. In a tough Europa League group they have beaten Sturm Graz and held Monaco and PSV Eindhoven.

The success comes down to planning and goes well beyond the first team. Real's reserves are the only B team to play in the Segunda, the same league as Malaga. They also have the most famous coach in Xabi Alonso. The former Spain, Liverpool, Real Madrid and Bayern Munich player is learning the art of management at the club where he honed his footballing skills.

It all comes down to succession planning, something which is in short supply at most other clubs.



Davidovich eliminated in Paris by Croatian Cilic

Alejandro Davidovich lost to the Croatian Marin Cilic (6-3 and 6-4) in the first round of the Masters 1,000 in Paris. It was one more elimination for the Malaga player, which has already seen him fall from 32nd to 48th place in the ranking. That leaves just Carlos Alcaraz representing Spain, after eliminating Frenchman Pierre-Hugues Herbert.

A female handball player makes history and joins a men's league

J.M.L.

ALBACETE. Mireia Rodríguez is going to make history at the age of 31. This Saturday (6 November) she will become the first woman to play a league with a senior Spanish men's handball team: Club Handball Albacete. The team will play its first match of the Second Territorial Division of Handball in Cabanillas del Campo against the local team of this Guadalajara municipality.

Mireia assures that the size of her teammates and rivals does not scare her. "I never imagined that I would be able to compete because there was no women's handball league in Albacete," explains this player who, like her partner the footballer Rubén Martínez, lived in Logroño until now.

Rubén was signed this season by Albacete Balompié and Mireia searched for a women's handball

team in the area without finding one.

"My husband and I got together through sport and we have a lot in common," says this player who is also the mother of a three-year-old boy, Leo.

When the idea arose that she may be able to play handball in a men's league, the coach of the Albacete Handball Club, José María Valerio, welcomed the possibility with enthusiasm and the club transferred the proposal to the national and territorial handball federations. They accepted her registration with the team.

"My coach was convinced that I would be able to compete and I have not had any criticism or remarks from the rest of the teams in the league," says Mireia, who doesn't think she has broken any "glass ceiling" by joining a men's team.

Mireia is aware of the different physical strengths of her teammates and opposing players and recalls her partner's comment: "Now you're going to experience what it's like for me, I'm smaller than the others, but you have to think above that." "I like challenges," says Mireia.

Costa del Sol come second in National Cricket Championships

The Cártama-based cricket club were runners up in the Spanish National Championships held near Valencia at the weekend

NEVE MATTHEWS

MALAGA. After two days of tough competition, the Costa del Sol Cricket Club (CDSCC) came second in the Spanish National Championships, held near Valencia last weekend.

With the winners due to progress and represent Spain in the European Cricket League in Cártama next February, there was plenty to play for.

Having beaten Pak I Care and narrowly losing to Sporting Alfaz on day one, the victory against Minhaj on day two was crucial for CDSCC to reach the final.

Finalists Pak I Care lodged 151

runs for their 10 overs, and some tired bowling from the Costa del Sol side meant that Pak I Care emerged victorious.

This competition marks CDSCC's first competitive tournament having not played many

T10 matches previously.

To have beaten the Spanish 2019 and 2020 champions twice, as well as the Catalunya T20 league winners for 202 and reach the final is an impressive result.



The Costa del Sol Cricket Club at the Championships. EUROPEAN CRICKET

One of trail running's greatest events returns to the Valle del Genal this weekend

MARINA RIVAS

MALAGA. One of the great events for fervent followers of trail running in the province returns: the Gran Vuelta Valle del Genal. This edition will start again with the town of Jubrique as host. The popular event will be held from Friday until Sunday (5-7 November) with ultratrail, 100 miles and relays among other tests.

The event was presented by the Malaga Provincial Council as the main promoter of the event, organised by the PurAventura Genal Club with the support of the towns of the fifteen municipalities of the Valle del Genal through which the routes run: Algotocín, Alpan-deire, Atajate, Benadalid, Benalauria, Benarrabá, Cartajima, Faraján, Gaucín, Genalguacil, Igualdeja, Jubrique, Júzcar, Parauta and Pujerra.

The presentation ceremony was attended by the second vice president of the Provincial Council, Margarita del Cid; the deputy for the Environment, Interior Tourism and Climate Change, Cristóbal Ortega; the mayor of Jubrique, Alberto Benítez, and the race director, Ildefonso Cózar.

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Umbrellas out on the starting grid before the beginning of the race at the Campillos circuit. **SUR**

Campillos crowns 2021 Karting World Championship winners

Finland's Tuukka Taponen and Japan's Kean Nakamura were fastest in races that were run in the wet

SUR

MALAGA. Finland's Tuukka Taponen and Japan's Kean Nakamura lifted the world karting championship titles in the senior and junior categories, respectively. The Championship was played out in the local Malaga town of Campillos, where over 1,200 motorsport fans congregated and enjoyed two exciting races that ended up crowning the new world champions.

The rain forced the event to be played out under wet conditions. The junior category was clearly dominated by the UK's Freddie Slater, but a five-second time penalty meant that the title ended up in the hands of Japan's Nakamura. Slater and Russian Anatoly Khavalkin completed a very high-level podium.

Malaga's Aaron García was the

Malaga's Aaron García was the only under-14s Spaniard competing and finished the race in 18th place

only Spaniard among the 36 drivers and ended the competition in 18th place.

Taponen took the top step on the podium in the senior category and had dominated the race with an iron fist, not giving his rivals a chance.

The fight to make it into the top three was tighter and ended with Italian Luigi Coluccio in second and the UK's Arvid Lindblad in third place.

Rubén Moya was the highest-placed Spaniard, in eighth, while 2016 world champion Pedro Hiltbrand ended in tenth place.

The mayor of Campillos, Francisco Guerrero, and councillor for Sport, Miguel Ángel Herrera, attended the event alongside the Junta de Andalucía's secretary of Sport, José María Arrabal, the president of the Andalusian Autosport Federation, Manuel Alonso Borbalán, the president of the Spanish Autosport Federation's karting commission, Ignacio Aviñó, and the owner of the Campillos circuit, Martin Reuvers.

Ex-Formula 1 driver Felipe Massa, current president of the FIA's International Karting Commission and Fernando Alonso's old teammate at Ferrari, also took the time to attend and present the winners with their trophies. He also received a gift with the Campillos emblem on it as a token of appreciation from the town's councillor of Sport.

Japan's Nakamura won in the under-14s. **SUR**Finland's Tapone was victorious in the over-14s category. **SUR**

Ruzafa wins bronze at the ITU World Cross Triathlon Championship

EUGENIO CABEZAS

RINCÓN DE LA VICTORIA. Cross country triathlete Rubén Ruzafa, from Rincón de la Victoria, continued adding trophies to his cabinet. In a competition marked by mud and rain, the Malaga athlete was able to clinch a third place finish at the World Cross Triathlon Championship, organised by the International Triathlon Union (ITU), held in El Anillo sports centre, in Cáceres, in Extremadura.

In a day marked by persistent rain and the ensuing mud, the decorated cross triathlete, at 37 years old is still proving why he is among the best in this speciality. He finished third behind the competition's two favourites, young Frenchmen Arthur Serriers and Arthur Forissier, both 27, who respectively took gold and silver.

After the three legs - 1km of swimming, 20km on a mountain bike and 5.4km on foot - Ruzafa crossed the finish line in 1:24:56, just six seconds behind second place. Winner Serriers stopped the clock at 1:23:43. Fourth place went to Lukas Kocar, 18 seconds behind Ruzafa. Eneko Llanos, from the Basque Country, finished seventh.

With the bronze medal, the triathlete from Rincón continues expanding his already large trophy cabinet, which includes four ITU world championships won in 2014, 2015, 2016 and 2018. He finished runner-up in the test held in Pontevedra in 2019. He also has three XTerra world crowns to his name, which he won in 2008, 2013 and 2014. Ruzafa will be looking to pick up his fourth title in Hawaii on 5 December in a bid to equal the legendary Conrad Stoltz.

On a muddied terrain to which he adapted with ease on his bike, and recovering from a bad swimming section, Serriers conquered his first world championship, beating fellow Frenchman and defending champion Forissier, and Ruzafa, who crossed the line 73 seconds after the winner.



Rufaza during the cycling leg.

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Town Hall	952801100	Taxi	952478288	GIBRALTAR	
Foreign Residents Dept.	952809031	Tourism Office	952589034	General emergency	199/112(mobiles)
		Foreign Resident Dept.	952589010	Fire/ambulance (emergency)	190
		NERJA		Tourist Office	(00350) 20074950
		Bus Station	902422242	Taxi	(00350) 20070027

MALAGA PORT INFORMATION

CRUISE SHIP MOVEMENTS (SOURCE: MALAGA PORT AUTHORITY)

Ship	Date	From	Next port	Docks	Sails
Wind Star	05/11	Cartagena	Tangier	07.00	21.00
Costa Diadema	05/11	Marseille	Cadiz	09.00	19.00
Wind Surf	05/11	Almeria	Gibraltar	09.00	23.59
Hebridean Sky	08/11	Motril	Tangier	08.00	22.00
Aidablu	09/11	Cartagena	Cadiz	08.00	19.00
Azamara Quest	09/11	Motril	Cadiz	08.00	22.00
Aidastella	09/11	Arrecife	Cartagena	10.00	19.30
Silver Shadow	10/11	-	-	08.00	18.00
Island Sky	10/11	Gibraltar	Cartagena	12.00	17.00
Marella Explorer	21/11	Gibraltar	Barcelona	06.00	23.00
Celebrity Silhouette	11/11	Gibraltar	Marseille	07.00	17.00
Amera	11/11	Cartagena	Gibraltar	08.00	20.00
Borealis	12/11	Cartagena	Liverpool	08.00	20.00
Seadream 1	13/11	Tangier	Funchal	08.00	18.00
MSC Splendida	14/11	Funchal	Civitavecchia	08.00	14.00



CONSULATES

Great Britain	C/. Mauricio Moro Pareto 2- 2. Málaga	952352300	France	Calle Salvago, 2, Malaga	954293200
USA	Av. Juan Gómez 8. Ed. Lucía 1-C. Fuengirola	952474891	Italy	Alameda Principal, 35, Malaga	902502512
Belgium	Avda Ricardo Soriano 20-3C, Marbella	951516019	Austria	Alameda de Colón 26, Malaga	646060972
Denmark	Calle Córdoba 6 404, Malaga	952211797	Finland	Calle Córdoba, 6, Malaga	952212435
Norway	Avda Los Boliches, 60, Edf Rosenkranz, Fuengirola	952667955	Saudi Arabia	Mauricio M. Pareto 2 bloque Sur 2º, Malaga	952310358
Canada	C/Cervantes, Edif. Horizonte, Malaga	952223346	Greece	Dr Manuel Perez Bryan, Malaga	95225689
Germany	Mauricio Moro Pareto 2, Malaga	952363591	Iceland	Calle Marín García, Malaga	952661200
Sweden	Calle Córdoba 6, 5th floor, Malaga	952604383	Philippines	C/Marqués de Larios 4, 2º, Malaga	952771850
Ireland	Avda. Los Boliches, Fuengirola	952475108	Hungary	Av. de Velásquez, (Crce aeropuerto) Malaga	952236966

THE STARS



Aquarius
January 21st - February 19th
As Mars opposes Uranus, activities at home could disrupt a career or business plan, adding a touch of chaos when you need to get things done.



Pisces
February 20th - March 20th
You may be drawn to something that promises a fabulous future and you could be tempted to jump ship. However, avoid impulsive action.



Aries
March 21st - April 20th
It might be wise to simplify your schedule, as with two powerful influences on the go things could change at a moment's notice.



Taurus
April 21st - May 21st
A relationship could be very frustrating and could reach boiling point. Acting on the spur of the moment might relieve the pressure, but the outcome may not be what you want.



Gemini
May 22nd - June 21st
Working too hard? This week you need to make a few changes to leave more time to yourself. Midweek your best laid plans may nosedive as disruptive influences push you along a new path.



Cancer
June 22nd - July 23rd
Someone could make you an offer that seems too good to be true. It may be, but wait, as something more suitable can show up.



Leo
July 24th - August 23rd
This week can bring a breakthrough in your efforts to get your life in balance. If you feel overwhelmed you may finally decide to speak out, and this could be a turning point.



Virgo
August 24th - September 23rd
This week could have some intense qualities, and you might yearn for a taste of freedom and a chance to do your own thing rather than knuckle down and work away.



Libra
September 24th - October 23rd
With Mars opposing Uranus midweek your patience could be short and your desire for instant satisfaction great. The Lunar Eclipse a couple of days later might be equally potent.



Scorpio
October 24th - November 22nd
If your actions are going to disrupt another's plans, then think carefully before you do anything to upset them. Mind, the Lunar Eclipse in Taurus can highlight the positive.

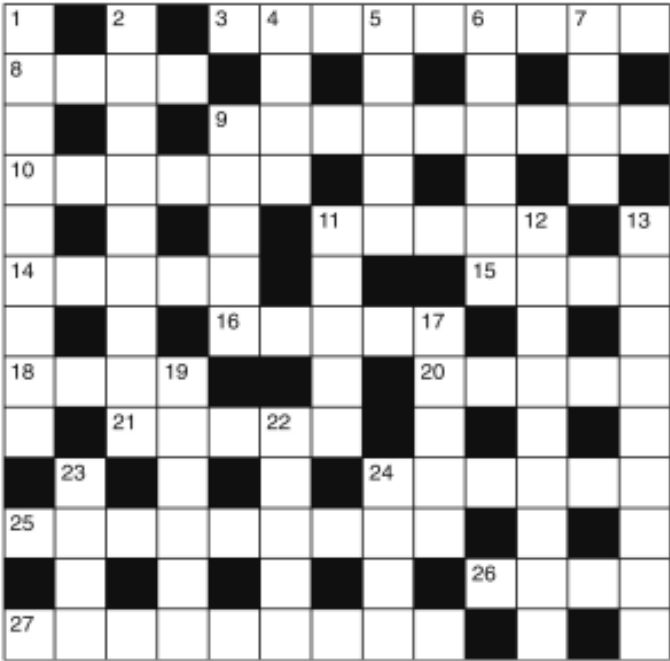


Sagittarius
November 23rd - December 21st
With a dynamic but chaotic aspect coming into play, you may be tempted to act on the spur of the moment. The Eclipse could bring an opportunity.



Capricorn
December 22nd - January 20th
You may be looking for activities that give you a thrill and involve a little risk, such as climbing or windsurfing. Avoid anything involving money though, as you might lose out.

CRYPTIC CROSSWORD N° 11486



Across

- 3 Noted for being whimsical, perhaps (9)
- 8 Close to being stingy (4)
- 9 Without pretending, because has to trust (9)
- 10 Circular about the leader becoming plump (6)
- 11 Lower oneself to come to a halt – nothing in it! (5)
- 14 Why enactment includes carnivore (5)
- 15 Humour is about right for a legal document (4)
- 16 They knock each other in fear (5)
- 18 Quiet work in store (4)
- 20 A learner in the eye of the beholder (5)
- 21 Unpleasant in disposition, as tyrannical (5)
- 24 Master turbulent current (6)
- 25 Quite simple: wrongly identified as Russian currency (2,7)
- 26 It can take one up over 50 feet (4)
- 27 Earliest form of top poetry (9)

Down

- 1 Rash antic from revolutionary (9)
- 2 Set trap up for fowl on Greek temple (9)
- 4 Right to help in incursion (4)
- 5 Unspoken one in diplomacy (5)
- 6 Cause anguish using farm implement... (6)
- 7 ... to cultivate – that's where the cash goes! (4)
- 9 Ken as an informer (5)
- 11 Shabby, but full of potential growth? (5)
- 12 Copper hit out when making predictions (9)
- 13 Nobody won: ship's officer past his best (9)
- 17 Flood of faulty tapes (5)
- 19 Merely repeat or get back into role (6)
- 22 Put confidence in fund held for others' benefit (5)
- 23 Time of no loss of good reputation (4)
- 24 Smack gets friends up! (4)

SUDOKU BY HANZO

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

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

THE WORDPUZZLER

A	C	E	S	O	B	U	D	L	I
C	O	B	E	N	O	R	A	I	V
T	W	O	R	O	B	E	R	T	A
L	A	C	I	D	A	L	O	T	R
A	L	E	C	A	J	O	H	N	O
S	T	A	H	L	A	I	M	O	N
C	E	D	A	R	M	O	U	R	D
I	R	O	R	I	E	R	R	E	R
E	M	U	D	O	S	I	D	I	A
L	S	T	Y	P	S	O	R	T	Y

Can you identify the celebrities whose marriages lasted over 50 years from the first names listed below?

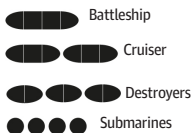
- 1. Cagney
- 2. Abbott
- 3. Widmark
- 4. Bolger
- 5. Guinness
- 6. Mitchum
- 7. Caesar
- 8. Pidgeon
- 9. Mills
- 10. Hope

THE SEVEN DIFFERENCES



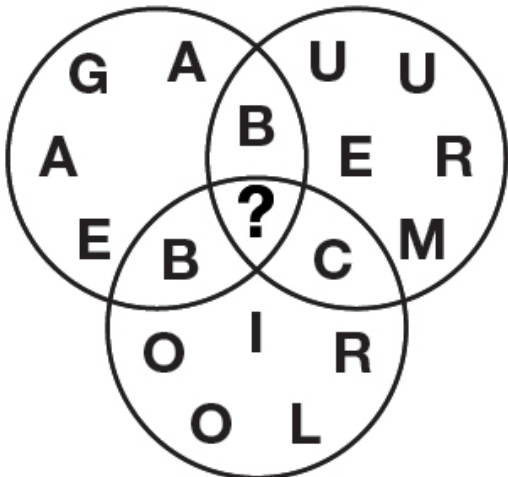
BATTLESHIPS

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



	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
A											3
B											1
C											2
D											3
E											1
F											4
G											0
H											1
I											3
J											2
	3	2	2	2	2	2	1	2	4	0	

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?

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in Benalmadena?

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www.robertwhiteproperties.com
over 30 years of experience

LANGUAGE CROSSWORD FILL IN THE SPANISH WORD

Across

1) Congregation (12)
6) Community (9)
10) Wave (3)
11) Torrential (10)
13) Application (9)
15) Warning (5)
16) Deformed (m.pl) (10)
18) Causes (6)
22) Adulthood (7,2,4) (13)
24) Cleaner (m) (9)
26) She misplaces (8)
27) Suitable (f) (4)
28) Blind (f) (5)
31) Grotto (5)
33) To beatify (10)
34) To pray (5)
36) Royal (4)
37) Something (4)
38) Monastery (10)
40) Sisters (8)
44) It scares (6)
47) They treat (6)
48) We'll go (6)
49) Apparently (13)
50) Approved (m) (8)

Down

1) Cathedral (8)
2) Hats (6)
3) Like that (3)
4) Islands (5)
5) Bride (5)
6) Case (4)
7) You were born (7)
8) Figures (5)
9) Dedicated (f) (8)
12) Spitting image of (m) (7)
14) Call (7)
17) You (pl) (2)
19) Sainthood (8)
20) Supplier (m) (9)
21) Miracles (8)
23) You explained (10)
25) To distribute (8)
28) Ceremony (9)
29) To fund (9)
30) Archbishop (9)
32) It's urgent (4)
35) Trench (5)
39) Determination (5)
41) Between (5)
42) Nun (5)
43) Train (4)
45) South (3)
46) Bird (3)

QUIZ

The Royal Albert Dock is in
which UK city?

1.Liverpool 2. Southampton
3. Felixstowe 4. London

In which city is Barlinnie
prison?

1. Glasgow 2. Edinburgh
3. Cardiff 4. Stirling

THE SUR IN ENGLISH
COLUMN

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news!

At SUR in English we are proud of our reputation for publishing a wide variety of Spanish news of interest to our readers, and as part of the SUR media group we have access to all the best and most reliable sources. Another part of our remit is to publish all the local news concerning the English-speaking community in Andalucía, and for that, we have several sources including our team of roving reporters and you, the reader!

We often get calls asking the question “Can you mention this in SUR in English?” The “this” can be anything from an art exhibition to an event in aid of charity, a change in church service times, or a dolphin washed up on the beach. The answer to all of these is “yes”. If it is of interest to our readers we can mention it, and if it is a big story we can send one of our team of journalists to write about it. Contact us at surinenglish.su@diariosures.es or on Twitter at @SUR_English or Facebook @SURenglish

ANSWERS

Quiz answers

1. James
2. Bud
3. Richard
4. Ray
5. Alec
6. Robert
7. Sid
8. Walter
9. John
10. Bob

Wordpuzzler solution

Language Crossword

Cryptic Crossword

Battleships

Sudoku solution

The seven differences

A whole village in a WhatsApp group

Júzcar. The local council of this Genal Valley municipality uses this messaging service to stay in touch with its 240 residents, more than those registered on the census

VANESSA MELGAR



The mayor, Francisco Lozano. **V. M.**

To be the village mayor is a 24-hour-a-day job. This is a fact well-known to all those who undertake the role, but especially to those in charge of the smaller municipalities, where they are easily accessible through a phone call or a home visit.

In the village of Júzcar, social media coexists as a means of communication alongside traditional posters and bulletin boards.

Participation

The local council's WhatsApp group comprises more inhabitants in the village than those registered on the census, a total of 240, according to its mayor Francisco Lozano.

As such, almost the whole of Júzcar participates in the chat.

Lozano said, "We reach practically everyone, even those who are not registered in the village

but are from here, live elsewhere, usually come to visit and want to stay informed."

He clarified that, "only elderly people who do not use WhatsApp aren't involved, but we are talking about those over 80 years old. In these cases, their relatives keep them informed as to the content of the group."

According to the National Statistics Institute (INE), Júzcar has, based on 2020 data, 214 inhabitants.

"The maximum allowed in a group is 256 participants...we cannot fit any more people in right now!" joked Lonzano.

Sierra Bermeja fire

On a more serious note, he spoke of how the Sierra Bermeja fire has meant an increase in the number of people who want to be included in the chat.

"At first there were many people who did not want to sign up,



Examples of messages published. **sUR**

they told us that they were already involved in many groups, but this chat allowed us to inform people quickly about the progress of the fire. When we were evacuated, one of the coun-

cillors and I came and fed the neighbours' animals, sent them photos...There was a lot of uncertainty...The WhatsApp group has proven to be a very useful tool," he said, recalling the trag-

edy that was very close to the village and burned almost 10,000 hectares.

"It gave us peace of mind and it is very effective and fast for sending out information. People can stay immediately informed through the group, although when I have to go to the town hall for something more serious, I go," said a Júzcar resident who participates in the chat.

One of the most recent posts in the group, which is managed from a municipal mobile phone, is about the rollout of psychological workshops for residents following the fire.

The administrators of the group are the mayor and other local council staff.

Events

"We publish activities, proposals, events, service information, job offers..." said the mayor.

Though the group doesn't allow interaction - "The group would get out of hand...Imagine!" - because there are only a few administrators, they do see the responses from the residents.

Examples of events published on the WhatsApp chat have included the delivery of books and materials, free of charge, to the village school; the celebration of the traditional Mycological Days and the opening of the churros shop on Fridays next to Bar Torricheli.

The group makes it easy for Júzcar's council to get its residents' opinions, for example, on the need to repaint their houses blue.

The Blue Village

Júzcar was declared the World's First Smurf village following its use by the production company for the promotion of the first Smurfs film. Due to problems with the owners of the commercial rights associated with these characters, the town was renamed the Blue Village, to carry on with its new fame.

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