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SPAIN, EUROPEAN BASKETBALL CHAMPIONS

Local player Alberto Díaz was a key part of La Roja's triumphant performance against France in Berlin **P49**



A sad farewell to Britain's queen is shared with Spanish royalty

King Felipe and Queen Letizia were unexpectedly seated together with emeritus King Juan Carlos and Queen Sofía in Westminster Abbey. **P18**

The Spanish king escorts his mother, Queen Sofía, into St George's Chapel, Windsor, on Monday. **AFP**

Tourism chiefs to target north Europeans who have high energy bills

The Costa del Sol tourist board has reported a great summer season but it wants to woo back international visitors, whose numbers are down 10%. Advertising will soon start in colder countries to attract "energy nomads". **P2**

Sixty artists from 10 countries gave a warm welcome to visitors at Cómputa's relaxed Artwalk festival **P28**

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Come on down Catalonia, the tax is right

Andalucía has ended wealth tax and lowered income tax to attract investment

The new conservative regional government in Andalucía has just taken full advantage of its power to tweak certain national taxes up or down. This week the Junta axed wealth tax, which it says it earns little from and

claims was putting people off moving into the region. Regional president Juanma Moreno then issued a bold challenge to the separatist Catalan government, urging firms from there to relocate down to Andalucía. **P3**

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Summer tourism on the Costa beats 2019 and recovers to pre-Covid levels

Peak season was saved by a big surge in those coming from Spain and now industry bosses want to focus on winning back lost international visitors

PILAR MARTÍNEZ

MALAGA. The Costa del Sol's first summer after the Covid-19 pandemic has been a record breaker for tourism, with visitor numbers and money earned from them up on 2019.

The success has been driven by a big surge in the number of Spanish visitors coming, according to the Costa del Sol tourist board. Bosses there are delighted with the results and have said that the next few months are looking very rosy too.

From June to August this year - the three peak summer months - some 5.7 million tourists came to Malaga province, including the Costa del Sol, up 0.8% on 2019.

The amount of income from hotel rooms also surged to an average 115.7 euros, 21.7% more than 2019.

The rise in Spanish visitors made up for the drop in international arrivals. From July to August, passenger numbers overall at Malaga Airport were down seven

percentage points on 2019 and international passenger numbers in particular were down 10%; in two key markets for the Costa there were bigger drops - the British arrivals dropped by 17% and the Germans by 24%.

The president of the Costa del Sol tourism board - and also president of the Malaga provincial authority - Francisco Salado said that there would be a big promotional push in those two countries in the last part of this year.

For the next few months to Christmas, the number of flight seats on offer by airlines is up almost 19% on what was available last year.

As a key part of the strategy to help build demand over the winter, and with Europe faced with higher heating bills, the Costa del Sol is aiming to position itself as an ideal place to escape to warmer temperatures and to potentially save money.

The idea is that it would be better to spend the season in this area, where central heating is generally not necessary, than have to pay bills in Germany, Britain or the Netherlands, for example, due to the impact of Russia's invasion of Ukraine.

Salado announced that fresh campaigns costing one million euros are being planned to attract



Even more visitors have flocked to Malaga province than in 2019. **SUR**

a new profile of visitor, a type of "energy nomad" from elsewhere in Europe who will spend the winter in Malaga province, where they won't be so cold and won't have high bills to pay. "They will be better off spending the winter with us," he said.

He pointed out that, in some cases, governments are advising their citizens to travel somewhere warmer. "The Costa del Sol has an advantage here," he explained,

"because it is already a benchmark for good weather and quality facilities." This is also a good business opportunity which the area has no intention of missing.

Salado also announced that in the last three months of this year the Costa del Sol will be represented in the main tourism fairs, professional conferences and activities relating to different segments of the market.

The tourism industry hopes that

KEY FIGURES

5.7m

visitors came to Malaga province in the peak months of June to August, up 0.8% on 2019

10%

is the drop in international passenger arrivals at Malaga Airport in the same period

2023 will be a year of consolidation after the pandemic. "We want to recover visitors from those markets where the numbers are still down and ensure the loyalty of those who have still been coming, so the tourist board is organising around 50 different promotions," Salado said.

Rental market looking good

Meanwhile, the growing holiday letting market is doing well too. The president of the Association of Holiday Homes in Andalucía, Carlos Pérez-Lanzac, said this week that this type of accommodation will generate 1.8 billion euros in the Andalucía region this year, which is even more than in 2019. He also pointed out that more than 50% of these rental properties in Andalucía are in Malaga province.

"We have a more professional profile now and that has enabled prices and profits to go up. Clients are also staying longer, nearly five days on average. These tourists are very valuable because of the economic impact they have," he said.

Arrivals by private jet are flying high again

So many travellers have come into Malaga Airport by executive plane this summer that it has more than made up for the loss of the Russian market

IGNACIO LILLO

MALAGA. Not only has travel by private jet taken off again after the pandemic, but it is flying high and only shows signs of climbing still further. This has been a record year for tourists arriving on private planes at Malaga Airport and visitors from the Persian Gulf, northern Europe and the USA have more than made up for the loss of the Russian market as a result of the war in Ukraine.

Juan José Román of United Aviation said the volume of flights this summer had risen by 30-40 per cent compared with 2021. There were nearly 700 flight movements in July and around

800 in August at the special, small terminal at Malaga Airport dedicated to private planes.

"Passengers who used to travel in business class now prefer to pay a bit more and travel in an executive jet, because it saves time and is more convenient," Román said.

This means that companies are having to increase their fleets and contract more pilots, although they are not easy to find. Many Arab families had not been to their mansions in southern Spain since 2018 and were keen to get back, so demand has been extra high. This also has a knock-on effect on other sectors such as road transport (luxury transfers from the airport to the visitors' residences and hotels) and extra chauffeurs have had to be taken on.

Others who have arrived at Malaga by private plane this summer have included stars of the music world who came to perform at festivals such as Starlite in Marbella.



Private jets lined up on the tarmac at Malaga Airport. **SUR**

Rafael Parodi of Aerodynamics Charter said his company is very satisfied with the level of business this summer and believes the increase is partly due to the pandemic, because some travellers prefer not to fly on commercial aircraft with a lot of other people in order to reduce the chances of

catching Covid-19.

This company has one plane of its own, which has been used every day, and also manages private flights for other companies. Most of his clients are from northern Europe (British and Swedish) and the USA, although some are from Spain.

The peak season is also longer than usual in this sector, extending through September. Parodi also pointed out that there is another high season for private air travel in November and December, as people head for destinations in Austria, Switzerland and France for winter sports.

Andalusian government scraps wealth tax in order to attract more investment to region

The Junta also announced this week a reduction in the rate of income tax locally and it is encouraging Catalan firms to relocate south

SUR

SEVILLE. Andalucía has just become the Spanish region (with the exception of the Basque Country) with the least tax after Madrid. The president of the Junta de Andalucía regional government, Juanma Moreno, announced at the start of this week that from Wednesday there will no longer be a wealth tax in Andalucía. Wealth tax was paid by those with assets over 700,000 euros, excluding their primary residence. Most Spanish regions still apply it although with varying levels of rebate.

Moreno said this tax accounted for just 0.6% of income for the regional government (95 million euros a year) and doing away with it would have a very positive impact on increasing revenue, by encouraging more wealthy people to stay, and attracting investment.

Ten of the top 20 wealth tax payers in 2019 left Andalucía in 2020, resulting in a loss of income of nearly 18 million euros (3.5 million euros in wealth tax and 14 million euros in personal income tax).

The president of the regional government has said he wants people with high income who spend long periods in Andalucía to make it their permanent home and pay tax there. "This will help us to develop economic activity and employment," he said.

Moreno estimated that the tax reduction will attract 7,000 new residents. "We will exceed by far that 0.6% of income through income tax and indirect taxes," he said.

He also said the measure will have an important effect on employment as large fortunes directly generate jobs wherever they decide to set up.

Invitation to Catalonia

Speaking in Seville on Tuesday at an event organised by Vocento, the parent company of SUR, Moreno invited business owners from Catalonia to move down south due



Juanma Moreno speaking in Seville this week. EP

to the new tax conditions.

He pointed out that there are inheritance, gift and wealth taxes in Catalonia but not in Andalucía and that "we are never going to seek independence here as we are proud to be part of Spain".

Income tax down too

As for personal income tax, Andalucía will reduce this by 4.3% "above the amount that the government says salaries will rise by".

This will keep 125 million euros

in the bank accounts of Andalusian residents, Moreno explained at another forum in Madrid.

He also announced that the water tax will be suspended in 2023, worth 140 million euros.

The president of the regional government also confirmed that the Junta's budget for next year will be over 45 billion euros.

More on this topic: The Euro Zone - page 20.

In reply, national government keeps plan for new tax for the super rich

SUR

MALAGA. Andalucía's decision to scrap wealth tax locally and launch a bid to win inward investment - and try to correct the historic economic under performance within Spain of the region - was met with frustration from ministers in central government.

While the minister for Social Security, José Luis Escrivá, implied that regional governments should not be allowed to manage certain taxes, minister for Tax, María Jesús Montero, rushed forward details of a planned temporary tax on fortunes over 10 million euros from January, although details are still sketchy. Andalucía said it would go to court if Madrid stopped the region's tax cuts.

Meanwhile, the separatist Catalan government suggested Andalucía should mind its own business in trying to woo firms from their region, adding it would not get into a bidding war with Andalucía on taxation.



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AUTOMATIC LICENSE EXPIRY AFTER 30 APRIL 2022

As of December 31st 2020, the UK ceased to belong to the European Union, and regulations that allowed driving in Spain, with a British driving license, ceased to be applicable. UK issued driving licenses were only authorized to drive in Spain until April 30th 2022, and are now not valid. All existing agreements on highway regulations that protect the Member States of the European Union have ceased to be valid and applicable. However, those British drivers who do not have their main residence in Spain and travel for periods of less than six months (tourist type), may continue to drive in Spain, during that period, with their original permit.

ENGLISH FOR SPANISH LICENSE SWAP

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Two shootings in 24 hours in Marbella see Irish man injured

Police officers from the drugs and organised crime unit on the Costa del Sol believe the incidents may be related to a settling of scores

JUAN CANO

MARBELLA. A second shooting in just 24 hours in Marbella was reported in the early hours of Wednesday morning when a stray bullet hit a parked vehicle at a prestigious motor dealership in San Pedro Alcántara during an alleged car chase.

According to sources, the shot hit a privately owned Range Rover Evoque which was parked at the premises of C. de Salamanca. A bullet casing was recovered from the scene.

The incident followed another shooting on Tuesday afternoon when, at around 5.45pm, a 24-

year-old Irish man was injured. Both shootings are being investigated by the drugs and organised crime unit (Udyco)-Costa del Sol, and it is believed police consider the incidents as a possible settling of scores.

The young man, who remains hospitalised, was shot in the side when he was with two other people in the Lago de las Tortugas area, above the Aloha golf club. They were allegedly shot at from a car several times.

The 112 Andalucía emergency services control centre received a call from someone who said

The victim was found at a hospital on the Costa del Sol with entry and exit gunshot wounds in his side

they had heard shots being fired, and police and medical services were sent to the scene. However, when they arrived there was nobody to be seen, not even the injured man who, it seems, had either made his own way to the hospital or had been assisted by someone else.

They eventually found the victim at a hospital on the Costa del Sol with entry and exit gunshot wounds in his side. Health sources say that although the injury is serious, his life is not believed to be in danger.

The last shooting in Marbella was in July, when a man opened fire during a fight at the Opium Beach Club. Five people were injured, including one who had been involved in the fight. The gunman had previously been stabbed by another individual with whom he had clashed over a trivial matter in the VIP area of the beach club.

Seven arrested in connection with Fuengirola boat thefts

IRENE QUIRANTE

MALAGA. National Police have arrested seven people for their alleged involvement in a plot to steal motorboats from Fuengirola port to be used in drug trafficking activities. Three privately owned boats were stolen within a few days of each other.

Officers had been investigating the case since August, when the victims reported the disappearances of their boats. Only one ves-

sel was recovered: it was located by the Guardia Civil on the western Costa del Sol coast of Casares. Investigators discovered that one of the gang members was an expert in starting boat motors.

In addition to stealing the boats for drug trafficking, the officials also accused them of stealing two rented vehicles which, to date, have not been located. They are also linked to three minor offences for non-payment of fuel at different petrol stations along the coast.



One of the boats was recovered. SUR

112 REPORTS



Marbella's National Police headquarters. SUR

MARBELLA

Woman arrested for abusing elderly mother

J. CANO. National Police officers have arrested a woman in Marbella for allegedly abusing her own mother and aunt. Alarm bells started to ring for the town's social services when medical reports for the 90 and 97-year-old started to accumulate with the suspicion of physical and psychological aggres-

sion by their younger relative.

The police investigation, carried out by the Marbella police station's Family and Women's Care Unit (UFAM), was prompted by a complaint from the town hall's social services department, which in turn alerted the Public Prosecutor's Office.

The victims have been placed in the care of a residential home while the case is investigated and a judge has issued a restraining order against the arrested woman.

MALAGA

Rock jumper in ICU with serious spinal injury

J. CANO. A 24-year-old man suffered a serious spinal injury and was rushed to an intensive care unit at Malaga's Regional Hospital after jumping from a rock into the sea at the city's Peñón del Cuervo beach. The accident happened on Saturday, when the man, who is from North Africa, was on an excursion with a group of refugees from Malaga. He is believed to have hit his head on the seabed and was knocked semi-conscious. The city council has not banned jumping from the rocks although some towns, including Nerja, can issue fines of 1,500 euros for the practice.

MARBELLA

Ride-hailing passenger with cannabis in suitcase

SUR. Police officers have arrested the passenger of a private hire car in Marbella who was found to be carrying 10.8 kilos of drugs in a suitcase. Police stopped the vehicle at a routine checkpoint and noticed the 28-year-old passenger in the back seat was behaving strangely. When questioned by the officers he was evasive and claimed he couldn't remember the padlock combination for the suitcase that was giving off a strong smell of drugs in the boot of the vehicle. Inside the case officers found 17 packages of hashish and 36 packets of marijuana.

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Campsite residents fight for right to stay

Around 30 people, including pensioners, live permanently on the Marbella Playa site, but it is due to close soon for modernisation works

JOAQUINA DUEÑAS

MARBELLA. Long-term residents on the Marbella Playa campsite are concerned about their rights after the new owners announced that they are closing it down at the end of September so it can be completely modernised.

At the moment around 30 people live on the site permanently, including couples with school age children, and some have constructed prefabricated buildings alongside their caravans. They

believe they should be allowed to stay.

The residents are hoping they are covered by a law from 1995 under which their buildings, some of which have been there “for decades”, would be considered permanent structures. The residents insist that if they are forced to leave they want compensation, because the plot on which their caravans stand belongs to the campsite but the buildings are theirs.

Evictions

The lawyer for the group of residents is Carlos Díaz.

"There are families registered with the town hall as living here and their buildings are well-established. If there is a legal discrepancy, it needs to be re-

solved,” Díaz said. With regard to possible evictions, Díaz says some of the residents are pensioners or unemployed and clearly vulnerable, and that the owners have been “belligerent”

and are trying to force them to leave.

The site owners strongly deny any type of hostile or aggressive behaviour. With regard to the buildings, they say these are not

permanent. They also say they are not aware of anybody living on the campsite for decades, in answer to claims by some residents that they have been there for over 30 years.



Some of the long-term residents affected by the site closure at the end of September. **SUR**

Benahavís to get 10-million-euro investment in new school project

The only state school in the municipality was opened in 1993 to accommodate 150 pupils, but now more than 600 are taught there

J. DUEÑAS

MARBELLA. Benahavis council and the Junta de Andalucía's representative in Malaga for Education have signed an agreement for the construction of a new primary and a secondary school.

It follows overcrowding complaints from parents of pupils at CEIP Daidín, the only state school in the municipality. The facility was opened in 1993 to accommodate around 150 students but it now has more than 600 students, with some pupils being



Town hall meeting this week. **SUR**

mayor José Antonio Mena in order to address issues related to the improvement of the educational infrastructure of the town.

In the meeting, the immediate transfer of use of some of the park land located next to the school to be used as a recreation area was agreed. In addition, both authorities have agreed to jointly pay for the construction of a new educational centre on a plot outside the urban area. It is a project that they describe as “ambitious” for which an estimated budget of 10 million euros will be allocated.

It will feature “modern buildings, be accessible and respectful of the environment”, and will not only cover the needs of schooling in the municipality itself but also a wider area, according to the Junta.



The new shop in Calle Pío Baroja, next to the council offices. **SUR**

St George charity opens new boutique in Sabinillas

SUR IN ENGLISH

MANILVA. After outgrowing its previous premises, the St George charity has opened a bigger, better and brighter boutique offering nearly new fashions for men

and women, including vintage and designer labels.

It can be found in Calle Pío Baroja, next to the council offices in Sabinillas and it is open Monday to Saturday from 10am to 1.30pm.



◀ Fatima Ahmadi with her husband and two children in a room at the Spanish Refugee Aid Commission

'I can't forget about what's happening and I cry for my family'

Afghanistan. Fatima Ahmadi, 26, an Afghan refugee, is starting a new life in Malaga, far from the danger and threats from the Taliban

◀ Fatima Ahmadi, a 26-year-old refugee from Afghanistan

IRENE ORTIZ

A nightmare. A reality. Tears pour down 26-year-old Fatima Ahmadi's face as she recalls the pain and heartbreak of having to leave her little house in Kabul, with all its flowers. Having to go in the knowledge that she would never return, or even see her family again. Saying goodbye and leaving a whole life behind. And all taken away from her by the stroke of a pen without her consent and for no reason other than being a woman.

It is eight months now since Fatima managed to escape from Afghanistan with her two children and her husband, Habibullah Afzali, 29. The country had become an inferno and her pain is as intense now as it was on the very first day.

ara ethnic group of which they are part, Habibullah says, is more open-minded than many.

Fatima worked for several organisations fighting climate change and pushing for sustainable development, including the National Environment Protection Agency, but that came to an end when the Taliban took over the country.

Thanks to a grant awarded to her husband by Malaga University to continue his IT studies, and the help of feminist groups of which Fatima was a member, they were able to escape the danger.

Cultural impact

"It became traumatic, living in Afghanistan," Habibullah says, containing his breath to stop himself crying. The Hazaras are one of the ethnic groups which are most persecuted by the Taliban because they follow the Shia faith in a country where most people are Sunni. As well as forbidding women from studying, working or leaving the house alone, as they do in general, the

Taliban kill families such as theirs for simply belonging to this ethnic group.

"There came a time when, if anyone asked us, we didn't dare admit that we were Hazaras because it was too dangerous," says Habibullah, who will never forget the desperate cries of children during a shooting at a school 500 metres from their house.

The date of 15 August 2021 was a "black day" for all women in Afghanistan, Fatima says. And although she says she is happy now because she, her husband and their children are safe, it still pains her to think about her family who are trapped there.

"There is no hope for the future there because the Taliban do not allow women any rights. They want women to stay at home and not live their lives the way they want to," she says. Her sister, for example, has had to stop going to school and now feels that plans for the future only exist in dreams.

Living in a present where only the past exists is hard, and so is remaking a life in a country so

different socially and culturally to one's own. This young Afghan woman admits that it has been quite a cultural shock. The lifestyle in general, women's freedom, rights and equality without discrimination are some of the things which came as the greatest surprise. She admits that in Spain "people are much more sociable and charitable than in Afghanistan," so they feel very comfortable here, although there are some habits she is not able to give up.

On 7 May 2022 the Taliban made it compulsory for women in Afghanistan to wear burqas again. Even wearing one, they are not allowed out of the house unless a man is with them, and not just any man, either. Habibullah Afzali says the Tali-

The Hazaras are one of the ethnic groups most persecuted by the Taliban, for being Shia

ban now check the occupants of cars, asking for proof of the relationship between the man and the woman, just as they do in the street. One of Fatima's sisters who was being taken by a neighbour to visit another sister, was threatened because he was not her father, brother or husband.

Now, this young refugee is also suffering because of this sense of insecurity. She is distressed at not being able to feel independent, when she was, before the Taliban took over.

Fortunately, she has never had to wear a burqa, although she says she had to cover her face completely to get out of Afghanistan. In fact, "now the Taliban arrest the male relatives, the fathers and brothers, if they don't force the women to wear the hijab properly," Habibullah says.

Fatima is used to wearing the veil because it is part of traditional dress for Afghan women, but she is not afraid to leave her dark hair uncovered, and pinned up in a bun. She knows that here in Spain she can dress differently if she wants to, but says she doesn't feel comfortable wearing clothes that she didn't wear in her own country.

Adapting

The aftermath of what happened continues to affect everyday life for this family. The nightmares occur almost daily. "Our daughter Sana, who is three, often wakes up screaming in the night," Fatima says.

Coping when you are not in a good mental state is "very difficult", and Habibullah says his wife is losing her hair because of post-traumatic stress. "I can try to forget the pain I felt, but I can't forget about the situation and the fear and I cry for my family," she says.

Now Fatima Ahmadi and her family are starting a new life on the Malaga coast. Thanks to the support they have received from the Spanish Refugee Aid Commission, they are living in a small apartment in the city centre. They want to learn Spanish so they can communicate, and Fatima's greatest wish is to do a master's degree in environmental sciences so she can work in the field she loves so much.

"I will definitely have to find a job to be able to provide my children with everything they need," she says. She knows it won't be easy or quick, and although right now she feels happy because, as she says, "feeling safe is one of the greatest things ever," the same question keeps going round and round inside her head: "Will we ever be able to go back to Afghanistan?"



How UK investment are taxed in Spain

By Chris McCann, Senior Partner, Blevins Franks

While adapting to a life in Spain comes easily to many expatriates, it's not as easy letting go of the things that we're used to. Having financial assets structured in a way that is familiar and that you understand can be comforting.

But is holding investments in the UK the wisest choice if you live in Spain? Does this strategy help to legitimately avoid paying too much in tax, or are you sacrificing potential opportunities to stay with what feels safe?

Holding premium bonds

Although premium bonds do not typically provide earnings of capital growth, they are still considered 'the UK's biggest savings account' with over 21 million Britons saving more than £117 billion in them. The main attraction of investing in premium bonds is that any winnings have always been tax-free in the UK.

However, this is not the case once you become a resident of Spain. Gains from bonds will be added to your general income for the year and taxed at the progressive rates of income tax. These tax rates vary a

little depending on which region you live in, and reach as high as 47% in Andalucía, 45% in Madrid, 47.4% in Murcia, 49.5% in the Balearic Islands, and 50% in Cataluña, 50.5% for the Canary Islands, and 54% in Comunidad Valenciana.

ISAs

ISAs may be tax free in the UK, but the interest and gains earned from UK ISAs are fully taxable in Spain if you are a resident here, at the corresponding progressive savings income tax rates of 19%, 21%, 23%, and 26%, depending on how much savings income you earn.

These rates are fixed, meaning they do not vary between the autonomous communities.

What about bank interest and other UK investments?

Like ISAs, bank interest is taxable for Spanish residents at the savings rates, irrespective of the UK resident's tax-free threshold.

Low interest rates have caused UK savings accounts to stagnate, while the rise of inflation decreases their

value. In fact, with the current economic climate, exploring alternative structures for your money could present you with better options.

Ideally, you should review all your UK investments to consider how they will be taxed in Spain. Besides income tax, you will also be taxed on the gains should you ever sell them.

Pensions

Lump-sum payments from UK pensions are taxable in Spain, so you may wish to draw the pension before leaving if you have yet to make a move. For those who are already Spanish residents, UK private, occupational and state pensions are taxed only in Spain.

State retirement pensions are paid gross, but other pensions will be taxed in the UK until HMRC receives your Spanish tax residency certificate. Government service pensions remain only liable to UK tax but will be considered by Spanish authorities when determining the effective tax rate on your other income.

The Spanish taxation of UK private

pensions is a little too complicated to cover here, and it would be advisable to seek personalised advice regarding yours.

UK rental income

If you are resident in Spain and rent out property in the UK, the income could be taxable in both countries, though the UK tax paid can be offset against the Spanish liability. In Spain, it is taxed at the scale rates of income tax. A 60% reduction is available in Spain against the net rental income, but only for long-term lettings where the tenant uses the property as their main home.

Are there alternative investment options in Spain?

Yes, there are highly tax-efficient opportunities available to all residents of Spain. A more favoured of these is a Spanish approved life assurance contract, which acts as an investment wrapper to a conventional portfolio. With this structure in place, no tax is payable on income from the underlying asset until a withdrawal is made, and even then, only the gain is subject to tax.

And there is more to it than just about tax. Your investments should be specifically structured around your circumstances, objectives, time horizon and current risk tolerance – all of which have probably changed since you moved to Spain. You should regularly review your savings and investments to ensure they continue to meet your objectives and are suitable for your new life in Spain.

Breaking old habits can be profitable if you take the time to explore all options and seek specialist cross-border advice.

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

Finding reassurance in an uncertain world.

Seminar

Recent years have presented a number of challenges and navigating today's tax and financial landscape can prove rather stressful. Our seminar will clarify what's been going on, to put the various changes into perspective for you and present solutions for protecting your long-term wealth.

Tax planning | Dispelling the myth that Spain is a high tax country and ensuring your affairs are structured to minimise your tax liabilities.

Investing today | Guest speakers from Russell Investments will share their views on the global economy, markets and asset classes in today's volatile world and going forward.

Brexit consequences | The risks of using UK-based advisers; regulated advice for Spanish residents and implementing effective planning.

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The plans for the 5,000-square-metre site in the Trapiche Norte area of Marbella. **SUR**

Marbella’s skatepark will take eight months to finish once work starts

JOAQUINA DUEÑAS

MARBELLA. Marbella’s new one-million-euro skateboard park in the Trapiche Norte area could soon become a reality. The council has put the 5,000-square-

metre project, with an estimated eight-month construction period, out to tender. The location for the future skate park is where the temporary vehicle depot is currently located in the La Florida area.

The councilor for Works, Diego López, said the skatepark will become a reference for the sport in the province, which has grown in popularity since it became an Olympic discipline at the Tokyo 2020 games.

HERE AND THERE

RONDA

Animal welfare groups clash with council

VANESSA MELGAR. Six animal welfare groups in the Ronda area are accusing the council of capturing colonies of street cats. They say they have videos of cages being put down to trap the animals. The groups also claim that Ronda council has a contract with the Paraíso animal pound in Alhaurín de la Torre, where captured animals are put down after ten days. The animal welfare groups claim that the cats are controlled, neutered and managed by them,

and they say although the council approved a policy of capturing, neutering and returning them in 2017, it has done nothing to help. Local councillor Concha Muñoz has strongly denied that the cats are going to be sacrificed and said they were only being trapped to see if they are neutered. But she did admit there is a technical report showing that the colonies of cats are unhygienic, sources of illness, fleas, ticks, unpleasant odours, urine and faeces in the town centre. She said there are around 40 cats and feeding them is forbidden, and can lead to a fine of up to 500 euros.



Some of the trees at the Vigil de Quiñones park. **SUR**

MARBELLA

Local historian highlights plight of ‘choked’ centennial pines

DAVID LERMA. Local historian Francisco Moreno estimates that some of the centennial pines in Marbella’s Vigil de Quiñones park could be as old as 238 years old. Some exceed 40 metres in height and produce a canopy of more than 30 metres. But he has warned that their future could be in jeopardy because of the 600,000 euro remodelling works in the area

which started in January. “They are majestic and part of our heritage,” said Moreno. He accuses the town council of “choking the roots, taking away sources of nutrition and changing the water table” with some of the hard landscaping works. “This is not just another park. It is a forest park and has different environmental conditions,” added the Malaka environmental group.

MIJAS

Low-cost fuel station chain expands on Costa

A.J. Low-cost company Plenoil has opened a new fuel station forecourt in Mijas, its seventh in the province of Malaga. The new service station is located on the La Torre industrial estate and is open from 7am to 9.45pm in the week and 10am - 3pm and 5pm - 8pm at weekends, creating three new jobs. The company now has 33 locations in Andalucía and anticipates opening another four in “the coming months”.



New Plenoil fuel station. **SUR**

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Hundreds of airport passengers hit by Costa taxi strike

Thursday's partial stoppage was called by drivers protesting against the Junta's new regulations for ride-hailing companies in the region

S. ZAMORA / F. JIMÉNEZ

MALAGA. Disgruntled passengers arriving on flights to the Costa del Sol on Thursday this week found there were no taxis for two hours due to a strike at Malaga Airport between 11am and 1pm. Taxi drivers gave out leaflets in Spanish and English explaining the reason for their protest.

It was the same scenario at the city's sea port, bus and railway sta-

tions yesterday and only half the taxi fleet was operating in Malaga city and on the rest of the Costa del Sol from 10.30am to 2pm, while colleagues attended a demonstration in Seville. Only essential services were provided during the stoppage, such as transporting disabled passengers, families with children and the elderly.

Taxi drivers have decided to step up their actions to put more pressure on the Junta de Andalucía over its plans to regulate the ride-hailing sector which would mean that companies such as Uber, Cabify and Bolt could operate within towns from 1 October.

Drivers say the Junta's regulations don't go far enough. They consider these firms to be unfair



The queue for a taxi at Malaga Airport on Thursday this week. MIGUE FERNÁNDEZ

competition for the sector and insist that they need to be more severely restricted.

"We are sorry for the inconvenience, but we feel cheated by the Junta because it is working against the interests of the sector, which is the livelihood of thousands of

families," said the president of the Confederation of Taxis on the Costa del Sol, Miguel Ángel Martín. The spokesman for Élite Taxi Costa del Sol, Guillermo Díaz, agreed. "We don't want to stop anybody working, but the ride-hailing companies should operate in their own

way and we will operate in ours. But if they are going to let these firms work as if they are taxis it's a problem, because they aren't," he said.

Drivers are expected to announce plans for more protests this weekend.




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Víctor Navas and Alicia Laddaga (centre) at the hospice. SUR

Town hall grants 15,000-euro subsidy to Cudeca home care teams

TONY BRYANT

BENALMÁDENA. The mayor of Benalmádena, Víctor Navas, and the councillor for Social Welfare,

Alicia Laddaga, visited the Cudeca hospice this week to inform the charity about a 15,000-euro subsidy that the town hall has granted the foundation. Funds will be used to help maintain the home care units, which comprise a doctor, nurse, psychologist and social worker who are specialists in palliative care. The mayor also thanked staff and volunteers for the work they do to improve the lives of cancer patients and their families.



Idiliq work highlighted at Mijas gala

The relaunched Idiliq Foundation presentation was held at the Wyndham Costa del Sol resort in Mijas. The organisation is involved in projects to benefit charities such as Cudeca, the Red Cross and the Spanish cancer association.



The meeting highlighted the need to control photovoltaic projects in Álora in the Guadalhorce valley. **SUR**

Action group demands planning changes to regulate solar panel farms

The Álorasolar group has called on the local council to take action "as soon as possible" as concern grows about express planning procedures

ANDREA JIMÉNEZ

ÁLORA. Álorasolar, a neighbourhood action group that was formed in Álora last year, held a meeting with the town hall on Friday last week to ask for an urban modification plan to regulate photovoltaic plant macro-projects in the municipality.

Although it is not against photovoltaic or wind energy, the neighbourhood group said that the mega-plants "are not going

to lower the electricity bill", but "self-consumption and management of our resources will".

The group showed its concerns for other proposed solar plant projects in Las Mellizas, Los Llanos, Bermejo, and sites in Casarabonela and Pizarra, for which they stressed the need to act "as soon as possible".

"An express procedure is being prepared for these types of projects, both at regional, state and European level," a spokesperson for Álorasolar said.

The group said its main aim was to promote photovoltaic energy for self-consumption, while emphasising the need to "be self-sufficient and not depend on large electricity networks", and also to protect the environ-

ment "from unsustainable projects".

As a solution, the group has suggested that solar panels are installed on the roofs of public buildings to create energy communities made up of residents, town halls and local companies. The meeting was attended by the town's mayor, Francisco Martínez, the deputy mayor, Desirée Cortés, and the former general secretary of the PSOE of Malaga, José Luis Ruiz Espejo.

IN BRIEF

MALAGA

City mayor to stand again for a sixth term

PILAR R. QUIRÓS. The mayor of Malaga, Francisco de la Torre, has confirmed that he will be standing for election again next year, for the sixth consecutive time since 2003.

The 79-year-old has always said that two factors were involved in deciding whether to put himself forward as a candidate: support from the people and good enough health.

De la Torre announced his decision at a press conference saying, "I have always worked enthusiastically and with passion for the advancement and pro-



Francisco de la Torre. **SUR**

gress of Malaga. I have, I am and I will again."

This has put paid to rumours in recent months that he would retire when this period in office came to an end.

MALAGA

Christmas lights switch-on delay is criticised

JUAN CANO. Malaga council and representatives of the hospitality sector have spoken out against draft plans by the Junta de Andalucía to delay the switch-on of Christmas illuminations in the region until at least 8 December this year, in order to save energy and reduce light

pollution. This would be three weeks later than usual in the city. Teresa Porras, the councillor for festivals, said Malaga would comply with the regulation if it came into force. "But it would be bad for employment, retail and the hospitality sector," she said, and pointed out that LED lights are used and the cost for the electricity is around 8,000 euros for the 45 days the 1.2m euros of festive illuminations are usually switched on.



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La Viñuela is on the verge of being declared a 'dead reservoir' as levels near record lows

The reservoir, which supplies water to 180,000 residents of 14 Axarquía places, is at just 10.72% of its capacity - the lowest level since 2008

EUGENIO CABEZAS

LA VIÑUELA. Barring a last minute miracle in the form of heavy rains in the next few weeks, everything points to La Viñuela reservoir in the Axarquía heading for a repeat of the scenario of 31 October 2008, when it was left with only 15.2 cubic hectometres, at 9.2 per cent of its capacity. On Sunday 18 September it stood at 17.62 cubic hectometres or 10.72 per cent.

The reservoir, which supplies water to 180,000 inhabitants of 14 places and supplies water for irrigation of the 6,200 hectares of the Guaro Plan, is on the verge of being declared a 'dead reservoir'; a designation that is normally used when a reservoir falls below 11 per cent of its capacity or when it is impossible to continue extracting water from it because what is left at the bottom is only mud.



La Viñuela reservoir in the Axarquía is at just 10.72 per cent capacity. **SUR**

This scenario has not yet been reached, according to sources at the Junta de Andalucía, who have denied that La Viñuela is, at the moment, a dead reservoir. However, the sources have not been able to specify at what level of reserves this terminology will be accepted. "Water continues to be ex-

tracted for human consumption, which is treated at the El Trapiche water treatment plant, and supplied to the irrigation communities that have not exhausted their allocation of 1,500 cubic metres per hectare per water year, until 30 September," they highlighted.

Around two thirds of residents

in the village of Periana are being advised not to drink the tap water as one of the wells that serves the village from the Guaro River is almost empty. In Comares tankers have been bringing in water every day since last week as three of the wells that supply 50 per cent of the village have dried up.

Volunteers wanted in Costa's towns for International Cleanup Day activities

JENNIE RHODES

MALAGA. Following International Cleanup Day which took place last Saturday, 17 September, events are continuing along the Costa del Sol tomorrow (Saturday, 24 September).

Mi Moana is organising a beach and underwater cleanup at Estepona's Playa del Cristo at 10am. Gloves, bags, water and other refreshments will be provided for volunteers. Visit Facebook Mi Moana or www.mio-moana.org for details.

Activities organised by the Marine Watchers Network, Proyecto Libera and the Diving Club Apaño Sub are also taking place on Saturday from 10 am on the Poniente beach of Torre del Mar, with the meeting at the town's fairground (behind Jazba and BereBere beach bars).

The waste will be identified and separated for recycling and the data gathered will be reported to Spain's environment ministry through the 'Basuraleza' phone app.

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10.15 h: SEMINAR ABOUT OWNING A PROPERTY IN SPAIN

Is my property duly registered? And if not, can a future transaction be compromised? What if you bought a house that shows construction defects? If you want to renovate your house, what are the legal do's and don'ts? By Paz Valverde, lawyer

10.45 h: SEMINAR ABOUT TOURIST RENTALS

Regulation in Andalucía of tourist rentals for both urban properties and rustic properties. Property requirements and compulsory documentation requested by the local authorities. Consequences of lack of registration. What about the community of owners? By Macarena Ramos, Lawyer

11.15 h: WE OFFER YOU A COFFEE BREAK

Meanwhile, our lawyers can be privately consulted for more personal questions.

12.00 h: SEMINAR ABOUT SELLING YOUR PROPERTY

What if you do not have the First Occupancy License of your property. What if any extension of my property has not been duly registered at the Land registry. Which taxes do you have to pay? Capital gain tax and municipal tax, How to reduce those taxes? By Maria del Mar Tapia, lawyer.

12.30 h: SEMINAR ABOUT DONATING PROPERTY & DEALING WITH AN INTERNATIONAL INHERITANCE

What are the actual advantages of donating in Andalucía, and where is the disadvantage? What about your last will? How can I benefit from tax deductions for donations in Andalucía? If I am not an EU resident, can I benefit from tax deductions for donations in Andalucía? By Miguel Alvarez, lawyer.

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The Spanish Caving Association during an investigation. SUR

La Araña cement factory denies claims it plans to blow up a nearby protected cave

"At no time since the discovery of the cave has our company planned to carry out any blasting in the area of the cave," say owners FYM-Heidelberg

FRANCISCO GRIÑÁN

MALAGA. The beauty of the Araña karst massif limestone caves has attracted a great deal of geological attention since its discovery a year ago. Located in the quarry of the FYM-Heidelberg cement works, on the coast east of

Malaga city, the spectacular nature of the cave led to a study by the Junta de Andalucía regional government that promised to protect it.

The honesty of that promise has been called into question recently by specialist groups and the early findings of a report by the Geological Resources Research Department of the Spanish Geological and Mining Institute (IGME) led to a complaint to the Environmental Prosecutor's Office by the Spanish Caving Association over concerns that the company was planning to blast the cave with authorisation from the regional government.

However, this demolition plan was categorically denied recently by the cement company and by the regional government.

"At no time since the discovery of the cave has our company planned to carry out any blasting in the area where it is located," said the FYM-Heidelberg factory, which added that the company "has no record of any decision issued by any competent administration of the Junta de Andalucía on the resumption of mining activity" in the cave.

This was confirmed by the Junta's office in Malaga, which, in statements to SUR denied any authorisation or decision on the cave, while stressing that the activity "is still prohibited in the area".

HERE AND THERE

TORRE DEL MAR

Important thoroughfare reopens after delays

E. C. / J. R. Plaza de la Axarquía in Torre del Mar has reopened after almost a year of works to transform it from a car park to a semi-pedestrian area.

Four months behind schedule and almost a year after work started, the plaza opened last weekend.

Although work is still not completely finished on the square, which is home to the remains of the military fortress that gave rise to the coastal town, pedestrians may now use the space, which is adorned with flower beds.

The work, at a cost of one mil-



Plaza de la Axarquía. J. RHODES

lion euros, was delayed for eight months, provoking complaints from local residents, businesses and the opposition Partido Popular party, not least due to the loss of parking spaces.

CANILLAS DE ACEITUNO

Almanchares River 'invaded' by fruit trees

E. C. Environmental group GENA-Ecologistas en Acción has reported to the Junta de Andalucía the "invasion" of a subtropical fruit plantation near the Almanchares River in the village of Canillas de Aceituno in the Axarquía.

According to the organisation's spokesman, the biologist Rafael

Yus, "They are indiscriminately planting subtropical fruit trees in places like the banks of the river."

Yus says they don't know whether these operations "have been carried out with the corresponding environmental impact studies or if they have the relevant permits" but he has requested that the owner of the plot "restores the land to its natural condition, especially the riverbed".

AVALON FUNERAL PLANS



Avalon Funeral Plans are now FCA authorised

Avalon Funeral Plans has recently been authorised by Financial Conduct Authority (FCA), a UK regulator, allowing them to continue to provide funeral services, in line with strict regulations that came into force on the 29th of July 2022

MÁLAGA

SUR. Through these regulations, the FCA has enhanced consumer protection within the pre-paid funeral plan market by ensuring plans are sold fairly, perform as expected, and provide value for money. Plus, plans must always guarantee a funeral; providers whose products fail to do this will be banned from operating. Furthermore, cold calling is now prohibited, new advertising stan-

dards are being implemented and commission payments to intermediaries are banned. It's also worth noting that Avalon is one of only two funeral plan providers in Spain that is authorised and regulated by the FCA. And, as Avalon's plans offer dual country cover, customers can be certain they'll get the funeral they've paid for, whether in Spain or the UK*.

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King Felipe is reunited with his father at Westminster Abbey funeral service

As well as closely following the somber ceremonies on Monday, Spanish viewers were also focused on how close the King and Queen were sat to his parents

D. GUADILLA / N. HESKETH

LONDON / MALAGA. Spain's King Felipe VI appeared in public with his father, emeritus King Juan Carlos, for the first time in two years at the funeral of Queen Elizabeth II in Westminster Abbey, London, on Monday this week.

The funeral seating plan gave rise to an unexpected and historic photograph when King Felipe and Queen Letizia were seated alongside Juan Carlos, who lives in Abu Dhabi in self-imposed exile, and the king's mother, emeritus Queen Sofia.

As well as closely following the emotional events of the morning, many in Spain had been eagerly waiting to see if the disgraced former king would be seen with his son and daughter-in-law.

Government assurances

Ahead of the funeral service, an uncomfortable Spanish government was at pains to stress that King Felipe and Queen Letizia were in an official capacity representing their country while the emeritus King and Queen, Juan Carlos and Sofia, were attending in a private capacity because they are both related to British royalty.

Juan Carlo's public image in Spain has declined rapidly in recent years after scandals involving his finances and an on-going lawsuit in London from a former lover. He abdicated in 2014.

The Spanish government, as



Spanish royalty - two kings and two queens - sat together in the second row at the Westminster Abbey service . AFP

well as expert commentators on protocol in Madrid, were convinced the two couples would not be seated together in the Abbey.

But in the end, British protocol was fixed - once a monarch, always a monarch. To the surprise of Spanish viewers, Felipe, Letizia, Juan Carlos and Sofia all sat together on the second row from

Later on Monday, King Felipe attended St George's Chapel accompanied by his mother, Sofia

the coffin in front of the world's cameras in the area reserved for representatives of Europe's royal families, alongside King Harald V and Queen Sonja of Norway.

In front of them were Queen Margrethe of Denmark and her son Frederick; and King Willem-Alexander, Queen Máxima and Princess Beatrix of the Netherlands.

The third pew in this European royal section was occupied by King Philippe and Mathilde of Belgium; the Grand Duke and Duchess of Luxembourg, Henri and Maria Teresa; and Albert and Charlene of Monaco.

The last time King Felipe was seen in public with his father was

at the funeral of Juan Carlos's sister, Infanta Pilar, in 2020.

St George's Chapel

Later on Monday, King Felipe attended the committal service in St George's Chapel at Windsor Castle accompanied by his mother, Sofia. Emeritus King Juan Carlos had declined that part of the invitation and Queen Letizia had had to leave early to fly to New York directly from London to attend official engagements there.

All four were together at the reception at Buckingham Palace the evening before the funeral, however no photograph of that encounter has emerged.

Spain further relaxes Covid-19 form-filling rules at airports and sea ports

ÁLVARO SOTO

MADRID. Spain further relaxed its health measures against Covid-19 in the country's ports and airports this week. Passengers arriving by air or sea from countries that do not belong to the European Union will no longer have to present completed Spain Travel Health (SpTH) information upon arrival, a health control form that included travel-related information.

"The measures to limit international mobility must be applied in accordance with the general principles of Union Law, and must not go beyond what is strictly necessary to safeguard public health and must be lifted when the epidemiological situation, particularly in hospitals, allows it," the health authorities explained.

The SpTH app, which will no longer be in operation, required passengers to fill out the health control form with data such as their identity, address, the vaccination certificate or the diagnostic test before embarking on the trip. The app generated a QR code that had to be presented at airport and port controls and to the transport companies.

However, for the time being, temperature controls at airports and the mandatory use of a mask on flights will remain in force. Passengers from outside the EU or Schengen area are still required to show on arrival a valid vaccination certificate, negative Covid test or a recovery certificate.

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Is it Still Wise to Acquire a Spanish Property Through a Company?

Spanish real estate owned by corporations based in a Spanish-designated «tax haven» is subject to a 3% annual

CÁRTAMA

SUR. Purchasing and owning a home through a company has previously been a popular option - many people used to own Spanish real estate through onshore and offshore business structures, particularly if it was worth more than €1 million.

The major objective was to avoid paying taxes, particularly Spanish wealth tax and/or succession and gift tax.

However, owing to recent developments in taxation legislation, there have been some major changes that make this option far less attractive than it once was.

Read on as we guide you through the changes and their implications.

What Caused the Change in the System of Purchasing Property Through Corporations?

Spain, along with many other

countries, has effectively established techniques to combat tax fraud over the past decade. The two principal goals are to prevent future tax evasion and to uncover prior infractions. Spain has very much focused on what it describes as “aggressive tax planning” arrangements.

Purchasing property through a company was previously seen as a way to escape paying the appropriate taxes that otherwise would have been levied.

Spain has put together a tax plan every year since around 2019 aimed at uncovering “opaque” taxation arrangements. As a result, the Spanish tax authorities are actively looking at properties in Spain that are owned through company structures, with the majority of inspections taking place in the Balearic Islands and the prov-

“Spain..... has effectively established techniques to combat tax fraud over the past decade”

inces of Malaga and Cadiz.

Presently, anyone who owns the property through a corporation should now assess their tax situation and ensure that they are meeting their tax obligations in Spain.

Beneficial Owner Register: A Tool Used by Tax Authorities to obtain Relevant Tax Information

Since 2018, there has been a “beneficial owner register”. This was created through various EU Directives.

Each country’s record includes the ‘Ultimate Beneficial Owner’ (UBO) of businesses, trusts, foundations, and other similar legal entities. As part of their yearly corporation tax return, companies in Spain must now identify the beneficial owner and any shareholders who control 25% or more of the company’s shares.

Spanish authorities are using the registry to analyse obfuscated structures or properties. This is to find out if the beneficial owner was or is using the property but not properly accounting for it via their Spanish tax return.



Jason Swan, Senior Partner. SUR

What are the Tax Implications for Spanish Residents Who Own Properties in Spain Through Corporate Structures?

This arrangement is quite inefficient for Spanish tax purposes if a house is available for the shareholder’s use (especially if it is their principal home) and they are residents in Spain. Here’s a quick rundown of the main tax implications:

- The main residence capital gains tax benefit is unavailable.
- Modelo 720 requires the inclusion of foreign company shares.

- For the use of the property, the shareholder must pay the corporation market rent.

- The company is required to pay corporation tax in Spain.

- Any profit distribution to shareholders is subject to Spanish income tax at savings rates.

- Without the benefit of the €300,000 primary home limit, the company’s shares are effectively included for wealth tax purposes.

Note: Spain’s double-tax treaties with the United Kingdom and Germany contain a clause that allows Spain to tax foreign corporations’ shareholdings in Spanish real estate. As a result, persons residing in the United Kingdom or Germany would be subject to a Spanish wealth tax on company shares, regardless of where the firm is based.

Spanish real estate owned by corporations based in a Spanish-designated «tax haven» (e.g., the British Virgin Islands, etc.) is subject to a 3% annual tax (calculated on property value). The corporation must have an authorized representative to interact with the Spanish tax office (or face a €6,000 penalty).

Conclusion

It is critical to ensure that your assets, whether real estate or investment capital, are tax compliant in your country of residence and country where those assets are located.

You can minimise your tax burden in a variety of ways. The best way is to seek the advice of experts in cross-border tax and financial planning around your specific circumstances and goals.

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Top brands are hiding food price rises by reducing pack sizes

Consumer associations have pointed their fingers at six food firms for adopting 'shrinkflation', a practice that is legal but lacking transparency

JAVIER LÓPEZ

MALAGA. When inflation walks through the door of a supermarket, shrinkflation usually comes in with it. That is the term used when brands reduce the weight of their packs but keep the price the same: in other words, consumers are receiving less of the product but paying as much as they always did. The operation is legal, as long as the weight shown on the label is accurate, but consumer associations are accusing the firms of a lack of transparency.

Spain's Consumers and Users Organisation (OCU) has provided some figures about this tactic which is usually associated with a general increase in prices. It says 7% of the 273 products it looked at were subject to shrinkflation. For example, what was an 800 gramme pack of ColaCao drink powder now weighs 760; 500g of Tulipán margarine is now 400g; a two-litre bottle of Pepsi Cola is now 1.75 litres; a pack of Revilla chorizo costing 1 euro contains 65g instead of the previous 80; the 110-gramme pack of Campofrío ham for one euro now weighs 85g and every Activia yoghurt now weighs 5 grammes less. Due to this situation, the OCU has reported Pastas Gallo, Danone, Pescanova, ColaCao, Tulipán and Campofrío to the National Commission of Markets and Com-



Pack shrinkage is affecting all aisles of the supermarket. SUR

OCU: "Charging the same but giving consumers less is unfair competition with manufacturers who increase their prices"

petition. No response has been received as yet, and the OCU says it cannot rule out reporting more brands and companies as well. "Charging the same but giving consumers less is unfair competition with manufacturers who increase their prices," said sources at the OCU, which has begun a campaign to encourage people to report cases of shrinkflation and hidden price increases when they see them.

Shrinkflation - real-life examples

Weight in grammes (Pepsi in ml)

Product	Previous weight	New weight	% reduction
Cola Cao	800	760	-5
Tulipán margarine	500	400	-20
Pepsi	2,000	1,750	-13
Revilla chorizo	80	65	-19
Campofrío cooked ham	110	85	-23
Activia yoghurt	125	120	-4

Table: SUR • Source: OCU

Food courier firm is fined again for treating its workers as self-employed rather than staff

SUR

MALAGA. A leading takeaway-food courier company has been given another multi-million-euro fine for failing to comply with Spanish law. The Barcelona-based firm, Glovo, now has to pay 78.9 million euros after work and social security inspectors found that it had been falsely registering people as self-employed workers and breaking the so-called Rider Law. Spain's Rider Law, which came into force in August 2021, obliges digital platforms such as Glovo and Just Eat to give work contracts to delivery staff.

'Serious' breach

The inspectors believe that over 10,600 Glovo workers who were registered with Social Security as self-employed should really have been full employees. The company has been obliged to normalise their status and include them as part of the workforce. This applies to 8,331 workers in Barcelona and 2,283 in Valencia, who Glovo had refused to include on the payroll. "This is a massive example of fake self-employment and the weight of the law is going to fall on this company," employment minister Yolanda Díaz explained this week. She also accused the company of violating the workers' employment rights and obstructing the work of the inspectors, which she described as "extremely serious".

THE EURO ZONE
MARK NAYLER

Tax-friendly



In scrapping wealth tax, Andalucía's Popular Party (PP) president Juanma Moreno ensures that the southerly region becomes one of Spain's mini tax havens (if you have assets worth over 700,000 euros, that is). All the country's autonomous regions have the power to exercise fiscal independence in this way but, so far, Madrid and Andalucía - both of which are under centre-right administrations - are the only

ones to do so. Hopefully, other PP-led regions will now follow suit. Andalucía wants to position itself as more investment-friendly, less punitive to the wealthy and a good place to own property and do business - all of which would benefit a region consistently named as one of the poorest in Europe. Spain's Socialist-led coalition government, though, isn't happy with Moreno's surprise declaration

of autonomy. In a radio interview this week, minister for social security José Luis Escrivá called Moreno's tax reductions "totally regressive", adding that it was "absurd" to have regions competing with each other to attract big earners. But he failed to detail any aspects of Spain's largely devolved approach to taxation - especially wealth taxation - that are, in his opinion, ineffective or unfair. Much like Roe v Wade in America was indirectly about the morality of abortion and primarily about federal power versus state autonomy, Moreno's latest move only secondarily concerns taxation (although if high earners pour into Andalucía, the region's coffers could be swelled substantially).

This is really about where key elements of fiscal power should reside: with the national government or with regional administrations - as, to a large extent, they already do in Spain. Escrivá favours greater fiscal centralisation. He cites the Australian model of collection and disbursement, in which the country's six federated states are as it were rewarded by the central government for effective public spending. But if that model works on the assumption that regions can manage their public spending effectively, why shouldn't they be able to set tax rates and collect their own revenues effectively, too? Escrivá also claimed that, instead of competing with each other to lure wealthy residents, Spain's regions should concen-

trate on "improving health, education and dependency services". That's surely easier to do, though, if your annual income tax take is bigger, as Moreno hopes it will be as a result of cutting wealth tax. In any case, statements about WHERE tax revenues should be directed don't entail conclusions about WHAT KIND of government is best-placed to channel them there. Why is a central government necessarily more equipped or able than a regional administration to improve public services? There's no good reason why Andalucía can't improve vital services at the same time as abolishing wealth tax. Escrivá sees necessary connections and mutual inconsistencies where there aren't any.

Conquering the Rock and their trauma: veterans take part in a gruelling relay run

The 12-hour event, which will begin at the Pillars of Hercules at 6am on 21 October, aims to raise funds for a veteran support charity

D. BARTLETT

GIBRALTAR. On 21 October a team of veterans, serving personnel and local business owners will take on a gruelling 12-hour relay up and down the 1,398 ft high Rock of Gibraltar, to raise money for their fellow veterans through the support charity Waterloo Uncovered.

The ten-strong team for the Rock Relay Run, which coincides with Trafalgar Day, will include personnel from the Royal Air Force, Royal Navy, and Army, including Gibraltarian long-distance runner, national marathon record holder and Commonwealth Games competitor Arnold Rogers, who serves in the Royal Gibraltar Regiment.

All money raised will help fund Waterloo Uncovered's five unique veteran support programmes, which combine archaeology and

military history with veteran care and recovery, designed to support those who have served their country when they need it the most and help them find peace from war.

Mark Evans, CEO of Waterloo Uncovered, said: "Gibraltar's connection with the British Armed Forces goes back 300 years, and the Rock is an iconic part of the experience of being stationed there – climbing it is a rite of passage. We can't think of a better way for veterans to give back to other veterans than by climbing the rock to raise funds for our life-changing support programmes. We're extremely grateful to the runners and everyone who has supported the run so far. It's going to be incredible".

The event will start at the Pillars of Hercules and end at O'Hara's Battery, with pairs running up and down in turn. The first team will start the relay at 6am, with an estimated finish time of 6pm.

Funds will be raised on the Rock Relay Run JustGiving page. To learn more and support the challenge, please visit <https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/gibraltar>



Affected beaches have been cleaned of oil by hand. SUR

Clean-up under way after more oil spills from the OS 35

DEBBIE BARTLETT. Efforts are continuing to deal with oil which is coming from the OS 35 bulk carrier and the Port has suspended all bunkering operations for the time being to assign resources to the clean-up.

The ship, which was beached 700 metres off Catalan Bay after a collision, was settled further onto the seabed in preparation for heavy sea swells which had been forecast last Sunday and Monday. Experts decided that was the best course of action for the vessel, as the hull has broken but is not completely split in two, but warned that the residual fuel

which it had not been possible to pump out could spill under these weather conditions.

A cleaning operation is under way at Seven Sisters, which was badly soiled by the oil, and at Eastern Beach which was also affected. There was little impact to Gibraltar's other beaches, and any oil on those has now been removed.

With regard to free-floating oil, the Gibraltarian and Spanish authorities are working closely together to contain this and Spanish vessels are helping to prevent oil spreading to the coastline of Spain and into the Bay.

IN BRIEF

ENVIRONMENT

New book on bird migration

D.B. A new called Bird Migration Between Europe and Africa is being officially launched during the Calpe Conference at 5pm today, Friday 23 September. The book has been written by Geraldine, Stewart and Clive Finlayson, and copies will be available to purchase from the Gibraltar National Museum shop as from Monday 26 September.

HEALTH

Alzheimer's and Dementia Walk

D.B. A Memory Walk took place in Gibraltar on Wednesday evening to mark World Alzheimer's and Dementia Day and show support for families who are living with these illnesses. Chief minister Fabian Picardo joined the walk, which was organised by the Alzheimer's and Dementia Society and said the government is keen to make Gibraltar as friendly as possible for sufferers of these conditions.

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LETTERS
TO THE EDITOR

Seasonal vagaries

As always, thanks to Peter Edgerton for endless smiles and laughter.

The latest column on the seasons was particularly comforting: now I see that if we are paralysed in July and August, half asleep in September, and only back on our toes in October, it is not that we have gone hopelessly to seed. We have simply become naturalised and learnt the wisdom of the local ways. Godspeed, Peter!

MARGARET DEAN

Promoting Andalucía products at Torremolinos fair

On Sunday 25 September, one of the most traditional pilgrimages of this region begins. And the following day, and for the whole week, the Feria de San Miguel is taking place. Our fair in Torremolinos is not the fair of Seville, but it has its own personality which is of national interest. This manifestation of joy has a very positive result for our autonomy, as it is proportionally the fair where a large number of Andalusian products, both food and drink, are marketed and consumed.

On behalf of the association Yo? Producto Andaluz! I

spoke to representatives of the stands at the fair and they have confirmed that everything, the 'montadito de lomo', 'pinchitos', wines, soft drinks and even the olives, all are products produced here in Andalucía.

Congratulations Torremolinos, for having such a wonderful fair by day and by night and for exalting Andalusian products as an intrinsic part of our culture and festivities. A fair that every year attracts more and more national and international tourists to enjoy a glass of wine from Malaga, a plate of fried octopus from Estepona or a 'montadito de lomo' from Cártama.

BARTOLOMÉ FLORIDO

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THE MUSIC MAKER
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Swap shop

On Sunday 20 November, the football world cup kicks off in Qatar and so, this week, Panini have launched their traditional sticker album, which, if past tournaments are anything to go by, will now provoke hordes of children to tug incessantly at their beleaguered parents' sleeves for weeks on end in a bid to collect all of the 670 photos necessary to complete the set. (A word to the wise, little ones - don't do the sleeve-tugging thing if mummy and daddy have just opened the electricity bill.)

Like everything else, the stickers have seen a massive hike in price since more innocent times when everybody had far too many Sepp Maier's and we all thought Jairzinho must be Portuguese for 'hen's teeth'. Anyway after myriad 'Got, got, not got, got, not got...' playground rituals most of us eventually seemed to accrue the complete

collection, even if it meant acquiring a missing El Salvador centre half by handing over a couple of gobstoppers and a sherbet dip in a clandestine deal behind the kitchen bins.

Some chap somewhere has made a calculation as to how much completing this year's sticker collection will cost based on probability and bearing in mind Jairzinho won't be playing. Brace yourselves - it's a whopping 1,012.09 euros. Crumbs, you could light a small bathroom for over a minute for that amount of money.

Not to worry, though, I've come up with the perfect solution - Competitive Community Sticking. Youngsters would form teams with their chums in order to collect stickers together. Parents will, of course, be delighted to lob a couple of quid into the kitty if it means their kiddiewinkies will be obliged to tear themselves away from their

screens for an hour or two and communicate with their peers in real life. They could even learn the 'Got, got, not got, got...' chant and strive, as a team, to collect all 670 photos of their idols before any of their rival groups get there. There could be a nominal prize for the winning team which wouldn't necessarily have to involve gobstoppers, although that would be nice.

All of this would, of course, mean lesser profits for the Panini company but sympathy may be thin on the ground since most parents probably still hold a grudge, suspecting to this day that a paucity of Jeff Astle's was a deliberate ruse on the part of the company to whip 1970 sleeve-tugging into a veritable frenzy, especially in the Birmingham area.

No, all in all, I think it's a winner. I'm offering Domagoj Vida and Federico Valverde for Wayne Hennessey. Swaps, anyone?

PACHI

Shrinkflation has arrived at the supermarket:
same price - less product



SUR in English

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THE BOTTOM LINE
ROSA PALO

The Greatest Show on Earth

'I'd die for a funeral like that,' said my friend on WhatsApp. Of course, me too. What a show. The British are the kings of monarchical marketing. The BBC can now claim to be top funeral broadcasters after converting Queen Elizabeth II's funeral honours into the year's best mini-series.

They deserve all the Baftas and several Emmys, especially the lead actors: a king and queen consort who were lovers during their previous marriages; a

son stripped of his honours due to conduct as improper for a royal, as it is for a vassal; an heir to the throne whose premature baldness is going to be the least of his problems; a grandson who has renounced all his duties and none of his rights; an actress who wanted to live the life of a movie; and a Princess of Wales who looks so regal that she could have been born to reign, despite being a commoner. And I'm sure that our Spanish king and queen, emeritus and non emeritus,

will get the award for best supporting actors in a drama series. What an ordeal.

Monday was the final episode. And it certainly didn't disappoint: the characters, the soundtrack, the photography (those zenithal shots in Westminster Abbey), the setting, the script; all designed so that images that will go down in history would be enjoyed in real time by an audience who crammed into cinemas, parks and function rooms around big and small screens to watch the funeral rites. A British Super Bowl which didn't need a performance by Beyoncé. Because they had the real queen already.

So, let's see who's the next person to die. Who is going to start their journey to eternity in a coffin set on a gun carriage (here in Spain thanks to this funeral we've learned the Spanish word 'armón de artillería'), just as we learned 'camerlengo' when Pope John Paul II

died), pulled by 142 sailors from the Royal Navy. Who will have their own piper to play at their funeral. Who will be important enough to have their photograph substitute those of new houses in real estate windows.

Who can have a crown on their coffin, and an orb and sceptre. Who will make Big Ben's bell chime. And who has the power to bring together all the crowned heads, all the power, political and symbolic. It won't be me, of course. I'll be lucky if my local baker turns up to say the Lord's Prayer for me.

Elizabeth II, like El Cid, continues to win battles after her death: not only has she cast her long shadow over her son and family, but also over the rest of the European royal families.

On Monday morning, heads of protocol around the world were taking notes as a cold sweat crept up their spine. I wouldn't want to be in their shoes.

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IN THE FRAME

Globetrotters who fell in love with Moclinejo

Jane and Andrew Price. The couple were not planning to move permanently but have been here for over 20 years

JAVIER
ALMELLONES



Canada, Italy and France are just some of the countries that Andrew and Jane Price have visited or even lived in, in the past, but for more than two decades now this British couple have now been living in Moclinejo, one of the villages on the Ruta de la Pasa, or Raisin Route.

"It happened by accident, really," explains Jane, who has been a nurse all her life but also assists her husband, who began his artistic career more than 50 years ago.

They arrived on the coast of the Axarquía in 1999 and stayed at a property called El Niño in Benajárfate for over a month while they held painting classes for foreign residents in the area.

They were enchanted by the light and the colours of the most easterly part of Málaga, which they visited often, and in the year 2000 they started to look for a house to buy.

At first they looked in Benajárfate and the immediate area but didn't find what they were looking for until some time afterwards.

"Luckily", says Jane, they saw an old, run-down building in the centre of Moclinejo, opposite the church of Nuestra Señora de Gracia.

At that time Andrew was in his early sixties, but he and Jane, who is nine years younger, decided to do whatever work was necessary on the building to turn it into their temporary residence in the area.

Their idea was to spend six months of the year in Moclinejo and the other six months in London.

"But gradually we began spending more time here, and we eventually came to live

here permanently," Jane says.

There, Andrew set up his studio, next to a spacious Andalusian patio, and so began their life in La Axarquía, a region which had captivated them with its blue sky.

Over time, they took the opportunity to buy two properties next door and did them up to turn them into holiday accommodation.

This then gave the couple an extra source of income from the adjoining property, which is accessed through an inside courtyard.

They have created a cosy and welcoming atmosphere in their three properties, where they have respected the traditional style, and many of Andrew's paintings adorn the walls. As a result, it feels like being in an art gallery.

As well as the courtyards, with a fountain providing the background music, the rooms are tidy and tastefully decorated with a decidedly Andalusian feel.

The terraces are the perfect height to enjoy spectacular panoramic views, and there is even a telescope to bring them closer to the stars, because the light pollution in

The geophysicist who started painting watercolours

At the age of 83, Andrew Price is still active although he doesn't paint as much as he used to. He does, however, teach classes and take part in exhibitions when he can.

But a long time before he was an artist, this British man from Eastbourne in



Jane and Andrew Price, in one of the rooms decorated with his paintings. J.A.

"A few days after we arrived, some neighbours gave us a 'pan de San Marcos' as a gift"

Jane and Andrew like to take part in the social life of the village, whether at the fair or other activities

Moclinejo is lower than other parts of Málaga province.

Although Andrew and Jane are not completely fluent in Spanish, they say that from the start their neighbours have been very friendly and they do everything possible to in-

tegrate into everyday life of this village in the Axarquía.

"We were surprised that within a few days of arriving here, some neighbours gave us a 'pan de San Marcos', which is known as Palomita in the village and is very typical of the area," Jane says.

This pastry with a boiled egg inside was a simple gift, but made with love for a couple who are themselves much-loved now in this delightful village, which is situated second line to the beach.

The British and Andalusian accents may sound very different, but everyone understands each other despite the differences.

Jane and Andrew like to take part in the social life of the village, whether at the fair,

during cultural week or other activities.

Nor do they fail in their support for a local animal shelter which survives thanks to people's donations.

They can be seen almost every month on the terrace of Bar Reyes with other residents, many of whom are foreign, enjoying a meal organised to raise more funds for the association.

With a lifestyle like this, they have no intention of moving from Moclinejo. In fact, they only leave occasionally to spend a few days in the UK, where they normally stay on board their boat.

However, apart from during the pandemic there has always been a constant stream of relatives and friends coming to stay, all of whom, like them, have been enchanted by the delights of the Raisin Route.

"They love our house and everything around us," Jane says.

The first year of the pandemic confirmed their belief that Moclinejo was the best place they could be when much of Europe was confined to small apartments.

"Also, the people of Moclinejo, the shops and the council were there to assist us with whatever we needed, all the time," they say.

southern England was a geophysicist. In fact, he spent five years in Canada, which he used to fly over in a sea-plane on his trips to find places to extract minerals. That same profession took him to Riotinto, in Huelva province, back in 1968.

In those days, when he was in his thirties, Andrew began to hear the call of art. He started with watercolours, a

technique he mastered over time and eventually he became an established artist.

Nowadays you can even follow him on Instagram, where he has a profile.

And much of the success of this British geophysicist turned artist is due, without a doubt, to Jane, his companion through life and the collaborator in his personal adventure.

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'I was given 20 minutes' notice the first time I performed the role of The Phantom'

Michael Sterling. Singer and actor

The internationally acclaimed star of the West End will bring his latest show, A Night With the Phantom, to the Costa del Sol next week

TONY BRYANT



FUENGIROLA. The West End star, Michael Sterling, is heading to the Costa del Sol next week to perform his latest show, A Night with the Phantom, a personal journey through a 35-year career that has encompassed theatre, television, radio and recording. His West End credits include playing the title role in The Phantom of the Opera, which he performed more than 1,000 times at Her Majesty's Theatre in London; as well as the role of Jean Valjean in Les Misérables.

The internationally acclaimed performer took time out from his busy schedule to talk to SUR in English about his life and career, and his excitement about performing his latest show at The Salón Varietés Theatre in Fuengirola next weekend.

Where were you born?

I was born in Carmarthenshire in West Wales in 1970, but I moved to London when I was 17.

How did you first begin singing?

I made my debut at the age of seven singing at my sister's wedding, which was on the same day that Elvis died. I was absolutely mortified that we had lost Elvis, so I sang It's Now or Never. It all started from there, because I realised that I could sing.

When did you decide that you wanted to turn professional?

I started performing semi-professionally at the age of 14, singing in working men's clubs and at weddings, and I began to earn good money. In fact, I was earning more than my parents.

Did your parents support your decision to pursue this career?

Yes, absolutely. My father was a miner, but he didn't want me to go down the mines.

How did you break into the West End?

In 1990, I began working as an entertainer on the SS Canberra. I was with International Artistes at the time, an agency that looked after many top stars. While on the tour, my agent informed me that there were auditions taking place for Los Misérables, which, obviously, I could



Michael Sterling as The Phantom of the Opera, and as himself. SUR

not attend. I had seen the show when I was 18 and it blew my mind, so when I finished the tour, I badgered my agent to get me an audition. I was recalled twice, and in 1991, I was in the London show. It happened really quickly: once I was in theatre, it really started to catapult and I went on to work with many gods and goddesses of theatre and film.

How did you become The Phantom?

I was playing the role of Raoul in Phantom at the time, and I was given 20 minutes' notice, seeing as The Phantom had lost his voice. The show had actually started and I had never played the role, so it was quite surreal.

Were you perturbed by the fact that the role had been performed by the likes of Michael Crawford?

Well, you are handed a responsibility, like, I guess, any of the great performers who have taken that role. I began by performing both roles - four performances each week as Raoul and the four as The Phantom - so I got used to the role. I took over full time in 1999 and I knew what was required, although it was a tough act to follow.

You performed Phantom more than 1,000 times; did you ever get bored with it?

We all have a level that we work to and you have to maintain that level at every performance: you have to find it from somewhere. One of the things that was installed in me very early on is that every night is the opening night. However, we find new directions to go in. The show is the same, the scenery, the music and the lyrics, but every performance has to be fresh. It's as spontaneous as us talking now.

Do you get nervous before a performance?

Yes, always. I get butterflies every time, but once I get on the stage, the nervous factor disappears. It's part of your performance. The nerves equal adrenaline.

Do you get recognised in public?

It does happen sometimes. Obviously, the roles I have played make it difficult for people to recognise my face because of the makeup and costumes. However, I would be a bit concerned if someone recognised me from Phantom.

Have you performed on the Costa del Sol before?

Yes, at the Felipe VI Auditorium in Estepona in 2018, but I have not appeared at the Salón Varietés, so I am really looking forward to this.

What can people expect to see at the Salón Varietés?

Phantom has been a big part of my career, so this is the flagship of the show. The show is biopic through music really, and will present a personal journey through my career and the different musical styles I have performed.



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Live music in Galería Luz de la Vida.
MARLENE WÖRNER



Works by Hilary Mullany and Cómputa Fine Arts group M. W.

Cómputa creates a 'festival of creativity'

Art. The village's thirteenth Artwalk saw 60 artists from 10 different countries display their art in venues which included private houses, restaurants and a former factory

M. WÖRNER / J. RHODES

There was a relaxed atmosphere at last weekend's Cómputa Artwalk, which brought together more artists than ever before under the slogan 'Fes-

tival of Creativity'.

Polish trio Anna König, a ceramist; Zbigniew Jan Stepniewski, a composer and musician; and poet Eliza Saroma-Stepniewska,

who all live in the village, have taken over the organisation of the event.

Now in its thirteenth year, the Artwalk brought together a wide variety of art styles by 60 artists from 10 countries. Painting, photography, sculpture and handicrafts, as well as live music, were on offer at 24 locations around the village.

Venues

Wika Weglinska exhibited unique crochet work, while Dutch couple Hubertine Hermus and Conne Minnaert showed decoratively decorated objects made of palm wood. Members of the LIK Academy for Photography and Design from Vienna exhibited in the Siddhartha restaurant.

Textile artist Jo Dennison shared her studio with Zbyszek Weglin-

ski from Poland.

The old Fábrica de las Bragas provided a beautiful setting for a new exhibition space for several painters, including Gabriela Ehrling from Switzerland and Luca Marchione and Rossana Ragusa from Italy.

The extraordinary collages by Jilly Whitbread were also popular. Some exhibition venues took visitors into private houses, which are worth seeing in themselves.

In one of them, the English 3D artist Carole Walker showed animal figures she makes from felt and other materials.

Live music took place in venues which included Galería Luz de la Vida, Plaza Almijara and the museum of traditions and a new composition by Zbigniew Jan Stepniewski was performed by the Malaga pianist Elena Mota García.

SOCIETY SCENE

MIJAS

La Cala Lions visit Espacio Drang

T. BRYANT. Several members of the La Cala Lions Club headed to the cork forests that surround Mijas last week to visit the Espacio Drang, an educational project that brings children closer to nature. Along with learning about the group's Education in Nature programme, the Lions, who have supported the initiative since its inception, were treated to a demonstration by the Drang Drummers, which consists of children from four to 12 years old.



Espacio Drang in Mijas. SUR

ALHAURÍN EL GRANDE

ARCH opens its doors for autumn festival

T.B. The ARCH horse sanctuary in Alhaurín el Grande will open its doors to the public for its autumn festival, which will be held on Saturday 1 October. The event will take place from 10am until 4pm and will include a barbecue, an artisan market, family fun and games, along with a flamenco dance show and live entertainment. There will also be a charity raffle with prizes supplied by local businesses.

MIJAS

Bazaar to raise diabetes awareness

T.B. The Lions Diabetic Support Group in Mijas will hold its autumn bazaar at the Bar Tuta (Urbanización Jardín Botánico, Mijas) on Saturday 24 September. As well as offering free glucose testing and information about diabetes, the event, which begins at 11am, will offer a craft fair, a fun quiz and family games and activities. Lunch will be available for eight euros and tickets can be purchased from the Lions' charity shop.

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British pub fun in aid of Cudeca

More than 2,500 euros was raised for Cudeca during a fun sports day held in four different bars in Benalmádena last weekend. Organised by May Howard, the event included darts, pool and other typical British pub games.



WHAT HAPPENED TODAY?

23 SEPTEMBER 1872

Artist Gustavo Bacarisas was born in Gibraltar

The work of this prolific and much-travelled artist attracted attention at an early age and he received commissions from royals and governments, among many others

Nobody who spends any time in Gibraltar can fail to become aware of artist Gustavo Bacarisas, as his works are very much in evidence and an art gallery in Casemates Square bears his name.

This prolific international artist was born in Gibraltar on 23 September 1872 and his talent was spotted at a young age. He was so good that in 1892 at the age of 19 a group of local businessmen funded a scholarship for him to study art in Rome, at



the Spanish Academy of Fine Arts.

In Italy, his impressionist paintings immediately began to attract attention. He produced a self-portrait in 1902, and won first prize for a pastel portrait called Young Lady at an exhibition. His work was even praised by the Italian king and queen.

In 1905 he moved to Paris and then went on to London to study further, before settling in Buenos Aires for a few years.

When he left Argentina he travelled around America before settling in Seville, Spain, in 1914. The following year he took part in the National Fine Arts Competition in Madrid and his painting Sevilla en Fiestas was said to have been the most commented-on work by the public.

He continued to travel and



Bacarisas painting Sevilla en Fiestas. SUR

received commissions from royals and governments alike, and expanded his skills by designing theatre sets and costumes and producing sculptures and ceramics. He even created a special 'Bacarisas blue', and often used it in his works.

Gibraltar, where the artist was

born, was always close to his heart. He returned often and lived there on and off. On 15 June 1961 he became the first ever Honorary Freeman of Gibraltar, and after he died in Seville in 1971, at the age of 98, his widow presented the people of Gibraltar with a large painting called Medi-

terranean and Atlantic Fleets in Gibraltar Harbour, which had been his express wish.

The Gibraltar government, which tries to purchase any of his works that come up for sale, has been marking the 150th anniversary of his birth with a number of activities and events this week.

Bilingual crossword inside back page

LANGUAGE FOOTNOTE

Pintor	Painter
Pintura	Painting
Gibaltareño	Gibraltarian
Apellido	Surname
Patrocinador	Sponsor
Ciudadano	Citizen
Estudiar	To study
Galería	Gallery
Bellas artes	Fine arts
Paisaje	Landscape
Auto-retrato	Self-portrait
Escultura	Sculpture
Pincelada	Brushstroke
Cartel	Poster
Azulejos	Tiles
Primavera	Spring
Espíritu	Spirit
Exposición	Exhibition

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DENISE BUSH

READERS' PHOTOS



ALISON GARCÍA

Autumn berries

“The birds will really appreciate the bumper crop of berries on this Pyracantha,” says reader Alison García who sent in this photograph. Pyracantha is quite drought resistant and is often used on central reservations on the motorway.



DEBORAH NELSON

Impatiens balsamina

Deborah Nelson sent in this photo of Impatiens balsamina which she grew from seed she bought online and which have been flowering all summer. The genus is commonly called Busy Lizzie and there are over 1,000 recognised species.

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

GARDENING
Water jasmine

Wrightia religiosa is a tropical shrub native to China, Indo China and Malaysia. Common names include wild water plum, water jasmine and sacred Buddhist.
It is not easy to find as a shrub as it is usually grown as a Bonsai. It is revered by the Buddhist religion which regards it as a sacred plant

and uses it in Bonsai form to scent their temples and pagodas. It is also grown near homes and used as a formal hedge.
Wrightia religiosa is a member of the dogbane family, Apocynaceae, and has narrow oblate leaves, sometimes slightly hairy, and thin branches. The

white flowers, which can appear all year in temperate climates, form in loose, pendulous bunches and are very fragrant. After flowering, pairs of bean-like pods form, up to 15cm long.
It is very vigorous, especially if fed regularly during the growing season, and should be trimmed regularly to promote branching. This trait makes it an easy Bonsai subject as the branches can be cut back and wired to form stunning shapes.

The water jasmine, as its name suggests, needs abundant water. The soil should be free-draining and never allowed to dry out. In shade the branches can become very thin and weak and flowering will be reduced, a location in full sun with some afternoon shade would be ideal.
As it is not cold hardy, it will need to be moved indoors or to a greenhouse during the winter and may drop all its leaves. If the root ball is kept protected, it should reshoot in spring.

In traditional medicine, the roots are dried and ground to treat skin diseases, the flowers for aromatherapy and all parts of the plant are used to treat snake bites and scorpion stings. Ayurvedic medicine also uses the astringent bark to treat piles and skin diseases, and is used to treat chronic diarrhoea and dysentery.
The genus Wrightia is named after Dr William Wright (1740 - 1827), who was a Scottish physician and botanist.



Wrightia religiosa and close up of flower (inset). WIKIMEDIA

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GALA ANNIVERSARY



Live music from Rocío Starry entertained guests during welcome drinks on the terrace of Play Mijas restaurant. **KARL SMALLMAN**



Malaga University representatives with their book and Elena Blanco (centre), President of the Asociación de la Prensa de Málaga. **K.S.**



Freelance travel writer and CPC member Andrew Forbes (left) with club treasurer Peter Leonard at the 20th anniversary event. **K.S.**



Guest Connie Hesketh with Liz Parry, CPC second vice president, and Rachel Haynes, editor of SUR in English. **K.S.**



A pair of presidents: Elena Blanco (APM) and Jesper Sander Pederson of the Costa Press Club. **K.S.**



CPC vice president, Neil Hesketh, mingles during pre-dinner drinks at the Play Mijas restaurant. **K.S.**



Joanna Styles (left), secretary of the Costa Press Club, with guests at the reception for the gala dinner. **K.S.**

Costa Press Club celebrates 20 years uniting foreign-language communicators

The gala dinner was attended by members and guests, including representatives of the Spanish press association and Malaga University

The Costa Press Club celebrated its 20th anniversary on Tuesday with a gala dinner at the Play Mijas restaurant. The event, which kicked-off with canapés and live music provided by Rocío Starry on the terrace, was a tribute to the diversity of foreign communities on the Costa del Sol and the media organisations that serve them.

Among the guests were Elena Blanco, President of the Asociación de la Prensa de Málaga (APM), and staff from the Faculty of Journalism at Malaga University. Laura López and Juan Antonio García Galindo presented the CPC with a copy of their book entitled *Los Medios en Lengua Extranjera: Diversidad Cultural e Integración*, the result of aca-

demic research into foreign-language media on the Costa del Sol.

Jesper Sander Pedersen, President of the Costa Press Club, spoke after the dinner about the history of the club, whose members represent all the foreign-language media on the coast, and thanked all those who had contributed to the club over the years and all

who had made the anniversary event so successful.

The event culminated in a raffle with prizes donated by local companies, organisations and club members. These included Nikki Beach, Gómez & Molina Joyeros, InSpain, Casa Rural Montejaque - Serranía de Ronda, Puente Romano, Visual Spain 360, The Bobby Bear, Helle Hollis, El Corte Inglés, Vegetalia, Joan Fallon, Patrick Meehan, Georgina Oliver and Costa Women.

CPC membership is open to anyone with a background in journalism or media content provision including print, on-line digital, photography, television and radio.

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EXHIBITIONS

Casa de las Tejerinas

ESTEPONA. Casa de Las Tejerinas, Plaza del Flores.

Marta Bernad. Until 28 September. An exhibition by plastic artist Marta Bernad inspired by nature.

Soledad Fernández. Until 28 September. A display of realist paintings by visual artist Soledad Fernández.

Otros Mundos

MARBELLA. Until 31 September. Marbella Marina

The exhibition, Otros mundos. Viaje por el sistema solar, consists of forty photographs in large format of the solar system by American filmmaker, artist and writer Michael Benson.



Belin, Sala Alfajar, Malaga

María José Álvarez Barea

MIJAS COSTA. Until 26 September. Centro Cultural La Cala de Mijas. A selection of paintings are on display by this artist.

Sala Alfajar

MALAGA. From 23 September until 13 November. C/Císter 1.

Belin: Neogénesis. The internationally renowned graffiti artist Miguel Ángel Belinchón (Belin) is exhibiting a selection of his works.

Tito Alfarero. The Úbeda artist Tito Alfarero is the third generation of ceramacists and is displaying some of his creations. www.alfajar.es

Torremolinos feria to offer a week of leisure, culture and colourful tradition

TORREMOLINOS

One of the highlights of the week is the traditional pilgrimage, which takes place on Sunday 25 September

TONY BRYANT

Torremolinos will welcome the return this weekend of the festivities to honour the town's patron, the archangel San Miguel. Leisure, culture and tradition will go hand in hand from Saturday 24 September, when the activities will kick off with the 27th edition of the classic car parade, which will leave from the Plaza Blas Infante at 10.30am.

One of the highlights of the town's cultural agenda takes place on Sunday 25, when tens of thousands of people will converge on Torremolinos to participate in the colourful romería.

The pilgrimage, which is the second-biggest in Spain - after the romería to the shrine of El Rocio in Huelva in May - will begin with a mass at the hermitage of San Miguel at 9.15am, after which, the procession will begin its journey through the streets of the

town.

This year, more than 60 gaily-decorated caravans and floats pulled by oxen and tractors will participate in the parade, which will recover its original route through the Plaza Costa del Sol, Avenida Palma de Mallorca, and on to the El Pinar pine forest.

The gypsy-style caravan convoy is followed by thousands of revellers in colourful flamenco dresses and typical rociero-type attire, who head to the fairground and surrounding forest to enjoy a day of fun and festivities.

The town has just three days to recover, before the Feria de San Miguel commences on Wednesday 28 September, and continues until Sunday 2 October.

The festivities will begin at 6pm with a floral offering to San Miguel in the Madre del Buen Consejo Church, after which, the masses will head to the feria ground for the official opening of the casetas and the fairground attractions.

Children will enjoy reduced fees on most of the attractions on Sunday 2 October.

The municipal auditorium will present a series of concerts each night of the fair, and these will include per-



Thousands of people enjoy the traditional romería in Torremolinos. sur.

formances by the Estepona singer and actress, Ana Mena; Torremolinos pop band, Danza Invisible; the rock, pop and funk band, Efecto Pasillo; and Los Rebutitos, a duo from Cadiz that perform flamenco-infused pop music.

The daytime activities will take place between 1pm and 6pm in Plaza Costa del Sol, Plaza La Nogalera, Calle San Miguel and Plaza de Europa,

where there will be performances of flamenco, jazz and folk music and dance every day.

As well, many of the bars and restaurants in the town will join in the festivities by presenting live music. The bunting-festooned bars come alive with couples dancing rumba and Sevillanas, and the ambience is one of good old-fashioned Andalusian fun.

Centre Pompidou

MALAGA. Muelle Uno. <https://centrepompidou-malaga.eu/>
Urban Weekend. From 29 September until 1 October. Artists such as Sicario, La Eme, Fasim, D.Darko, Natalia Pérez, Tayzen, Juande

Pacheco and Ginger form part of this cultural event which culminates in a concert by the Dolores y Mazmorras band. There will be demonstrations of graffiti art and urban dance techniques among other activities.

Un Tiempo Propio. Until 15 October

2023. The semi-permanent exhibition includes over 100 works by various artists such as Picasso's sculpture Girl With A Skipping Rope, sculptures by Philippe Starck and Hans Brockhage as well as works by Braque, Derain, Jean Coctain, Henri Matisse and Pica-bia among many others.

Beatriz Taillefer

VÉLEZ-MÁLAGA. Until 8 October. Sala El Pósito. The exhibition consists of a selection of 17 works by Beatriz Taillefer. The artist works in watercolour and acrylic.

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MÁLAGA. CAC Málaga - La Coracha. **Cristina Lama. Entretanto.** Until 13 November. The Seville artist Cristina Lama is exhibiting a selection of oils on canvas ranging from figurative to abstract compositions.

Ana Flores Young Exhibition

MÁLAGA. Until 29 September. Caja Blanca, Avda Editor Ángel Caffaren. The artist Ana Flores paintings as well as a selection of works, including photographs, sculptures, drawings and paintings, created by 15-35 year-old students that live or study in the area.

Harley Davidson exhibition

MÁLAGA. 24, 25 September. Venta Galwey, Carretera los Montes. At the exhibition, which is touring Spain, visitors will be able to try out

examples of the Pan America, Sportster S, Nightster and some ST models of Harley Davidson motorbikes.

Carmen Thyssen Museum

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

Letters. Until 25 September. The Thyssen museum is exhibiting 34 letters written by artists such as Van Gogh, Frida Kahlo, Picasso, Degas, Manet and Lucien Freud among others, alongside some of the most important artworks.

Negra es la Noche. Until 25 September. The temporary exhibition is a selection of works by three artists, José Gutiérrez Solana, Pancho Cossío and Francisco Bores. The works illustrate the sordid side of daily life in Spain with marginalised groups of people, retrobates and down-and-outs. www.carmenthyssen-malaga.org

Museum Jorge Rando

MÁLAGA. Until 26 September. C/ Cruz del Molinillo.

The Jorge Rando museum is celebrating its seventh anniversary this year and has a special exhibition entitled Soldados by Jorge Rando. The new exhibitions at the Jorge Rando are Años jóvenes de un viejo maestro (1st part) and Ein ukrainisches Requiem, the latter painted this year by the artist. www.jorgerando.org

MUSIC AND DANCE**Salón Varietés**

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

A Night with The Phantom. 30 September, 1 October. Michael Sterling will take you on a journey through his 35 year career, featuring hits from Phantom Of The Opera, Les Misérables, Sunset Boulevard, Jeckyll and Hyde, Chess, Rat Pack, We Will Rock You, Andrea Bocelli and many more. Tickets: salonvarietes.com

Festival 2022

BENALMÁDENA. Auditorio de Benalmádena.

Tribute acts organised by The Festival of Legends.

23 September, 8.30pm. Pink Floyd.

25 September, 6.30pm. Coco children's show.

30 September, 7pm. Abba, Cher and back to the 80s.

Tickets: www.elcorteingles.es/entradas/

The Malaga Philharmonic Orchestra

MÁLAGA. Various venues.

29, 30 September, 8pm. Teatro Cervantes. Music from composers Dvorak and Schubert. www.teatrocervantes.com

La Posada

MÁLAGA. Vincci Posada del Patio, Pasillo de Sta Isabel. 9.30pm Every Friday,

23 September. Tony Caballero

30 September. Rosa Ruiz & Foki.

www.tallerblues.es

Museum concerts

MÁLAGA. Free.

Museo Carmen Thyssen.

30 September, 7pm. Promúsica www.carmenthyssenmalaga.org/

Picasso Museum.

29 September, 8pm. A recital by the Orquesta Filarmónica de Málaga pianist Pablo Amorós.

S!ngulares

MÁLAGA. Teatro Cervantes.

23 September, 8pm. Flamenco with Rosario La Tremendita.

25 September, 7pm. Singer, David Palomar presents his new album.

Tickets www.teatrocervantes.com

Ismael Serrano

MÁLAGA. 24 September, 8pm. Teatro Cervantes.

Singer Ismael Serrano combines thea-



Ana Flores, Malaga

tre, poetry and emotions in this concert. Tickets: www.teatrocervantes.com

Marbella Arena

MARBELLA.

24 September, 6pm. Absolute 90s.

Seven artists and four DJs offer a retro evening of concerts. <https://marbellaarena.com/>

Pepe Romero Guitar Festival

MÁLAGA. From 22 until 30 September.

23 September. La Alcazaba. Malaga guitar legend Rafael Aguirre will be playing pieces by Paco de Lucía, Isaac Albéniz, Chopin and Joaquín Rodrigo among others.

24, 25 September, 12pm. Museo Carmen Thyssen. Malaga-born flamenco and classical guitarist Davinia Ballesteros will be performing a solo recital on 24th. The following day, Carmen Muyor (vocals) and Quique Peña (classical guitar) will perform in the Patio de Banderas in Malaga town hall. Both concerts are free.

24 September, 9pm. Plaza de Armas, Castillo Gibralfaro. Actor Héctor Alterio will perform 'Como hace 3,000 años' accompanied by guitarist and composer José Luis Merlin.

25 September, 8pm. Teatro Echegaray. Flamenco guitarist Daniel Casares will be in concert.

28 September, 7pm. Sala Unicaja Maria Cristina. José Miguel Moreno in concert. Tickets: www.mientrada.net

DT GLOBAL DIGITAL EUROPE

IMC Worldwide joins multinational DT Global

It is now the world's fifth largest international development consultancy group

MÁLAGA

SUR. The Malaga-based company IMC Worldwide has joined DT Global, which has also acquired the Australian company Cardno International Develop-

ment. Thanks to these acquisitions, DT Global is now the fifth largest international development consultancy group in the world, with more than 2,500 employees, headquarters in Washing-

ton, Madrid, London and Adelaide, an annual turnover of 500 million euros and a project portfolio of more than 2 billion euros.

As José de la Maza, general director of DT Global Digital Europe, explains, the company will maintain its location in Malaga city, consolidating its position as a benchmark in the sector thanks to its team of 18 people, with very different profiles, between its two lines of business, consultancy and online business.

«Here in Malaga, we are very confident that now, as DT Global, we will be able to access more tenders and projects. We have many more resources and support for our teams and, in short, we will be able to serve our clients better,» says De la Maza.

In terms of the company's prospects, in the short term this year they are focused on completing the integration and working «more collaboratively» within the group. They are also preparing the launch of a new global market intelligence platform, www.hoteland-capital.com, with very favourable prospects because, as they say, thanks to their experience in the tourism and hospitality sector, they expect it to be a relevant tool for their clients, helping them «to finance and grow their tourism projects around the world». In on-

line business, they are also making changes to adapt the team to the new environment, boost growth and increase synergies with the consultancy field, where they aim to increase the average size of projects and strengthen internal work within the group.

New projects

During 2022 DT Global Digital Europe has consolidated the pre-Covid trend change, with a preponderance of digital profiles. This is why they are carrying out several virtual courses in tourism, as well as more digital platform projects.

In line with this, following a digital platform they created for the Southern African Development Community, the Southern African group of countries, in the field of infrastructure projects with private participation, the company is now working on a similar platform for the same client in the renewable energy field. These two fields are very relevant for DT Global Digital Europe, as they manage from Malaga the market intelligence platforms www.infrapppworld.com and www.ippjournal.com, two global benchmarks in the public-private partnership and renewable energy sectors.



Yum Yums, CalaPop Weekend

Pink Floyd tribute

BENALMÁDENA. 23 September, 8.30pm. Auditorio de Benalmádena. The Wall, a Pink Floyd tribute band, will be performing many of the legendary band's classics. Tickets 20€ in advance or 25€ on the door. Call: 633 647260.

V Encuentro Poético

BENAQUE. 24 September, 8pm. Casa Museo Salvador Rueda.

A recital of Spanish, French and Arabic poetry as well as concerts by various musicians including Swingate and Blanca Mota.

Glam Rock concert

BENALMÁDENA. 24 September, 8pm. Sunset Beach Club Hotel. The Spiders from Marbs, David Bowie tribute band, will be performing. Tickets 10€ on the door.

Verbena de Las Angustias

BENAQUE. 24 September, from 12.30pm. Caseta Gloria Bendita. The Cofradía de Las Angustias are

celebrating the V Fiesta Caseta Gloria Bendita with live music, dancing and a paella.

Verbena de la Resurrección y Estrella

VÉLEZ-MÁLAGA. 24 September, from 2pm. Camino Viejo de Málaga. A free paella and performances by the Candilejas Fusión, Ana Belén and Cristina Gallardo dance schools as well as flamenco with Juan García and Christian Martín and a concert by Séfora. Activities for children, bouncy castle etc.

Málaga Rock

MÁLAGA. Until 24 September, 7.30pm. Auditorio Eduardo Ocón. The competition showcases young musical talent in Andalucía. Many genres of music are represented including pop, rock, rap and fusion among others.

CalaPop Weekend 2022

MIJAS COSTA. 23, 24 September, El Charcón Beach

The concerts, of which there are around a dozen planned, include various genres from punk rock and garage to pop and ska. The Norwegian punk band The Yum Yums, will headline the festival. Audience numbers are limited to 300 people.

Noches de Flamenco

MÁLAGA. 24 September, 8.30pm. Colmao de la Peña Juan Brea, . A flamenco show with the Cuadro Flamenco de Coral Moreno. Price: 20€ per person, includes a drink and aperitif. Reservations: 687 607 526

THEATRE AND OPERA

Thespa

FUENGIROLA. 28 September, 6.45pm. Masonic Hall, Edificio Bougainvillea, Los Boliches. Comedy and music from ITS followed by a meal and Rest In Pieces by James Cooke. Members 16€ and guests 18€. Reservations (by 26 September): thespabooking@gmail.com

CHARITY

ARCH Autumn Fest

ALHAURÍN EL GRANDE. 1st October, 10am-4pm, Hacienda Moreno. An artisan market, family games, barbecue and raffle. In addition, there will be a flamenco show and live music. Proceeds will help the many animals being cared for at the Centre and will go towards feed and vets' bills. More information on Facebook: Centro Andalusi de Rescate de Caballos or www.horserescuespain.org

Catwalk Gala

RINCÓN DE LA VICTORIA. 23 September, 8pm. ASALBEZ centre, Paseo de la Marina. 25€ donation.

The Association for families and sufferers of Alzheimer's Bezmiliana (ASALBEZ) is holding its 6th Gala Pasarela Benéfica. The fashion show will include models aged between 20 and 83 years old who will be wearing clothing supplied by local boutiques and businesses. Tickets from the centre call: 610 620 106.

Walking Football charity match

BENALMÁDENA PUEBLO. 4 October, 2.30pm. Ramón Rico football pitch. A charity football match to raise funds for the Dementia and Alzheimer's Support Group. Besides the friendly match between The Cheaters and The Ladykillers, female and male 'older' teams, members of both who will be attired in pink frou frou skirts and sequins etc there will be food and drinks, stalls and a raffle.

Hollywood-themed gala dinner

BENALMÁDENA/TORREMOLINOS. 24 September, 7pm. Hotel Torrequebrada Estival. 80€

The event has been organised to raise funds for the Spanish Association Against Cancer (AECC), which offers help and support to patients and their families. Tickets for the event, which will include a welcome cocktail on arrival, a three-course meal and entertainment, are available from the AECC headquarters in Arroyo de la Miel, or online: entra-dium.com.

Marbella 4Days Walking

MARBELLA. From 6 until 9 October. Plaza del Mar, Paseo Marítimo.

There are four walking routes to choose from, beach, green route, panoramic route and a lake route. A refreshment after the day walking and then dancing and music. To register: www.marbella4dayswalking.com

LECTURES AND SERVICES

The Arts Society

BENAHAVÍS. 27 September, doors open 5.30pm. Town Hall of Benahavís.

A lavishly illustrated talk by popular art historian Leslie Primo on 'Foreigners in London 1520-1677 - the Artists who Changed the Course of British Art'. Are they still doing so today? Free to members, non members 12€. www.theartsocietybenahavis.com

Remembrance Service for Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II

MÁLAGA. 7 October, 7pm. The English Cemetery, St George's Church.

A service of commemoration and thanksgiving.

TORRE DEL MAR. 23 September, 12pm. Lux mundi Ecumenical centre.

Lux Mundi will hold a short memorial service in memory of Queen Elizabeth during the coffee morning.

FUENGIROLA. 24 September, 3pm. Salon Varietés.

A memorial service by the Royal British Legion.

Celebrate Oktoberfest in the Costa's 'little Germany'

There's "more beer than ever" in Torrox this weekend as the town with Málaga's largest German community celebrates Oktoberfest

JENNIE RHODES

TORROX. Oktoberfest will return to Torrox this weekend. The German beer festival will run until Sunday along the Avenida Esperanto in Torrox Costa.

With 2,000 Germans registered on the town hall's 'padrón', Torrox claims to be home to mainland Spain's largest German community. The mayor, Óscar Medina said, "Torrox is the municipality where German tourism was born. It is 'little Germany' because we are the municipality with most Germans registered in the peninsula."

There's live music and a wide variety of German beers



A previous Oktoberfest in Torrox. SUR

as well as tastings of craft beer. Traditional German food such as pork knuckle and sausages are also available. There is a children's area, double the amount of seating to previous years and a marquee to provide shade.

Traditional costume

The town hall has encouraged all residents and visitors to attend dressed in typical

German costume.

Live music will begin at 4pm and finish around 10pm each day. DJ Nando will be playing every evening at 7pm with DJ Worzel at 9pm.

There'll be an additional performance at 6pm on Saturday by the group Bandido.

For a full programme and further information visit: www.torrox.es or Facebook 'Torrox Oktoberfest'.



FIESTAS AND FERIAS

Feria Real de San Miguel
VÉLEZ-MÁLAGA. From 27 September until 2 October.
The San Miguel Feria is celebrated with concerts and dancing during both day and night ferias.
TORREMOLINOS. 25 (romería), 28 September until 2 October.
The romería is celebrated on 25th while the main feria takes place from 28 September until 2 October with a Feria de Día and a Feria de Noche. Live music and dance performances.
www.torremolinos.es

MORE IDEAS

Singles Night
BENALMÁDENA MARINA. 24 September, 8pm. Terrace bar, Av. Juan Sebastián Elcano. 10€.
Glass of champagne on arrival and

music with a DJ. More information: Instagram @hush.singles

Bonsai Exhibition
BENALMÁDENA. Until 24 September. Casa de la Cultura.
The annual Bonsai exhibition takes place this weekend with over 30 examples of the art form including olives, pine trees and various deciduous trees.

Family English Cemetery Days
MÁLAGA. Saturdays, 10am-2pm. Avda de Pries, 1.
Book a family visit to the English Cemetery and discover some fascinating Malaga history - all in both English and Spanish. Reserve a time slot on <https://cementerioingles-malaga.org/>

Lux Mundi
TORRE DEL MAR. Lux Mundi Ecu-

menical Centre, Avda Moscatel. **Coach trip to Cartagena and Murcia.** 3-7 October. Bed&breakfast at the 3* Sercotel Carlos III. Tickets: dble 340€ or 320€ with a Friend of Lux Mundi card. Bookings: 952543334 or email: luxmundi@lux-mundi.org

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

Yelmo Cines, Plaza Mayor
MÁLAGA. Centro de Ocio, Plaza Mayor, Avda Alfonso Ponce León. Tel: 902902103. www.yelmocines.es.
Don't Worry Darling: 21.20 (Fri, Sat, Sun).
Spiderman No Way Home: 13.20 (Sun).
Ticket To Paradise: 22.00 (Fri, Sat, Sun).
Happy Days are Here Again with André Rieu: 20.00 (23, 29 Sept).

Yelmo Cines, Rincón
RINCÓN DE LA VICTORIA. C/ Arroyo Totalán. Tel: 902220922. www.yelmocines.es
Don't Worry Darling: 19.40 (Tues).
Ticket To Paradise: 19.40 (Tues).
Happy Days are Here Again with André Rieu: 20.00 (23, 29 Sept).

Yelmo Cines, Vialia
MÁLAGA. Centro Comercial Vialia. Tel: 902220922
Don't Worry Darling: 12.25 (Sun); 19.50 (Tues); 21.15 (every day).



MARBELLA 4DAYS WALKING



Walkers from a previous year taking a break.

Marbella 4Days Walking announce new addition of evening entertainment

MARBELLA
The 11th edition of Marbella 4Days Walking is going to be a special one. The annual walking event which promotes healthy living, takes place from 6 to 9 October and offers walking routes of 10, 20 and 30km along the beach, in the countryside, via spectacular view points or around a lake. To register go to the website www.marbella4dayswalking.com

For the first time this year, there will be the Marbella 4Days Fiesta which is open to everybody, not just walkers and their families. The evenings of entertainment will be held in the Walking/Fiesta Village at the Plaza del Mar in Marbella.

Themed Parties
The opening evening, a White Party, takes place on Wednesday, 5 Octo-

ber at 7pm. Each of the following evenings start at 6pm. The second evening (Thursday) features Marbella Rock, the best blues and rock music throughout the ages. Friday is dedicated to The Summer of Love with popular dance music. The closing party is on Saturday and called Bubbles & Beats, it will feature soul music and bubbles.

Honouring the musical traditions of Andalucía, on Thursday and Friday at 5.30pm, there will be performances by the dancers of the Paquita Jesús dance school.

During the day, Plaza del Mar will be the Walking Village with live music and entertainment. Entry is free and open to everyone. From 6pm onwards, the Plaza will have food, drinks, entertainment, live artists, and DJs to ensure an unforgettable and fun evening.

Tickets for the Fiestas are available from www.marbella4dayswalking.com/party

MORE INFORMATION
Call Maria Kuper: 646806016
or email: maria@marbella4dayswalking.com

<https://marbella4dayswalking.com/>



English cemetery days, Malaga

Spiderman No Way Home: 21.55 (Tues).
Three Thousand Years Of Longing: 22.30 (Tues).
Ticket To Paradise: 20.20 (Tues).
Happy Days are Here Again with André Rieu: 20.00 (23, 29 Sept).

Cinesur Miramar
FUENGIROLA. Avda de la Encarnación. Tel: 952198600.
Bullet Train: 21.45 (every day).
Orphan: First Kill: 19.45 (every day).
Three Thousand Years of Longing: 16.45 (Tues).
Ticket To Paradise: 12.15 (Sat, Sun); 17.30 (Fri-Thurs).
Don't Worry Darling: 16.30 (Sat, Sun), 17.15 (Fri, Mon-Thurs).
Bullet Train: 21.45 (Sat).

Cinesur Ingenio
VÉLEZ-MÁLAGA. Avda Juan Carlos, 1. Tel: 667773187.
Don't Worry Darling: 17.40 (Tues).
Ticket To Paradise: 17.55 (Tues).

Cine Albéniz
MÁLAGA. C/ Alcazaba, 4. Tel:

902360295. www.cinealbeniz.com.
Don't Worry Darling: 17.00, 19.30 (every day), 17.00, 22.15 (Mon).
Crimes Of The Future: 16.30, 18.30, 20.15 (every day), 20.15 (Mon).
Good Luck To You Leo Grande : 20.30, 22.25 (every day)

Malaga Festival
MÁLAGA. C/ Alcazaba, 4. Tel: 902360295. www.cinealbeniz.com.
To Kill a Mockingbird: 18.30 (Mon).
Seven Days in May: 18.30 (24 Oct).
Gaslight: 18.30 (28 November).
Elmer Gantry: 18.30 (19 December).
Tickets: www.unientradas.es

Red Dog
PUERTO BANÚS. Avda Julio Iglesias. <https://reddogcinemas.com/>
Around the World in Eighty Days: 12.00 (Sun), 15.15, 17.00 (Sat, Sun); 17.15 (Mon-Thurs).
Bullet Train: 19.10, 21.30 (Mon-Thurs); 19.15, 21.40 (Sat, Sun).
Minions, The Rise of Gru: 12.30 (Sun).
Don't Worry Darling: 20.45 (Mon-Thurs, English no subtitles). 16.30, 18.45 (Mon-Thurs); 15.00, 19.40 (Sat, Sun).
Spiderman No Way Home: 17.00, 20.00 (every day).
Paws of Fury: The Legend of Hank: 12.00 (Sun).
The Invitation: 18.45 (every day).
Ticket To Paradise: 15.00, 19.00, 21.10 (Sat, Sun); 19.15, 21.20 (Mon-Thurs).

Autocine Málaga
MÁLAGA. Guadalhorce Industrial Estate. Ctra. de la Azucarera Intelhorce. www.autocines.com/cine-malaga/
Bohemian Rhapsody: 21.00 (Wed).

Sign up to World Tourism Day activities on the Costas

Museums in Malaga city are offering free guided visits in English and Almuñécar-La Herradura its boat trips

JENNIE RHODES

MÁLAGA. A number of museums in Malaga city are organising special events to mark World Tourism Day (WTD) on Tuesday 27 September.

Under the banner, 'Re-thinking Tourism', The city's Museo del Patrimonio Municipio is offering free guided tours. The tour in English is from 5 to 6pm and another, in Spanish, is from 6 to 7pm. No booking is required but spaces are limited to 25 people.

The CAC is offering free talks on its current exhibitions on Tuesday; Osgemeos and James Rielly. The talks will be at 12pm and 6pm. The museum has free entry from



Visitors to Mupam in Malaga. sur

9am until 9.30pm.
The Thyssen Museum is also offering free guided tours in English on Tuesday at 11am, 5pm and 7pm. Places are limited to 20 people per visit and those interested should sign up at the reception on the day.
A programme of events is being organised by Almuñécar-La Herradura town hall from 26 to 28 September, including boat trips and guided tours. For further information and booking visit: www.almunecar.es.

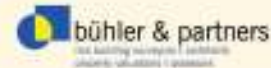
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James Rielly in front of
two of his works at the
Contemporary Art Centre.
MIGUE FERNÁNDEZ

James Rielly's view of life at the CAC in Malaga

Exhibition. The British artist is
showing around 40 works, including
watercolours, produced in the past
two decades, in an exhibition that
runs until 27 November

ANABEL NIÑO



James Rielly's new exhibition at the Contemporary Art Centre in Malaga (CAC) opened this week and runs until 27 November. Called Work, Rest and Play, it consists of around 40 works, including watercolours, which this British artist has produced in the past two decades, reflecting on subjects such as power, human complexity, family relationships and narcissism.

Rielly's works are characterised by the use of a very striking palette of colours, although this exhibition is a good way to see how his work has evolved in recent years and that he decided to vary his style to make those looking at his work lean towards joy and happiness.

"I'm very happy to be discovering colour. When I was young I used to use paler, softer shades but as I grew older I wanted to incorporate brighter colours to show off the happiness there is in my work," he explained at the inauguration of the exhibition.

Curiously, this happiness is hidden behind characters - mainly children - who at first sight appear to be burdened with sadness, with tear-stained faces

and sorrowful expressions, creating an array of feelings in the spectator which are completely open to the imagination.

However, not all the tears in these works are caused by grief, but also by joy.

"I always see the act of crying as a positive thing. It's something everyone does and for me it represents joy rather than sadness. I'm not a religious person but I like the imagery of Catholic iconography where tears have a different significance," he said.

The inspiration for his paintings, especially those depicting children, he explained, comes from his personal experience, his paternal figure and the desire to protect his children from the outside world, although it may awaken a different sentiment in each person who looks at it.

"I never know how the public

**"I always see the act of
crying as positive. For
me it represents joy
rather than sadness"**

are going to react, but I'm an artist who likes this freedom of expression and I always think that everyone invents their own stories and my work evokes something in them," Rielly said.

Fernando Francés, the curator of the exhibition, said that Rielly's works invite visitors to question aspects such as the evolution of each stage of our life, from beginning to end.

"James Rielly is different. Behind this explosion of colour and pop he is giving us a message, he is saying not everything we see is what it appears to be. I'm very attracted by this idea of showing what isn't, a bit like Alice in Wonderland, with a mirror in which we can see ourselves but what is important is what is behind the mirror," he said.

In his youth, James Rielly spent some time living in a monastery in northern India and this, with his travels elsewhere in the country, has had a major impact on his creations. So much so, in fact, that he has even used khadi paper for his most recent works. This is a sheet of paper, similar to papyrus, which once made is left to dry in the sand, creating a texture like small ripples and giving the effect of having been made by hand.

It is on this material that he has created numerous faces and different figures, where circular elements, stripes and masked faces with big blue eyes are predominant, a key piece in the work of this artist, with which he seeks to emphasise this hidden expressiveness of the character, although he always hides something mysterious behind it.

"I like simple stories that are hiding something. Always, in stories or tales, there is a part which is said and another which isn't said, beating away there. And that is something that I like to be reflected in my work," he explained.

Scientist at Malaga University identifies a possible treatment for Alzheimer's disease

Inés Moreno, working in collaboration with the University of Texas, has identified a non-invasive treatment which may slow down Alzheimer's

ÁNGEL ESCALERA

MALAGA. A new study carried out by a scientist at Malaga university, in collaboration with the University of Texas, has identified a non-invasive treatment which may slow down Alzheimer's Disease. In a pre-clinical model (using laboratory animals), Inés Moreno has managed to reduce the amount of toxic proteins in the brain – their accumulation is the main cause of neuronal death in this illness – by 40 to 80 per cent.

These proteins are also found in the blood, and Moreno says they are balanced with the brain: if they go up in the brain they also go up in the blood, and vice versa. Therefore, she says, eliminating these accumulations of toxins can be used as a treatment for the illness.

Her work has been published in the Nature group's Molecular Psychiatry magazine.

"Most present treatments for Alzheimer's aim to eliminate toxic proteins from the brain,"



Inés Moreno

says Moreno, but what is new is that her research proposes reducing them in the blood as well.

"We have seen that if we remove toxins from the blood, those in the brain will move to the

blood to maintain the balance, and that can result in an improvement in the illness," she says.

Improved memory

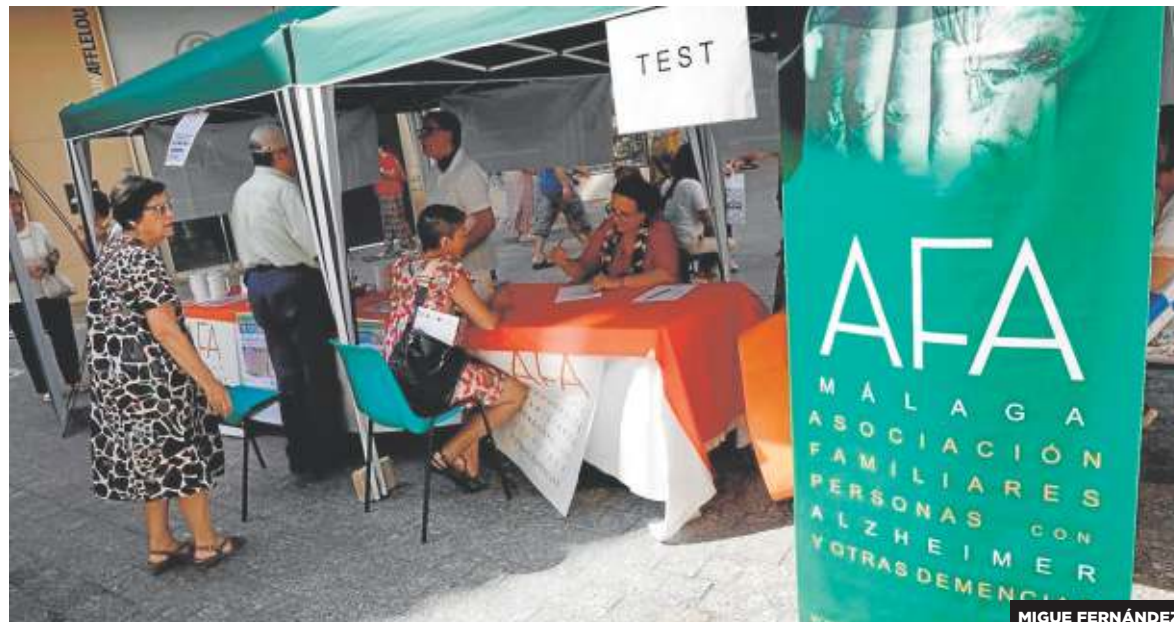
The tests carried out have shown that this treatment improves

memory and learning ability, corrects cognitive failures and may also modify other important factors in the development of the disease as well as eliminating toxic proteins.

The University of Texas, with which Moreno is an associate professor, will continue this study at a clinical level to determine the molecular mechanisms involved in this improvement of the illness, and also whether the treatment would work in the form of dialysis or even transfusions in patients with dementia.

Advice and information for families

The AFA association (Asociación Familiares personas con Alzheimer's) held several events in Malaga province to commemorate World Alzheimer's Day 2022 on Wednesday. In various towns they set up tables manned by volunteers who were available to give advice and information to the people who requested it. Other events aimed at families and sufferers of Alzheimer's and dementia have taken place throughout the month.



MIGUE FERNÁNDEZ

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I'm allergic to the cat, what can I do?

The solution ranges from vaccinations to very strict hygiene measures in the home

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Sneezing, runny nose, itchy eyes and throat, maybe even difficulty breathing. It happens all year round and is worse when I'm at home...especially when I'm near my cat. I didn't use to notice it so much but over the past few months it has become worse. What should I do?

Well, if this applies to you, the first thing you need to do is: make an appointment to see an allergy specialist.

Where does the allergy come from?

About nine per cent of adults in Europe are sensitised to animal

hair and fur and the figure increases to 27 per cent if the person suffers from some type of respiratory allergy according to a book on allergic illnesses written by the Spanish Allergology and Clinical Immunology Society and published by the BBVA Foundation.

"Contrary to what most people think, the fur itself is not the cause of the allergy. It is caused by proteins found in the saliva, urine and flakes of the animal's skin which disperse into the atmosphere. These are responsible for symptoms such as rhinoconjunctivitis, asthma, rashes and even anaphylaxis," Manuel De Las Heras Gonzalo, an allergy specialist at the Jiménez Díaz Foundation explains.

The hypoallergenic myth

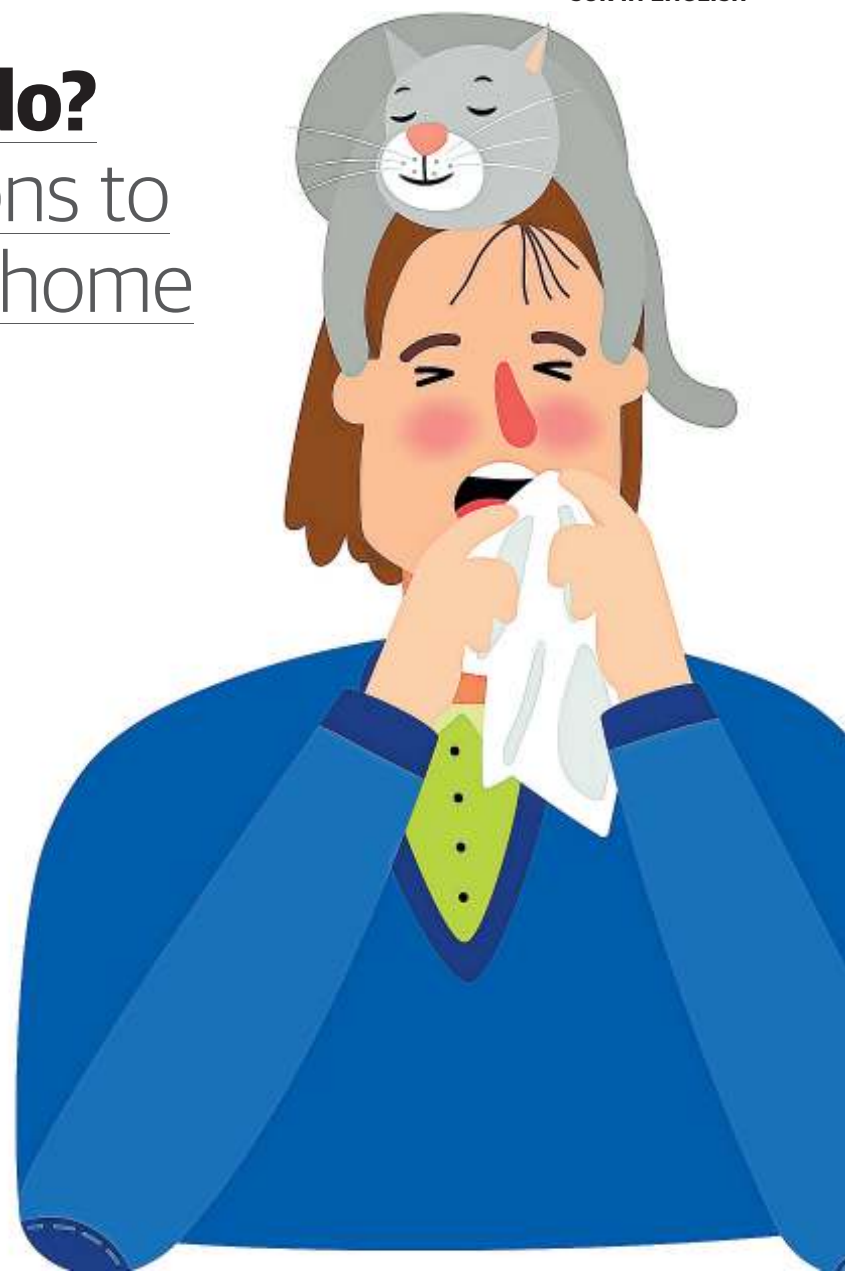
So could hypoallergenic breeds be the answer for someone suf-

fering from this problem?

"That is a commercial myth more than anything else because to create breeds like that we would have to resort to genetic engineering to eliminate the protein that causes the allergy from the animal's DNA," says Nacho Sierra, a psychologist who specialises in animal behaviour. However, as a guideline, he says that "animals with short hair have fewer elements for the protein to travel in a volatile way, just like those with woolly or curly hair like water dogs. With those types, the possibility of an allergic reaction is reduced".

Four out of ten homes in Spain have a pet

Dogs and cats, the most habitual domestic pets in households - there are five million dogs and three million cats in Spanish homes - are a common cause of



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“Early exposure to animals could protect against developing an allergy later in life”

“Contrary to what most people think, the fur itself is not the cause of the allergy”

respiratory allergic illness, and it is something which appears to be increasing all over the world.

“Obviously, the more pets there are in a home - 40 per cent households in Spain have one - the greater the exposure to them and therefore the higher the probability of developing an allergy,” explains Manuel Lázaro of the College of Veterinary Surgeons in Madrid.

He also points out, however, that a review of recently published articles suggests that early exposure to cats and dogs is likely to protect against developing an allergy to them later in life.

Blood test

How is an allergy to household pets diagnosed by a specialist?

“The same way as with other types of allergy; there are different methods such as skin tests or determining the IgE anti-

bodies in the patient's blood compared with the allergens of the animals who could be causing the problem,” says Álvaro Amo Vázquez de la Torre, an allergy specialist at the Clínica Amo Salud and member of Top Doctors.

Hygiene measures or immunotherapy?

“If it turns out that I am allergic to my pet, do I have to get rid of it?”

Well, the most effective option is not to have an animal, obviously, but if you want to keep it - bearing in mind the emotional factor involved - strict hygiene measures should be taken such as giving the pet regular baths, not letting it sleep in your bedroom, or installing air purifiers with Hepa filters, Vázquez de la Torre recommends.

“You could also have an anti-allergy vaccination. These last for three to five years and what they do is teach the immune system that the allergen in the ani-

mals is not harmful, so it does not provoke an allergic response (which would be an erroneous response),” he says.

This specialist does not recommend changing to a different type of pet, because if someone is sensitised to one species it is quite likely that they will end up sensitised to others as well.

“Although there would be no problem with changing to reptiles, amphibians or fishes,” he says.

Immunotherapy with animal allergens should be considered for allergic people where exposure to animals is inevitable.

Topical products can also be a solution - those applied to surfaces of the body - for pets. “By reducing skin flaking and compacting it to stop it becoming so volatile, they can be a lot of help in avoiding allergens,” Manuel Lázaro says.

Hypersensitivity to birds

There are 22 million pets in Spain. Apart from dogs and cats, do other animals cause allergies? “Yes, there are allergies to birds which can cause respiratory problems and, to a lesser extent, to amphibians or reptiles like iguanas and lizards, but those cases are more exceptional,” says Vázquez de la Torre.

Rodents and horses can be a problem too, in some cases, as Manuel Lázaro points out.



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The best Muscatel wine in Spain is from Gaucín

Sweet Muscatel. The Ronda area is most famous for its red wines but a Muscatel wine from Gaucín has won best in Spain



VANESSA MELGAR

Around Ronda, they don't usually make sweet wine using the Muscat grape. The reference area for that is the Axarquía. In the Ronda region, red wine reigns supreme, although whites and rosés are increasingly gaining ground. However, the oenologist José Manuel Cózar, who is behind the

brand 'Cózar, desde 1837', has produced a sweet Muscatel that has been recognised as the best in Spain, receiving a gold medal with the highest score of its type in this field. The award was given at the 22nd International competition for the best Muscats in the world, the most prestigious competition held in France for Muscatel wines.

The competition is open to still

wines (dry and sweet) and sparkling wines, and this year around 200 wines from all over the world were pre-selected. NDM (Naturally Sweet Muscatel), as the wine is called, has also been placed among the ten best Muscatels in the world.

Only 1,600 bottles of this wine have been produced and after filling international orders, there are few left for sale. The vineyard, Cezar Viñedos y Bodegas, S.L., which is located in Gaucín, uses grapes from Manilva and it is totally natural with no sugar or alcohol added. "The grapes are harvested and sun-dried and fermentation stops as soon as it gets cold," explained Cózar. The 'denominación de origen' is the Sierras de Málaga as the Serranía does not have a denomination for this type of wine.

The label shows the famous cave painting of a pregnant mare, an icon of the Serranía de Ronda, from the Cueva de la Pileta, in Benaolán.

Cózar, whose family produced

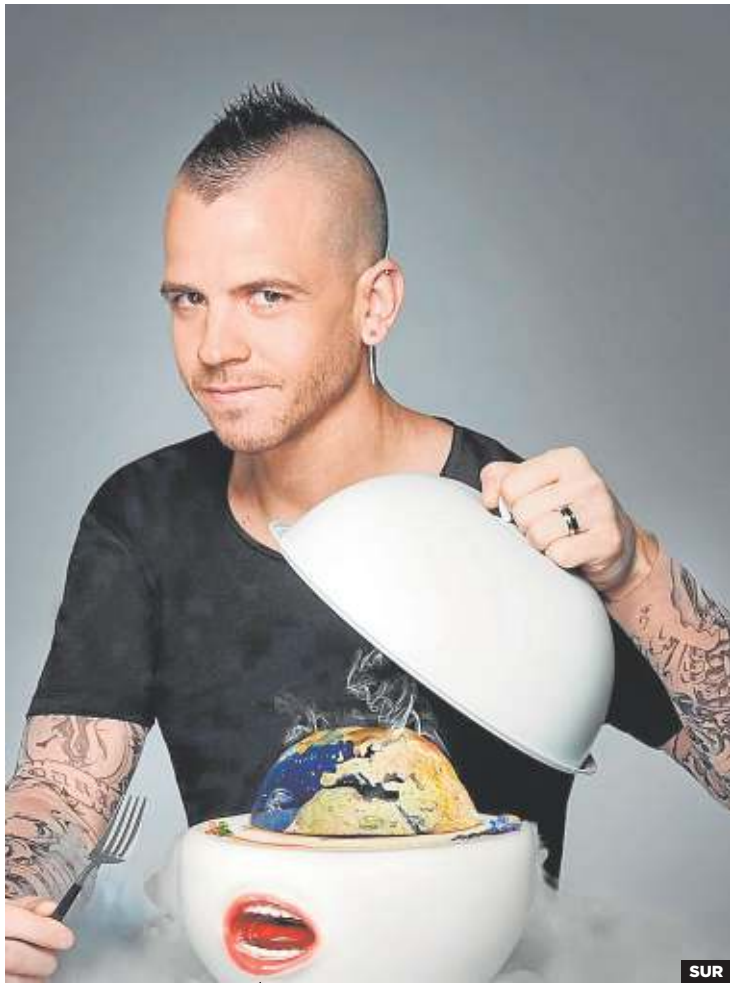


The grapes are left to dry in the sun. J.M.C

The wine is prepared from sun-dried grapes and is totally natural, with no sugar or alcohol added

anise, brandy and other wines in the Genal valley in the past, emphasised that "it is not a desert wine" and that it goes well with strong, cured and blue cheeses, tuna tartar, with strongly flavoured fish and with foie gras.





Madrid chef 'Best in the World' again

The Best Chefs Awards, which was held in Madrid on Tuesday, has elected the vanguard chef Dabiz Muñoz, chef at the DiverXo Madrid, as the Best Chef in the World for the second consecutive year.

Pub grub or tapa?

ANDREW J. LINN



The phrase 'pub grub' has a ring about it that 'tapas' lacks, and the difference does not end there.

In a recent survey, UK pub customers preferred fish and chips, steak, pizza, and beef-burgers as accompaniments to those expensive pints of ale.

So, as is usually the case in the cultural maze that distinguishes the British and the Spanish way of life, it all comes down to tradition.

Tradition

While a tapa is an aperitif almost always consumed prior to eating a formal meal, be it lunch or dinner, pub food is an end in itself. Indeed, Spaniards do not go to tapas bars to satisfy their hunger, rather to 'abrir el apetito' ('open the appetite') ergo get in the mood for the main meal, which is of course lunch.

Even when they visit a restaurant after having eaten enough tapas to make the subsequent sit-down meal exces-

sive, no-one seems to lack appetite.

Right or wrong?

There is much confusion as to what is 'correct' and what isn't. When foreign visitors order a tapa to have with their coffee, this beverage normally being an accompaniment to morning toast or the last act before getting up from the table, is it right or wrong?

Americans drink coffee with just about everything, and in most eating places the possibility of getting wine or even beer is almost zero. (They look at you as if you are crazy when you ask for the wine list when ordering a pizza.) So, if pub

grub does satisfy the British appetite and tapas doesn't, such is the rich tapestry of national culinary traits.

WINE OF THE WEEK

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While a tapa is an aperitif most always consumed before a meal, pub food is an end in itself



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Guede is replaced by Pepe Mel after Malaga suffer fifth defeat

The Blue and Whites' 3-1 loss to Tenerife was the final nail in the Argentine coach's coffin, who has now been replaced by a well-seasoned veteran

S. CONAGHAN / P. L. ALONSO

MALAGA. Malaga head coach Pablo Guede's short, five-and-a-half month stint at the head of the team finally came to an end on Tuesday night.

In a press release sent out by Malaga, they highlighted how they came to an "amicable agreement to end his contract" and that Guede had put the future of his job in the hands of the club.

Malaga also "sincerely thanked" Guede for his dedication, work, professionalism and commitment; as well as his 'malaguismo' and love for the club.

It was an inevitable end to the coach's short spell at the helm of the team, as this league campaign has seen the Blue and Whites pick up five defeats in the opening six games.

Smart replacement

Following the press release, Malaga immediately got to work on Guede's replacement. The heavily rumoured appointment of Pepe Mel was eventually confirmed on Wednesday afternoon, giving him enough time to work on the team before their game on Saturday against Villarreal B.

Mel is a smart choice for Malaga. The Madrid local is a veteran of the sport and has taken charge of 664 games as a coach since 1998.

He has also overseen three promotion campaigns during his time on the touchline. He first took Rayo Vallecano from the third tier to the second division in 2006; before going on to guide Real Betis to La Liga in both 2011 and 2015.

The final straw

Malaga's final game under Guede was no different to their other



Pablo Guede during his last game in charge of Malaga. **AGENCIA LOF**



New coach Pepe Mel. **AFP**

games this season. Granted, the Blue and Whites conceded through a penalty that didn't exist, but their overall performance was woeful, once again showing a lack of cohesion and cluelessness in attack.

After poor defending let them go 1-0 down, Malaga pulled one back at the end of the first half and dominated the initial stages of the second. Bustinza recklessly got himself sent off, which only tightened Tenerife's grip on the match and propelled them on to score a third and seal the win.

SECOND DIVISION

Results - Matchday 6

Levante-Cartagena	0-1
Villarreal B-Lugo	3-1
Real Oviedo-Ibiza	0-1
Andorra-Eibar	2-0
Granada-Mirandés	2-1
Zaragoza-Sporting	1-0
Leganés-Burgos	0-0
Alavés-Huesca	2-1
Racing-Las Palmas	0-0
Albacete-Ponerradina	0-1
Tenerife-Malaga	3-1

League table

Team	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	PT
1. Alavés	6	4	2	0	9	5	14
2. Las Palmas	6	3	3	0	8	1	12
3. Granada	6	4	0	2	9	6	12
4. Cartagena	6	4	0	2	9	7	12
5. Eibar	6	3	1	2	10	7	10
6. Burgos	6	2	4	0	2	0	10
7. Villarreal B	6	3	1	2	11	10	10
8. Albacete	6	3	1	2	7	6	10
9. Andorra	6	3	1	2	6	7	10
10. Levante	6	2	3	1	7	3	9
11. Ponferradina	6	3	0	3	8	9	9
12. Sporting	6	2	2	2	8	6	8
13. Zaragoza	6	2	2	2	4	4	8
14. Real Oviedo	6	2	2	2	3	3	8
15. Huesca	6	2	1	3	8	7	7
16. Tenerife	6	2	1	3	6	7	7
17. Lugo	6	2	1	3	7	9	7
18. Ibiza	6	2	1	3	4	8	7
19. Leganés	6	1	1	4	3	6	4
20. Racing	6	1	1	4	2	6	4
21. Malaga	6	1	0	5	5	12	3
22. Mirandés	6	0	2	4	4	11	2

MALAGA WOMEN

Nacho Pérez joins men's team as assistant coach

s.c. Nacho Pérez, the now ex-head coach of the Malaga CF women's team, has accepted the role as assistant coach to Pepe Mel on the men's side. Malaga women had a decent start to the season under Pérez, winning their first game 2-1 against Valencia B, before going on to lose against both Granada in the cup and 3-2 to Femarguín over the weekend.



No room for racism in LaLiga

Some fans have disgraced themselves over a simple dance



Racism in La Liga. It's a horrible subject to write about and one that needs urgent attention as Spanish football addresses the despicable behaviour of a significant number of Atlético Madrid followers.

I say followers, and not fans, as these people don't support a football team; they disgrace the club and bring shame on the country. Hopefully they will be following football from afar as the club and the authorities ban them from stadia for life.

The issue for these boneheads was the prospect of an opposing player dancing if he scored a goal. It's that simple.

Vinicius Júnior goes through a little soft-shuffle routine when he scores. It's a show of celebration and an outpouring of emotion. Yes, it can wind up the opposition fans, but that is part of the theatre.

I've never quite understood the need to whistle and swear at rival players, but I guess it's all part of the pantomime? Like booing and hissing the baddie when he enters the stage in a puff of smoke in Aladdin.

The behaviour of those caught on camera ahead of the Madrid derbi wasn't good-natured fun; it was criminal behaviour. The idiots need singling out, arresting, and most importantly educating.

They will say it's just banter, a way to get under the skin of a rival player. They need to look in the mirror, if they dare, and ask themselves why they bring a man's skin colour into the equation and hate him for doing a little dance?

The upside of the unsavoury affair is that Spain is finally talking about the subject. The influential Marca newspaper published in black and white this week; the government have reacted; and the club that the idiots purport to support issued the strongest of statements.

They said: "Atlético Madrid emphatically condemns the



Vinicius controls the ball. **AFP**

"The behaviour of those caught on camera wasn't good-natured fun; but criminal"

unacceptable chants that a minority of fans made outside the stadium before the derby was played."

"These chants cause us huge disgust and indignation and we will not allow any individual to hide behind our colours to utter racist or xenophobic insults. At Atlético Madrid, we have zero tolerance for racism."

It's time for Atlético to act on the strong words. It's time for Spanish football to catch up with the rest of Europe in dealing with hate crimes.

It's not time for Vini' Junior to reel it in and stop "acting like a monkey", as one TV pundit described his celebrations. I suspect he's now an ex-TV pundit!

The Brazilian summed up his celebratory routine: "Weeks ago they started criminalising my dances. Dances that aren't mine but from Ronaldinho, Neymar, Paquetá, Griezmann, Joao Felix, Cunha." He added: "Dances that celebrate the cultural diversity of the world. Accept it, respect it."

To quote a hit record of the 1970s, Vini's message is "I haven't stopped dancing yet ..."

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Spain beat France to EuroBasket glory

Winners. La Roja claimed a fourth European championship title from their last six attempts in a hard-fought final that finished 88-76

ÁNGEL RESA

The Spanish national basketball team won the 2022 EuroBasket tournament as they defeated France 88-76 in the final on Sunday night in Berlin. It was a fourth title for La Roja from the last six attempts and the success was also down to the involvement of Malaga local Alberto Díaz.

Spain's title-winning run was one of the most unexpected, especially after such a dominating performance in the final against their French counterparts. The runners-up, who were a much better side on paper, were ripped apart by Sergio Scariolo's men.

La Roja proved that playing in unison and as a team worked better than relying on the individual qualities of each player, as France had done throughout the tourna-

ment, which had been held in the Czech Republic, Georgia, Italy and Germany.

Mental strength

The Spanish didn't just show that they were better team players. They put on a brilliant display of high-quality basketball, which was electrifying from the sound of the initial buzzer.

Spain went into the break with a comfortable lead (47-26) following two well-executed quarters. They were able to hold off the valiant, high-line French attacks by squeezing their opponents at every opportune moment to make their lives a living hell.

But most importantly, Spain kept their cool and showed huge mental strength to keep them at bay and win their fourth title.



Spain captain Rudy Fernández lifts the EuroBasket trophy after the final. AFP

Local hero Díaz was a driving force behind Spain's success

ÁNGEL RESA

MALAGA. The fourth EuroBasket title for Spain was also achieved, in great part, by Malaga local and Unicaja player Alberto Díaz. The point guard put his skills to impeccable use throughout the

whole tournament and also stood out in the final.

The 28-year-old is at the peak of his career, and he wasn't expected to be in the squad, as he was initially left out, but he was brought back into the fold after the injury of Sergio Llull.



Alberto Díaz with the trophy. EFE



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Netherlands XI run rampant in week two at the European Cricket Championship

The Dutch national team went into Thursday's games unbeaten, topped their group and are the favourites to make it to Championship Week

SHAY CONAGHAN

MALAGA. Netherlands XI have taken group B of the European Cricket Championship by storm following a very strong display during the opening four days of the second week of the competition, currently being played at the Cártama Oval.

Netherlands XI defeated both Sweden and Hungary on the opening day by 11 and five runs, respectively. They then beat Denmark by 14 runs and Sweden by

a comfortable five wickets on Tuesday, before annihilating second-placed Finland by 92 runs on Wednesday.

The Dutch side went into Thursday's games with a comfortable four-point lead over the Fins; and an early morning win against Hungary meant that the Dutch topped the group and secured their spot in Friday's Qualifier 1. The Finnish side's two other defeats came at the hands of Sweden and Denmark, but the loss to Netherlands XI was a big blow for their chances of finishing first.

The Dutch will play against Finland in Qualifier 1 today (Friday 11.30am) to see who makes it to the group final; while Sweden and Denmark battle it out to remain in the running of competing in the final against the Q1 winner.



Netherlands XI have dominated their group at the ECC. ECN

Spanish cricket can only grow after shock success in Cártama

Despite qualifying for the next stage of the European Cricket Championship, Spain had already made their mark on the tournament after finishing second in their group to Ireland XI, whom they would go on to beat in the group final.

For Spanish national team captain Christian Muñoz-Mills, the team's performance will only bring good things. "What we achieved last week helps cricket's growth in Spain a lot," he told SUR in English. "In the end, it's something that's exhibited and is watched."

"It's hard for us because of the money issue. The fact we [played] well will attract sponsors to keep growing, building more fields and bring more coaches so Spaniards can start playing," he explained.

Spain top their group to make it to the Davis Cup tennis quarter-finals

The national team beat South Korea on Sunday to qualify for the upcoming knockout stage to be held in Malaga in November

ENRIC GARDINER

MADRID. Spain booked their place in the knockout phase of the Davis Cup as they finished first in the group stages by beating South Korea 3-0 on Sunday night.

They will now face Croatia in

the quarter-finals, which are set to be played in Malaga between 22 and 27 November.

The defeat to Canada in Friday's tie meant that Spain had to beat South Korea to confirm their place in the next stage, as Serbia were looking like they were going to cause an upset.

But Roberto Bautista and Carlos Alcaraz quickly put those doubts to rest, with both players winning their singles' matches against unarguably the weakest team in the group.

But even then, the South Koreans put up a fight, eager to not let Spain walk all over them despite having nothing to play for.

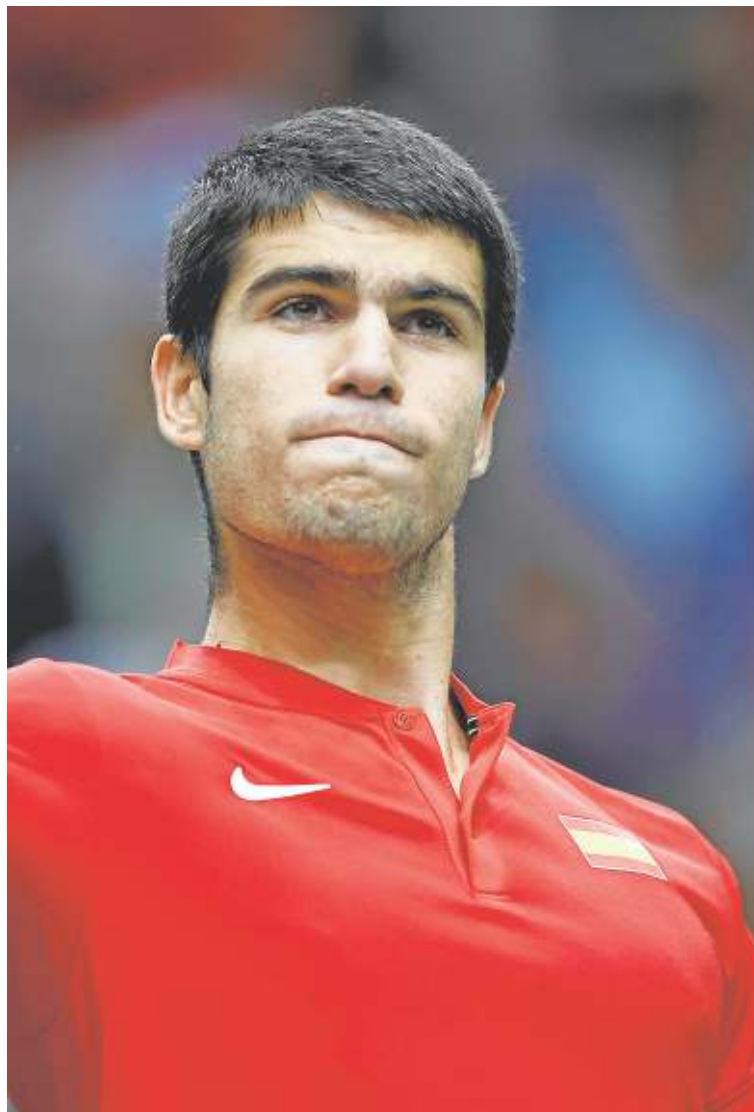
Bautista was the first to calm the Spanish nerves, comfortably seeing off Seong-Chan Hong 6-1 and 6-3 in a match that lasted barely an hour and a quarter.

Hong, who is ranked world number 467, made easy pickings for his opponent, who kept his perfect record by making it three wins from three so far in the Davis Cup.

A test for Alcaraz

Thanks to Bautista's win, Spain needed to take at least a point from one of the following two matches, giving them more breathing room.

Alcaraz had a tougher time than Bautista, but the US Open winner defeated Soon Woo Kwon 6-4 and 7-5 in just under two hours.



Carlos Alcaraz celebrates a point during his match against Kwon. EFE

The match got off to a scary start as the 19-year-old had his serve broken in the opening set but still went on to win it, though it took longer than expected.

Kwon recomposed himself and handed Alcaraz two more service breaks to put himself 4-2 up on the Spaniard. But the youngster went on to win five of the next six games to make it 7-5 and seal

a second point for Spain.

Spain will next play against Croatia in the quarter-finals of the Davis Cup at the end of November in Malaga's Martin Carpena sport's arena. Their opponents finished second in group A behind winners Italy. They will be joined by Canada, the United States, Germany, the Netherlands and Australia.

IN BRIEF

BOWLS

An exciting bowls final in Mijas

S.C. Lauro Bowls Club are the winners of the 2022 Malaga Province Summer Triples Championship, defeating La Posada Bowls Club in an exciting final. The winners made a seemingly impossible comeback, as they were 9-0 down. They kept calm, levelled the score to 17-17, and eventually won 20-19 in the final end.

TENNIS

Davidovich's injury period is prolonged

P.L.A. Alejandro Davidovich's knee injury, which he suffered in the US Open, will require longer to recover from than expected. He had already pulled out of the Davis Cup and has also confirmed that he won't be participating in the Sofia Open next week. In the best case scenario, he would play in the Astana Open in October.

GOLF

One year out from the Solheim Cup in Casares

P.L.A. The 2023 Solheim Cup, which will take place at the Finca Cortesin golf club in Casares, will begin on this weekend next year. The team-based tournament, which is the female equivalent to the Ryder Cup, will pit the 12 best European players against their 12 American counterparts.

THE MALAGA FINALS

The quarter-finals draw

- 1. Australia-Netherlands:** Tuesday 22 November, at 4pm.
- 2. Croatia-Spain:** Wednesday 23 November, at 4pm.
- 3. Italy-United States:** Thursday 24 November, at 10am.
- 4. Germany-Canada:** Thursday 24 November, not before 4pm.

The semi-finals

- Winner game 3-Winner game 4: **Friday 25 November, at 1pm.**
- Winner game 1-Winner game 2:** Saturday 26 November, at 1pm.

The final

Sunday 27 November, at 1pm.

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SWANS International School requires an experienced teaching assistant to start on the 3rd of October 2022. Ideally, candidates will hold a relevant qualification and be fluent in both English and Spanish. Please send your CV with a recent photograph to info@swansschool.net by Friday 30th September.

NATURAL Health CLINIC needs bilingual person with natural therapy skills organized kitchen management light cooking knowledge of computers good working conditions CV to LifelInfoDesk@gmail.com

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USEFUL PHONE NUMBERS

EMERGENCIES		FUENGIROLA		Taxi Service	952520537
				Tourist Information	952521531
Emergency operator	112	BusStation	952475066	Town Hall	952548400
National Police	091	Taxi Service	952471000	Foreign Resident Dept.	952548401
Local (municipal) Police	092	Tourist Office	952467625	TORREMOLINOS	
Medical	061	Town Hall	952589300	Bus Station	902143144
Fire	080	Foreign Residents Dept.	952589440	Taxi Service	952380600
Guardia Civil	062	MALAGA		Tourist Office	952371909
Sea Rescue	900202202	Bus Station	952350061	Town Hall	952379400
Crime report	902102112	Railway Station	902240202	Foreign Residents Dept.	952374231
ENGLISH-SPEAKING HELP		Taxi Service	952345693	BENALMÁDENA	
		Tourist Office	951926020	Bus Station	902450550
		MARBELLA		Taxi Service	952441545
Samaritans in Spain	900525100	Bus Station	955038665	Tourist Office	952442494
Alcoholics Anonymous	600379110	Taxi Service	952774488	Town Hall	952374231
Age Care	952933409	Tourist Office	952768760	Foreign Residents Dept.	952442494
Age Concern (Estepona)	722606347	Town Hall	952761100	VÉLEZ-MÁLAGA	
ANDALUSIAN HEALTH SERVICE		Foreign Residents Dept.	952768760	Bus Station	952503162
		MIJAS		Taxi	952540016
Salud Responde (Doctors' appointments and advice)	955545060	Town Hall	952485900	Town Hall	952559100
ESTEPONA		Town Hall Las Lagunas	952473125	Tourist Office	952541104
Bus Station	955038665	Taxi	952478288	GIBRALTAR	
Taxi Service	952802900	Tourism Office	952589034	General emergency	199/112(mobiles)
Tourist Office	952802002	Foreign Resident Dept.	952589010	Fire/ambulance (emergency)	190
Town Hall	952801100	NERJA		Tourist Office	(00350) 20074950
Foreign Residents Dept.	952809031	Bus Station	902422242	Taxi	(00350) 20070027

MALAGA PORT INFORMATION

CRUISE SHIP MOVEMENTS (SOURCE: MALAGA PORT AUTHORITY)

Ship	Date	From	Next port	Docks	Sails
MSC Magnifica	24/09	Funchal	Marseille	08.00	17.00
Azamara Pursuit	27/09	Gibraltar	Cartagena	08.00	18.00
Braemar	27/09	-	-	08.00	17.30
MSC Orchestra	28/09	Marseille	Cadiz	08.00	19.00
Valiant lady	28/09	Palma	Gibraltar	08.00	22.00
MSC Meraviglia	29/09	Cagliari	Funchal	08.00	17.00
Bolette	01/10	-	-	08.00	18.00
MSC Poesia	01/10	Cadiz	Alicante	08.00	18.00
Ocean Majesty	01/10	Gibraltar	Cartagena	16.00	21.00
Spirit o Adventure	02/10	Southampton	Cartagena	08.00	17.00
Corinthian	03/10	-	-	07.00	18.30
Le Champlain	04-05/10	Cadiz	Mallorca	08.30	01.00
Viking Jupiter	05/10	Leixoes	Cartagena	08.00	18.00
MSC Magnifica	05/10	Funchal	Marseille	08.00	17.00



CONSULATES

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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
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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
If you're ready to let your hair down, the Sun and Venus in your leisure zone forge positive links to Jupiter, so events can be fun as well as profitable.



Pisces
February 20th - March 20th
As Venus joins the Sun in Libra, the coming weeks are perfect for letting go of whatever is holding you back. You'll have space for fresh opportunities.



Aries
March 21st - April 20th
An opportunity you've coveted could show up, inspiring an intense start to the week. You'll be ready to do everything to make it yours.



Taurus
April 21st - May 21st
A chat could find you eager to take up a course or try out other activities. If you do take part, it can change you in significant and positive ways.



Gemini
May 22nd - June 21st
It's also a sociable week, when events could bring fascinating encounters and new opportunities. And as Mercury pushes ahead, you'll notice how delays begin to melt away.



Cancer
June 22nd - July 23rd
The emphasis on your home zone may be very welcome, as it encourages you to unwind and recharge. Next weekend's Venus/Jupiter link can help you make the most of an opportunity.



Leo
July 24th - August 23rd
You may be ready to take on a project or explore a business idea if it looks like it will make you money. You could be very determined if you sense that for a little effort, you'll reap a big reward.



Virgo
August 24th - September 23rd
Next week gets off to a dynamic start, as you'll be bowled over by an opportunity that is too good to miss. Something you've wanted may be just within your grasp.



Libra
September 24th - October 23rd
The Sun, newly in your sign, opposes sassy Jupiter. So if you need help there will likely be someone who can assist. In fact, someone may offer before you've even asked.



Scorpio
October 24th - November 22nd
An intense friendship may be in its early stages. It can seem you've met a kindred spirit who enjoys your emotional depth and piercing insights.

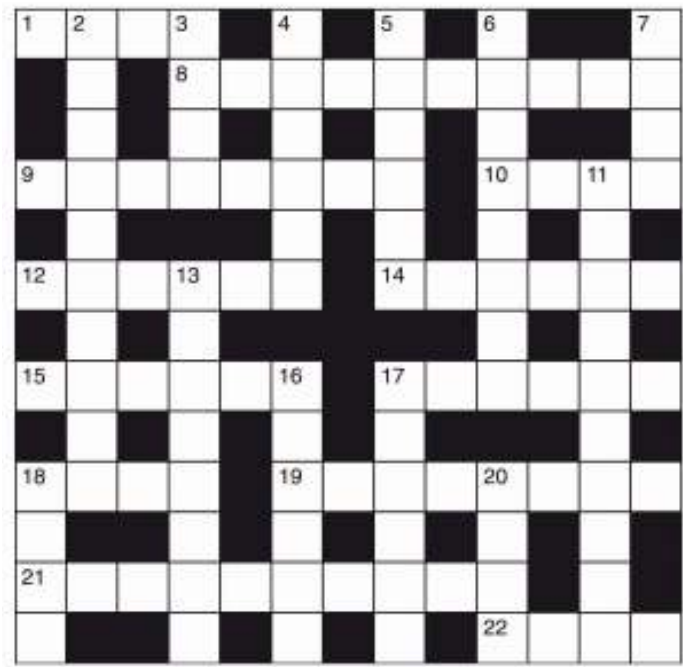


Sagittarius
November 23rd - December 21st
An opportunity can show up at the start of the week that boosts your income. If this appeals, then go for it. Even if it's a one-off, it could lead to bigger and better things.



Capricorn
December 22nd - January 20th
The start of next week can find you excited at the potential for future growth and positive developments. You're also in a phase when you'll thrive in the spotlight.

CRYPTIC CROSSWORD N° 11533



Across

- 1 A short cut for seamen (4)
- 8 Does he progress by rule of thumb? (5-5)
- 9 To jeopardise a conclusion with passion (8)
- 10 Victor gets an embrace and nothing more (4)
- 12 Father takes advantage of breathing spaces (6)
- 14 Natural protection for the pupil (6)
- 15 It's used for running a series of lessons (6)
- 17 This is used for heating fuel by the aircraft (3,3)
- 18 It shoots the fishing tackle back (4)
- 19 Ornamental frill with warm covering underneath (8)
- 21 Contemplation of an image (10)
- 22 Derive comfort from a bit of appeasement (4)

Down

- 2 Part of a fight and then a whole one – it's fair entertainment (10)
- 3 How to change a command to stop (4)
- 4 By which the theatrical profession progresses? (6)
- 5 What it costs to service the batteries (6)
- 6 They set fire to vessels (8)
- 7 Therefore a frightfully big character makes a comeback (4)
- 11 Do they provide manual information for couriers? (10)
- 13 Kill fifty in unusual setting (8)
- 16 What scene-setters strive for (6)
- 17 A girl upset by the first of the cook's flavouring (8)
- 18 A variety still to be discovered, we hear (4)
- 20 Flier in a fighter nearby (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

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

THE WORDPUZZLER

E	F	L	I	S	A	M	A	I	D
B	L	I	O	T	H	A	N	Z	A
M	O	G	R	O	U	N	D	E	R
E	A	R	L	O	C	D	A	M	O
S	T	O	U	T	H	E	S	P	I
O	T	R	A	H	G	R	H	E	N
L	I	B	M	E	N	C	A	P	H
D	C	U	B	R	O	A	K	E	R
U	L	R	A	M	P	L	E	A	D
L	E	G	R	U	N	E	R	M	O

Can you identify the words that may follow 'milk' from the clues listed below?

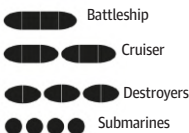
- 1. Resolute
- 2. Male
- 3. Vibrate
- 4. Sprint
- 5. Hang
- 6. Exclude
- 7. Servant
- 8. Molar
- 9. Headwear item
- 10. Circular

THE SEVEN DIFFERENCES



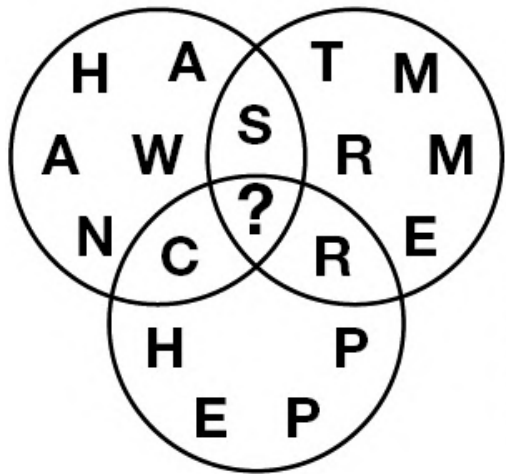
BATTLESHIPS

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											0
C											1
D											0
E											4
F											2
G											1
H											4
I											1
J											4
	0	1	0	2	4	2	2	3	2	4	

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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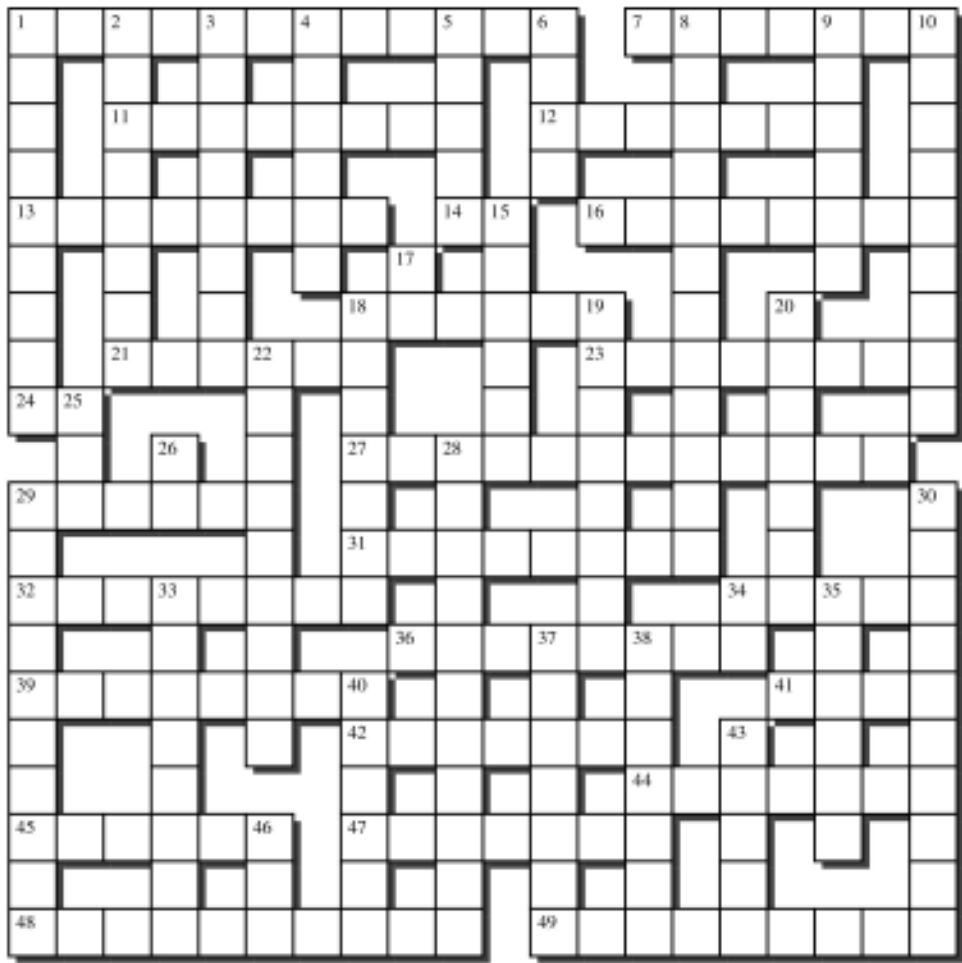


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LANGUAGE CROSSWORD FILL IN THE SPANISH WORD



Across

- 1) Sponsor (m) (12)
- 7) Landscape (7)
- 11) To stab (8)
- 12) Painting (7)
- 13) Tiles (8)
- 14) To go (2)
- 16) Laptop (8)
- 18) City (6)
- 21) Rein (6)
- 23) To study (8)
- 24) To the (2)
- 27) Gibraltarian (m) (12)
- 29) She knows (6)
- 31) Grating (8)
- 32) Eleventh (8)
- 34) Platform (5)
- 36) Posters (8)
- 39) Adopted (f) (8)
- 41) Eleven (4)
- 42) They chat (7)
- 44) Gallery (7)
- 45) Born (f) (6)
- 47) Strange (m) (7)
- 48) Sequences (10)
- 49) Sumames (9)

Down

- 1) Spring (9)
- 2) To translate (8)
- 3) From Huelva (8)
- 4) We were going (6)
- 5) I slept (5)
- 6) Clothes (4)
- 8) Self-portrait (12)
- 9) It adapts (6)
- 10) Sculpture (9)
- 15) To surround (6)
- 17) If (2)
- 18) Babysitter (7)
- 19) Boundary (8)
- 20) Quilt (7)
- 22) Need (9)
- 25) Mess (3)
- 26) I (2)
- 28) Fine arts (6,5) (11)
- 29) Citizens (10)
- 30) Brushstrokes (10)
- 33) Spirit (8)
- 34) Ace (2)
- 35) Money (6)
- 37) Carved (f) (7)
- 38) Gold bar (7)
- 40) I acceded (6)
- 43) Bishop (chess) (5)
- 46) Even (3)

QUIZ

White ermine fur used to edge ceremonial robes comes from what animal?

- 1. goat 2. rabbit 3. weasel 4. fox



Which of these is a member of the same family as the ermine?

- 1. badger 2. civet 3. rat 4. fox

What is the name of the official robe maker for the British Royal family?

- 1. Ede & Ravenscroft 2. Barnard & Westwood 3. Hamilton & Inches 4. Gieves & Hawkes

THE SUR IN ENGLISH COLUMN

Mixing drama and documentary

SUR in English staff work hard to make sure the news we publish is up-to-date and above all accurate, however we may have blotted our copybook a little as reader Jo Brown pointed out recently.

In the print edition of 9 September, we had a headline that read ‘Caleta Palace mockumentary retells the Civil War’. ‘Mockumentary’ was not the right word, we agree. A mockumentary is, according to Oxford Languages, “a television programme or film which takes the form of a serious documentary in order to satirise its subject.” The word we should have used is ‘docudrama’, a fictional movie or show that’s closely based on a true story.

Our thanks to Jo for pointing out our error out to us and giving us an interesting afternoon debating and researching the topic.

Write to us, about mistakes or otherwise, at surinenglish.su@diariosures.com, Facebook @surenglish. Twitter SUR_English or visit us online at www.surinenglish.com

ANSWERS

Quiz answers

1. badger 2. civet 3. rat 4. fox

White ermine fur used to edge ceremonial robes comes from what animal?

1. goat 2. rabbit 3. weasel 4. fox

Which of these is a member of the same family as the ermine?

1. badger 2. civet 3. rat 4. fox

What is the name of the official robe maker for the British Royal family?

1. Ede & Ravenscroft 2. Barnard & Westwood 3. Hamilton & Inches 4. Gieves & Hawkes

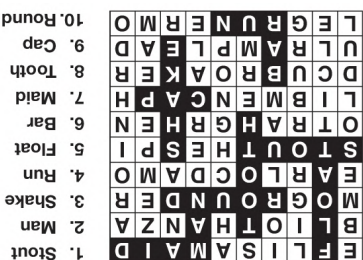
Circlegram

The letter represented by the question mark is I. Chainsaw, strimmer, chipper, all garden tools.

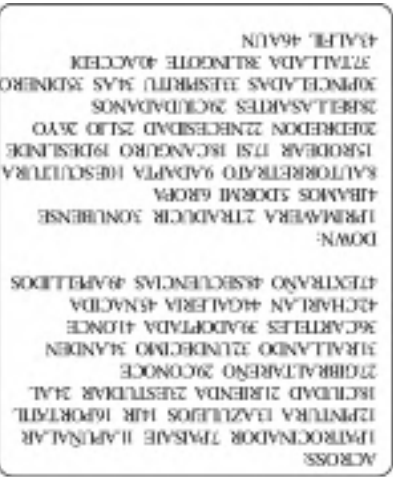
Cryptic Crossword

Solutions: Across: 1. Crew; 8. Hitch-hiker; 9. Endanger; 10. Hugo; 12. Purses; 14. Eyelid; 15. Course; 17. Gas jet; 18. Start; 19. Furbelow; 21. Reflection; 22. Ease. Down: 2. Roundabout; 3. Whore; 4. Stages; 5. Change; 6. Lighters; 7. Ergo; 11. Guidebooks; 13. Stranger; 16. Effect; 17. Garlic; 18. Sort; 20. Ernie.

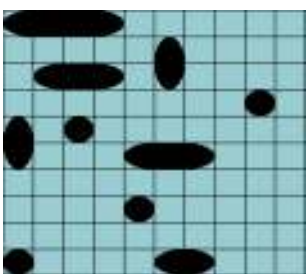
Wordpuzzler solution



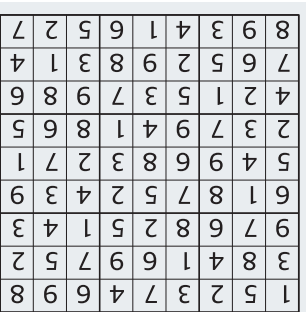
Language Crossword



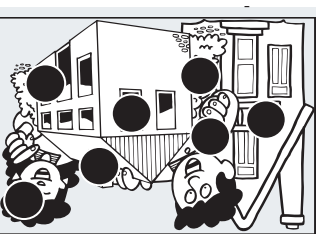
Battleships



Sudoku solution



The seven differences



It is the highest village in the Serranía de Ronda and the third highest in Malaga province. Cartajima, in the Alto Genal area, is one of Andalucía's traditional 'pueblos blancos' and for centuries it has been able to boast about how sparkling and bright its whitewashed houses are.

Despite this, a couple of years ago the council of this mountain village took the surprising decision to add a touch of colour to that brilliant white, and it has done so with murals painted by young women from the village, who took advantage of the long summer days to create what has become a real outdoor pictorial museum. And it hasn't ceased to grow.

This came about thanks to a project devised in the early months of the pandemic, called 'Creative façades'. In July and August 2020, as the sun blazed down in Cartajima, four young women set about painting 12 murals in different parts of the village.

Paint and brushes

While many local residents of the same age were heading for the beach or cooling down in some of the crystal-clear pools in the Genal river or one of its tributaries, these four worked away with paints, brushes and a great deal of enthusiasm.

The predominant theme of the murals that summer was nature and the environment, both of which are fundamental elements in the beauty of this village and its surroundings.

The four young women selected for the project in the summer of 2020 were unemployed. They painted pictures which al-



Murals painted under the blazing sun

Cartajima. For three summers now, a team of young women has been painting scenes on the white walls of the village

JAVIER ALMELLONES



▲ Brush strokes. Creating a pictorial history of the Serranía de Ronda village



will have been able to see even more representations of its history and heritage painted on its walls.

This year only two women were selected to continue the project which began two years previously. One was Alba González, who has taken part every summer. At the age of 26 she is young, but already the most experienced of the mural painters in the village. She was accompanied by 31-year-old Sonia Ruiz, who spent a second summer adding more colour to the walls of the place she is proud to call home.

This third summer, Alba and Sonia have been tackling a more unusual theme, children's games of the past. As Yolanda Benítez, the municipal coordinator of the project, explained: "the murals become more complex every year from an artistic point of view".

The latest paintings include more people and drawings with a greater depth.

As there were only two of them this year, Sonia and Alba worked hard to finish at least six murals before the end of August and Cartajima can now boast around 30 colourful paintings in its streets, thanks to this unusual initiative. It has proven so popular among local residents that some have asked these two young artists to paint murals on their houses as well.

The aim of this project has not only been to fill the pretty whitewashed streets of Cartajima with colourful art, but also to try to prevent a phenomenon which is such a concern in these small villages: depopulation. Where there is work, people will stay.

luded to Cartajima in some way: a chestnut tree with wild mushrooms growing at its feet, a wine press, and a donkey tied up outside a house, for example. The 12 murals came as a surprise - but a pleasant one - to locals and

visitors alike.

Last summer, 2021, the scheme was continued, with two of the girls who had taken part in 2020 and two others who joined in for the first time.

Once again, they painted 12

murals but this time on the theme of traditions of this village.

And it may come as no surprise to learn that this summer, anyone who decided to visit Cartajima from late August onwards

SINCE 1978



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