

### 25 years since Gil took over Marbella

A look back to 1991  
and Jesús Gil's  
landslide victory in  
the town **P14&15**



# Europe-wide recognition for Caminito after triple prize win

The walkway was a big winner at the Europa Nostra Awards in Madrid

After just one year in operation, few could have envisaged the success the Caminito del Rey would experience. The recently-restored walkway at El Chorro gorge has already welcomed 300,000 visitors and on Tuesday was a triple winner at the prestigious Europa Nostra Awards

hosted in Madrid.

It had already been announced before the ceremony that the Caminito was one of the top 28 cultural heritage projects of the year, as selected by the European Commission. It also came out on top in the public vote which, according to Elías Bendodo,

president of the Diputación, demonstrated "the affection and admiration that the Caminito has generated around the world". The third, and perhaps most illustrious gong was the Grand Prix, awarded to the seven best projects as rated by an expert panel. **P7**

## Costa del Sol investment projects trapped in limbo

Lack of funding, bureaucracy and fighting between political parties delay improvements

Dozens of high-profile schemes to improve the infrastructure in Malaga province are still on hold while politicians decide what to do next. From hospitals to rail projects, and from new bypasses to marinas, plans for many go back decades. Some affect quality of life and many are an economic necessity. **P2&3**



## LET'S RAISE A GLASS!

Malaga's Museo del Vidrio y Cristal celebrates seventh birthday with expansion plans **P43**

Director of the glass museum, Gonzalo Fernández-Prieto, earlier this week. :: **ÑITO SALAS**

MALAGA CF

### Javi Gracia to complete Russia switch as club line up Juande Ramos **P62**



**The beauty hidden in the hills of Umbria is on the itinerary** for Andrew Forbes in this month's Travel special **P24-28**

**Fiction in a foreign language.** We reveal the winners of the Malaga Official Language School's literary competition **P34&35**

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# Costa investment still on hold



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**Disagreements between institutions, financial restrictions, tensions between different political forces in town halls and five months of a caretaker government have paralysed a number of major projects**

If we were talking about somebody who was sick, we could say that the situation regarding major investment in Malaga is still showing signs of life but has not yet recovered from the worst of the economic crisis, a period during which it was more dead than alive. Although the private sector is starting to show signs of recovery after the recession of recent years, some major projects in Malaga city and elsewhere in the province, which have been on hold for years, are still blocked within the public administration system, even though they could make a great difference to individuals and companies who are struggling to keep their businesses going.

The airport town in Alhaurín de la Torre, the inland port in Antequera, the railway line down to Marbella, investment in health services, works to reduce flooding around the Guadalhorce, the Arrajanal and Campamento Benítez parks in Malaga, the integration of the Guadalmedina riverbed and the works to create more facilities on the Heredia and San Andrés quays in the port: these are just some examples of projects which have been paralysed for years and which show no sign of starting any time soon.

There are many reasons why so many major investment projects are currently blocked, even though they could boost considerably the areas where they are due to be carried out. One is the political instability at some town halls after last year's council elections, with coalitions of political parties who continue to create tensions and fight for power. There is also uncertainty on a national level, after five months of a caretaker government and repeat elections scheduled to take place on 26th June. On top of this, there are the lengthy bureaucratic processes

associated with all large projects, which are subject to prior examination and numerous reports from different bodies, and there are budgetary restrictions which tie the hands not only of councils but also the Junta de Andalucía and state administrations, many of whom also clash on occasion because different political parties are involved.

## Marbella marina

On the western Costa del Sol, one of these projects is the expansion of La Bajadilla marina in Marbella. The contract was awarded to a company owned by Sheikh Al-Thani in 2010, but nothing has been done so far and the Junta de Andalucía has threatened to cancel the concession if the plans are not present

by the end of July.

Marbella council is very keen for this project to go ahead one way or another, because the expansion would mean that cruise ships could visit the town, something which would be of huge importance to the Costa del Sol as a whole. As a result, it has already been talking to other investors who have expressed an interest in taking over the project if Sheikh Al-Thani fails to go ahead. In late March, four groups were reported to be interested, one of them from Spain.

Marbella council considers that there are two possible ways for the concession to be changed. The first would be for the new investor to take over the existing debt with the architect's studio: Al-Thani's company's shares are currently em-

bargoed and under court administration because of this debt.

The second way forward (and the option preferred by the council) is simply a sale of the company shares. This process, however, would mean negotiating with the Sheikh, who may not be keen to cooperate. However, it may not all be as straightforward as the local authority hopes. On Thursday, Alfonso Rodríguez Gómez de Celis, the managing director of the Andalusian Ports Authority (APPA), told journalists that caution was needed because legal wrangling could mean that everything would have to be put on hold.

The extension to the Costa del Hospital is another project which is currently at a standstill, due to disagreements between the con-

cession-holder, the Junta and Marbella council, and in Estepona nothing more can be done with regard to the planned new boulevard

## MALAGA



**Third hospital**  
No solution for lack of beds

**The regional health authority has still not found a solution to the lack of hospital beds in Malaga and its metropolitan area. In Marbella, there has been no further progress on plans to extend the Costa del Sol Hospital.**

## Railway projects appear to be lying dormant

✉ H. B. / J. H. / A. P.

**MALAGA** The paralysis and uncertainty which is affecting a large number of major investment projects in the province is especially noticeable in the case of railway infrastructure. Probably the best-known project of this type is the one to build a 'coastal railway' from Fuengirola to Marbella, which is the only town in Spain with more than 100,000 inhabitants which has no railway connection. This project was first suggested by the Andalusian government in 2000 and was then taken up by the government in Madrid. The Minister for Public Works, Ana Pastor, said in March 2015 that her department had asked for preliminary studies to be carried out, but there has been no news since then. The new railway would cost approximately

4 billion euros.

In Malaga city, there has been no progress whatsoever with regard to plans to move the port railway underground. The project, which was suggested years ago at an estimated cost of 50 million euros, has been lying dormant ever since and the existing line was tested once again this week for a forthcoming bulk transportation of goods.

In Vélez-Málaga, a decision still has to be made about the tram system which was introduced to connect the municipality with Torre del Mar at a cost of around 40 million euros. The service was suspended four years ago and its future now depends on whether or not the local council and the Junta are prepared to guarantee its financial and operational viability.



The train which runs from the station to the port. ✉ SUR




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<p><b>MALAGA</b></p>  <p><b>New parks</b> Arraijanal and Benítez</p> <p>The parks which are planned on the sites of Arraijanal and Campamento Benítez have been delayed by town planning bureaucratic processes. The plan to promote the use of Gibralfaro as a park has been approved, but the finance could be a problem.</p>	<p><b>ANTEQUERA</b></p>  <p><b>Inland Port</b> Blocked by bureaucracy</p> <p>This logistics project for the Vega de Antequera will only be unblocked when the Junta de Andalucía adapts the special plan which will enable it to go ahead. The inland port will cost over 40 million euros and create 1,900 jobs.</p>	<p><b>GUADALHORCE</b></p>  <p><b>Airport town</b> Held up by risk of flooding in area</p> <p>The maps of flood risks around the Guadalhorce river which have been approved by the Junta are holding up this project, which according to Alhaurín de la Torre council would create 25,000 direct jobs.</p>	<p><b>MARBELLA</b></p>  <p><b>Expansion of La Bajadilla</b> In the hands of Sheikh Al-Thani</p> <p>The contract was awarded in 2010 to a company owned by Sheikh Al-Thani, but nothing has been done. It would be a hugely important project for the Costa del Sol, because it would mean cruise ships could visit Marbella.</p>	<p><b>TORROX</b></p>  <p><b>New marina</b> Announced in 2007</p> <p>The Junta announced back in 2007 that a 500-berth marina was to be built in the Calaceite area at a cost of 33 million euros, and that a concession would be granted to run it. Since then, there has been no sign of any progress on the project.</p>	<p><b>RONDA</b></p>  <p><b>Arriate bypass</b> Work stopped six years ago</p> <p>In the Ronda region, the construction of a bypass round Arriate to improve connections in the area was suspended in 2010 for financial reasons. The Junta has announced that the work is expected to start again later this year.</p>
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with a hotel, shopping centre and a new town hall because the regional government still has to produce some reports before any work can go ahead.

On the eastern side of Malaga, a project for a marina between Nerja and Torrox and a golf course in the latter municipality have also had to be put to one side because of a lack of political initiative and the economic crisis. Nor has there been any progress on the inland port project at La Vega de Antequera, in which private investors are participating, since it was announced six years ago. At the time, the regional government said the works for this major logistics facility, which would create 1,900 jobs, would begin this year, but the project is still waiting for different bureaucratic processes to be completed.

**Malaga**

In Malaga city, one project which seems to have been pending forever is the plan to integrate the Guadalmedina riverbed into the city centre. A competition was held four years ago to collect ideas as to how this should be done, but since then disagreements between the Junta de Andalucía and Malaga council have kept the project at a standstill. The local authority has started the process to draw up a special plan for the riverbed which complies with the present urban plan for the city, in an attempt to force the Junta de Andalucía to come to a decision about the matter. However, the Junta's environmental department considers it will be "impossible" for the riverbed to be used, so the council knows that it will probably have to restrict the project to the construction of more bridges to connect the two halves of the city centre which are divided by the river.

Other important projects in Malaga are also looking uncertain. For instance, the one for the block of

**Plans to integrate the Guadalmedina riverbed into Malaga city are unlikely to be approved**

**The Andalusian health service still has no solution for the lack of hospital beds**

**A project for a boulevard in Estepona with a hotel, shopping centre and new town hall is still pending**

buildings which houses the Astoria and Victoria cinemas, near the Plaza de la Merced, which was bought by the council for 21 million euros five years ago. The next step should have been a competition for project ideas, but the local authority has not started this.

A similar uncertain future faces the project to transform the Hoyo de Esparteros area, including a new hotel designed by famous architect Rafael Moneo. These plans were first suggested 14 years ago, but at the moment they cannot be taken any further due to the developer's financial circumstances.

Some longstanding projects have now become very urgent, as they

affect the lives of those in Malaga. The regional government has still not solved the pressures on health care in Malaga or its metropolitan area. Following the failed macro-hospital project, there is still a shortage of hospital beds, although it has recently been suggested that land at the back of the Civil Hospital could be used to build another wing of the Carlos Haya. Still, at least in this sector there is some positive news as, all being well, the Guadalhorce hospital is due to open this summer.

In terms of infrastructure, another project which has been on hold for many years is the west me-

tropolitan distribution highway which was supposed to link the Guadalhorce industrial estate, Alhaurín de la Torre and the airport. It was first proposed in the late 1990s, and the contract was awarded by the Ministry of Public Works in 2009 for 37 million euros. However, the works have not been carried out because of claims that they would interfere with other infrastructures planned by the same ministry in the same area, such as the northern access to the airfield, which has also never been started. The lack of agreement between the central government and the regional authorities is still blocking both projects.

**Contributors to this report :**  
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# Tests reveal no signs of struggle in case of British millionaire's murder

María Kukulova, the former partner of Andrew Bush, stands accused of murder and theft of a vehicle

## ÁLVARO FRÍAS

**MÁLAGA.** On Tuesday morning, the forensic team working on the case of murdered millionaire, Andrew Bush, informed the court that there were no injuries on the 48-year-old's body to suggest that he had been involved in a struggle before his death. The presentation of the forensic test results came a day after María Kukulova, Bush's former partner accused of his murder and the theft of a vehicle, had informed the jury that she had shot Bush after the two were involved in a struggle.

The British millionaire was murdered on 5 April 2014 at his home in Sun Beach, Estepona when he was shot three times, twice in the head and once in the shoulder. The exact nature of the events surrounding his death remain unclear with no witnesses to the crime. However, Kukulova maintains that she cannot recall the events of the murder and that she never wanted to hurt Bush, just escape.

## Kukulova's account

During Monday's session, Kukulova explained the history of her relationship with Bush. The young model had met the British millionaire in London and had been in a relationship with him for six months before they split in November 2013. However, the accused confessed that it had been a troubled relationship in which Bush had abused her on occasion.

Kukulova then proceeded to recall the events of 5 April 2014. The Slovakian model told the court that she went to "Andy's" home in Este-



María Kukulova sitting beside her lawyer. :: ÁLVARO CABRERA

pona to collect her personal belongings after the pair had split and had gone to the house at a time she expected her former partner to be away. However, while she was still at the house, Bush arrived with his new partner, María Korotaeva.

Upon discovering that Kukulova was in the house, the accused recalled how her former partner started to shout at her and hit her, grabbing her tightly by the arms and by the neck. She added that Bush had threatened to kill her and her family.

Kukulova intended to flee the house and get help but Bush (who had been drinking) went out of the house and returned with a gun. According to the defendant, he then aimed the gun at her and attempted to fire a shot but the gun failed to fire. Following this, she threw herself towards the millionaire and as the two struggled, shots were fired. The model insists confusion overcame her and that she does not remember the shots, nor what hap-

pened during the incident. All that she can recall from the incident is that, after the struggle, she had the gun in her hand and, realising she was free, she escaped the house.

## Forensic test results

However, on Tuesday, the forensic team who carried out tests on the corpse of Andrew Bush, revealed that they found no injuries to suggest that the millionaire had been involved in a fight before his death. In fact, the only other injury discovered on the body other than the three gunshots was bruising to the face caused by a fall to the floor. Thus, contradicting the events of Kukulova's account.

If found guilty, the Slovakian model faces a sentence of 20 years, although, the defence are hoping that the judge will drop the vehicle theft charge. However, the family of the victim are hoping for a sentence of 27 years for crimes of murder and forced entry into a property.

## 112 REPORTS

### Vélez councillor caught driving three times over the legal limit

#### VÉLEZ-MÁLAGA

:: **A. PELÁEZ.** José Antonio Moreno Ocón, Ciudadanos councillor in Vélez-Málaga has had his driving licence confiscated for the next eight months and two days and been fined after being caught driving a private car in the early hours of the morning in an "erratic" manner.

He was stopped by local police in Torre del Mar who breathalysed him and found that he was three times over the legal limit. He gave a reading of 0.90 miligrammes per litre of air exhaled on the scene, a number which dropped to 0.88 by the time he got to the police station. The legal limit is 0.25 for the majority of drivers.

As well as having his licence withheld, Moreno will have to pay 12 euros a day in fines for the next four months (1,440 euros in total).



The C's councillor (right). :: A. P.

### Man beats fiancée after couple visit swingers' club

#### MÁLAGA

:: **J. C. / Á. F.** Last Sunday, a young woman was brutally beaten by her fiancé after the pair visited a swingers' club in Torremolinos.

When the national police attempted to arrest the victim's fiancé, the woman tried to get him released by claiming that he had reacted violently after becoming jealous. The man has been sentenced to six months in prison and was given a restraining order.



Skype screenshot. :: SUR

### Doctor hands over 600,000 euros in 'fake sheikh' scam

#### MARBELLA

:: **A. FRÍAS.** Malaga provincial court has sentenced a Nigerian man to four and a half years behind bars for defrauding a woman after convincing her that he was Sheikh Mohammed bin Raschid Al Makhoun, current prime minister of the United Arab Emirates.

The fraudster approached the woman, a doctor, through a falsified Facebook account. After gaining her trust through a series of messages and Skype calls during which software was used to impose his voice onto a real image of the sheikh, he asked her hand in marriage, saying that he could "change her life forever".

The victim was then persuaded to transfer money, totalling almost 600,000 euros, into various bank accounts, convincing her they were for charitable deeds such as helping Syrian refugees - transactions he couldn't carry out himself, for 'diplomatic reasons'.

The woman only realised she had been scammed when the loans, promised with huge interest payments, were not returned and she made contact with the Spanish embassy in Dubai.

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# Government Windfall a Timely Reminder to Check Your Estate

By John McCann, Senior Partner, Blevins Franks

HM Revenue & Customs has benefited from a record £4.6bn inheritance tax collection for the 2015/16 tax year. That was an increase of 21.6% – more than a fifth – compared to the previous year.

Figures released by the Office for National Statistics in April revealed that British families had paid over £4bn in inheritance tax in the 12 months to February and that the tax office was expected to take £4.6bn for the tax year.

As an expatriate you may think that UK inheritance will not affect you. However, it is where you are *domiciled* that determines whether you are liable, not where you are resident. Even after living in Spain for many years, you could still be seen as a British domicile in the eyes of HMRC and therefore fully liable for UK inheritance tax. To make sure your legacy goes to the right place it is crucial to understand the ins and outs of the rules in both the UK and your

country of residence.

## Why did HMRC enjoy such a bumper revenue crop this year?

First, quite simply, there was a marked increase in the number of deaths, partly due to the aggressive flu virus last year. The Treasury estimates that this brought in around £200m more than usual.

Second, the increase in house prices generally has brought more households over the £325,000 tax threshold (£650,000 for couples). Thanks to this trend the number of family estates paying inheritance tax has quadrupled since 2010, say the Office for Budget Responsibility (OBR), from around 10,000 to more than 40,000 this year. The Treasury expects this number to double over the next five years.

## Is there relief on the horizon?

Next year the government will

introduce more breathing space as it begins phasing in higher allowances on property for homeowners. Starting with an additional £100,000 from April 2017, the new allowance will peak in 2020 at £175,000. For couples, this will mean they can potentially leave up to £1m worth of property tax-free, but only five years from now. By then, the financial impact of the proposed changes will most likely be dampened by the continuing trend for soaring house prices.

In addition, the new allowances may not apply at all for estates worth over £2m. Other complex conditions for eligibility are also likely to limit who can benefit. For example, allowances look set to only apply to property that you have lived in and left to direct descendants. As a result, the new reforms have been labelled overly complex and unfair by many commentators, even from within the same government that set the policy in the first place.

With a 40% rate on anything over the current (relatively low) threshold, it is easy to see how inheritance tax has caught out so many people and given such a boost to the Treasury coffers. The complicated and limiting new allowance structure is unlikely to reverse this upward trend in the years to come.

## Why should you care?

Remember, even if you no longer live in Britain, you can still be affected by UK inheritance tax. Domicile law is extremely complex and there are a number of ways in which your domicile status can be assessed for inheritance tax liability. That is why it is essential to get professional guidance to make sure everything is in place for your estate to be distributed as you wish and ensure your heirs avoid paying unnecessary tax. It may be your heirs and/or executor who have to prove to HMRC that your estate should not be liable to UK inheritance

tax so it is vital to leave all your paperwork in order for them.

Involving inheritance taxes and succession law of more than one country further complicates matters. You should speak to an adviser with specialist knowledge of both countries to help you understand how UK inheritance tax interacts with Spanish succession tax. By taking steps now to secure your estate, you can make sure your legacy ends up in the right hands without paying more tax than necessary.

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

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## Cameron says Brexit will make holidays in Spain more expensive

The prime minister also warned that British holidaymakers may lose the right to visa-free travel and even to own a holiday home in the EU

### AGENCIES

**MALAGA.** British prime minister David Cameron warned this week that leaving the EU could add an extra £225 to the cost of a nine-day holiday in Spain, which is a favourite destination for family holidays. Speaking at the London headquarters of Easyjet, Mr Cameron warned that a Treasury report has predicted that in the event of a Brexit Sterling could lose 12 per cent of its value, which would have a negative impact for British tourists who visit euro-zone countries.

The prime minister said that according to government calculations, if the UK severs links with Brussels as a result of the referendum on June 23rd, the weaker pound would mean that in 2018 an eight day family holiday to France could cost £210 more, ten nights in Portugal an extra £230 and a fortnight in the USA would also be more expensive, by about



Cameron with other leaders at the G7 summit in Japan. :: SUR

£600, because airline ticket prices would go up. This, he said, is because if the UK is outside the single market, the airlines would face "all sorts of bureaucracy and restrictions" which do not apply at present.

Mr Cameron also warned that British people could lose the right to travel to EU countries without a visa, that holidaymakers from the UK could face huge phone bills if they use their mobiles abroad because the exemption from roaming charges would no longer apply, and that a Brexit could even mean that British people would lose the

right to own a holiday home abroad.

This week the British prime minister has also been attending the Group of Seven (G7) summit in Japan, where on Thursday the leaders of European countries and Japan agreed to complete a trade agreement by this autumn. The deal, which could be worth £5 billion for the British economy, has been under discussion since 2013. For Mr Cameron, this is another reason why Britain should vote to remain in the EU. "This agreement underlines once again why we are stronger, safer and better off in a reformed EU," he said.

## Expats lose their fight for a vote in referendum

### D.B.

There was further disappointment for long-term British expats on Tuesday when the Supreme Court in the UK upheld previous decisions from the High Court and the Court of Appeal and decided that people who have lived abroad for more than 15 years are not entitled to vote in the EU referendum.

The case was brought by 95-year-old Harry Shindler, who has lived in Italy for 35 years, and Jacquelyn MacLennan, a 54-year-old solicitor who has been in Belgium for almost 30 years. They claimed that the British government's decision not to allow long-term expats a vote in the referendum on June 23rd contravened their right to freedom of movement and their common law right to vote.

Two million British expats will be affected by the Supreme Court decision. When making the announcement Lady Hale, the Deputy President of the Supreme Court, said, "We do have considerable sympathy for the situation in which the applicants find themselves and we understand that this is something which concerns them deeply. But we cannot discern a legal basis for challenging this statute."

## READER'S VIEW

### Passions intensify

Congratulations to Christine Rowlands and team for, once again, attempting to stir the apparent apathy of the British on the Costa del Sol. The date for applications for postal votes is now passed. If you wish to vote you will need to trust that your application has been successful or you need to organise a proxy vote. As regards to the meeting in Estepona I can only support Alia Babapulle in her common-sense approach to continual interference in UK matters (as well other countries') by the unelected EU executive who know nothing about the individual countries' problems. They just want power over us. Even Jean-Claude Juncker, EU President, states that the EU interferes too much. The list is too long but it involves simple things: prisoners to receive a vote; inefficient light bulbs; South-west of England designated for tourism not for farming.

I hear the cry "negative" – "positives" then: to reclaim fishing for UK, and the UK will not lose jobs overall - the EU needs our market more than we need theirs, hence the weekly train from Valencia to UK with Spanish produce. The Spanish will not wish to block these exports. Another positive is opening trade links with the world without blocking from EU.

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## Europeans choose the Caminito del Rey as best heritage project of the year

The restored scenic walkway in the Guadalhorce valley enjoys huge success at prestigious Europa Nostra Awards, claiming three separate prizes

IVÁN GELIBTER

**ARDALES.** Nobody would have imagined this much success just two years ago, but it seems there's no end to the amount of awards being won by the Caminito del Rey, the restored high-level walkway through the Guadalhorce river gorge in Ardales near Malaga.

Having already been selected by the European Commission as one of the top 28 cultural heritage projects of the year, it was announced at a ceremony in Madrid on Tuesday night that the project had won overall first prize in the public vote.



Elías Bendodo receives one award from Plácido Domingo. :: SUR

People across Europe choose their preferred project online. In addition, the Commission decided to award another prize, the 'Grand Prix', which is given to the best seven projects as rated by their own expert panel.

The triple prize win was announced at the annual Europa Nostra Awards for Cultural Heritage, which were attended by a delegation from Malaga province, including Elías Bendodo, president of the Diputación (provincial authority), and the mayors of Álora, Ardales, Antequera and Valle de Abdalajís.

The Caminito del Rey has received over 300,000 visitors in its first year and Bendodo expressed his delight at winning above all the public vote, "which shows the affection and admiration that the Caminito has generated around the world".

The Europa Nostra prizes are the most important heritage awards on the continent and are supported by organisations and individuals across 40 countries. Of the 187 entries from all nations, the only other Spanish award winner was the project to restore six churches damaged in the 2011 earthquake in Lorca, Murcia.

## Easyjet workers to start industrial action after staff dismissal

E. P.

**MALAGA.** The CGT trade union has announced plans for industrial action by Easyjet ground-handling staff. It follows a contentious dismissal of three of their colleagues.

The strike action is planned to start on May 31st and last indefinitely, although, at the time of going to press, Easyjet did not expect any significant impact on their passengers' journeys.

In tandem with the strike, union representatives plan demonstrations at the terminal entrance. A spokesperson for the CGT claimed that Easyjet was trying to boost its profits with "a policy of non justified dismissals".

In a statement an Easyjet spokesperson advised passengers to check their flight's status on the company's website before travelling.

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# Threat of summer water shortages brings reservoir use to the table

The Axarquía's agricultural sector says it has been warning of the risks of drought to tropical fruit businesses and residents for years

:: **Á. PELÁEZ**

**VÉLEZ-MÁLAGA.** A meeting of the agricultural sector and local and regional authorities took place yesterday in an attempt to reach an agreement over the use of water from La Viñuela reservoir for both agriculture and domestic use.

As a summer of drought and water restrictions looms, following a lack of rainfall in southern Spain spanning two years, tropical fruit business leaders in the Axarquía are pressing for a solution to a problem that they say they have been warning authorities "for various years," according to José Linares, president of the Spanish Association of Tropical Fruit.

While Andalucía's regional government, the Junta de Andalucía, says that the reservoir's principal use must be domestic, José Luis Ruíz Espejo, from the Junta said last week that it shouldn't exist "exclusively for that purpose."



La Viñuela is at only 46 per cent of its capacity. :: **Á. PELÁEZ**

Farmers have rejected the idea that use of the reservoir should be principally domestic, arguing that they have a right to use the source, which is currently only 46 per cent full, because of a royal decree (Real Decreto 594/1989) favouring the use of La Viñuela for agricultural development. They also highlight the importance of tropical fruits to the area's economy.

Other options that the sector is asking the Junta to look at include the damming of rivers such as the Chillar, Algorrobo and Torrox, as well as using treated water from the Axarquía's various water treatment

stations and subterranean water.

Cómpeta town hall has been the first to implement water restrictions, with some outlying areas of the council's catchment area only getting access to water every other day. On 11 April, the town introduced fines for anyone caught using water for "non-human" use, including watering gardens, filling swimming pools and cleaning cars.

Councillors have approached Malaga province's Diputación as well as the Junta de Andalucía to look into water exploration, before the town's population doubles in the summer months.

## HERE AND THERE



Rubbish collectors on Burriana beach. :: **E. C.**

### Volunteers collect 180 kilos of beach rubbish

**NERJA**

:: **E. CABEZAS.** Around 180 kilos of rubbish was collected from Nerja's beaches by volunteers last Saturday. Plastic, cans and fishing weights were the main items collected during the eleventh

'Limpieza de Fondos Marinos de Nerja' (beach cleaning day), organised by the Centro de Buceo Costa Nerja (Nerja Coast diving centre) in collaboration with the town hall. Approximately 250 people, including divers, canoeists and hikers, spent the day collecting the rubbish. Mayor Rosa Arrabal and beach councillor, Cristina Fernández also participated in the event.

### Designated parking outside pharmacies

**TORRE DEL MAR**

:: **Á. P.** Pharmacies in Torre del Mar now have designated parking spaces outside them. The spaces have been painted white with a green cross. A total of ten spaces are available outside the main pharmacies in the town, including those in Avenida Doctor Marañón and Avenida Moscatel (Viña Málaga). Users will be able to park for up to 15 minutes during opening hours.

### Beaches equipped with defibrillators

**TORRE DEL MAR**

:: **Á. P.** For the past week, Torre del Mar's beach has been equipped with defibrillators. Flags showing that the beach is an accredited 'healthy heart' were installed last week as well as the defibrillators, which are located at each of its 11 lifeguard points. Torre del Mar is only the second beach in Spain to have installed the equipment, with San Antoni in Ibiza being the other.

### Horses still not rescued from La Maroma

**VÉLEZ-MÁLAGA**

:: **Á. P.** More than two months after hikers reported the presence of horses in the Sierras Tejeda, Almijara and Alhama natural park, the animals still haven't been rescued. They are still being spotted on La Maroma, Malaga province's highest mountain at 2,066 metres,

where there is no grass for them to eat and visitors to the mountain have reported that the horses have become accustomed to approaching them for food. Last Sunday, one hiker claimed to have seen a foal. Malaga province's agricultural delegation said last week that responsibility for rescuing the animals fell to the town hall of Alhama de Granada, in Granada province, as they are on the area of La Maroma that belongs to Alhama de Granada.



:: **SUR**

### FINNISH PAINTERS EXHIBIT IN ÁRCHEZ

A group of Finnish painters are in Árchez this week to participate in the town's cultural week. The trip was organised by a Finnish artist who spends part of her year living in Árchez. The 15 artists painted scenes around the town, which are being exhibited until 28 May in the committee room of the town hall.



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# Motorbike club of Fuengirola celebrates annual rally

Fuengirola vibrated with the roar of hundreds of classic and vintage motorcycles that converged on the feria ground last weekend

BY TONY BRYANT

**FUENGIROLA.** The motorcycle club of Fuengirola celebrated the seventeenth edition of the Concentración Internacional Moto Turística, last weekend, when several hundred motorcycle enthusiasts from all over Andalucía met to show off their gleaming mean machines.

The event, which was organised by the motorcycle club and Fuengirola town hall, saw a continual flow of dazzling motorcycles arrive throughout the afternoon on Saturday, including every type of two-wheel machine one could imagine.

Classic Harley-Davidsons and customised Honda Goldwings took centre stage, while some of the more traditional Triumphs and vintage Nortons caught the attention of the hundreds of people who attended.

The annual convention took place at the Peña Moto Club de Fuengirola, and the area around the club was transformed into a motorcycle con-



More than 400 enthusiasts gathered at the Peña Moto Club. BY T. B.

vention, with stands selling Belstaff jackets, leathers, tee shirts, emblem patches and Harley belt buckles.

After a welcome reception, a convoy of motorcycles left on a short road trip through the Mijas mountains, before returning to the feria ground for paella and live music supplied by two local rock bands.

There was an exhibition of mini bikes on Sunday, after which, almost 400 bikers roared through the town of Fuengirola and on to the Sohail

castle for a presentation award ceremony, before heading back to their base at the motorcycle club for a finale of live music and refreshments.

The Motorbike Club in Fuengirola was founded in 1972 and they organise various charity events, one of which, last January, raised money for the Asociación de Voluntarios de Oncología Infantil (AVOI), a charity organisation that provides voluntary helpers to entertain children hospitalised with cancer.

# Police officers trained in fight against terrorism

BY TONY BRYANT

**TORREMOLINOS.** Fifteen officers from the Local Police force in Torremolinos have participated in a specialised anti-terrorism course, during which they received advice on how to react in the event of terrorist attack on the town.

The course, which took place in the Pablo Picasso cultural centre in Torremolinos last week, was organised by the Sindicato Unificado de Policía, a unified police trade union, and included the participation of officers from the Guardia Civil and National Police forces.

Pedro Garijo, chief commissioner of the national police of Malaga, Julio Ros, commissioner of the national police of Torremolinos and Benalmádena, and Manuel Exósito, provincial secretary of the unified trade union of

police, also participated in the program.

The course was spread over two days and officers from the town's local police force were given specialist training and advice of how to react should a terrorist attack occur during the high season in Torremolinos.

Torremolinos receives thousands of visitors every month and it is once more becoming the centre of cultural interest and tourism, and so precautions are being enforced to prevent potential terrorist acts such as those witnessed recently in Paris and Brussels.

Carlos Barranco, head of security at Torremolinos town hall, said, "Training our policemen to be aware of the threat of terrorist acts will help to ensure the safety of our citizens and visitors."

# Mayor considers demand to change Villafranco's name from "tribute to the dictatorship"

BY IVÁN GELIBTER

**ALHAURÍN EL GRANDE.** The village of Villafranco del Guadalorce, part of Alhaurín el Grande, is facing one of the most important chapters in its history as the mayor consid-

ers launching a study into whether its name should be changed.

The proposal follows the receipt of a claim from Madrid lawyer Eduardo Ranz Alonso who argued that the name Villafranco "paid tribute

to the [Franco] dictatorship" and incited "hatred".

Mayor Antonia Ledesma told SUR that if feelings locally on the matter proved to be strong, then it would be "logical" for a name change to be considered.

She was quick, though, to weigh in, saying: "This man from Madrid has no links whatsoever with the area," describing a change as "completely unnecessary" given that the name has "never had any political connotations".



# NEW CAR PARK OPENS IN ARROYO

Benalmádena now has extra parking spaces for more than 800 vehicles with the opening of the Pueblosol car park this week. Located in Arroyo de la Miel, the project had been halted for more than ten years, before being completed in answer to "historical demands" of local business owners, said the local traders' association this week.

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# Parties clash over best way to force changes in 'unfair' inheritance tax

Ciudadanos has accused the Partido Popular of copying their policy to force the Andalusian government to reform the controversial tax

by M. D. TORTOSA / SUR

**SEVILLE.** Tensions between rival political parties ahead of the forthcoming Spanish general election spilled over into the ongoing debate on Andalusian inheritance tax this week. The Partido Popular (PP) and Ciudadanos clashed with each other over the best way to force the ruling regional PSOE party to keep its promise to review the tax rates.

Andalucía has one of the highest inheritance tax regimes of all the Spanish regions. The 'Impuesto sobre sucesiones y donaciones' (Succession and Gift Tax) is set by the Spanish central government, however each regional government has the right to reduce the rate charged. Most other regions have reduced or virtually eliminated its effect.

Both the PP and Ciudadanos have

made it a priority to force the PSOE regional government in Seville to lower the impact of the tax on Andalusian residents. They claim that many people, including expats, are forced to give up an inheritance because they cannot pay the duties and that some individuals and companies register as resident in other areas of Spain or in their home country, meaning Andalucía misses out on valuable tax revenue.

## Rivals' "tiff"

Both parties, though, have differences over the way to pressurise the Andalusian president, Susana Díaz, to start the reforms she has promised. These came to a head in the regional Seville parliament this week. Díaz dismissed the clash as a "tiff" between rival right-wing parties ahead of the national general elections on 26 June.

Since February, the PP has been collecting signatures for a petition to force Díaz's government's hand through "popular pressure". To date, they have gathered around 300,000 names. In contrast, Ciudadanos has been threatening the PSOE with the

withdrawal of its parliamentary support if an agreement isn't reached to reduce the tax by the end of June. The PSOE needs the votes of Ciudadanos to stay in power.

Ciudadanos has ridiculed the PP's petition, with the party's regional parliamentary spokesman, Juan Marín, claiming that it would make no difference and that the PP had ignored the chance to reform the tax in its own 2015 national fiscal reforms, only trying to change it "when Ciudadanos themselves started to demand the reduction in October last year".

The size of the inheritance tax bill in Andalucía compared to other regions has often been cited by expat communities as one reason for declining numbers of foreign residents, although Spanish authorities deny this has any real impact. Alex Radford, expert at Costa-based My Lawyer in Spain, told SUR in English this week: "Spanish inheritance tax affects everyone with assets over a certain value, not just foreigners, and it would be great to see it reduced or abolished in Andalucía as it has been in other regions."

MARK  
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## BACK AND FORTH

**W**hy can't the EU decide what to do with Spain? Last week, mindful of the country's political freeze, the EU Commission said it would give Spain more time to reduce its budget deficit below the 3% limit set by Brussels (this year it is expected to be around 3.9%). But this week, eurogroup president Jeroen Dijsselboem said at a meeting of eurozone finance ministers that Spain could not yet rule out punitive measures for its excessive deficit: "Sanctions are absolutely a possibility," he warned.

This contradictory message becomes a little easier to understand when you bear in mind that two separate departments of the EU are competing for the final say on whether or not to fine Spain. Their economic messages are heavily politicised - as they always are when coming from Brussels - and one department is clearly trying to make the more powerful EU member states happy instead of thinking of what is best for Spain. Anyone who is of the opinion that the EU is an inflated, inefficient, needlessly complex machine with no interests but its own at heart will find plenty to support their case in this to-ing and fro-ing.

It was the EU Commission, headed by Jean-Claude Juncker, that said last week it would give Spain an extra year to reduce its deficit below 3% of GDP. Spain's politicians have much more to

worry about right now than the nagging demands of EU officials, so this gesture of Juncker's was somewhat irrelevant.

Nevertheless, it was sensible: what would be the point of imposing a negligible fine on Spain for missing its budget deficit when the country is undergoing an identity-crisis? It would show the EU to be completely indifferent to the political plight of an important member state. Or should I say, it would merely be the latest example of such indifference... Pierre Moscovici, the EU economic commissioner, backed Juncker's plea for leniency, saying the matter would be finalised in yet another meeting of officials in July.

Dijsselboem's reversal of this position highlights the concerns of a separate EU department. As head of the finance ministers of all eurozone members, Dijsselboem could not be too lenient on Spain, even if it is in political turmoil. In Germany, for example, there is growing resentment of the flexibility shown by Brussels to other debt-burdened EU members such as Italy and Portugal. Dijsselboem more or less had to say that in July the EU could, after all, decide to take action against Spain for fiscal laxity. As the EU Commission and the eurozone group continue to argue among themselves, there will be a few more contradictory messages to Spain before this much-vaunted July meeting comes around.

### IN BRIEF

#### New garden centre at Plaza Mayor

MALAGA

by J. SOTO. A new, large 'out-of-town' garden and pet store opens its doors to the public this Friday.

Madrid-based Verdecora has created 35 new jobs with the construction of its latest store next to the Plaza Mayor shopping centre close to Malaga airport.

As well as plants and flowers, there will also be a home decoration range, pet products, children's workshops and a coffee shop.

#### First Starbucks opens in historic city centre

MALAGA

by SUR. Starbucks opened this week in the centre of Malaga. The American coffee shop giant has started trading in Plaza Félix Sáenz, creating 25 new jobs in the process. This is the fifth Starbucks in Malaga province after the branches at the airport and the three in El Corte Inglés department stores in Malaga, Marbella and Puerto Banús. The chain has plans to open more in the future.



by NURIA FAZ



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HERE AND THERE



Families outside court in Marbella. :: JOSELE-LANZA

**Care home reported for alleged irregularities**

**MARBELLA**

:: **N. CASTRO.** Around a dozen family members of residents at a seniors care home in San Pedro de Alcántara have made a formal complaint about the way the centre is run. They allege that the management

does not give out correct medication and does not feed residents correctly. The care home, SARquavita Azalea, has defended itself against the accusations, stating that it has passed every official inspection to date. Since the complaint, the Junta de Andalucía has already carried out a surprise inspection. SUR has also learned that centre management has recently been changed.

**La Cañada mall told to remove Primark works**

**MARBELLA**

:: **HÉCTOR BARBOTTA.** An extension to the La Cañada shopping centre to create space for a Primark store has been half finished since works were stopped in December 2014 as they allegedly broke planning laws. While a final decision on their legality from the Andalusian Supreme Court is awaited, Marbella council has ordered the partly-completed structure to be taken down as it is too dangerous.

**No payout for Cabo de Gata town over hotel**

**ALMERÍA**

:: **EUROPA PRESS.** The Andalusian Supreme Court has announced a series of contentious land use rulings following the recent decision to declare illegal the partly-built hotel at Algarrobico in the Cabo de Gata National Park. The judgements strengthen the area's environmental protection. The court also rejected the local Carboneras council's claim for five million euros in compensation for economic damages.

**Fine for Costa Blanca bather who put parasol up at crack of dawn**

**TORREVIEJA**

:: **PEDRO SAN JUAN.** Saving your spot right on the water's edge could cost you dear. A beachgoer in Torrevieja, Costa Blanca, has been fined 150 euros for jumping out of bed, putting up his sunshade to reserve his space, then leaving it empty to

return to later. Despite protests that he had only gone for a quick dip, his appeal against the fine has been rejected. Explaining the decision, the mayor of Torrevieja stated that the local police were only upholding local laws and that early birds reserving space got in the way of essential beach cleaning. "Torrevieja residents know there are people who set up their parasol at 5.30am then disappear. It's a dangerous practice," he added.

SPAIN

**Celebrity British historian earns top recognition in Spain**

Mary Beard receives this year's Princess of Asturias Award for Social Sciences, joining a long list of past international winners

:: **ANTONIO PANIAGUA**

**MADRID.** Congratulations to Mary Beard. The top British historian has not only been attracting a loyal television audience in recent years, but she has also caught the eye of the very prestigious 'Princesa de Asturias' Foundation, who have awarded her their social sciences prize this year.

The 'Princesa de Asturias' foundation is a highly-respected private charity that aims to promote and recognise achievements in science, art and the humanities on a global scale. Based in Oviedo, Asturias, it is named after the traditional title for the heir to the Spanish Crown.

Mary Beard, Professor of Classics at Cambridge University, is a world authority on ancient Greece and Rome and well known for her relaxed way of presenting her subject. Commenting on their decision, the awards' panel said that Mary has "an extraordinary talent to transform specialist knowledge into something that is easy to understand and accessible to the general public".

**A great thinker**

Her programmes and books on Pompeii and Rome have recently attracted much attention and her



Mary Beard is named as one of the winners in this year's awards. :: AFP

works have been published in Spain. In 2014, Prospect Magazine named her one of the most influential thinkers in the world.

Among other winners already announced for this year in the eight different categories is the American photojournalist, James Nachtwey, who will receive the Princess of As-

turias Award for Communication and Humanities.

The awards ceremony will take place in Oviedo in October in the presence of the king. In recent years other winners of awards have included Francis Ford Coppola, Philip Roth, Frank Gehry, Wikipedia and the New York Marathon.

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# The legacy of Gil, 25 years on

A look at what remains of the reign of a mayor who set the political life of Marbella on fire



HÉCTOR BARBOTTA

@barbotta

This week marks 25 years since the first of his three election victories and the start of an era of excesses and corruption

**MARBELLA.** For those born in the digital age it will be hard to imagine what life was like in 1991. Mobile phones were still quite rare, unwieldy and didn't work very well. They were so large that they had to be carried in a briefcase. Few homes had a computer in those days, films were recor-

ded on videos and social networking meant talking to people, face to face.

Some things from that time will still be familiar, though, 25 years later: there was an economic crisis and unemployment, concern about corruption, and the reputation of political parties was being dragged through the mud.

Although in general the disenchantment did not result in new parties being formed, the well-known businessman and convicted fraudster José María Ruiz

Mateos and his group had successfully obtained two MEPs in the 1989 elections. Even so, few people took much notice of the president of Atlético de Madrid football club when he announced that he would be standing for the local elections in Marbella, where he had property interests.

This vulgar and disrespectful businessman, who had been pardoned by Franco after part of a badly-constructed building collapsed, killing several people, was corpulent and uncouth and spent most of his time lashing out verbally at referees. His proposal was simple: Marbella Town Hall should be run as a business; he wanted to sell his apartments and if things went well for him, they

would for others too. Some time afterwards, he boasted that it had been cheaper for him to become mayor than it would have been to buy the cooperation of local politicians.

Marbella had been experiencing a period of political instability due to the effects of the crisis and ineffective policies. The streets were dirty, there was prostitution and a general sense of neglect. Maybe that is why so many of Marbella's inhabitants did take Jesús Gil seriously. He had created an electoral framework, the Grupo Independiente Liberal, whose initials coincided with his surname, and he was given hours of air time on TV and radio because the public were entertained by his rantings and audience figures shot up.

The rest is history. On 26 May 1991, Gil swept into power. With 20,531 votes (64%) he wiped out his rivals, obtained 19 of the 25 council seats available and began a long 15-year period of absolute control over the town, through a further three absolute majorities. This control continued even when he had to stand down as mayor after being banned from holding public office in 2002, and even after he died, two years later. 'Gilism' didn't end until 2006, when the police raided the Town Hall and marched the councillors, who were still running things in the same manner, away in handcuffs.

Antonio Sampietro was one of those on the GIL list for the first election. "It was a time when there was a great desire for change. People don't remember now, but when Gil arrived Marbella had been abandoned," he says from his home in San Pedro, where he has always lived. "The fact that he then went on to cheat us was another matter."

During his first mandate, Gil laid the foundations for his subsequent landslide electoral hegemony. Within a few days he had cleaned up the town, removed beggars and prostitutes from the streets by using methods which were effective but would not have lived up to legal scrutiny, offered security for those who called for it without worrying about the methods used and began some of what would be his most emblematic projects, such as the seafront promenade built on the sand which would result in the town receiving the biggest fine in the institutional history of Spain.

Despite the fact that for Gil, legality was just an obstacle which had to be leapt over as quickly as possible, he won nothing but praise. "He knew that during that time in the crisis there wouldn't be much investment in Marbella, but he had to take the opportunity to ensure his political future when the money did start to arrive. He had to achieve a populist optical effect and he did it very well," recalls Sampietro, who held two key posts at the time: deputy mayor for San Pedro, and Town Planning councillor.

## Landslide victory.

Jesús Gil is sworn in at Marbella Town Hall beside a young, smiling Carlos Fernández, who is still on the run from the law. :: SUR



Audiences with the King and the PM

True to style, that same election night, while he was still being congratulated by his loyal followers, Jesús Gil announced that he would ask for an audience with the King and

the prime minister. His statements, intended for domestic use only and far from reality, were reflected in the press reports of the time along with the expressions of surprise at GIL's landslide victory: 19 councillors against four PP and two ISP. The PP and IU lost all their seats on the council.

## Gil y Gil cleans up in Marbella

At least 19 of the town's councillors are GIL members

There can be no doubt that Marbella was the centre of attention last Sunday, as voters and observers waited to see the outcome of the GIL candidacy, led by the flamboyant Jesús Gil y Gil. When it became clear that he was going to be the town's next Mayor,

Jesús Gil y Gil, Marbella's new Mayor with the overwhelming support of the electorate, wiped the floor with the other political forces. The Partido Popular, which had seven councillors, and the IU which had five, have been erased from the political map, while the PSOE has been reduced from eight seats to a mere four and the ISP, which had high hopes of these elections, managed only two.

True to style, the new Mayor announced that his first move would be to transfer the nearby streetwalkers to a site further away from his headquarters—although he is not opposed to their profession, as they supply a service for which there is a certain demand. He also said he intended to visit King Juan Carlos as soon as possible because this victory has made history, and repeated some of the promises made during his campaign which he said he would implement immediately.

Two monumental arches will be erected to mark the boundaries of the 'kingdoms' of Marbella, while the beaches will be cleaned up and provided with sunbeds and shades with a view to the imminent summer season. Gil intends to draw up a correct census of the town to control those who are paid but don't work and those who work but aren't paid, and a site has been earmarked for a 'youth city' on the outskirts, with discotheques, restaurants and

other amenities to keep the young occupied and entertained. 'I don't want to hear my more girls saying they have to go with three men to get enough for a fix,' he proclaimed.

If Jesús Gil y Gil has his way, his majority will increase by a further two seats on the council. Controversy arose over 400 votes, which were declared invalid as the formula used on the ballot paper was slightly different from that approved by the electoral committee. If his protest is accepted, the extra 400 votes will give him another two councillors.

### Reactions

The other candidates, swept off the political horizon by the GIL whirlwind, were left gasping for breath. Gallantly, they all managed to express their respect for the wishes of the people, but admitted that they were dumbfounded. The most stricken of them all was Manuel López, candidate for the San Pedro Independentist ISP, who said he would be retiring from politics. 'From now on I shall be on speaking terms with Señor Gil, because he has earned my respect: people have voted for him,' he said. 'But I said that if he got a single vote more than I did I should go, and I keep my promises. I hope he will keep his.'

PSOE candidate Isabel María García Marcós could not

with an overwhelming majority of 19 councillors, his headquarters at the Club Financiero Inmobiliario were filled with rejoicing supporters, while his opponents reacted to the political licking with varying degrees of astonishment, dismay and incredulity.



Gil victorious

overcome her amazement to analyse what she saw as an incredible sociological mystery, but compared it with the Nazi phenomenon and said that the few politicians remaining in the 'resistance' would have to do the best they could and try to prevent Gil from treating Marbella like a private building site and selling it off to pay his debts.

Andrés Cuevas, whose party IU was ousted from the Town Hall by the GIL triumph, was also at a loss to explain the result but predicted another election within three months.

SUR in English, May 31st 1991.

Another key post, that of Town Hall Secretary, was held by a young lawyer, Pedro Moreno Brenes, who soon clashed with Gil over his disregard for the law.

"That was an exercise in collective masochism, because people knew he was a thief but they still voted for him," says Pedro, who now lectures in Law at Malaga University. "Right from the start he dismantled the rule of law and neither the PP nor the PSOE knew how to react because each of them thought they could use Gil against the other. The press was also slow to react," he says.

Conflict was inevitable and Moreno Brenes realised he was fighting a losing battle when he approached the Ministry for support. "When a mayor and a secretary fight," they told him, "the mayor always wins." He had to put up with the enforced holidays which Gil imposed on him and in the end he decided to seek a different future. One of the few people who supported him, he recalls, was the civil governor of Malaga at the time, Francisco Rodríguez Caracuel.

### Defections

Many people were keen to be involved with Gil, and there were very few defections. One of the first to go was Sampietro, who abandoned ship before the end of the first mandate.

"As Town Planning councillor I was being asked to grant licences with no technical or legal reports and I refused. Gil called me into his office and went absolutely berserk. In the end he got rid of me so he could put Roca [now in jail for masterminding the Malaga corruption scandal] in my place," he says. Apart from Sampietro, three other councillors also quietly left the Town Hall: Victoria Luque, Juan Luis Balmaseda and Antonio Serrano. "The four of us who left had other ways to earn a living. The ones who stayed needed the money," says



The tower in the main street and the arch at the entrance are two Gil icons. :: JOSELE-LANZA



The promenade that was built on the sand. :: JOSELE-LANZA

Sampietro who, four years later, was convinced by Gil to return for his political adventure in Ceuta and was later tried and then cleared in the 'Saqueo 2 case'. "The prosecutors told me they had to try me in that case because I had been president of Ceuta, but they didn't have any evidence against me," he insists.

Why did the impunity of Marbella council last so long? Enrique Salvo Tierra, former provincial Town Planning delegate at the Junta de Andalucía, has an answer. "These were new challenges for which there was no answer," he says.

Salvo Tierra found himself involved in numerous confrontations and

an impossible institutional relationship because of Gil's demands over the PGOU urban plan, which he wanted to use to protect his excesses. "No mayor had ever damaged relations with other institutions to such an extent, by demanding absolute independence with regard to his municipality," says the former civil servant, who is a biologist by training and now teaches Environmental Sciences at Malaga university. Salvo Tierra says Gil's resources, especially when it came to legal battles, were far greater than those of the provincial Town Planning department. "There was permanent tension," he remembers.

What is the footprint left by Gilism on Marbella? For Enrique Monterroso, a former teacher and Izquierda Unida councillor, who is now retired, the most tangible legacy is a debt of 550 million euros which the

present council is still trying to pay off, projects which were never carried out and for which it is now difficult to find land, and the proof of how fragile democracy can be in a town with a weak identity.

For Moreno Brenes, Gil left "a brutal legacy", especially with regard to council staff, most of whom were given jobs through nepotism at the time and who now block the way for young people, who cannot aspire to jobs of that type, but he says the moral effect was also serious. "Gil created a style. While he was robbing the town blind, people just laughed," he says, regretfully.

Sampietro also insists that the model created by Gil still seems to have a plethora of followers. "At that time it seemed as if he was the only robber in the world, but compared with what we are seeing today he almost seems like an angel of charity," he says.

For Salvo Tierra, one of the main consequences is that Jesús Gil took great advantage of the weaknesses of the system and, although his model is reflected today in the corruption cases which keep appearing in the news, it has also provided the opportunity to reflect upon what can be done from a legal point of view to combat the problem. "Before Gil," he says, "it wasn't even clear what constituted a Town Planning offence."

### WITNESSES

**Pedro Moreno**  
Former Town Hall Secretary



"The material legacy is brutal, but the moral one is also extremely serious"

**Enrique Salvo**  
Former Town Planning delegate



"The institutions had never faced such challenges before, nobody knew what to do"

**Antonio Sampietro**  
Former GIL councillor



"It was a very exciting time at first, but then Gil went on to cheat everybody"

**Enrique Monterroso**  
Teacher



"It was proof of how fragile democracy can be in a town with a weak identity"



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# Cranes float out of Malaga port to make way for new arrivals

On Monday, two of the three largest cranes to be retired were removed from Malaga port in preparation for the arrival of two smaller cranes which will take their place

FRANCISCO JIMÉNEZ

**MALAGA.** To the fascination of a handful of sunbathers sprawled across Malagueta beach on Monday afternoon, two enormous container cranes sailed out of Malaga port and across the Mediterranean as they began their journey north towards Valencia.

Retired but not dismantled, the cranes leave the dock after almost a decade of service following a complex operation which involved the use of a large barge and a small army of tugboats.

The same barge will return to Malaga at the beginning of June with two new cranes that will occupy the space made available by the outgoing cranes. These new models will be specialised to deal with the management of cargo loads containing cars and agricultural goods in a move which will see a transformation in the principal line of business at the port.



In the distance, two cranes float away past a sunbather. :: F. GONZÁLEZ

The job will be complete when the third of the original five cranes is removed, leaving a total of four cranes at the port, two new and two existing.

## A new line of business

The operation of relocating the cranes is being directed by the transportation operator Noatum. The company is aiming to change the principal focus of business at the port from the transporting of containers to the import and export of cargo such as agricultural products and cars. The switch follows a decrease in the

amount of containers passing through Malaga port in recent years because of competition from other ports such as Algeciras and Tangier.

However, the practice of moving containers will not be abandoned completely. Following the completion of the operation, one of the four cranes in the port will continue to process containers, an activity which has been running since 2007 and has seen 372,000 containers pass through the port.

In total, it is expected that Noatum will invest over 9.3 million euros in the renovation of the port.

## Ojén becomes first council on Costa to DNA profile local dogs

MÓNICA PÉREZ

**OJÉN.** Ojén town hall has become the first local authority in Malaga province to set up a DNA register for dogs. From now on local police will be able to fine owners who've failed to clean up dog mess from the streets by taking samples of excrement for DNA profiling.

According to Mayor of Ojén, José Antonio Gómez, the scheme aims to "keep a track on the ownership of pets, as well as combating stray dogs and animal cruelty". Over the coming days, town hall officials will meet with village vets to design a campaign to explain the new local law.

In the first phase, the town hall will pay for blood samples to be taken from local dogs, however in the future it will be the owners themselves who will have to pay. Owners have two months to have their dogs sampled and receive an official dog collar disc as proof. Failure to do so could mean a fine of up to 500 euros. This scheme will also help identify those pets that don't already carry a compulsory microchip.

Malaga city council has also announced that it plans to introduce dog registration and DNA testing of dog dirt in a bid to clean up the city's streets.

## Links between council and accused animal group questioned

A. GÓMEZ

**TORREMOLINOS.** The local branch of the Podemos party has handed in a 5,000-name petition to Torremolinos town bosses calling for a working group to be set up to investigate the previous council's relationship with a disgraced animal welfare charity.

The ex-chairperson of Parque Animal is accused of the mass slaughter of up to 3,000 animals and widespread abuse of the charity's funds.

## MESSAGE FROM THE CONSUL

CHARMAINE ARBOUIN



## The importance of travel insurance

Can you afford £1000s to cover your house guests' medical and repatriation bills?

This is our monthly message from Charmaine Arbouin at the British Consulate in Malaga. Charmaine is the Consul for Andalucía and the Canary Islands. Her team help thousands of British nationals in distress every year.

If you're hosting British visitors this year, then do encourage them to buy adequate travel insurance to avoid them - or even you - facing huge bills in the event that someone gets sick or injured.

Shockingly, the Association of British Travel Agents (ABTA) has revealed that only 26% of British holidaymakers strongly agree that travel insurance is important for any holiday.

Some travellers even think that British Embassies and Consulates will pay for their treatment if they became ill or injured overseas (just so you know, we won't!).

My consular team often help people who have been hospitalised, and families of Brits who have died whilst on holiday in Spain. The uninsured can face enormous medical, funeral and repatriation costs. To give you an idea, bills for a person falling and sustaining a broken hip in Spain amount to £15,000 including hospital bills and flights home.

To protect you and your visitors from unexpected costs, pass on the following tips before they travel:

1. Make sure travel insurance is adequate for your needs and includes emergency medical cover

and repatriation to the UK.  
2. Read your policy to see what is excluded. Some policies don't cover costs related to things like mental ill health or pregnancy.  
3. Disclose all medical conditions. Yes, it may up the price, but you're safe in the knowledge that you're covered if you fall ill whilst away. You may well invalidate your cover if you don't.

4. Behaving unsafely (such as fooling around on balconies) or unlawfully, or becoming injured when drunk or on drugs can render your insurance invalid.

5. Make sure you are insured for any sports you plan to do, including extreme sports.

6. Take out a European Health Insurance Card (EHIC), as well as travel insurance. You can use an EHIC in public hospitals and health centres if you are on holiday or are in Spain temporarily. Register for a free EHIC on [www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk) and do watch out for online scams that charge for an EHIC: there is no need to pay.

Spending a few pounds on travel insurance might save your visitors thousands of pounds and will give you and your visitors peace of mind. So please share this article with anyone who is visiting you this year.

**For more advice on healthcare in Spain:** visit [www.healthcareinspain.eu](http://www.healthcareinspain.eu)  
**Contact the British consulate:** Email [spain.consulate@fco.gov.uk](mailto:spain.consulate@fco.gov.uk)  
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# Concerns over Gibraltar's air quality following WHO report

Gibraltar registered levels of small and tiny particles of matter which are higher than the recommended limits for air pollution

DEBBIE BARTLETT

An air quality report recently issued by the World Health Organisation shows that Gibraltar exceeds permitted pollution levels.

The report, using data up to 2013, says that for small particles of matter, known as PM10, Gibraltar registered 31 micrograms per cubic metre, whereas the recommended maximum is 20, and for tiny particle matter, known as PM2.5, the reading was 14 micrograms per cubic metre, compared with the recommended maximum of 10.

The news comes as no surprise to many in Gibraltar, especially as they live only a few kilometres from a major industrial site which is alleged to be causing contamination in several nearby towns and which has been accused of being responsible for higher than normal levels of cancer and abnormalities in newborn babies in the immediate area.

However, some of Gibraltar's air



Gibraltar's air quality is below recommended standards. :: D.B

quality problems are closer to home, according to the local Environmental Safety Group, which believes the old power stations are partly to blame. The authorities are planning to build a new power station, which the ESG says should improve the situation. Dust from the Sahara and Gibraltar's unique climatic conditions may also play a part in its pollution readings.

The Rock is hardly alone in needing to reduce its levels of contamination. The report showed that more than 80 per cent of people who live in urban areas are exposed to levels which exceed recommendations.

La Línea, which two years ago was recorded as having the worst air quality in Spain, registered 30 for PM10 and 17 for PM2.5, similar levels to those of Gibraltar, this time.

## IN BRIEF



Mr Picardo and Dr García with MEP Clare Moody. :: SUR

### Talks in Brussels ahead of EU referendum

GIBRALTAR

DEBBIE BARTLETT. Fabian Picardo and Dr Joseph García, the chief minister and deputy chief minister, were in Brussels this week for meetings with EU officials and MEPs ahead of the UK's

forthcoming referendum. Dr García, who is also Gibraltar's Minister for Europe, also visited London, where he addressed the National Liberal Club. While in Brussels, Mr Picardo bumped into former British prime minister Gordon Brown, who also wants the UK to remain in the EU, and said later that he had been "extraordinarily supportive".

### Maxi Priest films video ahead of concert

GIBRALTAR

DEBBIE BARTLETT. If you thought you saw Maxi Priest in Gibraltar recently, you were right. The singer was filming the video for his latest song, which is about the Rock, and fans will have the chance to see him perform it live for the first time on June 10th at his concert in St Michael's Cave.

### 2016 Spring Visual Arts Exhibition now open

GIBRALTAR

DEBBIE BARTLETT. The annual Spring Visual Arts Exhibition is being held at the Gustavo Bacarisa Gallery until 3 June. There were 143 entries from 73 different artists for this competition, and the Ministry of Culture award was won by Alan Perez and his 'Shame on Europe, history repeats itself'.





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# Malaga volunteers collecting for Syria

The AAPS association collects goods and sends parcels to help those displaced by war



ANDREW HEADSPEATH

**MALAGA.** With the war in Syria still raging, the people of Malaga are keen to show they haven't forgotten about those affected.

The 'Asociación de Apoyo al Pueblo Sirio' (AAPS) is a growing charity in Malaga, with an ongoing campaign to collect and send donations in all forms to Syrians displaced by war, as well as maintaining other projects to raise funds and awareness for those affected by the crisis.

Director of the Malaga branch of APPS, Wassim Zabad, has been involved with the organisation for five years, since the outbreak of the crisis in his homeland.

Born in Damascus, he has lived in Malaga for 14 years, originally coming to Andalucía to study law. Both his sister, Lama Zabad, and mother, Amir Alsalamn, who also live in Malaga, are actively involved in helping to collect, sort and package donations ready for shipment.



Wassim (third from left) and the volunteers preparing donation boxes at their warehouse. :: A. H.

While Wassim's remaining family in Syria live in the relative security of the capital Damascus away from the most affected areas, he and his family have been deeply affected

by the plight of friends and countrymen who have suffered in the civil war. Unable to return to Syria to help, they have concentrated their efforts on doing what they can to support from Malaga.

While Wassim is helping to provide aid to those affected, he is realistic about the short-term future of his country, citing foreign influence as an important factor and he is adamant about the continued need for charitable support.

"I am not very optimistic about

the Syrian war," Wassim says. "The decision of war is not in the hands of the Syrians but in the hands of international forces such as Russia, the US, Iran and Saudi Arabia. They hold the key to the solution in Syria and the key to war."

## Activities

The AAPS team meet to collect donations every Tuesday afternoon and work in the warehouse sorting and boxing the donations every other weekend, where Wassim and

## GET INVOLVED

► **Meetings.** The group meets on Tuesday afternoons to collect donations. New volunteers can meet at Avda Arroyo de los Angeles, 23 at 5pm.

► **Online.** For more information about how to help or donate, go to: [www.facebook.com/AyudaRefugiadosSiriosMalaga](http://www.facebook.com/AyudaRefugiadosSiriosMalaga) or <http://aaps.es/>

his family share a typical Syrian lunch with the volunteers who show up to help.

The group seeks to collect anything that can be of use to the displaced Syrian populations. Canned food and powdered milk are essential but also sought are clothes, blankets, books and educational material, toys and civil equipment. In the past, donations from the fire brigade and hospitals have been graciously accepted.

Following collection, the donations are sorted and packaged by the team in their warehouse facility before being shipped across the Mediterranean, where the containers are met in Turkey and dispersed among populations in the northern regions of Syria, which remain the most affected zones.

The last shipment delivered was a proud achievement for Wassim and his team of volunteers. Sent in February of this year, the 40-foot-long shipping container was filled with 750 boxes full of aid.

One volunteer, Laura Mabbett, 29, from the UK has positive words for anyone thinking about meeting up to help with the AAPS group.

"Everyone was very welcoming and lovely. I think it could be comforting to those affected to know that people are uniting internationally to support them, albeit in the small ways we are capable of."

## Upcoming events

In addition to collections, AAPS is putting on events to raise both funds and awareness for the ongoing struggle.

On Saturday 28 May, from 5 to 9pm, La Térmica in Malaga will host a Syrian cultural event with traditional music, art and dancing taking place for all those interested in learning more about the cultural heritage of Syria.

There will also be a world music concert hosted in the Artesanal area of Muelle Uno on 5 June, where donations will be accepted.

While the focus remains on getting as much help to the people who need it, in the future, Wassim hopes to broaden the organisation's reach into supporting education within refugee camps.

"We are planning a solidarity project inside Syria, supporting the local schools and displaced children."

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# Life in Spain isn't always a beach for children

## A helping hand for English-speaking youngsters is now available through Childline Andalucía

BY YVONNE SCOTT

**MIJAS.** Softly, softly is the approach being taken by Childline Andalucía as the fledgling charity begins to establish its presence in southern Spain. Like its UK counterpart, although quite separate and independent, its aim is to establish and maintain a point of contact to help and support expat children and teens who are suffering from abuse or bullying.

The website was launched, minus fanfare, in December, and a recent event at Tamisa Golf Hotel raised 2,000 euros that will go towards the setup of telephone helplines. Ten professional counsellors, a number of whom worked with Childline UK, have committed to working set hours on a voluntary basis.

Childline Andalucía founder and president, Tracey-Leigh Bennet, began working on the project two years ago when, as a mother, she became aware of issues that some expat families were facing, frustrated because there was no apparent support system in place.

"Not all expat families moving to Spain find the transition easy," said Tracey. "There are organisations and charities that help to address adult issues but nothing that addresses problems that children have to face."

She knows, through meetings with school counsellors Childline Andalucía works with, that many children experience bullying and isolation - difficult subjects to tackle with parents who themselves are busy learning to cope with cultural and other differences. "It depends on priorities and sometimes a child's get lost. Learning to adjust to living in a foreign country can be equally difficult for children," she said.

Paul Fuller, head of operations and marketing for Childline Andalucía, also highlights the issue of cyber-bullying. "It's not of our generation but it is a big feature with today's youth and I have no doubt it will be an issue we will have to deal with."

Childline is primarily a facilitator. It doesn't advise children but rather provides a channel of support and help to enable them to reach a solution. It can also help to clarify situations. "For example, a young girl contacted us recently via the website wanting to know if an experience she had had was considered abusive or not," said Paul.

The charity expects most calls to come from teens as younger children tend to be more adaptable to change, though one enquiry received via the website was from a grandmother, concerned at the amount of time her granddaughter was being left alone.

Communication is key and the charity is looking to set up contact channels via Whatsapp and other on-line media favoured today by youngsters. Continuing its softly, softly approach, the charity aims to introduce

the phone lines over the summer, while working to build bridges with skate parks and other places favoured as "youth hangouts" to spread the word. An awareness campaign with schools will begin with the new term.

"It is a tiptoe approach but it is essential that our work has the blessing of the Spanish authorities," said Paul.

Childline Andalucía is run on a voluntary basis, dependent on donations

and fundraising. It is working hard to fulfil a wish list that includes computers, premises for a charity shop and volunteers for the helplines, for which full training will be given.

Any child experiencing difficulties and feeling there is no one to talk things through with can contact Childline now via the website.

**Contact :** Anyone able to help can contact Childline Andalucía via the website [www.childlineandalucia.org](http://www.childlineandalucia.org) or email [hello@childlineandalucia.org](mailto:hello@childlineandalucia.org)



The Childline Andalucía team at the fundraising event. :: SUR



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LETTERS TO  
THE EDITOR

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THERE IS A PRIZE FOR THE BEST  
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## Pay as you (don't) go

Paying for parking by the minute - at last, I thought! But then the words 'mobile app' came up. I'm as old as Mother Earth herself! Why are these things never designed for old fuddy duddies like me?

I'd get my grandchildren to show me how it works if I could. But, of course, they live thousands

of miles away!

It's probably for the best that I can't use this new system, any-

way. Presumably if it can track all of your movements, it can also keep a tab of just how much money you're lining the pockets of those corrupt politicians at the town hall too! I don't need reminding of that!

I remember when parking was free - everywhere! Now finding a spot is like finding a needle in a haystack. I'd better just stay indoors...

AUDREY CUNNINGHAM  
FUENGIROLA

THIS  
WEEK'S  
WINNING  
LETTER

## Intu developments

It is really great news that Intu Costa del Sol has revealed grand ambitions for the Torremolinos site.

There will be many attractive, stylish and upmarket shops. Also leisure and outdoor activities will be available such as boating on a lake, skating on ice, climbing a tower, riding a large Ferris wheel, etc.

I only hope that there will be good public transport access as well. Ideally there will be a bus station on site. This will be on routes from Malaga, Benalmádena, Fuengirola and Marbella. Shuttle bus to nearest train station?

There is also great potential for coaches bringing groups from places much further afield such as Seville, Granada, Cordoba and Gibraltar. Visitors could come for the day, or even afternoon and evening.

Apart from bringing a new visitor attraction for Torremolinos, the Intu development promises to provide thousands of new jobs for local people.

Please keep us updated on all development plans as you hear of them.

GEOFFREY PONDER  
LONDON & BENALMÁDENAS

## Exodus of expats

I always enjoy the SUR for its straightforward content and info! So I would like to place an opinion if I may, with reference to the recent article on the above (SUR in English, 6 May p. 6). Is it not a fact perhaps that one of

the main reasons is inheritance tax for spouses?

I know quite a few people who have either left or changed their minds about taking up residency on the Costa for that reason only! Why is it that there is nil inheritance tax in parts of Spain and 40% in Andalucía? Surely it is time for the government (when established) to address this horrendous situation and by doing so attract more investment from those who fill the restaurants, bars, shops, etc.etc. namely the UK and Irish expats!! Thank you for taking the time to read this.

JAZZ MARLEY  
BY EMAIL

## Internet issues

Last week we, and most likely hundreds of other subscribers, received an email from our internet provider Vacationcare.com stating that our unlimited internet connection from Movistar would be ended within 7 days. Most people use this connection for internet and IPTV, especially us who live in the campo and depend on mobile internet.

I have found both Vacationcare and Movistar unfriendly. They also stated that they would offer an alternative but so far we have heard nothing from them. When I called them they simply told me there was nothing they could do about the problem.

If I cancel my 12 month contract within the 12 month period I have to pay them a €75 fine. But what if the shoe is on the other foot?

TINO BALM  
ESTEPONA

## Snowed under

PETER EDGERTON  
MUSIC MAKER WWW.E-PETER.COM

A young American couple popped into the pub a few days ago and we got chatting about generational differences.

They were both clearly very intelligent but seemed a little perplexed to find themselves trapped in the labyrinth of contradictory messages that they'd been getting fed since they were children e.g. 'Express yourself!' - 'How dare you express yourself in a way that might offend somebody!'; 'You're free to do anything you wish!' - 'Don't play outside, the streets are riddled with paedophiles!'; 'You can do any job you choose if you dream hard enough!'; - 'Oh, blimey, sorry, there are no jobs!', etc.

Anyway, the fact that they're known as 'The Snowflake Generation' came up during the course of the conversation and our differing interpretations of the term were fascinating. I'd always presumed that

this moniker was the result of young people being a bit feeble and lightweight these days, liable to be blown away on the lightest of breezes or simply to melt into nothing before your very eyes. Apparently not. The term 'snowflake', they said, refers to the fact that we are all individuals crafted into our own unique, infinitely beautiful design. Just like little snowflakes, you see.

Oh, come on, young people, get a grip. I've got a baldy head. There's nothing beautiful or unique about it. There are billions of them shining randomly and pitifully all around the world as we speak and none of the owners is beautifully, individually crafted - we're just a load of baldy blokes.

Surely, the whole point here is that, as human beings, we're not unique at all; precisely the opposite, in fact - we're very much the same, with the same basic needs and desires, regardless of colour, creed or

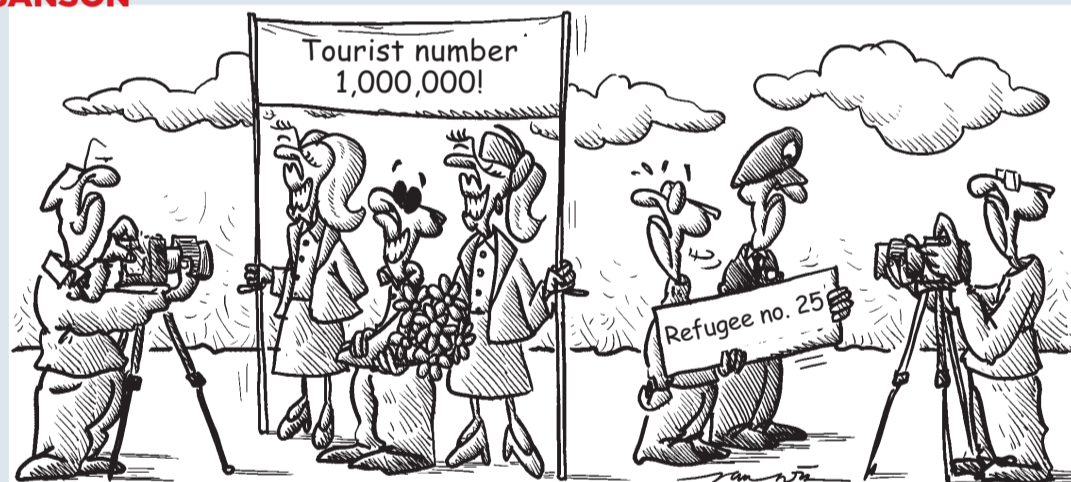
favourite football team. Talking to these two lovely people, I began to see where it's all going wrong for them.

Apart from having to deal with the legacy of the greed and the selfishness of the baby boomers, we're talking about a whole generation of youngsters that has actually been programmed backwards from a very early age. That's a really cruel trick. Instead of being encouraged to feel part of the whole, homogenous mass that is humanity, they've been taught that they're each special in their own particular way and deserve to shine as individuals on a uniquely designed path to their personal pot of happiness.

I began to feel a bit sorry for this couple and, for a moment or two, wasn't sure whether I should try to begin to explain the truth or offer them a shot of our finest whisky instead.

I reached for the bottle.

## SANSÓN

The American  
invasion

DARYL FINCH

Who'd have thought that a single coffee shop opening in Malaga could cause such a storm? Is it indiscreetly located in the middle of the Gibralfaro? No. Is it going to take away customers from local businesses? Probably not. So what's the problem? Quite simply, it's American.

Starbucks is one of the finest (depending on your viewpoint) examples of globalism around. So shouldn't we be pleased that they've chosen Malaga as the site for one of their outlets? Well, you wouldn't

have thought so based on the pure dismay and scaremongering being bandied about 'expat' groups on social media.

"This is the beginning of the end!" said one. "This is exactly what I came here to get away from!" said another.

Now, I can sympathise with these two. But it's not all so black and white, in my view. Yes, the 'invasion' of chains such as Starbucks, Burger King and (the recently deceased) Taco Bell has diminished some of Malaga's uniqueness. But, on the other hand, it shows that Malaga is a place where people (for-

eign investors) want to be, where new money is starting to trickle into. Reasons to be cheerful, surely.

Maybe it's a generational thing. Some people bemoan Starbucks' "poor quality" coffee. Sure, it's not the best. But what if what you're really after one day is an ice-cold frappuccino filled with caramel syrup and adorned with whipped cream and chocolate chips. Where else can you find that in the city? Let's not pretend we don't crave home comforts every now and then!

And, let's not be selfish about this. The city isn't here for us foreigners to escape our own indistinct towns. Let's not forget the (yes, mostly younger) group of locals who have grown up with American TV yet couldn't be further from a taste of life across the pond. They were the ones who packed out the store on opening day.

So fear not. The end is not nigh. There is something for everyone. And that can only be a good thing. Variety is the spice of life, after all.

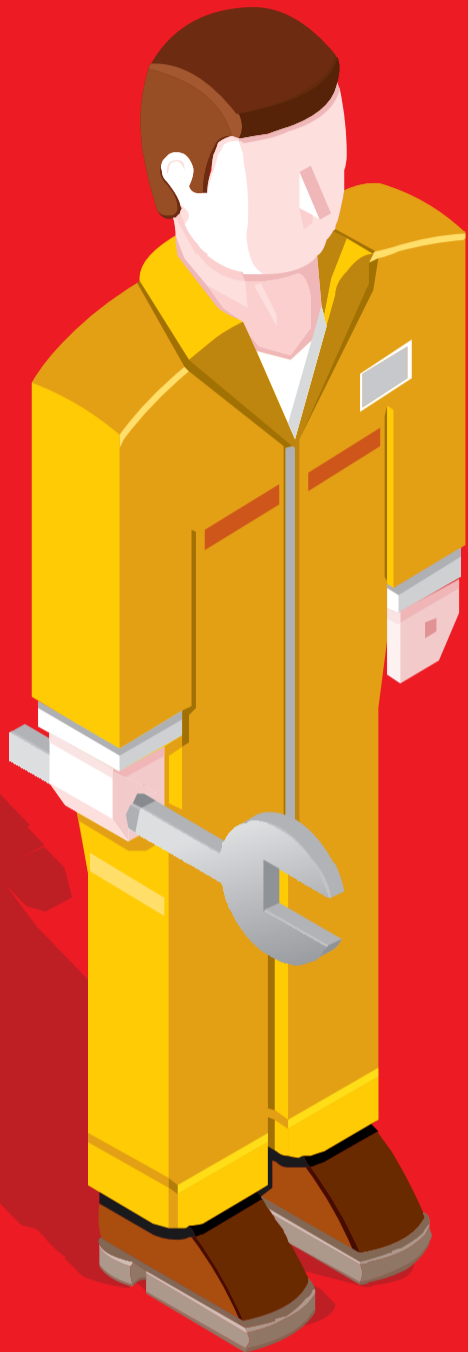
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# Under the Umbrian sun

Leave behind the tourist hordes and instead head to Umbria's medieval hilltop towns



The breath-taking landscape surrounding the city of Orvieto.  
:: A. FORBES



ANDREW FORBES

Twitter: @andrewforbes

It was like being immersed in an exuberant dream. Upon entering the palace it took a moment to adjust to the light; flickering candles were held aloft by young Footman dressed in white, wearing striking Zanni and Pantalone style masks with exaggerated noses, typi-

cal of an Italian Masquerade Ball. Beautifully dressed hostesses greeted us, dressed in ornately decorated and beaded dresses, their hair adorned with peonies, roses, vine leaves and grapes. Baroque music played. The intrigue continued as we were seated for the banquet. Illuminated by candelabras and lan-

terns, athletic dancers, wearing theatrical costumes, performed in front of us beginning their story telling... I was captivated.

## Beyond Assisi

I had only been in Umbria a few days, but I was spellbound. I have to admit that I haven't been that adventurous in my trips to Italy, allowing myself to be tempted by the country's big hitters, including of course romantic Tuscany. In fact it would seem that I have not been alone in being seduced by the draw of Florence and Siena, or icons like the leaning tower of Pisa and those quintessential Italian countryside scenes of manor houses reached by winding lanes lined with towering Cypress trees. But giving into such temptations often means that many forego the opportunity to enjoy neighbouring Umbria.

Yet if my few days of discovery in Umbria were anything to go by, then this central autonomous region, one of the twenty-nine that make up

modern Italy, can more than equal the charm of any other part of central Italy. The area has a local cuisine that is deliciously natural and uncomplicated; whilst for those seeking to be wowed by history and culture, well Umbria can certainly boast plenty of medieval and renaissance art – and all without the coachloads of tour groups.

Assisi, birthplace of St Francis is Umbria's tourist focus, so unless you are travelling in low season or on a pilgrimage tour, it's a good idea to give that a miss and instead enjoy the abundant choices of medieval hilltop towns that surround the energetic market town of Foligno.

## Orvieto – hilltop masterpiece

I'd found a reasonably-priced flight to Rome, so decided to enjoy the couple of hours' drive through the Lazio countryside to Umbria. On the way we stopped at the stunning volcanic lakes of Bracciano and Bolsena – I was already being charmed and absorbed by stories from our guide; about the 'miracle of Bolsena' and the Corpus Christi church in Montefiascone, and how water from these lakes fed the ancient and classical fountains of Rome.

Yet this was not our final destination for the night; we were heading to the Umbrian town of Orvieto. Towards the end of the afternoon the hilltop town came into sight, set upon a huge outcrop of volcanic rock surrounded by fertile countryside. We pulled over to admire the view – the elevated, fortified medieval town, reflecting the warm afternoon sunlight, clusters around its remarkable 14th century Duomo and extends right to the cliff edge. It's the sort of fairy-tale scene that really can only be enjoyed in Italy, and especially here in the heart of the country.

The road twisted and turned before delivering us to the summit – and to a maze of cobbled streets and ancient buildings made from the local volcanic rock.

Orvieto was the first of three towns we planned to explore off-season; creating a triangle that offered a fasci-



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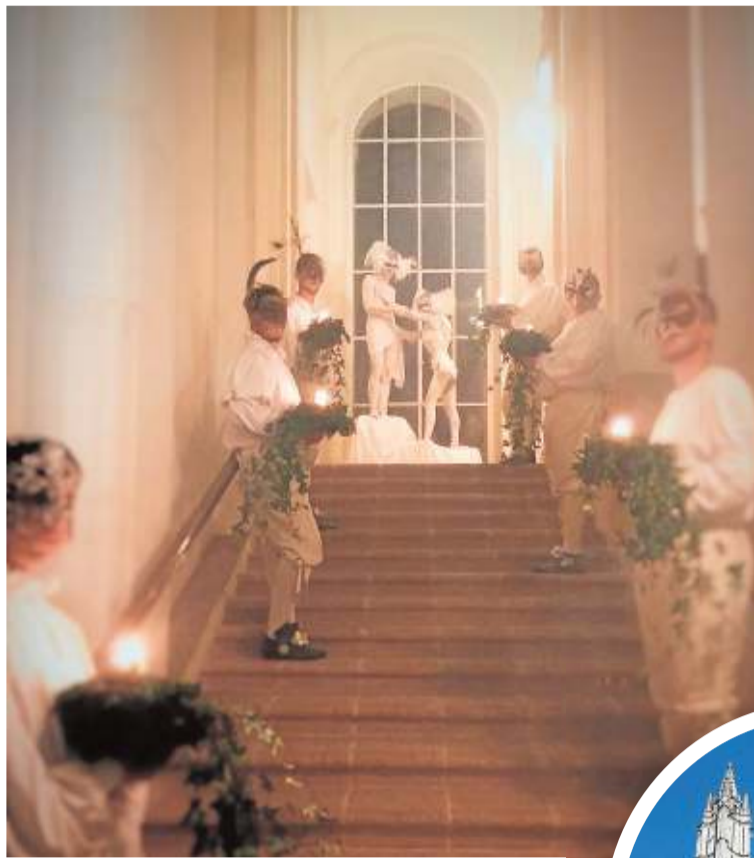
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nating insight into culture, history, and day-to-day life in Umbria; and all without catching sight of a tour group.

The cathedral is one of the internationally renowned monuments in the town. Escaping conflict in Rome, and before relocating to Avignon in the early 1300s, the Popes came to Orvieto, putting this town very much on the religious, cultural and artistic map. So to pass through the huge bronze door of the Duomo, under the rose window, one enters not just a religious building but also into a gallery of fine art. Carvings, sculptures and frescos depict more than iconic stories, they showcase priceless period artistry that has influenced and shaped the cultural story of Italy.

But for me to get a feel for a destination means to dive into the food culture. I love to try the local wines and be adventurous with new dishes. Eating in Italy is of course one of the great pleasures of holidaying here, and once deep within Umbria one can escape those tawdry tourist restaurants with picture menus propped up outside. Here eateries on the whole retain their identities and are usually still family owned and run. Orvieto offers menus prepared as they have been for generations- no irritating foodies here, or fussy presentation with decorative plate sauces, foams or droplets – instead the focus is on ingredients, flavour and hearty portions.



Masked footmen at the Baroque Ball. :: A. FORBES

### Montefalco - sophisticated enclave

The next day we found ourselves in Montefalco, a charming hilltop town with a classic, central piazza, surrounded by ancient buildings of stone and plaster, each with a glorious faded patina that one only sees in Italy; a combination of rich and gentle earth tones, from warm and mellow trav-

ertine to rose-coloured plaster.

Here one can discover Umbrian fine dining. Yes, in this small but perfectly formed town is not only one of the area's finest boutique hotels, but also one of the best restaurants. Reassuringly fellow guests

included as many Italians as visitors – so far this part of Italy hasn't become a theme park for foreign tourists. Although one can find galleries and museums; sophisticated independent stores selling artisan products and the town's famous woven linen products; quirky bars and good restaurants, they are all enjoyed as much by the Italians as they are by visitors.

### Foligno - living history

Foligno was to be the final town on our route discovering hidden Umbria. Admittedly, passing through the shabby outskirts on the way into the centre, the town doesn't at first display the same degree of charm and beauty as the other destinations but this market town does embrace you with a lively and welcoming ambience.

It's said that the town centre has the highest concentration of palaces and churches compared to anywhere else in Italy. That's hard to believe in such a historic country, but once

in the centre, Foligno certainly has plenty to offer the history buff.

Yet on this final night in Umbria we were to enjoy some living history; at the Palazzo Candiotti.

Celebrating 70 years since the modern day revival of the 'Giostra della Quintana', the town's historic jousting tournament, Foligno is putting on a very special dinner. It's an extravagant Baroque Ball, a carnival masquerade banquet evocatively named the 'the Festa d'Oro e di Vento'. Taking its inspiration from the Zephyr wind that brings with it the changing seasons, the feast was animated with magicians, jesters, actors and dancers.

Even the menu echoed seventeenth century tastes. Between courses we were entertained with period rhymes, poems, and mysterious interpretations of Mother Nature and her seasons. It was an enthralling world; but one you won't have to wait another 70 years to experience.

For Foligno succumbs to renaissance romanticism, glamorous events and period costume parades twice a year, in June and September, to mark the town's unique jousting tournaments. Over eight hundred people join in the celebrations, dressed in extravagant seventeenth century costumes, and restaurants serve typical dishes from the period – and it all starts again in June. So just enough time then to choose a mask...



Orvieto cathedral. :: SUR



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ANDREW FORBES

## THE INSIDER GUIDE

## Umbria



La rocciatu - regional pastry.

Although well known for Assisi, the beautiful UNESCO protected birth place of St Francis, Umbria is often passed-by in favour of its more fashionable neighbour, Tuscany. Yet Umbria offers the chance to enjoy off the beaten tourist trail experiences of hidden Italy, and discover the culturally rich, yet less well-known medieval towns of Montefalco and Orvieto, as well as the thriving market town of Foligno, famous for its jousting tournament.

## STAY:

## Palazzo Piccolomini - Orvieto

Built upon an elevated plateau of volcanic rock, the picturesque, historic town of Orvieto makes for an exceptional sight, dominating the surrounding countryside. To enjoy this fascinating town, it's best to stay in the heart of historic quarter.

Palazzo Piccolomini is a former aristocratic palatial home, now renovated as a contemporary hotel with understated modern furnishings and simple, comfortable rooms. Convenient location within easy walking distance to the Duomo, as well as the town's restaurants.

[www.palazzopiccolomini.it](http://www.palazzopiccolomini.it)

## Hotel Virgilio - Orvieto

If you're looking for a little more boutique-style hotel charm, then the Hotel Virgilio is a good choice. Some of its privileged rooms look directly over the stunning Duomo, one of the most striking and beautiful cathedrals in Italy.



Bantadosi.

[www.orvietohotelvirgilio.com](http://www.orvietohotelvirgilio.com)

## Bantadosi Hotel &amp; Spa - Montefalco

Overlooking the town's main square, and adjacent to one of Montefalco's best restaurants, this boutique spa hotel captures the romance of renaissance Italy. Many rooms feature ceilings with original frescos; and each have touches of luxury and glamour and the latest in-room technology. There's a small basement spa too.

[www.hotelbantadosi.it](http://www.hotelbantadosi.it)

## Villa dei Platani - Foligno

Found on one of Foligno's most elegant streets, this palatial villa is now a contemporary hotel within a few minutes' walk of lively market town centre. Expect a spa, gardens, and spacious rooms with modern styling. Owner and host Elisa Cesarini and her team have a knack for making one feel welcome and at home.

[www.villadeiplatani.com](http://www.villadeiplatani.com)

## EAT:

## Bar Montanucci - Orvieto

This local bar is enough to make you want to have a second breakfast each day – it offers tasty pastries and treats reflecting the town's seasonal festivals (like ricotta cheese filled 'bigné' fritters). Lunchtime snacks, and light bites. Italy's most famous chocolate festival is held in Umbria, so expect to find here a good selection of chocolates too.

[www.barmontanucci.com](http://www.barmontanucci.com)

## Da Maurizio - Orvieto

If you're a vegetarian, then eating out can sometimes be tricky in the heart of Italy. Although Umbria's rustic cuisine is rich in artisan cheeses and wonderful seasonal vegetables like asparagus and mushrooms, most dishes are based around meat, especially game like wild boar. Also, cured meats like capocollo, and offal are popular too, especially among the various antipasti first plates of a meal.

Da Maurizio, with its wood burning stove and old stone walls, is full of charm. The family prepare and serve typical, tasty traditional dishes and snacks including delicious Lumachelle (bacon and cheese 'snail' rolls). This is also a good place to try Umbrian wines.

[www.ristorante-maurizio.com](http://www.ristorante-maurizio.com)

## Locanda del Teatro - Montefalco

If you're looking for a gourmet experience presented with finesse and style, then the Locanda del Teatro is a must-visit when in Montefalco. Head chef Pasqualino Titta and his partner Paolo Galanti, the maître d' and sommelier, have created a seductive environment to savour the best of the Umbrian kitchen.

Search 'Locanda-del-Teatro' on Facebook

## Ristorante Alla Via Di Mezzo - Montefalco

A visit to this informal, homey restaurant is an experience. Created by charismatic Italian TV chef Giorgio Barchiesi, (or Giorgione as he is affectionately known), it specialises in Umbria dishes. Giorgione is a colourful character, renowned for his wit – his TV show is one of the most popular cooking programmes on Italian TV as it's unscripted, and spontaneous, and usually based in and around Montefalco, where he sources and prepares his food.

[www.ristoranteallaviadi mezzo.it](http://www.ristoranteallaviadi mezzo.it)

## Four Rooms Bistro - Foligno

Smart, on-trend lounge bar restaurant that's the place to have aperitifs, cocktails, light bites and after dinner drinks. The historic building pulsates with life, offering different spaces with diverse moods, from informal hipster, to elegant and smart.

[www.facebook.com/fourrooms-bistrot](http://www.facebook.com/fourrooms-bistrot)

## Ladri di biciclette - Foligno

So, we all want to eat pizza in Italy and this quirky restaurant, the 'Bicycle Thief', is a truly original place to enjoy authentic pizzas, both classic 'red' pizzas and 'white' pizza Bianca (no tomato sauce but plenty of cheese and seasonal toppings). Once a bicycle workshop and store,



Bar Montanucci.



Baroque costumes in Foligno.



Ladri di Biciclette.



Mosaic, Orvieto Duomo.



Typical produce shop.



Montefalco.

this Osteria Ciclabile pizzeria is now full of cycling memorabilia and fixtures and fittings fashioned from parts of bicycles.

[www.facebook.com/OsteriaCiclabileFoligno](http://www.facebook.com/OsteriaCiclabileFoligno)

## DO &amp; SEE:

## Giostra della Quintana - Foligno

This historic Knight's Jousting Festival consumes the town of Foligno, transforming it into a romantic medieval world of costumed parades and parties celebrating these traditional martial tournaments. The first tournament this year will run 17-18 June and the second tournament 17-18 September.

[www.quintana.it](http://www.quintana.it)

## Duomo di Orvieto

Orvieto, with its commanding position on an impregnable rock outcrop, became a wealthy community, controlling the road between Florence and Rome. This is reflecting in the small town's magnificent 14th century cathedral. The façade has extraordinary carvings, windows and mosaics whilst inside one finds chapels decorated with exceptional art – make sure you spend time in the 'Cappella Nuova'.

[www.opsm.it](http://www.opsm.it)

## I Primi d'Italia - Foligno

Attracting tens of thousands of visitors from Italy and internationally, the 'I Primi d'Italia' festival is a national event dedicated to one of Italy's national foods, pasta. Foligno's annual festival is Italy's only one-stop-shop showcase of all that's great in the world of pasta, Italy's favourite first plates. This year the festival will be from 29 September 2 October 2016.

[www.iprimiditalia.it](http://www.iprimiditalia.it)

## BUY:

## Tessitura Pardi - Montefalco

Umbria has plenty of retail temptation, from gourmet artisan foods, to quirky and unique ceramics (for some beautiful examples try the shops in Orvieto's old town).

Yet the linens of Umbrian family firm Pardi are an exceptional buy. There's a factory shop in Montefalco where one can learn more about the time-honoured weaving techniques and the story telling within the subtle designs of the home and interior design linens. An elegant and sophisticated memory of a visit to Umbria.

[www.tessiturapardi.com](http://www.tessiturapardi.com)

## TRAVEL DESIGN:

My journey of discovery through Umbria was organised by Italy expert, Josephine O'Toole of The Contented Traveller.

[www.thecontentedtraveller.com](http://www.thecontentedtraveller.com)



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WHERE IN THE WORLD?



The luck of the Irish



Perhaps it's the luck of the Irish, and the Welsh too, that many of their countrymen and women will be heading to this destination next month.

Globally, this port city is known for one main produce: wine. In fact,

it is the world's major wine industry capital with its product exported around the world.

From 10 June until 10 July, the country in which this photograph was taken will take on an even more international feeling as it hosts one of the world's biggest international

competitions.

The structure which features in this image is one of the venues. It opened in 2015 and took just two years to complete. It was also completely to budget. It was designed by a renowned firm of architects,

known for their work in the con-

struction of the Allianz Arena in Munich, home to both Bayern and 1860 football teams. They were also responsible for de Young, a fine arts museum located in San Francisco's Golden Gate Park.

The first reader to write in and tell us the name of this structure,

the city it is in, and the name of the architects who designed it will receive a prize.

Send your answer to all parts of the question by email to english@diariosur.es and put 'Where in the world?' in the subject line. Please include your contact details so we can get the prize to you.

Last month's photo was of the "very funky", according to Francesca Wellman, Fiat Tagliero building in Asmara, in modern day Eritrea, chosen to mark the country's 25th anniversary of its independence from Ethiopia. Congratulations to Francesca who was the first to answer the question correctly. Your prize is on its way.

Send your answer to english@diariosur.es



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## ANDALUCÍA THROUGH ITS FIESTAS

MARK NAYLER



# More fuel for a feria junky

## Spring fairs Cordoba and Granada

**O** I am developing a theory about Andalusian ferias - or, more specifically, about how best to enjoy them. As I follow them around the region in order to write this series (someone has to do it, right?), I am enjoying each one a little more than the last. In other words, when it comes to experiencing Andalucía's ferias, the exact opposite of overkill applies. The more of them you attend, the more you tune into the atmosphere of refined hedonism that is at the heart of all of these annual celebrations, no matter how different they may be in heritage or detail. This week, two of Andalucía's great cities run their ferias in parallel, so I had plenty of opportunity to test my theory - first in Cordoba, then in Granada.

Like so many Andalusian fairs, Cordoba's owes its existence to the trading of livestock. Dating from the end of the thirteenth century, when it began as a cattle market held on Whit Sunday, Cordoba's Spring Fair, which runs until Saturday, is one of the oldest in southern Spain. In the light and colour of the day, horses and carriages are on display just as much as they are during Jerez's Feria del Caballo, parading up and down a sand-covered recinto that feels as capacious as Seville's. Though there are far fewer casetas in Cordoba than Seville, all of Cordoba's are public. This is another truly democratic fair, where anyone can duck into any caseta they like for a hit of fino or rebujito and a blast of the addictive rhythms of the Sevillana.

It was in Cordoba on Sunday that I really grasped the key to getting the most out of these fairs - namely, caseta-crawling. Extending beyond a grand entrance styled on the multiple arches of Cordoba's mezquita - breathtaking day or night - this fair offers a pulsating mini-city of possibilities.

A marquee bearing the name of



A woman dressed up for the Cordoba fair in front of the entrance styled on the famous mezquita. :: EFE

a famous twentieth-century matador could be smelt long before being reached, because in one corner a medieval-style feast was being prepared. Bull, chicken, pork and lamb sizzled on a huge circular BBQ over a pit of glowing charcoal next to the biggest paella I have ever seen. I thought 'mouth-watering' was just a phrase before I arrived at this caseta. Chatting to the chef, though, was rendered difficult because of the tremendous noise emanating from the neighbouring tent, which was offering a nightclub-style experience at 4pm. In the middle of the hot, dusty afternoon, its packed dance-floor was full of revellers for whom it was permanently 3am.

Dancing is a key element to any southern Spanish fair, of course, but in Cordoba at the weekend it was more joyful and vital than ever. Moving on from the disco-caseta, plastic 'vaso' of rebujito in hand (this is the essential accom-

paniment to caseta-crawling in 25+ degrees, incidentally), we came to another in which the huge dance area looked like an impressionist's canvas. Swirling gypsy dresses created a hypnotic haze of colour and movement. And always, pumping from the speakers, the decisive and elemental Sevillanas.

Unlike in most Andalusian cities, Cordoba's Spring Fair also spills out into the town itself. For the whole of May, the central courtyards and patios characteristic of so many buildings in Cordoba are on display, with locals competing for the honour of having the most beautiful (the prize is awarded at the end of May). Started in 1918 and sponsored by the town hall, this charming tradition is a unique celebration of Cordoba's distinctive architecture.

This week Granada is also holding its annual Corpus Cristi feria (until Saturday), a fair with a relig-

ious rather than commercial heritage. Celebrations on the day of Corpus Cristi itself - always the eighth Sunday after Easter, this year it falls on Thursday - take place all over Andalucía, but in the seventeenth century Granada became the only city to fuse its annual fair with this important religious fixture.

### Anyone can duck into a caseta for a hit of fino and a blast of the addictive rhythms of the Sevillana

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By that time, though, Granada's Corpus Christi had long been about a good party just as much as a rather maudlin style of procession. In the sixteenth century, dual monarchs Ferdinand and Isabella made fervent attempts to wipe Granada's Arabic heritage from collective

memory, using Corpus Christi to this end. They instructed the town hall to pour large sums of money into the annual celebrations, and apparently ordered Granadinos to party until they were in a (strictly Catholic) frenzy. The monarchs' attempts at wiping out the legacy of hundreds of years of Islamic rule were not wholly unsuccessful; to this day, the city hosts no annual celebrations of its great Muslim era. Several hundred years later, though the fun is far from forced, one can't help concluding that the budget for Granada's Corpus Christi fair is not what it once was. The site of the feria itself offers the usual plethora of casetas and a garish fair-ground - but Granada's is the smallest I have seen so far. At perhaps half the size of Cordoba's, the site feels a little unloved and neglected: on the edges, illuminated as though ready for action, some streets stand empty, denuded of both people and casetas. And given that Granadinos' sartorial style is perhaps best described as 'bohemian chic', you will see far fewer 'trajes de gitano' at Granada feria than you will at most other Andalusian fairs, although the locals still dress for the festivities with style and elegance.

Relative absence of 'trajes' aside, Granada's flamenco heritage is perhaps the strongest in Andalucía. In addition to the ubiquitous Sevillanas, therefore, there is much more flamenco to be heard at Corpus Christi than there is at the region's other big fairs. One caseta belonging to a flamenco school was showcasing its students: a class of boys and girls no more than nine or ten years old put on a display of remarkable assurance and intensity.

With Cordoba and Granada's fairs now swinging, feria season is in full rebujito-fuelled flight. And so far my developing theory about Andalucía's fairs - that the more you go to the more you want to go to - has yet to be disproved. I am in danger, I fear, of becoming a feria junky.

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onions, tomatoes, peppers and a touch of cumin and oregano. In recipes for 'left overs' they are used in meatballs, omelettes and 'pipirrana' (a tomato and pepper salad) and also in fish soup although no recipe is as popular as that of the 'espeto' (sardines on skewers).

**Marinated sardines**

A simple way of marinating sardines to keep them for several days is to mix salt and sugar in equal parts and use it to cover the sardines for several hours, having previously opened and cleaned them.

After this time rinse and dry them, then add dried tomatoes and season with grated lemon rind and a good drop of olive oil. If you are going to use the sardines raw it's best to freeze them for 48hrs to eliminate any danger of anisakis (a parasite sometimes found in raw fish).

# The taste of the sea in summer

The sardine, a humble fish, delicious and sustainable and closely linked to the history of Malaga

The bay of Malaga has always been a rich source of sardines, scientifically named *Sardina pilchardus* and a close cousin of the 'boquerón' (anchovy).

**A surprise for visitors**

The 'moraga' or outdoor barbecue of sardines has drawn the attention of many visitors to the Malaga province. Sardines are

traditionally conceived as poor man's food and are abundant in the Mediterranean and most of the Atlantic.

**Easily available and cheap**

Sardines, especially during the summer, are easily available and cheap and can be used in all ty-

pes of recipes. For frying, small sardines or "manolitas" are preferable. These appear between July and August, although the large ones, boneless or whole, are just as good. They can also be eaten in brine, in stews such as 'cazuelilla moruna', with



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**Southern Spain has a multitude of hidden corners just waiting to be discovered: this week we suggest you take the road to...**

Andalucía

# A combination of history and culture

## The International Festival of Music and Dance continues in Úbeda until 17 June

by JAVIER ALMELLONES

**MALAGA.** Classical music concerts, sephardic songs, guitar recitals and even jazz: those are some of the ingredients in the International Festival of Music and Dance in Úbeda, which has become an important date on the Andalusian calendar.

The festival in this town in Jaén began on 7 May so it is now entering its final phase, practically coinciding with the last days of spring. So, between now and 17 June, there is still time to catch all types of activity related with music and culture in general.

During these final three weeks, this festival, which is now in its 28th year, will feature some internationally famous names such as Fura dels Baus, who will be performing in the bullring on 11 June, and singer Santiago Auserón, who will bring us the last concert of this cycle in the beautiful courtyard of the Hospital de Santiago.

There is plenty on offer this weekend, including a concert by the Robert Schumann Philharmonie tonight, and sephardic music from the Ethnos Atramo group, who will be performing in the Sinagoga del Auga, one of the most remarkable buildings in this historic and lovely town.

Next weekend also holds numerous temptations for music lovers, because the Music Fair will be taking place between 3 and 8 June. To coincide with this event, which is an integral part of the Music and Dance Festival, on Friday 3rd, Úbeda will be holding its 'Noche en Blanco' festival of culture, which includes numerous events, many of them taking place outdoors.

The last three days of the music festival, from 15 to 17 June, are dedicated especially to jazz, bringing the month of music to a spectacular end. As well as Santiago Auserón, there will also be performances by La Blasa Quintet and the Gonzalo del Val Trio.

The International Festival of Music and Dance of Úbeda has evolved considerably since it began in 1989. For the first few years it was a primarily local event, but it gradually began to incorporate chamber music groups, large orchestras and classical ballet.

After that it attracted some very famous names from the world of opera, such as Teresa Braganza, Montserrat Caballé, Ainhoa Arteta, Alfredo Kraus and José Carreras, among others.

During its nearly three decades of existence, this festival has opened up to all sorts of music, including solo-



Some of the concerts are held in historical buildings such as the Sinagoga del Auga. :: TURISMO ANDALUZ



Patio of the former Hospital de Santiago. :: TURISMO ANDALUZ

ists, jazz, folk and even flamenco groups.

These days the International Festival of Úbeda, which the local council and the 'Amigos de la Música' cultural association help to organise each year, has become a prestigious inter-

national event which takes place in the unique setting of a town which for the past 13 years has been classified as a World Heritage Site.

### Historical heritage

Another attraction of this festival is

the fact that many of the performances take place in some very special venues, such as the ancient Hospital de Santiago, the San Lorenzo church, the bullring and the Sinagoga del Auga, among others, which help to remind visitors that this is a town with an incredible historical heritage.

Together with neighbouring Baeza, which is also a World Heritage Site, Úbeda boasts some exceptional monuments and buildings. This town in Jaén province is especially renowned for examples of the so-called southern renaissance, which can be seen in many of the religious and public buildings in the historic town centre.

One of the most emblematic and artistically important places of interest is the Plaza Vázquez de Molina, with its Holy Chapel of El Salvador, which is considered one of the masterpieces of Diego de Siloé.

The ecclesiastical heritage of Úbeda

also includes the Collegiate Church of Santa María de los Reales Alcázares, in whose interior a Roman temple was discovered, together with remains from the Bronze Age and even a mosque. This is like taking a trip through history, in just one building.

Other interesting religious buildings are the churches of San Pablo, San Lorenzo, Santísima Trinidad, San Isidoro and Santa Clara, and many more.

With regard to other buildings, there are some important Renaissance-style palaces such as that of Deán Ortega, which is now a Parador hotel, and Las Cadenas, which is the present Town Hall. In addition, there are other mansions which are well worth seeing, like the Casa de las Torres and the Palace of Don Luis de la Cueva.

Another of Úbeda's emblematic buildings is the ancient Hospital de Santiago. Until the mid-1970s it was still used as a hospital, but in the past it has also been a church, a palace and even a pantheon. More recently, it was restored and converted into a cultural venue for events such as the International Festival of Music and Dance.

The Sinagoga del Auga, which for a long time was hidden beneath another building in the historic town centre, has only been open to the public for five years.

After being restored, this Jewish synagogue still retains sections of great architectural beauty, including a wine cellar and a main reception room which is accessed through pointed archways.

In terms of the legacy handed down from the Moors,

Úbeda can proudly boast of its walls and the 'Portillo del Santo Cristo' where there is now an information centre.

Apart from its historical heritage, though, it is important

not to forget the agricultural aspect of this town, which is considerable. This can be explored by

visiting the Casa de la Tercia, where there is an interesting information centre about olive trees and the local olive oil production.



The emblematic Colegiata del Salvador.



# THE NIGHT SKY

KEN CAMPBELL



## Facts about Mars

### The planet was once covered in water

Mars is at its closest point to Earth in over 11 years and at only 4,220 miles in diameter, it is the second smallest planet in the solar system; only Mercury is smaller. It is the fourth planet from the sun at an average distance of 142 million miles compared to 93 million miles for the Earth. A 'year' on Mars lasts for 687 Earth days and a day on Mars is 24 hours and 37 minutes long; scientists called the Martian day a 'Sol'.

The average summer temperature is a very chilly -81°F. Ice caps of frozen carbon dioxide exist at the north and south poles and they grow during the winter and shrink in the Martian summer. It has a very thin atmosphere made mostly of carbon dioxide and some water vapour, with clouds flitting across the yellow/brown-coloured sky. It suffers from very strong winds which cause dust storms that can last for days or weeks on end.

The surface of Mars is covered in dust made mainly of iron oxide, in other words 'rust', and it is this rust that gives Mars its distinctive red colour. Being rusty hints at water being present, but while there is no water on the surface of Mars there is evidence that many millions of years ago Mars was covered in oceans. That water evaporated when Mars lost most of its atmosphere but some of it could still be beneath the surface. Photographs taken from orbiting satellites have shown what appear to be underground springs seeping onto the surface every now and then. The presence of water suggests life but despite at least seven rovers being sent to Mars since 1971 no evidence of life has been found (yet).

Mars boasts having the highest mountain in the solar system; Olympus Mons is an extinct vol-



cano almost 13.5 miles high - about 2.5 times taller than Mount Everest- and over 350 miles wide at the base. Mars has two tiny potato-shaped moons called Phobos and Deimos. Deimos is the smallest at only around eight miles wide and Phobos is about 14 miles wide. Both are probably asteroids that were captured by Mars's atmosphere. Phobos is closest to Mars and orbits the planet once every 7.5 hours. Unfortunately Phobos is slowly spiralling down and one day will eventually crash into Mars itself.

A trip to Mars would take around seven months using today's rockets and a whole trip would probably last about two years. So astronauts would need to travel in a very well-equipped space station rather than in a cramped space capsule and be prepared to stay away from home for such a long period. I just wonder if the first person to land on Mars has been born yet?

**More information :**  
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## SAN PEDRO FILLS WITH FOOD, GLORIOUS FOOD

Close to 5,000 people turned out for each day of the first Callejeando Food Fest held over last weekend in San Pedro. A dozen food trucks, representing a variety of international food styles were on hand to feed revellers along with a host of local artisan food producers. There were cooking demonstrations by chefs, including Diego del Río, courtesy of local restaurants, workshops and plenty of music, entertainment and a special children's zone that kept the crowds enthralled.



JOSELE-LANZA

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#### REF. P.A.L.

Last week I had a problem in the gym. A guy accused me of stealing 70 euros from him, but it was not true. Moreover, he had no evidence against me. The point is that the owner of the gym believed this guy, and he threw me out without any proof about the veracity of the accusation. I tried to speak with them in a friendly way,

but they did not listen to reason, and the owner of the gym told me to not turn up again. I would like to know if someone can be accused without any proof, and if the owner of the gym can really throw me out or prevent me from entering unjustifiably.

The owner of the gymnasium cannot deny you entry without just cause, since the theft with which you have been charged has not been proven, and therefore, you can ask the gymnasium for the complaint form and also file a criminal complaint for slander against the man who maintains that you have stolen from him if that is not true.

#### REF. L.E.M.

My current partner is divorced, and one year ago he signed a divorce agreement by which he had to pay a maintenance allowance of 500 euros, plus extraordinary expenses,

for his daughter's support. One year ago, my partner's salary was higher, but now he barely gets 1,000 euros a month, so we are really struggling to make ends meet. Moreover, his ex-partner does not work, and has never looked for a job. In this situation, could we ask the judge to fix a lower allowance?

In principle, and based on the facts that you explain, if your partner's finances and work situation have substantially changed, and it seems it is really so, he could indeed ask the Court to modify the measures agreed in the past, establishing a lower allowance more in accordance with his current situation. In order to do this, he should provide a copy of the pay slip that he is currently earning, so that the judge can assess if it is reasonable to accept your partner's request to modify the previous measures.

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# Fiction in a foreign language

The Official Language School in Malaga organised its 15th annual short story contest for students

## :: SUR IN ENGLISH

**MALAGA.** For the last 15 years teachers of English at the Escuela Oficial de Idiomas (EOI) in Malaga have been encouraging their students to try their hand at creative writing in the language they are

learning. The Short Story Contest gives them the chance to put their writing skills to the test and to see their writing in print; the top ten selected stories are featured in the EOI's annual journal, *Martiricos*, and the top three can be read here

in SUR in English.

As usual this year the team in the SUR in English newsroom were honoured and delighted to be asked to choose the winner and the two runners-up in this year's competition. As usual, it was a difficult,

**Teachers received 76 entries this year; the top ten are published in the EOI's journal *Martiricos***

but thoroughly enjoyable task.

Prior to sending in the shortlisted entries for judging by our editorial team, staff at the EOI went through a total of 76 entries.

These came from students of English as a foreign language at the

## Winner Manuel Ruiz Campaña

# The Last Happy Man

**T**he physician had been staring at the x-ray for at least 10 minutes. "First year," thought the man on the other side of the table. Obviously, words were blocked in the doctor's throat; this and the progressive lack of colour on his face pointed to the explanation: bad news. In fact, his first communication of bad news, just in his "first year".

Placing the image of the darkened lungs on the table, the physician focused on the diseased man's eyes and, exhaling the air held in his chest, pronounced the lugubrious words: "It has extended."

"How long?" asked the walking dead in a hoarse voice. All those years of sad and lonely isolation... Years in a whirlpool of drink, smoke and drugs, far from everyone and with nothing better to do than feeding his perverse misanthropy. What else could he expect?

"Weeks, months... No more,"

answered a more relieved doctor, looking for the next patient's dossier on his table.

The man hardly raised his cadaverous shape, and silently went out of the consulting room. Going into the lift, he gave his most unpleasant and full-of-hatred look to a poor teenage girl, whose terrified eyes ran to the electronic counter, watching the countdown nervously.

Stepping out of the building and diving into the human tide that crowded the street, his extreme hatred of those who surrounded him spiralled strongly, and his eyes malevolently nailed on those who dared to look at them. Nicely surprised, he checked how a thread of terror ran from his potential victim's eyes. At first he was delighted, thinking of the devastating effect of his dark feelings. But then he began to return to reality. That was really weird.

People were already terrified.

In fact, he realized that there were very few people who dared to look at him. In the middle of his disappointment, he saw how most of them were walking in a hurried and confused way. The sun was high and its powerful rays dropped unmercifully on the confused mass, setting a heavy and barely breathable atmosphere. Despite this, many seemed to be in a rush to go somewhere, with a strange expression of fear and anxiety showing in their faces. Some of them hardly moved their feet, looking expectantly at the blue and burning sky, as if they were waiting for an answer from such immensity. "I do not know what you are afraid of, fucking bastards, but you deserve it anyway," he muttered to himself, chewing in his mouth a blend of the thick product from his lungs and his own wrath.

The terminal man walked among the scared people. His skeletal presence moved slowly,

## ABOUT THE AUTHOR

### ► Manuel Ruiz Campaña.

Manuel was born in Cadiz in 1963 and works as a civil servant in the same city. Among his hobbies he highlights listening to rock music and reading, mainly historical novels and opinion essays. He is currently taking his C1 level in English at the EOI in Cadiz and this is his third short story being published, one of them being a runner-up in a literary contest some years back.



progressively astonished and fascinated by what he was watching. He also checked how many people were desperately crying, nailed to the boiling ground, their hands pulling their hair. There were people shouting while they were embracing others, who were shouting too, raising up words of hysterical fatality to the crystalline sky. "But... what the fuck are they looking at?" he wondered, unable to see anything in the blue and suddenly feeling the dropping level of alcohol in his poisoned blood.

Forced by necessity, the man hit violently the first tavern's door he saw and went in. The great slam did not seem to attract the attention of a group of people gathered in front of a large television, watching the grave face of a middle-aged man who was speaking gravely and solemnly. The people were absolutely mesmerized, and nobody seemed to believe what they were listening to.

"...Scientists always told us this could happen, and now we know they were not wrong. Once more, and definitively this time, Mother Nature and Father Cosmos teach us how small we are, how lost we are in this tiny bit of dust roaming the vast Universe, which we call Earth. The whole existence of human be-

## Second runner-up Álvaro Gómez Pérez

# Breakfasts at Tiffany's

**I** arrived last night, later than planned and exhausted from all the driving. My first impression of the hotel did not at all match my expectations. The receptionist's apathy and the appearance of the room also contributed to my disappointment. Although, on other occasions, these facts would have likely provoked me to complain angrily, yesterday I contained myself because of one of the golden rules I had learnt from my past trips: "Never make decisions with a tired mind at night; wait un-

til the morning to decide with a clear mind."

This is not just an ordinary trip. It is the first one by myself since I left my husband three months ago, after been with him for twenty years. We had had a wonderful beginning but, even though he was not a bad person - as almost no one is in essence -, our lives had been gradually diverging, and we no longer had anything in common. Supposedly there were no extramarital affairs, but we argued about everything towards the end. The

last straw was a ridiculous struggle to control the TV: I wanted to watch a movie on Channel 2, whereas he preferred to watch the umpteenth national football match. (That time, it was against Tajikistan, wherever that was. Did they really have a football team?) After that squabble, we tore each other apart, and I left. Although I recognise that it was a childish argument, I finally had realised that not only was I unhappy with him, but I also felt suffocated. So a breath of fresh air is what I am try-

ing to recapture on this trip.

After having dinner in the hotel restaurant, I went to bed hoping that my dreams would work their usual magic. For some strange reason, for years, only when I have travelled have I been able to dream. It is as if my neurons were buried in my daily life and were resurrected only by going out to discover the world. I was lucky, because my dream was not of flying and leaping through the air - like 'Peter Pan' and 'Tom Thumb' - which I adore, but it was a genuine travelling dream, starring Marco Polo and his eastern caravans, which crawled unhurriedly through the deserts along the Silk Route.

The dream of that movie totally cleaned my hard drive, and, today I woke up without any bad memories. The shower completed the ceremony because, even though as time goes by I believe less in the great beyond, the warm water

flowing over my skin transmits me the feeling of being baptised and purified.

I look at the room again and I find it completely different, much more luminous and ethereal than yesterday, and I notice that the landscape visible from the window is like fairytale scenery, with golden hills and a bell tower included.

The aroma of coffee is calling me from the dining area: it is breakfast time! This act, which for many travellers is a mere nutritional process, for me has always been one of those magical moments that justify a trip.

Here comes the lift. I remember details of some of my legendary breakfasts: canals reflected in a silver coffeepot in Amsterdam, sounds from gondolas splashing in Venice, screams from jumping macaques in the jungle of Tortuguero in Costa Rica, the taste of

First runner-up Patricia Ruiz Ruiz

# The Great Escape

## of English

Malaga school as well as language schools across Andalucía, including Cadiz, Motril, Cordoba, Jaén, Almeria, Écija and Granada.

Prizes of 100, 75 and 50 euros are awarded to the first three winners respectively.

ings has only been a short blink in the dark, and we exactly know when the end of this blink will take place. In eighty days, twelve hours and twenty five minutes, the asteroid will hit our planet... our home... very near the North Pole. The impact will provoke a cataclysm with no precedents. Life expectancy after the impact... none... Any shape of life will be vaporized..."

The crying woman who embraced her baby; the man who bit his nails; the bar owner that looked at the others asking unanswered questions... twenty heads turned their shocked faces to the newly arrived man when he began to laugh loudly, leaning forward his elbows on the bar. His eyes looked at the people funnily as little pieces of rotten stuff were expelled from his throat with each laugh, falling on the bar like raindrops.

"What's happening?" He managed to say, while hilarity hit his lungs. "Do you want me to pay for the next round?" he asked finally in the middle of a new fit of laughter.

Taking the nearest bottle, the happy man went out of the tavern. He opened the bottle, lit a cigarette and, after having a long gulp, dived again into the hysterical multitude, ready to enjoy the happiest days of his life.

**S**arah Clab sat up in bed and shivered. Nights can be cold along the Hampshire coast, even in the middle of summer. She listened closely but the only sound was the crash of waves on the shore of the bay and crickets in the grass. What, then, had awakened her?

Perhaps it had been a car horn, she thought, or a police siren. Nothing to worry about. She relaxed against the pillow again and stared into the distance. Nothing ever happened in her grandfather's sleepy town, anyway. She used to enjoy spending her holidays here alone at the cottage, reacquainting herself with the roads and beaches of her childhood memories, but nowadays she felt trapped. Her eyelids drooped drowsily and her thoughts turned to what she would do the next morning. She might wander towards the park and have a picnic by the pond. It was such a quiet little town.

Suddenly she sat up, her nerves jangling. There it was again, that sound. It was someone knocking on the front door. She leapt to her feet and put on her slippers and a gown. Should she go to the door and investigate, or just ignore it and hope whoever it was would go away? Surely it wasn't a burglar, because burglars would not announce their arrival by banging on a door. And the sound was getting louder, almost furious.

Sarah peered through a window next to the door. Through it she could see a young man standing on the porch, silhouetted against the moonlight. There was a car on the road with the driver's door open and the brake lights on.

"What do you want?" called Sarah through the window. The man outside turned his head.

"I'm terribly sorry to bother you," he said. "I've run out of petrol and I wondered if you could help."

"I'm sorry but I don't even have a car, I can't help you," said Sarah. "There's a 24-hour shop five minutes up the road, they'll have some."

The man apologised and began to walk away. As Sarah watched she noticed his hand was dripping blood onto the pavement. She felt compelled to open the door and offer a bandage or a plaster.

"Are you hurt?" she said.

The stranger laughed, embarrassed. "My windshield broke," he said. His voice was pleasant enough. "A truck whizzed past me on the road and a brick fell off the back. It hit my car and went straight through the glass. I cut my hand on one of the shards, but I managed to wrap a handkerchief around it. It hasn't helped much, though."

Sarah grabbed his other arm and pulled him inside. "I'm a nurse," she said. "I'll bandage it up, it's the least I can do."

Sarah filled a basin with water and took a package from the bathroom cabinet. She looked at her patient and noticed he was wearing a jacket over a grey sweatshirt and grey trousers. Emblazoned on a large white label on his right breast were the words "H.M. PRISONS". Sarah gulped and stared at the man. Had she let an escaped convict into her home in the middle of the night?

"I'm sorry," he said, "I don't want to frighten you but I didn't

### ABOUT THE AUTHOR

► **Patricia Ruiz Ruiz.** Born in Almuñécar in 1987, Patricia is a trained kindergarten teacher and currently unemployed. She is keen on reading whodunits and this is the first time her work has been published. She is taking her B1 level in English at the EOI Motril.



know what to do."

"Okay," she replied. "It's Okay, you don't look like a violent guy." It was true, his face was kind, he was clean shaven and if anything, he looked more like an estate agent than a criminal. "Actually I do have some petrol in a can in the back garden. It was my grandfather's but he died last month. You can take it."

"That's very sweet of you," said the man as Sarah finished tying the bandage around his wrist. She went into the garden and picked up the can of petrol and walked out to the car with him. In the distance they could see headlights, another car was approaching fast. "Good luck!" she said, and the

stranger got into the car and shut the door.

Before he drove away he rolled down the window and said, "You've been really kind to me. What's your name?"

"Sarah," she said, and with that the car sped off into the night.

The next morning Sarah woke up early and made sandwiches. She wanted to head off to the pond and enjoy some sunshine. But she could not stop thinking about the events of the night before, the mysterious man in the prisoner's uniform. Should she have helped him? He could have been dangerous, though he looked too handsome to be a thug. Just as she was leaving the cottage, a car drove up and stopped in the road. She couldn't believe her eyes. It was a different car but the same man, whose hand she had bandaged, was sitting at the wheel. He stepped out. To her utter astonishment he was wearing a grey suit and a tie! He walked over to her and grinned, nervously.

"I had to see you again, Sarah. I couldn't sleep all night, I feel so embarrassed."

Sarah stared at him completely confused, a bag of sandwiches swinging in her hand.

"I have to explain. My name is Richard. Last night I was coming back from a fancy dress party when the accident happened. I spend my summers here but actually I'm a teacher, I live and work in Winchester. When you thought I was wearing that uniform because I had escaped from a cell I thought it was amusing at first. I didn't tell you it was just a disguise, but afterwards I couldn't get your face out of my mind and I regretted it. I'm really sorry I never explained why I was dressed like that. This morning I wanted to see you again. But I'll understand if you want me to leave."

Sarah looked at him and said nothing for a few moments, but then she smiled and spoke:

"Do you like cheese and pickles?"

rice with vegetables in Bangkok... It has just dawned on me that there is something they all have in common, including the first peaceful Sunday breakfasts in our home: that new look with which a new day is faced, that feeling that something new can happen, that new start to the day with new hopes, erasing all the previous hurtful memories which, if they were retained in the front of my mind, would certainly paralyse me forever.

And it is this morning, more than ever, when I need that new hopeful way of looking at the world. I am still a young woman and I feel alive. It might be that, deep down, what actually precipitated my decision to break with my past life was the heartbreaking sudden death of my sister. My values began to change then, growing apart from my husband's, who still clung to too many material

### ABOUT THE AUTHOR

► **Álvaro Gómez Pérez.** Born in Badajoz in 1958, Álvaro has lived in Malaga since early childhood. An architect by profession, he was involved in the refurbishment of the University of Malaga's chancellery and the Salinas Palace, among other projects. He is keen on watching films, travelling and reading. He has written many short stories and is thinking of finishing a novel he started some



time ago. He is currently taking his C1 level in English at EOI Malaga. His relationship with the Short Story Contest goes back to 2013, when he was runner-up with his story "A Day at the Beach". In 2014 he won the contest with "Imagine" and last year his story "Hooked" was shortlisted among the best 15 ones. He is, undoubtedly, one of the most persevering candidates.

things. I understood that once I had resolved my basic needs, what I really needed was something that money could not buy: laughter, tenderness, friendship, more contact with nature... true positive feelings. So, in search of those goals, I want to build the new life that I am beginning now. As the Spanish poet Jaime Gil de Biedma said, "One day, suddenly, you realise that life was going seriously"; too serious to waste what remains, I add now.

The dining area is very cosy, with wooden ceilings and floors. Let me see if I can choose wisely from among the vast variety of fruits and breads of such an overwhelming buffet. This table is perfect, next to a window from where I can gaze at a stunning picture postcard view: the greenest valley I have ever seen, full of cows that are grazing while the rising sun's rays finally break the

horizon. What a treat! While I am spreading butter on steaming hot toast, and although I am hardly interested in jewels, the image of Audrey Hepburn's excited and full-of-life look in 'Breakfast at Tiffany's' has just come to my mind. It was a scene, after a sleepless night, at the crack of dawn when she was walking along Fifth Avenue in New York in front of the shop windows of Tiffany's. And right now I feel like that look perfectly reflects my mood this morning of travel.

Although living is not easy most of the time, life can be exciting and surprising! By the way, at the next table there is a stunning and sensual platinum blonde, seemingly Scandinavian, who has not taken her eyes off me since I arrived. I am not invisible to people! Why not premiere my first Audrey-style smile... exploring new territories!

LIZ PARRY



WHAT'S IN A NAME?

# A businesswoman who planted hotels in Torremolinos

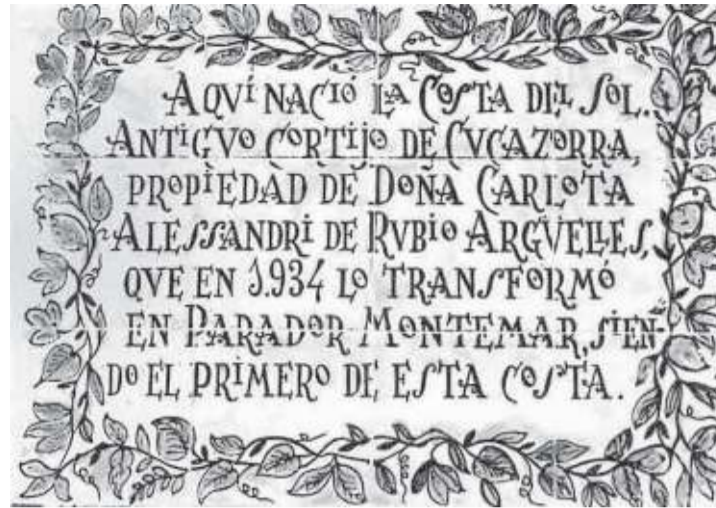
Carlota Alessandri was a tourism pioneer on the Costa del Sol

At the start of the 20th century, most visitors to the Costa del Sol were British, just as they are now. The difference is that there were very, very few visitors at all, and where the beaches are now lined with hotels, the vistas were of fields bordering the rows of fishing boats drawn up on the beach.

Carlota Alessandri was one of the first to imagine what the future might look like. Her full name was Carlota Alessandri Tettamanzy, and it is thought that she was born in Italy and came to the Malaga coast at the end of the 19th century. She married a doctor, Carlos Rubio Argüelles, who was dean of the Faculty of Medicine in Cadiz, and they had one daughter,

Ángeles Rubio Argüelles y Alessandri, who in 1925 married Edgar Neville Romrée, Count of Berganga de Duero, who was a Spanish diplomat, playwright and film director.

Carlota, apparently with the help of a 100,000 peseta loan from a bullfighter, bought land in Torremolinos in the Montemar and Carihuela areas which included a plot which went under the name of Cortijo de Cucazorra (a 'cortijo' being a type of rural farmland). She built a seven room 'Parador' which was later renamed 'Hotel Montemar' and used by the early wave of British tourists. It is recorded that when the local people asked her what she was thinking of planting on her newly acquired farmland, she smiled



'The Costa del Sol was born here' plaque placed on the Hotel Miramar in 1970. :: SALAS

and said simply: "Hotels". Once the hotel was built and up and running, Carlota became the first, along with the owner of La Roca, to obtain permission to cordon off part of the beach for the private use of guests. She continued with her pioneering when in 1954 the 'Asociación Amigos de Torremolinos' was founded and Carlota was the only woman on the board of 14 directors.

Her interests, however, did not lie only in the burgeoning tourism



industry. At the start of the 60s she sold some of her land for a merely symbolic price to the mystic Mother Maravillas de Jesús (who was beatified in 1998 and canonized in 2003) to build a church and a carmelite convent, as well as a school, an old people's home and a training school for domestic servants.

Carlota Alessandri died in 1972. Her name was given to the main avenue through Torremolinos, running parallel to the beach.

## LANGUAGE FOOTNOTE

Aquí	Here
Nacer	To be born
Antiguo	Old
Propiedad	Property
Transformar	To transform
Primero	First
Pionero	Pioneer
Hotel	Hotel
Placa	Plaque
Mirar	To look
Mar	Sea
Avenida	Avenue
Principio	Beginning
Amigo	Friend
Asociación	Association
Siglo	Century
Visitar	To visit
Iglesia	Church
Escuela	School
Convento	Convent
Místico	Mystic
Año	Year
Terreno	Land
Monja	Nun
Simbólico	Symbolic
Precio	Price
Torero	Bullfighter
Ancianos	Old people
Préstamo	Loan
Empresaria	Businesswoman
Médico	Doctor
Cineasta	Filmmaker

**Bilingual crossword inside back page**

## Costa journalists pick up annual communicator award

:: L. PARRY

**FUENGIROLA.** The work of two Costa journalists was rewarded last week by the Costa Press Club with the Communicator 2015 award, re-branded for this edition of the annual prize as the Jack Nusbaum Memorial Communicator award as a tribute to the original promoter of the award and founder member of the club, who passed away in February last year.

Joanna Styles was presented with the award for her Guide to Malaga travel app ([www.guidetomalaga.com](http://www.guidetomalaga.com)) while Marianne Elizabeth won for her website East of Malaga ([www.eastofmalaga.net](http://www.eastofmalaga.net)).

The presentation of the awards, which recognise excellence in jour-

nalism, took place during the May meeting of the Costa Press Club and was celebrated at the popular Vegetalia restaurant in Fuengirola. The president, Jesper Sander Pedersen, congratulating the winners of the 2015 award, told those present that the nomination process for 2016 will be announced towards the end of the year. The award is open to all professionals with strong links to the Costa del Sol.

The Costa Press Club is an independent association for foreign media professionals. The association holds regular dinner meetings with guest speakers, as well as debates on topical issues related to the media and Spanish society in general.



Marianne Elizabeth, Jesper Sander Pedersen and Joanna Styles. :: S. H.



Traditional stalls and prizes. :: SUR

## St Andrew's chaplaincy holds annual Spring Fair

:: SUR IN ENGLISH

**FUENGIROLA.** Last Saturday, St Andrew's Chaplaincy held its annual Spring Fair. Visitors enjoyed traditional stalls, games and competitions. Refreshments were served on the terrace while Roy played music on the accordion.



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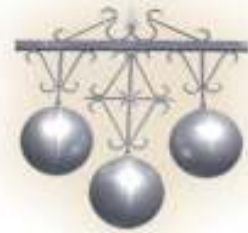
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# GARDENING

## Ornamental Bacopa

**Chaenostoma cordatum creates a cascading curtain of pretty flowers when used in hanging baskets and window boxes**

Chaenostoma cordatum is one of 52 species in the genus Chaenostoma which is native to South Africa. It is also known as Sutera cordata and is included in the Scrophulaceae family (snapdragons). It is commonly called Orna-

mental Bacopa but is not related to the Bacopa genus (water hyssop) which consists of aquatic plants.

Chaenostoma literally means 'gaping mouth' and refers to the shape of the flowers and corda-

tum refers to the heart shaped leaves.

Chaenostoma flowers mainly in the spring but will continue to flower, although less profusely, all year round in temperate areas. It is a tender, short-lived perennial herb that grows low to the ground (reaching a maximum of 14cm high) and is used as ground cover or in hanging baskets and window boxes where it will create a cascading curtain of flowers. It has small dark-green, heart-shaped leaves with a toothed margin and pretty white, pink or lilac five-petalled flowers.

Some species have variegated leaves. After the flowers have finished, orange seeds form inside a small capsule. The seeds can be used for propagation or stem cuttings can be taken in summer and autumn. Large clumps of Chaenostoma can be lifted and divided to provide new plants. Overall spread is around 50cm but it can be trimmed to keep it compact.

Chaenostoma needs a spot in full sun which preferably receives some afternoon shade. It is not drought resistant however it can withstand extreme heat. Unlike many plants, when it starts to get dry instead of wilting it will just start shedding leaves and flower buds. If caught quickly it is possible to save it however if left too long it may not recover.

This beautiful little plant has one minor drawback; unfortunately it can attract gnats and other small flying insects who are drawn to its flowers.

brushed off. To prevent them returning, smear petroleum jelly around the rim of the pot or stand the pot on rocks in a large saucer of water (making sure it's not touching the water). Ant traps can be made with a piece of cotton wool soaked in a solution of boric acid and sugar water (1 teaspoon boric acid to 6 tablespoons sugar and half a litre of water) placed inside a small container. Ants are attracted to honeydew produced by aphids etc. so keep an eye open for the start of any infestations and blast them off with a soapy water spray.



Chaenostoma cordatum and a lilac flowered variety (inset) :: SUR

## PLANT OF THE MONTH



:: LYN NEWMAN

## HEAT PROOF PLANTS

Lyn Newman cannot fault her begonias saying, "They are really fantastic for all year round flowering, they do not seem to mind the heat and are so productive. They were just tiny little plants that have grown and grown and flowered non-stop."

## GARDENING HINTS JUNE

### Stemming the tide of ants

The warmer weather is here at last but so too are the ants, unfortunately. Although ants have a bad reputation, they are actually very beneficial in the garden, moving the soil and keeping it aerated. However once they get into plant containers they can cause the plant to die by making the soil loose around the roots. Ants can be removed from pots in various ways. If the pot is small enough it can be immersed in a bucket of luke-warm water. The ants will quickly evacuate the soil. Any seeking safety on the foliage can then be

brushed off. To prevent them returning, smear petroleum jelly around the rim of the pot or stand the pot on rocks in a large saucer of water (making sure it's not touching the water). Ant traps can be made with a piece of cotton wool soaked in a solution of boric acid and sugar water (1 teaspoon boric acid to 6 tablespoons sugar and half a litre of water) placed inside a small container. Ants are attracted to honeydew produced by aphids etc. so keep an eye open for the start of any infestations and blast them off with a soapy water spray.

## PHOTOS

### Calling all gardeners

We know that many of our readers have lovely gardens, or enjoy growing plants on their terraces or balconies, so why not share them with others?

Email your photos to [english@diariosur.es](mailto:english@diariosur.es) or send them to SUR in English, Avda Dr Marañón 48, 29009 Malaga, with a caption and a few words of explanation, or upload them to <http://readersphotos.suri-english.com>, and we'll do the rest!





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The bullring in Malaga is celebrating its 140th anniversary this year and is considered one of the city's most outstanding buildings. It is classified as a Historic and Artistic Monument and a Building of Cultural Interest

■ CARMEN ALCARAZ

**L**a Malagueta bullring takes its name from the area in which it stands, very close to the beach and on the Paseo de Reding.

It was designed by Joaquín Ruco, an architect from Cantabria who also designed the Atarazanas market, and it was inaugurated on 11 June 1876 with a bullfight which included, among others, the legendary bullfighter Rafael Molina, known as 'Lagartijo', whose fans considered him the absolute star of bullfighting in Córdoba.

The bullring is one of the most important buildings in Malaga city and it has been officially classified not only as a Historic and Artistic Monument, but also as a Building of Cultural Interest. It was built in neo-Mudejar style, is hexagonal in shape and nowadays it can hold 9,032 spectators. The ring is 52 metres in diameter and there are also four pens, 10 areas where the bulls are kept before the bullfight begins, stables, equestrian area, room for the bullfighters and an infirmary.

A bullfighting festival is held in this very special venue during the August Fair each year, with a full

# Malaga

## a city revealed



## La Malagueta bullring

The bullring stands beside La Malagueta beach, from which it takes its name

programme of activities and the participation of some of the most famous bullfighters in Spain.

At Easter, the popular Picassian bullfight also takes place here, and for that the bullfighters wear costumes inspired by the styles,

visions and forms of this artist, who was born in Malaga.

of bullfighting; it is an important exhibition of pieces, which has recently grown by nearly 1,400 new items thanks to the incorporation of the Juan Barco collection.

Among the items on permanent display in the museum are a cap and cape which belonged to Juan Belmonte, who was known as 'El Pasmado de Triana' and considered by many to have been the founder of modern bullfighting. You can also see the 'suits of lights' and personal items of bullfighters such as Manolete, Antonio Ordóñez, José Tomás and Curro Romero; the costume belonging to Curro Romero is ripped, as he was gored while wearing it.

In addition to the items which are purely related to bullfighting, the museum also has works of art by painters including Goya, Picasso, Antonio Carnicero, Juan de la Cruz, Lake Price, José Cubero Gabardón, Mariano Benlliure and Barjola.

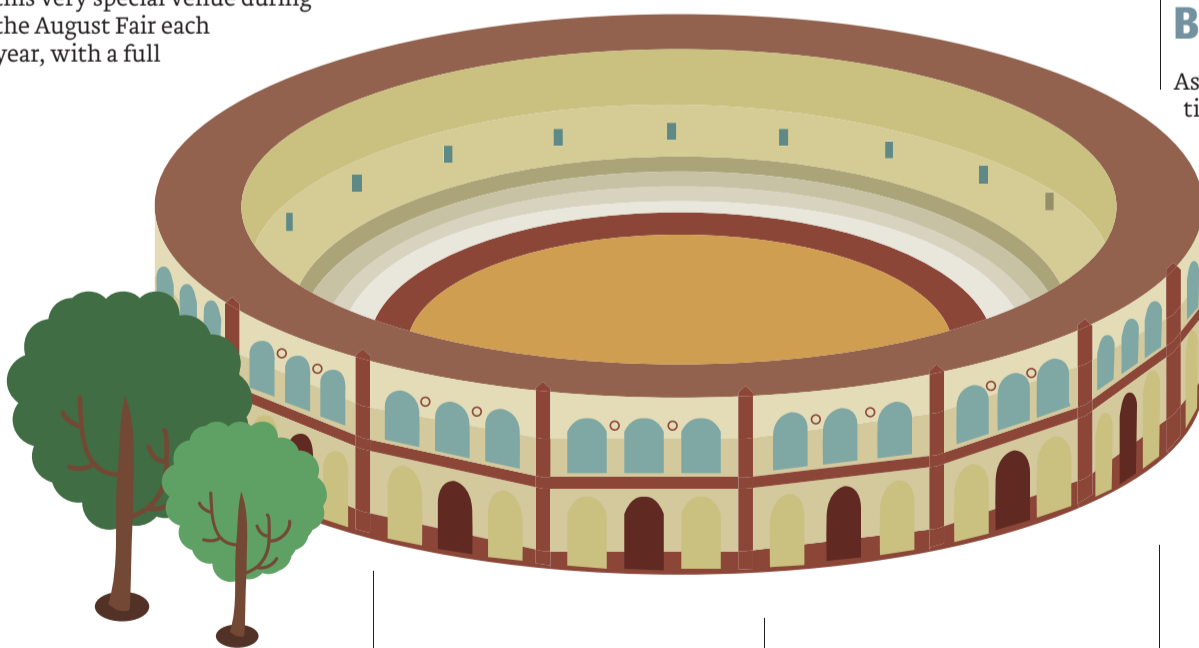
There is also a collection of posters, including some for bullfights which took place during the reigns of Carlos III and Isabel II.

## Antonio Ordóñez Bullfighting Museum

As well as the facilities mentioned above, La Malagueta is also home to the Antonio Ordóñez Bullfighting Museum, which is dedicated to the famous bullfighter of the same name, who was from Ronda.

The collection in this museum covers six centuries of the history

La Malagueta bullring is located just a few metres away from the beach of the same name



## The best way to get to Malaga

### TRAIN



► **Renfe.** Check routes, frequency and times by calling 952 128 079, on the Renfe web [www.renfe.com](http://www.renfe.com) or via the phone application from: Renfe Mobi.

### BUS



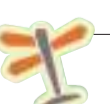
► **Emsam bus line.** All bus route information and hours are available on the web of the station [www.estabus.emsam.es](http://www.estabus.emsam.es) or by calling 952 350 061.

### CAR



► **Smassa.** Smassa is the firm that manages the numerous public underground car parks around the city. More information at [www.smassa.eu](http://www.smassa.eu)

### DON'T FORGET



► **Visit the municipal tourist information office** (in Avenida de Cervantes, 1) for more details of events happening in the city of Malaga.



# FACTS & FACES

## Butterfly magic helps the homeless



A much-needed cheque for the homeless. :: MARK ROOD

### MIJAS

:: **Y. SCOTT.** The worlds of food, fashion and fitness joined forces last Monday for a special lunch to raise much needed funds to help the homeless. The event, organised by Marbella Social Butterfly, was held at Le Papillon restaurant in Marbella where 104 guests mingled during a networking reception, shopping from a variety of stalls before enjoying a three course lunch. This was followed with an entertaining talk from lifestyle, yoga and fitness expert Lisa Marie Robinson about ten ways to have a happy, healthy life and love yourself. Temptation came in the form of the fashion show from event sponsor Elle Interiors. An auction was conducted by Hot magazine editor and Talk Radio Europe host Giles Brown. In total 3,000 euros was raised that will go towards the provision of a mobile food service as well as essentials such as blankets. Lisa Toni Flannery, of Marbella Social Butterfly said: "Joel Kennedy (of Help the Homeless) devotes himself to helping the homeless. He is a one man band with little support."



Back in time. :: V.M.

## Ronda goes back to "romantic" times

### RONDA

A historical reenactment of the era of the bandits in Ronda attracted hundreds of visitors at the weekend. This was the fourth annual Ronda Romántica event, where different performances were held around the town.

## Age Care provides inland residents with company and support

### COÍN

Age Care's new coffee morning venture in Coín got off to a good start with over 30 people attending in the first week. Delia Lambert, welfare leader, and her two new welfare volunteers were absolutely delighted at the attendance and how people interacted.

The meetings are held every Thursday at Cafe Festival on the first floor of La Trocha shopping centre between 11am and 1pm. There is plenty of parking and a lift. Contact [info@agecarecosta.org](mailto:info@agecarecosta.org)



Guests and volunteers at the Age Care coffee morning. :: SUR

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## Two gourmet tapas

These two dishes are sure to impress your friends and can be made as part of a tapas spread or as tasty starter dishes. The ingredients are easy to find and they are both straightforward to prepare yet look and, more importantly, taste like fancy restaurant fare.



**Chorizo with white wine and padrón peppers**  
500g semi cured (the softer variety) chorizo  
150g padrón peppers  
50 ml white wine  
Coarse sea salt  
Olive oil  
a sprig of thyme (optional)

Serves 4 as a tapa. Prick the chorizo with a fork all over and slice into thick slices. Heat a splash of olive oil in a frying pan, add the chorizo and fry for a couple of minutes. Add the white wine, a little water and thyme. Reduce heat and simmer for a few minutes until the liquid is reduced.

Place another frying pan on a high heat with a little oil, add the peppers and fry until soft. Sprinkle with the salt.

Plate up the chorizo with the



sauce and top with the peppers.

**Cured fillets of mackerel served with a strawberry salsa**  
8 mackerel fillets - very fresh from the market  
1kg white sugar  
1kg salt  
Basil oil (optional)  
Black garlic (optional - just blend garlic with a few drops of water)  
For the salsa:  
500g strawberries  
white sugar

To cure the fish, place 4 fillets skin side down in a container that fits them comfortably. Mix the sugar and salt and cover the fillets with half of the mixture. Place the remaining 4 fillets on top, this time skin side up and cover with the remaining salt/sugar mixture making sure the fish is well covered. Place a small chopping board on the fish to weigh it down. Cure the mackerel for at least 45 minutes.

For the sauce: sprinkle a little sugar into a very hot pan with a splash of olive oil, add strawberries and sauté for two minutes.

To serve, remove the fish from the salt/sugar mixture and wipe. Cut into thin slices and serve with the strawberry salsa, basil oil and black garlic.

*Antonio Ruiz Galván trained at Malaga's prestigious La Cónsula cookery school, along with several of Spain's Michelin-star chefs. He has worked as a professional chef at top hotels and restaurants across Europe and Spain and holds regular cookery classes on the Costa del Sol for Taste of Andalusia.*

**A. J. LINN**

## BREXIT IF YOU WANT TO...



**T**he possibility of a Brexit is preying on the minds of UK expats in whatever European country they may have taken up abode, but as it happens we are the lucky ones as far as the essentials of life are concerned. The real victims will be UK residents who enjoy a tippie.

If Brexit becomes a reality, trav-

ellers returning from Europe to Fortress Britain will be restricted, as in the bad old days, to 16 litres of beer, four litres of wine and a litre of spirits.

However those who support minimum pricing as a way of reducing alcohol consumption will be happy. Scotland's efforts to legislate accordingly were thwarted by EU trade competition rules, but, if outside the EU, they will be able to do what they want. A proposal to reduce duty on draught real ale and cider as a way of getting people back to pubs will henceforth become easier as EU duty rates on such items will not have to be respected. British winemakers, just starting to get the international recognition they deserve, may find their exports hampered by tax barriers when selling to EU countries. A serious commercial threat

would be the effect on geographical food and drink denominations, currently protected EU-wide by law. No longer in the Brussels club, a British maker of Stilton cheese, for example, could be involved in expensive legal battles to stop a French producer selling 'Stilton' to USA or Russia. Scotch whisky distillers would also be seriously affected until adequate UK/EU treaties were signed - years away.

It is hard to think how the resident expat who seldom leaves Spain would suffer, except that UK-sourced products may be subject to higher taxes. In any case many of us will not have a great deal of interest in the matter by the time the final ties are cut in the decade or so it will take to complete the formalities of a Brexit.

Shall we open that second bottle now?

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# Malaga Glass Museum celebrates seventh anniversary with expansion plans

A birthday exhibition as a tribute to the neighbourhood

The management of the Museo del Vidrio y Cristal has acquired adjacent land with the intention of exhibiting large stained glass windows

by ANTONIO JAVIER LÓPEZ

**MALAGA.** Seven years after he co-founded the Malaga Glass Museum, along with British professor Ian Phillips, Gonzalo Fernández-Prieto stands among his exhibits and declares his love.

"I'm in love with this house, with this district, with this museum... Because this museum would be nothing without this district," said the museum's director.

And to prove his long-term commitment to their surroundings Fernández-Prieto and Phillips chose the seventh anniversary to announce the museum's expansion plans, following the acquisition of land adjoining the 18th century mansion that houses the current collection.

The new premises will enable the museum to exhibit large stained-glass windows that the house currently has no space for.

"First we'll have to see what we



Paintings and furniture accompany the glass collection. :: N. SALAS

find and then... we'll see," said the museum's director with regard to the archaeological study that will have to be carried out on the site. Other excavations in the neighbourhood have uncovered kilns from the days of Funtanalla, the

name given to the area around the San Felipe Neri church when it was home to the city's pottery industry.

The new space will add an extra 200 square metres to the 1,200 the museum already occupies. The



The exhibition that opened this week to mark the seventh anniversary of the Malaga Glass Museum is a tribute to the history of the old district in which the museum stands alongside the San Felipe Neri church. El Misterio de La Funtanalla is a collection of final projects carried out by students from the Malaga School of Architecture who propose how to revive this forgotten neighbourhood. The innovative projects are on display until 3 June. The museum is open from 11am to 7pm Tuesday to Sunday.

collection comprises around 3,000 pieces and includes furniture and paintings as well as glass exhibits dating from the 6th century BC to the present day. The museum receives an average of 1,800 visitors a month.

Fernández-Prieto recalls how he had no links to Malaga before opening the museum. "I lived in London and travelled frequently to Spain looking for a place for the collection. I travelled around the whole country and when I came to this city, this district and this house, I knew I had arrived," he said.

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## Four events for gay tourism this summer



Gay pride day 2015. :: FRANCIS SILVA

### :: SUR IN ENGLISH

**TORREMOLINOS.** Last year, Torremolinos town hall realised how important LGTB (lesbians, gays, transsexuals and bisexuals) are to local tourism. This year they are expecting even more visitors from this sector and aim to double the turnover of 2015.

The list of activities has expanded to match demand and will include concerts, processions, parties and the arrival of the gay cruise ship, La Demence, at Malaga port, where a fleet of coaches will be waiting to take visitors to Torremolinos for the day.

The gay summer events start with the Gay Pride Festival which takes place from 2 to 5 June. This is followed in July by the 'Wonder Beach' festival which will have bands such as Fangoria and Monarchy in concert and performances by 'Que trabaje Rita!', 'WE Party' and 'My Pleasure' at the Palacio

### DETAILS

► **Orgullo Gay.** 2-5 June.

► **Wonder Beach.** 5 - 10 July. Torremolinos. Concerts and parties

► **Gay Cruise.** 11 July. The gay cruise ship 'La Demence' will arrive at Malaga port.

► **Mad Bear.** 10-16 August. Torremolinos. La Nogalera beach.

de Congresos. There will also be events in Edén Copas, CenturyOn and at La Nogalera.

In August the gay subculture, the 'Bears', will be taking over Torremolinos in an international festival which more than 1,500 people are expected to attend. More information can be found at [www.facebook.com/Pride.2016](http://www.facebook.com/Pride.2016). Torremolinos/

## EXHIBITIONS

### Kitty Harri

**Almuñécar.** *Kitty Harri's Sculpture Garden.* Open Sundays 11am - 5pm (10€) and by appointment: [www.kittyharri.com](http://www.kittyharri.com)

### Joy Wildbur

**La Cala de Mijas.** *On for the duration of May. Boc Art Tapas Bar in la Cala de Mijas.* Open 5pm until late.

### The Russian Museum

**Malaga.** *Edificio Tabacalera, Avda Sor Teresa Prat.* Tues-Sun 9.30am - 10pm.

The Jack of Diamonds was the name of a group of young Russian avant-garde artists who came together to exhibit their contemporary paintings. The exhibition of this name is running until July. The annual exhibition, 'The Four Seasons', consists of bucolic scenes based on the themes of the weather and seasons. The artists represented include Natalia Goncharova, Ivan Shishkin, Kazimir Malevich, Aleksandr Deineka and Viktor Popkov.

### Galería Krabbe

**Summer collection.** *From 3 June until 3 September. Closed in August. Galería Krabbe, C/Rosario La Joaquín.* An exhibition of paintings, collage and sculpture by Zinia Clavo, Gema Labayen, Marianne Frank, Dorthe Steenbuch Krabbe, Kate Skjerning, Antonio Moreno and Charlotte Bøgh.

### Fred Friedrich

**Marbella.** *The Kunsthaust-Berlin-Marbella Cultural Centre Contemporary Art, Poligono La Nueva Campana.* An exhibition of work from the private collection of artist Fred



Pepe Luis Conde, Vélez Málaga

Friedrich.

### Art Gaucín open studios

**Gaucín.** 27, 28, 29 May. A chance to see the artists at work in their studios. [www.artgaucin.com/open-studios](http://www.artgaucin.com/open-studios)

### Jim Rattenbury

**Gaucín.** *Until 29 May. El Cuartito, C/Nueva.*

The exhibition 'The Hidden Library' consists of a collection of art work by Jim Rattenbury.

### Magpie International Gallery.

**Marbella.** *Until 30 May. C/Virgen del Pilar. 200m from port.* A collection of work by Corsican artist Didier Alerini.

### 'Creando emociones'

**Almuñécar.** *Until 28 May. Sala 'Pepe Gámez' Centro Cívico. 6-9pm.*

The exhibition has been arranged by Arte Sur and is a collective display of art work.

### Juan Béjar

**Malaga.** *Until 28 May, Sociedad Económica de Amigos del Pais, Plaza de la Constitución.* Malaga artist, Juan Béjar, is exhibiting 24 of his slightly unsettling paintings.

### Illustrated books

**Vélez-Málaga.** *Until 29 May. Centro de Arte Contemporáneo* An exhibition of beautifully illustrated books.

### Francisco Peinado

**Malaga.** *Until 31 May. Ateneo de*

*Málaga, C/Compañía, 2.* A collection of 36 art works covering almost a decade representing scenes from everydaylife. They are the work of 'Generación del 50' artist, Francisco Peinado.

### Art exhibition

**Cómpeta.** *Until 31 May. Galería Centro de Bellas Artes, C/San Antonio 6.*

Paintings by Norwegian artists: Ellen Eikenes, Philippine and Noel Nieva Villaguerye and British artists: Nick Hampton and Irene Grant, sculptures by Irene Bertoni.

### Pepe Luis Conde

**Vélez-Málaga.** *Until 31 May. Edificio El Pósito.*

A collection of paintings entitled 'La Voz de mi Pinceles'.

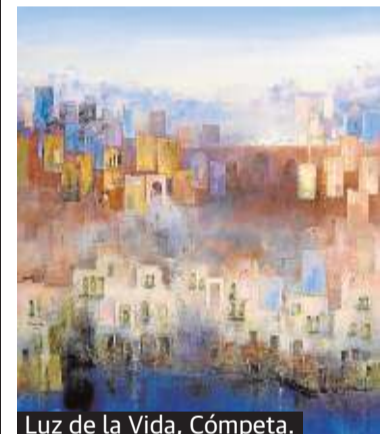
### Gonzalo Fuentes

**Malaga.** *Until 28 May, Galería JM, Duquesa de Parcent, 12.*

A selection of architectural paintings by this artist.

### Lake Viñuela

**Vélez-Málaga.** *Until 28 May, Sala Las Carmelitas, Ayuntamiento de Vélez-Málaga. Closed Sundays.* Photography exhibition.



Luz de la Vida, Cómpeta.

**Tipometrías. Elogio de Lengua Española y las Artes del Libro** **Malaga.** *Until 31 May, Rectorado, University of Malaga.*

Sebastián García Garrido has an exhibition of his collages which are based on different typographs used in printing.

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**Gustav Daniel Von Ziegler Mijas.** *Until 31 May. Hotel TRH Mijas.*  
An exhibition by this Argentinian artist.

**'The 3 tenors of Spanish art' Mijas.** *Until 1 June, CAC Mijas.*  
An exhibition to celebrate the 30th anniversary of the CAC Mijas with works by Picasso, Dalí and Miró.

**Gunnvor Sorhus, Happy Artists Calahonda.** *Until 1 June, The Norwegian Church, El Campanario.*  
Gunnvor Sorhus is exhibiting a collection of her acrylic paintings on canvas on the theme of her travels.

**Espacios transitados Malaga.** *Until 12 July, Alfajar, C/Cister.*  
Carlos Izquierdo has an exhibition in the Sala Alfajar entitled 'Espacios transitados'.

**New Exhibition Cómpeeta.** *From 2 June until end of July. Gallery Luz de la Vida*  
Art by Christa Hillekamp (DE), Jo Dennison (UK), Lieuwke Loth (NL), Frank Biemans (NL), Eva Joensen (DK) and more.



Espacios transitados, Malaga.

**Festival of Art Tolox.** *3, 4, 5 June. Various venues around the town.*  
Art Tolox is an international meeting point for artists, some of whom who will be working 'in-situ'. In some cases you will have the chance to work side by side with them. The festival includes a fusion of contemporary art and nature with sculptures, paintings, collages, graffiti, theatre, performances, story telling, juggling.

**Zz Zidane Malaga.** *Until 3 June La Térmica.*  
The exhibition consists of photos

# An indie summer forecast



The Kaiser Chiefs are coming to Torremolinos this summer. :: SUR

## :: SUR IN ENGLISH

**TORREMOLINOS.** One of the UK's most loved indie rock bands, The Kaiser Chiefs, are coming to Torremolinos for a Mega Summer Concert on Saturday 6 August.

Fronted by Ricky Wilson (who is also a judge on BBC's 'The Voice'), the Kaiser Chiefs exploded onto the music scene in 2005 with the release of their first album 'Employment', which included the single 'I predict a riot'. This single was named in New Musical Express as one of the 'Top 40 Greatest Indie Anthems Ever'.

This was followed in 2007 with their second album 'Yours Truly, Angry Mob' which gave them their first number one album,

## INFORMATION

► **When.** 6 August.

► **Where.** El Pozuelo football ground, Torremolinos.

► **Tickets.** First 500 sold through website only 35€ then 45€. From: [www.crazymusicproductions.com](http://www.crazymusicproductions.com) or call 952 883 832 for more details.

and from this also their first number one single hit, 'Ruby'. Kaiser Chiefs went on to have five top 10 singles and two number one albums, to date achieving over eight million album sales. And in 2006 they won three prestigious Brit awards.

In 2012, Kaiser Chiefs performed in the closing ceremony of the London Olympics, playing 'Pinball Wizard' by The Who. Following this performance Kaiser Chiefs opened the Hyde Park concert for The Who in 2015, they have also toured with U2, Foo Fighters and Green Day, confirming them as one of the most popular concert bands in the world.

The only change to the original band line-up was made in 2013 when drummer Nick Hodgson left and Vijay Mistry joined Ricky Wilson, Nick Baines, Andrew White and Simon Rix. Fans will be pleased to know that the most popular songs from all the band's albums will be featured at the concert.

by Phillippe Bordas.

**Elena Laura Almuñécar.** *Until 4 June. Casa de la Cultura.*

The Granada artist Elena Laura is exhibiting a selection of her ethereal paintings entitled 'Vervesos'.

**Punto Quebrado Malaga.** *Until 4 June. El Atelier, Museo Jorge Rando, C/Cruz de Molinillo, 12.*

The Jorge Rando museum is exhibiting a collection of works by 12 artists highlighting the plight of refugees in the Mediterranean.

**Pascale Marthine Tayou Malaga.** *Until 12 June. Centro de Arte Contemporáneo*  
'Miracle' is the name of this exhibition of 25 pieces including large panels, wood sculptures, ceramics, glass etc by Cameroon artist, Pacale Marthine Tayou.

**Pompidou- 'Frida y Yo' Malaga.** *Until 12 June Espacio Público Joven. Closed Tuesdays.* Free Combined exhibition and workshops to discover the life and art of Frida Kahl aimed at children between five and 12 years.

**Miguel Laíno Marbella.** *Until 17 June, Galería Yusto/Giner, C/Madera.*  
The exhibition entitled 'Who am I?' is by a young artist from Huelva.

**Beauty Benalmádena.** *Until 19 June, Centro de Exposiciones, Avda Antonio Machado.*  
Twenty four artists are displaying their work on the theme of 'Beauty'.

## CHARITY

**AID Charity Auction Alhaurín el Grande.** *10 June, 7pm. La Cuchara restaurant, Polígono Rosa.*  
Every second Friday of every month a charity auction to raise funds for Animals in Distress. 15 per cent of each item sold goes to the charity. Donations and items to sell 24hrs before, tel: Chris 628 239 174 / Joe 626 942 427



Hearts for Arts, Marbella.

**AID Charity dinner dance Alhaurín el Grande.** *2 June, 7.30pm. Los Cabales restaurant on the Coin to Cártama road. 7€ (show only) or 17€ (with meal).*  
Entertainment by the 'Jersey Boys' Prize for best 60s outfit. Tickets in advance from the AID charity shop in Alhaurín el Grande. Tel: 626 942 427

**Charity concert for Red Cross Almuñécar.** *28 May, 9pm Auditorio Casa de la Cultura. 7€.*  
Melaza in concert to raise funds for the Red Cross 'Por Nuestra Infancia' project.

**SEARCH Garden Party, change of date Coín.** *28 May, 2 - 5.30pm Finca El Sueño. 10€.*  
Includes buffet, drinks 1€. Music provided by Frankie B. Meeting at the viveros Aroahazar, next to La Trocha commercial centre at 1.45pm if not sure where SEARCH is. Info tel: 660 220 700 or [info@serch.es](mailto:info@serch.es)



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## CHARITY

### Spring Bazaar

**Torre del Mar.** 27 May, from 11am - 1pm. *Lux Mundi Ecumenical centre.*

Small gifts, preserves, cakes and International homemade food, second hand goods, books, local arts and crafts.



Mel Williams, Marbella.

### Sunflower campaign

**Malaga.** From 28 May - 12 June in all towns on the Costa del Sol. Cudeca volunteers will take to the streets to raise awareness and offer Sunflowers (symbol of International Palliative Care), in exchange for donations, with the aim of giving life to the days of over 1,100 patients and their families attended to each year by Cudeca. To volunteer for the Sunflower Campaign email: girasol@cudeca.org or ctel: 952 564 910.

### Fernando Martín Concert

**Malaga.** 3 June, 9pm. *Sala de María Cristina.* 20€

In aid of Cudeca, Fernando Martín Pinto with tenor Rodrigo Orrego and pianist Félix Rodríguez will be performing.

### IV Family race

**Fuengirola.** 29 May, races start at 10am. *Sports ground.*

The race is in aid of Red Cross, Cooperación Honduras and Cudeca Hospice and is organised by Pinturas Andalucía. It will take place at Puerto Deportivo. Races split into three categories: 8 kms (Pro), 4 kms (Popular) and 40mts (children under 8 years old). All runners will receive a welcome pack (a number, T-shirt, gifts, charity pin and discount tickets). The inscription is €10 for pro timed race, €8 for popular race, and €5 for children. [www.pinturasandalucia.com/carerasolidaria](http://www.pinturasandalucia.com/carerasolidaria).

### Charity convoy of vehicles

**Malaga.** 28 May, 9pm *Auditorio Casa de la Cultura.* 7€.

Sponsored by the Museo Automovilístico and the Asociación Benéfica European-Line with the collaboration of various vehicle clubs in the region. The convoy of classical cars and other vehicles will leave the Museo and head towards the Paseo del Parque, returning to the museum via the Paseo de los Curas

### RAF association quiz night

**Coín.** 8 June, 8pm. *The Olive Tree* The monthly quiz night will raise

money for the RAF Association to help in their welfare work assisting ex members of the RAF and their families. The vehicles will then park up for photos etc. Funds raised through the event will go to help the Asociación Malagueña de Espina Bífida and the Centro Ocupacional Serranía de Churriana.

### Charity coffee morning

**Torre del Mar.** 10 June, *Lux Mundi Ecumenical Centre*

Proceeds will be donated to the Indian charity "Akshy". An NGO whose principal aim is to improve the living conditions and education of the poorest children the "untouchables" (or dalits).

### The Queen's 90th birthday

**Fuengirola and Mijas.** 15 June, 2.30pm. *Masonic Lodge, Los Boliches.* 5€

Age Concern is celebrating the Queen's 90th birthday with a party. Tickets include tea or coffee, sandwiches and cakes. Ricky Lavazza will be providing the entertainment and there will be a surprise guest. Entry by ticket only. Tel: 652 537 615

### TAPAS Summer fair

**Coín.** 25 June, from 10am. *Los Arcos on Coín to Cártama road.*

Baking competition (5€, confirm by 11 June: Angela 685 386 923), various stalls, fashion show, tombola etc. Proceeds to Cudeca Cancer Hospice. For a stall (10€) contact: casa2olivivia@yahoo.co.uk

## MUSIC & DANCE

### Mel Williams

**Marbella.** 3 June, 7.30pm. *Franks Restaurant, Reserva de Marbella, Centro Comercial Doña Pepa.*

Mel Williams will perform songs from the Rolling Stones, Rod Stewart, Joe Cocker and others. The show will be accompanied with BBQ. Reservations tel: 952 837 364



Eva and Vasil, Wall Bar

### Málaga Clásica

**Malaga.** 27, 28 May 8pm. *Teatro Echegaray*; 29 May 7pm. *Teatro Cervantes.*

The third edition of this International Festival. Concerts with a common theme of 'myths and legends'. Tickets for the concerts and info: [www.teatrocervantes.es](http://www.teatrocervantes.es), [www.unientradas.es](http://www.unientradas.es)

### The Wall Bar

**Malaga.** *Hotel Vincci Posada del Patio, 11pm, entry free.*

**27 May.** Baker Street. 'The best Jazz of the night'

**28 May.** Eva Jiménez & Vasil. Contemporary and classical Jazz.

### Carlos Rivera

**Malaga.** 27 May, 9pm. *Palacio de Ferias, Av José Ortega y Gasset.* 20-27€

Popular Latino singer Carlos Rivera will be in concert as part of his tour of Spain. Tickets from [www.elcorteingles.es](http://www.elcorteingles.es) or [www.malagaentradas.com](http://www.malagaentradas.com)

### Reggae Fusion

**Malaga.** 28 May, 9.30pm. *Sala La Trinchera, C/Parauta 25, polígono La Estrella.* 10-14€

Reggae mixed with rock, ska, flamenco, jazz, rumba and funk. Jarriillo Lata will be presenting their third disc, 'Los Calambres del Hambre'. The band El Tío la Careta will also be performing. Tickets: [www.ticketea.com](http://www.ticketea.com) or from Discos Candilejas.

### Queen and McCartney tribute

**Malaga.** 27 May, 9.30pm. *Sala La Trinchera, C/Parauta 25, polígono La Estrella.* 10-12€

A double session with Queen of Magic Tribute band and the official Paul McCartney tribute act from the UK. Tickets: [www.ticketea.com](http://www.ticketea.com) or from Discos Candilejas.

### Oriental and fusion dance

**Vélez Málaga.** 28 May, 7pm. *Teatro del Carmen.* 6€

The dance school 'Academia Helena López will be performing 'Once', a fusion of oriental and traditional dance.

### Tribute to Elvis

**Marbella.** 31 May, 9pm. *Da Bruno Sul Mare, Paseo Marítimo de Marbella, s/n (Edificio Skol).*

Songs such as Blue Suede Shoes, Love Me Tender and Your Always on My Mind etc. [www.dabruno.com](http://www.dabruno.com) Tel: 952 903 318

### Piano recital

**Vélez Málaga.** 2 June, 8.30pm. *Teatro del Carmen.* 5€

Laura Mercedes Sánchez and Luis Becerra will be performing.

### The Silver Beats

**Fuengirola.** 28 May 8pm, 29 May, 7pm. *Salon Varietés.*

The Beatles tribute band on the Costa del Sol 'twist'n'shout' the night away.

### Sun & Sound Festival

**Motril.** 28 May, *Plaza del Toros.* 20€

The Sun and Sound Festival is 16hrs of uninterrupted techno music headlined by Joris Voorn. Full a full line of performers, information on the event including buses from all the provinces in Andalucía go to <https://www.facebook.com/Sun-sound-Festival-1958989607659726> or tel: 622 414 881

### Teatro Las Lagunas

**Mijas.** *Camino del Albero, Mijas Costa.*

**1 June, 7pm.** A concert by the students of classical guitar from the

# The exodus from Malaga to Almería



Representatives from the local government at the opening. :: SUR

## JENNIE RHODES

**TORROX.** An exhibition marking the exodus from Malaga province along the Malaga to Almeria road (now known as the N340) opened in Torrox last week and is on until June 1.

'El exodo de la carretera de Almería. Febrero de 1937', includes around 100 documents, audiovisual material and objects belonging to soldiers from one of Malaga province's darkest moments, the Desbandá, when 1,000s of people from the province tried to flee towards Almeria as Franco's troops entered.

Many of the documents on show have not been seen by the public before and information belonging to Torrox Town Hall from February and March 1937 is also on display, documenting the extreme political changes that took

place from the government of the Republic to the Franco regime.

The items are on loan to Torrox Town Hall from five private collectors and includes images of Italian troops and supporters of the Franco regime entering the city of Malaga.

The Spanish government has praised the exhibition saying; "the work of Torrox Town Hall is defending the recuperation of our democratic history," and said that initiatives like this are necessary so that young people learn about Spain's true history and the people who fought for the province's freedom.

The exhibition can be seen in Torrox's Teatro Municipal, Av. Isaac Albéniz, 3, Torrox, Sala Exposiciones Villa de Torrox, Monday to Friday from 9am until 2pm.

# Three cultures by the light of the moon

## JENNIE RHODES

**LA HERRADURA.** This weekend, La Herradura will celebrate its Mercadillo de las Tres Culturas (three cultures market), which will be also open at night and lit by moonlight as well as candles, giving it the name 'Luz de Luna.'

Most of the activities, which include story-telling, face-painting, dance and musical performances, celebrating the three cultures of Christianity, Islam and Judaism, will be taking place in the newly-refurbished calles Canalejas and Príncipe in the old town from today until Sunday. Water sports will also be available, including diving, windsurf-

ing and paddle-surf.

As well as the market, the second 'ruta de la tapa' (tapas route) and nautical activities also feature in the packed programme. There are promotions on some accommodation in the town.

The event opens at 6pm this evening, Friday 27th, and a full programme of events can be found on the Almuñécar Ayuntamiento Facebook page.

Highlights include the lighting of the candles at 9.45pm on Friday and Saturday.

For further information and full programme: <http://www.almunecar.es/> and Facebook - Ayuntamiento de Almuñécar.

Universidad Popular. Free.  
**2 June, 7pm.** A concert by the students of flamenco guitar. Free.

### Rafael Lechowski

**Malaga.** 3 June, 10pm. Sala Paris 15, C de la Orotova, 27. Tickets 13€ in advance, 15€ box office. Concert with poetry as well as song with guest artist Spok Sponha.



Festival of Tango, Malaga.

### Malaga Philharmonic Orchestra

**Malaga.** 3 June, 9.30pm. Parque Tecnológico de Andalucía, on the Belife Wellness Centre terrace. As part of their 25th anniversary celebrations the orchestra will be performing 'El Tambour de Granaderos' by R. Chapi, Hungarian Rhapsody n°2 in C minor by Liszt, Capri-cho Español by Rimsky Korsakov and Carmen by Bizet.

### The Honky Tonk Cats

**Fuengirola.** 4 June, 8pm. Salon Varietés. A tribute band celebrating 50 years of The Rolling Stones.

### Choir concert

**Vélez Málaga.** 4 June, 8.30pm. Iglesia de Caleta de Vélez. A concert by the Axarquía International Choir.

### Sunday Jazz

**Benalmádena.** 5 June. Torrequebrada Hotel Casino. 17.50€ The Rosenberg Trio and 100 years Sinatra tribute by Peter Douglas. Reservations: edwarddurlacher@gmail.com or tel: 639 930 010.

### Festival Tango Málaga

**Malaga.** 10- 12 June. Various theatres. The first Festival Tango Málaga starts in the Echerгарay on the 10th. For full details on all the performances go to www.teatrocer-vantes.es Tickets available from

www.unientradas.com

### Cuarteto Granada

**Malaga.** 11 June, 8pm. Sala María Cristina, C/Marqués de Valdecañas.

The Cuarteto Granada (string quartet) will be performing works by Dmitry Shostakovich.

### Jesús Aranda and the Custom Band

**Vélez Málaga.** 17 June, 8pm. Centro de Arte Contemporáneo. Free A free concert called 'History of Rock' to celebrate the European Day of Music.

### Tribute concert

**Mijas.** 24 June, 9pm. Mijas Municipal Auditorium. 20€ Tributes to The Beatles, The Bee Gees, Michael Jackson, U2, Queen and Robbie Williams. Tickets tel: 609 488 572

### Seal

**Marbella.** 18 July, Club de tenis, Puente Romano. Silky voiced Seal will be in concert. Tickets are on sale from www.ticketbis.es

### Starlite Music festival

**Marbella.** 14 July - 20 August, Auditorio de la Cantera de Nagüeles. Both Tom Jones and Carlos Santana have been added to the list of stars that will be performing at this year's festival that already includes Alejandro Sanz, Charles Aznavour and Malú.

### Colegium Musicum with the Camerata Singers

'Messa di Gloria' by Giacomo Puccini with Phillip Borge, tenor, and Luis López, bass. Also the "Morceau de Concert" for French horn and orchestra by Saint-Saens featuring Alexander Moutafchiev.

**Fuengirola.** 29 May, 8pm. IVP Palace and Spa (Beatriz) Hotel. 12€.

**Marbella.** 31 May, 9.30pm. Iglesia de La Encarnación.

Entry via donation to the Concordia charity.

**Sotogrande.** 5 June, 8pm. Iglesia de Nuestra Señora de la Merced.

Donations welcomed. Tel: 952 475 840 / 659 111 526 or info@colmus.org

### Caña Flamenca

**Moçlinejo.** From 4 June until 30 September.

Flamenco music and dancing in the open air through the summer from 6pm - 2am.

## FESTIVALS

### Fiesta del Caracol

**Riogordo.** 29 May. The humble snail is exalted in this fiesta where around 350kg will be shared out to people attending.

### Fiesta de Virgen del Rosario

**Totalán.** Until 29 May. Music, dancing, gastronomy and a solemn procession to mark the day of their patron saint.

### Feria de de Mayo

**Alhaurín el Grande.** Until 29 May. Live music provided by an orchestra and various bands, dancing, flamenco and activities for everyone.

### Encuentro canino

**Cártama.** 1 June. Competitions for pets, obedience classes and agility displays.

### Feria del Perro

**Archidona.** 3, 4 June. Classes for breeds, competitions, buying and selling of dogs.

### Feria de Marbella

**Marbella.** 6 - 12 June. The 'fiestas patronales' will include concerts, dance performances, firework displays and processions.



Colegium Musicum

## EVENTS

### Coach trip to Almuñécar

**Torre del Mar.** 27 May. 14€. The Phoenix Club are off to Almuñécar to see the Majuelo Botanical Gardens, the Bonsai Museum, the Arabic Castle of San Miguel, the Roman Aqueduct, Loro Sexi Bird Park and the Archaeological Museum, followed by a visit to the Rum Factory on the outskirts of Motril. Tel: Gail 951 067 723, or email phoenixsocialclub@yahoo.co.uk or www.phoenix-socialclub.co.uk

## IT'S YOUR BUSINESS The Riad Hotel, Tarifa

# A Moroccan delight with style and comfort



The hotel nestles in the historic heart of Tarifa. sur

### SUR IN ENGLISH

Many people only associate the town of Tarifa, in Cadiz province, with fabulous beaches and water sports but it actually has a great deal more to offer, as those who stay at a delightful new hotel are discovering.

The Riad Hotel nestles in Calle Comendador in the heart of the historic centre of Tarifa, in a beautiful building which dates back to the 17th century. It is thought to have been the residence of the Commander of the town and was also a convent of the Order of Charity at one time.

The Riad, which has been open for almost a year, has been designed with great care and attention to detail. The original architectural features of this important and historic building have been retained, but stepping through the spectacular entrance is like being transported instantly to Morocco; the interior is a clever combination of beauty and tradition, but with every modern convenience.

Every bedroom is decorated and furnished differently, with antique and unique pieces brought from India and Morocco, and the overall style of the hotel, with its patios and courtyards,

is reminiscent not only of the famous riads but also the oriental caravanserais which used to provide accommodation for pilgrims and travellers.

The Riad is perfectly placed to explore the charms of Tarifa, but for those who just want to relax there is an added attraction as the hotel has a steam room and offers traditional Moroccan massages and treatments. In fact, during the month of June, the Riad is giving away a traditional Moroccan Hamman session, valued at 90 euros, for guests who reserve a superior double room from Monday to Friday for a minimum of 2 nights.

Natasha Mills, the Customer Services Manager, also points out that the hotel is the ideal venue for all types of events, and is happy to host wine tastings, gastronomic events and other cultural activities upon request.

The Riad is an oasis of peace and charm amid the bustle of this pretty town, and is the ideal place to stay for a relaxing break or as a base for exploring the area. For further information, visit www.theriad.es or phone 856929880.

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## EVENTS

**Noche en Blanco**

**Rincón de la Victoria.** 27 May.  
A night of culture with free visits to the Cueva de Tesoro between 8pm and midnight, free concerts by the Jazz School of Malaga, the Big Band and Escuela de Música Francisco Jurado.

**Painting in English**

**Vélez-Málaga.** 28 May and 4 June, 11am-1pm. Centro de Arte Contemporáneo.

Workshops given by Nuria Ruiz in English for children aged between 5 and 10 years. 10€ registration plus 5€ for materials.

**Macbeth**

**Almuñécar.** 29 May, 8pm. Casa de la Cultura. Free

An adaptation of the play by the 'Te Amo Teatro' theatrical group.

**Shark week at Sea Life**

**Benalmádena.** From 28 May until 5 June. Sea Life Aquarium

Discover the life of the shark, one of the most persecuted species of marine life. Activities for all the family. Sea Life supports the Shark Trust and Shark Alliance.



Feasting on art, Sotogrande.

**Luxury cars at Salon Spain**

**Ronda.** 28, 29 May. Ascari Formula 1 circuit.

Besides Ferrari, Rolls Royce, Porsche, Maserati, Aston Martin, Lamborghini, Bugatti, Scotty, Viper and Bentley brands there will also be motorbikes and unusual vehicles at this luxury car meet. Owners, buyers, sellers and enthusiasts are all welcome and a gestor will be on hand to complete any sale.

**Día de África**

**Fuengirola.** 28, 29 May, Bioparc Fuengirola Bioparc is holding a special Africa Day. It will include a guided tour of the African jungle and a workshop for children 6-12 yrs. Places are limited for the workshop. Reservations: [www.bioparcfuengirola.es/](http://www.bioparcfuengirola.es/)

**Sporting events**

**San Pedro.** 28, 29 May.

Now in its 32nd year, this event brings together up to 3,000 participants covering a range of sports including chess, basketball, billiards, darts, climbing, football, golf, karate, paddle tennis, petanca, radio control, tennis, archery and beach volleyball.

# Who says it's impossible?



The illusionist Antonio Díaz shows off his skills :: NITO SALAS

**:: SUR IN ENGLISH**

**MALAGA.** Antonio Díaz has already become something of a legend in the world of magic and appears regularly on the Discovery Max TV channel.

His skills as an illusionist fill auditoriums; he performed in front of a huge crowd at Starlight festival, and has amazed even the most rational among us, including Professor Stephen

Hawking.

His idol is David Copperfield who he says, "brought magic to the big stage where he competed with stars such as Madonna and Michael Jackson, even selling more tickets than them."

Antonio Díaz, aka Mago Pop, will be astounding audiences with his magic in the Teatro Alameda from the 2 June. Tickets available from: [www.teatroalameda.com/](http://www.teatroalameda.com/)

**INFORMATION**

► **When.** 2, 3 June 8.30pm. 4 June 6pm and 9pm. 5 June 5pm and 7pm

► **Where.** Teatro Alameda, Malaga

► **Tickets.** 31€ Thursday and Friday, 36€ Saturday and Sunday.

**Hearts 4 Arts**

**Marbella.** 28, 29 May, Nueva Kaskada.

International art, mixed medium, sculpture, photography, lithographs etc. Music by US The Kinsmen barbershop/A cappella choir and food from the Nueva Kaskada restaurant. Information and prices (free admission on 28 May midday until 7pm. with a glass of cava and tapas) tel: 639 616 300/636 637 705 email: [heart4artsmarbella@gmail.com](mailto:heart4artsmarbella@gmail.com), Restaurant reservations: 952 864 478

**Auditions**

**Fuengirola.** 11 June, from 12-5pm. Salon Varietés Theatre

Salon Varietés are holding auditions for characters for 'Fiddler on the Roof' directed by Peter Mitchell. Information tel: Sarah-Jane Gale (Stage Manager) 952 474 542. At the workshop on Friday 10 June at 6pm, to discuss the production, audition pieces will be available. Production dates 14-23 October 2016.

**Coach trip to Gibraltar**

**Torre del Mar.** 3 June. 12€ children under 12 half price.

Pick up at Al Garden Centre, Torre del Mar bus station and finally at Algarrobo Lidl at 08.30am Leave Gibraltar at 4.30pm. Please advise if you are a non EU citizen when you book. Bring your EHC card and passport. There will be a stop for coffee on route. Tel: Gail

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**Motorbike meet**

**Almuñécar.** 4, 5 June. Parque El Pozuelo Pepe Matías.

Not just 700 members of motorbike clubs from across Spain but also concerts, striptease, stalls selling motorbike merchandise and other activities are planned for the XVII Concentración Motera Tiburones.

**A Taste of Italy**

**Estepona.** From 7-9 June by reservation only. From 9-11 June open to public for sales of Italian products. El Paraiso Country Club.

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**Mijas and Botanical Gardens**

**Torremolinos.** 7 June. 15€ Visit Mijas and then the Molina de Inca botanical gardens in Torremolinos. Tel.952 543 334 E-mail: [luxmundi@lux-mundi.org](mailto:luxmundi@lux-mundi.org)

**Paella and Music**

**Fuengirola.** 8 June, 12.30pm. Lux Mundi Ecumenical Centre 2.50€ There will be a tapa of paella and one drink whilst listening to an informal singing group at the Lux

Mundi Centre.

**The Queen's Birthday**

**Malaga.** 11 June, 4.30pm. Airport Museum next to General Aviation Terminal. Free.

In conjunction with TAPAS and the SOL Classic Car Club, the Shutterbugs Photographic Group are helping to organise a celebration of Queen Elizabeth's 90th birthday. The TAPAS choir will be performing and there will be a display of classic cars with afternoon tea on the terrace. Info: [www.shutterbugs-spain.org](http://www.shutterbugs-spain.org).

**Feasting on art with DFAS de la Frontera**

**Sotogrande.** 15 June, 11am-2.30pm. La Cabaña restaurant. Free Artists' stalls in a beautiful setting. Live music by the New Orleans Jump Band.

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

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**The Man Who Knew Infinity:** 18.15, 22.30

**Where to Invade Next?:** 16.30, 20.20, 20.30

**A Royal Night Out:** 18.35

**Cinesur El Ingenio**

Avda. Juan Carlos I, Vélez-Málaga. Tel. 667 77 31 87. 23rd-31st March

**The Witch:** 22.15 (Tues)

**Eye in the Sky:** 16.15 (Tues)

**Alice Through the Looking Glass:** 12.15, 17.15, 19.40

**X Men Apocalypse:** 12.00, 16.10, 19.10

**Captain America: Civil War:** 15.45, 21.25 (Tues)

**Cinesur Miramar**

Avda. de la Encarnación, Fuengirola. Tel. 952 19 86 00.

**Captain America: Civil War:** 16.00, 19.00 (Mon-Thurs)

**The Witch:** 20.15 (Tues)

**Alice Through the Looking Glass:** 12.15, 17.15, 19.40

**Angry Birds The Movie:** 12.05, 16.30, 18.30

**X Men Apocalypse:** 11.50, 16.15, 19.15,

**Eye in the Sky:** 15.45, 17.50 (Mon, Tues, Thurs)

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**The Jungle Book:** 16.15 (Sat, Sun); 18.15 (everyday except Wed); 18.00 (Wed)

**Captain America: Civil War:** 21.45 (everyday)

**A Royal Night Out:** 16.00 (everyday)

**X Men Apocalypse:** 16.15 (Sat, Sun); 19.00, 21.45 (Frid, Sat, Sun); 21.30 (Mon-Thurs)

**Alice Through the Looking Glass:** 15.45 (Sat, Sun); 18.00, 20.15 (everyday); 22.15 (everyday except Wed); 20.15 (Wed)



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**The Jungle Book:** 12.20 (Sat, Sun)

**X Men Apocalypse:** 14.30 (Sat, Sun); 17.30, 20.30 (everyday); 23.30 (Frid, Sat)

**Alice through the looking Glass:** 14.00 (Sat, Sun); 16.30, 19.00, 21.30 (everyday); 00.00 (Frid, Sat)

**Alice Through the Looking Glass 3D:** 15.30 (Sat, Sun); 20.30 (everyday)

**Captain America: Civil War:** 23.50 (Frid, Sat)

**Eye in the Sky:** 16.10



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Marta Ortega, Susana Díaz and Flora Pérez in Seville last week. :: JULIO MUÑOZ. EFE

# Amancio Ortega foundation to invest 40 million euros in cancer treatment in Andalucía

Five radiotherapy machines are to be donated by the Zara boss's fund to Malaga's Carlos Haya and Clínico Universitario hospitals

**ÁNGEL ESCALERA**  
**MALAGA.** Cancer patients in need of radiotherapy in Andalucía will soon be able to receive better treatment thanks to the Fundación Amancio Ortega (FAO), set up by the Spanish business magnate at the helm of the Inditex empire.

An agreement was reached between the Junta de Andalucía and the FAO in which it was decided that the foundation would pay for five linear accelerators (a device used for external beam radiation treatments for patients with cancer) to be located in hospitals in Malaga, along with 20 others in the rest of Andalucía's provinces.

Altogether the organisation will invest around 40 million euros in the equipment in its quest to help those suffering with cancer.

The state-of-the-art equipment will take radiotherapy services at public hospitals in Andalucía to the forefront of diagnostics and treatment of

tumours in Spain.

By 2019 Malaga province will have seven accelerators, two more than the current number. Of the five brand new machines, three will replace existing equipment at the Clínico Universitario and Carlos Haya hospitals and two extra machines will increase the service at the Clínico.

The agreement was finalised on Thursday last week in Seville where the president of the Junta de Andalucía, Susana Díaz, and the vice-president of the Amancio Ortega foundation, Flora Pérez, signed a protocol of intentions, enabling the acquisition of 25 linear accelerators by 2019.

It is expected that 225,000 sessions a year will be provided in the public hospitals throughout the Andalusian provinces.

As well as running its own education and social welfare programmes, the FAO also collaborates with other institutions to develop projects aimed at progress in society in a number of fields. In the case of Andalucía, the foundation has chosen to invest in cancer treatment following a report produced by the Andalusian Health Department analysing what the regional health service needed in order to improve care for cancer patients, especially in radiotherapy treatment.

In Malaga, work will start in 2017 to prepare the two new bunkers in the Hospital Clínico (a preliminary step needed before the equipment is installed). Carlos Haya will remove one of its three existing machines in order to make space for the new one.

## More than 32,000 cases

It is estimated that at least 40 per cent of all cancer patients receive radiotherapy as part of their treatment and in 16 per cent of cases recovery is exclusively down to radiotherapy.

In Andalucía it is predicted that annually there will be 32,000 new registered cases of cancer, of which 60 per cent will be eligible to receive radiotherapy, that is, there will be more than 19,000 patients each year, explained sources from the Junta in a press release.

In 2012 the estimated cancer count in Andalucía was 32,311 cases (16,976 men and 15,335 women), but according to the World Health Organization (WHO), these figures will increase by 57 per cent over the next two decades, claimed cited sources.

The Inditex group includes several familiar high street names such as Zara, Pull&Bear, Massimo Dutti, Stradivarius, Bershka and Oysho, among others.



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## Cudeca prepares for annual June sunflower campaign

### :: SUR IN ENGLISH

**MALAGA.** Cudeca Cancer Care Hospice is about to launch its annual Sunflower Campaign to raise funds as well as awareness of the palliative care provided by the organisation.

Between 28 May and 12 June, a hundred Cudeca volunteers will take to the streets to offer sunflowers (the symbol of international palliative care) in exchange for donations.

Information tables will be conveniently located at points in Malaga city and around the province including Arroyo de la Miel, Fuengirola, Mijas, Nerja, Torremolinos, Marbella and Benalmádena, among others.

To participate as a volunteer in the Sunflower Campaign or for more information regarding the campaign itinerary, visit [www.cudeca.org](http://www.cudeca.org), email [girasol@cudeca.org](mailto:girasol@cudeca.org) or call 952564910.

### Goldies at Iceland

Meanwhile, the Cudeca Hospice Goldies, a fundraising group set up by Cudeca supporters, will be carrying out their own awareness campaign at the entrance to the Iceland store at the Miramar Centre in Mijas Costa on Saturday 28 May. Between 10am and 2pm shoppers will be invited to wear their sunflower

in exchange for a donation and finding out more about the activities organised by the Goldies' team of volunteers. For more information visit [www.cudecagoldies.com](http://www.cudecagoldies.com), email [info@cudecagoldies.com](mailto:info@cudecagoldies.com) or call 663083249.

For more than two decades,

Cudeca Hospice has provided care to over 11,000 patients through its programme of home visits as well as its in-patient unit and day care centre. The organisation also provides counselling for those in the final stages of a terminal illness and their families.



### CHURCH DELIVERS HOSPICE DONATION

Cudeca Hospice recently received a visit from Rosella Parmiter, chaplaincy warden, and Rev Patrick A. Irwin from St George's Church, Malaga. They made a donation in memory of Malcolm N. Tracey, the lay reader of St George's Church who died in a UK hospice in late March this year. Rosella and Patrick are pictured above with Cudeca founder and honorary president, Joan Hunt.



The queue outside the mobile blood donor unit on Tuesday. :: v. m.

## Ronda residents queue in the hope that their bone marrow can help teenager

Dozens of people answered calls for donors so that a local 13-year-old with leukemia can have a transplant

### :: V. MELGAR

**RONDA.** Queues formed outside the mobile blood donor unit in Ronda on Tuesday as local people answered a call to help Andrea, a local 13-year-old who is suffering from

leukemia. The girl's parents spread the word last week that they were looking for a compatible bone marrow donor and urged people to give a blood sample on Tuesday. Around 200 samples were taken. The family is now hoping that among them will be a compatible donor.

Andrea was diagnosed in January last year and an autologous transplant was carried out. This year the illness returned and the family was advised to search for a bone marrow donor outside the family.

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# Action against high heels

A red carpet is an ideal surface for walking barefoot; actresses used that to their advantage and rebelled against the torture of stilettos at this year's Cannes Film Festival

Jennifer Lawrence called them "Satan's shoes". Actresses, models and stewards are fighting against the obligation to wear high heels; the matter has even been taken to the British parliament for debate

## ■ CARLOS BENITO

Heels had already caused a few problems for the organisers of the Cannes Festival last year. First, a group of women complained that they had not been allowed into one of the screenings because their shoes were too flat, which in this dazzling context was tantamount to turning up in clogs or flip-flops.

Then, there were additional protests: one from the wife of a director who, for the same reason, was refused entry to an event; another from a producer and scriptwriter, half of whose foot had been amputated, after she was stopped four times on her way to the screening rooms; and finally, a reproach from the famous Emily Blunt, who almost started a revolution, a type of storming of the Bastille of glamour, with her comment: "Everyone should wear flats, to be honest. We shouldn't wear high heels."

The festival director was quick to announce that the alleged requirement of a minimum height of heel was nothing more than an "unfounded" rumour, as if the idea had been dreamed up by the security guards, but it seems that his words had an effect: this year, Cannes has looked a bit like a foot clinic, because some actresses have discovered how pleasant it is to walk the red carpet in bare feet.

Julia Roberts was the most daring in this respect, taking off her stilettos halfway along and walking up the stairs to the Palais des Festivals, while an assistant walked docilely behind her, carrying the shoes: the star gave her normal huge smile, or maybe one that was even



Julia Roberts on the red carpet in Cannes. :: REUTERS

wider than usual if that is possible, after freeing her toes from suffering, but nobody doubted that this was, in fact, a form of protest.

Susan Sarandon appeared in flat shoes, but took her definitive step at the dinner in tribute to 'Thelma

and Louise' by removing them for the photo session and urging her sidekick Geena Davis ("God, you're tall!" she said) to do the same.

At Cannes, we also admired the feet of rising star Sasha Lane and the wonderful Kristen Stewart, an



Emma Thompson at the 2014 Golden Globe awards. :: REUTERS

advocate of free choice, who started off in dizzyingly high heels - she admits that she loves them - and then changed into well-worn sneakers once she had passed the paparazzi.

Things have to change immediately," she said. "It has become really

obvious that if a man and I were walking the red carpet together and someone stopped me and said, 'Excuse me, young lady, you're not wearing heels. You cannot come in,' then I'm going to say, 'Neither is my friend. Does he have to wear heels?'



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It's just like you simply cannot ask me to do something that you are not asking him," argued the actress, who considers these dress rules "archaic".

The stiletto strike at Cannes also coincided with a petition to the British parliament to make it illegal for some female workers to be forced to wear heels. It was brought by Nicola Thorp, who had been sacked from a temporary job as a receptionist because she insisted on wearing flat shoes, and within 48 hours it had already attracted more than the 100,000 signatures that are needed in order for the government to respond. Nicola is also an actress, and has appeared in the Dr Who series a couple of times.

It has always been known that very high heels are really uncomfortable to wear, almost since the first moment a human being decided to try them. Nor is it a recent discovery that high heels are bad for the health: in the 18th century, some anatomists were already warning in vain about their impact on bone formation, while British surgeon Frederick Treves ironically suggested in 1884 that some women would do well to amputate the three middle toes on each foot. He said the operation would make them more



The photo shared by Brie Larson after winning an Oscar this year, taken at the Vanity Fair party. R. C.

comfortable, would not affect the way they walk in the slightest and it would only be a little more foolish than the Chinese practice of deforming the feet of young girls.

He involuntarily became the pioneer of present-day operations to adapt the foot to the remorseless shape of fashion shoes. Because now, well into the 21st century, the world

of fashion and its satellites includes more devotees of stiletto heels than ever, with their points which look as if they could perforate a skull and the new standard height of around 13 centimetres which was brought to us by Louboutin. And many women follow this trend despite having no professional obligation to do so.

Why is that? "Women wear high heels to look feminine and sexy. These shoes make the legs look longer and slimmer and make women walk on the front part of their feet, which pushes the bust forward. Many

women also believe high heels make them seem strong, because everyone knows that they can do damage and they also define the calf muscles, so they appear shapely and fit. Ironically, though, shoes with very high heels deform the foot and make women hobble with pain: there's nothing sexy or strong about that," says feminist writer Leora Tanenbaum, the author of the book 'Bad Shoes & The Women Who Love Them'.

There seems to be universal agreement that high heels are linked with

## Sarah Jessica Parker says the doctor who treated her twisted ankle was amazed at the strange shape of her foot

sexual attraction. Christian Louboutin told 'The New Yorker' that his work does not consist of pleasing women, but pleasing men, who in his experience react "like bulls" when they see his brand's iconic red soles.

"Many heterosexual girls and women confuse masculine attention with genuine power," says Leora Tanenbaum, although she is quick to point out that "There is nothing wrong in wearing heels, as long as you do it wisely."

### "The red is my blood"

In recent years there has been a growing number of protests from those who have to wear high heels on a daily basis. One protest was by the models who appeared barefoot in the final round of a parade during Fashion Week in New York, because they were fed up with the disproportionate height of designer Manolo Blahnik's shoes. Another was by female stewards with the Israeli El Al airline, who successfully opposed a new regulation that insisted on a minimum heel height. Actresses, too, often view dress regulations for events as a sadistic addition to their contractual obligations.

Perhaps the person who is most committed to this fight is Emma Thompson. Who could forget her at the Golden Globe awards a couple of years ago, with her Louboutins in one hand and a dry martini in the other, showing the soles and saying "the red is my blood"? She is, however, just one of many who hate their "Satan's shoes," as Jennifer Lawrence, the actress who has fallen over more times at crucial moments in her career than any other, described them.

In this informal case against high heels, one witness has a special interest. Sarah Jessica Parker must surely be the person who has done most to make stilettos popular, because her character in 'Sex and the City' wouldn't dream of leaving the house without her designer shoes, which were always dizzyingly high and exclusive. In one episode, playing Carrie Bradshaw, she said she had spent 40,000 dollars on shoes but had nowhere to live.

"I used to run in my heels, I worked 18 hours a day in them and never took them off," says the actress. Six years ago, while filming 'I don't know how she does it', she twisted her ankle and the specialist who treated her was amazed at the unusual shape of her foot. "The doctor said my foot did things it shouldn't be able to. He said I had even created a bone," she said.

Who knows, maybe with more people going barefoot on the red carpet we can expect to see some other surprising adaptations of the human anatomy in future.

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# A mother fights for her daughter to be allowed to take her medical assistance dog to school

Fuengirola youngster Patricia Fernández, 12, has a brain tumor, is epileptic and suffers confusion; her dog is being trained to anticipate the crises she suffers several times a day

by MIGUEL GÁMEZ

**FUENGIROLA.** Patricia Fernández Jiménez is a 12-year-old from Fuengirola who suffers from cancer and epilepsy, as well as confusion as a result of the radiotherapy treatment she is undergoing (she has also lost a large part of her memory).

Her mother, Marisa Jiménez, has collected more than 33,000 signatures (24,000 of them in the first 48 hours) through Change.org, calling for Patricia to be allowed to take her medical assistance dog Dora with her to the 'Eduardo Janeiro' secondary school next term. Dora has the ability to anticipate the three or four crises a day that Patricia suffers.

Unlike Madrid and Catalonia, there are no specific regulations in Andalucía about pupils being accompanied to school by their medical assistance or therapy dogs. Marisa, who only knows of one similar case in the region, in Jaén, has also requested a support monitor for her daughter, because Patricia needs constant supervision because of her confusion and epileptic fits.

Marisa will never forget 17 March 2011. That was the day that Patricia, who was seven at the time, was found to have a cerebral lesion.

"She started to show signs that something wasn't right when she was six. At the children's hospital they talked about gastroenteritis and then a virus. We took her to the Costa del Sol hospital, where they did a CAT scan and found the cerebral lesion. That was a Monday; they put her straight into intensive care and operated on the Wednesday. It is a rare type of tumor, there are very few cases in the world and no research has been done into it," says Marisa, who is determined to go on fighting. Patricia's cancer spread to other parts of her body three years after the operation, but Marisa says it has been under control for the past nine months.

## An hour a day at school

At the moment, Patricia normally goes to school for an hour a day, accompanied by her mother. Marisa stays close by at all times except for the hour that Patricia spends at the 'Adolfo Suárez' Day Centre in Los Pacos, which is run by Rocío Segovia. There, she feels she can do something useful, because she has been designated as an honorary volunteer and she helps elderly people with Alzheimer's. There are several monitors, and one of them keeps a close eye on Patricia.



Patri gives a treat to Dora at her home in Fuengirola. by M. GÁMEZ

"Patri used to be such a clever girl, and she used to do ballet, but now you have to be very patient with her because she might ask you the same thing 20 times. She's happy now, though. Before, when she didn't feel well, she wasn't very nice to other people, and girls of her own age tended to reject her because they didn't really understand her loss of memory," says Marisa.

Patricia, who has a permanent smile on her face, appears to be fine at present. She is a lively child, who wants to take part in numerous activities, especially since a year ago she was able to stop using a wheelchair. She had had to spend a whole year at home. "She kept asking if she could go to school, because she was bored," says her mother.

"At school I do music, free time and I'm there for break, and at home someone comes to teach me languages, maths and other subjects," explains Patricia. She also goes swimming at Reserva del Higuero (Fuengirola), where she met singers Pablo Alborán and La Mari from Chabao, making one of her dreams come true.

"One of the positive things for Patricia is that she has been able to meet several famous artists. She has met popular groups and singers like Los Gemelers, Vanesa Martín, Abraham Mateo and Virginia Elósegui, and she even went to a Real Madrid training session at the Santiago Bernabéu Stadium. Cristiano Ronaldo talked to her, and she has a football signed by 23 players," says Marisa.

She wants Patricia to be able to go to school for two hours a day for the next school year, as well as break time, and to be accompanied by Dora,

who is currently being trained by María Vera of the Torremolinos firm K9 Malaga. Dora is owned by the company, and will be on loan to Patricia. Patricia met Dora (who is now eight months old) four months ago and normally sees her once a month, but from July Dora will be at home with Patricia almost every day.

"There will be five of us then, with my husband and me and our elder son Pablo," says Patricia's mother, whose face lights up when she talks of her daughter's excitement about the possibility of having Dora with her most of the time.

## "The Junta said yes"

Marisa Jiménez recently had a meeting with Patricia Alba, the Junta de Andalucía's Education representative in Malaga. "She told me there would be no problem for my daughter to take the dog to school with her. Patri is 81% disabled, she is dependent on others and needs help. I also asked for a teaching assistant for her, and Patricia Alba said she could have one," she says. However, she intends to continue with the petition on Change.org because she hopes it will have a positive result for all children in a similar situation and will enable them to take their dogs to school with them as well.

"I'm not going to stop collecting signatures. I want the rules to be changed. I don't want my daughter to be the only one who can do this. All sick children who need a medical assistance or therapy dog should be given this right," she says. "A therapy dog, for example, not only notices when a child is going to have an epileptic fit, but also when someone's sugar level drops. Therapy dogs are already being used by the San Juan de Dios hospital. That should be the case in public hospitals as well, because they are lagging behind private ones in that respect," says Marisa, adding that she is "very grateful to the people of Fuengirola, because so many of them have expressed their support."

**Andalucía has no specific regulation with regard to medical assistance dogs in schools**



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## Fatigued Sevilla gift Barça extra time Copa victory

The side from Andalucía conceded two goals in extra time as Barcelona secured a league and cup double

**BARCELONA 2 SEVILLA 0 (AET)**

**LUKE HAYNES**

**MALAGA.** Despite clinching their third consecutive Europa League title earlier in the week, Sevilla were unable to add to their trophy haul for the season as they lost 2-0 to Barcelona in the final of the Copa del Rey on Sunday night.

In a fiery affair which saw a total of 14 players booked and three men sent off, the match was decided in extra time thanks to goals from Jordi Alba and Neymar.

Sevilla were handed the advantage in the 36th minute when Javier Mascherano was sent off for wrestling Kevin Gameiro to the ground after the striker had been played in on goal. Yet, despite the man advantage, the Andalusians struggled to find a way past Ter Stegen. With neither team managing to score, fans inside the Vicente Calderón began to prepare themselves for extra time. However, before the

whistle blew, Ever Banega was given his marching orders for a last-man challenge on Neymar.

Immediately after the restart, Barcelona took the lead through Jordi Alba when Leo Messi's scooped through-ball found the roaming full-back who fired the ball back across goal, 1-0.

The team from Catalonia were unlucky not to double their lead minutes later when Gerard Piqué escaped his marker and his header was acrobatically stopped by Sergio Rico.

But there was nothing the Sevilla stopper could do in the 120th minute when Neymar struck to score his 31st goal of the season. Once again, Lionel Messi had a hand in the goal as the Argentinean slipped through his fellow forward who finished calmly to secure a 28th Copa del Rey title for the Catalans.

Sevilla goalkeeper, Sergio Rico, imagines what could have been. **EFB**

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# Javi Gracia ends two-year stint as Malaga coach to seal Rubin switch

Former manager Juande Ramos is the early favourite to fill the hotseat

The 46-year-old was given an "irresistible" offer from the Russian side which comes with a significant pay rise

by ANTONIO GÓNGORA

**MALAGA.** Javi Gracia's time at Malaga is up. Around midday on Tuesday, the 46-year-old confirmed to the club hierarchy that he has accepted an offer to coach Russian side Rubin Kazan.

The interest from the Russians was first reported by SUR in April, with the club seeking to build on a disappointing tenth-place finish which saw them miss out on European football for next campaign.

Rubin's owners have been impressed with Gracia's ability to ele-

vate this Malaga side to two top-half finishes despite limited resources both financially and in terms of playing staff.

Despite only signing a new contract two months ago, the lure of a salary up to five times higher in Russia turned the coach's head.

Gracia communicated his wish to leave to sporting director Francesc Arnau first thing on Tuesday morning, arriving at the ground with his wife and agent, before they all went for lunch at Los Robles restaurant around the corner



Main target Juande Ramos. :: SUR

from the stadium. To reporters and photographers outside, Gracia all-but confirmed the news.

All wasn't made official until his farewell press conference at La Rosaleda on Wednesday, when the coach said he was "proud" to have managed Malaga but that Rubin's offer was "irresistible".

Rubin must now pay Malaga 1.2 million euros, the buyout clause in Gracia's contract.

Former Malaga, Sevilla, Tottenham and Real Madrid manager Juande Ramos is a lead contender to take the job after Sporting Gijón's Abelardo committed his future to his club after steering them to safety on the final day of the season. Ramos led the side during the 2003-4 season and enjoyed his time at the helm and in

## MALAGA CF PLAYERS CHOOSE UNIVERSITY OF MALAGA TO LEARN SPANISH

Malaga's players don't only want to dominate on the pitch, but also their command of the Spanish language and culture. For that reason, the club have been sending players to the Centro Internacional de Español (International Spanish Centre) at the University of Malaga. This week, a number of players, including Weligton (pictured, centre), took exams to formalise their knowledge of the language they use in their day-to-day life as footballers. Those wishing to sign up for DELE courses at CIE-UMA can do so on 15 July, 21 October and 25-26 November.



Gracia leaving a restaurant close to La Rosaleda stadium. :: SALVADOR SALAS

## No last-minute negotiations nor counter offers

Many thought the initial delay over the outcome was down to the club desperately trying to hold onto their man. However, this was not the case. There were no last-minute negotiations nor counter offers put on the table after it became clear to

all that Gracia was never going to reject the multimillion offer from Rubin.

The club did all they could to try and keep hold of him when they offered a payrise as part of his renewal two months ago. Financial restraints meant that any further increase was implausible.

Curiously, it was only once Gracia had sealed his departure that Sheikh Al-Thani arrived at the club's offices.

the city, leading the club to a tenth-place finish. However, he moved on at the season's end after being disappointed by the club's lack of backing in the transfer window.

After being out of work for a year, he then signed with arch rivals Sevilla with whom he won two UEFA cups

and one Copa del Rey.

Ramos is thought to be keen on a return to football after leaving his last post as Dnipro manager almost two years ago.

An outsider for the post is Sergio González, the current manager of the Catalonia national team.

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# Camacho: a cut above the rest

A look at how the Malaga squad have fared in this season's end-of-year report gives a clear idea where the new manager will need to start as he looks to improve the squad for next year

## CAMACHO

9

With the midfielder restored to the team, Malaga's whole season turned around. Not only does he offer an effective shield for the back four, but his incisive passing is key to the side's transition play. Arnau will have a lot of work on his hands if the club cannot retain his services this summer with his presence so key to the balance and stability of the team.



## ALBENTOSA

7

From bit part player to key component of the Malaga side. Unable to displace Angeleri in the first half of the season, the defender on loan from Derby County hasn't looked out of place since January. His aerial presence in both penalty areas is a useful asset and while he may look ungamely on the ball, he rarely loses possession. A must keep for the coming campaign.



## AMRABAT

5

He never was a favourite with the coach who chose not to employ the Moroccan in his natural position, instead trying to convert him into a forward. Amrabat's running always caused problems for the opponents, but it was his finishing which let him down. He didn't fit into the system so a move was the best for both parties. The truth, though, it that he has hardly been missed at all.



## CHARLES

6

Finished the season as top goalscorer with 12 goals, five of those in just two matches. Has the absolute confidence of Javi Gracia but certainly tests the patience of some fans. His movement and intensity is good but his final delivery and finishing, at times, leaves plenty to be desired. At 32, he will need replacing sooner rather than later.



## OCHOA

7

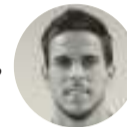
The shining star of the final run-in of the season, conceding just seven in the last ten games. He has waited a long time for his chance and he is doing his level best to seize it. His athleticism is a major asset, but whether he is to be a full-time fixture in the team is certainly up for debate with the returning Kameni.



## RECIO

6

Having racked up an incredible 16 yellow cards this campaign, Recio can at times be an enormous liability for Malaga, making rash decisions which have on numerous occasions forced his withdrawal. In the absence of Camacho, he struggled to seize the reins but improved when his partner returned. Set pieces are his saving grace. Not ready to lead the midfield - yet.



## TORRES

7

Steady Eddy. You always know what to expect from the versatile defender who has played in every position across the backline without any fuss. May never be a regular starter but has proved he is the man for the big occasions. A manager's dream.



## HORTA

4

A player with enormous promise has flattered to deceive much too often in his Malaga career so far. This season was no different, with the winger looking timid in possession. Wildly out of favour, a move away looks most likely.



## ROSALES

8

One of the stand-out performers of the campaign. Very nearly an ever-present, Rosales is equally capable in attack as in defence. Rarely is he exposed in the right-back position, forging a great understanding with Albentosa. Interest in the Venezuelan is bound to be high this summer after a second consecutive steady season in the Spanish top flight.



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**DARYL FINCH**

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been a good year, while for others it has been a year to forget. However, with a new manager set to come in, those previously left in the dark, namely last summer's big signing Adnane Tighadouini, could yet have a route back into the first team set-up.

Without a shadow of a doubt, Ignacio Camacho has been the star pupil, steering the ship away from

a relegation battle after his return from injury at the turn of the year.

He, along with sporting director Francesc Arnau's big winter signing Chory Castro, will be key players going forward - that's if they can hold on to them...

The incoming coach won't have it all his own way when it comes to recruitment, but he is unlikely to

argue with the expected departures of the likes of Artur Boka, Fernando Tissoe and Egor Filipenko who are not up to the required standard.

Choosing which of the loan players to retain is a much more difficult choice with Raúl Albentosa, Duje Cop and Juankar all regulars at various junctures of the season, and Christian Atsu starting to come

good in the final few matchdays.

Even with the departure of Javi Gracia, we shouldn't expect too many changes to the squad given the level to which many of the players have performed. Despite the early season slump, it has been a good season for the Blue and Whites. But who were the side's stand-out performers? And who let them down?

**WELIGTON**

**6** This wasn't one of his better seasons. His age is starting to catch up with him with pacey players picking out space round the back of him with increasing frequency. His mind is still sharp, though, and his leadership is notable so it's not quite time to send him out to pasture just yet. One more year in the tank at least. Malaga owe him that.



**DUDA**

**4** Duda has confirmed he will remain at the club a season more - something which will irk a sizeable portion of the fanbase who feel he is a long way over the hill. He came up with a key goal in Vallecas at the turn of the year, but besides that, his output has been minimal. Even his set pieces, his speciality, are letting him down. Has steered clear of injuries so gives valuable cover.



**JUANPI**

**6** Always on the brink of the spectacular, Juanpi's intentions are always in evidence, just the execution needs work. He was spectacular in three or four games, but needs to produce this on a more regular basis. Positionally, though, he offers something no one else in the squad can - a link between the midfield and forward lines. With more games under his belt, his level is sure to improve.



**PABLO**

**6** This year's surprise package. Certainly a big star in the making but he will need time to find his feet at the top level. Perhaps not yet ready to be a regular in the centre of the park, but showed great game intelligence when asked to play in the wide areas and close space on the opponent. Late cameo roles seem to suit him at the moment, using his drive against tiring opponents.



**KAMENI**

**7** A knee injury cost him the opportunity to play every La Liga minute as he had done the previous campaign. The Cameroonian wasn't at the same level as in the previous season but was nonetheless a consistent performer and very seldom to blame.



**DUJE COP**

**6** It took him a while to gain Gracia's trust, but as soon as he showed he was willing to rack up the kilometres in an unfamiliar number 10 role, he became virtually undroppable. His work rate in closing down opponents has been key in pushing Malaga's starting block higher up the pitch but his lack of technique has seen him come up short in the goals column with just seven to his name.



**RICCA**

**6** One for the future. Ricca certainly looks like an astute acquisition but has plenty of work to do on the training ground to ensure he can cope with the rigours of La Liga on a weekly basis. Pace is his biggest asset and gets him out of many holes. He can only improve and, at 21, has time on his hands to do so.



**SANTA CRUZ**

**4** He took a major paycut to return 'home', but the effort to bring him in is yet to be justified. Injury hampered him throughout, but even when he was available, his impact was unremarkable, often slowing play down. The team's style became much more direct with him on the field, but the Paraguayan's aerial prowess is not as it once was.



**CHORY CASTRO**

**7** Arnau's big winter signing. Chory gave Malaga something which has been in short supply - width. His relentless appetite has made him a favourite with the fans. With some better finishing, Chory could have racked up many more assists than his total of three.



**FILIPENKO**

**5** Never earned the confidence of the coach. Has performed reasonably when called upon (even in midfield) but there has been no clamour for him to be given regular game time. Language has been another barrier so the player himself is keen to move on.



**ONTIVEROS**

**5** The winger made his debut but at the season's low point. Thrust into the limelight, he performed as expected of a 19-year-old, showing both unrefined raw skill, but also naivety.



**ANGELERI**

**5** Left Malaga at the right time. Having established himself as a starter following the departure of Sergio Sánchez, Angeleri's level of performance started to drop, coinciding with a series of niggles he was carrying.



**UCHE**

**3** A Gracia signing. There is no doubting his ability but his injury problems have plagued him and prevented him from making any impact on the squad.



**BOKA**

**2** He will be one of the first out the door after a disastrous campaign has seen him fall massively out of favour. His defensive lapses have cost Malaga one time too many.



**TISSONE**

**3** Was lost when he stepped in for the injured Camacho. Two red cards later and Gracia decided to cut his losses.



**CIFU.** Ended the season without making his debut. **FLÁVIO.** Injury hampered. The centre back had his contract terminated after missing the whole first half of the season. **S. DARDER.** Completed his move to Olympique Lyonnais just one game into the campaign. Was later fined for missing training and matches on the South American tour. **MASTOUR.** A signing by the owners who, as expected, brought nothing to the squad. **ESPINHO.** He was a signing that wasn't to the taste of Gracia from the outset.

**ATSU**

**5** Was unable to hold down a place in the side with Gracia reluctant to play him in his natural position for tactical reasons. Showed glimpses of brilliance, including a fantastic solo goal against Las Palmas on the final day. His raw pace is certainly an asset but was rarely given a chance to show it. The player would like to renew his loan deal.



**JUANKAR**

**5** Thrust into the team after the side struggled to find wide options in midfield. He was far from a natural winger put always put in a decent shift, protecting the left-back, more than offering an attacking threat, though. Unfortunately for him, injury curtailed his season and his rushed comeback in the Real Betis game most likely ended any chance of retention.





## A LOOK AT LA LIGA

**ROB PALMER**  
Commentator, Sky Sports  
@robopalmer



# A sign of the times?

Spanish teams are enjoying yet another European domination

I just wonder if Spanish football has ever had it so good?

Ok, Real Madrid did win the European Cup five times in a row in the 1950's but back then it had about as much credibility as the manufactured pre-season (so called) 'Champions' competitions that pop up around the globe every summer.

Sevilla, took the Europa League, Barcelona were stretched to the very limit to beat them in the Copa del Rey Final and the Champions of Europe will come from the capital of Madrid.

The Spanish Cup final was the kind of game that should be studied on UEFA coaching courses for years to come; Barcelona, the technical wizards, against Sevilla, who thrive on a physical ding dong. Well, that's

how it started until Javier Mascherano sacrificed himself to prevent a big chance for the Andalusians.

Thereafter Barcelona had to play to their supposed weaknesses. Luis Enrique depended on defence and dipped into his scant reserves to clinch the double. He placed the emphasis on Sevilla dominating possession and Barça absorbing the pressure. In adversity

came strength. The likes of Jérémy Mathieu, who'd previously been seen as a weak link, emerged a hero; Jordi Alba scored his first goal of the season and Neymar, who has been scrutinised for some flaky performances, stood up to the plate.

Sevilla gave absolutely everything but they encountered a much

greater obstacle than the Liverpool in Basel a few days earlier.

I expect the Champions League final to follow the same pattern in the tale of one city, two clubs and two managers.

Zinedine Zidane and Diego Simeone were both accomplished stars as players but their styles were contrasting and the differences will be carried into management.

There were fears that Zidane would be merely a figurehead for the president but he has quickly imposed himself as a single-minded manager who has a clearly identified how he wants his team to play. Twelve successive Liga wins suggest the players understand his mantra and any speculation about whether his tenure is temporary have disappeared. He's favourite to add to the already vast trophy cabinet with his first medal as a manager.

Standing in the way is Diego Simeone and getting past him as a manager is about as easy as a



Zidane and Simeone: a titanic clash of styles. :: AFP

fifty-fifty in the middle of the playing park. Simeone has rightly taken countless plaudits for creating a fearsome football team in his own image but he can also be their biggest liability.

I still think that if he wasn't watching the penultimate game behind glass, serving a suspension, then he could have prevented his team from capitulating against already-relegated Levante.

The abiding memory of Atlético's last Champions League final was Simeone going 'loco' on the very final whistle. If he keeps his cool then Atlético could finally get over the hoodoo of getting to the last minutes of the elite European final and blowing it.

Simeone knows that his opposite number has been known to lose his head when challenged in a major final.



Alba spared Barça's blushes. :: AFP

# A grandstand finish

Unicaja triumph in Santiago thanks to a stellar 27-point performance from Nedovic

64  
77

RIO NATURA MONBUS-  
UNICAJA

:: JUAN CALDERÓN

**MALAGA.** Nedovic scored 27 points and put in a man-of-the-match performance on Sunday afternoon as Unicaja finished the ACB regular season with a 64-77 victory over Rio Natura Monbus. Unicaja's triumph in Santiago was their tenth win in twelve matches and secured a sixth-place finish for Plaza's team who face Valencia in the playoffs this week.

As we have seen so often this season, Kuzminskas led the attack for the away side and used his superior height to give his team a focal point. With three minutes on the clock, Unicaja held a four-point lead (5-9) over



Thomas shoots past Brown in the match on Sunday. EFE

their opponents. However, their inaccuracy from the three-point line allowed Obradoiro back into the game. The resurgence of the much-sought-after Waczynski was key for the local team as he netted a triple with his first throw of the match. The Polish forward then assisted Triguero as the home team went ahead, 13-9. Seeing that his team were struggling, Joan Plaza introduced Nedovic, Cooley and Díez but they were unable to prevent their side from losing the first quarter, 17-13.

After a brief period of disarray from both sides, Nedovic and Díez began to take control of the match as they overturned Obradoiro's advantage and built a six-point cushion, 19-25. Despite their best efforts, the visitors trailed by one point at the break as Jackson struggled for form, 29-28.

Unicaja made an awful start to the second half. With Benzius pulling the strings for the hosts, Joan Plaza was forced to adopt a more defensive approach. Nedovic assumed the responsibility of leading the attack in Kuzminskas's absence and helped to stage a comeback. The Serbian was incredible, scoring 15 points to put Unicaja in front and finished the third quarter with a basket from the centre of the court, 52-58.

Nedovic's good form continued in the final quarter as he netted another triple shortly after the restart, 52-61. Smith also added his name to the list of three-point scorers. With five minutes remaining, Kuzminskas added two more baskets to kill off the home team who only managed to score 12 points in the final quarter.

## Unicaja drawn against Valencia in playoff quarter-finals

:: SUR IN ENGLISH

**MALAGA** Unicaja will face Valencia Basket in the first leg of the quarter-finals of the ACB playoffs tonight, with the second leg on Sunday.

Finishing in third position with only six defeats all season, Valencia will prove to be tough opponents for Joan Plaza's team who finished three places behind them in sixth with 20 victories. However, fans will be encouraged by the fact that Unicaja won 77-65 against Valencia only two weeks ago in one of their most complete performances of the season.

If victorious, Unicaja will face Real Madrid or Montakit Fuenlabrada in next week's semi-finals.



Quarter-final opponents. :: EFE



Saturday saw the Marbella golf course Guadalmina host the first round of the Costa del Golf Tour, which will run until July. :: JOSELE-LANZA

# Guadalmina sets new tour record

The Costa del Golf Tour attracted almost 200 amateur players for its first event this year



✉ Twitter: @agalmendres

John Preston, Antonio Lago and María Palomo Coello were the winners in the inaugural event of the circuit organised by SUR

**MARBELLA.** Close to 200 players took to the greens at Guadalmina on Saturday to take part in the first event of the Costa del Golf Tour, a circuit organised by SUR and its leading golf publication, Costa del Golf.

John Preston and Antonio Lago were named winners of the first and second categories, respectively, while María Paloma Coello claimed the title in the women's category.

The day, marked by the good weather, got under way at nine in the morning, with a second outing taking place at around three in the afternoon. Almost one hundred competitors made up each group, which is a record for this circuit, whose first edition was three years ago, helping to consolidate its place as one of the leading amateur events in Andalucía.

In the first category, the top 5 was completed by José Duarte, Alexander Rynders, Eduardo Alejandro Graue and Gonzalo Macías. The podium for the second category was

filled by Jorge Guibert and José Ángel San José.

Guadalmina, considered one of the best clubs in the province, has two courses, one 18-hole, another 9, designed by Javier Arana, one of the great Spanish golf course designers.

The circuit's technical director, Francisco Gómez, was pleased with the success of the tour so far: "It has been a perfect day of golf, despite the wind. The course was in fantastic condition."

## Circuit

The event, for which subscriptions sold out within days, kicked off the circuit, which will next take in San Roque (4 June) and Río Real (25 June) before the grand final which will take place at Los Flamingos, located in the Hotel Villa Padierna in Marbella.

The circuit is sponsored by the Western Costa del Sol Mancomunidad, the Acosol company, the jeweller Aurelio Marcos, Rivervial Grupo, Jaguar, the restaurant Da Bruno, Ibéricos Covap and Línea Directa. It can also boast the collaboration of the participating courses, Andalucía Golf Select, Copyrap, Golfriends and Turismo Andaluz.

## 'Spectacular course'

Los Flamingos, a spectacular course designed by Antonio García Garrido, will host the final of the Costa del Golf Tour. Participants can still purchase entry for the San Roque and Río Real courses for seventy euros each. The Hotel Villa Padierna Palace will offer up a cocktail and prize draw for participants following the final. The regulations can be found



Guadalmina brought together 200 amateur players. :: JOSELE-LANZA

## LEADERBOARDS

### First category

1. John Preston
2. José Duarte
3. Alexander Reynders
4. Eduardo A. Graue
5. Gonzalo Macías

### Female category

1. María Paloma Coello
2. Yvonne Klingwall
3. Lina López
4. Rosa María Sánchez
5. Inés García

on the webpage for Diario SUR's offerplan (<http://oferplan.diariosur.es>), where you can also sign up and view the photo galleries.

## SANTANA REFLECTS ON 50 YEARS SINCE WIMBLEDON WIN

Manolo Santana, Wimbledon's first ever Spanish winner in 1966, has been attending a series of events in Marbella to commemorate the feat. At an event attended by children from the municipality's sports schools and mayor José Bernal, with whom he took part in a mini rally, he recalled kissing the Duchess of Kent's hand against all protocol.



:: JOSELE-LANZA













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- ☛ YEAR ROUND EMPLOYMENT
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# TIME OUT FOR SPANISH BY CIE-UMA



CENTRO INTERNACIONAL DE ESPAÑOL



## El Corcho

El corcho: la piel de un príncipe. Este material cuenta con unas propiedades insustituibles

**MARÍA JOSÉ FERNÁNDEZ**  
TEACHER AT CIE-UMA



**H**oy hablamos de personaje de la aristocracia, el alcornoque (*Quercus suber*), primo de la reina del bosque mediterráneo, la encina (*Quercus ilex*), y de su principal aprovechamiento económico.

Este árbol se cría en zonas frescas y húmedas desde el nivel del mar hasta los 1200-1500 m. de altitud. Puede vivir hasta 500 años. Es muy parecido a la encina, sin embargo tiene una importante diferencia, su corteza, su piel, que es muy gruesa, a veces puede medir 15 cm. de grosor. Conocida, comúnmente, por el nombre de corcho. Cuando se elimina, el tronco del árbol muestra un maravilloso color rojizo muy característico. Las mayores extensiones en la Península Ibérica se localizan en Andalucía occidental (Cádiz, Málaga, Sevilla y Huelva), Extremadura y

Cataluña (Gerona).

A principios de verano los hombres suben a los montes llevando en muchos casos sus mulos y burros como único medio de transporte. En este momento, la corteza pierde agua por el calor y es más fácil separarla del tronco. La extracción, que se realiza cada 8 o doce años, es un trabajo que debe hacerse de forma manual y con mucho cuidado porque puede herir e incluso matar al árbol. Con herramientas especiales, las manos expertas desnudan al árbol como si le quitaran un abrigo. El corcho obtenido se baja a almacenes donde se pesa, clasifica para su posterior venta y procesamiento. Tiene aplicación industrial en la fabricación de tapones, artes de pesca, aislantes, recubrimientos, calzado, decoración, etc. Su fruto, la bellota, es fundamental en la

montañera (última fase de engorde) del cerdo ibérico.

La pela o la saca del corcho es un magnífico ejemplo de desarrollo sostenible que produce un mínimo impacto ambiental. Mantiene un oficio tradicional especializado y se obtiene un material de excelente calidad, con propiedades únicas, insustituible. Representa un recurso natural que el bosque ofrece de forma generosa, sin grandes cuidados e inversiones. Lo único que necesita es respeto y protección. Tenemos el privilegio de vivir muy cerca de los pocos espacios del mundo que mantiene este ecosistema, la última selva mediterránea.

Cuando abra una botella de vino y coja el tapón, recuerde que tiene entre sus dedos un trozo de la piel de un príncipe.



## Características y usos

El corcho es un producto natural y carece de sustancias tóxicas. Posee amplias e importantes cualidades, que lo hacen un material único, entre las más destacables podemos citar: es impermeable, no huele, no se pudre, es resistente a los ataques de insectos y hongos, es un excelente aislante térmico, acústico y vibratorio, presenta baja conductividad eléctrica, es antideslizante, flota en el agua, pesa poco, presenta alta resistencia mecánica, es flexible, comprensible y elástico. Aporta una estética natural y cálida a los materiales de construcción tanto en exteriores de edificios como en interiores, también está presente en objetos de decoración y complementos de moda.

Los primeros usos del corcho estaban relacionados con las artes de pesca, sin embargo, la aplicación actual más importante es, sin duda, la fabricación de tapones (el 85% del sector). Esta actividad comenzó en el siglo XVII y se convirtió en actividad industrial en el siglo XIX.

Los principales productores se concentran en el Mediterráneo occidental: Portugal está a la cabeza como primer productor mundial, seguido de España, Italia, Francia, Túnez, Marruecos y Argelia.

En España, las primeras fábricas aparecieron en Cataluña, pronto la demanda aumentó y buscaron nuevas zonas en Extremadura y Andalucía.



**Centro Internacional de Español de la Universidad de Málaga.** Avenida de la Estación de El Palo 4. 29017 Málaga. Email: cie@uma.es www.uma.es/centrointernacionaldeespanol

## HOW MUCH DO YOU KNOW?

Join the words that share the same meaning:

- |                                       |  |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| <b>Corcho</b> 1                       | <b>A</b> Extracción de la corteza del Alcornoque.        |
| <b>Tapón</b> 2                        | <b>B</b> Sinónimo de personas con experiencia.           |
| <b>Desarrollo sostenible</b> 3        | <b>C</b> Hijo del burro y el caballo                     |
| <b>Herramienta</b> 4                  | <b>D</b> Temporada de alimentación del cerdo en el monte |
| <b>Mulo</b> 5                         | <b>E</b> Material de origen vegetal                      |
| <b>Pela o saca</b> 6                  | <b>F</b> Impide la transmisión del sonido y el calor     |
| <b>Manos expertas</b> 7               | <b>G</b> Objetos que sirven para pescar.                 |
| <b>Aislantes sonoros y térmicos</b> 8 | <b>H</b> Actividad que respeta la Naturaleza             |
| <b>Artes de pesca</b> 9               | <b>I</b> Objeto que sirve para cerrar                    |
| <b>Montañera</b> 10                   | <b>J</b> Objeto que sirve para trabajar con las manos    |

Find the following words in the grid:

- Corcho
- Alcornoque
- Encina
- Príncipe
- Corteza
- Tapón
- Bosque
- Mediterráneo



**Solutions**

Link: 11E, 2I, 3H, 4J, 5C, 6A, 7B, 8F, 9G, 10D.

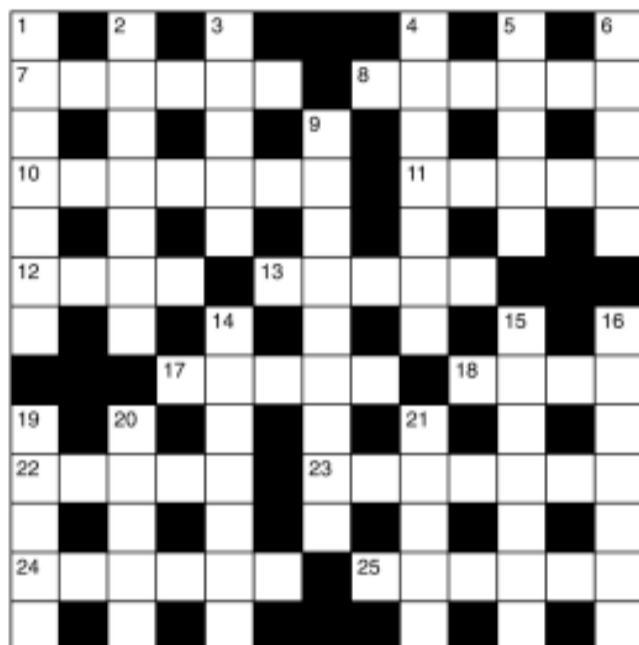
THE SEVEN DIFFERENCES



THE STARS

- 
**Aquarius**  
 January 21 - February 19  
 Wishful thinking will not get you very far so get out and about and communicate.
- 
**Pisces**  
 February 20th - March 20th  
 A loved one is in action mode and, if you hitch a ride, your wellbeing can improve.
- 
**Aries**  
 March 21st - April 20th  
 Much as you may wish to, you cannot turn live someone else's life for them. They will make mistakes regardless of your input.
- 
**Taurus**  
 April 21st - May 21st  
 Continue to show respect to someone who, on the face of it, may not deserve it. Their reaction may surprise you.
- 
**Gemini**  
 May 22nd - June 21st  
 Joint finances are highlighted as this week begins. A windfall is likely. This means extra in either your purse or your financial future.
- 
**Cancer**  
 June 22nd - July 23rd  
 Your strength is in your determination this week. Use your imagination to enthuse others and get them inside.
- 
**Leo**  
 July 24th - August 23rd  
 Is there a special meeting coming up? Giving a gift to someone who is not expecting it brings you both happiness.
- 
**Virgo**  
 August 24th - September 23rd  
 A blip in confidence could be due to a misunderstanding. If you feel that someone is against you, find out why.
- 
**Libra**  
 September 24th - October 23rd  
 Retaining your calm is necessary as others try to irritate you. Could there be a bit of jealousy around?
- 
**Scorpio**  
 October 24th - November 22nd  
 Confusion turns to relief as you realise that someone has had your best interests at heart after all. Misunderstandings do happen.
- 
**Sagittarius**  
 November 23rd - December 21st  
 Some of the better things in life are coming your way this week and not before time.
- 
**Capricorn**  
 December 22nd - January 20th  
 At the moment you could lead five different lives quite happily. The thing is to make the most of the one you have.

CRYPTIC CROSSWORD N° 11191



- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <p><b>Across</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7. Open an eye! (6)</li> <li>8. Tom turns to her, naturally (6)</li> <li>10. A novel division of the church (7)</li> <li>11. Saves wrecked vessels (5)</li> <li>12. Verb and noun together hide a preposition (4)</li> <li>13. Brusque, but not for long (5)</li> <li>17. A musical quality in harmony (2,3)</li> <li>18. Famous ship is short of freight (4)</li> <li>22. Time of year in which Capri looks its best (5)</li> <li>23. Sea mail going astray causes uneasiness (7)</li> <li>24. Creature from Manila (6)</li> <li>25. Vote to return to the dance (6)</li> </ul> | <p><b>Down</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. A vital point when it comes to a purchase (7)</li> <li>2. Greek character against Italian wine (7)</li> <li>3. They entertain large numbers of people (5)</li> <li>4. Make believe (7)</li> <li>5. Stage of development out of shape (5)</li> <li>6. Keyless lock (5)</li> <li>9. One bent on trying to destroy you? (4-5)</li> <li>14. What it means to a barman (7)</li> <li>15. It's meant to be read, so make it clear (7)</li> <li>16. Gets as far as waking up? (5,2)</li> <li>19. Waterway is able to take nearly everything (5)</li> <li>20. Direct transport (5)</li> <li>21. All ahead including deity (5)</li> </ul> |
|--|--|

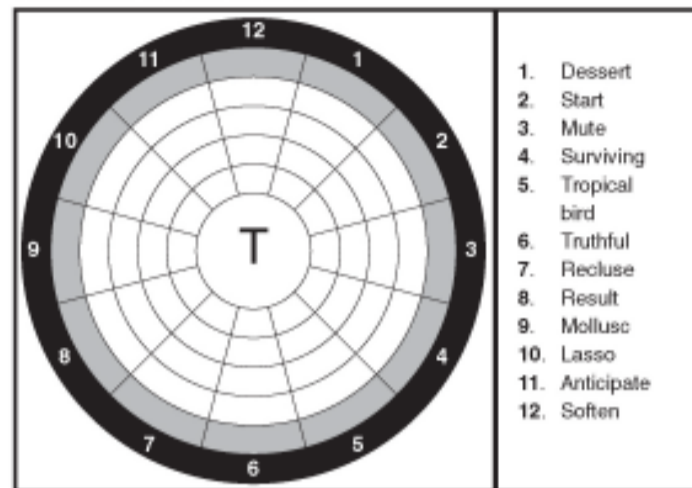
SUDOKU BY HANZO

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

CLOCKWORD

The solutions from 1 to 12 are all six-letter words ending with the letter T in the centre. Moving clockwise from 1, the letters in the outer circle will spell out the name of a U.S. novelist.



- 1. Dessert
- 2. Start
- 3. Mute
- 4. Surviving bird
- 5. Tropical
- 6. Truthful
- 7. Recluse
- 8. Result
- 9. Mollusc
- 10. Lasso
- 11. Anticipate
- 12. Soften

THE WORDPUZZLER

P	S	O	I	N	E	J	I	M	U
S	T	E	D	I	O	R	P	E	N
A	H	L	O	N	R	K	E	L	P
S	P	I	T	I	N	A	R	E	L
T	O	M	E	W	A	T	O	G	O
A	M	B	E	R	B	E	T	T	Y
N	P	I	M	A	N	L	O	H	M
I	R	L	U	M	I	L	B	E	E
D	E	L	E	R	I	O	O	W	R
U	S	E	L	E	S	N	B	L	A

- CAN you identify the abbreviations of the names listed below?
- 1. Christine
  - 2. Melvyn
  - 3. Edward
  - 4. Robert
  - 5. James
  - 6. Catherine
  - 7. William
  - 8. Elizabeth
  - 9. Dorothy
  - 10. Derek

INTERNATIONAL RADIO

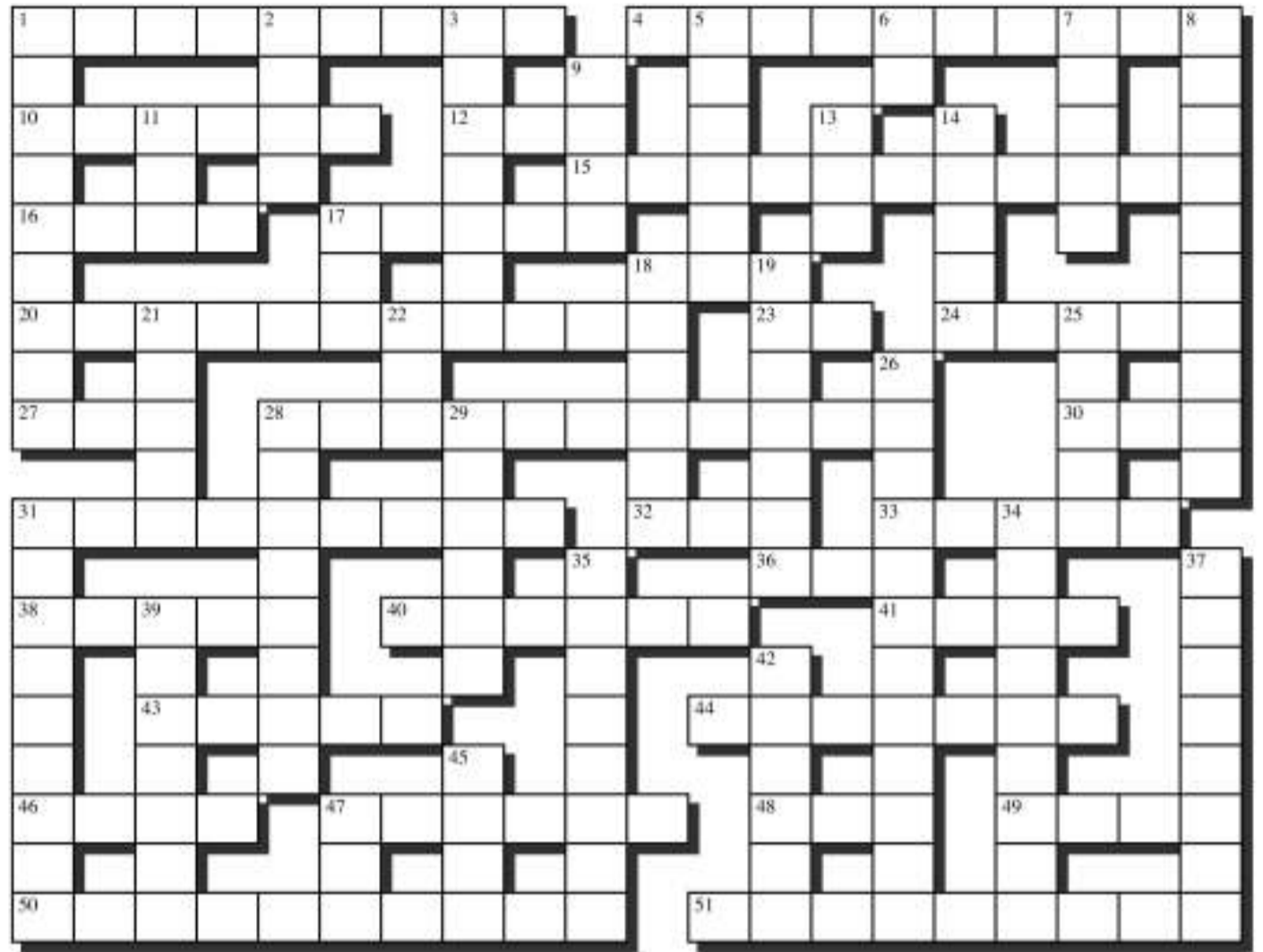
- Talk Radio Europe**  
 105.5 Axarquía  
 91.5 Costa del Sol East  
 91.9 Costa del Sol West  
 98.7 Gibraltar/Sotogrande  
 News, interviews, lifestyle, sport and BBC World Service.
- Global** (93.6 and 96.4FM)  
 All week round the clock music and entertainment
- Radio Radio Network** (96 and 98.3 FM). Music 24 hours.
- Central FM** (98.6 FM, 103.8)  
 All week, classic tracks and today's music broadcast to the Costa del Sol
- ACE FM** (106.8 FM)  
 Inland radio, news and music  
 The Beat fm (106 FM)  
 24 hours, music and entertainment
- Spectrum** (105.5 FM, Costa Almeria/Mojácar 92.6 FM)  
 24 hour music and entertainment
- Radio Mijas** (107.7 FM)  
 3 p.m. News, views and music
- Radio Sol Almirajara** (99.1 FM)  
 Nerja radio in English and German and night time World Radio Network
- HeartfmSpain** (88.5 FM Costa, 96.1 FM inland) Music, entertainment, news
- Lick FM** (103.6 FM Marbella)  
 Urban music broadcast between Gibraltar and Calahonda

QUIZ

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <p><b>QUESTION 1</b></p> <p>Who is responsible of the first use of the word 'puking' in literature?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Alexandre Dumas</li> <li>2. Miguel de Cervantes</li> <li>3. Agatha Christie</li> <li>4. William Shakespeare</li> </ul> | <p><b>QUESTION 2</b></p> <p>Which character in The Simpsons have four fingers and one thumb?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Principal Skinner</li> <li>2. Krusty the Clown</li> <li>3. God</li> <li>4. Maggie</li> </ul> |
|--|---|

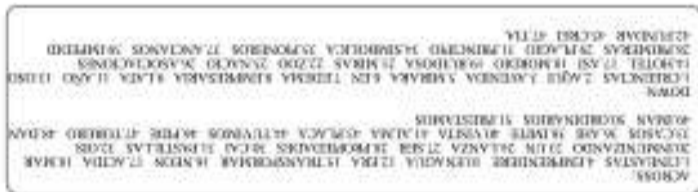
LANGUAGE CROSSWORD FILL IN THE SPANISH WORD

- Across**
- Filmmakers (9)
  - I'll start (10)
  - Petticoat (6)
  - She was (3)
  - To transform (11)
  - Neon (4)
  - Acid (f) (5)
  - Sea (3)
  - immunising (11)
  - A (m) (2)
  - She launches (5)
  - To be (3)
  - Properties (11)
  - I fell (3)
  - Pills (9)
  - You hear (3)
  - Cases (5)
  - There (3)
  - I imitated (5)
  - Visit (6)
  - Soul (4)
  - Plaque (5)
  - We had (7)
  - She requests (4)
  - Bullfighter (6)
  - They give (3)
  - Magnet (4)
  - Vulgar (m.pl.) (10)
  - Loans (9)
- Down**
- Beliefs (9)
  - Here (4)
  - Avenue (7)
  - She'll look (6)
  - In (2)
  - Oedema (5)
  - Businesswoman (10)
  - Tin (4)
  - Year (3)
  - Bear (3)
  - Hotel (5)
  - Thus (3)
  - It bit (6)
  - Noisy (f) (7)
  - You look (5)
  - Zoo (3)
  - She was born (5)
  - Associations (12)
  - First (f.pl.) (8)
  - Plagiarism (6)
  - Beginning (9)
  - Symbolic (f) (9)
  - Pioneers (8)
  - Old people (8)
  - Prevent! (7)
  - To found (6)
  - I believed (4)
  - Aunt (3)



ANSWERS

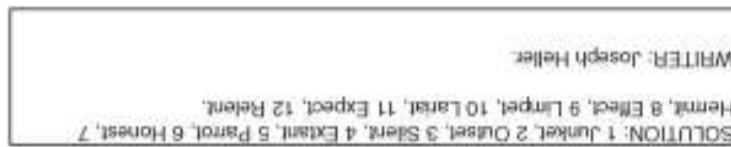
Language Crossword



Cryptic Crossword

**Across:** 7 Unhook; 8 Mother; 10 Chapter; 11 Vases; 12 Unto; 13 Short; 17 At one; 18 Argo; 22 April; 23 Malaise; 24 Animal; 25 Ballet.  
**Down:** 1 Fulcrum; 2 Chianti; 3 Hosts; 4 Convert; 5 Phase; 6 Tress; 9 Arch-enemy; 14 Italian; 15 Article; 16 Comes; 19 Canal; 20 Train; 21 Allah.

Clockword solution



Wordpuzzler solution



Sudoku solution

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

Quiz answers

**Answer:** William Shakespeare.  
**Of interest:** Shakespeare did not invent the word 'puking' but he appears to be the first person to use it in literature in his play 'As you like it': 'At first the infant, mewling and puking in the nurse's arms.' The word is probably derived from the German 'spucken' or from the Latin 'spuere' meaning to spit.  
**Answer:** God.  
**Of interest:** The Simpsons characters have only four fingers on each hand. God (and Jesus) are the only characters portrayed on the Simpsons to ever have five fingers.

BOOK OF THE WEEK



Thus were their faces  
Silvina Ocampo

Silvina Ocampo Aguirre is one of the most important Latin American writers of the 20th century and queen of the short story. This book is a compilation of some of her best. Each one is a masterpiece of gothic darkness, filled with melancholy, madness and decadence. Sinister doppelgangers, a marble statue of a winged horse that speaks to a girl, a house of sugar that is the site of an eerie possession, a lapdog who records the dreams of an old woman, all a bit creepy and sometimes disturbing.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

The way is not in the sky, the way is in the heart

BUDDHA

MALAGA PORT INFORMATION

CRUISE SHIP MOVEMENTS (SOURCE: MALAGA PORT AUTHORITY)

Ship	Date	From	Next port	Docks	Sails
Silver Wind	27/05	Cartagena	Cadiz	08.00	19.00
Oosterdam	28/05	Gibraltar	Alicante	08.00	18.00
Thomson Spirit	29/05	Gibraltar	Gibraltar	06.00	20.00
Black Watch	01/06	-	-	08.00	17.30
Harmony o t Seas	03/06	Vigo	Barcelona	08.00	18.00
Oriana	03/06	-	-	09.00	18.00





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# A village at the bottom of the reservoir



Malaga's Archivo Provincial has brought out documents that led to the village of Peñarrubia being swallowed up by the waters of the Guadalhorce

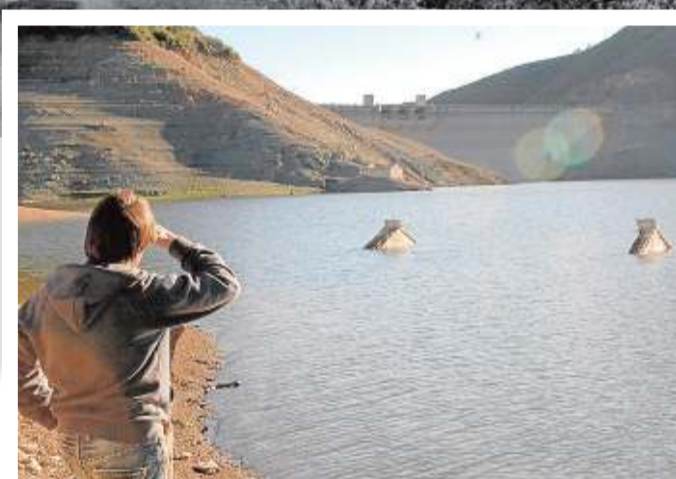


**MALAGA.** The top of the church tower appears occasionally as if it were a periscope. It's more commonly spotted in the summer and in periods of drought when the water level falls. The periscope is the tip of Peñarrubia, the village that was sunk in 1973 during the construction of the Guadalhorce and the Guadalteba reservoirs.

The creation of these dams forced the exile of the 1,751 residents, who left their homes with no more than memories, their furniture and compensation for the inconvenience. However the paperwork that made the demise of the village official was not lost and has been selected as document of the month of May at the provincial archive (Archivo Histórico Provincial).



The papers tell the story of the disappearance of Peñarrubia and the neighbouring hamlet of Gobantes from the approval of the construction of the dams to 1962, when the local people first learned of the death sentence that had been handed to their homes. A whole decade would pass before the execution by drowning, however, and in 1966 the local people, through their parish priest, expressed their concerns in a letter, calling for a new



Top, Peñarrubia before it was flooded, and above, rooftops show above the water level. Left, the document that proposed compensation for the villagers. :: SUR

Peñarrubia to be built. However this was not the solution provided. Before it disappeared the village bequeathed its land to the neighbouring Campillos, where many of the residents ended up living. How-

## The postman, town hall officials and two Guardia Civil officers were last to leave

ever the Peñarrubia diaspora spread as far as Santa Rosalía-Maqueda and the city of Malaga. In fact it is the parish church of the city's district of Nueva Málaga that took in the image of the Virgen de los Dolores that once presided over the church of Peñarrubia. Now the image is carried in procession by the Nueva Esperanza brotherhood in the city's Semana Santa celebrations. The member of the brotherhood who guides this image through the city, Enrique Vega, attended the presentation of the documents earlier this month, alongside the provincial delegate for Culture Monsalud Bautista.

"The disappearance of a village and of the roots of so many people can only be justified by the general interest," explained secretary of the Junta's provincial Environment department, Valentín Ortiz, who recalled the "generosity" of the local people who sacrificed their homes to guarantee the water supply for 700,000 inhabitants in Malaga.

The documents show how, in 1972, when the dams were finished and the water just 40 metres from their homes, the people were given 15 days to leave their properties.

The last to abandon ship were a postman, two municipal workers and the pair of Guardia Civil officers, who helped out until the end.

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