

# THE DREAM SCENE

## Newsletter

Issue no. 50 1st of April, 2011

Bienvenido. We seem to have experienced all four seasons during the last two months, ranging from vicious cold winds, to days warm enough to put those shorts back on! The last week has been glorious - even the *Guardia Civil* were smiling. Driving towards Los Montesinos through the orange and lemon groves has been an enjoyable and uplifting experience, encouraging us to look forward to a good spring and summer. Bring on the heat, I say!

This spring, according to the forecasters, will be 'very normal.' Spring began officially here on March 22 and I saw a small bunch of daffodils flowering in mid-March by the bottom pool. December 2010 was slightly colder than average while Jan and Feb 2011 were slightly warmer than average. Hay fever sufferers have been warned of very high pollen counts from April to June in the centre and south of the mainland. High counts in these areas could be as much as 5,400 grains per cubic metre, whereas the daily average for the remainder of the peninsula should only be around 200 gr/m<sup>3</sup>.

We experienced a mild earthquake/tremor here on the CB on the morning of Wednesday 23 at about 10.25 am. It was rated 3.1 on the Richter Scale and lasted less than three seconds. The epicentre was approx. 20 kms off the coast of Torre Vieja and there was no tidal wave save for when a large German lady from Hanover fell into the sea at Punta Prima!

Two errors in last month's issue, and for the fourth year I forgot to mention St. David's Day! Sorry Julie! Don't forget St. George's Day is on April 23. There will no doubt be some events arranged on the coast.

Those of you who suffer from an occasional attack of nostalgia will be delighted to hear that there is now a website which collects school photographs from around the world. It is a massive database and you are bound to find some digitally re-mastered photos of your early school days on the site. Access is totally free and it covers many nationalities. Just enter some basic answers about your school - no need to be too accurate - and your photo should pop-up! Try it at [www.worldschoolphotographs.com](http://www.worldschoolphotographs.com)

One of the bonuses of living in Spain is the excellent selection of fresh fruit which is available, some of it quite exotic. You may have tried some, such as the *Chirimoya* and the Pomegranate. Now due to a delicious hybrid combination of a pineapple and banana, a new fruit called the Pinana has been launched - see photo. Although these are grown in Murcia they are in very short supply, but I believe The Rendezvous in Via Park III have secured a case, which they are selling on a 'first come first served' basis! Do try some.

It's great to see a 'rebirth' at Via Park V; see ads on page 5 and report on page 6.

Also see the article on Spanish Inheritance Tax on page 11. For some years I felt that this tax was discriminatory on European non-Spanish property owners. It now seems that the EU have 'twigged' this anomaly at last. More on this in the future.

Thanks to Angela for posting this month's cartoon from the UK! Thanks to 'anonymous,' Doug & Marcia, & Søren from Denmark for their kind donations towards printing costs.

Happy Easter from Mick & Tid.



The Pinana

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### Angela's Cartoon



It looks like St. Pat' has lost his key again!

## What's Up?

Events in Libya and Japan has dominated the front pages here for most of the month. Spain has offered her airbases at Rota in Cádiz and Morón in Sevilla, as well as five aircraft and some naval assets, to NATO to be used in the operations against the Gaddafi regime.

The new terminal at Alicante's El Altet airport has now been opened and it is six times the size of the old terminals 1 and 2, which are now closed. The complex cost €627 million but will not be fully completed until 2012. The scale and content of the terminal is very impressive. Further improvements will include a railway station and bus terminus. There were some minor problems during its first week, lack of toilet paper and the electronic screens could not show the word 'Delayed' being the worst! In one Spanish newspaper, *Información*, a reader wryly commented that 'all was not great and golden at the new terminal. I spotted a crowd of English leaving an airplane dressed in socks and sandals!!'

The AENA airport workers have called off their proposed series of strikes scheduled for the spring and summer.

Moody's, the rating's agency, has reduced the rating for Spanish debt, given doubts it says over the financial sector and the restructuring of the *caja* savings banks. The agency says it also doubts the capacity of the Government to control the deficit, especially in the autonomous regions.

Nearly four million mortgages in Spain are subject to the controversial ground clause, which means that tracking of the Euribor rate has a bottom floor. Most of those affected do not realise that they are among those paying several thousand euros a year to the banks and savings banks because of the clause. The ADICAE Spanish Association of Bank, Savings Bank and Insurance Users, have proposed a congress to discuss a limit to such clauses. It is estimated that between 10% and 20% of property repossessions would not have been necessary if the clause did not exist. The Spanish Prime Minister has also confirmed that the government do not want to see the 'handing back of house keys' as a method of clearing one's mortgage obligations with a bank, but that they would look at it again in the future.

The BBVA bank has announced it is to get rid of the ground and ceiling clauses in its mortgage contracts. A statement from the bank says however that it considers the ground clause, by which the interest charged is not allowed to fall below a certain level as it tracks the Euribor, as 'perfectly legal'. However the decision does come after a ruling against the bank from a court in Sevilla which ordered the clause be removed.

As part of its energy saving legislation, the government has announced a grant of €20 towards each energy saving tyre, which increase miles per litre. However, there are none of these types of tyres in the country. Meanwhile some top tyre manufacturers have warned about the quality of Chinese imports, claiming the cheap tyres increase breaking distances significantly.

The new Basque party, Sortu, is widely considered nothing more than an extension of the outlawed political branch of ETA, Batasuna. The Attorney General formally asked the Supreme Court not to legalize the party and Prime Minister José Luis Rodríguez Zapatero has stated that Sortu cannot be legal unless ETA ceases to exist. Although Sortu sought to comply with Spain's Party Law by expressly rejecting the use of violence in its charter — a symbolic first for the radical separatists — the police report that several Sortu candidates are former Batasuna members, and were found to be keeping a bank account to provide financial assistance to jailed ETA members. The Supreme Court has now rejected Sortu's bid to become a recognized political party, who can now, if they wish, appeal to the Constitutional Court. Because of the time scale, Sortu will now be unlikely to participate in the local elections in May.

The Catholic charity, *Cáritas Española*, has complained that the police show up at their soup kitchens and aid centres frequently to check the papers of immigrants. *Cáritas*, who regularly feed around 400,000 immigrants argue that the practice is not justified and complained that the immigration policy treats the illegal immigrant "as a presumed criminal" and discourages the needy from attending their help centres.

The Government has launched a new campaign against absenteeism from the work place which reaches levels as high as 20% in parts of public administration. So on average every public employee here takes one day off every week!

One newspaper, *El País*, states that more than 40% of the fish for sale are labelled with false origin information.

The gas *butanos* have now increased in price to €14 each.

The President of Mercadona, Juan Roig, has said that the worst of the recession is still to be felt in Spain, as 'everyone here has taken on far too much credit and now is the time to pay it all back to the rest of the world.' His comments come after the supermarket announced profits up 47% (!) in 2010 and that they will be charging for plastic bags in all their supermarkets from June this year. Single use bags will be 2 cents, ten use bags will be 10 cents and raffia bags will be 60 cents. Mercadona's handling of the recession has been very interesting. They have removed much of the third party suppliers from the shelves, pushing their own *Hacienda* brand. The staff at the till will also 'go the extra mile' and try and sell you one more item when you check-out! What a shame they have not introduced loyalty cards as Consum have.

The revised law which controls new golf courses in Andalucía has now been in operation in the region for three years, and over that time not a single new golf development has been authorised. The Junta has however received 19 applications for projects, with most coming from Almería and Cádiz provinces

L'Oreal España and seven other hairdressing firms have been fined 51 million € by the Spanish National Competition Commission for price fixing in the sector. The investigation started in June 2008 when the cosmetics side of the business started to be inspected for possible anti-competitive practices.

### Too Many Bags!

A policeman had just stopped a drunk driver and given him a breathalyser test. 'I'm sorry, sir,' says the policeman, 'but this bag tells me you've been drinking too much.'

'What a coincidence!' exclaims the driver. 'I've got a bag at home that does the exact same thing!'

Winemakers in Catalonia have reason to pop open a few celebratory bottles — 2010 marked a record-breaking year for sales of the region's cava sparkling wine. Over 244 million bottles were consumed around the world last year, an 11-percent increase on 2009. Although Spain was the country that drank the most of that total (95.6 million bottles), 60 percent of 2010's record-breaking output was sold abroad, with Germany uncorking 41 million bottles and the UK 32 million. But it was triumphs in the US, where sales grew 18 percent to 17.5 million bottles, and France, the land of champagne, that gave regional winemakers the most pride. "French consumers are great connoisseurs of sparkling wine," said Gustau García Guillamet, president of the Cava Regulatory Board, which announced the figures. "That it is our sixth market and continues growing with so much force [French exports grew by 15 percent] is no mean feat."

Classified by Time Magazine as one of the top 100 products in the world, the Valencia company, El Verd del Poaig, has launched what it claims to be the most expensive extra virgin olive oil in the world. It is sold in a porcelain container and a half litre of the extra virgin will set you back €130.

Now that the top speed limit has been reduced to 110 kph here, one might think that the roads are just that little bit safer. Not necessarily! Newly qualified drivers will no longer be restricted in the first year to 80 kph as they have been since 1974. Although it is now 'pedal to the metal' they will still have to display the green and white 'L' sign on the car for their first year at the wheel. I have long held the view that Spanish cars have never been fitted with indicator lights and that their drivers look on traffic lights as merely a suggestion. Don't get me started on roundabouts!

A Murcia promoter who is trying to sell 15 new homes is offering a free wedding reception to anyone buying one of his houses. The houses cost between 130,000 and €150,000. He will pay the cost of €80 per guest for up to 200 guests - €16,000! Promoters will try to sweeten any deal for new houses including paying for the purchaser's divorce.

A 55-year-old policeman who tried to kidnap the manager of a savings bank in Fuengirola in the Costa del Sol was shot dead by a special operations police group.

A 65-year-old British man who accidentally caused a fire in the Sierra Nevada Nature Park on September 22 2005, has been sentenced to 18 months in prison and fined €10.6 million. The fire took eight days to extinguish and destroyed more than 3,300 hectares of farming and forestry land.

The National Competition Commission has denounced that there are serious problems in the sale of petrol in Spain, concluding that the Spanish people paid 1.6 billion € more for their fuel than countries such as Germany or France. They blame a lack of competition in the sector here, with the dominant position of Repsol, Cepsa and BP.

A Spanish pensioner couple from Calpe have just received an electricity bill for €4,400 following a reading of their meter! Iberdrola had not taken an actual reading of their meter since 2007 and the couple now have to get a bank loan to pay the bill. As usual, the Spanish energy giant just shrugged its shoulders and said that 'the bill had to be paid.' In another case, a man whose meter was not read for three years got a bill for €8,000! Since the supply of electricity was deregulated here in mid-2009, complaints to the electricity companies have tripled. Rising rates and the introduction of new billing systems are at the heart of the complaints. Meters should be read at least every two months, but the companies are only reading every six months in some areas.

Ophthalmologists in Torrevieja Hospital are using a new microsurgical technique for the treatment of patients with glaucoma, using minimally invasive techniques. Only three hospitals in Spain are capable of this technique. Glaucoma is the second leading cause of preventable blindness in developed countries.

Police raided a bar in Fuengirola, Bar Jackson, for operating an illegal betting shop on the premises. There were eight TV screens in the bar showing horse races and a computer to transmit the bets. The police took the names of 25 punters there and confiscated a laptop computer, €1,400 in cash, 1,500 betting slips and, would you believe, 39 euros!

A 19 year old man has been arrested by a plain clothed policeman while travelling on a coach from Málaga to Madrid. The man was on his mobile phone, and the plain clothes policeman sitting nearby heard him say how he had stabbed a man during a fight which proved to be fatal earlier that day in Málaga. The arrest took place on the bus at 05:30am on a Saturday morning when it arrived in Madrid. The plain clothed policeman had sent a text to his colleagues in Málaga, to be discreet. They checked that such an attack had indeed taken place and they organised a team to help with the arrest at the Madrid bus station. Seven other people, two of them underage, had previously been arrested for the fatal stabbing of a 37 year old victim.

More than 1,000 drivers were fined in less than a month in a new speed trap in Torrox in Andalucía. The equipment calculates the driver's average speed over one kilometre and is one of only two systems in Spain. Around 43 drivers are fined every day on this stretch of the A-7 motorway.

A British security consultant to the Royal Family in the UK has had his property in Almería robbed five times in the last 18 months. He actually watched - through a remote link - the latest robbery from the UK as it was happening, when two hooded men robbed the house of two TVs, a DVD recorder and.....two security cameras!

### High Standards

Two married men are talking over the telephone. One says, 'Ever since we got married, my wife has tried to change me. She got me to stop drinking, smoking and running around until all hours of the night. She taught me how to dress well, enjoy the fine arts, gourmet cooking, classical music, even how to invest in the stock market.'

'Sounds like you may be bitter because she changed you so drastically,' remarks his friend.

'I'm not bitter,' replies the first. 'It's just now that I'm so improved, I've realised she isn't good enough for me.'



## Spanish Vignettes: The Nuns' Story or The Lord giveth and the Lord taketh away.....

Amid all the news stories of earthquakes, tidal waves, Middle Eastern revolutions etc., I came across this little gem in the Spanish press which illustrates that you should never be surprised in Spain!

Picture the Cistercian Convent of Santa Lucía in Zaragoza; a place of contemplation, peace and prayer, without any worldly temptations no doubt for just 16 cloistered nuns who are bound together by their faith and vows of poverty. Then suddenly this oasis of tranquillity burst into the media limelight after the nuns phoned the police on February 28 to report that €1.5 million in cash was stolen from the convent!

When the police arrived they were informed that the cash, mainly in €500 notes, was packed into plastic bags and stashed in a locked wardrobe - all now gone! The thief, still unknown, managed to get through the entrance door to the convent, the door to the room and then the door to the wardrobe by picking the locks without attracting attention. The police were told that the money was the result of the nuns' savings for 40 years.

Then the following day the nuns instructed their lawyer, Jesús (no relation!) García Huici, to handle matters. He told the press and police that the amount of money missing was actually €450,000, and that the money was not savings but donations from parishioners, fees generated by bookbinding and restoration work to old books and scrolls, and by the sale of paintings by one of the nuns, Sister Isabel Guerra.



Sister Isabel



Sister Isabel is self taught and a well known artist in Spain. Her paintings, which are termed as hyper-realistic, are in great demand fetching from €2,000 to €48,000 each. She paints with a knife instead of brushes and if you google – Images - Isabel Guerra, you will see several of her paintings which are mainly of young women and children. (See part of one of her paintings on the left.)

Meanwhile the police are unconvinced by the nuns' changing stories and have reported the matter to the tax authorities as it may be undeclared money. The lawyer for the nuns now says that the money was recently withdrawn from the bank to pay for building works and to give money to the needy and that the funds were also reported to the Hacienda, saying that that his clients file taxes as self-employed workers specializing in the graphic-arts sector.

Religious communities do not get any special tax breaks and while they do not need to declare charity, they do, however, have to report any activity that is a source of income for them. If it is demonstrated, for instance, that the convent deliberately avoided paying VAT on their restoration work or on the sold paintings, the sisters could face prison terms of one to five years, and a fine up to six times the evaded amount.

Certainly the whole escapade has raised as many questions as eyebrows. Personally I cannot understand how €500 notes could possibly be practical to hand-out to the needy for meals and hot drinks. But then again maybe the poor in Zaragoza are just very good tipplers!

### The Humour of Jay Leno

"Did you see the footage of French planes bombing Libya? The planes look brand new, like they've never been used before."

"Germany has pulled its forces out of NATO over Libya. When the Germans don't want to fight and the French do, the whole world is upside down."

"We're fighting three wars now. Imagine how many we'd be fighting if President Obama hadn't won the Nobel Peace Prize."

"It's one humiliation after another for Moammar Gadhafi. First his own people started rising up against him, then his compound was bombed, and now he's getting beaten up by the French."

"Obama said we will send economic aid to Libya to help the Libyan people reach their dreams. And if that works, they'll try it here." "Sarah Palin visited Israel. As if the Jews have not suffered enough."

"Rich people in Japan are buying Geiger counters. Poor people are putting bags of microwave popcorn on the windowsill. If it starts popping, get the hell out!"

### EREgate

Whereas the opposition PP continues to reel under accusations in the Gúrtel case, the socialist government in Andalucía is now immersed in a scandal called EREgate, ERE being the name of the legal procedures relating to labour suspension and redundancy.

A fund was set up in 2001 with a budget of €647 million with the purpose of financing early retirement packages and assistance for companies who were laying off workers. (An odd thing in itself with private companies getting taxpayers money to help them meet their own financial commitments!) However, at the centre of the new scam is the former Regional Labour Chief, Javier Guerrero, who has admitted using money from the fund to award generous retirement payoffs to friends, colleagues and family members including his own mother-in-law. To date around 150 cases are being scrutinised for being paid substantial amounts for being laid off from firms, most of the people having never worked for the firms in question!

One newspaper has reported that the Socialist Junta de Andalucía paid an extra €17 million to a bodega where each worker got more than €180,000 in redundancy. Oddly, nobody has been arrested yet! It now seems that several regional councillors were aware of the fraud some years ago but did not report it. Andalucía is seen by many as a 'black hole' in the Spanish economy, with huge amounts of money being poured into it over the years.

Donna & Richard  
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**The Magic Box**

A fifteen year old boy, from a remote  
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the big city one day. They were amazed by  
almost everything they saw, but especially  
by two shiny, silver walls that could move  
apart and then slide back together again.

The boy asked, 'What's this, Father?'

The dad (never having seen a lift) replied, 'Son, I have never seen anything like this  
in my life, I don't know what it is.'

While the boy and his father were watching with amazement, a fat old lady in a  
wheel chair moved up to the moving walls and pressed a button. The walls opened,  
and the lady rolled between them into a small room. The walls closed and the boy  
and his father watched the small numbers above the walls light up sequentially.

They continued to watch until it reached the last number... and then the numbers  
began to light in the reverse order.

Finally the walls opened up again and a gorgeous 24-year-old blond stepped out.

The father, not taking his eyes off the young woman, said quietly to his son.....

'Quick....go get your Mother.'

(Sent in by many)

### Bringing Five Alive by Rik at Galadriel.

The first AGM of Via Park V was held on Tuesday 29th March at All bar Sue. It was heartwarming to see all businesses represented and everyone brought a positive attitude. This positive attitude was extremely evident when confronted with the opinions of potential customers and new businesses that Via Park V was not a very inviting centre to visit. Common comments were that it was dirty and in need of maintenance. It was immediately agreed that we should all meet the following Tuesday and do a complete clean from top to bottom; Scott from Italian Stallions said he would replace the three broken lamp posts by the weekend and also fit all the bulbs and new globes when they arrive. Soon the whole centre will be sparkling again.

Our thanks also go out to Brian, Terry and John who have worked hard making the surrounding area and flower beds look more attractive.

Also for Tuesday, everyone was asked to bring along ideas for a fun day celebration for the Royal Wedding Watch out for local advertising !!!

Since we now have so many new businesses with more diversity, we hope everyone will look at it in a new light and visit the new look Via Park V. It would be a shame if all our enthusiasm is not rewarded. Please come along support our aims.

P.S. Anyone who wants to give a hand cleaning on Tuesday is welcome!

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### Buzz Off!

The National Police in the Sevilla town of Écija have broken up a network which helped people to obtain their driving licence fraudulently. Twelve arrests have been made in the operation which started at the end of last year when it was noted that one driving school was attracting pupils from right across Andalucía. Some of those trying to pass their written exams were in fact unable to read or write, but they were told over a radio link to be given the answers to the examination question. A vibrating device gave one buzz for 'A' and two buzzes for 'B'. The scam had a man in the exam room to control the system, and although he had all the answers he would fail the exam to be placed in the room again on a future occasion. Police say they arrested one man who had been 'trying to pass' since March 2010!

Twelve people were arrested, ten of them trying to pass the test, and each one was found with the vibrating transmitter device when they left the exam room. (Source: Typically Spanish)

### The bad taste tsunami jokes are just flooding in .....

Ellen Mac Arthur is well pissed off. Her 'Round the World' record has been smashed by a Japanese waiter on a coffee table! The Australian Gold Coast Surf Competiton has just been won in controversial circumstances by a little Japanese man on a wardrobe.

The Japanese windsurfing team are so keen to compete in the Olympics, they arrived at the Dover Cliffs two weeks ago.

My Japanese boyfriend just left me. Oh well, there are plenty more in the sea.

Dear Japan,

Bit of a bastard when something sneaks up on you without any warning, isn't it?

Love from all the lads at Pearl Harbour.

I don't think it's appropriate to make jokes after this tragedy. I know it's hard to feel sorry or sympathy because they're foreigners, but we have to remember they lost everything in almost an instant. They've been left with nothing.....

Better luck next season Arsenal.

### Out & About

Jeanette from Butterflies would like to thank everybody from both Dream Hills urbanisations, Los Altos and all the surrounding areas for their support of the charity **fund-raiser for the horse Faith** in March. A whopping €62 was raised and great credit to all involved. A charity 'do' for APAH is planned for April

The three-day **St. Patrick's Festival** close to Calle Mosca and the subsequent parade at Cabo Roig were great fun and very successful. The latter also incorporated a march against gender violence - *Sal Pitando* - which got plenty of media coverage.

Work on the **new commercial centre** at La Zenia is proceeding by 'leaps and bounds.' Foundations are now being laid and the ground is being prepared for the underground car parks. Among those scheduled to open here are Alcampo, Leroy Merlin, Decathlon, Worten, Zara, Pull & Bear and C&A. It has also been announced that Europe's largest Primark store will also be here. Oh my God! Yet more shell suits! The centre, which will have the capacity for 150 shops, will employ around 1,800 people directly. If all goes well it should be open in November 2012.

Surprise! Surprise! Yet another Chinese outlet has arrived at Punta Prima. This new one, **Moda (Fashion) World**, occupies the previously closed Mercadona premises opposite El Corte Chino, and has a slightly different appeal - clothes, clothes and yet more clothes - for both male and female shoppers, most made in Italy but with a Chinese label! Odd! There are also handbags galore, shoes, fascinators and lots of accessories with not a bucket, mop or plastic container in sight. The store is well laid out with plenty of isle space for you to browse. Prices are on the lower end of the scale, ideal for two week holiday wear, then never to be seen again! I must admit that some of the mens' polo shirts look as if they would last longer. Just be careful and try garments on in the changing rooms provided, as they refused me a refund and would only exchange for something else, which inevitably meant I spent more! (Tid)

March 23 was **International Day** at Los Montesinos, and what a cracking day it was. There were acts from numerous countries, Bulgaria, Argentina, Scotland, Ireland, England, India, Ukraine and many more. Lots of free food and drink and truly multicultural.

The Mayor of Orihuela, Mónica Lorente, officially opened the **Las Colinas Golf & Country Club** this weekend. The golf course, which is the municipality's fifth golf course, is managed by world renowned golf course management company, Troon, and is considered to be one of the ten best golf courses in the world. As well as the golf course, Las Colinas also has its very own private beach club, which is located at Playa de Glea in Campoamor, making it a destination of the highest quality and since its opening last Summer, Las Colinas Golf & Country Club has been the subject of many positive comments in golfing and tourism publications from all over the world and was recently named as one of the world's twenty best new golfing developments by leading British golf magazine, World Golf.



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The chap who invented TNT died last week.

He left a wife, two dogs and a 400 foot crater where the crematorium used to be .....



### Empty Pockets!

The Spanish Post Office, Correos, has suspended its established collection service from all courts in the Valencia Region because of an accumulated 'astronomical' debt which is owed to Correos by the regional government. The exact amount owed has not been announced; one newspaper, El País, says that it is in excess of €10 million, whereas the post office unions say that it is in excess of €30 million! A recent High Court order has also specified that the courts must now send their notifications by post and not by personal delivery. The notorious Spanish postal system does not inspire much confidence and the post office unions have warned that the region's justice system will grind to a halt unless a payment plan is agreed.

The unpaid council wage bill in La Línea on the Costa de la Luz is now €7.5 million. Around 800 workers have not been paid for four months and 450 of them went on strike for one Monday in March. The P.P. Mayor, Alejandro Sánchez, has been to Madrid in an attempt to 'drum up some money' from the banks and government.

In another town in the Costa de la Luz, the Socialist Mayor of Barbate, Rafael Quirós, has been holding a sit-in at the town hall, while demanding help to pay his 100 council staff. As the council already owes €8 million to the government in social security payments alone, they are unable to get any loans from the banks or state.

The Estepona Town Hall has received a bail-out payment of €740,000 from the Junta de Andalucía so that it can pay some of its 1,300 workers for March. This is the third payment they have received from the Junta in less than a year. Staff and suppliers are owed millions as the council cannot meet its monthly bill of €3.5 million, most of which has to come from local taxes.

If you were a businessman, you would naturally think that a contract with the local council would be attractive to any business. Far from it! Town Hall contracts can often be the 'kiss of death' to a business. Local councils are notoriously bad payers and it is not unusual for payments to suppliers to be delayed by a year or more. Last year, in an effort to improve the situation, the Madrid government instructed all town councils and regional authorities to pay their suppliers within 50 days of invoice. To date, there is not a single town hall in the country which meets this criteria. Provincial and Town Hall debt is a major concern. No one has come up yet with a realistic figure of what the true level of debt is and although the much maligned rating agencies have continually highlighted the problem, the various administrations are 'keeping their cards very close to their chest.'

### April in Spain

April has some of the biggest celebrations, Semana Santa or Holy Week the week before Easter, lasting 10 days and finishing on Domingo de la Resurrección (Easter Sunday) most impressive in Seville, Cordoba, Granada, Malaga, Cuenca, Jerez and Zamora. Feria de Abril in Sevilla takes place this year from April 3rd to May 8th, a colorful celebration that includes Parades of Horses in which local girls dressed up in flamenco costumes are paraded in beautiful carriages, performances of flamenco, bullfighting and prancing on the streets. We cannot forget the Moros y Cristianos (Moors and Christian) celebrations that take place in various cities along the Spanish coast most famous is Alcoy, Alicante where the celebrations take place between the 22nd and 24th of April reliving the battle between Moors and Christians that took place in the area many centuries ago. Ending the month on the 27th of April we have the celebration of La Virgen de Monserrat in Cataluña declared patron saint of Cataluña by Pope Leo XIII.

There will be another Tapas Trail in Torreveija from April 27 until May 8. 46 outlets will be participating, where you can get a drink and a tapa for just €!

Also Rojales will be featuring its third *Semana Gastronómica* from April 1 to April 9. A report will be included in the next issue.

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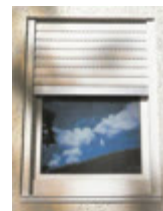
**St. George's Day 23rd, Dan the Man**

**Easter Monday 25th, The Faith**

**April 29, Kye James as Elvis!**

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### WATCH OUT FOR .....

**Fake €50 notes** are circulating in supermarkets at La Zenia and Punta Prima, a 56-year-old British man being arrested at the latter. Bars and restaurants please take note.

The European Union has now approved a law which will allow for fines for **traffic violations** carried out in another country to be issued in the country of origin of the driver. This covers a whole range of offences from drunk driving to 'jumping the lights.' The new system will enable the issuing authority of the fine to track down a vehicle anywhere within the EU and issue the owner with the corresponding fine. The aim of the law is to take away the impunity drivers think they have when they are in a foreign country. The new electronic system will also allow member states to exchange information and intelligence.

**Bogus gas inspectors and charity collectors** are doing the rounds again. The 'gas inspectors' can be very aggressive and pushy with ID cards and all the trappings but they have no right to enter your property. None of the reputable gas maintenance companies will want to service your equipment unless you have a maintenance contract with them. The bogus or pushy ones will just want to replace your gas rubber piping and charge you a fortune for it. This is an occasion when you just have to be very rude as these con artists will try and wear your natural courtesy down. You have to be firm, if not rude, and not let them enter your property, so tell them to 'go forth and procreate.' I advise a similar response to the 'charity collectors' who basically collect for themselves. They will be nicely dressed and carry ID cards (a doddle to print) and the 'charity' will always be a children's charity, which of course is very emotive and people don't like to say no! They will also have a sheet of paper which indicates that a house number down the road gave them €10, again just a ruse to get you to pay-up. It is illegal to take charity collections from houses and once again be firm and say NO! Also watch for the guy who calls at properties wanting to borrow €20 + to pay a locksmith because he has been locked out of his house!

**Telefonica** are at it again. For the fourth time in seven years they have placed a monthly charge on my account for a service I do not want nor asked for. These charges can range from €3 to €10 a month! One of their tactics is to telephone the house of English sounding names. If nobody answers the call, they will put the charge on the bill anyway! If you happen to be there when they call, and they will usually 'rabbit-on' in Spanish, it is best to repeat firmly, 'No! No! No quiero nada!'

Finally as the weather begins to improve the **burglars** seem to be crawling out of their holes. The two bars in Lago Jardin II, the cider bar and Laguna Vista, were broken into mid-March and a Norwegian in DH had his car, credit cards, passports, laptop etc stolen early one morning. Do not drop your guard from the moment you pick up your luggage at the terminal!

#### Collared!

A little boy got on the bus, sat next to a man reading a book, and noticed he had his collar on backwards. The little boy asked why he wore his collar backwards. The man, who was a priest, said, 'I am a Father.' The little boy replied, 'My Daddy doesn't wear his collar like that.' The priest looked up from his book and answered, "I am the Father of many."

The boy said, "My Dad has 4 boys, 4 girls and two grandchildren and he doesn't wear his collar that way!" The priest said, 'I am the Father of hundreds', and went back to reading his book.

The little boy sat quietly thinking for a while, then leaned over and said, "Maybe you should wear a condom, and put your pants on backwards instead of your collar." Pete Dudman

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#### Stickin' out!

Hamish and Morag boarded the train at London heading for Glasgow and had stocked up with tinnies of Tennant's for the journey. Drinking steadily, they were an hour out of London when Morag said she wanted the loo. It being an older type of carriage, there was no toilet or corridor, and Hamish, being the gentleman he was, told her to wait until the next tunnel and he would put his cap over the light and she could 'go' out of the window.

On entering the next tunnel Hamish put his cap over the light and then heard the window being lowered. On leaving the tunnel, Morag was back in her seat looking and feeling very relieved.

Another half hour and several tinnies, Hamish was bursting to go. Morag said she would return the compliment at the next tunnel. The train thundered into the next tunnel and Morag placed her handbag over the light. She heard the window being lowered and shortly afterwards.. a loud grunt. On leaving the tunnel Hamish was still standing at the window.

'What's the matter Hamish?' she asked.

'Never Mind,' came the reply. 'But can you give me a hand with these mailbags.....?'

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A three-year-old boy was examining his testicles while taking a bath. Mom" he asked, "are these my brains?" "Not yet," she replied.

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**When Love Fades....**

Last night I was sitting on the sofa watching TV when I heard my wife's voice from the kitchen.  
 'What would you like for dinner my love? Beef, Chicken or Lamb?'  
 I said, 'Thank you, I'll have Chicken.'  
 She replied, 'You're having soup. I was talking to the dog.'

**Barry the British Builder**

Barry the British builder walks up to a girl in a club and says to her " I've got an eight inch 'todger' and I can make love all night" After a couple of drinks, she takes him home with her. The next morning she says to him "You told me that you had eight inches and that you could last all night. You've got a five inch dick and you lasted only 3 minutes" Barry looks up at her and says " I'm a builder love, that was just an estimate"

**TV Snack**

A young chap went to see his doctor complaining that he had an orange penis.  
 "How long has your penis been this colour?" "About a week I think."  
 "Are you in a relationship?" "No"  
 "Okay, take these pills twice a day and come back to see me in 5 days"  
 5 Days later..No improvement!  
 "So, you are not in a relationship, what do you do for a living?"  
 "I'm unemployed" "Okay, I'm going to give you these stronger pills, I'd like you to see me in 2 days" 2 Days later.....Still the same.  
 "So, you are not in a relationship and you are unemployed, so what exactly do you do all day?"  
 "Oh, I just sit around watching pornography and eating Cheesy Wotsits".

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**Cletus**

Cletus, the redneck, went to the hospital as his wife was having a baby. When he arrived, the nurse said, 'Congratulations Cletus, your wife has had quins, five healthy big baby boys!' 'I'm not surprised,' boasts Cletus, 'I've a penis on me the size of a chimney.' The nurse replies, "Well, you might want to consider getting it cleaned, the babies are all black!"

Dear Noah,  
 I'm SURE you said the ark  
 wasn't leaving till 5!!!  
 Sincerely,  
 Unicorns.

(The following is an article which appeared in the RoundTowns News and in the lawyers' website.)

### **Is the Spanish IHT system discriminatory? What lies ahead?**

It is very common to see articles in the press but especially the press for foreigners living in Spain (expats) mostly British, referring to the Spanish Inheritance and Gift Tax IHT ( Impuesto Sucesiones y Donaciones: ISD). The reason is obvious, since this tax can be very high depending on whether the deceased and his heirs are tax residents in a particular Spanish Autonomous Community or not, if they are Tax Residents in Spain or not, etc.

Our firm has been advising for many years on inheritance tax planning and we have seen with concern, that some people have been advised to set up company structures, which can be expensive to create and maintain, with the aim of preventing future IHT liabilities, when in many cases there was no need to as the potential IHT bill could be minimized with other measures that are much simpler, cheaper and cost effective.

In any case our aim in this article is to inform our readers, especially those whose future heirs are not tax resident in Spain, that the European Commission has formally requested from Spain a change in the regulation of the IHT, as generally it is higher when the heir or beneficiary is Non Tax Resident in Spain (irrespective of his nationality).

Thus, as stated by the Commission itself, in practice when the rules of the different autonomous community apply to the Inheritance and Gift Tax, the result is that the bill is considerably less than when National or State law applies. And since National or State law on inheritance applies when the beneficiary or deceased do not have their habitual residence for a specified number of years in an autonomous community, in practice this means that normally Non Tax Resident in Spain or Tax Resident in Spain who moved to another community, have to pay more Inheritance Tax or Death Duties than the habitual tax residents in a community for longer time. Therefore the European Commission concludes that the Spanish Laws imposes a higher tax burden on non-residents and on assets held abroad.

The Commission understands that the Spanish regulations are incompatible with the free movement of workers and capital as provided by the European Union Treaty and constitutes an obstacle to free movement of persons and capital in breach of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (Articles 45 and 63 respectively).

Recently a new complementary reasoned opinion has been sent to Spain by the Commission after a previous one was sent on May 2010. It should be noted that Spain already made some amendments in this field, but the European Commission still understands that it does not fully comply with the EU Law. So, if there is no satisfactory response, Spain could be referred to the Court of Justice of the European Union.

Our opinion is that the European Commission is correct when it considers that the Spanish IHT laws in practice, if not expressly, are discriminatory. We believe that it will probably be changed quite soon in order to fulfil the European Union principles of freedom of movement and equality. The same thing happened in the past with the Capital Gains Tax (CGT), when Non Tax Residents paid more CGT than Tax Residents in Spain but after several Court decisions and pressure from the European Union, the law was changed and the CGT tax is now the same for everyone.

This also opens the possibility to think about appealing against the IHT bills to be paid as they could be considered discriminatory, just as previously done with the Capital Gains Tax before the law was changed. This could be an interesting option when the IHT to be paid is very high. If this is your case or the case of someone you know, please do not hesitate to contact us.

The information provided on this article is not intended to be legal advice, but merely conveys general information related to legal issues. White & Baos Tel: 966 426 185 E-mail: info@white-baos.com

#### **Memory**

A couple in their nineties are both having problems remembering things. During a checkup, the doctor tells them that they're physically okay, but they might want to start writing things down to help them remember. Later that night, while watching TV, the old man gets up from his chair. 'Want anything while I'm in the kitchen?' he asks.

'Will you get me a bowl of ice cream? Don't you think you should write it down so you can remember it?' she asks.

'No, I can remember it.'

'Well, I'd like some strawberries on top, too. Maybe you should write it down, so's not to forget it?'

He says, 'I can remember that. You want a bowl of ice cream with strawberries.'

'I'd also like whipped cream. I'm certain you'll forget that, write it down?' she asks.

Irritated, he says, 'I don't need to write it down, I can remember it!'

Ice cream with strawberries and whipped cream - I got it, for goodness sake!' Then he toddles into the kitchen. After about 20 minutes, the old man returns from the kitchen and hands his wife a plate of bacon and eggs.

She stares at the plate for a moment and asks, 'Where's my toast?'  
(Rik Fletcher)

#### **Oops!**

A man and woman were having dinner in a fine restaurant. They were gazing lovingly at each other and holding hands.

Their waitress, taking another order at a table a few steps away, suddenly noticed the man slowly sliding down his chair and under the table, but the woman acted unconcerned.

Still, the woman appeared calm and unruffled, apparently unaware her dining companion had disappeared.

The waitress went over to the table and said to the woman, "Pardon me, ma'am, but I think your husband just slid under the table."

The woman calmly looked up at her and said, "No, he didn't. He just walked in!"

My grandfather worked in a whiskey distillery. One night he was working late, fell in the vat and six hours later he was drowned. It shouldn't really have taken him that long to die but he'd got out three times to go to the toilet!



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**Keeping THE FAITH**

Well if you like rock music, but especially if you like your rock with a hefty dose of 'kerrang', then you are in for a real treat. Charlie 'The Pirate' Farley has teamed up with Robbie Priest to form THE FAITH - a ball squeezin' heart thumpin', foot-tappin' rock band. Although neither would win any beauty contests - see photo - these guys understand rock and what their audience like and wants, and one of their shows will renew your faith in live music and fill your 'Classic Rock, RnR, Glam, Punk and Metal' receptors to capacity. Taking a look at their gig schedule across for April; it might be a good idea to see them before their vocal cords are worn out!



**The Blind Man**

Three nuns in church on a hot day decide to remove their robes because of the heat. Not an unusual habit on a hot day. So about a half hour later, the door bell rings while their robes are slumped over pews clear across the huge chapel. They ask who it is. "The blind man," a voice replies. The three nuns decide to simply open the door because the man is blind. He walks in, looks at the nuns and says, "Nice tits! Now where do you want me to install this blind?"

**The Faith Gig Guide**

Sat 2nd April, Mollys Bar, Citrus Centre, 1pm  
Sat 2nd April, Busters Bar, Playa Flamenca 9pm  
Sun 3rd Apr, Mosquitos Bar, La Florida, 9pm  
Tues 5th Apr, Mosquitos Bar, La Florida, 9pm  
Fri 8th Apr, El Rincon Del Tio Cali, 1pm  
Fri 8th Apr, Bocados Restaurante, La Zenia. 9pm  
Sat 9th Apr, Busters Bar, Playa Flamenca, 9pm  
Sun 10th Apr, Mosquitos Bar, La Florida, 9pm  
Tues 12th Apr, Mosquitos Bar, La Florida, 9pm  
Thurs 14th Apr, Dicey Rileys Pilar de la Horadada, 9pm  
Fri 15th Apr, Busters Bar, Playa Flamenca, 9pm  
Sat 16th Apr, Tunnel Bar, La Zenia, 9.30pm  
Sun 17th Apr, Mosquitos Bar, La Florida, 9pm  
Tues 19th Apr, Mosquitos Bar, La Florida, 9pm  
Thurs 21st Apr, Horatio's, Las Mimosas 9pm  
Easter Sat 23rd Apr, Busters Bar, Playa Flamenca, 9pm  
Easter Sun 24th Apr, Mosquitos Bar, La Florida, 9pm  
Easter Mon 25th Apr, The Park, Via Park 2, 9pm  
Tues 26th Apr, Mosquitos Bar, La Florida, 9pm  
Fri 29th Apr, Bocados Restaurante, La Zenia, 9pm  
Sat 30th Apr, Busters Bar, Playa Flamenca, 9pm

**Check out their website at [www.thefaith.biz](http://www.thefaith.biz)**

Without women, virtually every piece of furniture in the world would still be in its original position.  
Dave Barry

### The History of Spain Part 22. The reign of Philip V, the first Bourbon King of Spain.

The history of Spain under the first five Bourbon monarchs - Philip V (1700-46), Ferdinand VI (1746-59), Charles III (1759-88), Charles IV (1788-1808), and Ferdinand VII (1808-33) - can be divided into two distinct periods. During the eighteenth century Spain and its overseas empire enjoyed a recovery from the adversities of the last Habsburgs that culminated in the relative splendour of the reign of Charles III. Subsequently, a strong and pugnacious British navy, the ramifications of the French Revolution and the imperial ambitions of Napoleon Bonaparte, would lead to the countries first experiments with democratic monarchy, further conflict and the loss of most of its empire.

As the young French grandson of Louis XIV became king, for the first fifteen years the Spanish government was directed largely by French officials brought in to reform and improve the administration. The young king, Philip V also found himself with a very young Paris-approved wife, 13-year-old Marie Luisa of Saxony. Louis XIV - the Sun King - also installed the Princess des Ursins, a wily and a born intriguer, as the lady-in waiting to the queen. The Austrian Emperor Leopold, France's archrival, who had married a daughter of Philip IV, considered that his son, the Archduke Charles, another Bourbon, was the legitimate heir to the Spanish throne. He also feared a strong united French and Spanish empire and by 1701, England and the Netherlands joined Austria in the Grand Alliance to dispute Philip's inheritance. Aragon and Valencia also sided with the Grand Alliance fearing the Bourbons' radical centralizing policies. This led to the War of Spanish Succession. As Spain's army numbered less than 18,000, it had to be heavily reinforced by French troops, who did most of the fighting.

The early successes went to the Alliance, Philip being driven out of Madrid itself by an Austrian archduke force mounted from Barcelona. An Anglo-Dutch fleet under Sir George Rooke captured Gibraltar in July 1704 and gave the Spanish-French fleet a 'bloody nose' at the Battle of Málaga the following August. But when the archduke's elder brother died in Austria, this left the Archduke Charles as heir to the emperor's throne and removed him from the Spanish struggle. England then switched sides fearing a recreation of the Carlos V's 16th-century empire. Philip V eventually renounced any claim to the French throne, which paved the way for the Treaty of Utrecht, which ended the War of Spanish Succession in 1713.

In the treaty Spain lost Flanders and several Italian territories to Austria and was forced to concede Menorca and Gibraltar to the British. The treaty also gave Britain a 30-year contract (*asiento*) to supply an unlimited number of slaves to the Spanish colonies and 500 tons of goods every year. This provided British traders and smugglers with potential inroads into the traditionally closed lucrative Spanish markets in America. (Britain and Holland would later dominate the slavery trade.) The treaty also marked the dawn of Britain's control of the Mediterranean and its rise to world-power status, while Spain and France would spend the next 100 years trying to undo it.

Philip then looked to putting matters right on his own doorstep. He immediately abolished the *fueros* (traditional rights) throughout most of Spain, something every previous ruler hadn't dared to do. (The Basque provinces and Navarre, which stood by Philip, maintained their 'rights.') Barcelona fiercely resisted their abolition and, after a siege, surrendered to the royal troops in 1714. (The city used the church bells to warn of the approach of the Castilian army. When the city was taken, the bells were melted down and the molten metal poured down the throats of the bell ringers!) Now with the *fueros* largely confined to history, the centuries-long Castilian push for one unified nation, called *España*, with Madrid supreme, became a reality. The red-and-gold national flag was now adopted, a national anthem chosen, a regular army formed and the navy expanded. Spain now was more united than either Britain or France.

Philip V's first wife, Marie Luisa, died in 1714, worn out by her oversexed but totally devoted husband. He had to be stopped from crawling into his wife's bed for his marital rights the night before she died. A new queen was selected, an Italian called Elizabeth Farnese - Elizabeth of Parma - the niece of an Italian duke. A woman of extraordinary energy and will, Philip soon became a docile servant to her political and sexual whims. Farnese once remarked, 'The Spanish do not like me, but I fully detest them also.' However, she kept the king's depression under control and bore him seven children. Philip's 46-year reign, which included a short abdication, was the longest of modern Spanish history. He was a neurotic, vacillating ruler whose most enduring achievement was to establish, for the first time since the Romans, a unified, centralized administration over nearly all of Spain. Spain as a single united state dates from approximately 1715, and the model for its eighteenth-century royalist regime was the governing system of the Bourbon dynasty of France. This period was often referred to by historians as The French Century.

After Utrecht, the peace between Britain and Spain remained uneasy, and they continued to battle with one another in a number of limited naval wars, the strangest being the War of Jenkins' Ear, 1739 to 1738. Spanish warships had the right to stop and search British vessels to ensure that the terms of the *asiento* were being complied with. Smuggling was rife as the British has no intention of limiting their trade with the New World to 500 tons annually. Returning home from the West Indies in command of the brig *Rebecca* in April 1731, Jenkins' ship was stopped and boarded by the Spanish ship *La Isabela*. Her commander, Captain Julio León Fandiño, had Jenkins bound to a mast, then sliced off one of his ears with his sword and told him to say to his King "The same will happen to him (the king) if caught doing the same". Jenkins took his ear back to Britain and an outraged parliament later declared war once again, on Spain.

One of the legacies of the reign of Philip V, relates to the town of *Xàtiva* in Valencia, who sided with the foreign alliance during the War of Spanish Succession. After Philip's victory in the Battle of Almansa, he ordered the city to be burned and renamed *San Felipe*. Today, as a silent protest, the portrait of the monarch Philip V still hangs upside down in the local museum of L'Almodí in *Xàtiva*.





### **Answers to Questions**

I have been asked , regarding a previous article, what is a QROPS. Well here we go.

In 2006 pension simplification was introduced in the UK and part of that regime was to allow accrued UK pension benefits to be transferred outside of The UK . The technical wording is Qualifying Recognised Overseas Pension Scheme - QROPS.

If you have left the UK, or are thinking of leaving, to retire or work abroad. You can now take your UK pensions, with you, by transferring to a QROPS.

A Qualifying Recognised Overseas Pension Scheme (QROPS) allows you to transfer your UK pensions to a jurisdiction of your choice that allows for benefits you can design to suit your requirements. Some of the benefits are as follows

### **Taking Your Benefits**

Within the UK pension system you can normally only take your benefits once you have reached the 55 years of age. It may be possible on transferring to a QROPS to access your pension earlier.

### **TAX FREE CASH**

This is the big one that everyone seems to talk about, and yes it maybe possible to obtain your benefit earlier but please be **VERY VERY** careful in who/ what you listen to. It could be possible to get enhanced tax free cash but only within certain guidelines. Taking the whole of your fund tax free could lead you to financial penalties with the HMRC.

### **Pension Paid Gross**

A non UK resident drawing a UK pension remains subject to UK tax on the income, unless he or she resides in a country with a double tax treaty with the UK that contains an article on pensions. If the member resides in a country with no double tax treaty with the UK, they may be subject to a higher tax rate than the top rate of tax in their country of residence. Transfer to a QROPS pension ensures that, if tax is due on pension income, it will only be taxable in the country of residence.

### **Currency**

A standard UK pension will usually only pay in Sterling, which means the member runs an exchange rate risk in respect of pension income, in addition to incurring charges in order to convert the pension payments to the currency of their country of residence. A QROPS pension transfer means that the pension payments can be made in the currency or currencies of their choice.

### **Investment Choice.**

It is possible within the QROP to have a portfolio of investment fund spread across different currencies and therefore again spreading the currency risks. We have specialist Investment Advisors to direct you to the portfolio to suit your requirements.

The above is just a **brief** outline of a QROPS , If you would like further information regarding the above please do not hesitate to contact me at [mike@maypolefs.co.uk](mailto:mike@maypolefs.co.uk) or 07857360349.

We can also provide advise for those who have already transferred . You maybe paying a very high management fee that we could possibly reduce . It is not always advisable to transfer to a QROPS and independent advise from a UK regulated firm with the correct knowledge is the minimum requirements that you should be looking for.

As always our initial consultations are **FREE.**

**Telephone Mike Heighway**  
**Your LOCAL Financial Advisor**  
**Registered for Advice in Spain.**  
**Office: 00 44 1384 352345**  
**Mobile: 07957 360349**  
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**Points to Ponder**

The only exercise I take is walking behind the coffins of friends who took exercise.  
 Peter O'Toole.

I believe that every human has a finite number of heartbeats. I don't intend to waste any of mine running around doing exercises.  
 Neil Armstrong.

If it weren't for the fact that the TV set and the refrigerator are so far apart, some of us wouldn't get any exercise at all.  
 Joey Adams.

My idea of exercise is a good, brisk sit.  
 Phyllis Diller.

Competitive sport seems to be spoken of very highly, of course, I'm not quite sure why. It's funny, really, because keeping up with the Joneses is generally regarded as a rather degrading business...so I should have thought that beating the Joneses was even worse.  
 Basil Boothroyd.

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The editor, Mick, can be contacted at [mick.dreamscene@gmail.com](mailto:mick.dreamscene@gmail.com) or at 586 Dream Hills.

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€120 O.N.O. Tel: 966 722 084

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<http://ukinspain.fco.gov.uk/en/> is a helpful site for English expats in Spain.

**www.golflinksspain.com** The best online golf magazine.

**Do you enjoy walking?**

If you do, then visit the website [www.topwalks.net/en/index.htm](http://www.topwalks.net/en/index.htm)

This is a very informative and helpful resource. The 260 walks in Spain along the mountain ranges and coasts are accompanied by a detailed description, map, contour profile, GPS waypoints, slide show, photos, driving instructions and a road map. There are also photo sets on more than 1500 plants as well as the many types of butterflies, which you encounter along these hiking routes. The website is in English, Spanish, German, Swedish and Finnish.

**Good News!**

The chemists/pharmacists in Los Balcones are now open seven days a week, **365 days a year** from 9am to 9pm.

**Grandad**

I was showing my mate some of my Grandfather's mementoes in his living room, after he had passed away.

I said, "This is his old knife. He stabbed a German to death with this."

My mate said, "World War 2?"

I said, "No, last year in Benidorm. They had a row over a sun-bed."

**REMEMBER!**

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**902 88 35 35**

**Diabetic?**

A support group meets on the last Wednesday of every month at 11am at Hoggies Bar in San Luis.

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