



# THE DREAM SCENE

## NEWSLETTER



*Helping to keep expat's informed.....and smiling.*

Bienvenido a todos and welcome to the July, 2018 edition. Issue No.133 .

Summer is definitely here now – highs of over 30° after a particularly peculiar spring, certainly cooler than than in previous years.

Nobody is really certain how hot the summer will be - but have no doubt it will still be scorching! Sea breezes on the coast keep the temperature a good six degrees cooler than say inland Rojales, San Mig' or Los Montesinos. Keep that high sun-factor cream handy. The strong sun here is very dangerous but there are still 'beetroot' people walking around, usually tourists who overdo the sunbathing in the first days! You cannot force a tan! It takes time and patience!

You might think it is hot now but on June 4, 1994, Spain suffered a real heatwave. Murcia recorded 47.2° maximum temperature, the highest ever recorded in the Spanish province capitals, while Alicante then also had a record with 41.4 °.

Although Valencia is experiencing a 5% growth in British tourists, many believe that the eastern Mediterranean destinations and irregular accommodation has put a brake on local tourism. Tourists from Germany and Ireland are believed to have dropped off. Turkey, Egypt and Tunisia have seen growth of 35% in the first quarter of this year.

The good news is that a new bar has now opened up on the ground floor of Via Park III, **The Cosy Corner**. Being completely refurbished in light colours with

excellent décor and lighting systems, it is a vast improvement on the sepulchral image of the previous bar. Knowing Paul & Steve, it will be a great success.

However, the not-so-good news is that the Show Bar at Florantillas caravan site has closed very suddenly with the proprietor, Martin, disappearing, along with the money for his Dream Scene advert bill and no doubt others. So, if and when appropriate, do help yourself to a €40 complimentary knee to the bollocks. Shame to see what could have been a good entertainment venue shut.

**Quickies:** Former PM Rajoy has returned to his old job as Property Registrar in Santa Pola. He has also renounced his prime minister's state pension.

Elche municipality have announced that their new 10-year rubbish (*basura*) contract will cost more than €20 million.

250,000 people have presented themselves for the examinations to become a teacher in Spain with only 24,000 vacancies in the public sector for secondary, plastic arts and professional training. It is the largest offer of public employment since 2009.

Since 2010, the Mossos Police in Catalonia have saved 75 young Muslim girls from entering an arranged marriage with an adult of their parents' choice.

Thanks to Ken B, Tom L & Brian C, for contributions to printing costs and to Carol & Barry for the 'liquid' contributions to charities.

*Wishing you all a wonderful month. Mick & Tid*

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### Angela's Cartoon

DREAM HILLS  
LADIES CIRCLE  
COFFEE MORNING



'Sex is great now we are older. No jumping about so you don't lose your place at Sudoku.'

I'm half-Catholic and half-Jewish. When I go to confession, I take my lawyer with me.

Ed Mann

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# **COSY**



# **O**

## **SUPERB RANGE OF BEERS, SPIRITS & WINES.**

# **R**

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# **E**

# **R**

## **ENTERTAINMENT**

**THURSDAYS, FRIDAYS,  
SATURDAYS & SUNDAYS.**



## **ALL SPORTS ON 6 GIANT SCREENS!**

**Come and watch the World Cup, Wimbledon,  
Grand Prix and all your favourite sports.**



*With two dart boards, pool table, we are now inviting new pool and dart teams. We can also accommodate a new golf society.*

Early June saw political turmoil in Spain as the leader of the main socialist party, Pedro Sánchez, gathered votes to win a 'no confidence' vote on PM Rajoy over the Gurtel fraud jail sentences. Sanchez managed to get the parties outlined in the graphic opposite to support his vote. They say that politics makes strange bedfellows, and that certainly is the case here.



Unidos Podemos are a far-left, anti-austerity party; ERC & Pdecat are Catalan separatist parties, some of whose members are either in jail or 'resting' abroad; PNV is a staunch Basque party which can always be bought off; Compromis is a left leaning Valencian party; Bildu, well these are the equivalent of Ireland's Sinn Fein party. This is such an extremist and divergent bunch that the press nicknamed it the **Frankenstein government**.

The ruling Partido Popular, with 134 seats, and Ciudadanos, 32 seats and three others could only reach 169 votes. The anti-separatist leader of Ciudadanos, Albert Rivera, warned Sanchez, "It is legitimate for you to want to be prime minister of the Spanish government, but it isn't legitimate to do it with the support of those who want to liquidate Spain... That is the difference between you and me, I will never be the prime minister of the government with the support of those who want to destroy my country." Sanchez stated that he made **no special deals** with these small parties, and if you believe that, I would like to sell you a timeshare on the moon!

When PM Sanchez compiled his first cabinet of the new government, **11 of the 17 ministries will be headed by women**, a record for Europe. One of the key appointments has been that of Josep Borrell, 71, a Catalan as Foreign minister, who is an active campaigner against the ongoing secession drive in his home region.

A former astronaut, Pedro Duque, has been chosen as the new minister for Science, Innovation and Universities.



However, trouble soon came with the appointment of Máxim Huerta, a journalist, as the minister for Culture and Sport. After one week in office it was revealed that he was forced to pay **€365,000 in tax and fines** for fraudulent tax deductions. He has resigned but has been compensated with €12,000 for his week's work. The new PM, photo above, does not plan to call early elections and plans to run the government until the term expires in 2020.

The party leader and the congressional spokesperson for Spain's anti-austerity, far-left Podemos, Pablo Iglesias, has survived a confidence vote over his purchase of a luxury home outside Madrid. The confidence vote followed a public outcry over the couple's purchase of a **€615,000 country house** with a swimming pool and guest house, and the €540,000 mortgage that they took out to pay for it. It reminds me of the old English song....'The working-class can kiss my ass, I've got the foreman's job at last and you can go and take the dole and shove it right up your.....'

Britons **could need a visa costing £52** to enter the EU under draft proposals presented to MEPs as part of the European Commission's planning for Brexit. The proposal emerged as the Home Office outlined how millions of EU citizens who wish to stay in the UK after Brexit would pay £65 for "settled status", with decisions on applications promised within a "matter of days". Hmm. If this comes about, it will have a massive negative effect on Brit tourist trade to Spain.

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## **ENTERTAINMENT!**

**BINGO! EVERY WEDNESDAY & SATURDAY  
AT 2 PM. COME EARLY!**



**WED NIGHT 6 - 8:30 WILL TURNER SHOW**

**FRIDAY NIGHT KARAOKE!**

**WITH JAMES GOLDING.**

**SATURDAY NIGHT KARAOKE!**

**WITH NICK GOLD.**



**SUNDAY AFTERNOON 1 - 3PM  
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I was dating a younger man. I asked him where he was when Elvis died. He said he was in amniotic fluid.

Robin Roberts



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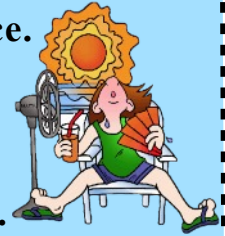


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## Crime Detection Rates Slump in UK.

Okay, nothing to do with Spain, but Brit' expat's will be interested in a survey where The Sunday Times has for the first time mapped every neighbourhood in England and Wales to provide an immediate, local snapshot of the 4.7m crimes committed in 2017, and, crucially, the proportion solved. You can read the full report here -

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/edition/news/sunday-times-crime-map-under-5-of-all-burglaries-and-robberies-solved-vw569clqh>

The online report contains a facility whereby you can enter your postcode to discover the number of unsolved crimes in your neighbourhood last year.

- Just 4% of robberies were solved in England and Wales last year, compared with 9% in 2013. The burglary detection rate fell during the same period from 6% to 3%.
- In more than 1,000 neighbourhoods with at least 30 crimes, the police failed to catch and punish any of the suspects.
- There were 355 burglaries last year in the Derbyshire Dales. The figures show that it is the only local authority area where **no burglaries were solved**.
- There were 159 robberies in Holloway Road and Highgate Hill in north London last year, the two streets most plagued by an epidemic of moped gang crime. To date, one offender has been caught and punished. (Moped gang crime is now very common. Even the current British home secretary, Sajid Javid, has revealed that he was mugged by a moped

gang outside Euston Station in London, and his new mobile phone snatched.)

Police crime figures reveal Rushcliffe in Nottinghamshire, south Buckinghamshire, south Cambridgeshire and Blackpool were among the areas with the lowest rates of solved crime: less than 5% of crime in 2017 resulted in offenders being caught and punished.

In 2010, there were over 141,500 police officers in England and Wales. This number has decreased steadily over the years to just 118,000 in 2017. Amber Rudd, the previous home secretary, said there was no correlation between police numbers and crimes!

Uttlesford in Essex, introduced high-visibility foot patrols across the district, solving 26% of crime last year. Police forces that have some of the highest detection rates say the traditional bobby on the beat plays a crucial role in solving crime. Michael Barton, chief constable of Durham, the police force that solves the highest proportion of crimes in England and Wales, said detection rates in his police authority had been boosted by "boots on the ground". More police please!



"I heard a burglar down stairs, the poor fool."

In England, if you commit a crime, the police say, 'Stop! Or I'll say 'stop' again!'

Robin Williams



## What's Up? continued

Although the **jail sentences in the Gurtel fraud case** appeared very tough - some 34 years - it is unlikely that any of the PP politicians or businessmen found guilty will serve more than 12 years. Also in Spain, if you are in jail and hit 70, you are usually released.

One particularly interesting case, Noos, has finished. This involved **the brother in law of the current king**, Iñaki Urdangarin, photo, who is married to Cristina de Borbón,



the sister to King Felipe VI. There were many doubt as to whether the establishment would allow him to actually go to jail. However, he returned from Switzerland about two weeks ago and began his prison sentence of five years and 10 months.

He, like most of the 'great & the good' was allowed to nominate his prison. He choose a woman's prison in Ávila, which has a small men's section attached. Urdangarin and others diverted €6.2 million from their 'non-profit' business organising sports events in Valencia and the Balearics, to their private accounts. A number of others were also jailed including the former premier of the Balearic region.

I know what you are thinking. Is corruption pervasive throughout Spain? Of course it is. One would hope it is on the decline, but it will take years.

The former PP regional head of the Murcia government, Eduardo **Zaplana**, who was also a minister under the national government of the then PP prime minister, Azner, has been arrested along with a handful of others. He is charged with laundering as much as €20 million abroad to 'fiscal paradises' (Uruguay) being



'commissions' (backhanders) obtained from contracts ranging from ITV testing stations to wind farms. Zaplana has not been allowed bail as he is considered a flight risk.

Zaplana, who at one time had a very heavy involvement in the Orihuela district, was blamed in one of the Spanish newspapers as the single individual who destroyed the Orihuela Costa coastline with too many housing developments. The photo of him above, from the Spanish media, is taking the piss, comparing him to a saint.

**Nigel Farage**, prominent among the Brexit campaigners, has been accused of hypocrisy after the referendum result. He sparked outrage by refusing to give up his taxpayer-funded EU pension after Brexit, asking: "Why should my family suffer?" It is understood the 53-year-old former Ukip leader will be entitled to an annual pension of £73,000 when he turns 63. Just more lies from Farage!

La Liga will use the Video Assistant Referee (VAR) system next season, says the country's football federation (RFEF). It can only be used under specific conditions: in the awarding of a red card, a penalty or to correct a case of mistaken identity for a carded player.

More than **6,000 women have ignored** in the last year the call of the Breast Cancer Prevention Unit (UPCM) to have a review in Elche. In the year 2017, 21,669 women were called, of whom 15,612 attended. In other words, three out of every ten women do not attend the requirement in order to be controlled by a simple mammogram, thanks to which it can be detected and, thus, avoid breast cancer or have it treated in time. Ignorance and the fear that pathology is detected are usually the main reasons.

Diario for Mallorca reports that the scant number of flats available in Palma have seen **shops and garages being converted into homes**. The Neighbourhood Federation opposes the changes approved blaming the shortage on the expanding number of tourism rentals. This unfortunately is seen throughout the Balearics and is part of the 'tourist dividend.' A small berthed yacht there is being rented out for accommodation - a bargain at 150 € a month 'close to the railway station'.

La Verdad for Murcia reports '**Saving the Mar Menor lagoon** would need between **430 and 615 million € and ten years of work.**' The ministry has issued an environmental report with four alternatives, the strictest would suppose changing the farming practices in 35% of the Cartagena farming land and the end of dumping of rubbish and nitrates under the slogan 'Zero rubbish'. 21 measures are proposed to correct the underground water channels which are leaking and a central network for the treatment of waste. The major impact on the lagoon is caused by watering crops, which has increased from 12% to 63% from more intensive farming and the boom in tourism. The lack of attention to the lagoon by the authorities has been staggering. Once again, all too often in the coastal areas, short term profit is God and damn the environment. Just take a look at our coastlines and ask yourself, 'Do the Spanish really care about the environment?'

The Guardia Civil allege that **€3.26 million of public funds was embezzled** by the Generalitat of Catalonia to finance the illegal referendum of October 1<sup>st</sup> last year. Unfortunately the new PM, Pablo Sanchez, has given back the control of their **finances to the separatist Catalans**. It's like giving a bottle of whiskey and the keys of the Porsche to a teenager!

*Brexit Dividend = Spending money you don't have, to celebrate a deal you haven't done, to placate voters angry at not getting what they wanted..... (NewsThump)*

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## LIME BAR GOLF SCORES - JUNE 13, 2018

Another beautiful morning for golf at Requelme as the Lime Bar golfers teed off. Played in the Stableford format the following scores were recorded.

### GOLD CLASS

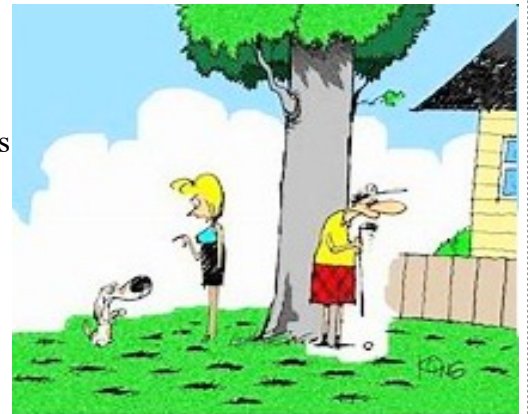
1st IAN GRANT 32pts  
2nd TONY BRAIN 31pts  
3rd KEN FARROW 30pts

### NEAREST THE PIN

HOLE 4 KEN STYAN  
HOLE 5 KEN STYAN  
HOLE 7 BAZZER  
HOLE 10 IAN GRANT  
HOLE 15 IAN GRANT (IN 2)  
HOLE 17 KEN STYAN

### SILVER CLASS

1st BUD BUTLER 38pts  
2nd GEORGE RUSHTON 32pts  
3rd DIGGER 31pts



"Bad dog! Dig up my lawn again  
and I'll have you neutered!"

A good days golf with some good scores.-- Ian and Ken let the rest of us win a few balls!!

Returning to the Lime Bar for presentation and refreshments. Thanks to the Bar staff and the ladies for the football sweep.

Sorry no photo this month.

EDDIE ALLAN

There must be something very strange in a man who, if left alone in a room with a tea cosy, doesn't try it on.  
Billy Connolly





# LIME BAR



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**Still no beach bars on the Orihuela Costa!** The geniuses in the town hall have been evaluating the first two stages of the tender for more than three weeks now. Even if a bidder is selected after the third stage, a period of time is allowed for the unsuccessful bidders to object to the winning bid. Allowing for the leaden feet at the town hall and 'the process' it is most unlikely that the beach bars will be open for the summer. Life guards will of course be on the beaches and the council will have to introduce port-a-loos. The absence of the bars and monitored toilets could cause the withdrawal of the Blue Flags in the area next year.

But the cock-ups are not just restricted to the OC coastline. They have also had a number of problems with the bars and facilities in Guardamar and Santa Pola. And in **Torre Vieja**, none of the beach lifeguards have the special chairs necessary for their job. They have been obliged to use ordinary chairs to supervise the bathers and beaches, photo. In La Mata, some have been sitting on the sand! It seems



that the city council in Torry planned to buy 30 of these special

chairs for the lifeguards at a cost of €11,929. These are wooden structures two and a half metres high. The council also planned to spend €13,462 on minor repairs to seven wooden decks the lifeguards use. But then an authorised 'jobs-worth' functionary pointed out that both costs should be added together, and as the total amount is greater than €25,000, it must go out to public tender. Now looking at the leaden-footed bureaucracy in Orihuela, the evaluation of the contracts, the allocation of the awards together with the construction of the chairs, would take the timescale up to the late summer - early autumn! The council have now decided to spend €3,000 on repairing 21 of the old broken chairs and issue them to the lifeguards, as they become available. What a palaver!

**€14.3 million euros was raised last year from the sale of plots in Orihuela Costa.** Unfortunately, only a fraction of this will be invested back into the coastal area, the bulk going to the city and the outlying villages.

The absence of *chiringuitos* on the beaches of Orihuela Costa this summer will mean that hawkers selling **alcoholic drinks** will no doubt be selling drinks to the public on the beaches. The local health officials warn that the beverages sold by these street vendors pose a 'serious health risk', with no controls over the quality and the content.

A fishing fleet off Torre Vieja caught 50 tons of anchovies in just one trip during early June. This equates to around **6,000 boxes of fish**, each box containing eight kilos of the tasty little fishies. At around €2 a kilo, the sale proceeds to the wholesalers would approach €100,000. This catch was welcome as the boats had previously experienced two weeks of fishing drought. Many of the boats unloading were from the port of Mazarrón, and from the coastal areas of the province of Almería.

Información for Alicante reports, 'The new Government wants to **remove the AP-7 motorway tolls**(and four others) after 2020.' The governing PSOE in Madrid has opened the door to toll-free driving from Alicante to Tarragona. However the removal of these tolls could mean a loss in excess of €450 million of public money.

There was a Feria del Automóvil in Almoradi from June 8<sup>th</sup> until the 10<sup>th</sup>. Nine car dealerships had placed **400 used cars** in a single plot for sale, with prices ranging from €3,000 to €100,000.

Half a million people in the Community ask for money from family members to make ends meet. Información reports that there are more than **3,000 vulnerable people in the Alicante province** who are waiting for social housing. Some families have been waiting for 15 years! The Generalitat Valenciana is hoping to do a deal with three banks to allow repossessed properties to be allocated to this sector. The Generalitat would pay the rent while claiming it back from the tenants. In the first quarter this year, courts in Alicante have evicted 545 families. Eviction rates are now at their highest level for six years.

Benidorm is to introduce ordinance to prohibit the use of segways and electronic skateboards **on sidewalks** and pedestrian areas. The thriving tourist location has already restricted the use of electric wheelchairs to people over 55 years old or those who are younger and can prove a physical disability or injury.



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### Creative Mum!

Two brothers enlisting in the Army were undergoing their physicals. During the inspection, the doctor was surprised to see that both of the men possessed extraordinarily long penises.

"How do you account for this?" he asked the brothers. "It's hereditary, sir," replied the older brother.

"I see," said the doctor, writing in his file. "Your father's the reason for your elongated penises?"

"No, sir, our mother." "Your mother?" said the doctor. "Don't be so ridiculous! Women don't have penises!"

"I know, sir," replied the recruit, "but she only had one arm, and when it came to getting us out of the bathtub, she had to manage as best she could."





JJ's

Café  Bar

VIA PARK V.

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## Chet!

A guy walked into a pet store looking for a Christmas gift for his wife. The storekeeper said he knew exactly what would please her and took a little bird out of its cage.

"This is Chet," he said, "and Chet can sing Christmas carols and songs." Seeing the look of disbelief on the customer's face, he proceeded to demonstrate.

"He needs warming up," he said. "Lend me your cigarette lighter."

The storekeeper lifted Chet's left wing and waved the flame lightly under it. Immediately, Chet sang: Oh Come, All Ye Faithful.

"That's fantastic," said the customer.

"And listen to this," said the storekeeper, warming Chet's other wing.

Chet sang: O Little Town of Bethlehem.

"Wrap him up," said the customer, "I'll take him!"

When he got home he greeted his wife: "Honey, I can't wait until Christmas to show you what I got you. This is fantastic."

He unwrapped Chet's cage and showed the bird to his wife. "Now, watch and listen."

He raised Chet's left wing and held him over a Christmas candle that was burning on the mantelpiece. Chet immediately began to sing Silent Night. The wife was delighted. As Chet's right wing was warmed over the flame, he sang Joy To The World.

"Let me try it," said the wife, seizing the bird. In her eagerness, she held Chet a little too close to the candle flame. Chet began to sing passionately: "Chet's nuts roasting on an open fire!"



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## July

Now we're into July  
and summer will begin  
but may be a bit unruly  
with a new Prime Minister in

Well done to Iberdrola  
with tarmac on the roads  
now no rock & rolla  
with smooth drive of the load

From the Torre Vieja Hospital  
to Los Altos Aldi's gates  
The roads are back to normal  
before the tourist spate

But a new problem now reads  
its become a racing track  
cars just increase their speed  
with consideration lax

Still sun and sea and tourists  
with politics aside  
and as they are no purists  
were in for a bumpy ride

Still relax and enjoy it  
our home's a lovely place  
ease of living, keeping fit  
at our personal pace

After all this is the white coast  
with residents and friends a plenty  
just sit back and have a toast  
is this not what we're meant to

The Phantom Poet

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The two most important words in *Last Tango in Paris* are 'tango' and 'Paris', both of which are regarded as sophisticated and adult. *Last Hokey-Cokey in Macclesfield* wouldn't be the same at all.

Mark Steyn



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(\* ) - From 1st April to 31st October

Price: €6.92. Children under 4 years travel for free but ID may be requested.

Pensioners can get a 30% discount but only if they are registered as permanent residents in the Valencian Community.

You may need to show proof of age ID plus Residencia, NIE or DNI. A bit of a palaver really.

Prior booking is not required. Sometimes the bus fills up quickly with people and you have to wait more than 2 hours for the next bus.

### Uber?

A fundamentalist Arab enters a taxi in London. Once he is seated he asks the cab driver to turn off the radio because he must not hear music as decreed by his religion and, in the time of the prophet, there was no music, especially Western music which is music of the infidel's and certainly no radio .....

So the cab driver politely switches off the radio, stops the cab and opens the back door.

The Arab asks him: "What are you doing man?"

The cabby answers: "In the time of the prophet there were no taxis. So get out and wait for a camel."



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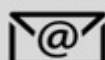
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Thank you David - my wife and I would never have negotiated all that form filling without your help and superior knowledge which meant everything has gone smoothly in such a short time and the result will make a big difference. we will certainly recommend you. **Ted Adams,**  
Daya Nueva

David is so caring and knowledgeable. He helped me and my husband filled in the forms for attendance allowance. We now get it all thanks to David. He has also given us help and advice about getting my husband back to the uk. I can't recommend him more highly. Thank you David. **Sue Fisher, Dream Hills**

Contact David on - 602465565 or 966392026.



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### Small Talk?

The truck driver stopped to pick up the girl hitchhiker in short shorts. "Say, what's your name, mister?" she inquired, after she climbed up in the truck. "It's Snow, Roy Snow," he answered, "and what's yours?"

"I'm June, June Hansen," she said. "Hey, why do you keep sizing me up with those sidelong glances?" she challenged the trucker some miles down the road.

"Can you imagine what it might be like," he countered with a question of his own, "having eight inches of Snow in June?"

## Seven Ways to Minimise the Risk of Having a Stroke

### Know the signs; early treatment prevents lasting damage

A stroke is the damage caused by a clot or a bleed in the brain. It is the major cause of serious long-term disability in the UK. A quarter of strokes occur in people under 65, and the damage caused ranges from minimal changes picked up on a scan, through to loss of speech, difficulty finding words and loss of power down one side of the body or face. Up to a fifth of strokes are fatal. Prompt diagnosis and treatment means a better outcome. The Fast test is useful: Face – can you smile? Is your face lopsided? Arms – can you raise them and keep them there? Speech – is it slurred or hard to understand? Time – to call 112 if you see any of these three signs. Other symptoms to urgently act on are sudden weakness or numbness on one side of the body, sudden blurred or loss of vision, unexplained confusion, a sudden fall and very severe headache.

### Keep your blood pressure in check

High blood pressure is an important preventable risk factor. Have it checked at a pharmacy, GP surgery or buy your own gadget and check it yourself. In the US, pharmacists are checking and treating blood pressure in barbershops as black men are underdiagnosed, undertreated and under-represented in clinical trials. There is evidence that, in the UK, people from African-Caribbean backgrounds are more prone to high blood pressure, strokes and diabetes – although less prone to heart disease. (A blood pressure monitor costs around €20 + on amazon.es and you should let your GP know if readings are consistently over 140/90.

Most pharmacies in Spain will check your BP.) Lifestyle changes and, if necessary, medication work for most. Some people's blood pressure remains high despite all conventional treatment; a new technique using ultrasound to zap part of the nerve supply to the kidneys offers hope for the most tricky cases.

### Check your pulse

An irregular heart rate (atrial fibrillation, AF) increases the risk of stroke because the heart can throw off small bits of debris when it goes in and out of an irregular rhythm that travel up to the brain and cause a blockage. Thinning the blood (anticoagulation) significantly reduces the risk of strokes. AF may revert to normal, regular (sinus) rhythm on its own but tends to recur and it is this fluctuation that is most dangerous. The heart can also be given an electrical shock (cardioversion), treatment to destroy the rogue electrical source of the problem (ablation) or a pacemaker to override the irregular heart beat. Some people in AF will experience palpitations, but many won't feel any symptoms. The best way to detect it is to check your pulse; we all get occasional extra beats but if the rate is consistently irregular, see your GP. There are apps to diagnose and manage AF.

### Are you diabetic?

One in 16 of us is living with diabetes and an estimated 12% don't know it. Undiagnosed and undertreated diabetes

is a major risk factor for stroke. You are more likely to be diabetic if it runs in your family, if you are overweight or have southeast Asian or African-Caribbean background. You can buy self-test kits, but it is cheaper and more holistic to get a complete NHS health check if you are aged 40-74 – or see your GP if you think you are at risk. If you are diagnosed with diabetes, careful management to get your blood glucose levels back to the normal range will reduce your stroke risk. If you are diabetic, your blood pressure should be kept under 140/80 and cholesterol below 5mmol/l to keep stroke risk as low as possible.

### The more you smoke, the more you stroke

The more you smoke, the greater the risk, so if you can't quit, at least cut down. If you do manage to quit, your risk of stroke will be that of a never-smoker within five years. Vaping is almost certainly better than cigarettes, but there are concerns that the nicotine may still increase stiffness of arteries and the risk of heart disease and stroke.





### Check your cholesterol

High levels of cholesterol in the blood can clog up arteries. If early heart disease or stroke (under the age of 60) runs in your family, you may have a genetic tendency to abnormally high cholesterol levels, even if you lead an impeccably healthy lifestyle. A one-off blood test (fasting) will tell you whether you have a problem or not. Again, you can buy a self-test kit or get it done at your GP surgery or pharmacy. To reduce the risk of heart disease and stroke, blood pressure, cholesterol and glucose levels all need to be measured; there is no point in treating one and ignoring the others. High cholesterol levels can be lowered by losing excess weight, by exercising, by cutting down on cholesterol-rich foods and, if necessary, by taking drugs such as statins; they get a bad press but they do work.

### Mini-strokes

Transient ischaemic attacks (TIAs) cause the same warning signs as a stroke but typically last for about half an hour resolve completely within 24 hours. However, 40% of people with a TIA will go on to have a stroke, and the risk of that is greatest if you are over 70, have high blood pressure or diabetes and have symptoms that last longer than 90 minutes. Treatments for TIAs include blood thinning drugs (anticoagulation) and careful control of the risk factors (glucose, cholesterol and blood pressure). People are often dismayed that they end up on a cocktail of drugs despite having made a complete recovery from TIA, but it really is worth popping the pills to avoid a stroke.

**SPOT A STROKE™**

			
<b>FACE</b>	<b>ARM</b>	<b>SPEECH</b>	<b>TIME</b>
Drooping	Weakness	Difficulty	to Call 112

Use **F.....A.....S.....T** to detect warning signs.

*(The above article is abridged from one by a G.P. that appeared in The Guardian, June 11, 2018 online. Some commented, following its publication, that 'exercise' should be added to the list and that foods that are naturally high in cholesterol are not necessarily a problem, but saturated fats are.)*





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ON THE NEXT PAGE!**

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A former girlfriend of Bill Gates remembers him as having bad breath.

He remembers her as not having a hundred billion dollars.

Conan O'Brien





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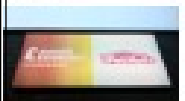
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### The Can of Paint!

Three couples went in to see the minister to see how to become members of his church. The minister said that they would have to go without s\*x for two weeks and then come back and tell him how it went.

The first couple was retired, the second couple was middle-aged and the final couple was newlywed.

Two weeks went by, and the couples returned to the minister. The retired couple said it was no problem at all. The middle-aged couple said it was tough for the first week, but after that, it was no problem. The newlyweds said it was fine until she dropped the can of paint. "Can of PAINT!" exclaimed the minister.

"Yeah," said the newlywed man. "She dropped the can and when she bent over to pick it up I had to have her right there and then. Lust took over."

The minister just shook his head and said that they were not welcome in the church.

"That's okay," said the man. "We're not welcome in Leroy Merlin either."

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## Got the Air-Con on?

As the local temperatures rise, you may be enjoying your air-conditioning or even contemplating installing it in your property. What is striking is the rapid growth in numbers of these units and of course their projected growth.

- 10%: Share of the world's electricity devoted to air conditioning
- 70% Share of Saudi Arabia's electricity devoted to air conditioning
- 1.6 billion: Number of A/C units installed globally
- 80%: Drop in US heat deaths since 1960, due largely to the rise of home air conditioning
- \$20.2 billion: Amount spent per year by the US military for air conditioning in Iraq and Afghanistan
- 2.5–10°F: Projected range of global temperature increase this century due to climate change
- 124°F (51.11C): Record temperature set in Ahmedabad, India in 2016
- 117 million: Metric tons of carbon dioxide released by US air conditioners every year
- 5.6 billion: Number of air conditioners expected to be in use globally by 2050



"Feel free to loosen your tie, Harrison—the air-conditioning is out."

China now has the most air conditioning units in the world with 569 million; the US with 374 million and the EU with just 97 million.

40% of all air-conditioning capacity is in the US, and its 328 million residents consume more energy for cooling than the 4.4 billion people living in all of Africa, Latin America, the Middle East, and Asia (excluding China) combined.

### The Funeral.

A funeral service is being held for a woman who has just passed away. At the end of the service, the pallbearers are carrying the casket out when they accidentally bump into a wall, jarring the casket.

They hear a faint moan. They open the casket and find that the woman is actually alive! She lives for ten more years and then finally dies.

A ceremony is again held at the same place, and at the end of the ceremony, the pallbearers are again carrying out the casket. As they are walking, the husband cries out, "Watch the wall!"



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Emo Philips*

## Red Days in the Valencian Community 2018.

January 1 and 6, March 19 and 30, April 2, May 1, August 15,  
October 9, October 12, November 1, 6, 8 and December 25th

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Dates in late December 2018 and early January 2019 have been banded about regarding the opening of **Corvera Airport**. However, there are still many approvals and licences required, which AENA cannot control, before any commercial flights will be allowed. However, EasyJet state that they will begin flights to and from the new airport from January 2019. As yet, they have no destinations announced.

Jet2.com advise that they will be offering flights to and from the new airport in March 2019, with routes to Leeds Bradford with three weekly services (Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays) operating until 25th October 2019 and to Manchester, with three weekly services (Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays) also operating until 25th October 2019.

Seven of the nine operating theatres have been closed at the **Can Misses Hospital in Ibiza** due to the presence of fungus. The remaining two are now only used for emergencies.

The closed operating theatres on the island means flying patients to the Son Espases hospital in Mallorca and this has cost more than €190,000 for just nine patients. There has also been an invasion of flies into the quarantined area at Can Misses which is blamed on cracks in the facade.

Real Madrid's star soccer player **Cristiano Ronaldo** and captain of the Portugal team, has made an offer to the Spanish solicitor general's office in a bid to settle a court case against him for alleged tax fraud. According to sources familiar with the case, the Portuguese player has offered to accept a two-year jail term (which would be suspended), and to pay a fine of €18.8 million. The case involves alleged irregularities related to Ronaldo's image rights between the years 2011 and 2014, during which time he is thought to have evaded €14.7 million in taxes. Several months ago Ronaldo offered four or five million euros but this was rejected and decided to bring criminal proceedings against him. Last summer, Ronaldo appeared before a judge and denied having hidden income from his image rights valued at €59.9 million, and liable to taxes of €14.7 million, according to the prosecutor.

There is little doubt that these high-earning players are badly advised. Greed has taken place of common sense and honesty. Messi had similar problems last year, largely thanks to his father.

#### Suck it and see!

A very attractive lady goes up to a bar in a quiet rural pub. She gestures alluringly to the bartender who comes over immediately. When he arrives, she seductively signals that he should bring his face closer to hers. When he does, she begins to gently caress his full beard.

"Are you the manager?" she asks, softly stroking his face with both hands. "Actually, no," the man replies.

"Can you get him for me? I need to speak to him," she says, running her hands beyond his beard and into his hair.

"Can't," croaks the bartender. "He's not here. Is there anything I can do?"

"Yes, there is. I need you to give him a message," she continues, running her forefinger across the bartender's lips and slyly popping a couple of her fingers into his mouth and allowing him to suck them gently.

"What should I tell him?" the bartender manages to say.

"Tell him," she whispers, "there is no toilet paper, hand soap, or paper towels in the ladies room."

# LOCKSMITH

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(Cut out & keep.)

Regional Police in the Benidorm area are clamping down on illegal taxi airport runs. **Five cars have been confiscated**, all UK registered and being driven by British expats. Passengers were turfed-out of the vehicles and the cars impounded immediately. One driver was told he would have to pay a deposit of €4,100 to get his car back - providing he could prove he was authorised to carry passengers. Otherwise the money would be a fine!

It is probably no surprise that the long awaited **emergency centre at Playa Flamenca has been delayed** further.

To qualify for the €2.2 million regional grant, work would have to be completed by July, 2019.



The contracts department in the town council are 'overworked' (poor dears, and will be taking most of August off, btw). The local council and the regional council - politically poles apart - are still squabbling over contractual procedures, construction supervision and deadline extensions. To date, tender requirements have not even been drawn up and there is no hope of meeting next years deadline. The original building works to the site began in 2010, work stopping, photo, when the builder went bust in 2012.

Would this cock-up be tolerated in Orihuela City?

# WHAT'S HAPPENING AT THE PHOENIX



Via Park V

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## Drugged Drivers!

*Mutxamel* is a municipality in the *comarca* of *Alacantí*. The Policia Local decided to organise a series of road blocks to test specifically for drug use among drivers,

the last block-test being about a year ago.

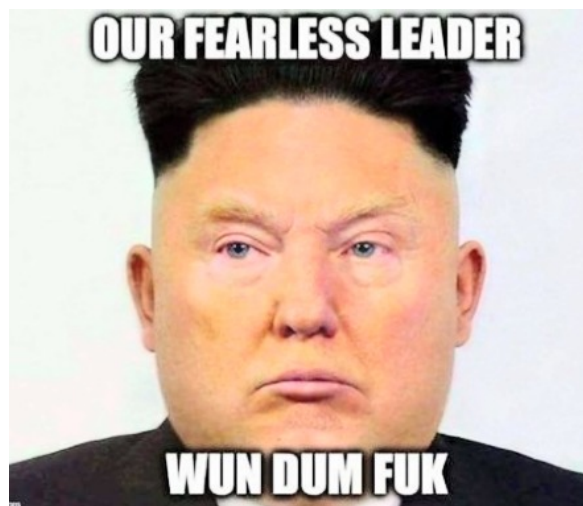
This time the police tested 32 motorists and, surprise, surprise, all but one tested



positive for drugs! That's a 97% of the tested drivers.

After the saliva samples were tested later at a laboratory, it was revealed that the most consumed drugs were cannabis, followed by cocaine, heroin and amphetamines, giving the fact that in almost half of the cases drivers had consumed more than one drug and even three different drugs at the same time.

40% of those killed in traffic accidents in Spain had alcohol or drugs in their bodies. During 2016, it was proven that the number of drug positives during testing was much higher than that of alcohol.



From Tom Curly

The Tax Office has streamlined its tax form this year.  
It goes like this: " a) How much did you make last year? b) How much have you got left? c) Send b)."   
Henny Youngman



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## The Train in Spain.....

We may not have any ambulances on the Orihuela Costa, but we do now have a little train! Yippee!

The Orihuela Costa tourist train, or “*Orihuela Tren Turístico*” started operating in June and will run until the end of September. There are two trains operate from 9am to



9pm daily. They are certainly cute, see photo, but as they have only two ‘carriages’, they can fill up very quickly.

With a travel time of 55 minutes each way, there are slight divergences in both routes, with the trains running from Campoamor beach to near the post office at Playa Flamenca. As the routes avoid the N-332 much of the route is north of that busy and dangerous road, so that some of the local beaches are missed. Scheduled stops include Playa Flamenca beach, La Zenia beach, Zenia Boulevard shopping centre, the port and beaches of Campoamor, and the Cabo Roig strip.

A single ticket costs just €3 and ‘ankle-biters’ travel free.

Kids aged 5 to 12 & pensioners pay €2.50. There are also family rates and a ticket will last you the whole day for several trips! Lots more info on the train together with timings, routes and scheduled stops are on the dedicated website, which is in several languages including English.

Go to <http://www.orihuelatrenturistico.com/>

## Monumental!

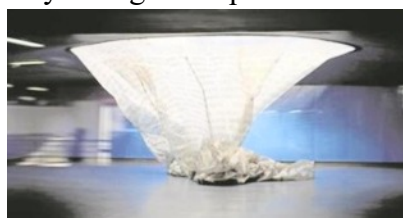
The left-wing mayor of Madrid, Manuela Carmena, has authorised that a monument for refugees be erected in Madrid at a cost of €300,000. It will be erected in 2019.

Opposition groups say that this is just a waste of money as the city does not have sufficient funds allocated to house the refugees already in the city. There are already more than 100 illegal settlements in the capital and 80 Syrian refugees are sleeping/living in a park there next to a mosque.

€350,000 has also been allocated by the city to repair a monument dedicated to the victims of the Madrid train bombings, which collapsed some years ago. See photos.



Was.



Now!

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Once my friend told me that he had found Jesus. I thought to myself, 'Woohoo, we're rich!'  
It turns out he meant something different.

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**THURSDAY**

**La Marina Urbanisation**

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La Marina (opposite Lidl)**

**SUNDAY**

**Lemon Tree No.44  
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**ALL MARKETS**

**9:00am - 1:00pm approx.**

I fall in love real quick, which can scare guys away. I'm like, 'I love you, I want to marry you, I want to move in with you.'  
And they're like, 'Ma'am, just give me the ten bucks for the pizza and I'll be out of here.'  
Penny Wiggins



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- When they put me in prison I'll be brave, I can handle it.  
- But, Blanche, you don't understand. They put you in a women's prison.  
*Blanche and Rose, The Golden Girls*



Police became suspicious of three vehicles travelling in convoy, changed direction after spotting a police road block. The vehicles, two cars and a van, were jam-packed with oranges stolen



from a warehouse in Carmona, in the region of Sevilla. The haul weighed around 4,000 kilos and five people were arrested. The stealing of fruit and veg' is surprisingly common. Some farmers in the Vega Baja area have to organise night-time patrols to safeguard their crops.



Prosperity gospel televangelist Jesse Duplantis in the US wants a \$54 million jet and wants his supporters to pay for it. But this is Jessie's fourth jet, the previous three being paid for by his followers! The new luxury jet, the Falcon 7X, will no doubt be added to his fleet, despite the ridicule. "We believe in God for a brand new Falcon 7X so we can go anywhere in the world, one stop,.....And if I can do it one stop, I can fly it for a lot cheaper, because I have my own fuel farm. And that's what's been a blessing of the Lord," said Jesse, photo. Jesse preaches the prosperity gospel, which says God shows favour by rewarding the faithful with earthly riches. Giving money to pastors and their ministries, leaders say, is a sort of investment. So guess who are the idiots here?



Iceland's departure to Russia for the World Cup was held up after manager Heimir Hallgrímsson sent his luggage to the small fishing town of Akranes instead of Reykjavik airport. "I was trying to help things along, but put my bag on the wrong bus," he fessed-up. "This is our one mistake for the trip and at least the kit man got a good laugh out of it."

Juan Ramón Alfonso Penayo, 20, photo, had last been seen on Thursday, June 14, leaving the family home on the Paraguayan border village of Santa Teresa. The area, bordering Brazil, is hotly disputed between a number of drug gangs and when Mr Penayo did not return, his family assumed he had met with trouble. When police found a charred body on Sunday, they concluded it was him. The family held a wake in the village only for Mr Penayo to turn up and find them grieving over the coffin they thought held his body. The still unidentified body was returned to the morgue.



A 37-year-old woman was arrested after setting fire to her apartment in Alicante to claim the insurance money. The woman put in danger the rest of the inhabitants in the building, but was dumb enough to have started the fire in three separate places in the flat. Also, she was seen leaving the building carrying small valuable objects and paper documentation relating to her family, before the fire alarm went off.



An off-duty FBI agent who accidentally shot a man while dancing in a Denver nightclub has been charged with second-degree assault. The agent, named by police as Chase Bishop, 26, was performing a backflip in a nightclub when his gun fell out of his pocket and, as he picked-up his weapon, shot a bystander in the leg. The injuries were not life threatening and the FBI agent, soon to be an ex-one, has been charged with second degree assault. (FBI agents are renowned for 'premature discharges'!) Video here -

<https://www.bbc.com/news/world-us-canada-44465146>

The couple in this photo are Elaine Douglas and Tommy Brooks, both 51, who are Jamaican, and claimed that they



lived in a flat in Grenfell Tower and escaped the blaze. They falsely claimed more than £100,000 in accommodation and pre-paid

credit cards before staff at the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea realised the flat they claimed to live in did not exist! Douglas was housed in the Radisson Blu in Kensington for 276 nights at a cost of just over £55,000 to the council, as well running up a room service bill of £267.

After complaining about the food in the hotel, Douglas was given a pre-paid credit card, running up charges of more than £11,000. She was also handed a pre-paid Oyster card so she could travel for free.

Brooks also started off at the Radisson Blu before being moved to another hotel. He spent 243 nights in hotel accommodation, costing RBKC more than £49,000. He racked up a room service bill of £276 and charges of £9,000 on a pre-paid credit card, and was also given an Oyster card. In total, he claimed £58,396 in relief intended to help the victims of the fire, while Douglas claimed £67,123.

Both are under arrest and awaiting sentencing, but once again, who are the real idiots here?

*Kath & Jules Welcome You to*

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## The Phoenix Golf Society

We Played at SAURINES golf course on Sunday 18th June 2018.

The weather was quite hot and nice to play golf in but the greens were in poor condition but we managed.

NEAREST THE PIN NO: 6 BRIAN ARCHER

“ “ NO.10 HENRY GIBBON

“ “ NO: 18 GARY



Overall winner was IAN GRANT with 41 points, GARY had the same points but lost on the countback.

When we returned to the Phoenix Bar after the game we had our usual lovely grub supplied by DONNA & PAUL, many thanks again you two.

Dave Wightman

### Real Pain!

A man and a woman were discussing the worst pain that anyone could possibly experience. The woman said: “Without doubt, there is nothing more painful in life than childbirth.”

“Nonsense,” said the man, “a kick in the bollocks is much more painful. Ask any guy.”

“You’re so wrong,” maintained the woman. “Childbirth is far more painful.”

The man was not about to yield to her argument and announced: “I have proof that I am right.”

“What proof?” she asked scornfully.

“Because,” he continued, “a few years after giving birth a woman will say to her partner, ‘Do you want to try for another baby?’ But I have never, ever, ever heard a man say – even years later – ‘You know what I’d really like? Another kick in the bollocks!’”





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My mother is a typical Jewish mother. One time she was on jury duty and they sent her home.  
She insisted *she* was guilty.

Cathy Ladman

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#### **The Shave.**

A married man was visiting his girlfriend one day, when she requested that he shave his beard. "Oh, James, I like your beard, but I would really love to see your handsome face."

James replied, "My wife loves this beard, I couldn't possibly do it. She would kill me!"

"Oh, please?" the girlfriend asked again in a sexy little voice.

"Really, I can't" he replied, "My wife loves this beard!"

The girlfriend kept insisting until he sighed and finally gave in. That night, James crawled into bed with his wife while she was sleeping. Wife woke up and in the dark, felt his face and whispered, "Oh Michael, you shouldn't be here. My husband will be home soon!"



## Lime Bar Fishing SUNBATHING Club

The end of May was a shocker. On Friday 25<sup>th</sup> Ponytail Phil (aka the butler) passed away followed 2 days later by one of our club founder members Mike the Scribe.

Although the butler was not in the club (he was asked to join on several occasions), he was regularly on the bank with us helping to clear pegs and came to most of our functions to enjoy the beer. He loved being outside and sunbathing – no wonder he fitted in so well! The photo, right, is a rare one, without a beer in his hand, doing what he did best. ☺

Mike the scribe, photo left, virtually ran the club single-handed for about 6 years until



“muggings” came along to give him a break. His organisation and knowledge really set the club off on the right foot and we hope we can continue his wish of a friendly & welcoming club. He loved fishing and was always one to watch during our competitions, he won the 2015 summer league and was placed



in several others. It was also Mike's idea to have an old farts v whipper snappers match to raise money for charity. At the monthly meeting, we raised our glasses to 2 wonderful men. Keep the pegs clear up there!

Ann & Joy, if you need anything, you know where we will be. ☺

This month's match was held at el Bosquet. Only 8 anglers fished but everybody caught (even me!). Although Just John was feeling rough as old boots, he made it to the bank and made sure he had a fish to score points before he had to retire and go home early. I applaud the dedication John, but 3 rods still won with 7.25 kilos with Phil H coming 2<sup>nd</sup> **AGAIN**, beating me into 3<sup>rd</sup> **AGAIN** by 0.05 of a kilo this time. Are you sure eels are allowed to be weighed in? Phil has now come 2<sup>nd</sup> in all 3 matches giving him 57 points and a massive lead in the league. I now have a nickname for you at last, “Beat me !” Phil.

Sweeney decided he would run another quiz and promised that he wouldn't cock this one up. The night was very well supported and we all brought along some food and a decent raffle prize. Thank you everyone for the effort, especially the ladies for providing another fantastic spread of food. As per usual we couldn't eat it all so what was left (loads of it) went to the Lime Bar customers or into 3 rods' lunch box for the following morning. Another big thank you to Anti social's boss (Belinda) who ran the raffle again. Only problem was she messed up with the tickets, she didn't put mine in the bucket and duplicated Welsh Mal's who won 3 prizes including the bottle of Jamesons. Fagin (our treasurer) has been wringing his hands recently as we were getting a bit low in the coffer. The prizes were excellent and we managed double the clubs fund. Fagin was beaming!

The quiz itself was quite good as long as you knew the answers. The music round rattled through non-stop so a few teams got mixed up with which number they were listening to. It all worked out in the end though as a couple of the answers were mixed up too...Sweeney! We had 6 teams and the total points ranged from 48 to 75. Just John got his knickers in a twist when 3 rods' team pipped his team by 1 point (on a technicality!). Just John is in line for a new nickname (Grinch, groucho, any other offers?). The winning team were called the “winners” but we didn't win anything! Well-done Sweeney and thank you Lime Bar for putting up with us again.

Not a lot to report on the fishing front. The carp seem to be patrolling through your swim for about 30 minutes then disappear only to come back a couple of hours later for another 30 minutes of feeding. Weird. I've tried balling ground bait in (and little and often) to hold them in the swim, but I haven't found the right combination yet!

Next ~~meeting~~ bun fight is at The Lime Bar @ 17.00 Mon 2<sup>nd</sup> July.

Fishy Fingers!

The Ghost

*Give a man a fish, and you'll feed him for a day.  
Give him a religion, and he'll starve to death while praying for a fish.  
Timothy Jones*

## WATCH OUT FOR.....

Well, it summertime! Not only is the sun out but also the human creepy-crawlies who want to relieve you of your hard-earned dosh and your valuables. The coastal areas in the summer are a magnet for these villains. As a tourist or indeed a resident, you are bound to be carrying cash, cards and the ladies sporting jewellery - all of which can be grabbed or pick-pocketed by the thieves. **Ladies handbags** are a cornucopia of delights for the crook. They will normally carry credit cards, cash, passports and generally the portable valuables of the tourist or resident, together with keys to your car and property. Ladies! Handbags are not a wall-safe! Scores of these handbags will disappear this year on the coast, from the backs of chairs or from the floor in restaurants (particularly Woks!) & bars, from car seats, from supermarket trolleys or just snatched from your arm by the passenger on a motor bike or scooter. If you must carry a handbag, do not walk next to the roadline, keeping your bag furthest from the road or the facing traffic flow.

There will be an invasion of **pick-pocketers** from an empty Madrid during August, with their preferred performance areas being crowds, markets, train carriage corridors, busy buses, bars, particularly tourist ones, and some beaches.

Then there are the chancers who will call at your property.

One of my favourites, who I see at least twice a year, is a short smiling chubby guy, who calls at the gate and collects for a children's orphanage. He has the **usual clipboard**, colourful false charity ID with a photo etc. I explained to him that it is illegal to call at properties for money - he replied 'Where else can I go?' And he carries on to the next open door confidently.

The clipboard is the basic tool of the visiting comman or woman.

They will always have names written on the list, with sums of money to encourage you to pay similar. They love venues like go-kart and tourists areas, particularly where mums are preoccupied with kids, who will have a clipboard shoved under their nose. At the playground/go-kart area in Calle Mosca earlier this year, I stopped a British mum from giving money to one of these guys who shoved a clipboard under her nose. He didn't speak any English, but understood it when I told him to 'F\*ck Off!' (Language can be universal.)

We were in Manolo's Restaurant near Guardamar one day and this guy came around the tables with the clipboard and the usual spiel. Gave him my best withering look and told him to buzz-off. I got up and watched him as he left this fairly remote restaurant and as he returned to his car, which was parked almost out of sight of the restaurant.....he drove away in a nice black BMW!

Also **beware gas inspectors** and others who call at your house without an appointment, including the guy who 'is locked out of his house and needs €70 to pay a locksmith'.

Unfortunately many Brit's are far too nice to strangers asking for money. Be a bit more assertive and yes, rude! It is very liberating and discourages them from returning.

# amazon.es

Hate it or love it, Amazon online can be a Godsend to many. I used to use Amazon UK a lot, but when they opened a Spanish website, the UK company introduced hefty carriage charges to customers in Spain to encourage customers to migrate to the Spanish site.

I have been using amazon.es now for some time and it has a number of advantages.

Firstly they offer Amazon Prime at a much cheaper rate than in the UK. Whereas in the UK Prime cost around £80 a year or £8 a month, Prime in Spain cost just €20 a year.

Prime in Spain will give you free and fast carriage on many eligible items sold on the site - but not all! It also gives you free access to AmazonTV (if you have a smart TV). This contains many movies and TV series, most of which are in English, with English subtitles also available on some programs. I have found the content to be excellent viewing.

Another handy element to amazon.es is that you can also search in English. So, if you enter say 'inflatable sex doll,' guess what pops up! No need to search the Spanish phrase book now!

## Hate Crimes in Catalan Schools.

Nine schoolteachers in the Catalan Region have been denounced for hate crimes. These fanatical separatists organised as a group in a high school in Sant Andreu de la Barca, near Barcelona, singled out the children of Guardia Civil and harassed the youngsters, according to the testimony of the latter to prosecutors, and accused their parents of being "animals and beasts who only know how to deal out blows." They also tried to shame them by asking whether they were satisfied by the actions of their parents during the illegal referendum in Catalonia last October. They also intimidated them into going out onto the playground to shout in support of a Catalan republic.

Incitement to hatred, violence or humiliation of individuals due to their identity, ideology or family connections has been punishable under Spain's criminal code since 1995. If this offence is committed against teenagers between 12 and 17 years of age, the crime is twice as serious, given that it also violates the rights of minors, who are particularly vulnerable. Nazis?

## CASHPOINT CHARGES.

*I have noticed that many of the local non-bank cash machines have increased their charges for withdrawing cash by one euro. The usual charge used to be around €1.80, now €2.80!*



ENTERTAINMENT

7<sup>th</sup> Annual Dream Hills<sup>2</sup> Fiesta

Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> August

Everyone Welcome

from 5pm til late

Adjacent to the Petanque Courts / Children's Play Area DH2

Hog Roast with Bap or  
and trimmings



Chicken Paella



Live Music with:



T J Jones



Jacuzzi

Tickets

6.50€

Available from

- In Dream Hills 2
- Susie @ 120 - Sandy @ 161
- Dave @ 231 - Sue @ 453
- Janette @ 594
- In Dream Hills
- Michelle @ 382

Bring your own drinks cutlery, plate, table and chairs !

Raffle with many Prizes

Remember - All Dogs must be kept on a lead

The Call Centre.

A little old lady tried to phone her local bank but was put through instead to the bank's call centre in India.

"Is that the High Street branch?" she asked.

"No, madam," replied the voice at the other end. "It is now company policy to deal with telephone calls centrally."

"Well, I really need to speak to the branch," said the old lady.

"Madam, if you just let me know your query, I'm sure I can help you."

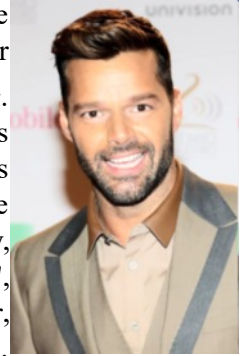
"I don't think you can, young man. I need to speak to the branch."

The call centre operator was adamant. "There's nothing that the branch can help you with that can't be dealt with by me."

"Very well then," sighed the old lady. "Can you just check on the counter? Did I leave my gloves behind when I came in this morning?"



If you fancy a change from the jaded 60's pop stars that seem to haunt Benidorm Palace, you will be pleased to hear that Ricky Martin, photo, will be performing at the Guillermo Amor Stadium in Benidorm on August 22<sup>nd</sup>.



This will be the fifth of ten concerts he plans in Spain this year. Tickets for the Benidorm concert can be purchased from 10 am on Thursday, June 14 through 'savory.es', 'doctormusic.com', Ticketmaster, Carrefour, Fnac and Halcón Viajes. The admission price will vary between 45 and 99 euros, excluding distribution costs.

Music at the San Javier Festival starts on June 30. I must confess that I have never heard of most of the acts,



except of course for The Mavericks, photo. These guys are guaranteed to get you dancing with their lively mix of Tex-Mex and Rockabilly. The band is

performing on Thursday, July 12, at 9:30pm. Tickets are priced at €30 and you can book tickets online and view the remainder of the performers at the festival here -

<http://www.jazz.sanjavier.es/en/entradas.html>

I have to put in a good word for James Golding (actually James Goulding Hoey). James is a local entertainer whose singing, Liverpoolian humour and general banter is always enjoyable and entertaining. James, who hardly ever swears, appears twice weekly at CK1's in Via Park III, hosting the Karaoke on Friday evenings and doing a Crooning Session every Sunday afternoon between 1 to 3pm, the latter particularly relaxing and enjoyable while tucking into your Spam Fritters & Chips. Although James's repertoire is quite extensive, and like his trousers - expansive; sometimes he will do his



version of *Gangnam Style*, which is just hilarious and unforgettable! James also does a duet, where he sings in both a male and female voice....but that is just weird! James the Act never disappoints! I tried to get a decent photo of James from the web, but no luck. However, I did manage to get this one from Crimestoppers.

## CLASSIFIED ADS, ANNOUNCEMENTS,

DAILY/WEEKLY CAR HIRE - 4 or 6 seater

CALL COLIN (0034) 638 759 774

Chiropodist. Living in Dream Hills. 25 year's experience. Home visits. Professional, diabetic-foot care. Call Mieke on 634050258

House Painting - inside/out; References Available.

Call Neil on 650 842 711

Qualified Groundsman/Gardner. Now a resident in Dream Hills. Cutting back all overgrown plants & hedges, pool & garden areas.

Call Skippy on 865666119

Ladies & Gent's Mobile Hairdressing. In your home or mine.

Call Paula on 693 491 152

Gent's & Boy's Hairdressing. In the comfort of your own home.

Call Sam on 672 51 02 49.

Do you need a honest reliable cleaner for regular or holiday lets or just key holding. References available contact Mandy 602 458 183

For Sale: Electric car polisher, new and boxed €20.

Extending shears/tree loppers. Long handled shears - 2 pairs; 1 heavy duty hacksaw. 2 handsaws, 1 coarse, 1 fine tooth. 7 pieces in all €25.

Bosch sander €25; full welding kit plus welding rods €40; cable cassette extension lead 10 metres x 4 socket reel €10.

Call Brenda on 966189877 or 603149444.



"Yes, I remember the last time we had intimate physical contact. We were arm wrestling for the last slice of pizza."

Conrad Arnold of Dream Hills II has a weekly podcast which is informative on local events. You can listen to these podcasts here - <http://www.dreamhills.podbean.com/>

You can find archived copies of The Dream Scene & much more at <http://www.dreamhills.orihuela-costa.eu/>

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Any profit is spent by producing extra copies.

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## Lovely Apartment to Rent

FOR HOLIDAYS /SHORTLETS  
IN DREAMHILLS 2

South facing

Air/con & English TV

2 Community Pools

Competitive Rates

For more details

Contact: Jackie 0034 602457631

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## TO RENT

2 Bedroom - 1st Floor Apartment

Sunny Terrace with Sunbeds

Shady Pergola.

Short Term Rentals

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Contact Anne in the UK

[anne.m.hewett@gmail.com](mailto:anne.m.hewett@gmail.com)

& 07761 85 85 80

## SHORT TERM RENTAL

3 Bedroom House in  
Dream Hills -

Furnished Incl. White Goods

Air Conditioning,

Lounge/dining Room, Kitchen,

3 Bedrooms, 2 Bathrooms and

Two Rooftop Solariums

Two Community Pools

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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. (Or in some Bar!)