



# THE DREAM SCENE

## NEWSLETTER



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

Bienvenido a todos and welcome to the September, 2019 edition. Issue No.146

The latest set of data regarding the residential property market to come from Spain's notaries was published in early August and reports a **sharp year-on-year decrease of 18.9% in sales figures** and a corresponding fall of 16.2% in mortgage activity to June 2019 across the country as a whole. This would appear to confirm the figures from previous months noting that the level of activity in the property market during recent months is probably stabilising after a long period of significant growth. Prices of re-sales rose by an average of 5% over the last 12 months. However with almost half a million new unoccupied properties on the sales register, the outlook can't be great!

**Ryanair cabin crew** in Spain are threatening to **strike** for 10 days in September over the airline's plans to shut down bases in Gran Canaria, Tenerife and Girona. The unions lodged a notice of their plans for industrial action on September 1, 2, 6, 8, 13, 15, 20, 22, 27 and 28. The Irish low-cost carrier operates 13 bases in Spain, all of which would be affected by the stoppages. These stoppages have yet to be confirmed, but the unions believe some stoppages are inevitable.

There have been a number of **Listeria outbreaks** in Andalucia and Alicante. The outbreak in Andalucia is particularly concerning. It was detected on August 15 with around 200 people infected. A total of 53 people remain hospitalized, 23 of them pregnant women and one woman

over 90 has died. (**La Mecha** cooked pork products have been withdrawn.) According to the Ministry of Health there have been 22 cases in Alicante during the last year and the more recent nine cases are unrelated to the Andalucian case. The foods in which listeria can be found are mainly meats, pates, raw eggs, smoked fish, seafood, raw vegetables and unpasteurized milks and cheeses. During 2017, there were 2,480 cases of listeriosis in humans in the EU, with 227 deaths in 16 member states, implying a high mortality rate. In Spain, for the same year, there were 284 confirmed cases of the bacteria. In the UK, six people died from the virus already this year after eating contaminated hospital food.

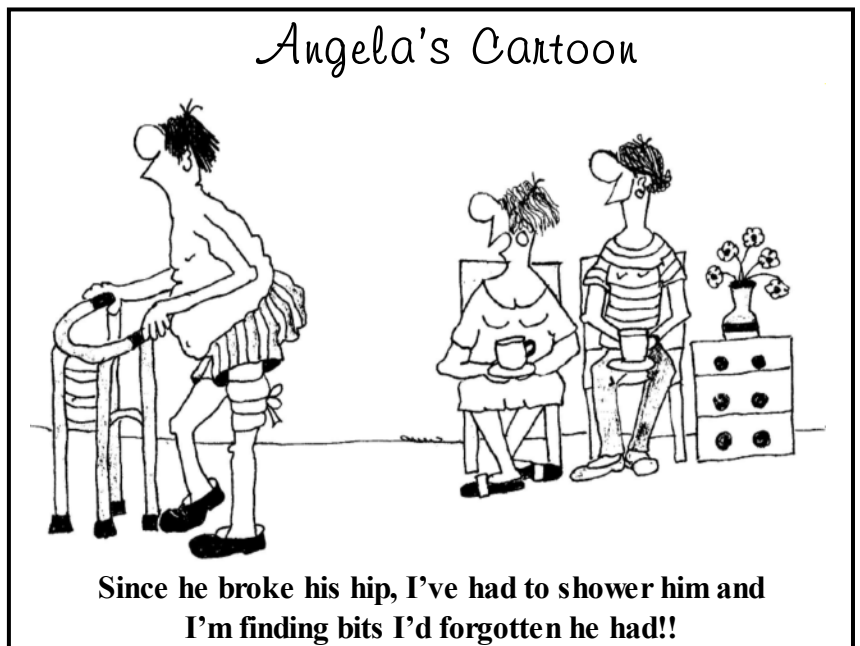
A group of local expats gathered to bid farewell to **Vic Dellar** at Jilly's Bar on July 31. Vic, a popular local figure, sadly passed away in the UK on July 14 after an illness.

Shirl Dixon organised a charity collection locally which raised a **whopping €540** in just a few hours. As Vic was a volunteer at the Torrevieja based charity, **Reach Out**, the funds were donated to this charity, the contribution being earmarked for the 'family section' where Vic worked.

Our cartoonist, Angie and husband Pete would like to thank their dear friends and the Torrevieja Hospital staff for their help and good wishes after Pete's accident.

**Have a wonderful month from  
Mick, Tid and the Dream Scene Team**

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**Since he broke his hip, I've had to shower him and  
I'm finding bits I'd forgotten he had!!**

Our local Priest was going to give a lecture about Catholic birth control methods tonight, but he had to pull out at the last second.

# COSY

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# O

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# R

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# N

**HAPPY HOUR 2 - 7pm**

**EVERYDAY!**

**DRAUGHT BEER**

ESTRELLA €1.50

CARLING €2.20

COORS LIGHT €2.20

MAGNERS €2.50

GUINNESS €2.70

WORTHINGTONS €2.70

John Smiths €2 a can!

Mahou bottles 2 for €2!



# E

**Spirits & Mixers €3.00**

Smirnoff Vodka & Mixer

Soberano Brandy & Mixer

Bacardi Rum & Mixer

Original Larios Gin & Mixer

**HOUSE WINE - RED, WHITE, ROSE €1.40!**

**BOTTLED SAN MIGUEL,**

**AMBAR, ESTRELLA 2 FOR €1.70**



**FUN MUSIC BINGO**

**EVERY FRIDAY 2:30pm**



**LIVE ENTERTAINMENT EVERY NIGHT FROM 9pm!**

**SPORTS ON 6 GIANT SCREENS!**

With the Brexit black-hole eminent in a few weeks, and the UK's Conservative Government still unable to offer a credible alternative to the Backstop issue, while running around in ever decreasing circles, about to run-up their own red lines, one can only, at the very least, feel exasperated with the politicians of all hues in the UK and their inability to coherently address this crisis. After three years, their lack of progress has been appalling.

See pages 20, 25, 38 and 39 of this issue for coverage of some important issues if you either live or own a property in Spain or are planning to do so.

More than 120 days have passed since the April 28 Spanish general election, and there is still no sign that **acting Prime Minister Pedro Sánchez** is any closer to reaching a governing deal that would allow him to be voted back into office. Sánchez failed to secure either an absolute majority or a simple majority in his first investiture bid in July, after negotiations broke down with anti-austerity group Unidas Podemos (a coalition of Podemos and the United Left), which chose to abstain from the two rounds of voting. Sánchez offered the party a deputy prime minister spot, as well as Health, Housing and Equality ministries, but **Unidas Podemos leader Pablo Iglesias** (photo) demanded a deputy prime minister role



for social rights and equality, as well as the Health, Labour and Science and Universities ministries – a demand Sánchez refused. If Sánchez fails to be invested at a second potential vote in September, Spain will head toward fresh elections in November. It would be the fourth time that Spaniards have been called to the polls to

choose a government in four years, and the fifth election held this year alone.

The lack of a stable government means the state cannot release some funding promised as an advance to the regions. Several regional governments have announced a new raft of adjustments due in large part to the lack of a national budget, which is **holding back around €5 billion in funding** that regional leaders had been expecting to have by now. Spanish regions were expecting to receive €105.3 billion this year, around €5 billion more than last year, based on the central government's forecast of increased public revenues stemming from the economic growth. Under the system, the government estimates how much more money will flow into public coffers, and it gives regions an advance until the predictions are confirmed.

**Sky has launched a unique TV streaming service in Spain**, offering great entertainment and contract-free viewing to customers to watch on all their devices.

The new service will offer the best of Spanish pay TV channels, TV series and on-demand films from around the world in Spanish, predominantly in HD quality, and for only €10 a month, that's around 30 cents a day. It is designed for people who want complete flexibility without the fuss of a contract. Viewers simply sign up online and can begin to watch immediately on mobiles, tablets and TVs, with the ability to start and stop payments when they want to. The service includes 12 of the most popular pay TV channels in Spain, combined with easy access to some of the most watched and popular shows like The Walking Dead, Big Bang Theory and Grey's Anatomy, and hundreds of films on demand. It is available to anyone in Spain with an internet connection through the Sky app on iOS and android devices, web and on TV using Sky's low cost, easy to use streaming box that is powered by the Roku streaming platform. The new box can be purchased from Sky for €25. Not having seen it, I don't know if the service includes sound and subtitles in English, as Netflix and others do.

**Disney** is now spending heavily on its **world-wide** streaming service. No doubt it will be fully launched in Spain shortly.

Between 2010 and 2015 **Portugal** suffered one of the worst economic crises in its history. The economic collapse and intervention of the Troika in 2011 led to a long period of austerity and misery: unemployment exceeded 17%, the tax burden skyrocketed, and more than 500,000 Portuguese were forced to emigrate. Today the neighbouring country is in a much better situation. The tourism and real estate boom has facilitated a timid economic recovery, which has come accompanied by the cleaning of public accounts, a relaxation of taxes, and the collapse of unemployment, which currently stands at around 6%. Portugal is now trying to wean back its natives abroad by a number of incentives. It is called **the Regresar Program**, which offers tax assistance to those who emigrated before 2016 and are willing to 'return home.' Those who return during the next two years may benefit from a 50% discount on personal income tax for a period of five years, and each family that returns with a signed employment contract will be offered up to 6,536 euros to facilitate reintegration. The Portuguese Government also plans to cover the transport costs of return trips and enable special credit lines for emigrants who want to make investments in Portugal. To date the program has not met with much success. The Portuguese abroad say that the salaries in their native country does not compare with that in the northern European countries. They also say that the tax system there is still very unfavourable.

To the person who stole my shoes whilst I was on the bouncy castle: Effing grow up!

Regular readers will be aware of the occasional lunacy emanating from the **Catalan** region regarding separatism and the **'positive discrimination'** to promote the language and its 'doctored' history. An audit has revealed that a self-styled 'Catalan NGO', La Platform per la Llengua, receives wages of half a million euros annually for its 19 employees.

This is the entity that "observed incognito" children and teachers in 50 Catalan schools and playgrounds to see if they spoke in Catalan. They also developed a mobile application to encourage users to report on the social networks businesses (bars, restaurants and shops) who use Spanish rather than Catalan. Annually they promote a Kid's Fiesta for Play and Leisure. However banners promoting for the release of the 'political' prisoners tried for the illegal referendum proliferated during the event. And if this does not smack of insidious indoctrination....then call me Herr Gobbels!

Still in Catalonia, the Barcelona authorities admit the **city is suffering from a "security crisis."** There have been seven violent deaths in the space of 40 days, caused by fights and shootouts. There were also three stabbings in a little over 24 hours. So far this year, 11 people have been violently killed in the Catalan capital, a figure that already surpasses the mark for all of last year (10). Statistics show a 9% global rise in crime in Barcelona so far this year. Batlle, a former director general of the Catalan police force, the Mossos d'Esquadra, said that the rising crime rate in Barcelona should be addressed in a "serene and responsible" manner. He recommended "intensifying security policies" but also working on "social policies." And when the police start talking 'bolux' you know you are in trouble!

Since the beginning of 2019, 13 people have been killed violently in Barcelona. Two months after a high-ranking official in the South Korean government died after having been the victim of a violent robbery in Barcelona. Then on the evening of Sunday, August 18, Afghanistan's ambassador to Spain was violently robbed by a group of youths in Barcelona. The incident took place near the central Metro station Jaume I, in Ciutat Vella, when five young people attacked the diplomat to steal his luxury watch. (Maybe safer in Kabul, but I doubt it!) Attacks and robberies of tourists there are on the increase. Last year the city witnessed 299 daily robberies, or 12 every hour! The figures for 2019 will undoubtedly exceed those, murders already exceeding last year's figures.

A 53-year-old Columbian man has been detained while caught **'upskirting' in Madrid**. The perve had disguised his cellphone in the pocket of his rucksack and posted 555 videos of his 'upskirting' online in porn sites. The footage, which includes that of a couple of minors, has enabled the investigators to identify 29 of the victims in just five days, as some of their faces were also recorded. Supermarkets and the Metro were this guy's favourite studios!

## ELECTRIC SCOOTERS.

One can't but notice the arrival of the electric scooters on the local roads - one extra hazard!

On August 13, a 90-year-old woman called Bertha, was taking a morning stroll with her walker through the pedestrianized section of the Rambla del Carme, in the Catalan town of Esplugues de Llobregat. As she was heading back home, she was hit from behind by an electric scooter carrying two people. Berta fell and hit her head against the pavement. She suffered internal bleeding and died later in Moisès Broggi Hospital. According to the public prosecutor, the 19-year-old young man was looking at his cellphone when he ran into the 90-year-old. (What is it with cellphones and the Spanish? If you are out driving locally, you are bound to see a pedestrian crossing the road while checking their mobile phone. I think maybe the cellphone should appear in their national flag!)

The public prosecutor advises that the man committed "minor recklessness." This is an intermediary category between a minor and serious crime and will probably result in a fine. A private prosecution was launched by Bertha's nephews, but as Berta was a widow and did not have any children, this practically rules out the possibility of awarding damages to her relatives.

According to the Spanish media, this is the first case of a pedestrian fatality caused by one of these scooters, worldwide.

The Spanish traffic authority (DGT) believe that there are 100,000 of this type of scooter and Segways in Spain. The DGT drew up a draft royal decree to unite criteria and guides for municipalities so that they could pass their own standards and rules. This was ready in July, but the lack of government in Spain means that it hasn't been approved yet and any helpful legislation is still a long way off.

Electric scooters aren't that eco-friendly. Manufacturing, transporting, and maintaining them produces plenty of emissions.

## PETER'S PORK PIES

Peter is a retired gent who lives locally and who makes the most wonderful pork pies to order. Now these are vastly superior to those you would buy in a supermarket or shop. When last did you find jelly in a pork pie? Peter's pies are made to his mum's Melton Mowbray recipe and you will not eat finer.

His large rectangular pie, 10 inch with 500 grams of pork costs just €10. His round tall (4 inch) pie contains 330 grams of pork and costs €6.50. The pastry in both is to die for. Ideal with a salad!

Payment is on pick-up, and you can contact Peter on 966 798 517. You will not be disappointed. Mick



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**ONE OF THE BEST ON THE COSTA BLANCA**



**Quiz  
Night**

**WEDNESDAYS - WITH PAUL AT 8:30PM**

**WEDNESDAYS - ALTERNATE WEEKS**

**NO LIMIT 4 - 7pm**

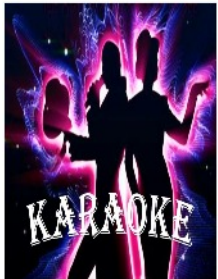
**TERRY JAY 4 - 7pm**

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



**FRIDAYS - CABARAOKE 8:30 - 11:30!**

**WITH THE FANTASTIC TERRY JAY**



**SATURDAY NIGHT KARAOKE!**  
**WITH THE GREAT JAMES GOLDING**



**SUNDAY AFTERNOON 1 - 3PM**  
**CROONING SESSION WITH JAMES!**



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**PLUS KARAOKE!**

**2 X DELICIOUS RUMP STEAKS**  
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OUR FAMOUS**

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'I know how you feel! I missed a 2-inch putt once.'

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<https://www.facebook.com/freshradiospainCBS/>

This week I joined a Poetry Group for Dyslexic people. The first night I made two pots and a vase.....



# LIME BAR

VIA PARK III



THATCHERS  
CIDER

A warm welcome awaits you from  
Sue & Peter, Carly & Mark.

MAHOU  
LAGER

**15 LARGE TV SCREENS!**

**2 MAIN SCREENS 75inch EACH!**

**EVERY PREMIER LEAGUE GAME LIVE!**

**GAA, RUGBY, DARTS,  
FORMULA ONE, GOLF.**

**LIVE!**



GUINNESS



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Northern Soul Motown Disco**

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**FUN QUIZ NIGHT  
WITH MEAT RAFFLE,  
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As no one party gained a sufficient majority in the local elections in Orihuela, the municipal responsibilities will now be divided up between a PP and Ciudadanos coalition. It is likely that Ciudadanos will now have responsibility for Urbanism and Territory, Human Resources, Culture and Youth, Infrastructure, Works and Services, Beaches, Education and Public Safety. The PP will manage the remainder. The individuals who will have the responsibility in these various areas have not been assigned yet, at least not publicly. They have, however, managed to award themselves a salary increase of between 5 and 10%.

The top-dog (PP mayor of the municipality - Bascunana) will get an annual basic salary of €61,537, while the deputy mayor will receive €48,350. Other new annual salaries for the politicians will range from €46,152 to €28,000 for part-timers. Additional attendance allowances are also payable and added to these figures.

But one must admire the audacity and brazenness of the new PP administration in nearby Pilar de la Horadada. Here they have awarded themselves massive annual increases.



photo, will be paid €51,800 a year for 37 hours of weekly work, compared to the €19,950 earned by the previous PSOE socialist mayor Ignacio Ramos García. Other PP town councillors for Pilar de la Horadada joined in in the wages bonanza: three will reportedly earn

€44,800 a year for full time work, six will cash in €36,000 annually for 30 hours a week and one will get €7,000 for 6 hours a week. The overall wages of the paid PP politicians there have increased by 100% and this in an area of only around 22,000 registered. The mayor will continue to run his other businesses while holding office, considering it of "marginal importance"! In 2018, Spanish TV channel Cuatro carried out an investigation into allegations of cronyism in the then PSOE-run town hall, which at the time had 355 civil servants!

Unfortunately we are all only too aware of **the lack and neglect of the facilities in the coastal areas** by the three main political parties in Orihuela. This came to light once again during early August when the council obtained a new steam cleaning machine based on feedback from the coastal residents during March 2018. And where was the new machine placed.....Orihuela city, of course!

The foreign population registered in the municipality is 24,308 with only 4,216 registered to vote. In the last election only 2,637 of these voted. We now face yet another four years of neglect in the coastal areas, largely due of the laziness in the bulk of the expats.

**You only have yourself to blame!**

A 40-year old woman from the north of Spain was



badly bitten by a fish at the beach of El Rebolla, between Guardamar and Santa Pola on August 7.

This was the third such incident in the area within six weeks. On this occasion the bite was quite severe, as it severed one of her tendons to the foot, photo. The culprit here is thought to be **the Bluefish**, with around 35 very sharp triangular saw-teeth. Although a fierce predator of smaller fish, they are known to have cut through fishermen's nets and hooks without much difficulty. Although the fish can grow up to a metre, they normally swim in deep water but will normally only approach the shoreline during the summer months to feed on smaller fish.

The local council in Orihuela have decided **not** to increase the **property tax (IBI)** next year. This is a little bit of good news, but then again the IBI has been increased by 41% over the last seven years. The council also announced that they had a €12.5 million surplus. Now wouldn't it be some really good news if they spent part or all of that on the coast? Unlikely!

Take a look at this disturbing link - an illegal trader on the beach attacking a policeman with a knife!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sUp-0Lzfrzk&feature=youtu.be>

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## La Manga

It is sad to see that the water quality in the La Manga lagoon has not improved since last year with contaminating chemicals and waste leeching in from the local farming areas. Nobody appears to give a damn!

The Barcelona-based Hesperia hotel group buys La Manga Club in Murcia. Hesperia buys a majority share in all the hotel and leisure assets, whilst the real estate arm of La Manga Club remains in the hands of the previous owner, the Arum Group. La Manga Club, which includes 3 golf courses, 28 tennis courts, 8 football pitches, a spa, 200 four-star apartments, and a 5-star hotel, is one of Spain's best known, luxury resorts. It's great sporting facilities, and good climate, make it a popular winter training destination for professional sportsmen, though the resort has also been in the news for the scandalous behaviour of some of its celebrity football guests.



1-8 © LaughingStock International Inc./dist. by United Media, 2004  
"Come on! Tell him you're sorry for stepping on him at the top of the stairs."

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## EL CAPITAN



Lago Jardin II.

DAILY SPECIALS  
& TAPAS

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Every Friday

**-Fun Darts at 8pm.**

**Every Sunday**

**Quiz Night 8:30pm.**



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I walked up to a female member of staff in Iceland supermarket today and said, 'Do you know where the Weight Watchers meals are?' 'I'm afraid not,' she replied, 'it's my first day here.' 'Fair enough,' I said, 'Let me show you.'



**JJ's**

**Café Bar**



VIA PARK V.

**KITCHEN OPEN TUE - SAT 10 - 8pm**

**BAR OPEN DAILY 10am - 10pm.**



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**Snacks and the Best Salad Bowls  
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**Tuesday - Coffee Morning from 11am.**

**FUN DARTS IS BACK ! Wed 7:30 - 11pm**

**Thursday - Jilly's Slimming Club - 4pm.**

**Then at 5pm, the "Loose Women Club!"**

**Grab a wine or two, where you can meet new friends  
and have a natter!!**

**SAT NIGHT IS GRILL NIGHT - FROM 7pm**

**Bookings only (Steaks, Mix Grill, Ribs)**

**MEAL DEALS! See FB for details**

**MENU DEL DIA TO RETURN IN OCTOBER!!**

*Theme Nights coming soon!*

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TWEET!**



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## **COSY CORNER GOLF SOCIETY**

On another hot and sunny first Wednesday of the month the Cosy Corner golf society met to play a very tricky Roda course at Los Alcahrez. Despite punitive rough, the day was won by Rob Daniels with 34 points (and earning himself a meal for 2 at Cosy) with Eddie McGrath coming in second (yet again) with 33. Dave Wright won the nearest the pin hole as well as a creditable 3rd place. All enjoyed a great spread back at the bar.

Our next outing is at New Sierra on 4th September (€46 inc shared buggy, food, prizes and banter). If you want to play please add names to the list in the bar or contact Clinton by whatsapp on 711 002 856.

Special thanks to the staff at Cosy for opening up early for breakfast and for their hospitality upon our return.

Clinton

After an electricity explosion at work, my friend put in a claim for industrial deafness. It's been six weeks now, but he still hasn't heard anything.

## **Testing for Alzheimer's**

A blood test that can detect signs of Alzheimer's as much as 20 years before the disease begins to have a debilitating effect has been developed by researchers in the US.

Scientists at the Washington University School of Medicine in St Louis in Missouri believe the test can identify changes in the brain suggestive of Alzheimer's with 94% accuracy, while being much cheaper and simpler than a PET brain scan.

The results of the study, which was published in the journal *Neurology* recently, represent a potential breakthrough in the fight against the disease.

"Right now we screen people for clinical trials with brain scans, which is time-consuming and expensive, and enrolling participants takes years," said the senior author, Randall Bateman, a leading professor of neurology.

But with a blood test, we could potentially screen thousands of people a month. That means we can more efficiently enrol participants in clinical trials, which will help us find treatments faster, and could have an enormous impact on the cost of the disease as well as the human suffering that goes with it."

The researchers said they had found a way to measure levels of the protein amyloid beta, a key indicator of Alzheimer's, in the blood. They can then use such levels to predict whether the protein has accumulated in the brain.

That analysis could then be combined with two other major Alzheimer's risk factors – age and the presence of the genetic variant APOE4 – to accurately identify the relevant changes in the brain.

The researchers said the clumps of protein begin to form in the brain up to two decades before the onset of the characteristic memory loss, suggesting the tests could be used to predict Alzheimer's years in advance.

However, the benefits of such testing would not be seen to their fullest extent until treatments to halt the disease are developed.

In January 2018, a team of scientists revealed their work on a test that used mass spectrometry techniques to identify patients with a rogue peptide in their blood plasma, indicating a buildup of beta-amyloid in the brain.

The latest study looked at 158 people aged older than 50. All but 10 of the participants in the new study were cognitively normal and each provided at least one blood sample and underwent one PET brain scan.

The researchers found that the blood tests gave the same results as the PET scans 88% of the time, which was not satisfactory. In order to improve the accuracy, the scientists began incorporating the other risk factors, increasing the accuracy to more than 90%.

(The Guardian)

### **It's the thought that counts!**

Jacob came from a very poor Jewish family.

One Chanukah (Jewish Festival/Holiday), his father gave him an empty box.....

and told him it was an Action Man Deserter Kit



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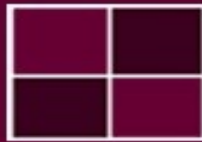
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**September**

When your young life is full of mystery  
and seems to last forever  
but very soon you are history  
until the twelfth of never

Some men would be kings  
seek to rule while others bow and follow  
but some are not of noble things  
their intentions being hollow

Where there are Kings there will be Queens  
throughout time for good or evil  
intentions not always as it seems  
causing loss and great upheaval

Yet time goes on and we live our life  
and always strive for better  
through the good times and the strife  
not always to the letter

Some have their Gods and idols  
and seek to impress all  
pressing on their bibles  
yet ultimately they fall

People of the world the same  
different by climate and region  
why instability, what's to blame  
the problems remain legion

Greed and the search for wealth  
the God's for so many  
no thought for others and global health  
while most don't have a penny

We have the capability  
to make it all so much better  
but with so much inconsistency  
all we have left is terror

How do we fix this mess  
who has the solution  
or do we live with our regrets  
and leave to evolution

**The Phantom Poet**

**Counselling.**

Therapist: 'Your wife says you never buy her flowers?'

Bloke: 'To be honest, I never knew she sold flowers.'

## U.K. Welfare Benefit Information

Attendance Allowance is a benefit for people aged over 65 and who may need extra help to stay independent at home, due to an illness or disability.

You could get: £58.70 or £87.65 a week if you need help both in the day and at night.

Completing the lengthy form, you need to show that you need help at home or someone to keep an eye on you. This can include help such as getting out of bed, help to wash and dress.

You don't need to have carers to help you but the money can help pay towards this.

The benefit is not means tested and does not affect your state pension or other income.

David, at Advocacy Costa Blanca is always happy to meet up for a chat. No charge.

If you would like support with the process, you can be assured there are no up-front fees to pay.



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**Thinking about care and support at home?  
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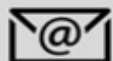
Attendance  
Allowance



*Thank you David Minto for all your help and advise.  
David came to my home in Dec. and filled in all the forms  
etc. my claim was turned down so David persuaded me to  
appeal Last week I heard from the court and I have been  
awarded the higher offer plus back dated from January.  
David you are an ultimate professional so once again thank  
you  
RW, El Galan*

*David Minto gives the most excellent service. I was  
given a couple of groups to contact when I needed  
some financial help for my disability. One group  
just passed me on with tel. nos to contact . David  
was immediately on the case , visited my home,  
filled in forms with the info. No stress for me . Yes  
David charges a fee , you would expect that, but he  
certainly works hard and expertly for it and could  
easily be paid from the award I received. Would  
recommend Advocacy Costa Blanca to anyone  
needing help. GR-San Luis*

Contact David on - 602465565 or 966392026.



- [advocacycostablanca@outlook.com](mailto:advocacycostablanca@outlook.com)

**Are you thinking about a return to the UK?**

**Are you aware of the Habitual Residence Test and Ordinary Residence?**

Should you decide to return to the UK, it may be that you could have housing, social services and benefits declined because of Habitual Residency Test and Ordinary Residence.

David, at ACB, has been a UK social worker for eighteen years, many of these at a very senior level and is very accustomed to helping people access UK services on return.

For free advice and guidance regarding a return to the UK please don't hesitate to contact David at Advocacy Costa Blanca on 0034 602465565.

I bought the missus a hamster-skin coat last week.

Took her to the fair last night. It took me three hours to get her off the Ferris Wheel.



### **ARE YOU WASTING MONEY IN YOUR PENSION SCHEME?**

There are many pension schemes, especially QROPS, where the administration, advice costs etc are very overly charged. I have been able to reduce fees for pension plans by on average 55% and also able to provide a regular review of the pension value. This can amount to considerable savings over the years. In fact one new client that we reviewed recently now has a pension that will provide him with a further £150,000.

DON'T MISS OUT, contact me on 634305881 for details.

### **BREXIT AND YOUR PENSION**

No one knows what will happen with BREXIT , but I do know that anyone who did not live in the EU and wanted to transfer their pension overseas was hit last year with a 25% TAX CHARGE. Ouch! This could also be the case for transferring within the EU if we leave.

Contact me on 634305881 to discuss your options.

### **NEED A FINANCIAL ADVISER?**

Are you one of the many who have taken out an investment or pension and never see the adviser again? You need regular updates of what is happening within the industry that could save you a considerable amount.

Contact me on 634305881 to see if I can help.

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#### **Getting to the heart of it!**

*A world famous heart surgeon died and many gathered at his funeral. The coffin was displayed on a conveyor belt in front of a giant heart. When the minister finished with the sermon and the mourners paid their respects, the giant heart opened and after the coffin rolled through, the heart closed. Most impressive! But then one of the mourners started to laugh. The guy next to him said, 'Control yourself!' 'I'm sorry,' said the man, 'I was thinking of my own funeral.' 'What's so funny about that?' asked the other man. He answered, 'I'm a Gynaecologist!'*





**Caring for our community in our community.**

We are a local charity whose aim is to provide free assistance to all nationalities, of any age, who find themselves in difficulty following illness, feeling isolated or struggling to care for a loved one..

The areas covered are from Pilar de Horadada to La Marina, Including Torrevieja, Quesada, Rojas, San Luis, La Zenia, Playa Flamenca, all areas of Orihuela Costa.

## **WELFARE SERVICE**

If you have health or social problems the welfare service can visit you to talk about how this may be affecting you. Our volunteers offer short term support to all ages and nationalities in their own home.

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**Email: [charitycentre.helpathomecb@gmail.com](mailto:charitycentre.helpathomecb@gmail.com)**

**Web: [www.helpathomecb.com](http://www.helpathomecb.com)**

### **Bubba.**

*Here in Kentucky, you don't see too many people hang-gliding.. Bubba Hicks decided to save up and get a hang-glider. He takes it to the highest hill and after struggling to the top, he gets ready to take flight. He takes off running and reaches the edge-- into the wind he goes! Meanwhile, Maw and Paw Hicks were sittin' on the porch swing talkin' bout the good ol days when maw spots the biggest bird she ever seen! "Look at the size of that bird, Paw!" she exclaims.*

*Paw gets up, "Git my gun, Maw." She runs into the house, brings out his pump shotgun. He takes careful aim. BANG...BANG.....BANG.....BANG! But the monster size bird continues to sail silently over the tree tops and away.*

*"I think ya missed him, Paw," she says. "Yeah," he replies, "but at least he let go of Bubba!"*



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**CODERE BETTING MACHINE NOW IN!**

# The ultimate No-Deal Brexit checklist for Brits in Spain

We don't yet know what will happen when the October 31st Brexit deadline arrives. But whatever the scenario, it's best to be prepared.

Maybe Britain will crash out of the EU and chaos will ensue. Maybe, Brexit will be cancelled all together. No one knows.

The good news is that Spain is prepared for a No Deal scenario and has made contingency plans to outline the rights of Britons resident in Spain. These were brought into law in a Royal Decree in March and guarantee that Brits legally here on Brexit date will be offered new permanent residency papers.

I outline below an abridged 12-point checklist to help you prepare for what comes next. Links to the complete text will be listed at the bottom of this article.

## 1. Make sure that you're legally resident in your host country.

This is the ONE thing that all Brits living in Spain should make sure they do and has been repeated incessantly by British Embassy and consular staff in the run up to Brexit.

This will provide evidence the date of your arrival in your host country and provides proof that you were legally resident on October 31st 2019, when Britain exits the EU.

This will streamline the process when it comes to applying for whatever residency arrangement is decided after Brexit, whether there is a Withdrawal Agreement or dreaded No Deal.

## 2. Register with Hacienda

Make sure that you've submitted income and other tax returns if you've been there long enough to do so (even if all your income comes from the UK).

## 3. Check your healthcare

Make sure that you are registered with Spanish social security and that you have a health card. Your rights may change if there is a no-deal Brexit and the Spanish and UK authorities have vowed to strike a reciprocal agreement so will easier to prove that you were entitled to it if you are already in the system.

If you have health insurance, keep it updated and see if you can guarantee your current rate will be maintained for at least the next year. Premiums might well go up for Brits after Brexit.

## 4. Exchange your British driving licence for a Spanish one.

If you're still using a UK driving licence, apply to change it for a Spanish one as soon as possible because on October 31st 2019 the EU rules under which UK licences are recognised in the EU27 will lapse if there is no deal.

## 5. Check your passport.

You'll need to comply with different rules to enter and travel around the Schengen area post Brexit although we don't yet know what they might be. Make sure your passport has got plenty of time left, at least more than six months.

## 6. Get the paperwork ready!

Now we all know the Spanish bureaucrats love of paper. Make a dossier as if you're applying for a proof of residence or permanent residence document. Include utility bills, tax documents, statements, wage slips (if paid in Spain) etc, etc. These will help to prove how long you have lived in Spain, hopefully!

## 7. Prepare financially.

Take a cool and serious look at your income and sterling assets and see what another significant drop in the sterling/euro rate would do to your lifestyle here. If you are still getting your British bank to transfer from pounds to euros for you, you need to wise up as it is costing you at least five cents in every euro you send over. More on this in the future.

## 10. Top up your medication before October 31st 2019.

Self explanatory in case of delays and bureaucratic hurdles.

## 11. Get your professional qualifications recognised now.

The European Commission has said that, whatever the outcome of the negotiations, Brexit does not affect decisions made pre-Brexit by EU27 countries recognising UK qualifications under the general EU directive on the recognition of professional qualifications (Directive 2005/36/EC).

## 12. Make sure that you're in your host country on 31st October 2019.

Ideally it would be best to be in your host country on those dates but if not possible, try to be somewhere in the Schengen zone.

More detail here:

<https://britishineurope.org/2018/09/18/the-british-in-europe-no-deal-checklist/>

<https://www.thelocal.es/20190731/brexit-checklist-for-brits-in-spain>

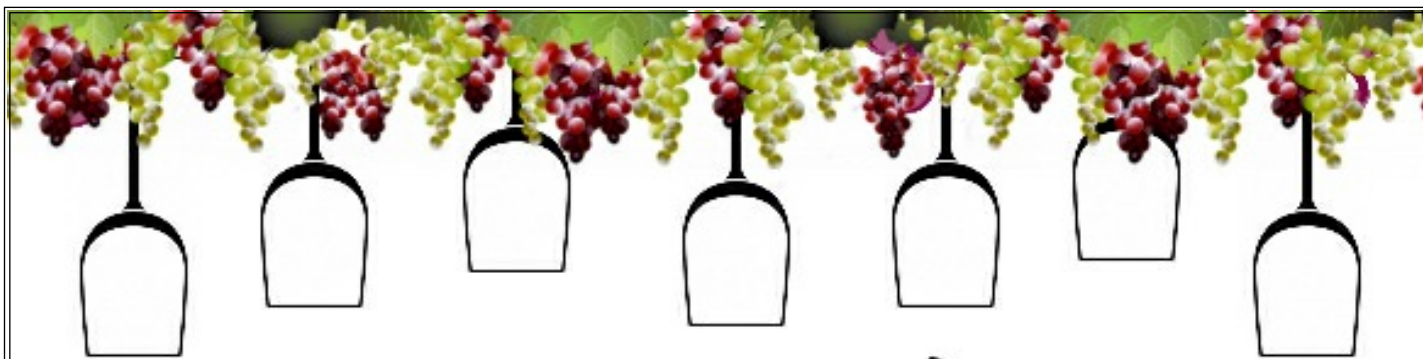
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/policy-paper-on-the-rights-of-uk-nationals-in-the-eu>

Little Tommy arrives home early from school to find his mum and dad having sex on the sofa.

Dad says, 'Don't worry son, I'm just filling mummy with petrol.'

Tommy replies, 'She doesn't do many miles to the gallon does she dad?'

Uncle Dave only filled her up this morning but he used a bigger nozzle! Peter R.



# Bar Cortxo Pintxo



Tuesday Bingo from 15:00  
Friday Trivial Quiz  
from 20:30



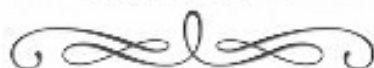
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### **Middle-aged adults who sit for more than nine hours a day double their risk of early death**

Middle-aged adults who sit for more than nine hours a day are doubling their risk of early death, but walking briskly for 24 minutes can help extend life, a study suggests. Previous research has repeatedly suggested that sedentary behaviour is bad and physical activity is good for health. But a team from the University of Leicester and Norwegian School of Sport Sciences in Oslo wanted to determine how indolent behaviour impacts early death, and analysed eight large studies. During the 5.8 year follow-up 5.9% of the 36,000 people in the studies had died. Deaths fell steeply as the total amount of physical activity increased to a plateau of about 300 minutes (five hours) per day of light-intensity physical activity - such as walking - or about 24 minutes per day moderate intensity physical activity, like jogging, tennis or heavy gardening. However the risk of dying more than doubled for people who spent more than nine and half hours sitting.

Professor Tom Yates, a professor of physical activity, sedentary behaviour and health at the University of Leicester and a co-author of the study, said: "These results are fantastic. It has previously been widely assumed that more is better in terms of physical activity for health. "However, this study suggests health may be optimised with just 24 minutes per day of brisk walking or other forms of moderate-intensity physical activity. Another important finding was that spending 9.5 hours or more each day sedentary - which

essentially means sitting was associated with a statistically significant increased risk of death, with each hour more above this threshold increasing the risk of death further. This highlights the importance of avoiding spending most of the day sitting, as well undertaking purposeful physical activity." Examples of light intensity activity includes walking slowly or light tasks such as cooking or washing dishes. Moderate activity includes brisk walking, vacuuming or mowing the lawn, while vigorous activity includes jogging, carrying heavy loads or digging. They found that higher levels of physical activity lowered the risk of death. Dr Charlotte Edwardson, an associate professor in physical activity, sedentary behaviour and health at the University of Leicester and a co-author of the study, said: "These findings really reinforce the saying 'Doing something is better than doing nothing'. "They show that physical activity of any intensity lowers the risk of death, so if you're someone who doesn't achieve the recommended levels of moderate intensity physical activity, then doing more light activity, for example, pottering around more at work or at home and just generally being on your feet more, will still be beneficial. "Our results provide important data for informing public health recommendations, and suggest that the public health message might simply be "sit less, move more and more often"."

The results were published in the BMJ. (The Telegraph)

## DISASTER!

One could argue that there have been two disasters taking place in Spain this summer. Firstly, the very hot and dry weather has increased the risk and occurrence of forest fires and secondly, fatalities from drowning locally are on the increase.

Although much of Spain has been at risk from the fires, Gran Canaria has been badly hit with a large swathe of the island destroyed by the flames. Aside from 6,000 of the residents being evacuated from their homes, the natural flora and fauna has been destroyed in a large section of the island, environmentalists believing that it will take as much as 20 years to restore it.

From January to August 2018, eight people died from drowning in our province, Alicante. This year the figure for the seven and a half months up to mid-August was 17, more than twice the figure for the similar period last year. This is not acceptable. Although lifeguards have carried out more than 500 rescues on the beaches, the hot weather and crowded beaches encouraged particularly older bathers to swim outside of lifeguard attendance hours, i.e. early mornings and late evenings. Bathers are also searching for small and quieter coves which are, of course, unsupervised. Our local coastline is particularly notorious for strong currents. 71% of those drowned so far this year have been 55 years old or older.

One of the saddest tragedies has been the drowning of a three-year-old from an unsupervised urbanisation pool in Orihuela Costa.

### The Second Coming?

The Pope was having a shower, and although he's very strict about celibacy, he occasionally felt he needed to exercise the papal wrist, and this happened to be one of those occasions. Just as he reached the Papal 'vinegar-strokes', he saw a photographer taking a picture of the Holy splooge flying through the air.

"Hold on a minute!" said the Pope, "You can't do that - you'll destroy the reputation of the Church!"

"This is my lottery win", said the photographer, "I'll be financially secure for the rest of my life with these photos!"

So, the Pope offered to buy the camera from the photographer, and after much negotiation, they eventually settled on a figure of €2,000,000. The Pope clothed himself and headed off to destroy the images on the camera. Along the vast Vatican hallways, he bumped into his personal housekeeper, Gina. Being a bit of a photography buff, she noticed the camera and said, "That looks like a really expensive digital SLR camera, how much did it cost you?" Not being one to lie, the Pope replied, "Two million euros, Gina".

"TWO MILLION euros!" replied the housekeeper, "Wow! They must have seen you coming!"

## "Waggy Tails"

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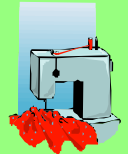
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Русский говорят.





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Camping Florantilles

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Monday - 3pm to 24:00

Tue - Sun 10am to 24:00



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**Mondays - Kitchen closed**

**Tues - Sat 10am - 3pm & 5pm - 9pm**

**SUNDAY LUNCHES**

**1pm - 5:30pm**

**1 COURSE €7, 2 COURSE €9.50.**

**BOOKING ESSENTIAL.**

**LINE DANCING**

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10:30 - 11:30 - €5



**QUIZ NIGHT - THURSDAYS**

**AT 8pm**

**With "Our Einstein."**



Gill welcomes you to

# JILLY'S

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LARGE SOUTH-FACING TERRACE

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**NEW MENU - TASTY HOMEMADE DISHES**

Large Coffee Or Tea With

Homemade Cheesecake only €2.75!

**TUESDAYS AT 8pm FUN DARTS**

**ALL STANDARDS WELCOME**

**Come and join the fun!**



**Sat, Sept 21, 9pm**

**The Return of Tomioke!**



**Wi-Fi**

### The Fashion Parade.

Sadie, an elderly Jewish lady, is leaving the Garment District in London to go home from work.

Suddenly a man who has been walking towards her stands in front of her, blocks her path, opens up his raincoat and flashes his wrinkled wares in all their sordid glory.

Sadie takes a look and remarks, 'This...you call a lining?'

### VALENCIA'S PLAN.

During early August, Ximo Puig, the president of the Valencia region, announced that a 'Post-Brexit plan' was drawn-up by the region which is 'designed to alleviate the effects of the UK's withdrawal from the EU. It centres on 'defending exports, tourism and residents' according to Puig. He explained that the plan will include measures to defend the rights of the 11,000 Valencians who live in the UK and the 80,000 Brit's in the Valencia region.

Fruit and veg' export from the region to the UK could be badly effected by not only tariffs but also from any delays in crossing the borders post a No-Deal Brexit.

Another concern I would have is that one must never underestimate the ability of a Conservative British Home Office to fuck things up. The last time was when Mrs May headed the ministry and whose incompetence and callousness led to the Windrush scandal.

The new Conservative Home Secretary is Priti Patel, photo. Seen by many as 'slightly to the right of Genghis Khan', she has now announced that freedom of movement between the UK and the EU will end overnight on 31 October despite previous plans for a transition period.



More than three million EU citizens living in the UK would be affected by the plans to be implemented immediately if the UK leaves the EU without a deal. They will be required to submit an application for settled status. The latest move from Westminster has sparked criticism from those who say the latest commentary is "reckless" and "worrying".

Contrast this with the German government who are preparing legislation to ensure British people and their family members living in Germany will receive residence permits if the UK leaves the EU without a deal, irrespective of the Home Office's latest plans for EU citizens in the UK.

Not that Patel nor her cabinet colleagues care a fig about the precarious situation of the Brit's now living in the EU, but if the UK Home Office now starts a 'hostile evaluation' of EU citizens in the UK, one surely would expect some form of a 'tit for tat' approach by some of the EU countries. As modern times have demonstrated, one must never, ever underestimate the ability of the UK Home Office to screw things up!

You may have to line up with and for much more paperwork in Spain in the near future. But if you are already fully resident, it should help.....I hope!



# Funeral Plans Plus



Unless you speak the language, arranging a funeral in a foreign country can be both very stressful and expensive. To avoid leaving your loved ones with the immense problems and financial hardship on the fateful day, GRUPO ROCAMER welcome you to an all-inclusive funeral plan payable by very affordable monthly contributions

## What is covered? In brief, listed are the important things:

- WORLDWIDE COVER
- ENGLISH SERVICE
- FLOWERS
- CREMATION OR BURIAL
- CASKET
- .....and more

## ALL funeral costs are covered PLUS....

- 24 HR ENGLISH CONTACT
- IMMEDIATE COVER
- NO ADVANCE PAYMENT UP TO 70 YEARS
- NOTHING TO PAY AT DEATH
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For less worry and peace of mind**

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For a couple 60 & 61 years of age  
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Persons up to the age of 74 years accepted

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[www.rocamer.es](http://www.rocamer.es)

 Rocamer Funeral Service

### It's a fair cop!

Police in Liverpool pulled over a local lad and were amazed to find the car taxed, M.O.T. tested and insured. It wasn't stolen and no drugs or stolen goods were found.

The driver was sober AND he had a full licence and no points!

A police spokesman said, 'We had no option but to fine him £80 for wasting police time.'

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 HERE

  
 SUNDAYS 8PM

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 ASK IN BAR FOR DETAILS



**DRINK PROMOS**  
  
 ASK IN BAR

**Free WiFi spot**

**DREAMBOX IPTV**  
 AVAILABLE HERE

- I was a bit worried that the local car mechanic would rip me off because I was a blond. Imagine to my relief when I found out that I only needed indicator fluid!

- My friend Hymie was telling us about his recent divorce. 'Yes, it's true,' he said. 'Sylvie divorced me for religious reasons. She worshipped money and I didn't have any.'

# The Beauty Lounge

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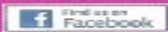
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## AQUAQUEST PLUMBING



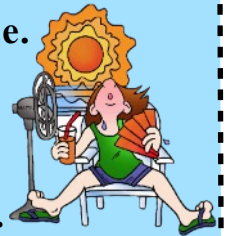
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Contact David on 634 286 590  
or email [davidaquaquest@gmail.com](mailto:davidaquaquest@gmail.com)

## HELP Vega Baja Connections Team expanding.....

Following a recent committee meeting HELP Vega Baja (registered charity) have announced that they are expanding the number of trained Listeners they have in their Connections Team in order to cope with the increased demand for the service.



The Connections Team offers a 24-hour confidential, emotional support helpline on 965 021 552 and has proved to be a much-needed support for people who are struggling emotionally, since the service was introduced in July 2018. Calls to the team of trained Listeners cover a variety of issues including grief, depression, addiction, suicide to name just a few. With the backing of the charity that has been supporting people for over 35 years in the Vega Baja area, callers to the service receive emotional support and where necessary, practical support is often available through the charity.

Michele Masson, Help's President told us "our Listeners are working incredibly hard and it is becoming very apparent that we need to bring in new Listeners to the team in order to cope with the number of calls we receive. Anyone who would like to know more about the role should contact our charity secretary, Richard

Garland on 966 723 733 or email us direct at [office@helpvegabaja.com](mailto:office@helpvegabaja.com) The Connection Team volunteers, once trained, will join the rota to ensure that we are available when people need us – often at their darkest moments. It is an extremely rewarding role and one that requires a special individual who can show empathy, is non-judgmental and can also be a team player. We need both male and female Listeners of all ages who are prepared to make a commitment to the service.

The charity has invested in an extensive training package for all volunteers which will provide them with the listening skills required for the calls that they may receive whilst on duty. Volunteers will be given a mobile phone in order that they may take calls privately in their own environment. Ongoing mentoring and support will also be provided. The next training course will be held in August or September, one day per week over 4 weeks (Saturdays) in our San Miguel Centre. Final dates will be agreed once we are aware of number of candidates interested in the role. I would also like to remind people that if they are going through a difficult time, please do not struggle alone. Call the helpline on 965 021 552"

For more information on any of the services offered by HELP Vega Baja visit their website at [www.helpvegabaja.com](http://www.helpvegabaja.com) or their Facebook page.

Alternatively, email the San Miguel Centre on [office@helpvegabaja.com](mailto:office@helpvegabaja.com)

### Aaaaaaah!

This letter was sent to one of the local Help charities after they had kindly sponsored a luncheon for pensioners. An elderly lady received a new radio at the lunch as a raffle prize and was writing to say 'thank you'.. This story is a credit to all. Forward this to anyone you think who might need a lift today.

*Dear Help Charity,*

*God bless you for the beautiful radio I won at your recent Old Age Pensioners luncheon. I am 87 years old and live at the Don Pancho home for Elderly Ladies in Alicante.*

*All of my family has passed away so I am all alone.... I want to thank you for the kindness you have shown to a forgotten old lady.*

*My roommate is 95 and has always had her own radio; but, she would never let me listen to it. She said it belonged to her long dead husband, and understandably, wanted to keep it safe.*

*The other day her radio fell off the bedside table and broke into a dozen pieces. It was awful and she was in tears. She asked if she could listen to mine, and I was overjoyed to have the chance to tell her to fuck off.*

*Thank you for that wonderful opportunity. God bless you all.*

*Yours sincerely,*

*Ella*

### The Phoenix Golf Society

#### Sunday 18th August 2019 at "Font de Lop"

We played at Font de Lop on Sunday and although it was very,very hot and not a bit of wind, everyone really enjoyed playing their game of golf. See photo.

NEAREST THE PINS:

Pin Number 8 - Ian Grant

Pin Number 12 - Norman Dobson

Pin Number 17 - Ian Grant

"Ian must be now getting quite a few sleeves of balls!!" (Again, see photo!)

Overall Winner: John Winkley

Second : Ian Grant

Many thanks to Julie & Kathy for the welcome food.

NEXT GAME TO BE PLAYED AT ALICANTE ON THE 15TH SEPTEMBER 2019.



# FAMOUS STEAK - HOUSE

INDIAN RESTAURANT

## Special Menu

Choose from Chicken or Lamb Curry, Pizza or Pasta

Plain naan, garlic naan or plain rice

4 Course €9.99!

Incl. small beer, small glass of wine or a soft drink

2:30 - 8pm



**HAPPY PLATTER ONLY €25 (for 2 pers)!**  
**Starters: Chicken Tikka or Vegetable Samosa**  
**Mains: Lamb Dopiaza, Chicken Korma or Beef Curry,**  
**Rice or Naan, Dessert or Coffee.**



**Free Bottle of Wine with  
Every Take Away over €22**



**Opening Hours**  
**2:30pm to 11:30pm**  
**Calle Panticosa, 14, Via Park III,**  
**Los Altos, Orihuela Costa**  
**965 993 264 632 315 391**



### Do You Believe?

Kitty and Harry, a middle-aged couple in Los Balcones, are watching TV one evening when an evangelist comes on and promises to heal the sick. The voice on TV says, 'If you would like to pray with him, place your right hand in the air and place your left hand on the afflicted area.'

So Harry places his right hand in the air and his left hand on his crotch.

When she sees Harry do this, Kitty says, 'Gee, honey. He said heal the sick, not raise the dead!'

# PUNJABI PALACE



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**OVER 130 FRESHLY PREPARED DISHES  
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**"THE DISTURBED"**

**CHARLEY FARLEY & ANDY MCBRIDE**

**HAPPY HOUR PRICES 'TIL 7PM**

**FREE  
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**THURSDAY 9pm - QUIZ NIGHT WITH PHIL**

**FRIDAY 9pm - KARAOKE WITH ANG & RAY**

**ALL LIVE SPORTS SHOWN**



**TRY OUR FAMOUS ENGLISH BREAKFAST BAPS**

**SERVED 11 - 3.**

**PROPER ENGLISH TOASTIES SERVED TILL 8pm**



**South Facing Terrace, Opposite Mercadona in Los Balcones**



A man has been arrested by the Policía Nacional following a series of bank robberies and other stick-ups in and around Málaga; one of the offences with which he is charged being a heist which went comically wrong at a branch of the Cajamar bank in early May. Having donned a face mask and a cap in a neighbouring street the robber then burst into the bank with the traditional shout of “This is a hold-up” and made his way directly to the manager’s office, where he demanded cash. On learning that the safe was not in the office he then returned to the main banking area, was informed by another employee that neither did she have any cash at her desk. He then began rummaging in the desk of a third member of staff. Unfortunately, while he was doing so half of the pistol he was brandishing simply fell off and landed in the drawers. The robber and the bank employee reportedly stared at each other coldly for a few moments before “Jesse James” reached the conclusion that he would be better off leaving quietly rather than exploring any other option, and hurriedly left with no reward for his efforts. When police officers arrived shortly afterwards they quickly confirmed that the rearm had been nothing more than a toy. But this was just the first of many robberies which were to come over the next few weeks, including five over the course of a single weekend in two petrol stations, a pharmacy, a bank and a post office. The man changed his disguises frequently but always wore the same training shoes, and it was this which eventually led to him being identified and arrested: he is a 36-year-old nicknamed “El Keko” with 18 previous charges and over 10 years behind bars to his name to date. Some people never learn!

In another case of serious stupidity, we remain in Malaga. This man, who was working as a driver for a



ride-hailing service with a VTC license in Fuengirola, told the police in July that a passenger threatened him with a knife and ordered him to drive to a brothel in Fuengirola, photo, where he was made to take drugs. Once he had spent all the money he had made that night, the man claimed the customer made him drive to a

“friend’s house” to sell his motorbike in order to continue spending money on “drugs and having sexual relations with the women at club” and back they went! The poor man, what a terrible ordeal! The police just didn’t believe him for a number of reasons..... mainly because the ‘kidnapper’ was and still is, his best friend.

Some months ago, a 52-year-old woman in Madrid and her 20-year-old daughter were swindled out of €60,000 by the mother’s partner. The women wanted the money back or at least some revenge, so the daughter mentioned this fact to her current partner, a 29-year-old man. The young lady’s boyfriend managed to convince her that he worked in the secret service, and he came up with a plan to get their money back from the man. First they would locate him, then kill him and harvest his organs. With their sale, they would make €60,000, which they would receive via a check. The young lady’s boyfriend drew up a contract with six main points, the first being to locate the swindler and the fifth being the murder and extraction of seven organs and the last being the sale of the said organs for which the ladies would receive a check for at least €60,000. To be able to start working on the operation and locate the target, the fake spy requested a kind of deposit, of €7,000. This, he claimed, was the money needed to pay his informants and locate hitmen who could carry out the operation. And of course the ladies paid him. As time passed the ‘hit’ never happened and little was seen of the the boyfriend. But then the ‘pyramid of stupidity’ continued and took a weird turn as the mother and daughter went to the police and reported that they had been conned themselves by the daughter’s boyfriend. But what they were seemingly unaware of was that they themselves had allegedly committed another offence: attempting to arrange a contract killing. Both were immediately arrested, and before long the daughter’s boyfriend was located and he was detained too.

During early August, 96-year old Maurice Fogerty phoned 911 in Spring Sands in Oklahoma and told the emergency operator that he had “torched the house with napalm while having sex with his wife”. At first the operator wouldn’t believe hum, but when she heard the screams in the background, she alerted the emergency services. By the time the firefighters arrived, the 45-year-old house had burned to the ground. See actual photo. Mr Fogarty also told the operator that during his sexual encounter, he got too excited and activated the 75-year-old flamethrower. The mind boggles!



## How Old Were You, Mummy?

Spain has become the country with the highest proportion of first-time mothers over 40 in the European Union. According to figures from the EU's statistic agency Eurostat, based on 2017 data, 8.8% of women in the country were over 40 when they gave birth to their first child. In the previous 2015 study, Italian women had the greatest tendency to come to motherhood late. The phenomenon in Spain has been building over the past decade, with births from mothers aged 40 and over rising 63%, according to the National Statistics Institute (INE). Spanish youth are among the latest to leave home in the EU (average age is 29), while the average age for first-time mothers is 31. Figures show an average of 1.25 children per woman in 2018.

A number of experts point out that more than half the women who are not mothers would have liked to have had children but a prolonged wait due to the lack of secure employment, difficulty finding an affordable place to live and a lack of state subsidies, has worked against them.

Other women simply prefer to be older mothers, a cultural shift based on the desire for greater economic and professional stability.

Italy and Spain also lead the EU when it comes to giving birth at 50 and over – which contrasts sharply with the 92% of Europeans who have their first child between 20 and 39. (El Pais)



### I'd love some Thai!

These two lovely Thai girls asked me if I wanted to sleep with them. They said it would be like winning the lottery. To my horror, they were right! We had six matching balls!

I was on a plane recently and the stewardess said that in the event of a crash or accident, I should stick my head between my legs.

I couldn't help thinking, 'If I could do that, I wouldn't be flying to Thailand in the first place!'

## Seriously?

Look, there are times when one just must not mess with the natural order of things. Jamie Oliver made a paella with chorizo and the culinary establishment in Spain was incensed and almost launched another Armada against Britain - once they dug-up the previous one from the bottom of the ocean. You just can't screw with some things. Take 'fusion-cooking': so, let's take this lovely piece of fish or meat and let's add some nice flowers, nuts, olives and maybe a lightly poached egg. Then of course there are noodle sandwiches and hot-dogs with seafood in a bun (yes, these are real dishes!). And that Chicken Madras you love, why not add some sauerkraut to it?

But, what really got my goat-up and started that vein in my forehead to throb, was the launch of a new Spanish beer. Cruzcampo, one of the biggest breweries in Spain,



has come up with their latest beverage, a beer called Cruzcampacho. This is a fusion of beer and the components to the Spanish cold veggie soup - Gazpacho. Mmmmmm, a beer that tastes of tomato, peppers, onions and cucumber! Now at some stage or other, we have all tasted beer that tasted like shite and possibly still do. But honestly, a beer tasting of salad!

Although Cruzcampacho is a reasonable 4.8% proof, we should be grateful that it is only available from the Malaga brewery and we are thankfully unlikely to see it here.

But be on your guard!

Personally, I blame the Yanks. Was it not they who added tomato juice to a perfectly good iced vodka? But they then compounded the monstrosity by adding clam juice and calling it Clamato! So some guy said, 'Hey! Let's add some shellfish to this!' So, you can now buy tomato juice with fish juice! Some days, it's just not worth fighting against the straps on the straight-jacket.

Mujer  
Hombre

PELUQUERÍA Y ESTÉTICA  
**Elisabeth**  
HAIR & BEAUTY  
FRISEURSALON UND ÄSTHETIK

Woman  
Man

Horario ininterrumpido de Lunes a Viernes 9:30 a 18:00 hs. · Sábados 9:30 a 13:00 hs.

|  |         |
|--|---------|
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| LAVAR, CREMA, MECHAS Y BRUSHING (DESDE) .....        | 37,00 € |
| LAVAR, CREMA, PERMANENTE Y BRUSHING (DESDE).....     | 37,00 € |
| CORTE HOMBRE .....                                   | 9,00 €  |
| WASH, CONDITIONER, MOUSSE & CUT .....                | 15,00 € |
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| WASH, CONDITIONER, HIGHLIGHTS & BLOWDRY (FROM) ..... | 37,00 € |
| WASH, CONDITIONER, PERM & BLOWDRY (FROM) .....       | 37,00 € |
| CUT MEN .....  | 9,00 €  |
| PEDICURA / PEDICURE .....                            | 20,00 € |
| LIMPIEZA DE CUTIS / FACIALS .....                    | 30,00 € |
| DEPILACIONES:  |         |
| PIERNAS ENTERAS / FULL LEGS .....                    | 15,00 € |
| MEDIAS PIERNAS / HALF LEGS.....                      | 12,00 € |
| MANICURA / MANICURE (DESDE / FROM).....              | 10,00 € |
| UÑAS DE GEL / GEL NAIL .....                         | 35,00 € |
| MAKE-UP (FROM)                                       |         |

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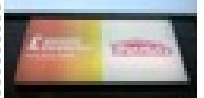
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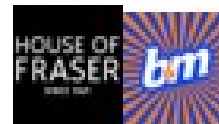
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I was chatting with my son Luke the other day and he said he loved the fact that me and his mum and got our inspiration for the kids names from Star Wars; he said he was over the moon with his name, his sister Chewbacca wasn't so enamoured with hers.

## Lime Bar Fishing SUNBATHING Club

Not a lot happening in August as several people are back in UK and the weather is far too hot for some others to venture out. There are some that love sunbathing though. Fagash went to El Bosquet on one of those really hot and stifling days we have had this month. As per usual at lunch time, he came strolling down the bank for a chat with a tab hanging from his bottom lip. He was wearing a hat with a bandana wrapped around his head, looking as if he was Lawrence of Arabia. The plonker had forgot his brolly but he did catch a few carp!

This season the club has decided that it would fish 1 monthly match at each venue (rather than where fish are being caught). This month's venue was the Mercadona drain on another of those hot stifling days. The water had a slight flow but was quite shallow. With only 5 anglers turning up to win summer league points, all Anti Social had to do was catch 1 bleak and that would have knocked 3 Rods out of the final. He did try but unfortunately, he was one of the 2 that blanked. Fagin won with 4 fish for 1.8 kilos, I was 2<sup>nd</sup> (2 fish for 1.5 kg) and 3<sup>rd</sup> was Beat Me Phil who caught a small carp with 30 mins to go. That was it, we weren't even getting bites! (I don't fancy fishing there again in a hurry.)

There is one match to go in the summer league so 3 Rods (in the UK) is still in with a chance to get into the final and hoping that Anti Social and the Cheshire Cat both blank again.....

Our newbies now have their club T shirts (thank you Mark, Sue, Pete & Steve) adorned with "Seadog", "Big Fish Chris", "Yorkie Mick", "Demon" & "Old Bill".



It was reported in the local press, and witnessed on a couple of occasions, that a lot of dead fish were seen in the Rio Segura. The CHS (river authority) are supposedly investigating, so hopefully they catch who is responsible.

Even though dead fish have been seen, it hasn't stopped Big Fish Chris or Ball Boy from catching some more biggies from their favourite pegs. Sweeney and I tried a couple of days later but all we caught were tiddlers. Whilst waiting for a bite I had a visitor; the carp didn't like my ground bait but this little chap loved it. See photo.

The Cheshire Cat has been back in the UK remembering what proper fishing is like. While we were struggling for bites at Mercadona drain, he had 29 fish for 45 kilos. See photo. Look how clean his socks are! No hacking and slashing through the bamboo and crap for him. 😊

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

Fishy Fingers!  
The Ghost

### 13.....really?

Three young women are at a cocktail party. The conversation turns to their position in life and it's clear that they are trying to 'one-up' each other.

The first one says, "My husband is taking me to the French Riviera for two weeks on vacation," and then looks at the others with a superior demeanour.

The second one says, "Well, my husband just bought me a new Mercedes," and looks about with considerable pride.

Number three says, "Well, to be perfectly honest with you, we don't have much money and we don't have any material possessions. However, one thing I can tell you about my husband is that thirteen canaries can stand shoulder to shoulder on his erect penis."

After this, the first one looks shamefaced and says, "Girls, I've got a confession to make. I was just trying to impress you. You know that vacation I was telling you about? Well, it's not to the French Riviera, it's to my parents house for two weeks."

The second one says, "Your honesty has shamed me. It's not a Mercedes, he bought me a Fiat 500."

"Well," the third one says, "I also have a confession to make, canary number thirteen has to stand on one leg."

Jeremy Corbyn has just issued a statement saying the Labour Party is not anti-Semitic and anyone that says that it is, should keep their big nose out.

## "Operation Yellowhammer: no-deal contingency planning".

On August 18, The Sunday Times reported that it had obtained a copy of the Operation Yellowhammer report in full, which outlines for the British Cabinet the "most likely aftershocks" which would follow a No-deal Brexit on October 31, 2019. You can read the full leaked report here - <https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/no-deal-brexit-planning-assumptions-the-leaked-operation-yellowhammer-document-797qkrcm>

But I have included below the section which deals with Brits in Europe.

### **Brits in Europe**

i) UK nationals will lose their EU citizenship and can expect to lose associated rights and access to services over time, or be required to access them on a different basis. All member states have now published legislative proposals, but not all have passed legislation to secure all rights for UK nationals.

There is a mixed picture across member states in terms of the level of generosity and detail in the legislation. In some member states, UK nationals need to take action now. Complex administrative procedures within member states, language barriers and uncertainty regarding the UK political situation are contributing to some UK nationals being slow to take action. Demands for help on Her Majesty's government will increase significantly, including an increase in consular inquiries and more complex and time-consuming consular assistance cases for vulnerable UK nationals.

Cross-government support, including continued close engagement and clear communications from UK government departments and the departmental agencies, will be needed to help manage the demand.

ii) An EU member state would continue to pay a pension it currently pays to a UK national living in the EU.

iii) The commission and individual member states do not agree to extend the current healthcare arrangements for UK state pensioners and tourists beyond October 31, 2019, and refuse offers by the UK to fund treatments. Member states take no further action to guarantee healthcare for UK nationals and treat them in the same way as the other "third country" nationals. UK pensioners, workers, travellers and students will need to access healthcare in different ways, depending on the country. Healthcare systems may require people to demonstrate residency and current or previous employment, to enter a social insurance scheme or to purchase private insurance. Member states should treat people with urgent needs but may require them to pay after the fact. There is a risk of disruption for patients, and a minority could face substantial costs.

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Many a man has fallen in love with a girl in a light so dim he would not have chosen a suit by it.

Maurice Chevalier

## Inheritance Tax (IHT) in Spain

Due to the landmark ruling of the European Court of Justice of 3rd September 2014, ALL non-residents, including those with residence outside the European Union and the EEA, are entitled to lenient regional tax reliefs in equal footing as residents.

Regional IHT reliefs in Spain for the most part suppress or even negate inheritance tax (as opposed to the national tax reliefs which do not and are found wanting), with the now centre-right government in region of Andalucia being the most generous with regional gift and inheritance allowances up to one million euros!

Before anyone cracks open the champagne, I need to throw in a damper. For this change to operate affecting ALL non-residents (the world over), Spain's Inheritance Act from 1987 must first be amended. And in so far it has not. So right now, you need to be resident in the EU or in the EEA to benefit from regional tax reliefs on inheriting or being awarded a gift in Spain. (You should now be aware that after Brexit, the UK may be excluded from these areas.)

No one should realistically expect these changes within the short-term; they will likely take several years. This is because EU non-residents cannot vote, the tax office will push back on losing a lucrative source of taxation and a hard-left wing government is not ideologically aligned to implement tax reliefs which would almost completely negate inheritance tax.

With the new change in government in Spain, this will be done presumably at some point in the future. But I stress right now it is not the law.

In the meantime, to benefit in Spain from the ultra-high regional tax reliefs on inheritance & gift tax, you must be EU or EEA resident as this is what our laws demand, at present. For those affected by Brexit, these changes may not come in time. Brexit will be long done and dusted by the time lawmakers amend existing tax laws to adapt them to this key ECJ ruling.

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This is an abridged version of the original article. You can read the full article plus helpful links here -

<https://www.spanishpropertyinsight.com/2019/07/29/inheritance-tax-in-spain-regional-tax-reliefs-to-benefit-all-non-residents-in-the-future-even-outwith-eu-eea/>

The following is a good information site for tourist info' in the Torreveja area. It is available in English and a number of other languages.

<http://turismodetorreveja.com/movil3/indexEN.htm>

## Airport Bus Timetable.

This service will provide eight return trips between Alicante-Elche Airport and Torreveja central bus depot. It will operate every day of the year and without any stops.

Torreveja to Airport: 7:00 - 9:00 - 10:00\* - 11:00 - 12:00\* - 13:00 - 15:00 - 16:00\* - 17:00 - 18:00\* - 19:00 - 21:00

Airport to Torreveja: 8:00 - 10:00 - 11:00\* - 12:00 - 13:00\* - 14:00 - 16:00 - 17:00\* - 18:00 - 19:00\* - 20:00 - 22:00 (I hear that the summer timings are now year round.)

(\*) - 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.

## Applying Online for A Padron Appointment In Orihuela.

Many of us who have been over here for some years will only be too aware of the many, many hours of seemingly endless queues while waiting to register for Padron, Residencia, SUMA - in fact most things. The bureaucracy in Spain teaches us all patience.

Fortunately the local council have come up with a very welcome efficiency, where one can now register online for an appointment.

On this website you can choose day, date and time for your appointment, subject of course to availability.

The web address is located below and is, helpfully, also available in the English language.

When you first try to access the site, you may get a warning saying that this particular website does not have a security certificate. I just ignored it.

Aside from the appointments facility, the website also contains information relating to participation, transparency etc. <https://orihuela.governalia.es/en/>

### Lee's Event's List

This helpful and informative internet link was submitted by the late Lee Bell.

<https://www.eurotourguide.com/en/events-calendar/2245/>

### Red Days Valencian Community - 2019

**These are the holidays: January 1 (New Year); March 19 (San José); April 19 (Good Friday); April 22 (Easter Monday); May 1 (Labour Fiesta) June 24 (San Juan); August 15 (Assumption of the Virgin); October 9 (Day of the Valencian Community); October 12 (National Holiday); November 1 (All Saints' Day); December 6 (Constitution Day); December 25 (Christmas).**

And don't forget your local municipality will also have at least an extra two days of holidays, dependent on the local patron saint days, although most stores will ignore these.

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The editor, Mick, can be contacted at mick.dreamscene@gmail.com or at 586 Dream Hills. (Or in some Bar!)

## Paddy & Mick

Paddy says to Mick, 'How did you get on at that faith-healing meeting at The Emerald Isle last night?'

Mick replies, 'It was absolute shite, even the fellow in the wheelchair got up and walked out!'

.....

Paddy took two stuffed animals to the Antiques Road Show. 'Ooh', said the TV presenter, 'this is a fine example of a very rare breed of dog. Do you have any idea what they would fetch if they were in good condition?'

'Sticks', says Paddy.

.....

And one from Peter R....

There was a big fight at a gypsy wedding in Dublin. When it came to court, the judge asked the gathering, 'Can anyone explain to me what happened?' Paddy speaks up... 'I can. I was the Best Man, your Honour, and I was dancing with the bride. We were dancing quite close, when the groom stormed up and kicked the bride in the fanny.'

'I see' said the judge, 'that must have hurt.'

'Bloody right,' said Paddy. 'He broke three of my fingers!'

.....

And one from my mate Alby....

'Viagra' it won't make you James Bond

But it will make you Roger Moore



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& much more at <http://www.dreamhills.orihuela-costa.eu/>

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