

THE DREAM SCENE

NEWSLETTER



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

Bienvenido a todos and welcome to the March 2020 edition. Issue No.151

Welcome to the March edition of the newsletter.

I suppose it would be fair to say that 2020 hasn't got off to a great start. First of all Brexit finally raised its ugly head at the end of January. This was quickly followed by new migrant proposals from the British Home Office which, at a stroke, will discourage the flow of other Europeans to the UK. Fortunately the **Withdrawal Agreement** secures the position of those who have established *residencia* here. While Britons currently living in the EU and those who move before the end of the transition period are covered by the Withdrawal Agreement, it is unclear what the rules will be for future generations, although they will become third-country nationals. If the various countries in the EU decide on a tit-for-tat response in due course, the flow of Brit's coming to the EU particularly Spain to start businesses, will be greatly reduced.

Then of course there is the **Coronavirus**, which although it has not yet begun to knock heavily on our front doors, it is undoubtedly slowly walking up the garden path!

Bad news as well for many of the local charities here as the Spanish tax authorities are demanding that these **charge 21% IVA(VAT)** on top of all goods sold - even secondhand ones. Two local charities, almost manned totally by Brit's, have been heavily fined for not doing so, one having to pay a fine of €23,000. This is truly appalling and very unfair but the Hacienda couldn't give a damn!

So is there any good news? I asked a number of people here recently, 'What's was the best thing for you during the last 12 months?' Almost everybody said, 'The weather!' One chap said his girlfriend, but she dumped him shortly afterwards!

Still, Tid and I have a number of people to thank for some excellent work done recently and one must **give credit where it is due:**

Paradise Pools & Gardens (Page 30) for doing an excellent job in pruning two large palm trees and clearing up; Peter of **The Water Filter Company** (Page 11), who has been providing us with clean water for years using quality filters imported from the UK and **Antonio** (Page 23) who fixed and provided a cheap and practical solution to an elaborate lock to a security door.

The new Dream Scene subscription year **begins with this March issue**. I plan to send out reminders and PayPal requests from those of you who have it either delivered to your abode or sent by email in the next few weeks. (Unfortunately, I am a great procrastinator.) It remains at €5 or £5 for the year, whichever is easier for you.

Don't forget St. Patrick's Day, Tuesday March 17. Take it easy on the day and don't, like many, peak too soon!

Have a great month!

From Mick, Tid and the Dream Scene Team

INTERPRETER

LEGAL SERVICE, POLICE,

ALL MEDICAL

APPOINTMENTS

WILLS, NIE, SIP,

RESIDENCIA etc.

VEHICLE TRANSFERS

ENGLISH - SPANISH

- GERMAN

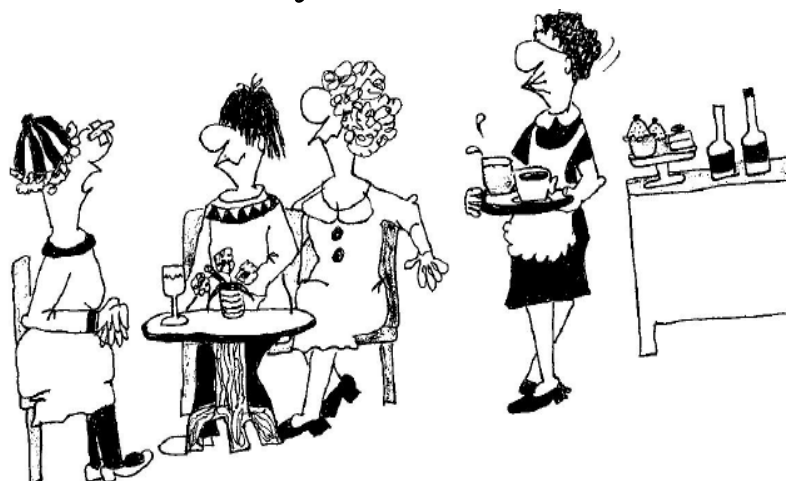
CALL SYLVIA WAGNER

Affordable & Professional

LOCAL

TEL:639 93 21 37

Angela's Cartoon



'So I told him - next time you feel like a quick bonk at least take your fag out!'

I see people of my age climbing mountains!

I feel good if I can get my legs through my underwear without falling over!

COSY

VIA PARK III,
GROUND FLOOR

Tel: 966 940 386



O

**FRESHLY PREPARED
HOMEMADE FOOD**
KITCHEN OPEN - 10:00am to 8:00pm everyday!

TAKE-AWAYS AVAILABLE!

R

BREAKFASTS - English, Scottish & Irish

Includes coffee, tea or OJ, Prices start at just €3.50!

Served until 4pm everyday.



N

HAPPY HOUR 2 - 7pm

EVERYDAY!

DRAUGHT BEER

ESTRELLA €1.50

CARLING €2.20

COORS LIGHT €2.20

MAGNERS €2.50

GUINNESS €2.70

SPITFIRE €2.70

John Smiths €2 a can!

Mahou bottles 2 for €2!

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, & Gluten free

AMBAR, ESTRELLA 2 FOR €1.70

**ALL
SPORTS
ON
6 GIANT
SCREENS!**



E

R

THURSDAY 8:00pm - KARAOKE

MUSIC BINGO EVERY FRIDAY 2:30pm

Ben Valentine 5:30pm

Every other Sat - SOUL EXPLOSION!

SUNDAY 8:30pm - ALAN WARDEN



SOME CLARITY & THE GOOD NEWS

The Withdrawal Agreement.

The Withdrawal Agreement (WA -535 pages long) between the EU and the UK came into effect on 31 January 2020. It is an international agreement that sets out how the UK's EU membership will end. It covers the status and rights of both British citizens in the EU and EU nationals in the UK, the UK's financial obligations, how the Irish border will continue to function and the transition period.

It doesn't cover trade or any other aspects of the future relationship between the UK and the EU. These

negotiations are not expected to begin until March 2020.

During the current transition period, none of your current rights (other than political ones) will change and after transition the rights covered by the WA will continue for the whole of your lifetime or until you stop meeting the conditions, such as moving back permanently to the UK.

So don't worry that your S1 health care is limited - it isn't!

The WA also states that UK state pensions, and all other UK benefits that may be paid to non-residents, will continue to be up-rated annually, as if you were still living in the UK. This arrangement is also without time limit, contrary to the no-deal plans which no longer apply.

So, if you retire to an EU country before the end of this year, you will retain all the rights you currently have, apart from freedom of movement. If you are eligible for a pension or UK-funded healthcare (known as S1), **you will retain these rights for life.**

You can read more about the Withdrawal Agreement, which covers residence rights and procedures; health care; pensions and social security; working rights, professional qualifications & family reunification and what's not covered by the WA, at this website -

<https://britishineurope.org/2020/01/21/the-withdrawal-agreement/>

I have to mention the obvious that the above only applies if you have residency in Spain or indeed any other EU country. It is worth knowing that if the forthcoming trade-talks fail, and it is a possibility that the UK might still 'crash-out' of the talks or that negotiations might not be completed during the coming year - **but the Withdrawal Agreement, a legally binding international treaty, will still stand!**

See page 36 of this issue for more info'.

The Spanish Government has also placed a helpful information site in English on the Web which includes some useful links. They can be reached here -

<https://www.lamoncloa.gob.es/lang/en/brexit/howtoprepare/Paginas/190108residence.aspx>

<https://www.lamoncloa.gob.es/lang/en/brexit/howtoprepare/Paginas/citizens.aspx>

The transport infrastructure company **Ferrovial**, which operates four airports in Britain, and banking group **Santander**, are two examples of major Spanish companies that could be affected adversely by Brexit.

Another area of interest to the **EU is fishing**. Currently, Spanish fishing boats are able to freely access British waters because the two countries belong to the EU. This generates around 10,000 indirect jobs. The Spanish government will not impose tariffs on fishing products from Britain on the condition that Spanish boats are allowed to continue fishing in British waters. This may be a trade-off by allowing UK financial services to operate in the EU. Spain also wants an agreement on air travel that guarantees "absolute connectivity" with the United Kingdom – 18 million Britons travel to Spain every year – and on road transportation.

On the **thorny issue of Gibraltar**, the British Overseas Territory in the south of the Iberian peninsula, PM Sánchez wants to make it clear that Spain has the right to veto any agreement between the EU and UK regarding Gibraltar that it considers harmful to its interests.

I cannot see how a **meaningful trade agreement** will be agreed between both the UK and the EU by January 2021.

I would expect the coming ten months to be fractious and ultimately disappointing. I hope I am wrong!

Unemployment rose by 90,248 people in January in Spain (+ 2.8%), its biggest loss for this month since 2014, when it increased by more than 113,000 unemployed. Thus, the total volume of unemployed reached the figure of 3,253,853 unemployed. For its part, the Social Security affiliation registered its worst January since 2013, losing 244,044 contributors in January. And in the Valencian Community, unemployment rose by 8,998 people and Social Security lost 33,354 contributors. Social Security in Alicante lost 11,000 contributors in January, the highest figure since the same month of 2012 and unemployment rose by 3,322 people during January.

The US issued a **travel alert** about sexual assault in Spain. The advisory from the US embassy in Madrid cited country statistics showing an increase in assaults, and a number of attacks on American women studying in the country. The advice follows the alleged rape of three American women in the city of Murcia, southeastern Spain, on New Year's Eve. Spain saw protests last year over the legal system's handling of rape cases. Mass protests in Spain followed a controversial ruling in November which cleared five men of sexual assault charges, though a statement on the Barcelona court's website described the men taking turns performing sexual acts on an unconscious teenager. The five were convicted of a lesser charge of sexual abuse. Under Spanish law, a sexual attack can only be classified as an assault or rape if the perpetrator uses violence or intimidation.

Farmers in Andalucia, Murcia and Valencia have been protesting and blocking roads due to the **plunging prices** of their produce. Since 2017 the price of extra virgin olive oil



at source has plunged by 43% from €3.60 to around €1.90 per kilo.

Spanish agriculture has also suffered due to the trade tariffs imposed by US President Donald Trump. During 2019, Spain's olive export rate to America was slashed by almost 15,000 tonnes after the US slapped a 25% levy on the product. Depending on the particular fruit or veg', sales have dropped between 32 and 50% during 2019. As Spain now intends to introduce a new tax on digital businesses and stock market transactions which will hit Google and Facebook by the end of this year, expect more problems, or as the politicians call them 'Challenges.'

Modern slavery? Agents of the National Police have arrested two men, aged 43 and 52 years in Elda, Alicante.

They apparently had three employees working every day of the week, without a contract and "without respecting any rights recognized for the workers". The victims had a salary of 100 to 150 euros per month. The detainees ran a kebab shop in which the victims worked without any rest, as explained by the security forces in a statement. Apparently the employees, of Pakistani origin, carried out working seven days a week. In exchange for their work, they were allowed to reside together with three other people in a room of a property owned by the business owners. As a salary, they received between 100 and 150 euros a month, although for three months they had not received anything. These employees began to work supposedly with the promise of the owners to receive a pre-employment contract that could help them to obtain residence, although this promise never materialized. The owners allegedly gave instructions to the injured parties so that in the event of an inspection they leave their jobs and behave as though they were clients or directly flee the place.

The growing presence of **electric scooters** on city streets is beginning to affect accident statistics in Barcelona. Figures from last year indicate that the numbers of motorized personal mobility vehicles – essentially electric scooters – involved in accidents almost quadrupled, jumping from 129 in 2018 to 490 in 2019. Most of these accidents were cases of side-on collisions and pedestrians being knocked over. Electric scooters have only been in the city for a few years but already constitute 2.6% of the total number of vehicles involved in accidents. Authorities have expressed concern over the high number of traffic violations these vehicles have been involved in, with 20,000 cases reported. A total of 6,546 fines were handed out to personal scooter users in

2019, three times more than in 2018. Meanwhile fines for rental scooters amounted to 13,441 – almost nine times more than the previous year. The majority of fines for privately owned scooters were for traffic violations, while scooters for hire were fined for parking infractions. (El Pais)

Apple has been fined 25 million euros (£21m, \$27m) for deliberately slowing down older iPhone models without making it clear to consumers. The fine was imposed by France's competition and fraud watchdog DGCCRF, which said consumers were not warned. In 2017, Apple confirmed that it did slow down some iPhones, but said it only did so to "prolong the life" of the devices. Of course! Apple said in a statement that it had resolved the issue with the watchdog.

Many customers had long suspected that Apple slowed down older iPhones to encourage people to upgrade when a new one was released. (Can't trust these bastards!)

For the third time, the Spanish Congress admitted the **Euthanasia Law** to parliamentary procedure. This time it passed with 201 votes against 140. 14 political parties voted for it while four, the PP, Vox and UPN voted against. The PP said the Socialists are only bringing the law in to reduce the cost of pensions and healthcare! Further debate and discussions are planned for the law, which is unlikely to be passed and introduced before June 2020. (Don't tell granddad. He might get suspicious!)

The **Spanish Royals** will make the first state visit to the United States in 20 years in April 21, invited by HRH Trump. Don Felipe and Doña Letizia have already travelled to Washington on an official visit - in June 2018. So there you have it. Some real Royals visiting a royal wanker!

There are **25 foreign military attachés** accredited and stationed in Spain! You would wonder what they all do.

During the Spanish property boom years hundreds of thousands of investors, including buyers from abroad, **reserved homes off-plan** or under construction, making large deposits and stage payments in the process, often as much as €100,000 or more, which they believed were insured. But when boom turned to bust the bank guarantees turned out to be non-existent or worthless, and tens of thousands of buyers were left with nothing to show for their money. Did that happen to you? If so you can now claim your money back from the developer's bank, thanks to a landmark ruling in December 2015 by the Spanish Supreme Court. However, this right only applies to off-plan buyers who signed contracts between the 7th of October 2005 and 2015, with a five year period to the **7th of October 2020** to file their claims.

The 19 former senior officials of the Socialist Junta de Andalucía condemned by the ERE - the **largest case of corruption** ever tried in the country with a fraud of 679 million euros - have been given an extra month, until March 31, 2020, to present their appeals before the Supreme Court. The politicians are saying that their trial was unconstitutional.

**JOIN US ON OUR LOVELY SUNNY CORNER TERRACE
WITH BEAUTIFUL COOL BREEZES AND STUNNING
POOL VIEWS AND ENJOY SOME...**



Real **HOMEMADE** *Rock n Roll food*

60's MUSIC BAR & DINING EXPERIENCE

WELCOME TO OUR EXCITING AND INNOVATIVE BRAND NEW ADDITIONS FOR 2020

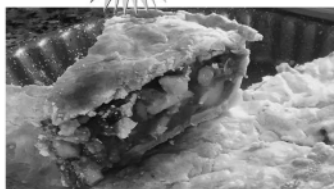
WINE AND DINE FOR JUST €9.99 12 TILL 6PM
ANY PIE, ANY SALAD, 2 SLAWS PLUS A LARGE GLASS OF FINE WINE



ITS THE PERFECT PLACE FOR A LOVELY FRESH LUNCH



TGI PIEDAYS



All homemade and freshly baked to eat in or takeaway!!
MEAT & POTATO - CHICKEN & HAM - CHEESE & ONION
SAVOURY MINCE & ONION & many more €4
ALL ON DISPLAY IN OUR NEW CHILLED DISPLAY COUNTER



FRESH SALAD AND SLAW BAR

TOP UP YOUR PIE...
With a fresh salad from our new chilled fresh salad bar **€3**
then add...
Florida salad, Russian salad, Coleslaw and many more **€0.50**



PAPPA SMITHS CANDY CART



Our beautiful new candy cart is filled with exciting choices of toppings for your favourite ice creams and desserts including homemade delicious apple pie



Dont forget...
Saturday nights Live with
Marco's Unplanned show



Cabaret
Quizzes
Karaoke



GINA G'S MUSICAL BINGO Starting Tuesday 31st March

Come and join us for Gina G's fun
prized musical bingo from 3pm.
Replacing the numbers with your
favourite music!! Great Prizes!!
Raffle!! Fun!! Dancing and plenty of
laughter Ears up, listen in....
Bring your whistles, Trumpets, Drums
Maracas! Anything that makes noise
for our jackpot CHEESE round!!



OPENING 12TH MARCH. TUES TO SUN FROM 11AM

TO BOOK YOUR TABLE CONTACT US ON FACEBOOK...
Viva Morgans 60's music bar and diner spain

Via Park V Calle Lagunas de RUIDERA
LOWER GROUND LEVEL ORIHUELA COSTA. 03189
WWW.VIVAMORGANS.COM

BINGO SPECIAL ✂

ALL BEERS
WINES & SPIRITS **€2**

with this coupon

**GREAT FOOD
& GREAT
ENTERTAINMENT**



**CHECK OUT
OUR NEW
EXTENSIVE
MENU!**

VIA PARK III

ENTERTAINMENT!



**Quiz
Night**

WEDNESDAYS - WITH PAUL AT 8:30PM

BINGO! EVERY WEDNESDAY & SATURDAY

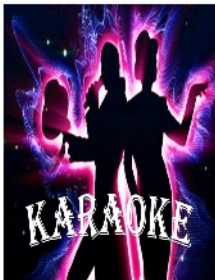
AT 2 PM COME EARLY!

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!**



**SATURDAY NIGHT IS
STEAK NIGHT
PLUS KARAOKE!**

2 X DELICIOUS RUMP STEAKS

WITH CHIPS, PEAS or SALAD, INCLUDING A BOTTLE OF WINE

ONLY €15! FOR BOOKINGS TELEPHONE 637 046 438.



SUNDAYS 7 - 10pm

KARAOKE!

WITH NICK GOLD



Q. How does a man know when his wife is losing interest?
A. When her favourite sexual position is next door.

**6 BOTTLES AMBAR
IN BUCKET + ICE
JUST €5!!**

**CARLING
€2.80 PINT!!**



VIA PARK III

**TROPICAL
FROM TENERIFE
€2.00 A PINT - ALL DAY!**
**Every
Hour
Is Happy
Hour
@CK1**



**COMPREHENSIVE MENU FEATURING EVERYTHING
FROM GREAT STEAKS & GAMMONS
TO CURRIES, BURGERS AND FISH & CHIPS
HOMEMADE CHIPS, NEVER FROZEN!**



**BREAKFASTS
FROM JUST €3-50!**

**WHICH INCLUDE O.J.; & TEA OR COFFEE!
STEAK MEAL DEAL FOR TWO JUST €24
INCL. BOTTLE OF WINE OR CAVA!
IF YOU ARE REALLY, REALLY HUNGRY
THEN TRY OUR OMG MENU.**



**WINTER
WARMING OFFER!
FRIDAYS - NOON TO 9:30PM**



FISH & CHIP SPECIAL

2 X Fish, Chips, Peas & Bottle of Wine Just €13.50



**COME AND TRY
OUR FAMOUS
SUNDAY LUNCH**

Wi-Fi!

**MAIN COURSE JUST €5.95,
2 COURSE €7.95, 3 COURSE €9.95!**

FOR BOOKINGS TELEPHONE 637 046 438.

THE BAR NEXT DOOR.

FIRST FLOOR
VIA PARK III

(Sister bar to The Lime Bar)

A DEDICATED SPORT'S BAR.

**POOL KNOCKOUT
COMPETITION**

EVERY THURSDAY AT 3PM.

MAXIMUM 16 PLAYERS.

**FUN DARTS EVERY WEDNESDAY
AT 3PM.**

GREAT PRIZES!!

Pies, Pasties & Sausage Rolls on Match Days.

HAPPY HOUR

Monday to Friday 2pm - 7pm

OPEN 3pm - 12am
Saturday & Sunday -
12 noon - 12 midnight.

Will the Fun Never Stop?



MAHOU
LAGER

BLACKTHORN
CIDER

3 SCREENS!

My drinking
team has a
darts problem



Win
Big
Prizes

FREE
WI-FI



SOUTH
FACING
TERRACE



fresh Radio

97FM - Benidorm

104FM - TORREVIEJA-ORIHUELA COSTA

FRESH NEW SOUND FOR THE ORIHUELA COSTA AND TORREVIEJA
WITH OUR OWN STUDIO.

YOU CAN TUNE-IN ONLINE TO OUR SISTER STUDIO IN BENIDORM

AT <http://freshradiospain.com/>

CHECKOUT OUR FACEBOOK PAGE FOR ALL THE LATEST NEWS & VIEWS
THROUGHOUT THE COSTA

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

Hangover!

My mouth is so dry they could shoot *Lawrence of Arabia* in it.

Dyan Canon



THATCHERS
CIDER

LIME BAR

VIA PARK III

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



HEINEKEN
&
FOSTERS
LAGER

15 LARGE TV SCREENS!

2 MAIN SCREENS 75inch EACH!

EVERY PREMIER LEAGUE GAME LIVE!

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



GUINNESS
€3 A PINT!

MUSIC BINGO - Every Monday 3pm with Gina Gee

FRIDAYS AT 9PM



**FUN QUIZ NIGHT
WITH MEAT RAFFLE,
STAND-UP BINGO &
PLAY YOUR CARDS RIGHT!**



LIVE MUSIC THURSDAYS - 4 'TIL 7ish.

THE NUMBER ONE SPORTS BAR IN THE COSTA BLANCA

SPECIAL OFFER - STELLA ARTOIS - PINT - JUST €3!!
While stocks last!

ESTRELLA BOTTLES - ALL DAY - EVERY DAY €1

GREAT COCKTAILS!



CHECK OUT
OUR
SPECIALITY
COFFEES!

South Facing With The Best Views.
Happy Hour Mon - Fri 2 'til 7 pm
Hangovers installed.....and serviced.

**FREE
Wi-Fi!**

Getting a procedure from the Civil Registry at the courts of Orihuela has become a matter of much, much patience. Every day more than a hundred people form long queues to be attended at the Orihuela Courthouse and to carry out procedures such as requesting a birth or death certificate, among others. At the doors to the courts, a trail of people, wait patiently every morning for hours. The **collapse of the Civil Registry of Orihuela**, which serves residents of the vast majority of municipalities in the Vega Baja, is due to lack of personnel, as reported by the Independent Trade Union and Officials (CSIF). Until December, the workforce in the Civil Registry of the Oriolan courts comprised four people, but since the month of January only three officials attend since the Department of Justice has decided not to renew the contract of the fourth person. This is all too reminiscent of the bad old days when one queued for hours for any type of official document.

The Policia Local in Torrevieja will be given **radar speed-guns** to detect speedsters in the centre of the city. It seems that the noise from speeding cars has been one of the main complaints from the city dwellers.

The pine **processionary caterpillars** are returning earlier this year due to the unusual warm daily temperatures. If you spot their 'candy-floss' nests on pine trees in your urbanisation either call providing the location to the council or get your under-worked administrators to do it.

12 extra police are scheduled for Orihuela Costa from May to December this year. It is planned to have greater police supervision for the beaches and some other areas. Illegal sales of goods, food & drink and massages on the



beaches and commercial areas of licensed vendors such as Cabo Roig, have been an utter nuisance for many years with minimal police attention. It is promised that police numbers in the Costa will increase significantly during the year, according to Councillor for Citizen Security of Orihuela, Ramón López. However, he also stated that the public are also part of the problem, "Because whenever there is a buyer, there will be an illegal seller." Since 2013, no new officers have been employed locally, due to Government's restrictions on public sector recruitment.

Average waiting times for operations at The University Hospital of Torrevieja and Hospital del Vinalopó in Elche are only 39 and 45 days, respectively. This compares to the 86 day average of the Valencian community.

Thankfully, **Spanish football** continues to furnish some humorous moments. On Sat' Feb' 15, a youth's football match took place in Aspe, Alicante, between teams from Aspe and Eldense. The match was without major incident although Eldense had a disallowed goal due to a blatant off-side. When the 31-year-old referee (with 11 years experience) was climbing the steps to the changing rooms, he was punched in the face by the father of Number 11 of the visiting players and fell down the steps. After the ref was helped up, the man punched him again in the face. The police ensured that the ref managed to leave the changing rooms unmolested, although another Eldense supporter shouted at him, "*No tienes ni puta idea; eres un caradura y un sinvergüenza. Pon el acta lo que te salga de la polla, me la suda todo.*" Roughly translates as "You have no fucking idea; you are shameless and a scoundrel. Put on the record what comes out of your cock, I sweat it all!" Complaining of pain and dizziness, the ref went to a health centre that evening and was found to have severe inflammation to the left cheekbone and multiple pains from the fall to his hip and hand. The police reported that the aggressor suffered injuries to his fist....but it did not stop him going to work on the following Monday.

SPAIN has experienced its **most successful touristic year** ever in 2019, with 83.7 million tourists last year which broke the record for tourist numbers for the seventh consecutive year. This represents a 1.08% increase compared to the stat's from 2018. However, the increase has slowed down in recent years. From 2018 there has been a resurgence from competing Mediterranean countries, such as Turkey, Tunisia and Egypt. The Spanish hospitality sector accept that they cannot compete with these countries on price. British tourists still represent the highest proportion of tourists visiting Spain – a fifth of the total – but that is decreasing slowly. 18 million Brits chose Spain as their holiday destination in 2019, half a million less than in 2018. Catalunya is the region that attracts the highest number of travellers: 19.3 million, which represents a 0.84% increase compared to the previous year. The Balearic islands on the other hand experienced the highest decrease of visitors, suffering a staggering 31.86% downgrade in December 2019 compared to the same month the year before. (Olive Press)

Marriage & Divorce in Spain.

The Roman Catholic church in Spain has unveiled a premarital guidance course lasting two to three years designed to prepare couples for the long haul and bring down the country's high divorce rate. At the moment, those wishing to make their vows in church need to attend about 20 hours of lessons to get them ready for the sacrament of marriage.

The much longer, voluntary two year programme called "On the Path Together" is divided into 12 areas – such as "communication", "fidelity", "the beauty of sexuality", and "conflict resolution" – the course is intended to

"accompany, prepare and help young couples towards the matrimonial vocation".

In 2017, there were 57.2 divorces for every 100 marriages in Spain, down from 63 in 2007. The proportion was higher in

Portugal, where there were

64.2 divorces for every 100 marriages in 2017, up from 54.8 a decade earlier.

In the UK, the number of divorces for every 100 marriages fell from 52.5 in 2007 to 41.8 in 2016.

Many in Spain attribute the high divorce rate to the "express divorce" law introduced 15 years ago by the Socialist government of José Luis Rodríguez Zapatero.

The legislation sped up the divorce process by doing away with the need for couples to be physically separated for a period before legal proceedings could begin. Prior to its introduction, many couples simply chose to live apart.

Although a divorce law was introduced during the Second Republic in the 1930s, it was abolished under Franco's dictatorship and a new divorce law was not passed until 1981.



"Sure, I'd love a second honeymoon ... who with?"

Alcoholic Bears!

Ositos & co (Little Bears & co), had been selling the alcoholic sweets in bars and online in Spain for barely three months when, in January, they received a long cease-and-desist letter from the confectionery multinational Haribo. The German firm had become aware of the sweets and argued they were so similar to its gummy bears range as to

infringe the trademark. The similarity, the letter went on, "cannot be explained or justified by a mere chance".

its range, which includes gin and strawberry, whisky and cola, rum and pineapple, and tequila and lemon. Each bear contains 15% alcohol: seven or eight are equivalent to a beer or a glass of wine. Little Bears are on the left, Haribo's on the right.



A traditional fixture at Wimbledon is the way the BBCTV commentary box fills up with British players eliminated in the early rounds. (Clive James)

**FEELING HOT OR COLD?
WE HAVE THE SOLUTION!
AFFORDABLE
AIR CON**

**ALL AIR CON SYSTEMS
HOT & COLD - SUPPLY & FIT
OR INSTALLATION ONLY.
SERVICING, RE-GAS & REPAIRS
ALL WORK CARRIED OUT BY A
CITY & GUILD'S QUALIFIED INSTALLER.
MANY SATISFIED CLIENTS IN YOUR AREA.
Call Keith on 649 584 493 or
Gary on 602 596 492
for a free quotation.**

EL CAPTAN

Lago Jardin II.
**DAILY SPECIALS
& TAPAS**

BINGO! Thursdays 3pm
Every Friday
-Fun Darts at 8pm.
Every Sunday
Quiz Night 8:30pm.

Wi-Fi **SOUTH FACING**

The Water Filter Co.

**Drinking Water
Filter System
Fully fitted
only €99**

**Filter Changes
Any system
only €40**

694 499 630



Café Bar

VIA PARK V.



**CHECK OUT
OUR EXTENSIVE MENU**
Featuring a Vast Range of Choices
NEW WINTER SPECIALS
Including Giant Yorkshire Puds, Pie & Mash,
Combo Platters to share
Spaghetti Bolognese and Much More!

Wednesday - Coffee Morning from 11am.

FUN DARTS! Wed 7:30 - 11pm

Everyone Welcome!



THURSDAYS

Jilly's Slimming Club - 4pm.

"Loose Women Club!" - 5pm

The Grumpy

Old Men's Club - 5pm

So you men don't feel left out!



SAT NIGHT IS GRILL NIGHT

Bookings only (Steaks, Mix Grill, Ribs)

THE BEST FISH & CHIPS - DAILY!



Sunday Lunch 2pm - 5pm Bookings only!

ALL SPORTS SHOWN INSIDE & OUTSIDE THE BAR

JJ, Rob & Bobby



**TWEET!
TWEET!**



**FREE
Wi-Fi**

ELECTRIC BOILERS

REPAIRED - REPLACED - RE-SITED



POWER SURGE PROTECTORS

YOUR WHOLE HOME PROTECTED
TV's, COMPUTERS, APPLIANCES.

€150 FITTED.

TEL: KEITH: 649 584 493

& GARY: 602 596 492

Resident of the UK & Owner of a Property in Spain?

When the transition period for Brexit ends by Jan' 1, 2021, you should be aware of the following:

1. Residents in another European Union (EU) member state enjoy certain exceptions from interest and capital gains in Spain. A British national, non-resident in Spain who has an investment in a Spanish bank and receives interest, was previously exempt, but from the 1st of January 2021 will have a 19% withholding tax on the profit/interest.
2. The exemption for reinvestment in the main residence for taxpayers from the EU, Iceland and Norway: capital gains obtained from the transfer of your main residence in Spain may be exempted from taxation, provided that the total amount obtained from the transfer is reinvested in the purchase of a new main residence. As an example: A British couple resident in Spain, with the main residence, will lose the exemption on the reinvestment of capital gains if they change their residence to the United Kingdom and want to invest the profit in a property; prior to BREXIT the reinvestment of capital gains in the main residence was exempt.
3. General maintenance costs, property and waste tax, a community of owners charges, etc., cannot be deducted by the owner of the property when renting out the property.
4. With regard to income taxed at the general rate, the general tax rate of 19% for EU residents will no longer apply. The new rate will be 24%. These include rentals, work, etc.
5. There is a double taxation convention with the United Kingdom, which is not affected by Brexit.

(Source: Expatsmagazine)

Of course during the forthcoming trade talks with the EU these issues could come up, however I think it is most unlikely. Although British buyers continue to be the main foreign property buyers in Spain, their market share in most other EU countries is far less significant and is unlikely to figure in the main trade talks during this year.

On the other hand it is good news relating to some of the tax benefits applied to EU citizens by virtue of Spanish regional laws, for inheritance and gift tax purposes. These were extended to third countries in February 2018, when the Spanish Supreme Court ruled that tax residents in non-EU countries should be eligible for the tax benefits provided by the regional laws, just like individuals who are tax residents in Spain and in the EU.

This is particularly good news for non-resident inheritors. But care and professional help is needed when this situation occurs. Inheritance and Gift Tax allowances are very generous in Andalucia but are less so in most other regions.



"Your wife is still under the anesthetic and from what I've heard, this would be a good time to see her."

DO YOU NEED

AN ELECTRICIAN?
OR A PLUMBER?

ALSO GENERAL REPAIRS
PAINTING & MAINTENANCE
BATHROOM & SHOWER-ROOM
CONVERSIONS.

NO JOB TOO SMALL
& NO JOB TOO BIG!

CALL ED ON 693 661 958



Lasting Effects

Professional Beauty

Linzi Sullivan

FULLY QUALIFIED IN SEMI PERMANENT MAKE UP

Telephone/Whatsapp 656 388 065
Or Email: missljs@live.com

Specialising in Eyebrows, Eye liners,
lip liner and/or full lip blush

"You will look beautiful bare-faced from first
thing in the morning to last thing at night"

Qualified, Fully Legal in Spain

"Waggy Tails"

In San Miguel de Salinas

DOG
GROOMING
PARLOUR

FOR APPOINTMENTS

Phone Vicky:
672 326 979





SolMed Solicitors

(Formerly Mar Services)

Excellent Service at Competitive Prices.

**Non Resident Taxes & Resident Taxes
(Only €35 per person)**

**All Property Conveyancing -
Purchase, Sale, New Works etc.**

Wills

Translations

NIE, Residencia, SIP Card Applications

**CEE & Certificate of Habitation
& much more.....**

WWW.SOLMEDSOLICITORS.COM

EMAIL:

INFO@SOLMEDSOLICITORS.COM

TEL:0034-640 621 558.

We speak your language!

Another Mayor At It!

If you have been living in Spain for some time, you will now probably be aware that the municipal mayors here have significant power, unlike the largely ceremonial positions in the UK. However, this power brings responsibility and all too often many incumbents here in Spain end up in the clink. Which brings us to Antonia Munoz, photo, a former mayor of the municipality of Manilva on the Costa del Sol. Antonio, photo, of the Izquierda Unida (IU) party (a far-left party) was elected as mayor of the town twice but ran into trouble during 2013.



She is being accused of hiring friends and allies of the IU in direct violation of labour laws as well as paying 'unjustified' overtime and bonuses. In a six-year period of her tenure she illegally hired some 900 people at the town hall and its companies. She was forced to retire in 2014. But following a tip-off from the Italian police, officers of the Policia Nacional and Malaga's Money Laundering Unit conducted 20 raids as well as arresting Antonio with 12 others on suspicion of running a money laundering operation.

The crime syndicate was believed to be investing huge sums of money into real estate, with a focus on Manilva but also in Estepona and Marbella.

The Speed Trap

While driving down the motorway the other day (going a little faster than I should have been) I passed under a bridge only to see a tall policeman on the other side with a radar gun.

The cop pulled me over, walked up to the car, and with that classic patronizing smirk, asked "Runway too short?"

To which I replied, "I'm late for work."

He asked, "And just what do you do?"

"I'm a rectum stretcher," I responded.

The copper was surprised and confused. "A what? A rectum stretcher?? And just what the hell does a rectum stretcher do?"

"Well," I said, "I start by inserting one finger, then I work my way up to two fingers, then three, then four. Then with my whole hand in, work side to side until I can get both hands in, then I slowly but surely stretch the hole until it's about six feet."

Then the copper asked questioningly and cautiously, "And just what do you do with a six-foot arsehole?"

To which I politely replied, "You give him a radar gun and park him behind a bridge."

**Sangria
Properties**



**PROPERTIES NOW REQUIRED
FOR SALES AND RENTAL.**

CLIENTS WAITING.

**CHECK OUT OUR
COMPREHENSIVE**

**WEBSITE AND RANGE OF
PROPERTIES AT -**

www.sangriaproperties.com

Emails:info@sangriaproperties.com

Tel: 0034 966 772 553

U.K. Welfare Benefit Information

BREXIT Update: People currently in receipt of welfare benefits will continue to receive these for life irrespective of the outcome of BREXIT negotiations at the end of 2020.

Its possible that after 31st December 2020 new benefit applications will not be allowed.

Attendance Allowance is a benefit for people in receipt of a UK state pension 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.

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



Advocacy Costa Blanca

Helping you receive the care and support you need.

Has your health changed?

**Thinking about care and support at home?
ACB provides expert social care, welfare
guidance and support.**

Free home visits and advice from an award

winning UK registered local social worker.



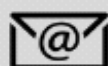
Attendance
Allowance



*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.



- 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.

My wife asked for a little bit of peace and quiet while she cooked dinner

So I took the battery out of the smoke alarm. Rob B.



Mike Heighway
Pension Services

Mike Heighway
966 844 979
634 305 881

Maximise your UK pension
Using our Professional
Unbiased advice.

mike@mhpensions.co.uk
www.mhpensions.co.uk

 mikeheighwaypensionservices



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.

Contact us now for a free assessment, initial discussions are free
and always without obligation.

Visit our website: www.mhpensions.co.uk

Such a Comfort!

Jake was dying. His wife, Becky, was maintaining a candlelight vigil by his side. She held his fragile hand, tears running down her face. Her praying roused him from his slumber He looked up and his pale lips began to move slightly. "Becky my darling," he whispered. "Hush my love," she said. "Rest, don't talk." He was insistent. "Becky," he said in his tired voice, "I have something that I must confess." "There's nothing to confess," replied the weeping Becky, "everything's all right, go to sleep." "No, no. I must die in peace, Becky. I ... I slept with your sister, your best friend, her best friend and your mother!"

"I know, my sweet one" whispered Becky, "let the poison work."



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.

- Social care advice and guidance.
- Family carer support.
- Volunteer transport- health appointments.
- Befriending/companionship.
- Local & UK social services/welfare advice.
- Legal advice
- Translation services.
- Access to other charities.

Our Welfare Team are qualified U.K. social worker & Care Managers who have between them many years of health and social care experience.

Telephone: +34 965 328 794 / 634324389

Email: charitycentre.helpathomecb@gmail.com

Web: www.helpathomecb.com

A woman, cranky because her husband was late coming home yet again, decided to leave a note, saying, "I've had enough and have left you.....don't bother coming after me" then she hid under the bed to see his reaction.

After a short while the husband comes home and she could hear him in the kitchen before he comes into the bedroom. She then saw him walk towards the dressing table and pick up the note.....

After a few minutes he wrote something on it before picking up the phone and calling someone.. "She's finally gone...yeah I know, about bloody time, I'm coming to see you, put on that sexy French nightie. I love you...can't wait to see you...we'll do all the naughty things you like." He hung up, grabbed his keys and left.

She heard the car drive off as she came out from under the bed. Seething with rage and with tears in her eyes she grabbed the note to see what he wrote..."I can see your feet. We're outta bread: be back in five minutes."



BAR DOMINO

LOS ALTOS.



GLUTEN FREE
SAN MIGUEL!

BOTTLES - 500ML
OLD SPECKLED
HEN &
BISHOP'S FINGER

HOMEMADE PIZZA!
Eat in or Takeaway



CHELTENHAM LADIES DAY

Wed 11th March First Race 2pm
Special Menu Available

COFFEE MORNING

Every Tuesday Starting 17th March

11AM PRIZE BINGO, QUIZ and Much More

THATCHERS,
COORS LITE
&
SAN MIGUEL
ON
DRAFT!



OUR FIRST LIVE MUSIC DAY

Monday 30th March

4pm to 7pm Special Menu Available



PETANCA MELLE!

1:30pm 2nd & 4th Tuesday Monthly

Members €2 - Non Members €3

3 Games Timed 45 Minutes

**Ladies Petanca Thurs' 11am start,
Beginners Welcome!**



ALL LIVE SPORTS SHOWN

ALL SIX NATIONS RUGBY SHOWN LIVE

WiFi

**OUTDOOR COVERED HEATED PATIO AREA
HEATERS WORK AND ARE NOT FOR SHOW!**

It's better having a cold beer when you are warm!

Always a good deal at Domino's!

CHECK OUT OUR MARVELLOUS SPORTS COVERAGE

FACEBOOK - dominobar Tel: 694 494 697

facebook



BAR DOMINO

LOS ALTOS.

OPEN 7 DAYS FROM 9.30AM

KITCHEN OPEN MON - SAT 9:30 - 8:45

SUNDAY 12:30 - 6:30 Sunday Lunch Only



TRY OUR AMAZING **SCOTTISH BREAKFAST**

**SQUARE SAUSAGE, LINK SAUSAGE, BACON, EGG, BLACK PUDDING, POTATO SCONE,
TOMATO, BEANS, MUSHROOM & TOAST WITH OJ & TEA OR COFFEE**

ALL THIS - ONLY €5.50!!

Full English Breakfast €4.50 Mon-Sat 9.30am-1.30pm

**Sausage, Bacon, Egg, Hash Brown, Tomato, Beans, Mushroom, Toast,
Includes tea or coffee & orange juice. Sorry, no changes to menu.**

Unbeatable Sunday Lunch €6.50!

STILL THE BEST!

Lunch only 12:30pm to 6pm Booking essential! Always Busy!

BBQ EVERY FRIDAY

Starting 27th March 3pm to 7pm

MENU: Angus Burger 6.95; Angus Cheese Burger 7.45

**100% Angus beef burger served on a bap, Breast of chicken 6.95; Pork loin 6.95; Breast of chicken,
pork loin 6.95; Sausage & onion baguette 7.45**

All above accompanied with an extensive buffet

CHESS CLUB TUESDAY 1pm

LINE DANCING CLASS



TUESDAYS 10:00AM FREE OF CHARGE!

UPCOMING EVENTS!

POOL CLUB EVERY FRIDAY 10:30am

KNITTING CLUB EVERY THURSDAY 11:00am

SLIMMING CLUB EVERY TUESDAY 12:30pm

ARTS & CRAFTS EVERY MONDAY 10:30am

PETANCA

EVERY WEDNESDAY 3pm

EVERY SUNDAY 2pm

Check Facebook Page for Special Promotions & Events, Updated Daily.

To reach Bar Domino, take the road past Via Park III and Consum,
right to the bottom of the Los Altos hill where you will find our spacious bar and grounds.

FACEBOOK - dominobar Tel: 694 494 697

CODERE BETTING MACHINE NOW IN!



Our services include:

Resales / Segunda Mano
New Construction / Nueva construcción

To arrange a personal consultation contact

Darren Lilley
(0034) 602 563 621
darren@rostuspania.no



Natalie Whelan
(0034) 602 638 985
Natalie@rostuspania.no



Rostu Real Estate
Calle Laguna de Ruidera
Local 14 Rostu
Via Park V, Dream Hills 1
Orihuela Costa 03189

www.rostuspania.com

Buy or Sell your Property with our team at Rostu. Today...

Rostu not only specialize in the construction of exclusive luxury homes for the international buyers, but we also help in the sale and the sales process of your existing property.

If you need to sell we have many clients from the UK and from Scandinavia. We would like the opportunity to sell your house.

Properties are wanted in

Los Balcones,
Lago Jardin,
Dream hills,
Los Altos,
Playa Flamenca,
Punta Prima



MODELO 720.

If you are fiscally resident in Spain and if you have an asset abroad worth more than €50,000, you should complete and submit the Modelo 720 form by the end of March 2020.

There are three reporting categories: bank accounts, investments and immovable property. With property it is acquisition cost that is reported if more than €50,000. So if you have an asset of €50,000 or more (per person) in either category during 2019, it should be reported on the form. But if you had say, €49,000 value in each of the categories, it need not be reported.

It should be stated that this tax form is only for reporting purposes; you do NOT pay any tax on submitting it. Resident taxpayers already pay income tax on submitting their annual I.R.P.F. tax returns once a year.

You only need to submit the form/declaration again if the value of an existing asset grew by more than €20,000 or you sold the previously declared asset* or you obtained a new asset of €50,000 or more.

Failure to submit the declaration if appropriate can result in hefty fines and have been considered as draconian by the legal profession who have challenged them in Brussels. Several thousand fines to date have ranged from a minimum of €10,000 to six figures!

(*I would guess that if you are resident in your own property in Spain and sold another property you own in the UK or elsewhere, the question of Capital Gains Tax would arise.)

The EU has in fact taken action against Spain and ordered it to modify the Modelo 720's penalties, although they have also deemed it lawful for Spain to request this information about assets located outside its territories. Many consider this to be a law that goes against the freedom of movement of humans and capital within the EU, and thus a breach of human rights. It is expected that the Modelo 720 will either be removed or heavily modified in the coming years to comply with the requests made by the EU. In the meantime, however, it is wise to keep on submitting the Modelo 720 as usual if you are required to do so.

Little Johnny, again!

Teacher talking to the class about the COVID outbreak in China. "Now class. For your homework tonight I want you to write a short story in which you use the word 'contagious'" which she writes on the blackboard. The following day they are asked to read their stories to the class. All the Tabithas, Amelias, Henrys and Jacobs read their stories, to various levels of praise. As ever Little Johnny (for it is he!) is the last to read his story.

"Here's my story Miss." "When I went home yesterday my Uncle Bill was laying bricks in the back garden. My Dad looked at him through the window, laughed and said "It will take that contagious to build that wall"."



BAR CORTXO PINTXO

Weekly

Events

VIA PARK V

MONDAY ← W.I.N.O.S
Women in need of sanity
15:00pm

TUESDAY ← **BINGO 3PM**

WEDNESDAY ← **CONVERSATIONAL SPANISH**
12:30 - 13:30PM

THURSDAY ← **QUIZ (English & Spanish)**
19:30

FRIDAY ← **Evening Meal Deal**
Coming Soon

Los 2d Chocolateson

CUBAN NIGHT

LIVE MUSIC AND CUBAN BUFFET

BAR CORTXO PINTXO

VIA PARK V

SAT 28TH MARCH
20,00HRS 10€ A TICKET



**CHECK OUT FACEBOOK PAGE FOR
MEAL DEALS & LIVE MUSIC NIGHTS.
COMING SOON KARAOKE!**

Judge to prostitute, "So when did you realize you were sexually abused?"
Prostitute, wiping away tears, "When the cheque bounced."



PIRATES

Find us at:
Punta Marina Commercial Centre,
Punta Prima, 03185

- **tattoos**
By our expert and talented artists
Julio & Hector plus guest artists
FREE CONSULTATION AVAILABLE with the
Artist of your choice
- **BARBERS**
Hair cut from 13€
Hair cut & Beard trim 15€
Full head razor shave from 15€
Hot Towel Shaves by our expert Barber
- **hair stylist**
Experienced & fully qualified ladies and
gents hair stylist. FREE CONSULTATION AVAILABLE
- **permanent make-up**
Jade's Lasting Beauty now offers microblading,
micropigmentation, elegant eyeliner, lip liner,
Full lip and the NEW Nano Pen!
- **piercings**
Ears from 15€ - Face from 20€
Body from 25€ - Ear stretching from 20€
Greatest selection of piercing jewellery from 5€

All major credit/debit
cards taken




Tel: 602 587 153
Email: piratestattoostudio@hotmail.com

Juana and the 33-Year Con.

83-year-old Juana Igeña has been a very naughty girl. Juana was a social worker in the Alonso Vega Psychiatric Hospital in Madrid. Jaime Pons, a patient in the hospital, died in 1980 without any family. Juana managed to secure his personal papers and opened an account in his name at a branch of Caja Madrid – now Bankia – in March 1981, and arranged for his pension/disability grant to be paid into it. Juana would then draw out the cash every month and did this for 33 years before she was rumbled!

During the first 23 years she received only €104 a month, but in 2013 that amount increased to almost €700.

In January 2013, the bank, who had been suspicious that they had never seen Pons and who would now be 100 years old, asked for a life certificate for Pons. With his original ID card and forged authorization, Juana managed to obtain one at the Madrid Civil Registry, which she subsequently presented to the bank. From then on, every 25th of each month, she went to the registry, obtained a new life certificate and took it to the bank to collect the pension two days later. This she repeated 50 times. However, because of the supposed age of Pons, a Social Security employee hadn't taken the trouble to cross-check data and look for the man's death certificate. Jaime Pons, he discovered, was indeed deceased.

It has taken several years for the case to come to court, with the prosecution asking for a six-year jail sentence and €200,000 to be returned to the Social Security. However, her defence lawyers reached a plea deal: a suspended two-year jail sentence and payment of almost €150,000. Her son has already made an initial payment of €20,000 to show good faith. Of course the remainder will never be paid. Juana herself has a pension of €800 a month that cannot be legally seized, and a personal history of debt and gambling.

So good luck with getting it back!

The Funeral

Joe passed away. His will provided €30,000 for an elaborate funeral. As the last guests departed the affair, his wife, Helen, turned to her oldest friend. "Well, I'm sure Joe would be pleased," she said. "I'm sure you're right," replied Jody, who lowered her voice and leaned in close. "How much did this really cost?"

"All of it," said Helen. "Thirty thousand."

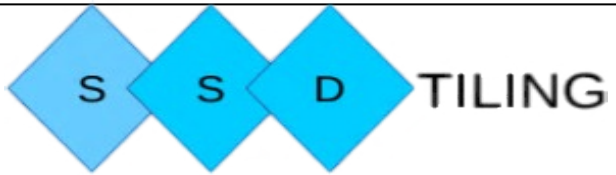
"No!" Jody exclaimed. "I mean, it was very nice, but €30,000?"

Helen answered. "The funeral was €6,500. I donated €500 to the church.

The wake, food and drinks were another €500. The rest went for the memorial stone."

Jody computed quickly. "€22,500 for a memorial stone? My God, how big is it?!"

"Two and a half carats."



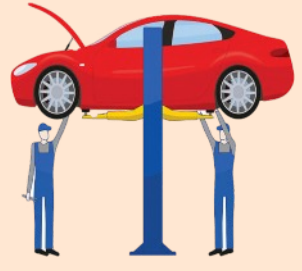
YOUR COMPLETE TILER

**SPECIALIST TILING
OF SOLARIUMS,
PATIOS, GARDENS,
DRIVEWAYS, STEPS.
LEAKING ROOFS RE-ASPHALTED
AND RE-TILED.
BATHROOMS CONVERTED
TO SHOWER ROOMS
TO SUIT ALL TASTES
AND BUDGETS.
ALSO PAINTING AND
GENERAL MAINTENANCE.**

**CATALOGUE OF
COMPLETED WORKS
AVAILABLE FOR VIEWING**

**Call Shane on 693 490 530
EMAIL: iowthehat@gmail.com**

DREAM HILLS AUTO REPAIRS



WE DO IT ALL!
✓ Brakes
✓ Maintenance
✓ Repairs

Near Aldi's by Dream Hills II
(New Owners - Ian, Mark & Colin)

**FULLY QUALIFIED & LICENSED
ALL MAKES & MODELS COVERED
DIAGNOSTICS & PRE-ITVS +
AIR CONDITIONING
ALL SERVICING & MAJOR REPAIRS
RE-REGISTRATION/IMPORTATION
FREE ESTIMATES**



Tel: 966 724 346 info@dreamhillsautorepairs.es
Taking the scare out of auto repair!

**ROLLER SHUTTER
REPAIRS
FOR WINDOWS & DOORS
FRAYED/BROKEN TAPE
REPLACED FROM €20**

Contact: Dave on 0034 711 007 550
Or email
losbalconeslettings@yahoo.com

Patches 'n' Pins



Qualified Seamstress
40 yrs. Experience
Turn-ups to Tailoring
Patterns taken from
your favourite clothes.
Reasonable
Prices

Phone: Sandra 966 799 188
Mobile: 680 486 336

LOCKSMITH

CERRAJEROS - SCHLOSSER
SEGURIDAD UNION



607 493 118

Antonio
LOCAL
(Cut out & keep.)



DALJIT'S VIA PARK V MINI SUPERMARKET, SUN BAR & GRILL

**We also do Breakfasts, Burgers,
Doner Kebabs & Fish & Chips:
Eat-in or Take-away!**

Fabulous Range of Indian Spices



Greeting Cards,
Off Licence



Credit Cards Accepted
OPEN FROM 10:00am UNTIL 10:30pm
We are open 365 days a year!

BIENVENIDO a

BAR KALIMOTXO

Bar y Restaurante

Via Park III, Los Altos

**Oxana & Oscar Welcome You
to an Authentic Spanish Bar.**

**WE FEATURE A WIDE RANGE OF
EXCELLENT WINES,
SPIRITS & SPANISH BEERS.**

**ALL FOOD IS FRESHLY PREPARED
WITH A FRESH SELECTION OF TAPAS DAILY**

**A WIDE RANGE OF MEAT, FISH,
CORDON BLEU PORK STEAKS**

AND SHELLFISH DISHES AVAILABLE

BREAKFASTS, SANDWICHES, BAGUETTES & SNACKS.

**SUCCULENT MEATS RANGING FROM ROAST LAMB,
ROAST KNUCKLE OF PORK AND ROAST CHICKEN**

**TO DELICIOUS BURGERS,
MOUSSAKA & LASAGNE,
CHICKEN WINGS**

AND WONDERFUL HAND-CUT CHIPS.

TASTY FISH RANGING

**FROM SALMON AND SWORDFISH
TO MERLUZA AND SARDINES.**

**DELICIOUS SEAFOOD WITH PRAWNS,
CALAMARES, CHIPIRONES etc.**

LARGE SELECTION OF WINES FROM €1 PER GLASS!

A RANGE OF GENEROUS DELICIOUS SALADS ALSO AVAILABLE

¡Visítanos y disfruta los auténticos sabores de la cocina española!

'Come and enjoy the authentic taste of Spain.'

Русский говорят.



Aaaaah!

Deep within a forest, a little turtle began to climb a tree. After hours of effort, he reached the top, jumped into the air waving his front legs and crashed to the ground. After recovering, he slowly climbed the tree again, jumped, and fell to the ground. The turtle tried again and again, while a couple of birds sitting on a branch watched his sad efforts. Finally, the female bird turned to her mate. "Dear," she chirped, "I think it's time to tell him he's adopted."



NICKY'S

CAFE BAR
Camping Florantilles
TEL: 603 306 458

Sunday & Monday - 6pm to 24:00
Tue - Sat 10am to 24:00
Closed Tues - Sat 3pm - 5pm





LINE DANCING

Tuesdays - Improvers
3pm to 4pm - €5




Gill welcomes you to

JILLY'S

Lago Jardin II




LARGE SOUTH-FACING TERRACE
FOOD SERVED DAILY 11:00am - 8pm
NEW MENU - TASTY HOMEMADE DISHES

Large Coffee Or Tea With
Homemade Cheesecake only €2.75!

TUESDAYS AT 8pm FUN DARTS
Come and join the fun!

Wi-Fi



ABF

INTERIORS

CARPENTRY - KITCHENS
TILING - FLOORING
BATHROOMS

Kevin Molford: 744605865
Victoria: 744616586
Fully Legal
abfinteriors@gmail.com

Brexit Could Be about to Totally Mess up the Uk's Time Zones

In March 2019 the European Parliament approved a proposal that spelled the end of clock changes within the EU. From 2021, EU member states will have to choose whether to stick to summer or winter time for good, with no more springing forward or falling back. This leaves the UK with a conundrum. Since – as you might have noticed – the UK has now left the EU, the country will have to decide whether it wants to fall into line with the rest of Europe or stick to the habit of flipping our clocks back and forth twice a year.

Although the government has made it clear that it doesn't want to follow the EU's example, it hasn't been exactly forthcoming on what will happen if when they fall out of step with the rest of the EU. In an effort to prod them into action, the House of Lords has released a report analysing what will happen if the UK opts to keep the clock change – with the potential for chaos on the Northern Ireland border and trade with Europe. "So far the government has stuck its head in the sand on the EU Commission's proposal, hoping that it goes away," says Baroness Donaghy, chair of the EU Internal Market Sub-Committee that compiled the report. "However, if it doesn't, we could be caught unaware and unprepared to make a decision.

If France opts to stay in permanent summer time (GMT+2) then the UK would be two hours behind France in the winter and one hour behind for the rest of the year.

If France opted to stay in its winter time equivalent (GMT+1), then during spring and summer the UK would enter the same time zone as France.

This could have a big impact on transport, tourism, trade and the aviation industry in particular. Currently EU routes represent 50% of traffic at Heathrow and between 70% and 87% at the other six airports in the UK. It's important for airlines to know what time it will be in a given location so that they can bid for departure and arrival slots at airports. Europe's largest airline association told the EU there would need to be at least 18 months notice after the publication of a new directive in order to prepare. (If the UK continues to procrastinate, as it will, this will only add further confusion, sending the airlines into further disarray.)

As the Republic of Ireland is still in the European Union, there is a chance that it could find itself on a different time to Northern Ireland for five or seven months of the year, depending on whether the ROI decides to stick to winter or summer time. "Given the political situation in the north and south of [the island of] Ireland, this will be yet another issue that would need to be resolved," says Donaghy. Having two different time zones would be particularly annoying for the approximately 30,000 people who cross the Irish border every day.

(The above is abridged, you can read the full article here - <https://www.wired.co.uk/article/uk-eu-time-zones-brexit?>)



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
- NO MEDICAL
- DISCOUNTED MEDICAL SCHEME

**So why are you waiting?
For less worry and peace of mind**

NEWS.....NEWS.....NEWS.....NEWS
Rocamer's new Tanatorio in
San Miguel de Salinas
Now Open!

Grupo Rocamer are one of only a few companies who offer this type of plan to prepare for your funeral expenses. Rocamer have been in existence for over 70 years and have built up a trust and reliability within the Spanish community and have in excess of 12,000 clients. Now this opportunity is being offered to the British & Irish communities too and you don't have to be a permanent resident in Spain.

Call Keith on 650 461 816 or email keith.rocamer@live.co.uk

www.rocamer.es

f Rocamer Funeral Service

On the eve of Valentine's Day, Alan thought it would be nice to buy his wife a little gift for the next day. Always short of money, he thought long and hard about what that present might be. Unable to decide, Alan entered the perfume shop in Punta Marina and in the cosmetics section he asked the girl, "How about some perfume?" She showed him a bottle costing €125. "Too expensive," muttered Alan. The young lady returned with a smaller bottle for €75. "Oh dear," Alan groaned, "still far too much." Growing rather annoyed at Alan's meanness, the salesgirl brought out a tiny €25 bottle and offered it to him. Alan became really agitated, "What I mean," he whined, "is I'd like to see something really cheap." So the sales girl handed him a mirror.

MAX SHOP

**MASSIVE SUPERSTORE
NOW IN YOUR AREA
WITH EXCELLENT CAR PARKING
OPEN 6 DAYS A WEEK - 7 IN SUMMER!**



MONDAY TO SATURDAY FROM 9:30am TO 9:30pm

Tel: 966 668 032

You Can Find Us on the Second Roundabout Past the Hotel Doña Monse towards the Motorway.



NEW SORRAIA

BAR & CAFE

Near Aldi's & Dream Hills 2.

**ALL YOUR FAVOURITE BEERS,
WINES & SPIRITS.**

**POOL TABLE
&
DART BOARD**



**LIVE MUSIC
SUNDAYS FROM 2pm
BAR SNACKS
AVAILABLE**



Open 9am Mon - Fri, Weekends from 10am

**facious South Facing Patio with Excellent Views
See our Facebook page for upcoming events.**

Macklins
VIA PARK 3
LOUNGE BAR & GAMES ROOM

LEGAL
LIVE BETTING
AVAILABLE HERE

QUIZ NIGHT
HERE


SUNDAYS 8PM

FOLLOWED BY:


PYCR
Play Your Cards Right

JACKPOT!

FULL SIZE SNOOKER & POOL TABLES



*Beginner's Salsa Classes
With Salsa Di
Classes on
Tuesday's at 12 noon*

*Details from Carla at bar or
salsadi@hotmail.com or
WhatsApp 604277617
Everyone is welcome
Partners are not necessary*

DRINK PROMOS



ASK IN BAR

Free
WiFi
spot

**DREAMBOX IPTV
AVAILABLE HERE**

"Could give me the telephone number of that one-armed window cleaner who cleans your windows – you know, the one who lost his left arm?" says Paddy to Mick. "Oh, I don't use him anymore," replies Mick. "Why not?" asks Paddy. "Well," says Mick, "he teamed up with another one-armed window cleaner who had lost his right arm, and so he doubled his prices because there were two of them, and that was too expensive for me!" "Why did they team up?" asks Paddy. "Well," says Mick, "it was the only way the two of them could wring out their cloths!"

The Beauty Lounge

ONE STOP

Unisex Hair & Beauty

Come And Enjoy a Clean
Comfortable & Spacious
Atmosphere At a Great Price

HAIR
LADIES
MENS
CHILDRENS
CUTS & RESTYLES

NEW SERVICE TO MAKE YOUR LIFE EASIER
Weddings Catered For In The Privacy Of Your Home
Or In The Salon, Call Us For Details

GIFT
VOUCHERS
AVAILABLE



SKIN

EYES

NAILS

SPRAY
TAN

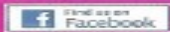
WAXING
EYEBROWS
BODY

ABIERTO
AHORRA

NOW
OPEN

Abierto / Open
10.00 – 6.00
Lunes – Sabado
Monday – Saturday
C.C. Via Park 3
Los Altos

966 393 605



THE BEAUTY LOUNGE VIA PARK 111



AQUAQUEST PLUMBING



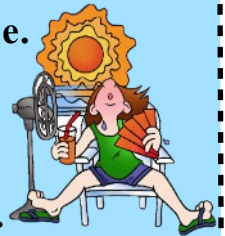
GOOD OLD FASHIONED SERVICE AT OLD FASHIONED SENSIBLE PRICES!
NO JOB TOO SMALL !



Electric Water Heaters Replaced, Quick And Prompt Service.
80 Ltr Capacity Water Heaters Supplied And Fitted
With A 3 Year Guarantee.

Gas Central Heating Supplied & Fitted
Both Natural Gas & LPG, With Full Spanish Certification.

All Makes Of Air Conditioning Supplied & Fitted;
Re-gas And Repairs.



Contact David on 634 286 590
or email davidaquaquest@gmail.com

Paradise Pools & Gardens

Pool, Spa & Garden Maintenance Packages

THE SPECIALISTS IN POOL & GARDEN MAINTENANCE

☎ 698 384 449

✉ info@paradisepoolsandgardens.net

🌐 paradisepoolsandgardens.net



Simply More Than Pools & Gardens...

1 MONTH FREE

With All Private 12 Month Pool Contracts

**Underwater Pool Repairs, Pump Repairs,
Filter Repairs, Skimmer Repairs, Leak Detection,
Re-Tiles & Re-Grouts, LED Lights, Plus much more!**

Spa Cleaning Now Available!



698 384 449



PRUNING PALMS/
PINE TREES



HEDGE & LAWN
CUTTING



PALM WEEVIL
TREATMENT



COMPLETE
TREE REMOVAL



LAWN WEED
TREATMENTS



LEAVES & DEBRIS
REMOVED



DUBLIN PUB



Av. de la Asuncion

Los Balcones

Welcome to our

authentic Irish themed pub.

**LARGE SELECTION OF BOTTLED
BEERS, WINES AND SPIRITS
INCLUDING DRAFT GUINNESS,
FOSTERS, ESTRELLA
& OLD ENGLISH CIDER.**

**ALL LIVE
SPORTS SHOWN**

2 POOL TABLES/DARTBOARD

**LARGE OUTDOOR
SEATING AREA
AIRCONDITIONING**

OPEN 5pm - 4am

Come & join us for

St. Patrick's Day, March 17



DALJIT'S VIA PARK V CHARITY EVENT FOR BRAIN TUMOUR SUPPORT

SAT MARCH 21 AT 1.30pm

FEELY BAG WITH SUPER PRIZE & RAFFLE

LOTS OF PRIZES

PETE CRESSWELL ENTERTAINING!

FOOD FOR TICKETHOLDERS

TICKETS €8 FROM DALJIT OR JUDITH



Organizers decided to cancel the Mobile World Congress, scheduled for Feb. 24 in Barcelona, after many participants pulled out due to the **coronavirus**. That comes after the postponement of the Hong Kong Sevens, one of the world's most popular rugby tournaments, now postponed from April to October.

Many Chinese cities have halted cold medicine sales to get coronavirus patients into hospitals. Authorities aim to flush out infected people staying at home and self-medicating.

https://vac-lshtm.shinyapps.io/ncov_tracker/

This is a very informative site which shows you graphically, the daily cumulative incidence of the Covid (Coronavirus) globally. It also highlights the previous incidences of SARS, Swine Flue and Ebola globally, alongside Covid for comparison.

Regular hand-washing and avoiding hand-to-mouth contact remains solid advice.

Take a look at this YouTube clip -

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KqrfDECOuls>

It show a passerby in Callosa de Segura walking into a shoe shop in the town and stealing a sealed and unopened cardboard box. This 40-year-old lady had no idea what was in the box but was determined to 'pinch' it! Surprise! Surprise! When she opened the box at home she found it contained 40 'Satisfyer' vibrators, valued at €50 each. Being a generous soul, she distributed many of them to her neighbours but following the CCTV footage the police managed to track her down the next day. Police recovered the 'Satisfyers' from the neighbours but reported that half of them had been used. The Olive Press reported that this particular model has become one of the most demanded sex products in Spain, with sales increasing by 1,300% in 2019. The woman was later released on charges but it begs the question, 'What were these doing in a shoe shop?'



Vinnie Jones has been sentenced to 120 hours community service, but this was reduced to 80 hours on appeal - from the community. Angus Deayton

Cosy Corner Golf Report

The society of the month in the ongoing eclectic competition. John Winkley came in 3rd with 33 points, Ken Styan 2nd with 36 with the day being carried by Tim Ryan with 40 (whose handicap was cut accordingly). Nearest the pins went to Lin Newbery, Ken Styan (2), Mick Church (2) and George Brown. After 2 rounds of this competition the current standings are:

Mick Slater - 44 points

Ken Styan - 42

Yours truly - 42

Norm Dobson - 41

John Winkley - 41

Tony Jones - 41

The next competition

outing at Vistabella is on

Wednesday 4th March.

This is proving to be very

popular and we were on a reserve list

last time so, if you want to play, put your names down on the list at the bar ASAP.

Our second round was at a tough La Torre. The greens left a lot to be desired, which is a shame as this would be a cracking course if they could sort them out. Third place went to Vidar Fjeld with 32 points, Eddie McGrath 2nd with 33, leaving Tim Ryan to win for the second time in a month with 37 points, earning himself 2 meals for 2 at Cosy Corner and yet another handicap reduction - snip, snip. Nearest the pins went to Tim (2), Vidar and Kay Brown with 2 not won. Congrat's to all our winners over the 2 rounds.

A new prize was awarded for exploits at La Torre - the Lord Lucan Missing In Action award goes to CCGS virgin Len Beedham for getting hopelessly lost several times on the way to the course and then once again on his way back, ending up in Los Alcazares. He happily received his prize of a cheap map of our Costa.

Ciao for now

Clinton

Dumb!

One night a blonde teenage girl brought her new boyfriend home to meet her parents, and they were appalled by his appearance: leather jacket, motorcycle boots, tattoos and pierced nose and lips. Later, the parents pulled their daughter aside and confessed their concern.

"Dear," said the mother diplomatically, "he just doesn't seem very nice."

"Mum," replied the daughter, "if he wasn't nice, why would he be doing 5000 hours of community service?"





PUNJABI PALACE



**THE NUMBER ONE INDIAN RESTAURANT
ON THE COSTA BLANCA.**

Local 6 Calle Mayor, off CV945, Los Montesinos.

INDIAN CUISINE AT ITS FINEST.
**OVER 200 FRESHLY PREPARED DISHES
FOR YOU TO CHOOSE FROM.**

**FREE
WIFI**

TRY OUR FAMOUS LUNCH MENU SERVED 12pm - 3pm

Papadoms, any Chicken or Lamb dish, Rice or Naan, Coffee or Ice Cream.

Includes a generous glass of wine, small beer or soft drink. **ONLY €9.95!!**



Always a warm welcome!

SPACIOUS AND FULLY AIR CONDITIONED

Tel: 966 720 383



tripadvisor

CELEBRATE WITH US ON MARCH 15th - OUR 12th ANNIVERSARY!

Also at Quesada 966 714 963 & Lomas de Cabo Roig 865 75 49 72



Kath & Jules Welcome You to

**ALL LIVE
SPORTS
SHOWN**

JESSIE'S BAR

MONDAY 5-7pm DISTURBED

With Charlie Farley & Andy McBride

TUES 8:30pm - 11pm

ALL NEW FUN DARTS & DOMINOES

WED 3pm - Come and Taste Colette's Cakes!

THURSDAY 9pm - QUIZ NIGHT WITH PHIL

FRIDAY 9pm - KARAOKE WITH ANG & RAY

CURRY + RICE + DRINK €5 !!



**FREE
WiFi**

South Facing Terrace, Opposite Mercadona in Los Balcones



**TRY OUR FAMOUS ENGLISH BREAKFAST BAPS
SERVED 11 - 3.
PROPER ENGLISH TOASTIES SERVED TILL 8pm**



A British cobbler replaced his thumb with a big toe. After David Lee lost his right thumb while mending a shoe, the surgery allowed him to get back to work. David Lee cut through his right thumb while trimming the heel of a



shoe at his shop in Sutton-in-Ashfield, Nottinghamshire.

The set of operations to amputate Mr Lee's toe and attach it to his hand took about 10 hours in total. Jill Arrowsmith,

one of the surgeons involved, said: "Not having any of the thumb can be very disabling, especially for those who do a manual job. "There are lots of different ways to reconstruct thumbs but using the big toe gives the best functional and cosmetic benefits, as it is the thing most like a thumb on the body."

Love this photo taken of a police car outside a police station in Laredo, Texas. Needs no explanation!



A 101-year-old Italian man, Palmiero - photo, who has been in London since 1966 was asked to get his parents to confirm his identity by the British Home Office after he



applied to stay in the country post-Brexit under the EU settlement scheme. It seems that the Home Office computers only recognised the last two digits of his year of birth. He

was then asked to provide proof of residence for five years in the country, even though he has been in the UK for 54 years and the Home Office is supposed to be able to access national insurance and tax records to corroborate five years of continuous tax residency. Palmiero came to the UK in 1966 and worked at a restaurant in Piccadilly and, up until the age of 94, in a fish and chip shop, until 11 o'clock at night. It looks like Priti Patel's Home Office will continue to furnish us with many oddities for the future.

38-year-old Ben Bardsley, photo, from Stockport made a personal injury claim after being knocked into a pond by a digger. Bardsley, a bodybuilder and regular gym enthusiast, claimed injuries sustained to his neck and



back meant he could no longer lift weights and that the accident left him scared of heights. But then some investigators hired by the insurance firm noticed that this chap continued to lift weights and train, but his coup

de grace came when he went to a water park in Benidorm and jumped down a 33-metre slide! He then posted it, photo and all, on social media! Following the usual Curse of Facebook, a judge in Manchester has now dismissed Bardsley's claim and ordered him to pay the defendant's legal costs of £14,318.

58-year-old Jennifer G. Hernandez is on a mission.

Last year, on April 22, this intrepid lady called at the CIA headquarters in Langley, Virginia, and asked to see 'Agent Penis.' Once questioned, she reportedly informed the officer she was following up with a recruiter at the agency as part of her application for CIA employment. Sent away, she returned again on May 1, 2 and 3, looking for Agent Penis. Once again sent on her way with a written warning not to return. However, Jennifer returned to the CIA again on Dec' 9 and again on Dec' 23, but was detained by police when she refused to board a bus out of the CIA headquarters. Still in custody, her attorney is reportedly considering entering a not guilty plea using a defence of insanity. Someone commented online 'She is actually fine, she just has the wrong location. Agent Penis actually resides at 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW in Washington, D.C. . She just needs to ask for his code name , "Trumpturd".'

Critics and audiences have been scathing of the movie adaptation of Cats – but some cinema-goers have found a way of making it compelling viewing: taking hallucinogenic drugs beforehand. Hundreds told The Washington Post of their experiences watching it with the aid of LSD and magic mushrooms. "The most terrifying experience of my life," was how one viewer described it. "I swear to God my soul escaped me." Another noted that he "vomited four times, but ultimately understood the film on a deep level".

Forthcoming....

Her: WTF.....you barely lasted 3 minutes!

Him: It was doggy style...so that's like 21 minutes.

Calling all knitters.....

At a recent CARE group meeting, it was announced that Cruz Roja were setting up a project in their centre in Guardamar to support homeless people. HELP Vega Baja decided that they would like to support the important project and provided a donation of 5,000 euros towards the cost of the renovations.



It didn't stop there! Volunteers from the charity decided that they would also like to provide the homeless with some hand knitted blankets! Michele Masson, President of the charity, told us "our volunteers are always willing to go the extra mile and over the past couple of months many of them have dug out knitting needles and made square after square with the end result of beautiful and warm blankets. We have also had interest from other people outside of the charity who would like to join in. Although our knitters are mostly ladies, men with this hidden talent and youngsters are most welcome too. The knitting is not only providing wonderful blankets, we have noticed that it has given many people something new to focus on and several have



asked if they could get together to knit! We would love to see this knitting project expand around the area which not only would enable us to offer even more blankets to the homeless but also possibly bring people together. If you are part of a group that gets together regularly, a school or maybe just a few friends that meet for coffee, why not consider taking the knitting needles with you and giving it a go! The squares measure 14 x 19 cms each and if people want to make the full blanket we are making the size 142x114 cms. Once complete HELP Vega Baja volunteers will handsew in labels into the blankets. Any donations of wool or needles would also be appreciated and these can be left at our San Miguel Centre, Monday to Friday between 10 am and 1.30 pm Let's get knitting folks!"

I went into the Iceland Supermarket the other day and got a pack of chicken legs. Right before the young cashier rang them up, I asked her if they were the front or back legs?

She paused for a moment, read everything on the package and then said, 'I don't know. Let me ask the manager.'

She came back a couple of minutes later, looked at me and said, 'Not funny!'

I said, 'Sorry, but for me it was.'

The Big 'C'

What to do about terminal cancer
I'm sure there is a lot
I don't think I've got all the answers
but I'll give it the best that I've got

Your life takes a different direction
it seems your world is in tatters
Your mind has an inwards inspection
to concentrate on what really matters

Wife, sons, daughters and grandkids
although they've always been there
now it's not just about what I did
with plenty more time to share

Other friends and people you know
all treat you a different way
I'd rather they just let it go
and just take me as me day by day

I'm really no different you see
the big crazy lump that I am
I've just got less time left to be
and really now don't give a damn

What time I have left I will savour
with family close by my side
and hope everyone does us a favour
and comes along for the ride

The Phantom Poet



MAQUILLAJE
MAKEUP

EXTENSION
DE PESTAÑAS
EYELASH
EXTENSION

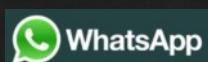


Mujer
Hombre

Woman
Man

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

LAVAR, CREMA, ESPUMA, CORTE	15,00 €
LAVAR, CREMA, CORTE, ESPUMA Y BRUSHING (DESDE)	22,00 €
LAVAR, CREMA, TINTE, ESPUMA Y BRUSHING (DESDE)	28,00 €
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 €
WASH, CONDITIONER, CUT, MOUSSE & BLOWDRY (FROM).....	22,00 €
WASH, CONDITIONER, COLOR, MOUSSE & BLOWDRY (FROM) ..	28,00 €
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)	



¡ VEN A CONOCERNOS !
COME AND MEET US !



Instagram

C/ Lagunas de Ruidera C.C. Via Park V, Local 13
ORIHUELA COSTA - CP. 03189 - Alicante

Tel. 678 643 692

When I was a kid, we walked 10 miles to our school in Killarney every day, sometimes in the rain or snow.
God, did we feel stupid when we found out there was a bus.

Spain launches dedicated Brexit hotline

The Spanish government has announced the launch of a dedicated hotline to answer all queries from Brits living in Spain about the implications of Brexit.

Callers can ring 060 when in Spain or +34 902 887060 if calling from abroad and an automated system will offer the choice of either Spanish or English and ask if you are Spanish citizen wanting to live in the UK or a Brit in Spain.

You will then be offered a choice of information on the different issues most pressing for Brits in Spain during the transition period: residency, healthcare, retirement pensions, social security and driving licences.

Each option comes with an automated message about the current status relating to those matters and how it will remain unchanged during the transition period.

The service also offers the option of speaking to an operator for those requiring further information or with a specific query not dealt with by the automated options.

A large number of queries already received from Brits living in Spain have been about the issue of residency.

The Spanish government has updated its Brexit information page to inform British citizens already living in Spain, or planning to do so before the end of the transition period about the need to be properly registered.

It states that for the time being the process remains the same as it was before Brexit and the green credit card sized (or older A4) certificates will remain valid throughout the transition period until December 31, 2020.

“During this transition period UK nationals and their family members resident in Spain who are nationals of non-EU countries will maintain their rights derived from the application of EU law (except for the right to vote and stand in elections to the European Parliament and the right

to use the EU Citizens Initiative),” states an update in the Brexit section on the Moncloa website.

<https://www.lamoncloa.gob.es/lang/en/brexit/howtoprepare/Paginas/190108residence.aspx>

“Once the transition period ends, the Withdrawal Agreement stipulates that your rights of residence, work, study and social security will be maintained.

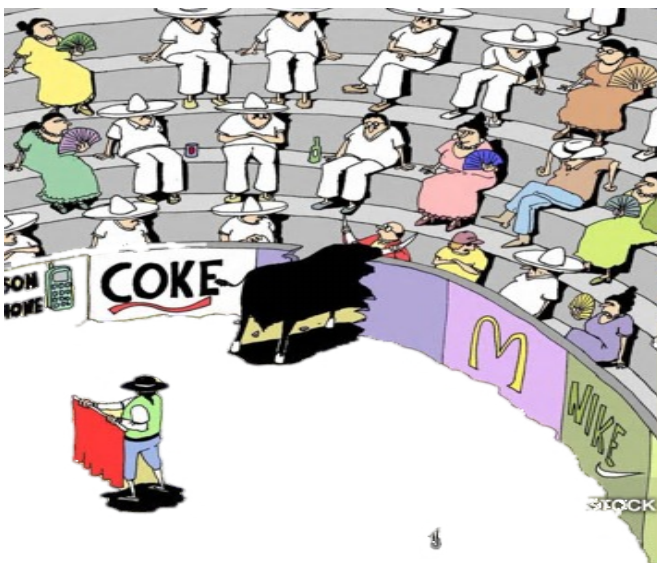
“You have to bear in mind that the registration certificates (the green certificate) and ID cards of family members of the EU citizen obtained before the end of the transition period will subsequently serve to accredit their legal residence in Spain and benefit from the provisions of the Withdrawal Agreement.”

But the website does state that plans are afoot for new paperwork specifically for Brits resident in Spain post-Brexit.

“The Spanish government is working together with the European Commission to have a Foreign Identity Card that explicitly mentions your condition as beneficiary of the Withdrawal Agreement. The procedure for processing this card in the coming months will be completed soon.”

It adds: “The rights of British citizens and their family members who begin their legal residence in Spain after the transition period will be those established by the agreement regulating future relations; if there is none, the general arrangements governing foreign residents in Spain will be applicable.”

(Source: The Local)



I told him not to wear his red jumper!

Man walks into a bar.....

A guy walks into a bar in Amsterdam's Red Light area and sees a sign hanging over the bar which reads, "Cheese Sandwich: €3.50; Chicken Sandwich: €4.50; Hand Job: €15.00."

Checking his wallet for the necessary payment, he walks up to the bar and beckons to one of the three exceptionally attractive blondes serving drinks to an eager-looking group of men.

"Yes?" she enquires with a knowing smile, "Can I help you?"

"I was wondering," whispers the man, "Are you the one who gives the hand jobs?" "Yes," she purrs, "I am."

The man replies, "Well, go wash your hands, I want a cheese sandwich!"

At the GP's.

I went to the Salud in Cabo Roig with hearing problems. The doctor asked, "Can you describe the symptoms".....?

I said, "Homers a fat bloke and Marge has blue hair".....

Lime Bar Fishing SUNBATHING Club

It will soon be summer! A few of us went to Bigastro on the 11th February and we thought summer had arrived already. 28°C on the bank which triggered Fagin's sunbathing mode. Within minutes he was down to his shorts and getting the rays in. The fish in front of him thought something was odd too as they kept throwing themselves onto his hook for his best days fishing for ages. In the middle of February, Sweeney had 5 carp, I had 5, 3 Rods had 19 but Fagin ended up with 24! Unbelievable for this time of year. The word got around, so 3 days later, 6 of us fished the same area. This time we fished pegs 3, 4, 6, 7, 9 & 10.

Just John had 13, 3 Rods had 38 (approx 60lbs), Fagash had 3, Fagin 5, Sweeney 5 & I had 22 for 30 lbs.

3 Rods' catch included carp of 5 lb & 7.5 lb, but both Fagin and Sweeney were busted by something huge.

I bet this doesn't happen on match day!

At the monthly meeting we had a few bits to sort out so it dragged on a bit.... Walter Aspinall introduced himself and has been added to the clubs waiting list until an angling space becomes available, this should be sorted out next month. **We also heard (via Carp R Us) that the Alicante University did not realise that the invasive blue crab had reached the Eden canal (it has been there years) and have asked for information on where caught and on what bait etc. If possible, keep them and send them to the University so they can find out what they have been eating.**

The monthly match was held at the Eden canal (look out for blue crabs). Over the last few weeks, several pegs have been cleared here and fished with some decent results. Not big weights but everyone

normally catches. This is the 1st match we have held here this year, and 13 anglers turned up. 2 decided they didn't fancy fishing there so we ended up with 11 in the match (they knew what was coming). Fishing was very peggy again. Pegs 13 and 14 lost loads of fish whilst most others were struggling for bites. In the next 3 pegs, peg 12 had 1 * 4 inch carp, 11 * blanked (I couldn't even get a bite while bleak snatching!) and peg 10 had 1 carp of 1 kilo. Very disappointing and of the 11 fishing, 3 blanked and only 3 anglers weighed in 1 kilo or more. Well done to Beat Me Phil who won from peg 13 with 2.3 kilos, followed by 3 Rods in peg 14 with 1.3 kilos.



As the sunbathers are a conscientious crowd, when Sweeney got bored waiting for fish, he landed 2 small blue crabs which he saved and took home ready for shipping to Alicante. Later in the month and not to be outdone, the Antique man fished the Eden and tried to capture another blue crab sample. This b*#~#*r knew what was coming and fought back, see photo. The blue crab ended up back in the water and Tom Thumb ended up in hospital with a tetanus and anti-biotics jab in the arse. And you thought fishing was a safe pastime!!!

Next ~~meeting~~ bun fight is at The Lime Bar @ 17.00 Mon 2nd March.

Fishy Fingers! The Ghost

Bernie & the Booze

Sister Bernadette lived in a convent a few hundred yards from Sullivan's liquor store. One day she went in and asked Sully for a bottle of brandy.

He said, "I'm sorry, Sister Bernadette, I can't sell brandy to a nun."

"But it's for the Mother Superior," she explained. "It helps with her constipation."

Hearing this, Sully relented and sold her the brandy. On his way home that night, he saw Sister Bernadette staggering drunkenly along the road.

"Sister Bernadette!" he exclaimed. "Shame on you! You told me the brandy was for the Mother Superior constipation."

"And so it is," said Sister Bernadette. "When she sees the state I'm in, she's going to shit herself!"

Glasgow Police

A man is seeking to join the Glasgow Police force. The Sergeant doing the interview says:

"Your qualifications all look good, but there is an attitude suitability test that you must take before you can be accepted." Then, sliding a pistol and a box of ammo across the desk, he

says: "Take this pistol and go out and shoot six illegal immigrants, six drug dealers, six Muslim extremists, six poncy Englishmen and a rabbit"

The man being interviewed asks, "Why the rabbit?"

"Excellent" says the Sergeant. "When can you start?"

I asked this woman why she had two Seeing Eye dogs, and she said one was for reading.

Jonathan Katz

Catholic Church rakes it in!

THE Spanish Catholic Church earned a record €284 million from taxpayers last year. Some 7,191,387 people opted to make a contribution to the institution on their tax returns, 26,885 more than the previous year. The amount earned was a 6.19% increase on the year before and the highest since the tax system was introduced in 2007. The tax form allows Catholic taxpayers to tick a box which donates 0.7% of their personal income tax (IRPF) to the religious body, at no extra cost to the individual. The percentage was previously set at 0.5%. I have always been very surprised by this generosity for two reasons.

Firstly that a socialist government would allow their coffers to be depleted by so much every year. With the high level of poverty now existing in Spain, one would have thought that €284 million would have alleviated a lot of suffering and poverty. Also surprising as a large section of the new left-wing government is anti-religious. (One commented recently that not enough priests and nuns were murdered during Spain's Civil War.)

Secondly, why are other religions not included in this largesse. Surely it is discriminatory that other religions cannot benefit from this scheme. I am surprised that none of the other organised religions have not raised this with the European Court of Justice. What have they got to lose?

Never lend your car to anyone
to whom you have given birth.
Erma Bombeck

Bus Service Orihuela Costa - Orihuela

There is now a bus service linking Orihuela Costa to the city of Orihuela. It operates all year round from Monday to Friday except for public holidays and all of August. Buses leave Zenia Boulevard at 7:00, 13:00 and 19:00, stopping at the Town Hall Playa Flamenca at 7:05, 13:05 & 19:05; Torrevieja Hospital at 7:15, 13:15 & 19:15; Entre Naranjos at 7:30, 13:30 & 19:30; arriving at Orihuela Bus Station at 9:00, 14:00 & 20:00. The return trip leaves the bus station at 9:30, 15:25 & 20:55, stopping at Entre Naranjos at 10:00, 15:55 & 21:25; Torrevieja Hospital at 10:15, 16:10 & 21:40; the Town Hall in Playa Flamenca at 10:25, 16:20 & 21:50; and Zenia Boulevard at 10:30, 16:25 and 21:55. A ticket from one end of the line to the other costs just €1.35.

Airport Bus Timetable.

Monday to Sunday, 365 days a year.

Torrevieja to Airport: 7:00, 9:00, 10:00, 11:00, 12:00, 13:00, 14:00, 15:00, 16:00, 17:00, 19:00, 21:00
Airport to Torrevieja: 8:00, 10:00, 11:00, 12:00, 13:00, 14:00, 15:00, 16:00, 17:00, 18:00, 20:00, 22:00
Departure and arrival (in Torrevieja): From Torrevieja bus station. Calle del Mar, 50
Departure and arrival (in Alicante Airport): 2nd Floor
Ticket Price: 7€
Children under 4 years free (ID required)
Pensioners can get a 30% discount, with appropriate ID.



Brush Strokes
PROFESSIONAL & RELIABLE

Painters & Decorators

**FAST, FRIENDLY SERVICE
MANY YEARS IN THE TRADE
MOSQUITO BLINDS INSTALLED
FREE ESTIMATES**



ALL ASPECTS OF HOUSE MAINTENANCE

CONTACT MARK ON 634 345 096 OR NEIL ON 650 842 711

www.brushstrokes.xyz office@brushstrokes.xyz

Do drugs go off? What happens to medicines after their use-by dates?

It is estimated that there is a staggering £300m worth of medicine unused in the UK every year. But is it safe to take these medicines if they are past their expiry date?

Expiry dates are put in place after rigorous trialling and controlled experiments to ensure the safety and effectiveness of the drugs people take. In short, they guarantee the potency of the drug. Medicinal drugs are all chemicals and the rate at which they go off will depend upon their chemical structure, the drug preparation, how they are packaged, environmental conditions, whether they are subject to microbial contamination and their exposure to heat, light, oxygen and water.

The drugs are sold in a variety of containers including bottles, blister packs, tubes and ampoules. They are relatively secure while sealed. But once the seal is broken, the process of “going off” accelerates.

Common painkillers

Let’s look at an everyday drug like paracetamol. This is an “over the counter” medicine, freely available, which helps to reduce pain or a fever. Paracetamol is sometimes sold in brown sealed bottles. The seal keeps moisture and atmospheric oxygen out. The brown bottle keeps UV light out as this can also cause the drug to breakdown. Once the seal is broken, the tablets are exposed to water and oxygen in the air and breakdown begins.

Paracetamol is also sold in blister packs. These packs are permeable to water and oxygen so they are covered in, for example, polyvinylidene chloride (PVDC). This protects the contents and slows down the decomposition process but is still slightly permeable so doesn’t prevent it altogether.

The consequence of this is that, despite the protection of the packaging, the drug content slowly declines. Research shows that when paracetamol based medicines go past their expiry date, up to 30% of the drug may break down in between 12 and 24 months.

Cold remedies and antibiotics

Cold remedies contain both paracetamol and a decongestant (usually phenylephrine hydrochloride). These can be sold as powders, capsules, oral solutions or nasal sprays.

While drugs in dry powder and capsule form may be relatively stable, those in liquid form may go off more quickly. For example, cold remedies such as nasal sprays contain both preservatives and antioxidants that only work at lower temperatures. They are considerably less effective above 40°C.

Similarly, **antibiotics** such as amoxicillin and erythromycin can be prescribed as an oral suspension in water. The dry powder form of the drug is, again, relatively stable. But the shelf life of the drug mixed with water by the pharmacist may only be seven to ten days – even when kept in a fridge.

Some drugs in liquid form have a considerably shorter shelf life. For example, nitroglycerin (glyceryltrinitrate) is used to treat angina and coronary heart disease.

Formulations include liquids, tablets and capsules. Nitrate esters, of which this drug is an example, readily break down in the presence of water, rendering the drug ineffective.

Some formulations of nitroglycerin contain stabilisers to reduce this and are contained in protective packaging. But even these formulations only have a shelf life of about three months. Users often divide up their doses into pill boxes. The shelf life of nitroglycerin, once out of protective packaging, is reduced down to less than a week because of the rapid rate of drug breakdown. Even large, macromolecular drugs, like insulin, present problems. Insulin is a polypeptide used in the maintenance of blood glucose levels and the management of diabetes.

The drug is dissolved in water and when stored in a refrigerator (typically around 4°C) spoiling can be slowed. The solutions also contain preservatives to reduce the rate of spoiling. However, as they are small proteins, the drug molecules may break down in water, and in some instances bacteria can start to grow and break down the protein. This is why the shelf life of drugs such as insulin is very limited.

Safety

So is it safe to take medicines after their expiration date?

The answer depends on the drug in question but,

generally, no. Drugs like nitroglycerin may, in some instances, be life saving. But the actual drug content of out-of-date medicines such as this may mean that there is no effective medicine left in what is being taken. So there will be no effect on the target condition.

In the case of liquid antibiotics the concentration of the drug may be so reduced that it is not effective. To make things worse, studies have shown that the bacteria the antibiotic is being used to treat may, at lower concentrations of the drug, develop resistance that could render the antibiotic ineffective.

In other cases, like paracetamol, the consequences may not be so severe. But the drug content won’t be known. So if in doubt, check with pharmacists and doctors and try your best to keep drugs in date.

(Michael Cole

Professor of Forensic Science, Anglia Ruskin University
theconversation.com)

I’d offer you a beer, but I’ve only got six cans.

Terry Collier, *The Likely Lads*

CLASSIFIED ADS, ANNOUNCEMENTS,

DAILY/WEEKLY CAR HIRE - 4 or 6 seater

CALL COLIN (0034) 638 759 774

Key holding and house, apartment cleaning for people who can't.

No job too small. Call Donna or Torri on 603 394 929.

Mobile Unisex Hairdresser - Local

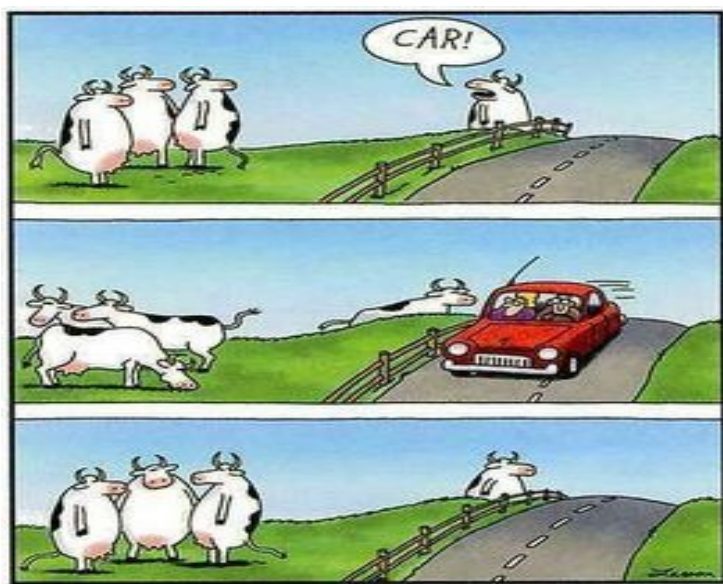
Call Jacqui on 611 371 658

Caz Sparkles Sparkle..... For all your cleaning needs.....

Call, Message or WhatsApp on 634310421

PUBLIC HOLIDAYS - RED DAYS -VALENCIA.

1 Jan Wed New Year's Day; 6 Jan Mon Epiphany; 19 Mar Thu St Joseph's Day; 10 Apr Fri Good Friday; 13 Apr Mon Easter Monday; 1 May Fri Labour Day; 24 Jun Wed St John's Day; 15 Aug Sat Assumption of Mary; 9 Oct Fri Valencian Regional Holiday; 12 Oct Mon Fiesta Nacional de España 1 Nov Sun All Saints' Day; 6 Dec Sun Constitution Day; 8 Dec Tue Immaculate Conception; 25 Dec Fri Christmas Day. (These dates may be modified. Search gva.es for updates.)



I've known banks that gave loans to guys who wanted to open bars, and their only collateral was that I was going to drink there.

Lou Grant, Rhoda

PLEASE SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS AND YOUR COMMUNITY WEB SITES.

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

The Dream Scene is produced on a non-profit basis.

Any profit is spent by producing extra copies.

You can have a colour copy of the Dream Scene sent to you by email each month (except January) for just €5 for a year. Locally, black & white hard copies can be delivered to your postbox for the same amount, provided your postbox is not difficult or awkward to find.

Images in this newsletter from El Pais, El Mundo, ABC, Informacion, The Week, Wikipedia, EFE, and other fine media sources.



Lovely Apartment to Rent

FOR HOLIDAYS /SHORTLETS IN DREAMHILLS 2

South facing

Air/con & English TV

2 Community Pools

Competitive Rates

Free Internet included &

Disabled Friendly

For more details

Contact: Jackie 0034 602457631

Or Dave 00441132529884

www.dreamhills2apartment.com/

TO RENT

2 Bedroom - 1st Floor Apartment

Short Term Rentals

Sunny Terrace with Sunbeds

Air Con, English TV,

Communal Pools

Free WiFi, Shady Pergola

License No. VT 473675A

Contact Anne in the UK

anne.m.hewett@gmail.com

& 07761 85 85 80

TO RENT

Dream Hills 1, 1st floor

Roof terrace, English TV

Air Con & Communal pool

Holiday Lets.

Longer lets considered

Favourable rates.

Contact Karen / Graham

phillipsdreamhills1@gmail.com

Mobile 07967 056420

SAMARITANS in SPAIN

Lines open 24 hours a day,

every day.

900 525 100

(016 is the phone line to report domestic violence. It is free and leaves no trace on your phone bill.)

DISCLAIMER:

Please note that any information provided is of a general interest & often also of a frivolous nature. You are advised to contact a competent professional for advice specific to your circumstances, in relation to legal, financial, health, medical or any other matters. The DreamScene, its editor or any of its contributors, do not accept responsibility for any claims by advertisers, purchasers or anybody - and remember the old adage - "If something looks too good to be true - it generally is!" You must be really bored if you are reading this!

The DreamScene is plagiarized from a multitude of sources which include ABC, El Mundo, La Verdad, Reuters, El Pais, El Confidencial & Playboy (just for the articles ...honest!) etc - however no part of this publication may be used or reproduced without the consent of the editor - so there! Remember, to steal from one person is plagiarism; to steal from many is research! If you must use some of my stuff, at least quote the source. No small children, trees or animals were harmed in the making of this newsletter.....although several hundred thousand electrons were mildly inconvenienced. Did you know that towels are the leading cause of dry skin? And is it just me or are magnets really attractive?

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