# **HEDREAM SCE** NEWSLETTER Helping to keep expat's informed......and smiling.

Bienvenido a todos and welcome to the December 2020 edition. Issue No.161

Well, it has been a horrendous year. Brexit, Covid-19 and a dangerous idiot in the White House. However, there have been some really good things happening lately, despite the continuing Covid saga, the first being Trump lost the election. This was quickly followed by a number of pharmaceutical firms announcing positive results to the various vaccine tests. Some of these are covered on pages 14 and 26. News of the Oxford University/AstraZenica breakthrough came through a bit later and although one of the most promising vaccines, will not be available until the spring. The UK has ordered 20 million doses.

Although the Orange Buffoon in the White House has been Tangoed, the Democrats must now concentrate on the slim but nonetheless real chance of creating a dead heat in the Senate in January: then the new Vice-President will be able exercise her deciding vote in order to push through Biden's legislation. Otherwise we will see a repeat of the Obama years, with the Republicans stymying Democrat legislation at every turn. Better an uphill struggle with the right person at the helm than down to hell

with a narcissistic psychopath!

Unfortunately nothing positive to report on Brexit at the time of print. Have just read that some of the EU negotiating team, Barnier and others, are self-isolating because one of their team tested positive for the virus.

A new supermarket with Tesco products has opened near Quesada. It is proving to be very popular. I do wonder though what will happen with the supermarkets specialising in Tesco and Iceland goods when Brexit truly kicks in? Price rises for imports from UK?

Many thanks to Dave & Just' and Gerry O for the kind donations.

So sorry to report that Mags Harris of Dream Hills sadly passed away on the evening of Nov' 16 after a short illness. Deepest sympathies to Bob and family.

As usual, there will not be a newsletter for January. However, depending on what comes out of the Brexit negotiations, I can compile an early February issue to report on the new developments that may affect us all.

Take care of yourselves and be safe. Mick. Tid and the Dream Scene Team.

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Angela's Cantoon



'They want to know when they can go on the Furlough scheme?'

Watching coverage of US elections made me realise just how dumb Americans are. There was a load of protestors carrying "Stop the Count" banners. Where did they go to school? There's no O in the word!

Tourist occupancy in the province of Alicante fell by 46.5% in October compared to the same month in 2019. Many second home owners from the UK, Ireland and Northern Europe have not visited their properties this year or at least since January and February this year. The various lockdowns and restrictions will ensure that these visits will not return to anything like normal until spring or summer 2021.

All Spanish airports are taking a hammering but Corvera Airport's traffic fell from 108,502 passengers in October 2019 to 10,966 in October 2020.

You will no doubt be aware that the Torrevieja University Hospital is being managed by Ribera Salud. The socialist run government, Generalitat, in Valencia has stated that it will not renew the management contract in October 2021. They say that the decision is not political but 'for greater efficiency.' Ribera Salud state that the average waiting time for surgery in the Torrevieja Hospital is just 35 days whereas the average wait for surgery in the publicly managed hospitals in Valencia is 151 days! Based on the current performance of the publicly managed hospitals, waiting times for surgery will triple from next October! Efficiency?

Ribera Salud were briefing the Vega Baja mayors of the incidence of Covid-19 in their respective municipalities every fortnight. When they were told that their contact would not be renewed next year, they asked for permission from the Valencian Generalitat in October to continue with these briefings. There has been no response and the briefings have ceased! This is the type of efficiency you can expect from next October.

Torrevieja will lower the IBI (Property Tax) in 2021 despite the decrease in income to the City Council. The tax reduction will mean a reduction of ten euros to the average bill. Although this signifies a drop of €900,000 in lost revenues, the municipality will still collect more than €33 million from this tax.

The Torrevieja City Council has had to compensate a citizen with €47,952 after suffering a fall in July 2018 on one of the access steps to the Acequión beach. Before the pedestrian fell, in the summer of 2016, there were many neighbourhood complaints about the poor condition of the access steps to the beach.

Torry Council have also stepped up to the plate in providing €764,000 in assistance to 3,600 residents of the city. This is to provide food and basic hygiene and cleaning products. In total 1,250 families have received aid and 7,000 lots have been distributed in the last seven months. Family units receive this fortnightly batch of products divided into five groups: nonperishable foods (canned food, pasta, milk), fresh fruits and vegetables, bakery and pastries, and cleaning and personal hygiene. The delivery of the lots has "the extraordinary" collaboration of Alimentos Solidarios Torrevieja, the Spanish Red Cross (Local Assembly) and Cáritas of the Parish of San Pedro and San Pablo.

The brazenness of some people often astounds me. On Tuesday Nov' 3, a 20-year-old woman requested a taxi at the Atocha station in Madrid to travel to the city of Alicante. When she arrived at around seven in the evening at the General Hospital, she got out of the vehicle and ran away, without paying the €500 fare! Fortunately the taxi driver managed to run after her and alerted the police, who arrested the woman and charged her with fraud.

The National Police halted a Gypsy Wedding



which was taking place in a sport's ground in Alicante on November 6, photo. Covid

restrictions were being ignored, with considerable drinking and eating taking place. Fortunately there were no fights although dozens of people there were sanctioned. Good luck with collecting those fines!

When Groucho Marx was told he was not allowed to swim at the country club because he was Jewish, he asked, "And what about my son - he's only half Jewish, can he go in up to his waist?"

#### **MORE LOCAL NEWS**

2.6 were experienced in our areas on November 1 is still worth addressing burglary risk areas, and a 1.4 on Nov' 17. The epicentres were several the Costas being a rich picking area. kilometres off the coast of Torrevieja.

Air pollution is something we are all concerned Delegation of Citizen Participation of Alicante, about and a key to a better quality of life. This part has alerted property managers of the active of Spain is relatively free from the worst of it, plant presence of a travelling criminal gang that is pollen probably being the biggest irritant during the dedicated to robbing houses when tenants are annual spring period. There is a very useful websiteabsent. To do this, they discreetly apply which shows the monthly and annual average pollution readings from around the world. The search can also be narrowed down to certain regions and cities. So for example Valencia has an a property, apply the adhesive joining the average reading for 2019 of 13.3 which is classed as moderate, whereas Alacant, the closest reading to us, shows an average of 6.5, which is well within According to the Police, the thieves enter the WHO target and quite low. The scales cover seven categories ranging from the WHO Target to Hazardous. (There is even a range 'Unhealthy for sensitive groups' which covers asthma sufferers and Man U supporters.) You can find it here: https://www.igair.com/world-most-polluted-cities?

"It wasn't THAT undercooked!"

Four earthquake tremors ranging from 1.2 to Although the squatting menace continues, it

The National Police, through the Provincial

threads of quick-drying glue (composed of cyanoacrylate) to the side of the doors. Their mode of operation is simple. They select frame with the door that opens and closes and check to see if the glue string is broken. blocks of flats at night, or at dawn, mark all the doors with adhesive and return a day or two later to check which are broken and which are still intact. It is in those that are not broken that they decide to rob, because they know that no one has entered or left in 24, 48 or 72 hours. The same procedure is used for single-family residences and for tourist apartments or vacation homes. The criminal organization, according to police investigations, is not based in Alicante, but operates in the broader, interprovincial territory, taking advantage of vacation periods, long weekends and normal

After being closed since June 2019, the Orihuela Costa Sports Centre will now reopen under new management. The contract has been awarded to the the Vectoris SL company. The total amount of the contract amounts to 877,337 euros for two years and is renewable. Not sure when people will be able to attend because of Covid-19.

weekends, which is when people leave their

homes for longer periods.

#### Fair's fair!

The boss of Ryanair, Michael O'Leary, walks into a Dublin bar and orders a pint of Guinness. The Landlord says, "That'll be one Euro please Mr O'Leary."

O'Leary replies, "You're a man after me own heart, do you know all the other bars around here charge five Euros for a pint of Guinness?"

The Landlord responds, "I have to be honest Mr O'Leary I took a leaf out of your book, slashed the cost of everything and business is booming."

O'Leary hands over one Euro and with a smile, and the Landlord asks....

...."Will you be wanting a glass with your Guinness sir?"

R

# GROUND FLOOR Tel: 966 940 386

VIA PARK III.





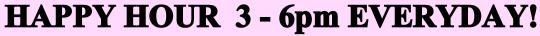
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Smirno € V

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

DINNER 12 -5pm

**SUNDAY** 

**ROAST** 

**EVERY FRIDAY FUN MUSIC BINGO AT 2.30pm** 







Boris Johnson visited a remote little rural town in the north of England and asked the inhabitants what the government could do for them. "We have two big needs," said the Town Mayor. "First, we have a clinic but no doctors." BoJo whipped out his cellphone, spoke for a while and then said, "I have sorted it out. A doctor will arrive here tomorrow. What is your other need?"

"We have no cell phone reception at all in our town."

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#### NOW EVERY TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY AND SATURDAY



#### SUNDAYS POOCHES N PIES FROM 5PM

IN AID OF APAH ANIMAL CHARITY BOUTIQUE NOW OPEN NEXT DOOR

ALL HOMEMADE PIES SERVED WITH CHIPS

€5.50 SAUSAGE CAKE FOR YOUR POOCH!

#### 2 FOR 12

HOMEMADE SELECTION
CHOOSE FROM
Speciality Chicken Curry
Fish,Chips,Mushy Peas
Chilli Con Carne and Rice
Famous Steak Pie
Pasta Bolognese
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MON closed

TUES - SAT 11 - LATE

SUN 2 - LATE

KITCHEN OPEN EVERY DAY

subject to change on special event days
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FRIDAYS @6:30PM ITS FRIDAY, AND ITS....

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BOOKING ESSENTIAL MAX 6 PLAYERS PER TEAM



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ALL DAY - EVERY DAY HOUSE WINE **GLASS!** 



VIA PARK III

# **TAINMENT & GREAT FOOD**

Might WEDNESDAYS 8:00PM

**Everyone is a Winner!** 

THURSDAYS FUN DARTS! 8pm

**EVERYONE IS WELCOME!** 





**SATURDAY NIGHT IS** 

STEAK & MIX GRIL

NIGHT



WITH JAMES GOULDING

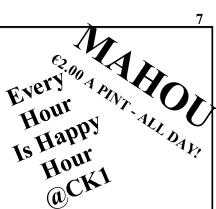
FOR BOOKINGS **TELEPHONE 637 046 438.** 

Be careful if you're thinking of getting a rescue cat. My nan had one... ... She slipped and fell over it one day and the cat literally just sat there and did fuck all!

CARLING €2.80 PINT!!



VIA PARK III



# **OPEN AT 9AM EVERY DAY!**

## CHRISTMAS EVE RAFFLE

€1 a strip - Drawn on Christmas Eve **GREAT PRIZES!** 



**COMPREHENSIVE MENU** WHY NOT TRY OUR OMG MENU **HOMEMADE CHIPS, NEVER FROZEN!** 







WINTER MENU **NOW AVAILABLE** ONLY €5.95!!





# SUNDAY LUNCH

MAIN COURSE JUST €6.25, 2 COURSE €8.50, 3 COURSE €10.50!

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FOR BOOKINGS TELEPHONE 637 046 438.

So, how much is one of your testicles worth? A 45-year-old man will be compensated by the Generalitat Valenciana with 60,000 euros after losing a testicle in the Orihuela hospital due to a delay in care after entering the Emergency area. The plaintiff initially asked for 120,000 euros to cover other matters, such as loss of fertility, an adaptive anxiety disorder together with the "resulting cosmetic damage." The events occurred on March 2, 2015 when the man began to suffer severe pain around 11 a.m. and entered the Orihuela hospital emergency room at 1:15 p.m. However, he was not operated on until 9 p.m. .If he had undergone an operation earlier, the testicular loss would possibly have been avoided. It seems there was a change of shift in the hospital at 3pm and of the professionals responsible for his care, well...... Several years ago, before the Torrevieja Hospital was built, I had to go to the A&E in Orihuela Hospital (Hospital de la Vega Baja). It took eight hours to be seen, with the kerfuffle, shouting and complaints from those waiting necessitating the presence of security staff. Had to stay overnight and was most unimpressed with what remains a publicly managed hospital despite several requests I couldn't even get a pillow for the bed!

#### **Face Masks**

The Spanish government reduced the sales tax (IVA) on face masks **from 21% to 4%** on Wednesday November 18. The argue that they required approval from Brussels to reduce the tax, but Brussels responded by saying that they could have reduced the tax to zero or whatever they wished in May!

Several European countries have either

reduced or suspended VAT on these items and regulated its price. Face masks are taxed at 6% in Portugal, 5.5% in France, and 5% in Germany. In Italy, Belgium and the Netherlands, there is no value-added tax on face masks. In Nov' the Spanish government set the top price for surgical masks at €0.62 per unit! Don't ask me how the pharmacies, supermarkets and Chinese todos justify their prices! Face masks are mandatory in public places in Spain for everybody over the age of six.

The Alicante province leads the ranking of deaths by drowning in aquatic spaces with 31 victims, 10% of the total for Spain.

The limitation of numbers on the popular beaches forced people to go to other unguarded aquatic spaces, such as remote beaches, canals, reservoirs, rivers, swamps or lakes. 82% of the people who lost their lives from January to October in aquatic spaces were men. 85% of them were Spanish and 15% foreigners, a low figure that is related to the lack of tourism this year. 43% of drownings took place on beaches, 13% in rivers, 10% in swimming pools and the rest in other areas such as canals and reservoirs.



#### The Wax Job!

A tourist sees a Japanese massage parlour in Alicante and decides to partake of the services.

He goes inside, pays €50 and they give him a perfectly ordinary massage.

He protests "Hey, wait a minute! Haven't you got something else? Something a little 'special'?"

The cute Japanese girl smiles and says "Ah, you want 'the wax job'?"

The chap is beside himself "Yeah, yeah, I want that!"

The girl unzips his fly, lays his junk out on the table and karate chops it as hard as she can, while yelling 'Banzai!'"

.....and the wax shot out of both of his ears!

There is little doubt that the Covid restrictions and lack of tourists has had an enormous effect on the bar, restaurant and hotel trade in Spain this year. Frustrations are running at a very high level and has in some cases been seen as unusual reactions and responses. The latest that comes to mind is in Barcelona, where 45-year-old Jesús, a furious taverna and small hotel owner in the city, has had enough. "The hotel industry is bleeding to death" Using a megaphone outside the the facade of the Palau de la Generalitat, he shouts, "We pay taxes but we cannot work ....... politicians should be afraid of the people, not the other way around."



Jesús says he is not against the closure of bars and restaurants in Catalonia in the last 15 days\*, but "against the inaction of the leaders" whom he accuses of having led us to the critical current health situation.

So, together with four friends, Jesús collected 50 litres of animal blood and together with his mates threw balloons of blood at the facade of the regional government. See photo. Even then Jesús said that they used animal

Even then Jesus said that they used animal blood instead of paint, as it would be easier to clear up!

\*As I am writing this, I see that the bar and restaurant closures in Barcelona have been extended by a further 10 days!

A publisher would rather see a burglar in his office than a poet.

Don Marquis

Seven years waiting for help to adapt her home for disability! A neighbour in nearby Callosa de Segura with multiple sclerosis has been claiming since 2013 the awarding of a grant of 941 euros granted by the Generalitat. The Síndic de Greugues (The Ombudsman of the Valencian Community), has been asking for a payment for months, without success, for 63year-old María del Carmen Cuadrado. In 2013 she undertook the first renovation at her home to convert the bathroom to suit her needs. She invested almost 3,800 euros that she did not have. A relative loaned her the cash and she applied for one of the grants introduced by the Valencian Generalitat to improve the quality of life of disabled people. Her proposal was accepted, but since then it has remained in the drawer of oblivion. Seven years later, and with the support of the Síndic de Greugues, she continues to claim the financial aid they promised her, for now without any success. She stated 'We thought they were going to give us a subsidy of 2,000 euros, but then they told us it was only 940. And we still don't have it!'

The Vega mission VV17 to launch Spain's

satellite, SeoSat-Ingenio, failed on Nov' 17 after the rocket transporting it deviated off its trajectory. The rocket was launched, photo, from the Guiana Space Station in Kourou in French Guiana at 2.52am (Spanish mainland time), but malfunctioned eight minutes after

liftoff. The SeoSat-Ingenio satellite was the pride of Spanish aerospace engineering. It was set to orbit at a height of 670 kilometers, passing by the poles. The satellite would have been able to take photos of any point on Earth over three days and cover the entire territory of Spain eight times a year. Inverted cables (human error) caused the rocket carrying Spain's SeoSat-Ingenio and France's Taranis to deviate from its course, ruining a mission that cost 10 years of work and €200 million.



# THE BAR NEXT DOOR.

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FIRST FLOOR VIA PARK III

(Sister bar to The Lime Bar)

A DEDICATED SPORT'S BAR.

POOL KNOCKOUT COMPETITION

HOSTED BY DEREK

EVERY THURSDAY AT 3PM. MAXIMUM 16 PLAYERS.

FUN DARTS EVERY WEDNESDAY AT 3PM. GREAT PRIZES!!

HOSTED BY KEVIN

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# LIME BAR

VIA PARK III

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

15 LARGE TV SCREENS!

THATCHERS 2 MAIN SCREENS 75inch EACH!

**EVERY PREMIER LEAGUE GAME LIVE** 

XMAS EVE 5 TILL 9pm NASTE **MUSIC WITH TONY JONES! MUSIC BINGO** 

- Every Monday 3pm with Gina Gee **OUR FAMOUS MEAT RAFFLE FRIDAYS @ 8pm OUR FRIDAY QUIZ IS NOW BACK!! NEW START TIME 8pm** 

**LIVE MUSIC THURSDAYS -**



4 'TIL 7ish.

NEW YEAR'S EVE

5 - 9pm

## **MUSIC WITH PETE STARKY**

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ESTRELLA BOTTLES - ALL DAY - EVERY DAY €1 STILL THE NUMBER 1 SPORT'S BAR ON THE COSTA!



# GREAT COCKTAILS!

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VIA PARK V.



OPEN TUE - SUN 1pm - 9pm KITCHEN 1pm - 7pm MENU CONDENSED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.



FUN DARTS! Wed 7:00pm - 10pm



THURS: Home-made Steak 'n' Ale Pie, Mash, Peas, Carrots, Gravy €6.95
Book now due to limited seating.
FRIDAY: Fish Special
Cod in Beer Batter, Chips, Peas €6.00



SAT: BBQ Rack of Ribs, with Peas, Mushroom,
Onion rings, grilled Tom', Chips,
Corn-on-the-cob €14.95

SUNDAY: Choose your favourite Bap!
Roast Beef, Horseradish,
Turkey, Cranberry Sauce,
Chicken, Stuffing, Cooked Ham, Tomato

**Served with Roasties €6.50** 

#### ALL SPORTS SHOWN INSIDE & OUTSIDE THE BAR

Thank you to everyone for your continued support throughout this challenging time, we value your support







JJ, Rob & Bobby





CARLING

#### Help Vega Baja Christmas Raffle 2020!

This year HELP Vega Baja was due to celebrate 40 years supporting people in the community with many fundraising events planned. Then Covid 19 entered the stage! All plans were put to one side as the charity concentrated on helping people through lockdown with the distribution of food vouchers and other support. Although their office in San Miguel was closed, the team were on hand dealing with requests for help from individuals, social services and

As charities re-opened in June, many of the volunteers took the decision not to return for the foreseeable future but to stay home until things "improved". HELP Vega Baja chose to therefore open on three days a week (Monday, Wednesday and Friday) which so far is working well.

With income greatly reduced the charity is now dependent upon what is sold in their charity shop and their market stall at Campoamor market.

In an attempt to boost income and with no Christmas Fayre planned for this year, the teams have organised a grand raffle with an abundance of great prizes including a flat screen TV.



the Consulate via telephone.

Tickets are 1 EUR each, and for 4 EUR you can get 5 tickets! At present tickets can be purchased from the San Miguel Centre but will shortly be available also at the HELP desk in La Marina on a Thursday at the Hope Christian Fellowship Centre. Other outlets have said they would like to come on board and sell the tickets for us and these details will be published shortly.

HELP Vega Baja registered charity - help us to help others.

HELP VEGA BAJA is registered with the Valencian Authority as a Volunteer Organisation - Registration Number CV-O4-047761-A.

It is a non-profit making organization. For further information see www.helpvegabaja.com



# FROM US TO YOU

DELICIOUS HOMEMADE FOOD DELIVERED TO YOUR DOOR 7
DAYS A WEEK

DAILY 3 COURSE MEALS
FRESH OR FROZEN MEALS, SOUPS AND SNACKS
SUNDAY ROAST DINNERS
PARTY CATERING INCLUDING PAELLA IN YOUR OWN HOME

ancy a day off from cooking, on Holiday & could really do with a night at home or simply want a change?

THEN LET US DO IT FOR YOU!

A selection of British & International meals, available fresh or frozen, delivered to your door 7 days a week.

Lunch deliveries between 1pm & 3pm

Dinner deliveries between 5pm & 7pm

Flexible delivery available on request, for a small surcharge Dine at home with a 3 course meal for 10€ per person per day.

Check out our Facebook page: From us to You, for photographs of some of the dishes & the weekly menu.

Email: fromus2umeals@gmail.com

#### CONFIRMED COVID-19 CASES AND DEATHS IN SPAIN UP TO NOVEMBER 18.

Phone or Whatsapp: +34 604373151

Total figures: 1,525,341 confirmed coronavirus cases with a diagnostic test for active infection; 42,039 deaths with a positive test as of

November 18.

205,359 in Andalusia (3,424 dead)

69,665 in Aragon (2,106 dead)

19,869 in Asturias (755 dead)

22,408 in the Balearic Islands (397 dead)

19,605 in the Canary Islands (319 dead)

13,750 in Cantabria (291 dead)

79,579 in Castilla-La Mancha (3,597 dead)

111,281 in Castilla y León (4,237 dead)

288,067 in Catalonia (7,426 dead)

2,584 in Ceuta (45 dead)

87,787 in the Valencian Community (2,108

dead)

26,614 in Extremadura (860 dead)

44,755 in Galicia (1,108 dead)

336,384 in Madrid (11,158 dead)

3,764 in Melilla (34 dead)

50,838 in Murcia (512 dead)

38,179 in Navarra (810 dead)

89,344 in the Basque Country (2,331 dead)

15,509 in La Rioja (521 dead)

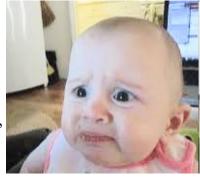
#### **Good & Bad News!**

An artist asked the gallery owner if there had been any interest in his paintings currently on display. "I've got good news and bad news," the owner replied. "The good news is that a gentleman inquired about your work and wondered if it would appreciate in value after your death. When I told him it would, he bought all fifteen of your paintings.""That's wonderful!" the artist exclaimed, "What's the bad news?". With concern, the gallery owner replied, "The guy was your doctor."

A Bristol man has ended up with a conviction for assault after breaking wind in an Uber taxi. James Mallett, 35, was being driven to a nightclub in an intoxicated state **when he let rip**. The driver, Aleksander Bonchev, ordered him to get out of the cab – at which point Mallett punched him in the face. The driver retaliated, breaking his finger and later lost his job with Uber. Mallett was jailed for six months, suspended for 18 months, at Bristol Crown Court. "He behaved in an unattractive manner that night," his lawyer conceded.

A couple have **named their newborn daughter after an internet service** provider in exchange for free Wi-Fi for 18 years. The

baby's father took the decision after Swiss start-up Twifi pledged the prize for anyone who named their daughter Twifia, or their son Twifius. "The longer I



thought about it, the more unique the name became for me, and that was when the thing got its charm," he said. But the parents, who asked to remain anonymous, only went so far as to use Twifia as the daughter's second middle name. "We are also a little ashamed," they admitted.

A Chinese man was presented with a 19,800 yuan (£2,291) bill after a woman **brought 23 relatives** along to their first date. The 29-year-old had arranged to meet the woman for dinner, but looked on uncomfortably as her family joined them, tucking into food and alcohol. "I was testing whether the man who might potentially be my boyfriend would be generous enough to pay for all 25 people," she said afterwards. Alas for her, it didn't work: the man fled, leaving her to foot the bill.

The Trump Team organised a 'Big' press conference after the US election but made a huge error when booking the location. Instead of The Four Seasons Hotel, they ended up outside the **Four Seasons Total Landscaping....**next to a sex shop and crematorium, photo. Bernie D'Angelo, the

proprietor of the Fantasy Island sex toy and



adult book store, was amazed to see "the former big-time mayor of

New York, Rudi Giuliani, 9/11, you know" outside the shop. Meanwhile, Trump was not at the press conference .... but playing golf......

On the evening of the 31st of October, a 25-year-old woman was arrested in Malaga for driving for more than a kilometre **on the metro tracks**, see car in photo. When breathalyzed she was found to have triple the maximum rate of alcohol allowed. Her Peugeot 407 also had

three blown tyres. She told police she had been



following the instructions from her GPS but had crossed several intersections with road traffic and pedestrians without reducing speed or paying attention to road safety measures.

During the pandemic, the Scottish Championship football team Inverness Caledonian Thistle has been live-streaming its games to fans at home, using an automatic camera system with advanced "AI ball-tracking technology". Alas, a crucial flaw in the technology emerged during a recent game against Ayr United. It proved unable to distinguish between the ball and

another shiny white object on the field: the linesman's bald head. Fans complained that they had missed the build-up to Ayr's goal as the camera "kept thinking the Lino's bald head was the ball".





#### **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?**

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#### Bargain!

A widow is viewing her husband's corpse at the undertaker's. The embalmer has done a fine job, but she says: "My John always looked his most handsome in a blue suit. I'd love to see him in a blue suit, could you arrange it?" With that, she takes out her cheque book and signs a blank cheque for the undertaker. She pops back later, and there's her husband in an elegant blue suit with a subtle pinstripe which fits so well it looks to be bespoke. The widow is delighted. "How much?", she asks.

The undertaker hands the blank cheque back. "It's funny", he said. "Another lady came in whose husband was wearing a blue suit, but she wanted him in black, so it was simple. I just swapped the heads over".

Spain's highly polarized politics has meant no real budget has been agreed for four years and the last one did not have to account for a pandemic or a deep recession.

Spanish prime minister Pedro Sánchez is currently trying to sort out the squabbling factions he needs to make up the votes to get the deal done.

While the Socialist prime minister tries to strike a deal with the centrist Ciudadanos, his far-left partners Unidas Podemos or regional parties, the nation waits to see if he can pull it off.

The odds are Sánchez will succeed and this will allow the government to plough public money to continue a furlough scheme into next year for stricken sectors like tourism and bring in tax rises which are inevitable to pay for all of this.

The €140 billion in grants and loans from the European Union is not dependent on the government agreeing a budget but it would help to make Spain look like it can manage the money. Currently, unemployment stands at 15 percent. The furlough scheme, which has saved many jobs, is likely to continue until Easter next year for key sectors like tourism, which accounts for 12% of GDP and 13% of all jobs.

Yet it has angered many business owners because the government insists that when workers return to their jobs they cannot be sacked for six months.



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#### **Spanish Property – Some Short Term Views**

There are scores of differing opinions on the outlook for Spanish property prices for the next year or two. Most opinions are on the pessimistic side for sellers, with Bankinter predicting a 9% drop between 2020 and 2021 while in October a study published by the consulting firm Forcadell and the University of Barcelona forecast an even bigger price fall of 16% during 2021!

However, in a recent report, the US credit rating agency Standard & Poor's (S&P) takes a more positive report. According to their figures, the fall in property prices in Spain this year will be 1.4%, the second steepest decline after Ireland's forecasted 1.6% drop. (It's worth noting that a 1.4/1.6% price drop is nowhere near the plummeting rates seen in Spain in 2014 during the height of the previous financial crisis, where properties cost 35% less on average than in 2008.)

Portugal is the other European country where a price fall is expected (-0.5%) in 2020 whereas S&P believes that in France and the UK housing will become more expensive by around 1.5%, in Italy it'll rise by 0.5%, in Belgium by 1.8%, while in Germany and the Netherlands the upswing will be around 4. 5 and 6%. However, S&P estimates a rapid rise in house prices in Spain which will reach 1.8% in 2021, in line with the rapid increases predicted for Sweden and Germany for next year.

By 2022, Standard & Poor's expects a sharper rise still in terms of house prices in Spain - up to 4.5% - only surpassed by the 4.6% in Ireland and 5% in Portugal. So, even the so-called experts have widely differing views. No one knows!

It will be particularly interesting to see the figures for foreign purchases of coastal properties in Spain during the coming 12 months, particularly from the British, who have historically been second only in numbers to the Spanish. Will this rise or decline after the real Brexit?

Germany nosed ahead of France as the second biggest foreign market for Spanish property in Q2, albeit by just a handful of sales, leaving them both with a 7% market share.

The latest home sales figures show the Spanish housing market back in positive territory in August and September, but much of that growth came from sales postponed during the lockdown, and so far this year the market is still 20% smaller than last year.



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#### **ARE YOU A 'GUIRI'?**

Chances are, if you are reading this then you are a 'Guiri.'

Spain's Royal Academy defines "guiri" (pronounced guee-ree) as a colloquial way of referring to a foreign tourist, but that doesn't go very far into describing what Spaniards consider to be a "guiri". It is really a somewhat pejorative term for a foreigner, usually a tourist, who happens to be in Spain and stands out as being pretty obviously not a local. The term is usually used to refer to fairerskinned people from the likes of northern Europeans. So regardless of whether you're a German tourist, an exchange student from Sweden or a British pensioner living in Spain, you could be called a "guiri". Wearing socks with sandals, calling a magdalena a 'bun' or ordering beans on toast in a Spanish cafe? Definitely a 'guiri.'

It is not necessary a derogatory term but can be when accompanied by something



mierda". "puto" another Spanish swear word, then the use of "guiri" isn't at

all friendly and is meant to be insulting. So it's all about tone and context. The origin of the word is unclear, some say it came came from the Romani-Spanish or from the 19th Century Carlist Wars.

During the 20th century "guiri" was the colloquial way to refer to a Spanish Civil Guard officer rather than to foreigners and the word "guirigay" means gibberish, chaos or racket (noise) in Spanish. .



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#### SEE CHRISTMAS LUNCH MENU ON PAGE 34!

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LOS ALTOS.





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Three Course - 9.95€

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Homemade Soup of the Day served with a crusty roll

Homemade Cajun Chloken Strips served on a bed of lettuce
with sweet chilli dip

Prawn Cocktail served on a bed of solad with rose marie sauce\*1€ supplement\*

Vegetable Spring Rolls served on a bed of lettuce with a sweet chilli dip

Pate & Oatcakes served with a side salad

Melon & Serrano Ham drizzled in honey with side salad

Tuna Salad

Egg Benedict served on a bad of salad with rose marie souce

#### Main Courses

Cod Goujons served with hand-cut chips & side salad

Breast of Chicken served with mash potatoes, broccoli, cauliflower &
carrots, with a side of peppercorn or mushroom sauce

Seampl served with had-cut chips & side salad

Park Schnitzel served with mash potato, broccoli, cauliflower & carrots, with a side of mushroom or peppercom sauce

Chilli con Carne served with boiled rice 🌙

Salad of the Day

Park Cutlets served with mash potatoes, broccoli, cauliflower & carrots, with a side of peppercom or mushroom sauce

Lamb Liver & Bacon topped with fried onlons served with served with mash potatoes, broccoli, cauliflower, carrots & a side of onlon gravy Vegetarian Cajun Pasta served with mushrooms, red onlons, red & red bell peppers, cooked in with cajun spices, white wine & garlic souce with gluten-free penne pasta & garlio bread

#### Desserts

Viennetta & Cream topped with chocolate sauce
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Two & Three Course includes a 1/2 pint of Amstel, a glass of house
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Check-out our Christmas Lunch menu Page 34



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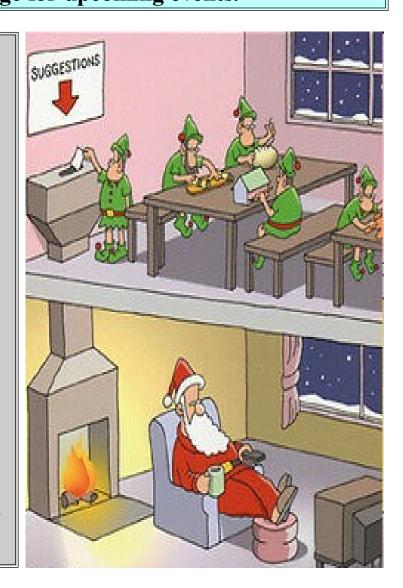
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#### **U.K.** Welfare Benefit Information

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.



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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.

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 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.





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# WELFARE SERVICE

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

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Web:www.helpathomecb.com

#### Acrobat?

"Oh, grandma, I sure am happy to see you," the little boy said to his grandmother on his mother's side. "Now maybe daddy will do that trick he has been promising us" The grandmother was curious. "What trick is that?" She asked.

"I heard him tell mommy that he would climb the walls if you came to visit" the little boy answered.

#### THE COVID-19 VACCINES

There is a lot of excitement about the announcements relating to a number of results of Covid-19 vaccines. These are known as the Pfizer/BioNTech Covid-19 vaccine and the Moderna Vaccine. It was thought that we might get a vaccine that was 40 or 50% effective, so to get 90 to 95% in these early results is quite astonishing. These new vaccines are based on a new technology called mRNA, , that's messengerRNA, quite unlike any vaccines previously developed. The front-running vaccines are all based on getting people's bodies to produce an artificial form of the virus's spike protein, which sticks up on its surface and is easy for the immune system to recognise. So instead of using a piece of the virus or a dead virus or attenuated virus, these vaccines actually puts in the genetic code into the body, which is thought to be a lot safer. So the body thinks that the virus is there, it thinks it's being attacked and it mounts an immune response, with antibodies and hopefully T-cells as well. If and when these are finally approved, they will be the fastest vaccines ever approved. The Measles Mumps Rubella Vaccine was also developed very fast and that took five years!

The World Health Organisation (WHO) has said that the most vulnerable people in every country must have the vaccine first, which should include the care workers. In the UK the first priority for the vaccines is going to be for care home residents and the people who staff them, as they have been at the high risk of dying from the disease. (In Spain, the virus deaths and infections in care home even in mid to late November are still being appallingly high.)

After that come the NHS workers and the over 80's, and then progressively younger age groups, down to the age of 50.

That's the First Phase and the government scientists say that that should cover around 99% of those who are at risk of dying from the disease.

Pfizer/BioNTech Covid-19 vaccine
But we haven't had the full details from the medical
trials yet and there are many things we don't know.
We do not know the effectiveness of the vaccines by
age group and we don't know how long the
vaccination protection is going to last. But crucially,
we don't know if the vaccinations will stop the
transmission of the disease.

We know it stops people getting ill, but we don't know if it stops people from becoming infected or if it stops them infecting other people and transmitting it to others.

The Pfizer/BioNTech vaccine has one major drawback in that it has to be stored between -70 and -80C, whereas the Moderna vaccine can be stored at -20C. Our province, Alicante, has the capacity to store more than 350,000 doses of the new vaccine at the lower temperatures in various hospitals, research centers, assisted reproduction clinics and universities. This should be sufficient, if properly coordinated, to start the inoculation campaign against

this province.
This capacity could be easily boosted.
Also one needs two doses of these two vaccines between three and four weeks apart, so you will not be protected for around 28 days. Pfizer

plans to make

50 million

the virus in



doses in 2020 and 1.3 billion 2021. There are seven billion people on the planet so vaccines from other sources will be required.

All the vaccines will probably be a little different, some more suited to certain ages and possibly geographical regions.

We are on the road to normality but we just don't know yet how long that road will be. If Spain has a policy for the introduction and dispersal of the vaccines, I have not seen it yet.

The roll-out of the vaccines to the whole population will take some time, so don't expect any miracles here before Easter.

The wearing of masks and social distancing are likely to be with us for many more months, at least until next autumn, say some.

Also the actual take-up of the vaccine will be key to its effectiveness. According to a poll by El Pais, only 24% of Spaniards would get the vaccine as soon as possible, while another four in ten believe there is a conspiracy behind the vaccinations.

More than 43% of those polled in the U.S. said they would not take the vaccine!



I love his work but I couldn't warm to him even if I was cremated next to him. Keith Richards on Chuck Berry





Look behind Rishi Sunak for the price of a pint now in the UK £5.25!





This old farmer buys a tractor to replace his horse but the tractor won't start. He calls a mechanic out to take a look at it and leaves him with it whilst he goes off to feed his pig. When he returns the mechanic has the tractor running sweetly. "What was it?" he asks. "Shit in the carb." replies the mechanic.

"Bloody hell!" says the farmer, "How often do I have to do that?"



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manager was upset so the
newspaper changed the headline
to "Arsenal to play with Dicks

out.".....A record number of women attended the match.



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I was at my granddaughter's place the other day and I asked her if she had a Yellow Pages.

She handed me her iPhone and said "get with the times granddad"

Well I killed the spider but the phone was completely fucked.









The Filton Centre, Los Balcones

#### Christmas Fayre Menu Available December

Wednesday to Saturday 12pm-2:30pm & 6pm-8:30pm

3 Course Special - €15.00

#### Starters

- \*\* Homemade Cream of Tomato and Basil & Roasted Sweet Pepper Soup with Crispy Croutons & Crusty Bread \*\*
  - \*\* Prawn, Apple & Celery Cocktail bound in Lemon Mayo served on a bed of Mixed Leaves \*\*
    - \*\* Freshly Crumbed Deep Fried Brie with Redcurrant Jelly \*\*

#### **Main Courses**

- \*\* Traditional Roast Turkey served with Chipolata, Homemade Sausage Meat Stuffing & Cranberry \*\*
  - \*\* Slow Roast Topside of Beef with Horseradish and Homemade Yorkshire Pudding \*\*
  - \*\* Pan Fried Fillet of Salmon with a White Wine Cream & Chive Sauce \*\*
- \*\* Savoury Roasted Mediterranean Vegetable Crumble in a Tomato and Basil Sauce

  \*\*

All served with a selection of seasonal vegetables and potatoes.

#### Desserts

- \*\* 'Classic' Steamed Christmas Pudding with Brandy Sauce \*\*
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  - \*\* Alabama Double Chocolate Fudge Cake with Fresh Cream or Ice Cream \*\*

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- I'm going ice-fishing. I've always thought of myself as a man of the great *al frezco*.

- Niles, you get a runny nose watching ice-skating on TV.

Niles and Frasier Crane, Frasier

# 32 Applying Online for a Padron Appointment In Orihuela.

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

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

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

The web address is located below and is, helpfully, also available in the English language. When you first try to access the site, you may get a warning saying that this particular website does not have a security certificate. I just ignored it. Aside from the appointments facility, the website also contains information relating to participation, transparency etc.

https://orihuela.governalia.es/en/



#### **Migrants & Curfews**

Boats carrying around 2,200 unauthorised migrants arrived on the Canary Islands during just one weekend during November, prompting an urgent call for assistance from the Spanish territory's leader. According to the International Organisation for Migration, around 11,000 migrants have arrived on the islands this year – seven times more than during the same period last year; 414 people are reported to have died while attempting the crossing. Most of the migrants come from west Africa and the Sahel. The surge is being ascribed to the closure of land borders owing to the pandemic, and agreements between the EU, Libya and Turkey that have made it harder to reach Europe via the Mediterranean. This week, more than 1,500 people were being sheltered in tents on the Arguineguín dock in Mogán, a tourist town on Gran Canaria.

The Spanish prime minister, Pedro Sánchez, has called for calm following a spate of protests against Covid restrictions. Spain is subject to a six-month state of emergency, and an overnight curfew, though not yet another full lockdown. During November protests against the measures turned violent in Madrid, Barcelona and other cities. Italy has also seen violent protests over the past week in cities including Turin, Bologna, Florence, Rome and Naples. Although it has not been as hard hit by the second wave as Spain, cases are now rising rapidly. In response, the government has introduced a nationwide overnight curfew, and a new three-tier system of restrictions and partial lockdowns.

Just saying!

A wife was making a breakfast of fried eggs for her husband. Suddenly, her husband burst into the kitchen. "Careful," he said, "CAREFUL! Put in some more butter! Oh my GOD! You're cooking too many at once. TOO MANY! Turn them! TURN THEM NOW! We need more butter. Oh my GOD! WHERE are we going to get MORE BUTTER? They're going to STICK! Careful CAREFUL! I said be CAREFUL! You NEVER listen to me when you're cooking! Never! Turn them! Hurry up! Are you CRAZY? Have you LOST your mind? Don't forget to salt them. You know you always forget to salt them. Use the salt. USE THE SALT! The wife stared at him. "What in the world is wrong with you? You think I don't know how to fry a couple of eggs?"

The husband calmly replied, "I just wanted to show you what it feels like when I'm driving."



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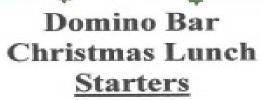
I've had a terrible day. I got home from work and my house was burnt down, the wife's run away with my best mate, the two kids have pinched my car and gone to sea, and Liverpool lost. I can't understand it cos they were winning at half time.

Tom O'Connor

His teammates nicknamed him 'Dracula' because he was no good with crosses.

Mick Miller

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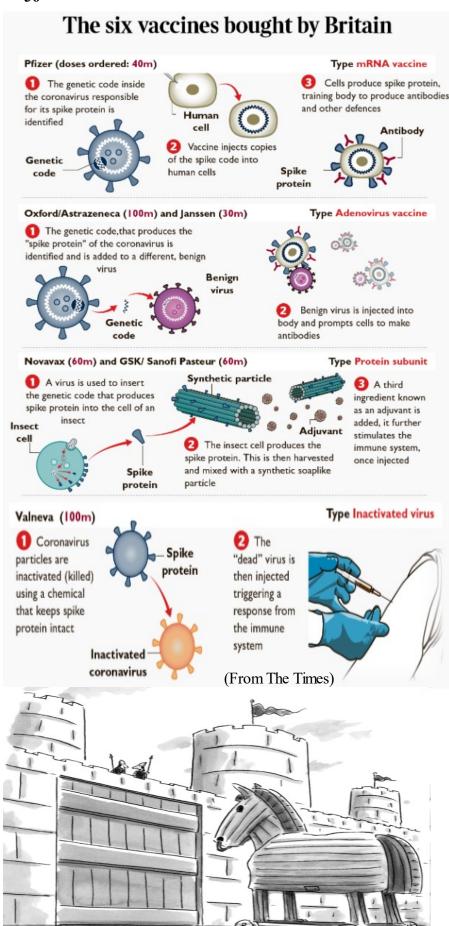


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#### An American Farm Story.

A farmer was selling his peaches door to door. He knocked on a door and a shapely 30-something woman dressed in a very sheer negligee answered the door. He raised his basket to show her the peaches and asked, "Would you like to buy some peaches?" She pulled the top of the negligee to one side and asked, "Are they as firm as this?" He nodded his head and said, "Yes ma'am," and a little tear ran from his eye. Then she pulled the other side of her negligee off asking, "Are they nice and pink like this?" The farmer said, "Yes," and another tear came from the other eye. Then she opened the bottom of her negligee and asked, "Are they as fuzzy as this?" He again said, "Yes," and broke down crying. She asked, "Why on earth are you crying?"

Drying his eyes he replied, "The drought got my corn, the flood got my soybeans, a tornado levelled my barn, and now (hopefully) I think I'm gonna get fucked out of my peaches."

Twelve hunting rifles; eleven spotty youths; ten fleas a-leaping; nine screaming babies; 8 P45s; seven recovering alcoholics; six DMAs; five direct payments; four Fresh Starts; three crisis loans; two missed Evs, and a scally in a hoodie.

Alternative version of 'The 12 days of Christmas' circulated by staff at a Jobcentre in Birkenhead

"We could always regift it."

- How would a beer feel, Mr Peterson?
- Pretty nervous if I was in the room. Woody & Norm, *Cheers*



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#### **Lime Bar Fishing SUNBATHING Club**

The Dodger's 3-man team handicap match took place at Bigastro. Unfortunately, Dodger could not make it but we still had 17 anglers on the bank. A fantastic turn out, which stressed out 3 Rods (our match secretary) as he was only expecting 15 and buggered up his team calculations. It was too much for him to work out the new teams that early in the morning, so it was decided to fish the match, then do a draw in the Lime Bar later.

Conditions were good, but we know that Bigastro will fish great one day then crap the next. You guessed it; we had a crap day with several blanks. At the last match we had here, the fish were caught in the high numbered pegs, this match they were in the low numbers! Sweeney had a good day with 5.9 kilos.

Back at the bar the handicapped teams were worked out, then the weights were allocated to each team.

The result was close. Just John's team totalled 6.5 kilos and Ball Boys totalled 5.9 (Sweeney's fish), so Sweeney very nearly won it on his own. Well done to the winners; Just John, BFC & Tom Thumb.

Due to covid restrictions, we had our annual trophy presentations after our monthly meeting. All went smoothly thanks to 3 Rods (annuancer), Mark (presenter), Demon (snapper) and the winners for taking the trophies home. I will never have another year this good while my a\*~\*e points South!

We also had a couple of special prizes on the night. Fagin was presented a "net trophy" (donated by Dodger) for catching the largest weight during last winter's league. The night was rounded off with the Antique man (Tom Thumb) getting a prize for his enthusiasm (which is often misplaced). He earned this award for trying to humanely unhook a crab

but ended up in hospital for a tetanus jab and on another occasion, for arriving at El Bosquet in the dark so he could fish peg 1. He fished it for 3 hours before realising that Pepe had removed all the fish! See photo of the winners except for BFC who had to dash off to play pool!

The monthly match was fished on the Eden canal. A good draw on this canal is essential as it is very peggy, but you can usually catch something (even if it is a bleak or a crab). As we had too many anglers for the pegs available, we added an extra 4 pegs on a stretch of the Segura (just upstream). Whoever drew these extra pegs had the best chance of winning as it always fishes



well...... However, when they arrived at these extra pegs, they had to pick their route around the pools of water where the river had flooded overnight. Fair game to them though, they persevered and only 1 of them blanked. On the Eden canal proper everybody caught but all the best weights came from the usual higher numbered pegs 11 to 17. A special mention has to go to new boy "Demon" Nigel who has fished 2 matches and come 3<sup>rd</sup> in both. Well done. On the day, Seadog was runner up to Ghost (the 2<sup>nd</sup> time on this venue) with 4.04 kilos to 10.72 kilos. I drew the best peg (17) but hadn't had a bite in the 1<sup>st</sup> 2 hours, so I tried bleak snatching. I couldn't even catch a bleak! As a last resort I resorted to the old favourite, a huge lump of bread flake trotted down the middle and hoped for the best. I ended up having a cracking day with 13 carp, 2 gold fish and a big mullet.

Some people love to get a mention in here every month! A roving snitch reported the following.....

3 Rods was doing his usual, fishing with 2 lines in the water and a third rod setup behind him. He wasn't having any luck on his short pole inside line so decided to bring that in and lob out a ledger. The short pole, he laid behind him out of the way, but he had forgotten to remove the piece of sweetcorn from the hook (tut tut). As he was concentrating on his 2 lines in the water, he heard a noise behind him. He turned round to see a duck wandering down the bank, piece of sweetcorn in it's beak, towing 3 Rods' pole. Poles are expensive so 3 Rods hollered and took chase. This scared the shits out of the duck who flew into the river, along with the pole, taking it to the far bank out of reach. 3 Rods employed various methods to snare the pole and eventually dragged it to the near bank where Fagash had to assist him landing and unhooking the duck.

Match rules state that a spare rod can be set up behind you, but with no bait on the hook. Now we know why! No daffys were injured in this episode, just 3 Rods' pride!

Stay safe Fishy Fingers! The Ghost



#### **NATIONAL RED DAYS 2021**

January 1st: New Year's Day. (Friday)

April 2nd: Good Friday

May 1st: Workers' Day (Saturday)

October 12th: Spanish National Day, (Tuesday)

December 6th: Constitution Day (Monday)

December 8th: Immaculate Conception (Wednesday)

December 25th: Christmas Day (Saturday)

VALENCIA RED DAYS 2021

January 6th: Epiphany / Three Kings Day

(Wednesday)

March 19th: St Joseph's Day/Father's Day (Friday)

April 5th: Easter Monday June 24th: San Juan (Friday)

Your local municipality will also have at least two days of holidays, dependent on the local patron saint days.

#### **RED DAYS -VALENCIA 2020**

1 Nov Sun All Saints' Day; 6 Dec Sun Constitution Day; 8 Dec Tue Immaculate Conception; 25 Dec Fri Christmas Day.

#### Some Quickies!

What are the three signs of old age?

1. Becoming forgetful

2.

When single ladies get to the age of 50, they tend to get lots of cats. This phenomenon is known as many paws.

The man who invented the remote control has died at the age 96. He was found down the back of the sofa.

In my old age, I am like a fine wine ... fifteen percent alcohol by volume.

"This is your great-grandma and great-grandpa," I told my grandson as I handed him a photo of my parents. "Do you think I look like them?"
He shook his head. "Not yet."

Regular naps prevent old age, especially if you take them while driving.

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- My grandfather gave me this gun when I was a kid. He shot a German with it. - Was that in the Second World War? - No, it were in Benidorm. He had a row over a sun lounger.

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Max & Paddy, Phoenix Nights

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

www.dreamhills2apartment.com/