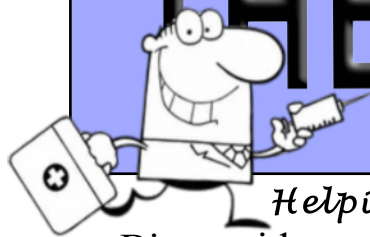


THE DREAM SCENE

NEWSLETTER

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



Bienvenido a todos and welcome to the April 1st, 2021 edition. Issue No.163

Not unlike February, March here was split between several days of **blue skies** with temperatures in the mid to high 20's to days of **monsoon-like rainfall** and floods in low lying areas, particularly Torrevieja. Our external natural gas boiler gave up the ghost during one biblical-type downpour. Fortunately, David Hudson (advert in page 37) arrived same day to put it right, without dramas.....and in the rain!

Otherwise here, it is all Covid or Brexit issues. It is now much more difficult for Brit's to move to Spain or to purchase property here. The financial requirements for residency appear quite **onerous**.

On the other hand, Portugal has now become **much more attractive** to expat's.

When Covid matters begin to settle here, Spain should look at the **Portuguese D7 visa** template. Although many of the visa requirements are similar to that of Spain, Portugal has a much more lenient policy when it comes to applicants' wealth. In order to get the Portuguese D7 visa, applicants will need to prove that they have enough funding for 12

months: €7.200 for the first adult, €3.600 for second or more adults, and €2.160 per child. Portugal also offers **several tax advantages** to expat's who become resident, which would make you wonder why more of us haven't moved there!

In the case of SARS-CoV-2, scientists estimated that between **60% and 70%** of the inhabitants of a territory must be immune to stop the circulation. The World Health Organization (WHO) continues to cite that figure but, over the past month, experts such as Anthony Fauci have gradually revised these forecasts. In January, in an interview with CNBC, Dr. Fauci pointed to "between 75-80% and 85%." A few weeks later, in statements to the New York Times, he hinted that the final figure **could approach 90%**.

It is good to hear that **Dal's Supermarket** in Via Park V is once again getting in supplies of dehydrated water in time for the summer.

Get yours now before stocks run out!

Hoping you are all keeping well and safe.

Mick, Tid & the Dream Scene Team

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Angela's Cartoon



'I'm bored - there's nothing exciting to do!'

Support bacteria - they're the only culture some people have.
95% of people are completely stupid! Luckily, I'm in the other 10%.

The province of Alicante has suffered the biggest blow in Spain from the third wave of the coronavirus in terms of mortality. During the first two months of this year 4,575 people died.

During the first two months of 2020, before the Covid virus crisis began locally, 2,835 people died. No other Spanish province reached such a high figure for that period, which demonstrates **the intensity of the third wave** of the pandemic here. Within the Alicante Province, the hardest hit by the third wave were Alcoy and Elda, suffering 414 & 302 deaths respectively.

Thankfully, the region of Valencia has now benefited from the recent lockdown with **the lowest incidence nationally** of the Covid virus. However, this can vary up or down on a day-to-day basis. Despite the continued partial lockdown and curfew over the Easter period, **the increase in 'non-locals'** is very noticeable.

The mass Covid vaccination, scheduled to begin in April, will be carried out by Primary Care personnel, supported if necessary by hospital personnel, specialty centres and by volunteer nurses. Patients will be summoned by SMS to avoid saturation of the switchboards or the Health app and the criteria will be based on age ranges. However, the promised boost in vaccinations commencing in April depends on the chemical companies reaching agreed delivery dates and some of these, particularly AstraZeneca, have not been met. The weekly vaccine rate in most regions here, would have to **quadruple to achieve herd immunity** by the end of summer!

During the second week of March, the Alicante health authorities have stopped giving a first dose of the vaccine to some over 80's. This is because of a shortage of vaccines and the doses being held back to ensure that those over 90 who have had their first vaccine dose will then get their second jab.

Some operating theatres in the region are now opening in the afternoons in order to decrease the backlog of surgeries, while around **200+** patients a week are being sent to the private hospitals for procedures.

I'm not addicted to cocaine. I just like the way it smells. Richard Pryor

Torreveija has kept its weekly market stalls at **half occupancy** since December, much to the indignation of the merchants.

The Prosecutor's Office has taken to the courts **fifty bars in the city of Alicante** for hacking the signal of the broadcasts of the Spanish LaLiga de Fútbol. They are accused of a crime against intellectual property and a year in jail together with the payment of a fine being demanded from each of them. Much of this relates to matches in December 2018 & 2019. Similar actions were held in Benidorm, Alcoy, Elche and Torreveija. Some of these trials have already been held in Spain, which have ended with convictions. While the Public Ministry only claims compensation of **260 euros** for the economic damage caused to the holders of the rights, LaLiga de Fútbol asks them for **1,235 euros per case** considering that it was a situation that lasted for five months and not just the day on which the police operation for the one match was carried out.

Torreveija is to spend **€4.2 million on upgrading its Sports Palace**. No doubt Orihuela may repair a few pavements in the Costa!

A street sweeper has been arrested in Torreveija for drug dealing. However, it seems that this was not just the selling of the odd bag but was actually a coordinated gang. He sold cocaine directly to customers while doing his street cleaning earning up to around €600 a day. He also employed four Spanish men and five women between the ages of 25 and 80. The 80-year-old woman, who was the mother of one of the traffickers, was paid €100 a month for making little packages of the cocaine. The other gang members were **paid €600 each** a month but were expected to be available from 8am to 11pm Monday to Saturday. Any shortages or shortcomings were treated brutally by the street cleaner. After searching three of their homes, police took away 300 grams of rock cocaine, 4,000 in cash, some weapons, several telephones, two vehicles and a motorcycle.



After almost 12 years the Orihuela Costa Emergency Centre should be a reality by the summer months. € 2,064,690.11 was spent on the current project. The centre was to have been built originally in 2010, but the original company went bankrupt after being paid €985,000, which was very careless! The plot size is 4,700 sq mtrs, the building occupying 3,500 sq mtrs. The site could accommodate National Police, Civil Guard, Local Police, Firefighters, Civil Protection, etc., although agreements on staffing have yet to be agreed. In the basement there will be a parking lot, gym, cells and control plant. The ground floor will have a public service area, offices, changing rooms, sleeping area and dining room. Outside the building there will also be the helipad. The Emergency Centre will allow for a 24-hour local police presence. It has been admitted that it is unworkable for firefighters to have a permanent 24-hour base there since the main base of Torrevieja is only six kilometres away.



The torrent of water during Storm DANA that fell in September 2019 raced through the bed of the usually dry Nacimiento River and destroyed the section of road at its natural mouth at La Glea beach. Then, Storm Gloria, in January 2020, increased the destruction to the road. on this highway that connected the first coastline of Campoamor with the rest of Orihuela Costa. See above. The road, on Avenida de las Adelfas, has been closed since then, a year and a half ago, and the damaged stretch of road has now been replaced with a footpath.



However, as you can see from the photo above, the heavy rainfalls during March this year flooded the whole area and has now taken away the footpath!

Spain's parliament has given **final approval to a euthanasia law** that makes the country the seventh in the world to legalise assisted suicide. The law, one of the election pledges of Pedro Sánchez, the prime minister, was approved by 202 votes in favour to 140 against with two abstentions. It was opposed by the conservative People's Party and the far-right Vox, who said they would launch an appeal at the Supreme Court.

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SUNDAY

ROAST

DINNER

12 -5pm



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FUN MUSIC BINGO AT 2.30pm



There are some horrible people about.

I heard a cat crying outside last night.

I opened the front door and found four Arsenal fans were playing football with it.

I was just about to phone the RSPCA when the cat went 1-0 up.

The European Commission said British citizens will not need visas to visit the European Union for short-term stays. However, this policy recommendation is dependent on the UK continuing to offer reciprocal visa-free access to European Union citizens.

Although British citizens will not need a visa to visit Europe, **they will need an ETIAS visa waiver from 2022.**

The European Travel Information and Authorisation System is being introduced to register visitors from visa-exempt non-EU nations. The EU Commission has confirmed that UK citizens will need to apply for ETIAS to cross an external Schengen Area border after Brexit.

Fortunately, ETIAS is easier to obtain than a visa, the registration process is fully online with no need to visit an embassy or consulate.

ETIAS is being introduced to boost security across the EU, visitors will be screened before they arrive, preventing potentially dangerous individuals from crossing the border legally.

An approved ETIAS authorisation will be valid for 3 years, or until the passport expires, British travellers won't need to apply each time they visit Europe. Like other visa-exempt third-nationals, UK passport holders can stay in the Schengen zone for up to 90 days per 180-day period.

Like all other ETIAS applicants, British passport holders will pay a small fee which will cover the system's running costs. With surplus revenue generated from ETIAS being added to the EU general budget, it could be claimed that UK tourists will continue to pay into the EU budget after Brexit.

All Brexit and ETIAS are coincidental, ETIAS is not a consequence of Brexit, however, British passport holders would not have required the travel authorisation had the UK not left the European Union.

Non-lucrative residence visa: the best option for retirees looking to move to Spain, or anyone who can afford it. An applicant must show they have €25,816 at their disposal for one year (€32,270 if it's a couple),

comprehensive health insurance and not work while residing in Spain among other requirements.

The financial requirement is obviously quite onerous for many. This may be revised in the future as residency applications from Brits will drop off. It is encouraging that countries such as **Portugal and Greece are now lowering the financial requirement.** (Portugal now only looks for something similar to the minimum wage in that country.) If Spain were to do the same it would certainly help boost the shattered economy in many of the regions. However here, there are many other hurdles to cross for this type of visa. You will also require a health insurance policy, a medical certificate, a police report, a visit to the Spanish consulate or embassy in the UK and all documents must be translated into Spanish and must also be certified with the Hague Apostille process.

Family member of an EU citizen visa: If you're the spouse or family member of a Spaniard or EU citizen, the road towards getting residency in Spain will be fairly straightforward as long as they can prove they have the means to take care of you.

Family regrouping visa: British or other non-EU residents in Spain who are in possession of a valid work or residency permit can bring over their parents, children or spouses if they've been in the country for more than a year and they can prove that the applicants are financially dependent on them.

It will be interesting to see if Spain - or at least some regions - will recognise the economic benefits lost by complicating the visits of Brit's to their regions, particularly the Costa Blanca, Costa del Sol, Catalonia and Madrid.

There is also the question of the many, many **unregistered Brit's** in Spain at the moment.

These now risk fines and/or deportation and you know how the Spanish love their fines!

The following website is very helpful...

<https://wherecani.live/blog/view/non-lucrative-visa-spain/#what-are-the-advantages-of-the-non-lucrative-visa>

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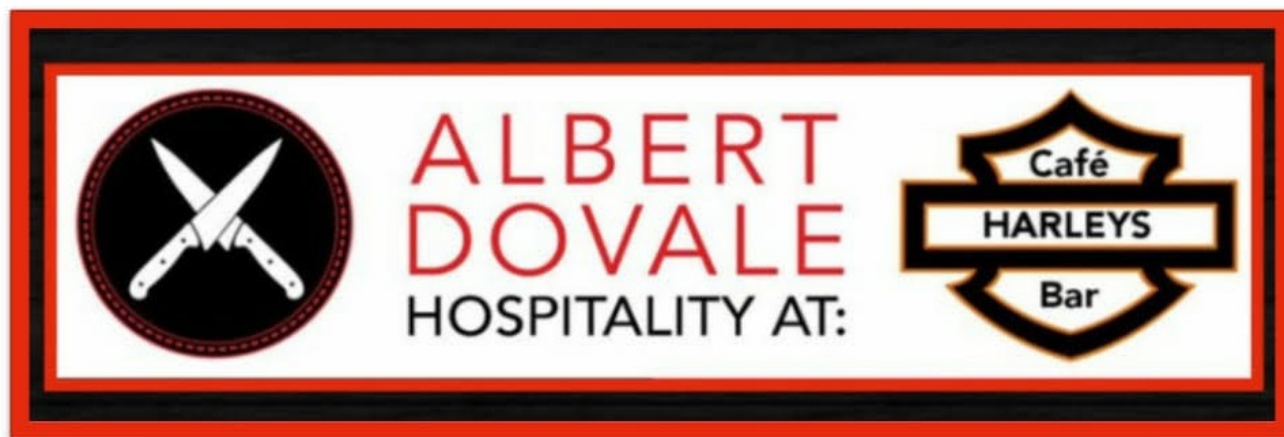
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MESSENGER - CAFE HARLEY'S BAR



There is little doubt that the lockdowns in Valencia seems to have been a challenge to many to see how they could evade them. In the province of Alicante alone, police have issued some 90,000 complaints against the evaders since March 13,2020. Even the top fine of €6,000 does not seem to deter some from attempting ‘The Great Escape.’ What has been very entertaining however, has been the excuses offered by those who have been nabbed.

Reported nationally was the case of the ‘Man from Madrid.’ Who reported on social media that he had come from Madrid, and despite the Valencian closure, intended to infect the locals in Torrevieja with the Covid-19 virus. Although it was intended as a joke, he was traced and nabbed by the police and exiled from the municipality by a judge during April 2020. Several months later he was ‘forgiven’ and the case closed as he had committed no crime.

During the first confinement days, people looked for an excuse or ruse to go for a long walk. Dogs were taken for very, very long walks. Some people took it in turns to walk the same dog each day. No doubt the dog was knackered but one ‘walker’ got fined.

Taking the walking of pet’s permissions too far, one lady in Alicante decided to take her canary in a cage for a walk. (Probably a Man U supporter!) She was also fined, when the policemen stopped laughing.

The long home confinement also put family relationships to the test. An old man surprised

on the street by police initially claimed that he was going to buy basic necessities and ended up confessing that he needed to leave his house because he could not put up with his wife anymore because she kept him "doing things all day."

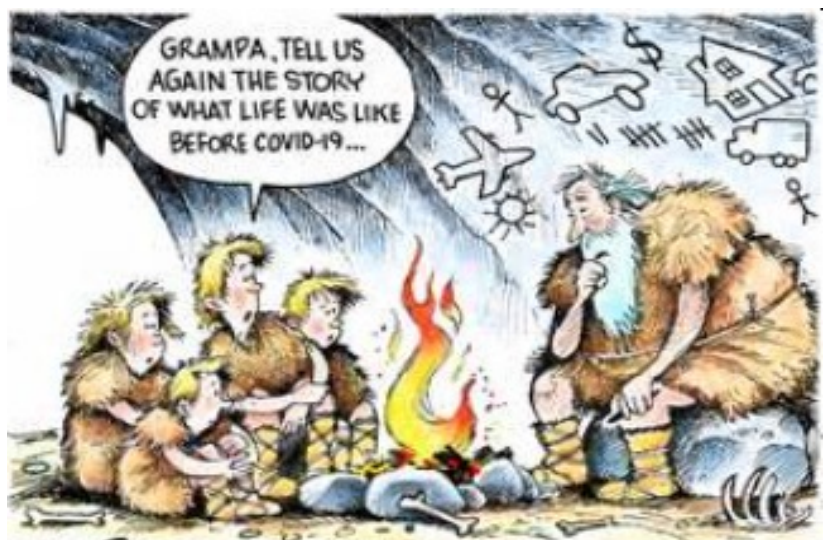
Then there was the guy who said he only went to the supermarket to buy a loaf of bread, but when the police checked his shopping bag he only had a frozen loaf. And of course the ‘affairs of the heart’ were also going to come into play. Despite the perimeter closure a chap travelled from Murcia to the Alicante capital as he had not seen his girlfriend for over a month and wanted to visit her to make love to her. He defended that sex was a basic need like eating, but he did not avoid the fine and had to return to Murciawithout any nookie!

Sex also starred in another unusual excuse in a control of the perimeter closure by the Local Police in Alicante. A neighbour from Orihuela told the agents that he was going to help his father because he was with a prostitute and was suffering from palpitations after taking a Viagra. "Are you serious?" an agent asked him before he ended up confessing that it was a lie and that he was actually the one who was heading to a whorehouse. And no, Percival, I don’t have their phone number!

Unfortunately as humorous as these cases may be, the tidal wave of private parties in homes and bottle parties among young people seems to continue with the severity of the fines not seeming to be much of a deterrent.

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VIA PARK V.



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TWEET!**





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OPENING TIMES
MONDAY - SATURDAY
11am - 5pm



HELP Vega Baja (registered charity) San Miguel Centre New Opening Times



The elective committee of HELP Vega Baja charity based in San Miguel, are pleased to announce that their charity shop, advice & information centre, and mobility equipment hire is now open Monday, Wednesday, and Fridays from 10 am until 1.30pm

President, Michele Masson, said “thanks to our dedicated volunteers we are once again in a position to open 3 days each week. This is a great step for us, and we look forward to seeing our customers back with the great offers we have lined up for them!

We currently have various volunteer vacancies – both administration and in our shop and would be pleased to hear from anyone interested in coming on board with this great charity. To find out more about volunteering with HELP Vega Baja, please call Richard on 966 723 733 or email office@helpvegabaja.com

Can we also please remind everyone that even though our office is only open 3 days each week, our elective committee remain available to answer questions and offer support outside of these times and can be contacted on the above number and email, via the HELP Vega Baja Facebook page or by WhatsApp on 634 313 325

If you wish to support the charity, we are happy to receive donations of clothing and bric a brac to sell in our shop on any of our open days. These funds are then used to help support those families struggling within our communities. Financial donations can be made via our website at www.helpvegabaja.com

Thank you!

Help Vega Baja – helping people in the community for over 40 years

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Early Wynn



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**LOOKOUT FOR NEW DEVELOPMENTS
COMING VERY SHORTLY
FROM US TO YOU!**

A 350!

A young girl started work in the village chemist shop. She was very shy about having to sell condoms to the public. The owner was going on holiday for a couple of days and asked if she would be willing to run the shop on her own. She had to confide in him her worries about selling the contraceptives.

"Look," he said. "My regular customers don't ask for condoms, they'll ask for a 310 [small] a 320[medium] or a 330[large]. The word condom won't even be used.

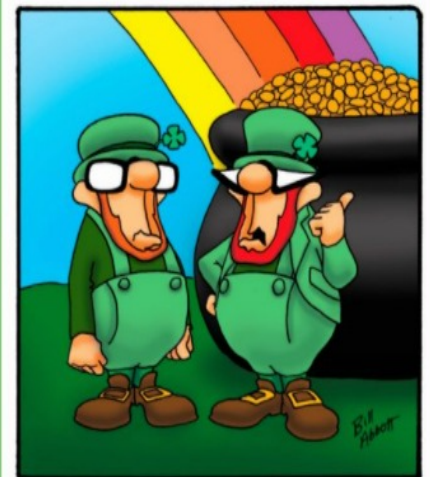
The first day was fine but on the second day a black guy came in to the shop, put out his hand and said "350". The girl panicked. She phoned the owner on his mobile and told him of her predicament.

"Go back in and check if he has a yellow bucket hanging between his legs" her boss told her.

She peeped through the door and saw the yellow bucket hanging between his legs.

"Yes!" she said " He's got one hanging there!"

The boss said "Go back in and give him £3.50, he's the window cleaner!"



"So when I said 'hide the gold in an inconspicuous place', you put it under a frickin rainbow?"

Commodities trader Mercuria Energy Group Ltd. struck a deal last summer to buy **\$36 million of copper** from a Turkish supplier. But when the cargoes started arriving in China, all it found were containers full of painted rocks. The saga unfolded like a gangland thriller, with the Swiss trading house saying it's been the victim of cargo fraud. Before its journey from a port near Istanbul to China even began, about 6,000 tons of blister copper in more than 300 containers were switched with jagged paving stones, spray-painted to resemble the semi-refined metal. Turkish police took 13 people into custody in relation to the faux-copper scheme. It appears that copper was initially loaded into the first shipment of containers, before being surveyed by an inspection company. Seals used to prevent fraud were then affixed to the containers. But under the cover of darkness, it is alleged the containers were opened and the copper **replaced with the painted paving stones**. The fraudsters switched between fake and real container seals in an effort to avoid detection.

Shakira, Neil Young, Bob Dylan, Barry Manilow, and other veteran musicians are selling their catalogues to companies like Universal and Hipgnosis Songs Fund, which have spent more than **\$1.5 billion to snap up at least 61,000 songs**. Because almost every piece of content on your television, tablet, or phone, needs some sort of musical accompaniment, these will attract fees or licences. While Dylan's **rumoured \$300-\$400 million payday** might be the high-water mark for catalogues now, Hipgnosis expects their portfolio to triple in value by the decade's end.

The villagers of Hurstbourne Tarrant in Hampshire have been urged to stop putting **erotic fiction in a phone box converted to a communal library** – after a selection of “salacious adult literature” was donated. Hurstbourne Tarrant parish council issued the plea after removing a series of “inappropriate” books from the kiosk. “Please find another outlet for your collection,” said the council, adding that most of the customers were children. “They know who it is in the village,” said council chairman Ian Kitson, “and they aren't very well thought of.”

A karaoke singer was fined **£2,748** by a London council – for his “terrible” renditions of Abba hits. Jason Harvey, 50, held a string of late-night karaoke parties, which prompted **150 complaints** from his neighbours. “They sing, if that's what you can call it, at the top of their voices,” said one. In his defence, he claimed he only “fired up the karaoke machine” on weekends, adding: “I admit **I'm no singer**, but I have a go. What are we expected to do, sit in our homes silently?”

A helicopter pilot has been accused of flouting lockdown rules by **making an 80-mile round trip** to pick up a beef sandwich. The unnamed man bought the snack from Chipping Farm Shop near Preston, which later posted footage of him landing the chopper, along with the promotional caption: “When your customers are literally flying in for your roast beef in caramelised onion gravy barmes”. It was spotted by a local resident, who tracked the flight online to Salford. Police are investigating. Spanish police refer to these Covid informers as **'Window police.'**

The Confession.

An old man walks into a confessional one morning and tells the priest next to him that he is 87 years old. "I had been completely loyal to my wife for 65 years until last night," he confessed.

"I was propositioned by two college girls, and I followed them.

We did it twice," he said.

"I see." said the priest "How long has it been since your last confession?"

The man replied, "Never, I'm Jewish."

The priest asks, "Then why are you telling me this?"

The man replies, "I'm telling everybody!"



Mike Heighway
Pension Services

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

BREXIT AND YOUR PENSION

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

Contact me on 634305881 to discuss your options.

NEED A FINANCIAL ADVISER?

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

Contact me on 634305881 to see if I can help.

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Visit our website: www.mhpensions.co.uk

A man was riding on a full bus, minding his own business, when the gorgeous woman next to him started to breast-feed her baby. The baby wouldn't take it, so she said, "Come on, sweetie, eat it all up or I'll have to give it to this nice man next to us."

Five minutes later the baby was still not feeding, so she said, "Come on, honey. Take it or I'll give it to this nice man here."

A few minutes later the anxious man blurted out, "Come on, kid, make up your mind, I was supposed to get off four stops ago!"

(Sue Robinson)

BEING BRITISH!

Being British is about driving a German car to an Irish pub for a Belgian beer. Then, on the way home, grabbing an Indian curry or a Turkish kebab to sit on a Swedish sofa and watch USA shows on a Japanese TV. But most of all being suspicious of anything foreign! Oh, and only in Britain can you get a pizza to your home faster than a ruddy ambulance!

And only in Britain do banks leave both doors open but chain the pens to the counter. Also, supermarkets make sick people walk to the back of the shop for their prescriptions whilst healthy people get their cigarettes from the front. We might be British, but fuck, we're funny!

I haven't been putting in the various bus schedules as these are regularly being changed due to the pandemic.

However, thanks to Help Vega Baja, I can report the new Torrevieja/Airport ones.

Torrevieja - airport

11:00 - 12:00 - 13:00 - 16:00 - 20:00

Airport - Torrevieja

12:00 - 13:00 - 14:00 - 17:00 - 21:00

'Or What?'

The husband tells the doctor that his wife has lost interest in sex and hasn't had an orgasm for a year. The doctor assures him that he will find a solution, asks him to send his wife in, and wait outside. The wife tells the doctor, "You see doctor, we have a lot of mortgages and our jobs do not pay well. I take a cab every morning and the driver asks, "Are you going to pay me this time, lady, or what?" I take the 'or what'. In the office, my boss asks "Are you going to finish the job today or what?" I take the 'or what'. In the evening, the cab driver asks, "Are you going to pay me this time at least or what?" I take the 'or what' again.

I am tired and exhausted by the 'or whats' by the time I return home. Can you help me out?"

The doctor thinks for a minute and says, "Certainly, I can. But first, should I tell all of this to your husband or what?"

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AND FOOD SPECIALS
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WHEN LOCKDOWN EASES**

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& GARY: 602 596 492

**Are you British, non-resident in Spain
and own property here?**

Firstly, your previous ability to come to Spain and stay for say most of a year and then return to the UK is gone.

The existing rule - the same one already in place for all non-EU citizens wanting to spend time in EU countries - states that you can spend 90 out of every 180 days in the EU without needing to get visas or residency. There is an online calculator which helps you calculate this -

<https://www.schengenvisainfo.com/visa-calculator/>

It is worth remembering the following -

The rule allows for a 90 day stay in every 180, so in total in the course of a year you can spend 180 days in Spain, but just not all at one time.

The rule applies to the whole of the EU, so if you spend a whole three months in Spain you can't then go for a week in Athens within the same 180 day period. The clock only stops once you leave the EU and head to a non-EU country (which the UK now is.)

Non EU nationals looking to reside in Spain for more than 90 days require a visa for entry into Spain. The non-lucrative residence visa allows you to reside in Spain, but does not permit a professional activity nor employment.

The non-lucrative residence visa application must be submitted at the Spanish Consulate of the applicant's home country and include Application form, Valid passport or travel document, Criminal record document or equivalent, Documentation proving sufficient financial means, Documentation proving medical insurance & Medical certificate. See Page 5 for more. The Consulate's deadline for processing the application is three months. If the visa is granted, the applicant must enter Spain within the validity period of the visa (maximum 3 months). Within one month of entering Spain, the foreign national must register and personally apply for the residence card. However, if you wish to spend €500,000 on a property here there is always the Golden Visa! Who knows, in time the Valencian Government might try to do something about the 90-day period, but that would be out-of-step with the rest of the Schengen Area.

It was eight years ago that my pal James came running out of the room shouting
'It's a boy! It's a boy!'
He never went back to Thailand.

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EXPATS TO GET THEIR BRITISH VOTE BACK?

The Sunday Times reported on March 7 that some of Britain's.... expatriates and tax exiles will soon be able to vote in British elections for the first time in 20 years. Buried in the March budget was a plan to scrap a 2002 rule that prevents citizens from voting in British polls if they have lived abroad for more than 15 years.

The new rules will also give the vote back to thousands of British expatriates who retired or set up businesses abroad. An estimated five million British citizens live outside the UK, but only 230,000 of them registered to vote in the 2019 election, according to the Electoral Commission.

One tycoon who will benefit from the change said: "The cynical view would be there's a gross excess of Conservatives over Labour in the offshore community. It wouldn't surprise me if that turned out to be the rationale."

A Cabinet Office spokesman said: "Most of British expats retain deep ties to the UK. Many have family here, are planning to return, have a lifetime of hard work behind them or may even have fought for our country."

Truth!

One lazy Sunday morning, the wife and I were quite and thoughtful, sitting around the breakfast table, when I said to her unexpectedly, "When I die, I want you to sell all my stuff, immediately."

"Now why would you want me to do something like that?" she asked.

"I figure a woman as fine as yourself would eventually remarry and I don't want some other asshole using my stuff."

She looked at me intently and said: "What makes you think I'd marry another asshole!!."

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LOS ALTOS.



**Domino Bar are back serving
from 9:30am through to 17:45pm!!**

**Last orders for drinks are at 17:15pm &
carry outs available until 17:45pm !!**

**Food served Monday to Saturday from 9:30am to 16:30pm &
everybody's favourite Sunday lunches are available
from 12:30pm to 16:30pm !!**

**Petanque is back !! Competitions we be restarting soon
for club members *more information to follow***

- We ask for any social groups to please let us know beforehand how many people will be joining each week. This is due to the limitation on seating (4 people per table)
- We remind you once again that masks (covering both mouth & nose) **MUST** be worn at all times unless seated at your table !!

Petanque Regulations ~

- Singles & doubles games only !!
- Anybody wishing to use our patanque pistes must book in advance, this is due to the limitation on people allowed per piste !!
- We remind you once again that masks (covering both mouth & nose) **MUST** be worn at all times !!

**PETANCA COMPETITIONS EVERY SAT'
STARTING APRIL 17** (Depending on Covid rules)

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We ask that everyone follow the regulations & sanitary guidelines put in place by the government.

As always Domino Bar want to thank everyone for all of your support.

STAY SAFE!



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LOS ALTOS.
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KITCHEN OPEN DAILY



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**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. **ALSO VEGGIE & GLUTEN FREE!**

Unbeatable Sunday Lunch!

STILL THE BEST!

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**FRESH COD GOUJONS (Breaded or Battered)
Served with hand-cut chips, mushy peas & B&B
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**QUIZ EVERY MONDAY, STARTING APRIL 12 - times TBA
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STARTING LATE APRIL!**

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CODERE BETTING MACHINE NOW IN!

LIVE RACING DAILY!

WiFi

All of the updated news & changes in regulations from the government were found
on the N332, Ayuntamiento de Torre Vieja & Generalitat Valenciana facebook pages.

If you are bored with your present enemies and want to make some new ones,
tell two of your women friends that they look alike.

Mignon McLaughlin

Live Music



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- Toasties
- Hot Snacks
- Selection of beers
- Coffee



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& DART
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SMELLS A BIT FISHY!

A Guardian Seascope analysis of 44 recent studies of more than 9,000 seafood samples from restaurants, fishmongers and supermarkets in more than 30 countries found that 36% were mislabelled, exposing seafood fraud on a vast global scale.

Much of the global catch is transported from fishing boats to huge transshipment vessels for processing, where mislabelling is relatively easy and profitable to carry out. Of course not all fish is deliberately mislabelled. The huge majority of substitutions involved lower-priced fish replacing higher-priced ones, indicating fraud rather than carelessness.

The highest restaurant mislabelling rates – ranging from 40% to 50% – were in Spain, Iceland, Finland and Germany. Fish such as dusky grouper (“mero”) and butterfish were among the species most frequently mislabelled, while for pike perch, sole, bluefin and yellowfin tuna, there was a 50% chance customers did not get what they had ordered. Sometimes fish are substituted with similar species – one type

of tuna for another, for example. Often, however, the replacement is an entirely different species. A very common stand-in is little known and inexpensive shark catfish, or pangasius. This group of fish is widely farmed in Vietnam and Cambodia, and has a similar taste and texture to other whitefish, such as cod, sole and haddock. Other substitutions are more unsettling. For example, mixed seafood products such as prawn balls bought in Singapore markets recorded a mislabelling rate of 38.5%. The prawn balls repeatedly contained pig DNA, researchers found. And in China, 153 roasted fish fillet products from 30 commercial brands bought at local markets were tested to reveal “an alarming misrepresentation rate of at least 58%”, including some substitutions from the deadly pufferfish family.

You can read more here -

<https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2021/mar/15/revealed-seafood-happening-on-a-vast-global-scale>

BREXIT Update:

Withdrawal agreement has confirmed that applications for Attendance Allowance, Disability Living Allowance and Personal Independence Payment can be submitted throughout 2021.

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: £60 or £89.60 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

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Has your health changed?

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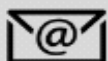
Attendance
Allowance



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

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

Contact David on - 602465565.



- 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 welfare services on return to the UK.

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 canary broke its leg today, so I made it a splint using a matchstick.

You should have seen its little face light up when it tried to walk.



JESSIE'S BAR

•FULL ENGLISH BREAKFASTS •JACKET POTATOES
•HOMEMADE LASAGNE, CURRY, CHILLI
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Happy Hour 3 - 6 each day

Pint San Miguel €2, bottle Amstel €1!

**Kath, Jules and staff welcomes you to Jessie's
and will ensure a safe & comfortable
environment for all.**



South Facing Terrace, Opposite Mercadona in Los Balcones

VALENCIA & THE EUROPEAN VACCINATION PASSPORT

The announcement of the Spanish Ministry of Tourism that the Balearic Islands will be able to advance in front of other regions in the application of the European vaccination passport has poured a jug of cold water over the Valencia Generalitat. Once again it is the Islands/archipelagos who are being favoured. It is true that the Balearic Islands and the Canary Islands are the two communities hardest hit by the economic crisis of the coronavirus, but Valencia has also got a hammering as tourism represents 15.5% of its GDP. The president of the Generalitat Valenciana, Ximo Puig, has been defending and promoting the European immunization passport for some time despite the doubts it raises regarding the privileges for those vaccinated.

The president of the European Commission, Ursula von der Leyen, has already said that she calculates that, if all goes well, the certificate can be operational within three months; that is to say, to guarantee the opening of the tourist doors to the summer.

Valencia maintains that when the passport comes into force and facilitates the mobility of travellers, it must be valid throughout the whole country, without excluding any region.

It is also surprising that the central government chooses the Islands for a pilot study as the Valencian Community today ranks as the autonomy with the lowest cumulative incidence in Spain (36 cases per 100,000 inhabitants), below the risk barrier of 50.

The Valencian hotel industry mentions that Alicante airport is the fifth in Spain for international traffic, with 90% of its flights coming from other countries, only behind Madrid, Barcelona, Palma and Malaga. Valencia, they say, should be seen as a safe destination.

I went to Scotland and found nothing there that looks like Scotland.

Arthur Freed, on why the film *Brigadoon* was shot in MGM studios in Hollywood

Changes to EU energy labelling of appliances
The energy labels we're all currently familiar with have been around for more than a decade.

Originally, the energy label ranged from A to D, but as technology evolved and appliances began to use less electricity, the range of ratings was extended and A+, A++, and A+++ were added in 2010. Technology caught up once again, which meant almost all new appliances sat in one of these top three categories.

This, according to the EC, means the label is no longer fulfilling its original function and may lead consumers to believe that they are buying one of the most efficient products on the market when in fact **A+, for example, denotes third place in terms of energy efficiency.**

In addition, ever-improving technologies would soon require the addition of another plus sign and complicate the system even further, so a change in the labelling system was somewhat inevitable.

From this March, Europe - and the UK, despite no longer being a member - will revert to an 'A to G' rating system, and the first home appliances to have the new label will be washing machines, washer-dryers, dishwashers and cooling appliances.

There will **no longer be plus-extensions (eg A+++)**, which, according to the EC, will make the labels simpler and easier to understand.

The EC's updated guidance also advises that while your A+++ rated appliance will soon lose its market-leading rating, retailers had 14 days from 1 March to ensure new scaled labels were displayed.

At the moment, most retailers are 'looking the other way' and you're unlikely to be aware of your appliances' downgraded rating, unless you dig around in the packaging **and find a second label**, which the EC mandated must be included with appliances shipped from 1 November 2020. This is abridged from an article in WIRED. The journalist purchased a new **A+ rated** Samsung fridge freezer and **A++ rated** Hotpoint dishwasher in December. A second label tucked away in the products' packaging revealed that, from 1 March, his new dishwasher would be downgraded **to an 'E'** on the energy-efficiency scale, while his new fridge freezer would be **rated 'F'** in just a matter of weeks.

So do take care now when splashing out for expensive white goods. That 'deal' now on offer might not be so good, after all!

Tell the truth!

Our teacher asked what my favourite animal was, and I said, 'Fried chicken.' She said I wasn't funny, but she couldn't have been right, because everyone else laughed! My parents told me to always tell the truth. I did. Fried chicken is my favourite animal. I told my dad what happened and he said my teacher was probably a member of NSPCA. He said they love animals very much. I do too. Especially chicken, pork and beef.

Anyway, my teacher sent me to the principal's office. I told him what happened, and he laughed too. Then told me not to do it again.

The next day in class my teacher asked me what my favourite live animal was. I told her chicken. She asked me why, so I told her it was because you could make them into fried chicken.

She sent me back to the principal's office. He laughed, and told me not to do it again.

I don't understand. My parents taught me to be honest, but my teacher doesn't like it when I am. Today, my teacher asked me to tell her what famous military person I admired most.

I told her 'Colonel Sanders.'

Guess where the fuck I am now.....?

In general, the art of government consists in taking as much money as possible from one party of the citizens to give to the other.

Voltaire



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.

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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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When the last pope died and went to heaven, St Peter told him he was lucky to be there.

The pope asked, 'Why? What did I do wrong on earth?'

'God was angry with your refusal to admit female priests,' said St Peter.

'He's mad about that?' The late pope said.

St Peter replied, 'She's furious.'



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coming soon

Quiz Night

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I know a woman who had her husband cremated
and then mixed his ashes with some 'grass' and smoked him.
She said it was the best he'd made her feel in years.

Maureen Murphy

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Ears from 15€ - Face from 20€
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Greatest selection of piercing jewellery from 5€

Got ripped off yesterday ,
I bought an old Elvis
record "Wooden Leg"
from the market
I said to the stall owner, "
I thought he sang Wooden
Heart?"
He said... "This is a pirate
version."

A very, very naughty joke!

A sexually active middle-aged woman informed her plastic surgeon that she wanted her vaginal lips reduced in size because over the years theywell. Out of embarrassment, she insisted that the surgery be kept secret and, of course, the surgeon agreed.

Awakening from the anaesthesia, she found 3 roses carefully placed beside her on the bed. Outraged, she immediately called in the surgeon.

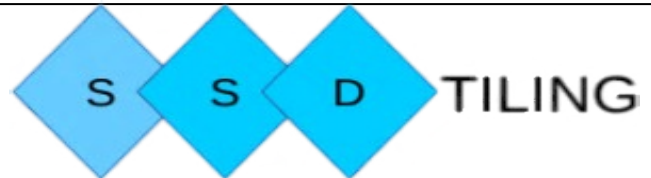
"I thought I specifically asked you not to tell anyone about my operation!"

The surgeon told her he had carried out her wish for confidentiality and that the first rose was from him. "I felt so sad for you, because you went through this all by yourself."

"The second rose is from my nurse. She assisted me in the surgery and understood perfectly, as she had the same procedure done some time ago."

"And what about the third rose?" she asked.

"That's from a man in the burns unit - he wanted to thank you for his new ears..."



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The Test!

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, and a rabbit"

The man being interviewed asks, "Why the rabbit?" "Excellent" says the Sergeant. "When can you start?"

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(New Owners - Ian, Mark & Colin)

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The Scottish Bar.

4 blokes walk into an Aberdeen pub and order 4 pints of beer. The Landlord is serving and says "That'll be 40 pence please". 30 minutes later they order another 4 pints of beer. Again, the round comes to 40 pence. They look at each other in disbelief. One chap pipes up and asks the landlord "Excuse me Sir, we've now bought 2 rounds of drinks and haven't even spent a pound yet. How do you sell it so cheap?" "Well", the landlord said, "A few years ago I came into a lot of money by winning the lottery. I always promised myself that I would like to buy my own pub and pass on my good fortune to others, hence why beer is 10 pence a pint". "Oh, wow!" said one of the men. "But tell me, there's a group of men over there sat at the table who haven't bought anything since we've been here, what's up with them?" "Oh them" said the landlord, "They're locals and are waiting for Happy Hour drinks".

LOCKSMITH

CERRAJEROS - SCHLOSSER
SEGURIDAD UNION



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Antonio
LOCAL

(Cut out & keep.)



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The Flyer.

A World War II pilot was talking to some schoolchildren about his wartime experiences. "In 1942," he says, "the situation was really tough. The Germans had a very strong air force. I remember," he continues, "one day I was protecting the bombers and suddenly, out of the clouds, these fokkers appeared." At this point, several of the children giggle. "I looked up, and right above me was one of them. I aimed at him and shot him down. They were swarming. I immediately realized that there was another fokker behind me." At this instant the girls in the auditorium start to giggle and boys start to laugh. The teacher stands up and says, "I think I should point out that 'Fokker' was the name of the German-Dutch aircraft company" "That's true," says the pilot, "but these fokkers were flying Messerschmidts."



*Sure the fight was fixed.
I fixed it with a right hand.
George Foreman*



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Did you hear about the figure-conscious blonde who had square boobs?
She forgot to take the tissues out of the box.

SO, WHEN WILL YOU GET YOUR COVID VACCINE IN SPAIN?

As promised in the previous issue, I outline here how to use a specific calculator to measure when it estimates you will get your Covid-19 jab in Spain.

Go to the following OMNI Calculator website - <https://www.omnicalculator.com/health/turno-vacunacion-covid-espana>

This is in Spanish and is easy to navigate. If you still have a problem translating it just use Google Translate. This is worth doing, as the page contains quite a lot of good info' relating to Spain's Vaccine strategy, phases etc.

- The first question on the calculator asks Where do you live? Click on the downward pointer and select Valencian Community.

- On the next line you can enter your age.

- Next there are eight questions. These are all already marked No, but if one of the questions relate to you, such as Do you have high risk conditions?, Then click on the section and it will change to Yes.

- The next section, still on the same page, is the Vaccination Plan.

- On the next line choose **Vaccination Rate**, and here you are given three choices. One is Government projection. The others are Current value and Custom.

The first, based on the **government projections**, is hugely optimistic and is based on the government's estimate of administering

around **160,860 doses each week** in the Valencian Community. This has never happened! However, as I write this on March 17 (and I should be in the pub), the current vaccination rate in the Valencian Community is only **60,503 in one week!** So you are going to get a very optimistic reading of when you will get your vaccine based on this figure.

If you choose **Current value** the reading of when you can expect your jab will be based on the true vaccination rate in the Community.

Choosing **Custom** allows you to use the calculator to estimate your wait, taking into account dependency, high risk conditions etc or to see how long it will take to vaccinate everyone in the country.

There is little doubt that the vaccination rate in Spain is currently very, very slow. The lack of vaccines and the recent concerns about the Astra vaccine haven't helped. To get back on track, the Valencia region needs between **200,000 and 400,000** jabs every week. But not near enough vaccines are being sent to our region or indeed any of the others. It is planned to have a region-wide mass inoculation campaign during April. A site in Pilar de la Horadada has been earmarked Orihuela Costa residents and others. Some will receive their jab at the Cabo Roig salud and **will be advised of this by SMS.**

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/>



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A 60-year-old billionaire is getting hitched and decides to throw a big wedding reception. His friends are clearly quite jealous and, in a quiet moment, one of them asks him how he landed such a gorgeous 23-year-old beauty.

"Simple," grins the Billionaire, "I lied about my age."

Amazed, his friends ask him by how much.

"Well," he replied, "I said I was 88!"

COVID & GREEN CERTIFICATE

The European Union has released details of its plan to set up a travel certificate in order to help restore freedom of movement within the bloc for citizens who have been inoculated against Coronavirus. **The certificate will show ‘whether the person has either been vaccinated, or has a recent negative test, or has recovered from Covid, and thus has antibodies,’** the EU Commission president Ursula von der Leyen said.

With summer approaching and many tourism-reliant countries – especially Spain – hoping for a return of visitors after numbers dropped by **80% in 2020**, the European Union presented its proposal that would allow the bloc’s 450 million people — whether vaccinated or not — to travel freely across the 27-nation bloc by the summer. The plan, which will be discussed in late March/early April, during a summit of EU leaders, foresees the creation of vaccine certificates aimed at facilitating travel from one member state to the other.

The travel industry and southern European countries have been pushing for the quick introduction of the measure, which could also help to avoid quarantines and testing requirements. But several member states, including France, have argued that it would be premature and discriminatory to introduce such passes since a large majority of EU citizens haven’t had access to vaccines so far. **Less than 5% of EU citizens have been fully vaccinated** amid delays in deliveries and production of vaccines. The European Commission, however, says it can achieve its goal that 70% of the EU adult population is vaccinated by the end of the summer. (!)

The EU Commission is proposing that the so-called **Digital Green Certificates** should be free of charge, and delivered to EU residents who can prove they have been vaccinated, but also to those who have tested negative for Covid-19 or have proof that they recovered from it.

‘Being vaccinated **will not be a precondition to travel,**’ the EU Commission said. ‘All EU citizens have a fundamental right to free movement in the EU and this applies regardless of whether they are vaccinated or not. The Digital Green Certificate will make it easier to exercise that right, also through testing and recovery certificates.’

The commission proposed that all vaccines approved by the European Medicines Agency (EMA) should be automatically recognised for the certificate, but also offered governments the possibility to include other vaccines like **Russia’s Sputnik or China’s Sinovac**, which haven’t received EU market authorization. The EU Commission guaranteed that ‘a very high level of data protection will be ensured’ and said the certificates will be issued in digital format to be shown either on smartphones or paper.



An Oldie but a Goldie!

A British soldier walked into a pub one night and took a seat near the bar. He was warned by others to quickly vacate that seat as it was the favourite of the local Karate champion, Igor. Like a good Brit soldier, he ignored the warning. In came Igor and landed a blow on the neck of the squadie knocking him out cold. “When he comes to,” said Igor, “tell him that was a number 83 Reverse Punch.”

The following night the squadie went back to the pub and found Igor already seated in his favourite seat. The squadie dealt him a blow, knocking him out cold. “When he comes around,” said the squadie, “tell him that was a 1954 Morris Oxford starting handle.”

PENNY WISE AND EURO FOOLISH?

We now know that since real Brexit on January 1, some Spanish banks are now charging a commission on the payment or receipt of funds from UK banks. Now that the UK is out of the EU, European banks are free to set their own fees for transfers to and from the UK. These charges in Spain were introduced without any notice to their customers, a regular occurrence according to the Spanish consumer protection sites.

|So, how can you avoid these charges?

Of course you could always ask your bank not to charge you, but, as the banks are pushing very heavily for more commission based business, this is unlikely to happen.

The key to avoid the charges is to get a EU bank to do the transfer for you from the UK through an intermediary.

Many of you may already be using one of the scores of foreign currency brokers who are now scrambling to use an EU source for their transfers from the UK.

But I would suggest that you look at some of the 'Big Boys' who not only transfer funds globally, but also have a number of additional services and advantages.

I list four here, there may be others, but these are the ones I have heard that people locally have used and are very happy with what they get.

Don't forget there is also Google Pay, PayPal and N26, an accessible German bank account.

WISE, now changing its name from TransferWise.

<https://wise.com/es>

REVOLUT

<https://www.revolut.com/>

STARLINGBANK

<https://www.starlingbank.com/>

STRIPE (Probably more business orientated)

<https://stripe.com/en-gb-es/>

Now I have to lay my cards on the table. I have worked for a bank for 30 years during which I spend several years managing the Operations Dept of the foreign currency dealing section. This was during the heady days of Deutsche Marks, French Francs, Lira and all the rest....including the Punt!

I have been using WISE now for almost 10 years and they have saved me thousands from what the UK clearing banks would have charged.

Online access is very easy and the mobile phone app is a doodle! Its exchange rates are superb and the actual money transfers are made at lightening speed. You also have a choice of three different transfer fees which are very competitive. You can also hold an account at WISE in several different currencies and they will also provide you with a debit card.

If you want to try WISE, go to

<https://transferwise.com/invite/u/mich>

This link will generate me a small fee for the Dream Scene if three sign up – the typical 'recommend a friend' bonus that anyone can get. And you will get a free international transfer of between €250 to €500!

Remember, when you make a personal transfer from a bank in the UK to Spain, the UK bank will keep at least the equivalent of three to four cents less than the true rate for every euro sent and charge you a transfer fee as well. Similarly, if you are using a debit or credit card to draw money from an ATM abroad, you will also get a really crap rate. Take a rough calculation of the number of euros/pounds you have already sent from your UK bank account or taken by debit card over the last 12 months and multiply that by 3 cents +. You will be shocked!

Now also imagine if you are buying or selling a property in Spain, how much you could save. A very good friend used WISE to transfer his house purchase funds to Spain. He saved around £5,000 over what his UK bank would have charged him!

I can remember when you used to kiss your money goodbye. Now you don't even get a chance to blow in its ear.

Robert Orben

Macklins

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*Like a lot of men, my boyfriend takes great pride in his car.
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My car, on the other hand, looks like a really big purse.*

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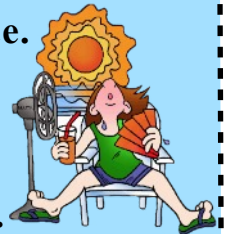


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Lime Bar ~~Fishing~~ SUNBATHING Club

Since the January lock down, we haven't had any meetings or matches. The lockdown rules kept changing, but at least we were still allowed to go fishing, although with only 1 companion and limited to where you could go at weekends due to travel restrictions. In the last couple of weeks, the rules have been eased again so we can start fishing matches again as long as the covid rules are obeyed. As this goes to press, we are organising the last match of the winter series and a monthly meeting on the 6th April (fingers crossed).

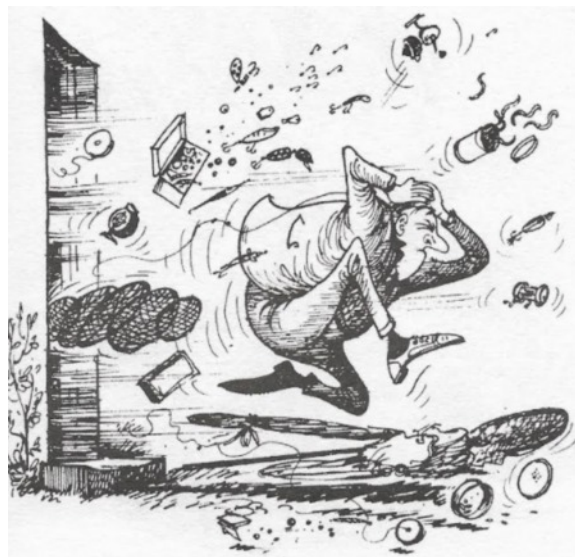
The lockdown didn't stop BFC from going out fishing. He has had a couple of biggies but in the middle of February he did it again (see photo). Another monster (caught from his usual peg at Bigastro) of 16 lb 4 oz to knock the Cheshire Cat from the top of the "Biggest Carp" list. The carp should start feeding anytime soon so they can build up their strength after winter and before spawning. Will a bigger carp fall to someone else this year?



Mad Bad Mick hasn't quite got the hang of the catching big carp yet. While fishing the secret lake, he lost concentration and was away with the fairies! Next thing he knows, his pole has shot off it's rest and doing a circuit of the lake (being towed by a carp). The pole eventually drifted in close enough to the bank for Mick to recover it. A knackered 6-pound carp still attached! A couple of lessons here; 1st - the fish's welfare was not cared for, so minus 1 brownie point. 2nd – if this happens at Bigastro, it is a long run to Rojasles!

The weather this year has been topsy-turvy. In January we had temperatures in the high 20s and in March we have had a couple of really cold snaps and a couple of really heavy downpours. At the moment the river is still in flood and the banks are covered in slime, but hopefully, the banks will dry out before we have the March match otherwise it could be a messy affair. Spring must be just around the corner though as I have heard my 1st cuckoo and seen my 1st viperine this week.

Some people may wonder why we go fishing in all weathers? Freezing cold, scorching hot, chucking it down with rain etc.... It doesn't matter we still enjoy it. A bit from Mortimer & Whitehouse's "Gone Fishing" says;



Something that sums up the appeal of fishing is when you are heading off on a trip:

"See you love. Right bye bye," and you push the stuff in the back of the car and slam the door shut. It's like your regular life has been put on hold. I like the fact that everything you do from the moment you shut that door is of no consequence to anyone in the world, apart from yourself. A lot of the appeal is also the anticipation of how enjoyable it's going to be when you get there.

Of course, you might just want to get away from her

indoors!!!! (cartoon by Thelwell)

The next meeting (bun fight) is at 17.00 in The Lime Bar on Tuesday 6th April.

Stay safe

Fishy fingers!

The Ghost

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THE CESS PIT!

As it has been such a long time since I covered one of my favourite subjects - Spanish politics - allow me to briefly bring you up to date. PM Sanchez still holds the Frankenstein coalition government together with bribes and promises. These have included cosyng up to the **Basque Nationalists**, allowing convicted ETA terrorists to be placed in prisons closer to the Basque Country while doing similar to the **Catalan Nationalists** by encouraging debate on whether the ring leaders of the illegal referendum should be pardoned. He is, however, at severe odds with the judiciary on this one. Puigdemont, and two others, fled to Belgium in October 2017, fearing arrest after holding an illegal independence referendum for Catalonia that the Spanish courts declared illegal. He was later elected as a Spanish MEP! Under pressure from Spain, MEPs have now overwhelmingly agreed to strip immunity from the former president of Spain's Catalonia region, Carles Puigdemont, and two of his

associates. This could and should now pave the way **for their extradition**. But it's the shenanigans **in Murcia** which give the flavour of real Spanish politics. Following the resignation of the regional Health Minister for Murcia when he authorised the vaccination of 400 senior Health Ministry and mainly office based officials, together with senior members of the Town Hall, the Ciudadanos (Citizens) Party, who had been keeping the PP in power in the region due to a coalition, decided to back the Socialists in putting forward vote of no confidence. This would mean that the PP would lose control of the Region. However, three of the six Ciudadanos members later decided to change their minds and again supported the PP, allowing the PP to scrape through without a vote! The renegade Ciudadanos members have now been expelled from their party, but all three have now **secured new paid positions** in the regional government!

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*If they'd stuffed the child's head up the horse's arse,
they would have solved two problems at once.*

**Noel Coward, when a horse crapped on stage during a musical
starring child-star Bonnie Langford**

Krafty Kid

One day in kindergarten a teacher said to the class of 5-year-olds, "I'll give £2 to the child who can tell me who was the most famous man who ever lived."

An Irish boy put his hand up and said, "It was St. Patrick." The Teacher said, "Sorry Sean, that's not correct."

Then a Scottish boy put his hand up and said, "It was St. Andrew."

The teacher replied, "I'm sorry, Harry, that's not right either."

Finally, a Jewish boy raised his hand and said, "It was Jesus Christ."

The teacher said, "That's absolutely right, Jacob, come up here and I'll give you the £2."

As the teacher was giving the boy his money, she said, "You know Jacob, since you're Jewish, I was very surprised you said Jesus Christ."

Jacob replied: "Yeah. In my heart I knew it was Moses, but business is business!"

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The Dream Scene 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, well.....okay! 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 an invisible man married an invisible woman. The kids were nothing to look at either. My grandad never liked to talk about all the men he'd killed during WWII. He wasn't the Army's best cook. And how can you tell when you run out of invisible ink?

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