

THE DREAM SCENE

NEWSLETTER



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

Bienvenido a todos and welcome to the September, 2021 edition. Issue No.168

Welcome to the September newsletter from a scorching Spain. With temperatures in the high 20's **to the low 30's in the shade**, good air conditioning systems can be essential. People in Madrid and other hotspots are going to and remaining in closed air conditioned shopping centres to save on the current high energy costs. Stall holders report a 20% attendance rise during the very hot weather, with people wandering the aisles, without shopping bags, and spending three hours sitting in a cool café with a Coke! The public swimming pools in the cities quickly fill up with bathers so many are now being turned away.

But in any case, legislation has prohibited shopping malls from putting the air conditioning up too high for energy-saving reasons. In 2009, a law was passed stating that air conditioning levels be kept within certain regulated levels.

Several parks in Murcia City are closed for safety reasons due to the heatwave..... "large trees can become 'stressed' and can actually drop their branches" - according to the local authority!

12 to 16 year olds **now being inoculated** against Covid-19 in Spain. Excellent progress was reported during July, but uptake has now fallen a bit, as it has also in other countries.

No reporting on politics this month - it's far too hot to get upset!

Spanish Health has authorized the first clinical trial of a **Spanish vaccine** against Covid-19 - the PHH-1V vaccine against Covid-19 from the Hipra company This platform is the same as that used for the Novavax and Sanofi / GSK vaccines, which are already in the process of being evaluated for potential authorization by the European Medicines Agency (EMA), but unlike them, it expresses proteins of two different variants. The Hipra company hopes that, if everything goes as expected, production could start in October of this year.

Many thanks to Richard of Help VB for joke book and to Steve H for donation.

Too busy to send out subscription renewals. Will send them out soon.....probably!

Keep well and safe,

Mick, Tid & the Dream Scene Team

INTERPRETER

LEGAL SERVICE, POLICE,

ALL MEDICAL

APPOINTMENTS

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ENGLISH - SPANISH

- GERMAN

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LOCAL



Your mother left her teeth in the bathroom.

They're just now starting to slow down!

To the person who stole my antidepressants

I HOPE YOU'RE HAPPY NOW!

The developers planning the large new housing estate next to the La Mosca Playa area are expecting to get the 'go-ahead' shortly. If not, they will be suing the Orihuela Local Authority for **€200 million plus**.

An elderly Scandinavian **couple drowned** off an unguarded beach in Guardamar de Segura during early August. The 72-year-old man got into trouble and the woman in her 60's tried to save him. Both fought against the currents rather than 'go-with-the-flow' became exhausted and drowned. Up to August 7, there have been 25 drowning's off the Valencian coast. I would predict that the majority of the victims were elderly people.

Valencia has announced a new line of subsidized loans with a budget of 11 million to help large and medium-sized chains in the hotel sector that until now had been left out of previous assistance. This will specifically target companies with more than 250 workers and will include a **non-refundable tranche of up to 20%** of the requested amount. The Horeca Line assistance scheme was aimed at small companies in the catering and accommodation sector. To date, this scheme has already approved **2,170 applications** for an amount of 136 million euros, as explained by the regional Executive. Of this amount, companies need not return 33.6 million. In the case of SMEs, non-

refundable amounts can reach **30% in some cases**.

The Torrevieja officials have farted about for a number of years before awarding a new rubbish collection contract. They have now decided to form a committee to deal with the matter - and what could go wrong with that?

The new contract will be for a period of 15 years with a budget of between **€424 & €460 million**.

Having being totally ignored for decades, the **Los Balcones manor house**, protected in the General Urban Planning Plan (PGOU) since 1987, has the dubious honour of being put on the Red List of Heritage because of its dilapidated state. It is the first in Torrevieja to enter that **list of shame** that the Hispania Nostra Association draws up. It is one of the few examples of an 18th century agricultural manor house that remain on the Vega Baja coast. The



property owners have not implemented any of the demands for its repair and would prefer to level it to build yet

more new properties. Fuck its history and heritage, let's build some more white houses and make lots more euros!

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"The sporting goods store phoned.
You left your hat on the counter."

If you want to know who loves you more, lock your wife and your dog in the boot of the car. Wait a couple of hours and let them out, guess which one will be pleased to see you.

The real estate group, TM Torrevieja, hope to invest €9.1 million in placing **69,000 solar panels** on agricultural land in Almoradi.

Environmentalists argue that the project will have a negative impact on the landscape, the environment and the territory of the chosen lands.

Around 50 migrants are now living in a shanty town on Valencia's abandoned Formula 1 racing track. The racing track, which has fallen into disrepair, cost **€98 million** of taxpayers money.

Torrevieja council has launched an awareness campaign about the **free collection service** on offer in the municipality for large waste items, such as furniture.

The main objective of the campaign is to avoid the dumping of furniture and other household items on public roads and areas by informing citizens about the option to call the council and have the waste items picked up instead.

Residents can call 966 702 390 and arrange a pick-up completely free of charge.

As usual, Orihuela are **doing nothing** for the coastal residents - other than cleaning the beaches.

The Policía Nacional have arrested a 45-year-old man **in Elche**, Baixe Vinalopo, on Thursday, August 13, for attempting to rob a bank on one of the town's busiest streets, Avenida de Alicante. At around 2pm, the man entered the Caixabank office wielding a weapon, which was later found to be an imitation gun, and employees handed **over 50 euros** while discretely pressing the emergency alarm.



Both uniformed and plain-clothed officers were then dispatched to the scene and arrested the man as he exited the bank. Photo.

The detainee has a criminal record, though not for bank robberies, and the police are now investigating his connection to other crimes in the area.

I counted 13 uniformed and plain clothes police in the incident, all armed. You can view the arrest here, the response was impressive -

<https://twitter.com/i/status/1425896338168942596>

At around 11am on August 12, a two and a half-metre **blue shark** cleared the sea at the Poniente Beach in Benidorm. Efforts to coax



the shark out to sea failed until some oceanographic specialists arrived and took the animal about two and

a half miles out to sea.

A blue shark, possibly the same one, returned to another beach at the north of the Benidorm beach, the next day. That beach was closed until the following day. Policia Local have reported seeing three blue sharks just 20 metres from the coastline in coves to the north of Benidorm.

The blue shark appears off every continent except Antarctica and prefers cooler waters. Cases of them attacking humans are rare but have happened. They prefer small prey.



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Ministers moving to the House of Lords receive approbation, elevation and castration,
all in one stroke.

Sir Humphrey Appleby, *Yes, Minister*

BITS & BOBS!

Only 2.46% of the population of Nicaragua are fully vaccinated as opposed to 55% in Spain. It was announced during late July that Spain has made its first donation of coronavirus vaccines to South American countries, **shipping 750,000 doses** of the AstraZeneca product to Ecuador, Paraguay, Nicaragua, Guatemala and Peru and thus redistributing the country's allocation of the batches ordered by the EU. The donation has come about as a result of the announcement that Spain no longer requires further vials of the AstraZeneca vaccine, due to the immunization program having been completed in the only age group for which the product is approved in this country (those aged 60 to 69).

Unfortunately, the 200,000 AstraZeneca doses which were returned by the regional government of Madrid to the Ministry of Health cannot be sent to Latin America as Covax rules do not permit the donation of vaccines which have already been distributed. Prime Minister Pedro Sánchez, pledged that at least 7.5 million vaccine doses would be redistributed to Latin America and the Caribbean.

The future of **Barcelona's cannabis clubs** is hanging in the balance following a court ruling from the Catalan High Court. The regional tribunal ruled this week that these spaces cannot "promote the consumption, sale or cultivation" of marijuana, and annulled the local rules issued by the city of Barcelona that regulate them.

The first cannabis club in Barcelona opened 12 years ago, and **225 have emerged** since then. In response to the growing numbers, the city of Barcelona introduced regulations in 2016 that prevented cannabis clubs from opening within a minimum distance – between 100 and 150 meters – of schools and children's playgrounds. Under the rules, these centres also had to have double doors to ensure that what was happening inside could not be seen from the outside, and they needed to have

smoke extractors and chimneys installed directly in the building's roof.

Study: More senior citizens using pot ...



Spanish Tax Form 720

Form 720, is a declaration of overseas assets held outside of Spain by fiscal residents that was made to help fight against tax evasion. This Spanish law requires you to provide information about offshore accounts, offshore investments, and real estate located abroad where they individually exceed €50,000.

Whereas you are not taxed on these, when you come to dispose of any of them, well..... Failure to complete the form can result in **draconian fines**. The fines are 15, 50, and 66 times higher than those applied in internal situations.

The European Court of Justice General Advocate has now concluded that Spain's infamous tax form 720 had implemented a system of disproportionate fines that go against the spirit of the Union. This tax regulation **breaches the core covenant** of the foundational European treaty of Rome which sets out a series of freedoms as the guiding spirit of our Union, including freedom of the movement of capital.

However it will not be until probably this autumn the ECJ will give it's final ruling on tax form 720. In line with what one expects, it will declare the overblown fines as null and void.

I have the heart of a small boy. I keep it in a jar on my desk.

Stephen King



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GROUND FLOOR
LOS ALTOS

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Kitchen Opening Hours

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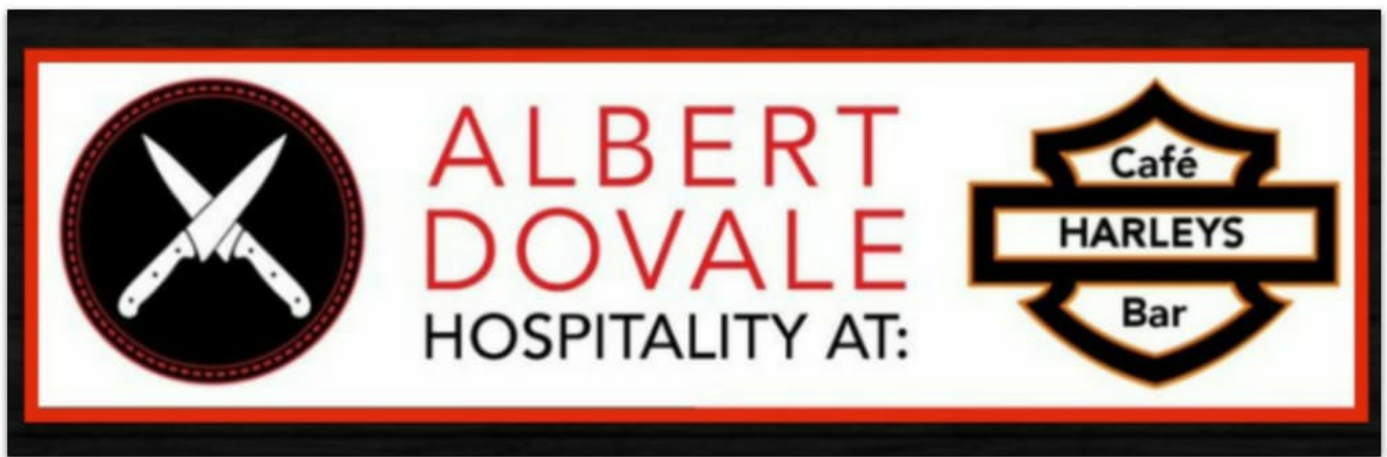
ON FRIDAY'S

AT 2:30pm



That is the first time she has had 14 hands between her legs.

*John Francombe, watching Sarah Ferguson, the Duchess of York,
compete in a horse race marathon in Qatar*



Aven. Angel Garcia Rogel, 1 Urb Los Balcones, 03186 Torre vieja (Next to Mercadona)

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Want to form a Limited Company in Spain?

The Spanish government has approved a new draft law that will allow companies to start up with just €1 and for the process to be carried out quickly and entirely online.

Currently, you must have to have a minimum of €3,000 to form a Limited Company in Spain, but if passed, the new bill will require you to only have €1, allowing the process to be completed electronically in just 10 days.

By doing this, the law includes measures to diversify sources of financing and promote non-bank financing, on which the majority of companies depend.

The bill's main objective is to remove obstacles in the creation of companies in Spain.

The draft bill also looks at expanding activities for which you won't need to obtain a license

and promotes the use of electronic invoicing between companies and the self-employed, which will contribute to the digitisation of business activities.

Another aspect that the bill covers are ways to support financing for business growth, such as venture capital and crowdfunding platforms. (Defaults are one of the main problems that threaten business solvency for many Spanish companies because invoices are often not paid by the maximum legal term of 60 days.)

Spain ranks only number 30 out of 190 in the World Bank's 'Doing Business' report in terms of business climate, behind many other EU countries.

The bill is expected to reach the Congress of Deputies at the end of this year and if passed, will come into force in 2022.

LOOK OUT FORTICKS!

Many of the Spanish regions have been issuing warnings of the increase in ticks bites. There are 20 different species of ticks found in Spain. They primarily live (but not exclusively) in forests, meadows, and long grass, but they can also live in kennels and in areas around pets. In Spain, ticks can cause three main diseases – Lyme disease, tick-borne encephalitis or TBE and Crimean-Congo haemorrhagic fever or CCHF.

A tick bite is not in itself dangerous to humans, but the health risks depend on the possibility of contracting infections transmitted by these creatures.

Lyme disease (also called borreliosis) causes no symptoms in around half of all people who catch it. For others, however, it can cause rashes, a fever, headaches, muscle and joint pain, and tiredness. The rash may look like a bullseye on a dartboard with a darker or lighter area in the centre. It usually appears within one to four weeks after being bitten, but may take as long as three months.

TBE is a viral brain infection. Symptoms include fever, fatigue, headache, muscular ache and nausea. It can attack the neurological system with symptoms of meningitis such as

inflammation of the brain or spinal cord. Symptoms typically appear around a week after the bite, but can take longer. There is no cure, but it can be treated, and there is a vaccine against it too.

CCHF can come on very suddenly. Initial symptoms can include headache, high fever, back pain, joint pain, stomach pain, and vomiting. Red eyes, face and throat and spots on your palate are also common. The disease has a 30% death rate without treatment.

Several farmers in Alicante have reported they have found not only ticks in rural areas and fields, but also in urban areas.

Many areas on the Costa Blanca have green or wooded areas linked to the urbanisations, Dream Hills & Dream Hills II notably. Although dog walkers should always use a lead, many don't, which increases their chances of having ticks. But cats are the real tick magnets, bringing them home.....probably along with a rat as a gift!

If a dog walker, check your pets and yourself daily. Remove ticks gently, the sooner the better, with a tweezers and apply an antiseptic. The tick season can start in March and now lasts until October.



THE BAR NEXT DOOR.

FIRST FLOOR
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Following the tragic death of the Human Cannonball at the Perth Royal Show,
a spokesman said "We'll struggle to get another man of the same calibre."



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A couple in a cafe in Aberdaugleddau, Wales, asks
'Can you settle an argument for us and pronounce where we are, VERY slowly?'
The waitress leaned over and said 'Burrr gurrr kiiiing'.



Café Bar

VIA PARK V.

**Kitchen
closed**



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1pm - 9pm

WEDNESDAY FUN DARTS

7pm - 10pm



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TWEET!**





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OPENING TIMES

MONDAY - SATURDAY

11am - 5pm



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Half of the American people never read a newspaper.

Half never vote for President.

One hopes it is the same half.

Gore Vidal

The Diagnosis!

A young doctor moved out to a small community to replace a doctor who was retiring. The older doctor suggested that the young one accompany him on his rounds, so the community could become used to a new doctor.

At the first house a woman complains, "I've been a little sick to my stomach."

The older doctor says, "Well, you've probably been overdoing the fresh fruit. Cut back on the amount you've been eating and see if that does the trick?"

As they left, the younger man said, "You didn't even examine that woman? How'd you come to the diagnosis so quickly?"

"I didn't have to. You noticed I dropped my stethoscope on the floor in there? When I bent over to pick it up, I noticed a half dozen banana peels in the bin. That was what probably was making her sick."

The younger doctor said, "Pretty clever. If you don't mind, I think I'll try that at the next house."

Arriving at the next house, they spent several minutes talking with a younger woman. She said that she just didn't have the energy she once did and said, "I'm feeling terribly run down lately."

"You've probably been doing too much for the church," the younger doctor told her. "Perhaps you should cut back a bit and see if that helps."

As they left, the elder doctor said, "I know that woman well. Your diagnosis is most certainly correct, she's very active in the church, but how did you arrive at it?"

"I did what you did at the last house. I dropped my stethoscope and, when I bent down to retrieve it, I noticed the priest under the bed."

14 Copper is great at killing superbugs – so why don't hospitals use it?

Fantasilandia in Chile, one of Latin America's largest theme parks, has replaced its most frequently touched surfaces with copper to help reduce the spread of germs and protect the health of its visitors. But why? Because copper and its alloys **exhibit impressive antibacterial, antiviral and anti-fungal properties.**

Copper has been exploited for health purposes since ancient times. Egyptian and Babylonian soldiers would sharpen their bronze swords (an alloy of copper and tin) after a battle, and place the filings in their wounds to reduce infection and speed healing.

But only now does our research describe how copper and its alloys exhibit these impressive properties and the processes involved. The process involves the release of copper ions (electrically charged particles) when microbes, transferred by touching, sneezing or vomiting, land on the copper surface. The ions prevent cell respiration, punch holes in the bacterial cell membrane or disrupt the viral coat, and destroy the DNA and RNA inside.

This latter property is important as it means that **no mutation can occur** – preventing the microbe from developing resistance to copper. Global concern is growing over antimicrobial resistance and the risk of death that it presents from common infections in even minor operations. Therefore, it is fortunate that copper alloys kill superbugs, including MRSA and those from the notorious ESKAPE group of pathogens – the leading cause of hospital-acquired infections.

Transfer of antibiotic resistance genes from resistant bacteria to other bacteria is also stopped because the genes themselves are destroyed. These destructive properties are enhanced by the bacteria since they release small amounts of hydrogen peroxide. This reacts with the copper ions to form ferociously reactive oxygen, which also attacks and damages the microbes in multiple areas.

All of these laboratory studies have been translated into the healthcare environment.

- Basil!

- Coming, my little piranha fish.

Sybil and Basil Fawlty, Fawlty Towers

Studies worldwide have shown that, with routine cleaning, where copper alloy is used on regularly touched surfaces in busy wards and intensive care units, there is up to a **90% reduction** in the numbers of live bacteria on their surfaces. This includes bed rails, chair arms, call buttons, over-bed tables, IV poles, taps and door handles.

Studies in three hospital intensive care units in the US also showed a remarkable **58% reduction in infection rates.** So, unsurprisingly, copper alloy touch surfaces are now being deployed worldwide in airports, trains, train stations, busses, restaurant kitchens and gyms. The new Francis Crick Institute in London is kitted-out in copper alloys, supporting its foresight and vision as a world-leading research centre for the public good.

Some common viruses have no vaccine available, such as the winter vomiting virus (norovirus) – **the scourge of cruise ships.** Others, such as influenza, mutate so rapidly that it is difficult for vaccines to keep up – and they need to be reformulated annually. Copper surfaces however wipe them out regardless of year-on-year changes in the microbes.

So if copper is so great, you may be wondering, why don't hospitals have more copper fittings and fixtures? Well, while some hospitals are installing copper fittings, many others are still not aware of its properties. When doctors are asked to name an antimicrobial metal used in healthcare, the most common reply is **silver** – but little do they know that silver **does not work** as an antimicrobial surface **when dry** – moisture needs to be present and so silver would have an antibacterial effect, like copper does, on hand rails and surfaces which have frequent hand contact.

Cost could also be a factor.

The importance of installing copper fittings has been recognised in France where various hospitals are now installing copper.

(Abridged from Bill Keevil, Professor of Environmental Healthcare, University of Southampton, The Conversation.)

In Sao Paulo, Brazil, a woman and her sister-in-law were going to get vaccinated at a public health care post when the first woman discovered her husband there, waiting for his turn ... with.... his lover! **A fight broke-out** involving these four people, chair throwing included. Luckily, there were no injuries and everyone was able to do what they wanted to do in the first place: get vaccinated.

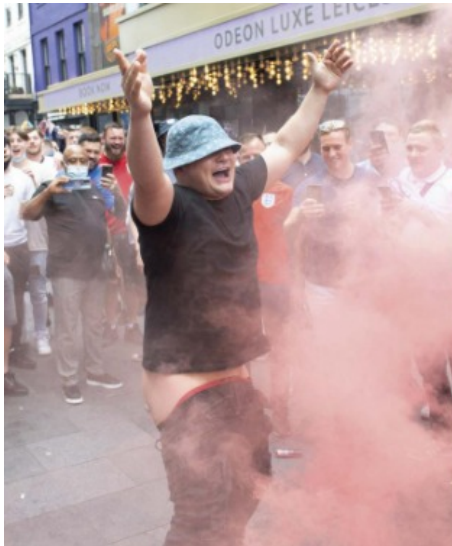
You can watch the fight here in glorious colour....turn the sound up!

<https://twitter.com/jhonhenriqueofc/status/1417993273612849156>

Interestingly, the two women largely went to have-a-go at the third woman...not the errant husband! Wimin!

The England fan who became briefly famous for placing a lit flare up his bottom before the Euros final was tracked down by The Sun –

and declared that he “regrets nothing”. “I loved it,” said Charlie Perry (photo), 25. He said that he had “banged a load” of cocaine, and downed at least 20 cans of cider during a 15-hour bender before



gatecrashing Wembley for the Italy game. “I’d been on the piss since half eight in the morning,” said Perry, a Chelsea fan from Sunbury-on-Thames. **“It was the biggest day of my life.** There were no rules that day. I was off my face and I loved every minute.”

Two convicted murderers who took prison guards hostage in Hallby, Sweden, agreed to release their captives in return for **free pizza.** Isak Dewit and Mahamed Abdullahi, who initially demanded a helicopter so they could fly them to freedom, instead accepted 20 large pizzas with kebab topping, to be shared with other members of their cell block.

A 65-year-old Austrian man was recovering in hospital this week after an escaped 5ft python slithered through the plumbing **and bit him in the crotch** while he used his lavatory. Police in the city of Graz said that, upon sitting down on the toilet shortly after 6am, the unnamed man felt a sudden “pinch in the genital area”. He found an albino reticulated python looking up at him, which is thought to have escaped from the home of a neighbouring reptile collector. However, pythons aren’t venomous and the wound was said to be “light”. The owner may face criminal negligence charges.

A yellow tiddlywink has been extracted from a woman’s nostril, **37 years after it got stuck** up there. Mary McCarthy, a 45 year old from Christchurch, New Zealand, inhaled the tiddlywink by mistake while playing a game when she was eight. She forgot about the episode, but afterwards suffered from chronic sinus pain, which became very severe after a Covid-19 swab test last year. Doctors found and removed the offending object in June.

A year-long neighbourly dispute has ended

in a tree being sliced in half (pictured). Bharat Mistry’s neighbours, Irene and Graham Lee, had complained about pigeons nesting in the overhanging tree, making a noise and a mess on their driveway in the Sheffield suburb of Waterthorpe.



Although Mistry begged them not to, the Lees eventually took drastic action and had all the branches over their property removed. The tree has proved popular with visitors, after a picture was posted online with the caption: “Some traditional British pettiness on display.”



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 mikeheighwaypensionservices



ARE YOU WASTING MONEY IN YOUR PENSION SCHEME?

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

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

BREXIT AND YOUR PENSION

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

Contact me on 634305881 to discuss your options.

NEED A FINANCIAL ADVISER?

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

Contact me on 634305881 to see if I can help.

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

Visit our website: www.mhpensions.co.uk

Got his measure!

I took a nurse back to my place last night.

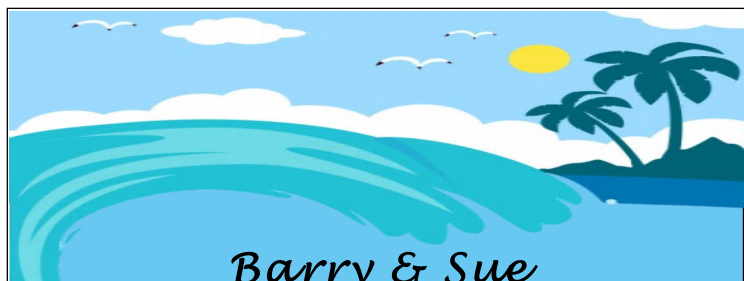
As I stripped off I said to her,

"You must have seen a few dicks where you work. How do you rate mine?"

She said, "It's a little bigger than most I see."

"Wow," I said. "What sort of nursing do you do?"

"I'm a midwife" she replied.....



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Fun fact of the day...

While Alan Turing was cracking codes in WW2, his sister Kay was providing drinks, snacks and sandwiches for him and his colleagues.....(Viz)

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& GARY: 602 596 492

There has been only eleven times in history where the "F" word has been considered acceptable for use:

11. What the f**k do you mean we're sinking?
- Capt. E.J Smith of RMS Titanic, 1912
 10. What the f**k was that?
- Mayor of Hiroshima, 1945
 9. Where did all these f**king Indians come from? -
Custer, 1877
 8. Any f**king idiot could understand that.
- Einstein, 1938
 7. It does f**king look like her!
- Picasso, 1926
 6. How the f**k did you work that out?
- Pythagoras, 126 BC
 5. You want WHAT on the f**king ceiling?
- Michelangelo, 1566
 - 4 Scattered f**king showers, my arse!
- Noah, 4314 BC
 3. Aw c'mon. Who the f**k is going to find out?
- Bill Clinton, 1999
 2. I didn't think they'd get this f**king mad.
- Saddam Hussein, 2003
 - 1 I Must get that f**king handrail fixed.
- Robert Maxwell, 1991
- Or.....Let's vote to leave the EUwhat could f**king go wrong?
- 51.89%, June 2016

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So sad and shocked to hear that Peter Wallbank (Pork Pie Pete) passed away suddenly during early August.

Peter was an entertaining character, happy, intelligent, articulate, good-humoured and wonderfully eccentric. Always dressed immaculately - almost - with hat, smart shirt, waistcoat, watch with chain, smart shoes and tracksuit bottoms!

A gentleman who could and would talk with anyone, his strong clear voice rising above all others. Although a proud ex-navy man, he would have made an excellent RSM and probably one of the best ever Town Criers.

Very sadly missed by all who knew him

Our deepest sympathies to Judith and family.

Mick & Tid



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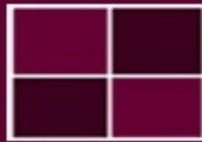
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Which test should you use?

• There are two types of Covid test in common use:

1 Polymerase chain reaction, or PCR swabs (nose and throat) detect viral genetic material. They can pick up low levels of the virus and are very accurate at confirming and excluding, infection.

2 Rapid antigen tests (lateral flow tests, such as Innova) look for protein from the surface of the coronavirus. They are good at detecting high concentrations (when a person is likely to be most infectious) but miss many people with lower levels (they have a false negative rate of 25 per cent or more).

• A PCR swab is generally done in a specialist testing centre or hospital, and the result takes hours or days to come back. The rapid antigen lateral flow can be done anywhere by anyone and gives a result in minutes.

• If you have symptoms you MUST have a PCR test to exclude Covid. Do NOT use a lateral flow test to rule it out — they are not accurate enough.

• If you have a positive lateral flow test, self-isolate until you have the result of a PCR test. False positives with lateral flow tests are much less common than false negatives, but do happen.



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ALL WELCOME

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ALL ON DRAUGHT!



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

STAY SAFE!



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9:30am to 21:30pm



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Five choices of cake!**

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**HOMEMADE 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

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WiFi

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

*I'm at the age where my back goes out more often than I do.
Phyllis Diller*

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Britons and other non-EU travellers face €7 fee to enter Europe for visits

British nationals as well as all other visa-exempt non-EU citizens will have to get authorisation and pay a €7 fee to enter the Schengen zone when new rules come in to force **before the end of 2022**, the European commission confirmed during August. And yes, **that will include tourists!**

The move is part of the Commission's plans for a European Travel Information and Authorisation System (ETIAS) – and will affect all visitors coming from visa-exempt countries – like the UK, the US and Canada – who want to travel to EU states like France, Germany, Spain and Italy. The British government was one of the “biggest supporters” of EU plans to require non-EU nationals to obtain authorisation and pay a fee to enter the bloc's passport-free travel zone. David Cameron's government backed the idea when it was floated by the European Commission in April 2016, three months before the EU referendum, when few foresaw the €7 (£5.95) fee would one day hit British travellers.

“Non-EU citizens travelling to the Schengen area who are exempt from the visa requirement will need to register and obtain an authorisation **before travelling**,” said the Commission in a press release.

Travellers affected will have to fill in an online application form which will have to be approved. The Commission said the “vast majority of cases (expected to be over 95%) will result in automatic approval”. “In limited cases, where further checks on the traveller are needed, the issuing of the travel authorisation **could take up to 30 days**,” the EU Commission says.

The ETIAS authorisation will be a €7 one-off fee, and **will be valid for three years as well as for multiple entries** into Schengen states during that time.

Applicants will be able to apply via an official website and/or app for mobile devices, the Commissions says.

Yet another Brexit Bonus! They just keep coming and coming!

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.



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Has your health changed?

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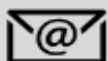
Attendance Allowance



*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@gmail.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.

An Englishman, a Scotsman and a Jewish bloke go out for a meal. The Scotsman says "I'll pay."
Headline in local newspaper. "Jewish ventriloquist found dead in back alley".



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Fecha 31/07/2021 Hora 20:39:08
PROFORMA
Caja 1 #1800002
Cliente: Contado
Empleado : OP LORETO, 8 personas
SALON Mesa 17

#ART.	PU	IMP
8 COMENSALES		
1 ZUMO TOMATE	3,00	24,00
13 PINTA CERVEZA	5,00	5,00
6 COCA COLA	7,00	91,00
3 AGUA LITRO CRISTAL	5,00	30,00
2 EL TACO	6,00	18,00
2 EL TACO CANGREJO	18,00	36,00
1 ALITAS PADRE	19,00	38,00
1 ROLL SALMON FLAMBEE	23,00	23,00
1 ROLL PLAYA PADRE	16,00	16,00
1 GUACAMOLE	24,00	24,00
2 EXTRA TOTOPOS	16,00	16,00
1 BURGUER WAGYU	3,00	6,00
6 BURGUER WAGYU	28,00	28,00
1 BURGUER WAGYU	28,00	168,00
8 CHUP. TEQUILA	28,00	28,00
8 -CHUP. DON JULIO BLA		64,00
1 COLA ZERO	*	
2 MOET ICE	5,00	5,00
3 CAFE SOLO	260,00	520,00
1 CAFE CORTADO	4,00	12,00
2 MOET ICE	4,00	4,00
1 MAGNUM DOM PERIGNON	260,00	520,00
1 MAGNUM DOM PERIGNON	1.000,00	1.000,00
8 CHUP. TEQUILA		
8 -CHUP. DON JULIO BLA	*	
1 CHUP. TEQUILA		10,00
1 -CHUP. DON JULIO REP	*	
1 MAGNUM DOM PERIGNON	1.000,00	1.000,00
8 AGUA PEQ CRISTAL	5,00	40,00
1 CHARGE SERVICE	372,00	372,00
TOTAL	4098,00	EUR

HOW MUCH?

The bill on the left comes from a club in Marbella in late July. Some of the prices will make you laugh.....or cringe!

The party of eight all had Wagyu Burgers. I would bet that there was as much Wagyu meat in them as there is in my arse!

The customer paid the bill including the €372 service charge. However, the waiter ran after them somewhat pissed-off as they hadn't left him a tip!

Obviously the chap who paid the bill was extremely generous. Do you know eight people who you would happily splurge out that sort of money for?

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I asked my publisher what would happen if he sold all the copies of my book he had printed.
He said, 'I'll just print another ten.' (Eric Sykes)



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.

We are delighted to announce the return of our Charity Ball at San Miguel Castle on 17th September 2021. The poster has all the details and tickets can be purchased at our head office and furniture shop in Cabo Roig telephone number 965 328 794

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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- Local & UK social services/welfare advice.
- Legal advice
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Our Welfare Team are qualified U.K. social worker & Care Managers who have between them many years of health and social care experience.

Telephone: +34 965 328 794 / 634324389

Email: charitycentre.helpathomecb@gmail.com

Web: www.helpathomecb.com

The young couple arrived home from an idyllic honeymoon and took up married life.

But within two days the new bride went round to her parent's house in tears.

'Oh Mum,' she sobbed, 'he was so wonderful on holiday, but now we've returned home he keeps using four letter words!'

'Oh you poor darling,' sympathised Mum. 'What's he saying?'

'Dust, cook, wash, iron.....!'

A young British tourist in Ibiza, will have **two fingers amputated** after being bitten on the hand by the elusive recluse spider, or *Loxosceles rufescens*, the only species of its kind found in Spain. The Mediterranean recluse spiders are small, growing to between 10 and 15 millimetres. They are brown in



colour with a pattern on their back.

The *Loxosceles* are characterized by being very aggressive, but tend to bite only when threatened or provoked.

They are nocturnal and hide in dark places where they wait for their prey to jump on them, and tend not to live in webs.

The unfortunate tourist first noticed the bite while enjoying the sunset on the island of Ibiza, but didn't pay much attention to it. In the early hours of the following morning, however, he was awoken abruptly by a burning sensation in his hand and noticed that it had swollen considerably.

After two weeks in the hospital in Ibiza, he returned to Wales, where he is currently waiting for the rest of his hand to heal before two fingers will be amputated. Once he arrived at the hospital, the medical staff concentrated on ensuring that the poison didn't spread to the rest of his hand.

According to the doctors who treated the young tourist, this is the fifth case of serious bites from the recluse spider recorded in Spain in recent years.

Spider bites are becoming increasingly **common** in Spain, although amputations are still thankfully rare. This type of arachnid can be found in both urban and agricultural areas, as well as in caves, rocks and damp places. The venom causes necrosis (tissue death), ulceration and skin shedding, and immediate treatment usually focuses on preventing the spread of the poison.

A man and a woman have been arrested and charged in connection with a **violent robbery in Orihuela Costa** in which an 80-year-old woman and her dog walker, 17, were threatened with a gun, gagged and tied up with duct tape.

The suspects stole €1,050 and jewellery during the robbery.

The younger victim told police she had gone to the home of the elderly woman, who lives alone, in



early July, as she did every morning to take the lady's dog for a walk. But as she was leaving the property, she was approached by two people who pointed a gun at her and forced her back into the house. The teenager and the pensioner were then threatened and tied up & gagged while the 37-year-old Ecuadorian man and Spanish woman, 19, allegedly stole an envelope containing €800 from a bedside drawer and €280 from the pensioner's handbag, along with a high-end watch and gold jewellery.

The pair fled, leaving the two women tied up, but the younger victim managed to loosen the duct tape and call the Guardia Civil, who quickly identified one of the robbers as a man who had worked at the woman's house for two years before being sacked on suspicion of stealing.

The female suspect was identified through the victims' descriptions, and she and her alleged accomplice were arrested on July 15. Their Torreveja homes were searched where police found €1,300, lots of jewellery, and "various items possibly used for criminal activity", though the gun has not yet been located.

The 37 and 19-year-old appeared at a Torreveja court and charged with robbery using violence and intimidation. Both were remanded into custody **without bail**.

Seven beers followed by two Scotches and a thimble of marijuana
and it's funny how sleep comes all on its own.

David Sedaris



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Greatest selection of piercing jewellery from 5€

The Prize!

I phoned the local radio station today. The presenter answered and said, "Congratulations on being our first caller, all you have to do is answer the following question correctly, to win our grand prize."

"That's fantastic!" I shouted in delight.

"Feel confident?" he asked. "It's a maths question."

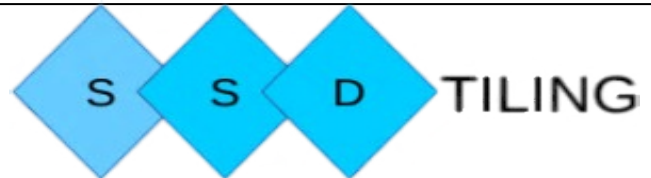
"Well, I've got a degree in maths and teach it at my local school," I proudly replied.

"Ok then, to win our grand prize of 2 front row seats to a Justin Bieber concert and to meet him back stage what is 2+2?"

"7" I replied.

I SAY, WATSON...
I THINK WE'VE
FOUND A BOAT!

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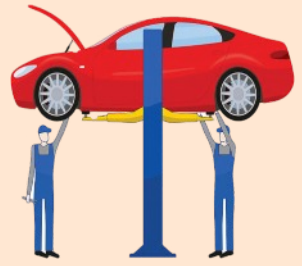
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Glastonbury was very wet and muddy.
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....all the Geldof daughters.

Sean Lock

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More Electrickerly!

The upward trend in electricity prices in Spain shows no signs in slowing down as the cost to the consumer has risen yet again in July, according to an analysis carried out by Facua-Consumidores en Acción. The latest data shows that the PVPC semi-regulated rate has jumped by 36.2% compared with the same month in 2020, placing monthly bills at around €85.34. This is almost €23 a month more than July last year for the average consumer. Specifically, the consumer will pay €22.67 more than in July 2020, when the rate stood at €62.77. Interestingly, this amount would have been much higher if the Spanish Government had not approved a lower VAT rate for electricity in June, lowering it from 21% to 10%. Without this cut, the rate would have increased by another €8.54, breaking all records with an average of €93.88 per month. July has already been the third most expensive month in history for consumers, with new data published by Eurostat revealing that Spain is the

country registering the highest inflation rate for its electricity consumption in all of the European Union.

Unfortunately, it doesn't look like this upward swing is going to improve in August. The rise in prices reflects the fact that Spain now has to pay more for electricity in the daily wholesale market, a cost which is being passed on to the consumer.

On Monday, August 2, the daily wholesale price was €103.07 per megawatt hour (MWh). While this is very high, it is by no means an unusual price, as all records were broken on July 21 when the cost rose to a historical €106.57. While the reduction in the VAT rate was a welcome reprieve and has slowed the increase in prices, Facua has criticised the government for not doing more to help the consumer, and asked for additional measures guaranteeing this reduced rate permanently and cracking down on bogus offers from electricity companies.

Saved, in the nick of time!

A nun teaching religion was speaking to her class one morning and she asked the question, "When you die and go to heaven..... which part of your body goes first? Suzy raised her hand and said, "I think its your hands." "Why do you think its your hands, Suzy?" said the Nun. Suzy replied, "Because when you pray, you hold your hands together in front of you and God just takes your hands first."

"What a wonderful answer!" the nun said.

Little Johnny raised his hand and said, "Sister, I think its your legs".

The nun looked at him with the strangest look on her face.

Now Little Johnnie, why would you think it would be your legs?

Little Johnny said, "Well I walked into mommy and daddy's bedroom the other night..

Mommy had her legs straight up in the air, and she was shouting, "OH GOD, I'M COMING!".

If dad hadn't pinned her down, we'd have lost her!"



"Say Will - why don't you pull that thing out and play us a tune?"

The Looooong Story!

A young man went into confession crying, and told the priest: "Forgive me father for I have sinned". "What have you done?" asked the priest.

"A few weeks ago I went to the library. I remained there until closing time and when I was about to go home, rain started pouring down. It was so intense I had to wait in the library. I had waited for a while with the librarian, a young attractive single girl, then one thing led to another, and I ended up sleeping with her". The man stopped talking but kept weeping.

"Well don't cry, it's a sin but it is not that bad. You should say 5 Hail Marys and it will be forgiven". Said the priest.

"But it doesn't end there" the man kept sobbing. "A few days later my neighbour asked me to help her with her computer. Her husband was hospitalized and she couldn't send an email to her son. I went there and fixed the problem, but when I was about to leave, rain started pouring down. It was really stormy and I had to wait. One thing led to another and I ended up sleeping with the lady" the man cried.

"Oh dear well that makes it harder indeed, but still - you should say 15 Hail Marys and you will be forgiven" Said the priest.

"Oh I'm afraid the worst part is still ahead" cried the man. "Yesterday I went to the barber. I was his last client that day. As soon as he finished and was about to close the shop rain started pouring down so intensely, I had to wait with him. One thing led to another and I ended up sleeping with him as well" the man cried.

"Oh dear, it is indeed worse than I thought" said the priest.

"So what should I do father?" the man asked.

"Well" answered the priest, "you should get the **** out of here before it starts raining!".

The EU Digital Covid Certificate

Spain is now issuing the EU Digital Covid Certificate to all citizens in Spain who apply for it, becoming one of the first European countries capable of issuing and recognising the certificate.

EU Covid Certificates can be issued and used in all EU Member States to facilitate free movement during the Covid-19 pandemic. All EU citizens and their family members, as well as non-EU nationals legally staying or residing in the Member States and who have the right to travel to other Member States, would be eligible to receive such certificates free of charge.

The certificates will verify three situations - vaccination, recovery and negative results of a diagnostic test.

The key features of the certificate are:

- Digital and/or paper format
- with QR code
- free of charge
- in national language and English
- safe and secure
- valid in all EU countries

(You will need your SIP card details to hand.)

You can download your certificate from here-

<http://coronavirus.san.gva.es/es/certificado-digital-ue>

While going through the download process, a verification code will be sent to the mobile phone you have already registered with the *Salud*. Many have changed their phone number and have not advised the *Salud*. Without this certificate, it will still be possible to travel within the EU in compliance with the health requirements, but the process of entering the country will be slower and additional measures, such as testing and quarantine, may be put in place. It will not be a pre-condition to free movement, which is a fundamental right in the EU.

The European Commission has built a gateway through which all certificate signatures can be verified across the EU. The personal data of the certificate holder does not pass through the gateway, as this is not necessary to verify the digital signature. The European Commission also helped Member States to develop national software and apps to issue, store and verify certificates and supported them in the necessary tests to on-board the gateway.

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/>

Living here but no job?

If you are currently living in Spain but not a resident and you want to get a Covid-19 vaccination here, you should first register for the Padron.

If you take this Padron to your local Salud (health centre) they will issue you with a temporary SIP (health) card. The rapidity with which you will get your jab may depend on your age, but I know of many non-residents who have now got their jabs.



Funeral Plans Plus



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

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

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

f Rocamer Funeral Service

Thor the Viking!

Thor the Viking god goes to a party, gets pissed and traps a beautiful blonde 18 year old virgin.
After hours of wild passion they fall asleep wrapped in each others arms.
Next morning Thor wakes up and thinks "She was great but I don't even know her name."
He smiles at her and says, "I'm Thor."
The girl who has a slight lisp replies, "I'm tho thore I can't pith!"

Help Vega Baja needs help!

After supporting people for over 40 years within the Vega Baja community, HELP Vega Baja (registered charity) are putting out a request for some help for themselves!

The charity contacted us to say that they have a project that they need help with. President, Michele Masson said "one of the areas we



support people is by providing information and advice when they are experiencing difficult times.

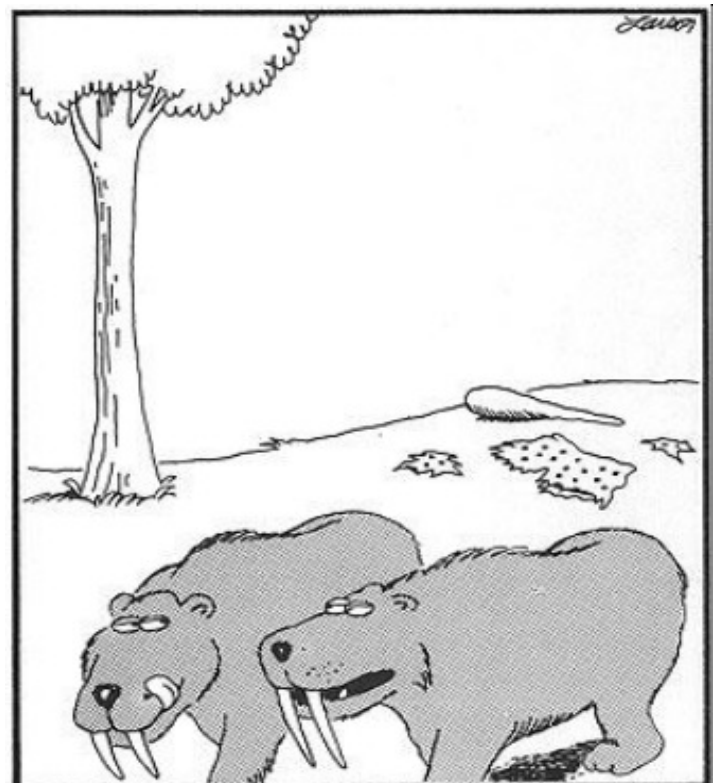
Barter!

A squaddie bought two cases of beer on sale at Tesco's placed them on the front seat of his car and headed back home. He stopped at a service station to get fuel, and a drop-dead gorgeous blonde was filling up her car at the next pump. Although it was very cold she was wearing a very short skirt and a light jacket which was wide open. She glanced at the beer, bent over and knocked on his passenger window. With her bra-less breasts almost falling out of her skimpy top she said, in a sexy voice, "I'm a big believer in bartering so would you be interested in trading sex for beer?" The squaddie thought for a few seconds and asked, "What kind of beer have you got?"

This can involve some very emotional conversations which are not appropriate to be held in an open office. Although we frequently make ourselves available outside normal opening times at our San Miguel Centre, we have seen a definite increase in the number of occasions when visitors need to speak with us in private – perhaps to simply listen to them or to offer emotional support.

We would very much like to have a private facility to offer. A small area has been identified in our centre at San Miguel which would be ideal to alter to meet these needs. Sadly, Covid restrictions meant that our fundraising events have been put on hold. We are therefore putting out a plea for a builder or handyman who would be prepared to offer their time and expertise to work on this project with us. We would put aside funds for materials required. We appreciate that this is a "big ask", but this project would honestly not only help the charity but would most importantly, be a tremendous support for people within the community"

If you think you can help for this great cause, please call Richard Garland (Charity Secretary) on 966 723 733 or email office@helpvegabaja.com



"I've heard all kinds of sounds from these things, but 'yabba dabba doo' was a new one to me."

GRANTS FOR HOME IMPROVEMENTS.

The Spanish government's 'Recovery, Transformation and Resilience Plan', which it presented to the EU to help secure €140 billion over the next six years, includes among its measures the possibility of deducting up to 60% of income tax if renovations are undertaken on your primary residence to improve its energy efficiency. The document indicates that there will be a 20% deduction for undertaking certain works that reduce the demand for heating and cooling in the home by at least 7%.

A 40% deduction will be allowed for reducing non-renewable primary energy consumption by 30%.

Finally, a 60% will be available for the completion of rehabilitation works in complete buildings, by reducing the demand for non-renewable primary energy by at least 30% , or by improving the energy rating of the property to an 'A' or 'B'.

This is in addition to the government's Housing Plan, which it launched in 2018 and has now extended until December 31st 2022, because of the Covid-19 pandemic. The Housing Plan gives grants for essential home improvements of up to €12,000 for things such as conservation, safety and access, as well as energy efficiency of the home and urban renovation.

What kind of home improvements can I get a grant for?

There are three clauses in the old Spain's 2018 Housing Plan which deal with the renovation of properties. (**The new plan is much more generous**):

For energy efficiency reasons (Programa 5: Fomento de la mejora de la eficiencia energética y sostenibilidad en viviendas)

For conservation, safety and access reasons (Programa 6: Fomento de la conservación, de la mejora de la seguridad de utilización y de las accesibilidad en viviendas)

For urban/rural renovation or renewal reasons (Programa 7: Fomento de la regeneración y renovación urbana y rural)

In terms of energy efficiency grants, these

include covering the cost of heating and air conditioning, new windows, home insulation, electrical installations and sound proofing.

For conservation, safety and access reasons, the Spanish government doesn't provide any specific information but according to their website it can be understood as being grants for renovation needed to improve the standards of living for residents of a dwelling ie a lift or wheelchair ramp in a building where there are elderly residents.

For urban/rural renovation or renewal reasons, the Spanish government states that it includes financing for "rehabilitation work of residential buildings and individual dwellings, as well as works for the urbanisation of adjacent public spaces and construction of buildings and dwellings that replace others that have previously been demolished in the same area".

This means that whoever buys a derelict building in Spain can get a grant for its renovation.

It's also worth noting that the housing improvements which you can apply for can be for either exterior or interior.

Can foreigners in Spain get a grant?

According to the 2018 Housing Plan, foreign nationals can apply for a grant if they "are legally resident in Spain".

This means that **non-resident second home owners in Spain cannot apply**.

Home owners in Spain with or without a mortgage can apply, as can renters (although this should only be done if the landlord agrees).

Most property types are eligible, from detached to terraced houses and also houses in residential communities.

If you live in a building with other flats, it's worth noting that housing communities can make joint requests for grants for blocks of flats or apartments. The following is the link for the documentation in Valencia:

https://www.gva.es/va/web/temesgva/inicio/ciudadanos/ciu_at_vivienda_y_urbanismo

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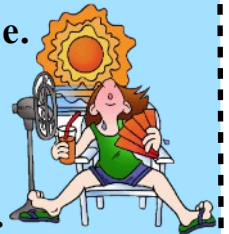


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Lime Bar Fishing SUNBATHING Club

Our chairman Anti-Social was availing himself to the Torre hospital cuisine (see photo of his yummy fishy lunch), so Just John chaired the monthly meeting again. It was another quickie and we finished in 15 minutes. The monthly match was the only real item on the agenda, and as we had already had 3 matches at El Bosquet this summer, it was decided to fish elsewhere.....



As a few of us had cleared the tracks and pegs at Bigastro 2 weeks earlier (see photo of the workers), this was the venue of choice! Bigastro produces some big weights when only a few people are fishing, but when all the pegs are used, it can be a nightmare. We knew this and we had the prospect of a shit day, but were hoping the match day daemon wouldn't strike there yet again..... Bearing this in mind, some of us were straight off to the tackle shop to get

some maggots (just in case the carp wouldn't play) so we could resort to bleak snatching.

On the day river conditions were good and the temp was in the mid 30°s. Some of the anglers hooked into carp within minutes so the omens looked good. Unfortunately, as is common this year, several of these early carp were lost in mid water where they just shake the hooks out. It doesn't seem to matter if you play the fish hard or take it really easy, even the other professional clubs are losing loads of fish this year. 3 Rods was one of the lucky few to get into the carp early, but he hooked and lost 4 in the 1st 30 minutes then struggled for the rest of the day and had to resort to bleak snatching. Even BFC (I won't use any hook smaller than a size 8) lied and caught 5 bleak on a double maggot on a size 16.



With 13 anglers on the bank, the weights were atrocious with just 12 kilos between us all.

Bigastro is getting as bad a reputation as the Eden Canal. Just John made the best of a good draw (peg 2) to thrash us all with 6 x carp for 4.9 kilos, 2nd was Seadog with 2 x carp for 1.8 kilos and 3rd was BFC who had 5 x bleak and 1 x carp (it thought it was a bleak) for 1.1 kilos.

Most of the others caught 1 fish or several bleak. Oh well, we knew what we were letting ourselves in for. I bet we don't vote to fish a match there again in a hurry!

There is 1 match to go in the summer season and there are about 10 anglers with enough points who could get into the final 6.

The Pedrera reservoir near San Miguel is a massive expanse of water, so there must be some monsters lurking in there. Sweeney and I spent a day up there recently. Sweeney stuck to the usual method feeder tactics and had 5 x carp between 1.5 – 2.5 lbs. I had watched a video on you tube showing me how to use a sinking feeder. I persevered for 2.5 hours but didn't get a single hit, so I must have done something wrong. Enough was enough, so I used up my left-over maggots and went bleak snatching. I had a few bleak and just before we packed up, I had a carp of about 1 lb. Just to rub salt in the wound, other carp started cruising close in, about 5 feet in front of me in 18" of crystal clear water. Good job the scenery is worth the visit!

The next meeting bun fight is at **17.00** in The Lime Bar on Tuesday 7th September.

Fishy fingers!

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I picked up a hitchhiker last night. He seemed surprised that I'd pick up a stranger. He asked, "Thanks but why would you pick me up? How would you know I'm not a serial killer?" I told him the chances of two serial killers in a car would be astronomical.

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