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DECEMBER 2025 - JANUARY 2026

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THE Advertiser Magazine is published every month, except for January. It is bursting with useful adverts for a broad range of businesses located in Mojacar, Garrucha, Vera Playa, Antas, Los Gallardos, Bedar, Turre, Albox, Alfoquia and Zurgena.

Hugely popular with readers, the magazine is known for its photographic reporting of local events. It also contains articles written by the local community, for the local community.

The Advertiser Magazine is delivered to over 200 local distribution points including our advertisers. The Advertiser Magazine is also available to download from our website www.advertisermojacar.com and approximately 2,200 downloads are recorded each month.

This means that you can always get a copy. To advertise please get in touch using the details below.

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Welcome to the December issue of the Advertiser Magazine

We bring you the final issue of The Advertiser Magazine for 2025 just as the fairy lights stretch awake from their yearly slumber and the gentle rustle of wrapping paper begins to fill homes near and far. As the festive season settles in, we'd like to take a moment to wish you all a joyful Christmas, a bright New Year, and a wonderful Three Kings celebration.

This season has its own unmistakable glow: shared laughter, music turned up slightly more than usual, and that generous supply of chocolates and biscuits that (quite thankfully) don't seem to count in December. It's a time to pause, even briefly, to appreciate the community that brings this publication to life.

To our loyal readers: thank you. Your curiosity, enthusiasm, thoughtful comments, praise, suggestions, recommendations and occasional critiques have energised us throughout the year. You are truly the heart of what we do.

To our advertisers and contributors: thank you for your trust, creativity and collaboration. You keep these pages vibrant, our ideas expanding, and yes, our coffee cups nicely replenished. As we close out the year and glance toward the horizon, we're already excited for what 2026 will bring. New stories, new voices, and new reasons to celebrate the everyday extraordinary. So here's to warm mugs, soft scarves, familiar carols and time spent with the people who make life feel full. May your Christmas be joyful, your New Year bright, and your festive treats abundant. With gratitude and cheer,

Thank you for being part of our year.

Andrew & Cheryl

Local Markets

MONDAY

- * Antas
- * Huerca Overa
- * Vera Playa

TUESDAY

- * Albox
- * Cuevas de Almazora
- * Los Gallardos

WEDNESDAY

- * Cantoria
- * Lubrin
- * Mojacar
- * Palomares
- * Velez Blanco

THURSDAY

- * Carboneras
- * Cuevas del Almazora
- * Huerca Overa
- * Lorca
- * Olula del Rio
- * Purchena
- * Sorbas

FRIDAY

- * Chirivel
- * Garrucha
- * Taberno
- * Turre
- * Uleila del Campo
- * Zurgena

SATURDAY

- * Aguilas
- * Albox
- * Arboleas
- * Tijola
- * Velez Rubio
- * Vera

SUNDAY

- * Fines
- * La Alfoquia
- * Oria
- * San Juan de los Terreros
- * Villaricos





Sensations

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All other previously advertised music events are now fully booked.

Saturday 6 December - 21:00 - MELANIE BROOKS
Saturday 13 December - 21:00 - DIANE MOORE
Saturday 20 December - 21:00 - JACK LAW
Saturday 27 December - 21:00 - JOSÉ BOLERO

Saturday 03 January - 21:00 - CARL LEWIS
Saturday 10 January - 21:00 - MARILYN SHIPLEY
Saturday 17 January - 21:00 - MELANIE BROOKS
Saturday 24 January - 21:00 - KAYLEIGH
Saturday 31 January - 21:00 - KAY FRANCES

Christmas Parties & Group Bookings

Book your Christmas Party or Group Event with us this Festive Season.

We can cater for large groups. Ask about our special group menu.

Includes: Starter, Main Course & Dessert or Coffee for 19.95€

Early booking is recommended.

Sunday Roast Lunches are back - Please book early to avoid disappointment.

PASEO DEL MEDITERRÁNEO 209, 04638 MOJÁCAR PLAYA

Reservations can be made via the link on our website www.sensationsmojomocar.com

or the link on our Facebook page  SensationsMojacar



A Stress-Free Christmas Lunch: It's Just a Roast, Not a Test

There is a moment, usually sometime in early December, when the collective pressure of Christmas lunch starts to creep into the air. Supermarkets roll out their mountains of sprouts, glossy magazines begin promising "the ultimate perfect feast", and suddenly it can feel as though we're all meant to be auditioning for a festive cooking show, judged by an unseen panel of stern experts.

Well, here's the calm and liberating truth: Christmas lunch is really just a Sunday roast wearing a novelty jumper.

Yes, there might be one or two extra trimmings and perhaps a slightly fancier table runner, but at its core, it's the same comforting meal many of us have prepared dozens of times before. And if your family prefers peas to sprouts? Serve peas. If someone hates cranberry sauce? Leave it out. If the pudding comes from the supermarket instead of a handwritten family recipe passed down through five generations—no one needs to know and even less, no one needs to mind.

The heart of Christmas lunch isn't culinary perfection. It's the feeling of being together.

Let the Menu Fit Your People

Tradition is lovely, but only when it brings joy. If your family adores roast chicken more than turkey, roast chicken it is. If someone requests Yorkshire puddings at Christmas—why not? This meal should reflect the people at the table, not the picture on the front of a magazine.

Consider creating a menu with two questions in mind:

1. What does everyone actually like to eat?
2. What can I prepare without feeling flustered, weepy, or in need of a deep lie down in a darkened room?

This simple approach encourages the most crucial ingredient of

the day: ease.

Prepare in Advance (But Only if It Helps)

Preparation can be wonderfully soothing when it reduces stress, not when it becomes a marathon. Potatoes can be peeled and parboiled the day before. Vegetables can be chopped and stored in airtight containers. Stuffing can be mixed and refrigerated, ready to pop into the oven.

However, if prepping ahead starts to feel like a second full-time job, pause. The goal is less work, not more. There is no prize for the person who wakes up on Christmas Eve to pre-chop their carrots.

Cheat Happily and Without Apology

Let us be very clear: store-bought shortcuts are a gift from the culinary heavens. Pre-made gravy? Use it. Pre-sliced vegetables? Excellent. A dessert bought from your favourite bakery? Delightful. We sometimes imagine that everything must be homemade for it to 'count', but what really counts is the laughter around



Merry Christmas

the table, not whether the brandy butter was whipped by hand or purchased from aisle six.

Your time and energy are part of the meal too. Spend them wisely.

Simplify the Table

You don't need a tablescape worthy of a lifestyle photoshoot. A clean cloth, a candle or two, and a sprig of greenery from the garden can look warm and lovely. Children's drawings used as place mats? Charming. Mismatched Christmas napkins from years past? Full of stories.

Perfection is not the goal. Comfort is.

Share the Load

The idea that one person must be maestro of the entire meal is outdated. Delegate with grace. Someone can pour drinks, someone else can shepherd dishes to the table, and another can be in charge of the all-important "is everyone sitting comfortably?" check.

People like to help. It also gives the meal a sense of togetherness that feels festive in the best possible way.

It's the Togetherness That Matters

At the end of the day, no one will remember whether the gravy was a touch thick or the roast potatoes less than golden. But they will remember the warmth of conversation, the familiar teasing, the shared stories, and the comfort of simply being together in a season that, at its heart, is about gratitude.

So let Christmas lunch be exactly what it is: a roast dinner with people you love. Everything else is just decoration.





Torre bahia

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Come and meet our fantastic team and relax in our comfortable, air-conditioned lounge bar.

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Wow, wow, wow , stunning setting , fabulous friendly staff and the food was outstanding. My only complaint is we were too full to sample the desserts. Will definitely be back.



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Sat 6 - 22h

Sun 7 - 16:45h

Sun 7 - 20:30h

Tue 9 - 20h

Wed 10 - 16:45h

Thu 11 - 20h

Fri 12 - 20h

Sat 13 - 20h

Sun 14 - 16:45h

Sun 14 - 20:30h

Tue 16 - 20h

Wed 17 - 16:45h

Thu 18 - 20h

Fri 19 - 20h

Sat 20 - 20h

Sun 21 - 16:45h

Sun 21 - 20h

Wed 24 - 14h

Thu 25 - 18h

Fri 26 - 16h

Sat 27 - 21h

Sun 28 - 16:45h

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Thu 8 - CLOSED

Fri 9 - 20h

Sat 10 - 20h

Sun 11 - 16:45h

Sun 11 - 20:30h

Tue 13 - 20h

Wed 14 - 16:45h

Thu 15 - 18h

Fri 16 - 20h

Sat 17 - 20h

Sat 17 - 22h

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LifeStyle

The Two-Month Christmas

Is it just me, or does Christmas now start roughly 14 minutes after Halloween ends? One minute the supermarkets are flogging skeleton masks and pumpkin-shaped chocolates and the next they're piping "Jingle Bell Rock" through the speakers as if December has already begun. I saw my first Christmas tree up in October. October! I hadn't even finished eating my trick-or-treat sweets. It's like the world has collectively agreed to stretch Christmas out so far that by the time December 25th actually arrives, we're all sick of it.

GREAT MARKETING

And you know who loves this? The shops. Oh, they love it more than Santa loves a cookie buffet. Because every extra week of "festive spirit" is another week we're encouraged to buy "just one more little thing." Fairy lights for the dog. Matching pyjamas for the family. A singing reindeer that doubles as a wine bottle holder. (And yes, someone out there has bought it.) It's not the Christmas season anymore - it's the Christmas campaign. We're not celebrating; we're being marketed to.

Now, I don't want to sound like Scrooge here (though, admittedly, he's starting to make a lot of sense) but I miss when Christmas had a bit of breathing room. You'd get through December, enjoy the food, the friends, the chaos and then move on. But now it feels like a marathon that starts

before you've even laced up your shopping shoes. By the time December hits, we've already eaten three advent calendars and maxed out two credit cards.

WHAT ABOUT THE BABY JESUS?

And here's where it gets complicated: I'm not even religious. Not a bit. But every time I see a 12-foot inflatable Santa wobbling in someone's front yard, I can't help thinking - what about the poor baby Jesus? He's supposed to be the headline act and yet, somewhere between the Black Friday deals and the novelty socks, he's been completely written out of his own story.

We've turned the Nativity into a commercial break. Even for a non-believer like me, that feels... well, a bit rude. The irony isn't lost on me - I don't believe in the theology, but I still think we could show the kid a little respect.

Still, despite all my grumbling, I'll admit it: I love the chaos of Christmas Day. There's something beautifully human about the whole thing. I'll burn at least one dish, undercook another and somehow forget the one person who told me they didn't want socks this year. The house will smell faintly of smoke and regret. But the beer will be cold, the laughter will be loud, and for one glorious afternoon, none of the rest of it matters.

So yes, even with the premature tinsel and the shopping madness, I'll still raise a glass to Christmas. To the people who make it bearable. To the friends and family who don't mind if you accidentally serve them raw turkey. And to the poor baby Jesus - sorry, mate, I tried to keep your birthday about you (even if scientists believe in was in Summer) but the shops wouldn't have it.

Merry Christmas, everyone. May your food be edible, your family tolerable, and your beer perfectly cold.

If you have any feedback for me, to dispute, argue, agree, support, harass or to pinch, flick us an email bradh_os@hotmail.com



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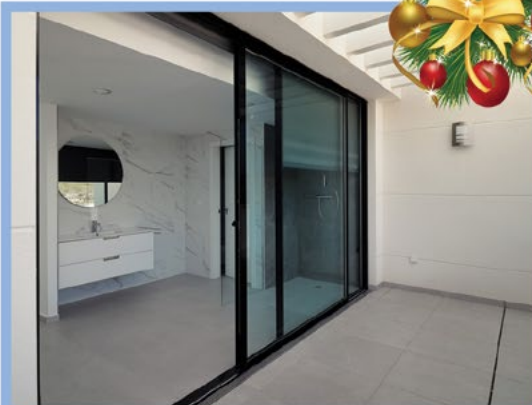
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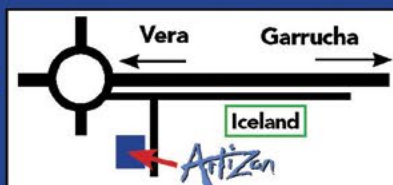
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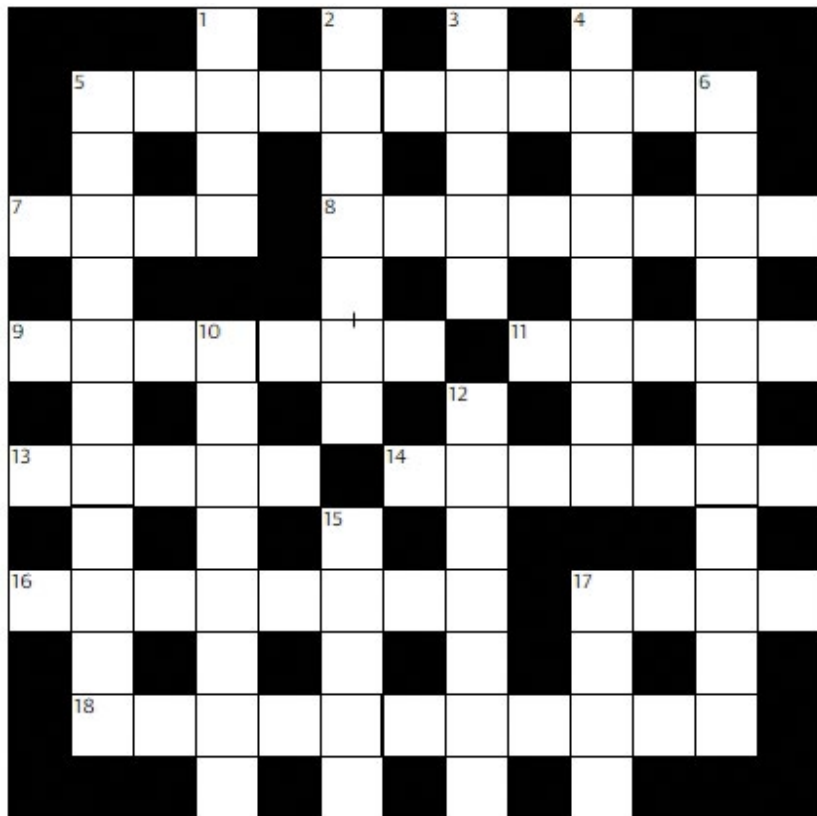


Sudokus

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Cross Word



ACROSS

- 5 Small cut of beef from the underside of a sirloin (5,6)
- 7 Spot (4)
- 8 Pre-2001 name for Kolkata (8)
- 9 Eject (4,3)
- 11 Code for I (5)
- 13 Welsh for Wales (5)
- 14 Queens or Brooklyn, say, in New York (7)
- 16 Gorbachev's 1985 slogan involving more open government (8)
- 17 Connect (4)
- 18 Very gregarious type (5,6)

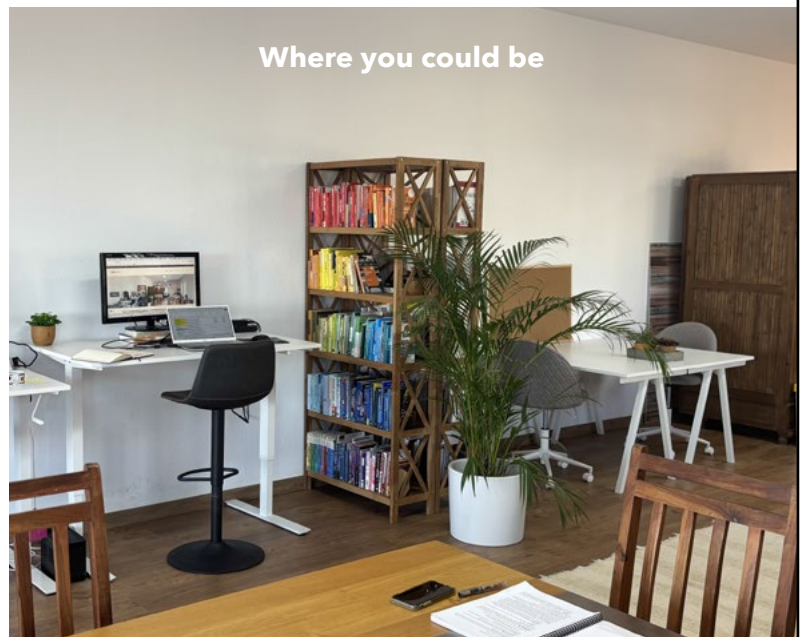
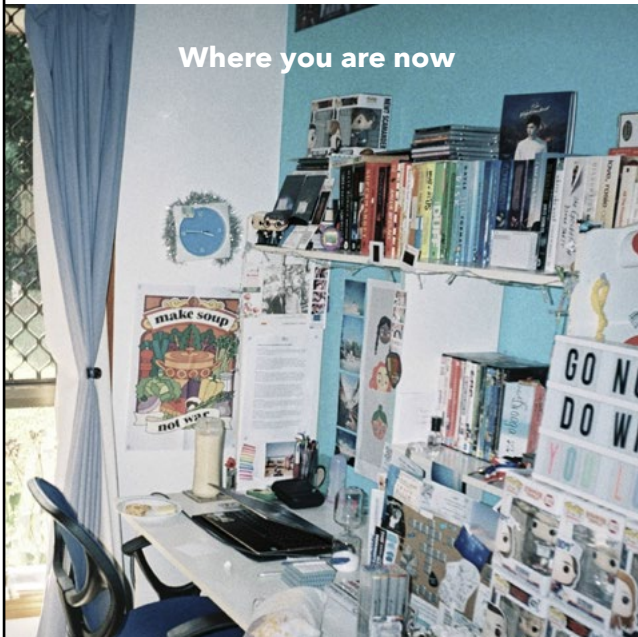
DOWN

- 1 Strip the skin off (4)
- 2 Snooty (5-2)
- 3 (Of terrain) going up and down (5)
- 4 Suggestive implication (8)
- 5 High-jumping technique — ploy rubs off (anag) (7,4)
- 6 1999 film starring Julia Roberts and Hugh Grant — West London district with an annual carnival (7,4)
- 10 Management of growing timber (8)
- 12 Omen (7)
- 15 Cyst (5)
- 17 Leap (4)

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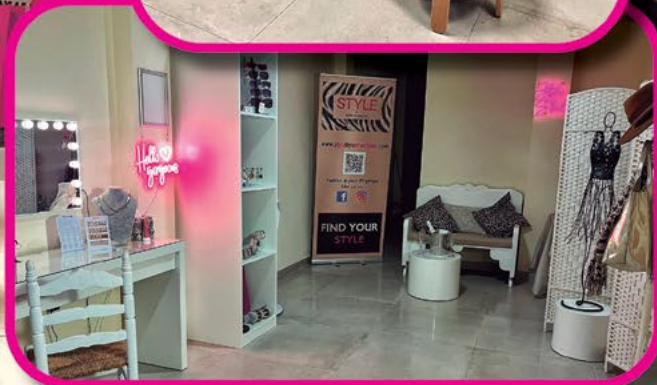
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What's the problem

At the Advertiser magazine, we recognise that everyone needs to reach out for advice now and then. Seeking the help of someone who can not only offer a completely objective point of view but, is also qualified to advise you, may not always be possible.

We are delighted to be able to offer the services of a qualified counsellor and psychotherapist, Theresa Wood, to answer any of our readers issues or problems.

Hi Theresa

I live with my boyfriend. Once a month we go to my boyfriend's family for dinner. His brother always makes derogatory remarks to me, it could be about my clothes or something I say, but it's always negative. This brother and his Dad laugh at whatever he has said, but it's not funny. My boyfriend says nothing and doesn't laugh, just keeps his head down. I've asked my boyfriend why he doesn't intervene, but he just says ignore him. I think my boyfriend should confront his brother, it's causing arguments between us and I dread the thoughts of going now.

Thanks
Isabelle

Hi Isabelle

I'm sorry this has happened and it sounds awful. I think you may be wasting your time getting on to your boyfriend. The fact that he lowers his head when it happens, would indicate that he doesn't feel strong enough to confront his brother. You don't say who is older but it sounds like he is a little intimidated by his brother. If the brother still lives at home, perhaps he may be jealous of you both, perhaps he doesn't have or cannot get a girlfriend. Confronting this person in front of everyone may be very upsetting for your boyfriend and further relations with his family. So perhaps having a quiet word with the brother and asking him if he is ok, and when he replies, tell him that you're a bit concerned that he may be jealous of your relationship and that's why he keeps making 'childish remarks' at dinner. He will deny all and you can say that's good once you're ok. He is very unlikely to do it again.

Good luck
Theresa

Readers Answers

I think the time has come for you to really look at your partner and his character. You do not deserve this hurtful verbal abuse. Perhaps you should refuse to go for the meal and see if they ask why?

Susan

If you and your boyfriend are not on the same page now, it's not working. There are other guys out there.

Delia

Stop going. It sounds like they are bullies. End of.

Karen

That's awful for you. Maybe next time look them in the eye and say "Excuse me, (pause a little) and continue "Did you really mean to say that?" Keep looking at them. Hopefully it will make them look like a fool and they will stop. Good luck. No one deserves this kind of crap.

Marynka

Next time just say "Did you mean to be so rude, or did the remark just come out wrong?" Then find a new fella.

Alison

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What's the problem cont...

I agree with what Marynka said, however be prepared for this to be a boiling point, it could be a last stand for you all. It is for you to decide if you want it to happen it definitely isn't right to be treated like that.

Sue

Unless you can work out how your partner can grow a spine you are going to have to deal with this yourself. Simply smile and say that you have no respect for them or their opinions so they might as well save them for someone who does.

Hilary

You could try just waiting until the next time, and when he says something, simply reply "I have to respect someone to care about their opinion, That should stop him in his tracks and show everyone you have a solid boundary. Then find a man to love you and not this spineless boy.

Joyce

Your boyfriend's family, particularly his brother, seem to be crossing some boundaries - maybe it's time to address the issue together.

Vivienne

Here's what you have to do. The next time you face derogatory remarks, you look them straight in the eye, smile sweetly (but with the kind of smile which doesn't reach your eyes - you know what I mean) and you say "You know what - you're probably right". You repeat this word for word, each and EVERY TIME a derogatory remark is made - every single time, the same set phrase. No matter what is said, you stick to the script. Trust me, the remarks will stop quite quickly. It's no good your boyfriend doing it - this has to come from YOU.

Suzanne

Say...it's your opinion but that does not mean it's the right one. Simple straight forward without offence. Worked for a friend in a similar situation.

Jenny



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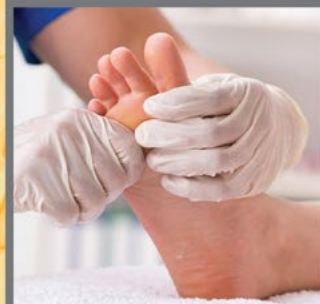
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THE INDALO PLAYERS STUNNING PERFORMANCES

EVERYTHING WILL BE ALRIGHT IN THE END. SO, IF IT IS NOT ALRIGHT...IT IS NOT YET THE END!

By: Chrissie Cremore



As 2025 draws to a close, The Indalo Players are proud to announce that after forming 26 years ago, they have just completed one of their most productive and successful years. They have performed 3 diverse productions, kicking off with Agatha Crusty And The Village Hall Murders in February, followed by Over The River And Through The Woods in May, culminating in their recent 5 performances of The Best Exotic Marigold Hotel at The Espacio Cultural Theatre in Los Gallardos. This particular production had one of their most intricate and exquisite sets and largest cast and crew to date. Feedback from the 600 people who saw it have highly praised how professional this play was, offering incredible first class performances, inspiring laughter, tears and deep-rooted emotion in the audiences. The cast presented a truly brilliant story; portraying everything life throws at us - sadness, loss, inspiration, joy, hope and companionship... including a happy ending!

Each production takes months of preparation, rehearsals and dedication. And the icing on the cake is that with the public's interest and support, The Indalo Players are able to raise large amounts for local charities. The Best Exotic Marigold Hotel helped the following allowing them to hold raffles. PAWS-PATAS 483€. Turre Food Bank 475€. Stepping Stones 413€ and The Bédar Band ran the bar raising a grand total of 972€.

President Chrissie Cremore says there are many plans being put together for 2026 and if you would like to attend their Annual General Meeting on Thursday 4 December, please come and join us at The Puntazo Hotel in Mojácar at 10:30 for an 11:00 start whereby we will also reveal the grand total raised from all the productions for local charities this year plus our annual major donations. We welcome new members with suggestions and ideas for an annual fee of 10€. Please note that only "paid members" can vote at the AGM. For further information: indaloplayers@gmail.com

Editors Note: Cheryl and I went to the final performance of The Best Exotic Marigold Hotel, and we absolutely loved it. The cast were outstanding, funny, moving, and full of energy. The production was beautifully staged, capturing both the humour and heart of the story. Congratulations to everyone involved on a truly wonderful show. Andrew Goth



A Very Special Award for a Very Special Man!

Our very own David Brown from MACS was presented with a BEM in Malaga on 6th of November

Ambassador Sir Alex Ellis had the honour of presenting awards on behalf of His Majesty The king to two outstanding individuals: David Brown and Joyce Gyimah.

The president and co-founder of MACS Cancer Support Group, David Brown, was awarded a British Empire medal (BEM) for his services to people with cancer in Spain, as recognised in the UK's 2024 New Year's Honours list.

Asociacion ADINTRE founder and CEO Joyce Gyimah received an honorary BEM for her services to charity on the Costa Del Sol.

Ambassador Sir Alex Ellis said: 'It's a privilege to recognise Joyce and David's exceptional service to others with an Honours award. Joyce's leadership at ADINTRE foundation has brought hope and dignity to vulnerable people in Fuengirola. David, along side his late wife Elaine, turned a dream into MACS – a vital source of care and



comfort for cancer patients and their families. Their tireless work over the years has improved the lives of many across Spain.'

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Tony Matthews

STRANGE SPORTING FACTS....

CONTINUED FROM NOVEMBER ISSUE...

61) West Indian fast bowler Courtney Walsh holds the record for obtaining most ducks in Test match cricket – 43 in a total of 132 games.

62) South African spinner Hugh Tayfield holds the record for the most consecutive balls bowled without conceding a run, with a total of 137 in a Test match against England in 1956-57. This feat translates to 22.5 six-ball maiden overs.

63) Two Israeli teams set world record with a total of 56 penalty kicks in an end-of-season shoot-out on 21 st May 2004. SC Dimona and Shimshon Tel Aviv initially played out a 2-2 draw after 120 minutes in a semi-final promotion play-off in Israeli's third tier before the game was decided by a penalty shoot-out which Dimona eventually won 23-22. In fact, eleven spot-kicks were missed in the shoot-out.

64) The tallest sportsman to compete at senior level is Canadian wrestler Eduard Beaupre who stood 2.52m/8ft 3ins tall in bare feet. Known as 'the Willow Bunch Giant' he won every 'fight' he contested and it was a huge surprise when he died in 1904 at the age of 23.

65) Confirmed in the Guinness Book of Records, the longest drive ever made in competitive golf is 515 yards (471 metres) by American Mike Austin in the US National Open Qualifier in 1974. He used a steel shafted persimmon wood driver. And for the record, the longest-drive of all-time, at non-competitive level, is 579.6 yards, made by another American, Kyle Berkshire, at the Rochelle Ranch course in Wyoming in 2023.

66) GB driver Lewis Hamilton holds the world record for most F1 Grand Prix race victories with 105 to date. Second in line is the German Michael Schumacher with 91 race victories.

67) In December 1979, in a Test Match between Australia and England in Perth, one of the most famous entries in a cricket score-book was made. It read: Lillie caught Willey bowled Dille.

68) Over a period of 145 years – 1880 to 2025 inclusive – West Bromwich Albion FC had no less than 51 players with the Surname name Smith on their books (at all levels).

69) The Oakmont country club is the home of the world's toughest golf course. Situated near Pittsburg in Pennsylvania, it was initially opened in 1903 and has almost 200 bunkers to avoid!

70) Muthiah Muralitharan holds the record for taking the most wickets at Test Match level. The Sri Lanka spin bowler took a grand total of 800 during his career which spanned 18 years: 1992-2010.

71) Only one footballer (to date) has gained over 200 senior international caps. He is Portugal's forward, Cristiano Ronaldo who in 2025, had more than 220 to his name, having gained his first in 2003.

72) Only one player so far – goalkeeper Peter Shilton – has made over 1,000 Football League appearances, and he also collected a record 125 full England caps (his first in 1970, his last in 1996). Shilton played his club football for Leicester City, Stoke City, Southampton, Nottingham Forest, Leyton Orient, Plymouth Argyle, Wimbledon, Coventry City, Derby County, West Ham United and overall he played in 1,390 first-class matches for clubs and country.

73) All 22 players who took part in a 2001 Bradford Sunday League game involving Amarmilan CC versus Yorkshire LPS, had the same surname of Singh. Amarmilan who won the match by 31 runs (106 against 75).

74) The Wanderers – not Bolton or Wolves – won five of the first seven FA Cup finals played between 1872 and 1878.

75) The 'Ginger' McCain-trained Red Rum won the Grand National steeplechase three times in four years: 1973, '74, and



'77. He did not run in the 1972 National, but he did compete in the 1975 race when L'Escargot denied him a hat-trick of victories.

76) Irishman Tony McCoy was champion National Hunt jockey 20 years in succession – 1995-96 to 2014-15 inclusive. He rode a record 289 winners in 2001-02, 258 in 2002-03 and 253 in 1997-98.

77) The first-ever 70,000 plus crowd to attend a Premiership football match was in April 2006 when Manchester United played Arsenal.

78) Cyrille Regis scored in his first reserve (2 nd XI) game, his first friendly, his initial League Cup-tie and in his first FA Cup match for WBA in the late 1970s.

79) In season 1930-31 West Bromwich Albion became the first team to win the FA Cup (beating neighbours Birmingham in the final) and gain promotion from the Second Division.

80) The first set of twins ever to play together in a Premiership match were Adam and James Chambers, who appeared for WBA against Arsenal at Highbury in December 2002.

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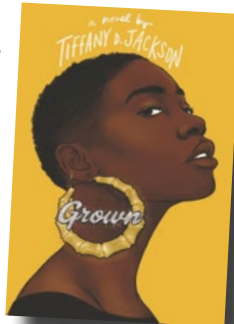
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BOOK REVIEW

GROWN Tiffany D. Jackson

Tiffany D. Jackson has once again proven herself to be one of the most vital voices in contemporary literature with *Grown*, a powerful, unsettling and deeply affecting novel that lingers long after the final page. Inspired in part by real-world conversations around celebrity power, accountability and the exploitation of young girls, this book feels not only timely but necessary. *Grown* follows Enchanted Jones, a gifted young singer whose dreams of stardom are swiftly entangled with the dangerous attentions of a famous R&B artist. Jackson does not sensationalise the subject matter. Instead, she writes with clarity, empathy and a sharp understanding of the ways in which society excuses predatory behavior, particularly when the victim is young, Black and female. The narrative moves with both urgency and compassion, illuminating how manipulation can masquerade as mentorship, affection or opportunity. What makes this novel especially relevant today is the ongoing cultural reckoning with abuses of power in the entertainment industry and beyond. Tiffany D. Jackson does not simply echo public conversations; she deepens them. She challenges the reader to look past headlines and ask harder questions about who is believed, who is blamed and who is protected. Her portrayal of Enchanted's emotional world is so precise and heartfelt that the reader cannot help but feel the weight of her journey. Tiffany D. Jackson's writing is exceptional: vivid, lyrical and impeccably paced. She gives Enchanted her full humanity, her dreams, doubts, joys and pain, thus inviting readers not just to witness her story but to truly see her. The result is a novel that is both a page-turner and a profound social commentary. *Grown* is not an easy read, but it is an essential one. Tiffany D. Jackson's talent is undeniable, her storytelling fearless, and her commitment to truth unwavering. This book deserves to be widely read, discussed and remembered.



Cheryl Goth

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