

The Advertiser Magazine

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PRONTO



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, Albex, 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 November's issue of the Advertiser Magazine

Can you believe we're already here, the penultimate month of the year? November always seems to sneak up on us, bringing with it that unmistakable feeling that the year is winding down. The clocks have changed, the evenings are drawing in, and there's a definite nip in the air that makes a hot drink (and perhaps a little something baked) feel entirely justified.

This month kicks off with a national holiday on Saturday, 1st November—though, sadly, because it falls on a Saturday this year, there's no bonus Monday off to look forward to! Still, it's a welcome pause in the week, a perfect chance to ease into the month with a slow morning, a walk along the paseo or maybe a leisurely brunch catching up with friends. Even if the extra-long weekend has eluded us, there's plenty of November magic to make up for it. As we move through the month, the pace starts to pick up—plans for the festive season begin to take shape, shops sparkle a little brighter, and everyone seems to be balancing that funny mix of reflection and anticipation. It's a great time to take stock: what's gone well this year, what's still to come, and what small joys can be savoured before December sweeps us away in a flurry of celebration. Before we wrap up, a heartfelt thank you to all our wonderful readers and loyal advertisers. Your continued support, enthusiasm and encouragement mean the world to us and you're the reason we love putting each issue together.

So here's to cozy weekends, hearty soups, good books and crisp, golden days. Whether November finds you diving into projects, curling up by the fire or just taking things at your own pace, may it be a month filled with warmth, laughter and a touch of calm before the festive rush.

Happy November!

Andrew & Cheryl

Local Markets

MONDAY

- * Antas
- * Hualcal Overa
- * Vera Playa

TUESDAY

- * Albex
- * Cuevas de Almazora
- * Los Gallardos

WEDNESDAY

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

THURSDAY

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

FRIDAY

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

SATURDAY

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

SUNDAY

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





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Saturday Dinner Dance Evenings

Please book early as these events sell out quickly.

All other previously advertised music events are now fully booked.

Saturday 1st November - 21:00 **DIANE MOORE**

Saturday 29 November - 21:00 - **CARL LEWIS**

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**

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.

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

PASEO DEL MEDITERRÁNEO 209, 04638 MOJÁCAR PLAYA

Closed for holidays from 3rd to 27th November (Reopen 28th)

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

or the link on our Facebook page  **SensationsMojacar**



Tandoori Chicken Tray Bake

THE PERFECT HEARTY AUTUMN DISH

Nothing is more pleasing than a one tray delicious recipe and this dish will not disappoint. Perfect for those cooler Autumn evenings.

Prep time: 1hr 15m (plus marinating time (see method))

Cook time: 1hr - Serves: 4

Ingredients

Tandoori chicken

1/2 cup (140g) Greek style yoghurt, plus extra for serving

1/3 cup (100g) tandoori paste (or whatever Indian curry paste you have in the fridge)

6 chicken thighs, skin on and bone in

1 brown onion, finely chopped

1 clove garlic, minced

40g ghee (or use 1 tablespoon oil and 30g butter)

300g (1½ cups) long grain rice, rinsed and drained

3 cardamom pods, crushed and seeds removed (use a mortar and pestle)

1 teaspoon fine salt

¼ teaspoon ground turmeric

625ml (2½ cups) chicken stock (or water), warmed

Coriander sprigs, to garnish

Method:

Stir the yoghurt and tandoori paste in a large bowl to combine. On each thigh, cut two 3cm incisions across the skin into the

flesh. Then, add the thighs to the tandoori mixture, pushing into the incisions to help get as much flavour as possible into the meat. Cover and place in the fridge for at least an hour (or overnight), to marinate.

Place the onion, garlic and ghee into a large 20cm x 30cm deep-sided baking dish and stir to combine. Spread out over the base. Place the dish into the oven, then crank the temperature to 200°C conventional (180°C fan-forced). Cook for 15 minutes, open the oven and give the onions a stir to ensure not sticking. Cook for 10 minutes, or until onions are softened. Remove the baking dish from the oven.

Tip the rice into the dish and spread out evenly. Sprinkle over the cardamom seeds and salt. Stir the turmeric into the hot stock (or water) to dissolve, and pour over the rice to give it a bit of colour. Arrange the marinated chicken pieces, skin-side up over the top. Cover the baking dish with a large piece of foil, sealing around the edges. Return the baking dish to the oven. Bake for 30 minutes. Remove from the oven and take off the foil, being careful of the escaping steam. Place back in the oven for a further 15 minutes uncovered, to allow the chicken to brown.

Transfer the hot baking dish to a cooling rack. The surface rice will have a light crust and be fluffy underneath and the chicken golden around edges. Leave to stand for 5 minutes before serving.

Serve scattered with fresh coriander sprigs and blobs of yoghurt.

Tips:

Biryani-style rice: The rice in this dish has a rich, spiced depth, similar to a dirty rice or biryani — perfect for soaking up all the tandoori flavours.

Bold is best: Don't hold back on spices and herbs! The more flavour, the better.

Ghee alternatives: If you don't have ghee, swap it for any neutral oil or a mix of butter and oil.

Slow-sweated onions: Starting with onions in a cold oven helps them sweat and develop a deeper, sweeter flavour.

Fresh cardamom for the win: If possible, use freshly shelled and crushed cardamom for a more aromatic and vibrant flavour.

www.abc.net.au/news/2025-05-11/a-bite-to-eat-with-alice-tandoori-chicken-tray





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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New dishes added to our stunning new summer menu including lots more vegetarian and vegan options. Now available Tuesday - Friday 12:30pm - 3:30pm
3 courses - Menú del Día - 19.95€

We now also have a children's menu, all dishes freshly made and cooked in the same way as the 'grown up dishes'.

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The best Sunday Roast in Mojacar 1pm - 5pm.

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We had the best Sunday roast EVER at Torre Bahia today! The beef was absolutely delicious with crispy spuds that were fluffy in the middle, perfect Yorkshire puds, loads of steamed green veg and the best cauliflower cheese you'll ever taste.



Friendly welcome, comfortable seating. Excellent service! The mussels were so tasty. As a main course we had the steak and burger! Really good! Price/quality is perfect. Do not miss opportunity to enjoy this restaurant when you visit Mojacar.



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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Sun 7	-	16:45h	ESSENCIAL
Sun 7	-	20:30h	FUN DISCO KARAOKE
Tue 9	-	20h	OSCAR
Wed 10	-	16:45h	BEATLES FOR YOU
Thu 11	-	20h	LAURENS
Fri 12	-	20h	KAY FRANCES
Sat 13	-	20h	KAYLEIGH EASTON
Sun 14	-	16:45h	ALL SKAS
Sun 14	-	20:30h	FUN DISCO KARAOKE
Tue 16	-	20h	OSCAR
Wed 17	-	16:45h	SKYFALL
Thu 18	-	20h	LAURENS
Fri 19	-	20h	HARMONY DUO
Sat 20	-	20h	NEIL DIAMOND & FRIENDS
Sun 21	-	16:45h	LAS VEGAS
Sun 21	-	20h	FUN DISCO KARAOKE
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**Closed for holidays from 3rd November
Reopening Friday 5th of December**



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Set on Marina Golf, the stunning space has been completely refurbished with Tremain's signature attention to detail. Elegantly decorated in the familiar colour scheme, it features quality furnishings, comfortable seating, a spacious bar, beautiful artwork and soft, ambient lighting—creating a relaxed, stylish atmosphere. Distinct areas offer the perfect setting to unwind with a drink or enjoy a leisurely meal.

Outside, the expansive terraces have been renewed with fresh furniture and awnings, giving them a bright, welcoming feel. They provide spectacular views over the golf course and down to the Mediterranean Sea.

There's also a dedicated area for a game of pool with friends, plus TV screens so you can keep up with the latest golf action while enjoying your meal or drink.

Join them for breakfast, brunch or a light lunch from 9am to 3pm, or drop by in the evening for drinks and delicious sharing platters with friends or family. Fresh, locally sourced produce ensures every dish is full of flavour. Behind the bar, Kilian and Dave serve an excellent selection of wines, beers, and some of the best cocktails in the area.

Tremain and the team look forward to welcoming you—whether it's after a round of golf, while waiting for your golfer to return, or simply to relax and end your day in style. Come and enjoy Mojácar's newest, must-visit venue!



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LifeStyle

A Year in the Broom Closet: What I've Learned Pitching TV Formats

It's been almost a year since I decided to see if I could sell a TV show from a broom closet in southern Spain. Not literally a broom closet, but close enough - a small room, a laptop, and a Wi-Fi signal that drops out whenever the neighbour microwaves something.

I started with a few ideas, a vague sense of how the industry works, and a deeply misplaced confidence that LinkedIn messages like "Hey, I've got something I think you'll love!" would lead to immediate success. Spoiler: they didn't.

But along the way I've learned a few things - about TV, persistence, and the fine art of refreshing your inbox while pretending to be a calm and balanced human.

1. The "Yeah, Send It To Me" Mirage

When a TV executive says "yeah, send it to me," what they really mean is "sure, I'll glance at it right after I retire."

The first few times, I thought I was in. I spent nights perfecting pitch decks, trimming videos, writing clever taglines like "Where greed meets morality!" Then - silence.

After a while, you realise the entertainment industry is basically an airport lounge: people are always "just about to go somewhere," but nobody actually boards your flight.

2. The Great LinkedIn Experiment

You can, in theory, pitch an international game show from your living room. In practice, it's mostly you sitting there trying to craft the perfect message that sounds confident but not delusional.

"Hi [Executive], I'm an English teacher in Spain who's created a show about psychological warfare. Interested?"

Sometimes they reply. Sometimes they ghost you. Sometimes they move to another company halfway through your conversation and you end up pitching a show to a stranger who's now managing Batman spin-offs.

3. Making Sizzle Reels on a Teacher's Salary

You quickly learn why production companies exist: because editing AI footage at midnight while your students' essays are still unmarked is a very specific kind of madness.

There's a point where you're watching yet another AI actor blink unnaturally while saying your dialogue, and you think, "Is this genius or a cry for help?"

But necessity breeds creativity. And honestly, making something - even a dodgy AI trailer - feels infinitely better than waiting for permission to start.

4. The Three-Format Strategy

At some point I realised having one show is like showing up to a job interview with one outfit - you'd better hope they like blue.

So now I've got three: a reality competition, a psychological game show, and something that might accidentally make people cry. The logic is simple: if one's "too niche," maybe the next is "perfect for our slate."



Of course, "our slate" is often a mystical concept executives use like horoscopes: "We love your idea, but it's not aligned with our current slate."

5. The Teaching Job vs. The Dream

By day, I teach teenagers who have zero interest in conditionals. By night, I send game show pitches to LA, London, and Madrid.

Sometimes I wonder if my students secretly think I'm unhinged: one minute I'm explaining "if + present, will + infinitive," the next I'm mumbling about psychological endurance challenges and moral dilemmas.

But weirdly, teaching keeps me sane. It's grounding. And occasionally, one of them will say something so absurdly creative I jot it down thinking, that could actually work in a show.

6. The Waiting Game

The waiting is the killer.

You get a nibble, then a pause, then a polite "let's reconnect in a few weeks," which in TV terms means "check back after the next Ice Age."

Right now, I've got one big meeting pending with a major distributor. It could be the turning point. Or another chapter in the ongoing saga titled "Brad Refreshes His Inbox."

Either way, I'm still here.

7. What I've Learned (So Far)

- Everyone in TV is friendly, busy, and mildly allergic to commitment.
- Royalty structures are either brilliant or incomprehensible - sometimes both.
- "Distribution" sounds glamorous until you realise it mostly involves emails about rights territories.
- The best advice always comes from people who haven't sold anything either, but have great opinions.

Mostly, I've learned that the only real difference between "aspiring" and "working" is whether you stop trying.

So if you see a man in Mojácar looking slightly manic, muttering about "format rights" while carrying a stack of grammar worksheets - that's me.

I might be preparing to pitch a game show about human greed to a European distributor, or I might be trying to explain phrasal verbs to teenagers who've already stopped listening.

If you have any feedback for me, to dispute, argue, agree, support, harass or to pinch, flick us an email
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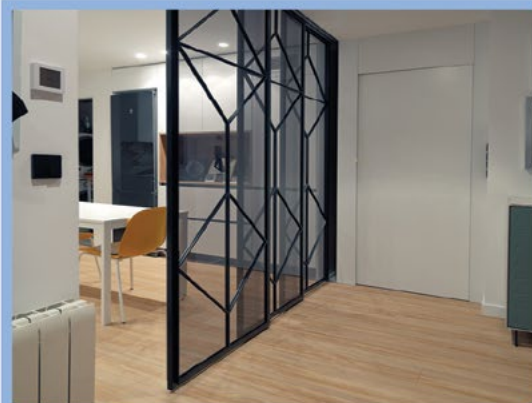
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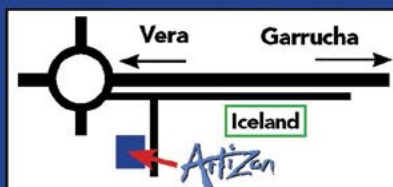
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How to Keep Your Beach Lifestyle AND Have a Professional Workspace Where You'll Actually Get Things Done

DESKSPACE

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The sound of waves across the road, natural light streaming through the windows, and the gentle hum of focused work — this isn't your typical office. DeskSpace Coworking has opened on Mojácar Playa, and it's redefining what "going to work" looks like in our corner of Mojácar.

Tucked in the same block as Platino Gym opposite the beach (between Brico Lopez and Mandala), the space is bright, calm, and professional — a little oasis of productivity with sea views and a friendly vibe. I met with owner Angus to learn more about Mojácar's newest workspace.

Q: So Angus, what is a coworking space?

A: We're basically a large shared office with seating for around 15 people. Some have said we are like a TARDIS (looking at you Dr Who fans) – we're bigger on the inside. Think of it as a professional space where, if you need a desk, you can come for a day, a week, or longer. Everything's set up and ready for you --fast Wi-Fi, comfortable seating, good lighting, and of course, coffee (and tea) on tap.

For many people, it's the ideal setup: an office with superfast internet, without the commitment of rental contract.

Q: Who uses a coworking space?

A: So far, I would say there are three sorts of people.

1. Local professionals.

We often hear people say it's "great to escape the same four walls," and that they enjoy the company of like-minded professionals. Even just seeing other people working can help with motivation — it's that subtle accountability you don't get when you're alone at home.

Others crave a change of scenery — or just some quiet time to focus without the distractions of home. Or they just don't have quiet space with kids, dogs, or the builders next door. We have a professional meeting space to have a meeting that is not in your lounge. We even had someone who needed to spread out all



their papers and "seriously concentrate" – talk about "serious admin".

2. Visitors to Mojácar.

When friends or family come to visit, there's often one person who still needs to work remotely. DeskSpace gives them a reliable, comfortable place to do that — with strong Wi-Fi and everything set up, so they don't have to take over the dining table (and then pack it away at mealtimes!).

We also have external monitors available, which can make a big difference for people who need a proper workstation.

It's popular with short-term visitors who want to enjoy the beach life but still keep on top of their work.

So far, we've welcomed people from Barcelona and Madrid extending their holidays, an accountant from Sweden wanting to separate her "work" time from "holiday" time, and a technical account manager from South Africa who appreciates the reliable Wi-Fi, large monitors, and air-con.

Naturally, as most of our Facebook posts are in English, we've also had visitors from England, Wales, and Ireland (nope – no Scottish visitors yet).

I speak English, reasonable Spanish, and some rusty Polish — which helps make people feel welcome.

3. Digital nomads.

There's a growing community of professionals who can literally work from anywhere. Since Spain introduced the Digital Nomad Visa (DNV), we're seeing more people basing themselves in Mojácar for a few months

— escaping the cities, soaking up the sunshine, and finding a balance between work and lifestyle. DeskSpace gives them a sense of structure and community, with like minded people.

Q: It sounds flexible — how does it work in practice?

A: Yes, flexible - that's the idea. Some people just drop in for a day when they need to concentrate, while others take a desk more permanently, using us as their main office.

I try to keep things simple: all-inclusive pricing, no complicated contracts, and everything ready to go in the time it takes to make a cup of coffee — or tea, both free!

Packages start from €6 +IVA per day – all included.

We have a small kitchenette, a meeting area and a newly renovated, wheelchair-accessible bathroom. There's plenty of parking, and desks with a glimpse of the sea.

Q: When are you open?

A: We're open Monday–Friday from 10:00–17:00, feel free to just call in during these hours – no appointment / pre-booking required. ALSO, we can be open longer hours by appointment – just send me a message (details below).

Q: What are the costs?

A: We have a range of options to suit different needs. I have tried to cover all eventualities without over complicating matters. Whether you want a pack of 10, all month or just a day. You can find more info on our website: <https://deskpace.es/pricing/>



Q: What's the vibe like when you walk in?

A: Warm and welcoming. Everyone's doing their own thing, but there's a nice energy that comes from being around motivated, creative people. We're not trying to be corporate — we're about connection, productivity, and community.

Mojácar has always attracted interesting people — writers, designers, entrepreneurs, and travellers — and DeskSpace brings some of them together. Sometimes it's just a quick chat over coffee that sparks an idea or collaboration. That's the magic of coworking — it's work, but with a human side.

Q: You've mentioned community — are you doing any local events?

A: Yes! In October we hosted a Tech Meet-Up. We'll definitely be organising more events over the coming months — not just tech-related, but things like marketing workshops, networking mornings, or even informal "laptop and latte" meet-ups.

It's part of our goal to make DeskSpace more than just desks — we want it to be a hub for professionals, creatives, and entrepreneurs in Mojácar and the surrounding towns.

Q: Finally — why Mojácar?

A: Mojácar has this balance of calm and creativity. The weather's great, the sea's close, and it's an inspiring place to live and work.

Coworking spaces are common in cities, but smaller towns like Mojácar are starting to see the benefits — especially as more people embrace remote work. DeskSpace fits right into that shift.

As our conversation wrapped up, DeskSpace Coworking feels like a small but significant addition to Mojácar Playa — a modern workspace for a changing world. Whether you're a local professional, a visiting freelancer, or a digital nomad chasing the sun, it's a place where you can plug in, focus, and maybe even find your next big idea. Curious? Contact Angus.

FIND DESKSPACE COWORKING

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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.

Dear Theresa

I left my wife over six months ago, we have one little girl aged 6. Life together had become unbearable, I honestly felt like she hated me before I left, she never even wanted to be in the same room as me and only ever spoke to me to tell me what was wrong with me. After I left she didn't speak to me again except the odd nasty comment when I was collecting or returning our daughter.

A few weeks ago, I had a lot of trouble because the place I was renting got flooded from above and I had to couch surf with friends and eventually got sorted out and moved into another place. During this time she was really nice to me and even helpful I really thought we could be friends going forward, but now she's gone back to hating me again and screaming at me when I'm collecting our daughter. I don't know what to do? Help.

Adam

Hi Adam

So sorry to hear your marriage has ended. It sounds like your wife may be still trying to process what happened to her when you decided to leave. Six months is a very short time to get over a relationship that presumably lasted at least Seven years. What you are experiencing as hate and anger are probably her feelings of hurt and rejection. You must remember that you decided to leave her, which took you time to decide, process and plan. It was probably only at the point of leaving that you told her what was about to happen to her life and your child's as well. She didn't have any choice, say or time to accept this and now you are surprised that she is angry. Perhaps if you had considered asking her to go to couples therapy when you were still together, it may have then been a joint decision. It's still not too late to do that even if it's just to see how you can both be better parents to your little girl who is stuck in the middle. Verbal abuse is never acceptable in any circumstances. When you were in trouble your wife showed kindness, which is obviously at the heart of who she is. You said your wife only spoke to you, to tell you what was wrong with you. Those were distress calls you either missed or ignored. It really sounds like you both need help to communicate with each other. Please consider therapy either as a couple or alone.

Best wishes

Theresa

Readers Answers

Have you self reflected and asked yourself why she was acting that way towards you, what changed ? Either you did, she did or you both did . Either way, you weren't stepping up to the plate and providing a higher masculine support. Once a woman feels she doesn't have the support of her man and she's made to feel like she has to do everyday life on her own, then that's what she will do. So ask yourself, can you say you did 100% everything you could to make both yours, hers and your daughters life, the best life living.

Sharon

Go "grey rock" on her. Only contact via a specific, new email address. Only speak about things concerning your daughter - nothing else. Don't respond to any dramatics and document everything.

It will be tough, but she's clearly going through something and you are not the best person to support her right now.

Aileen

One of our editors googled the term "Grey Rock" out of pure nosiness!

"Grey rock" is a psychological technique used to deal with toxic or abusive individuals by becoming as uninteresting and unreactive as a grey rock. The goal is to stop feeding the person's need for drama or emotional responses, thereby making you a less appealing target for their behavior. This is achieved by keeping conversations brief, avoiding personal details and offering minimal emotional input.



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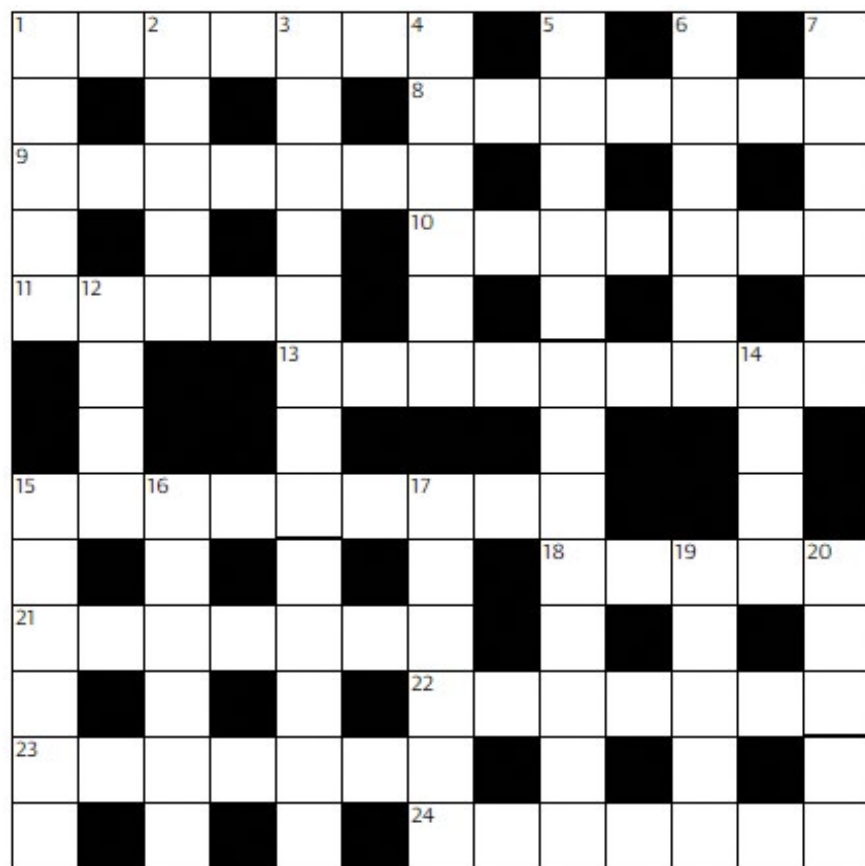


Sudokus

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Cross Word



ACROSS

- 1 Person working with coffee beans? (7)
- 8 1975 film starring Warren Beatty as a promiscuous LA hairdresser (7)
- 9 Soothing balm (7)
- 10 Leave (informal) (4,3)
- 11 Wild (5)
- 13 Impossible to hear properly (9)
- 15 Zoo (9)
- 18 Operation to catch a person committing a crime (informal) (5)
- 21 Blockhead (7)
- 22 Highly-regarded (7)
- 23 Cut down (7)
- 24 Grow tense (7)

DOWN

- 1 High steep bank caused by river erosion (5)
- 2 Moore or McGough? (5)
- 3 They should bring you round (8,5)
- 4 Respiratory condition (6)
- 5 Vinaigrette, for example (5,8)
- 6 Poise shown under strain (6)
- 7 Something sweet to chew on (6)
- 12 Slacken (4)
- 14 Croquet or tennis venue (8)
- 15 Self-deprecating (6)
- 16 London columnist (6)
- 17 Rat or squirrel, say (6)
- 19 Awkward (5)
- 20 Grow old (3,2)

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SPORT & MORE

by
Tony Matthews

STRANGE SPORTING FACTS....

CONTINUED FROM OCTOBER ISSUE...

41) An MV Augusta motor cyclist won 18 of the 19 Motor GP 500c class races between 1956 and 1974. The Italian Giacomo Agostini and GB's Mike Hailwood were the main riders.

42) The biggest win in senior one day cricket was achieved by England in 2003 when they defeated Sri Lanka by 317 runs

43) England registered the biggest-ever Test Match win in August 1938 – scoring 903-7 declared as they hammering Australia (201 and 123) by an innings and 579 runs at The Oval.

44) England (521 and 342-8 declared) also defeated Australia (122 and 66) by 675 runs in a Test Match in Brisbane in December 1928.

45) England's opener, Len Hutton, scored 364 in the huge victory over the Aussies at The Oval in 1938.

46) The narrowest-ever win in a Test Match was achieved by England at Edgbaston in 2005 when they defeated Australia by just 2 runs. England scored 407 and 182 while the Aussies replied with 308 and 279.

47) Cloister won the 1893 Grand National by 40 lengths – a record which still stands today.

48) The longest tennis match ever contested last for 11 hours and 5 minutes. It was a men's singles encounter involving John Isner against Nicolas Mahut at Wimbledon in 2010.

49) England crushed Romania 134 points to nil in a Rugby Union international at Twickenham in February 2023. England scored a record 20 tries in this sport's biggest-ever victory.

50) Champion flat race jockey Sir Gordon Richards rode no less than 269 winners in 1947.

51) Preston North End have been playing home football matches since 1881.



52) Johnny Weissmuller, who played Tarzan in various films, won two free-style Olympic gold medals in swimming: 1924 and 1928.

53) Tennis stars Bjorn Borg (1976-80 inclusive) and Roger Federer (2003-07) both won five successive Wimbledon singles titles.

54) Female tennis champion Martina Navratilova won 13 WTA tour titles between 1982 and 1987 including seven in a row.

55) American heavyweight boxer Joe Louis was world champion for 12 years, from 1937 to 1949.

56) USA top golfer Tom Watson won the British Open five times in eight years: 1975-83.

57) Another tennis star, Roy Emerson, won five successive singles titles on his home court in Melbourne: 1963-67.

58) Eight cricketers share the feat of taking a record seven catches in a Test Match innings. They include England wicket-keeper Bob Taylor and Aussie batter Matthew Hayden.

59) Players who have snapped up eight catches in match (2 innings) include Greg Chappell (Australia) and Aamir Sohni (India).

60) Nine cricketers have hit six sixes in one over in a competitive match – and they include the first who was Garfield Sobers (for Notts v. Glamorgan, County game in 1968), Herschelle Gibbs, Ravi Shastri, Kieron Pollard and Yuraz Singh.

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BOOK REVIEW

THE WELL

By Catherine Chanter

Catherine Chanter's *The Well* is one of those rare novels that defies easy categorisation. It is part dystopian fable, part psychological drama, part spiritual allegory. It's not the sort of book I would usually reach for, and yet, once I started, I found myself strangely compelled to keep turning the pages. There's a magnetic quality to both the writing and the atmosphere — unsettling, lyrical, and quietly relentless — that made it impossible to walk away. The premise is immediately intriguing: in a near-future England gripped by drought, only one farm, "The Well", still has water. This miracle, or curse, depending on perspective, attracts attention, suspicion and eventually persecution. At the heart of the story is Ruth Ardingly, who retreats to The Well with her husband Mark in search of a simpler life. What unfolds is anything but simple. The rain that blesses their land isolates them from a parched and desperate nation, and what begins as a retreat into pastoral peace descends into claustrophobia, religious fanaticism, and moral ambiguity. Catherine's writing is rich and evocative, with a sense of foreboding that seeps through every page. The landscape is vividly drawn, lush, dripping and alive and, a stark contrast to the dry, dying world beyond The Well's borders. The book often reads like a dream sequence, shifting between memory and reality, hope and despair. At times, this lyrical style borders on overwrought, but it suits the feverish mood of the book.



What kept me hooked was Ruth herself. She's not a particularly likable narrator, but she's deeply human, flawed, yearning and sometimes self-deceptive. As her isolation grows, so does her instability and the writer explores that psychological unravelling with great skill. The novel raises uncomfortable questions about faith, guilt, and the limits of redemption. That said, I did have mixed feelings. The pacing falters in places. The shifts between past and present occasionally disorient more than they illuminate. The religious cult subplot, while thematically fitting, felt heavy-handed at times. Still, despite moments of frustration, I couldn't stop reading. Chanter's world feels both eerily plausible and dreamily strange and the emotional undercurrent, the ache of loss and the hunger for meaning lingers long after the final page.

Cheryl Goth

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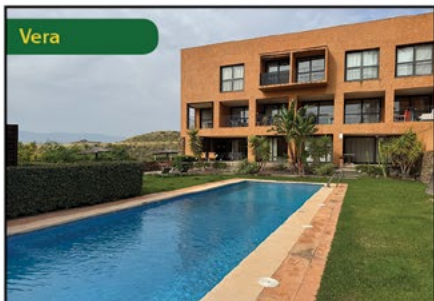
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