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The Advertiser Magazine
Est. 2001



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.

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Welcome

to the June issue of the Advertiser Magazine

Thank you, as always, to all of our faithful readers, advertisers and contributors. This month, we have a bumper issue for you. We are delighted to welcome several new advertisers, along with a host of new articles for you to enjoy.

On a sad note, our lovely sales representative, Karen Jackson, has decided to retire and enjoy the Spanish sunshine. She will be greatly missed. While we obviously wish Karen every happiness in her retirement, we cannot pretend not to feel just a little envious.

Summer has officially arrived and, with it, comes the unmistakable heat of the season, the kind that calls for siestas, cool drinks and evenings spent beneath the stars. However, June is not just about rising temperatures. It is a month packed with tradition, colour, music and celebration.

One of the most spectacular events on the calendar is the Moors and Christians festivals.

In Vera town, from 6th to 10th June 2026, the Patron Saint Festivities honouring the Virgin of Sorrows will take place alongside the grand Moors and Christians parade. The 10th of June is a local fiesta in Vera. Re-enactments of the Capitulations, embassy performances and processions fill five days with living history in the Renaissance city of the Levante Almeriense. The main parade will take place on Saturday 6th June.

In Mojácar, the Moors and Christians festival will be held from 11th to 14th June 2026. The 12th of June is a local holiday in Mojácar. This spectacular and vibrant event celebrates the town's history through elaborate parades, theatrical re-enactments of the peaceful surrender, live bands and lively kábilas throughout the village.

Both events are spectacular, fun-filled and, in our opinion, among the best social occasions of the year. Expect magnificent costumes, a buzzing medieval market, food and drink stalls, and live music that will have the whole town dancing.

Be sure to read our article inside for more information on the origins of the Moors and Christians festivals.

As if that were not enough, the magical San Juan celebrations on the night of 23rd June are a time-honoured tradition of bonfires and beach barbecues welcoming the summer solstice. It is a night filled with light, laughter and a little bit of magic, made even more special for us as it also marks our wedding anniversary.

Here's to a June filled with sunshine, celebration and unforgettable memories.

Andrew & Cheryl



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1 charcoal/roast chicken
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1 large bunch of coriander
2 small or 1 large cucumbers
1 medium French shallot
2 mangoes

Dressing

2 tablespoons extra virgin olive oil
1 tablespoon of runny honey
1 teaspoon white wine vinegar
2 limes
A tiny sprinkle sea salt

Ingredients for Flatbreads:

4 flatbreads, about 20cm in diameter
30g salted butter
1 small or very small garlic clove
1 handful coriander leaves

Method:

1. Shred the rotisserie chicken and set aside.
2. Cut the lettuce into 7cm chunks and pick off the coriander leaves (keeping the coriander stalks for a curry paste or stock), then wash and dry them.
3. Cut the cucumber in half lengthways, then into 1cm wide half moons

4. Peel then finely dice the shallot.

5. Cut the mango into chunks.

6. Make the dressing by adding the olive oil, honey, vinegar and the juice of 1 lime to a jar for which you have a lid. Secure the lid, shake well, then taste and add extra lime and salt as desired.

7. Add the lettuce to a large salad bowl along with the cucumber and shallots. Pour over the salad dressing and toss to combine.

8. Add the mango, chicken and most of the coriander (reserving a handful for the flatbread) to the salad bowl and gently toss.

9. To make the flatbread, mince the garlic clove and finely chop the remaining coriander, then set aside. Melt the butter in a small saucepan over low heat. As soon as it's melted add the garlic and cook for about 1 minute until fragrant and just beginning to turn golden. Turn off the heat and set aside. If the garlic is looking very brown at this point pour the mixture into a bowl to prevent it from browning further in the pan.

10. Heat a skillet over medium-low heat. Add the first flatbread and cook for a minute or two until golden brown, then flip and cook on the other side until golden brown. Ideally the flatbread will puff up, but keep in mind that different brands of bread behave differently. If the flatbread are browning too quickly, turn the heat down a little. Place the warmed flatbread on a plate and cover with a tea towel to keep warm. Cook the remaining flatbread, carefully wiping down the skillet in between

batches if there is any flour left on the skillet. While the remaining flatbreads are cooking you can return to the one(s) you have cooked and, using a pastry brush or a spoon, spread/drizzle the garlic butter mixture over the flatbread then sprinkle with coriander, before once again covering with a tea towel to keep warm.

11. Serve the flatbread with the salad.

(ABC News: Heidi Sze)

Heidi Sze is a monthly recipe contributor with ABC Lifestyle. She is a pre- and post-natal dietitian and nutritionist. Instagram @HeidiApples





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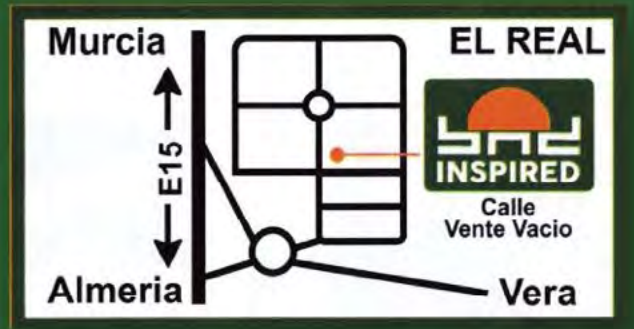


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Moros y Cristianos

The Origin of The Moors & Christians Festivals

The Moors and Christians festivals are among the most colourful and spectacular celebrations in Spain, and nowhere are they celebrated with more passion than in the beautiful towns of Mojácar and Vera. Every June, these historic towns come alive with music, elaborate costumes, parades, mock battles and celebrations that attract thousands of visitors from across Spain and beyond. Yet behind the excitement and pageantry lies a fascinating story rooted in the history of medieval Spain.

The origins of the Moors and Christians festivals date back to the Reconquista, the long period during which Christian kingdoms gradually reclaimed territories controlled by Muslim rulers on the Iberian Peninsula. For almost 800 years, much of southern Spain was under Moorish rule following the arrival of Muslim armies in the early 8th century. During this time, Al-Andalus became a centre of culture, science, architecture and agriculture, leaving a lasting influence that can still be seen throughout Andalucía today.

By the late 15th century, the Catholic Monarchs, Queen Isabella I of Castile and King Ferdinand II of Aragon, were determined to complete the Reconquista. In 1488, many towns in the Levante Almeriense region surrendered peacefully to the Christian forces. However, the story of Mojácar stands apart from many others due to the famous encounter between Garcilaso de la Vega, a captain serving

the Catholic Monarchs, and Alabez, the Moorish governor of Mojácar.

According to local legend, Alabez refused to kneel before the Catholic Monarchs, not out of defiance, but because he believed the people of Mojácar had always lived honourably and deserved respect. The meeting between the two men took place at the town fountain, now known as the Fuente Mora. Rather than ending in violence, the negotiations resulted in a peaceful agreement that allowed the town to surrender without bloodshed. This spirit of coexistence and mutual respect remains at the heart of Mojácar's modern festival.



Although the historical events occurred in the 15th century, the modern version of the festival in Mojácar is relatively recent. The celebrations were revived in 1988 to commemorate the 500th anniversary of the peaceful capitulation of the town. Since then, the festival has grown into one of the most important events in the province of Almería. Today, the people of Mojácar spend months preparing for the festivities, organising themselves into Moorish kábilas and Christian groups known as cuarteles.

During the festival, the narrow whitewashed streets of Mojácar are transformed into a living stage. Spectacular parades feature lavish costumes inspired by both Moorish and Christian traditions, accompanied by marching bands, dancers, horses and dramatic theatrical performances. Re-enactments of the embassies and surrender recreate the historic negotiations between Alabez and the Christian forces. One of the most impressive moments is the grand parade, where hundreds of participants march through the town in a dazzling display of colour and music.

In nearby Vera, the Moors and Christians celebrations share similar historical roots. Vera also played an important role during the Reconquista and became a strategic Christian settlement after the surrender of the region.

Continued on page 12



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Moros y Cristianos continued...

The town's annual festivities honour both its patron saint and its medieval history, blending religion, culture and historical remembrance into a lively community celebration.

Like Mojácar, Vera commemorates the encounters between Muslim and Christian cultures that shaped the history of Andalucía. The festival includes processions, historical re-enactments, music and traditional dress, all designed to celebrate the town's heritage while bringing residents and visitors together in a spirit of enjoyment and unity.

Today, the Moors and Christians festivals are about far more than battles from the past. They are celebrations of identity, tradition and community spirit. While they commemorate historical events, they also recognise the deep cultural influences that both Moorish and Christian civilisations left on southern Spain. In towns such as Mojácar and Vera, history is not confined to museums or textbooks. Every summer, it returns to the streets in a spectacular explosion of music, colour and celebration that keeps centuries-old traditions alive for future generations.

This year, in Vera town, the main parade of the Moors and Christians festival will take place on Saturday 6th June. Re-enactments of the Capitulations, embassy performances and processions will fill five days in the Renaissance city of the Levante Almeriense.

In Mojácar, the Moors and Christians festival will be held from 11th to 14th June 2026. This spectacular and vibrant event celebrates the town's history through elaborate parades, theatrical re-enactments of the peaceful surrender, live bands and lively kábilas throughout the village.



Both events are spectacular, fun-filled and, in our opinion, among the best social occasions of the year. Expect magnificent costumes, a buzzing medieval market, food and drink stalls, and live music that will have the whole town dancing.

The photographs in this article were taken at a previous Moros y Cristianos Festival in Mojácar pueblo.



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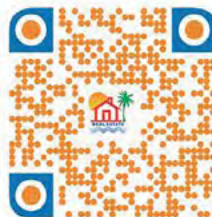


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ACROSS

- 1 Vegetable of the brassica family with purplish leaves (3,7)
- 7 Put the phone down (4,3)
- 8 More ill-mannered (5)
- 10 Be aware of (4)
- 11 What Greek dolmades are wrapped in (4,4)
- 13 Large black dots in eyes (6)
- 15 Turn from a liquid to a solid (6)
- 17 Fierce fight (when the bell sounds?) (4-4)
- 18 Maori war dance (4)
- 21 French state secondary school (5)
- 22 Having daydreams (7)
- 23 Frances Hodgson Burnett's Little Lord, published 1886 (10)

DOWN

- 1 The Fab Four's drummer (5)
- 2 It can open (and close!) (4)
- 3 (Being) up to date (2,4)
- 4 Port city on the Garonne in south-west France, a major wine capital (8)
- 5 Manna from heaven! (7)
- 6 Put your foot down here when you want to stop (5,5)
- 9 Place for shooting practice (5,5)
- 12 Batter with a heavy object (8)
- 14 The elusive universal remedy (7)
- 16 Brute (6)
- 19 Cordial relations (5)
- 20 Rain heavily (4)

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Press Release

Jack Law Releases His Debut Album

Sheffield born Jack Law has been playing music since he first picked up a guitar at a very young age. From busking on the streets of France following a family move, to his first paid gigs in bars for the then princely sum of 50 Euros, jack honed his craft.

Following another move, this time to Spain, the gigs got bigger, along with his fan base. Realising it was time to record his first album Jack had the chance to go and record in Nashville, however, Jack decided to return to his hometown of Sheffield to make the album so he could be near his 90 year old, bedridden grandmother. Nashville could indeed wait.

Jack's songs naturally segwayed into country rock. A collection of songs that are full of his personal thoughts, stories and experiences. This album is not just the culmination of Jack's musical story so far, but also the start of the next chapter.



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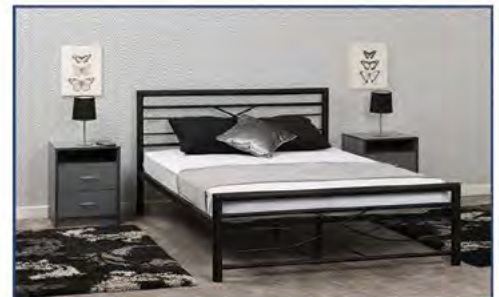
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What's the problem

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

My girlfriend and I moved in together a few months ago and we get on really well. The problem is that her Mother who lives with my girlfriend's younger brother, constantly makes excuses to get my girlfriend back to their house. Every week there's something minor or some drama that her Mother insists she comes round to help with. I've told my girlfriend that they're not her responsibility but she feels really guilty if she doesn't go and now it's causing trouble between us.

Thanks Matty

Hi Matty

I'm so sorry you are having trouble in what otherwise seems a very happy time for you both. Unfortunately you may not like my answer. I think you should try not to get on to your girlfriend about this as she is naturally feeling so torn. Otherwise you become the problem. If you support her and offer kindness and understanding, she will see where her hassles are coming from and be able to back off herself without feeling she is being disloyal. Let your home together become her safe haven. Good luck.

Theresa

Readers Answers

Living with you doesn't mean she stops being a daughter or loving her family. You fell in love with her and knew she was close to her family, now you need to find a way to accept that her family will always be important to her. Our responsibilities to our families don't end when we make our own family they get extended further. If you feel they are taking advantage of her, that's different and you should gently suggest that you know she loves and cares for them but make sure they don't abuse that love.

Amanda

It sounds like her mum is missing her. Your girlfriend probably feels really pulled between you all. I like to see my mum every week. Maybe so it doesn't interfere with pre-made plans, your girlfriend could have a set day to visit and then, if her mum says she needs her on other days, your girlfriend can say, make a list mum and we can do it when I visit on (whatever day is the visit day). Your girlfriend has made a massive move being with you and living together. Be kind, even though it's frustrating. She loves you all.

Sarah

This sounds like controlling behaviour. Weekly visit to family is normal. Have you been limiting her time with family previously. Is mum making a drama as she feels she would not see her daughter otherwise.

She should not have to choose between you.

Joanna

I would say take a step back from, what she believes, is her obligation. How long is she spending on these visits? Is it just a couple of hours. She would probably want to see her mum anyway.

Living together doesn't mean she can't visit her mum or help her family with issues.

Imagine a scenario where her mum asks her to come down to help with a problem, you are very vocal about her not going, she doesn't go, and then something drastic happens.

It could be something life altering and she could have prevented it. If you hadn't let her go, she would never forgive you.

Let her have her time at her mums, it's her caring side, part of the reason you love her. You are not in competition with her mum. You can be her safe, stress free place to come home to.

Janice

Theresa Wood M.I.A.C.P. - M.Phil. Psychoanalysis - Bsc. Counselling & Psychotherapy

Would you like to ask for Theresa's advice? Email in confidence at: theresa@advertiseremojacar.com



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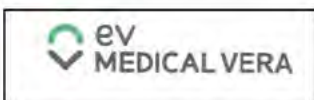
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June 1976 - 50 Years Ago

June 1976 was one of those gloriously odd months when the world seemed to wobble cheerfully between disco glitter, political confusion, and people making decisions that could only have made sense in very hot weather. It was the summer of flared trousers, alarming sideburns, and television presenters speaking with absolute confidence about things they clearly did not understand. And while history books tend to focus on the serious business of elections and economics, June 1976 offered plenty of wonderfully quirky moments too.

To begin with, Britain was slowly roasting. The legendary heatwave of 1976 was gathering strength, and by June people across the UK were already behaving like tropical lizards. Lawns turned yellow, rivers shrank, and respectable citizens abandoned all dignity by wearing shorts to the office. Ice cream vans became more important than emergency services. Newspapers treated sunshine as if it were both a gift from heaven and a sign of imminent collapse.

This was also the era before air conditioning was common, which meant everyone simply sat indoors melting politely. Teachers tried to conduct lessons while children slowly fused themselves to plastic chairs. Newsreaders delivered grim reports about drought while visibly sweating through their jackets. Somewhere in Britain, at any given moment in June 1976, a man named Keith was saying, "Cor, it's a bit warm, innit?" while carrying a garden hose.

Meanwhile, across the Atlantic, America was preparing for its bicentennial celebrations. The United States was about to turn 200 years old in July, and June became one long patriotic warm-up act. There were parades, marching bands, historical reenactments, and enough red, white, and blue fabric to blind a horse.

The mood was so enthusiastic that even ordinary household products became aggressively patriotic. Supermarkets sold bicentennial paper plates. Car dealerships decorated vehicles with stars and stripes. One unfortunate generation of Americans discovered that eagle-themed polyester shirts do not age gracefully.

And then there was music.

June 1976 sat right in the middle of disco fever. Nightclubs everywhere pulsed with mirror balls and dance floors lit like alien landing strips. The Bee Gees were becoming unavoidable. People genuinely believed satin shirts were a sensible choice for dancing under hot lights. Entire evenings were spent pointing dramatically at ceilings while basslines thumped in the background.

But disco wasn't the only strange musical development. In Britain, punk was beginning to creep into public consciousness like a noisy raccoon in ripped trousers. Early performances by bands like the Sex Pistols left audiences deeply confused. Some people thought punk represented the collapse of civilisation. Others simply wondered why nobody in the band appeared to own a comb.

Television in June 1976 was equally bizarre.

This was the golden age of game shows where contestants won things like toasters, patio furniture, or "a luxury holiday in Scarborough." Variety shows featured comedians telling jokes of terrifying confidence and

singers performing beside dancers dressed as abstract concepts. Somewhere, probably on a Saturday evening, a man in a velvet tuxedo introduced a ventriloquist act to an audience absolutely delighted by the presence of a puppet with eyebrows.

Meanwhile, technology continued its slow and awkward march into the future.

In June 1976, the world was only beginning to glimpse the personal computer revolution. Most people still viewed computers as enormous machines that lived in government buildings and occasionally emitted punch cards. Yet behind the scenes, young enthusiasts were tinkering with devices that would eventually change everything.

The contrast is wonderful to imagine. On one side of the world, people danced beneath disco balls wearing platform shoes the height of garden furniture. On the other, future tech pioneers sat in garages surrounded by wires and blinking lights, unknowingly preparing humanity for online shopping and arguments about Wi-Fi passwords.

Sport also delivered its usual quota of eccentricity.

Wimbledon was underway, and tennis fashion in 1976 deserves its own museum. Players wore tiny shorts, impossibly short skirts, and hairstyles that looked sculpted by enthusiastic winds. Sports commentators spoke in hushed reverence about athletes while crowds politely applauded absolutely everything, including missed serves and occasional sneezes.

And then there were everyday oddities that now seem impossibly distant.

People smoked everywhere in June 1976. On planes. In offices. In restaurants. Probably during minor surgery. Cars had no seatbelts worth mentioning. Children travelled freely around vehicle interiors like loose luggage. Nobody drank bottled water because paying for water sounded like evidence of a mental breakdown.

Yet there's something charming about the month in retrospect. June 1976 feels like a world balanced between old-fashioned simplicity and modern chaos. It was hot, noisy, slightly ridiculous, and full of humanity muddling along with admirable confidence.

The hairstyles were questionable. The fashion was unforgivable. But the sheer optimism of it all remains oddly lovable.



SPORT & MORE

by
Tony Matthews

RUNS, RUNS & MORE RUNS

All cricket lovers know that last year England beat India in the first Test of the summer series. Ben Stokes' team chased down their target of 371 with wickets and time to spare, scoring 373 for five before an excited and enthusiastic crowd at Headingley, Leeds.

So far, in the history of Test cricket, the 400-run target has been chased down on just four occasions while the target of 371 has been surpassed ten times overall. Here are details of the first ten encounters which produced runs galore.

418-7 by the West Indies v. Australia at St. John's, Antigua, May 2003. Both teams scored 230 in their first innings, but Australia then piled up 417 in their second knock, setting the Windies a huge total to win the match and they did just that thanks to centuries by Ramnaresh Sarwan and Shivarine Chanderpaul.

414-4 by South Africa v. Australia, at the WACA in Perth in December, 2008. AB De Villiers (106 n.o) and skipper Graeme Smith (108) led South Africa's run chase in style and they had a lot more left in their locker when the final run was scored.

404-3 by Australia v. England, Headingley, Leeds, July 1948 Arthur Morris (182) and Sir Donald Bradman (173 not out) were the stars in this epic win by the Aussies for whom fast bowler Ray Lindwall took seven wickets in the match.

406-4 by India v. the West Indies at the Queen's Park Oval, Port of Spain, April 1976. Alvin Kallicharran's century built an imposing West Indian lead, but centuries by Sunil Gavaskar and Gundappa Viswanath took India to an eventual total of 406-4. The match itself proved a turning point as Windies' skipper Clive Lloyd broke convention by building an attack around four fast bowlers.

395-7 by the West Indies v. Bangladesh Chattogram, February 2021. West Indies' batsman Kyle Mayers enjoyed an astounding start to his Test career with an extraordinary 210 not out. He put on 216 with fellow debutant Nkrumah Bonner (86) as the visitors registered a brilliant victory by three wickets.

391-6 by Sri Lanka v Zimbabwe in Colombo in July 2017.

BIGGEST RUN CHASES TO WIN CRICKET MATCHES

Asela Gunaratne made a match-winning 80 not out, putting on 121 with Niroshan Dickwella (81) as Sri Lanka registered an excellent victory.



387-4 by India v England in Chennai, December 2008

Two hundreds by Andrew Strauss put England on top, but Virender Sehwag made a quickfire 83 before all-time batting great, Sachin Tendulkar (103 not out) and Yuvraj Singh (85 not out) took India to a deserved six-wicket win.

378-3 by England v India at Edgbaston, July 2022

Joe Root and Jonny Bairstow hit centuries as England romped home by seven wickets in a series finalé postponed from 2021 because of coronavirus concerns within the India camp.

382-3 by Pakistan v Sri Lanka, at Pallekelle in July 2015

Pakistan were in dire straits at 13-2 early on in their chase but hundreds by Shan Masood and Younis Khan turned the tide before Misbah-ul-Haq's match-winning 59 saw them reach their target comfortably, with seven wickets to spare.

373-5 by England v India at Headingley, Leeds, June 2025

India made 471 after being put into bat by England captain Ben Stokes. England's reply was excellent, finishing six runs short of their opponents' total. India were then dismissed for 364 before opener Ben Duckett (149), ably assisted by Joe Root and Jamie Smith, steered Stokes' team home in style with overs and wickets in hand. This, by the way, is only the third Test match whereby more than 350 runs have been scored in all four innings...the two Ashes clashes, at Adelaide in 1921 and Headingley in 1948 being the other two.

INTERESTING RECORD

The South Africa v. England Test Match played in Durban in March 1939, saw a world record number of runs scored in four innings – total 1,981.

South Africa, were bowled out for 530. England replied with 316 all out and then, in their second innings, the hosts amassed 481, which left England needing a mighty 696 to win. Well, what followed was quite amazing. England scored 654-5, only 42 runs short of a famous victory. Bill Edrich top-scored for England with 219; Wally Hammond weighed in with 140 and Paul Gibb struck a superb 120.

The bowlers who suffered most in this record-setting run-making jamboree, were South Africans Norman Gordon 1-256 and Arthur Langton 4-203, and for England it was Doug Wright 5-288 and Reg Perks 6-199.

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Quarter finals were: Chris F.3 – Ted 0, Ian Ashworth 3 – John Sloan 0, Arthur Davies 2 – Rudy 3, Trevor Moore 2 - Steve Smith 3. Semifinals: Ian 1 – Chris 3 and Rudy 3 – Steve 0.

The next Club Tournament should be played in autumn of this year. The tournament is played in 4 groups Round Robin and then the best 8 have to play knockouts.

Handicaps for next tournament played in Autumn.

Ian 28, Chris Farrugia 21, Clive Havis 21, Wieland 14, Barry 14, Phil Simpson 14, David

14, Rudy G. 14, Arthur 7, Alan Newman 7.

This year and now for the third time the play-offs for the Spanish - Portugal Amateur competition (LASE) are played at the Snooker Club Mojacar. This year the best four players from the Snooker Club Mojacar play against the best four players from the Snooker Club of Valencia. The event is on 30.05 and The Snooker Club Mojácar is located just on the side of the well-known "Mercadona Supermarket" at Mojácar – beach at the "El Zoco".

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Celebrity News

JACK LAW



Red Carpet events and album launch parties are not usually associated with Mojacar’s social scene — but on 20th May, that’s exactly what unfolded.

Local talented artist Jack Law hosted a glamorous launch party at The Emerald Isle to celebrate the release of his new album, “Nashville Can Wait”, which officially launched on iTunes and Spotify that very day. The occasion also coincided with Jack’s birthday, making it an evening of double celebration.

The event was very well attended, with invited guests dressed to impress for the special occasion. Jack made a memorable arrival in a Maserati, adding a touch of Hollywood glamour to the night. The evening was hosted by Tony Griffiths (“Lordy”), who kept the celebrations flowing in style.



The album can be downloaded by scanning this QR.

The official press release is published on page 23.





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BOOK REVIEW

THE CITY AND ITS UNCERTAIN WALLS

by Haruki Murakami

This is a novel that feels less like a story and more like an atmosphere one inhabits. Having read all of Murakami's books, I approached this work with the familiarity of a long-standing devotee, aware of his recurring motifs and tonal cadences. Yet even with such expectations, this novel reaffirmed my conviction that he is the Rolls Royce of authors, unrivalled in craftsmanship, elegance, and quiet power.

The narrative unfolds in Murakami's characteristically liminal territory, poised between the tangible and the dreamlike. A city enclosed by walls becomes both a literal and metaphysical construct, a space where memory, identity, and longing converge. As ever, Murakami resists straightforward explanation. Instead, he invites the reader into a contemplative labyrinth in which meaning emerges gradually, like a shape resolving through mist. The uncertainty of the title permeates every page, shaping a world where solidity and illusion coexist in delicate equilibrium.

Murakami's prose, rendered in English with remarkable clarity, possesses a restrained lyricism that belies its philosophical depth. Ordinary routines are described with meticulous care, only to be unsettled by moments of quiet surrealism. Libraries, shadows, and silent corridors acquire symbolic resonance. The act of reading becomes an act of listening for echoes beneath the surface of events. In this novel, as in much of his oeuvre, solitude is not merely a condition but a lens through which reality is refracted. What distinguishes *The City and Its Uncertain Walls* is its meditative maturity. Themes that have long preoccupied Murakami, including loss, parallel worlds, and the fragility of connection, are revisited with a reflective tenderness. The emotional stakes are understated yet profound. Characters move through the narrative with a sense of yearning that feels universal, their inner landscapes rendered with exquisite sensitivity.

For those already immersed in Murakami's body of work, this novel reads as both continuation and culmination. It distills his singular aesthetic into a quietly resonant meditation on the boundaries we construct, both within cities and within ourselves. For new readers, it offers an initiation into a literary realm unlike any other. In the end, *The City and Its Uncertain Walls* does not demand to be solved. It asks to be experienced. Like the finest luxury, it is defined not by ostentation but by precision and depth. Murakami remains, unequivocally, the Rolls Royce of authors.



Cheryl Goth



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