

### **Advice re driving licences**

The N332 FB page [*which I can't find!?*], a resource created and maintained by Spanish traffic police officers, has published advice on driving licences and the necessity to ALWAYS carry either the licence or a notarised photocopy when driving. It's advice well worth noting:

"During this summer, every other day, we have had the same problem with foreigner drivers that leave their driving license at home. If you have a foreigner driving licence, European or not, and you leave it at home; how can the police know you have driving licence?"

We have realized that holidaymakers and expats often keep their documents at home when they are out. They are afraid of being robbed or losing the documents so they decide to leave them at home and when they are stopped in a police checkpoint or suffer a traffic accident they do not have any way to prove they have licence so we have to take them to police station in order to know their identity and wait until any person bring us the driving licence to the station. When this does not happen, because the driver forgot the licence in his country for example, the driver spends one night in the police station and the following day is taken to the courts for a trial.

We remind you that notarized photocopies are VALID in Spain, so please photocopy your driving licence and take it with you while driving please. If for any reason you have left your licence in your country or you do not know where you have it, unless you have a Spanish licence, avoid driving, we can only check Spanish licences in our computers, and it is a criminal offence to drive without it, please think twice and do not risk to be detained. In Spain you can do a notarised copy in a "Notaria" and leave the original documents at home, it only costs a few euros."