

Useful information from Agenda 21 Xàbia

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Avda Juan Carlos two way again

July 23rd

The Avda Juan Carlos (up from the Port to the Old Town) is now two way again, and allows parking on the right hand side of the road (going up). However the numerous paintings and repaintings of the road create quite a confusing picture of zebra stripes, especially when they catch the sun. from XAD: [Avda Juan Carlos...](#)

The demise of the boating industry in Spain

July 23rd

A long article in Las Provincias describes how the leisure boat industry in Spain has been scuppered. According to Gabriel Martinez, manager of the Dénia Marina, a turning point in the sector was the holding of the America's Cup in Valencia, "which generated exaggerated expectations of development." "the best parallel is with the housing bubble." and "it is essential to recover the balance between supply and demand to ensure the survival of the boating business." Half of the hundred new moorings projects planned in 2006 were never completed, and the purchase and leasing prices of boats collapsed. In the Valencia / Castellon region, 6000 of the 17,367 moorings are empty, while there are 20,200 recreational boats. During the boom times boats were bought as investments by people who did not really understand the sector. They now cannot meet their expenses and have to sell, or in some cases abandon their boats. In the Real Club Náutico de Valencia there are 20 such abandoned vessels - identified as being "time bombs" by Greenpeace. All is not doom and gloom however, mid-priced boats (8 metres, around €70,000) have been selling. Hope is seen in the development of nautical tourism, but proper regional ports legislation is required. From Las Provincias: [El negocio....](#)

Xàbia's success in getting grants

July 23rd

In times of keen competition for grants from regional governments, Xàbia has had some recent success in acquiring 141,568€. These grants are all for specific projects. From Generalitat Valenciana 7,000€ to improve the playgrounds on our beaches, 26,500€ for Javea social services to set up a relief and prevention program for high dependency drug users, 22,210€ to help guarantee income for unemployed people in Javea and 18,790€ to help those caring for dependents. Also a grant of 18,790€ was obtained as part of the Eurodisse program where EU students studying for degrees in tourism outside Spain are employed in tourist offices during the summer months which gives them valuable work experience and provides additional staff during peak season. Diputación Provincial de Alicante granted 1,400€ to be used to provide furniture for the town hall and 1,500€ to set up educational workshops for children. Also obtained was a grant of 45,543€ to provide home help services for those chronically ill or aged Javea residents who need it. From Osca Anton Facebook.

Gas pipeline works break Amjasa water pipes

July 22nd

The works to install the gas mains pipe to Teulada hit an annoying snag over the weekend - they broke one of the Amjasa water mains pipes near the Benitaxell road. To add insult to injury, they broke another pipe during one of their ground surveys. The upshot of this was an empty water tank in Tesoro Park and many houses without water in their taps. Amjasa was obliged to fill the Tesoro Park tank with bowsers. Amjasa will be fully reimbursed for the repairs by the pipeline company, but complained about this type of work being carried out at the height of the tourist season. XAD: [Unas obras...](#) *Ed's note: The same company had bad press in the Gata area - when it ploughed through a*

known archaeological site. They appear to be working to a strict deadline: "12 hours a day, weekends if necessary, and forget about any by-laws, as they have to finish their link by Nov 30th, come what may!" (Quote from Benitatxell resident who spoke to one of the Engineers)

Police check up on Arenal businesses

July 22nd

In recent days the local police have visited all the businesses along the Arenal promenade to see if they are complying with the bye laws governing the occupation of public space. This relates, not only to the positioning of tables and chairs, but also to posters and billboards, and the glass panels of terraces which may intrude on the public walkway. They were also checking up on opening and closing times (places which open at 9.00 am are supposed to be closed at midnight). The visits were described as "preventive" From XAD: [Visita preventiva....](#)

Jávea achieves highest debt reduction in Spain

July 19th

Over just over two and a half years, Javea Town Hall has reduced the municipal debt from €48,262,768.65€ with interests payments of over €1.5 million per year to €32,740,201.58 - a reduction of over €15,000,000. Through excellent financial management and tough cost cutting measures Javea is achieving what other Spanish Towns can only aspire to in producing the highest debt reduction of any municipality in Spain. From Oscar Anton's Facebook.

Spanish Government to Prohibit Trawling in Cabrera

July 19th

The Spanish Secretary for Fishing Affairs of the Ministry for Agriculture, Food and Environment and other involved sectors have reached an agreement to prohibit trawling over the coralligenous communities and rhodolites beds on the seamounts of the Mallorca Channel and the area East of Cabrera; a protection that Oceana has been demanding for years. These are habitats mentioned in the fishing regulations in force since 2006, for which the Government had not provided effective protection notwithstanding the fact that they are continuously subject to degradation because of illegal fishing. For full article see: [The Fish Site](#)

Medieval Xàbia by night

July 17th

Xàbia's Department of Tourism carried out its first guided tour of Medieval Xàbia by night. The route began in the tourist office built on the first Christian cemetery, dating from the fourteenth century, passed through the gardens of Loreto, the Soler Blasco museum, the chapel of Sta. Anna and Convent square. The climax was the last stop: The old cemetery, through which visitors strolled by torchlight examining old graves and discovering the funeral chapel of Sant Joan. This route will be offered twice during the month of August, Thursday 1st and Monday 26. To participate registration is required since places are limited. [From XAD...](#)

Spain's endangered Iberian lynx brought back from brink of extinction

July 16th

Ten years ago the Iberian lynx was nearing extinction but today, thanks to an imaginative conservation programme that has brought hunters, farmers and the tourist industry under its wing, its numbers have tripled from 94 to 312....When the current project was launched in 2006 the Andalusian government worked with farmers and hunting clubs and persuaded them that saving the lynx was in everyone's interest. Lynx-spotting has become a tourist attraction in the area; as well as creating 31 full-time jobs, forestry work carried out under the programme has provided much-needed work for hundreds of small businesses in the area. Unemployment in Andalusia is running at

nearly 37%. For full story see: [The Guardian](#)

Free Spanish classes

July 13th

The Xàbia Help Desk department, through the Alicante Government, is providing a Spanish course aimed at foreigners. This course is free of charge and is designed for attendees to be able to hold a basic conversation in Castilian, something which will improve their integration in the municipality and enable participation in more activities. Classes will begin on September 10 at the Adult Education School (EPA) and end on October 31. There will be two sessions per week from 9-11 hours, with a total of 36 hours of instruction. Early registration is essential, as there are only 30 places available. For more information contact the Help Desk, (in the Office of Citizen Attention) or send an e mail to llanos.lopez@ajxabia.org From XAD: [El Help Desk...](#)

Town Planning department to ask for public input into the future General Town Plan

July 13th

Xàbia Urban development department is preparing a questionnaire to seek the views of the public on various issues related to urban development and planning. These will be questions about the model of the town, urban spaces, environment and sustainability, public transport, accessibility, facilities, safety, property, types of housing, assessment of landscapes and resources etc. Once this document is ready, meetings and workshops will be held for stakeholders to have as much information on what has been included in the participation plan. In addition, everyone who wants to fill in the form may do so over a period of three months in the office of the Capella de Santa Ana, near the municipal technical office. from XAD: [Urbanismo abre....](#)

Xàbia asks for office to cater for foreign tourists

July 13th

Xàbia has asked the Alicante Authorities to set up an office for foreign tourists in the town, such as the one set up in Málaga. This provides personalised, comprehensive assistance to foreign tourists, and, if they are a victim of crime they get help from a special police team and interpreters which provide assistance in the foreigner's own language. The service has been implemented in Benidorm, and Xàbia would be the second town in Alicante Province to have this facility, which could also be used by foreign residents. From XAD: [Xàbia pide...](#)