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The Riviera Gazette

20 February 2003 • Number 29

The Côte d'Azur's English-language newspaper

www.TheRivieraGazette.com

O'Sullivans

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What's On *Menton's citrus festival and Nice's carnival start this week, p8*

My Riviera *Olivier Morvan tells us what it is like to be a true Niçoise, p6*

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NICE SAYS NO TO IRAQ WAR

MORE than six thousand anti-war protestors took to the streets of Nice on Saturday afternoon to participate in the global peace marches that saw over thirty million people demonstrate worldwide.

The march started outside the railway station and progressed peacefully down Avenue Jean Medicin and the Promenade des Anglais.

Protestors waved banners emblazoned with slogans such as "Non a la BUSHerie", and "Ferme ta Bush", along with "Non a la Guerre".

Huge turnouts were seen in neighbouring European countries, with over 1.5 million in London, 2 million in Madrid, 2.3 million in Rome and 500,000 in both Berlin and Athens. On top of the 800,000 demonstrators in Paris, sixty other towns and cities across France also hosted marches.

The protests come at a time when President Jacques Chirac's anti-war stance has sparked heavy criticism overseas, dubbed 'French Bashing' in the British and US media.

The *New York Post* labelled France and Germany's anti-war alliance "the axis of weasel" and America's Fox News Channel captioned the French anti-war stance "French Whine".

References to France's capitulation during World War Two have led to jokes circulating on American websites such as "What do you call 100,000 Frenchmen with their arms up? – The army," and one caller to a US chat show asked "Don't they remember what we did for them in the war?" Borrowing a phrase from popular American sitcom *The Simpsons*, sections of the US media have begun referring to the French as "Cheese-eating surrender monkeys".

Meanwhile the UK's *Sun* newspaper sent a man in a chicken suit to hand out white feathers in front of London's French Embassy last week.

The feeling is not mutual according to Jacques Chirac, in an interview with *Time* on Sunday. He

AFP/Vanina Lucchesi

PEACE WALKS… *Over 6,000 anti-war protestors marched down Nice's main shopping street on Saturday afternoon*

By JENNY PAUL

told the magazine "I know the US perhaps better than most French people, and I really like the United States. I've made many excellent friends there, I feel good there, I love junk food, and I always come home with a few extra pounds," he declared.

His sentiments were mirrored in a poll published yesterday, which showed more than three in four French people dislike President George W Bush but most have nothing against Americans in general.

Although dressed up as good-natured jibes, US anti-French feeling is now beginning to affect exports, too. One French website selling cheeses around the world has been receiving e-mails from American clients who say they can no longer give them their custom. "At the moment we are losing American customers, but on the bright side we have our supporters in other countries," Bruno Groux of cheese-online.com told *The Riviera Gazette*.

Other French exports thought to be hit are mineral water, wine and champagne. And, last week, the speaker of the US house raised the possibility of putting sanctions on French imports in retaliation for France not being behind the drive for war.

The spectre of US tourists staying away from France, the World's top tourist destination with 76.7 million visitors in 2002, now looms – a prospect that would hit the Riviera's economy more than most.

13,000 copies distributed this week. We're taking a break – back after the winter holiday on Thursday March 6

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The Côte d'Azur's colourful Mardi Gras season gets into full swing this week

IT'S CARNIVAL TIME

THE RIVIERA festival season gets off to a flying start this weekend with carnival fever gripping Nice and St Martin Vesubie, the Fête de la Mimosa in Mandelieu, and Menton awash with colour for its lemon festival.

Up to a million confetti-throwing and costumed spectators are expected for eighteen days of fun during Nice's 199th carnival.

Queen

Among the highlights are the crowning of the carnival queen on Friday evening, the Bataille de Fleurs flower procession along the Promenade des Anglais on Saturday and the 'Carnastring' swim on Sunday. Telephone 08 92 70 74 07 for full festival details or check www.nicecarnaval.com.

The four-day St Martin Vesubie Carnival starts on Saturday with colourful costumed parades through the medieval village streets on Sunday, Monday and Tuesday. Telephone the tourist office on 04 93 03 21 28 for further information.

Dancing

Mandelieu La Napoule's Mimosa Festival dates back to 1931, and has earned it the reputation of being the Mimosa capital of the Côte d'Azur.

More than 75,000 visitors will attend the event, which started on February 7 and runs until the 23rd. There'll be colourful parades, traditional dancing and exhibitions. Contact the tourist office on 04 92 97 80 89 for further details.

Parades

Meanwhile Menton's Lemon festival has an 'Alice in Wonderland' theme this year and features two weeks of fun-filled activities from the 21st of February to the 9th of March, with parades, sculptures, exhibitions and the chance to meet Alice herself.

Giant fruity floats will parade every Sunday during the festival, and enormous moving orange and lemon 'sculptures' in the shape of characters from Wonderland will enchant spectators in the town's Bioves gardens.

On March 4 children in fancy dress can meet Alice, and listen to her story. And there's plenty for adults too with guided citrus plantation tours and fruit and jam tasting. Call 04 92 41 76 76 for a full programme or see www.villedementon.com.

TRG/Mike Clark

MENTON ... last year's festival focussed on Pinocchio; this year it's Alice in Wonderland

Mona Lisa smile enigma cracked

THE Mona Lisa, painted by Leonardo da Vinci in the 1500's and now hanging in the Louvre in Paris, has intrigued art lovers for years with her 'enigmatic smile'. Research unveiled by Harvard University this week shows the smile is painted in tones that show up best with peripheral vision, so it is visible when seen 'out of the corner of the eye', but disappears when it is looked at directly.

Pink stink ends in clink

A 21 YEAR-OLD student who dressed as the Pink Panther and ran onto the pitch during a football match landed a year in prison and a €15,000 fine last week.

Pervert admits killing

THE man suspected of sexually assaulting and murdering 13 year-old British schoolgirl Caroline Dickinson in a Brittany youth hostel in 1996 has finally admitted playing a part in her murder, according to prosecutors.

Francisco Arce Montes, a Spaniard, has said that he was there but did not want Caroline to die. Montes 52, was extradited from Florida two years ago. His trial is expected later this year.

Feeling thorny?

A FLORIST from Chateauroux gave out a free condom with every Valentine's bouquet last week. Pierre Chabanne discreetly inserted the little packets into the middle of each bunch of flowers as a safe sex reminder.

He got the idea after seeing people shyly approaching the condom machine on the wall of the pharmacy opposite his shop.

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Nice Matin/Richard Ray

RUSH TO SNOW CAUSES TRAFFIC CHAOS… *The RN202 from Nice to the ski resorts at Isola and Auron again came to a complete standstill, and even caused jams on the A8 as cars queued to exit, last Saturday morning as hundreds of families headed up to the mountains for the start of the school holidays. The road, which quickly becomes a windy single carriageway mountain road outside Nice, frequently suffers from congestion as day-tripping snow-goers teem towards the popular resorts. The resulting traffic jams often extend onto other nearby roads and even the A8 motorway as traffic queues at the RN202 exit. Making the journey in the early hours, or around lunchtime to take in an afternoon's skiing, are recommended ways of beating the jams.*

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MED SEA SANCTUARY WORLD FIRST

TWENTY-FIVE delegates from Italy, France and Monaco met in the Principality on Monday to decide on the management of a new sea sanctuary that has been agreed between the three states.

The sanctuary is the first in the World to include areas outside the coastal jurisdiction of the countries it borders, which in the Mediterranean extends only 12 miles offshore.

A steering committee was appointed at the meeting, which will seek funding for research into ways in which man and marine mammals can co-exist in an eco-friendly way within the sanctuary.

"We have three aims," the committee's Patrick Van Klaveren told *The Gazette*: "To enforce EU regulations on drift-net fishing, to research ways of preventing collisions between high speed ferries and marine animals, and to observe good whale and dolphin-watching guidelines by developing codes of conduct."

The sanctuary is seen as a significant step towards protecting global marine biodiversity.

Nice Matin/Sandrine Collie

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Antibes railway station fire 'accidental'

ANTIBES train station, which suffered a devastating fire in July 2001, just days after its new buildings opened, is unlikely to be rebuilt until 2004.

Fire chiefs have finished their inquiry into the fire, which destroyed the ticket office, and concluded that the blaze was an accident. But further tests are needed to establish if the building is structurally sound before rebuilding can start. The work is expected to take at least seven months, meaning it will be 2004 before the ticket office is reopened.

Meanwhile travellers face long queues at the automated ticket machines during peak travel times.

St Tropez says no to surveillance cameras

THE mayor of St Tropez has refused to install video surveillance cameras in the town.

In a statement last week he declared that "the very least of personal freedoms is that when someone comes to St Tropez, they are not being watched".

The stand comes after several recent armed burglaries at villas in the area and amid new statistics showing that while crime was down overall in the Var in January, the only place it increased was St Tropez, which saw a whopping 40% year on year rise.

Scott free after scooter drink drive charge

ONE lucky *Gazette* reader has escaped with his licence intact after finding an unexpected loophole in drink-drive laws.

Scott X, from Antibes, was stopped last Saturday night for being drunk while riding a scooter.

"I was taken down to the station, spent a night in the cells, and then was amazed when they came in and gave me my keys back in the morning," Scott told *The Gazette*.

"I was allowed to drive home and didn't get a fine or anything – not that I'm complaining!" he said.

"If we judge someone to be too drunk to drive we do keep them in our cells until they are sober," said Antibes police chief Freddy Sauvaitre.

"But with scooters, we can't confiscate the driver's licence as you don't need a licence to drive them in the first place," he continued.

CANOE CRAZY… Life in a kayak

Kayak couple make Monaco port pit stop

A GERMAN kayaking couple paddled into Monaco harbour on Monday, two years and nine months after they first set out. Rainer Ulm, 38, and wife Franziska, 31, have paddled through the rivers and seas of ten countries, and are the first people to have attempted to kayak around Europe. Their final destination is Hamburg, still two years and 10,000 miles away.

"It is interesting, now we are all one, to experience the culture and voices of Europe, to live close with them," Franziska told The Riviera Gazette.

RENOIR'S MEMOIRS

GREAT painter Auguste Renoir's great-grandson appeared at the Librairie la Pledade bookshop in Cagnes sur Mer last Friday to sign copies of his new book.

The book, *Le Table Amoureux*, recalls author Jacques Renoir's childhood at the famed artist's house in the town during the early twentieth century.

"I wanted to re-live that period of time" Jacques, who is now in his nineties, told *The Riviera Gazette*.

"I had the privilege of growing up in 'Les Collettes' with my great-grandfather and his sons.

"This is not merely a biography of Renoir and his work. I wanted to remember a man who was a strong character, profoundly tender, a man of convictions and strong beliefs, but full of contradictions. He was a man who lived life to the full.

"His young sons also discovered an appetite for life rich with pleasures and dramas. This was during the tragedy of the First World War. History as a whole is also full of little stories. It is these anecdotes that interest me."

Jacques Renoir lives close to his great grandfather's house, which is now open to the public as a museum. Renoir lived there from 1907 until he died in 1919. The book is a study of life and attitudes in the Renoir house at the start of the twentieth century. In it, Jacques recalls the outbreak of the First World War, the early days of cinema, and the liberation of morals during the roaring twenties.

MORE TEA VICAR? . . . *Members of the congregation gathered on Tuesday to celebrate 135 years of St John's Church, Menton*

Menton's St John's turns 135

ST JOHN'S English Church in Menton celebrated its 135th birthday on Tuesday with a special service followed by a bring-and-share lunch.

Over fifty people turned out in the brilliant winter sunshine to pay homage to the much-loved old building and its rich history.

Incumbent chaplain the Reverend Brian Warrilow led the celebrations. Rev Warrilow took up the post in March 2002 after moving with wife Kath from the Midlands in England.

"We fell in love with the place as soon as we saw it," Kath Warrilow told *The Riviera Gazette*.

"The church's congregation comes from far and wide," she continued, "We now have over 150 regular members, from all over the world."

Not all of these are permanent Menton residents however; "Only five of our members actually live full-time in Menton – the others are winter or summer visitors," Mrs Warrillow explained.

"This is one of the most wonderful things about services on Sunday – you never know which faces you will see each week."

St John's was built at a time when Menton was fashionable with winter sun-seeking Victorians, around the late 1860's.

The church, which occupies a prime spot near the sea front, was opened by the Bishop of Gibraltar on the 19th of February 1868, and features Italian marble walls and mosaics in the style of Burne-Jones, along with beautiful stained-glass windows.

Sadly, the original spire has been removed, but the building otherwise remains almost exactly as it was when it was built.

Among the worshippers over the past 135 years have been King Edward VII, who visited when he was the Prince of Wales. A special side door was constructed for the occasion, and is now known as The King's Door.

It is also widely believed that Queen Victoria visited the church in 1883.

Services are held on the first, third and – if there is one – fifth Sunday of each month with a Eucharist at 10.30am. Every second and fourth Sunday two services are held; a Holy Communion at 9:30 without hymns and, at 10:30, Matins with readings from the 17th century Book of Common Prayer and hymns.

Red wine is great!

New research suggests that modest wine drinking is heart-healthy.

German scientists have found that French red wines may have at least one blood vessel benefit that a handful of German reds lack.

Their experiments with human blood vessel cells showed that French reds boosted the production of Nitric Oxide, a compound that helps dilate blood vessels and prevent clotting.

Night skiing

AURON has introduced night skiing sessions during the school half term break. The floodlit pistes will be open between 5.30pm and 9pm on Thursday, Friday and Saturday this week and next.

Valentines compy winner

KATE Palthey of Plascassier won our compy with "Georges, love tested by four children in five years, tragedy, homesickness, you'll ALWAYS be my first and only love FOREVER".

Her husband is in Thailand at present, but the pair will enjoy their prize of dinner at The Negresco and a chauffeur driven limo there and back when he returns. Perfumeries Molinard will be in contact with all winners of perfume gift packs over the next few days.

Rent prices soar

NEW research published this week shows the average rent for a two bedroom flat in Nice is €835 a month.

The only area where it is more expensive to rent is the trendy Paris suburb of Bourlogne, where the same apartment costs €893. In Grenoble a similar property would be just €558.

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My Riviera

Estate agent **Olivier Morvan** tells Jenny Paul how he liked London so much, he brought his job back to Nice...

"I COME from this very building here in Nice's port, where I work as an estate agent today.

It used to be my grandparents' olive oil factory. In the vaults of the BNP bank next door there are still olive oil stains on the floor.

I grew up in Nice and am from an old Niçoise family. I left in '95 to see London for two months, and I finally came back in 2001, so two months lasted a very long time. One of my lasting memories was doing the London Marathon; it was the first time in my life I'd been overtaken by Bob the Builder.

TRG/Jenny Paul

LOCATION, LOCATION… *Olivier Morvan's offices overlook Nice's port*

Later, I was running along and the crowd started really cheering me, which I thought was generous. It's true – you can ask five times Olympic gold winner Steve Redgrave – he was coming up behind me at the time!

By day I was working at Hamptons, a top-drawer estate agency in London. But after five years of rain I really needed to see the sun and the waves again. It runs in my veins and I need to be close to it. So when the chance came up to start the French arm of Hamptons, I jumped at it. I now manage the Nice office.

I've got a busy life. I'm married to Sandra from Newcastle and we have two little girls. Emily is three and a half going on fifteen, she is a proper lady and never goes out without her handbag! We also have Chloe, who is eleven months old.

We live out of town, in La Colle sur Loup, which is a very nice place with large open spaces. It's a nice place to walk our dog, Dolly – not our choice of name, but she came from the Battersea Dogs Home' so we didn't want to traumatise her further by changing it.

We're lucky to have a twenty four hour permanent nanny service – my parents – so we do go out. I like to drive around, discovering different restaurants.

I prefer Provençal or Niçoise cooking, and usually go for something that would be too difficult to cook at home, like at 'Chez Barale', where what the old lady cooks is amazing. Personal favourites are *pissaladiere,* a local savoury pie that is a close cousin to pizza, and handmade *ravioli à la daube*.

In my experience, Chez Barale is the only restaurant in Nice where you *have* to book in advance. And after the meal, if you're lucky, she takes you to the back room which is actually a museum – there are old cars from the wars, old telephones, millions of things , it's out of this world!

Then perhaps later on we'll sing in the local dialect, known as Niçoise or *Nissart*, which is a mix of Provençal and Latin. All the old people in Nice speak it.

Then of course there's Auron, a kids' paradise in the summer! There are great big fields and it's not as hot as the coast. There are just thousands of kids riding on bikes. You can also go horse-riding or discovering the lakes.

Niçoise wives stay up there all week with the kids, and the husbands go up at weekends. I played there as a child, and now I see my childhood friends up there, all with their own kids.

I started up the French arm of Hamptons from scratch. I wanted to bring the British approach to buying properties here, something I can do because of my time in London and because I know the area, the local people and their ways. For example people often hear that buying a property with a cash under the table element is part of local tradition, like Salad Niçoise. This is rubbish, just a misconception on par with French people thinking that if you go to England you eat minced beef every day.

Having worked in the London market for so long I'm well positioned to help British buyers overcome these misconceptions, see things from their point of view, and help with the language barrier. And I love the fact that I'm not just helping people make a purchase, I'm selling them a dream."

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FINANCIAL SERVICES

MITCHELL JOHNSON Independent financial advice. We are holding weekly workshops on French tax from NOW till March. "I'd wish I'd spoken to Mitchell Johnson" Call 04 92 29 29 60 to find out more

HEALTH & BEAUTY

● WEIGHT Loss: 2 to 5 Kg a month, naturally inspired products, money back guarantee, Call Darryl on 06 03 81 56 06 or see www.NoWeightProblem.com

LEARN through Shiatsu, Japanese massage, energizing harmonization breathing meditation excercises to eliminate stress, increase consciousness & find emotional balance. Call Monique Fogel on 04 93 53 06 43

HOBBIES & SPORT

GET into Action! with personal trainer Jennifer Potts, bachelor of kinesiology. Tel: 06 80 33 26 92

● SAXOPHONE Selmar tenor with case, spare reeds, good condition. Offers around €550. Tel: 06 22 76 85 24

HOUSEHOLD

● AQUARIUM & cabinet in oak, very high quality, 600 litres & pump lights etc €750. Tel: 06 63 49 44 55

● 3 STR sofa & matching 2 str sofa, dark blue with design, feather filled cushions, solid wood base, €150 & €100 or €200 for both. Good cond. 04 92 38 77 43

JOBS

Jobs offered

● EXPERIENCED telesales people wanted to join an energetic sales team. Must speak good French, have a proven track record in telesales and bundles of enthusiasm. Send CV and cover letter to jobs@therivieragazette.com

● WORK AT HOME – US co expanding in Europe, $500-$1500 p/t, $2000-$6000 f/t. Full training – Paid vacations. http://www.4freedom.info

PUT your job vacancies in this section from just €10 for three lines +€2.50 per extra line! (Prices per week, hors taxes.) Find the best candidates FAST among the Gazette's weekly 20,000+ English-speaking readers. See order form on this page for details.

● GOT a computer? Put it to Work! €500 to €2000 part/full time. Info from www.GlobalHomeWork.com or email contact@GlobalHomeWork.com

SEASONAL POSITIONS
VSF GROUP
The leading yacht provisioners invite applications for:
• Representatives (2)
• Cellarman
• Telephonist and computer operator
• Food purchasers (2)
• Delivery driver
CVs to Lucille on 04 92 29 88 77 or email vsf@riviera.fr

● SALES Engineer needed for marine service & supply company. Must have practical engineering experience & work unsupervised. French an advantage. Email linaryachting@yahoo.com

CREW PLACEMENT MANAGER
A manager is sought by a leading international large yacht brokerage house to develop its Crew Placement Department in Antibes. Experience within the yachting industry and/or human resources is desirable. Attractive package offered for self-motivated, results-driven individual. Email crewplacement@monaco.mc in confidence with your CV, photo and telephone

● GET a dream job! Be an entertainer/animator in exclusive holiday resorts in Greece, Cyprus, Spain & Egypt. Free training given. Tel/Fax +30 210 9855571, www.sunseafun.com, info@sunseafun.com

EXPERIENCED couple required to work as gardener/driver and houskeeper. Suit mature couple without dependents prepared to commit to a long term position. S/C accom & competitive salary. Box TRG3

● BUSY family needs housekeeper, flex, intel, humour, cleaning & kids somet. 04 93 24 39 46 (La Gaude/Cagnes sur Mer)

Jobs wanted

● ENGLISH babysitter/nanny, speaks French, experienced & reliable, own transport. Claire, 06 09 06 88 38

TRILINGUAL PA looking for secondary properties to manage in Valbonne to Vence area. Skills: translations, receiving intl clients & supervising construction. Languages: English, German & French. Attributes: trustworthy, reliable & available immediately! Irene, 06 10 44 04 50, email i.raffa@wanadoo.fr

● DOG walking, babysitting, care for aged – English speaking experienced guy. Please call 06 11 32 78 39

● EXPERIENCED private secretary/PA, ft/pt. Document typing, composition and editing. Tel: 06 17 62 65 86

● LADY, experienced in French and English insurance/finance, seeks f/t position – Tel: 06 79 42 11 38

LONELY HEARTS

● FRENCH lady, Menton, single, 58, dynamic is looking for English gentleman 58/65 to improve English. Email epo2@wanadoo.fr

● LADY looking for single gentleman 60's for friendship & travel. Tel: 06 99 22 05 00

● LADY; gentle, feminine, young at heart, good physical & moral well being, cultured, in her 50s, single, divorcee, is looking for a gentleman aged 56 to 65 who is dynamic, reliable, thoughtful, tender, kind & interested in possibly travelling on humanitarian missions. Tel: 06 88 62 55 47

● WINTER migrant, prof. English male, 53, based in Antibes, time to spare, divorced, seeks interest/company. Tel: 0044 78 31 10 10 52

MOVIES

The Riviera Gazette's guide to this week's "version originale" films with English-language soundtracks...

Le Casino
Av. du 24 aout, Antibes

HARRY POTTER AND THE CHAMBER OF SECRETS
Tue 20:30

Les Arcades
Rue Felix Faure, Cannes

THE MAGDALENE SISTERS
Daily 14:00, 16:15, 18:30
PUNCH-DRUNK LOVE
Daily 18:30

Studio Cinema
Bvd du Jeu de Ballon, Grasse

PUNCH DRUNK LOVE
Thu 18:30, Fri 18:30, Sun 18:30, Mon 21:15, Tue 18:30

Cinema Sporting
Place du Casino, Monte-Carlo

8 MILE
Sat 19:30, Sun 17:30, 21:15
MY BIG FAT GREEK WEDDING
Thu 17:30, 21:15, Tue 17:30
CATCH ME IF YOU CAN
Fri 17:00, Mon 17:30, 21:15

Cinematheque
Esplanade Kennedy, Nice

PHANTOM OF PARADISE
Wed 26th 20:00

Mercury
Place Garibaldi, Nice

ALL OR NOTHING
Thu 20:10
BEND IT LIKE BECKHAM
Mon 18:00, Tue 14:30
BOWLING FOR COLUMBINE
Thu 15:15, Sat 17:00, Mon 20:10, Tue 21:40
INSOMNIA
Fri 21:40
THE PIANIST
Fri 14:30, Sat 19:10
MINORITY REPORT
Sun 21:30, Mon 20:10
MULHOLLAND DRIVE
Sun 21:40
THE LORD OF THE RINGS: THE TWO TOWERS
Thu 20:10, Tue 21:30
BLOODY SUNDAY
Fri 20:45, Sat 14:30, Sun 19:25, Mon 18:00, Tue 19:25
HARRY POTTER AND THE CHAMBER OF SECRETS
Fri 14:30, Sat 21:30

UGC Rialto
Rue de Rivoli, Nice

SOLARIS
Daily 13:45, 15:50, 17:55, 20:05, 22:10
CATCH ME IF YOU CAN
Daily 10:45, 13:45, 16:25, 19:05, 21:45
THE MAGDALENE SISTERS
Daily 15:40, 22:05

MY BIG FAT GREEK WEDDING
Daily 11:30, 13:45, 18:00, 20:05

Cinéma Les Visiteurs du Soir
Vallis Bona, Valbonne

THE LORD OF THE RINGS: THE TWO TOWERS
Thu 20:30, Sun 20:30, Mon 20:30

PERSONAL

● MALE ESCORT. Need a date for that big event? Discreet attractive 37 year-old for all occasions. Contact Steven at discreetescort2002@yahoo.com

PROPERTY

Property for rent

● LOVELY large 1bd apart. in Old Nice, great loc near sea. Avail. high season July to Sept €900/week, suit responsible couple, can sleep 3. Call Suzan or David on +44 79 56 381 995 or +44 2072 473 819

● IMMACULATE furnished villa. Biot village & sea views, €600/w low €3000/w high, 4 bdrm, 2 baths. Garden & pool. Tel: 04 93 65 53 10

● NICE, studio with seaview, garden & pool. www.rjhemingway.plus.com or call 00 44 131 667 5002

VILLA nr Mougins, 4 bd, 3 bath, pool, views & terraces, €1,320 to €3,440/wk. Visit www.myfrenchvilla.info or tel 00 44 (0)7785 233 366

● VALBONNE VILLA Fully furnished, avail. now until 12/04/03. €270/wk. Tel: 06 62 88 21 22

● VILLENEUVE Loubet, quiet, 1-bdr, non-smoking holiday apartment. For more info pls email friviera@wanadoo.fr

● SUPERB tastefully refurbished luxury apart. Fully furnished, in beautiful belle epoque villa in a quiet Nice suburb. 2 ensuite bdrms, double recep room, fitted kitchen & secluded garden, €6000/m. Tel: 06 32 20 22 67

● PLACE MASSENA, 1 bed apartment in the heart of Nice. Fabulous spec. €600 to €990/week. Generally let by the week but can do long term. E-mail michael@mtrueman.freeserve.co.uk

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● CANNES lux 1 bed furn apartmt long/short let, email joel51@vxtras.com – www.homelidays.com/rental5631

● CAP Antibes top floor 3rm apart, terr. 76m2 pool. www.antibesriviera.com or tel: 06 86 62 00 68

● THEOULE: 2 bed, garden, parking, opp. sea, short lets, reasonable tarifs. Call 04 93 75 27 01

● LUXURY apart. in villa with private parking & garden in Valbonne, slps 2. From €550/wk. E-mail secours1@hotmail.com

● MONACO, big studio, fully furnished with balcony, 24h concierge service, avail for weekly lets. E-mail angiaqua@aol.com

● BEAUTIFUL 4 bed holiday villa in Grasse, with pool, sea views. 04 93 36 81 58 or MaisonOlives@lycos.co.uk

Property for sale

MANDELIEU la Napoule, lovely 3rm apart, 65m2, 100m from beach, newly fitted, nr shops & school, very calm, double glazing, air con, equipped kitchen, balcony, living rm with chimney, bathroom, separate WC, €235,000. Tel: 06 63 49 07 39 / pierrejamet@hotmail.com

VALBONNE villa 3+1 bedroom, aircon, pool, tennis www.vm360.com/vtvilla €520,000 (private sale). Tel: 04 92 94 04 37

Coast & Country

● REF 7977 FOR SALE: LE CANNET – Modern apart nr Le Palestre concert hall, 63m² living, 22m² terrace, mntn views, pool, 2 bed, 1 bath €227,000

● REF 8059 FOR SALE: MOUGINS – Apart in heart of Mougins (modern) 75m² living area, terrace 30m², 2 bed, 1 bath & 1 shower €260,000.

● REF 7982 FOR RENT: MANDELIEU – Triplex apart 120m², 55m² terrace, 4 bed, furnished, pool in residence & parking, high season €3,059 per week.

● REF 8060 FOR RENT: MANDELIEU apart 135m², 70m² terrace, panoramic terrace, 3 bed, 2 bath, walking distance to golf, high season €2,636 per week

MOUGINS 04 92 92 47 50, NICE 04 92 04 98 99, ST TROPEZ 04 94 54 78 48
See 500 properties at www.coast-country.com

● NICE, Victor Hugo. 3rd & top floor, lift, large entrance hall, 4/5 rooms, 2 bathrooms, 140m2, balcony & garden €460,000. Tel: 06 03 66 98 24

● COTIGNAC, 1 bed house, permit to extend. Tel: 06 85 21 19 93

● COTTAGE in Cannes, 220m2, 3 beds, separate 1 bed apart 35m2, garden, 5 mins from sea, €457, 000. Tel: 04 94 47 75 19 – no agents please

● **ROYAL Mougins Golf Club, luxurious apartment. 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, large terraces, wonderful view, south exposure. Call 06 18 36 79 80 or get more details by e-mail: isabal06@wanadoo.fr**

Property services

● SELLING your house? Make those 1st impressions count. Call "Belle-to-Sell" House Doctors, 06 22 94 59 08

Property share

● ROOM avail. in apart, Corniche Bellevue, Nice. Panoramic view, fully furnished, washing machine, dishwasher etc, huge private garden, 2 bath & parking, only €380/m. Avail end Feb. Tel Richard, 06 19 28 15 51

● FRENCH man, 29, looking for apart/house to share in Antibes-Cannes-Grasse area, €350 max pp. Tel: 06 84 10 67 95

Property wanted

● 360º Real estate tours – webpage and email tour from €250 –04 93 74 79 32 or www.vm360.com/realestate

DO you have a luxury holiday villa? Would you like a responsible and renowned villa holidays company to manage you holiday rental? Contact Palmer and Parker on 00 44 1494 815 411 or visit www.palmerparker.com for more information

Property wanted to rent

● 1 BED, self contained, sunny accom., in older character property for 4 mths from Dec '03, coastal, Nice-Menton. Tel: 04 93 26 67 64

● Room/apart. with 2 beds in Nice wanted from end of Feb. Tel: 04 92 38 80 00 – Tony

● NICE, 2 bed/1bed, studio or flatshare, all considered, must be central, from 1st March for 2-3 mnths. Tel with avail & prices, +44 2073 707 364/+44 7803 101 468

SERVICES

"CURRY TONIGHT!" Entertain at home or yacht! Traditional Indian curry and finger food! For your next house party try our cocktail finger food buffets and dinners. Choice of menus and prices. Tel: 06 14 66 12 24 or email curryandspice@hotmail.com

● LATINO'S will clean your place the old fashioned way. Check out our unbeatable prices. Tel: 06 63 63 98 73.

● Book your classified ad online at www.TheRivieraGazette.com

SHOPPING

● VEGETARIAN Center – We sell veggie products! Variety of veggie meals. Tel /fax: 04 97 06 50 85, Mob: 06 98 22 47 98

TRAVEL

● LONDON: Not another pokey hotel room — rent a luxury Kensington apartment! Newly renovated and furnished, sleeps 6 (2 dbl, 1 twin), available 1-4 wks at €1050/wk. 2 mins from tube, nr museums. Tel: 04 93 09 69 07

● YOUR next adventure? Try a hot air balloon safari in Africa! www.BalloonSafarisDirect.com

MOUNTS Bay Cornwall, six cottages available in pretty village 400m from sandy cove. Open all year, prices from £140 to £600 per week. For brochure ring 00 44 1344 621 220

● Book your classified ad online at www.TheRivieraGazette.com

ST. LUCIA, BARBADOS, JAMAICA, MARBELLA, ALGARVE, COTE D'AZUR. PALMER and PARKER, luxury villa holidays in luxury destinations. Prices from £730 per week. Tel: 00 44 1494 815 411 to order your brochure or visit www.palmerparker.com

YACHTING

● 50 METER mooring for sale, $1.8M, (Golfe Juan area) and 33 meter mooring for rent, $75,000, gulf of St Tropez – azurlink@email.com

TRAFFIC UPDATE

Motorways

Get real-time traffic information on line at www.TheRivieraGazette.com/links or listen to regular traffic reports in English on 107.7fm whilst you're on the motorway

Local roads

● **Antibes** Access severely restricted on Rue Thuret until Mar 20

● **Antibes** The road around the ramparts in the old town is closed for extensive works until Apr 30

● **Biot** 30Km/h limit along the RN7 until Mar 28

● **Biot** 50Km/h limit daily until 17:00 on RD4 until April 11

● **Gattieres/Carros** 50Km/h limit daily until 17:00 until Mar 26

● **Nice** Road closure at the port end of the Quai des Etats Unis until the end of Feb. Expect delays and diversions.

● **St Jeannet** 50Km/h limit until Feb 28

● **Tournefort** 50km/h limit on RD2205 until Feb 21

● **Villeneuve-Loubet** Long-term 50Km/h limit on the RN98 coast road

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5 simple steps to a speedy sale! This is the perfect marketplace for your palace or your Porsche, gold-fish bowl or golfclubs. Just fill in this form and send us your ad with payment (if applicable) and we'll print it in the next issue.

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Minimum charge for trade ads is three lines/96 characters.

Optional extra lines:

Free private ads

VISA MasterCard

2 Choose your options

Type of advert: ☐ Private ☐ Trade

Optional extras – see section 3 for prices.

☐ Use all BOLD type ☐ Put a box around the advert

☐ Reply box number (for privacy; personal ads only)

3 Work out the price

I'd like my ad to appear ____ times (Free ads run only once)

	Private per issue TTC	Trade per issue Hors Taxes
Up to 96 chars (3 lines)	**FREE!** ~~€10.00~~	€10.00
Extra 32 char lines, each	+€2.50	€2.50
All bold type	+€5.00	+€5.00
Box round ad	+€7.50	+€7.50

Tax is included in private ad prices, but must be added for trade ads. If you'd like us to work out the price for you, fax or email your ad to us and we'll call you back.

Terms: All ads must be legal, decent and honest. Ads are run at the sole discretion of the publisher. Free offer applies to private ads only. Payment due with booking. Free ads will be published in first available issue. Ad deadline: Midday Tuesday

4 About you, and payment

Name:

Address:

Tel:

Payment:
☐ Cash ☐ Cheque, in euros, drawn on a French bank, payable to 'The Riviera Gazette'
☐ Carte Bleue/Credit card (enter number and expiry date below)

Expiry

Signature: Date:

5 MAIL to: Riviera Gazette Classifieds, 738 Route Notre Dame (Cidex 47), 06330 Roquefort les Pins, France • EMAIL to classifieds@TheRivieraGazette.com • FAX to 04 93 09 66 53 • or submit ONLINE at http://www.TheRivieraGazette.com

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

"He who does not have the courage to speak up for his rights cannot earn the respect of others"
René G Torres

What's On and Where To Go...

ST TROPEZ · ST RAPHAEL · CANNES · ANTIBES · NICE · MONACO · MENTON

The Riviera This week

Thursday 20

● Guillaumes is holding a **traditional fair and carnival** today starting from 9:00.

● Head to the Théâtre des Oiseaux bar in Nice tonight for country music with Eddy Ray Cooper, starting at 21:30. No cover charge.

● Last day to register for the REGS golf tournament on Saturday – *see Sat 22*

Friday 21

● Menton's 70th Fête du Citron **lemon festival** starts today, until Mar 9. 130 tonnes of citrus fruit and 10,000 flowers will adorn floats and giant statues in the town. This year's theme is Alice in Wonderland. Parades are on Sundays from 14:00, with night parades and fireworks from 20:30 on Feb 27 and Mar 6. There's also a fair and orchid festival at the Palais de l'Europe. Tel: 04 92 41 76 76.

● The Var branch of the **British Association** is holding its AGM today from at 10:30 at Les Jonquières restaurant in Le Muy, followed by lunch at 13:00. Lunch is €21 for members and €23 for non-members. Call Selwyn Glick on 04 94 47 06 28 to book.

● There's a **video poker tournament** at the Café de Paris in Monte-Carlo starting tonight at 21:30, and then 15:30 to 18:00 and 21:30 till late on Saturday and Sunday. For €10 you can play against the computer to win as many points as possible within ten minutes. Prizes of €1,000, €400, €200 are up for grabs for the three highest points scorers. Don't forget your photo ID. Tel: +377 92 16 63 16.

● Stars'n'Bars in Monaco has a **Coyote Ugly** experience tonight, promising entertainment just like in the movie, where female bar staff serve drinks and dance on the bar. Free entry.

● The first International Convention of **Painters on Porcelain and Glass** starts today at the Grand Hotel in Monaco and runs until Feb 23. More than 20 international artists will give demonstrations and seminars on new techniques on glass and porcelain from 10:00 to 17:00 each day and until 16:00 on Sunday. Tickets are €5, while entry to the daily exhibition – from 10:00 to 18:00 – is €10. Tel: 04 93 81 67 30.

● The Princess Grace Irish Library in Monaco is hosting **a lecture in English** tonight at 20:30. Christopher Fitz-Simon will talk on Speranza, the Irish nationalist poet and mother of Oscar Wilde. Entry is free but reservations are required. Tel: +377 93 50 12 25.

● **Nice's annual carnival** starts today, and runs for the next twelve days. See page three for more details. Tel: 08 92 70 74 07.

● The Hippodrome in Cagnes sur Mer hosts the *Prix du Conseil Général des Alpes-Maritimes* meeting today with the **region's best horses** racing from 13:00. Entry €4.50. Tel: 04 92 02 44 44.

● Riviera Singles is holding a **ten pin bowling** evening at Cannes La Bocca tonight, starting at 19:30. Contact rivierasingles@yahoo.co.uk

● Spook and the Guay play **reggae** at the Théâtre Lino Venture in Nice from 20:30. Entry is €4.50. Tel: 04 97 00 10 70.

Saturday 22

● The Riviera Expatriates Golf Society is hosting a North versus South **golf tournament** at the Grasse Country Club, teeing off from midday. Teams will be grouped by country of origin. Entries are €50 and close on Thursday 20th. Competitors are invited to bring a prize from their country. Tel: 04 93 20 24 74.

● La Colmiane hosts the Coupe de France de Snowscoot today and tomorrow. A carnival starts at 14:30 today, before night-time **snowmobile racing**. The racing continues tomorrow from 10:00. Tel: 04 93 23 25 90.

● The 5th Forum de la Petite Enfance is on this weekend at the Palais des Congrès, Juan-les-Pins. An exhibition, demonstrations, magicians and lots of other **activities for pre-school children** are on offer from 9:00 to 19:00. Entry is free. Tel 04 93 61 07 49.

● Masks and costumes are in order at the Salle Empire at the Hôtel de Paris, Monaco tonight for a Carnaval de Venise with the highlight being a **Venetian masked ball** starting at 20:30. Tickets are €150 for dinner, including drinks. Tel +377 92 16 36 36.

● Isola 2000 is hosting a **snowboard competition for under 16s**, starting at 10:30 today with snowboard cross. Tomorrow sees a halfpipe competition. Entrants must have a French federation snowboarding licence to prove competence, and entry is €15. Tel: 04 93 23 98 93.

● The four-day **St Martin Vesubie Carnival** starts at 17:00 in the village square with the official opening. Festival highlights include parades at 15:00 on Sunday, Monday and Tuesday. Tel: 04 93 03 21 28.

● Mouans-Sartoux hosts the Grand Prix de Danse Sportive – a **ballroom dancing competition** – tonight at 20:30. Competitors from all over Europe will be taking part. Tickets start at €15. Tel: 04 93 75 75 16 to book.

● Monaco hosts Auxerre tonight for a **French Football league match** at Stade Louis II from 20:00. Tel: +377 92 05 37 54.

● Eddy Ray Cooper plays **country and rock 'n' roll** at the Bar en Biais jazz club, Antibes, from 21:00. Tel: 04 93 74 10 98.

● Continuing today are the Fête du Citron in Menton, the Nice carnival, and the Video Poker Tournament and the first International Convention of Painters on Porcelain and Glass in Monaco.

Sunday 23

● More than two hundred cats gather at the Congress centre in St Raphael for the Internationale de Beaute Feline, a **pedigree cat show**, from 10:00 to 18:00. Entry is €5 but, understandably, no pets are allowed. Call 04 94 82 74 94 for more info.

● Continuing today is the Fête du Citron in Menton, the Nice Carnival, the Coupe de France de Snowscoot in la Colmiane, video poker and the first International Convention of Painters on Porcelain and Glass in Monaco, the St Martin Vesubie Carnival and the 5th Forum de la Petite Enfance in Juan-les-Pins.

Monday 24

● There's **horse racing** at the Hippodrome in Cagnes sur Mer from 13:00. Entry is €4.50. Tel: 04 92 02 44 44.

● Continuing today is the Fête du Citron in Menton, the Nice carnival, and the St Martin Vesubie carnival.

Tuesday 25

● The British Association of Monaco is hosting Margaret Blair, ex-choreographer of the Ballets de Monte Carlo, tonight at 18:30 for a talk on "Night at the Ballet" in the church hall of St. Paul's Anglican Church, Avenue de Grande Bretagne, Monaco. Tickets for the talk and drinks afterwards are €10 for members and €12 for non-members. Call +377 93 50 19 52 to reserve a seat.

● **Night time racing** is back at the Hippodrome in Cagnes sur Mer, with a meeting starting at 20:00 this evening. Entry is €4.50. Tel: 04 92 02 44 44.

● Continuing today is the Fête du Citron in Menton, the Nice carnival, and the St Martin Vesubie carnival.

Wednesday 26

● Every second and fourth Wednesday the **Crossbow Care Mission** – a church delegation - meets at Maison Jean Dehon in Mougins between 12:00 and 15:00 to offer a place for English-speaking people to talk about life and share a meal. Tel: 04 93 59 95 83 or 06 62 60 90 33.

● Continuing today is the Fête du Citron in Menton and the Nice carnival.

Now booking

● Michael Flatley's Irish dance spectacular **Lord of the Dance** is on at the Palais Nikaia, Nice on Friday February 28 and Saturday March 1 at 15:00 and 20:30. Tickets from €34.50. Tel: 08 92 69 70 73 to book.

● Also appearing at the Nikaia in Nice is ex-Dire Straits frontman **Mark Knopfler**, on Monday April 28 at 20:30. Tickets from €38.75; call 08 92 69 70 73 to book.

Riviera Weather

Call 08 99 70 11 11 for today's weather in your town, or to get a three-day forecast in English. Calls cost €0.34 per minute

	Thursday 20	Friday 21	Saturday 22	Sunday 23	Monday 24	Tuesday 25
AM	4°C Sunny	6°C Sunny	4°C Cloudy	6°C Cloudy	10°C Sunny	11°C Cloudy
PM	11°C Sunny	11°C Sunny	11°C Cloudy	13°C Cloudy	15°C Sunny	15°C Cloudy

FEBRUARY IN NICE...

Avg. high: 13°C · Avg. sea temp: 13°C
Avg. low: 6°C · Avg. rainfall: 76mm

Remember to put snow chains in the boot if you're off to the mountains, and get up-to-date snow info at our website

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next issue out **thursday** march 6 see you **next month!**

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