A gang who robbed a Swedish couple at knife-point last month after following them home from the supermarket may pick its victims by studying their rings as they push shopping trolleys.

Police believe the gang may be responsible for a string of similar attacks where shoppers have been followed from the supermarket and forced to hand over their jewellery.

The Swedes, from Opio, were on their way home from the Champion supermarket in Châteauneuf when they were held up by several men, all wearing balaclavas. One of them was armed with a knife.

The gang stripped the woman of her jewellery, cutting one ring off her finger with pliers when it proved too tight to be pulled off easily.

Three similar attacks have taken place in the last month.

Two days after the Opio attack, another shopper was held up at gunpoint in Châteauneuf after visiting the Intermarché in Pré-du-Lac. The woman, from Roquefort-les-Pins, was forced to hand over her jewellery.

The next day, a couple from the Var were attacked after being followed from Carrefour in Antibes almost to their home in Montauroux.

A week later, a Mougins woman was held up and stripped of her jewellery as she returned to her parking space at the same supermarket in Antibes.

Police investigating the robberies say they cannot be certain the attacks were carried out by the same gang.

But, in each case, it was the victim's jewellery that was the target and, each time, the hold-up was carried out by three or four men, all wearing balaclavas.

Police believe they may ‘research’ victims by studying their watches, bracelets and rings as they push their supermarket trolleys.

After the fourth attack, a police surveillance operation was mounted at ‘strategic locations’ in a bid to catch the attackers red-handed.

Nothing happened until April 24 when a villager raised the alarm after spotting three men putting on balaclavas in a car in Opio.

The car then sped away. Police blocked the D204 between Valbonne and Roquefort-les-Pins in a bid to catch the three, but they escaped.

Police have seized a vast store of stolen goods, valued at hundreds of thousands of euros, and thirty people are under arrest after a raid on premises in Nice.

The haul included firearms, stolen cars, mobile phones, perfumes, videos, olive oil and golf clubs – plus two sets of keys that could give access to two further caches.

Anyone seen my longboat?

To find out what this Viking was doing in Antibes harbour on Saturday, turn to page 3.
US Catholic church’s child abuse scandal

The Catholic Church of the USA is coming to terms with a child sex abuse scandal that has rocked it to the foundations, writes Chris Brown.

Last month, The Reverend Paul Shanley, 71, was arrested in San Diego, accused of raping a boy in his care over seven years. The boy, who has not been named, was only six when the first attack took place, say prosecutors. Another Catholic priest, the Reverend Bernard Law, head of the Catholic Church in Boston – where Rev Shanley worked – has come under pressure to resign and is acknowledging he resigned Shanley to a different post once allegations of abuse had come to light.

The man reported the attacks to authorities following massive publicity about molester priests in the Archdiocese of Boston. But according to Middlesex County District Attorney Martha Coakley, records show that Bernard Law and the archdiocese’s previous leader allowed Shanley to work in Boston and Californian churches where it is known he had admitted molesting children.

In a similar case Cardinal Edward Egan, the former bishop of Bridgeport, Connecticut, didn’t tell police about a sexual relationship between a 15-year-old girl and a priest that amounted to statutory rape under state law.

Egan, now head of the Archdiocese of New York, let Joseph Michael DeShan leave the priesthood without reporting him to the police. After the young woman told DeShan she was pregnant, she was fired as a receptionist at the rectory of the Bridgeport cathedral.

The scandal has become so bad that the Pope ordered American cardinals to resign if they didn’t resign themselves when allegations of abuse come to light.

However, victims’ families were angry that a clearer policy was not announced. While Pope John Paul II called paedophilia the most evil abuse possible, he stopped short of a ‘one strike and you’re out’ rule. He asked that the power of prayer to turn people away from sin be acknowledged.

Whether the faith back into America’s Catholics is unclear. Over 50 per cent of Americans polled by AP believe that abuse widespread in the Church, with nearly 40 per cent saying they had no trust in the Church.

The scandals are not confined to the USA borders. The Catholic Church is now facing probes in Hong Kong where it has confirmed that three of its priests have been accused of sexually abusing children.

The public’s knowledge of the abuse has led to a different post once allegations of abuse had come to light.

While it is not clear how many clergy they had suspended, the Catholic Church has been reluctant to admit how many diocese have had to resign after the scandal came to light.

The Queen at the time, which was banned from BBC radio and TV.

The watch was one of 316 objects sold at an auction of the collection of the former Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport, Chris Smith, of which the profits will go to Cancer and Leukaemia in Children.

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Villagers in La Colle sur Loup are fuming after fighting off their mayor’s bid to demolish an historic wall only to find the bulldozer back—at 6am the next day.

And this time, despite the cover of darkness and the element of surprise, the mayor was taking no chances with the spirited locals. The village was sealed off and up to 18 policemen on duty to ensure early-morning tempers did not flare and protestors stop the job a second time.

But the opposition had no hope. Before word could get round and the slumbering village rouse to the wall’s defence the deed was done.

The 100-year-old wall, the Fronton du Jeu de Paume, which had survived two world wars and had the shrapnel marks to prove it, was down.

La Colle residents had only learnt of its proposed demolition, which the mayor said was preferable to the €40,000 cost of restoration, days before in the French press.

The mayor said the wall had become dangerous and corroded. He claimed its demolition had been unanimously approved by the local council—a fact disputed by some opposition members.

Furious at the lack of consultation and the threat to the wall, villagers decided to unite. Leaflets were circulated and a petition collected 400 signatures.

One older resident, Henri Bertaina, even threatened to chain himself to the wall.

Emotions ran high as the fronton, whose name—Game of the Palm—reflects the hand-ball game pelote provençale for which it was once used, was one of the last links to the old life to many residents.

The wall had also played its part in history shielding the German battery from the invading American forces in the Second World War. It ended its days less gloriously as a backdrop to a car park off the high street.

Dozens of Collois woke early to gather at 7am on April 2 when the wall was due to come down.

The bulldozer was already in place but they placed a banner on the wall proclaiming “Touchez pas à mon Fronton”–Hands off My Fronton.

Police watched as demonstrators light-heartedly took over the car park entrance to stop the demolition. Even heckling from the mayor’s mother-in-law could not rout them.

The bulldozer eventually left after a few hours, to protestors’ applause. But they remained worried, and rightly so—by 7am the next day it was gone.

Mayor Christian Berkesse says he will build a new wall on a new site if pelote provençale is relaunched. This seems unlikely as the last tournament of the game was played in La Colle in the Fifties. The Jeu de Paume became a car park in 1966.

Benches will replace the wall but whether residents will sit on them remains another issue.

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The Riviera Gazette
7 May 2002
3
CHIRAC PLEDGES TO FIGHT CRIME, CUT TAX AND EASE 35 HOUR WEEK

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● A 1/3 cut in income tax by 2007
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● Commission of "wise men" to examine the penal status of the immigration system.

ELECTION SPECIAL

JEAN-MARIE Le Pen, 74, secured his second round run off against Jacques Chirac due to the split of the left-wing vote, a general dissatisfaction with the establishment. "It could still be Le Pen's nation. "It could still be Le Pen's nation."

Who voted for Le Pen?

According to the split of the left-wing vote, a general dissatisfaction with the establishment. "It could still be Le Pen's nation."

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Happy birthday, Adapt in France!

Adapt in France, the Sophia-based association which helps expatriates adjust to life on the Riviera, celebrated its first anniversary last month.

Members, volunteers and work- shop leaders toasted the non-profit making association’s successes – it now has 63 members from 17 countries.

Founder Sylvie Kermin-Coiffier explained that her aim was to help for- eign newcomers settle down easily.

The association runs workshops covering such topics as accommoda- tion, banking, education, health, jobs and setting up business.

The next session takes place from June 3 to 27. For more information contact Sylvie on 04 93 65 33 79 or visit www.adaptinfrance.org

Robocop to help Nice theft victims

THEFT victims can now file a police report in English via a new multi-lan- guage machine at a Nice police station.

The machine can also process forms in Spanish, Italian or German. A passport or residence permit is produced which then needs to be authorised by a police officer at the station at Avenue des Maréchaux.

The machine has cut by two-thirds the time it takes to police to process such reports. More plans are made for Cagnes-sur-Mer and Antibes.

Jewish monument in Vence graffitied

LOUTS daubed anti-Jewish graffiti on a monument in Vence’s Place Marc- Chagall last month.

The monument commemorates the 45 Vençois jews who were sent to their deaths in Nazi camps in 1943.

Hate messages were also written on the entrophy plane of a Jewish resident in Nice’s Riquier district.

The graffiti appeared after a pro- Jewish demonstration was held in Nice on April 7, followed by an Arab demonstration a week later.

The graffiti came as a wave of anti- Jewish attacks sweeps France. Nearly 360 incidents were reported nationally during the first two weeks of April.

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Local News

Beach grunge gets a Laura Ashley look

"AN UPMARKET grunge look, with light fabrics, bright colours and plenty of floral prints will be this summer's beach style on the Côte. The combination of looking good but feeling comfortable will be what matters. This year bikini tops and tight trousers are a definite no-go" reports The Riviera Gazette's fashion editor, Annabel Cliftion-Smith. A preview of what the fashion-savvy will be wearing on the beaches this summer was paraded at Juan-les-Pins last month when models sashayed down a catwalk on the sea front at Les Pinédes. All designs are stocked in local boutiques. Photos: TRG/Mike Clark

RESTAURANT TERRACES MUST GO

SHOP and restaurant owners in the port of St Laurent du Var have two months to knock down third of their properties – even if the extensions have planning permission.

The prefecture's order, backed by fines of €230 a day and the threat of a state demolition squad, means more than 100 jobs may go. Owners say if they fail to comply, means more threat of a state demolition squad.

Some businesses, such as fam-

ily-owned Le Santana restaur-

ant, which opened in 1977 and is the port's oldest eaterie, got per-

mission prior to building.

They have now been informed that the permission is invalid as

the 50 square meters they built on

line, but the businesses either side have extended forwards

the 50 square meters they built on.

The port owners' association is trying to negotiate a deal between the Marie and

Prefecture but is unlikely to find a solution before the June 25 deadline.

Association President and owner of 'Le Ship', Ellen Dardoise, said: "We have been offered some compromises, but we will accept all or nothing – we have too much to lose if we back down."

Two years ago the Prefecture made us remove our 40-seat ter-

mat for a cheaper restaurant.

"It is outrageous that this can happen even though we received all the necessary permission. "The businesses here bring so much value to the port. "

Manager Philippe Pampini

said: "When we received permis-

sion to extend we enlarged our

110 seats to 20.

The businesses here bring so much value to the port."

Coast trains may go underground

A PLAN to bury the coastal railway line between Cannes and Nice has won support from Nice-Côte d'Azur metropolitan council.

The idea, based on a public debate on the proposed addition of a third railway track between Cannes and

Nice.

The goal of the new track is to increase the number of trains serving the coastal region, prompting drivers to opt for the train instead of the car and thus reduce congestion.

Those living near the line strongly oppose it. But burying the tracks will reduce noise pollution for residents and free up beachfront building land thought to be worth €1.5 billion.

Funding will now be sought from Paris to cover the extra cost of putting the line underground.

EASY come, easy go

EASYJET may buy rival airline Go, the company has confirmed. The purchase would make the low-cost airline, founded by Monaco resident Stelios Haji-Ioannou in 1995, a major player on the European stage.

The announcement that the com-

pany was in talks to buy Go came only a week after Haji-Ioannou revealed that he is to leave the board of the firm in 2003 to concentrate on his other Easy ventures.

New air routes to

UK and Eire for Nice

THREE new air services have been launched, connecting Nice with Dublin, Birmingham and Edinburgh.

Aer Lingus is offering three direct flights a week to Dublin and will add a fourth flight in June. Return flights start at €130.

British Airways launched a twice-weekly Nice-Birmingham service this week. Single tickets start at €140 return.

Globespan launches its twice-weekly Nice-Edinburgh service on May 24. One way tickets start at €46.

London to Provence by train – in 6 hours

A NEW Eurostar service will run between London and Avignon this summer, connecting the two cities in just six hours 15 minutes.

To coincide with the peak tourist season there will be one departure daily in each direction on eight Saturdays from July 20. The town, which quickly spread out to gridlock in the 1990s, fell asleep at the wheel.

TOO MANY ‘NO-HOPERS’ CHASING YACHTING JOBS

LOCAL yacht crew agencies say they have plenty of summer work but too many "unsuitable" job-seek-

ers, writes Alison Crookall.

Helen McMahon, of Antilles' Freedom Yachting crew agency, said: "I have more jobs than suitable candi-

dates because newcomers often don't meet the exacting standards. "Many don't realise they must be


"Stephen Bellinger, of International

Crew Recruitment, said: "Having so many inexperienced people wanting for work had the result of lowering wages for the dedicated career crew competing for the same positions."

Many were unsuccessful and

Lonely Planet now warns: "Working on a yacht sure looks glamorous but the reality is far from cuskby."

Shed load led to gridlock chaos

MOTORISTS faced delays of up to five hours on May 2 after an early- morning lorry crash on the A8.

Both carriageways were closed for four hours after the lorry jack-knifed and shed its 30-tonne load of wooden beams at La Brague, near Antibes. Morning rush-hour traffic backed up 15 kilometres in each direction as the chaos spread to affect all East-West roads between Cannes and Nice.

Motorway authority Ecosita had to close the on-ramp at Antibes, and motorists travelling towards Nice had to leave the motorway and find another route.

An estimated 10,000 extra vehicles on the roads of Antibes swiftly led to massive "gridlock chaos", which quickly spread out to gridlock in the town, which quickly spread out to gridlock in the RN7 and the RN98 coastal road as far as Nice.

Crash investigators suspect the lorry driver, on his way to Italy from Carcassonne, fell asleep at the wheel.

Land grab … this shopfront is on the original building line, but the businesses either side have extended forwards onto land they don't own. These extensions must now go.
ANGRY Nice-Côte d’Azur council- lors hit out last week after a govern- ment report described the Riviera as a haven for money laundering — and accused politicians and the judi- ciary of collusion by turning a blind eye to the crime.

“The great closeness” or even “col- lusion” between “financial, political and judicial authorities” are a common way for criminals to launder money. They have invested a total of €8 billion in the region, mostly in Paris and the south east. But Nice councillors are furious at the report’s shut on their reputation. A local preference for dealing in cash and the many tourists are likely reasons, says the central bank.

THE Monaco government has responded swiftly to an OECD report that accuses it of failing to cooperate with international efforts to reduce tax evasion. The report includes Monaco in a list of the world’s seven most non-cooperative tax havens, alongside Andorra, Liberia, Liechtenstein, the Marshall Islands, Nauru and Vanuatu.

“The Principality is unable to understand the reasons why it is subject to a treatment different from that applied to neigh- bouring countries”, an official statement complained — whilst confirming that the “Monaco authorities emphasise again their intent to pursue the dia- logue maintained for more than three years with OECD on these issues”. The OECD published its first list of havens in 2000, naming and shaming countries which keep residents’ financial affairs secret from international tax investigators, “Since then, Monaco has taken steps to open up its records, including measures to stop money laundering, the funding of terrorist groups and insider dealing.”

The Principality’s statement points out that the OECD does not currently have a concrete definition of what a tax haven actually is. And it is only by April 2003, the statement says, that “OECD members themselves will need to have made a decision as to the terms and conditions of exchange of tax information.”

THE traditional array of top film stars will be at the Cannes Film Festival this month. Woody Allen makes his first trip to the fes- tival to support his latest film Hollywood Ending, which is the opening night film. Matt Damon and Bryan Adams will per- form live on stage at the screening of Dreamworks’ new animated movie Spirit, for which Adams wrote the score. The judging panel is chaired this year by British director David Lynch. Also on the jury are Sharon Stone, director Martin Scorsese, Cameron Diaz, Leonardo di Caprio, Jack Nicholson, Antonios Banderas, Adam Sandler, Ralph Fiennes, Rosanna and Patricia Arquette, Sandra Bullock and Jeremy Irons.

Rival ants make truce to form record 6,000km colony

THE local Argentine ant popula- tion is part of the world’s largest non-aggressive society, scientists have found. Billions of the normally aggressive ants from millions of nests along 6,000km of the Mediterranean coastline have found that living peacefully side by side is the key to economic prosperity — and territo- rial domination.

Ants in Argentina, from ants from the other three colonies post to the region with a brief to find new territories. They now think the ants, finding plentiful food and no natural ene- mies in their new environment found defending territory and fight- ing unrelated ants was no longer necessary. Over the genes used to tell a nest mate from a foreigner became less essential for survival and were bred out. This left the members of the new

No corruption here claims Nice council

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Flash cash, beautiful people and speed – the 60th Monaco Grand Prix on May 26 will have it all. But did you know it started as a humble bicycle race? Jason Keable looks at what makes Monaco’s Grand Prix so special ...

This month the ultimate event in the automobile world, the Monaco Grand Prix, will thrill millions worldwide with its unique blend of glamour and speed.

It will be the sixtieth run of the race which is unrivalled for sheer thrills and high-octane viewing. Part of its appeal is that it is the only event in the Formula One calendar with a street circuit so spectators can live the race, complete with burning rubber and deafening engines, just metres from the track.

In fact it is the closest a crowd can get to such a race anywhere in the world. This proximity and the winning combination of money, social cachet and the fastest cars in the world mean 34,000 spectators will pay between €40 and €400 each for tickets, all of which sold out more than a month ago.

There are also the many, often companies entertaining clients, who hire or use their own private balconies from the apartments that line the circuit. The latter option has become so popular that rules have been set restricting the number of spectators on balconies to avoid a potential disaster from too much weight as people crowd on to glimpse the cars haring round at speeds of up to 180mph.

And unusually for a sporting event, many hope it will rain as a slippery track adds a touch of the unexpected. The narrow street circuit means overtaking is extremely difficult – the tunnel offers the only realistic opportunity – so your qualifying position is crucial.

If the track is dry and you start in pole position then only a bad mistake or technical failure in the 78 laps will deny you the win. But wet weather means more errors and an incident-packed two hours.

Few of those watching, though, will know that the glamorous event of today has its roots in a humble bicycle race.

On August 26, 1890, under the reign of SAS le Prince Albert 1ere, 21 bicycle enthusiasts created ‘le Sport Velocipedique Monegasque.’ Four years later the first automobile race took place, run from Paris to Rouen. The motor car made its official entry into the SVM on August 28, 1907 and two years later, the president of the SVM (Automobile and Velocipedique), Alexandre Noghes, hit on the idea of launching the first car race.

There are no deals to the drive...
rally of Monte-Carlo. It was held in mid-Winter, a time that would really test the cars’ fledgling brakes in tough conditions.

Thus the first Rallye Automobile de Monte-Carlo was run in January 1911. A few years later in 1925 it became clear that automobiles were all the rage and the SA VM dropped its cyclists and the Automobile Club de Monaco was formed. The club still bears the name today.

But there was a small snag. It was refused entry to the International Automobile club because no car race actually took place on its territory. So Anthony Noghes – son of earlier mentioned Alexandre – and a racing driver, Louis Chiron, designed the course through the streets of Monaco.

On April 14, 1929, Prince Louis 2nd presided over the first Monaco Grand Prix. The configuration of the original circuit has barely changed since.

The ACM now has 4,100 members from all over the world. The Fiat 500 club and the Ferrari club have their official seat within its luxurious premises, as do many others.

The preparation for the race is huge. People gradually but surely erect the 32km of safety rails, 700 tons of grandstands and put out the 5,330 tyres that make up the protection walls.

On the day 220 firemen line the track as well as 60 doctors, 40 nurses and 120 other first-aid workers. There is also a separate medical team for spectators made up of 10 doctors, 20 nurses and 175 other first-aid workers.

There are no changes to the 3.367km track this year apart from extra steel grilling around the harbour on the first left hand turn after the tunnel. However there are plans to extend the Quai Albert 1st over the next four years to make more space for the teams’ pit areas as well as a new grandstand offering a view from the harbour side.

With the narrow and twisting street track mixed with the heady atmosphere of the beautiful and the powerful, the rich and the refined, the sweat and screech of burning rubber, the Monaco Grand Prix is the highlight of the motor sports year. It is quite simply THE race.

No tickets? Try the Historic – it’s great fun and cheaper

IF YOU haven’t got or can’t afford Formula 1 tickets, try the 3rd Monaco Historic Grand Prix on May 18 and 19.

This return to the golden age of racing is one of the big events of the season and a great race day at a fraction of the price of the Formula One event. Another big plus is that you won’t face huge crowds. The race, which takes place every two years, has seven classes ranging from pre-1934 two-seater Grand Prix cars to pre-1979 three-litre Formula One machines.

It is run round the same circuit as the main Grand Prix. And when the cars are not roaring round spectators can view them in the paddock at this much more relaxed event.

For pure nostalgia and thrills and spills excitement this is unbeatable – and it tends to be more action-packed too, since the older cars can be pushed to their limits on the circuit.

Tickets cost €15 for anywhere on the course on Saturday, and €30 on Sunday. More information from the ACM on 00 377 93 15 26 00.

A novel way to get a glimpse of top Formula One drivers in action comes on May 21st when they battle it out with HSH Prince Albert’s celebrity team in a charity football match at the Stade Garavan in Menton. Kick off is at 7pm.

Another event to note for your diary is the Monte-Carlo rally for classic cars which will run from Prague to the principality from September 17 to 23.

It is part of celebrations for Prince Rainier’s 25 year jubilee. This romantic race, featuring many beautiful and priceless cars, was first run in 1974.

But, if you prefer a quieter race then look out for the ‘Rendez-Vous Monte-Carle Electrique’ early next year, when a host of electric cars will thrash it out. Electric cars are so encouraged in Monaco that the state will pick up a third of the cost for any resident buying one new.

Check future issues of The Gazette for the date and time.
May 2002

AQUARIUS

21 January – 18 February

Your deepest source of inspiration will be your own home and family. Focus on your mind and memory now and you can add to your well-being and create a safe haven. Take your need for total independence and give everyone the joy of being an important part of your world. All this will strengthen your hand when it comes to dealing with certain complex obstacles. After the 20th, focus on fresh ideas and let events guide you.

PISCES

19 February – 20 March

Set your healing harmonies to work, because more than one person needs help around the house and your emotional needs. Even so, you will be able to rely on the support of those who know you. The planets also suggest that you put family and domestic priorities first. Mention Venus, and most people visualise a goddess of good fortune. If you’re single, this delightful planet will boost romance after the 20th.

ARIES

21 March – 20 April

Champion your best qualities. Once you realise that you have firm support, you’ll find confidence to triumph over minor and major hurdles. Work will be confusing, but you will succeed in the end. Just keep on the up-beat, and the helpful feedback won’t offer anything to ruin your plans.

TAURUS

20 May – 20 June

You work like a Trojan and make an impact. Everything will start to move in your favour, and there’s a chance that a new involvement will work wonders for your ego. You will have to work extra hard, expect to be rewarded. Also, promote creative ideas, outdoor activities and anything linked with domestic changes. This month will definitely set the groundwork for an important career decision. Meanwhile, handle any emotional upssets with extreme care.

CANCER

21 June – 20 July

There will be a need to clear out old emotional baggage, often connected with the dark side of your psyche. If you’re single, this can be a highly challenging month. If you’re part of a couple, you’ll have to be patient and considerate, especially during the first 10 days. Meanwhile, work will be rewarding, but watch out for those who make instant promises. You’ll also be able to rely on the support of those who have your interests at heart. The planets also suggest that you put family and domestic priorities first. Mention Venus, and most people visualise a goddess of good fortune. If you’re single, this delightful planet will boost romance after the 20th.

LEO

21 July – 21 August

Turn on your powerful Leo spotlight and make an impact. Anything that can be done will be done, and there’s a chance that a new involvement will work wonders for your ego. You will have to work extra hard, expect to be rewarded. Also, promote creative ideas, outdoor activities and anything linked with domestic changes. This month will definitely set the groundwork for an important career decision. Meanwhile, handle any emotional upssets with extreme care.

VIRGO

22 August – 22 September

Don’t be too quick to jump to conclusions. You will find two viewpoints between two worlds difficult to get along with. You have to be patient and generous, but you also need to make sure that your own views are heard. This can be a difficult period, but you will be able to rely on the support of those who have your interests at heart. The planets also suggest that you put family and domestic priorities first. Mention Venus, and most people visualise a goddess of good fortune. If you’re single, this delightful planet will boost romance after the 20th.

LIBRA

23 September – 22 October

This is a powerful month for personal and social experiences. There’s a go-ahead feel to things, but watch out for those who make instant promises. You might have to work extra hard, expect to be rewarded. Also, promote creative ideas, outdoor activities and anything linked with domestic changes. This month will definitely set the groundwork for an important career decision. Meanwhile, handle any emotional upssets with extreme care.

SCORPIO

23 October – 22 November

Don’t be too quick to jump to conclusions. You will find two viewpoints between two worlds difficult to get along with. You have to be patient and generous, but you also need to make sure that your own views are heard. This can be a difficult period, but you will be able to rely on the support of those who have your interests at heart. The planets also suggest that you put family and domestic priorities first. Mention Venus, and most people visualise a goddess of good fortune. If you’re single, this delightful planet will boost romance after the 20th.

SAGITTARIUS

23 November – 20 December

There is never one single way of seeing things. Likewise, there is no truth. What matters is that you make your own experiences helpful to you and choose your sources of nourishment. Pressure builds from all kinds of people and places. Bide your time and be adaptable, so that specific projects, financial issues and one-to-one relationships can be sorted out effectively. This is not to say that you can’t succeed — just play it cool.

CAPRICORN

21 December – 19 January

Although you rarely mix business with pleasure, you are one of the few signs that can make it work. The planets will grant you with welcome news on the work front. However, allow any significant changes to take their course. Also, follow your instincts where financial matters are concerned. Whatever happens in the short-term, it won’t affect your long-term prospects. If you’re single, there’s a possibility of finding your romantic adventures.
RIVIERA PEOPLE

Busy month for British Associations

THREE local branches of the British Association have had a busy month with a sponsored paddle, new chairman and behind-the-scenes look at acting.

Eight plucky members of the Var branch waded in with true Brit grit – complete with hankies on their heads – to test the waters in Les Issambres to raise funds. Up to 50 family and friends cheered them on.

The Cannes branch welcomed James Buchanan-Jardine as its new president. His mother, Lady Buchanan-Jardine, was branch president for 16 years. The 56-year-old recently retired from investment banking in London to plant a peach farm at the family home in Mouans Sartoux.

And in Nice, members enjoyed lunch at the Riviera Studios followed by a talk from actor Ben Benison, a former RADA teacher. He is a specialist acting movement director who has worked with the RSC. He was an advisor on the first Alien movie, where he taught the actor that played the alien how to move like a monster.

IRISH contemporary writer Eoin McNamee recently read his short story ‘The Lion Alone’ to pupils from Monaco’s Lycée Albert 1er. The 16 and 17-year-olds have studied it in class and enjoyed the chance to quiz the writer about his style and inspiration. Student Marine Tarditi said: “He shared with us the magic of his writing. Meeting this illustrious author was brilliant.”

“When I saw Michael Sanders’ paintings I knew immediately that I wanted to exhibit his work and, as we were already planning the cyber-café, the combination seemed perfect,” said Mr Bennett.

“Irish writer Eoin McNamee with pupils from the Lycée Albert 1er. He gave them a reading of his story ‘The Lion Alone’.

Dillie dallies in Antibes

SINGER-SONGWRITER and comedienne Dillie Keane thrilled sell-out audiences at the Antibes Theatre last week with her trademark mix of vulnerability and strength.

From ‘Pudding in the Ritz’ to ‘Go back to Surabaya, Johnny’ and the tragi-comedic ‘Back with You’, Ms Keane held the audience spellbound in one of Red Pear Theatre’s most memorable productions to date.

“Playing to small audiences can be quite difficult,” Ms Keane told The Riviera Gazette, “but here in Antibes they were up for it, ready to enjoy themselves.”

Dillie Keane with pupils from the Lycée Albert 1er. He gave them a reading of his story ‘The Lion Alone’.

Photos: TRG/Mike Clark, Charles Franch. Copies of photos may be ordered on 04 93 09 66 43.

High-quality prints or digital images of any photo on this page, as well as many others appearing in The Riviera Gazette, can be ordered by telephoning 04 93 09 66 43.
Not your average market

THE Cannes Film Festival attracts 30,000 industry professionals and a total of 200,000 visitors. It costs €6 million to produce, but also brings in €15 million into the local economy.

The famous part of the Cannes Film Festival, where the best international films made in the past year compete for the coveted Palme d’Or, is only one small part of the festival that most visitors are aware of. The Cannes Market that most visitors are aware of for Columbine, About Schmidt, perhaps we don’t move in the right circles.

THE programme of the Nice Jazz Festival and Jazz à Juan have been announced and ticket offices are now open.

This year’s Nice Jazz Festival runs from July 28 to 27. On the bill are BB King, Courtney Love, Turner, Dire Straits, Yannick Noah, Sister Sledge, Marianne Faithful and Angelique Kidjo. Day passes cost €20 for adults, €7 for children and a full festival pass is available for €152. Tickets can be purchased from the Nice Jazz Festival office or online at the website www.njaf.com. The full programme is available on the website of the Nice Jazz Festival. It is available from the Palais des Festivals. Day passes are given away free of charge on a first come, first served basis.

Anybody for Cricket?

TWO local cricket clubs are looking for new members. Cricket enthusiasts of all ages are invited to play with the Cabris Cricket Club at their home ground at Le Pontet, Montpelier, and nearby 46 cricket teams now play in France.

THE Grand Prix season kicks off in Monaco on May 18 with the 3rd Grands Prix de Monte-Carlo Historique. There’s also the Formula One Grand Prix on May 26th – but tickets are sold out – and a Charity Football match featuring Formula 1 drivers against a celebrity team at Menton’s Stade Garavan on May 21. For more information, telephone the Palais des Festivals and ask for a pair of Grand Prix tickets, please see page 8.

A THREE Day Medieval festival is being held in St Martin Vesubie from May 18 to 20. The event includes a medieval market, demonstrations of sword play and men-at-arms, bears, wolves and falcons.

There’ll also be jousting, pro- cessions, music, dance and a chance to have a go at sword fighting and archery. The “4th Day fair” will follow the Saturday night banquet.

THE highlight of the Sophia social calendar, the 8th Annual Sophia Games, take place from June 1 to 21. Open to women’s teams, and a changing event in the park, last year 6,700 people participated in 27 events. To join in, visit www.sophia-games.com or call 92 95 64 01.
Plenty happens on the Riviera, but how often have you only heard about something after the event? You need never miss out again with The Riviera Gazette’s comprehensive diary listings...

May 2002

8 Wednesday
Public Holiday 57th Anniversary of Liberation Day. Ceremonies will be held at war memorials across the country today to mark the liberation of France in 1945.


March Coaizoim 19th annual walk in Couronne, 25km from Nice in the Pallais valley.

Car Boot Sale In Bus Sur Loup from 07:00 to 18:00.

Saturday
Fête des Mères Celebrates its patron saint’s day. Tel: 04 93 08 68 80.

12 Sunday
Football: Cannes v Valence CFC Football: Cannes v Valence CFC at the Stade Moustiers stadium in Cannes at 18:00. Tel: +377 92 166 116

Fête des Fleur Oranger A chance to try out various water sports free of charge from the beaches and harbours of Antibes and Juan-les-Pins. Tel: 04 93 64 10 00

Fête de la Rose Festival at the Halle des Sports Charles Ehrmann in Nice. Tel: 04 93 18 88 03

13 Monday
Table Tennis: Champion ship of France de Tennis de Table French championship competition at the Halle Charles Ehrenais in Nice. Tel: 04 93 18 88 03

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Fête de la Sainte Trinité Salons d’Antiquités See May 9

14 Tuesday
Laureus World Sports Awards See May 13

Football: International Under 21 Tournament France

Fête des Mères A day to remember mothers. Tel: 04 93 42 61 21

Europe, it’s £5.75 TTC.

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What’s on
Your guide to this month’s events on the Riviera Gazette

Info for readers...
• Before a day shows the event’s final day.
• After a listing signifies the last day of an event.

Info for contributors...
• Please submit listings in writing at least ten days prior to publication.
• Please include dates, prices, times and a contact phone number. Listings can be sent by fax, phone or to mail.
• Tel: 04 93 58 06 38

Les Pins. Open pairs today until May 12, performances and activities for kids, puppet theatre in the evening.

7th Festival de Levens Fête de la Fleur Oranger A chance to try out various water sports free of charge from the beaches and harbours of Antibes and Juan-les-Pins. Tel: 04 93 64 10 00


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Eric & Anne Yule

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19 Sunday
Supertramp in concert at the Salle Mikados, Nice at 20:00. Tickets can be bought online or at the venue. See May 14.

19 Sunday

19 Sunday
Siouxsie & the Banshees at the Le Grand Rex, Nice at 22:00. Tickets cost €33. Tel: +377 93 15 26 00

20 Monday
Public Holiday
Pentestchip at the L’Aéropostale, Nice at 20:00. Tickets cost €13. Tel: +377 91 22 11 66

20 Monday
Football: Match between Reims and Lyon at the Stade Pierre de Coubertin, Cannes at 14:00. Tickets cost €15. Tel: 04 94 35 04 76

20 Monday
Le Cloud of the Cité de Musique at the Palais Longchamp, Toulon at 21:30. Tickets cost €16. Tel: 04 94 19 28 40

20 Monday
Cannes Film Festival
enerima a karaoke dance performance by C Casse, Cie Cas 5 at Céremonie de l’Encens and Brahms at the Mamac Auditorium, Nice at 20:00. Tickets cost €18. Tel: 04 94 57 70 86

21 Tuesday
Shanti Disco Flavia Mall in concert at the Le Grand Rex, Nice at 23:00. Tickets cost €20. Tel: +377 92 05 40 00

21 Tuesday
Cannes Film Festival
Dancing with the Stars: Paul & Shannon (Irish) at the Festival d’Art Plastique d’Enfants, Cannes at 20:00. Tickets cost €12. Tel: 04 94 35 04 76

21 Tuesday
Shanti Disco Flavia Mall in concert at the Le Grand Rex, Nice at 23:00. Tickets cost €20. Tel: +377 92 05 40 00

21 Tuesday
Cannes Film Festival
Dansant au Club Municipal de Nice at the Salle des Arts et Loisirs, Nice at 20:00. Tickets cost €15. Tel: +377 93 15 26 00

22 Wednesday
Sailing: Championnat du IX District de Star at Nice at 20:00. Tickets include dinner and cocktails, cost €70. Tel: +377 91 77 01 16

22 Wednesday
Cannes Film Festival
Gus Kereveser at the Forum Nice Nord at 20:00. Tickets cost €12. Tel: +377 93 44 23 47

22 Wednesday
Tournoi International de Taekwondo, Cannes Film Festival, Cannes at 14:00. Tickets cost €18. Tel: +377 92 05 40 00

22 Wednesday
Cannes Film Festival
Dancing with the Stars: Paul & Shannon (Irish) at the Festival d’Art Plastique d’Enfants, Cannes at 20:00. Tickets cost €12. Tel: 04 94 35 04 76

26 Saturday
Dancing with the Stars: Paul & Shannon (Irish) at the Festival d’Art Plastique d’Enfants, Cannes at 20:00. Tickets cost €12. Tel: 04 94 35 04 76

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2. Choose your options
   - Type of ad
     - Private
     - Trade
   - Directory
     - Optional extra – see section for prices.
   - Use all bold type
   - Put a box around the advert
   - Reply box number

3. Work out the price
   - I’d like my ad to appear
     - Times
   - I’ll pay your price
   - Personal per issue
     - Trade per issue
     - Directory
   - Extra charge
     - Up to 75 chars (3 lines)
     - Extra 25 char lines, each
     - All bold type
     - Box around the advert
     - Reply box number
   - Tax is included in personal ad prices, but must be added for trade ads.
   - You may add us or we’ll call you back.

4. About you, and payment
   - Name
   - Tel
   - Address
   - 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)

The Riviera Gazette Classified Advertisement Order Form

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LATEST SKY DIGITAL RECEIVERS

ALL WITH FULL 12 MONTH WARRANTY,
+ FREE 10cm DIGITAL DBS
& LNB EUR, OR CAN USE YOUR EXISTING DIGITAL DBS
WITH A £19.99 PERFORMANCE UPGRADE EUR £39

Are you stressed?

Get up and go outside, that will surely help.

Are you stressed?

If you’re and every day is a bad one, then please do.

Are you stressed?

Take a break, get outside and relax.

Are you stressed?

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Take a break, get outside and relax.
Jubilant fans spill onto pitch as Nice secure promotion to top division

NICE 3, ISTRES 0 — Fans spilled onto the pitch to celebrate a victory which won Nice promotion into Division 1, writes Franck Coisnon.

“What a night! What a triumph!”, said a jubilant Nice mayor, Jacques Peyret.

The team will now play in D1, France’s top division, next season after 5 years languishing in D2.

Halfway through the season no-one could have foreseen a promotion for the ‘red and blacks’ as the team sat in its usual mid-table position.

But a late-season run of wins gave Nice its big chance on April 26. They had to win against Istres. But Le Mans, playing at home the same night, also had to lose.

15,000 fans packed Nice’s Stade du Ray, determined to will their team to victory.

With the stadium decked out in red and black and smoke bombs flying, the crowd screamed their support. “Nissa, Nissa,” went up the cry as the teams took to the pitch.

An early offensive from Evra and Scotto quickly put Nice in control.

But then came the disturbing news that Le Mans looked set for victory against Caen. However, it was not to be Le Mans’ night.

The tables turned when Meslin, ‘the chick’, scored his 14th goal of the season and Gagnier, the crowd’s favourite, put Nice ahead 2-0 in the 65th minute and the stadium exploded to the cry of ‘Nice is in D1, Nice is in D1’.

A third goal from “Pablito” Rodriguez then sealed promotion for Nice.

Adding to fans’ joy is the news that the football league has now agreed that the Stade du Ray can be used for D1 matches next year.

But rumours of financial irregularities continue to dog the club.

An inquiry into the recent sale of the club is still to be completed, and an extraordinary meeting called on May 3 by the former owner, Francesco Sensi of AS Roma, has taken the shine off the team’s success on the pitch.

The players are ready for D1 but fans are now asking if the owners can come through with the all-important financial back-up needed to keep them there?

‘PERFECT GAME’ IN MONTE-CARLO SETS UP FERRERO FOR FRENCH OPEN

JUAN Carlos Ferrero is favourite for the French Open in Paris after winning the Monte-Carlo Masters, writes Chris Brown.

“I played the perfect game,” said Ferrero after beating fellow Spaniard Carlos Moya in straight sets.

“I’ve got all the tools to do some damage on this surface,” said Henman after losing to Moya in a tense semi-final.

Having lost the first set 4-6, Henman turned the match on its head by coming from 1-3 down in the second to win 7-5 6-3 5-7 6-3.

Moya was phlegmatic in defeat. Having beaten world number one Lleyton Hewitt, Alex Corretja, Marat Safin and Tim Henman – in a nail-biting two sets to one victory – he looked mentally drained towards the end. This was no surprise as the British number one had taken him to the wire in the semi-final. It had looked as if Henman would pull off a famous win.

Having lost the first set 4-6, Henman turned the match on its head by coming from 1-3 down in the second to win 7-5 and then breaking Moya’s serve in the decisive third.

Henman could not keep his form going though, and the world number 24 won four straight games to take the match 6-4 5-7 6-3.

HENRI’S HOPES HAMMERED

Monaco win...