

The Riviera Gazette

16 January 2003 • Number 24

The Côte d'Azur's English-language newspaper

www.TheRivieraGazette.com



Film Guide 'Long Island Expressway' is just one of this week's English language films, p7

What's On? Snowboarding, horse racing, jazz, an English play – and WRC rallying, p8

My Riviera Long-term resident Keith Meredith on his favourite Riviera haunts, p6

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Film Guide

18 English-language films showing in 12 cinemas this week, p7

CAROLINE TAKES TO THE SKY

Local radio beams in via satellite from Saturday

By ALISON CRADDOCK

LOCAL broadcaster Radio Caroline South will be available on the Sky Digital satellite service from this weekend.

Caroline South is produced on the Riviera and carried on Radio Caroline, the legendary pirate radio station, on Saturdays and Sundays between 19:00 and 01:00.

Listeners on the Côte d'Azur are promised traditional Caroline programming, with a Riviera twist.

"Our emphasis is on humans presenting programmes, and talking to them, not down to them", Caroline South founder and presenter Mark Dezzani told *The Riviera Gazette*.

"Our music is 70 percent classic rock, good R&B, soul and reggae, with 30 percent being new music; rock and rock-oriented dance, latest releases from popular and alternative artists.

"We are not heavy with news, but will be providing news about music and music events, both in the UK and locally on the Riviera – such as MIDEM in Cannes this week.

"Following our popular roadshows last year we are planning more music



MAKING WAVES... DJ Mark Dezzani at Radio Caroline South's studios in Seborga, Italy

events for the Riviera in 2003, with well known UK and local artists."

Caroline South is still broadcast on local jazz station The Breeze 88.4 FM at weekends, but transmitter limits mean that the station is not easily tuned into in Nice and inland. This will soon change, according to Dezzani, "For those who are tuning in to us on The Breeze 88.4, the signal is currently best received from Marina Baie des Anges through to Theoule,

and in Monaco. Nice listeners may have to wait until later in the year to pick us up, when a more powerful transmitter will be installed in Italy."

Dezzani came to the Riviera twenty years ago to work on Radio Nova, and went on to launch Sunshine Radio in Antibes. A stint on Riviera Radio followed before he persuaded friend and veteran Radio Caroline presenter Tom Anderson to join him to establish Caroline's Riviera outpost

in February 2001. Anderson is the DJ who famously continued to broadcast from the *Mi Amigo* as she foundered in March 1980.

Famous ex-Caroline presenters include Tony Blackburn, Tommy Vance, Dave Lee Travis, Johnny Walker – and Riviera Radio's Rob Harrison.

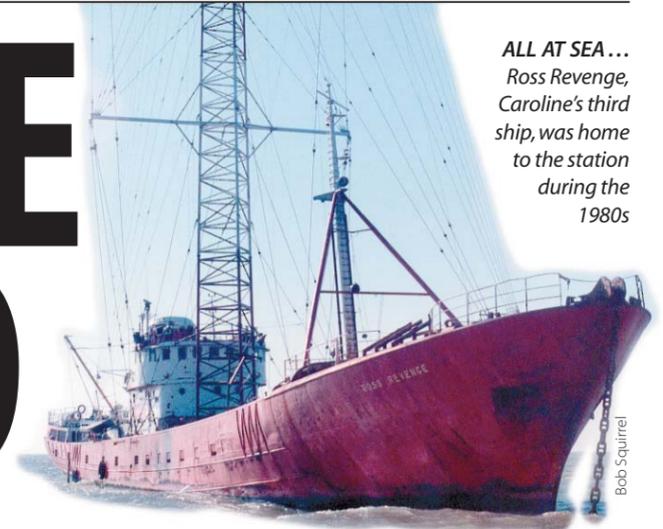
Radio Caroline was launched in 1964 by Irish music fanatic Ronan O'Rahilly.

Frustrated by tight broadcasting restrictions in the UK, O'Rahilly took advantage of the immunity of international waters by putting his whole operation on a boat anchored three miles off the British coast, outside UK jurisdiction. A long battle between government and the station followed, ending with raids on the ship and a law being passed that meant the armed forces could forcibly stop broadcasts from the ship and anyone injured would not be entitled to compensation. Later, as restrictions were loosened, Caroline moved to studios in Maidstone, Kent.

Radio Caroline's official Sky Digital debut is set for one o'clock local time this Saturday afternoon.

● **How to find Radio Caroline on your digibox** – see bottom of col 1, page 5

ALL AT SEA...
Ross Revenge, Caroline's third ship, was home to the station during the 1980s



The new WEEKLY Riviera Gazette: 11,000 copies distributed this week. Look for the next issue on Thursday January 23



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Making contact

RIVIERA ADDRESS BOOK

There's no need to feel lonely on the Riviera – there are many clubs and associations, both formal and informal, devoted to particular interests or providing support for those in need...

20somethings

Get together with like-minded people in their 20s for a laugh, an evening at the pub or a day out on the ski slopes.

● Gabrielle Achilleos, 06 19 30 30 82

Aim Tennis Group

Informal, international anglophone tennis group. Meets Sundays 11:00 to 13:00 at the Borfiga Club, between Eze village and the Grand Corniche. All levels of player welcome.

● Steve Bull, 04 93 01 95 06

The Alpes Maritimes International Aperitif Club (AMIAC)

Eat, drink and socialise with over 30s English-speakers; monthly get-togethers at local restaurants.

● Doug Attwood, 04 92 97 50 72

American Club of the Riviera

Long-established Monaco-based social club with high-profile members and regular meetings.

● Arlette Bouisson, 04 93 82 01 08

Accueil des Villes Françaises (AVF)

National organisation helping people moving to a new area to settle in. The Sophia Antipolis branch has an international focus and actively welcomes people of all nationalities. Regular social programme and a Mums and Toddlers' group meeting three times a week.

● 04 93 65 43 00

Adapt in France

Regular series of seminars plus information service for new arrivals in France.

● Sylvie Kermin-Coffier, 04 93 65 33 79

Auld Alliance

Franco-Scottish social group, fostering relations between the two countries. Regular social activities.

● Brian McDowell, 04 93 08 32 78

Australian Club

New social club for Australians, friends and partners

● Nick Laletin 06 84 24 07 65

Beryl Arnould Choir

Local, English-speaking choir group.

● Beryl Arnould, 04 93 40 42 17

British Association of the Alpes-Maritimes and the Var

Charitable and social association, with branches in Nice, Cannes, Menton and the Var.

● Valerie Haxton, 04 93 97 33 02

British Association of Monaco

Charitable and social association.

● Aisling Launder, +377 93 50 19 52

British Chamber of Commerce

Provides support for new and established Brit-owned businesses on the Riviera, regular social and educational get-togethers.

● Peter Johnson, 04 93 49 90 99



BY THE SEA... The local British Associations have fun events as well as providing support where needed

Cabris Cricket Club

Home pitch is at St Vallier, youth coaching Sundays in Mougins.

● Tim Bardon 04 93 77 56 99

Cornerstone Mums & Toddlers

Weekly gathering for mothers with young children

● 04 92 38 98 91

Drama Group of Monaco

Amateur dramatics group with regular performances including an annual pantomime.

● Ann Batt, 04 93 28 45 81

Ensemble Vocal Syrinx

Cagnes-sur-Mer based amateur choral group, new members are always welcome.

● Kate Cobb, 04 93 20 68 94

Entrecasteaux Cricket Club

Family oriented social cricket club welcomes members of all ages.

● Len Terry, 04 94 04 42 13

France-Grande Bretagne

Association promoting Franco-British relations, with local branches in Cannes and Nice. Inexpensive language classes held every Saturday in Cannes.

● Mary Pérès, 04 93 81 22 88

The Forum

Informal social group, with regular get-togethers in bars & restaurants. Kids' version and Seniors' version now being introduced.

● Simon Glynn, 06 22 82 16 18

Hash House Harriers

The local branch of the legendary athletics club meets every fortnight.

● Richard Hurley 04 92 94 00 13

International Women's Club

Social, cultural and sporting club for women of all ages and nationalities. Weekly meetings for Tots 'n Toddlers and mums-to-be.

● Angela Hennings, 04 92 60 47 75

Line Dancing

● Julie Davies, 04 93 90 01 36

Lotus Club

The local branch of the French car owners' club, with English-speaking members.

● Julian Pritchard, 04 93 32 83 96

Monaco-Ireland Arts Society

Irish authors perform readings, plays and songs.

● Virginia Connell, 04 93 41 97 22

Monaco-USA

Not-for-profit, charitable organisation meets every first Tuesday of the month.

● Merrily or Isabelle, 06 78 63 15 73

Monaco Cricket Club

Meets at the picturesque grounds in Levins, with a social Sunday atmosphere.

● Ron Scarletti, +377 93 15 03 17

Mums & Toddlers

Meets Tuesdays except school holidays from 10-11.30am at Cornerstone Christian Fellowship in Sophia Antipolis.

● 04 92 38 95 60

Oxbridge Set

Local graduates of Oxford, Cambridge or Trinity College, Dublin get together once a year to watch the boat race.

● Tel: +377 93 50 74 18

SDCA Scottish Dancing Côte d'Azur

Multi-national Scottish dancing group for all experience levels.

● Val or Don, 04 93 12 95 81

Scottish Dance Group of Monaco

Scottish country dancing instruction for all levels and nationalities.

● Yvonne Hope, +377 93 25 18 49

South African Club

Regular get-togethers and cultural events for local South Africans and their families.

● Judit Kiraly, 06 16 56 50 35

Sunnybank

Charitable association with plans to build a bi-lingual English-speaking retirement home.

● Peter Durlacher, 04 93 90 02 16

US Navy League

Provides hospitality to United States Navy personnel visiting the Riviera.

● 04 93 38 46 70

VIAC — Var International Aperitif Club

Eat, drink and socialise with over 30's English-speakers, regular monthly get-togethers at local restaurants in the Var.

● Anne Burnett, 04 94 91 45 15

Churches

Beaulieu-sur-Mer

St Michael's Church
Eucharist every Sunday at 10:00am.

● 11 Chemin des Myrtes, Beaulieu-sur-Mer,
Tel: 04 93 01 45 61

Cannes

Holy Trinity Church
Sundays at 10:30am.

● 4 Avenue General Ferrié, Cannes,
Tel: 04 93 94 54 61

Menton

St John's Anglican Church
Services every Sunday at 10:30am, and every 2nd and 4th Sunday at 9:30am.

● 2 ave du Pigautier, Menton,
Tel: 04 93 57 20 25

Monaco

St Paul's Anglican Church
Holy Communion at 8:00am, Family Service at 10:00am, Eucharist at 10:30am, Evening Prayer at 7pm every Sunday.

● 22 ave de Grande-Bretagne, Monaco,
Tel: +377 93 30 71 06

Nice

Calvary Chapel
Bilingual Evangelical Church, call for prayer times.

● Maison de Seminaire, 29 blvd Franck Pilatte, Nice, Tel: 04 93 98 42 25

Riviera Expatriates Golf Society Golf Society

Club for English-speaking golfers, full season of events including special rates for local green fees.

● Nick Riggs, 06 15 33 76 67

Riviera Singles

Single people who meet up to socialise every Friday at 7.30pm.

● Email rivierasingles@yahoo.co.uk

Royal British Legion

The Cannes branch of the British charitable ex-armed forces association.

● Brian Harris, 04 93 64 29 79

Holy Trinity Church

Sundays at 11:00am, daily services at varying times.

● 11 rue de la Buffa, Nice,
Tel: 04 93 82 35 47

International Baptist Church

Sundays at 6:30pm.

● 13 rue Vernier, Nice, Tel: 04 93 24 92 61

Saint Paul de Vence

International Baptist Church
Sundays at 10.45am.

● Espace Saint Claire Commercial Centre,
Level 0, St Paul, Tel: 04 93 77 31 45

Sophia Antipolis

Cornerstone Christian Fellowship
Evangelical services every Sunday at 9:30am and 11:00am.

● Picard Bldg, 3030 Chemin St Bernard,
Sophia Antipolis, Tel: 04 92 38 98 91

St Raphael

St John the Evangelist
Sung Eucharist every Sunday at 10:30am.

● Ave Paul Doumer, St Raphael,
Tel: 04 94 51 16 98

Vence

St Hugh's Anglican Church
Sundays at 9:00am.

● Avenue de la Resistance, Vence,
Tel: 04 93 87 19 83

Women's Club of the Riviera

Social club meets twice monthly for luncheons and conversation

● Elisabeth Calmes, 04 93 72 97 08

Wine and Dine Club

Meet Saturday evenings to try French and ethnic restaurants. Mainly English speakers.

● 04 93 44 98 64

If your club or association is not listed here, please contact *The Riviera Gazette* so we can include it next time!

Libraries and bookshops

Antibes

Antibes Books
English bookshop, open 7 days a week

● 24 Rue Auberan Antibes,
Tel: 04 93 34 74 11

Beaulieu-sur-Mer

Beaulieu Bibliotheque Municipale
Library with English books. Call for opening hours

● 1 rue Maiffret, Beaulieu-sur-Mer,
Tel: 04 93 01 13 32

Cannes

Holy Trinity Church Library
Call for opening hours.

● 4, Rue Gén. Ferrié, Cannes,
Tel: 04 93 94 54 61

Fayence

Castle Bookshop
English bookshop

● 1 rue St Pierre, Fayence, Var,
Tel: 04 94 84 72 00

Menton

St John's English Church Library
Call for opening hours

● 2 ave du Pigautier, Menton,
Tel: 04 93 57 20 25

Monaco

Princess Grace Irish Library
Open from 9am to 4pm, Monday to Friday.

● 9 rue Princesse Marie de Lorraine, Monaco,
Tel: +377 93 50 12 25

St Paul's Church Library

Open Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays at varying hours, call for times.

● 22 Av de Grande Bretagne, Monaco,
Tel: +377 92 16 02 43

Scruples

English bookshop

● 9 rue Princesse Caroline, Monaco,
Tel: +377 93 50 43 52

Nice

Cat's Whiskers

English bookshop

● 30 rue Lamartine, Nice,
Tel: 04 93 80 02 66

English American Library

Over 20,000 books, videos and periodicals. Open 10-11am and 3-5pm on Tuesdays,

Wednesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays, 3-5pm on Fridays

● 12 rue de France, Nice,
Tel: 06 16 56 50 35

Sophia Antipolis

Accueil des Villes Françaises (AVF)
Book and music library for under-12s.

● Place Sophie Laffitte, Rue Albert Einstein,
Sophia Antipolis, Tel: 04 93 65 43 00

St Raphael

St John's English Library
Call for opening times.

● Av. Paul Doumer, St. Raphael,
Tel: 04 94 51 16 98

Valbonne

The English Book Centre
English bookshop

● 12 rue Alexis Julien, Valbonne,
Tel: 04 93 12 21 42

Vence

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Open Tuesdays, Fridays and Saturdays, 9-12am.

● 9 rue Ste Luce, Vence,
Tel: 04 93 58 97 71

Villecroze

Heidi's English Bookshop
Call for opening hours

● Les Mauquières, Villecroze, Var,
Tel: 04 94 96 55 50

PENGUINS BORN IN ANTIBES

THERE were celebrations at a local wildlife park last week as eleven baby penguins hatched from eggs recently brought back from the Antarctic.

The diving birds are the latest addition to Marineland's extensive sea life collection which already boasts killer whales, sharks and dolphins.

The penguins will form part of a new attraction to be opened in 2005, called 'Penguin Encounter,' where visitors will be able to experience twelve minutes in the Antarctic.

"We are working with a French scientific group called the CNRS," Marineland boss Mike Riddel told *The Riviera Gazette*.

"Our penguin colony is now in its third generation,

and we aim to increase the population to around 300. It is essential the penguins do not become too in-bred, so this year our project managers went to the Antarctic to obtain more eggs.

"King penguins lay two eggs, one of which is cast aside and usually does not survive - these are the eggs we collect" explained Mr Riddel.

Fifteen eggs were brought back to Antibes in a 16 day journey, culminating in a seven-hour ambulance trip from Paris Orly airport to Antibes.

Penguins are famously unable to fly, but one of the baby birds actually hatched on the plane journey. Under a rarely applicable Air France policy, it has now been granted free flights for life.



CUTE CHICK... One of Marineland's eleven newborn Penguins reaches out for a quick peck on the cheek

Here today, gone tomorrow

A FACTORY near Dieppe in the Seine-Maritime department moved lock, stock and barrel without telling staff while they were on holiday over Christmas.

When employees came back to work in the New Year they found the factory shut up and completely empty.

Workers eventually traced the owner, who claimed he was faced with closure and thought this was the kindest way of laying off his staff.

Gluttony not a sin

A GANG of French foodies are to ask Pope John Paul II to remove gluttony from the list of the seven deadly sins.

Members of the 'association for the gourmand' contend that the issue is essentially semantic. They feel that the word 'gourmandais', which appears in the French definition of the cardinal sin, now more accurately describes somebody who appreciates food.

'Gloutonniere' more literally describes gluttony, claims the group.

Drunk drive

A MAN who went to pick up his licence after his ban for drink driving had expired was arrested this week after arriving at the sub-prefecture in Villefranche de Rouergue at the wheel of his car and with 2.4g/l of alcohol in his blood.

200 new cops in 2003

THE Riviera is due to get 200 extra policemen in 2003.

This news comes after the number of crimes rose in 2002 by 1.28 % compared with 2001, say figures released on Monday by the Interior Ministry.



More olives, less oil this year

THE harvest at the Var's olive-producing towns of Ollioules and le Castellet reached 350 tonnes this year, three times more than last year.

However, the olives produced less oil - some 14 litres per hundred kilos as against around 17 in the previous season.

"Younger olives yield less oil, but give the greener, more fruity flavour preferred by Provençal

growers," Alain David, President of local olive farmers' association Les Amis de l'Oliviers d'Ollioules confirmed to *The Riviera Gazette*.

"Mild but rainy conditions, combined with a slightly longer pollination period last spring resulted in the bumper crop this year.

"The trees were also relaxed because they had borne much

less fruit the previous year," he continued.

And British actress turned Cannes-based olive farmer Carol Drinkwater told *The Gazette* "We had a vast crop, almost 1500 kilos, but less oil because they were harvested early. The green fruit yields less, though exceptionally good, oil. For us it has been a tremendous year."

FRUITY... Local olive trees have yielded a bumper crop this year

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This is a summary. Any investor must read the full details before proceeding.

HAMPTONS INTERNATIONAL



NICE OLD TOWN In the old town, a short distance from the lively Cours Saleya, this brilliantly refurbished one bedroom apartment (44sqm) with private entrance is the ideal pied-à-terre.

Guide price 130,000 Euros



MOUGINS VILLAGE A most charming apartment, full of character, with two double bedrooms, two bathrooms, and a lovely terrace overlooking tiled roofs and the surrounding countryside.

Guide price 349,000 Euros



NICE HARBOUR Only metres from the harbour, this tastefully decorated apartment offers 140sqm of living space in a pretty turn-of-the-century building.

Guide price 335,000 Euros



SAINT PAUL DE VENICE In a sought-after, beautiful and peaceful setting close to the village, this stylish villa with swimming pool offers 180sqm of living space within grounds of 1300sqm.

Guide price 595,500 Euros

SALES AND RENTALS

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Peyrat speaks out on trams

"LET me do the tramway and afterwards you'll be rich," Nice mayor Jacques Peyrat this week told anti-tram shopkeepers, who are concerned their business will be hit during the four year, €305 million construction project.

Shops and businesses in Nice are concerned their trade will suffer badly whilst the tramway infrastructure is put into place.

Some roads will be closed for up to a year, and traffic flow on others will be severely disrupted during lengthy roadworks.

Angry shopkeepers have had anti-tram slogans printed on the plastic bags they hand out

to their customers, and are petitioning the Prefecture with thousands of protestor's signatures.

Green light

Work on the controversial project is due to start this Spring, subject only to getting the final green light from the Prefecture before March 18.

"I have never had any doubt over the necessity of the tramway," Peyrat says.

"It's urgent, as under new European laws we will have to do something about pollution.

"Therefore we have to be prepared. In time we will be obliged to close certain roads in

the town centre.

"If we don't get the go-ahead we will have to re-do the whole thing from scratch. We'll have to have a new public enquiry," he warned.

"When the tramway has been built, everyone will be happy," Peyrat concluded.

Nice bus drivers have this week continued to demonstrate their support for the town's planned tramway.

Last week they painted slogans on their buses, and this week a large banner is hanging from the railway bridge across Avenue Jean Médecin proclaiming "Yes to the tramway!"

Get robot man giggling to win 150,000 euros

THE Palm Beach casino in Cannes is offering €150,000 to anyone who can make 'Mister John' smile. It sounds simple, but the celebrated mime artist has made this kind of bet many times before and has never yet lost.

Known as the 'human robot', Mister John first came up with the idea in the sixties. He learned how to hypnotize himself into not laughing, and over the years has heard many hilarious gags. So far all have failed to make him even smile.

Visit him between 18:00 and 20:00 every night until Sunday, and if you can make him laugh the €150,000 is yours!



NO JOKE... Serious cash is up for grabs if you think you are funny enough

Restaurant owner killed

A FREJUS pizza parlour owner was found beaten to death outside his restaurant last week.

The 60 year-old man lived above his restaurant and was not known to have had any enemies.

Police say he had been hit on the head with 'a very heavy object' and are awaiting the autopsy report.

Dead driver in Juan les Pins

A 55 YEAR-OLD man set fire to his car and then shot himself dead in Juan les Pins' Port Gallice on Sunday night.

A port worker raised the alarm after he heard an explosion and found the burning car.

Investigators have ruled out foul play, concluding that the man committed suicide.

Mum-to-be robbed of car

AN expectant mother's car was stolen in a violent attack in Mougins last week.

The 28 year-old victim had advertised her car for sale.

A woman claiming to be a potential buyer met with her, but said they must wait for her husband. She then distracted the mother-to-be, pushed her violently out of the car and drove off.

Smart car coffee bar

A CAGNES café owner has come up with an idea that allows high quality coffee to be served anywhere, in the form of a Smart car with an espresso machine in the back.

The inventor rents the cars out for special occasions for up to €250 a day, with coffee, cups, spoons and sugar thrown in.



AL FRESCO... A smart idea for coffee to go, wherever you're going

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YES! I'd like to subscribe to The Riviera Gazette

Two heads better

FRANCE and Germany are to put forward a proposal for a dual presidency for the European Union.

French president Jacques Chirac and German chancellor Gerhard Schroeder would like the EU to be headed by a European Commission president and the head of the council of ministers. One of the co-presidents would be elected by European ministers and the other by the European Parliament, Chirac stated after the meeting in Paris in Tuesday.

Schroeder claimed the plan would be an agreeable compromise which would strengthen both the European parliament and the Commission.

British foreign secretary Jack Straw said in *The Economist*, "I support Jacques Chirac's proposal for a full-time President of the European Council, chosen by and accountable to the heads of government."

At the moment the EU presidency rotates among member countries every six months.

How to tune in to Radio Caroline on your Sky Digibox

- Press the 'services' button on your Sky Digital remote
 - Scroll down to option four, 'system setup', then press 'select'
 - Scroll down to option four, 'add channels', then press 'select'
 - Enter these details - frequency: 11623 GHz, polarisation: horizontal, symbol rate: 27.5, FEC: 2/3
 - Scroll to 'find channels' then press 'select'. You'll see a list of channels. Scroll down to Radio Caroline and press your yellow button. A tick will appear on the screen. Press 'select'
- Radio Caroline has now been stored in your digi-box. To tune into it anytime press 'services', scroll to option six, 'other channels', press 'select' and you'll see Radio Caroline listed. Scroll to it and press 'Select' to listen...



WRECKAGE... Investigators are still trying to establish the cause of Saturday's crash which occurred despite good flying conditions

THREE KILLED IN CHOPPER CRASH

THREE people died last weekend when the helicopter they had chartered smashed into a peak near the ski resort of Gréolières-les-Neiges.

Two men were found dead in the wreckage and their female companion died later in Grasse hospital.

They had hired the chopper from a private owner and had taken off from Cannes airport to go on a sight-seeing tour of the area.

Officials don't know why the

Robinson 44 helicopter crashed - experts say flying conditions were good at the time.

An inquiry has been opened and experts will be testing the helicopter thoroughly for safety flaws.

"It's true that helicopters can be more dangerous than other aircraft as planes are obliged to have an escape slide. However, with both, if you

crash, you crash", a spokesperson from one Cannes-based helicopter charter company explained to *The Riviera Gazette*.

"There's no accounting for human error or the aircraft breaking down. We usually only hear about helicopter accidents because, as in this case, they often involve someone famous, or well known."

Those that died were a French businessman, 54 year-old Jose Fedida, his wife Annis, 56, and Belgian journalist, Georges Hassel-Berghs.

Fedida, who piloted the helicopter, was the founder of Grasse-based Laboratoire Cosmetology France.

Fedida's orphaned children met with their father's employees on Monday to reassure them that they will not now be made redundant.

Cop's cham-pagne in the neck

AN elderly man has threatened a Calvados policeman with a bottle of champagne.

The 66 year-old pensioner became angry when police visited him to investigate a phone call the man had made threatening to settle a neighbourhood dispute with a gun.

The man also threatened to shoot the officer and was arrested.

Ski rescue to cost

CARELESS off-piste skiers and snowboarders are soon likely to be handed a bill if they have to be rescued.

Accidents on the pistes are usually underwritten by skiers' insurance, but off-piste rescues are not covered. Mayors in all French ski stations are asking for this proposed law to come into effect "as soon as possible".

It's Nice at the top

NICE has returned to the top of the first division after a 2-0 victory - the first in four matches - over Lille last Saturday.

They are due to play again at home this Saturday.

Cannes-did cameras

CANNES is to receive 23 more video surveillance cameras in March in addition to the 23 which already keep the town under watch.

Forty more will be installed by the end of this year.

French against war

MORE than three quarters of French people are opposed to any military action against Iraq, according to an opinion poll published last week in 'Le Figaro'.

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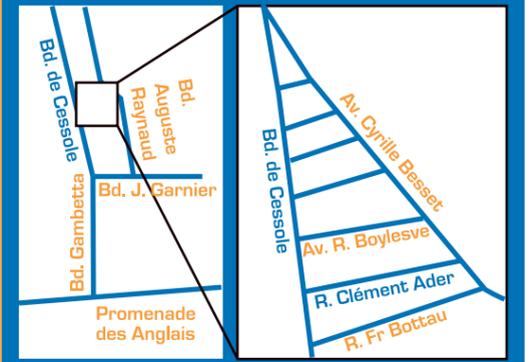
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My Riviera

Estate agent **Keith Meredith** tells Jenny Paul about favourite parts of the coast – and the country...

“I CAME here at Christmas in 1975. I was teaching in the UK and playing first division rugby, and the opportunity to play in the Nice rugby team for a year came up.

I'm very outdoorsy, so I liked it here and I liked the nature and the weather so I looked for ways to stay.

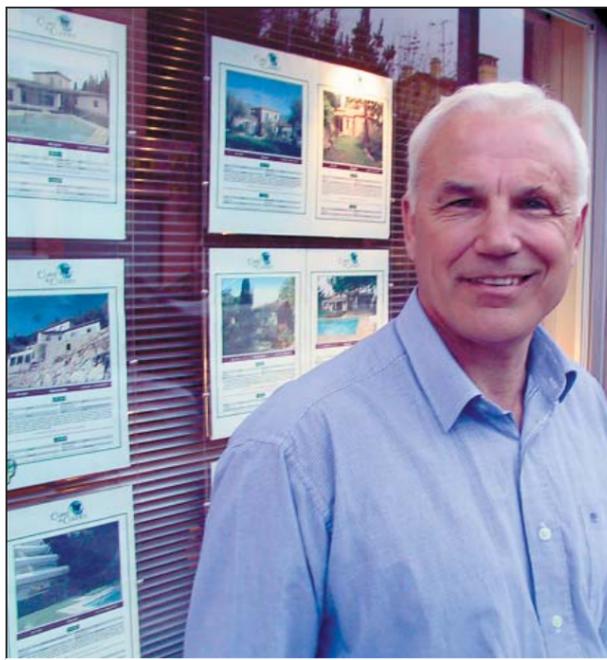
It's hard to believe but I snow skied on New Year's Eve this year and then waterskied the next day, which is fantastic.

After my first year I became interested in real estate and got a job with a local agency. I was unimpressed by the professionalism in the industry and decided I could do better, so in 1989 I started up 'Coast & Country'.

It was difficult to get registered as a legitimate estate agency as I was English. I had to threaten the authorities with court action before they would accept my qualifications.

We got up and running but then came a recession. We struggled along until 1997, when we started to do well. In 1999 I persuaded Pauline Challoner, who was then the Honorary British Consul in Nice, to join me. I thought she could help ease the suspicion surrounding our profession.

I love scuba diving in St. Tropez, where there are loads of shipwrecks, and off the Cap d'Antibes. But my favourite



FRONT MAN... Keith Meredith started his own estate agency to 'do better'

place for a weekend's diving is the Porquerole Islands marine nature reserve.

I like ethnic foods and regularly visit the l'Elephant Blue and Ancre de Chine restaurants in Antibes.

One of the things I miss most about England is the country pubs. I go to Café Brun in Biot on Friday nights because it's English owned and the nearest thing to an English pub here.

Every Sunday I go snow skiing in Allos, where I rent a studio during the winter. The

domain is bigger than the local resorts. It's two and a half hours drive, so perfect for a weekend away. I also love the old villages and the vineyards inland. My favourite is Nice 'Bellet' – they do fantastic wine. I think Côtes de Provence rosé is the best in the world.

My idea of heaven would be to have four homes – one in Whistler, Canada, one in Thailand, a Safari lodge in Kenya, a place in London – oh, and a yacht. But I'll have to put my retirement back a few years first!

Classifieds

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06330 Roquefort les Pins
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- VW New Beetle 1999, 90,000km, yellow, 2.0l air cond. €10,000. Tel: 06 19 36 32 42
- TOYOTA Landcruiser HDJ 80 VXE 24s, MY 1996, 149,500km, full ops; 8 grey leather seater, hifi, a/c, elec sunroof etc. intercooled €24,000. Maxime, 06 18 00 73 15

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CLOTHES

- MINK coat size 42, like new €750, Nice. Tel: 06 15 04 70 19
- SILK blouse, hand made, white €25, Nice. Tel: 06 15 04 70 19

CLUBS & SOCIETIES

- INTERNATIONAL Baptist Church welcomes you! NICE: 13, rue Vernier, services every Sunday evening at 18:30, information 0493 24 92 61, SAINT-PAUL: Espace Saint Claire Commercial Centre, Level 0, services every Sunday morning at 10:45, information 0493 77 31 45
- Book your classified ad online at www.TheRivieraGazette.com
- ENSEMBLE vocal syrxn choir are looking for members. Tel: Kate Cobb 04 93 20 68 94 for information

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● SELLING apartment contents, leaving end Jan. To request complete item list contact martinem@ix.netcom.com Everything must go!

ENGLISH oak dining furniture, 7'x3' slab end trestle table, 8 chairs (2 with arms), tapestry seats + backs, sideboard with Jacobean fluted front, 3 doors + 3 drawers, genuine reason for sale, €15,000 ono. Tel: 06 98 73 73 81

● CORNER lounge settee, Moceuet, pastel green, perfect condition 2.1 x 2.6 €500, 04 92 97 11 57

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● ONE WATERCOLOUR & one pen ink wash of Thames sailing barges, 1977 by Anthony Osler (well known Norfolk school artist) 12cm x 18cm. Contact stgeo@wanadoo.fr

● BRAND new large bed 150cm x 200cm, €400. Tel: 04 93 74 20 70

● GEORGE II (English) mahogany chiming bracket clock with moon phases. 19 inches high with handle, perfect working cond. with original key. 8 day movements. Contact stgeo@wanadoo.fr

FILM GUIDE

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

Le Casino
Av. du 24 aout, Antibes
MINORITY REPORT
Tue 20:30

Les Arcades
Rue Felix Faure, Cannes
GANGS OF NEW YORK
Daily 14:00, 17:00, 20:15

Studio 13
Ave. du Docteur-Picaud, Cannes
BOWLING FOR COLUMBINE
Thu 20:30, Fri 20:30, Sat 18:00, Mon 18:00, Tue 18:00

MJC Cannes Ranguin
Avenue Michel Jourdan, Cannes
SWEET SIXTEEN
Thu 20:30, Fri 20:30, Sat 20:30

Cinema Sporting
Place du Casino, Monte-Carlo
THE LORD OF THE RINGS: THE TWO TOWERS
Thu 17:30, 21:00 Sun 17:30, 21:00 Mon 17:30
GANGS OF NEW YORK
Fri 17:30, Sat 17:30, Mon 17:30, 21:00, Tue 17:30

Cinémathèque
Esplanade Kennedy, Nice
FORGOTTEN SILVER
Fri 16:30
STEAMBOAT BILL JR & THE BALLOONATIC
Sat 18:15

Mercury
Place Garibaldi, Nice
ALL OR NOTHING
Thu 20:10
THE GREAT DICTATOR
Sun 19:25
BOWLING FOR COLUMBINE
Thu 15:15, Sat 17:00, Mon 20:10
INSOMNIA
Fri 21:40, Sun 14:40, Mon 16:00, Tue 21:40
CALLAS FOREVER
Sun 17:00
THE PIANIST
Fri 14:30, Sat 19:10
MINORITY REPORT
Sun 21:30
MULHOLLAND DRIVE
Sun 21:40

UGC Rialto
Rue de Rivoli, Nice
GANGS OF NEW YORK
Daily 14:00, 17:30, 21:00
THE LORD OF THE RINGS: THE TWO TOWERS
Daily 14:00, 20:45
L.I.E. LONG ISLAND EXPRESSWAY
Daily 15:50, 22:10
DIE ANOTHER DAY
Daily 21:45
SWEET SIXTEEN
Daily 18:00

Le Pagnol
Rue Pierre Curie, Sainte Maxime
WELCOME TO COLLINWOOD
Thu 18:00, 21:00

Cinéma Les Visiteurs du Soir
Vallis Bona, Valbonne
MIRACLE WORKER
Tue 20:30

Cinema Casino
30 av. Henri Isnard, Vence
SWEET SIXTEEN
Sun 17:00, Tue 18:00, 21:00

Le Pagnol
Rue Pierre Curie, Sainte Maxime
WELCOME TO COLLINWOOD
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Vallis Bona, Valbonne
MIRACLE WORKER
Tue 20:30

Cinema Casino
30 av. Henri Isnard, Vence
SWEET SIXTEEN
Sun 17:00, Tue 18:00, 21:00

JOBS

Jobs offered

● DO you have marine industry skills? Yes? Then add your details to our database of contractors. Call at our office - 6 Rue des Palmiers, Antibes - or phone on 04 93 34 06, fax 04 93 34 55 73 or email info@dsmaritime.com

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

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.

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● BRISTOL graduate, 24, fluent French, student nurse, seeks work for summer. Avail. for interview in April. Call 0044 7940 493 386

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PROPERTY

Property for rent

● STUNNING large 1bd aptmt in Old Nice, Feb 1 to Apr 30 at €1000/month. Also June, July, Aug at €680/week. Tel Suzan, +44 79 56 38 19 95

● VILLEFRANCHE town, single room to rent in aptmt with stunning views, near sea, pref. female - €450/month neg. Tel: 06 32 20 22 67

● THEOULE-SUR-MER Small two bedroomed house for holiday rental. Tel: 04 93 75 27 01 or 06 78 76 47 49

● CANNES studio aptmt: old town, immaculate, reasonable rates. Contact Alan on 06 11 98 12 16

● VILLEFRANCHE wonderful large studio apt, stunning views, great balcony, €795 pcm. Email timothyburgess@hotmail.com & leave tel. no.

● CANNES la Bocca: 2 flats to let: festival, holidays or longer. 5 mins beach/shops. Tel: 04 92 19 54 18

● NICE, Prom. des Anglais, 50m from Negresco, sea view, balcony, sleeps 4, €400/week inc charges. Tel: +39 328 65 14 705

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● FAB Cannes one bed flat available for weekly rental, sleeps 4, contact DKfromUSA@aol.com

● BEAUTIFUL studio in la Bocca avail. just 2 mins from beach, shops & restaurants, ideal for two, call 04 93 48 35 60/sila20@lycos.com

● HOLIDAY apartment Juan les Pins, with pool, 300m beach, 4 pers, wieteke_oosterhaven@yahoo.com

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 / pierrejamat@hotmail.com

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● Ref 8059 For sale MOUGINS - Modern apt town centre (Tournamy) 75m2 living area, 32m2 terrace perfect for dining, 2 beds - €260,000

● Ref 8088 For sale CANNES - Modern apart. Cannes centre - 450m from sea - 66m2 living area, terrace 11m2, 2 beds, 1 bath - €266,000

● Ref 6734 For rent MOUGINS - 45m2 apart. with lovely 36m2 terrace, 1 bed, furnished, pool in residence & parking - long term rent €991/month

● Ref 7865 For rent MOUGINS - apart. 48m2, terrace 23m2, 1 bed, beautiful roof pool & fitness room available long term, furnished, €701/month 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

Property wanted

● RELIABLE couple urgently looking for 2/3 room apartment in Nice, up to €800/m. Tel: 06 19 30 30 82

● SEEKING SMALL furnished apartment in Juan-les-Pins for June, July & August. Tel: 04 93 83 23 00

SERVICES

● THE Butler cometh! English butler/house manager, RAF and private service trained, is now actively seeking to relocate to the south of France after 12 years service in a private estate near Windsor (UK). Please see www.thebutlerrbrian.freesevers.com - kind regards, Mr Brian

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

● 2 DUTCH ladies, mid 50's, will sit your house (animals) €35/day, while you are away for 3 weeks or longer periods. Speak Fr, Eng & Germ, good references. Tel: 04 94 84 76 23 or +31 206 760 535

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

MOUNTS BAY, Cornwall 6 cottages available in pretty village 400m from sandy cove, open all year. From £140 to £600 per week. For brochure ring 0044 1344 621 220

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

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TV & SATELLITE

● SONY 300 disc dvd/cd player, 1 year old €400 (bought for 6000FF). Tel: 07 63 58 61 (Golfe Juan)

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, 2003
- Antibes The road around the ramparts in the old town is closed for extensive works until Apr 30, 2003
- Villeneuve-Loubet Long-term 50km/h limit and delays likely on the RN98 coast road
- Biot 30km/h limit along the RN7 until Mar 28, 2003

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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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Please write in capitals, one letter in each box, with an empty box between each word.
Minimum charge for trade ads is three lines/96 characters.

Optional extra lines:

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Type of advert: Private Trade
Optional extras - see section 3 for prices.
 Use all BOLD type Put a box around the advert
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3 Work out the price

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Extra 32 char lines, each	+€2.50	€2.50
All bold type	+€5.00	+€5.00
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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: _____
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Payment:
 Cash Cheque, in euros, drawn on a French bank, payable to 'The Riviera Gazette'
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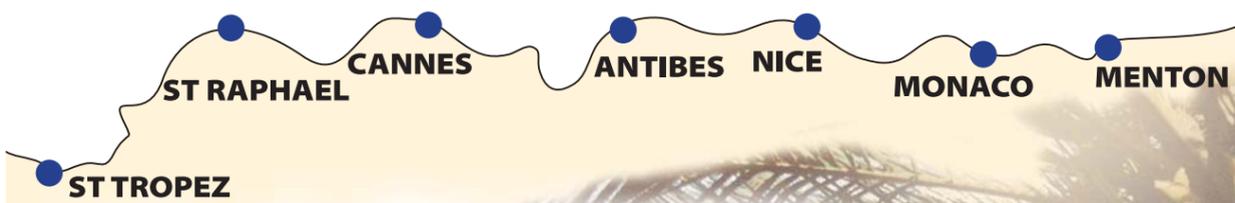
5 MAIL to: Riviera Gazette Classifieds, 738 Route Notre Dame (Cidex 47), 06330 Roquefort les Pins, France • EMAIL to classifieds@TheRivieraGazette.com • FAX to 04 93 09 66 53 • or submit ONLINE at http://www.TheRivieraGazette.com

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

"The one who says it cannot be done should not interrupt the one who is doing it"

Chinese Proverb

What's On and Where To Go...



The Riviera This week

Thursday 16

- The 27th Festival International du Cirque of Monte Carlo starts tonight at 20:00 at the Big Top in Fontvieille, Monaco. Catch the **world's most talented circus acts** at this prestigious competition until Jan 23. Tickets start at €20. Tel: +377 92 05 23 45.
- The 26th **Lycra Rendezvous** is on at the Grimaldi Forum Monaco until tomorrow. 138 exhibitors show off the latest bathing suits, lingerie and sportswear. Tel: + 377 99 99 2000
- The Bar en Bias in Antibes is hosting a **Bossa Nova evening** starting at 21:00. Tel: 04 93 74 10 98

Friday 17

- Starting today and running until January 22 is the 2nd Salon Professional du Syndicat des Artisans Potiers at the Espace Grandjean in Vallauris. **Pottery from 15 artists** is on display. Entry is free. Tel: 04 93 63 82 58
- An exhibition of **photos of pop stars** and music industry bigwigs at the MIDEM exhibition between 1969 and 1989 opens today at the Espace Miramar in Cannes. Set to run for two months, subjects in the "Midem: 20 years of images" show include Elton John and Alice Cooper. Open everyday except Mondays from 13:00 to 18:00. Entry is free. Tel: 04 93 99 04 04.

- Head along to the Hippodrome in Cagnes-sur-Mer today for the Prix de Monte Carlo and you'll get **two horse race meetings** for the price of one. Galloping starts at 13.15, followed by a night trot meeting – all for just €4.50. Tel: 04 92 02 44 44.
- The Red Pear Theatre Company presents *Oleanna*, David Mamet's **controversial play** which examines where free speech and political correctness meet head-on, at the Théâtre Antibéa, Antibes tonight and tomorrow at 20:00. London's *The Times* said "everybody should experience the shock of this play." Starring Guy Masterson and Beth Fitzgerald. Tickets €23. Tel: 04 93 61 01 71.
- Bulgarian **soprano Ghena Dimitrova** is being honoured tonight in an event at the Salle des Variétés in Monaco starting at 20:30. Videos, interviews and a question and answer session are all part of the night. Tickets €16. Tel: +377 93 25 82 39.

- Adapt in France is arranging two **workshops for those new to France** today; one on Accommodation from 9:30 to 10:30 and another on Insurance from 11:00 to 12:00. Both will be held on the 2nd floor of the Centre de Vie building in Garbejaire, Sophia Antipolis. Book in advance on 04 93 65 33 79.
- Continuing today is the 27th Festival International du Cirque of Monte Carlo

Saturday 18

- The 12th Antibes Juan les Pins Festival d'Art Sacré starts today with a concert at the cathedral in Antibes. **Two choirs** perform the music of Bach and others at 21:00. Tickets are €20 from the tourist office. Tel: 04 92 90 53 00.
- Combine a **night of jazz** with a themed menu at Les Arbousiers restaurant on the lac de Saint Cassien where the Tuxedo Jazz Band will play from 20:30. The third set will be a jam session. Call Jim or Tina on 04 93 60 67 89 to reserve a table.



FOCUSSED... Carlos Sainz hoofs his Ford through snow and ice in the 2002 Monte Carlo rally

- Tonight at 21:00 The Baroque Bar, 25 rue de la Croix, in Old Nice has **live music** – Marc Bussa on the violin and Mauro Righini on the alto violin. Entry is €8 and includes one drink. Tel: 04 93 80 08 74.
- Auron hosts a regional **snowboarding competition** today and tomorrow, starting at 13:00. Tel: 06 08 88 96 26.
- The **NRJ Music Awards** are being held at the Palais des Festivals in Cannes at 20:30. The event isn't open to the public, but will be broadcast on TF1. However, star spotters may want to watch the celebrities arrive...
- **Oleanna** ends its two night run at the Théâtre Antibéa, Antibes tonight at 20:00. Tickets €23.00. Tel: 04 93 61 01 71 to book.
- A live DJ will mix **techno and jazz** tonight at the Grimaldi Forum in Monaco, starting at 23:00. Entry is free. Tel: +377 99 99 30 00.
- Continuing today is the 27th Festival International du Cirque of Monte Carlo

Sunday 19

- The world's music industry moves into Cannes from today for the 37th **MIDEM** trade fair. The Marché International du Disque et de l'Edition Musicale's opening night is at the Palais des Festivals at 20:30. The fair runs until January 23. Tel: 04 93 39 01 01.
- Continuing today is the 27th Festival

International du Cirque of Monte Carlo and the regional snowboard competition at Auron.

Monday 20

- Adapt in France continues its **workshops for newcomers** to the country with session on Culture Shock from 9:30 to 11:30 in Garbejaire, Sophia Antipolis. Book in advance on 04 93 65 33 79.
- Continuing today is the 27th Festival International du Cirque of Monte Carlo

Tuesday 21

- Continuing today is the 27th Festival International du Cirque of Monte Carlo

Wednesday 22

- The **World Rally Championship** comes to Monaco for the world's oldest rally event and all the top drivers can be seen around town from today until Sunday. The rally starts on Friday, which sees the action taking place around Gap – about 250km away. A better bet for locals is to watch on Saturday or Sunday, where the competition is 30 to 60km from town and the cars return to Monaco's port for servicing between stages. Sunday sees the cars storming through the famous Col de Torini stage. Hardcore rally fans will want to stand on freezing mountainsides to watch the full-on competition, but armchair enthusiasts can drink in the atmosphere by simply visiting Monaco's port, where the crowds are light and there's plenty to be seen in the service area when the cars come in. Find more information on <http://www.wrc.com>
- Nice hosts the struggling Paris St Germain tonight at the Stade du Ray in their latest French National Championship **football match**. Kick off is at 20:00. Tickets start at €7, from 04 93 18 07 27. Monaco are also at home at the Stade Louis II at 20:00 against Lens – call +377 92 05 37 54 for information.

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Riviera Weather							JANUARY IN NICE...	
	Thursday 16	Friday 17	Saturday 18	Sunday 19	Monday 20	Tuesday 21	Avg. high: 13°C	Avg. sea temp: 14°C
AM	3°C Sunny	7°C Partly cloudy	6°C Partly cloudy	8°C Partly cloudy	9°C Cloudy	7°C Partly cloudy	Avg. low: 5°C	Avg. rainfall: 83mm
PM	12°C Partly cloudy	14°C Partly cloudy	13°C Partly cloudy	12°C Partly cloudy	14°C Cloudy	13°C Partly cloudy	Remember to put your snowchains in the boot if you're off to the mountains.	

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see you
next week!

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The Riviera Gazette
The Côte d'Azur's English-language newspaper