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CRIMEWAVE HITS AS RIVIERA SWELTERS

By JENNY PAUL

POLICE have issued a strong warning to locals and tourists that criminals are out in force and targeting people leaving windows open and bags unattended on beaches as temperatures rise.

"The number of crimes reported to us in the last week or two has risen considerably," Capitaine Freddy Sauvaitre, chief of Antibes police warned The Gazette.

"Criminals know the tourist season is here. They realise people are on holiday and have lots of cash, credit cards, jewellery and expensive cameras. The most common trick is men on scooters snatching bags and watches off the wrists of people sitting in cars with their windows open. The car is stuck in traffic and the robber makes a quick getaway on his scooter. Expensive cars with foreign plates are the most popular targets.

Daylight robbery

"But it is important to warn locals to take extra precautions and not be caught off guard just because it's hot. People are being caught out by leaving apartment windows and balcony doors open because of the heat and opportunist thieves are climbing in and ransacking the place."

And some criminals are literally getting away with daylight robbery. "I had a safe, which was concreted into my bathroom," Le Cannet resident Klaus Friedrich told The Gazette. "I came home from the beach at 4pm to



BAG SNATCHERS... 'vol a portier' is the most common crime, when unwary motorists lose bags and watches to moped-riding thieves

discover my apartment had been burgled. They had somehow smashed the concreted safe out of the cabinet, dragged it across the marble floor, neutralised my alarmed shutters, got it through there and across my garden and then loaded it into a van or something, without any of the neighbours hearing a thing! It's unbelievable. The police came but were gone again within, maybe, ten minutes," said Klaus.

People are also having bags snatched while taking a dip in the sea and some who cautiously lock valuables in their car boots are finding that

thieves have broken in anyway. Non-French speakers then face hours of frustration as they try to fill out police reports for insurance.

Holiday ruined

"We had our bag stolen on the beach, with our car keys, apartment keys, credit cards and cash. The man had been sunbathing next to us all morning and then got up casually to leave and ran off with our bag," Ingrid Holstrom, a Dutch tourist, told The Gazette.

"When we tried to report it to the police station in Nice it was shut

between 12pm and 2pm, then when it did eventually open we had to wait for three hours because there were so many other people there. When we were seen there was not much the police could do and they spoke little English. It has ruined our holiday."

And in the evenings people are getting their bags snatched as they leave restaurants after a relaxing meal and a couple of glasses of wine.

"My advice is to leave the house with the minimum amount of cash, don't take all your credit cards and don't flaunt jewellery and flash watches," cautioned Sauvaitre.

25,000 copies this week – and 549,000 since The Gazette went weekly. Look for the next issue on Thursday July 3

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FRENCH PROPERTY MAXIMISE YOUR INVESTMENT

According to a recent survey, half a million Britons own property in France. The overseas property market is booming and on the Côte d'Azur the average price of property is now EUR450,000 – an increase of 50 per cent over the past two years.

Stock market uncertainties have made property an attrac-

tive option. But the way in which you purchase your property can have long lasting financial implications, so thoroughly research your options before you buy. Purchasing property overseas may increase your liability to capital gains tax, inheritance tax or both, leaving you with an unexpectedly high tax bill.

To maximise your investment, using a legal entity to purchase high-value properties could reduce or even avoid these tax pitfalls. The correct ownership may also provide other benefits including savings on legal fees, transfer taxes, value added taxes and stamp duties on any future sales.

Capital gains tax

Unless you have owned the property for over 22 years, French capital gains tax is payable regardless of your country of residence and is charged for direct ownership or the sale of shares in a property based entity at up to 33.3 per cent less relief after two years.

To put this into perspective, a property on the Côte d'Azur purchased two years ago for EUR250,000 may well now be worth over EUR500,000. If you sell the property this would yield a profit of EUR250,000 but also a capital gains tax bill of approx. EUR83,000.

Buying through a structure, however, may mean you can avoid paying capital gains. Under a legal French entity held in a Luxembourg SOPARFI (a special type of company combining the commercial and holding benefits of Luxembourg's tax treaties), the property is 'sold' through the transfer of shares. This means the capital gain is in Luxembourg where there is currently no tax.

Inheritance tax

Inheritance tax in France is charged at up to 60 per cent, depending on the relationship between the deceased and the beneficiary. This is payable regardless of the residency of the owner of the property.

As a company never dies,

this tax can normally be avoided with the correct legal entity ownership structure. This may also provide you with additional planning opportunities for the eventual transfer of the ownership – through a discretionary trust, for example.

Patrimonial tax

This is an annual three per cent tax applicable to French and foreign companies owning real estate in France, where there is no tax treaty and the appropriate declarations have not been made. The charge means that more traditional property holding structures using offshore companies are not recommended. Luxembourg, however, has signed a tax treaty with France permitting an exemption from this charge. So purchasing property through the Luxembourg SOPARFI structure detailed above, will avoid this charge.

Get advice

Be aware of the tax implications of purchasing property overseas and get advice. If you would like more information on this or other tax planning and asset protection matters, please contact us.

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New tax haven

LUXEMBOURG is to compete with Monaco and become a tax haven.

A new European ruling will slap a 15 percent 'withholding' tax on the savings of non-residents from 2005, in return for Luxembourg's retaining its banking secrecy. As a result, the duchy is hoping to attract more residents - but will find it hard to compete with Monaco's climate and cosmopolitan atmosphere.

Butcher's rampage

A BUTCHER in Salleboeuf in the Gironde went on the rampage last week stabbing and wounding seven people with a knife from his shop.

Two of his victims were children. Witnesses said that the usually quiet 49-year-old suddenly went mad in the small community wielding the knife and shouting that it was the end of the world. He was arrested and ordered to undergo psychiatric tests.

US rejects students

THE number of American families willing to host French exchange students has dropped by 50 per cent this year.

"I've been doing this for 15 years and I've never had to turn anyone away before," said Connecticut-based exchange organiser Deborah Bertrand.

Monty banned

FORMULA One driver Juan Pablo Montoya has been banned from driving for four months and fined €1,200 for speeding by a court in Draguignan.

The BMW Williams driver was caught doing 204km/h on the A8 motorway in May.

Compy winner

FIONA Thompson of Antibes is the lucky winner of our Globespan competition, and has trousered a pair of return air tickets to Scotland. "You've made my day - that's absolutely brilliant!" said our thrilled winner.

Grace's Ferrari sold

A RARE 1960 Ferrari 250 cabriolet once owned by Princess Grace of Monaco has been sold by a UK-based dealer for £150,000 to an unnamed buyer living in the Cayman islands.

HOUSE PRICES STILL ON THE INCREASE

The Côte d'Azur is the third most expensive place to rent or buy property in France, after Paris and Aix-en-Provence, according to figures released this week.

And despite the worldwide economic downturn, the value of houses on the Riviera is continuing to rise.

Average house prices rose by at least 10 percent over the last twelve months, and 85 percent of properties sold last year went for over €3,200 per square metre.

Rents are also on the increase as coast dwellers who can't afford to buy turn to long term lets instead.

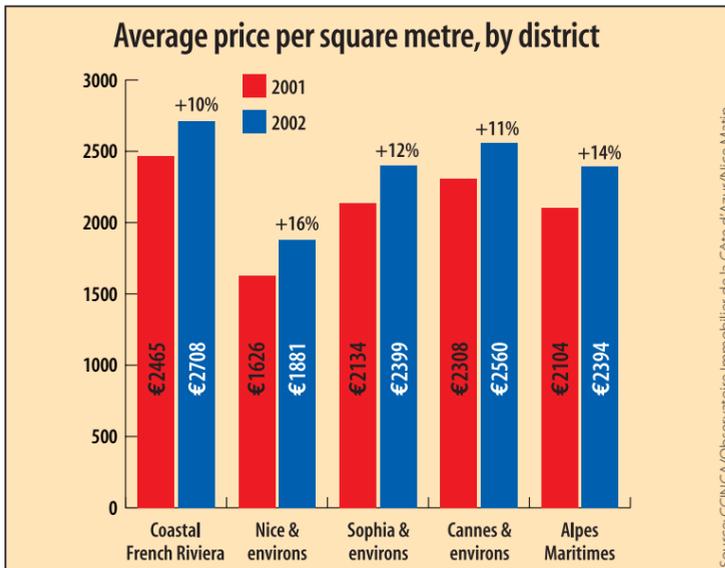
Nice is one of the cheaper areas with one bed apartments averaging €548 per month, whereas in Antibes the average price is €620.

Interest

However Keith Meredith of Coast and Country told The Gazette, "just because the market is doing well doesn't mean people can't afford to buy. Interest rates are at an all-time low and there are some very good finance deals around.

"A lot of people are now buying investment properties to let out."

Olivier Morvan of upmarket Nice estate agency Hamptons International is equally bullish, "the only thing that drops around here is the fruit off the trees! House prices aren't going to fall,



ON THE UP... prices have increased in all sectors of the Alpes-Maritimes this year

mainly because there are too many people and not enough houses.

"Locals want to buy because rents are so high and foreigners want to buy for investment in the rental market.

Time-wasters

"Even with villas at the top end of the market, although the number of viewings has dropped there are less time-wasters about so the success rate is higher.

"At the moment both St Paul de Vence and St Jean Cap Ferrat are very

popular." Morvan concluded.

According to data released by Abbey National France the three towns preferred by their English-speaking clients were Nice, Antibes and Chamonix, with Paris coming at the bottom of the top ten.

Last year the lender's Anglophone customers paid an average €209,666 for an apartment - with an average surface area of 63 square metres - and €239,454 for houses, typically of 162 square metres. The average price paid in the PACA region was €332,179.

Cool doesn't rule, say DoE hot heads

IN CAR air conditioning is accelerating global warming, according to France's department of the environment.

Currently 20 percent of cars have air conditioning fitted but by 2020 nearly 88 percent will be wafting cool air over their passengers.

The department also warns that using your 'clim' burns an average €1 of fuel per 100km. Motorists are urged to consider turning off air conditioning in town and opening windows instead.

Pigeon flies to NY

BILLY the pigeon from Bootle in the UK has landed a 32-day stretch in quarantine after mistakenly ending up in New York.

He was released in Fougères in north west France on June 6. When he didn't return home owners John and Maria Warren assumed he was dead - until they got a call last week saying he had arrived in the US. Billy will fly back to Britain with British Airways.

Oldies flock to Var

THE Var is set to become the second most elderly department in the PACA region after the Alpes-de-Haute-Provence according to the national statistics institute INSEE.

In 20 years time more than a third of residents will be over 60. The key to the Var's popularity is its climate, sea, cheap property and quality of life.

PACA's ladies are smart and cheap

WOMEN have a higher success rate at the baccalaureate than men in the PACA region, and represent 55 per cent of students in higher education. However, according to new figures from statistics institute INSEE, they earn only three quarters of the average male salary.

High ozone alert

THE recent high temperatures have sparked an ozone alert in the Var and Bouches-du-Rhône, where air quality has dropped below recommended levels. Meanwhile, Puget-sur-Argens in the Var saw the mercury hit 39C last week - a new June record for the area.

New build apartments set in private gardens, in the heart of old Antibes

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The menu at La Table des Indes reflects the influences of Portugal and France on Indian food, and also offers Anglo Indian favourites. Chefs specially brought in from top London restaurants will bring you the best Indian cuisine on the Côte d'Azur, from mid-July.

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BBQs under fire

PEOPLE having barbecues in public places face a fine from today as local firefighters step up their summer fire prevention campaign.

"Normally people are not allowed to have outdoor fires after June 30," explained a Nice Pompiers spokesman.

"But due to the heat wave there is an increased fire risk, so we have brought the 'no barbecue' rule forward by a week and are stepping up surveillance.

"Anyone caught having an unlawful fire or barbecue will be fined. A lot of people flout the law and have barbecues on the beach and in open spaces. Of course, they don't think it could flare out of control until it does."

Home barbecues are generally allowed, though, but rules vary by commune and even by building - readers should check with their mairie if in doubt. And home barbecues are not immune to problems:



WATERBOMBERS... A Canadair could end up bombing your barbie

"This poses a risk too; people tend to have a few drinks, relax and forget how easily a fire can spread when it's very dry," warned the spokesman.

Fire fighters are now out in force with over 250 patrolling known problem areas.

"The risk of forest fires is very high at the moment and we have teams of pompiers carrying out checks all over the region. For instance, the hills above Vallauris are a high risk

area. We often get bored teenagers starting fires for fun there.

"But we have lots of fire engines carrying out preventative work and we have a 'water-bomber' helicopter based in Sophia and Canadair fire-fighting planes in Marseille.

"They take 45 minutes to get here, though, so from July 15 we will have two based at Cannes-Mandelieu airport and an extra helicopter at Sophia."

Ikea wobbles

PLANS to open a massive furniture superstore in Cagnes sur Mer suffered twin setbacks last week.

Swedish retail giant Ikea, which has superstores worldwide, revealed controversial plans to open a megastore in the town's Sudalparc industrial estate in June 2001. Residents are campaigning vigorously against the Scandinavian firm's proposal, saying it will bring an unacceptable level of traffic to already jammed local roads.

But now another company has bettered Ikea's offer for the land - The Tranchant Group, which already operates on the

town's seafront, has put forward plans to build a 4,000 square metre casino on the site.

And SEM, the body which oversees development on the park, has judged Ikea's proposal to build a 23,000 square metre store 'not financially viable'. SEM is headed by the town's mayor, Louis Nègre.

However, a binding decision is not due until next month and Ikea "does not wish to comment until the final decision has been made by SEM."

In the meantime fans of the firm's stylish furniture have to travel to the store at la Valette du Var, just outside Toulon.

Americans tell Woody to kiss off

WOODY ALLEN has met a frosty reception from fellow Americans after urging them not to boycott France.

And one website, www.hatethefrench.com, is urging the nation to join their 'war of wit' against Woody.

The unkindly suggestion of film director Woody takes himself to France, where "he would be doing everyone a favour," according to the site's webmaster. "Woody Allen is already boycotted nationally except for sections of New York and small parts of New Jersey.

"It's time to make it unanimous and give Woody the French kiss-off he's looking for."



KISS OFF... Woody

Traffic jammed on Cap Ferrat

A LORRY driver found himself in a tight spot after trying to navigate the narrow streets of St Jean Cap Ferrat on Monday.

The 16 metre truck squeezed down a street where the maximum allowed is just eight metres before getting stuck, blocking traffic for more than an hour. Eventually it was freed by a locksmith who sawed through barriers designed to protect pedestrians.

According to police this happens on average three times a year, and is usually caused by foreign drivers.



STUCK TRUCK... had to be cut free

Monaco reprieve

MONACO'S cup-winning football team has been allowed to return to the first division next season.

The troubled club was relegated to the second division at the end of May as a result of debts exceeding €50m.

AS Monaco won the league cup and finished second in the French league behind champions Lyon this year.

The French Football Federation said an appeals committee had authorised the return to the first division, "as long as the club maintains tight spending controls."

Bank saves dog

WORKERS at a Nice bank held a whip round to save a hobo's hound last week.

The tramp, who 'lives' outside the Victor Hugo branch of BNP, suffered a fall and was taken to hospital while his pet pooch was left tied to a tree.

The chocolate labrador was soon hauled off to the pound, which wanted €100 for her safe return. But after big-hearted bankers clubbed together to pay the fine, the pound relented and released her for free - the money was given to the homeless man to tattoo the dog.

Cannes shooting

A MAN was ruthlessly killed in Cannes' up-market La Californie district last Thursday night.

The unnamed 30-year-old was pursued by two armed men who shot at him as he tried to escape. He ran into the garden of an apartment block where the killers caught up and gunned him down as he tried to scale a wall.

The victim was already dead and the gunmen had vanished when emergency services arrived. Police have not yet found any obvious motive for the killing.



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Human torches protest arrests

TWO PEOPLE have died after setting fire to themselves in dramatic protests outside buildings housing French interests around Europe.

The protestors are campaigning for the release of more than 150 people who were held in a swoop on the Paris headquarters of The People's Mujahideen, an Iranian opposition group that is classified by the US and the EU as a terrorist organisation.

The group has been tolerated in France in recent years, but French intelligence chiefs ordered the round-up after accusing members of plotting terrorist attacks.

Two women have now died after setting fire to themselves in protest. Sedighieh Mohageri died in Paris after setting herself alight outside the offices of the French internal security agency and Neda Hassani died in hospital in London on Tuesday after setting fire to herself outside the French embassy in Knightsbridge. Hassani, 25, lived in Canada and was visiting the UK.

Also in London, two more protestors are said to be 'in a serious condition' after trying the same thing, while another is said to be in hospital but not in a life threatening condition.

Meanwhile, police in Berne, Switzerland prevented a man from setting himself on fire outside the French embassy there.

France says the raids on the People's Mujahideen were the product of a three year investigation and that well over US\$3m in cash as well as computers and communications equipment were seized in the operation, which involved 1,300 officers.

MATCH DRAWS 32 TEAMS

Expats head to Valbonne for annual boules tournament



BOULED OVER... Over 100 came to socialise, sip cool wine and play in Valbonnes' annual Anglophone-oriented tournament

OVER one hundred people gathered in Valbonne last Friday evening for the town's annual English-speaking boules tournament.

Thirty two teams turned out to play in two competitions – a far cry from the fixture's beginnings in 1992 when just six teams took part.

"The competition was started by the English Book Centre and Sterling Finance, two local expat-run businesses," organiser Andrea Taylor told

The Riviera Gazette.

"We run the scoring and provide the beer, wine and prizes. We just think it's nice to do something to bring the English-speaking community together every now and then."

The competition is open to players of all levels and nationalities, although one person close to the organisers did joke, "they don't exclude anyone, but they try to discourage all-French entries, because they always win!"

"The tournament is usually held on the Friday closest to midsummer day, so we get as much light as possible, because it takes four to five hours to play through all the games," said Andrea.

"We have been known to hand out the prizes in



SCORE ON THE FLOOR... The Avengers and Team Kast tot up quarter final points

the dark before now!"

But this year it was settled by 9pm – the overall winners were The Avengers, while the winners of the Plate Competition, fought out between the teams knocked out in the first round of the main tournament, were Tony Byrne and chums Leon and Heath from the enigmatically named Yard High Club team.



WINNERS... The Book Centre's Jill Sheppard (left) and Sterling Finance's Gary Draper (right) present The Avengers' Ian Taylor, Derek de Costa and Craig Taylor with a trophy and champagne

Harry is a hit

HARRY POTTER fever came to the coast last Saturday with the release of JK Rowling's hulking 766 page 'Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix', the fifth book in the series.

The Cat's Whiskers bookshop in Nice saw nearly 50 copies disappear from the shelves on the big day, whilst the English Book Shop in Antibes has sold a sizeable chunk of its one thousand copy allocation. French readers will have to wait until December for the translation.

Militant farmer arrest

JOSE Bové, the militant farmer, was arrested the weekend in a commando-style operation.

The spokesman for the paysanne agricultural union was taken to a remand centre in the Hérault. He is due to serve a 10 month sentence for destroying genetically modified crops but is hoping for a presidential pardon on Bastille Day.

Poisoner on trial

A **FORMER** town councillor has gone on trial this week accused of poisoning 140 cats and dogs in the Correze region.

Roland Bondonny, 71, is accused of killing around 70 animals and harming scores of others by feeding them meat laced with insecticide between 1998 and 2001.

Paris Sars scare

A **POLICE** station in Paris was quarantined last week after a woman suspected of being infected with the lethal Sars virus walked in.

Employees were forced to stay inside until test results were revealed. Sars has infected 8,000 worldwide and 800 have died of the disease.

Telly explodes

A **FAMILY** had a lucky escape after their TV exploded and started a fire which destroyed their flat, just minutes after their five-year-old had been watching it. The unlucky Mougins family are now in temporary accommodation.

Power prices up

ELECTRICITY is due to go up by three per cent from July 1 after the energy regulation commission (CRE) gave the go-ahead for a price hike. An average family of four's bills will rise by €3 a month as a result.

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The Riviera Gazette

The Côte d'Azur's English-language newspaper

My Riviera

Martine Lorreyte tells Paul Coleman why she spends time in the UK and the Far East, but still keeps coming back to the Côte...

“ I WAS born in Vietnam – I am half Vietnamese and half French – but left when I was ten and my family moved to south west France, nearly 30 years ago.

It was great fun growing up in the south west. You can eat foie gras as if it's pâté and canard confit as if it's chicken! So when I go to gastronomic restaurants and they think they can educate me I just laugh.

I moved to Antibes when my father retired from the army and I studied for my baccalaureate exams in Nice. I then went to university in London and studied English.

I still travel back to see friends there twice a month and like to spend my time eating in Thai or Chinese and Vietnamese restaurants to find new recipes, although I can't help going for a Kentucky Fried Chicken sometimes!

I also like to read The Sun when I visit so I can find out what Queen Elizabeth's awful children are up to!

After I finished university I opened a restaurant in Cannes, but the clientele would just come and have a salad and a glass of champagne. So 15 years ago, I moved the restaurant, l'Elephant Bleu, to Antibes.

I don't think Cannes or Monaco are as stable in times of economic instability as Antibes. And you get more balanced down-to-earth people here. Antibes has a soul and a community where you can live and be yourself.

When I'm not working in the restaurant I enjoy eating out. My favourite is the Belles Rives Hotel in Juan les Pins, for its ambience and great terrace. I also like La Forge here in Antibes, and the owner Xavier's eccentric approach. And we like Les Vieux Murs on the ramparts so much that we had our Christmas dinner there!

Every two years I travel back to Asia to



EXOTIC FLAVOURS... Martine visits Asia and the UK regularly, looking for culinary inspiration

try out new restaurants. I order across the menu picking out unusual dishes to see if there are any ideas I can bring back with me. There are a lot of ingredients that are not immediately obvious but they improve the taste dramatically. You can't produce good Asian food without authentic ingredients applied in the right way.

We have now decided to branch out from Chinese and Thai food and start doing Indian food. We are opening a second Antibes restaurant, Les Tables des Indes, in three weeks time and we have brought in Indian chefs from London and India for that.

The menu will be a journey through

India, and of course I will have the usual English-style dishes – like Chicken Tikka Masala and Madras – but I will also have rare dishes that aren't hot and spicy.

At the moment I am working flat out organising the launch so I haven't had much time off. But when I'm not busy working I enjoy gardening, and of course I love shopping and the cinema.

The Côte d'Azur has a diversity of landscape that means every town, village or city has a different feel to it. There is a sophistication here that nowhere else compares with. And there's such a wide range of things to do that I just couldn't live anywhere else!

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● NISSAN Figaro 1991 RHD 122,000km. English reg'd, grey finish. Email john@rubicon.uk.net

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● RIVIERA Hash House Harriers – A social club for runners & walkers – every 2nd Sun. www.rivierahhh.com

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- **AMERICAN drum teacher**, all levels, Eng & Fr, your house or mine. 04 93 24 11 68.
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PUT your job vacancies in this section for 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 in this section for details

Jobs offered

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- **MAC operator/designer.** Casual work available. Email CV to sales@sierradistribution.com
- **DISTRIBUTE** The Riviera Gazette in Cannes every Thursday. 9:30am-3pm. Long-term, regular position. Tel 04 93 09 66 43

Jobs wanted

- **QUALIFIED nanny** and male partner seek villa work. Have run hotels in France. Tel 06 17 67 01 19
- **BUSINESS analyst**, 15 yrs experience in IT seeks a position. Email irinadher@hotmail.com
- **MULTILINGUAL** organised dynamic British PA/translator, Fr/Sp/It. Antibes area. Tel 06 65 40 55 90
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- **PROF 27yr fem** seeks villa work in Cannes/Nice. Experience in yachts/villas. Tel 06 12 88 48 52
- **SECRETARIAL work** wanted in Nice, FR/Eng/Spn spoken. Can also teach French. Tel 06 62 25 19 67
- **FRENCH /English PA** requires position on Riviera. Tel in confidence +44 207 246 6618
- **24YO girl** seeks job, speaks Eng/Serbo-Croat. Marketing exp, own transport. Tel 06 66 09 42 77
- **BILINGUAL NANNY w/ car** seeks summer child care. Tutoring poss. Exp, refs - 06 16 90 33 66

LEARNING

- **FRENCH immersion courses** for adults at family-run centre, 04 90 94 43 87 or www.parlons-en-provence.com
- **TOTAL immersion in French language and culture** -residential stay in unique setting of monastery in Moustiers - small groups. Tel: 04 92 77 74 58 or see www.crealangues.com
- **A NEW PRIMARY SCHOOL is being added to the La Fontaine pre-school in Cagnes sur Mer this September. Private school, 20-24 children per class. Montessori influenced. Education in French with the security of English-speaking back up. Open 7:30-18:30 weekdays. Call 04 93 20 69 76 for details.**

MOVIES

- The Riviera Gazette's guide to this week's 'Version Originale' films with English-language soundtracks...

Le Casino

Ave du 24 aout, Antibes
DOGVILLE
Tue 20:30

Les Arcades

Rue Felix-Faure, Cannes
THE SECRETARY
Sat, Sun, Mon, Tue 18:00, 21:15

Cinema Sporting

Place du Casino, Monte-Carlo
ANGER MANAGEMENT
Fri 17:30, Sat 19:30, Tue 17:30
CONFESSIONS OF A DANGEROUS MIND
Thu, Sun 17:30, 21:15
FRIDA
Sat 17:00, Mon 17:30, 21:15

Mercury

Place Garibaldi, Nice
25TH HOUR
Fri 21:40
ABOUT SCHMIDT
Sun 21:40
CATCH ME IF YOU CAN
Mon 20:10
CHICAGO
Sat 17:00
DOGVILLE
Sat 21:15
FAR FROM HEAVEN
Sat 19:25
FRIDA
Thu 18:00, Fri 19:00, Sat 17:00, Tue 19:25
GANGS OF NEW YORK
Sat 21:15
THE HOURS
Sat 19:00, Mon 16:00
THE LIFE OF DAVID GALE
Sat 21:40
THE LORD OF THE RINGS: THE TWO TOWERS
Tue 21:30
THE MAGDALENE SISTERS
Tue 21:40
THE RULES OF ATTRACTION
Sun 19:25

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PROPERTY

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Property for sale

- **MOBILE home**, sleeps 6, Frejus. Mod kitchen, patio, 5 pools, 5 shops, €11,900. Tel 04 92 04 20 37



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Property to let

- **BIOT Villa w/ pool** for weekly lets. 3 beds, sleeps six, UK sat TV. Avail July & August. www.rivieraprovence.com
- **LANGUEDOC 3 Bed house**, roof terrace, wine growing village, inc linen. From £325/€480/w www.norfolkholiday.co.uk/0044 20 82 41 06 58
- **JUAN les Pins one bed flat** available for rent from Sept 2003. Long or short lets. Tel 0207 219 3444/0208 947 2510 or Email edwardsa@parliament.uk
- **CAVALAIRE gard/flat**, pool, 7mins to sea, no smokers. 450-630/wk +44 208 946 6694

- **CHARMING 1 bed apt**, Old Antibes, sleeps 4. All mod cons close to sea. €550/wk - 04 93 67 04 55
- **PARIS Bastille metro**, 1bed, fully furn'd, wash machine avail Aug for 1yr. Tel 06 82 85 69 24
- **OLD Nice studio**, can sleep 4. High ceilings, shower and bathtub. €250/wk. Tel 06 66 49 48 96

Holiday lets

- **TOURRETTES-SUR-LOUP Lux villa w/ pool**, sea views, 3 beds, studio, sleeps 8. www.agrellproperty.com
- **VENCE holiday let** apart, close to old town. 1 room, all mod cons. Email ammasson@wanadoo.fr
- **VALBONNE seasonal rental July/Aug**, weekly lets. Sleeps 4. Tel 04 93 40 25 92

Property wanted

- **3 ENGLISH GIRLS** are looking for reasonably priced accomodation to rent for July and August in Nice, preferably in city centre. Anything considered! Call 06 32 23 30 93
- **LADY** looking for reasonable priced accom, 3 mnths from Nov 03. Email holyhock79@hotmail.com

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- **GENERAL services**, home renovation, curtains, upholstery & domestic helpers (Filipinos single or couples). Tel: 04 97 06 50 85
- **INT'L PHOTOGRAPHER** Vicky White is available for all commissions. Vicky has exhibited with five solo shows in London and portrait work includes celebrities and royalty. Tel 06 14 57 64 92
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YACHTS & YACHTING

- **MOORING** for sale, St Raphael. 17m by 5m. Ring Patrick, 06 15 46 95 43

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

- **Cagnes sur Mer RD2085/6** 30km/h speed limit between 18:00 and 06:00
- **Cagnes sur Mer** Traffic lights and 50km/h speed limit on RD36 until July 11
- **Contes** Traffic lights and 50km/h limit on RD15 until July 27.
- **Contes RD1015** closed 8am until 5pm daily until July 4.
- **Gattieres** Traffic lights and 50km/h limit on the RD2209 until July 18.
- **Le Broc** RD101 closed; diversion via RD1 and RD2202 until Nov 28.
- **Menton** Long-term delays on Blvd Carnot during road widening works.
- **St Martin Vesubie** RD89 closed indefinitely.
- **Villeneuve-Loubet** Long-term 50Km/h limit on the RN98 coast road.

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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

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 and pay ONLINE at <http://www.TheRivieraGazette.com/classifieds>

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK
"A lie gets halfway round the world before the truth has a chance to get its pants on."
Winston Churchill

What's On and Where To Go...

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The Riviera This week

Thursday 26

- The 14th International **Showboat Exhibition**, a motor yacht show, starts today at Monaco's Port Hercule and goes on until Sunday. Tel: +377 92 16 61 16
- Cagnes-sur-Mer is holding its annual **synchronised swimming gala** at the municipal swimming pool until Saturday. Tel: 04 93 73 28 28.
- The four-day **Antibes Women's Cup** sailing race starts today at the Antibes Yacht Club and finishes on Sunday. Tel: 04 92 91 13 13.
- The Marlborough gallery in Monte-Carlo is exhibiting works by Chinese artist **Chen Yifei**. The show starts this evening with cocktails at 18:30 and will be open daily between 11:00 and 18:00 until August 30. Tel: +377 97 70 25 50.
- The Afro-Cuban band **Los Babassons** is performing rumba, samba, jazz, salsa and reggae at the Bar-en-Biais in Antibes at 21:00. Tel: 04 93 74 10 98.
- The charity Caritas Monaco is having a **fundraising concert** at Monaco's cathedral at 20:30. Les Petits Chanteurs de Monaco will be performing Mendelssohn, Brahms, Bernier, Carissimi, Fauré, Chausson and Casals. Tickets from €20. Tel: +377 93 30 87 70.

Friday 27

- The Nice branch of the British Association's annual **summer garden party** to celebrate the Queen's birthday starts at 18:00. The entrance fee of €14 for members and €17 for non-members includes a glass of kir, canapés and wine in the gardens of Holy Trinity church in Nice. Tickets will be available at the door. Tel: 04 93 87 43 24.
- Antibes' **St Peter Festival** takes place in the town until Sunday. There will be processions and drum marching to celebrate the patron saint of fishermen. Tel: 04 92 90 53 00.
- An exhibition of **contemporary German art** including paintings and sculptures by Erich Lindebery, Ans Matthis and Peter Vogt starts today at the Château Musée Grimaldi in Cagnes-sur-Mer until October 19. Tel: 04 92 02 47 30.
- Villefranche-sur-Mer is holding a **landscape paintings** exhibition by some of Nice's best artists in the Sainte Elisabeth Chapel until Sunday. Tel: 04 93 01 73 68.
- **Antiques and collectibles** are on sale today at Golfe Juan's Square Narabond from 8:00 to 18:00. Tel: 06 13 58 27 26.
- A weekend **painting workshop** is being held in the gardens of Le Jardin d'Amélie in the hilltop village of Cipières today and tomorrow. All levels are welcome. To reserve a place call 06 20 79 15 60 or email jardindamelie@wanadoo.fr
- LOT flies to Copenhagen, Gdansk, Prague and Stockholm and Warsaw at 16:30.
- Continuing today is the International Showboat exhibition, the synchronised swimming gala and the Antibes Women's Cup.

Saturday 28

- François Darras' **photographs** of actors' dressing rooms are on display at the Villa Aurelienne in Frejus until September 9. The exhibition is open daily from 16:00 to 20:00 and entrance is free. Tel: 04 94 51 83 83.
- The Palm Beach Casino in Cannes is exhibiting **Salvador Dali's Christ**, a 3.5 metre sculpture, along with Francois Jumeau's 16 metre Loch Ness monster. The exhibition also features works by Arman and 60 sculptures by up-and-coming artists, and runs until September 15. Tel: 04 97 06 36 90.
- The first International Festival of **Fashion Photography** opens today at the Palm Beach Casino in Cannes with cocktails at 19:30. The exhibition runs until August 31. Tel: 04 97 06 36 90.
- There will be **entertainment for children** in Antibes' place Mariejol this afternoon from 16:00 as part of the town's festival of St John. There is a local folklore play at 19:00 and a bonfire with music by the Fréjus orchestra at 22:00. Tel: 04 92 90 53 00.
- The Red Pear Theatre's fringe festival continues with **Arwel Treharne Morgan**, the Welsh singer, concert pianist and stand-up comedian performing in 'Never Say Dai' at the air-conditioned Antibe Theatre in Antibes tonight and tomorrow at 20:30. Tickets are €23 from 04 93 61 01 71.
- The Cabris cricket club takes on St Cezaire at 13:00 at Cabris' home ground in St Vallier. The teams will be playing a 30 over limited game for the Chenes Blanc Cup. Tel: 04 92 94 58 74.
- Cigar lovers can head for the Palais des Festivals in Cannes today and tomorrow for **The World of Cigars** fair. Tel: 04 92 99 84 12.
- An exhibition of **paintings and pottery**, writing, and music including salsa is on at the Complexe St. Exupéry in Draguignan all day today starting at 9:00. Tel: 04 94 68 05 47.
- Draguignan's Verdure theatre is having a **ragga night** with Nux Vomica, Joglar Verne, Lei Monimas and Jadish and Kreol Konexyon at 20:30. Tickets start at €30. Tel: 04 98 10 51 05.
- Traditional **St John celebrations** take place in La Colle sur Loup today with events and firework displays. Tel: 04 93 32 68 36.
- Monaco's annual summer **children's entertainment** programme kicks off this morning and continues daily until August 31 with all types of activities, games and attractions for children on the Quai Albert 1er. Tel: +377 92 16 61 16.
- **Fete de la Mer celebrations** with blessings of boats, processions, concerts and traditional food stalls take place today on Nice's Quai Etats Unis starting at 18:30 and at Port Bassin Lympia tomorrow at 15:30. Tel: 04 92 14 48 00.
- LOT flies to Gdansk, Warsaw and Wroclaw at 16:30.

- Continuing today is the International Showboat exhibition, Antibes Women's Cup, Antibes' St Peter festival, the painting workshop, Arwel Treharne Morgan in 'Never Say Dai', the World of Cigars and Nice's Fete de la Mer.

Sunday 29

- There is a **piano concert** with music by Schumann, Beethoven and Dvorak at the Eglise St Gregoire in Tourettes sur Loup at 18:30 this evening. Tel: 04 93 24 18 93.
- Villefranche-sur-Mer's **Festival of St Peter** starts with mass at 10:30 in Saint Michel church, and is followed by a parade of flower-decorated boats. There's free admission to a fireworks display and dance in the evening. Tel: 04 93 76 33 27.
- LOT flies to Copenhagen, Gdansk, Kraków, Stockholm, Tel Aviv and Warsaw at 16:30.
- Continuing today is the International Showboat exhibition, the Women's Cup, Antibes' St Peter festival and the painting workshop.

Monday 30

- Cagnes-sur-Mer's **summer horse racing season** starts at the Hippodrome. There will be regular summer race meetings and evening events until August 25. Tel: 04 92 02 44 44.
- Villefranche-sur-Mer's **changing of the guard**, a re-enactment of the historical meeting of Savoy and French soldiers, will take place every evening at the entrance to the citadel from 19:00 to 19:15 until August 31. Tel: 04 93 01 73 68.
- LOT flies to Copenhagen, Gdansk, Kraków, Stockholm and Warsaw at 16:30.

Tuesday 31

- Italian artist **Giuseppe Salzano du Pitti** is showing his latest work at Monaco's Maison de l'Amérique Latine until July 12. The exhibition will be open between 15:00 and 20:00 every day except Sunday. Tel: +377 93 25 17 51.
- LOT flies to Copenhagen, Gdansk, Kraków, Stockholm and Warsaw at 16:30.

Wednesday 1

- The **British Association of the Var** is having a wine, paté and cheese evening in Grimaud, from 18:30. Tickets are €5 each from 04 94 43 26 22.
- The **château at Villeneuve Loubet** and its gardens are now open to the public. This week guided tours are available today until Saturday. Doors open at 10:00. Tel: 04 92 02 66 16.
- LOT flies to Copenhagen, Gdansk, Stockholm and Warsaw at 16:30.

Now booking ...

- The British Association of Monaco is holding its **annual beach party** on July 3 at 19:30. Tel: +377 93 50 19 52
- An **Ibiza house beach party** will take place on July 4 in Golfe Juan. Tel: 06 63 86 64 12.

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Riviera Weather							Call 08 99 70 11 11 for today's weather in your town, or to get a three-day forecast in English. Calls cost €0.34 per minute	
	Thursday 26	Friday 27	Saturday 28	Sunday 29	Monday 30	Tuesday 1	JUNE IN NICE...	
AM	23°C Sunny	22°C Sunny	21°C Sunny	20°C Sunny	18°C Sunny	23°C Sunny	Avg. high: 23°C	Avg. sea temp: 20°C
PM	32°C Cloudy	30°C Sunny	30°C Sunny	29°C Sunny	31°C Sunny	31°C Sunny	Avg. low: 17°C	Avg. rainfall: 36mm
							Summer's here! Watch out for sunburn, mozzies and burglars taking advantage of open windows...	

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next issue out **thursday** July 3 see you next week!