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**My Riviera** Hollywood filmmaker Max Ryerson talks about his latest production, p6



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# THERE GOES THE NEIGHBOURHOOD

By JENNY PAUL

## 600 faced with demolition of homes as village threatens to slide down hillside

RESIDENTS of Roquebillière were up in arms this week as government officials threatened to force them from their homes.

The future of the ancient village hangs in the balance after officials claimed it could be hit by catastrophic landslides which would see centuries-old houses slipping down the hillside with millions of tons of mud and rock.

Two thousand people live in the village, perched in the hills behind Nice, with 600 located in the 'danger zone'.

Now it has been announced that homes in the danger area are likely to be compulsorily purchased by the state and then demolished.

But villagers are strongly opposed to the plan. "I would fight all the way if it came to it," Janie Arnold, a British resident of Roquebillière, told The Gazette.

"Nobody told us about this threat when we bought our home. We took a big gamble after we married, moving to France to start a new life.

"We love it here and we're very happy. Somebody should have told us," said Janie, her voice trembling with emotion.

The threat is not new. In 1926 nineteen villagers were killed in a mud slide and authorities have been discussing what to do ever since.

"Because of the geological make-up of the ground there is a very high risk of a landslide," Eric Vicet, a technician



WE SHALL NOT BE MOVED... Didier Roux (L) meets assistant mayor Jean-Dominique Rasoni and fellow campaigner Guy Hemon (R)

for the Nice branch of the Department of the Environment, told The Gazette.

"It could happen at any time. If I lived there, I would much rather move now than be buried in a landslide."

But Didier Roux, vice president of the village association formed to fight

the plan, told The Gazette: "A meeting is planned for September 15, and we'll find out more about what is proposed.

"We don't know if we'll have a final decision then, but whatever the government decides, we are not moving."

The decision has to be approved by three ministers – the interior minister,

the minister for the environment and the finance minister – before the plan can be put into action.

In the meantime, residents are worried about getting a fair price for their property. Says Janie Arnold: "I'm sure all the publicity has affected house prices."

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**DESTROYED: THREE FAMILIES,**

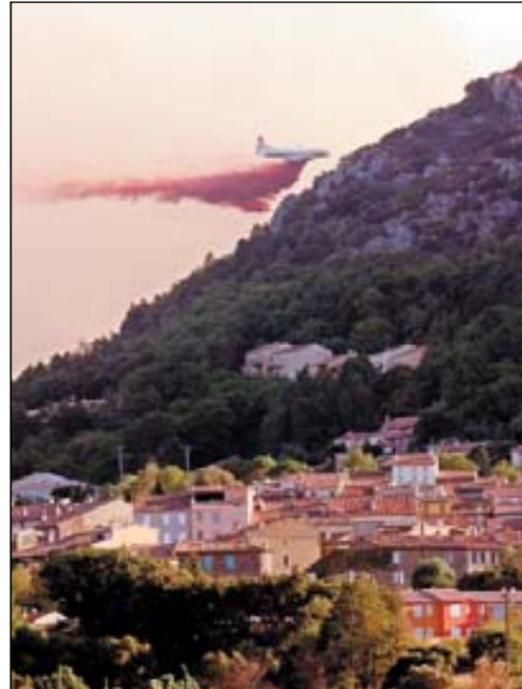
**Arson**



AFP/Boris Horvat

**WILDFIRES** devastated the region again this week, leaving three firefighters dead, seven children fatherless, many more homeless and vast swathes of the region's forests flattened.

TRAGEDY ... loved ones mourn the Var fire's three victims



AFP/Patrick Valassaris

RESCUE ... a water bomber in action over la Garde Freinet

Arson is suspected in both the Var and Cagnes-sur-Mer disasters. President Chirac has vowed to bring those responsible to justice.

"There is good reason to suspect criminal acts. I have told the government to launch an investigation that will end with the culprits being found and punished in an exemplary fashion... I have asked the justice minister to pay close attention to the sentences they get," he said while attending a memorial service on Tuesday for the three firefighters killed on duty in the Var.

The three men lost their lives near la Garde Freinet when freak winds swept the fire towards their convoy, cutting them off and engulfing their fire engine. Two died in the cab, one on the ground outside. Two of the men were volunteers.

The three leave widows and seven children aged from one and 12 between them. A dozen other firemen were also injured.

In Cagnes-sur-Mer, residents who lost their homes in a 300 hectare

**SOVEREIGN**

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**UPDATE**

**CUTTING TIES, CUTTING TAXES**

The recent publication of an extensive background paper on the tax treatment of non-domiciled individuals in the UK is the clearest indication yet that the government plans to imminently change the tax rules concerning non-domicile status.

Currently non-UK domiciled individuals are exempt from paying tax on their overseas income – providing it is not brought into the UK. The media focus has been on the 60,000 wealthy UK residents with non-domicile status, but there are many UK expatriates who may find that the proposals affect them too.

**What is 'domicile'?**

Under UK law you must have a domicile for tax purposes. This is usually the place with which you have the closest connections – normally where you were born, rather than where you currently live.

If you are not intending to return to Britain to live, you may be able to establish an alternative domicile. This means shaking off the UK as your domicile of birth and taking steps to show that your new home abroad is permanent.

**Why become UK non-domiciled?**

There are considerable tax ad-

vantages for UK nationals who are able to lose their UK domicile. If you are not domiciled in the UK, you are only subject to UK Inheritance Tax (IHT) on assets situated within the UK.

In contrast, if you are UK domiciled, IHT is 40 per cent of the total value of your worldwide estate (after allowances). You may also find that you are liable for estate duties in your country of residence and in the country where the assets are physically located.

Credit is frequently not given for tax paid in one country against tax due in another. This could mean that the total estate duty payable on your assets

could actually amount to more than your assets are worth.

**How do I lose my UK domicile?**

The Inland Revenue will look for proof that ties with the UK have been cut and permanent ties with a new country established. This could include purchase of a house in the new country, relinquishing of rights to vote in the UK and establishment of financial ties with the new country.

You can't find out in advance from the Inland Revenue whether you are classed as non-domicile. The easiest way to test domicile is by setting up a discretionary trust, making a 'chargeable transfer' into it over and above lifetime exemption and reporting this to the UK Inland Revenue. If there is

no tax charge to lifetime IHT you are non-domiciled. If you receive a charge then you remain domiciled.

Act now before it is too late. Changes to non-domicile status will not benefit UK expatriates or wealthy non-domiciled individuals residing in the UK.

If you would like advice on the chances of obtaining non-domicile, or further information about protecting your assets, please contact us.

The information provided in this article does not constitute advice and no responsibility will be accepted for any loss occasioned directly or indirectly as a result of persons acting, or refraining from acting, wholly or partially in reliance upon it.

**Taxing issues?**

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# 61 HOMES AND 4,800 HECTARES OF PINE FOREST suspected in deadly blaze



de Brocart told The Riviera Gazette. "The fire was only 20 metres from the house. The firefighters didn't arrive until at least two to three hours after the fire had started. I was absolutely frantic. It was very scary, but once they arrived they were wonderful and put the fire out straight away."

Two helicopters began water-bombing the fire early in the afternoon, and 300 firefighters were eventually mobilized. But the first of four specialist Canadair water bombers didn't arrive on the scene until 6pm.

Fire investigators suspect the blaze was not an accident, saying that either the fire 'jumped' several hundred metres or it was deliberately started in two places. The suspicion of arson is backed up by an eye witness who reports finding charred wood piled at the base of a burned tree in a third area of Cagnes that wasn't otherwise affected by fire.

But Vincent Chery, directeur adjoint of the ONF 06 (Office National des Forêts Alpes Maritimes) told Nice Matin, "the fire spread in the direction of the wind and the phenomenon of fires jumping distances is well documented. During a large fire in the Tanneron, for example, the flames managed to jump right across Lac de Saint Cassien."

**BURNED OUT** ...Tears soon gave way to anger as householders in Cagnes took in the devastation left by Sunday's wildfire

blaze on Sunday afternoon are furious that it took several hours for the fire fighting to properly begin. Four houses were completely destroyed and a further 18 damaged when fire broke out at around 2:30pm in the town's la Buffe cemetery, on the D36

near the Route de Vence.

By 3:15 the fire was spreading fast across the Val de Cagnes, where it destroyed five houses and then spread onwards and eastwards across Val Fleuri towards St Laurent du Var, the southern outskirts of La Gaude

and the 350 homes in the Domaine de l'Etoile.

"Someone phoned me to tell me the fire had reached our house, so I rushed straight home, pushed my way through the police roadblocks and ran into the house at 5pm," Eric

## Aid for Var

STRICKEN towns in the Var will get a share of €5m in aid after the recent forest fires. The president of the Conseil General of the Var, Horace Lanfranchi, announced last week that the department will put up half the money, with the rest coming from other sources.

Emergency funds of €15,000 have already been released. There were 459 fires in the Var during July alone.

## Biker hurt on RN98

A MOTORCYCLIST was badly hurt on Tuesday in the latest accident on the notorious RN98 between Villeneuve Loubet and Antibes.

The road's appalling safety record is blamed on motorists making illegal U-turns as they try to find beachside parking. Offenders now risk a fine of €135 and the threat of a three year ban.

## Death bed

A SEPTUAGENARIAN died in Nice on Sunday after being trapped against the wall when his fold-down bed folded itself away.

The man, who was staying at his holiday home in the city, is thought to have been killed by lack of air. His wife was 'superficially hurt' in the accident.

## Tart in the dock

A 24 YEAR OLD BULGARIAN prostitute is facing a one year prison sentence after being charged with soliciting in Nice.

Although callgirls are much in evidence in the town, this is the first time a charge like this has been brought in the city. The case is due to be heard next February.

## Easy new route

LOW-COST airline Easyjet will operate a route from London Gatwick to Marseille from October 26.

Tickets are now on sale, starting from €21.20 one-way. The airline is also planning a new route between Gatwick and Toulouse.



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# SUMMER DEATH TOLL SET TO RISE

**THE heatwave across the country led to more than 11,000 extra deaths over the summer as temperatures soared to over 40 degrees, writes Jenny Paul**

And on Sunday, France's health minister predicted that the number could rise even further to 12,000.

In Nice the CHU (Centre Hospitalier Universitaire de Nice) recorded a 40 per cent rise in the number of deaths compared to August last year.

"The emergency room is relatively calm now," Geneviève Robiquet told The Riviera Gazette, "and we didn't have any difficulties with our mor-

tuary. Thanks to the professionalism of our staff we had the situation under control. Staff volunteered to help if we needed them."

Of the 32,065 deaths recorded in France during August, only 57 were at Nice's CHU. Paris was hardest hit, leading some in the French media to claim that it was not a national problem but a Parisian one.

However the scale of the tragedy nationwide became apparent as many of the bodies lay unclaimed.

"Last night there were 300 people who hadn't been buried because their family had not turned up to claim the body. Is

that the government's fault?" asked the state secretary for the elderly, Hubert Falco last week in response to accusations of bad management.

Many relatives have now been traced, and the final 63 unclaimed bodies, who did not have any family, were buried in paupers graves yesterday.

In the light of much soul-searching in the media the government has now proposed a plan to scrap one of France's eleven bank holidays each year, with revenue generated from keeping the country 'open for business' for the extra day going towards helping the elderly.

## Boar-ed of fixing the lawn

**MOUGINS residents are being terrorised by a family of wild boars who have been destroying gardens and ruining lawns for the last two months.**

"The same family has been coming and digging our garden up every couple of nights since June," Julie Davies told The Riviera Gazette. "They seem to be working their way in a circle around Mougins and they've wrecked the lawn so many times that we've stopped fixing it now. Our next door neighbour has spent thousands on a new fence, but they still get in and dig the lawn up so he's actually convinced that pigs really can fly!



**BELOVED...** Christophe Germain is attached to wild boar Marguerite

ing around the garden. One even startled our neighbour by pressing his snout up against the window."

Meanwhile a Var shepherd has other ideas. Christophe Germain took in Marguerite, a wild boar, after her mother was shot during the hunting season last year. He has grown attached to the animal and wants to keep her, but the forestry commission is taking him to court for 'illegal detention of a wild animal.' He will appear before magistrates on September 15.

Mougins residents may be interested to know that the hunting season has started and runs until January 12.

## French flee to Britain US BOOKS LOOK AT CULTURAL RIFT

**TWO new reports released this week give an insight into the working habits of the French.**

One revealed that French productivity is higher than that of the Americans, while the other points to young, educated French workers fleeing the country — the favoured destination being the UK.

A study released by the CNRS, the French state research institute, showed that emigration has risen by 30 per cent over the past ten years. High taxes and strict regulations are thought to be to blame for those leaving their homeland.

"Overall, a lot of French émigrés are trying to flee a rigid, hyper-taxed, over-controlled and over-regulated society. If they could do the same thing in France they would," said the institute's Beatrice Sacvarieau.

The other report, compiled by Geneva-based agency OIT (Organisation Internationale du Travail), claims that French people are more productive than Americans.

It claims that Americans generate an income of US\$32 an hour, while the French produce US\$35 an hour — but, of course, Americans tend to work much longer than 35 hours each week.

**TWO new books examining Franco-American relationships have just been published.**

Sixty Million Frenchmen Can't Be Wrong was written by two Americans after a two-and-a-half year stay in Paris.

"Our theory is the structure of France is consistent with the spirit of the French," explain the authors. "From how the government works to how France handles social issues, and the social function of business, the French have the system they need."

Another American book is hitting the bestseller lists in France — a translation of '112 Grips About The French'.

The title, originally a booklet handed out to American GI's who were stationed in France after WW2, covered aspects of French life that often confused the Americans.

Typically it answered "what have these frog eaters ever done for us?" with a three page list of prominent French intellectuals.

The book, published under the title Our Friends by Le Cherche Midi, has already sold 15,000 copies.

### Lapdog of luxury

A FOUR-STAR hotel in Versailles aims to attract guests by offering gourmet food to their dogs.

Pampered pooches visiting the Trianon Palace Hotel can feast on delicacies such as pure beef hamburger, fillet of fish and chicken breast — all served with fresh vegetables.

The hotel even offers canine room service.

### He's Beck again

THE UEFA Champions League kicks off on September 16, with Real Madrid playing Marseille at the city's Olympique stadium on November 26.

If you want to see Madrid new boy David Beckham, tickets will soon be available at [www.olympiquedemarseille.com](http://www.olympiquedemarseille.com) or by telephone from 04 91 76 91 76.

## Golfers get Nookie night for charity

PLAYERS in the annual French Riviera Charity Golf Tournament will be teeing off from September 20 at the St Donat, St Endreol and Cannes Mandelieu golf courses.

Highlights of the €500 per person event will be a spot of cheeky teddy bear Nookie in ventriloquist Roger de Courcey's cabaret show and a champagne reception at Cannes' Hotel Martinez beach bar.

The event is raising money for the UK-based charity SPARKS, which funds medical research for children.

SPARKS has funded 132 medical projects in the UK since 1991, spending £9 million to tackle conditions as diverse as cerebral palsy, meningitis, the dangers of premature birth, spina bifida, childhood arthritis and cancers.

"We have quite a few celebrities confirmed to play in the event including John Lodge, Minder star Dennis Waterman, Bill Curbishley (who managed the Who and Robert Plant), Clive Banks (manager of Marty Pellow and Mike Oldfield), ELO drummer Bev Bevan, ex-Radio Luxembourg DJ Tony Prince, Roger de Courcey and John McDermott, the Irish-Canadian tenor who will be touring Europe with Nana Mouskouri," Barry Fitzpatrick, the organiser, told The Riviera Gazette.

To take part in the event, which is held at three different courses over three days, contact Sue Fitzpatrick on 00 44 1789 731653 or send email to info@golf-riviera.com

# Cistercians can't do it for themselves

LOCAL monks have lost a battle to prevent their island being swamped by hordes of unwelcome tourists.

The Cistercian monks are the only inhabitants of the unspoilt Ile St Honorat, just off the coast of Cannes.

Since 1995, they have been able to keep visitor numbers manageable by running their own ferry service to the island with a limit of only 400 tickets a day.

But now the courts have ruled that rival ferry companies can operate services to the island as well.

"We already have too many visitors," Vladimir Abbe, one of the island's 27 monks - who are silent for at least twelve hours every day - told The Riviera Gazette by email.

"A lot of visitors leave rubbish and



IN RETREAT... latest blow to island hideaway means monks must back down on ferries

broken glass. We say 'come for the day, but please respect the island as a peaceful place for everyone to enjoy'.

"It would be a shame if the island is packed with tourists like the centre of Cannes - we are here to get away from

all that."

The 27 monks inhabit a fortified 11th century monastery and support themselves by producing 50,000 bottles of wine each year, as well as a range of liqueurs.

AS the new school year starts, demand has continued to outstrip the supply of places at the region's international schools.

The International School of Nice is looking forward to the rentrée. "We had excellent IGCSE and IB results this year, Catherine Gaonac'h told The Gazette. There will be some new faces as we have five new teachers - including one former graduate - and lots of new students.

And at the CIV in Valbonne Andrew Derry told us, "Despite increasing our numbers to over 900 this year demand continues to exceed available places. In year six over 400 students sat the entrance exams for 65 places. We have employed two new teachers as well as three boarding super-

## International schools all Bac'd up for the rentrée

visors to cope with demand. As usual, exam results were excellent."

In Monaco, Angela Godfrey told us, "The International School of Monaco is proud to announce a 100 per cent pass rate in the recent International Baccalaureate examinations. One of our students gained the maximum possible marks of 45 points and our newly graduated students have all been admitted to the universities of their

choice."

And at Mougins school Sue Dunnachie told the Gazette, "We are starting this term with three new teachers and 410 students, but we still have a waiting list.

"We had extremely good exam results this year with a 100 per cent pass rate at A-level and 98.7 per cent pass rate at GCSE. And we have a student who has won a place at Oxford."

## SA heads for Cannes

THE South African Film Commission is planning to promote its films at Cannes next year. "Having Nelson Mandela opening Cannes film festival would be a big plus for the South African film industry," the commission's president told reporters, although the former president's appearance in Cannes has yet to be confirmed.

## Ryanair pulls out

NO-FRILLS airline Ryanair is threatening to withdraw services to France after a dispute over airport subsidies. If plans go ahead the move will affect British second homeowners in the Dordogne, Biarritz and the Pyrenees.

## Truffles snuffed out

THE summer heatwave is thought to have devastated France's much awaited truffle harvest. The drought in July and August was fatal for the 'truffettes', or truffle embryos, which need humidity to develop.

## Sea plunge

THE sea temperature locally plummeted from a warm 28 to a chilly 18 degrees over last weekend, and is unlikely to recover this year. High winds are blamed for 'blowing the warm waters away' and bringing in hundreds of jellyfish.

## Figs small and sweet

THIS year is proving to be exceptional for figs. The heatwave has made the fruit sweeter though smaller than usual, say producers in Solliès-Pont in the Var, who are hoping to receive an appellation d'origine contrôlée (AOC) for figs.

## More wine benefits

DRINKING red wine may combat the negative effects of smoking.

Researchers have found that two glasses of red wine a day counteract the artery damage caused by one cigarette, but warn 20-a-day smokers against drinking gallons of wine in an effort to protect themselves.

# OPEN FORUM The financial debate

## SEPARATING THE FACTS FROM FICTION

The financial world is, today, a highly complex arena with increasing threats to confidentiality and dire consequences for those who breach the new laws. In addition, the investment markets and products are taking new and unfamiliar paths. This is often further complicated by the publication of conflicting information.

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**Friday, 26th September**  
at 10.00 for 10.30am, until 12.00noon  
Columbus Monaco, Monaco

**Tuesday, 28th October**  
at 10.00 for 10.30am, until 12.00noon  
Chateau Hotel d'Arpaillargues, Uzès

**Wednesday, 29th October**  
at 10.00 for 10.30am, until 12.00noon  
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## My Riviera

## Film maker Max Ryerson tells Jenny Paul about moving to Hollywood, working with the stars, and the excitement of making his first film ...

“WHEN I was ten my parents gave me a video camera and I started shooting short animation movies to pass the time while waiting for them to finish work.

I used to spend hours in their office making films of my toy soldier collection and re-enacting the battle of Waterloo.

I was born in Belgium but moved to Monaco before going to boarding school in Scotland. I went to Gordonstoun, the school Prince Charles went to, but I think I had a rather easier time than he did!

After A-Levels I came back to Monaco to the University of Southern Europe where I studied for a BSc in Business Administration and then started my own financial business in Monaco.

But I had always wanted to study film, so in 2001 I enrolled at the New York Film College. After that I went to Los Angeles to finish my studies and worked on various TV shows including Ally MacBeal, Buffy the Vampire Slayer and Angel.

I base myself wherever there is work and I have homes in Monaco and LA.

Last year was a very exciting year for me as I premiered my first film in Monaco. It's called *Sempre Occultus*, that's MI6's motto, and it means 'always secret', as it's a spy film.

We shot it in five different countries but mainly on The

Riviera. Now I need a distributor to put it on TV.

I've just launched my own film production company but as an independent film maker it can be difficult finding the funding.

Show business isn't as glamorous as it sounds. You work 18 hours a day and it's a lot of hard work, especially when you're working with a small budget and you have to be disciplined and work to a tight and well-organised schedule.

But I have met a couple of the big Hollywood stars including Martin Sheen, Rob Lowe and Tom Hanks. They were all really nice. I think if actors get a reputation for difficult behaviour, they soon start being out of work.

You do get diva-like behaviour, though. When I was working on *Buffy*, Sarah Michelle Gellar used to come out and screen the extras. Any very pretty girls were usually kicked off the set!

When I'm not working I love the outdoors. I have a friend who has a sailing boat and we like to go out on that, and I also love waterskiing. In winter I like going skiing in Isola or Geneva if I have the time. When I go out to eat my favourite place is The Waterfront in Fontvieille.

At the moment I'm in Monaco holding a two-day seminar on film making at the Cameo Academy of Dramatic



DIRECTOR... Max shows the way to his film making seminar in Monaco

Art on September 6 and 7, and I'll cover everything from original film concept to final distribution.

After that I am going to Brussels to look at options for a series of comic books and a novel called *Ramses* by Christian Jacques, as I like the

idea of making an epic film.

It's always been my dream to work in films. I've always wanted to be an actor or a director, so I'm very happy.

But I do like living down here so I would like to do more work on the Riviera than in LA if I can.

# Classifieds

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**THE ITALIAN JOB - SPECIAL PREVIEW**  
Sun 21:00

**Cinéma Sporting**  
**Place du Casino, Monaco**

**JOHNNY ENGLISH**  
Mon 21:25  
**SINBAD - LEGEND OF THE SEVEN SEAS**  
Sat 17:00, Mon 17:30

**Mercury**  
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**25TH HOUR**  
Thu 18:00, Fri 21:40  
**CATCH ME IF YOU CAN**  
Mon 20:10  
**DOGVILLE**  
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**FRIDA**  
Thu 18:00, Sat 17:00

**IT'S ALL ABOUT LOVE**  
Sun 19:25  
**NARC**  
Thu 20:10  
**SWIMMING POOL**  
Mon 16:00  
**THE GOOD THIEF**  
Sat, Sun, Tue 21:40, Mon 18:00

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Sat 21:40  
**THE LORD OF THE RINGS: THE TWO TOWERS**  
Tue 21:30  
**THE MAGDALENE SISTERS**  
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- **Antibes** Traffic lights and 50km/h limit on RN7 until Sept 19.
- **Cagnes sur Mer** Traffic lights and 30km/h limit on RD2085/6 until Oct 30.
- **Le Broc** RD101 closed; diversion via RD1 and RD2202 until Nov 28.
- **Menton** Long-term delays on Blvd Carnot during road widening works.
- **Nice** Voie Rapide closed from 11pm until 6am every night until Sept 30.
- **Pegomas** Traffic lights and 50km/h speed limit on RD109 until Sept 12.
- **St Martin Vesubie** RD89 closed.
- **Villeneuve-Loubet** Long-term 50Km/h limit on the RN98 coast road.

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**AN INTRODUCTION TO FILM MAKING**

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**MOVIES**

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

**Le Casino**  
6 Ave 24 Aout, Antibes

**JOHNNY ENGLISH**  
Tue 20:30

**Les Arcades**  
77 Rue Félix Fauré, Cannes

**CONFESSIONS OF A DANGEROUS MIND**  
Daily 21:50  
**LARA CROFT TOMB RAIDER: THE CRADLE OF LIFE**  
Daily 16:00, 18:30

**Le Cannel Toiles**  
Rue Victorien Sardou, Le Cannel

**LOST IN LA MANCHA**  
Thu, Mon 16:00, Fri 15:30, Sun 20:30

**La Coupole**  
Centre Culturel, La Gaude

**CONFESSIONS OF A DANGEROUS MIND**  
Mon 17:30, 21:00

**Cinéma d'Été**  
Parking des Pecheurs, Monaco

**BRINGING DOWN THE HOUSE**  
Thu 21:00

**THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK**

"Love thy neighbour as yourself, but choose your neighbourhood"  
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## What's On and Where To Go...

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# The Riviera This week

## Thursday 4

● Sunnybank Books is holding a charity sale of **second-hand English** (and French) books, from 10:00 to 15:00 at its offices behind the Gemo superstore at the ZI Les Tourrades, Cannes-Mandelieu. A map, directions and bus routes can be found at [www.rivgaz.com/sunnybank](http://www.rivgaz.com/sunnybank) or call Carolyn MacGinnis on 04 94 76 17 05

● The **Barbie Dolls 2003** exhibition at the Musée National de Monaco is open daily until September 15 with designer Barbie clothes and jewellery on display. Tel: +377 93 30 91 26.

● Sculptures by **Seward Johnson** are being exhibited in Monaco's Jardin des Boulingrins and various official buildings throughout the principality until October 19. Tel: +377 92 16 61 16.

● The **Marlborough gallery** in Monaco is showing works by Isabelle Rey and paintings, sculptures and drawings by Adami, Arman, Ben, Botero, Cane, Chihuly, Estes, Larraz, Lipchits, Pepper, Sanchez, Slonem, Sosno and Valdes until September 26. The exhibition opens this evening at 18:00. Tel: +377 97 70 25 59.

● Monaco's Maison de l'Amérique Latine is showing **paintings by Jean-Paul Couchia** between 15:00 and 20:00 daily except Sundays until September 20. Tel: +377 93 25 17 51.

● My Friend Picasso, an exhibition of **photographs of Picasso** by Lucien Clergue are on display at Cannes' Espace Miramar until September 8. Open every day between 14:00 and 19:00 except Mondays. Tel: 04 97 06 44 90.

● The 26th **St Tropez antiques fair** is being held at the Esplanade du Nouveau Port daily from 10:00 to 13:00 and 17:00 to 21:00 until September 7. Dealers from Paris and Brussels will value any objects taken along. Tel: 01 45 62 27 81.

## Friday 5

● The British Association of Nice is having **Happy Hour** drinks at the Westminster Hotel on the Promenade des Anglais from 17:00 to 20:00. All are welcome. Tel: 06 82 26 61 06.

● The **Homage to Picasso** exhibition opens this evening at 18:30 in Mougins' Lavoir du Village. The collection of works by David Douglas Duncan will be on display until Sunday. Tel: 04 93 75 87 67.

● Cavalaire sur Mer is having its 8th **Salon des Arts** at the Salle d'exposition. Local and foreign artists exhibit and sell their work between 16:00 and 21:00 until September 21. Tel: 04 94 64 00 96.

● Beaulieu-sur-Mer is having its annual **square boules competition** on Boulevard Marinoni at 20:00 this evening. Tel: 04 93 01 02 21.

● Nice's Theatre de Verdure is having a **jazz weekend** with Bob French from Louisiana performing tonight and Sunday night. Playing tomorrow are Jazztots and the Gigolos. Performances start at 21:00 and tickets are €7.50. Tel: 04 97 13 37 70.

● Beaulieu-sur-Mer is having its **Heritage Festival** today until Tuesday. The festival celebrates the history and traditions of the town with a fair, music and dancing. Tel: 04 93 0 02 21.

● Castillon is having an **open-air music festival** with Anna and the Hipshaker, the Caligagan Trio and the Hoochie Coochie Men tonight and tomorrow starting at 18:30 in the main square. Entrance is free. Tel: 04 93 26 75 20.

● LOT flies to Copenhagen, Gdansk, Prague and Stockholm and Warsaw at 16:30.

● Continuing today are Barbie Dolls 2003 and the St Tropez antiques fair.

## Saturday 6

● The British Association of Monaco is having its **Connoisseur's Day Trip** today. The coach trip will start with a guided talk by a professional artist on Renoir at his house and museum at Cagnes-sur-Mer. Then on to a guided visit of the wine caves and chateau in the Bellet wine region, ending with a wine tasting at Chateau de Cremat, and followed by lunch at a local auberge. Call Aisling on: +377 93 50 19 53.

● There's a **bric-a-brac sale** with home made cakes and other refreshments at St Hugh's Anglican Church, Ave de la Resistance in Vence from 10:30am. A bagpiper and a drummer will be providing entertainment throughout the day.

● Valbonne is having its **pottery fair** in the Place des Arcades today and tomorrow with works by amateur and professional potters, and an exhibition in the Salles des Fetes. Works by Rachid Koraichi will be on display in the Salle St-Esprit until September 15. Tel: 04 93 12 34 50.

● St Laurent du Var is having its annual fete du terroir, the **festival of regional produce** today at the Parc Layet from 10:00 to 18:00. Stalls will include cheese, meats, honey, jams, wine and cooking ingredients. There is also a mini farm for the children. Tel: 04 92 12 41 15.

● Draguignan is having a **sports day** all day today at the parc Haussman. There will be demonstrations of different sports and representatives from the sporting associations. Tel: 04 94 60 31 31

● The **Cabris Cricket Club** in St Vallier de Thiey is playing at home today and tomorrow against Rotterdam VOC. Both matches start at midday. Tel: 04 93 70 27 23.

● LOT flies to Gdansk, Warsaw and Wroclaw at 16:30.

● Continuing today are Jazz in Nice, Barbie Dolls 2003, Beaulieu's Heritage Festival, Homage to Picasso, Castillon's music festival and the St Tropez antiques fair.

## Sunday 7

● Biograsse, Grasse's 8th **annual organic market** takes place today at the Palais de Congrès. There will be organic wines, vegetables and fruits with talks and demonstrations. A shuttle service to the market will leave every 15

minutes from the railway station car park. Tel: 04 97 05 51 50.

● Mouans-Sartoux is having its **gourmet market** today with local delicacies in the main square from 9:00 to 19:00. Tel: 04 92 92 47 24.

● Le Jardin d'Amelie is organising a **Sunday family walk and picnic** in the hills of Cipieres with a local guide who will talk about the local flora and fauna. To reserve call Cathie on 06 20 79 15 60.

● Sanary-sur-Mer is having an antiques fair in the town square all day. Tel: 04 94 74 04 50.

● The cathedral of Monaco is having an **organ concert** as part of the International Organ Competition this evening at 17:00 with France's entry, Gabriel Margheri. Entrance is free. Tel: +377 92 16 61 16.

● LOT flies to Copenhagen, Gdansk, Kraków, Stockholm, Tel Aviv and Warsaw at 16:30.

● Continuing today are Beaulieu's Heritage Festival, Cabris cricket match, Jazz in Nice, the St Tropez Antiques Fair, Valbonne's pottery fair and Barbie Dolls 2003.

## Monday 8

● Monaco's **Prada Challenge** for classic yachts and classic motor boats starts today until September 14. Famous yachts on display include Cristina O. Tel: +377 93 10 63 06.

● LOT flies to Copenhagen, Gdansk, Kraków, Stockholm and Warsaw at 16:30.

● Continuing today are Beaulieu's Heritage Festival, Homage to Picasso, and Barbie Dolls 2003.

## Tuesday 9

● LOT flies to Copenhagen, Gdansk, Kraków, Stockholm and Warsaw at 16:30.

● Continuing today are the Heritage Festival, sculptures by Seward Johnson and Barbie Dolls 2003.

## Wednesday 10

● The Cannes **international pleasure boat fair** starts today at the Palais des Festivals and includes around 450 boats on display in the Port of Cannes until September 15. Opening hours are 10:00 to 19:00 daily and entrance to the show is €10. Tel: 04 93 39 24 53.

● Monaco's Stars 'n' Bars is showing **Stand Up Comedy** direct from the London alternative comedy circuit this evening at 21:30. The two-hour show includes jokes, gags, ad libs, story telling and one-liners. Also on Thursday evening at La Gaffe in Antibes, Friday at Les Arbousiers in Les Adrets and Saturday at Morrisons Irish Pub in Cannes. Tel: +377 97 97 95 95.

● LOT flies to Copenhagen, Gdansk, Stockholm and Warsaw at 16:30.

● Continuing today are sculptures by Seward Johnson, the Prada Challenge and Barbie Dolls 2003.

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*"See them before you die, otherwise your life will have been meaningless"*  
The Mail on Sunday

*"The glamour is magnetic, the satire razor-sharp, the lyrics brilliant"*  
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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 4	Friday 5	Saturday 6	Sunday 7	Monday 8	Tuesday 9	SEPTEMBER IN NICE...
AM	20°C Sunny	18°C Sunny	19°C Cloudy	19°C Sunny	16°C Sunny	18°C Sunny	Avg. high: 24°C Avg. sea temp: 22°C Avg. low: 17°C Avg. rainfall: 54mm
PM	27°C Sunny	27°C Cloudy	25°C Cloudy	27°C Sunny	27°C Sunny	27°C Sunny	Mornings and evenings are cooler. Daytime temperatures remain high, but with an increased chance of rain.

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**thursday**  
september 11 see you  
next week!