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March 2008

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- Rose FS on Tax Residency
- Health Centre - Centro Salud
- Semana Santa - Easter Programme
- What's On Guide
- Sun Services on Autonomy
- SMdS Population Update
- Smackdown comes to Town
- La Centuria Romana
- Gary's Easy Ambles



Spanish Property and Finance – IMPORTANT WARNING!

Having a Residencia card does NOT mean you are Tax Resident

Historically, Spain has been known as a 'soft touch' when it comes to tax collection. It was felt that either they did not really care or their tax collection systems were so inept that there was easy to side step tax exposures and payments.

Be Warned! They have turned a corner and are now being much, much tougher!

January 2008 has seen an edict from the Spanish Tax Authority, the Hacienda, to all Notaries and Solicitors regarding the interpretation of Tax Residency and its application towards various common property transactions.

They are also taking steps to tighten up on Income Tax collection.

Until now a flaw in the interpretation of various elements of Tax Law has meant that, provided a Residencia Card was produced at Notary, that person would be interpreted as being a Tax Resident and was therefore able to benefit from certain tax breaks, in particular Capital Gains Tax (CGT) withholding and Inheritance Tax (IHT), known as ISD here.

To the specifics!

For CGT Tax Residents able to prove 3 years tax residency will not have the 3% Retention withheld as the vendor on a property sale. That 3% goes towards the calculation of a potential 18% CGT tax on the taxable gain from inception less indexation.

Previously the Residencia Card was all that was necessary as proof, albeit that there was no correlation that a Resident was actually a Tax Resident!

So now, to prove Tax Residency, you will need to show that you are in the tax system by producing a Tax Certificate. That document will need to be requested from your local tax office.

And the same applies to IHT (ISD). To obtain the often considerable allowances as a Tax Resident over the abysmal allowance as a Non Resident, you need to provide the same Tax Certificate.

I cannot emphasise enough how important this new interpretation of the Tax Law is, and just how punitive the cost of getting it wrong could be!

So what must you do if you think you are a Tax Resident?

Firstly, we need to ascertain whether you are, or should be, in the tax system. The basic rule is that if you spend 183 days a year or more in Spain you MUST become a Tax Resident. No ifs and No buts! That is the law.

The fact that you receive a pension or income in say the UK and tax is deducted there is irrelevant! You HAVE to file an Annual Resident Tax Return in Spain, but you will be given a credit for taxes deducted elsewhere, especially where this cannot be avoided.

Where you will have a problem is when you are living here for more than the 183 days, receive income from elsewhere, taxed or not taxed, and you have done nothing about it!

So, the bottom line is that now you must! No more apathy or head in the sand! Take action or a) you will lose the benefits that being a Tax Resident can bring and b) you are looking at having to pay back taxes and, worse, a fine!

Best you check your tax status NOW!

Welcome to the March edition of The New Angel Monthly Magazine 2008

Easter is upon us and in this edition readers will find the full Easter programme of events for San Miguel de Salinas and a small article on La Centuria Romana, who will add to the ceremony of Semana Santa. We have articles on the local service provided by The Centro Salud – The Health Centre – from Janette Lopez, one on Gary's Easy Ambles and how to make the most of the Campo, plus another factual article from Rose Financial Services entitled 'Having a Residencia card does NOT mean you are Tax Resident'.

In this issue, we feature the Urbanization 'Balcón de la Costa Blanca' as part of our 2008 pledge to promote all the urbanizations within the municipality and you'll find our collectable map on the centre page together with advertisers in that area. All businesses that advertise in the New Angel are also automatically included in the trade directory of www.san-miguel-de-salinas.com.

Our circulation area is extended every month and now includes many parts of Orihuela Costa, Cabo Roig, Los Montesinos, Torremendo, Algorfa and Quesada + a worldwide readership of the magazine via the internet – www.san-miguel-de-salinas.com. And this is why we have attracted new advertisers!

The New Angel team has also grown with another member, Janine Fitzgerald of Torremendo who brings experience and new ideas to make this magazine even better. We are all striving to make business advertising rates as competitive as possible and, for the reader, more information and interesting articles.

The 'What's on Guide' is based on the one published in the official guide website, which is also used by The Radio San Miguel 107.4fm Global Team to let listeners know what's happening in the pueblo. See page 22 to find out how to advertise or contribute to The New Angel Magazine.

Our front cover photograph epitomizes Easter and features Dos Damas of San Miguel de Salinas wearing traditional Mantillas, taken by Andy Fox© during Semana Santa 2007 – find the full 2008 Easter Programme on page 7

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Ayuntamiento / Town Hall - 965 720 375

Other Council Nos: 965 720 787 / 965 720 001

Centro de Información Juvenil / Youth Centre - 965 720 614

Centro de Turismo – Tourist information and Foreigners Office - 966 723 466

Radio San Miguel 107.4fm - 965 720 671 - Programmes in English 662 060 717

Taxi San Miguel - 608 767 673

Salud / Health Centre - 965 720 000 / 965 720 025

Torre Vieja Hospital 965 721 200

San Jaime Private Hospital 966 921 313

Ambulance - 966 776 728 / 965 144 000

Cruz Roja / Red Cross - 965 711 818

Help Association of the Vega Baja (24/7) - 965 704 282

Guardia Civil San Miguel de Salinas - 965 720 004

Policía Local / Local Police - 965 720 787 - mobile 639 620 022

Bomberos / Fire Brigade - 085

EMERGENCY TELEPHONE NUMBER - 112

C.E.I.P. Gloria Fuertes School - Primary - 965 720 828

I.E.S. Los Alcores - Secondary - 966 723 342

Latest information from The Health Centre – Centro Salud – San Miguel de Salinas.

Janette Lopez provides this update exclusively for The New Angel Magazine.



Janette Lopez
Consejera confidencial

San Miguel Centro Salud now has four doctors, all English speaking, each with an allocated nurse to take blood pressure and other tests. The computer system, connected directly with Torreveja Hospital, produces results on-line for the doctors' immediate access. Our new ECG machine is in constant use. Changes in the administration have streamlined the service and with the correct paperwork, individual entitlement for residents is easily obtained. Below are the current requirements.

SIP Card - needed for all healthcare. For a New card or a renewal, applicants need certain documents.

The new Certificate of Residencia – this form is now required for all registrations; it replaces the photo ID NIE Residencia and obtained from the National Police Station in Orihuela.

You will need (1) a valid passport (2) N.I.E. number (3) up to date padron - plus a copy of each; it is issued on the spot. Those with expiring old style Residencia cards will need to apply for a new residents' certificate with the same documents.

Form E 121 – (Also applies to those on Disability Allowances) to obtain full entitlement to healthcare applicants must first apply for a Social Security Number at the INSS Office in Orihuela (see below).

You will need; (1) Certificate of Residencia (2) NIE number (3) Padron from the Town Hall (4) Form E121 – take a copy of this form for yourself before applying.

Pensioners Rights – For pensioners who reside for 6 months or more can receive the same rights in Spain.

You will need – (1) Form E121 (2) Pensioners Rights Certificate issued by the British Consul in Alicante (to get this take your passport and a padron) (3) Padron.

European Community Health Card (this replaced the E111) – Applicants under retirement age can get a 'Demand' SIP card from the Centro Salud.

You will need (1) a letter from Newcastle Social Security UK stating that you are no longer entitled to UK healthcare (2) a Padron from the SMdS Town Hall. (3) Certificate of Residencia (4) NIE Number (5) Passport (6) a form supplied and completed at The Centro Salud.

Holiday Visitors MUST be in possession of the European Community Health Card to receive emergency treatment – those without will **ONLY** be treated at Torreveja hospital with their passport.

Children up to 16 Years – Children have equal entitlement to healthcare – every individual application in Spain must have individual documentation.

People who work in Spain can obtain a SIP Card and include family members as beneficiaries. In these circumstances a full application must be made at INSS (see below)

The Health Centre – Centro Salud - to make your application as easy and speedy as possible it is vital you do not try to cut corners when it comes to having the correct documentation; the requirements are straightforward and easy to fulfil. These guidelines have dramatically improved the system and secured funding to continue this service.

INSS - Instituto Nacional de la Seguridad Social is at Calle San Augustin, 26 Orihuela - tel: 965 300 006

Next Month Jennifer Massey of www.algorfa.co.uk writes about The British Consul.

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Friday Fever - CAZ 'The Barber of Quesada' music and 'What's On' Guide - 6.30pm to 7.30pm
B2B Saturdays - a selection of the week's shows - 7.30pm to 10.30pm

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Programme of Easter Events 2008 San Miguel de Salinas

FRIDAY 14 MARCH - Friday of Pains

10pm - The Way of the Cross, ascent to Mount Calvary.

SATURDAY 15 MARCH

6.30pm - Assembly at the entrance the town (Highway of Orihuela) to accompany the new image of the Christ, Jesus of Nazareth, in its pilgrimage toward the Church, where there will receive a blessing.

7.30pm - Eucharist at the Meeting of The Brotherhood of San Miguel of Salinas, at which a further blessing will take place of the new image of the Christ, Jesus of Nazareth by the Brotherhood of Fishermen

SUNDAY 16 MARCH - PALM SUNDAY

11am - Assembly at the entrance the town (Highway of Orihuela) for a blessing of the Palms and a procession to the Church to celebrate the Eucharist.

5.45pm - Ceremony of Swearing allegiance to the flag of the Roman Centurions

6pm - Procession of the Mantillas

TUESDAY 18 MARCH - HOLY TUESDAY

6.30pm - Celebration of the Eucharist.

8pm - Confessions in the Parish Church.

WEDNESDAY 19 MARCH - HOLY WEDNESDAY

8.45pm - Prendimiento.

9pm - Procession. Image of Christ, Jesus of Nazareth.

THURSDAY 20 MARCH - MAUNDY THURSDAY

7pm - EVENING MASS OF THE LAST SUPPER

11pm - PROCESSION OF SILENCE AROUND THE PUEBLO – followed by a HOLY HOUR vigil before the monument - The Church will remain open throughout the night to pray.

FRIDAY 21 MARCH - GOOD FRIDAY

6pm - CELEBRATION OF THE PASSION OF CHRIST

8pm - PROCESSION OF THE HOLY BURIAL

Afterwards The Roman Centurions will set a guard before the effigy of Christ Reclining in the Church.

SATURDAY 22 MARCH - HOLY SATURDAY

10pm - SOLEMN EASTER VIGIL

SUNDAY 23 MARCH - EASTER SUNDAY

10.30am - PROCESSION OF THE ENCOUNTER WITH CHRIST - THE RESSURECTION

Followed by the celebration of the Eucharist and the custody of the Roman Centurions.

Programme courtesy of Miguel Escolano, Coordinator for the Celebrations of SEMANA SANTA - Easter 2008 (times may vary and for changes and additions see www.san-miguel-de-salinas.com)

What's on March 2008

Easter will bring many visitors to the pueblo and we can offer a number of Bars where there is regular entertainment.

Chimes Bar, down towards the Fútbol Stadium, besides having a Thursday Salsa Night also has Line Dancing on Fridays. The successful Bring and Buy Auction at 1pm on Wednesdays is organised by John & Mary.

The Easter Sunday highlight, following a two-course meal for 8 euros, will be a performance by The Raquel Peña Dance Troupe from 4.30pm and later in the evening by a 60th Birthday celebration organised by Jan & Andrew to which everybody is welcome.

Bar Rufe, behind the Centro Salud, has a comfortable lounge bar atmosphere and continues to hold big stage entertainment every weekend with Karaoke on late Saturday Night. It is also popular for Sunday Lunches and on Mondays, they have a fun Darts Evening.

Bar La Oficina, with its El Toro Steak House and our only hotel accommodation - Pensión La Oficina, is out at Lakeview Mansions on the Torremendo Road. However, don't be put off by that because they run a free taxi service for their clients. With one of the most extensive menus and regular weekend entertainment, it is well worth a try.

Bar Lulus, in the pueblo just up from the Post Office, has become a firm favourite with The Radio San Miguel Team as well as many locals, maybe we shouldn't give away the secret. They do a great breakfast and there will definitely be some entertainment at weekends in March.

Restaurante Los Carteros on Ciudad de las Comunicaciones serves the local community and also has great facilities for club functions. There is occasional entertainment – check the SMdS Website for updates.

Cheers Bar & Restaurant, out at Eagles Nest, has a very full programme of live entertainment every weekend. Regular Mondays weight watchers at 11am with Bingo in the evening. Quiz Night is Wednesday and there is a friendly coffee morning at 11am every Thursday. There is never a dull moment at Cheers and they have full restaurant facilities too!

Lastly, **La Unión Musical San Miguel de Salinas** are holding a concierto at their Salón in Calle Sorolla on Saturday 15th March at 7.30pm. If you have not attended one of these concerts before please do, this talented orchestra will amaze you.

For the latest information check out *The What's On Guide* on the Official Website - www.san-miguel-de-salinas.com or listen to our Global programmes on Radio San Miguel 107.4fm (see page 5)



John and Mary from Chimes Bar

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2. You will need to apply for a Tax Licence for the work activity to be followed. This can be obtained from the SUMA Office in the town where your work activity will be centered. This Licence needs to be renewed every year.
3. You will need to complete and present an 037 form, which is stamped by the Tax Office and confirms the method of payment of your taxes. There are two methods of paying tax:
 - a) you make quarterly VAT and Income Tax Declarations on the "direct estimations method", which means you have to start double entry system book-keeping, or hire the services of an accountant. Alternatively:
 - b) you pay a quarterly fixed income tax & VAT amount under the "modulos" system.

Both systems have their advantages; a) is a good method if you think your custom is going to fluctuate to a significant degree, as income tax & VAT is only paid on your actual profit/earnings. Modulos payments do not take into consideration whether you have had a good or bad month, as you pay the same fixed amount, even if you have zero income. Also, under the modulos system, there is no need to keep accounts or prepare numbered VAT invoices, etc. On the other hand, once your business is established and turnover increases you may well benefit from having a tax system whose payments were set at a basic level.

Continued next month



Captain Pratt is having a rest from his adventures this month as his creator Mark is undergoing treatment in hospital. Along with Captain Pratt, we wish Mark a speedy recovery.

Population of San Miguel de Salinas as at February 2008 is 8160

Statistics say it all, since we first published details of the population of San Miguel de Salinas in October 2004, the registered Spanish folk of the pueblo have increased by 52 souls, whilst there has been an influx of 1541 foreigners from no fewer than 60 countries worldwide. This has increased the SMDs population by 24.25% to today's figure of 8160 (an increase of +4.97% in the last 12 months). The July 2006 milestone, when registered persons of UK origin overtook the number of Spanish neighbours, was predictable. Spaniards now account for 35.35% whilst those of UK origin have reached 41.25%. These figures are based on The Town Hall Padron and for detailed analysis, including the numbers of all the different nationalities represented, check out the The Geography Page of www.san-miguel-de-salinas.com - information courtesy of Excmo. Ayuntamiento de San Miguel de Salinas.

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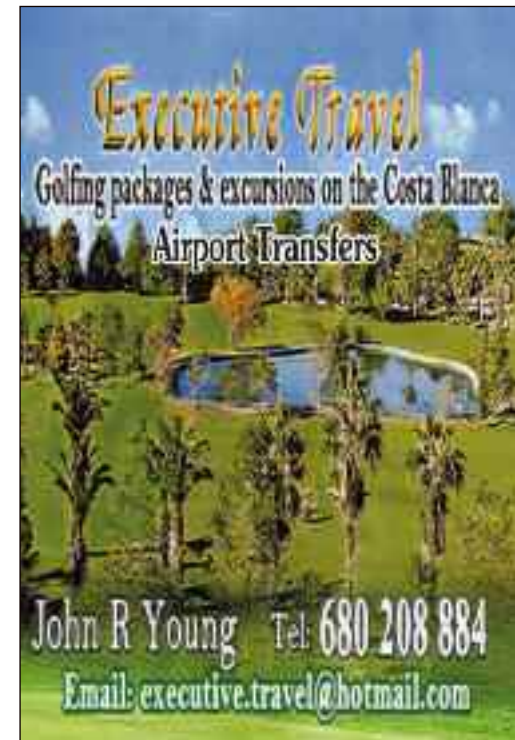


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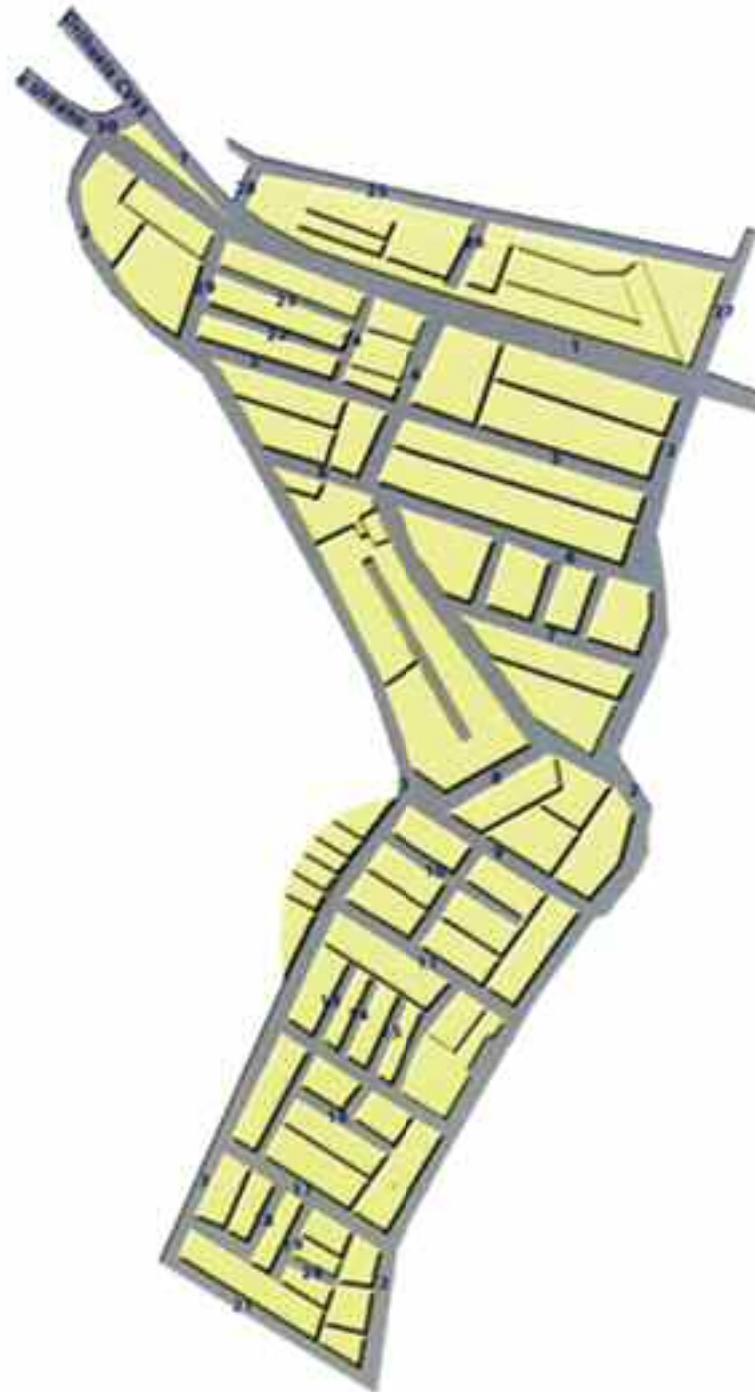
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For details of our entertainment see the New Angel Events Page

SMACKDOWN COMES TO TOWN
WWE aka 'every mothers nightmare'

About 14 months ago I was horrified when my son started to show an interest in World Wrestling Entertainment - Grown men calling themselves athletes mindlessly throwing each other around a ring with a jeering audience of 1000s. We already had enough problems with his behaviour and concentration and the last thing I needed was to find him with grandma in a denture wrenching headlock or to hear that he'd knocked out little Pablo from down the road - no thank you!

It was with much apprehension that I let him watch a little at a time, monitoring him and his reactions. Within weeks he was memorizing the wrestlers' names, their signature moves and saving every cent to buy trading cards, He'd sit reading all the facts and figures and knew everything about each wrestler in the WWE circuit.

Gradually, I was amazed to find myself actually enjoying it - each wrestler is like a character in a soap opera and works hard to maintain his physic and rehearse choreographed moves. I also found myself having in-depth conversations with my 9 year old son on the dangers of taking performance enhancing drugs and how cheats never prosper.

So, when it comes to WWE, I now have to admit that there are some positive developments for my son that far outweigh my own perceived negatives. I will be ringside with my son jeering my head off when The WWE Smackdown Wrestlemania Revenge Tour comes to the Torrevieja Sports Hall on Friday 11th April.

Contribution from Alison Byrne - The New Angel Magazine © 2008

WWE Wrestling

IN TORREVIEJA

FRIDAY APRIL 11TH 2008

TICKETS
40€ 60€ 80€

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Ray Mysterio, The Undertaker and Batista plus others in Torrevieja

March New Angel Quiz

- 1) This spice blend which is used in a wide variety of south Asian dishes usually contains cardamom, cumin and other spices. What is it called?
- 2) One of my favorite recipes of south Asian cooking is called 'dhal' or 'dal'. What is the key ingredient in this dish?
- 3) Which of these vegetables would be required if you wanted to create 'saag paneer'? Potatoes Okra, Turnips Spinach
- 4) Which of these would refer to circular spiced bread made from lentils that can be fried in oil (or nuked in the microwave)?
- 5) The Greeks call this dish 'tzatziki', while the very similar Hindi version is called 'raita'. What is the main ingredient of both?
- 6) Kheer is one of my favourite south Asian dishes. What sort of dish is this delicious treat?
- 7) Which of the following is not a type of south Asian flatbread? Babul, Nan, Chapatti, Paratha
- 8) The name for this style of cooking south Asian food comes from the type of oven in which it is cooked. Name the style! Buryai, Tandoori, Pongal, Vindaloo
- 9) You simply cannot go to a south Asian market without seeing various-sized containers of clarified butter called...?
- 10) Which of these terms refers to a set meal in an Indian restaurant? Souse, Thali, Mash, Dosa

Answers on page 22

RESTAURANTE "LOS CARTEROS"

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La Centuria Romana - The Roman Centurions of San Miguel of Salinas form an important local cultural society, which was revived in 1995 from a much earlier group, and today plays an integral part in the pueblo's Easter Celebrations.

Back in the 1930s, some of our oldest senior citizens remembered marching through the streets with their fathers in the "Armaos" or "the Roman Army" and this prompted a group of friends to initiate our modern Society. The first Easter parade was held in 1998 with three lancers and an oddball band of bugles and drums, made up from anyone who had an instrument. The wives of the group had embroidered a splendid new banner and made costumes. The ceremony of swearing allegiance to their standard before setting out on a march to the Church has developed every year and in 2008, the theatre of The Centuria Romana will be colourful and important in re-enacting the story of Semana Santa for San Miguel de Salinas.

Every year in the modern era, La Centuria Romana has grown considerably, uniting more Romans of all ages. In 2000 they formed their own band of bugles and drums and in 2004, with the assistance of donations from local businessman and their own fundraising efforts through their regular Bingo evenings, they moved to new larger headquarters with facilities to match the growing Society. Currently our Roman Legion counts on more than 50 fully costumed soldiers, ladies, handmaidens and boys. In 2008, after hours of practice, they will make Holy Week spectacular and unique for the residents and visitors of San Miguel de Salinas.



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CONCIERTO

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 SAN MIGUEL DE SALINAS

SÁBADO 15 DE MARZO DE 2008
 19:30 H

SALONES UNIÓN MUSICAL

About The New Angel Magazine

The New Angel is produced in partnership with the Official Guide Website
www.san-miguel-de-salinas.com

and a copy is published on the website for the wider internet visitor.

For the latest news and a 'what's on' update tune into **Radio San Miguel 107.4fm Global**
 we have English programmes on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday with a back-2-back programme on Saturday.
 To advertise, contribute or contact The New Angel Magazine please email angel@san-miguel-de-salinas.com or telephone:

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All adverts for products or services over 20 words will be charged at €5.00 up to 30 words, then 25 cents per word extra.

Call any member of the New Angel Team or email to include your advert.

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QUIZ ANSWERS: 1) Garam Masala 2) Lentils 3) Spinach 4) Popadom 5) Yoghurt 6) Dessert 7) Babul 8) Tandoori 9) Ghee 10) Thali

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 This group is great and very welcoming - a mixture of all nationalities including many that have lived in the pueblo all their lives. **Next Month** The New Angel will feature Gary's Easy Ambles - or before then, if you have the internet, you can check out a great new page on the Official Website - <http://www.san-miguel-de-salinas.com/uk/walks.asp>

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