



It's still the place to buy British... but these days Gibraltar offers the best high-street brands alongside smaller family-run businesses, writes Tom Powell

More than Marmite at Morrisons



Where have all the queues gone?



THE go-slow and restrictive checks by Spanish Customs officials have been greatly reduced over the last year. The stop and start horror stories of three summers ago have all but dissipated and getting in and out is much easier these days. The frontier has been upgraded, new lanes have been added and, generally, with the exception of rush hour - going in between 8am to 10am and coming out after 4pm - you can get across the border in around 10 minutes. If you are still concerned, you can also keep an eye on the exit into Spain by checking the online webfeed: www.frontierqueue.gi and you can also check what the estimated queuing times are at @gibraltarborder or #gibfrontier

THERE was a time when British expats in Spain merely relied on the Rock for their home comforts. Gibraltar was a Godsend where foreigners could get their fix of British classics to chase away any homesick blues. Yorkshire tea bags, cheddar cheese, Marmite and Heinz baked beans were just some of the favourites

worth the trip to 'Britain in the Sun' during the late 20th century, when Morrisons supermarket virtually achieved tourist attraction status. In fact, even the biggest names from the glory days of the Costa del Crime raved about the convenience of being able to nip over the border for a pork pie and a tin of Ovaltine. Nowadays, you can buy British all along the Costa

del Sol while Gibraltar has developed into an altogether more sophisticated shopping experience. The downtown area has undergone a spectacular regeneration, complete with floral hanging baskets and smart black and gold signposts. In convivial Casemates Square, chilled cafes set up inside the battlement walls spill out onto an expansive, sunlit plaza while bustling Main Street boasts shops to rival any traditional British high street, with Mediterranean sunshine thrown in. Just don't walk more than three abreast along this narrow, cobbled thoroughfare, especially when there's a cruise ship - or three - in port! Here you will find big name brands such as Marks & Spencer, BHS and The Early Learning Centre, as well as Next, Pandora, Boux Avenue, Holland and Barrett, Dorothy Perkins and F&F. But they are interspersed with locally-owned and family-run emporiums selling everything from duty-free perfumes and cameras to cuddly toy monkeys. Clone town it is not. The recent opening of high-end jewellery store Cadenza is a clear indicator of where Gibraltar is headed (Oxford Street-sur-Med), with no less than Chief Minister, Fabian Picardo, cutting the ceremonial red tape. Of course, a fully-stocked Morrison's still has some specific treats the Costa del Sol cannot keep up with, while Eroski has recently started offering an extended range of Waitrose products. The obvious draw for shoppers is Gibraltar's VAT-free status and we're not just talking about tobacco and alcohol. You can also save 21% on luxury items like perfume and designer sunglasses. And with zero import duty on electronic goods, computer software, DVDs and CDs and reduced duty for watches, jewel-

TIMELESS: Main street has always been an important commercial hive and (below) is crammed full of historic, attractive buildings



Boux M&S HOLLAND & BARRETT next
- AVENUE -
SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE

WITH its mix of high-street brands and independent, family-run stores, Gibraltar has something for everyone. Shops like Stagnetto's have one of the best selections of wines, spirits and cigars you will find anywhere in the world. They know the owners of the vineyards and distilleries personally and customers come to visit from all over the world. Stuck for ideas on what present to buy? Look no further than All Wrapped Up, which is just after Marks & Spencer going towards the law courts. The Jury's is unsurprisingly a favourite hang out for barristers and their clients, but if there is no space try the

new Bistro 292 opposite. Take time to walk up some of the lanes and side streets off Main Street to explore. It's a different world up there. You never know what you might find. Engineers Lane, Bell Lane or Irish Town are all less crowded and are the preferred routes taken by locals who want to get from one end of town to the other in a hurry. After a morning wandering down Main Street why not drop into one of the restaurants for some coffee or a light lunch. In Irish Town, Corks and Sacarello's, which has brewed coffee for 150 years, are local institutions, while Cafe Solo and Lord Nelson in Casemates Square take some beating.

LEWIS STAGNETTO E.L.C. E.S.S.A.R.D.A.S

Continues on Page 19



THE ART OF BRITISH STYLE

MARKS & SPENCER
GIBRALTAR

ON A £30 MINIMUM SPEND

£5 OFF

SCAN OR PRESENT THIS COUPON CODE



SHOP 'TIL YOU DROP!



Top tips for shopping in Gibraltar

EUROS are not legal tender in Gibraltar but virtually all shops will accept them. But beware that if you pay in euros you are accepting the exchange rate charged by the trader and this may be very different from the rate used by banks. There is no legislation to govern this and traders are free to charge whatever rate they like. Therefore, it would be better to change any euros into sterling at a bank locally or at one of the many exchange kiosks on Main Street.

If you pay in euros your change will be in sterling.

UK sterling is legal tender in Gibraltar, but beware, Gibraltar pounds are NOT legal tender in the UK.

If you are going to a restaurant and want to pay in euros, ask what the exchange rate is BEFORE you order your food.

If you think the rate is too high then you can choose to go elsewhere or go and change some money into sterling. Most bars and restaurants offer a reasonable exchange rate but don't be caught out. It is too late once you have eaten your food and you are presented with a bill charging you a rate of €1.50 to the £1. You could also pay by credit card although sometimes there is a minimum charge so again, check before you place your order.

From Page 17

lery, clothing and mobile phones, there are bargains to be had. Plus, as the currency is British Sterling – although with specific notes – UK bank cards can be used without incurring exchange rate losses.

Meanwhile, although Spanish as well as English and the local 'llanito' patois are all spoken, opening times aren't at the mercy of the siesta in the same way as Spain's.

Most shops open on Sundays, especially when there is a cruise ship in town – an increasingly frequent occurrence, with 227

calls due this year. Many Main Street shops are run by the direct descendants of the families who founded Gibraltar as a trading destination during the 1800s, thanks to its strategic location.

In contrast to these old curiosity shops, the ICC Centre – where you will find the excellent Aimee Jay shop – offers undercover mall shopping, spread over two floors, with multi-storey parking on top.

But what truly turns shopping in Gibraltar into a star attraction are the extra-curricular activities.

Whether by cable-car, taxi or Shanks's pony, a trip to the top of the Rock is a must for sen-

By cable-car, taxi or Shanks's pony, a trip to the top of the Rock is a must



HM BIN CLEANER: The bins even get cleaned on Main Street

A family day out on the Rock



Trafalgar cemetery

TRAFALGAR Cemetery radiates patriotism, with its nearby iconic statue of Admiral Nelson whose body was brought to the Rock after his heroic death.

Moorish Castle

THE medieval fortification known as the Moorish Castle looms over Casemates Square like an ancient watchman, and is particularly attractive when lit up at night. A trip around the Tower of Homage and Gate House make for a fascinating trip back in time.



Europa Point

THE windswept southern tip of Gibraltar is the polar opposite of the busy town centre. Think quaint lighthouse, cottages, abandoned cricket pitch and wide open spaces, with a small cafe and play park next to the bus stop. New last year, this is also now the location of Gibraltar's university.



Catalan Bay

THE quaint fishing village of Catalan Bay is the antithesis of modern, buzzing Ocean Village. Located on the eastern side of the Rock, it consists of a motley collection of coloured homes bookended by the classy Caleta Hotel. It is the perfect place to escape the humdrum and unwind with a quiet drink overlooking a charming beach. Unless it's summer, when the place is positively packed!



Upper Rock Nature reserve

NO visit to Gibraltar is complete without a trip up the Rock, but the Barbary Macaques are not the only delight waiting to be discovered. The spectacular St Michael's Cave is an unforgettable site, with its deep stalactite-dripping caverns. While the Great Siege Tunnels at the other end of the Upper Rock Nature Reserve provide a fascinating glimpse into Gibraltar's military history, and a stark reminder why the Rock was so impenetrable.

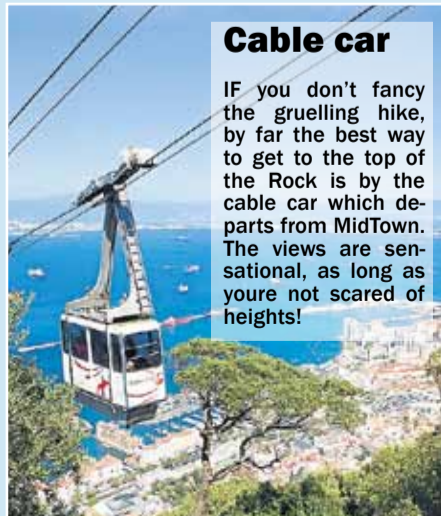
Med steps

THOSE looking to stretch their legs will find no better path than the Med Steps, a fantastically varied old route which twists and turns up the Rock starting from Jew's Gate. It takes in tunnels, hundreds of old stone steps and magical views across the Straits of Gibraltar to Morocco.



Cable car

IF you don't fancy the gruelling hike, by far the best way to get to the top of the Rock is by the cable car which departs from MidTown. The views are sensational, as long as you're not scared of heights!



Alameda Gardens

AT the heart of Gibraltar is the oasis that is Alameda Gardens, also known as the Botanical Gardens. They ooze tranquility and are immaculately maintained, providing a wonderful shaded spot to stroll.



Polka Dot

Thanks to our extensive range of popular brands, finding the perfect gift is a given at Polka Dot.

Pay us a visit!

11 John Mackintosh Square, Gibraltar
tel: +350 200 79500

f Find us on Facebook



DOGEARED



Zatchels



Nicky James



Steiff



Hyrpell Katz London



oria kiely

Cath Kidston®

Our country needs EU!

In our thriving and modern small nation, native Gibraltarians and people from Britain, Europe, and further flung corners of our planet, have been living and working together for over 300 years. So I always feel a little ambivalent about the description 'expat' which sounds rather outdated after so many decades within the European Union. The fact that many of you come over regularly to the Rock to share in our diet of British sausages, Sunday roasts and a pint down at the pub, is perhaps a simple reminder of the fact that British values and traditions are very much alive in all our hearts. But of course, those values are not just down to nosh. Democracy and fair play are just a couple of the traits that underpin our way of life. Many of you will be able to vote in the coming referendum as UK nationals living abroad who have been on the electoral reg-

In an exclusive heart-felt plea, Chief Minister Fabian Picardo QC welcomes visitors to the Rock... and calls for expats to vote to stay in the European Union

ister in Britain over the past 15 years, and have therefore been enfranchised.

We in Gibraltar will be voting *en masse* to stay, and I would urge you all to also vote to remain EU citizens.

In Spain alone there are some 319,000 potential British voters. The Rock has 23,000.

All of us share similar concerns.

We also face real uncertainties, given that the British Government itself has stated unambiguously that Brexit is a step into the dark. I don't believe in 'Project Fear',

but I would say that Brexit is simply about the practical realities of a huge and costly divorce.

This, in circumstances in which Prime Minister David Cameron has already shown it is not impossible to reverse many of the issues that annoy us.

The way the EU conducts its business can be changed, and we can steer Europe and our national sovereignty in the direction we choose, but only if we remain members.

I suspect that those of us living in continental Europe have a deeper sense of the important role the EU plays in underwrit-

ing our peace and prosperity. In practical terms, you will all be wondering what will happen to medical services and pensions, if the EU is no longer there to ensure you receive the same payments and services as you would at home in your member state, the UK. Don't let it happen. Let's avoid these pointless risks.

If Brexit does occur the reality would be a whirl of slow, probably chaotic, horse trading and negotiating.

It's unlikely that any state will offer a service or facility to now 'foreign residents' that is not equally reciprocated by the UK, say, for Spaniards working and living there.

Depending on who is in power in Madrid, Gibraltar could face uncertainty at the border. It

If Brexit does occur the reality would be a whirl of slow, chaotic, horse trading



UNITED: Picardo and (right) Olive Press editor Jon Clarke

is not about survival, but it is about economics and quality of life.

We in Gibraltar will fight on and prosper. But why break something that only needs fixing? Would Spain and/or the new EU want us all to have Schengen visas? That's just one in a thousand-

plus questions that can be avoided by joining in protecting our common interest and voting to remain part of a dynamic Europe.

Please use your right to vote. 'Stay' and enjoy your life under this splendid southern sun.

And the best of British luck to us all!

18TH CENTURY TOWNHOUSE CENTRALLY LOCATED



Price
£ 1,250,000

Original Features 4 Bedrooms · 3 Bathrooms · Private Patio

Sammy Armstrong
sarmstrong@savills.gi
Savills Gibraltar
Suite 1A, 1/5 Icom House, Irish Town
+350 200 66633
savills.gi



Shining example

The Budhrani family has been selling jewellery on Main Street since 1918 - and the business is still growing

TAKE a stroll down Main Street and you'll walk past no less than seven jewellery stores owned by the Essardas Group. Come back in the summer and there'll be eight.

This family-run firm is very much part of the fabric of the Rock and has been growing and prospering here since 1918 when, through the ties between Gibraltar and the Commonwealth, Indian businessman Essardas Budhrani arrived to set up shop.

Essardas had 11 children, and his large, hard-working family was able to keep the business going through two world wars and one border closure.

His three great-grandsons who currently drive the business forward are confident the business will still be expanding when it hits its 100th anniversary in two years' time.

"We are a very, very strong family unit," they say. "The key to our success is that we truly offer something for everyone, whether the budget is €30 or €30,000."

The Essardas Group prides itself on being able to offer extensive collections of certified Loose

Diamonds, which can be set for customers within two hours. The team of fully qualified Gemologists will assist you every step of the way. It also sells a fine selection of gold, diamond and gemstone set jewellery, along with dozens of prestigious brands of watches which include Hublot, Chopard, Zenith, Ulysse Nardin and Gucci to name a few.

Another factor in the family's success is its strong focus on customer service, using the simple motto "treat your customer the way you expect to be treated".

And then there is the location: the lively, pedestrianised Main Street, the perfect spot.

"Main Street is a great shopping destination," agrees Vikram. "It is extremely safe, and has that charming high street atmosphere which has been lost in the UK, but is stronger than ever in Gibraltar."

Of course, Gibraltar has the added benefit of being a tax-free jurisdiction - NO VAT, 'meaning greater value offer here than across the border'.

For more information visit www.essardas-group.com



PERFECTLY PLACED: Essardas on Main Street for nearly 100 years



ESSARDAS
GROUP

GIBRALTAR
FINE WATCHES & JEWELLERY



OUR STORES:

JUST DIAMONDS, 15 MAIN STREET, T: +350 200 51018
 RADHIKA, 60 MAIN STREET, T: +350 200 63360
 ESSARDAS, 64 MAIN STREET, T: +350 200 78441
 HOURSTYLE, 105 MAIN STREET, T: +350 200 66121
 CROWN JEWELS, 121 MAIN STREET, T: +350 200 77756
 JEWELS & GEMS, 122 MAIN STREET, T: +350 200 48841

PANDORA BOUTIQUE, 133 MAIN STREET, T: +350 200 77752

E: CUSTOMERSERVICES@ESSARDASGROUP.COM W: WWW.ESSARDASGROUP.COM

ESTABLISHED 1918



TAX-FREE SHOPPING

OFFICIAL RETAILER:



MARCO BICEGO

PANDORA



MIKIMOTO

Chopard

MESSIKA
JOAILLERIE

GUCCI

Canadian ice
DIAMONDS



Thomas Sabo

TOUS
jewellers since 1920



MOVADO
THE ART OF DESIGN

CERTIFIED DIAMONDS:





MEMORIAL: Europa Point tribute

Monumental conspiracy

NOT a lot of people know that Europa Point showcases a monument to a former Polish Prime Minister who lost his life in a freak plane crash on the Rock. Wladyslaw Eugeniusz Sikorski died in 1943, when his plane crashed into the sea just 16 seconds after taking off from Gibraltar Airport. At the time, the crash was attributed to cargo moving to the back of the plane during takeoff. But several conspiracy theories are still doing the rounds today. Shoddy maintenance causing the controls to jam, a deliberate crash-landing from the pilot (the only surviving passenger) are two of the most popular. And recently, various articles and films produced in Poland have claimed the general was murdered. In 2008 the Polish government ordered a reassessment of the accident, but could not reach a conclusion. One thing is certain: in the months before his death, Sikorski was proving to be a thorn in the side of the Russians as he promoted an independent Poland.

Gibraltar is number one for bowling and movies at King's Bastion Leisure Centre

Strike!



WHEN it comes to bowling, Gibraltar scores a strike. The Rock's bowling alley is a hugely popular venue for children's birthday parties, and it's great for adults looking for an alternative to sitting around in the same old bars. King's Bowl & Bar is at the King's Bastion Leisure Centre. It has 14 lanes and is open until midnight every day.

Advance bookings can be made for children's parties and corporate events. The weekday cost is a steal at £3 per person per game, rising to £4 at weekends. Wheelchair access is available. Those who are really serious about their bowling can join the Gibraltar tenpin bowling association. It's tantamount to a law that where there are bowling alleys there must be cinemas,

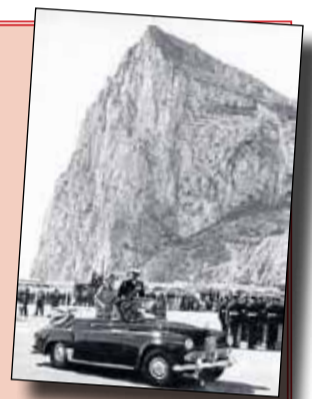
and Gibraltar complies with pleasure. King's Bastion Leisure Centre has two cinema screenings rooms, one with 99 seats and the other, 136. Both have disabled access. Normally four films are shown each day, ranging from family entertainment to the latest blockbuster thriller, along with 3D spectaculars for the full, immersive experience.



CLOSED DOWN: Franco shut border

Did you know?

- The height of the Rock is approximately 426 metres or 1400 feet
- The distance between Gibraltar and the coast of Africa is 24 kilometres or 15 miles
- The Rock was formed approximately 200 million years ago and is composed of Jurassic Limestone
- The UK pound can be used freely in Gibraltar, so there is no need to convert UK notes to Gibraltar ones. However, Gibraltar banknotes are not legal tender in the UK and will not be accepted there
- In recent referendums the nearly 30,000 Gibraltarians who live on the Rock voted overwhelmingly to reject any involvement by Spain in their government
- Queen Elizabeth II last visited Gibraltar in 1954
- The border was closed by Franco in 1969 and was shut for 13 years, only reopened partially for pedestrians in 1982 before being reopened fully in 1985



ROYAL VISIT: Queen in 1954

THE KING'S BASTION LEISURE CENTRE

Set within the walls of a historic 18th century military fortress that was completely restored in 2008, you'll find the prestigious...

King's Bastion Leisure Centre

Gibraltar's premier entertainment venue.

We offer a wide range of amenities, suitable for all ages, abilities and interests, including **AMUSEMENT ARCADE, BARS & RESTAURANT, BOWLING ALLEY, CINEMAS, EVENTS VENUE, FITNESS GYM, ICE SKATING RINK, POOL TABLES, RECREATION SUITES**

Positioned in the centre of town, within easy access from Queensway or Line Wall Road. Entrance is free of charge - You only pay for the activities that you take part in.



OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK FROM 9.00AM TILL LATE INCLUDING PUBLIC HOLIDAYS
(CLOSED ON GOOD FRIDAY AND CHRISTMAS DAY)

King's Bastion Leisure Centre, Queensway, Gibraltar
Tel (+350) 200 44777 Fax (+350) 200 44798
info@kingsbastion.gov.gi www.kingsbastion.gov.gi

Get Creative

Easy to clean easel, double-sided chalk board and white board

I'm new

Includes paper roll and 4 paints

Forest friendly wooden easel

Doodle all the way to the bottom



early learning centre

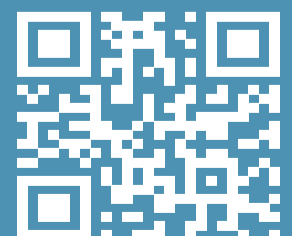
Library Street, Gibraltar +35020041166



ON A £30 MINIMUM SPEND

£5 OFF

SCAN OR PRESENT THIS COUPON CODE



THE NATURAL WONDERS



REQUEST A BROCHURE

GIBRALTAR TOURIST BOARD

e: info@gibraltar.gov.uk

t: +44 (0) 207 836 0777

w: visitgibraltar.gi

 [visitgibraltar](https://www.facebook.com/visitgibraltar)

 [@visit_gibraltar](https://twitter.com/visit_gibraltar)

 [@visitgibraltar](https://www.instagram.com/visitgibraltar)

Image: The Reenactment Society, Main Street

Have a coke and a smile as Gibraltar's apes get ever cheekier and more of a menace, writes Tom Powell



Photos by Jon Clarke

MAJESTIC: An ape at the top of the Rock and (inset) inspecting a Coke can

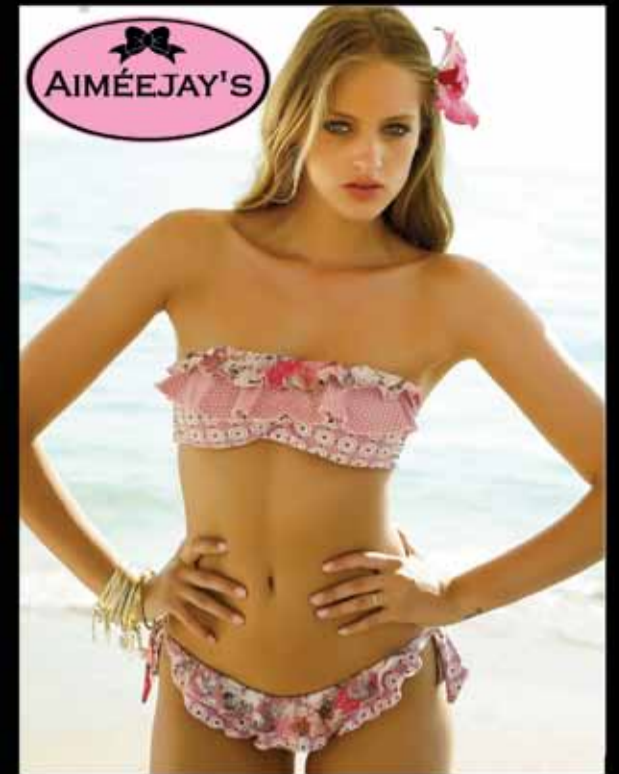
Sticky business

GRABBING food out of bags, snatching someone's glasses and sneaking through a kitchen window... but this one takes some beating. This little monkey has a penchant for all things sweet, including a can of coke. Now numbering around 300, the Barbary Macaques are the only wild monkeys in Europe. A major tourist attraction, but also at times a vicious menace, and, according to folklore it has long been claimed that Gibraltar will no longer be British if the monkeys leave. Winston Churchill certainly appeared to believe so, shipping over extra macaques from North Africa when their population fell to just seven during the Second World War. Signs have sprung up warning people to steer clear of the monkeys and feeding them is illegal, punishable by a fine, yet attacks continue to grow more and more frequent.

Last year, one Gibraltar family came back from work to find that their kitchen had been raided. "It was a huge shock. They had taken a lot of food and made a hell of a mess," said a friend. Environment minister Dr John Cortes, a biologist, warned that they have 'lost their fear of humans', at the launch of a 2012 Government campaign to increase public awareness of their dangers. Traditionally Gibraltar's most famous residents have roamed free on the rock's upper reaches, but a cull of 25 was ordered in 2008 when they began to descend upon the tourist hot-spots of Catalan Bay and Sandy Bay. With the monkeys now making themselves at home in the built-up areas, some tourists and residents are calling for stricter measures to avoid attacks.



FINE: For feeding monkeys



AMAZING SWIMWEAR
 *Over 480 Sizes!
 *Swimsuits & Tankinis
 *Bikinis and Monokinis
 *Brazilian Bottoms
 *AAA to L-Cup
 *FREYA & PANACHE
EXPERIENCE THE FIT!
 AimeeJay's
 First Floor, ICC, Gibraltar
 Tel: (350) 200 42490
www.Facebook.com/aimeejayintimates



ON A £30 MINIMUM SPEND

£5 OFF

SCAN OR PRESENT THIS COUPON CODE



next

Women
Men
Children

Main Street Gibraltar



Pocket of patriotism

DESPITE its name, Trafalgar cemetery is home to just two victims of 1805's almighty battle. Instead, many tombstones commemorate those who died in three devastating yellow fever epidemics around the same time.

Nonetheless, this tiny pocket of Gibraltar still radiates patriotism. Its moss-covered graves and low-hanging branches could tempt anyone in for a moment of reflection. The cemetery was abandoned for many years until a huge restoration effort in the 1980s. Each year on the Sunday closest to the battle of Trafalgar (October 21), the Royal Navy holds a ceremony here.

While most of those that died at Trafalgar were buried at sea, Lord Nelson's body was transported back to London

HERO: Statue of Nelson

for a state funeral and burial at St Paul's cathedral.

However, he was initially taken to Gibraltar's Rosia Bay, in his ship HMS Victory, where his body was put in a vat of rum to conserve it, before being sent to the UK.

But the connection goes deeper, before his heroic death Nelson would have been a regular on the Rock, especially at naval haunts like the Victualling Yard and Old Naval Hospital.

And it was his close friend Aaron Cardozo – a wealthy Gibraltar-ian merchant – who inherited Nelson's medal commemorating his victory in the Battle of the Nile.

IT'S the perfect symbol for enduring love; a Rock so solid that nothing can break it down.

And for decades Gibraltar has been luring couples in from the world over to tie the knot. John Lennon and Yoko Ono's rather impromptu registry office affair is the most famous, but many other celebrities have followed suit.

Names include Hollywood couple Lawrence Harvey and Margaret Leighton, best-selling crime writer Frederick Forsyth, Status Quo frontman Rick Parfitt and comedian Des O'Connor.

Although James Bond actor Sean Connery's 1962 Gibraltar wedding to actress Diane Cilento ended in divorce, he was sufficiently shaken and stirred to return in 1975 to marry present wife Micheline Boglio Roquebrune.

Of course, there are also thousands who descend on Gibraltar every year to celebrate the happiest day of their life who aren't famous.

Interestingly, only around one third of couples are from the UK. The other two thirds come from America, Canada and the world over.

The Rock is a simple, quick (only 24 hours notice is required) and easy place to wed, plus it's almost guaranteed sunshine and there's no shortage of top venues to celebrate afterwards.

One of the best is Queensway Quay, where the Waterfront restaurant offers a special wedding service, including a mouthwatering menu. (Lobster thermidor and chocolate fondue, anyone?)

It's the perfect place to unwind after a ceremony in one of Gibraltar's top-quality, fully licensed wedding venues which includes

Gibraltar has all the facilities to create an unforgettable wedding

Marry in style



PICTURE PERFECT: Wedding snap on Alcaidesa beach

hotels, including the O'Callaghan Elliott in the town centre and the Rock Hotel.

For a more natural and tranquil setting, head to Alameda Botanical Gardens. First developed in 1816 to provide Gibraltar's residents with a green space to rest and relax, they have grown into a place of serene beauty.

At their heart is the Dell, an Italian-style garden designed in 18420, where weddings are also permitted.

If it's unbeatable views you're after, Mons Calpe Suite is located within the Cable Car's top station. "It is a very special venue which has now been recognised by a leading wedding magazine, which is a fit-

ting tribute to my entire team," said manager Fernando Valdivielso Gomez.

Finally there is the Mount, a former residence of the Royal Navy's senior officer, which boasts wonderful gardens.

Weddings in Gibraltar have become a significant part of the tourist trade, and thus services have blossomed to cater for that. Professional photographers, makeup artists and florists can be easily arranged, either through the venue or externally.

The government website offers information on marriage in Gibraltar and the requirements, while enquiries can also be addressed to the Registration Office or recognised travel agents and wedding planners.

Photo by Jon Segui

Take control of your retirement dreams

Abacus is now offering Qualifying Recognised Pension Schemes (QROPS).

CEO Chris Pitaluga commented, "We have been contemplating entering the pension market for some time and are delighted to launch the Prosperity QROPS, our first QROPS under the Abacus branding." He further commented, "Abacus is committed to Gibraltar as a jurisdiction and we aim to attract the highest quality introducers as part of our long term plan."

Our **Prosperity QROPS** could be of benefit to you if you currently have a UK Registered Pension scheme and are living abroad or intend to do so. Deciding on the right pension plan is a fundamental part of retirement planning and will have a significant impact on your retirement lifestyle.

Why not benefit from the following?

- Increased tax efficiency.
- Wider investment control and flexibility.
- Income withdrawals from age 55.
- Exemption from the UK Lifetime Allowance test.
- Pass on your pension fund to future generations.
- The simplicity of consolidating all your UK pensions into one QROPS.

If you, or your independent financial adviser, feel that a QROPS may be the right solution for you to achieve your retirement aspirations, please contact us. We are here to help.

OUR PROSPERITY QROPS CAN MAKE IT A REALITY

abacus
TRUSTED TO DELIVER VALUE
Since 1974

For further Information contact:
Joanne Rodriguez or Erica Power

Abacus Pensions Trustees Limited (Gibraltar Office)
T: +350 200 78267 Ext 530
E: pension.services@abacus.gi

abacus
TRUSTED TO DELIVER VALUE
Since 1974

For further Information contact:
Joanne Rodriguez or Erica Power

Abacus Pensions Trustees Limited (Gibraltar Office)
T: +350 200 78267 Ext 530
E: pension.services@abacus.gi

the
water
front

restaurant & bar



Get Married on Gibraltar`s Waterfront!

A Traditional British Wedding at the gate of the Mediterranean

• WEDDING MENU •

option one

STARTER

Crispy serrano ham on a garlic croute topped with quails eggs

Herb crusted lamb cutlets served with a crispy leek & artichoke salad

King prawns wrapped in smoked pancetta drizzled with watercress dressing

MAIN COURSE

Fillet steak with boulangere potatoes & bernaise sauce

Lobster thermidore served with wild rice & market fresh salad

Pan seared salmon served with asparagus, almondine potato and champagne & chive sauce

DESSERT

Chocolate fondue with homemade salted caramel ice cream

Millionaire's cheesecake

Cheese board & biscuits

"The Waterfront is an approved venue for the celebration of civil marriages and civil partnerships in Gibraltar. Please call 200 45666 for a personal consultation with our friendly team"



4/5 Ragged Staff Wharf, Queensway Quay, Gibraltar • +350 200 45666

Email: waterfrontrestaurant@gmail.com

www.thewaterfrontgib.com

"Quote the code "LOVE2016" when contacting The Waterfront to receive your exclusive reader discount or special gift."



HISTORY GUARANTEED!

The grand dame of Gibraltar The Rock Hotel has put up everyone from Winston Churchill to Errol Flynn

ERROL Flynn, Alec Guinness and Winston Churchill are just some of the famous names that appear in the guest books for the Rock Hotel, an institution

that opened in 1932. The hotel's famous brilliant white façade is seen for miles around and boasts a beautiful reception and entrance lobby which reflects

FAMOUS FACES: (from left) Guinness, Churchill and Flynn have all stayed at The Rock Hotel (above)

the sensitivity towards the historical design of the original building. "The hotel's 1930's origins are evident in the subtle colours and timeless decoration combin-

ing an element of the colonial with more contemporary touches", explains General Manager Charles Danino.

These days the hotel prides itself on exceptional customer service as well as the highest level of food, beverages, event and dining experiences. It is a top class hotel to be enjoyed by the local corporate and leisure community as well as the global traveller. Head Chef Alfred Rodriguez, 57, has been with The Rock Hotel since his late teens, while also having spent some time away working on the QE2 and for the Roux brothers at London's Michelin-starred Le Gavroche.

"I am always looking for new dishes to create with a high quality and selection of ingredients available through local suppliers as well as from Morocco," he says.

The Rock Hotel offers comfortable bedrooms and a new conference and banqueting facility and private terrace which adds to the hotel's already extensive exterior space, which includes the much loved Wisteria Terrace, which has been enhanced offering an al fresco venue for all-day dining.

Corporate events can be held on the private Sunset Terrace and Victory Suite as well as the pool in the evening and the Khaima poolside marquee.

Visit www.rockhotelgibraltar.com

The long arm of the law!

Gibraltarian barrister Charles Gomez is healing border tensions as he makes history with Spanish University honour, writes Rob Horgan

A BARRISTER is leading the way in improving border relations with Spain. Charles Gomez has made history as the first Gibraltarian to be appointed an honorary professor by a Spanish university. Working with the University of Cadiz over the past few years, Gomez is hoping his accolade is a sign of better relations between the neighbouring countries. Awarded for his work within the faculty of international law in Cadiz, Gomez told *the Olive Press* he was truly humbled by the award. "It was a massive surprise for me," he explained. "Obviously it is great to be personally recognised but the award says just as much about the university as it does about my own achievements.

"The university is a great example of how Spain and Gibraltar can work together through education."

He added: "The most exciting thing about working at the university, is that they view the region - Andalucia, Gibraltar and northern Morocco - as one place.

"The general consensus is that politics should not interfere with progress and research, especially in relation to international law."

Gomez, who founded his law firm Gomez and Co in 1988, has been holding lectures on English legal language at the university, as well as other parts of Andalucia for Spanish law students.

He also hosts lecturers closer to home at the Garrison library at different times throughout the year.

Now Gomez, who is regularly involved in high level court cases on the Rock,

HONOURED:
Gomez



**CHARLES
GOMEZ &
COMPANY**
BARRISTERS AT LAW

is confident that the University of Gibraltar will forge closer ties with Cadiz university over the next few years.

In fact, The University of Cadiz has taken a special interest in Gibraltar, holding a lecture on the Rock every year since 1980.

"From next semester I hope to hold lectures at the University of Gibraltar for students in Cadiz," he continued.

"It would be great to see other Spanish universities team up with Gibraltar in order to share each other's resources."

Currently working on two projects, Gomez hopes to publish a paper on the political campaigns since August 2013 and a historical look-back at the political set up on the Rock since the 18th century.

As well as a running a busy and varied court practice and providing advice on all matters of Gibraltar law, Gomez's company also specialises in conveyancing and property law.

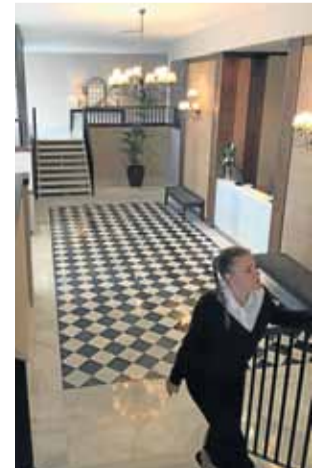
With a department dedicated to property law, Gomez and Co. provides a competitive fast-track scheme to ensure that the purchase, sale or lease of property always runs smoothly.

Serving Gibraltar's two largest trading companies as well as a number of smaller firms, Gomez also represented the government when the Rock was slandered in Spanish daily ABC last year.

For more information visit www.lawequitygibraltar.com



UNIS UNITED: In Cadiz and (above) Gibraltar



LUXURIOUS: The hotel



THE ROCK HOTEL
GIBRALTAR

*Gibraltar's Premier
Hotel Since 1932*

THE ROCK HOTEL
GIBRALTAR

**The Venue of choice for conferencing and exquisite
banqueting experience.**

The Rock Hotel has been designed with a colonial feel and offers, as ever, spacious guest rooms; all-day dining restaurant, lounge bar, conference and event facilities, making it the perfect choice for leisure and business users alike.

Email: events@rockhotel.gi / Tel: 200 73000 / 3 Europa Road, Gibraltar

Lunching like a Lord

Jon Clarke picks out a selection of interesting spots to eat on the Rock

WHERE TO EAT

IT'S the Gibraltar equivalent of Piccadilly Circus and there is no better place to watch the world go by than on Casemates Square.

For fine dining on the square look no further than Café Solo, while if you are after pub grub then Lord Nelson is a complete winner.

Steak and Ale pie is a personal favourite, while the fish and chips and all day breakfast are very popular with hungry visitors.

There are loads of beers on draught and, naturally, all the best sporting events are on the screens.



Another institution, also big on its coffee is Sacarello's, in Irish Town, which has been serving up a decent brew for nearly two centuries. A true Gibraltar haunt for



WATCH THE WORLD GO BY: At Lord Nelson

morning coffee, lunch, afternoon tea or supper, this charming old spot also counts on one of the best private art collections on the Rock.



HISTORY HOUSE: Sacarello family (right) have brewed coffee for centuries

This is all thanks to current boss Patrick Sacarello, 64, who is a huge art lover and regularly travels to exotic countries to acquire his paintings.

It was his great-grandfather

Bartholomew who founded the existing business in 1888, following in the footsteps of his Italian grandfather, a trader, who had arrived on the Rock in 1817.

"Although I studied at a Lon-

don university, I ended up coming back to coffee because it's such a beautiful business."

For a more formal fine dining experience you should head to charming Queensway Quay, a millionaires' playground, where houses start around the £4.2 million mark.

Excellent

Here, you will find the excellent Landings restaurant, which has counted John Prescott, First Minister Fabian Picardo and a variety of Coronation Street stars as guests. "We get a lot of wealthy yachtie types too," explains owner Ann Hudson, who hails from the south coast of England.

Last, but not least, the hottest place to dine is aboard the Sunborn hotel, where you will find La Sala.



FINE DINING: La Sala on the Sunborn

LORD NELSON CASEMATES

Largest selection of draught beers on the Rock!

CARLING, CAFFREYS, GUINNESS, Heineken, TONY SMITH'S, STELLA ARTOIS, MAGNERS, OLD SPECKLED HEN, TETLEY'S, San Miguel

FULL MENU SERVED ALL DAY
INCLUDING BRITISH FISH & CHIPS
HMS VICTORY ALL DAY BREAKFAST
NELSON'S STEAK & ALE PIE
SALADS - WRAPS - BURGERS & MORE

Find us in the corner of Casemates Square
www.lordnelson.gi +350 200 50009

events.gi
Live Music - Sports - Events - Offers

COFFEE SHOP & RESTAURANT

Sacarello's
coffee shop - restaurant

FULLY AIR CONDITIONED
FREE WIFI AVAILABLE

Try Our "Just Roasted" Family Coffee
from the Oldest Coffee Shop in Town

Varied Lunch & Snack Menu · Salad & Quiche Bar
Regional Specials & Pasta · Home-made Cakes · Afternoon Teas
Busy Local Atmosphere & Arts Venue. All in a converted 19th
Century Merchant's House on the "Old Commercial Street"

57 Irish Town · Gibraltar
T. +350 200 70625

f /Sacarellos-Coffee-shop

www.sacarellogibraltar.com





YOU GET A
FLAT.
YOU GET TONS OF
TOW-TRUCKS.



SMALL ON PRICE
BIG ON SERVICE

CAR INSURANCE

*
€ 60

CASHBACK

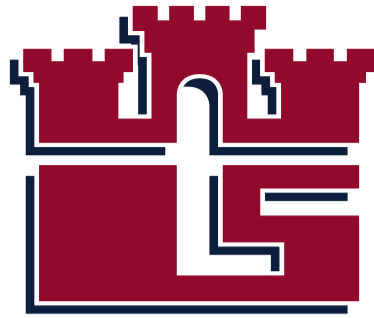


linea directa

902 123 282

CHANGE TO LÍNEA DIRECTA

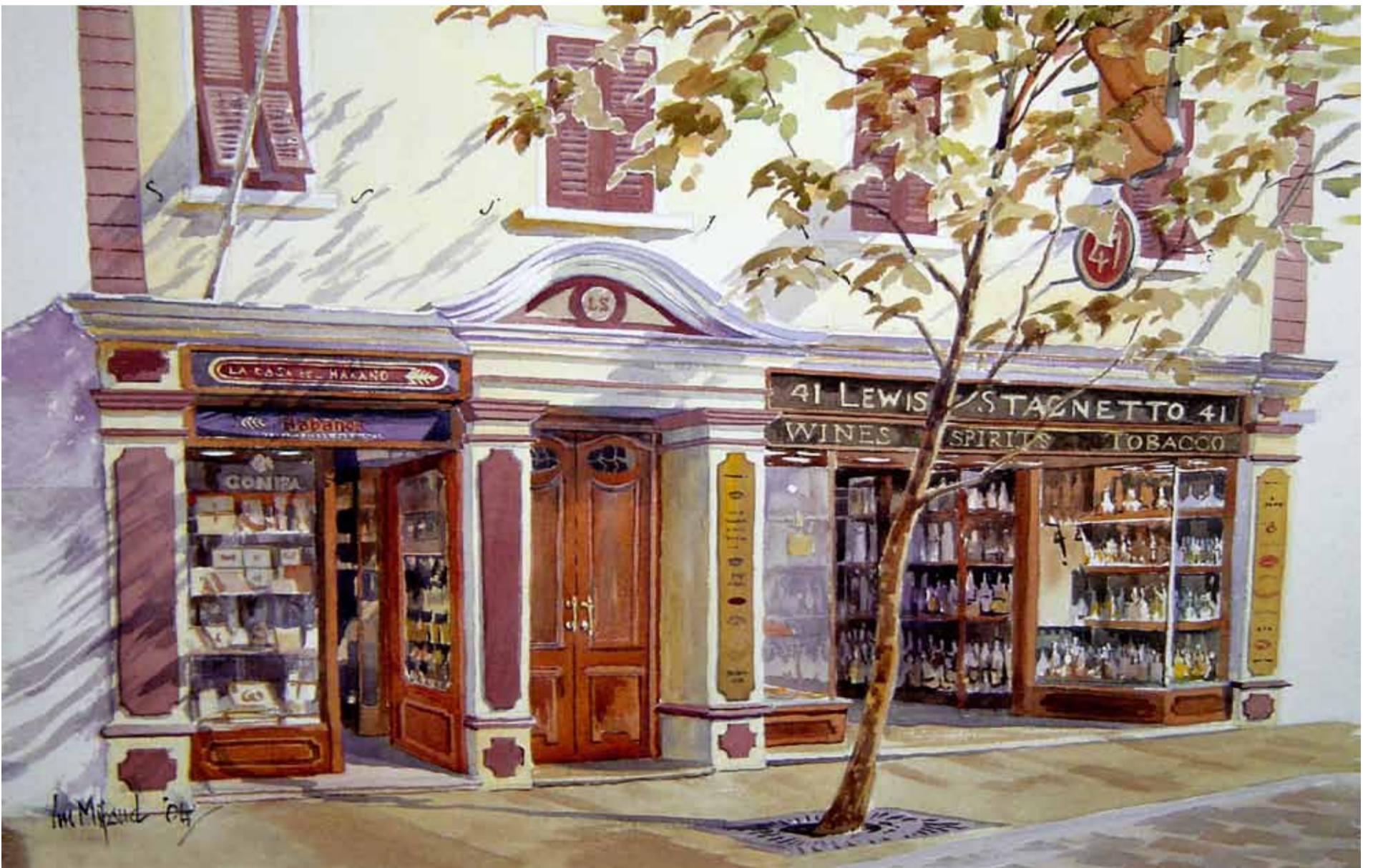
*When you contract 2 policies. Valid for new car or bike policies only. Existing customers require one additional car or bike policy. Offer ends 31/12/16. Conditions apply.



Est. 1870

LEWIS STAGNETTO

Importers & Distributors



Purveyors of Wines, Spirits, Beers & Tobacco

P.O. Box 53, 41 Main Street
Gibraltar

Tel: (+350) 20078666 - Fax: (+350) 20075332
mail@stagnetto.com • www.stagnetto.com