

Elton John

Will he, won't he?

▲ **SunLiveFestival Canarias** production company have announced that Elton John will be appearing in the south of the island on 24 January, but there would still appear to be some doubts hanging over the event.

Regular readers of this newspaper are aware of the on/off arrangement with the Santa Cruz council and Rolo productions to hold the concert, resulting in two different dates and two different venues being announced by the now egg-on-face, conservative councillor Ángel Llanos. Members of the local CCN nationalist party have even called for Llanos' resignation over the matter as he assured the members of the council during a council meeting that Elton John was under contract to perform in the capital. This would seem not to have been the case.

We are now in a situation where not only Gran Canaria and Tenerife are constantly competing with each other, but it would appear that the south are trying to outbid the north, with the only winner,



Concert in the wind?

the artist and his representatives. Elton John's official web site shows the venue as the Olympic Stadium in Arona, but sources of this newspaper informed us that the council turned the concert down, ostensibly because the noise would bother the patients at the nearby private hospital - something that didn't prevent them organising the cancelled Keane concert there this sum-

mer. The alternative venue is the Golf Costa Adeje, but it is uncertain if the star or his representatives are aware of the change or will indeed agree to it. Further doubts have been cast by legal grey areas in connection with the way the event was bid for. Although you can reserve tickets, at the moment you can't buy them, which would seem to underline the uncertainty.

In the meantime, we have been informed that world class illusionist, David Copperfield, promised by Llanos for the Carnival, is also unlikely to be able to perform and the councillor was last seen announcing a Queen Tribute Act, a bit of a comedown after his promises of Elton John, Dire Straits and Sting. It would appear that the yolk is definitely on him.

K9 an Christie

Bermúdez saves the day

▲ **The tinerfeñan councillor for tourism**, José Manuel Bermúdez, has confirmed that the island council will be backing the K9 concert with Tony Christie at the Magma Arts and Congress Centre.

Funds will not be available until next year's budget comes through, so unfortunately the date for the event has had to be changed yet again, but cash will be coming from various departments to support the event. In addition, Bermúdez has promised to look into a grant to purchase a new 10,000sq m plot of land in the south of Tenerife to enable the charity to build a brand new animal welfare centre that will become the base of operations of their proposed new foundation, 1 Voice Canarias. Marketing Director and spokesperson for K9, Ian Sharrock, confirmed, "we are delighted with this wonderful and very generous offer. Señor Bermúdez has paved the way for us to achieve our plans and targets for the

future of animal welfare in the archipelago. He also made it clear that the Cabildo would continue to support us in the creation of the 1 Voice Canarias foundation that will help and support other refuges and animal welfare organisations throughout the island of Tenerife."

Ian continued, "we regret the previous misunderstanding that led to a feeling of non cooperation and clearly see that the Cabildo, and particularly Señor Bermúdez himself, has a deep and genuine concern for the plight of the island's animals. We look forward to a bright new future working closely together and apologise for any embarrassment that may have been caused through any prior misconceptions on our part."

At the time of going to press it is unclear whether the concert will be held in February or during Easter week in March. The new date will be announced as soon as the artist's agendas can be aligned.





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