

In Brief ::

Finders keepers

Double trouble

• A Romanian couple who said they found a briefcase filled with money at Tenerife South Airport look likely to be prosecuted for failing to hand the valuable contents over to police.

The find was made in the airport car park when the pair, both in their 20s, came across the briefcase, which contained almost 20,000 in banknotes, a collection of jewellery and a state of the art laptop computer. The owner, believed to be German, reported its loss and a few days later a suspicious lodgement at a local bank put officers on the trail of the couple, who were detained shortly afterwards. The owner may also face prosecution over the origins of the money and jewellery.

Council poser
Rooster row

• A noisy cockerel in

Santa Cruz has landed its owner in trouble with neighbours but the authorities appear powerless to put an end to the nuisance.

The constant crowing in the early hours is giving people nearby, among them many elderly residents, sleepless nights and several have written to a local paper to voice their anger that nothing has been done. It seems the problem is that the old house on whose roof the cock lives has been abandoned by its owner and no-one is sure if the city council can enter the premises without permission. Meanwhile, a debate has been launched in the paper's opinion column on whether protecting the bird as a vestige of traditional lifestyles present in the area in past times is more important than neighbours' sleep.

Alcalá
New beach

• Guía de Isora has announced plans for a new beach in Alcalá.

Three million euros have been promised by the



La Jaquita

Spanish government to build a one-kilometre beach and promenade at La Jaquita. Land has been set aside for the project, the plans for which have already been approved, and the local council says it hopes to award the actual tender in the coming months.

Mayor Pedro Martín says the new beach will complement Playa San Juan, where a tourist information office has opened recently, and will strengthen Guía de Isora's case to be formally designated a tourist town, which will bring more public investment and more flexible trading hours for local commerce. The project is the second to be undertaken in La Jaquita in the last few years, following the extensive work done to the sea-front stretch in late 2007.

Speeding motorcyclist

100 kmh over limit

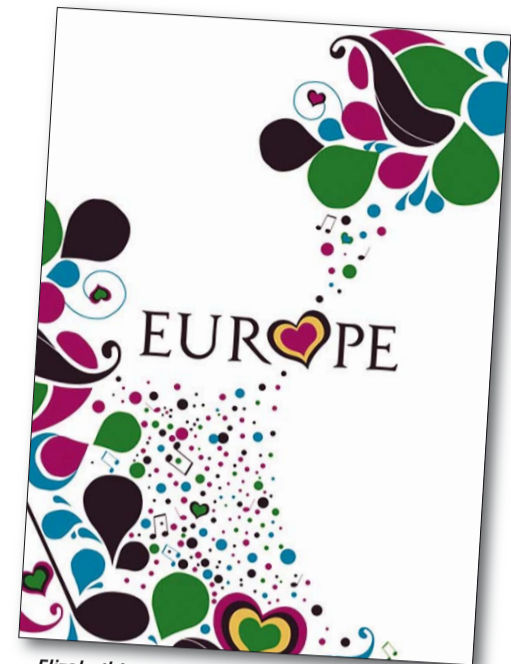
• A motorcyclist charged with speeding is thought to hold the record for the biggest breach of a maximum speed sign in the Canaries.

The rider was detected on 28 December by a radar trap on the picturesque road from La Laguna to Mt Teide via La Esperanza on a stretch where the maximum speed is 60 kmh.

The 53-year-old man was clocked at 169 kmh on his powerful bike and was later arrested after an investigation by the Civil Guard's Traffic Branch. He has been charged with dangerous driving and could lose his licence when the case comes to court. A police source said it was very unusual to encounter speeds exceeding the limit by 100 kmh. The news has prompted calls for much tougher action against speeding motorcyclists on Tenerife roads, particularly the Teide route which is hugely popular for biker excursions.

STUDENT SUCCESS

EU poster final



Elizabeth's entry in the European competition

A young student from Tenerife is Spain's only finalist in a prestigious European Union poster competition.

Teenager Elizabeth Rodríguez who is attending a workshop, Infogüimar Web-TV, in Güimar is one of ten candidates short-listed by the international jury among 1,700 entries throughout the continent for the 'I Love Europe' poster final, the winner of which will be chosen in an on-line vote. Thousands of copies of the winning Europe Day 2010 poster will be published in all EU languages and exhibited across the European Union in May 2010, while its designer will receive a prize of €2,000. Güimar council is urging everyone in the Canaries to support Elizabeth by accessing the website (<http://www.designeurope2010.eu/>) and voting for her poster by the closing date on 31 January.



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