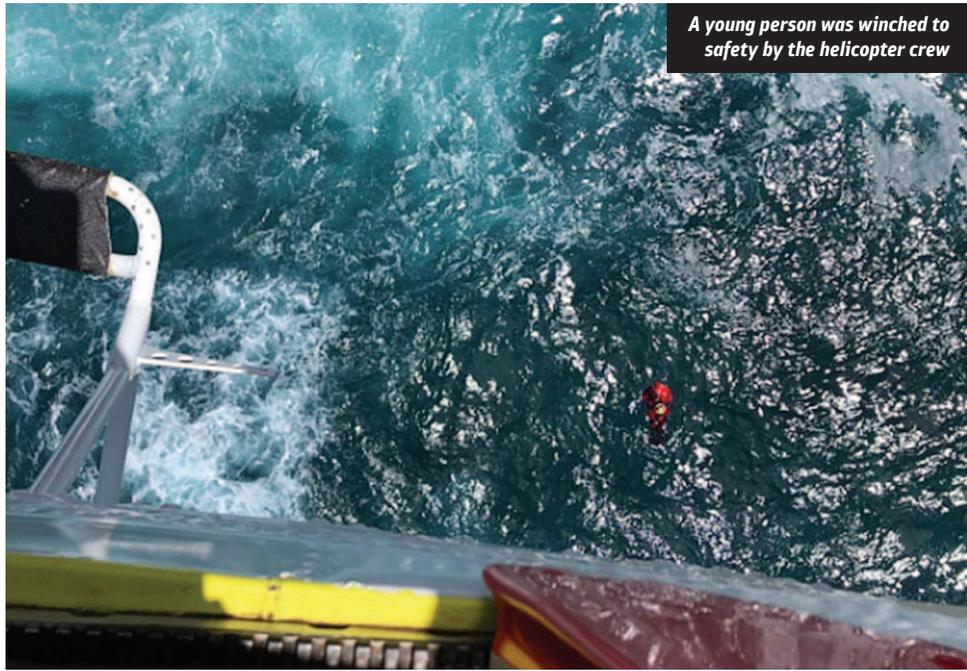




DARK EASTER BALANCE

Three die on Canary Island coasts



A young person was winched to safety by the helicopter crew

The Easter period from April 12 to 21, cost the lives of three people on the coasts of the Canary Islands.

One woman was rescued from the water in a critical condition and another woman and a

man suffering from symptoms due to almost drowning were rescued. A 40-year-old, who on Easter Sunday was in the Charco Las Lajas in San Juan de la Rambla in Tenerife, was not able to reach the safety of

the shore alone. In three other cases, minors were in serious danger, for example, a young person who was caught out by the rising tide at Mesa del Mar. He was rescued in time from the air and escaped with a fright.

The incident that occurred on April 15 at Playa de Tebeto in the borough of La Oliva in Fuerteventura was tragic. A 26-year-old Colombian woman living in Puerto del Rosario was in distress in the sea and had difficulty reaching the shore. A 30-year-old man, Arturo F.B., who was fishing, became aware of the situation and did not hesitate to jump into the water to help her, while other eyewitnesses called for help. While the young woman finally made it back to land on her own, Arturo was pulled out of the ocean by an emergency helicopter crew and taken to the island hospital in Fuerteventura. But even there, the doctors could no longer resuscitate him and were only able to confirm his death. A total of ten people experienced an acute emergency situation in the Atlantic and three of them paid with their lives. Surprisingly, the gender balance is even this

time, as half of them were men and half were women. The normal statistics would see men affected in eight out of ten cases. In all cases, the bathing conditions on the respective days were poor. There was a strong

wind with high waves and currents. The platform Canarias, 1,500km de Costa, which is supported by the Gran Canaria Island Council, published express warnings against going into the water whilst a red flag is flying. Those who are in or near the water with children should not let them out of their sight. A baby, for example, can drown in just 15 centimetres of water in 27 seconds. ■

HOMESICK

Austrian fugitive turns himself in

A 64-year-old man surrendered to the police in Salzburg on Easter Saturday.

He explained to the surprised officers that he had flown from Tenerife to Munich and then travelled to Salzburg by train. He'd presented himself at the police station because a detention order had been issued against him, and it turned out he was telling the truth! Whilst some dream of spending the rest of their lives in Tenerife, the 64-year-old had apparently had enough. He escaped from a prison in Austria in 2008 and spent the last ten and a half years in the Canary Islands. "Tenerife isn't as beautiful as it used to be and most of all I missed my home. I want to spend my retirement here, at home" he explained.

At the moment it isn't known why the wanted person was in prison. According to the Austrian radio station ORF, the 64-year-old has to serve the last six-months of his sentence. Under Austrian law, escaping from prison is not punishable by an additional sentence, so the returnee only has to serve out his remaining sentence and can then settle back in his home country as a free man. ■

CONCERT SERIES ON THE ISLA BAJA

The start of Caprichos Musicales

From May 11 to July 20, on the Isla Baja in the north west of Tenerife, the Caprichos Musicales series of events begins with numerous free weekend concerts that are offered alternately in Garachico, Los Silos, Buenavista del Norte and El Tanque.

The musical activities begin on May 11 with a lyrical gala. The programme Dos voces... a escena (Two voices on stage) consists of arias and duets from operas, musicals and operettas interpreted by Lara-Clare Bourdeaux, Daniel Molina



↑ The Ensemble CSMC will perform pieces by modern composers

and Nauzet Mederos. The concert will take place at 8pm in the former monastery of San Sebastián in Los Silos.

At the same venue, this time at 12.30pm on the following Sunday, May 12, the contemporary ensemble of the Canary Islands Conservatory of Music (CSMC) will perform. This new ensemble, led by José María Vicente, aims to form a new generation of performers. The repertoire includes works by mainly contemporary composers from the 20th and 21st centuries. ■



↑ The man hid among the tourists for over a decade

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