

OPERATION DASYPELTIS

Drug gang dealt bitter blow

CHARITY CONCERT

'For you, mum'

The Rotary Club, in collaboration with the Tigaray folk group, is organising a benefit concert in the Andrómeda Hall at Lago Martiánez in Puerto de La Cruz on May 4.

The proceeds will go to the Kindly Light (Luz Amable) project, which supports young mothers and their children who have lost their homes. They offer temporary support until families can stand on their own feet again, as we reported in edition 839.

The concert will begin at 8.30pm, and admission costs €15. If you wish, you can also simply make a donation by paying into a bank account using 'Fila 0' (row zero) as the transfer heading. The account number is: ES 75 0182 5310 6900 1015 4833. Please indicate 'Luz Amable' as the intended purpose. All monies will flow one hundred per cent into the project. ■

Guardia Civil officers from the Santa Cruz-based Organised Crime and Anti-drug Unit (EDO), in collaboration with colleagues in Madrid, have arrested a total of ten people on suspicion of being members of two different drug cartels.

They are accused of various offences relating to drug trafficking, membership of a criminal organisation and money laundering. With this operation, officers believe they have managed to strike a significant blow against the local drug mafia. The investigation began into a criminal organisation made up of Venezuelans who had settled in southern Tenerife. Members apparently procured drugs from South America and used their contact with a Colombian, who's been living in Tenerife for over ten years, to sell the drugs in large quantities. The gang evidently collaborated with a group in



↑ Ten suspected drug dealers were arrested during the operation

Venezuela which obtained the narcotics in Colombia and then selected people to transport the cocaine inside their bodies across borders. They had incorporated numerous security measures into their procedures which included never choosing direct flights, but instead travelling to Tenerife via several stopovers. One such carrier, who reached the island via three countries, was arrested following his arrival

in Tenerife. Later, four other suspected members of the gang were arrested. Over the course of the investigation, the drug squad discovered another Dominican organisation based in Parla and Fuenlabrada in the community of Madrid, and arrested another five people in that area. In both Madrid and Tenerife, officers searched eight of the gang members' homes and seized extensive material: over



↑ Numerous pieces of evidence and 2.5 kilograms of cocaine were seized



↑ The operation was a bitter blow to the drug mafia

two and a half kilograms of cocaine, €5,560 and \$2,627 in cash, just under 279 grams of substances used to prepare drugs, four vehicles, two simulated firearms, 224 mobile phones and various IT materials. The judges ordered that seven of those arrested be taken into custody without a bail option. The remaining three were conditionally released with charges. ■

E-MOBILITY AT THE MOTOWN SAGULPA FAIR

Quiet motorcycles for hire

From around mid-May, a new service will be offered in Las Palmas de Gran Canaria, which is already working well in major cities such as Madrid, Barcelona and Seville.

The project to make electric motorcycles available for sharing in the city was presented at the fifth LPA Motown Sagulpa, a motorbike meet with a theme of 'sustainable urban mobility'. An app will show an interested user the motorcycle nearest to their location, which can then be picked up and returned

later to any of the designated parking areas in the city. Helmets and other accessories are stored in the E-bike. Usage will cost 0.20 cents per minute and each motorcycle picked up will have a fully charged battery and can be used indefinitely. The Urban Silence Ecomobility Canarias service will initially provide 30 vehicles at six points in the city. The fleet will then be expanded to 100 motorcycles, which will then be available at all Sagulpa car parks. ■



↑ Electric motorcycles are intended to ensure quiet mobility in the city

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