

## The COFFEE NOOK

Best Coffee - Best toasted sandwiches with:  
**Australian Ham, Salami and Mortadella.**

Central Hotel. Avenida Presidente Nicolau Lobato. City.  
Near Bravo and Diak Photo. Look for Megatours at front. **141**



This month featuring:  
**Australian Meat Pies!**  
Plain Beef or  
Chilli Beef and Cheese.  
And Aussie *Rosella* Tomato Sauce !



## SPORTS

### Spanish Grand Prix: You need a strong neck to race here - Nico Hulkenberg



The plane banks. The Mediterranean glistens on one side; on the other, Barcelona and its intoxicating mix of hedonism and history. Touch down, and everything is reassuringly familiar, as it should be after a quarter of a century. Point the hire car north, through town up the Ronda Da Dalt, on to the A7 towards Girona, and soon, there on the left, is the towering silver pit grandstand of the Circuit De Catalunya. The surroundings change little. Wooded hills, an industrial zone, some scrubby land, fields. Gravel road into the car park, walk over the bridge, under the tunnel. Glimpse the Pyrenees in the distance, pass the medical helicopter, turn left into the paddock. Usually, Bernie's bus would be on the left. Will Chase Carey have one this year? What lies ahead? A weekend of intrigue and gossip, as ever. A packed media centre, probably - this race cheaper to attend than the 'fly-aways' that precede it. Lots of developments on the cars, for certain. A slightly dull race; quite possibly. The track has many qualities - a superb mix of corners; some real challenges for the drivers; a comprehensive test of a car's capabilities. But overtaking has always been difficult, and that's hardly likely to change. But so many memories, nonetheless. Ayrton Senna and Nigel Mansell side by side, millimetres apart. Michael Schumacher's genius in torrential rain in 1996. The rise in spectators numbers that coincided with Fernando Alonso's emergence. The roof coming off when he won in 2006. That bizarre win for Pastor Maldonado in 2012. Alonso again, overtaking Kimi Raikkonen and Lewis Hamilton in one go around the outside of Turn Three on his way to victory in 2013. What will this year bring? No matter what, like settling down with a favourite movie in front of a warm fire, a weekend here will always be something to savour. **You need a strong neck!** This is where those long pre-season spells in the gym really pay off. The Circuit De Catalunya is a physically demanding track with fast corners that really test those neck muscles to the limit. "It's a physical circuit with all the high-speed right-handers, so you need a strong neck," says Renault driver Nico Hulkenberg. "You'll really know about it by the end of the race." **A quirky stat** Valtteri Bottas won his first race in Formula 1 at the Russian Grand Prix last time out. If he follows that with victory in Spain, he will become the 11th different winner in the past 11 Spanish GPs. *BBC*

### Australia v England: New Perth stadium not ready for third Ashes Test

Perth's new stadium will not be finished in time for the third Ashes Test between England and Australia, with the Waca set to host instead. Cricket Australia confirmed delays to the new 60,000-capacity stadium will mean the match from 14-18 December will revert to the city's traditional venue. The five-Test Ashes series starts in Brisbane on 23 November, with Adelaide, Melbourne and Sydney also hosting. "It's good now we have some certainty," said CA chief James Sutherland. CA confirmed the change after meeting with the Western Australia government and Western Australian Cricket Association representatives. "We knew that everything needed to come together but it was still disappointing," said Sutherland. "We were really hoping that the Test match could be played at this magnificent new stadium." The regional authorities hope the fifth one-day international between Australia and England on 28 January will take place at the new venue. Sutherland added it was "probably unlikely" that any of the domestic T20 Big Bash League or Women's Big Bash League matches in the 2017-18 season would be played at the new stadium, with the Perth Scorchers franchise to host matches at the Waca. England have not beaten Australia in Tests at the Waca ground since 1978. *BBC*



### Andy Murray: Madrid Open exit concerns world number one



World number one Andy Murray said he is 'concerned' following defeat by Borna Coric in last 16 of the Madrid Open, but denied being low on confidence. Murray was beaten 6-3 6-3 by Coric, ranked 59th in the world, on Thursday. The Briton has endured a tough season on clay, suffering a shock defeat in the last 16 of the Monte Carlo Masters last month and also losing in the semi-finals of the Barcelona Open. "I definitely think I need to be concerned about today," Murray said. "It's not always the worst thing losing a match, but it's sometimes the manner of how you lose the match which can be concerning or disappointing." Coric, 20, only gained a place at the tournament after Richard Gasquet withdrew - becoming the first lucky loser to reach the quarter-finals in the Madrid tournament's 16-year history. The Croat broke his Scottish opponent three times in the opening set, and a further break in the second was enough to secure victory in one hour and 25 minutes. Top seed Murray hit 14 winners to his 28 unforced errors, but insisted his poor performance was not down to a lack of confidence. "I was just making lots of mistakes early in the rallies and trying to end points very quickly at the beginning, and the errors just kept piling up," the 29-year-old told *BBC Sport*. "I didn't feel that was down to confidence - I just wasn't focusing as well as I needed to on each point. "I made a lot of unforced errors and I also didn't find any way to make it a more competitive match, so that's the most disappointing thing for me. "You can lose matches sometimes, but the manner of today's loss was disappointing." This result will come as a shock to Murray's system. He had seemingly been growing in confidence, and rediscovering his rhythm little by little as he made his way from Monte Carlo to Barcelona, but now has just one week in Rome to find the form and belief which would make him a genuine contender for the French Open. His first serve, which has been hindered by an elbow injury, was not to blame against Coric, who played aggressively and fluently and took full advantage of Murray's error-strewn performance. *BBC*

## FEATURE

### Pope Francis on special trip to Portugal's Fatima shrine

Pope Francis is embarking on a high-profile pilgrimage to Fatima in central Portugal, a shrine where he plans to make two shepherd children saints. It is 100 years since the two - and a third child - reported seeing the Virgin Mary while tending sheep. The third is also on the way to sainthood. Portugal has boosted security and reimposed border controls, suspending the Schengen open borders pact. More than a million pilgrims are expected. The three revered children are dead. The Roman Catholic Church attaches great value to their visions, as Mary is believed to have revealed truths to help mankind. The Church says the first vision came on 13 May, 1917. In a video message to the people of Portugal, **the Pope said** he was going to present himself to Mary "and I need to feel you close, physically and spiritually, so that we are one heart and one mind". Jacinta and Francisco Marto are to be canonised on Saturday. They died in the 1918-1919 European influenza pandemic. The so-called three secrets of Fatima were written down by the third child - their cousin Lucia dos Santos - who died in 2005, aged 97. The beatification process for her began in 2008. **What are the three secrets?** They are **prophecies written down by Lucia**, years after the apparitions that the three said they had witnessed. She spent her adult life as a nun at a convent in Coimbra. The first two secrets in Lucia's account were revealed in 1942. The first described a terrifying vision of hell, with a "great sea of fire", demons and human souls. The second is interpreted as Mary's prediction that World War One would end and that World War Two would start during the papacy of Pius XI. Mary also called for the "consecration" of Russia, saying: "If my requests are heeded, Russia will be converted, and there will be peace; if not, she will spread her errors throughout the world, causing wars and persecutions of the Church" Lucia sealed the third secret in an envelope, which was handed to the Vatican in 1957 and only revealed in 2000. It described an angel demanding "penance!", then the Pope and other clergy climbing a mountain, only to be killed by soldiers firing bullets and arrows. **What does the Vatican say about them? According to Pope Francis's predecessor, Benedict XVI**, the visions described in the three secrets are "meant to mobilise the forces of change in the right direction". They are not like the Bible - a text he describes as a "public revelation", which ended "with the fulfilment of the mystery of Christ as enunciated in the New Testament". The Fatima visions are "private revelations", he writes. Their purpose is "to help live more fully" in accordance with Christ's teaching. The late Pope John Paul II was shot by a Turkish gunman on 13 May 1981. He believed that his survival was due to Mary's divine intervention, and that the third secret had predicted the attack on him. John Paul donated the bullet to Fatima, and it was inserted into the crown adorning a statue of Mary there. **What about Pope Francis's visit?** He follows John Paul II and Benedict XVI, who also made pilgrimages to **the Fatima Sanctuary**. He is to arrive on Friday afternoon, for a 24-hour visit. There will be a torch-lit procession on Friday evening and a Mass on Saturday. Portugal is deploying 6,000 police and emergency workers at the site daily. Concrete blocks have been placed on approach roads, to stop any terrorist "ramming" attack with a vehicle. Only nine border crossings are open, with systematic checks, as Portugal has suspended Schengen. A Portuguese man called Carlos Gil is known as "rent-a-pilgrim", *AFP* news agency reports. He charges €2,500 (£2,110; \$2,717) to walk to Fatima and worship there on behalf of a Catholic who cannot make the trip. Local accommodation is far more expensive than usual, as hotels and residents cash in on the papal visit. *BBC*



### Mexican who searched for 'disappeared' is killed



A Mexican business woman who headed a group of 600 families searching for their disappeared relatives has been killed. Miriam Rodriguez Martinez was shot in her home in the town of San Fernando in Tamaulipas state. She was known for successfully investigating the kidnap and murder of her daughter by a local drug cartel, the Zetas. The information she gave the police ensured the gang members were jailed. But in March one of them escaped and her colleagues said she started to receive threats. Her colleagues said she had asked for police protection but was ignored. The Mexican human rights commission issued a statement saying it deplored her murder and called for a full investigation. Mrs Rodriguez founded the local collective in her town for families who were victims of violence after her daughter was kidnapped in 2012. She had managed to find her daughter's body in a clandestine grave and put her murderers in jail. She also foiled an attempted kidnapping by the Zetas of her husband, when she chased the gang in her car, at the same time notifying the army who then managed to arrest them. The group she established was part of a wider trend which mushroomed after the October 2014 disappearance of 43 rural student teachers studying at Ayotzinapa in the southwestern state of Guerrero. Frustrated by a lack of government help, groups of families began their own searches for people who had disappeared in their areas, taking courses in forensic anthropology, archaeology, law, buying caving equipment and becoming experts in identifying graves and bones. There are now at least 13 of these groups across the country. The administration of former President Felipe Calderon (2006-2012) militarised the Mexican security forces to fight the drug cartels. In 10 years, the so-called war on drugs he launched left tens of thousands of murder victims with numbers varying widely between civic institutions and government figures. The International Institute for Strategic Studies (IISS) issued its annual survey of armed conflict on Tuesday, saying that 23,000 people had died in Mexico in armed conflict in 2016. The Mexican government has questioned these figures. *BBC*

### From Wit's Dictionary

Flu

An ill wind that makes everybody blow good.

Lisa Kirk