



## sports

### Successful sailing team

In August the crew of the sailing boat Marina Rubicón won one of the trophies in the famous sailing competition "Copa del Rey". They participated for the first time and achieved the first trophy ever for a Lanzarote crew. In the class of the x35 boats the Marina Rubicón competed in, (in Palma de Mallorca) they were against over 15 other crews. The winning trophy was handed over to them by the King of Spain, Juan Carlos.



### Sport Conferences

Playa Blanca is developing more and more into a meeting point for the sports elite. In the month of July, two prominent sports conferences took place in the hotel Princesa Yaiza. At the meeting of professional football trainers, famous Spanish coaches such as José Antonio Camacho (Real Madrid) and José Mendilibar (Athletico Bilbao) discussed the use of modern techniques in the preparation of football games. Only one week later the handball elite met in Playa Blanca. The Duke of Palma, Iñaki Urdangarin, former handball star and long time member of the Spanish national team offered a workshop about sponsoring as an income for teams and events. At the same time the trainer of the national handball team, Juan Carlos Pastor, and a lot of first league coaches, discussed the most modern trends in their sport.



## art

### Yaiza and the arts

In the cultural centre Casa de la Cultura Benito Pérez Armas, right in the centre of Yaiza, the municipality regularly organizes art exhibitions. Among others this year, you could see an impressive photography exhibition, Foto Press 05, organized by the social works department of the bank La Caixa. Since 1982 the bank has organized this competition for professional photographers. The winners of the year 2005 were praised by the public for their photographs of immigration showing their touching human content and great professionalism.



### Casona de Femés inaugurated

Last summer the municipality of Yaiza opened Casona de Femés as a second place for art exhibitions and cultural events. The first exhibition in this traditional 19th century house presented works of the local painters Luciano Martin and Adolfo Areizaga. In the last edition of "Good advice in Playa Blanca" we ran a full length article on the artist Adolfo Areizaga and his work.



## the municipality

### Refectory and kitchen for school in Yaiza

During a visit to the primary school in Yaiza the mayor José Francisco Reyes announced that shortly the school will have its own refectory and kitchen. For a long time the parents of the pupils have demanded a "comedor" to provide a better service for their children during lunchtime. As Maria Teresa Villaverde Vialrelle, the director of the school told us, there is a detailed plan for both the construction and financing of the refectory and kitchen. The only thing missing is for the Municipality to keep its promises to carry it all out. Parents and school officials are expecting to inaugurate the "comedor" during the school year.

One of the highlights of the last year was an excursion of the 5th and 6th grades to London. As a gift for participating in an English-Spanish project the pupils were given the opportunity to go to London for one week.

### Fiestas de la Virgen del Carmen

Each year in July Playa Blanca traditionally celebrates, as do all fishing towns in the Canaries, fiestas in honour of the Holy Carmen, patron of fishermen. For over 50 years the Virgin Carmen has officially been the patron of the town. Over 10 days the whole town is beautifully decorated, and each night in the harbour a big fair is set up with different events for the whole family. The highlight of the fiesta is the traditional sea procession where the fishermen of the town carry the statue of the Virgin Carmen on their decorated boats through the Playa Blanca harbour. A spectacle which every year unites a lot of people on the promenade in order to watch the celebration. To entertain the people this year, a small band played right on the small beach in the centre of the old town.



### Central parking spaces

During the last few months the parking situation in Playa Blanca has definitely improved. Next to Hiperdino's parking there is now also underground parking for everyone in Calle El Coreillo. This has given parking space in the centre of Playa Blanca without going round and round trying to find somewhere to put your car. You will find this parking opposite the post office, where you can leave your car in the shade out of the heat of the day and all points of interest in the village are only a short distance away.

## hotels

### Hotel Princesa Yaiza news

The 5 star hotel Princesa Yaiza, on the promenade, this summer opened the Boulevard, a new area of the most up-to-date shops. From the Plaza Princesa Yaiza you can get into the Boulevard to check what's on offer at shops like Puma black label, Imaginarium, Eva Divine exclusive, Sun Planet, El Club del Gourmet and Sam. Also the directors have told us that the restaurant Isla de Lobos on the Plaza, now has a totally different menu. Ivan Dini, the new chef of this superb restaurant, uses the finest local ingredients to produce a spectacular new menu. Since this summer Felipe Vázquez is responsible for all the activities in the Plaza and he says that the newly established events like the daily live music at midday and in the evening will go on during the whole year. Other activities like the market will be changed in the timetable. For the autumn and winter seasons new activities are planned, for example concerts with popular Jazz musicians in Club 4 Lunas. As you see it is always worthwhile visiting the Plaza to see what's going on and what's coming up.

