

# Majorca Daily Bulletin

Tuesday, December 15 2015

1€ · Founded 1962 · N.15843 · Passeig de Mallorca 9 A,  
Palma 07011



**ARSENAL TO FACE BARCELONA IN CHAMPIONS LEAGUE: SEE INSIDE**

# Spain heading for coalition government, says latest opinion poll

**S**PAIN'S ruling People's Party (PP) held onto its lead in the last polls before Sunday's general election, but looked set to fall well short of a majority, leaving the door open to potential pacts.

Surveys published yesterday suggested the conservative PP would top the poll, with the main opposition Socialists (PSOE) and two newcomers, liberal Ciudadanos and left-wing Po-

demos, following closely behind.

No new polls are permitted under Spanish voting rules after the end of today.

The fragmented vote is unusual for Spain, where the PP and the PSOE have traditionally alternated in power. A deep economic crisis marked by soaring unemployment and corruption scandals has broken their dominance, leaving many seeking alternatives.

With the last official survey on 3 December showing as many as one in three voters were undecided or planning to abstain and the four main parties in such close proximity, the final outcome remains highly uncertain.

A minority government could also be on the cards, as Spain's parliamentary system makes any number of ad hoc alliances possible should the winner fail to gain an outright majority.

Prime Minister Mariano Rajoy and Socialist leader Pedro Sanchez fought to win over undecided voters yesterday evening in the last televised debate before the ballot.

The largest of the four polls published yesterday, by Sigma Dos showed the PP winning with 27.2 percent, followed by the PSOE on 20.3 percent, Ciudadanos with 19.6 percent and Podemos with 18.4 percent.



The festive period has arrived in style. The Scandinavian community celebrated Santa Lucia in the Plaza Cort on Sunday and there were plenty of other events.



## British resident held in Guantanamo Bay says UK officers witnessed torture

**T**HE last British resident to be held at the U.S. prison camp in Guantanamo Bay has told a newspaper that British security officers witnessed him being tortured by American soldiers at Bagram air base in Afghanistan.

Shaker Aamer, a Saudi national married to a Briton, was suspected by U.S. authorities of being an Islamist militant associated with al Qaeda but was never charged with any crime. He was released in October after 13 years detention at Guantanamo and has returned to Britain. In an interview with the *Mail on Sunday* newspaper, Aamer said he was held in a cage at Bagram before his transfer to Guantanamo, and that his American interrogators had beaten him and deprived him of sleep. "They were accusing me of fighting with Bin Laden in the battle of Tora Bora; of being in charge of weapons stores; of being a terrorist recruiter, though I'd only been in Afghanistan for a few weeks," he said.

"This American guy grabs me by the head, and he slams it backwards against the wall. In my mind I think I must try to save my head so I tried to bring it forwards, but as soon as I do he grabs it again and bashes it."

**MAJORCA GETS INTO THE FESTIVE SPIRIT IN STYLE: SEE INSIDE**