

## Majorca Daily Bulletin

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Majorca facing volunteer crisis: See Inside

Increasing property prices adding to the strain on Balearic housing: See Full Report Inside Today

# NO TIME FOR A CHANGE



● Balearics reject call for clocks to move to British time despite appeal from acting Prime Minister Mariano Rajoy.

A change to Greenwich Mean Time from Central European Time has been debated for some years in Spain. Geographically, it would make sense for Spain to share the same system of time as the UK and Portugal given that mostly all of the country lies to the west of the Greenwich Meridian. The acting government of the Partido Popular is in favour of the change, as are PSOE and Ciudadanos. Along with other measures, it is believed that the change would help to rationalise working hours.

However, the support is not universal, especially in the Balearic Islands, which lie to the east of the Meridian and are therefore more suited to the time system as at present. A Podemos parliamentary deputy, Baltasar Picornell, has raised the matter with the regional employment minister, Iago Negueruela. Both agree that the current system should remain as it is. For Negueruela it is an “electioneering” ploy by the Rajoy administration. The minister believes that if there is to be adjustment of working hours, this needs to come via labour reform.

The president of the Majorca Hoteliers Federation, Inmaculada Benito, thinks that the change would be “bad news” for the Balearics. The islands base part of their competitiveness, she argues, on the hours that can be spent outdoors and therefore under the sun. Various activities would be affected, she notes. These would include cycling, golf and sailing. Podemos agrees with the hoteliers (for once) and so do some representatives of CAEB, the Confederation of Balearic Business Associations. It recognises that there isn’t unanimity on the subject.

## Andy Murray aware of Rafa Nadal injury during practice last week

**L** Andy Murray knew nine-times French Open champion Rafael Nadal was struggling with a wrist injury when he practised with the Majorcan during the build-up to Roland Garros.

“I practised a bit with him last week and I knew there were some issues with the wrist,” world number two Murray, who is through to the last 16 in Paris told Eurosport. “He’s won this nine times and was playing really well so for him to withdraw from

the tournament, it would have to be a pretty serious injury. It’s a great shame for Rafa and the fans and a shame for the tournament.”

Fourth seed Nadal, who will be 30 next week, stunned the tournament on Friday when he announced he was pulling out despite dropping only nine games in his first two rounds.

He said the problem was with a tendon in his left wrist and that scans had shown he was in danger of a serious injury if he did not stop playing.

It was a huge blow to the tournament as Nadal had been expected to face world number one Novak Djokovic in the semi-final, having lost to the Serb in the quarters last year.

Seven-times grand slam champion John McEnroe called Nadal’s latest injury “extremely disappointing.”

“We’ve seen him play for many years and it’s always been a concern about how his knees would hold up,” the American told Eurosport in his daily spot.



Nadal and Murray training on Majorca.