

Majorca Daily Bulletin

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18 tons of sand goes "missing" from top local beach

Palma.—An estimated 18 tons of sand goes "missing" every year from the pictureque Es Trenc beach, according to new research.

A new report suggests that every beach-goer "removes" around 33 grammes of sand, every time he or she goes to the beach; it either

clings to their body or clothes. With Es Trenc receiving at least 5,000 users every day the figures rather speak for themselves. The alarm-

ing loss of sand at the island's top beach has boffins worried especially as the local authorities try to protect Es Trenc in every way.



Prince Philip back in the driving wheel

London.—Prince Philip drove to a horse show in Windsor yesterday, the first public sighting of Queen Elizabeth's 96-year-old husband since he left hospital last month after a hip replacement.

Former naval officer Philip sat behind the wheel of a black Land Rover at the Royal Windsor Horse Show and chatted to the queen.

Philip retired from public life last August, quipping at the time that he was no longer able to "stand up much".

Catalan parliament to vote on new leader on Saturday

Catalonia's parliament is to vote to approve a new leader of the region today (Saturday), in the fifth attempt to form a government since the last administration was fired by Madrid nearly seven months ago for declaring independence. Former leader Carles Puigdemont, now living in

Germany, put forward little-known Catalan member of parliament Quim Torra as the new candidate in a televised address published on social networks late on Thursday. The speaker of the Catalan parliament Roger Torrent said in a statement yesterday he had proposed Torra as candidate to be regional president after consult-

ing with political parties, and the parliament would vote on the appointment today. The separatist movement in the wealthy north-eastern region has failed to form a government despite winning most seats in a December election called by Spanish Prime Minister Mariano Rajoy after Puigdemont's secession attempt. Time is run-

ning out to form a new administration, as the parliament must vote in a leader before 22 May or fresh elections must be called. A new election is likely to return similar results to the last, a poll showed. All four previous candidates proposed by the pro-independence movement were blocked by the courts.

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