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Plus more see page 4



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This week's exclusive offer

algarve resident

The Algarve Community's English-language newspaper since 1989

Madeleine leads not credible, say Portuguese police

ALGARVE P.2

Three arrested for credit card fraud and drug trafficking

ALGARVE P.4

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ALGARVE P.4

POLICE ARREST SIX FOR ILLEGAL REMOVAL OF RARE SEA CORAL

War-time police arrested six individuals last week for the illegal removal and exploitation of a rare coral off the Algarve coast.

ALGARVE P.5

MP CALLS FOR URGENT ACTION TO SAVE CONSTRUCTION SECTOR

Portugal's Minister for Economy has promised to look into the current crisis affecting the construction sector in the Algarve after a local MP called on the government to save it from "imminent bankruptcy".

PORTUGAL P.8

GOLD IS ONE OF PORTUGAL'S FASTEST GROWING EXPORTS

Portugal's gold exports soared 547% in February and March when compared to same period last year, representing €133 million in sales outside the country.

PORTUGAL P.9

LATE PAYMENT OF SALARIES AFFECTED OVER 7,000 WORKERS

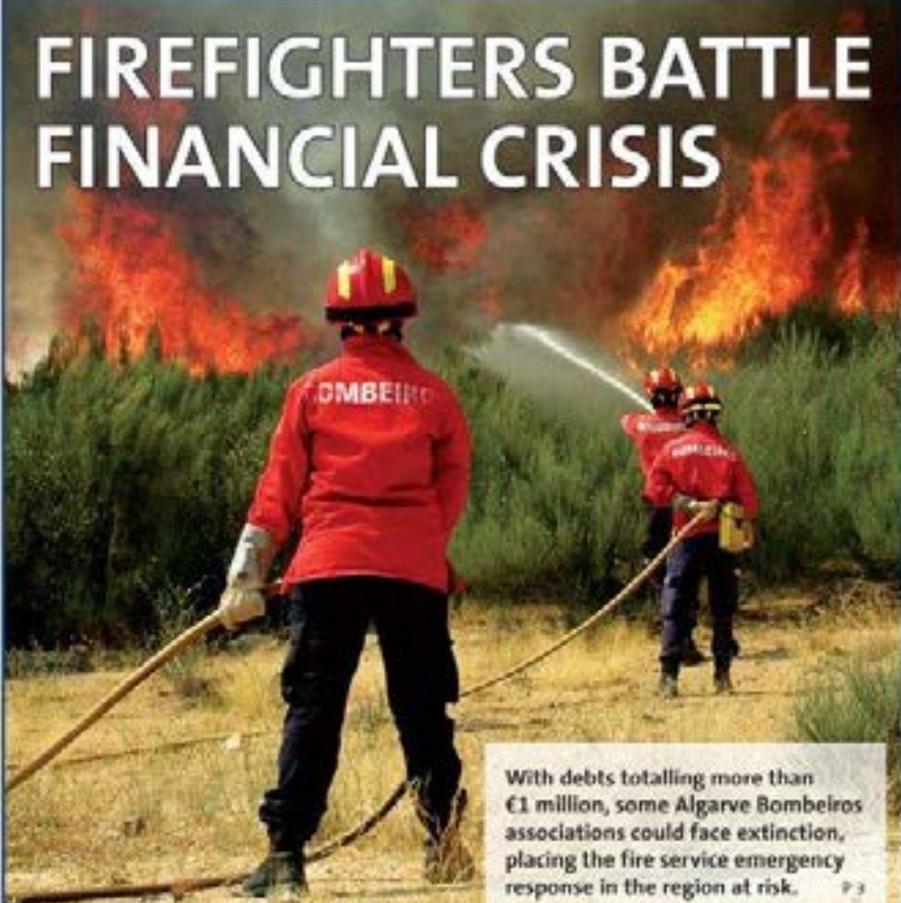
SPECIAL FEATURE P.24-26



Food
Wine
News
Reviews
Reader offers
Recipe competition

RESIDENT GOURMET

FIREFIGHTERS BATTLE FINANCIAL CRISIS



With debts totalling more than €1 million, some Algarve Bombeiros associations could face extinction, placing the fire service emergency response in the region at risk. P.3

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business profiles

Please say you saw it in the *Algarve Resident* if visiting any of the featured businesses

Express your style with Lindy Velas

In difficult financial times, giving your home a makeover, even if it's just a room or two, can give your spirits just the uplift you deserve.

And with spring upon us after an amazingly sunny Algarve winter, why not get out and see what's in store at *Lindy Velas* in Fonte de Boliqueime?

Linda Dubbelt Disse has been joined by her talented daughter, Sigourney, and

they source their hugely varied stock from Holland, India, Thailand, Indonesia and all points east.

There's certainly a trend nowadays towards the more modern end of the taste spectrum, but which encompasses the 'rustic chic' look as well. When some of these styles are mixed with quality manufacturers' products from Europe, an eclectic and very personal style can emerge.

Lindy Velas shows how these styles can be mixed with great panache.

The Big Green Egg is already the firm favourite of some of Europe's most well-known chefs and here in the Algarve, it has been taken up enthusiastically by some of our own top chefs. It is a smoker, a grill and an oven, and it will cook literally any type of food. *Lindy Velas* is the proud sole agent for *The Big Green Egg* in Portugal

and demonstration days are planned for the summer.

So, whether you need to replace, upgrade or simply want to refresh your home surroundings, do have a look at what *Lindy Velas* has in store – you'll be very pleasantly surprised by the styles and the cost.

■ Please contact 289 366 734 or email lindyvelas@hotmail.com or visit www.lindy-velas.com.



■ Linda and Sigourney of Lindy Velas



Photo: SUPPLIED

Toldolanda Lda, the awning specialist

Providing a range of solutions for sun, wind and rain, and with 25 years experience, *Toldolanda* can say with conviction that they are specialists in their field.

An awning is enrichment to a property that maximises outdoor living and even increases property value if the correct awning is chosen, which is where *Toldolanda* and their expertise can help.

Toldolanda is the sole

supplier in Portugal for two high quality brands, *Weinor* and *Brustor*.

All products supplied to *Toldolanda* are subject to the strictest European standards, come with a five year guarantee and are EC certified.

Toldolanda director Petra said: "The awnings we provide should last a lifetime, however it is good to know that it is always possible to replace parts if necessary or if you make home

style changes and wish to change the fabric. We have a wide range of fabrics, with UPF protection, long lasting colour, and all our products are of a very high quality and made to measure."

If you would like to see *Toldolanda's* products, you can make an appointment

to visit their office where they have a good selection of products constructed on site and clients can see how they can work in their home and fit in with their lifestyle.

Visit *Toldolanda* and their multilingual team at the *International Algarve Fair*, Lagoa on June 2 and 3.

■ For more information or to set up an appointment, please contact 282 411 245 / 914 609 517 or email: info@toldolanda.com or visit www.toldolanda.com.

New owner at The Curtain Centre

It is all change at the *The Curtain Centre/Galeria de Arte* in Almancil as since the beginning of this year the business has been taken over by new owner Jane Rackham.

Jane used to run a similar business in London but the allure of the Algarve proved irresistible to her, swaying her to make it her permanent residence.

The Curtain Centre offers

customers a complete range of bespoke soft furnishings such as curtains, blinds, curtain tracks and poles, bedspreads, headboards, cushions and upholstery.

A professional fitter from the centre is on hand to make home visits in order to take exact measurements and before a client goes ahead with a project, they will be given a detailed estimate of costs.

The furnishings are handmade 'in house' at the professional workroom above the shop before being hung in a customer's home.

All stages throughout a project are supervised and nothing is left to chance, ensuring quality, immaculate results.

The Curtain Centre can help with all projects, be it simply a couple of new blinds to spritz up a room or a whole house.

Situated on the road between *Apolónia* and *Vale do Lobo*, the shop is easy to find so why not pop in for a visit and have a coffee while choosing from the very large selection of fabrics available?

■ For more information, please contact 289 355 442 or email on thecurtaincentre@gmail.com.



Photo: SUPPLIED



Photo: SUPPLIED

■ Certified personal trainer Marco Baioa

Boot Camps in Algarve: where your journey begins

Now taking place at *En-costa do Lago* in *Quinta do Lago*, *Marco Baioa Boot Camps* are an incredibly efficient way to give your fitness a serious boost.

Marco is a renowned trainer in the Algarve and has many endorsements in testimonials from grateful clients. Whatever you need to focus on can be improved during any of the *Boot Camp* sessions.

Everyone is welcome to attend and the *Boot Camps*

serve all fitness levels. Marco's specific outcome is to plant seeds of information which result in changes in behaviour patterns and, in turn, lead individuals to a healthier lifestyle and an enhanced zest for life.

He believes that everything is possible for any individual who decides to step up and make their fitness transformation a life-long celebration.

The 'Where Your Journey Begins' *Boot Camp*

experience is a participant's journey back to who they really are, what their body deserves and their prescription for health and fitness for the future.

Boot Camps are available in a variety of specifications including *Luxury Residential Boot Camps*,

Daily Fitness Boot Camps (mornings and evenings), *Youth Fitness Boot Camps/Holiday Sessions*, *Personal One to One Fitness Boot Camps*, *Private Fitness Boot Camps* (in your own home), and *Tailor Made Fitness Boot Camps* (for groups of friends/teams).

■ For more information, please contact 289 395 796/916 101 114 or enquiry@algarveluxurybootcamp.com or see www.facebook.com/marcobaioabootcamp or warriorfitnessbootcamp@groups.facebook.com or www.algarveluxurybootcamp.com.