

English pages

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THREE PRESIDENTS UNITED IN THEIR VIEWS

Pleasure boating authorities want better moorings control

Authorities overseeing navigation by leisure boats in island's three major ports want fundamental solutions to problems before growth can occur

JOHN S. NUNN

Maó

Growth of facilities yes but not at any price. That was the underlying message given by the presidents of the Estaciones Náuticas, of Maó, Ciutadella and Fornells. They all agreed that the plans for future development in their ports for leisure craft would be beneficial to the island as a whole. Particularly they see benefits for expansion of this sector of the tourist industry.

However, they underlined the need to tackle the current chaotic situation relating to moorings in some areas. Es Grau was singled out as a particular example. Here, boats are anchored practically up to the seashore. They pointed out that if boats are anchored so close to the shore they limit other leisure activities such as swimming and those that are developing for tourists, such as pedalo and kayak hire.

"The coastline is long and, if well organised, there is space for everyone" they said.

In the case of Fornells, the president Carme Roselló, is keen to establish a network of contacts to sound out opinion as to



FORNELLS. A variety of water-based activities are on offer in a wonderful setting

how future development should proceed. Already it has been made clear to her that people in her village do not want to see much of an increase in the number of jetties nor a type of growth that is out of control.

Maria Teresa Gustems, president of Maó's Estacion Náutica,

welcomed the announcement of the future allocation of the quay in Cala Figuera to leisure boating interests. But this will not take place until 2011.

All parties stated that they are noticing a major increase in the numbers of people using the mooring facilities in their ports.

Fornells is looked upon as the premier destination. It offers a host of facilities including sailing, windsurfing, diving and kayaking equipment for instruction purposes and for hire. In addition there are competitive events for windsurfers and for dinghy sailors.

IN BRIEF

New roundabouts planned at island junctions

■ As part of the expenditure planned within the new road-works budget, announced recently, two new roundabouts will be built.

One will be located at the junction of the Fornells to Es Mercadal road with the north coast route to Maó; the other at the turn off to Binixica on the Maó to Cala en Porter road. A large proportion of the 80 million plus budget will be spent on the new Ferreries bypass.

Seven people injured in four car pile-up

■ Kilometre 32, close to the junction for Cami dels Alocs, west of Ferreries, was the scene of major hold ups last Wednesday. The accident, on the island's main road Me-1, involved four cars.

The collision between a Hyundai Matrix, occupied by a foreign family of four, a Fiat Punto with two occupants, a Fiat Panda and an Opel Corsa happened at 1600 hrs.

Seven of the eight passengers involved were taken to the Clínica de Menorca in Ciutadella. Fortunately by 2130 all had been discharged.

The junction to Es Grau was the site of a second accident on Friday, when a car overturned, no one was hurt.

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