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Latest News

Headline

Europe Direct Leeds runs an adult language exchange which aims to help adult language learners to practice their new language skills. This can be between two native speakers or as part of a group that brings together native speakers and learners.

Headline

The EU knows it takes a lot more than two to tango, so Belgium is staging a big dance event to mark the start of its six-month EU presidency.

Headline

Moving on from the World Cup to the Tour de France. You all know that here at Europe Direct Leeds we are always 100% impartial ;but wouldn't it be nice if Alberto Contador could bring home the big prize to add to the Spanish football success

The Theories of the Beautiful Game

And what is at the Heart of the European Union

The beautiful game has just produced worthy European victors Spain. Spain joined the European Union 1986 in the heart of civil unrest when their GDP was \$244,019M. Then through the help and guidance of the EU, Spain as managed to in 2006 produce a GDP of \$1,233,988M . Despite some current economic difficulties the GDP of Spain has grown 5 times in size since joining the EU, and now winning the world cup is just one of many ways Spain has shown the rest of the world that it is again a united nation again, this is mostly down to the leadership of the EU and the aid and help it brings to its member states.

I have played for many football teams in my time (fourteen and three quarter years), but the ones that have flourished are the ones with strong leadership and well thought out team plans. The Dutch national football team is supporting evidence to this theory. On paper they were given odds of 16/1 to win the world cup and they were self admittedly nothing compared to the Dutch "Total Football" teams of past. Yet it was only a late Spanish goal in the dying embers of the game in Soccer City, that stopped them defying all odds and surpassing all the Dutch sporting giants before them by winning the world cup. They were able to come so close to this goal because of their hard work, the leadership of their coach, their preparation and their overall team spirit. You will probably be saying all well and good but what has this got to do with the EU? I would say that this has everything to do with the EU. Hard work, team spirit and leadership are what make the EU tick. It's what helped improve the life of the Spanish when they joined. It's the thing that is driving life expectancy up across all member states and it's the belief that we can create a new world where we forget the differences of the past and build the similarities needed for a brighter future. Any schoolboy/girl can tell you this, so I should know...

Liam Armstrong, Cardinal Heenan Catholic High School Yr 10

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Don't Miss Out Hot Topics in Europe this month

Tour de France
Belgian Presidency
Holidays

WebNews Monthly Picks



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<http://www.fairtradel.co.uk>

and for help planning
your European inter-
rail holiday

<http://www.seat61.com/>

Great Europeans of the Past

Christopher Columbus (1451-1506)

Born in Italy and patron to the Spanish king Ferdinand and Queen Isabella of Spain. Columbus was one of the first true masters of the seas he set sail from the Iberian peninsula to try and find another route to China for his Spanish bosses. What he found though was what was later described as "the New World" whilst he believed he'd reached India having travelled right round the world. Columbus brought back potatoes, chilies and avocados (just to name a few).

He hoped to claim the Americas for the Spanish and their culture can still be seen across America, with Spanish being the most widely spoken language on the continent, (not to mention the fact that it is in the top five most spoken languages in the world).

Liam Armstrong, Cardinal Heenan RC High School

Europe Direct Leeds Holiday Lingo Tip



le tour de France



la tour Eiffel

Get that one wrong and you'll be back through le (?) Chunnel before you know it

Great Europeans of the Present

Eddy Merckx (1945-Now)

One of the greatest sportsmen of his generation, a cyclist born in a war ravaged Belgium he mastered all aspects of the bike and he is widely acknowledged as the best cyclist in history.

He most likely would have had many more victories had he not been involved in a crash at the back end of the 1969 season, where one person died, and Eddy himself was knocked unconscious with a badly injured pelvis. Yet the next season he was back fighting but had to retire in 1972 at the age of 32 he still is one of the greatest of all time. This year's Tour de France will cycle through the Home Town of Eddy Merckx or the 'Cannibal' as his friends know him.

This Month's Q&A

Q: Which European cyclist has won the Tour de France the most times?

Lance Armstrong

Eddy Merckx

Alberto Contador

Carlos Sastre

Big hint; his photo's on the right

