

Majorca Daily Bulletin

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Keep fit and the gym on hold in Majorca as a result of Covid

Palma.—Gyms in Majorca have gradually been getting back to normal now that the Covid restrictions have been relaxed, but it's a slow process with only 20%-30% of subscribers compared to 2019.

There has been a marked improvement in children's activities, such as dancing and swimming and figures could reach pre-pandemic levels by the end of the year, according to the Association of Entrepreneurs of Sports Facilities President, Naty Company.

Gyms are also seeing an increase in the number of new members.

"The return to sport is due to several factors. A lot of people realise that they've been lead-

ing a sedentary lifestyle during the pandemic and others who have physical, health or psychological problems have been advised to do sports," say Javier Lerma and Laura Ruiz, Anytime Fitness owners. In 2020, the health crisis had a massive impact on enclosed spaces including gyms, as members were laid off from their jobs. "Now we are seeing many members re-joining," says Lerma, who's noticed that there is a strong desire to get fit again. There's also been an increase in requests for advice in gyms, which Naty Company says is mainly due to people taking a greater interest in looking after their physical and mental health.

The Canaries are safe and the volcano is a great show, says minister

● 5,000 people, including hundreds of tourists have been evacuated but minister says "it is a wonderful show..."

The Canary Islands are safe to visit and a volcano eruption there is a "wonderful show", Spanish Tourism Minister Reyes Maroto said yesterday, just hours after 5,000 people, including hundreds of tourists, had to be evacuated. The volcano - the archipelago's first eruption in 50 years - blew on Sunday, spouting lava hundreds of metres into the air, engulfing houses and sending molten rock towards the Atlantic Ocean across a sparsely populated area of La Palma, the most northwestern island in the archipelago. "The island is open," Maroto told Canal Sur radio, calling the eruption "a wonderful show".

"There are no restrictions on going to the island ... on the contrary, we're passing on the information so tourists know they can travel to the island and enjoy something unusual, see it for themselves," she said. Maroto's remarks drew immediate criticism from Teodoro Garcia Egea, secretary general of the opposition Partido Popular who posted an article on Twitter quoting the minister and asked: "Can someone confirm the minister said that while hundreds of people are losing everything they have?"



Widespread damage caused by the volcano.

Balearics, most popular holiday spot in Spain: SEE PAGE THREE INSIDE