

57-YEAR-OLD WAS INJURED IN A FALL ON HOLIDAY IN MARBELLA



■ Stranded - Gary Cotton, 57, is currently in a coma having fallen from an 8ft fence but hospital staff want him gone

£20k appeal to bring granddad in a coma home

A GRANDFATHER who is in a coma in a Spanish hospital faces living out his days in a foreign care home unless his family can raise thousands of pounds to fly him home.

Gary Cotton, 57, who lives on his own in Harwich, booked a holiday to Marbella with a group of friends once the coronavirus travel restrictions had been lifted.

On the final night of his holiday, Mr Cotton climbed an 8ft fence in a bid to gain access to his hotel room after leaving his key with his roommates.

It is then believed he lost his footing before plummeting to the ground and landing on his head, leaving him unconscious with blood coming from his nose and ears.

After being spotted by a holidaying couple, an ambulance was called, and Mr Cotton was rushed to a specialist hospital in Malaga, where he has re-

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mained since August 29.

Having suffered brain damage, the former carpenter was placed in an induced coma and required round-the-clock care as his body was unable to function without medical assistance.

His family, including his heartbroken daughter Carly Plume, 35, who is 16 weeks pregnant, was told at first there was nothing the doctors could do.

"I was in shock, you don't know what to do, and it was hard to get information because the hospital staff do not speak English," said Carly.

"Breaking the news to my 84-year-old nan was awful because she has already lost her other son and it looked like she could lose him as well.

"She is in a state and we are

all finding it difficult to even think straight now."

Earlier this week, however, Mr Cotton's family, including his five grandchildren and second daughter, were told he was breathing on his own.

But because he remains in a coma, he now requires more care than medical intervention, which hospital bosses say is not their responsibility.

Carly added: "We were told he needs to leave and either they would put him in a care home in Spain or we pay for a private air ambulance to bring him home.

"We want to get him home, but we cannot afford the costs of an air ambulance. It's heart-breaking."

Carly is now desperately trying to raise £20,000 to bring her father back to the UK.

To donate, visit justgiving.com/crowdfunding/help-to-get-gary-home.

Man hurt in robbery bid

A MAN suffered a puncture wound during an attempted robbery.

The incident happened at about 10.40pm on Monday and police are appealing for witnesses.

A man reported he was approached by two men in Malyon Close, Braintree, who attempted to take his bag from him.

The victim, a man aged in his 30s, refused and the men tried to cut the bag off causing a puncture wound to his shoulder.

A police spokesman said: "We attended the scene before attending the hospital with the victim.

"We are continuing to carry out our inquiries and we would urge anyone with information to call Braintree CID on 101 quoting crime reference 42/152429/20."

Car raider is jailed by court

A MAN has been jailed after admitting interfering with cars.

Tony Coppin admitted four charges of trying to get into the motor vehicles in Colchester when he appeared at Chelmsford Magistrates' Court.

The 27-year-old, of Ladbrook Drive, Colchester, was jailed for eight weeks and must pay a £122 victim surcharge.

Advertorial

Owner of Burcart & Lewellen retires

The owner of Burcart & Lewellen Ronnie Allwright retired from the family business this week because of his age and disability.

Both companies Burcart (established in 1922) and Lewellens (established in 1874) are both Clactons oldest established iron mongers & household good shops, where you can still buy one nail, one screw, and one nut.

Ronnie's son Richard and his son Ryan now own the business and will continue to run the business in the good old fashion way that it has always been done.

Ronnie said he will miss the shop and serving the people of Clacton and he will be very sad to leave.



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