

Gulf Weekly

The community newspaper at the heart of Bahrain



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BAHRAIN.OURS.YOURS.

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8th International Family Fair
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On Friday, 24th November 2017
*Part of the proceeds from the IFF 2017 go to a local charity

THANKSGIVING WITH THE ROOSEVELTS



A GROUP of servicemen and women are set to enjoy Thanksgiving dinner at the Bahrain home of the grandson of a former American president who was responsible for formally setting the date for the annual family festivities.

The kingdom is home to the US Navy's Fifth Fleet, which patrols the seas of the Middle East and Central Asia, and it includes aircraft carriers, destroyers and other ships.

It protects shipping lanes in the Gulf and nearby waters as well as being the naval arm of Central Command, and its aircraft perform combat missions when called upon.

Often, crew members go months without making contact with loved ones back home and, it was for

EXCLUSIVE
By STAN SZECOWKA
editor@gulfweekly.com



this very reason Hall Delano Roosevelt and his wife, Janice, decided to open their doors last year.

It turned out to be an emotional rollercoaster worth repeating. "Jan and I were thinking that there was a good chance that there might be a number of young navy and marine personnel - men and women - that are here, a long way from home, missing their families terribly," explained Del. "We wanted to do something."

Turn to Page 2



TASTY TREAT: The traditional turkey feast and, above, Del and Jan with some of the marines who joined them for Thanksgiving dinner last year

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Laughter and tears via Skype



TUCKING IN: Del and Jan's Thanksgiving dinner party with base guests and friends and, below, a US navy crew on duty

From Page 1

"I can't speak for everybody but at least for our family - the Roosevelt family - Thanksgiving has always been a big one for us. It is right up there with Christmas, it's above Halloween and equal to a birthday celebration ... for us it is a reaffirmation of what family means."

The couple also knows the feeling of being apart as their grown-up sons, James Austin and Hall Delano II, are back in the US. They stage a Skype dinner/breakfast at 6am Bahrain time with all their family members via laptops strategically placed on empty seats in both rooms beaming live images between California and the kingdom.

They set about serving a full spread for themselves and friends with some special guests after contacting the base's chaplain to see if he could suggest a half dozen or so youngsters serving their country who might benefit from joining them for a traditional feast.

"We told him that we'd love to have them come over and, sure enough, we had six marines who had been on a ship for who knows how long," said Del, 58, as he is known to friends.

He is the grandson of late President Franklin Delano Roosevelt, often referred to by his initials FDR, and First Lady Eleanor, and he is also a direct descendant of former President Theodore Roosevelt. Del is a director of global new business development for Saudi-based Reza Investment Group, vice president of the AmCham Bahrain Board and an executive board member of the American Mission Hospital.

Family matters soon became evident when the young marines settled down at the Roosevelt's villa in the Northern Governorate. Del explained: "We noticed they were being a little quiet when they first arrived, which is understandable, because they were in a new household and they might have been told 'you're going to go to this guy's house and, by the way, his grandfather was President of the United States' and all of this you know, extra baggage."

"But I could sense there was something else. I said: 'So are you guys, you OK, you know I hope you weren't told to be here?' and then one of them said: 'Well, if I might, Sir' do you guys have Wi-Fi? This is very rude, I know, we're in your home but would you mind if we signed on to your Wi-Fi?'"

They explained that although there were ship-to-ship connections, for security concerns they could not communicate further afield whilst on duty on the high seas. Del asked them: 'So you're here on Thanksgiving and you haven't had a chance to talk to your families', and they replied: 'that's about the sum of it'.

"Then all of a sudden we

had all six of them rushing to separate rooms and we were breaking out our phones, iPads and laptops."

"It was an experience that Jan and I will never forget," said Del. "They would run out the room and say 'Mr Roosevelt, Mr Roosevelt' would you come, I want you to meet my mum."

"We would go in the room and they'd say: 'it's so nice to meet you'. Everyone was in tears, we were crying, the mums were crying, the marines were crying. It was such an amazing moment."

"It really captured the essence of Thanksgiving, a chance to reconnect on a family level and, when you get the chance to do something like this, it makes it all the better."

"We will do it again this year. We have told other families and we expect it to become a multi-family, multi, multi turkey event in our home ... and we hope to be able to share the experience and have more young military people come over."

That's food for thought for the Roosevelts who couldn't believe the appetites of last year's young guests. "We cooked three extra turkeys thinking that should about cover it, along with a green bean casserole, piles of freshly-baked rolls and all sorts of different side-dishes one would have at Thanksgiving, like mashed potatoes and all of that. But you couldn't find a piece of food left at the end. Mind you, these guys were all enormous and they had so much fun!"

That was par for the course. The centrepiece of contemporary Thanksgiving in the US is a large meal, generally centred on a large roasted turkey, which is only enjoyed once per year.

The majority of the dishes in the traditional American version of Thanksgiving dinner are made from foods native to the New World, as according to tradition the Pilgrims received these foods, or learned how to grow them,

from the Native Americans. Thanksgiving dinner is the largest eating event in the US; people eat more on Thanksgiving than on any other day of the year.

Turkey is the most common main dish of a Thanksgiving dinner, to the point where Thanksgiving is sometimes colloquially called 'Turkey Day'.

Most turkeys are stuffed with a bread-based mixture and roasted. Sage is the traditional herb added to the stuffing, along with chopped celery, carrots, and onions. Other ingredients, such as chopped chestnuts, crumbled sausage, cranberries, raisins and apples are often added too.

The consumption of turkey on Thanksgiving is so ingrained in American culture that each year since 1947, the National Turkey Federation has presented a live turkey to the President of the United States prior to each Thanksgiving. They have typically been given a mock 'pardon' to great fanfare and sent to a park to live out the rest of their usually short natural lives.

Thanksgiving in the US was observed on various dates throughout history. However, in 1941, President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed a joint resolution of Congress changing the national Thanksgiving Day to the fourth Thursday of November. Two years earlier, Roosevelt had used a presidential proclamation to try to achieve this change, reasoning that earlier celebration of the holiday would give the country an economic boost.

Thursday, November 23, is the big day for people to give thanks for what they have. Thanksgiving Day parades are held in many US cities and towns and some enjoy a four-day weekend.

● If you miss out on an invitation to the Roosevelt's party check out the other celebrations planned across the island on Pages 8 & 9.



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ARTISTS and photographers from the American Women's Association (AWA) are showcasing their powerful paintings and moving pictures in a bid to celebrate creativity, as well as to raise money for its charity fund which is dedicated to those in need across the island.

Twenty talented members and supporters are participating in the eighth VISIONS Art Exhibition staged on the second floor of Bahrain Financial Harbour's Atrium Harbour Gate.

They launched the event last Saturday with a ribbon-cutting ceremony performed by Khalid Kanoo, the deputy group chairman of Yusuf bin Ahmed Kanoo Group.

The exhibition features 111 fine art and photography pieces in a wide variety of styles, subjects and approaches. According to Irina Averinos, AWA's Art Group chairman, it was entitled VISIONS because it's a reflection of the different nationalities, backgrounds and inspirations of all those who took part.

Irina, 58, who has been a member of the association since 2008, said: "AWA is made up of around 40 nationalities coming together to support the kingdom's community. In this exhibition alone we have women from Canada, UK, Jordan, Russia, India, Pakistan, Bahrain and Yemen, as well as the US, participating.

"It made sense to call the exhibition by that name because we have so many women involved who have their own visions and stories to tell.

"Some artists based their paintings on their culture while others were inspired by their travels and life

Ladies hooked on art!

ENTERTAINMENT REPORT
By MAIAL KHATIB-CAMILLE
maial.khatib@gulfweekly.com

experiences. This gives each artist a chance to express herself. Some artists and photographers are also not a part of the AWA but wanted to show their support to our fundraising which supports around 30 local charities in Bahrain.

"We also want people to enjoy our work and come together in support of great causes and love for art."

The work features different styles from realistic to abstract with the artists using various mediums including water colours, acrylic and oils, plus mixed media and silk.

Irina, a mother-of-three, who has been featured in various exhibitions and curated many herself, painted three oil canvases, one of which is made up of three panels representing a jelly fish she spotted in an aquarium. She used special techniques to give her other fishy subjects a realistic appeal and look.

Artist Anamika Nambiar also featured touches of realism to her six pieces on show. The 45-year-old based in her paintings on the facial expressions of dancers from South India.

The expat mother-of-two, who lives in Saar, is studying for a degree in fine art as part of a distant learning programme, said: "I used to paint a lot of landscapes but realised along the way that I liked faces and expressions.

"I am so happy to be a part of the AWA and be able to show my work through them.



ON DISPLAY: Irina's work is angling for attention and, below, art lovers flock to the show, Anamika and the ribbon-cutting

I have been in Bahrain for two years now and I originally joined for its art group but became heavily involved in many other activities. It's full of wonderful women coming together to support good causes in the kingdom."

The artwork exhibited vary in prices from BD50 to BD1,000 and part of the proceeds of any sold will go to the fund. The exhibition, open from 10am to 7pm, ends tomorrow.

For more details, contact Irina on 36069978 or email iaverinos@yahoo.com



The BBBF, in conjunction with the BBA, presents its annual

Poppy Ball

TICKET SALES

Members and non-members BD35pp
(inclusive of welcome reception drinks, buffet dinner & selected beverages)

Diplomat Radisson Blu Hotel, Bahrain

Thursday 16th November 2017

Join us and our VIP Guests "The Chelsea Pensioners"

Formal Dress Code: Ladies – Evening/Cocktail Dress Gents – Black Tie or National Dress
Timings & Entertainment 7 – 8pm – Welcome Reception – 8pm – Dinner (buffet) – 9.30pm till late with DJ and Live Band DIRAZ DIRAZ

DIRAZ
DIRAZ

Tickets can be purchased from the 1st October from the following outlets

British Club Reception (1772-8245) – Sunday – Saturday 9am – 9pm (cash only)

The Bookcase, Budaiya (1769-0566) Sunday – Thursday 9am – 8pm & Friday 10am – 2pm (cash only)

Dilmun Club Saar – (17690926) Sunday – Saturday 9am – 9pm (cash only)

Bahrain Rugby Football Club Reception – Saar Sunday – Saturday 9am – 9pm (cash only)

For more details or to reserve a table contact the BBBF office
Email: bbbfvents@batelco.com.bh or Telephone: 1781-3488

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THEY say it takes a community to get things done - that was never more evident than with the Think Pink Longest Ribbon Challenge held at the Bahrain International Circuit (BIC) on September 23.

On the day, more than 827 pre-registered volunteers looped the circuit to create the longest hand-held ribbon, officially measuring 13,124.65km, being approximately 105,000 pieces.

This activation would not have succeeded without your support and trust, and true

belief in our charity- for which we are very much grateful.

The status of the application is with our charity lawyer as we provide the governing bodies for the record attempt with their specifics. This application processing procedure will take five to six months before we can rightfully announce a Guinness World Record.

Our independent lawyers and surveyor are adamant that this unique event will most certainly constitute a record that will last many years - none of which would have been possible if you

had not believed in the charity and the event itself.

We have had an incredible awareness month this October, and can communicate with you our standing in relation to the ribbon, as for most part, the funds have been collected from the sponsors.

Our audit will take place in December, but we can communicate with you that the charity now has BD52, 921.500 (after expenses) raised from the Longest Ribbon Challenge.

This will be utilised on breast cancer specific issues in line with our three pillars: awareness, education and research. The executive board plans to fund the remaining amount due for the ● i check mobile application - the first Arabic breast self-examination application in the GCC, launching in December. This initiative was based on local research which would better educate the community about breast awareness. Being free for both Android and iPhone on Google Play and Play Store, the full project was developed by the charity as part of awareness and education ● National Breast Cancer Guidelines being developed with the support of the Supreme Council of Health and the NHRA. The International Peer Reviews will mean that it is signed



FLASHBACK: Jules at the BIC

off for best international evidence based best practice and the charity will take ownership of ensuring that dissemination to every family practitioner and health centre, whilst also making the algorithms and pathways available on our website, leading to better shared decision making between our patients and clinicians

● The funding in full, of up to 10 Bahraini nurses from Salmaniya Medical Complex's Oncology Centre, to receive comprehensive training focusing on critical aspects in chemotherapy and other disciplines that will ultimately better support our community's cancer patients. This three-month course is hosted in King Hussain Cancer Centre in Amman, Jordan, and is accredited by the American Nurses Credentialing Centre (ANCC), a prestigious endorsement not held in Bahrain

THE WHISPERER

You don't know me; I know you, I know what's being said about you. I'm the 'whisperer'. I am socially mobile: Arab, Brit, Indian, Pakistani, American and the rest, they all invite me and share their world with me. Not much gets past me but if you think it may have done, email me on ...

...editor@gulfweekly.com

A FRIEND of *The Whisperer* is downsizing and selling up furniture on local social media platforms. An 'interested' buyer made contact and although clearing spotting that the 'in perfect condition with new mattress' bed was available for BD60 proceeded to make a genuine offer of BD10.

So upset, the seller increased the price to BD70, so he offered her BD20 ... so she upped the price once more to BD80. It totally confused the gentleman.

Irony is lost on some people.

THIS month is Ben Stiller's birthday and that reminds us of the ever famous *Night at the Museum* movie (and sequels).

It not only entertained us infinitely but also lay open a bank of historical information that a 'sciency' person like me would have found too vast to explore through another medium.

I think that movies like these could really augment the information that people our age must have about the world's journey so far, taking us through tales of important people.

You know, I really wish that all museums could have come to life at night and we could have interacted with famous

Youth Talk

By
Saamia Zia



people about current issues.

I can't help but think that my research project would have been phenomenal had I found Nikola Tesla at a nearby museum, my work experience impeccable had I assisted Einstein and, my evenings, a lot more interesting if I was sipping coffee with Gandhi or Mandela, discussing peace.

History exists to be relived, and there is no better way to do that than to find the magical Egyptian tablet!

SIMPLICITY died long before chivalry. Everyone was so busy getting rid of the latter that they did not get time to mourn the former. Its presence was missed decades later by the few who found a void in their souls.

Simplicity is a virtue, we are taught the expression as a metaphor, a way of life that made everything easy - simple, straightforward expressions, simple short truisms.

I cannot speak for the many but personally I mourn the death of simplicity, much more than chivalry.

It must have been a serene existence when women did not have to rush to the parlour every week to get their facial hair threaded, plucked or waxed painfully off, when laughter lines were showed off proudly as a symbol of a sense of humour. The



Mariam's moments

wrinkles around the eyes were flaunted as a sign of a happy life.

I envy the times when living was simple. A dress or two was enough to be thankful for. A pair of boots, one pair of slippers and a good heeled shoe was considered luxury. The chase for one luxury brand after another, one more care after three, piles of jewellery, a stack of makeup ... oh, the list is so long that the mere thought empties my soul.

The void left by the death of simplicity will never be filled by Master or Visa cards. The beauty and purity of my words, emotions and expressions is gone forever, never to be found again; the deep sea of materialism is reinstated by social actors as a sacrilegious duty.

AT LONG last my favourite season has arrived, the winter months being a time of growth, abundance and colour.

With the intense summer heat long gone and the arrival of cooler less arid conditions it's time to 'plan the planting' so the garden can erupt into a rainbow of colours that should take it through to mid-April or longer.

It's time to brighten up my days with potted colour and with the help of my fabulous gardener, Petunias and Geraniums have recently been potted, already offering a pop of colour after the dull summer tones - changing from barren land to green garden.

Recently at my book club, each member was given a Vietnamese Mint plant by the hostess, who has seriously green fingers. She had brought back the seeds from a trip to

Ellissa's island life

An expat wife,
mother, artist
and runner



Australia and had lovingly brought them to life.

I have often thought that gifting a plant or herb as a unique but perfect gift to give to friends, knowing it has been planted, nurtured and grown especially for them.

My mother has a green thumb too, she can grow absolutely anything. Friends call her for advice or to nurse a dying plant back to robust health. Her vegetable garden gives her a bounty of fresh organic vegetables all summer long and with any excess going into the honesty box.

I too have always enjoyed gardening and the weather

means more when you have a garden, particularly here when seasonal difference and temperature are two major factors affecting what can and cannot be grown. So when things do grow here, it's very rewarding.

I remember the expression the children wore when their seeds from their Eden Project summer trip sprouted in our Bahrain garden into the fascinating Sensitive Plant, a plant that can move - its leaves fold up when touched.

It's always a joy to find a new developing flower bud or watch your green tomatoes ripen to red.

I can't wait to cook, freeze or eat something that has grown in the garden this winter.

This year I am adding strawberries to my tomatoes and chili and I'm looking forward to giving some strawberries to friends, that's if the children or birds don't get to them first.

Alas, lavender, one of my favourite insect attracting, calming flowers eludes me and, as to date, I have only managed a little sprouting before death descends.

A gardener from the popular Budaia garden centre is used to my regular visits and I have told him about my failings with the plant. He explained to me he has been in Bahrain as a gardener for 28 years and he grows everything from seed. He has agreed to take on the challenge and told me to return in two weeks, watch this space ...

**Breast Cancer Society,
PO Box 15005, Adliya.**

WITH reference to the prize competition in last week's *Cerebrally Crust & Crema* page. Was this a trick question, or simply a typo? The correct answer of 6% fat should, I think, read 0.6% fat - the volume of fat contained in drip-filter coffee.

**Regards,
Sandra Mallin, by email**

● **Editor's note:** You are quite right - and many of our readers noticed the error of our ways. Apologies! I hope you all continue to enjoy the puzzle page.

See Page 17

THE magnificence of Bahrain's multi-cultural majesty will be on display once more at one of the most popular school and community events of the calendar year.

Preparations are in full swing for the eighth International Family Fair celebrating global culture at the British School of Bahrain.

This year's event being staged at the large Hamala campus is being organised by the interim board of the Parent Community Association (PCA) and numerous countries representing the backgrounds of pupils will be represented.

Chairman Ellen van Manen-de Boer said: "I feel that the global culture at the BSB contributes to a strong community feeling. The students of numerous backgrounds work so well together and that makes this school such a truly diverse entity."

"For the parents, this is where the PCA can play a major role too. We are there to include all our parents and help make our school community even stronger."

"The fair opens all our eyes to our amazingly rich range of cultures. We are so lucky and it gives us all a great chance to celebrate diversity and enjoy what so many different countries have to offer."

Alongside all things British and Bahraini, visitors will also be able to enjoy a taste of the Ellen's home country, The Netherlands, alongside Nigeria, Malaysia, Ireland, India, China, Greece, Cyprus, Australia, New Zealand, Sudan, Palestine, Jordan, Turkey, Mexico, Nicaragua, Pakistan, Poland, Romania, Egypt and others too.

Country stalls will highlight the rich heritage of each country with decorations and traditional fare on show

A fair way to celebrate

COMMUNITY REPORT

By STAN SZECOWKA

editor@gulfweekly.com



as students gather to put on displays and performances dedicated to their homelands, alongside sporting activities, fun games and gymnastic displays.

A marketplace with local entrepreneurs will also show off the enormous talent for arts and crafts in the kingdom and there will be a display of festive decorations native to many of the countries participating.

After the Friends of the BSB dissolved four years ago there was no official parent body until January when a few enthusiastic mothers and fathers decided to try to revive the idea.

They organised a few meetings amongst themselves and ended up attracting more than 220 people for one gathering alone, allowing an interim board to be elected by all those in attendance.

The PCA now organises all kinds of events to raise funds for school groups such as the sixth-form leavers, social and charity committees, as well as good causes.

All the funds go towards non-curriculum activities and the heads of school are also asked to submit a 'wish list' for consideration, such as a plea for a new 3D printer for the senior school and extra books for the school library.

The PCA is led by the parents and although it does not have a seat on the BSB board it happily informs head of school, Julie Anne Gilbert, of its plans.

Currently Ellen is joined by five others on the interim board, with Danielle Payne -



INTERIM PCA BOARD: Ellen, Danielle, Anupam, Eileen, Randi and Hameed at set for the family fair

vice chairman, Eileen Rosier-Korver - secretary, Randi elHadi - PR officer, Anupam Kinger - treasurer and Hameed Mohri - member.

Since the election in March they have been raising money for the PCA by means of a bake sale, two tabletop sales and have organised a Staff Appreciation Day and a Think Pink breast cancer awareness Bake Sale. A teddy bear raffle will take place in December, an art auction in January, and there are plans in the pipeline for a Spring Fair in March.

At the moment all energy is focused on pulling off a successful International Family Fair on Friday, November 24. Proceeds will go to the PCA with 10

per cent donated to a local charity approved by the school. Entrance will cost

BD1 (children aged two and under free) with gates opening at 10am. The fair will close at

3pm and all are invited to enjoy the fun and experience the delights of diversity at Hamala.

Fallen but they are never forgotten

THIS year's Remembrance Service and Wreath Laying Ceremony were staged at the British Embassy instead of the Old Christian Cemetery in Manama due to the number of people who expressed an interest to attend.

Three visiting UK war veterans - Chelsea Pensioners Sergeant Michael Allen, Warrant Officer (Class 2) John Carbis and Warrant Officer (Class 1) Carl Hayhurst - were guests of honour at the service conducted on the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month.

Foreign Minister Shaikh Khalid bin Ahmed Al Khalifa and British Ambassador Simon Martin were among the many diplomats, officials, dignitaries and guests marking the anniversary of Armistice Day.

A two-minute silence was observed and wreaths were then placed on a memorial of the fallen soldiers of the First World War.

During the course of a week-long stay in Bahrain, the Chelsea Pensioners, who are guests of the Bahrain British Business



MARCHING ON: Chelsea Pensioners return to their seats after laying wreaths at the embassy

Forum (BBBF), will visit schools and clubs. The BBBF, in collaboration with the British Business Association from the Eastern Province of Saudi Arabia, will also hold their annual Poppy Ball tomorrow evening at the Diplomat Radisson Blu Hotel Residence & Spa.

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Klassno rich Arabica coffee
100gm – BD1
 Al Islami minced chicken 400gm
2pcs – BD1
 Jordan green & black olives plain/
kg – BD1
 Kraft cream cheese spread
500gm 2pcs – BD2
 Oleiva extra olive oil 500ml 2pcs
– BD2
 Emborg mozzarella cheese/kg –
BD2
 Anchor natural cheddar cheese/
kg – BD3

Al Jazira Supermarket Zinj

Balance milk/hazelnut chocolate
bar no added sugar 100gms –
BD1.500
 Balance milk chocolate bar no
added sugar 100gms – BD1.500
 Balance 72% dark chocolate
bar no added sugar 100gms –
BD1.500
 Balance dark chocolate bar no
added sugar 100gms – BD1.500
 Balance white chocolate bar no
added sugar 100gms – BD1.500

Jawad Supermarket

Heinz tuna light solid 3x160gm –
BD1.275
 Emborg garden peas 2x450gm –
BD1
 Americana beef shawarma 400gm
1+1 free – BD2.075
 Quaker spaghetti 450gm 2+1 free
– BD1.050
 Al Marai mozzarella shredded
200gm + 20% extra free – BD0.900
 Danao juice assorted flavours
180ml 5+1 free – BD0.500

Gulfmart Stores

Offer valid from November 15 to 19.

Rozana basmati rice 5kg –
BD2.150
 Tide deepio – BD7.990
 Almarai jar cheese blue/gold
2x500gm – BD1.895
 Jannat Al Bahrain facial tissue
7x120 sheets – BD0.695
 Huggies (4 / 4+ / 5) super-flex giant
– BD3.990

Exploring nature and the wild side of life in store

FASHION store Twenty4 has launched its autumn/winter collection together with a new cosmetic department, in association with the Al Hawaj Group, in Bahrain Mall.

Last weekend's event featured a ribbon-cutting ceremony and a fashion show allowing shoppers to 'explore nature' and their 'wild side' this season with animal prints, faux fur, khaki and leather among the elements of a safari-inspired collection.

The store is running a celebratory 'half back' promotion until December 11 meaning bargain-hunters can snap up a stylish new look and get a special reward.

Twenty4 comes under the umbrella of retail group, BMA International, and was first unveiled in Bahrain at the Sanabis mall in 2013 and, as the concept grew in popularity, further stores were opened at Enma Mall, Ramlī Mall and in Adliya.

It has secured a glowing

reputation for youthful modern styles, quality materials and highly-competitive prices.

The introduction of new cosmetic lines allows it to become 'a complete fashion brand' and strengthen its offerings, the company says. The link with Al Hawaj Group brings make-up and perfume giants like Revlon, Max Factor, Maybelline, Essence, Pretty, Rimmel and Bourjois to the store.

Gaurav Kaushik, area operations manager, said: "For a young and trendy brand, we offer fashion at really low prices. We want our customers to buy new fashion as often as they want without burning a hole in their pockets. We want them to feel warm during the winter season in the most fashionable way. So, we look forward to welcoming many more satisfied customers to stores and make Twenty4 synonymous with value, versatility and fashion."

FashionWeekly: Page 10



NEW PARTNERSHIP AND COLLECTION: Officials at the launch and, below, models



Techtronic Specials



Your guide to the best in-store deals of the week

	Item	Make and Description	Store	Price
1	Smartphone	Samsung smartphone (SM J701 J7) core gold, black and silver.	Gulfmart Stores	BD54.990 Pleasenote: this offer is only available in Gulfmart stores until November 19.
2	Smartphone	HUAWEI MATE10 LITE (RNE-L21) smartphone, 5.9-inch IPS LCD display, 4GB RAM, 64GB memory, Octa-core processor, dual 16MP+2MP rear and dual 13MP+2MP front camera, Blue-tooth, WIFI, 4G LTE, finger print sensor, Android OS 7.	Home Electronics	BD133.990
3	Tablet	Multimedia tablet, Touch Mate 10.1-inches dual SIM 3G calling tablet, quad core 1.3GHZ proces-sor, 1GB RAM and 8GB internal memory, WIFI, Bluetooth, FM, GPS and preinstalled MS Office and free universal cover.	Gajria Electronics	BD34.990
4	Twin Wash	LG Signature twin wash, (FH6IBAP22/FH865XBNK3), 12kg washer, 7kg dryer, real materials for timeless design, quick cir-cle user interface, invertor heat pump drying, Smart-thing, auto dosing system, dual control in one display, scratch-proof, corrosion-proof and easy-to-clean.	LG, Sehla showroom	BD1,990
5	Pressure washer	KARCHER K2 premium full control, high pressure cleaner. HP washer, corded, high-pressure gun and high-pressure hose.	Sharaf DG	BD69.990
6	Microwave oven	LG MS2343DARM microwave oven 23ltr capacity, digital display and auto cook.	Sharaf DG	BD19.990

Email your gadget stories to editor@gulfweekly.com

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GADGETS OF THE WEEK

What is it called? MOJO Aromatherapy Slap Bracelet

What does it do? Enjoy the sweet scents and benefits of essential oils all day long thanks to the diffuser included to the slap bracelet. Simply add a few drops of the essential oils and the bracelet will absorb it. It will boost your energy levels, expedite healing and help relieve stress.

Cost: BD13

What is it called? Yomee Automatic Yogurt Maker

What does it do? This yogurt maker simplifies the process of making yogurt and only requires milk and a Yomee pod. With a six-hour duration from start to finish, a few simple stages result in fresh yogurt personalised to your liking. Yomee pods are a combination of yogurt culture and rice starch.

Cost: BD37

What is it called? Neofit Roller Collapsible Foam Roller

What does it do? Collapsing to four inches and expanding to 12 inches, the compact foam roller easily goes anywhere. Featuring high-density EVA foam and inner disc technology, it naturally connects with the contours of your body to help break down muscle tightness and adhesions.

Cost: BD19

Visit www.amazon.com



Business Weekly



Editor Stan Szczowka takes a look at the world of commerce and its movers and shakers



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SOMETHING is seriously brewing on the hospitality front as the kingdom gets a satisfying taste for tea from a café with a difference.

FiLLi Café was unveiled in Manama last May and has proved so popular two more outlets are set to be unveiled today and plans are in the pipeline to introduce the franchise across the causeway in Saudi Arabia.

The refreshing concept has been brought to the kingdom by business development manager Marcus Njorge and Bahraini businessman Adnan Gilitwala under the umbrella of Epitome Restaurant & Coffee Shop Management.

"There are many things that make FiLLi Café special, from the relaxed comforting feeling created by the café's ambiance to the diversity of the menu," said Kenyan Marcus, 30, who comes from the East African country's capital city, Nairobi. "However, the most exclusive factor is the feeling of warmth, bliss and tranquillity that flows through your body after every sip of our tea."

Located in the heart of Manama, across the road from the Yateem Centre, FiLLi Café aimed to become a 'second home' for tea-lovers with a range of uniquely-flavoured beverages that use top quality leaves from Sri Lanka, blended by leading tea-makers in Singapore.

The charismatic owner of the FiLLi brand, Rafih Filli, flew over from Dubai for the grand opening in the spring doing the honours with a ceremonial ribbon-cutting against a backdrop of live music.

Invited guests then enjoyed their first taste of the signature FiLLi Zaffran Chai, a unique combination of steamed milk, tea and saffron ... and the outlet never looked back.

The innovative coveted 'FiLLi experience' promised customers a cool and relaxing atmosphere to savour great-tasting brews prepared by world-class specialists suggesting 'tea n' talk' just got a whole lot more fun.

FiLLi was established in neighbouring Dubai in 1991 and so far boasts 28 outlets in the UAE, three outlets in India, as well as one in Qatar and now a further three in Bahrain, with plans for further expansion – London

Taste of chai takes off



WINNING SMILE: Marcus making his mark in the hospitality sector and, above right, flashback to the grand red carpet opening with FiLLi brand founder, Rafih, in Manama

and New York City within the next year and more than 100 outlets in the UAE by 2020.

When Rafih took over his Indian father's ailing cafeteria – nestled among small convenience stores – he would pray every night for it to make just enough money so that he could pay the staff salaries.

Little did he know that a slight tweak to the menu, which mostly featured shawarma sandwiches and fresh juices, would lead to a change of direction and a chain of cafes he hopes might rival chains such as Starbucks and Costa Coffee in the next 10 years – all thanks to a strong cup of freshly-brewed chai.

Born Abdul Rafih, Filli was a nickname given to him by friends when he was in high school. So when he came up with his special recipe for the milky tea he added to the café's menu in 2004, he called it FiLLi.

At the same time he took down the outlet's original sign and renamed it FiLLi Café – and even went so far as to change his surname to match.

"My dad left the country when the cafeteria started failing, so I stepped in to help run it," said Filli. "I was only 21 then. After three months, I added tea to the menu – this was tea the way I liked it."

After a month of playing around with the recipe and

offering free samples, he began attracting a steady stream of loyal daily customers.

"There is no secret recipe," he is reported to have told one regional newspaper, at the time revealing that the distinctive flavour boils down to the ratios of Assam tea, milk and sugar. "And lots of brewing, of course," he added.

The success of the 'FiLLi' brand has also been based on an unwavering commitment to service of the highest level and a consistency of product quality, taste and freshness that is 'second to none'; not only is the blend of tea and food combinations unique, it is healthy too with no artificial



flavouring, no preservatives and no flavour-enhancing monosodium glutamate ... in a 'tea-cup', it is simply 'fresh and delicious'.

The message certainly appears to have been sold to customers in Bahrain, especially those who had already experienced the café during visits to the UAE. And, it wasn't long before it caught on with locals and expats here.

"Our customers who were familiar with the brand from their time in Dubai were delighted that it was now available in Bahrain," admitted Marcus. "We have also been able to successfully build a following of new FiLLi lovers from Bahrain due to the unique nature of the experience."

"As expected, our Signature Tea is our best seller, and the essence of our brand. It pairs well with our Paratha Bite and Grilled Chicken Salsa Wrap which are our best-selling foods."

The prices are an attraction too. The Paratha Bite mentioned, featuring egg, cheese and Oman chips, costs just BD1 and the Grilled Chicken Salsa, in a spinach / wholemeal wrap, is priced at BD1.600.

And that saffron FiLLi Zaffran Tea that Rafih made his mark with, starts at a mere 600fils (regular FiLLi tea is just 400fils) - the sweet taste of success, if ever there was one!

"Our next branches are located in Hamad Town, more specifically in the Souq Waqif, and a kiosk in Lulu Hypermarket's branch in Riffa," added Marcus. "Both of these locations will help us expand our coverage and reach people who we believe will appreciate our brand being closer to them."

"We will continue to expand



our presence in Bahrain and deliver the exceptional standard of quality that has made it such a success in the UAE. We are currently also in the process of introducing the brand in Saudi Arabia where we expect it to be a hit too.

"I came to the kingdom a couple of years ago and, just like many other expatriates, I came looking for opportunities to enhance my knowledge and propel myself to greater heights in the world of food and beverage."

"Epitome is a new company that is dedicated to enriching people's lives through the beauty and complexity of food in all its shapes and forms."

"It aims to expose people to different culinary sensations through a combination of franchising as well as the development of its own unique concepts. It exists to revolutionise Bahrain's ever expanding food and beverage scene by introducing new ideas that will propel Bahrain to both a regional and eventually a global capital for dining."

"I had the privilege to meet Adnan, a person with a great passion for the industry. His vision and purpose for the sector enabled us to come up with Epitome."

"It is through this same drive that we were able to meet the people behind FiLLi Café who also wanted to partner with people with the same zeal as them. After a number of meetings we were able to successfully take the steps to establish the FiLLi brand in Bahrain."

"The only way to truly understand why so many people in the UAE and, now in Bahrain, can't go a day without a cup of our FiLLi Tea, is to walk into the café and try it for yourself!"

The energy industry's weekly for the GCC

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www.oilandgasnewsonline.com

Today (November 15)

Bahraini artist AbdulRasool Al-Ghayeb is staging his second art exhibition entitled 'Expressing and Modelling in Sculpture' at Hend Gallery in Muharraq. It runs until November 30. Entry is free. For details, visit @arasool_alghayb on Instagram.

The Ministry of Culture Bahrain presents Limitless, a series of original, abstract impressionist paintings created by Bahraini artist Areej Rajab at The Art Centre, The National Museum. The exhibition, which will be held until November 23, will feature two collections of work from Monday to Thursday, from 10am to 7pm. The first is a series of paintings that are intoxicatingly stained, layered and reworked. The second series is the artist's latest work. Entry is free. For details, email sophie@mestaria.com or visit www.mestaria.com



The Building Bridges Film Festival featuring 10 movies is being held at the Cultural Hall. Tickets start at BD15. The festival will run until today with documentaries and movies featuring mountain climbing, triathlons, car racing, graffiti artists and more.

For details on the festival, visit <http://www.buildingbridgesfilmfest.com/>

Crowne Plaza Bahrain is holding a steak night every Wednesday from 7pm at La Mosaïque Restaurant. For more details call 17531122.

The Swiss-Belhotel in Seef's Swiss-Café offers a business lunch buffet from 12.30pm-3pm every day, except Friday. The price is BD8 including soft beverages, and features a wide selection of salads, cold appetisers, mains, fruits, cheeses and pastries. For more details call 66310000.

Thursday (November 16)

The Ritz-Carlton, Bahrain and Bushido are hosting the first FashionTV Island Festival on the hotel's private island. The event will feature models, DJs, live painters, a fashion show, fire jugglers and food created by chefs from the hotel and Bushido. DJ Alex Guesta will be entertaining the crowd. The event, from 1pm to 1am, will be covered by the TV channel

and tickets cost BD10 to BD40. For details, call 17580000.

The Sheraton Bahrain Hotel will be serving traditional Arabic dishes and cold mezzeh from 7.30pm-11.30pm for BD14++ per person. For more information and to book online, visit <http://bit.ly/SHEArabianNights> or call 17533533.

The annual charity Poppy Ball will take place at the Diplomat Radisson Blu Hotel, Bahrain. Tickets cost BD35, inclusive of welcome reception drinks, a buffet dinner and selected beverages.

The dress code is formal evening and cocktail dresses for ladies and black tie or national dress for men. The ball starts at 7pm followed by dinner, a DJ and music from the Diraz Diraz Band.

Tickets can be purchased from the British Club reception in Umm Al Hassam, from The Bookcase in Budaiya, the Dilmun Club in Saar and the Bahrain Rugby Football Club in Janabiyah. Proceeds from the event will go to The Chelsea Pensioners Appeal, The Earl Haig Fund and The Mother and Child Welfare Society. For details, contact the BBBF by emailing bbbfvents@batelco.com.bh or calling 17813488.

Trumpet player and jazz musician Paulo Fresu will be appearing at a free concert alongside Bebo Ferra on electric guitar, Paolino Dalla Porta on acoustic double bass and Stefano Bagnoli on drums at the Cultural Hall starting at 8pm.

The quartet was brought to the kingdom by the Italian embassy and GPIC. The minimum age for attendance is 11.



Le Meridien Bahrain City Centre will be hosting a seafood buffet from 6.30pm-11pm. The price is BD20net, inclusive of soft drinks, and BD34net, inclusive of a free flow of select beverages. For more details call 17171000.

Crowne Plaza Bahrain is hosting a seafood night from 7pm at La Mosaïque Restaurant. For more details call 17531122.

Al Areen Palace & Spa is staging an Arabian Food

Festival at its Saffron restaurant from 7.30pm to 11pm. There will be live cooking stations and a buffet. The festival is being held every Thursday and Friday and tickets are priced at BD12.

For details, contact 17845000.

Friday (November 17)

Celebrate the best of Asian culinary heritage at the Filipino Food Fiesta Brunch at Al Areen Palace & Spa's Keizo restaurant from 12.30pm to 4.30pm, featuring classic dishes and special mocktails. There will be karaoke sessions to add fun to the night. Tickets cost BD12net with conditional discounts available.

For details, call 17845000.

Brave 9 - The Kingdom of Champions event will be held tonight at Khalifa Sports City Arena featuring MMA fighters from around the world. For more details and ticket information, visit www.bravefights.com

Bollywood Steps invites performers to enter the Step Up! Dance Competition at the Cultural Hall. Dancer and choreographer Shakti Mohan will judge the event, with part of the proceeds donated to the Bahrain Cancer Society. Shakti will also be appearing at the Bollywood Steps Studio the day before which will be open to a limited number of students.

For further details, contact 33458390.

Don't miss the Elite Resort & Spa Muharraq's Carnival Friday Brunch with music, merriment, sea views and pool fun all part of the package.

BD14++ for adults and free for children under six and BD22++ with selected beverages. Call 17313333 for more details.

The Sheraton Bahrain Hotel is staging a new Pop-Up Brunch at Al Layali restaurant from 12.30pm to 3.30pm with live entertainment, a carving, curry and chocolate area. It's BD28net inclusive of soft drinks or BD34net inclusive of selected beverages. Guests can book by calling 17533533 or visiting www.sheratonbahrain.com

Le Meridien Bahrain City Centre's 'Sweetest Brunch' takes place from 12.30pm-4pm. The price is BD18++ inclusive of soft drinks or BD30++ inclusive of a free flow of select beverages. Book for 10-plus guests and receive a 20 per cent discount. For more details call 17171000.

The Crowne Plaza Bahrain's popular Absolutely Fabulous Friday Brunch from 12.30pm-4pm will take place at La Mosaïque Restaurant and The Harvesters. It's priced BD31 net and BD8.750 net for children aged seven to 12. Call 17531122 to book a table.

Saturday (November 18)

Al Haddad Motors is organising 'The event of the year' at their showroom in Tubli with a fun family day with market stalls and other attractions. The dealership will also be offering special deals on various Mercedes-Benz models and also introducing the all new E-Cabriolet. The event will run from 8am to 7pm and the offers will be valid until Monday.

● See **MotoringWeekly: Pages 18 & 19**



Saar Mall along with the Embassy of Oman is hosting a ceremony to celebrate the Sultanate of Oman's 47th National Day at 6pm. Diplomats and delegates from the Omani community and other societies have been invited to the event which will celebrate Omani culture with a souq-style market featuring various vendors and food outlets. There will also be a cake-cutting ceremony and prizes to be won including airline tickets from Oman Air and Al Wasat Travel.



The annual AWA Snowflake Craft Fair 2017 will be held at the Diplomat Radisson Blu from 11am to 4pm featuring a variety of handicrafts, art work, goodies and other items for sale. Entry is 500 fils and children aged under five enter for free. Proceeds will go to local charities.

For details, email craftfair@awabahrain.org or call 39282488.

Soak up the stunning views from the Four Seasons Hotel Bahrain Bay's 50th floor and feast on Asian delights like Korean Fried Chicken Bao Buns, Wok Fried Shrimp Dumplings and Brisket

Wontons at the re Asian Cuisine by Wolfgang Puck's Saturday brunch. The price is BD19++ and BD37++ with selected beverages. For reservations, call 17115046.

Enjoy a one-of-a-kind brunch experience at The Ritz-Carlton, Bahrain's Cantina Kahlo which includes selected Mexican beverages, authentic dishes, a taco station and sweet treats. The price is BD35net per person including food and beverages, and BD20 net per person for food only. It takes place from 11am-3pm.

The Ramee Grand Hotel & Spa has launched its new Hangover Brunch every Saturday, from midday to 4pm in its Ruka restaurant on the 24th floor. With an open menu to choose from, explore Asian delicacies such as sushi, maki rolls and Dim Sum. DJ Fab Witte will be providing entertainment throughout the day. The cost is 18++ with soft drinks and BD25++ with selected beverages. For more details call 17111999.

The Bahrain's Bay Kitchen at the Four Seasons Hotel Bahrain Bay is staging a Saturday Brunch from 12.30pm to 3.30pm offering a wide selection of Arabic favourites such as Lamb Ouzi and cold mezzes, costing BD18++ excluding beverages. The hotel is also staging a Saturday brunch at Re/Asian Cuisine by Wolfgang Puck from 12.30-3.30pm. For more details, call 17115000.

Cure your Saturday evening blues with a throwback to the 1980s at The Ritz-Carlton, Bahrain's Primavera restaurant between 7pm-11pm. DJ Elena will be playing favourite old school tunes throughout the night while enjoying selected beverages prepared by creative mixologists. The price is BD10++.

For more details, call 17580000.

Indulge in a wide selection of dishes ranging from different tastes appealing to all tastes from around the world at the Crowne Plaza Bahrain's International Theme Night at La Mosaïque Restaurant. The price is BD14.550net. Call 17531122 for more information.

Sunday (November 19)

The Ritz-Carlton, Bahrain is hosting a Thai Business Lunch every Sunday to Thursday from 12pm-3pm at Nirvana. The price is BD12++

per person. For more details call 17580000.

Crowne Plaza Bahrain is staging an FBI night every Sunday Night at The Harvesters & Terrace and Tracks Sports Bar from 9pm-1am. Drinks are 50 per cent off for employees of the food and beverage industry. For more details call 17531122.

Crowne Plaza Bahrain is hosting a Business Lunch at Waves Seafood Restaurant every Saturday to Thursday from 12pm-4pm. The price is BD8net per person for three courses. It is also hosting a Business Lunch at its La Mosaïque Restaurant every Saturday to Thursday from 12.30pm-3pm. The price is BD8net for three courses or BD6net for two courses. For more details call 17531122.

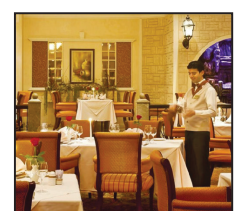
Monday (November 20)

Enjoy smooth Midweek Monday music at Coda Jazz Lounge in Adliya with the sultry sounds of Dihann Moore & The SheGroove Band while tasting bistro-style food. For details, contact 34342828.

Tuesday (November 21)

Jewellery Arabia will be staged at the Bahrain International & Convention Centre until November 25 and entry is free. The exhibition will be open from 4pm to 10pm up to the 24th and from noon to 10pm on the last day. For more information, visit www.jewelleryarabia.com

The Gulf Night Out is back featuring cuisines from the Gulf Hotel's 10 fine dining outlets and live cooking stations, with live appearances from the hotel's dancer from the Lebanese outlet, Zahle. The pool party also boasts a BBQ station with 'smoky surprises' from the grills. Priced at BD19++, the buffet starts from 8pm. For Reservation, please Call 17713000.



The Ritz-Carlton, Bahrain hosts Ladies Night at its Thai Lounge every Tuesday from 7pm-11pm. For more information, call 17586499.

Leisure Guide



Listings, lifestyle, travel, entertainment and motoring by Kristian Harrison

FESTIVE PANEL

THE Four Seasons Hotel Bahrain Bay is offering a 'Turkey to Go' feast for Thanksgiving and Christmas. It's available for home delivery or pick-up from November 23 to December 31.

A roast turkey with chestnut stuffing, turkey sauce, cranberry chutney, mash potato, Brussels sprouts and carrots is priced at BD80++ for eight people.

People can also opt for the roast beef meal that comes with mashed potatoes, roasted vegetables and rosemary sauce starting from BD20++ per kg (per kg serves four to five people).

The hotel is also staging a few merry activities for the holidays. There will be a Festive Shop at The Lobby offering homemade chocolate truffles, Christmas cookies, fruit cake, mince pie and more from December 6 to 31 from 11am to 7pm.

Starting November 24, there will be a Festive Afternoon Tea at Bay View Lounge with tasty goodies from 3pm to 9pm. The afternoon tea, priced at BD15++ or BD28++ for two people, until January 1, 2018.

For reservations, contact 17115500.

There will be a Truffle Dinner at CUT by Wolfgang Puck on December 1 priced at BD75net. The 5-course menu will feature Alba white truffles and paired beverages from 8pm to 11pm.

For details, call 17115044.

BAHRAIN Chef Tala Bashmi will be the guest chef in the continuing series of hosted Chef Dinners in re/ Asian Cuisine. The event will be held on December 15 for BD47net from 8pm to 11pm.

For details, call 17115046.

BAHARAT at Le Meridien Bahrain City Centre is hosting a Pre-National Day Brunch on December 15 from



12.30pm to 4pm with a 50 per cent discount for CPR holders. The brunch costs BD22++ including soft beverages or BD32++ for selected free flow beverages.

There will also be a Pre-Christmas Brunch on December 22 from 12.30pm to 4pm for the same package. Baharat's Christmas Day Brunch, on December 25, from 12.30pm to 4pm is also the same price.

There will be a Baharat's Christmas inspired daily lunch buffet at BD12++, from December 1 to 21 from 12.30pm to 4pm.

From December 22 onwards the business lunch buffet will be priced at BD12++. There will be a soup and salad buffet for BD5.5++ and kids aged 6 to 12 dine at half price. This is daily, except on Saturday, from 12.30pm to 4pm. Le Meridian Bahrain City Centre, Seef (17 171 1441).

Baharat's New Year's Eve Bash on December 31 is from 7pm to 1am for BD30++ with soft beverages or BD40++ with selected free flow beverages.

For details, contact 17171144.

THE Westin Bahrain City Centre will have a 'Turkey to Go' meal

from FURN for people celebrating the holidays, delivered right up to December 25 from noon to 10pm.

Order a minimum 48-hours in advance and orders close at 3pm on December 24. It is priced BD80++ per Turkey and serves eight people.

FURN Bistro will host a National Day Dinner on December 16 with a 50 per cent discount for CPR holders from 7pm to 11pm. The dinner will include Ouzi and other traditional dishes for BD16++ including soft beverages.

Its New Year Extended Breakfast will be available from 6.30am to 3pm for BD11++.

For more information, email restaurants.bcc@starwoodhotels.com or call 1717144.

ELITE Hospitality Group is staging Christmas Tree Lightings at Elite Seef Residence & Hotel on December 2, at the Elite Resort & Spa on December 4, at Elite Crystal Hotel on December 6 and at the Elite Grande Hotel on December 9 all at 6.30pm.

ELITE Seef Residence & Hotel will have a Christmas Eve Grills at Il Giardino on December 24 from 8pm

to midnight with live entertainment and grills. It's BD12++ per person.

The hotel's New Year's Eve Party at Oasis Poolside will be held on December 31 with entertainment, a buffet dinner and unlimited selected beverages for BD48++ for a couple, or BD32++ per person.

For details, contact 17583388 or 38000102.

ELITE Resort & Spa has a Christmas Brunch at Al Naseem on December 25 at 12.30pm priced at BD20++ per person or BD8++ per child.

There will also be a Christmas Party at Shift 7 on the same day at 7pm and entry is BD5.

There will be a New Year's Eve party at the Noor Tent on December 31 at 8pm for BD40net or party at Shift 7 at BD15++, inclusive of bites, unlimited selected beverages and a DJ performance.

For details, contact 17313333 or 38884415.

ELITE Crystal Hotel Christmas Eve Dinner at Waikiki on December 24 will start at 6.30pm with a five-course dinner, unlimited house beverages and a live band. It's priced at BD12++ for food and soft drinks or BD17++ with unlimited house beverages.

A CHRISTMAS Brunch will be staged at Lotus on December 25 at 12.30pm with a multi-cuisine buffet, unlimited house beverages and entertainment. It's priced at BD10++ for food with soft beverages or BD15++ with unlimited house beverages.

THE Masquerade Ball New Year's Eve Bash will be held on December 31 starting at 8pm. There will be a big buffet, a band, DJ and unlimited house beverages along with a

raffle draw, gifts and more. Party at Waikiki for BD50 per couple or BD30 for singles. A Cabana costs BD200.

Or party at The Lotus with tickets priced BD40 for couples, BD25 for singles or BD8 per child.

The New Year's Eve Glow Party 2018 at KLUB 360 on December 31 will feature an international DJ. Tickets cost BD25 for men and BD15 for women.

The New Year's Eve Party at AWATAR will be on December 31 starting at 8pm for BD75net per person. It's inclusive of a set menu and Arabic entertainment.

For details contact 33360300 or 66666360.

The Elite Grande Hotel Santa's Sound Beat at H20 will be staged on December 24 from 8pm to midnight with a DJ, set menu and soft beverages. It's priced at BD10++ per person.

Holidays Jingle will be held at The Zodiac Lounge on December 24 from 8pm to midnight at BD12++ per person. There will be entertainment, tapas and unlimited selected beverages for all ladies.

Jingle All The Way at Julios on December 25 from noon to 5pm. There will be a kid's corner, face painting and an appearance from Santa alongside a buffet for BD10++ for adults or BD6++ for children.

For details, call 17565888 or 36020750.

AL AREEN Palace & Spa has a 'Turkey to Go' meal with all the trimmings at Rimal throughout November for BD45++ (5kg to 6kg which is good for 10).

THERE is also a Thanksgiving Brunch at Rimal for BD14++ on November 25.

For details, contact 17845000.

DATES FOR THE DIARY

A BON Jovi tribute performance by Bon Giovi will be held at Sherlock Holmes Restaurant in Adliya on November 23.

For details, contact 17713000.

THE Parent Community Association is organising the International Family Fair at the British School of Bahrain (BSB) Hamala campus for November 24.

● See Page 5

THE Bahrain Light Festival, hosted by the Bahrain Tourism and Exhibitions Authority at Bahrain Bay, will be held from November 23 to 30 introducing the latest lighting innovations by international contemporary artists. The festival will feature the work of artists from France, Japan and the US with artistic performances.

IRONMAN 70.3 Middle East Championship Bahrain will take place on November 25 with athletes flying in from all

over the world to compete. IRONGIRL's 5km run will be on November 24 at 4pm followed by IRONKIDS at 5pm. IRONGIRL is open to competitors aged 15 and above. IRONKIDS is open to all boys and girls. It will be staged over 100m to 2.2km distances depending on the age of entrants.

For details, visit <http://eu.ironman.com/triathlon/events/emea/ironman-70.3/bahrain.aspx#axzz4y1m26vf>

THE Bahrain Marathon Relay will take place on November 24 and will start and finish at the Bahrain International Circuit in Shakir. Entries will be strictly limited to 225 teams and the fee is BD215 per team. The closing date for entries is midnight November 22.

To register, email bmr_registrar@hotmail.com

THERE will be a fun Zumbathon event at the Gulf Hotel Convention Centre on November 29 in support of

Think Pink Bahrain and the Smile charity. Details for the ladies-only event will follow shortly.

For more information, contact event organiser Fatima Bader on 39113333 or Think Pink Bahrain on 39076717.

THE 11th Annual Shahrazad Charity Sale Bazaar will be held on November 25 in the Shahrazad Hall located behind Zait Alzaytoon in Budaiya Road. The bazaar will be open from 9am to 7pm and will feature clothing, books, furniture, toys, household items, electronics, plants, antiques and more. The event will support the Bahrain Breast Cancer Society - Think Pink Bahrain and other charities. It's free to the public.

THE BSPCA will be hosting its Thrift Shop Festive Fayre on November 25 at its thrift shop in 6 Busheiri Gardens from 1pm to 5pm. The fayre will feature designer clothing, accessories, costume

jewellery, festive decorations and more.

For details, email anabspca@hotmail.com

THE Bahrain Boomz Cricket Quiz 2017 with Charu Sharma will test sport lovers cricket knowledge in a battle of wits. A preliminary round will be held on December 1 at the New Millennium School Bahrain in Zinj.

This quiz event aims to provide a fun and intellectual work-out for teams of two, split into Inter-School and Open categories.

For the Inter-School category, both team members should be from the same school. For the Open category, there are no restrictions.

The Inter-School category will take centre-stage during the afternoon with the Open category preliminary round set for an evening slot. The first round will comprise two written sessions of 20 questions each and the top six teams in each category will qualify for a Grand Final.

The Grand Final will be held one week later on December 8 at the Khalifa Sports City Stadium in Isa Town.

The teams in each Grand Final will face six fast-paced rounds to test how up-to-date their cricket knowledge is, including written, oral and visual questions.

The Quizmaster will be Charu Sharma, a celebrated Indian media commentator and sports personality. He will be joined by a range of VIP guests from Bahrain and the cricket world, including Syed Kimani, former Indian international wicket-keeper and a member of the 1983 World Cup winning team.

Registration entries end on November 27. Entry is free for the Inter-School category and BD2 per team, payable at the start of the preliminary round, for the Open category.

For more details and how to register, visit www.bahrainboomz.com or contact Anand Lobo on 3434 5000.

WOMEN footballers and

basketball players will be competing in 'The Bahrain Women's Day Sportsfest 2017' on December 1 at The Umm Al Hassam Sports Stadium.

The one day event, organised by Out of the Box to celebrate 'Bahrain Women's Day', is an inaugural edition of what will hopefully become an annual event.

Teams will get the chance to compete in futsal and 3-on-3 basketball for a range of trophies. Ten teams are expected to battle it out for the futsal title, while as many as 24 teams will be shooting hoops.

Alongside the sporting action, there will be a market with stands showcasing arts and crafts from a number of female entrepreneurs, a range of children's activities and food stalls.

There is still time to register. For details for futsal, contact Ali on 39454403 and for basketball, contact Jailli on 33266625, or call Sarva or Godwin on 36677719 or 36677019.

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Fashion Weekly

Keeping you in on the latest trends and what they wore in the past

FASHIONISTAS around the kingdom are bidding farewell to sandals and sassy summer dresses and welcoming in autumn and winter's cosy fashion trends featuring knits, ankle boots and cigarette trousers.

City Centre Bahrain has launched its latest fashion campaign highlighting the latest collection of handbags, sunglasses, clothing, cosmetics and perfumes found in the mall's exclusive outlets.

Stores such as Saks Fifth Avenue, Paris Gallery, CH by Carolina Herrera, Kenzo, Tory Burch, Hugo Boss, Salvatore Ferragamo, Jo Malone and Ralph Lauren to name but a few are all carrying the latest lines.

A firm favourite at the moment is Karl Lagerfeld with high-waist sailor pants, chunky turtlenecks and structured tuxedo blazers meeting dainty bows, pleats and silk georgette ruffles in blouses and dresses. The designer outlet is located on the ground floor of the mall.

Its new collection is effortless and easy-to-wear, striking the perfect balance between masculine and feminine, youthful but chic and classic but modern. It's all about mix-and-match wardrobe essentials with a cool, nonchalant charm.

This season, 18th and 19th Century military uniforms have been reimagined with a feminine twist. Tonal patches and embroideries mix with rope, lace and zippers.

A core palette of black and white is livened with pops of soft pink and army green.

Lace-up finishes adorn the designs at the back of a military trench. The final touch is a statement biker jacket with a shearling collar and panels, cut with a slightly oversized fit.

As the festive holidays approach, the style is about versatility and juxtaposition, elegant and comfortable.



FASHION
By MAIAL KHATIB-CAMILLE
maialkhatib@gulfweekly.com

A black and white palette is accented by pops of rhubarb, rhinestone details and metallic gold trimmings. Quilted-down jackets and coats are topped with feminine metallic bouclé, seen in a gilet, a cropped bomber and a long bomber. Crafted from hand-selected yarns, the bouclé also appears in blazers, pencil skirts and dresses.

Tailoring essentials, jumpsuits, wide-leg trousers, ruffled blouses and blazers are modernised with sparkling fabrics and textured pleating.

There's a wide selection of Karl's iconic black cocktail dresses including silk with a sheer cape, bouclé with metallic weaving and a silk georgette maxi with a built-in cat-suit.

For the most festive occasions a tuxedo silhouette is crafted in metallic gold, and as a nod to the designer's playful side there's a hidden surprise of zippers set vertically in the jacket's sleeves which can slide open, instantly transforming it into a cape.

As for accessories the new Rocky Bow range includes two totes and two cross-body silhouettes in grainy calf leather, topped with gold and silver bow details. The K/ Klassik Diamonds and K/ Rocky Studs are finished with oversized stone appliques or a dégradé pattern of studs, pearls and stars.

This season's K/Signature offering has two new silhouettes- a large shoulder bag and a zip-top shopper. Accessories include a range of iconic gloves, minaudières, Choupette-inspired hats and beanies, playful key chains, and a dozen scarves



JUST OUT:
Delights from
Debenhams and,
below, looking
cool with Karl



for layering. In footwear, sneakers and the iconic 'Krepper' platform is in demand. Slip-on and lace-up styles range from bouclé and metallic leather to pearly studs and artworks. Boots are also a staple with new biker and knee-high silhouettes. For glamorous occasions there's no shortage of heels, with sparkling glitter finishes and pearl appliqué studs to further emphasize a feminine-chic aesthetic.

Check out Debenhams too. The departmental store, originating from the UK, offers a variety of brands and products ranging from clothing to home décor, cosmetics and perfumes.

Maricel Paragas, deputy manager of Debenhams in Bahrain, said: "We carry a variety of fashion and styles for men and women from different age groups. We have what we call young fashion, the core trends and designer brands."

"At the moment most of our collections are the latest from autumn and winter and the new season styles at Ben de Lisi's Principles section and from The Collection are particularly popular."

Principles feature contemporary pieces including formal wear for the office with statement accessories. There is also evening wear too.

The Collection offers stylish, every day essentials, from beautiful dresses and jackets to chic tops and trousers and complemented by a selection of shoes, handbags and jewellery.

Maricel said: "We conducted a survey at the store to see which are the top and favoured power brands and a lot of women stated how much they love Principles for its quality and fit."

"Debenhams truly has it all as it's a one-stop-shop featuring everything from home accessories to getting the right look with items starting at BD5."

Debenhams is also the first major UK department store

to begin selling Aab, an international brand offering a range of conservative clothing including tops, dresses, jumpsuits, kimono wraps, hijab pins and caps for the modest female.

Shoppers visiting City Centre Bahrain also have the chance to win luxury fashion items. Shoppers spending BD100 or more can redeem their receipts at the Customer Service Desk to receive a unique code number to unlock various possible prize cabinets on display.

Shoppers can also double their chances of winning. Those spending BD30 or more could be lucky enough to pick up a Fall Season Wardrobe worth BD1,000 in gift cards, every week during the campaign!

Beauty and fashion personality Noor Al Shaikh will also be highlighting the latest fashion items available on the mall's social media pages.

Duajj Al Rumaithi, senior mall manager, said: "City Centre Bahrain is proud to underline its vision for creating great moments for everyone, everyday - providing customers with the latest fashion trends this Autumn / Winter season, all featured from the mall's broad range of exclusive high-end and leisure fashion brands."

An Autumn / Winter Fashion Catalogue highlighting the latest trends, retail offers and promotions at the mall, is being distributed today with *GulfWeekly*.

● For more information about City Centre Bahrain, please visit the mall's customer service desks or visit www.Facebook.com/CityCentreBahrain or www.citycentrebahrain.com

INSPIRED by its new 'coming of age' clientele, the NINA Collection has recently been launched across all Al Zain Boutiques.

Bracelets and necklaces feature handcrafted designs that include precious, semi-precious and diamond stones set on 18K Yellow, Rose and White Gold.

It is a fun concept that allows the wearer to pick, match and stack chokers and necklaces and bracelets

Young, trendy and contemporary new designs

in different colours based on their mood and wardrobe needs.

The NINA Collection is aimed at the 'young, unique, trendy and fiercely independent' woman. CEO Theo Swart said: "NINA is the first in a string of young, trendy and contemporary designs to come from Al Zain.

"We have seen a growing demand from our customers wanting more contemporary designs in a handmade finish honouring the quality and craftsmanship that is so well associated with Al Zain products. We will continue to develop and diversify our product offering for the Middle East market that is in keeping with our

client's desires, needs and budget."

The collection's pieces are priced from BD70 for bracelets and BD130 for necklaces.

The Bahrain-based master jeweller has boutiques in City Centre Bahrain, MODA Mall, Seef Mall and the Yateem Centre, as well as several other shops across the region.



Eating Out

The places to dine in Bahrain plus culinary tips for the food connoisseur

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Fondue fun with views too

THE scene has been set for more outside fondue fun overlooking the bright lights of the Seef district in an annual craze that continues to grow in popularity.

The Swiss-Café on the 10th floor of the award-winning Swiss-Belhotel has always been one of my favourite dining destinations, but despite visiting it frequently, I had never before enjoyed a meal on its delightful outside terrace for various climatically-fraught reasons, either it's been too hot or too windy.

Last weekend the weather was perfect and sitting outside also proved to be a superb setting to indulge in a fabulous Fondue Bourguignonne with the good lady wife, Kathryn, and my workplace colleague, Jalal.

The fondue is regarded as a 'moment of conviviality' shared with friends and family and it became highly-fashionable for small dinner-party settings in the 1970s. Its history, however, dates back centuries and, to this day, fondue remains a regular part of the cultural scene in Switzerland, Italy and Germany in particular.

The Swiss-Café is a particularly popular haunt for the thriving German expat community in the kingdom and their local friends. The atmosphere generated is very similar to that enjoyed by people tucking into

GOURMET REPORT

By STAN SZECOWKA
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and sharing dishes over a Bahraini breakfast.

Fondue Bourguignonne features select cubes of beef tenderloin, which are deep fried in hot oil at the table, accompanied by mushrooms and slices of courgette, aubergine, onion and peppers.

Chef Jomar Dolovito carefully brought the already hot oil to the table and it was placed on a heater to continue bubbling away. He called by regularly to check all was in order and to adjust the heat.

The charming waiting staff team arrived promptly to fill up our glasses throughout the evening with good humour and politeness in true Swiss-Belhotel style that never fails to impress.

The idea is to pierce the meat with a fondue fork (each with numbered handles, I suppose so that you know which one is yours) and place it carefully into the oil.

The trick, however, is to ensure that the meat doesn't slip off the utensil and languish forever more disintegrating at the pit of the pot.

You guessed it, at the first attempt we all failed miserably. It was like one of those sad moments on your first angling adventure when you catch a bite and in the excitement pull up your rod only to find the fiendish fish has fled after eating all the bait.



TASTY BITE: A marvellous slice of beef set securely on a fondue fork between two mighty mushrooms

In fact, I've heard dining parties in the Alps punish such misdemeanour. The dippy dipper who lets the meat fall off the spike has to leave the table and walk outside around the hotel before returning ... which is little fun in sub-zero temperatures.

It's all about technique and by the next go we had mastered the 'dip, leave and remove' method without a morsel escaping.

I cannily squeezed my meat between two mushrooms and the occasional piece of pepper. Then it's all about the

timing. The tender Argus cuts need just a few seconds to reach cooked perfection.

The taste is tremendous and there's a real sense of achievement when you've mastered the moment.

It's surprisingly filling too, especially as it comes with a choice of French fries or fried rice and pickles, plus sauces and dips such as horseradish, grain mustard, chili sauce, curry, yoghurt and tomato ketchup.

Alternatively, guests of Swiss-Café can choose the Chinese Fondue, which not only includes slices of beef

tenderloin, but also veal fillet, chicken breast, prawns and salmon.

And, then, of course, there is the venue's most popular fondue offering which we have savoured in the past on several occasions and focuses on cheese. Executive Chef Holger Lang's famous calcium-boosting cheese fondue is the fare of legend. This warming dish consists of at least two varieties of cheeses that are melted with fermented grape juice with a bit of flour and served in a sharing pot.

My tip from last time

should be remembered. To eat cheese fondue, dip a speared piece of bread into the pot. Twirl it gently in the cheese to coat it. You'll want to let the bread drip a bit before you put it in your mouth. This will allow any excess to drip back in the pot and also allow time for cooling.

● The fondue can be ordered every day, at least 24-hours in advance, until March 2018 and is priced at BD14,500 net per person, including limited selected beverages. To book a table, call 66310000.

Dinner date for insp

ART REPORT
By MAI AL KHATIB-CAMILLE
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INDIAN artist Ella Prakash, who has empowered women through her colourful canvases and fashion accessories, has been shortlisted to compete in The Global Art Awards and the winners will be announced at a gala dinner in Dubai on Friday.

The competition is dedicated to talented individuals involved in all types of art forms from digital to printing on textiles and sculpting, as well as painting. It was created to honour and to raise awareness about the achievements and positive contributions made by artists, galleries and art professionals worldwide.

Ella, an abstract expressionist, is thrilled to be one of the finalists in the painting category. She will be exhibiting her work at the Hotel Armani Dubai in Burj Khalifa where the awards dinner will also be held. The awards ceremony is being curated by the Middle East Art Collector Association.

The 55-year-old, who lives in Adliya, said: "I was in my gallery when I received the news by email that my work had been shortlisted. It felt great to know that out of the amount of entries to the awards, my work was selected and it's going to the Global Awards ceremony."

"This event is a huge platform and I'm honoured to be a part of it. I hope to bring back a prize to Bahrain with me."

Ella, who has 14 years of experience in that form of painting and in figurative art, has always been a supporter of women empowerment and has depicted strong female figures within her pieces of work.

Her art has been featured at local and international solo and group exhibitions, including in the UK, US, Germany, and, of course, India, to name a few. She is the founder of the Ella Art Foundation and an ambassador for Arts for India.

She also unveiled her lifestyle and fashion creations, entitled Ella Impressions, at London's Debut Contemporary Art Gallery last year to compliment luxury lifestyle and homeware designer Claire Gaudion's latest offerings. Her paintings were transformed into cushions and other products



COLOURFUL CONCLUSION:
A selection of the artist's work and, top right, Ella

Inspiring abstract artist



such as shoes, scarves and bow ties, as reported earlier in *GulfWeekly*. Ella said: "As an artist it's very challenging to enter into the fashion business industry but I always like to take risks and challenges in life."

"I feel that art and fashion go hand-in-hand. It is all about design and I always wanted to create my own fashion accessories and to create a luxury line of affordable art through fashion."

She will be launching her fashion line in Bahrain at the Ella Art Gallery in Adliya on November 29 and will be showing her artwork next April in New York and London in February.

She added: "Painting has always been my companion in the journey of life. To me, my art is symbolic of my journey, not only as an artist but as a person."

"It is a reflection of who I am and the Ella Impressions Fashion Line is another beautiful portrayal of the journey through my paintbrush."

"My aim was to create something substantially different and introduce a new and quirky point of view in fashion."

"I'm ready to set flight into this industry and looking forward to a grand launch of my elite products in retail as well as online."

"I'm hoping to collaborate with fashion influencers and brands for runway shows and I'm sure that we will soon be substantially large enough to have our own shows and seasonal lines."

"I'm also very pleased to be participating in the SOLO Art Expo New York."

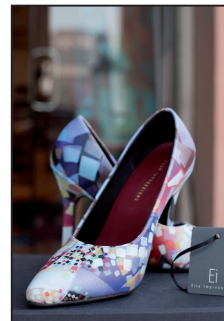
"It will be my second show in New York and I will also introduce Ella Impressions Art & Fashion along with my art."

Ella will also be featuring her art and fashion accessories at a trade exhibition in the UK entitled Pure London to be held in the capital on February 11 to 13.

"This is a fresh take on fashion through the eyes of an artist and will bring a delightful and elite sophistication to the world of fashion with its spunky colour palette and clean and minimalistic forms and shapes," she added.

"I am here to stay and have a voice that will be heard loud and clear."

"I hope people will join my journey where art meets fashion."



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In focus



COLIN Caulfield, executive director of EFS Bahrain, has become a Fellow of the British Institute of Facilities Management (BIFM).

He received a plaque to mark the occasion from Angus Campbell, chairman of EFS Bahrain and CEO of Bahrain Financial Harbour Holding Company and Financial Centre Development Company, the owner of Harbour Towers and Harbour Gate.

Colin has executive management responsibility for EFS Bahrain's Bahrain operations which serve Harbour Towers, Harbour Gate and Harbour House within Bahrain Financial Harbour, as well as EFS group clients in Bahrain including Citibank, HSBC, Schlumberger and Reckitt Benckiser. He also has responsibility for EFS Upper Gulf Region covering Bahrain, Qatar, Kuwait and Saudi Arabia.



ROTANA Hotels in Bahrain recently held a 72-hour 'charity cyclothon' and clocked a distance of more than 2,700km in the lobbies of Art Rotana, Downtown Rotana and Majestic Arjaan by Rotana to highlight the annual breast cancer awareness campaign and raise funds.

The initiative involved continuous riding of an exercise bike by 135 colleagues and guests from the three hotels. Donations were received for every km completed and money for the cause is still coming in.



THE Indian School Bahrain (ISB) held Malayalam Day celebrations in connection with Kerala Piravi marking the birth of the state of Kerala in India.

The celebration held at the ISB Jashanmal Auditorium was inaugurated by prominent literary critic and cultural activist Anil Vencode by lighting a traditional lamp. ISB vice chairman Muhammed Iqbal, EC member, facilities & maintenance, Saji Markose, principal V.R. Palaniswami and senior staff members attended the function.

Social Scene

Why wait a month! Join Social Scene every week

Brushing up



BAHRAIN Indian School – BHAVANS organised a free dental check-up and awareness workshop on at the school campus by American Mission Hospital dental surgeons Dr Alexander Varghese and Dr Bijosh K. Jose.

Rotary meeting

ITALIAN Ambassador, Domenico Bellato was a guest speaker at The Rotary Club of Manama's weekly Sunday meeting at the Gulf Hotel.

He gave members an overview of the Italian economy, highlighted Italy's 'special relationship' with Bahrain and the importance of his country's economic and strategic links with the GCC.



Helping hand



A DONATION of BD1,000 was presented by Garfield Jones, CEO of Gulf Hotels Group, to Dr Abdulrahman Alsayed, vice chairman of the Bahrain Association for Parents & Friends of the Disabled. The cheque presentation was also attended by Ron Peters, the hotel group's deputy chief executive officer.

Star player



A RECEPTION was held to mark Indian Club badminton coaching student Sanjay Jaimy's victory at the All-India CBSE School Under19 Championship. The event was held to 'celebrate his great achievement' said Ricson Rebello, the club's general secretary.

Friendly business

THE Bahrain – Bosnia and Herzegovina Friendship and Business Society has elected a new board of directors.

Jawad Al Hawaj takes on the role of chairman, Riyadh Yousof, first deputy chairman, Lejla Muhasilovic, second deputy chairman, Hamid Rahma, treasurer, and Maida Gafic, head of the public relations & events committee.

Dr Ahmed Al Saati, the Bahraini ambassador in Russia and also in Bosnia and Herzegovina, attended the meeting which focused on the building of further business ties and the suggestion of introducing direct flights.



Education Matters



An educational insight and comment by head teacher Chris Fenton

IT is no longer a requirement in American schools for students to learn cursive or 'joined up' handwriting. Some states still feature it in their curricula as they view it as an important part of a student's development, however, others, like many countries around the world, see the teaching of cursive handwriting as an outdated skill in an increasingly digital world.

The argument against the teaching of handwriting is really all balanced on the fact that children from the earliest of ages are very comfortable using keyboards and since most things are digitalised or require a keyboard to make them work, some say that handwriting skills are effectively becoming obsolete.

There is something to be said for this argument. Logically, it kind of makes sense. Children use



keyboards more and more so then why should we expect them to learn how to handwrite if they don't do it in their daily life, surely it's a waste of time and we should be teaching them how to touch type and code, not waste their time writing on paper?

On the other hand though, handwriting has been proven by countless educational and psychological studies to be closely linked with learning to read since the physical, fine-motor movement of creating letters in organised joined-up ways ignites the parts of the brain associated

with reading.

Cursive handwriting, or even just writing neatly, requires more cognitive effort than keyboard use and again that cognitive effort of doing something repeatedly makes it more likely that it will be retained quicker and for longer.

A recent university study amongst students went some way in proving this. It found that those who handwrote their course notes rather than typing them into electronic devices scored higher in instant assessments after the lecture as they had a deeper memory retention compared with the more shallow retention rates of their keyboard-using counterparts.

There is no doubt that technology can help students who struggle with learning differences such as dyslexia, or even speaking, but just because the technology is there doesn't mean that we should blindly use it and equally, in my opinion, it doesn't mean that we should presume everything will be better if we do it at the expense of important things like learning to hand write legibly.

I believe the beauty of technology, particularly technology in education,

is that we have a choice whether to use it or not and if schools do choose to invest in it, then they should be prepared to justify the investment by demonstrating the impact it has on standards of learning or preparedness for the adult world, since the true measure of any investment in new technology is the impact it has on the quality of peoples' lives.

Some believe education has to evolve with technology, but I don't... particularly if it means discarding subjects or skills that are inherently useful.

Technology, when used creatively in schools, can enhance understanding and even speed up the learning process, but it is dangerous to make the assumption that newer is always better without considering what might be lost for children in our schools alongside any potential gains.

THE first bespoke school Monopoly set in the Middle East has been created to allow pupils - past and present - and their families to play the popular board game with a special Bahrain twist.

The BD20 limited-edition St Christopher's version will be launched at the school's annual festive fayre with teachers wearing T-shirts and bowler hats topped with the game's classic tokens.

"It will make an excellent keepsake," said Principal Ed Goodwin. "I shall be looking forward to playing it with my grandchildren!"

Traditionally, players roll two six-sided dice to move around the board buying and trading properties, developing them with houses and hotels in a challenge derived from a game created in 1903.

Players collect rent from their opponents, with the goal being to drive them into bankruptcy. Money can also be gained or lost through Chance and Community Chest cards and tax squares. Players can end up in jail, which they cannot move from until they have met one of several conditions.

The St Christopher's School Monopoly Board actually came about by pure chance when Helen Kamal, PA to the head of the Infant School, who produces an annual

It's game on for school

EDUCATION

By STAN SZCOWKA
editor@gulfweekly.com



Infant School Yearbook, had the idea of having a St Chris Monopoly Board as the cover theme for its next edition.

The idea was mentioned to Ed, who recommended that she should check about copyright issues first. It was a good thing Helen did, as they subsequently found out that a school in America had to destroy all its Yearbook copies after going ahead with a similar idea without first seeking approval.

Winning Moves Games, a publishing and manufacturing company, has an exclusive license from makers Hasbro to produce Monopoly games, publishing both classic versions of the game and custom editions. And it was soon 'game on' for a more ambitious project. A committee was set up and parents, staff members and pupils were all asked what they would like to see in a version of St Christopher's own Monopoly game.

Photographs were taken, mock boards were created and many emails flew back and forth between the school



YOUR TURN:
Pupils play the
St Chris way

and the creative team at Winning Moves.

To ensure the game kept to its Monopoly roots, the four corners of the board had to remain the same. "We wanted to change the 'Jail' to 'Detention', but this also has to remain as per the original,

unfortunately!" said Helen.

"We did, however, change the names of Chance and Community Chest to Saar and Isa Town, the two school sites, and had fun creating our own cards such as 'You have won second prize in Young Musician of the Gulf

Competition - Collect ...' and 'Congratulations! You are the Star of the Day! - Receive ...' - you'll need to play the game to find out what!

"We also changed the houses and hotels you buy for your properties to 'classrooms' and 'halls'

so that landing on the Principal's Office (Mayfair on the original British version of the game) with a 'hall' on, will surely lead to bankruptcy!"

"We also worked hard to ensure that the spaces on the board represent the Infant, Junior and Senior Schools so that children, parents and alumni will all find something special and, when they play the game in years to come, it will trigger fond memories of St Chris."

The team also had fun marketing the game with 'Title Deeds' and 'did you know...?' facts about Monopoly posted around both school sites and Helen is now regarded as a Monopoly expert after all her research.

In addition, a group of St Chris Year 7 students, led by Owen Morton-Shepard, helped design and create 3D printed models of the famous Monopoly tokens for the upcoming release.

Subject to availability, after the fair on Friday, the game will be available to purchase from the school and can be posted overseas to families who have moved on from Bahrain.



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Film Weekly



Movie-loving Kristian Harrison checks out the big screen releases on show in a cinema near you

No crime with cast



THE whole idea of remaking a murder mystery, especially one of the most popular murder mysteries ever written, is inherently fraught with peril. After all, a lot of people in the audience already know 'whodunnit', either because they've read it, seen it, or heard about it through good old-fashioned word-of-mouth.

So, it was exceptionally smart to get Kenneth Branagh to remake *Murder on the Orient Express*.

The director of numerous Shakespeare classics such as *Henry V*, *Much Ado About Nothing* and *Hamlet* has built his whole reputation on re-staging classic tales that had already been re-staged thousands of times.

He knows that the trick to making another *Murder on the Orient Express* isn't to keep us guessing. Agatha Christie's impeccable story does all of that heavy lifting for him. The trick is to showcase an ensemble cast of incredible actors, each of them putting their own spin on a timeless classic, and to have a grand old time doing it.

This version stars Branagh as Hercule Poirot, the famous Belgian obsessive-compulsive detective who is desperate for a holiday. But his trip on the Orient Express, en route from Istanbul, comes to a sudden halt when an avalanche stops the train in its tracks. And, wouldn't you know it, there's now a dead body on board. Someone has been stabbed a dozen times and every one of the passengers in that train car - except for Poirot, of course - is now a suspect.

There's the famous array of characters, straight out of a Cluedo board game set. There's a governess with a secret, played by Daisy Ridley, and a doctor with his own secrets, played by Leslie

MURDER ON THE ORIENT EXPRESS

STARRING: Kenneth Branagh, Penelope Cruz, Willem Dafoe, Johnny Depp

DIRECTOR: Kenneth Branagh

GENRE: Action, Comedy, Fantasy, Superhero

RATING: PG-15

RUNTIME: 114 Mins

Odom Jr. There's a shady American businessman, played by Johnny Depp. There's a racist Austrian professor, played by Willem Dafoe. There's a stuffy princess played by Judi Dench, and her put-upon servant, played by Olivia Colman.

There's the victim's alcoholic assistant, played by Josh Gad, and his long-suffering valet, played by Derek Jacobi. There's a deeply religious woman with a past, played by Penelope Cruz, and a flirtatious socialite, played by Michelle Pfeiffer.

The big names and the big performances go on.

The cast is dazzling and Branagh gives each of them their moment to shine, as they are interrogated one-by-one. The luscious cinematography makes even the most confined spaces seem full of portent and possibility, and the deft adaptation keeps the film sprinting swiftly from one memorable sequence to another.

Murder on the Orient Express speeds along just like, well, the eponymous train, giving us plenty of time to take in the sights while moving steadily, still full of suspense, towards its final, shocking destination.

As usual, Branagh saves the juiciest part for himself. His rendition of Poirot is heroic and hilarious, driven by compulsion but impishly amused by his own cleverness. As the mystery ploughs forward, and the clues make less and less sense, his uncertainty tears him apart. You can always see Poirot's gears turning and it's delightful when the engine works and tragic when it sputters.

He's phenomenal in front of and behind the camera because he seems to love playing with these toys, from the enchanting prologue that gives weight to Poirot's legend, to the ambitious long takes that remind you of just how dazzling this ensemble is.

He loves his cast so much that when he assembles them into the same shot together, he stages them like Da Vinci's Last Supper. And the action gets just as much attention as the dialogue, so that the smallest moments are just as captivating as the big ones, and that's really, truly captivating.

Murder on the Orient Express may not be a particularly 'necessary' adaptation. If you've seen Sidney Lumet's Oscar-winning film from 1974, you've already seen a pitch perfect rendition of Agatha Christie at her best. But Branagh's interpretation is just as delightful in some ways, and almost as delightful in all the others.

It's a classy, riveting remake, and it will make you want to see even more adventures featuring this particular Poirot.

● **Now showing in:** Novo, Cineco, Seef II, Wadi Al Sail, Saar, Al Jazira, Dana, Mukta A2

KRISTIAN'S VERDICT

1 popcorn - stay home
5 popcorns - start queuing

Bite-sized trailer

Thor: Ragnarok

DIRECTOR: Taika Waititi

CAST: Chris Hemsworth, Tom Hiddleston, Cate Blanchett

PLOT: Thor is imprisoned on the other side of the universe and finds himself in a race against time to get back to Asgard to stop Ragnarok, the destruction of his homeworld and the end of Asgardian civilization, at the hands of an all-powerful new threat, the ruthless Hela.

SHOWING IN: Novo, Cineco, Seef I & II, Wadi Al Sail, Saar, Al Jazeera, Dana, Mukta A2



Thank You for Your Service

DIRECTOR: Jason Hall

CAST: Rutger Hauer, Ethan Hawke, Paul Anderson

PLOT: *Thank You for Your Service* follows a group of US soldiers returning from Iraq who struggle to integrate back into family and civilian life, while living with the memory of a war that threatens to destroy them long after they've left the battlefield.



SHOWING IN: Cineco, Seef II, Wadi Al Sail, Saar, Dana, Mukta A2

Justice League

DIRECTOR: Zack Snyder

CAST: Ben Affleck, Gal Gadot, Jason Momoa

PLOT: Fuelled by his restored faith in humanity and inspired by Superman's selfless act, Bruce Wayne enlists the help of his newfound ally, Diana Prince, to face an even greater enemy. Together, Batman and Wonder Woman work quickly to find and recruit a team of metahumans to stand against this newly-awakened threat. But despite the formation of this unprecedented league of heroes - Batman, Wonder Woman, Aquaman, Cyborg and The Flash - it may already be too late to save the planet from an assault of catastrophic proportions.



SHOWING IN: Cineco, Seef II, Wadi Al Sail, Saar, Dana, Mukta A2

imdb movie charts

Current Position	Title	Weekend Takings	Gross to date
1	Thor: Ragnarok	\$56M	\$212M
2	Daddy's Home Two	\$30M	\$30M
3	Murder on the Orient Express	\$28M	\$28M
4	A Bad Moms Christmas	\$12M	\$40M
5	Jigsaw	\$3M	\$34M
6	Tyler Perry's Boo 2! A Madea Halloween	\$2M	\$46M
7	Geostorm	\$2M	\$32M
8	Blade Runner 2049	\$1M	\$88M
9	Happy Death Day	\$1M	\$55M
10	Lady Bird	\$1M	\$2M

cerebrally crust & crema



@crustandcrema

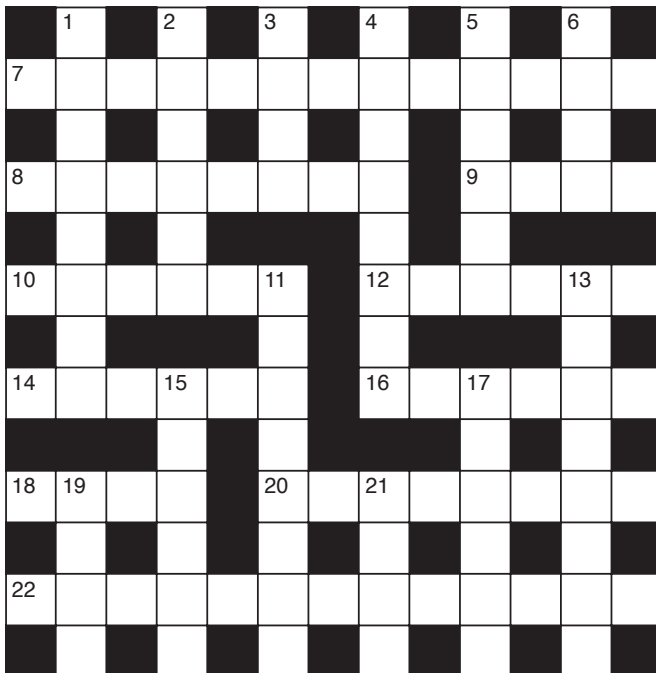
crustandcremabh



WIN COFFEE AND CAKE at crust & crema by answering this quiz question and emailing your answer to editor@gulfweekly.com
About how many pounds of coffee are imported into the United States each year? a) 950,000 pounds b) 2.5 million pounds
 c) 5 million pounds. Entries must be received by noon on Sunday. The first correct one opened will be emailed a coupon. Normal GulfWeekly contest rules apply. The Editor's decision is final.

Quiz winner: Jani Alwis won coffee-for-two by correctly answering that
 a) Drip-filter coffee consists of about 0.6% fat.

crossword break



Solutions in next week's issue.

ACROSS

7. Questioning (13)
8. Inspector (8)
9. Thought (4)
10. Splendid (6)
12. Bury (6)
14. Alcove (6)
16. Property (6)
18. Cease (4)
20. Wickerwork (8)
22. Categorical (13)

DOWN

1. Unsafe (6)
2. Death (6)
3. Forehead (4)
4. Wrong (8)
5. Severe (6)
6. Centre (4)
11. Meddler (8)
13. Substance (8)
15. Use (6)
17. Vibration (6)
19. Melody (4)
21. Location (4)

who, what, where, when

WHO ... wrote *Mrs Dalloway* and *The Years*?

WHAT ... elements are present in a cyanide?

WHERE ... would you find the volcano, Hekla?

WHEN ... was the Boston Tea Party?

WHO ... directed the 1997 film *Titanic*?

WHAT ... kind of creature is an ibex?

WHERE ... in Europe did the Black Death of 1348 begin?

WHEN ... was Rudyard Kipling born?

just so

maiden.

DKI

d0ing

spring

darn tough sudoku

So you think you're good enough at Sudoku to crack this baby? Remember, we were the first in the Gulf to bring you this bit of Japanese mayhem...so we don't kid around

Last week's sudoku

2	9	4	5	3	7	6	8	1
8	3	1	4	2	6	5	9	7
5	6	7	8	9	1	3	4	2
9	7	2	6	4	3	1	5	8
3	4	5	7	1	8	2	6	9
1	8	6	9	5	2	4	7	3
7	5	3	2	8	4	9	1	6
6	1	9	3	7	5	8	2	4
4	2	8	1	6	9	7	3	5

1	5	9	4	3	7	2	6	8
3	8	2	5	6	9	7	4	1
6	4	7	1	2	8	9	5	3
2	7	8	3	9	4	5	1	6
5	1	6	7	8	2	4	3	9
4	9	3	6	5	1	8	2	7
8	6	1	9	4	5	3	7	2
9	3	5	2	7	6	1	8	4
7	2	4	8	1	3	6	9	5

darn tough sudoku

9	5	1	8	6	3	2	7	4
2	6	3	7	1	4	5	9	8
8	4	7	2	5	9	1	6	3
5	8	2	6	7	1	3	4	9
7	9	6	3	4	2	8	1	5
3	1	4	9	8	5	7	2	6
6	7	5	4	2	8	9	3	1
1	2	9	5	3	6	4	8	7
4	3	8	1	9	7	6	5	2

Sudoku

	5		4	3		7		
	7		1				6	8
4					8		5	
		6		4		3		7
1	4		3	2	9			
9				7		1	2	
		9	6		7			2
2	1			5			7	
		5			4		3	1

Sudoku

		6	2				9	
4		7			6	5		
	3			7				1
					1		4	
3	2		6		8		5	
	8		3			2		
1				6			3	5
		3	1		9			2
	7			3	5	8		

Last Week's Leisure Solutions

CROSSWORD BREAK:

Across: 1 Plot;
 8 Reasonable;
 9 Displace; 10 Tray;
 12 Please; 14 Threat;
 15 Stanza; 17 Bandit;
 18 Drug; 19 Complain;
 21 Restaurant; 22 Else.

Down: 2 Legislator;
 3 Trip; 4 Manage;
 5 Potent; 6 Cast-iron;
 7 Very; 11 Avaricious;
 13 Abnegate; 16 Accrue;
 17 Bemoan; 18 Darn;
 20 Late.

JUST SO:

Barbed wire; Burn the candle at both ends; Eye witness; Long division.

WHO, WHAT, WHERE, WHEN: Stirling Moss; Silver and gold; Russia; 1987; Tim Burton; Bird; Alaska; 1982.

Darn Tough Sudoku

9							5	6
	6			3				1
				8	6		7	
			7			2	3	
1				4				8
	8	3			5			
	1		8	2				
3				9				
6	4							9

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Motoring Weekly

Steering you to the best deals on wheels

Simply Class!

COMFORT is the clue when it comes to driving the acclaimed Mercedes S Class, a saloon so smooth and satisfying it's a wonder it doesn't come listed as part of a healthy living feature rather than a road test review.

Online homework, before heading to Al Haddad Motors to pick up the car, revealed some impressive remarks with one distinguished journal suggesting that 'without a doubt this was the benchmark big luxury saloon the other marques must define themselves by and be measured against'.

Walking into the impressive showroom in Tubli it is clear the dealership is proud of its fabulous flagship as there is a huge banner proclaiming 'The new S Class' in its town.

Joining me on a spin around the kingdom was award-winning Imran Sakhawat Ali, head of marketing at Al Haddad Motors, fresh from picking up the prize of Digital Champion at the recent Mercedes-Benz Global Marketing Forum in Portugal.

'Mercedes throws everything it knows into the S-Class. Freshly-face-lifted, it's better than ever', *Top Gear*'s verdict suggested ... and it was spot on. The all-singing, all dancing Type S 450 L Sedan was sensational and deserves its crown as the techiest, tastiest Merc.

As highlighted earlier in *Motoring Weekly*, the model offers a redefined level of comfort for the driver and passengers with its new

TEST DRIVE

By STAN SZECOWKA
editor@gulfweekly.com



ENERGISING control feature.

With this, various comfort systems can be linked, such as climate control and massage functions, whilst allowing them to configure specific set-ups to suit the mood and enhance physical comfort and performance on the road.

This feature is a world-first and can be experienced in all seats. It systematically uses the functions of the climate control system, including fragrancing (which I'm come to late) and the seats (heater, ventilation, massage), the panel heating as well as lighting and musical atmospheres, and enables a specific 'wellness' set-up tailored to the needs of its driver and passengers.

The S-Class adds an additional layer of innovative driving assistance systems, including Active Steer Assist, Active Braking Assist, Evasive Steering Assist and Pre-Safe Sound.

Another comfort enhancement is CURVE, the curve-tilting function available in this class for the first time which left me dreaming of times gone by.

My late father, who was Polish, settled in England after the Second World War and on occasions would pile our family into his beloved Ford Zephyr, mother in the front and me squashed in the back between my two much larger and older sisters, and head off on a 3,000km-plus round trip to see our relatives.

Unfortunately, he was one of the world's worst drivers and just five minutes into the journey after the first roundabout I was seriously suffering, so you can well imagine how I felt after a three-day road trip.

If only he'd had this Merc. No child could ever suffer travel sickness in this marvellous machine, not even on the stop-start Bahrain school run. The body tilts to the inside of the turn by up to 2.65 degrees and thereby reduces the centrifugal forces perceived by the passengers.

On a trek around Tubli and the surrounding districts we called into the huge Al Haddad Motors service centre and depot in Salmabad.

'Flying doctor' Dominik Rammenzweig, who holds the grand title of 'global service & parts after-sales market support passenger cars', had flown in from Daimler AG's Mercedes-Benz base in Stuttgart to work alongside his fellow countryman, Jamil Ajjane, Al Haddad's manager of the passenger car workshop, and his team, to help host a

special service week for long-term owners.

It included a free visual vehicle inspection, 17 point check, tyre condition report and special discount. A new express service centre was also unveiled on site and for the occasion the team had erected an impressive Arabic-style tent alongside it to keep customers entertained in comfort whilst work was carried out.

The inside of the tent was luxurious, food and drinks were being offered and there was even a display of Mercedes-Benz fragrances available for the car ... so you can sniff the smell of success on your journey!

Fresh air is available too as the S-Class GCC models come with a panoramic sunroof as standard, as well as a Sun Protection Package to protect passengers from direct sunlight and reduce the interior temperature of the car.

Under the bonnet, the V6 engine provides all the kick you could desire with acceleration from zero to 100km/h in 5.5 seconds. It's

as slick on the highway as it is smooth strolling along in heavy traffic.

The parking package comes with a 360-degree camera, making it a simple operation to reverse into the most confined of spaces as I found out when we stopped off for lunch at a rather splendid hot chicken establishment, whoops, almost got into restaurant review mode then!

And when we pulled up, the best thing ever happened. As soon as you stop the car and open the door, the engine turns off without you having to do a thing. Don't you just love those classy making-life-simple touches?

Other delights include the fact that smart phones can be charged wirelessly and without a telephone holder and the Burmester 3D Surround Sound system, with an output of 1520 watts, has been expanded with a speaker in the overhead control panel and two speakers in the sides, and it sounds superb at all levels of output.

It is little wonder the S-Class is the best-selling luxury sedan in the world.

My test-drive car was bright diamond white with leather nut brown and black upholstery.

There was a similar one shining in the showroom priced BD48,180, alongside others on display. Worldwide unit sales of the Mercedes-Benz dream cars increased by 12.9 per cent in October. In total 12,593 coupés, cabriolets and sedans were delivered to customers.

For more information, visit Al Haddad Motors Mercedes-Benz in Tubli or call 17785454.

● Watch Stan's YouTube video of the test drive and interview with Imran by scanning the QR Code below with your smartphone or visiting www.gulfweekly.com



SMOOTH OPERATOR: Mercedes-Benz S 450 L Sedan and, below, the showroom, visual display, making scents, Jamil and Dominik, the Arabic tent and Imran and Stan



Trail to an X-traordinary car

THE new X-Trail 2018 was unveiled during a spectacular launch event at the Y.K. Almoayyed & Sons Nissan Showroom in Sitra.

The latest edition of the popular crossover made a smoky entrance cheered on by a packed audience ... and one lucky attendee drove off in a Nissan Sunny after a prize draw to mark the occasion.

Following the introduction of the Nissan Kicks back earlier this year and the Nissan Pathfinder during summer, the launch of the 2018 Nissan X-Trail completes Nissan's revamped crossover line-up, ensuring that there is a Nissan vehicle that caters to everyone's needs, the company says.

Robert Beaty, general manager of Nissan Bahrain, said: "With the continuous demand for crossovers in the country, we are very excited to be launching the new Nissan X-Trail.



LAUNCH EVENT: The Nissan X-Trail draws a crowd, above right, Nissan Bahrain GM Robert Beaty and, below, the lucky winner



"At Nissan, our customers' satisfaction is our most important priority and, with the new X-Trail, we are certain that we will be meeting their expectations." The Nissan X-Trail, priced

from around BD9,000 to just under BD13,000, has kept its familiar muscular styling to the chiselled lines and high-wheel arches. However, the front of the vehicle has gone through a robust

redesign with added chrome side-molding across the base of the doors and a bigger 'V-motion' grille at the front. The designers aim was to give the X-Trail a more 'impactful appearance' on the

road. Additionally, the rim's width has been widened – from 34mm to 37.5mm – to provide a more comfortable and safer grip.

Nissan is confident the launch will give it strong

market share growth in the SUV-C segment due to the attractive pricing and classy interior features, such as a new touch-screen navigation with a smart user interface and tan leather seats as an additional interior colour option.

Enhanced technological additions include the I-RVM, a rear-view mirror with a built-in LCD monitor displaying images from a camera mounted on the rear of the vehicle.

One of the most popular vehicles in the kingdom, the Nissan X-Trail sits proudly amongst the Top 15 selling models overall, is the market leader in its SUV-C segment and is available with five or seven-seats.

Mohamed Almoayyed, director, Y.K. Almoayyed & Sons, greeted media guests and hundreds of customers at the launch and together with Almoayyed International Group director, Mashael Almoayyed, handed over the prize car to the lucky winner.

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Property Weekly

A guide to the best properties home and abroad – edited by Mai Al Khatib email: mai.alkhatib@gulfweekly.com

Lagoon luxury for the family

STAR Real Estate has a four-bedroom family villa for sale on the popular Riffa View's Lagoon Estate with spacious accommodation and a lush landscaped garden to enjoy as the BBQ season arrives.

The villa boasts a total built-up area of 350sqm and a plot size of 553sqm. Step inside and visitors are greeted by a sizable foyer.

The ground floor has a guest bedroom with ensuite bathroom and a guest closet with vanity set. There is also a fully-kitted out kitchen with serving area and a laundry room. The dining room sits close by and a reception area leads out to the back garden and majlis. A useful storage area behind a door sits under the staircase.

The first floor has a second foyer

leading to a large terrace and three bedrooms. The master bedroom has a dressing area, as well as an ensuite bathroom with tub. The other two bedrooms have built-in wardrobes and there is also a family bathroom with a shower.

Outside, the landscaping is well-established and has been beautifully finished. There is a double carport and a handy outdoor kitchen for heavy-duty cooking.

In terms of facilities, the Riffa Views development features an 18-hole PGA championship Colin Montgomerie course and a 9-hole executive golf course for golfing enthusiasts. Also available is a country club, a tennis facility, an international school and the Riffa Palms shopping has cafes and a supermarket.



FACTS AT A GLANCE

Location: Lagoons Estates at the Riffa Views

Reference number: VI471

Sales price: BD285,000

Bedrooms: 4

Living rooms: 2

Bathrooms: 4

Additional information: A nice rear garden, carport for two cars. There is a golf course, country club and shopping strip.

For further information on this and other homes call Star Real Estate 17298210.



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Golf Weekly

Teeing off to a great read



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SUPER Sam Hobday has bid farewell to amateur status on a high by being crowned Best Gross and Club Champion after last weekend's Club Championship Tournament at the Royal Golf Club.

The 22-year-old former St Christopher's School pupil powered ahead of teacher Ronan Armstrong who took the runners-up spot.

Hobday was tied after day one with talented Bahraini junior Nooh Esbai on Gross 76 and on day two seasoned Rob Lane drew level after six holes but fell away whilst Armstrong came to the fore and the pair were tied for the title with just three holes to go.

Hobday parred on holes 16 and 17 on the challenging Colin Montgomerie-designed course whilst Armstrong, a Year 3 Junior School teacher who never actually got the chance to teach Hobday during his time at St Chris, bogeyed both.

Determined Armstrong fought back and a neat par on the last meant that Hobday had two putts for the title.

However, thinking that he had to hole his first putt to win, he rushed the shot past the hole by two feet but stayed cool under pressure to win his last tournament

as an amateur before turning professional this week just in time for the coming weekend's King Hamad Trophy.

Delighted Hobday said: "It's always nice to win some silverware, especially the Club Championship as it is the pinnacle of the Royal Golf Club amateur season. I'm looking forward to turning pro and competing next week."

The King Hamad Trophy staged at the RGC, starting tomorrow and running to Saturday, is a major tournament featuring the leading amateurs and professionals in the region and beyond.

Several European Tour players such as Andrew Marshall and Jamie Elson will be playing again this year.

As reported in *Golf Weekly*, Hobday returned this year from a four-year college experience in America with the determined intention of teeing off his professional career within 12 months.

He attended King College in Tennessee, after being scouted by the college coach through a UK-

based company that sends promising young golfers to the US to play college golf.

Hobday believes having a base in Bahrain has proved extremely useful for his career. His family, originally from the English county of Derbyshire, moved to the kingdom from Singapore in 1997, at which point Sam joined the former Riffa Golf Club and ignited a passion to play the game.

He explained: "Living in Bahrain has given me the perfect opportunity to continue my golfing career. It's a very good base to use to travel to events played around the MENA region, as well as potential upcoming events in South Africa and South East Asia."

"The weather also plays a huge factor as I can practice and play pretty much all year round, and have a distinct advantage over those working on their games in the winter in both the UK and the US."

The club's 2017 Ladies Captain Stacey Thomas took the Best Lady Gross title and a RGC spokesman said: "The King and Queen of Club Champs were crowned after



brilliant performances. Sam signed off his amateur career with this Championship win, while Stacey proudly defended her 2016 title. Congratulations to them both."

Results:

Best Gross & Club Champion - Sam Hobday
Runner-Up - Ronan Armstrong
Best Nett (under 14 handicap) - Sebastian Woodrow
Runner Up - Ronan Smith
Best Nett (over 14 handicap) - Ashley Price
Runner Up - Kian Higgins
Best Lady Gross- Stacey Thomas
Best Lady Nett - Jeong Hae Kwak



PRIZE TIME: Hobday with the winning trophy and, above, flashback to his return to Bahrain from a US college

Perfect pitch



GOLF TIP
By RORY YOUNG
Head Professional - Awwal Golf Club

AS WE approach the pitch shot many golfers start to get tense and try to control the ball too much, which in general leads to an unnatural and rigid golf swing. We need to try and maintain the natural movement in the swing. 'Hinge the club up, unhinge it down'.

The big thing for pitch shots is getting the club-head to swing and letting the body follow, not the other way around. Starting with the ball slightly forward and your hands centred in front of you, I like to see the clubface a little open in this position. Then hinge the club upward going back, not around your body, with the toe of the club pointing to the sky.

Coming down, the club should unhinge in the same way it went back. You should feel the club swinging down and through. The club's momentum pulls your body to the finish.

Mighty Morrison in the black and leading the pack

FRIDAY'S Black Ball Competition at Awwal Golf Club was played under a beautiful blue sky with favourable weather conditions.

The morning and afternoon shotgun starts saw 90 players battling for both team and

individual stableford victories.

Team scores were accumulated by players taking turns to play with the designated black ball throughout the round.

Overall individual winner was Phil Morrison with 43 points. Runner-up

was Petri Kettunan with 41 points.

Third, fourth and fifth places were taken by Rashid Al Quatami, Abdulla Mubarak and Essa Al Quatami, all with 41 points.

Team winners were Bronson John, Abdulla Mubarak and Salah Al Shaer

with 42 points. The team runners-up were Jassim Al Ghattam, Onny Martin and Susan Scott on 39 points.

Side prizes for nearest-the-pin went to Rey Aleyjandro and Susan Scott, while Essa Al Qatami earned the longest putt accolade.



TOP TEAM: Front, Neville Malao, Essa Al Qatami and Salah Al Shaer, and standing behind them are Phil Morrison, Susan Scott, Petri Kettunan, Paul Anderson, Rashid Al Quatami, Abdulla Mubarak and Bronson John and, right, the winners receiving their prizes





Motor Sport

Bahrain International Circuit – the home of motorsport in the Middle East

All action and controversy

THE recent second round of National Race Day at Bahrain International Circuit (BIC) produced plenty of thrills in the three local championships and a touch of controversy.

Raed Himmo, a former champion and perennial contender in the BIC 2,000cc Challenge, emerged victorious in the meeting's first race and the second race remains under official scrutiny.

Himmo was engaged in a tough battle for the number one spot and eventually claimed a win in race one. Driving a Honda Civic, he took control after former champion and pole-sitter Shaikh Salman bin Isa bin Ebrahim Al Khalifa, also in a Civic, retired from the race in the seventh lap.

Himmo charged to the lead and completed the 12-lap sprint in 16:03.641, just 5.407s ahead of Ahmed Bin Khanen in a Honda Civic EG4. Defending champion Tim Birkin in a Honda Integra came third 9.307s behind.

Race 2 witnessed unfortunate driver Tareq Al-Tajer having to stop on the track with a broken throttle cable. Five nose-to-tail competitors missed the yellow flag being waved as a warning of an incident ahead and telling them to slow and not pass each



RACING AHEAD: Himmo leads, right, podium time for the BIC 2,000cc and BSBK glory boys

other, and then double yellows flags instructing them to slow right down.

Other incidents are also being investigated and the drivers concerned are waiting to find what penalties they will receive and where they will be eventually be placed.

There have been calls from the drivers for the race marshal posts to be relocated for better visibility and that is also under consideration, *GulfWeekly* has been told.

All the action took place along the 2.55km Inner Track of BIC, beginning in the day time and then ending under floodlights at night.

On two wheels, Ahmed Al

Muyni stole the show after clinching a rare 'double-double', winning all four races from two different motorbike categories, namely the Bahrain Superbike Championship (BSBK) and the Bahrain Motorcycle Racing (BMR) 600.

Al Muyni was in a class of his own with a clean sweep of both races in the BSBK and BMR 600. In the BSBK, after topping the timesheets in qualifying to earn pole position for race one, he won the 11-lap opening sprint in a total time of 12 minutes 54.977 seconds – 6.924 seconds ahead of runner-up Wesley Pearce. Salman Khalaf

came third 14.638s back.

Race two featured the same podium, with Al Muyni taking the chequered flag 3.307s ahead of Pearce and Khalaf finishing 13.456s behind.

In the BMR 600, Al Muyni topped the field in qualifying and once again secured the leading position at the start grid. He made no mistake in defending his place despite plenty of pressure from rival Mohammad Al Zaidan. Only 0.327s split the pair at the end of race one, who were well ahead of the rest of the riders. Nasser Al Khadra came third a significant 32.976s back. They made up the top three in the race's Super Stock category.



In the Hornet class, Mohammed Al Ateeqi was victorious. He was followed by Pawel Rosciszewski and Ahmad Abdulsalam. In race two, the same trio finished in the same order as the first race, although Al Muyni enjoyed a more comfortable victory having a 14.585s gap in front of Al Zaidan by the finish. Al Khadra was classified third

33.309s behind. The Hornet class also had the same podium-placers, with Al Ateeqi, Rosciszewski and Abdulsalam taking the top three.

Following all the racing, the day's known winners were honoured in a podium ceremony attended by officials from BIC, the Bahrain Motor Federation and Circuit Racing Club.

BATELCO Drag 965 Racing emerged victorious in the first round of the 2017/2018 Bahrain SWS Endurance Championship, held at Bahrain International Karting Circuit (BIKC) in Sakhir.

The pair of Ramez Azzam and Saeed Al Mehairi combined their talents to win the three-hour challenge.

Go Gosaibi pair Abdulla Buhindi and Rashed Al Muammari were the overall runners-up, while the Zain Racing 2 tandem of Khalid Abdulla and Najashi Rashdan came third.

Aside from their outright win, Azzam and Al Mehairi also clinched victory for Batelco in the race's Pro category.

The Zain Racing 1 pair of Raed Raffii and Mohammed Amin came second while Ice Racing Team's Ahmed

Three-hour karting classic glory for dynamic duo



STEERING CLEAR: The Batelco team powers ahead and pick up the prizes on the podium after the first stage of the competition

Kooheji and Qamar Saleem came in third.

In the Nations class, the Go Gosaibi boys of Buhindi and Al Muammari were classified first, adding to their success in the overall classification. Zain Racing 2's Abdulla and Rashdan took second while

BeeSa Racing's Ahmed Bin Khanen and Khaled Al Zayed completed the top three.

In the Corporate division, the Redline Racing 1 tandem of Paul Lecaillon and Hussein Lala were the winners. Sister team Redline



Racing 2, consisting of Fred Clark and Nabil Khadiri were runners-up and Texel Air's Mohamed Abdulaal, Ashlee Joylon and Owen Stringer came in third.

Following all the action, the winners were honoured in a podium ceremony attended

by officials from BIKC, Bahrain International Circuit and the Bahrain Motor Federation.

Racing was held along BIKC's 1.414-kilometre Commission Internationale de Karting (CIK) track and the teams were competing

on identical karts – a 390cc Sodikart GT4 – each of which can generate up to 13 BHP.

The second round of the Bahrain SWS Endurance Championship is scheduled for December 2 and it will be another three-hour challenge. Then, then third and final round will take place on February 9, and that will be a grueling 24-hour challenge.

After all the rounds are completed, the first and second place teams of the Bahrain 24hrs SWS Endurance Championship will qualify directly to the Sodi World Finals, to represent the kingdom in July of next year. The winner of round three will be entitled to a free entry to the 24 Hours of Paris held at Racing Kart de Corneilles, RKC.

It's farewell (again) to Massa

FOR the F1 officianado there is always something exciting to monitor, even in a race that has effectively been won on the first bend.

Sebastian Vettel launched his red rocket ship off the line and then Lewis Hamilton scything his way through back-markers kept the crowds entertained for the first 20 laps.

Having passed the flying Dutchman, Max Verstappen, on the 59th lap, a stunning podium place looked his for the taking although an error on the first turn while pushing hard on the next lap meant he did not have as many opportunities to pass Kimi Raikkonen as he needed.

Bahrain fans would have also been particularly excited to see Fernando Alonso's McLaren, partly-owned by sovereign wealth fund Muntalakat, running as high as fifth at one stage in the race.

Massa, like a punch-drunk heavyweight boxer returning for one last pay day, waved farewell to his home crowd – again. He finished a respectable seventh and enjoyed a heart-warming moment on the podium with his son.

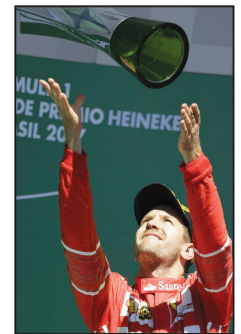
Yet for many casual fans the season is already over with Hamilton having won the drivers' championship and his Mercedes team having wrapped up the title for constructors.

As with the 2015 season when he won the title with three races to spare, Hamilton appears to, metaphorically at least, taken his foot off the gas, making his first major error in qualifying that arguably cost him the race last weekend.

He needs to be careful that this lethargy does not continue into next season as it did in 2016. Perhaps the proximity of the Scuderia Ferrari and Red Bulls will provide him the motivation



TIMELY APPLAUSE: Massa bids farewell at the end of the Brazilian Formula One Grand Prix, right, Vettel tosses the trophy up on the podium after winning the race and Hamilton steers his car as he tries to make up ground



By ABU GEORGE

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in the off-season that past performances suggest that he needs.

The Ferrari has made strong starts all season and with the Mercedes seemingly finding it difficult to maintain optimum performance when trailing, the Grand Prix in Brazil must have left those in Maranello wondering what might have been if they had not imploded in Asia.

It is, therefore, refreshing to see F1, even under new ownership, revert to finding ways to stay in the headlines.

The team members of the Mercedes pit crew being held hostage is not earth-shattering news as, pointed out by the world champion himself, it seems to happen every year. However, Hamilton is correct in asserting that more needs to be done to protect all those participating in the race weekend.

To heighten the disparity it is also intriguing that no one appears to be calling for the

termination of this country as a racing venue, despite it historically being the most problematic race on the calendar.

Of course, Hamilton can always escape trouble on his private jet; the red Bombardier Challenger, that made the news this week. It was the financial arrangements behind it that helped Britain's most successful driver to legally avoid millions of pounds in taxation!

In an effort to maintain the competitiveness of the racing the F1 hierarchy has returned to discussing one of its two favourite subjects. With the saga concerning tyre degradation and manageability now seemingly having been resolved the arguments concerning engines have resurfaced.

Besides the spat between McLaren and Honda having been resolved with an agreement reached that the outfit will switch to Renault, this has left the French engine supplier facing suggestions

from Toro Rosso, an existing customer, that something is wrong with their engines. That does not bode well for Alonso who is desperate to find a competitive race seat.

Of greater concern throughout the paddock this week has been new proposals drawn up by Ross Brawn on behalf of the sport's owners, the Formula One Group, in association with governing body, the FIA.

The proposal by FIA and F1 is to retain the current engine architecture of a 1.6-litre V6 turbo hybrid but simplify it by removing the most complex part of the hybrid system - the so-called MGU-H, which recovers energy from the turbo - and impose restrictions on a number of parts.

The intent is to make the engines cheaper and louder and, therefore, more attractive for new engine suppliers and fans.

Companies such as Cosworth and Ilmor, which have supplied F1 in the past, welcomed the possible

changes although still acknowledged that they would require additional financial assistance.

However, the reaction from existing suppliers was not so favourable with Mercedes and Renault both expressing concern that the changes would require them to completely redesign new power units at considerable expense.

This would also draw F1 away from a previously stated aim to develop technology that could be transferred to road cars and ultimately make them as efficient as possible.

Of course, the one key component that is common throughout any discussion is that of money.

How can F1 achieve greater parity between the teams? Central to this is the historical annual payment of \$68m made to Ferrari in recognition of their value to the F1 brand and continuous longevity in the sport. Ferrari are the only team to have been present in every world

championship since the first race in 1950, although they have threatened to quit the sport at regular intervals.

Williams chief technical officer, the well respected Paddy Lowe, complained that there are effectively two different events being witnessed every race weekend. He argued that you can tweak the regulations all you like, but if you don't allow teams to compete on a more level playing field then there will always be huge gaps.

The success in driving the F1 brand and generating income for the sport is now threatening to divide it and alienate its supporters.

While it can be acknowledged that tighter racing is always preferable, F1 has always done well at creating its own drama that keeps it in the news and fans happy. However, that's not the real issue – it is not the historic fans that are the main worry, rather the ability to drive F1 into a new era and attract new ones.

Supporting races and plenty of off-track entertainment also lined up

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This year's event in Bahrain will be the sixth edition of the desert endurance race. A trio of supporting championships will also be staged - the India-based MRF Challenge, the Bahrain-bred Porsche GT3 Cup Challenge Middle East and the World Series Formula V8 3.5 Championship.

Four cars will be competing in the Le Mans Prototype

1 (LMP1) class, nine cars will be running in the LMP2 class, eight in the Le Mans Grand Touring Endurance Professional (LMGTE Pro) category and five in the LMGTE Am class.

The GT FIA World Endurance Manufacturers' Championship title was clinched in China by Ferrari but the Drivers' Championship is still to be

won. The title races are also still wide open in LMP2 and LMGTE, so there will be plenty of hotly-contested action in Bahrain.

Plenty of entertainment is also being lined-up by the event's hosts off the track aimed at attracting the whole family. It will include bungee jumping, street shows, roaming performers, children's theatre shows and a

kids' area.

● Tickets to the FIA WEC Bacpro 6 Hours of Bahrain are BD10 for the entire weekend and children aged 12 and younger can attend for free. Tickets can be purchased online at www.bahraingp.com, by calling the BIC Hotline on 17450000 or by visiting the BIC stand at the ground floor of Centre Bahrain opposite Gate No. 3.



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TOP OF THE LEAGUE FOR LOCAL AND INTERNATIONAL SPORT

November 15 - 21, 2017

WE'RE COMING TO WIN

SPEEDY Sébastien Buemi of Toyota GAZOO Racing, a former Bahrain resident, is ready to put the pedal to the metal this weekend at the Bahrain International Circuit in the final round of the World Endurance Championship (WEC) series with a message to arch rivals Porsche that it's not over, until it's over.

Porsche's Brendon Hartley, alongside co-drivers Earl Bamber and Timo Bernhard, have already sealed the 2017 WEC drivers' title despite Toyota's former Bahrain resident Buemi, Kazuki Nakajima and Anthony Davidson winning the 6 Hours of Shanghai last time out.

The trio was delighted to deliver the Japanese manufacturer's fourth victory of the season to tie level when it comes to victories with Porsche ahead of the Bapco 6 Hours of Bahrain, the ninth and finale round on November 17 and 18.

However, Porsche sealed a third consecutive WEC manufacturers' crown in China by securing more podium finishes and taking 303 points while Toyota remaining in second with 249.5 points. The final round of the season marks the departure of Porsche from LMP1 and the team will be looking to go out on a high note in Sakhr ... but not if Buemi and his teammates can help it.

The 29-year-old 2014 WEC Champion, Formula E racer and Red Bull Racing reserve driver, told GulfWeekly: "I would like to congratulate Porsche for their success this year but a race remains a race



MOTORSPORT
By MAI AL KHATIB-CAMILLE
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and be sure that we will do our utmost to go for the win!

"Both Toyota and Porsche have won four races this year, so we will certainly go flat out to win the last one of the season.

"I feel very confident indeed, knowing that we have an excellent package, and that the car will feel very well here in Bahrain."

Buemi is no stranger to the kingdom's Sakhr track after a spell living and racing in Bahrain from 2009 to 2011 in Formula BMW, GP2 and Formula 1. During his stay on the island, he lived with his uncle Humbert, 57, an executive director and senior representative at UBS Wealth Management Bahrain and the Swiss honorary consul general, his aunt Silvia and cousins Frederic, 21, Steve, 19, and the late Laura, in Saar.

He dedicated his 2013 World Endurance Championship - Six Hours of Bahrain victory to his much-loved cousin, Laura, who lost her battle against leukaemia in July 2012 at the age of 11.

Buemi is married to Jennifer. They have a 20-month-old son, Jules, and have settled to family life back in his home country, Switzerland. He added: "Coming back to Bahrain is always something special. I really feel like I'm at home, having my family around as well.

"My parents are flying in and will be supporting me

like every single year."

Aside from WEC racing, Buemi competes in the Fédération Internationale de l'Automobile (FIA) single-seater Formula E Championship, fully-electric racing series. He just missed the world title this year, finishing second in the championship behind Luca Di Grassi.

"I am also still very much involved in the development of the Red Bull Formula 1 car with quite a lot of simulation testing," he added.

"F1 remains an objective but only if there is a real good chance of racing in a competitive team. I'm enjoying my current motor sport racing career, being competitive in both championships and winning races. This year, I have so far won 10 races all together."

After the WEC showdown in the kingdom his next race will be on December 2 and 3 in Hong-Kong, the first two races of the new Formula E 2017-2018 Championship Season 4.

But for now, Buemi is focusing all his energy on Bahrain which will feature some of the top names in motor sport and many of the world's most prestigious marques including Ferrari, Aston Martin and Nissan, alongside Porsche and Toyota.

An entry list of 26 cars has been confirmed by the WEC for Saturday's six-hour race, which flags off at 4pm and ends at 10pm.

BACK 'HOME': Buemi and, left, with teammates Nakajima and Davidson



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