

Gulf Weekly

The community newspaper at the heart of Bahrain

SUPERIOR TECHNOLOGY, MAXIMUM COMPACTION



BOMAG
FAHNE GROUP

AMA MOTORS
The Future in Motion

17 600 600
amamotors@al-sail.com
www.amamotors.com.bh

January 10 - 16, 2018

BAHRAIN.OURS.YOURS.

Vol 17 - Issue 2

200 Fils

www.gulfweekly.com

facebook.com/gulfweekly

gulfweekly

[@gulfweekly](https://twitter.com/gulfweekly)

[+973 39594114](https://whatsapp.com/+97339594114)



Arabian Business Community



Bahrain Kuwait Saudi Arabia Oman Qatar UAE International

Just look at what you can get!

- 160 Popular Categories across 5 sectors
- Over 60K referrals per month to Bahrain Companies + 160K referrals per month across the GCC
- Social Media Support
- Access to ABC mailing lists across 6 GCC countries with over 150K email addresses



abc-bahrain.com



PRIZE CONTEST:
Win coffee-for-two
at crust & crema
SEE PAGE 17



EATING OUT:
Mexican magic
on a Saturday
SEE PAGE 11



FILM WEEKLY:
Anna reviews *The Disaster Artist*
SEE PAGE 16

FINDING MY VOICE

BAHRAIN songstress Banah Anabtawi is making waves in the region after uploading her first video to *YouTube*, and hopes her success will inspire young girls in the kingdom to follow their musical dreams and have the confidence to one day step out under the spotlight.

Best known by her first and stage name Banah, the jazz-fusion soulful singer, who has performed numerous gigs around Bahrain, uploaded *Bang Bang* to the video-sharing platform on Christmas Eve and has already seen it rack up almost 20,000 views.

The 32-year-old Bahraini was born in Canada before moving to the Eastern Province of Saudi Arabia when she was four. After returning to Canada to study business at university, she finally settled in Bahrain 12 years ago.

She had a passion for performing at a young age, but struggled to pursue her hobby under family pressures and being shoehorned down a path she didn't wish to follow.

Banah explained: "Since I can remember, it was always a struggle to actually do music. When I was younger, I wanted

EXCLUSIVE
By KRISTIAN HARRISON
kristian@gulfweekly.com

to study it in the US and I applied with the intention of going. My family at the time objected and felt that studying business would be a better alternative. Unfortunately, the stereotype of a performing artist was the topic I couldn't avoid when discussing the music industry with my family.

"They were under the impression that being an artist entails doing something you shouldn't do, and that music in general was not a righteous path for a female Arab."

"When I was in Canada, I entered the popular TV talent show *Canadian Idol* and was one of the 100 contestants shortlisted out of 3,000 participants in my district. But I was not allowed to fly to Toronto and I had to give up on that dream and accept my reality."

"Eventually, I began to give up on music."

She however, found love and an 'amazing' supportive partner, Hatim, who she credits for being her 'ultimate rock.' They are now married and have two beautiful daughters, Alya, four, and Hana, two.

Turn to Page 2

ON TRACK: Banah headlines and setting the record straight



Performance starts at 43.

From AMG's home in Affalterbach, Germany comes a new expression of performance. Featuring AMG-enhanced V6 biturbo engines assisted by AMG sports suspension, Sport braking system, sports parameter steering and roaring sports exhaust.

AMG
DRIVING PERFORMANCE



Al Haddad Motors, Kingdom of Bahrain. Tel: 17785454
marketing@alhaddad-mercedesbenz.com, www.bahrain-mercedesbenzme.com



From Page 1

"Nevertheless, when I turned 30, I realised how unfulfilled I felt," Banah admitted. "No matter where I worked, something was always missing and I eventually became depressed about it before I realised that music was still possible to pursue."

"I began to break out of the category of 'mother with kids whose sole duty is to look after the family' and started to transform into a woman with purpose, passion and ultimately a dream."

Two years ago she decided to seriously pursue music. "I remember writing a 10-page plan entailing what I needed to do to reach my goals," she added.

It was only in January 2017 that Banah began to sing in public places in Bahrain, usually small lounges that catered for jazz. At first, she found herself under scrutiny as it was unusual to encounter an Arab woman performing, but she found the community to be supportive.

Her star soon began to rise, and her popularity continued to snowball throughout the year.

Banah was invited by the Spring of Culture organisers

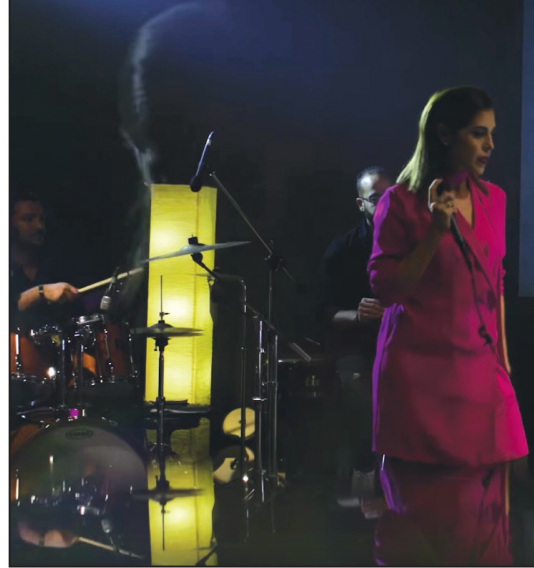
Come follow

to be the opening act of their main event, legendary Welsh singer Tom Jones, in April. Several months afterwards, she was one of the lead vocalists and performers for the International Youth Conference Operette, and then in October performed at the popular Bahrain Jazz Festival, the Bahrain International Music Festival and the Building Bridges Film Festival, before a sensational performance at The Nest in November.

She explained: "My confidence began to grow and I started to develop a following which I would have never imagined happening a few years back. I was ecstatic at getting so many gigs so quickly!"

Banah's enduring popularity led her to create her first official music video for her song *Bang Bang*. It is a jazzy cover of the Nancy Sinatra classic and was recorded during a live music session with a full backing band behind

ON STAGE: Banah singing live with a backing band and, left and right, promotional images



her, whose members chop and change frequently as she enjoys working with

different musicians within her favoured jazz/soul fusion genre.



SOLAR UTILITIES NETWORK

06-07-08 February 2018

at **Gulf Industry Fair**

Bahrain International Exhibition Centre

Join the Solar Utilities Network (S.U.N.)

- Promote your renewable energy and solar energy products
- Join the debate on GCC's policy on net energy supply to the national grids
- Network with suppliers and contractors of solar products and energy solution providers

Take advantage of the business opportunities and knowledge at Gulf Industry Fair's Solar Utilities Network (S.U.N.).

Register your participation and exhibit today!

Tel: +973 17299123
Email: info@hilalce.com
www.gulfindustryfair.com



be&liv Marble Dr Vranjes Textiles ittala X Issey Miyake Fixtures Iris Hantverk Car Park Shades Lighting French Heritage Beds Alessi Sofas Aquanova Curtains Edra Tables Arte Carpets Kartell Fabrics Ambivalenz Ceramics Baci Milano Baths Baolgi Patios be & liv Gardens Anolon Furniture Cacaoon Windows Charles Farris Fridges Coravin Design Daum Crystal Antiques Deviehl Art Henry London Granite Flos Blinds FabFunky Fixtures Eva Solo Upholstery Heathfield & Co Wardrobes Gillian Kyle Sanitaryware LINA Sofas Lollipop Desk Kenzo Pillows Jars Closets Missoni Wood Kartell Mirrors Amazonas Lamps Linley Table Tops Magpie Showers Lighting Anolon Beds



Interiors

DESIGN • FURNITURE • DECOR

Lighting Anne-Claire Petit Paints Baobab Collection Curtains Bitossi Ceramiche Rugs Root7 Bloomingville Fabrics Dash & Albert Toilets Designers Guild Patios Ebb & Flow Gardens Ekobo Furniture Cire Trudon Windows Debrett's Fridges Haremique Design Joseph Joseph Bedding be&liv Marble Dr Vranjes Textiles ittala X Issey Miyake Fixtures Iris Hantverk Car Park Shades Sanitaryware Margo Selby Windows Mastrad Murals Matthew Williamson Closets Mastrad Tables Beach Lulu Beds Paints be&liv Plants DELEY Tables Tops Carpets Baci Milano Julia Knight Toilets Curtains Bluebellgray Garden Glory Lamps

24-26 April 2018

Bahrain Exhibition Center

www.interiorexpo.net

Beds Marinette Saint Tropez Curtains Mike + Ally Rugs Missoni Home Fabrics Tiles Joanna Buchanan Kate spade new york Utensils Kay Bojesen Office Guzzini Baths Diesel Living with Selett Cookers Design Marinette Saint Tropez Bedding Orla Kiely Granite Ittala X Issey Miyake Wallpaper Moser Ralph Lauren Home Car Park Shades Miller Harris Handles Scaramouche & Fandango Sofas Patios Bric's Melli Mello Murals French Heritage Closets Assouline Wood Elizabeth Scarlett S'well Flooring ban.do Appliances Hugo Boss Table Tops Linley Shower Curtains Ekobo Baths Fabrics Ambivalenz Ceramics Baci Milano Baths Baolgi Patios be & liv Gardens Anolon Furniture

STRATEGIC PARTNERS 		ALUMINIUM 	ENERGY 	INDUSTRIAL FACILITIES
SUPPORTING ORGANISATIONS 		MEDIA PARTNERS 		EVENT FORUM

your dreams



The song has taken YouTube by storm, attracting thousands of views from across the Gulf region and beyond.

Her plan is to upload more videos to her channel in the near future and will soon be filming a video for Bahrain Sessions, a showcase of Bahrain's music and poetry.

Furthermore, she is working on an album in Beirut, Lebanon, with a tentative release date of June. This collection will explore old Arabic classics and modernise them with a twist of jazz, fusion and soul. Similarly, she will cover English songs and make them a little more oriental to generate a tale of the West meeting the East.

Banah's love for music, and in particular her affinity for jazz, started when she was a little girl. She explained: "For the longest time, my dream was to become a Broadway performer as I loved to sing and act!"

"At the same time, I also enjoyed Arabic music. When I was seven, I used to listen to Umm Kulthum and Fairouz which was very uncommon for a child, but it gave me some kind of serenity and peace.

"When I was in my early teens, I had an obsession with American singer Mariah Carey and know every song of every album word-for-word. My aim in life was to be able to hit her scream, or very high pitch note, which I eventually did!"

"In university, I began to explore a new genre of music

- classic rock - as well as soul & blues.

"My taste in the past couple of years has evolved into indie/soul/jazz and a bigger focus on Arabic music in general.

"Because I enjoy both English and Arabic music, there are many artists that I look up to for inspiration such as Aretha Franklin, Ella Fitzgerald, Amy Winehouse and Lady Gaga. As for Arabic performers, I love Fairouz, Julia Boutros and Lena Chamamyan.

"My music and style have been significantly inspired by the influence of the various cultures I was exposed to. Growing up in both the Middle East and Canada has allowed me to take in elements from each chapter of my life, and enabled me to reflect this in what I sing and how I interpret music.

"This versatility has also allowed me to sing both Arabic and English as well several genres rather than just one specific style.

"I take the best of both worlds: soul and jazz from the West, and tarab from oriental music. My style today is fusion jazz which I hope to take further in the Arab World as well as internationally.

"Jazz is one of the richest and most diverse blends of music as it has this amazing ability to speak directly to the hearts and ears of a listener, unlike any other style, in my opinion."

Banah believes that opportunity is out there for young singers, particularly

girls, and hopes that they follow their dreams of stardom much earlier than she herself did.

She said: "The best advice I can give anyone is to follow your inner voice.

"There will always be that inner voice inside of you that has all the answers you are looking for, even if you might think you are too young.

"You can choose to brush it off and replace it with the voices of others, but at the end of the day those voices are not yours, and you will eventually stop listening to them because your own inner voice will make its way to you once again.

"I would also advise you to surround yourselves by like-minded people that believe in your talent and passion, and it is sometimes perfectly fine not to listen to others who think they know what's good for you. Yes, they love you and care about you, but they cannot control your path and life.

"Music is not the easiest industry and it has its own share of struggles, and struggling makes it that much more worth it.

"Work hard, craft your talent and don't be over confident. Try and get lessons, whether vocal or performance, and get better at mastering your skill. Perform at every opportunity you can, and if you can't, then make videos and share them with others.

"Lastly, take criticism ... but don't take all of it to heart. Again, everyone will always have an opinion, so you need to be strong and believe in yourself and follow that voice inside. It's always there - you just have to keep searching for it."

● To follow Banah's musical journey, visit www.banahofficial.com, follow her Instagram @banah.music, or subscribe to her YouTube channel Banah Official. She also hosts a morning show on Radio Bahrain 96.5, from 9am-12pm on Sundays, Tuesdays and Thursday. To view her official video for Bang Bang, scan the QR code below.



UK Boarding Schools, Summer Schools and Language Programmes

Free information and advice



Come and talk to us!

Friday 19th January, 2 to 6pm
The British Club, Bahrain

For more information and venues throughout the Gulf, please visit our website

Contact: Sue or Sara
enquiries@andersoneducation.co.uk
www.andersoneducation.co.uk
Tel: +44 1474 815450 or +44 7887 772255



ANDERSON
education
Boarding School Specialists



Ladies, are being hurt? Or abused?
Help is available.
(domestic violence
or sexual violence)

Call us!
3844 7588 Helpline



Visit us!
American Mission
Hospital

Open 24 hours. Free and confidential. All women welcome.
كل النساء مرحب بهن

I AM contacting you in regards to Women's Crisis Care International's (WCCI) upcoming advocate training.

WCCI will be training new women to become crisis advocates and assist with providing support on our 24-hour crisis hotline. The training will take place over two weekends - Friday and Saturday from 9am to 5pm and January 19 and 20 also from 9am to 5pm, although the last session may finish earlier.

The training will take place at the Bahrain Financial Harbour and although it is free for those who wish to become volunteers with WCCI, there is a fee for those

wishing only to be certified.

We are still accepting applicants but only those pre-registered can attend.

For more details visit events@womenscci.org and to register go to tinyurl.com/WCCIAdvocacy or call 38474018.

Kathryn, WCCI.

THE Tender Board would like to express its sincere thanks and appreciation for the great commitment and professionalism you and your news team have demonstrated in covering Bahrain's latest happenings and keeping the community informed.

In line with its strategic long-

term goals to improve the quality of services provided for its partners, Tender Board recently launched its new website featuring advanced technology to deliver customers a unique digital experience. The website has been designed and developed to the highest international standards to become the only official platform.

The new website, available in both Arabic and English, has a unique and innovative design and offers a new level of efficiency and transparency in a way that makes access to the services the Board offers easier and clearer than ever before. The

new digital platform, www.tenderboard.gov.bh is now the only official source of information related to the Tender Board, and the only official platform to announce new tenders.

Website visitors can now electronically search for tenders according to their various categories and classifications, and can also go through the lists of approved pre-qualified suppliers and contractors in different sectors. Moreover, the website now provides a brief description of tenders and the required scope of work to enable vendors to participate in tenders they are interested in and only purchase needed documents. In addition, the latest news, insights and updates from the Tender Board will also be provided in real-time.

Hayam Al Awadhi,
Secretary General of the
Tender Board.



Elissa's island life

An expat wife, mother, artist and runner

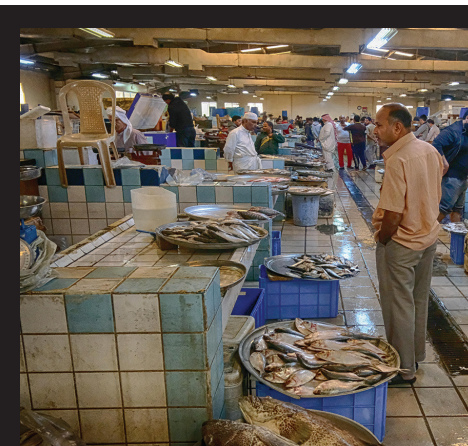
With a bit of space I thought about New Year's resolutions, how millions of us have made resolutions promising to improve our lives by eating better, losing weight, quit smoking, exercising more etc. Then, by mid-January most people will have broken their resolutions, which can lead to people feeling depressed, stressed out or disappointed.

And, I totally get it, so I decided this year not to make any New Year's resolutions but just to focus on how to make my life better by avoiding goals

that are only made for short-range desires.

Little things can make a big difference and this year (after finishing off the last of the Quality Street chocolates) I have decided to practice gratitude and to surround myself with things that make me happy.

My new mantra, 'if it doesn't serve you, let it go' and, lastly, to avoid anger. Not sure I can achieve them but like many of you that have made New Year's resolutions, it's good to be able to reflect and make positive changes ... however small.



BAHRAIN LIFE
© ALL RIGHTS RESERVED

Central Fish Market, Manama.

Photo by Phil Weymouth - Streetlight. Camera Fuji X-Pro2.

Bahrain Life is a project by Streetlight and Unisono. www.bahrainlife.org

Write to the editor

Follow Stan on Twitter @stanszeczowka

Your views make all the difference - email Stan.Szeczowka@editor@gulfweekly.com



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

THERE appears to be a cactus crisis currently in our desert kingdom with one of the Whisperer's acquaintances reporting a series of sudden wilting plants. She said that her beautiful cactus which must have been 25 to 30 years old and 'taller than the house' suddenly collapsed.

"There was no apparent reason why it should suddenly break," she added, worryingly revealing that there were no termites spotted either and this had also happened to 'two other friends' trees within



just a week or so'.

The Whisperer would welcome any explanations from green-fingered readers ... and please let us know if your cactus has suffered a similar fate.



Mariam's moments

claim across the horizon.

Is that the silver lining in the sky, an oasis in the desert or just the cat's eyes breaking the speed of my car? Fog sure does have a way to play with our imagination.

As I drove down the highway, not letting the zero visibility deter me, I felt like detective Sherlock Holmes - out in the chilly night, paying attention to every detail, searching for clues that would help keep me safe on the road ahead.

It was one night when there appeared to be no drivers rushing to get anywhere, no excitement, no thrill was being sought on the roads, only the

roads were being sought. Everyone was focused on staying safe, even eager to follow the slow-paced cars. There was a calm flow of traffic to be enjoyed with a strong sense of comradeship in display.

The full moon later added to the 'oomph' of the occasion. It was the perfect time of the year to burn some wood and calmly savour the crumbling away year.

As sense of sight was weakened by the thickening fog, the other senses sharpened in anticipation, dancing to the 12 chimes of the clock. And, in the mist of the night, a new year crept up on us, not one to be slowed by anything.

A happy and safe 2018 to you all.

SO, New Year's Eve just went by ... or should I say flew by for most of us high school-ers. This time round I decided to just tuck in the house and spend time with my family and complete school things before the deadlines.

But the point is, New Year, in the most clichéd way, indicates us towards new beginning and new opportunities. After all, we all like a clean slate to work on, a fresh change

Youth Talk

By
Saamia Zia



of canvas and infinite possibilities.

This is exactly how I view the year 2018, the year to go out and explore the world and grow as an individual while making new bonds and friendships along the way.

New Year is the perfect way to cherish the past,

enjoy the present and look forward to the future. It is an opportunity to transform ourselves as individuals, as members of the society that we live in. We can evolve and work towards being better in our work and personal lives and move ahead.

But enough of the stuff from the deep thinking pot.

It was still fun to go outside, shout out the countdown and enjoy the fun night that makes New Year's Eve so special!

BAHRAIN'S sky is set to be awash with colour later this month as thousands of kites will be flown touching the clouds to mark the annual Gujarati International Kite Festival of Uttarayan.

Gujarat is a state in Western India, and each year its people celebrate Uttarayan, which marks the days in the Hindu calendar when winter begins turning to summer.

The 'Mega Kite Festival' will be held on January 26 from 10am-5pm, and the Shri Gujarati Samaj Bahrain, a society which represents around 10,000 Gujaratis in Bahrain, will host thousands of people in the Sakhir Desert Camp and release the cool creations into the air.

Details were unveiled at a launching ceremony staged at the S Hotel's seventh floor banquetting suite. "The flying kites are a hugely significant event for the people of Gujarat and we wanted to bring this traditional annual celebration to Bahrain for our community to enjoy and to share it with our Bahraini friends and other expats," said society president Taral Parekh.

The event will feature a plethora of activities, particularly for children. There will be bouncy castles, face-painting, pony rides, kite decorating and a treasure hunt, whilst the area will also feature numerous food and game stalls and live music will be performed on a special stage.

Kites of all shapes and sizes will be flown and the main competition involves a battle of kite-flying skills with the aim of cutting the strings of rivals, bringing down their kites and remaining the only one in the sky. For this, competitors pick their favoured kite-makers who make strong resilient kite bodies with springy bamboo frames and kite-paper stretched to exactly the right tension.

Historians suggest that India created the tradition of kite-fighting which was supported by royalty, who found the sporting activity entertaining and as a way to display their skills and power.

It began as 'a sport for kings', but over time, as the activity grew in popularity it began to reach the masses.

Kite flying has been a regional event in Gujarat for

Let us colour the skies



COMMUNITY REPORT

By KRISTIAN HARRISON

kristian@gulfweekly.com

several years. However, the first International Festival was celebrated in 1989 when people from all across the globe participated and showcased their innovative kites.

During the festival week the markets are flooded with kite buyers and sellers. In the heart of Ahmedabad, the largest city in Gujarat, there is one of the most famous kite markets, Patang Bazaar, which during the festive week opens 24-hours-a-day with buyers and sellers negotiating and buying in bulk.

Many families in Gujarat start making kites at home months in advance and set up small shops in their own homes.

It has not been without controversy either. "For a lot of people, kite flying is no longer a recreational sport. Flyers are using dangerous strings, and the harmless cotton strings have been forgotten," Mehul Pathak, founder of a kite flying club in Gujarat, told journalists.

Some had been coated with metal or crushed glass mixed with glue, to help cut the strings of rival kites in hotly-contested flying contests. And more recently, flyers started using nylon strings laced with glass, which were stronger, and more dangerous, than regular kite strings. These strings did not snap easily and were blamed for the deaths of two children and a man who were killed after their throats were slit by kite strings in 2016.

As a result the authorities cracked down to make kite-flying safe again. In some parts of Pakistan, police arrested kite-flyers and seized thousands of the rogue contraptions and in India officers organised street plays and school programmes on the dangers of flying kites with dangerous strings.

The Bahrain show organisers will ensure no dangerous practices will spoil their event.

Kites themselves have been around for thousands of years and they are a part of many



STUNNING CONTRAPTIONS: Kite festival celebrations like these in Asia will thrill the crowds in Bahrain later this month

different cultures around the world. From an aerodynamics point of view, two of the most important users of kites were US flying pioneers, the Wright brothers. In 1899, as they were developing their theories for the control of an aircraft by using wing warping, they built a small manoeuvrable kite to verify their ideas.

Between 1900 and 1903 they would often fly their gliders as unmanned kites at Kitty Hawk, North Carolina. These experiments led directly to their successful 1903 aircraft.

While the forces on all kites are the same, each kite flies a little differently. Some kites are highly manoeuvrable and some are incredibly stable.

There are kites with multiple control lines that can perform stunts, while other kites can be flown to high altitudes. Flyers can use mathematical techniques to calculate the altitude at which a kite is flying.

For more information and tickets, visit www.shreegujaratisamajbahrain.org or call 33226006.

gulfprojects.me
Information | Intelligence | Insight

Tenders and Business News



Knowledge is power. Arm yourself with the best tools

It takes more than just great research methodology to generate great project data that gives you the edge.

It takes an innate understanding of business, about the intellectual property that informs your strategic decisions, and the detail that determines your bottom line.

With **The Gulf's Project & Tenders**, we do the leg work, so you don't have to.

We offer the latest primary information from named project personnel, contractors and sub-contractors, backed up by information from trusted secondary sources, including site visits, regional conferences, exhibitions and market analysts. Meticulously compiled, diligently executed.

What's more, **The Gulf Project & Tenders** service draws on the accumulated market knowledge of Al Hilal Group, one of the GCC's most respected trade publishers with nearly 40 years' experience across construction, infrastructure, oil and gas and other key sectors.

With this wealth of knowledge in our bank, can you afford not to take advantage?

To subscribe, visit:
www.gulfprojects.me



P.O. Box 1100, Manama, Bahrain T: +973 1729 3131 F: +973 1729 5735





Hilal Computers

Maximizing performance and efficiency
Dell service provider
Tel: 1729 3749 ext 2220

Zahra's



zinger deals

Putting Bahrain's supermarkets under the spotlight and searching for the best deals

Lulu Hypermarket

Al Osra sugar 10kg – BD2.850
Sun king sunflower oil 5ltr – BD2.550
Olive basmati rice 20kg – BD13.990
Egyptian mixed pickles/kg – BD0.590
Egyptian double cream cheese/kg – BD1.550

Jawad Supermarket

Foster Clarks whipped topping mix 2x144gm – BD1.250
Barilla penne rigate 3x500gm+plate – BD1.550
Meat town assorted tuna 3+1 free – BD1.850
Emborg whole leaf spinach 450gm 1+1 free – BD0.950
Al Alali mushroom pieces and stem 3x400gm – BD1.625
Emborg chicken franks 4x340gm – BD1.795

Al Jazira Supermarket Zinj

Riegelein Christmas tree decorations mixed 28x170gms – BD1.900
Kinnerton net of satsumas 10x135gms – BD1.750
Reese S peanut butter miniatures chocolate tube 16x70gms – BD1.600
The Jelly Bean Factory Christmas can 12x400gms – BD3.550
Terry's S Toblerone sleeve milk Xmass 10x360gms – BD2.500

Carrefour Hypermarket

Royal jasmine rice 5kg – BD1.390
Fairly (2x1ltr) – BD1.350
Tide power gel water colour 2x ((1+1) x1.8ltr) – BD3.830
Target corned beef 2x340gm – BD1.100
Kraft cream cheese 500gm 2 pcs – BD1.790

Note: Offers valid until Sunday.

From a tent to major stores in two kingdoms

DESERT Designs, a furniture store which started business in 1990 in a desert tent and today boasts a flagship storefront on King Abdullah Street in Al Khobar, has opened its first outlet outside Saudi Arabia in Galleria Mall, Zinj.

This week's opening ceremony featured a live musical performance by guitarist and composer Jason Carter, who produced a documentary about Bahrain's pearling industry, and artwork by popular artists Huvil and Ramah Hussaini.

A family business established in 1990, the store offers home décor products, including furniture and carpets, many handmade, and also fashion accessories such as abayas and jewellery pieces. It ranges from tribal Bedouin offerings to modern executive gifts created to keep the heritage of Islamic design at the forefront.

The store also hosts its own



RIBBON-CUTTING: Executives at the launch at Galleria Mall

contemporary art gallery, providing a platform for both upcoming and known local artists.

Leading businessman Mohammed Dadabhai, representing the mall's owning company, did the honour of cutting the ribbon.

For more details visit www.desertdesigns.com/shop/about-us-desert-designs/



GulfWeeklyBookClub – in association with The Bookcase



THE SELF-CARE REVOLUTION (smart habits & simple practices to allow you to flourish), SUZY READING, 9781912023202 (OCTOPUS) BD6.400 for Gulf Weekly Book Club members

In this month's selection we have the perfect books to help you see in the New Year. Whether you'd like to practice more self-care - be it your mind or body - or take five minutes out of your day to work out what's really important to you, this week's titles will leave you feeling happier, more in control and ready to take on 2018!

SUZY Reading is a chartered psychologist and qualified yoga teacher specialising in well-being and this is her gift to all the busy people in the world. The ideas and frameworks in this book are gentle, wise and practical; buy two copies and give one to your best friend, they will thank you for it!

What if it were possible to help ourselves thrive, rather than simply survive?

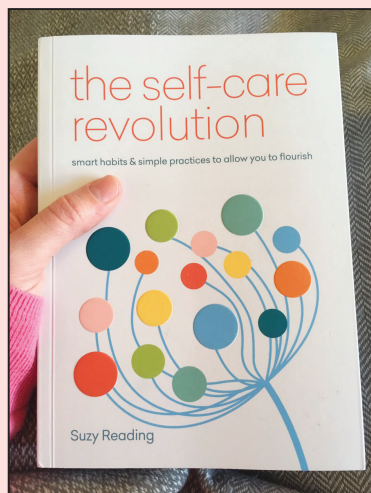
The Self-Care Revolution is designed to help and restore your day-to-day energy reserves so that, rather than running on empty, you will have the strength and spirit to excel with whatever life brings.

Discover the Vitality Wheel - a complete body and mind Self-Care Toolkit that will boost your health, happiness and resourcefulness.

This is a fantastic book which is a great beginner to self-care. It is visually beautiful to read, full of gorgeous pictures and quotes to meditate on. There are plenty of exercises, both mental and physical, to take you through each chapter.

This isn't the kind of book where you have to work from start to finish. You can dip in and out wherever you feel you need to so there really is little excuse not to start the year as you intend to carry on!

THE 5:2 COOKBOOK, ANGELA DOWDEN 9781846015670 (OCTOPUS)



BD3.900 for members of the Gulf Weekly Book Club

THE 5:2 diet is now firmly established as a highly-effective and popular way to lose weight. It allows you to change your life for the better by dieting for just two days a week.

You will live longer, lose weight and feel great by reducing your calorie intake for a limited period each week. The rest of the time you can eat normally, dine out and even have treats.

New research now suggests that sticking to 800 calories a day - rather than the 500-600 calories previously recommended - can help people lose weight successfully.

But what to eat on a fasting day? Bored with omelettes or ham salads? Want something quick and easy but don't know what? Look no further. With more than 100 calorie-counted recipes specially designed for anyone who is fasting, it couldn't be easier to put the 5:2 diet into practice. All the recipes are delicious, so fasting need not be a chore.

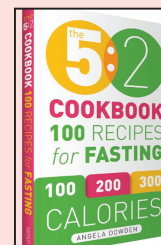
Includes: four-week fast day meal planner; calorie counter, 15 ideas for 150 calorie snacks, 50 ideas for 100 calorie snacks, 50 ideas for 50 calorie snacks, 10 ideas for guilt-free snacks, plus tips and techniques on mastering portion control, good nutrition and keeping up your 5:2 eating plan for life.

FIVE MINUTES IN THE MORNING (a focus journal), ASTER 9781912023011 (OCTOPUS)

BD4.900 for members of the Gulf Weekly Book Club

WHAT is important to you today? What if five minutes could change your routine and change your day? What if you checked in with how you are feeling for just those few minutes, maybe sitting down over that cup of coffee or tea, or quietly sitting by

Join the **FREE** Gulf Weekly Book Club in association with **The Bookcase** by emailing bookclub@gulfweekly.com with your contact details.



the window before you head towards the shower?

Writing things down has been shown to help people more successfully achieve their dreams and goals. It is a way to help us focus on what matters, prioritise what we are going to do for the day ahead and track our progress.

Five Minutes in the Morning offers a beautiful space as well as creative exercises to encourage reflection and intention setting at the start of the day.

That's all it takes.

Techtronic Specials



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

	Item	Make and Description	Store	Price
1	Printer	Brother (MFC-J3530DW) A3 Printer, print, copy, scan, fax, 1200x4800 dpi print resolution, print up to 22ipm mono and 20ipm colour print speed, Wi-Fi, auto duplex, ADF MAX.50 sheets, 250 sheets paper input, maximum A3 size paper support.	Home Electronics	BD130
2	Water Dispenser + Blender	Clikon water dispenser (CK4020) +blender (CK2284).	Carrefour Hypermarket	BD29.990 <i>Note: This offer is valid until Sunday.</i>
3	Yoga Book	Lenovo (YB1X91) Yoga Book, 10.1-inch IPS FHD Touch, 1920x1200, Intel® Atom™ x5-Z8550 QC 2.24GHz, RAM 4GB, 64GB built in memory, Wi-Fi, Bluetooth, GPS, 2MP front, 8MP rear camera, micro USB, Windows 10 Pro.	Sharaf DG	BD199.990
4	Air Purifier	LG Signature air purifier with humidity control (AM50GYWN2), Covering area: 46sqm, jet mode: 52sqm, dual protection filter, watering system, rain view window, UV LED and smart drying, smart indicator and smart lighting, easy buscket, trickling water, smart thing and remote control, inverter motor -10 years warranty.	LG, Sehla showroom	BD749
5	Water Dispenser	Nikai water dispenser (NWD 1208), free standing, two tap, hot and cold, cup holder.	Gajria Electronics	BD40
6	Dryer	West point condenser dryer (WDW-814EC), 8kg.	Y.K. Almoayyed & Sons - EHA	BD124.990

Email your gadget stories to editor@gulfweekly.com

DELL | EMC²
Service Partner



Hilal Computers Tel: 1729 3749 ext 2220

GADGETS OF THE WEEK

What is it called? Perfect Bake Smart Scale

What does it do? This highly sensitive and intuitive device auto-scales recipes for the number of servings you need, and comes with 300+ chef-tested recipes for you to try. The whole set includes the wireless smart scale, the app, three bowls, and a phone stand.

Cost: BD7.5

Visit www.amazon.com



What is it called? Tablift Tablet Stand

What does it do? Tablift's universal design means it works well with any tablet, and the flexible legs can be folded down to a compact size, or out to be propped up on your bed, couch, or any other uneven surface.

Cost: BD15

Visit www.amazon.com



What is it called? Scratchmap of the World

What does it do? This is the ideal gadget for those bitten by the travel bug. This gigantic world map is covered in a gold foil layer so you can scratch off everywhere you've been, and even includes some facts about the countries you've visited. It also looks great framed and hung up in your home for all to see.

Cost: BD6

Visit www.menkind.co.uk



Stay vigilant, stay cyber safe

GLOBAL security company Kaspersky Lab recently staged a Cyber Day to educate students from different universities in the kingdom about online crimes and threats.

More than 2,000 students from the University of Bahrain and Bahrain Polytechnic attended the event that featured an informative presentation highlighting the dramatic increase of ransom ware and mobile malware, increased threats to Mac machines and targeted and malware attacks.

Maxim Frolov, managing director for the Middle East, Turkey and Africa at Kaspersky Lab, said: "Cyber education at university level is crucial as students are curious, emotional and highly connected to the internet for both academic reasons, as well as during their free time."

Research done by Kaspersky Lab and B2B International has indicated that young people aged 16 to 24 are active users of the internet with almost 80 per cent of them using their smartphones



TECH REPORT
By MAI AL KHATIB-CAMILLE
mai.alkhatib@gulfweekly.com

for emails, uploading and sharing content, and online shopping.

Less than half of them have a security solution installed on their devices.

Maxin added: "Teenage students are heavy internet users and early adopters of new technology making them the tech experts in their families. Education against cyber threats will not only aid in protecting them against dangers but will shield their families and communities too."



SAFETY MEASURES:
Teenagers learn about cyber crimes and, left, Maxim

This is one of the many initiatives hosted by the cyber security corporation within the region and abroad to support youngsters and teens from falling prey to online crimes.

One of the programmes

it features is called *The Safe Kids Roadshow* which is a series of interactive presentations held at schools aimed at educating children against the dangers of the internet and encouraging them to 'think before they

click' on links or interact with strangers online. Also, Kaspersky Lab has teamed up with partners such as Dassault Systems, PWC and Schlumberger to create a talent discovery programme named Cybersecurity.

It is targeting students and young specialists, with and without a security background.

Kaspersky Lab plans to 'scale up' its activities in 2018 to include all universities in the kingdom.



OGN
OIL, GAS, PETROCHEMICALS & RENEWABLES

The energy industry's
trade journal for the GCC region

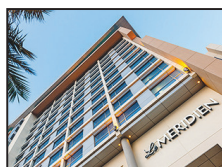
www.oilandgasnewsonline.com

Today (January 10)

Crowne Plaza Bahrain is holding a steak night every Wednesday from 7pm at La Mosaïque Restaurant. The Harvesters Restaurant Pub & Terrace is offering its new Camel Burger with French fries and coleslaw. Ask to be part of the Beast Burger Challenge, and if you finish the burger in the stipulated time your meal is free and you receive a free T-shirt and your name on the wall of fame. The challenge runs daily from 11am to 9pm. Priced BD8.410 per person.

The hotel is hosting a South Indian Curry promotion daily from noon to 11pm at Spices Indian Restaurant, available as vegetarian or non-vegetarian package. Priced BD4.840net per person. Crowne Plaza is hosting a daily High Tea event at Cappuccino until January 31 from 3pm to 6pm, featuring a three-tier high tea set with savoury bites and mini-cakes and pastries.

For more details call 17531122.



buffet. Children aged six to 12 dine at half price.

Baharat is also hosting a weekly BBQ night every Wednesday from 7pm to 11pm on the Baharat terrace with live music from South African Duo, The Deux Song. Priced BD20++ inclusive of soft beverages, or BD24++ inclusive of a free flow of beverages.

Enjoy the unique Metre Mix grill at Furn Bistro daily in January, for lunch from 12.30pm to 4pm and dinner from 6.30pm to 11pm. Features a mixed metre-long platter of the finest meat such as lamb chops, chicken kofta, lamb kofta, shish tawook and lamb tikka served with saj bread. Priced BD22.5++ for 0.75 metre, and BD33.750++ for one metre.

For details, call 17171144.

The Sheraton Bahrain Hotel is offering a chicken promotion at Soie Chinese Restaurant daily except Saturday from 7pm to 11.30pm.

There is also a daily special lunch menu at Espressamente Illy Café daily from 7am to 11pm priced BD2.9++ inclusive of soft beverages.

For details call 17533533.

The Movenpick Hotel Bahrain is offering a 25 per cent discount on all its wedding packages for those that call and book before January 30. Movenpick Hotel Bahrain says it offers an excellent service with 'a blend of Arab traditions and a touch of Swiss hospitality' to celebrate love, including world-renowned cuisine and a dedicated team of organisers.

For details, call 17460028 or email hotel.bahrain.events@movenpick.com

**Thursday (January 11)**

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.

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.

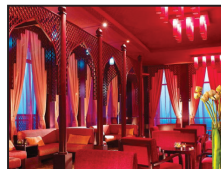
Crowne Plaza Bahrain is hosting a seafood night from 7pm at La Mosaïque Restaurant.

The Harvesters Pub & Terrace is hosting a weekly night every Thursday of good fun music, BBQ and selected beverages from 6pm onwards. Priced BD7net for entrance, inclusive of one round of selected beverages. Entry is exclusive to those above the age of 21 years.

For more details call 17531122.

Al Areen Palace & Spa is staging an Arabian Food Festival at its Saffron restaurant from 7.30pm-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.



The Gulf Hotel Convention and Spa is hosting a seafood night at Al Waha restaurant every Thursday of January from 7pm-10.30pm.

For details, call 17713000.

Elite Seef Residence & Hotel is hosting weekly Layali Al Bazerkan nights with live entertainment and grills every Thursday from 8pm to midnight at the Oasis pool area. Priced BD14net per person.

For details, call 17583388.

The Elite Grande Hotel is hosting a Red Velvet night every Thursday at H20 Lounge with choice of grills and selected beverages. Priced BD10++ per person.

For details, call 17565888.

The Elite Crystal Hotel is hosting a weekly steaks and seafood night every Thursday at Waikiki from 6.30pm to 11pm, featuring an extensive steak and seafood buffet with live barbecue, unlimited selected beverages and a live band. Priced BD10++ per person for food package, or BD15++ inclusive of selected beverages.

For reservations, call 17360360.

Le Meridien Hotel Bahrain is hosting a weekly seafood night at Baharat restaurant every Thursday from 7pm to 11pm featuring a wide selection of

fresh oysters, prawns, sushi, lobster, fresh fish, and more. Priced BD20++ inclusive of soft beverages, or BD24++ inclusive of free flow of beverages.

The hotel is also hosting a retro night every Thursday at Mezzanine Lounge from 8pm onwards with retro themed drinks and bites, and live entertainment from South African Duo, The Deux Song. For details, call 17171144.

The Mövenpick Hotel Bahrain is staging a fun Thursday Night Out for guests at its Silk's Restaurant inclusive of live cooking stations, a buffet, a carving section, bountiful desserts and entertainment by a DJ from 7pm to 11pm. The evening is BD32net per person including selected beverages, is BD16net for children aged six to 12 and free for children under six. For details, call 17460017.

Friday (January 12)

The Four Seasons Hotel Bahrain Bay is hosting a winter brunch every Friday until February 9 from 12.30pm to 3.30pm at Bahrain Bay Kitchen International, featuring lavish culinary offerings. Priced BD25++ inclusive of soft beverages and BD35++ inclusive of selected beverages.

For reservations, call 17115500.



CUT by Wolfgang Puck Steakhouse is hosting a CUT Brunch every Friday from 12.30pm to 3.30pm. Priced BD24++ with soft beverages, or BD34++ with selected beverages.

For details, call 17115044.

The Sheraton Bahrain Hotel is hosting a new Pop-Up Brunch at Al Layali restaurant from 12.30pm-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

Don't miss the Elite Resort & Spa Muharrarq'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.

Le Meridien Bahrain City

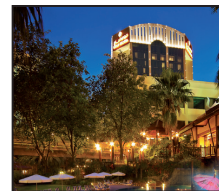
Centre's 'Sweetest Brunch' takes place from 12.30pm-4pm. The price is BD18++ inclusive of soft drinks or BD30++ inclusive of a free flow of select beverages. Book for 10-plus guests and receive a 20 per cent discount. For more details call 17171000.

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 BD31net and BD8.750net for children aged seven to 12. Spices Restaurant is hosting a weekly Flavours of India buffet every Friday from 7pm onwards, featuring a selection of flavours handpicked from the subcontinent to delight your palate. Priced BD10.300net for food only. Crowne Plaza is also hosting a weekly international themed night buffet every Friday from 7pm onwards, featuring a wide selection of dishes. Priced BD13net for food only. For details, call 17531122.

The Gulf Hotel Convention and Spa is hosting a Gulf Grand Brunch at Al Waha restaurant every Friday of January from 7pm-10.30pm. It features a special kids corner, a buffet selection featuring 10 different cuisines and live counters, pool usage, live entertainment, and an after-party at Typhoon Lounge. Price is BD32net inclusive of selected beverages, with special rates for Gulf Hotel Partners and Prestige Club members.

For details, call 17713000.



Elite Seef Residence & Hotel is hosting a weekly Grill and Taarab Night every Friday from 7pm to 11pm with live Arabic entertainment and live grills. Priced at BD14net per person.

For details, call 17583388.

The Elite Grande Hotel is hosting a Grill to Chill night every Friday and Saturday at H20 Lounge with unlimited grills by the pool and beautiful city line views. Priced BD12++ per person.

For details, call 17565888.

The Elite Resort & Spa is hosting a weekly Friday Family Lunch with pool access, children's activities and a wide variety of international food. Priced BD10++ inclusive of soft beverages.

For details, call 17313333.

The Movenpick Hotel Bahrain is hosting a brunch every Friday from 12.30pm to 4pm at Silk's restaurant and Flamingo lounge, featuring an international selection of items with live cooking stations and a children's play area with face painting and entertainment. Priced BD36net per person including selected beverage package.

The hotel is also now taking bookings for St Patrick's Day on March 16, where visitors can enjoy Irish breakfast, Irish stew and other traditional delicacies. There will also be an Easter-themed brunch on March 30.

For reservations, call 17460017 or email hotel.bahrain.fb@movenpick.com

Saturday (January 13)

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 from 12.30-3.30pm.

The price is BD19++ and BD37++ with selected beverages.

For reservations, call 17115046.

The Bahrain Bay Kitchen at the Four Seasons Hotel Bahrain Bay is staging a Saturday Brunch from 12.30pm-3.30pm offering a wide selection of Arabic favourites such as Lamb Ouzi and cold mezzehs, costing BD18++ excluding beverages. For more details, call 17115000.

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 BD20net per person for food, juices and soft drinks. It takes place from 11am-3pm.

For more details call 17580000. ● See Eating Out: Page 11

Indulge in a wide selection of dishes 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.

The hotel is also hosting a weekly Asian night buffet every Saturday from 7pm onwards at La Mosaïque restaurant, featuring South East Asian specialties. Priced BD13net for food only. Selected beverage package is available. Call 17531122 for more information.

The Gulf Hotel Convention and Spa is hosting salsa classes every Saturday from 7pm to 9pm at Typhoon Lounge. Classes are priced BD10, inclusive of two rounds of selected beverages. Every Saturday, Gulf Hotel is hosting The Art of Cooking classes from 10.30am to 12pm, designed for home cooks with busy lifestyles and a passion for food. Includes hands-on demonstration classes led by professional chef instructors. Priced BD18net including lunch. For details, call 17713000.

The Elite Crystal Hotel is hosting a weekly sushi night every Saturday at Waikiki from 6pm to 10.30pm featuring unlimited Japanese sushi. Priced BD10++ for food package, or BD15++ inclusive of selected beverages. For reservations, call 17360360.

The Westin Bahrain City Centre is hosting complimentary junior baking classes at Furn Bakery for children aged three to 12 every Saturday from 9am to 10am, featuring hands-on baking experience and supervision from its master bakers. There is an optional kids breakfast menu priced BD2++ for any bakery items and water and juice. For details, call 17171441.

The Movenpick Hotel Bahrain is hosting a Swiss fondue special every Saturday, Sunday, and Wednesday, from 7pm onwards at Silk's

restaurant and outdoor terrace, featuring cheese fondue with a selection of breads, dips and chocolate fondue to finish. Priced BD12++ for two people, set menu available upon request. For details, call 17460017 or email hotel.bahrain.fb@movenpick.com



Sunday (January 14)

The Ritz-Carlton, Bahrain is hosting a Thali 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



Mosaic Restaurant every Saturday to Thursday from 12.30pm-3pm. The price is BD8net for three courses or BD6net for two courses. The hotel is also hosting a weekly Italian night buffet every Sunday from 7pm onwards at La Mosaic restaurant, featuring authentic Italian food, pastas, fresh sauces, pizzas, and more. Priced BD13net for food only. Selected beverage package available. For more details call 17531122.

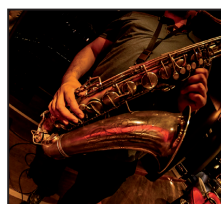
The Gulf Hotel Convention and Spa is hosting an Oceanic-themed night with Australian and New Zealand themed buffet offerings at Al Waha restaurant every Sunday of January from 7pm-10.30pm. For details, call 17713000.

The Elite Grande Hotel is hosting a Taste of Italy offer at H2O Lounge with your choice of Italian pasta or pizza and one soft beverage. Priced BD5++ per person. For details, call 17565888.

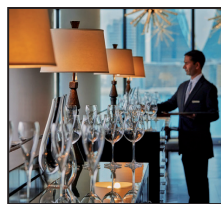
Monday (January 15)

Enjoy smooth Midweek Monday music at Coda Jazz Lounge in Adliya with the sultry sounds of Dihann Moore

& The SheGroovee Band while tasting bistro-style food. For details, contact 34342828.



CUT by Wolfgang Puck at the Four Seasons Hotel Bahrain is hosting a business lunch every day from 12pm-3pm. Enjoy a two-course meal in 60-minutes with your choice of tea or coffee, priced BD14++ per person. CUT Bar & Lounge is also hosting 'CUT The Lounge To The Chase,' featuring Wolfgang Puck's signature bites and drinks with chic music every Monday to Thursday from 5pm-7pm, and Friday and Saturday from 4pm-7pm. Priced BD3 for entrance. There is also an Afternoon Tea at Bay View Lounge every day from 3pm-9pm priced at BD15++ per person, or BD28++ for two guests. For details, call 17115044.



The Gulf Hotel Convention and Spa is hosting an international-themed night at Al Waha restaurant every Monday of January from 7pm-10.30pm. For details, call 17713000.

The Elite Grande Hotel is hosting a Dish of the Day night every Monday at H2O Lounge with a selection of special offerings prepared by the chef. Priced BD10++ per person. For details, call 17565888.

The Crowne Plaza Bahrain Hotel is hosting a weekly French Night every Monday from 7pm onwards at La Mosaic restaurant featuring beef bourguignon, fresh salads, cheese and more. Priced BD13net for food only, beverage package is available. For details, call 17531122.

The Movenpick Hotel Bahrain is hosting a Seafood Night every Monday from 7pm to 11pm at Silk's restaurant, featuring a unique medley of seafood delicacies such as sushi, seafood dim sum, oysters, lobster and tiger prawns. Priced BD24net per person and BD29net per person with selected beverage package. For details, call 17460017 or email hotel.bahrain.fb@movenpick.com

Tuesday (January 16)

The Gulf Hotel Bahrain Convention & Spa will be hosting a Szechuan Promotion at its China Garden

restaurant until January 31, headed by Master Chef Ding. Chef Rohit at Fusion restaurant will also be crafting BBQ Platters with an Asian twist for the entire month. For details, call 17713000.

The Crowne Plaza Bahrain Hotel is hosting a weekly Catch of the Day Seafood Night every Tuesday from 7pm onwards at La Mosaic restaurant, featuring seasonal produce. Priced BD18net for food only, selected beverage package available. For details, call 17531122.

The Movenpick Hotel Bahrain is hosting a Kababba Night every Tuesday from 7pm to 11pm at Silk's restaurant, featuring mixed grills, signature salads, and freshly squeezed refreshments. Priced BD18net per person. For details, call 17460017 or email hotel.bahrain.fb@movenpick.com

The Bahrain National Museum would like to welcome visitors to explore the 6th Bahrain International Sculpture Symposium being held at the Bahrain National Museum from 9am to 7pm until Tuesday. This year the symposium is being led by renowned sculptor Adam Henein to celebrate Muharrag - the Capital of Islamic Culture 2018. Once completed, the final sculptures will be located across the historic old capital of Bahrain, Muharrag. For more details, visit www.culture.gov.bh

DATES FOR THE DIARY

THE Bahraini Farmers' Market is back for its sixth season and will be open every Saturday from 8am-12pm until April 1 at Budaiya Botanical Gardens. Entry is free.

For more information, visit @farmersbh on Instagram.

THE Bahrain Economic Development Board, with support from Startup Bahrain, is hosting a two-day festival to celebrate the

most innovative start-ups in the GCC region, taking place in Bahrain on March 7 and 8 from 9am-6pm, at the Bahrain International Circuit.

It is set to attract around 1,000 regional entrepreneurs aiming to meet up with leading innovators. There will be influential speakers from Fintech, Adtech, travel, e-commerce, and more. For more details, visit

www.bahrainedb.com

THE Bahrain Pop-up Market will be hosting its third edition at Hopscotch Restaurant Bahrain in Saar, featuring 20 vendors, a live performance by DJ Enzo and fun for the whole family, from 4pm to 10pm on January 18 and 19.

For details, visit @bahrainpopmarket on Instagram or contact 37119590.

ADNAN Events is hosting a charity fun run on March 3 at 2pm at Water Garden City in Seef District to help support the Bahrain Multiple Sclerosis (MS) Patients Society.

The fun run is open to everyone above the age of six, and contestants can choose whether they want to run or walk a distance of either 3km or 5km to compete for first, second, third, and fourth place, or

if they want to participate in the 4km walk where there are no age groups or winners.

The event is entirely organised by volunteers, and to volunteer your time, email adnan@adnanevents.org stating your name, gender, age (volunteers must be minimum 16) mobile number, and email.

Registration for the fun run opens on February 3 until February 25. Entry for your

first run is priced BD5 per person, and if you want to register for another race then entry for the second and third races is a discounted BD3 per person. To register, visit www.adnanevents.org or contact Adnan Aljaber on 39132102.

Any organisation wishing to support the event should contact adnan@adnanevents.org to find out more about sponsorship packages.

THE Bahrain Drag Racing Championship has returned for the 2017/2018 season, with five rounds. Each round includes two nights for testing, one for qualifying, and one whole day for the races. Round 2 will start today until Friday, and Round 3 begins this coming Tuesday. Tickets are priced BD2 for 'Test and Tune' days, BD5 for start line grandstand, and BD3 for the Batelco grandstand.

For more details, call 17450000 or email sales@bic.com.bh

● Track action: Back Page



THIS festive season, City Centre Bahrain is creating a merry atmosphere for their visitors with a winter display, roaming characters, activities and the opportunity to win BD5,000 in mall gift cards when they spend BD40 or more until Tuesday.

When redeeming receipts of BD40 or more, customers will automatically receive a limited-edition winter-themed snow globe.

To mark the festive spirit of giving, City Centre Bahrain is featuring its Cookie for a Cause fundraiser in partnership with The Westin Hotel, City Centre Bahrain, with all



proceeds going to Child's Wish Society.

Visitors are encouraged to purchase, decorate, personalise and hang their cookies at the mall's central Galleria, to create the

longest trail of gingerbread cookies seen yet, on Thursday and Friday.

For more details, visit www.facebook.com/citycentrebahrain or www.citycentrebahrain.com

BAHRAIN CINEMA CLUB (Today)

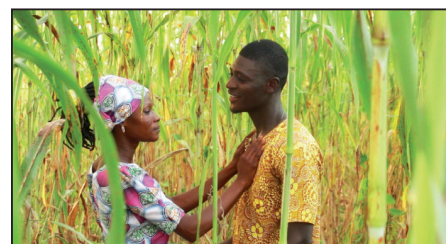
Film: Nakom

Director: Kelly Daniela Norris and T.W. Pittman

Duration: 1hr 30mins

Cast: Jacob Ayanaba, Grace Ayariga, Abdul Kaziz, Esther Issaka

Plot: Set in present day Ghana, Nakom follows Iddrisu, a talented medical student, is summoned home by his sister after their father's sudden death. Reluctantly inheriting control over not just the impoverished family household and farm, but also his father's



potentially family-destroying debts, Iddrisu grapples with tradition, familial duty and an overwhelming sense of urgency to do what he

must to secure his own future.

For details, call Huda Tabbara on 17725959 or email cineclub.bh@gmail.com

THE OLDEST, MOST
ESTABLISHED
TRAVEL TRADE
PUBLICATION
IN THE MIDDLE EAST

Travel & Tourism News Middle East
TTN
www.ttnworldwide.com

Your daily dose of the latest **TRAVEL AND TOURISM NEWS**
delivered to your inbox everyday
Sign up today! www.ttnworldwide.com/NewsletterSubscription

Fashion Weekly

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

Time to brighten up your wardrobe

IT'S time to get rid of old dresses, tops and trousers that will never be worn again and add new trends and colours to brighten up your wardrobe.

Fashion for 2018 is all about being bold and daring in mixed prints and sheer panels while also staying soft and feminine in pastel colours and ruffled hemlines.

Vogue Concept Boutique in Al Aali Shopping Complex in Seef is highlighting the latest styles found on the runway from Elliatt,



FASHION
By MAIAL KHATIB-CAMILLE
maialkhatib@gulfweekly.com

Explosion, Jayley and Keepsake to 'kickstart the New Year with a new you', it says.

Elliatt is an Australian brand known for its fine detailing such as embroidery, laces and specialty fabrications. It is recognised internationally as an established women's wear label offering fashion forward, yet effortlessly classic occasion and ready-to-wear products.

The collection features feminine and flattering cuts with off-the-shoulder jumpsuits and dresses as well as lacey and ruffled cocktail dresses.

The ruffles trend is also found in the Explosion brand which features other desired looks such as dresses in solid colours and balloon sleeves. These dresses are fit for any occasion.

The rise of the ruffle, edgy cuts and slit skirts continues at the other Australian fashion label called Keepsake. Just like Elliatt,

this brand is also a favourite in Bahrain for its colours and shapes and designed for women 'who live on the edge' when it comes to style. Halters, strapless and tankini dresses are still popular in 2018 but made even more provocative with lace embellishments, peplums and geometric cuts.

Stay cosy in Jayley's faux fur ponchos and capes that can fashionably layer up any cocktail dress or gown. The British brand works with 'ethically sourced' premium fabrics.



Dynamic designer adds bite to Chinese inspiration

ITALIAN designer brand Diesel marks the New Year with a limited capsule collection that celebrates the 11th animal in the Chinese Zodiac, the dog.

People born in the Year of the Dog are said to possess the best traits as they are brave, forthright, friendly, faithful, loyal and smart with a strong sense of responsibility and justice.

This is why the edgy denim, footwear and accessory marque, which stands for passion, individuality and freedom of self-expression, takes inspiration from the best qualities of our furry four-legged friends to create a series of bold prints and cool

clothing for every-day-wear.

The capsule includes 14 items from apparel and denim to shoes, bags and accessories. Iconic graphics showing a snarling dog have been created exclusively for this collection and the illustration and use of pop colour are mixed and matched with Diesel's signature pieces.

The snarling dog is embossed on leather jackets and as a superior embroidery patch on bomber jackets, sweaters, T-shirts and accessories.

For her, the graphic icon is proposed in the monochrome version. The denim is real black, made by a special fabric that guarantees pure

and long-lasting colour.

The treatment is based on irregular micro abrasions which create a totally unique look, enriched by multifunctional accessories and contrasting stitching.

A unisex backpack is also on offer in this special celebratory line.

The backpack is made using mixed materials such as nylon and leather and embellished with pocket details inside and out and, of course, with the patch embroidered for rich definition.

The dog logo character is also on a tag necklace.

There are even comfortable fun and colourful boxer shorts and socks to complete



that total look for the upcoming Year of the Dog celebrations.

There is a Diesel store in City Centre Bahrain.

Eating Out

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

gulfprojects.me

Information | Intelligence | Insight

+973 1729 9192 / +973 17313189
www.gulfprojects.me

MEXICAN cuisine has been mastered in all its majesty as Saturday is now a date to be pencilled in for a brunch experience like no other.

The Ritz Carlton, Bahrain's Cantina Kahlo sets the scene with a colourful setting and a vibrant ambience aided by the brilliance of the late legendary artist Frida Kahlo, which the restaurant is themed upon.

Since its launch two years ago, the restaurant has captivated a growing following with its flavourful tacos, quesadillas and other saucy bites, as well as its serene outdoor setting overlooking a beautiful water garden, fountain and koi pond.

The kitchen is manned by Chef de Cuisine Cesar de Leon Torres who was born in Guadalajara, the capital and largest city of the Mexican state of Jalisco, but brought up in Uruguay before starting his culinary career around the world taking in Italy, the US and Spain.

While he specialises in several food styles, he has dedicated the last four years to his native cuisine with the aim of spreading the nation's traditional tastes along with outlet manager Hector Vargas and the Cantina Kahlo team.

The Saturday brunch menu features everything from signature breakfasts to 'must-have' desserts. Since the launch less than two months ago, it has grown in popularity as the message has spread across the island. The brunch fiesta feast offers a variety of traditional flavours thanks to the cooks' different Mexican backgrounds.

Hector said: "Cantinas in Mexico are cosy places to spend time with friends, have a drink and enjoy tasty bites. We wanted to replicate that cosiness, friendliness and family atmosphere here. We also wanted to bring the essence of Mexico into Bahrain and into the

Saturday really sizzles



TORTILLA TRIUMPH: The Crispy Shrimp Taco and Chicken Quesadilla, right, Chef Cesar and, below, right, Hector



GOURMET REPORT
By MAI AL KHATIB-CAMILLE
mai.alkhatib@gulfweekly.com

restaurant with a brunch concept. What's special about Cantina Kahlo is the majority of the staff and chefs are from Mexico, including myself.

"It's a hybrid brunch where you can order items either a la carte or from the buffet's live stations, or from both. You can enjoy tacos, salads and churros all at the same time!"

"We also carry classic dishes such as Huevos a la Mexicana or quesadillas."

Be assured this is NOT Tex-Mex.

"We simply want people to enjoy our traditional flavours and you will not find these dishes anywhere else in Bahrain," he added.

The indoor area, which can seat around 70 diners, is

decorated in brightly hued fashion, various textiles, self-portraits of Frida and other artistic knick-knacks depicting Mexican culture. The large terrace can seat around 100 diners and there is a smaller private terrace area as well.

My husband, Sam, and I were transported on a Mexican journey with dishes from the north to the south plated before us in Frida-inspired fashion.

Walking into the cheerful venue was love at first sight. The décor was enchanting with its blues, greens, and rainbow colours, the scents wafting from the buffet tantalised the senses and the sea views from the terrace was lovely. The Mariachi music played on as chefs plated the mouth-watering food.

It truly was the perfect way

to spend a Saturday afternoon. After getting a tour of the salad bar, soup area, taco station and dessert station, I opted to start off my day with a cosy crema de elote (corn cream) soup, deliciously creamy and tasty to the last slurp.

We then dived into a cheesy Baja style shrimp taco topped with red cabbage, an Alambre (grilled beef quesadilla which had steak, onion, cheese and bell peppers) and a chicken quesadilla from what looked like a shawarma grill but is known in Mexico as a trompo (spin-top) grill. The beef was tender with peppers grilled to perfection and the chicken saucy and zesty.

Waiter Pepe then brought over melt-in-the-mouth Sopecitos rancheros (wagyu

short rib appetisers) and our favourite the Ceviche de Camaron (shrimp ceviche). Hector shared a spicy salsa with us to add to both dishes which Sam, known as the chili king of Bahrain, approved of with a 'wooh' sound.

The Ceviche, a dish from the Mexican north, was a tangy treat that packed a delightful punch.

We were urged to try breakfast dishes that aren't found anywhere else on the island such as Huevos a la Mexicana (Mexican-style eggs with the beans and beef bacon) and Chilaquiles con Huevo (a crispy tortilla dish with Guajillo sauce and eggs). The eggs were delicious and the sides complemented the flavours totally. It's easy to see why they are the top-sellers amongst diners.

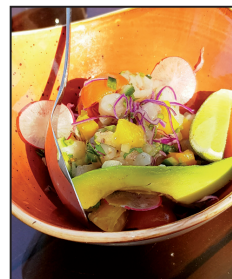
The mains featured an Angus rib eye steak and a zesty portion of grilled chicken served on a wooden board called Parrillada de Pollo y Carne with a requested side of mash and green chili.

There was just room for dessert, a sugary churro - a fried-dough pastry snack followed by scoops of ice cream.

Those that would like to delight in the brunch, its BD35net for the buffet and inclusive of beverages and BD20net for the buffet with soft drinks and juices. It's BD10 for children over the age of four and free for those under.

Gracias, muy amable!

For details, visit www.ritzcarlton.com/bahrain or contact 17586401.





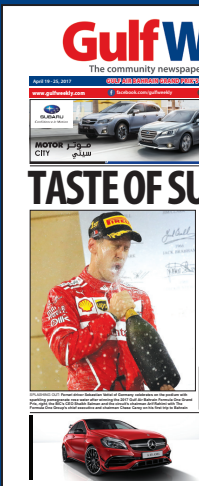
JANUARY – HE'S ONE OF OUR OWN! – Bahraini journalist Ismael Naar, who started his career in journalism writing the Youth Talk column in *GulfWeekly*, scooped one of the media industry's most prestigious prizes.



FEBRUARY – THANK YOU, BERNIE! – He may no longer be F1 superno but it will be remembered that Bernie Ecclestone remained loyal to the kingdom's grand prix endeavours even during the most turbulent of challenges.



MARCH – BIG SHOES TO FILL – It's all change at St Christopher's School following the shock news that its principal and CEO Ed Goodwin announced plans to leave in 2018 along with his wife, Wendy, junior school head.



APRIL – TASTE OF SU – The Gulf Air Bahrain Grand Prix record-breaking attendance driver Sebastian Vettel celebrated his podium with sparkling champagne.



JUNE – WONDER WOMAN – Determined businesswoman and athlete Shaikha Al Shaiba talked about her inspirational sporting endeavours achieved despite losing an arm as a child.

THAT WAS THE YEAR THAT WAS

2017

I WOULD like to wish website visitors and happy, healthy and peaceful New Year. *GulfWeekly* continues to grow in number of home-delivered English-language newspapers to the kingdom – so on your part for your continued support keep telling your friends about this publication.

More than 12,000 copies are delivered to the homes and distributed throughout the kingdom on Wednesday, alongside leading expat clubs across the island.

Many subscribe to the *Gulf Daily News* and choosing, for added convenience, *GulfWeekly* delivered.

In the past 12 months, our campaign on behalf of the charity highlighted the challenges



AUGUST – MAJESTIC MOSAICS – Celebrated artist Azra Suljić has produced a stunning portrait of His Majesty King Hamad as part of a collection of her micro mosaic masterpieces unveiled in *GulfWeekly*.



SEPTEMBER – DECADE OF DELIGHT – One of the kingdom's most popular hypermarkets celebrated a decade of operation in Bahrain with a series of celebratory 10th birthday offers for customers.



SEPTEMBER – FIGHTING SPIRIT – Brave Namita Varna returned to her family's Bahrain home after a 10-month battle against a brain tumour to inspire other sufferers to carry on fighting the disease.



OCTOBER – HAIR FOR – Schoolboy Orion O'Connor chopping block to donate hair to make wigs for children who lost their hair during treatment.



CESS – Organisers
Grand Prix celebrated
ance levels as Ferrari
celebrated victory on the
omegranate rose water.

our family of readers,
YouTube viewers a
prosperous 2018.
es to deliver the highest
ivered copies of any
wspaper each week in
ce-again a big 'thank
ted support and please
nds about your favourite

opies of **GulfWeekly**
omes of our readers
hroughout Bahrain every
de those available at
and on sale at stores

our sister newspapers
and **Akhbar Al Khaleej**
reading delight, to have
d too.

hs **GulfWeekly** has
lf of its readers,
ptions in our community



MAY – JUST CHAMPION! – Mighty minnows Al Malkiya captured the hearts of a soccer crazy nation by sweeping to success and glory in the VIVA Bahrain Football League beating top guns Muharraq and East Riffa to the title.

and raised issues of concern and reasons to celebrate alongside a variety of news investigations, sports exclusives, business interviews with movers and shakers, extensive entertainment listings and eating out information, alongside **YouTube** interviews with the country's top chefs, as well as motoring executives.

Readers simply have to place their smartphone over the QR code to get close-up and personal with the dining experiences and new model test drives as the interactive age of communication becomes a growing and relevant part of our multi-media operation.

Our powerful and provocative letters page and guest columnists have also provided unique insights and opinions on a rich variety of issues and the mysterious Whisperer continues to keep readers amused and informed.

Now in our 16th year of publication, we continue to offer local companies and businesses unique cost-effective advertising



MAY – RECORD PINK BID – Think Pink Bahrain pulled the community together for a Longest Ribbon Challenge world record attempt which was successfully completed during the breast cancer awareness month of October.

platforms throughout the publication, website and social media activities to deliver their messages to our readership, online visitors and viewers so they too can share in our success.

Make sure YOU get maximum reach in the kingdom's No 1 media outlet.

Our website www.gulfweekly.com has impressive impact with thousands of visitors regularly logging on, not only from Bahrain but also from neighbouring Saudi Arabia, and as far afield as the US and Europe too.

Also, make friends with our **GulfWeekly** Facebook page and keep up-to-date with my life on [twitter@stanszeczowka](https://twitter.com/stanszeczowka) as I celebrate more than a decade in the Editor's Chair of the kingdom's most popular community newspaper.

Thank you sincerely for your help and support and the **GulfWeekly** team wish all our readers and advertisers the very best throughout the coming months.

Stan Szeczowka, Editor.



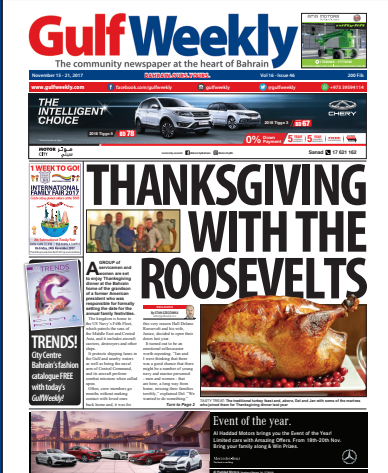
MAY – DENIM DYNAMISM – **GulfWeekly** teamed up with the organisers of a celebrity-backed initiative 'Jeans for Refugees by Johnny Dar' as part of our annual Ramadan Community Campaign.



JULY – SAUDI CORNER – A slip-road into Janabiya and Saar is all set to become a day-trip playground for 'our cousins over the causeway' as construction of two major malls gathers pace.



A CAUSE! – Big-hearted nor stepped up to the te his long locks to help with cancer who have atment.



NOVEMBER – THANKSGIVING WITH THE ROOSEVELTS – Hall Delano Roosevelt, the grandson of a former US president who lives in Bahrain, opened the doors of his home to members of the US Navy's Fifth Fleet.



NOVEMBER – SCRABBLE KING – The word was out that the kingdom had a new world champion in its midst ... investment specialist Akshay Bhandarkar, the King of Scrabble, took the title in dramatic fashion in Africa.



DECEMBER – GOAL-DEN GLORY – Scores of soccer-crazy Saudis will be cheering on the footballing heroes playing in the 2018 FIFA World Cup Finals in Russia, thanks to a Bahrain-based travel agency.

Gulf Construction

Your window to the region's construction sector

The undisputed leading trade journal for the building and construction industries of Saudi Arabia and the other Gulf states.

www.gulfconstructiononline.com

I learned recently that it's very difficult to sack a teacher in America for incompetence or misconduct.

This is because the teaching unions there are so strong that they have negotiated with consecutive governments a quite remarkable deal. Quite literally, as soon as a teacher reaches something called 'tenure', unless they commit a crime, they have one of the rarest things of all in the 21st Century, a job for life, and who wouldn't want one of those?

Teachers in the US can apply for tenure after seven years of teaching. They are judged on the quality of student grades alongside the numbers of good quality passes.

They will have received letters of recommendation from their school principals or colleagues and are basically a shining example of good

quality educators inspiring our future generations.

But, it would seem that as soon as the tenure is signed and sealed it is not uncommon for standards to drop and for belligerence amongst tenured teachers to set in, but is this because teaching is tough and teaching at a high enough level to reach tenure is exhausting, or is it because once the pinnacle has been achieved, it's all downhill from there?

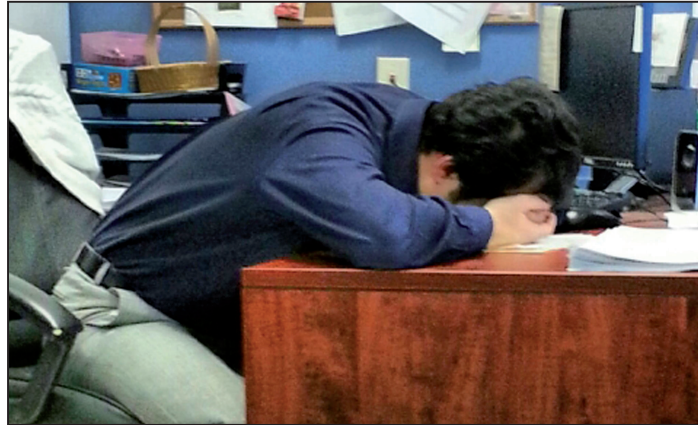
Sad as it is, whilst it isn't always the case and that there are many significant exceptions to this rule, it is the case some of the time and for that there is absolutely no excuse.

Now, to make matters worse, education districts in the US often find themselves with many of these inadequate but tenured teachers and, for fear of fighting the very powerful unions as a result of the money it will cost to settle each individual case, keep

Education Matters



An educational insight and comment by head teacher Chris Fenton



relatively frequently teachers with tenure change into mediocre and then weak teachers once they have received it, after which they are passed from school to school in a hope that they will do better at the next school than they did at the last.

Now, all of this reminds me somewhat of Bahrain. Not because of the public system of education which is going through a process of rigorous change, but because of the private system, as there seems to be a certain standard of schools which enjoy doing the 'Lemon Dance' themselves very much, and will give jobs to school-hopping teachers quite readily, term after term, year after year.

The only difference between the US tenured teachers, however, and the array of misfits that do the rounds in Bahrain, in my opinion, is that for seven years at least, the teachers in the US did a good job.

them on as substitute teachers on full pay, even if they don't work another day in school again.

Inadequate tenured teachers who are employed full time are often shipped about between the different schools in the district year after year in the hope that a

new school will make them a better teacher. It doesn't. This unbelievable practice is sometimes called the 'Lemon Dance'.

So, to recap, in the US, a qualified teacher can apply to become a tenured teacher with a job for life after seven years if they

can demonstrate that they have made a significant difference to the lives of their students through highly effective teaching leading to good quality grades. Once tenure is received, it is very difficult to remove a teacher from their post due to the strong teaching unions, and

Social Scene

Festive joy



Party people enjoyed a festive fun evening at the Four Seasons Hotel Bahrain Bay feasting at the Bahrain Bay Kitchen and dancing into the New Year by the Azure Pool.

Bowled over

THE Bahrain U16 National Cricket Team, which is sponsored by Dadabhai Travel, is currently competing in the Asian Cricket Council U16 Western Region Tournament in the UAE.

The squad is led by captain Jagan Vijayakumar and is coached by Azeem Ul Haq. Before travelling, the team visited Dadabhai Travel's managing director Aziz Gilitwala and fellow directors Adnan Gilitwala and Shawn Dias for a pep talk.

Mr Gilitwala said: "It was great to meet these young guys who are proudly playing for Bahrain in the UAE. They are the future of Bahrain cricket and as part of our ongoing support for Bahrain's sporting youth, we are delighted to be the main sponsor of their next steps on the international cricket stage.

"We wish them well for the tournament and look forward to welcoming them back after a successful trip."



Mall bazaar



FAMILIES and friends flocked to the 2017 Mega Bazaar event held at Dana Mall parking lot to snap up different goodies and mark the New Year. Various vendors including cafes and restaurants such as FILLI Café Bahrain, Stickhouse and Casa Argentina were featured at the two-day event along with stalls offering clothing, accessories and toys. A henna artist and caricature artist entertained visitors too.

Boarding schools in the UK

BOARDING school specialists from Anderson Education, who have helped several students from within the region find suitable institutes in the UK, are returning to the kingdom to offer families further advice.

The UK Boarding School Information Day, which will be held at the British Club on January 19 from 2pm to 6pm, will shed light on issues such as educational stability, financial benefits and finding the perfect fit for individual students.

Education consultant Sara Sparling, of Anderson Education, said: "The UK Boarding School Information Days in Bahrain have always been successful and popular with families flocking to the event from Bahrain and Saudi Arabia.

"It gives families the opportunity to talk to the consultants, receive free advice, get a list of recommended schools for their consideration and help throughout the process.

"With increasing costs of living in the Middle East and a current favourable exchange rate, the option of a UK boarding school is a serious consideration for many expatriate and international families.

"It offers stability of education for families that move often, a stepping stone to university and a breadth and depth of learning support that may not be widely available at a local school.

"There is a boarding school in the UK to suit every child but finding that school can be a daunting process. We have placed more than 25 students



EDUCATION
By MAI AL KHATIB-CAMILLE
mai.alkhatib@gulfweekly.com

from Bahrain in schools in the UK in the past three years. We have been visiting Bahrain as part of our UK Boarding School Middle East Tour since January 2007."

Danish parents Claus and Hanne Hansen, who have been living in the kingdom for the past 10 years, sent both their daughters Anna and Luna to board at schools in the UK and recommend the choice to other families.

Hanne, a finance director for Seef Dental, who lives in Saar, said: "Anna was 16 when she moved in 2014. She was attending the British School of Bahrain at the time. Luna just moved in September last year as well at the same age and she was a student at the St Christopher's School.

"Both my daughters were doing really well academically but for Anna she was having a hard time balancing her sporting life with her academics. She

played for the U16 Bahrain national football team but there was a lot of driving around whereas abroad everything she needed was on campus which gave her enough time for her studies and sports.

"As for Luna, she felt limited in Bahrain with things to do and wanted to try something new. Both are doing really well and are happy.

"We are considering sending our son Oliver, who is now 13 and studying at St Christopher's School, to the UK as well in the future."

According to Sara, many British boarding schools boast an excellent reputation worldwide thanks to having professional and dedicated teaching staff, excellent facilities for music, drama, sport and art, homely facilities with excellent care, a safe secure environment, a seven-hour flight to the UK from the Gulf and progression to universities worldwide.

There is also a supportive



FAMILY DECISIONS: A mother and child discuss options with Sara during the Gulf tour and, above, students bowled over by the choice of sporting activities

environment for those students who need learning support or English language support.

With the current exchange rate a UK boarding school is now a particularly good option for many families, Sara added, with the Bahraini dinar worth around twice the

value of the British pound. The termly fee (for three terms per year) ranges from £7,500 to £11,500 and this includes tuition, boarding accommodation, food and laundry. Scholarships are available for academically strong students or students

who excel in music, drama, art or sport. Securing a scholarship can often provide discounts on the overall cost.

State boarding schools are also an option for EU passport holders. The family pays for boarding only from £3,500 per term.

AS a first step, identify your criteria so that you have a clearer idea of the type of school that would suit your child and you may like to consider:

● **Academic Level** – All schools encourage their students to achieve their academic potential. Some schools offer an academically competitive environment with an expectation that their students will achieve top grades while other schools will have a broader range of academic abilities. Students are taught in small classes.

● **Full boarding environment** – it is important for international and expat boarders to be part of a busy full boarding



environment with lots of activities and trips arranged during evenings and weekends. Many families consider London and the south as they are perhaps more familiar with the area, however, schools in the Midlands, North, South West and East offer good

full boarding environments and often reasonable fees.

● **Fulfilling talents and passion in sport, music, art and drama** – if your child has a talent and passion it is important that they are able to continue and develop this, whether it is representing the county

at rugby or playing in the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra. Sports and Performing Arts academies offer the opportunity to develop a student's skill alongside academic studies.

● **The curriculum** – there are a wide range of options available: GCSE, A

Levels, IB Diploma, Btecs, Foundation Programmes and Pre-U. Within these qualifications there is a breadth of subjects to choose from.

● **Type of school** – Prep schools offer a boarding education from the age of seven through to 13, senior

schools are for students from the age of 11 or 13 to 18. There is also the option of girls' schools, boys' schools and co-ed schools.

For further details, email enquiries@andersoneducation.co.uk or visit www.andersoneducation.co.uk



PICTURESQUE PLACE: Blundells boarding school in the UK and, left, students at St Lawrence School



Hilal Computers

Maximizing performance and efficiency
Dell service provider
Tel: 1729 3749 ext 2220

Film Weekly



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

So bad, it's good!



If *The Room* is the *Citizen Kane* of bad movies, then *The Disaster Artist* could have almost been the *Ed Wood* of biographical depictions.

The Disaster Artist is based on a 2013 memoir of the same name, written by Greg Sestero, in which he reveals details about the development and production of the cult classic *The Room* with Tommy Wiseau.

The Room was released in 2003, after being written, directed, produced and starred in by Wiseau, an aspiring and notably peculiar filmmaker. Greg Sestero, a then-struggling actor, also features in the film and holds a producing credit for it.

It is widely considered to be one of the worst films ever made, yet the bizarre storytelling and obvious technical flaws have turned it into a cult film favourite of audiences everywhere. *The Disaster Artist* is James Franco's adaptation of Sestero's memoir, taking a closer look at the creation of probably the best worst film ever.

James Franco takes centre stage as the mysterious and almost heartbreakingly passionate Tommy Wiseau, a visionary that doesn't seem to quite understand his own vision. Dave Franco, his brother, takes on the role of Greg Sestero, an insecure but driven actor looking for his big break.

The two meet in an acting class in 1998, and soon form a close, albeit weird, friendship. After moving to Los Angeles to try and make it in the film business only to find rejection at every turn, Wiseau and Sestero agree to write and produce their own film, titled *The Room*.

It would have been so easy for *The*

THE DISASTER ARTIST

STARRING: James Franco, Dave Franco, Seth Rogen, Alison Brie

DIRECTOR: James Franco

GENRE: Biography Drama

RATING: R

RUNTIME: 104 Mins

Disaster Artist to become an hour and 44 minutes of ridiculing Wiseau and his failure to comprehend both filmmaking and human behaviour.

Yet, whilst it isn't perfect, James Franco's portrayal is a humanising rendition of a man so consumed by creating something that resembles the movies he loves, that we end up feeling something for him that resembles sympathy more than distaste.

Dave Franco brings Greg Sestero to life through his frosted tips and sheepish optimism, and in the way he's simultaneously enamoured and confused by Tommy Wiseau. Their friendship is the crux that holds the film together even at its least relatable moments, so we don't get too lost in the incomprehensible world of Wiseau's creation.

This is the Franco brothers' first collaboration together, and they bring a quirky chemistry to the screen. The sincerity of their belief in one another is overwhelming and sickly, often teetering between hopefulness and pure naivety, propelling *The Room* towards completion.

The film also features appearances from other actors, including Seth Rogen who plays Sandy Schklair, a seasoned and exasperated script supervisor.

Alison Brie, Ari Graynor and Josh Hutcherson also star in the movie. What all of them do in a fantastic and nuanced way is show us that they too have no idea what to make of what is happening around them, so we really aren't expected to either.

As to whether or not this movie is funny, well, that's tricky. It's funny in the way that watching *The Room* itself is funny, reacting to an odd man's odd concept of what 'good' filmmaking is. Wiseau idolises James Dean, but clearly doesn't understand how to recreate Dean's all-American appeal.

Yet, the fact that he fails in his original design doesn't feel too much like failure in the end. Despite the heartbreak and difficulty, Wiseau and Sestero realise they have made something that could withstand the test of time, although perhaps not quite in the way they were anticipating.

I highly recommend watching *The Room* prior to *The Disaster Artist*. You may regret it, but it means you get to hear the famous 'oh hi Mark!' line from the mouth of Wiseau himself.

It'll also help you judge whether Franco treats Wiseau as an authentic and complex human being, or more of a gimmicky impersonation, whose eccentricities are a novelty rather than something to be considered with care.

In the end, the film forces us to really contemplate what Sestero originally concludes in his memoir: 'it is powerful and dangerous to hold unconditional belief in one's dreams'.

● Now showing in: City Centre, Seef II, Dana, Novo, Mukta A2

ANNA'S VERDICT



1 popcorn - stay home
5 popcorns - start queuing

Bite-sized trailer

Molly's Game

DIRECTOR: Aaron Sorkin

CAST: Jessica Chastain, Idris Elba, Kevin Costner

PLOT: Molly Bloom, a beautiful young Olympic-class skier, ran the world's most exclusive high-stakes poker game for a decade before being arrested in the middle of the night by 17 FBI agents wielding automatic weapons. Her players included Hollywood royalty, sports stars, business titans, and finally, unbeknownst to her, the Russian mob. Her only ally was her criminal defense lawyer Charlie Jaffey, who learned that there was much more to Molly than the tabloids led us to believe.

SHOWING IN: City Centre, Seef II, Wadi Al Sail, Saar, Al Jazira, Dana, Novo, Mukta A2



Message from the King

DIRECTOR: Fabrice du Welz

CAST: Chadwick Boseman, Luke Evans, Alfred Molina

PLOT: After suddenly losing all contact with his younger sister, Jacob King arrives in Los Angeles determined to track her down. Trying to piece together her last known movements, King finds unsettling evidence of a life gone off the rails - drugs, sex and secrets in the sleazy underbelly of the City of Angels. Undeterred by warnings to go home, King proves to be more than a match for the violence he is confronted with as he relentlessly pursues the truth about what happened to his sister.

SHOWING IN: City Centre, Seef II, Wadi Al Sail



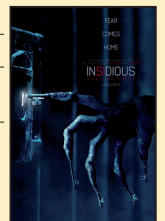
Insidious: The Last Key

DIRECTOR: Adam Robitel

CAST: Lin Shaye, Leigh Whannell, Angus Sampson

PLOT: Adam Robitel helms the fourth entry of the *Insidious* series, with *Chapter 3* director Leigh Whannell providing the script, centering around parapsychologist Elise Rainier (Lin Shaye) and her continued voyage into the 'further'.

SHOWING IN: City Centre, Seef II, Wadi Al Sail, Saar, Al Jazira, Dana, Novo, Mukta A2



imdb movie charts

Current Position	Title	Weekend Takings	Gross to date
1	Jumanji: Welcome to the Jungle	\$36M	\$244M
2	Insidious: The Last Key	\$29M	\$29M
3	Star Wars: Episode VIII - The Last Jedi	\$24M	\$573M
4	The Greatest Showman	\$14M	\$76M
5	Pitch Perfect 3	\$10M	\$86M
6	Ferdinand	\$8M	\$71M
7	Molly's Game	\$7M	\$14M
8	Darkest Hour	\$6M	\$28M
9	Coco	\$5M	\$192M
10	All the Money in the World	\$4M	\$20M

cerebrally crust & crema


[@crustandcrema](#)
[crustandcremabh](#)


WIN COFFEE-FOR-TWO at crust & crema by answering this quiz question and emailing your answer to editor@gulfweekly.com

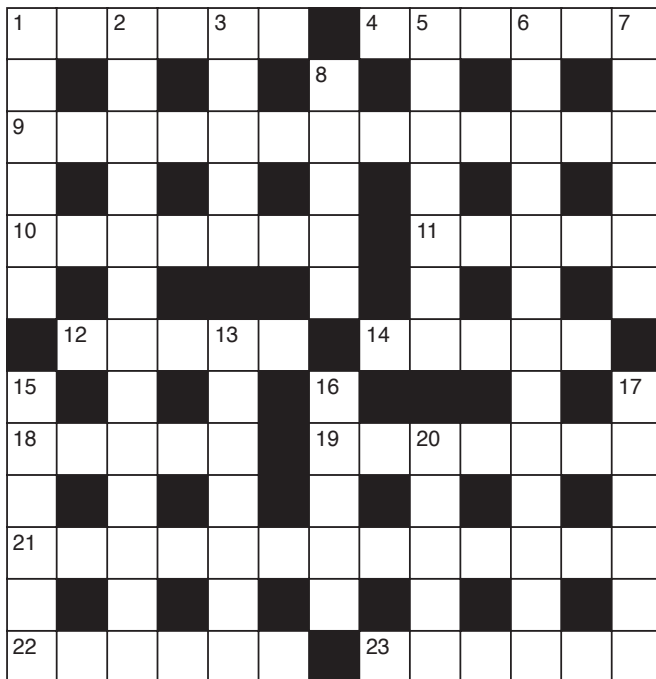
What country drinks the most coffee per person? a) United States b) Italy c) Germany d) France

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: Marina Alkhamis won a cup of coffee by correctly answering that Brazil currently grows about c) 4 billion coffee trees.

crossword break



Solutions in next week's issue.

ACROSS

1. Cordial (6)
4. Accident (6)
9. Forecast (13)
10. Voter (7)
11. Change (5)
12. Banquet (5)
14. Memorise (5)
18. Compel (5)
19. Confidential (7)
21. Motionless (2,1,10)
22. Encourage (6)
23. Heaviness (6)

DOWN

1. Occur (6)
2. Exemplary (5,8)
3. Dogma (5)
5. Mimic (7)
6. Grievous (5-8)
7. Verse (6)
8. Seize wrongfully (5)
13. Shield (7)
15. Obliterate (6)
16. Disburse (5)
17. Pill (6)
20. Publish (5)

who, what, where, when

WHO ... is married to Ben Affleck?

WHAT ... is another name for calcium oxide?

WHERE ... would you find the Willis (formerly Sears) Tower, the world's 5th tallest freestanding structure?

WHEN ... was Sunday Trading legalised in the UK?

WHO ... fell off a horse on her 47th birthday in 2008?

WHAT ... is logophobia a fear of?

WHERE ... in 1987 did Michael Ryan shoot and kill 14 people?

WHEN ... did Martin Luther King deliver his 'I have a dream' speech?

just so

**BREAD
knuckle
BREAD**

SH A OT

**screwscrewscrewscrew
screwscrewscrewscrew
screwscrew screw
screwscrewscrewscrew**

**or0 or0 or0 or0 or0 or0 or0
or0 or0 or0 or0 or0 or0 or0
or0 or0 or0 or0 or0 or0 or0
or0 or0 or0 or0 or0 or0 or0
or0 or0 or0 or0 or0 or0 or0**

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

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

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

darn tough sudoku

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

Sudoku

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

Sudoku

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

Last Week's Leisure Solutions

CROSSWORD BREAK:

Across: 1 Consecration;
7 Cheat; 8 Eaten;
9 Ore; 10 Persevere;
11 Random; 12 Morose;
15 Posthaste; 17 Ass;
18 Erect; 19 Untie;
21 Unacceptable.

Down: 1 Cartographer;
2 Ewe; 3 Retire;
4 Therefore; 5 Outre;
6 Indefensible; 7 Clean;
10 Prophetic; 13 Ovale;
14 Astute; 16 Stern;
20 Tot.

JUST SO:

Next to nothing;
Top of the morning to you;
Why are we waiting;
A happy ending.

WHO, WHAT, WHERE,
WHEN: Charles Dickens;
Declan MacManus; Texas;
1512; Eugene Sully; Heat;
Georgia; 1969.

Darn Tough Sudoku

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

DELL | EMC²
Service Partner



Hilal Computers Tel: 1729 3749 ext 2220

Motoring Weekly

Steering you to the best deals on wheels

Comfort, space and luxury

WHEN it comes to Bahrain's famous brunches, I'm usually the designated driver (supposedly I'm 'the sensible one'). However, this often poses a problem as I only have a two-door sports car which is no use at all for carting family and friends around.

Luckily, my friends at Motorcity solved all of my problems this weekend by offering me the new Volvo XC90 for a three-day test drive. By the end of the day, all our group could talk about was this shiny, superb beast and not the plethora of food and beverages that were consumed!

The XC90 oozes style out of every pore. Its stocky, rectangular features and its sculpted shoulders might appear imposing, but what you'll find inside is a comforting, welcoming animal that just wants to be your friend.

In fact, as soon as I had the nappa leather key fob in my hand, which is easily the most attractive door-opener I've ever laid hands on, I knew I was in for a luxurious experience.

The soft lighting which greets you when you open the driver's door, along with the soft jingle from the infotainment screen that announces your entrance, felt like an old friend embracing me after a prolonged absence.

After the usual juggling of mirrors, seat positioning and the last stop of switching the driving mode into Dynamic (where it would firmly stay for the duration of the test drive), it was time to hit the highway.



FAMILY AFFAIR:
The new XC90

TEST DRIVE
By KRISTIAN HARRISON
kristian@gulfweekly.com

The XC90's 2.0L engine is quick out of the blocks and extremely smooth when shifting up and down gears with the eight-speed transmission. It's particularly fun when switching the stick into manual and driving the old-fashioned way, although a small part of me missed the option of gear-shift paddles behind the wheel.

As to be expected with Volvo, safety is at the forefront of design, and I could barely go two seconds without some sensor bleeping off at me. Whether this was Intellisafe Assist warning me about over-eager drivers trying to edge into my lane or tailgating me a little too close,

I felt that I was safe from harm.

There are a plethora of features available on the centre console's gorgeous touchscreen, including full navigation, phone connectivity settings and the ability to turn the huge raft of safety features on and off.

All of these are accessible through a swift twist of the jewel-like, diamond-knurled start knob and one of the most intuitive infotainment systems I've used.

I did have to disable a couple of features eventually though, as the constant interruptions made me more nervous than I'd like. There are so many sensors and noises that it becomes a tad intimidating, even when there isn't any immediate danger!

Not to mention that they interrupted my thorough testing of the media entertainment features! There's nothing that quite ruins a screaming guitar solo like 'beep ... beep ... beep'.

The Lane Steer Assist is another feature I couldn't quite buy into. In Europe, for example, I can imagine it working a treat on the motorway when the long-haul treks leave your eyes tired and the propensity for lane drifting is at its highest, but not so much here where you always have to be at 100 per cent alert in case a Lewis Hamilton wannabe from across the causeway swerves in your way. The last thing you need when a split-second lane change is necessary is the steering wheel fighting you

and trying to turn you back the other way to keep in lane!

Outstanding technological feats that I did enjoy though were the Adaptive Cruise Control (utterly fantastic, as it balances your speed but also speeds up or slows down depending on the distance of the car in front of you) and the Pilot Assist, which steers for you and maintains distance to the car in front on slower roads. Both autonomous driving systems left me feeling like a passenger at times, a welcome relief from the stress of the kingdom's traffic!

The absolute best feature was the Park Assist, though. After picking up friends and family for the aforementioned brunch (who all complimented the amount

of space and comfort they had in the back), we cut significantly into our scoffing time by messing around with this amazing addition.

This feature, which works for both getting in and out of spaces, scans 360-degrees around your vehicle (complete with an overhead display on the large touch screen) and finds any space, no matter how tight it is. Even better, it parks for you (in either parallel or perpendicular format) by controlling the steering ... all you have to do is change gears. Genius!

The drive back to Sitra to drop the car back to the showroom is usually either a very melancholy or very joyous occasion depending on how the experience went, and this time if the journey had taken any longer my tear ducts might have been put into work.

Luckily, I had the friendly faces of sales executive Igor Pavlenko and marketing manager Mirela Micic to greet me and talk about my experience with the car over a cuppa. As always, the customer service is second-to-none, and Motorcity remains the standout branch when it comes to delivering a top class test drive experience, regardless of the vehicle on offer.

The 2018 Volvo XC90 is available from the Motorcity Volvo showroom in Sitra, starting from BD21,500. The model tested for this article, including many of the features discussed, comes in at BD26,900. This comes with five years unlimited kms warranty and five years of road-side assistance. For more information, visit the showroom or call 17736222.



RECENTLY, while on my way to the office from home, I was stuck at the traffic lights at 'Burgerland Roundabout' and within a fraction of a second of the lights turning green the driver of the car behind me started honking his horn, writes Stan Szczotka.

Why? I know green means go ... I don't need a reminder. Abdeslam Soudi, a US sociolinguist who studies human-computer interaction, recently penned an article after making a sudden left turn into his university campus just as the light turned green – while facing a driverless car.

Instead of jolting forward or honking – as some human drivers would be tempted to do – the car allowed him to go. In this case, the interaction was pleasant. How polite of the car to let him cut it off, he mused.

He started thinking about how self-driving cars will communicate with the human drivers they encounter on the road. Driving can involve a range of social signals and unspoken rules, some of which vary by country – even by region or city. How will driverless cars be able to navigate this complexity? Can they ever

be programmed to do so?

We know the driverless cars are equipped with a technology called LIDAR, which creates a 360-degree image of the car's surroundings. Image sensors can interpret signs, lights and lane markings. A separate radar detects objects, while a computer incorporates all of this information along with mapping data to guide the car.

Although ideally autonomous vehicles will be able to 'talk' to one another in order to allow smoother navigation and reduce crashes, this technology is still in the early stages.

But any autonomous vehicle will also need to be able to interact with traditional cars and their drivers, as well as pedestrians, bikes and unforeseen events like lane closures, emergency vehicles and accidents.

This is where things can get murky.

For example, if you're driving at night and spot a car without its lights on, you might flash your headlights at drivers coming in the other



direction to let them know. But flashing headlights can also mean 'your high beams are too bright' or 'go ahead' in situations where it's unclear who has the right of way. In order to interpret the meaning, a person will consider the context: the time of day, the type of road, the weather. But how would an autonomous vehicle react?

There are other forms of communication to help us navigate, ranging from honks and sirens, to hand signals and even bumper stickers.

Of course, humans use all sorts of hand gestures

highlighted the language of honking in Cairo, Egypt, which is 'spoken' primarily by men. These honks can have complex constructions; for example, four short honks followed by a long one mean 'open your eyes' to warn someone who is not paying attention.

In the US, people tend to honk before going through a short, narrow or curvy tunnel. In Morocco, drivers perform varied honks when passing; they'll honk once before passing to secure cooperation, again as they pass (to signal progress), and lastly after they pass to say, thank you. Yet this might be confusing – or even perceived as rude – to drivers in other countries.

Written communication also plays a role between cars and drivers. For example, signs such as 'Baby on Board' are supposed to encourage the drivers following these vehicles to be even more careful.

Vehicles can be taught to 'read' road signs, and thus presumably can be taught to recognise common

warnings on bumpers.

Yet navigating construction sites or accident scenes may require following directions from a human in a way that cannot be programmed. This creates a huge opportunity for error because hand signals vary widely from region to region (and even person to person), autonomous cars could fail to recognise a signal to go or, more catastrophically, could mistakenly follow a hand gesture into a barrier or another car.

How much knowledge about our societal and linguistic values will be built into the system? How can driverless cars learn to interpret hand and auditory signals?

A 2015 article in *Robotics Trends* described how a bike and a Google car got stuck in a standoff when the car misread signals from the biker.

Cities (and countries) possess a variety of sociolinguistic cues. It remains to be seen if the engineers working on driverless cars will be able to programme these subtle – but important – differences into these vehicles.

YOUR CLASSIFIEDS

To place an advert just call: 1729 3131 / 1729 9110 or Fax: 1729 3400 or e-mail: classifieds@trade Arabia.net

EDUCATION

ENGLISH CERTIFIED

Courses at UK with study permit.
Contact:
ukenglishco@gmail.com,
Call: 17001882,
35030997.

PROPERTY FOR SALE

EAST RIFFA:

5 bedroom villa
Built-up area 394.8 sq.m
Plot area 482 sq.m
Price BD 300,000/-
Ref. V1481

TALA ISLAND - AMWAJ:

2 bedroom apartment
Built-up area 120 sq.m
Price BD 95,000/-
Ref. AP488

RESIDENCIA - JUFFAIR:

2 bedroom apartment
Built-up area 143 sq.m
Price BD 75,000/-
Ref. AP482

contact: T: +973 1729 8210
E: admin@starrealestate.bh

PROPERTY FOR RENT

RESIDENCIA - JUFFAIR:

2 bedroom apartment Built-up area 143 sq.m
Price BD 600/- Ref. AP482

LAGOON - RIFFA VIEWS:

5 bedroom villa Built-up area 472 sq.m Price
BD 1,700/- Ref. V1478

ZAWIA 2 - AMWAJ:

2 bedroom apartment, Built-up area 139 sq.m
Price BD 750/- Ref. AP473

ZAWIA 3 - AMWAJ:

1 bedroom apartment, Built-up area 111 sq.m,
Price BD 500/-, Ref. AP469

PORTA REEF - REEF ISLAND:

2 bedroom apartment, Built-up area 130.3
sq.m Price BD 900/-, Ref. AP468

THE GRAND - SEEF:

1 bedroom apartment, Built-up area 94 sq.m,
Price BD 750/-, Ref. AP467

For more information contact: T: +973 1729 8210
E: admin@starrealestate.bh

SERVICES

VERMINEX

Pest Control
Professionals in Bahrain
for 35 years- the safest,
government approved
products used.

Tel. 17280188

www.verminexbahrain.com

CARGO

ALLIED PICKFORDS

for your move. Professional
Packing/ Shipping of
household effects/ vehicles
by sea/ air worldwide.
Special groupage rates
to the UK. Airconditioned
storage facility. Contact us
today for a survey
and good advice.

Tel. 17735355 / 17731752,

email: info@
alliedpickfords.com.bh

SITUATIONS VACANT

CANADA-WORK

and live with
Permanent Residency.

For consultancy, contact:
margholdingspc@gmail.com
Call: 17001882, 35030997.

GULF CONNEXIONS

Experts in Delivering Talent

Bahrain | Dubai | Hong Kong | London | Riyadh | Jeddah | Dammam

Assistant Manager - Legal, Bahrain

A great opportunity to be part of a well reputed Bank in Bahrain working directly with the General Counsel and advising on matters relating to general banking, corporate, commercial and financing and acting as board secretary for the Bank.

Responsibilities:

- Providing legal advice and transactional guidance to the corporate department, branches, credit/risk department, compliance department, etc.
- Advising the bank on a wide-range of matters including debt-facilities and their related documentation, facility letters, loan agreements, LCs, LGs and structured products.
- Preparing and reviewing legal documents relating to the Bank's day-to-day operations, business and products Arabic and English.
- Drafting and reviewing contracts and correspondences internally.
- Identifying and proactively resolving policy, procedural and other legal and reputational issues in coordination with outside counsel, auditors, banking teams and internal committees.

Requirements:

- 5-8 years of experience preferably with a well reputed Bank or with a law firm as in-house counsel in Bahrain.
- Degree in Law, ideally with an LL.M qualification.
- Strong Arabic and English drafting skills.
- Priority will be given to Bahraini Nationals.

Please send Word CVs and cover letters to
mariam.ad@gulfconnexions.com

Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.

For further details on these vacancies or for more information on our services please contact us on +973 17565363 or email a Word format CV to one of our experienced consultants at jobs@gulfconnexions.com
For more jobs kindly refer to our website: www.gulfconnexions.com



FOR ALL YOUR
REAL ESTATE NEEDS

T: +973 1729 8210

www.starrealstate.bh

E: admin@starrealstate.bh

@starrealstate

Property Weekly

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

Apartment in top location

STAR Real Estate has a fully-furnished two bedroom apartment for sale in Porta Reef.

The apartment, which has a built-up area of 130.3sq/m, is located in the Pearl Porta Reef tower in Reef Island featuring a sizable living and dining area as well as a beautiful view of the sea and Seef area from the full length windows.

The kitchen is fully kitted out with the latest in state-of-the-art appliances and there is a modern-designed guest closet.

The bedrooms are spacious with built-in wardrobes. The master bedroom includes an ensuite bathroom. There is a

laundry room as well which can double up for storage use.

The development features a variety of amenities such as a swimming pool with a sea view, a Jacuzzi and two gyms. There is also a corniche and a children's playground. There is a coffee shop in one of the towers. There is parking to accommodate 330 vehicles with shaded spaces for residents and visitors.

The Porta project, which is one of Reef Island's most popular developments, extends over a total area of 16,016sq/m and is divided into three towers with 150 units. There are 51 two-bedroom apartments, 93 three-bedroom and six penthouses.



FACTS AT A GLANCE

Location: Porta Reef in Reef Island.

Reference number: AP468

Sales price: BD145,000

Bedrooms: 2

Living rooms: 1

Bathrooms: 2

Additional information: Porta Reef features a swimming pool, Jacuzzi, gym facilities, corniche and a children's playground. For further information on this and other homes call Star Real Estate 17298210.



Made possible by Star International Real Estate

LEASE • SALE

Star International Real Estate is offering fully and semi-furnished apartments, villas and offices available for rent and for sale in the most desirable locations in Bahrain. Our properties include inner city sanctuaries, to luxurious properties with waterfront access.

These are some of the properties that are available for rent:



ZAWIA 2 - AMWAJ

Fully-furnished 2 bedroom apartment, 2 bathrooms, 1 parking space, built-up area 160 sq.m. Asking price **BD 650/- Ref. AP367**

FOR RENT



ABRAJ AL LULU

Semi-furnished 3 bedroom apartment, 3.5 bathrooms, 1 parking space, built-up area 168 sq.m. Asking price **BD 575/- Ref. AP430**

FOR RENT



SAAR

Semi-furnished 3 bedroom villa, 3 bathrooms, 2 parking spaces, built-up area 267 sq.m. Asking price **BD 1,000/- Ref. VI459**

FOR RENT



LAGOON - RIFFA VIEWS

Fully-furnished 5 bedroom villa, 5.5 bathrooms, 2 living rooms, 2 parking spaces, built-up area 472 sq.m. Asking price **BD 1,700/- Ref. VI478**

FOR RENT



Golf Weekly

Teeing off to a great read



Hilal Computers

Maximizing performance and efficiency
Dell service provider
Tel: 1729 3749 ext 2220

THE Bapco Interdepartmental Trophy competition took place at Awali Golf Club on Friday. The team-based Stableford event used the best two out of three scores for each team.

Security department was the victorious team with a combined 68 points, pipping Engineering by one point.

The Security stars included Daij Khalifa, Hussain Salem and Nasser Eid and the Engineering department featured Paul Anderson, Les Young and Mike Roche.

Also taking place Friday was the AGC 80th Anniversary Stableford with Yoy Young taking the glory with 42 points. Second and Third places went to Sanjeev Bhalla and Eui Mo Koo with 41 points each. Paul Anderson came fourth with 39, and fifth, sixth and seventh places went to Hussain Salem, Rashid Ahmed Abdulla

Victory is well secured



and Mohammed Faraj respectively, all with 38 points.

Eighth, ninth and 10th places went to Abdulla Faraj, Steve Diaper, and Saad Al Binkhalil, with 37 points each.

Side prizes for Nearest to

the Pin went to Sun Kyu Kwak, Jeef Barrett and Jo Pawson. Gopi Talreja made the longest putt.

Next up at AGC:

● This Friday Airmech Medal Trophy competition will take place. There are spaces still available, sign up



PRIZE TIME: Alqutami, Eid and Salem with AGC captain Anderson and, left, prize winners

at www.awaligolfclub.com
● On Saturday the Seniors Over 50s Stableford competition will be staged.

Join in the fun by visiting www.awaligolfclub.com
● Wednesday, January 17 will be the monthly Awali

Driving Range Social from 6pm. Come out for burgers, beverages and fun games to improve your short game!

Charity matters on and off course

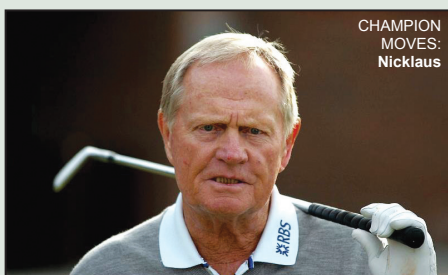
ON the day PGA Tour Commissioner Jay Monahan announced more than \$180 million was given to charities last year, he shared how the tour turned to legendary Jack Nicklaus to help protect golf's model for raising money.

The tax-exempt status of the PGA Tour and other sports leagues was in jeopardy late last year under the US Tax Cuts and Jobs Act. Part of the Senate version of the bill included a subsection called: 'Repeal of Tax-Exempt Status for Professional Sports Leagues'.

That's when Monahan decided to call Nicklaus at his office, but he dialed his mobile phone. "He whispers: 'Hello?'" Monahan said last Sunday at the Sentry Tournament of Champions. "I said: 'I need your help.' I walked him through the whole scenario. I said, 'I need you to make some phone calls and write some letters. We need to go full bore on this thing'."

Nicklaus whispered because he was in a field in upstate New York. He told the commissioner he'd get started when he got back to Florida.

Monahan said Nicklaus



CHAMPION MOVES: Nicklaus

wrote letters and called senators. Meanwhile, Davis Love III went up to Washington a week after having hip surgery and helped arrange for meetings with members of the Senate Finance Committee.

Golf Digest reported in December that PGA of America chief executive Pete Bevacqua said he contacted his political contacts. Ultimately, the provision was not in the final version of the Senate bill. "It's pretty amazing that Jack Nicklaus and Davis Love III were reaching out to their congressmen and women," Monahan said.

If the provision had remained in the bill, it could have required the PGA Tour to change its structure in a way that would reduce tax incentives to attract corporate support that makes

charitable giving possible. All net proceeds from PGA Tour events go to local charities and corporate support helps pay bills from prize money to operational costs.

Monahan said the \$180 million that PGA Tour events generated last year broke last year's record by about \$14 million. That includes donations from tournaments on all six of its tours — PGA, Champions, Web.com, Canada, Latin America and China.

PGA Tour events have raised \$2.65 billion dating to a \$10,000 donation from the Palm Beach Invitational in 1938. "It's a big part of who we are," Monahan said. "We like to think we do it better than anyone else. It's our scorecard, if you will."

Charity simply got a golden bear hug.

THERE are multiple reasons why you should start your child out playing golf from an early age. Here are my top five:

- **Enjoy the outdoors:** Too many children stay at home playing on computers or watching TV, Golf is an excellent sport to get outside, enjoy the fresh air and experience the wilderness.
- **Develop lifelong friendships:** You never know who you will meet on the golf course and allows

Five reasons to get your child into golf



your child to develop their social skills.

● **Manage emotions:** We all know life is not fair ... and neither is golf. Managing to keep a positive outlook is key to succeeding in both.

● **Appreciate diversity:** Golf can be played by anyone regardless of age, gender, ethnicity, size or

skill level.

● **Wellness for life:** Since you can play golf at any age it is a sport that will always stay with them and keep them healthy. A round of golf is roughly 10,000 steps (depending on your ability).

If you are interested in your child playing golf, call Rory on 3921 5224 for more information about group and individual lessons.

Ben's not on his Todd at the club!

THE Royal Golf Club has appointed new PGA head teaching professional Ben Todd to its academy team.

Ben, a Brit from the historic Somerset city of Bath, started playing golf at the age of eight and he carried out his PGA training in Ireland. Upon qualifying, he started work at The Address Montgomerie in Dubai where he managed a junior development programme, as well as helping individual players.

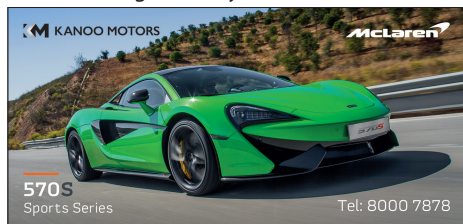
He said: "I'm delighted to be here in Bahrain and look forward to working with Marc and Zander, our two PGA teaching professionals, on growing the game of golf here".

Ben will begin his role by renewing the RGC's academy programmes starting with golf lesson rates and packages followed by new initiatives which will come into effect from next month. Further details will be announced shortly.

He added that he continually strives to improve his teaching skills and 'knowledge of the golf swing' to help students learn effectively and enjoy the sport.



NEW ARRIVAL: RGC's head teaching pro



Motor Sport

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

Double delight for marque

VOLVO Cars secured a sweet double as the marque claimed prestigious international titles for the first time in its racing history.

Thed Björk and Polestar Cyan Racing, the Swedish manufacturer's official factory auto-racing arm, claimed two FIA World Touring Car Championship titles in a season finale in the Gulf region.

Björk became the first ever Swedish racing World Champion as Volvo Cars, Polestar and Cyan Racing claimed their maiden motorsport World Titles.

The 2017 World Touring Car Championship was the 13th since the series was revived in 2005. Racing took place across the globe including courses in Morocco, Italy, Argentina and China.

Björk said: "I can't put words to my feelings right now but this is by far the greatest moment of my racing career. The season finale went according to our plans and I want to extend a massive thank you to everyone in the team, they are as much World Champions as I am!"

Two flawless races at the Losail International Circuit in Qatar saw Björk finishing the season as drivers' champion by 28.5 points over title rival Norbert Michelisz, and Polestar Cyan Racing as manufacturers' champions by the same margin over Honda.

Nicky Catsburg ended the season on the podium with third position in the final race of 2017 as four-time WTCC



RACING AHEAD: Volvo Cars, Polestar and Cyan Racing in action on the track and, below, picking up the prizes



MOTORSPORT
By KRISTIAN HARRISON
kristian@gulfweekly.com

champion Yvan Muller also brought vital points to the team from both races.

Catsburg said: "A massive thank you to everyone in the team and congratulations to Thed, you are a very worthy champion. I am very happy to see this outcome after the struggles we had at the beginning of the weekend. I

had a good final race and to end the season with a podium feels great."

Proud team boss Alexander Mordzevski Schedvin could not hide his delight at seeing the fruits of his team's efforts finally bloom.

He explained: "We entered the championship last year with a five-year plan to become World Champions. We did it in just two years. We have exceeded all of our

expectations and goals this season.

"Thed Björk has done an awesome job this season and is a worthy champion. The team has put down thousands and thousands of hours to together claim the World Title, I can't thank them enough. This is the proudest moment in the history of our team and I am so proud to be able to say that we are the World Champions!"



STANDING TALL: Loeb plans limited comeback



Rally ace on track for a new challenge

NINE times world rally champion Sebastian Loeb will make a limited comeback next season by racing three rounds of the world championship with Citroën.

The 43-year-old Frenchman, who last raced in the world championship as a one-off in 2015 after retiring from full-time involvement in 2012, will compete for the French

manufacturer in Mexico, Corsica and Catalunya.

He said: "The feeling you get in rally is one of the most thrilling feelings I have ever experienced, and I was excited about driving one of these new WRCs in a race.

"I don't have any expectations, I just want to enjoy myself."

Northern Irishman Kris Meeke will

contest the full 13 race season as Citroën's lead driver while Ireland's Craig Breen will enter 10 rounds.

Khalid Al Qassimi, from the United Arab Emirates, will appear in a third car at a handful of rallies due to other commitments including the Dakar Rally in January. Loeb will also be taking part in the Dakar with Peugeot.



GOAL-DEN MOMENTS: Coventry City in action against Stoke City and, below, Hughes

B EING 'sent to Coventry' is one of those quirky British phrases that gets occasionally used to describe an individual to have been ostracised, acting as though they no longer exist.

Believed to have originated around the time of the English Civil War (1640-ish) there is great irony that this idiom could apply to the recent fate of Stoke City's (now) former manager following his side's recent defeat.

After a run of five losses in their last seven Premier League outings a third-round FA Cup exit (their first match in the competition) at the hands of lowly Coventry City was the final straw for the Coates family, owners of the Potteries side.

Hughes' four-and-a-half year tenure as manager sees him become the seventh Premier league boss to lose his job this season although many Stoke fans will be surprised that he has lasted this long.

After a strong early showing this season there has been a significant downturn in performances, particularly after considering that historically Hughes' guided Stoke to three successive ninth place finishes while they slipped to 13th last season.

Mid-table mediocrity has provided the Midlands club with stability while the former Manchester United player's international profile have allowed the family-run club to attract players that previously would have been beyond their reach.

Bottom-tier Coventry City were able to exploit

Get your Coates, Mark!

By ABU GEORGE
abu.george@gulfweekly.com

defensive frailties that have seen Stoke City concede 47 times in the league and send the Potteries side crashing out of the cup and Hughes out of his job.

The plight of Coventry provides stark warning to the likes of Stoke as to the perils of relegation. One of the original teams when the Premier League was formed in 1992 they were relegated in 2001 and have slowly continued their slide down the leagues to languish in the Second Division (fourth tier).

At their peak they actually lifted the FA Cup in 1987 when they defeated the heavily-fancied Tottenham Hotspur 3-2 after extra time.

This match was remarkable for the fact that the final had no bookings with 18 of the starting 22 players being English. The match was decided by a Gary Mabbutt own goal after he had previously put Spurs in the lead.

However, it was not long after securing this major trophy that Coventry became the highest-placed team to be beaten by a non-league side when they lost 2-1 to Sutton United at Gander Green Lane in 1989.

In 2014, now ensconced in the first division, Coventry repeated the disgrace when they were defeated 2-1 by Worcester City, also playing in the amateur flights of English football.

On this occasion Coventry will be relieved to finally be on the winning side of a shock although Stoke fans may also be relieved to see the back of a manager who, despite providing valiant service for many years (in managerial terms), appeared to have few ideas about how to stop the slide down the table.

The FA Cup is renowned throughout the world for the romantic shock results that it produces. While the Sutton defeat is still considered to be the greatest

surprise, another historic 'David versus Goliath' victory was Wrexham's 2-1 win over the 1992 reigning league champions, Arsenal, memorable for Mickey Thomas's 25-yard screamer with 10 minutes to go.

While it doesn't quite rank on the same scale of shocks, current holders of the FA Cup Arsenal were eliminated by Nottingham Forest last Sunday evening in the third round for the first time in Arsene Wenger's 17-year reign.

Southern league Hereford

United once overcame the mighty Newcastle United, winning 2-1 at home in a replay after securing a 2-2 draw away at St James's Park. Two goals for Nigel Jemson helped Shrewsbury Town overcome Everton in 2003 while Wimbledon first demonstrated their feisty attitude and ability to defeat supposedly superior opponents in 1975 when they won 1-0 away at Burnley.

Not that success in the FA Cup is demonstrative of a winning team. There have

been a number of examples of sides that have been relegated from the top flight despite having a good run in English football's premier knockout competition.

The most striking example has to be that of Wigan Athletic who claimed the trophy after shocking Manchester City 1-0 at Wembley back in 2013. Their celebrations were short-lived. Three days after securing the first major trophy in the club's 81-year history, defeat at Arsenal saw them relegated.

While Wigan are the only club to have been relegated after winning the FA Cup, there are several examples of clubs to drop from the top flight having appeared in the final.

These include Portsmouth (2010 defeat to Chelsea), Middlesbrough (1997, Chelsea) (relegated in controversial circumstances after being deducted three points for postponing a league match against Blackburn) and Brighton and Hove Albion (1982, Manchester United).

In the case of Brighton & Hove Albion, 1982 represented the last year that they were in the top flight of English football – until this current season.

Perhaps this victory over Stoke will therefore allow Coventry fans to dream of a future return to former glories? Meanwhile, the magic of the Cup continues.





BD-4850



Mohammed Jalal & Sons - Automotive Division
Showroom Sitra : 17 707070, Showroom Khamis : 17 252606 Email : automotive@jalal.com

Gulf Weekly

SPORT



www.gulfweekly.com

TOP OF THE LEAGUE FOR LOCAL AND INTERNATIONAL SPORT

January 10 - 16, 2018



ALL ACTION: Perotti and, below, Perez

EURO TALENT RIDES IN

WHILE the Bahrain International Circuit may be famous for its four-wheeled action on track, riders on two tyres are proving that their own mean machines are just as thrilling and engaging to watch.

The Bahrain Motorcycle Racing 600 (better known as the BMR 600) series is currently underway, providing thrills and spills on specifically-selected machines in two different classes.

Its fourth round of the season, to take place on Saturday, will be a special occasion as two exciting young riders from Europe, Mika Perez and Fabrizio Perotti, will be competing for



MOTORCYCLING

By KRISTIAN HARRISON
kristian@gulfweekly.com

the MSK Racing team.

Shaikh Mohammed bin Salman Al Khalifa is the team owner of MSK, which is a major sponsor of Perez. Perotti races in the same Spanish championship as Perez and was also enticed to ride in Bahrain by Shaikh Mohammed.

Perez is an up-and-coming Spanish rider from Altea. The 18-year-old's finest achievement to date is winning the 2016 Wil Sport European Junior Cup, powered by Honda.

After racing minibikes in the Valencian Championship in 2007 at the age of eight, Perez quickly rose through the ranks and by 2012 he

had already won the national 'Cuna de Campeones' MiniGP140 title. In 2013, he made a one-off appearance in the European Junior Cup as a wildcard lined up by Honda Spain. The following year, Perez impressed many by finishing sixth in his first full EJC season.

In 2016, Perez was a master of consistency as he claimed one win, three second places and one third in the first six races, before securing a fourth place in the last race in Jerez to secure the championship.

Perotti is a rider in the FIM EWC World Endurance

Championship for the Moto Ain Yamaha team and has also been regularly involved in the RFME CEV Superstock 1000 with Kawasaki Team Speed Racing.

Series promoter John Beddall, who originally came up with the concept of BMR in 2011, believes it will be an exciting round of the championship with its added star attractions.

He said: "These two are excellent riders and it will be a great opportunity to see them race in Bahrain, and also for our usual riders to face a much stiffer challenge and get tips."

"They were very interested in coming here and racing with our guys. With the winter in full swing in

Europe, there are no opportunities to race at the moment so these guys are itching to get back on their bikes in a competitive format."

The race will be the fourth round of six in the BMR 600 Championship, and as part of the BIC's latest National Race Day. Other races which will thrill fans are the 2,000cc Challenge and the Bahrain Superbike (BSBK) Championship.



Gulf Weekly EAN

