

# Top of the world!

**COMMUNITY REPORT**  
By MAI AL-KHATIB CAMILLE  
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**T**HE kingdom's newly-crowned Miss Universe Evlin Khalifa aims to inspire and influence Bahraini women in a bid to see more Arab representation globally, as well as to make a difference in other people's lives.

The 24-year-old multi-talented model had captured the hearts of a nine-strong star-studded panel of judges with her charisma, communication skills and campaigning passions, while competing against six other fabulous Bahraini finalists including Ghadeer AlShayeb, Maya Malalla, Lujane Yacoub, Maryam Naji, Shereen Ahmed and Maria Malalla in the second edition of the beauty pageant.

"It is a big blessing and this is definitely the happiest moment in my life," said a thrilled Evlin.

The Bahraini-Russian had topped the selection process, which featured a series of activities staged by the Miss Universe Bahrain organisation, led by Dubai-based Yugen Group of Companies and presented in an eight-part YouTube series called *Purpose*.

The finalists, who were shortlisted from more than 300 Bahraini applicants aged between 18 and 28, took part in a number of workshops and photoshoots, which included a trip to Dubai.

Evlin's participation and answer in the final question portion, which was 'when do



ALL RISE: Evlin being crowned by Miss Universe Bahrain 2021 Manar Jess Deyani alongside crown designer Sarah Rojas

you think a woman becomes empowered', had wowed the committee that sealed her royal fate.

"I think a woman becomes empowered when she knows herself, when she knows her values, and when she knows

what she is capable of," said Evlin from Riffa.

"An empowered woman is a role model of the people and whose actions lead to success. I'm here to be that woman to lead all the people to success and believe in

themselves."

The selection committee included Egyptian superstar Mai Omar, celebrity doctor Nader Saab, Bollywood's multimedia superstar Urvashi Rautela and international supermodel Natalia Barulich.

Senior vice president of Yugen as well as community and ambassador development



Josh

Troy Reinhart was also on the panel along with pop music icon and lead vocalist of Grammy-winner Black Eyed Peas JREY

Soul, brand ambassador and digital influencer, Faryal Makhdoom, entrepreneur Julianne Holt-Kailihiwa and Miss International 2016 and Miss Universe Bahrain head of empowerment Kylie Verzosa.

Josh Yugen, the chief executive of Yugen Group and the national director of Miss Bahrain, says the entire team is honoured to crown Evlin as Miss Universe Bahrain 2022.

"Our new queen is quintessentially graced with passion, cocooned with courage and armoured with pursuit of love, sisterhood and kindness," he added.

Evlin will be competing at the 71st annual Miss Universe pageant in 2023. While the date and location has yet to be confirmed for the international showcase, there are rumours that the Puerto Rico Coliseum could host the international competition in 2023, according to Jorge Pérez, regional manager of ASM Global, the company that manages the coliseum. ● For Evlin's story, see Page 2.



**GOD OF CARNAGE**  
A comedy of manners  
SEE PAGE 3



**CUSP OF GLORY**  
Evolution of an artist  
SEE PAGES 4-5



**MAJOR MELODIES**  
Bahrain music festival  
SEE PAGE 5



**F1 E-SPORTS**  
New season kicks off  
SEE PAGE 7



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STARRY  
LINE-UP:  
Evlin and the  
finalists



IN SYNC  
WITH  
TRENDS:  
Evlin



COMMUNITY REPORT  
By MAI AL-KHATIB CAMILLE  
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**B**AHRAIN'S Miss Universe 2022 Evlin Khalifa is 'over the moon' with joy over her recent contest victory and hopes to make every Bahraini female proud by giving them a voice, alongside raising awareness about mental health issues and well-being as part of her community caring efforts.

The model and pianist from Riffa has been fascinated by beauty pageants since childhood, watching them on TV with her mum, Elvira, and now looks forward to empowering women through her experiences.

"Winning Miss Universe Bahrain is a big blessing and this is definitely the happiest moment in my life," said Evlin, who graduated from five schools, finishing degrees and courses in music, dancing, modelling, taekwondo and comprehension, as well as receiving a Bachelor's Degree in Finance and Banking.

"As cliché as it sounds, with great power comes great responsibility," she said. "Now that I have a platform, I plan to use it to inspire and influence Bahraini women and to be their voice."

"I love my country and my people and my dream is to make them proud to the best of my abilities. My goal is to be purposeful and now that I have the title of Miss Universe Bahrain, I feel like I am where I'm meant to be - it was a long way but my dream finally came true."

Her first Miss Universe inspiration was Pia

# BEAUTY WITH A PURPOSE



THINKING MODE: Miss Universe Bahrain finalists during their beauty workshop at Madi International, from left, Maria, Maryam, Evlin and Jess

Wurtzbach from the Philippines who won the crown in 2015. It was the Philippines' first victory in 42 years and the third victory of the country in the pageant's history.

"I really admired her, not just for her beauty, but her passion and intelligence," said Evlin. "I think at that moment, the whole world knew and admired her the same way that I did - so I thought why can't Arab women have a representation on an international level such as Miss Universe?"

"Then, last year, history was made when Manar Jess

Deyani was crowned the first-ever Miss Universe Bahrain to compete in the 70-year history of Miss Universe.

"I felt so proud that finally Bahraini women have a platform to showcase our culture, our country and our people. At that same moment, I thought about representing my country too and here I am now, where I am supposed to be."

The 26-year-old Manar Jess Deyani, who is a fashion designer from Riffa, promoted inclusivity, raised awareness about mental health during her reign and was delighted to pass on the torch to Evlin.

She said that it felt 'emotional first and foremost' when she passed on the crown and secondly 'proud'!

"I felt an instant connection with Evlin," said Jess. "As stunning as her face is, her personality is sensational. One of the main reasons I was captivated by her charm is her kindness, strength and intelligence. This girl is a warrior! You could sense her potential. I see many similarities between us and it takes a lot of courage to carry quite a heavy crown, to continue the legacy and history-making in the most gracious way. We Bahraini



ALL SET: Behind the scenes photo shoot for day one of Miss Universe

girls are growing stronger and we are here to build an empire of empowering women and advocating for our cases."

Jess suffers from a disorder that causes her anxiety and depression while Evlin faced issues over her weight which she managed to overcome with the help of her family. She aims to continue highlighting health issues as well as campaigning on behalf of the environment and other good causes.

"I also plan to dedicate my time to helping causes and organisations that are close to my heart such as Smile Train," said Evlin. "Unfortunately, children with clefts suffer from external conditions that prevent them from properly breathing, eating and speaking. I want to increase awareness and encourage more people to support."

Her dad Abdulla, mum, and brother, Nader, are all so proud of how far Evlin has come which she says, gives her even more confidence.

"My dad had no doubts that I could win this competition from the beginning and my mum still can't believe my victory," she added. "My mum is happiest to have my dream come true. Even my grandmother lost her voice watching the final episode.

I'm just so thankful to everyone including my brother who always supports me with everything."

Evlin is also thankful for the fantastic experience she had during the Miss Universe competition from forming bonds with the finalists to meeting renowned experts in different fields.

"In such a short time, I felt like I have gained a new family from my co-finalists and team members," said the striking star. "I never felt like I was in a competition because the atmosphere was always supportive. I also got to meet a lot of iconic people including top fashion designer Furne Amato and



WINNER:  
Evlin

celebrity makeup artist Vimi Joshi."

Evlin is now putting all her focus on training and preparing for the 2023 Miss Universe competition with her team.

"There will be a lot of travelling involved and I can't wait to start and share this journey with all of you," she said. "I want to show the world how beautiful, intelligent and talented Middle Eastern women are. I want to see more Arab representations globally - may it be movies, music or beauty pageants."

For details, follow @khalifa.evlin on Instagram.



# SATIRE AT ITS BEST



**THEATRE REPORT**  
By NAMAN ARORA  
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**A** razor-sharp one-act comedy cutting through the veneer of polite society is set to be staged next month by the Manama Theatre Club (MTC).

*God of Carnage*, written by the award-winning Yasmina Reza, is the directorial debut of Ghassan Chemali and will be performed live on October 11, 12, 14 and 15 at the British Club of Bahrain at 7.30pm.

The play centres on the aftermath of a fight between two grade school boys. The boys' parents meet to have a civilised discussion about the incident, which devolves into chaos.

Alan Raleigh, a corporate lawyer, played by Ahmed Nasimi, and his wife Annette (Hana Ali) visit the home of Veronica Novak (Amy McGavin), an author interested in Africa, and her husband Michael (Ghazi Alshehbi).

While respect and objectivity are put forward in the beginning, small comments, incidents and disagreements gradually lead to an explosion of anger, accusations and insults. The four characters switch alliances as the conversation evolves, and bigotry, sexism and selfishness are unleashed.

Originally written in French, the play was translated into English by Christopher Hampton, and has enjoyed acclaim in productions in both London and New York.

"The play is rather demanding for actors since it's one act and they have very little time off-stage to rest during the one-and-a-half-hour duration of the play," Ghassan, 45, told *GulfWeekly*.

"However, it is rather easy to direct since it's very well written and involves only four actors in a single space. Once I had decided on the

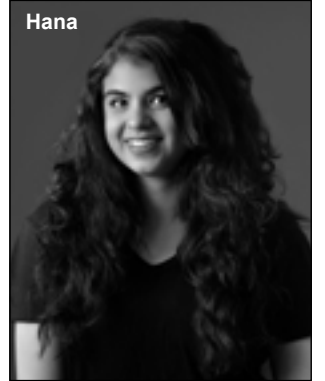


DRAMA  
UNFOLDS:  
A shot from  
a previous  
rehearsal  
of the play

Ghassan



Hana



Show Poster

set, which I also designed, things went smoothly.

"Unfortunately, starting to work on this play just as the Covid-19 pandemic was ending proved to be problematic. Just a month before the initial opening night in June, two actors and I caught the virus and had to miss out on rehearsals, so we ended up postponing."

Although this is Ghassan's debut as a director, he has acted in a number of amateur plays in Beirut, Paris and Manama as well as a Lebanese award-winning movie *Heaven without People* currently available on Netflix.

"I had only directed a couple of skits before this play and had really enjoyed the process," the Lebanese director, who works as a heritage consultant by day, added.

"Most of my experience has been in acting, and I've done many acting workshops and been in some plays and

short movies. Since this play relies mostly on the actors' talent, it wasn't that hard to take on the director's role.

"I usually like realistic theatre with tightly knit dramatic content. This play is one of those. It's also a satire on middle-class society and its hypocrisy, with a lot of sarcasm and irony. I had seen the adaptation made for the screen by Roman Polanski, and actually played the role of Alan in a production back in 2013."

The entire play takes place in a single place, the apartment of the Novaks, but Ghassan wanted to create a contrast between two worlds within the set.

"The backwall of the Novak's apartment comprises, on the left side, a dark, unsettling wall with souvenirs from Africa hanging on it and, on the right side, a long bookshelf with a lot of books," he explained.

"The opposing world views of the main characters are represented this way. The overall effect is to have a simple but almost realistic apartment interior."

Hannah Turner has produced the play and a dedicated crew of around eight people from the MTC, a section of the British Club.

The performance is targeted at those aged 16 and above, and tickets, priced at BD7.5 for British Club members and BD9 for non-members, will be on sale at the club's reception, starting tomorrow.

For more details, follow @mtcbahrain on Instagram.





## EVERY FRIDAY, WE MEET AT THE AWARD-WINNING BRUNCH

A feast for the eyes and the palate, the Friday Brunch at Bahrain Bay Kitchen is reason enough to count down for the weekend.

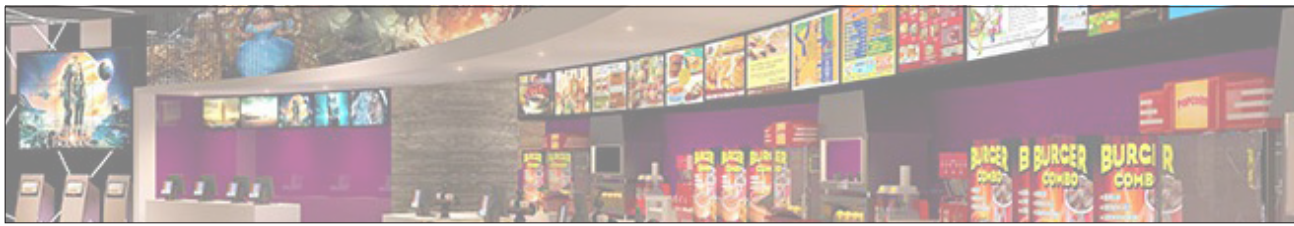
The splendid buffet offers delights from the Wok, Tandoori, Carving, and Seafood Stations, as well as assorted Sushi, Bao Buns, and Italian classics like the Pinsa Romana and Fresh Pasta. If you have a sweet tooth, the dessert station with Japanese Cheesecake, Sicilian Cannoli, Red Velvet Cake, and much more will be your favourite stop. Last but not least, our youngest guests will have the best time in the Kids Club and at the special buffet for children.

Every Friday, between 13:00-16:00, with live entertainment.  
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# Culture

# Peek into an artist's



## ART REPORT

By MAI AL-KHATIB CAMILLE  
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**C**ELEBRATED creative Shaikh Rashid bin Khalifa Al Khalifa has captivated art lovers in Europe yet again, this time with a mini retrospective exhibition featuring his artistic career ... all under one colourful roof.

The Bahrain National Arts Council chairman's *Spectrum* solo exhibition, held in June at the Liechtenstein Landesmuseum in Vaduz, the capital city of Liechtenstein, not only garnered high praise but also resulted in the design of postage stamps and stamp collection sheets by the Liechtenstein Postal Museum (a branch of the Liechtenstein National Museum), who were inspired by his work.

His past exhibition boasted traditional Middle Eastern architectural principles with specific palettes and tones that are characteristic to the landscape of Bahrain in



CREATIVE: Rainer with one of the art pieces on display

aluminium and steel forms.

This showcase, which is also being exhibited at the Liechtenstein National Museum as of September 7, is entitled *Cusp* and features a selection of his works, from atmospheric landscape paintings that mark the beginning of his

I often draw on aspects of my heritage, culture and surroundings.

artistic career in the 1970s to his latest robust aluminium and steel installations.

The aim is to show the stylistic transitions that define certain periods of his artistic career.

"I am grateful to be exhibiting in Vaduz for the second time this year and to have the opportunity to present this selection of works that define certain periods of my artistic career," said the 70-year-old who studied Art and Design at Hastings College of Art and Design, Sussex, England. "I often draw on aspects of my heritage, culture and surroundings. I am so pleased to share my most personal work in a country with such a rich culture and amongst a people with whom I was previously so warmly received."

According to Svetlana Prodanova, media consultant

UNIQUE: People admiring the work



of the RAK Art Foundation, which was set up by Shaikh Rashid in 2020 to provide a platform as well as opportunities for emerging artists and creatives, "this exhibition not only presents the diversity of Shaikh Rashid's oeuvre in terms of style and medium, but more importantly shows how despite this diversity, there is an undercurrent that flows through decades of his

creative work'.

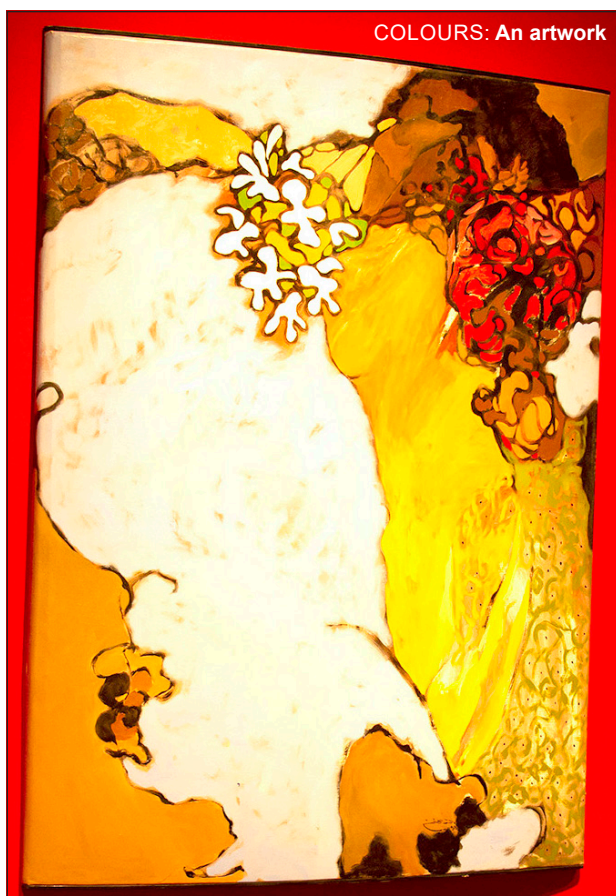
"In order for people to understand Shaikh Rashid's latest work, it is important to understand his evolution; where he has come from and where he is going," she added.

That is why around three works from each 'period' of his illustrious creative career were selected for the exhibition — starting with his early landscapes which

are oil on canvas - to feature his drive and evolution in art.

Shaikh Rashid had been interested in art and archaeology from an early age. His artistic development grew from traditional landscape paintings and figurative, ephemeral oil paintings in the 80s to more abstract forms in the 90s.

"Shaikh Rashid's figurative works from the 80s are also oil on canvas, as are works

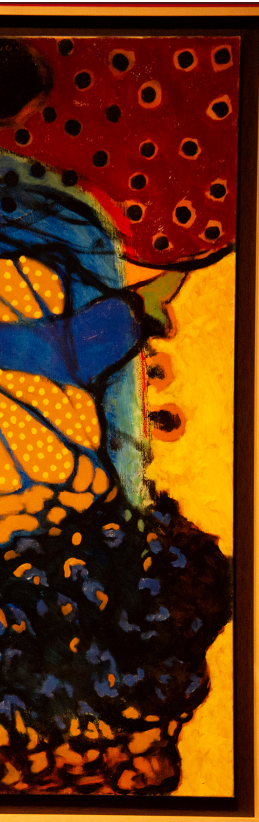


COLOURS: An artwork



Weekly

## ic journey



WELCOME: Shaikh Rashid with Rainer outside the museum



canvases into aluminium supports. This in turn was broken up into many small surfaces, reminiscent of the layout of Arabian cities and of Arabian windows.

In the 2000s, Shaikh Rashid began to abstract his work, removing details and adapting various textures on the surface.

Aluminium became the focus of his work from 2010 - first by employing glossy lacquer paint on its smooth façade, and then focusing on enamel, which led to a much more minimalistic approach to his work.

"The architectural forms that arose through these works inspired Shaikh Rashid to consider the architecture of his own culture, which led to the development of his *Maze* and *Parametric* series in 2018 and finally his

*Spectrum* series from 2020-2022," explained Svetlana.

Shaikha Rashid also made his collection of contemporary art accessible to the public and throughout his career, participated in numerous international exhibitions, art fairs and biennales around the world including Dubai, Vienna, Berlin, London, Moscow, Miami and in Istanbul, to name a few.

Liechtenstein National Museum director Rainer Vollkommer said he is 'delighted and honoured to have the opportunity to exhibit the fascinating work of Shaikh Rashid bin Khalifa Al Khalifa' and 'hopes that through this exhibition, we will grow to better understand one another and learn from each other'.

The exhibition ends on October 16.

from the early 90s which for the sake of this exhibition we titled *Metamorphosis*," added Svetlana.

Shaikh Rashid's keenness to try something new allowed him to explore three-dimensional aspects as an artistic medium. He began to bend the canvas, which led him to convex canvases. This approach was then developed further in recent years when he transformed convex

**T**HE Bahrain Philharmonic Orchestra, conducted by renowned military maestro Major General Dr Mubarak Najem, will be kicking off the kingdom's festival of sound next month, to unite people through their love for melodies as well as to commemorate International Music Day.

Following the concert, that will be staged at the Bahrain National Theatre at 8pm on October 1, which is also International Music Day, the 31st Bahrain International Music Festival will be bringing together a line-up of local, regional and international artists boasting different genres and styles.

The Rabat Troupe for Instrumental Music People will provide an evening of authentic Moroccan heritage on October 2 at the Cultural Hall at 8pm.

Bahrain Music Band will pay tribute to the late Bahraini singer Mohammed Zowayed on October 4. The event is in honour of the 40th anniversary of his passing and his artistic career, which was launched in the 1920s.

The tribute will be conducted by maestro Zeyad Zaiman at 8pm at the Cultural Hall.



SOUND OF MUSIC: The Japanese Taiko ensemble

## FESTIVAL TO BEGIN ON A HIGH NOTE

Known as the 'Ambassador of Bahraini Song',



Noel

Zowayed's melodious voice and songs were heard throughout Bahrain to the Gulf, India, Egypt and beyond.

The Ismaeel Dawas Band, founded in 1935, will perform their folk music highlighting heritage at Dar Al Muharra on October 5 at 8pm and then the Japanese Taiko ensemble Wagaku Miyabi will perform on October 6 at the Cultural Hall at 8pm.

Wagaku Miyabi will entertain with traditional

Japanese drums and other Japanese musical instruments. This event comes in collaboration with the Japanese embassy in celebration of their Golden Jubilee with Bahrain.

The Bahrain International Music Festival ends with the musical stylings of Palestinian singer Noel Kharman on October 7 at the Cultural Hall at 8pm.

This will be her first concert in the kingdom and she hopes to enthrall people with her songs that are a mixture of Arabic and Western music.

All events are free admission except for the concert at the Bahrain National Theatre.

For details, follow @culturebah on Instagram.

## TALE OF AN EMOTIONAL FAREWELL

BAHRAIN CINEMA CLUB – Tonight at 7pm in Juffair.

Film: *The Farewell*

Director: Lulu Wang

Duration: 1 hr 51 minutes

Cast: Shuzhen Zhao, Awkwafina, Tzi Ma, Diana Lin, Yongbo Jiang and Han Chen

Plot: Billi, a young Chinese American woman, learns that her beloved grandmother Nai Nai has cancer and only

a few weeks left to live. She is further shocked to find out that her extended family has vowed to keep Nai Nai in the dark about her diagnosis and come up with the ruse of a wedding to gather to see her one last time. As the family comes together in Changchun, Billi struggles with the whole east meets west philosophies of how to live life.

For details, call Huda Tabbara on 39682323.



A still from the movie

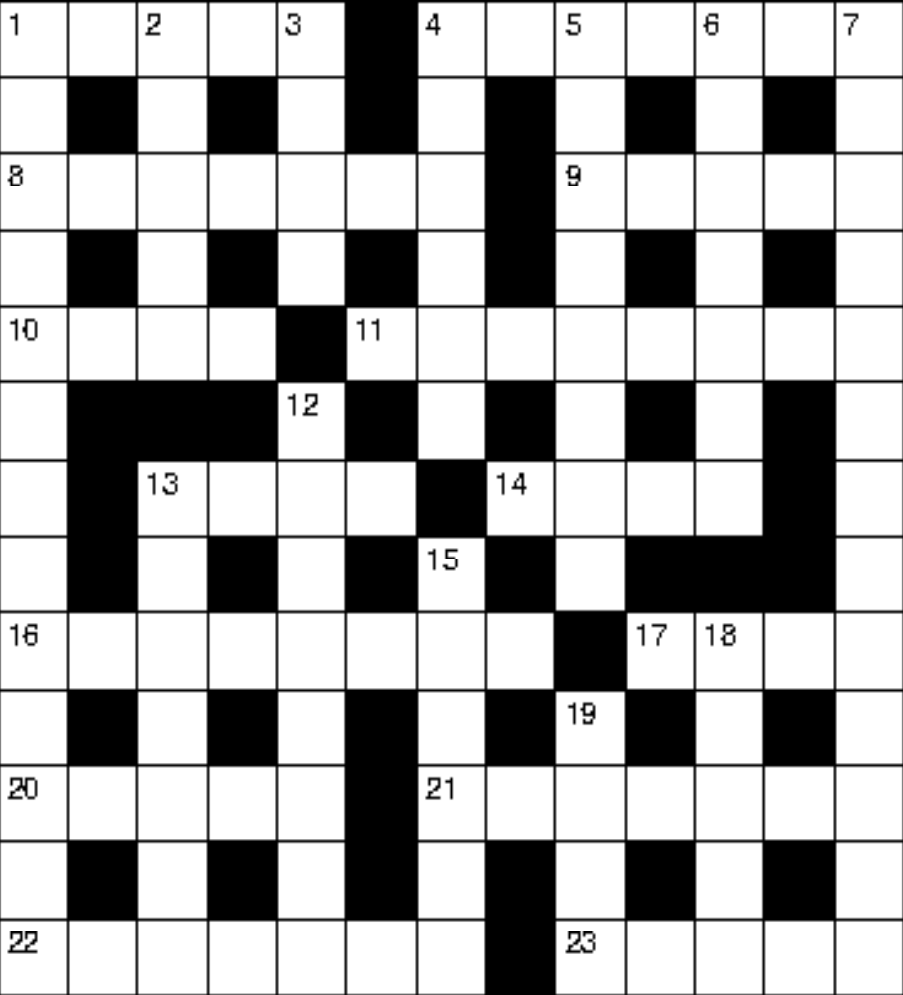


# Time Out



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## crossword break



Solutions in next week's issue.

### ACROSS

- 1. Demise (5)
- 4. Feign (7)
- 8. Singer (7)
- 9. Wrong (5)
- 10. Candid (4)
- 11. Reference (8)
- 13. Forehead (4)
- 14. Stupefy (4)
- 16. Last (8)
- 17. Loyal (4)
- 20. Muscle (5)
- 21. Heighten (7)
- 22. Beseech (7)
- 23. Dulcet (5)

### DOWN

- 1. Shameful (13)
- 2. Plentiful (5)
- 3. Cure (4)
- 4. Sickly (6)
- 5. Empty (8)
- 6. Issue (7)
- 7. Separation (13)
- 12. Begin (8)
- 13. Flagrant (7)
- 15. Climb (6)
- 18. Scope (5)
- 19. So (4)

### who, what, where, when

**WHO ...** wrote the novels *A Farewell to Arms* and *The Sun Also Rises*?

**WHAT ...** country did the international footballer Marcelo Salas represent?

**WHERE ...** in Europe is the region of Wallonia?

**WHEN ...** did the rock group Deep Purple release the album *Deep Purple in Rock*?

**WHO ...** wrote the autobiographical novel *La Fanfarlo*?

**WHAT ...** sort of creature is a rudd?

**WHERE ...** in South America is Mount Cotopaxi?

**WHEN ...** in 1936 did the UK's Jarrow March begin?

### just so



## 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

9	7	2	3	0	1	5	6	4
4	3	8	2	7	5	1	9	3
3	1	5	8	9	4	8	2	7
5	2	9	0	5	7	1	1	5
1	5	7	8	2	8	7	3	3
5	3	7	7	1	8	0	5	2
2	1	8	1	0	9	3	7	5
7	6	1	5	8	3	2	4	9
5	9	8	7	7	2	6	5	1

6	6	9	7	5	2	1	3	4
4	5	1	0	0	3	2	8	7
2	3	7	1	4	9	3	5	8
7	1	3	4	0	5	0	2	6
5	0	5	2	7	1	6	1	5
5	1	2	8	3	8	7	1	8
0	6	3	5	1	3	1	7	2
8	7	1	3	9	7	5	6	1
1	7	5	8	2	1	3	8	3

### darn tough sudoku

9	6	8	4	0	5	2	7	1
4	3	7	0	1	2	3	5	5
2	5	1	7	0	9	3	1	8
8	6	1	1	7	0	5	2	6
5	2	3	8	8	7	7	1	6
1	7	9	5	2	8	1	8	3
6	0	5	2	4	3	1	3	7
7	4	5	3	9	1	6	3	2
5	1	2	8	0	7	8	9	1

Sudoku

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

Sudoku

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

### Last Week's Leisure Solutions

#### CROSSWORD BREAK:

**Across:** 3 Profusion; 8 Item; 9 Humiliate; 10 Soiree; 11 Child; 14 Moist; 15 Deed; 16 Yield; 18 Land; 20 Aware; 21 Treat; 24 Depart; 25 Converted; 26 Slur; 27 Imprudent.

**Down:** 1 Dissemble; 2 Deficient; 4 Roue; 5 Faith; 6 Shield; 7 Oath; 9 Hefty; 11 Chest; 12 Debatable; 13 Adventure; 17 Dazed; 19 Driver; 22 Acrid; 23 Form; 24 Dean.

**JUST SO:** It's up to you, Look back in anger, Mister right, Put into words.

**WHO, WHAT, WHERE, WHEN:** Aneurin Bevan; A yellow sun with a human face known as the Sun of May; Amsterdam; 1934; David Mamet; Shoeless Joe; Erinsborough; 1981.

### Darn Tough Sudoku

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

Your work pad space ...



# McLaren forging ahead

THE HEAT IS ON: The start of the Bahrain race

**THE 2022 Formula 1 Esports Series Pro Championship kicked off last week with a nail-biting three-race opening event, with the Bahrain-owned McLaren pulling to the front of the constructor standings with 86 points.**

The sixth season of the F1 Esports Series kicked off on September 14 with a 29-lap virtual race at the Bahrain International Circuit (BIC), followed by a 32-lap race at Imola and a 26-lap race at Silverstone.

New McLaren driver Lucas Blakeley took the first and second race wins of the championship, and Red Bull Racing Esports driver Frede Rasmussen won the third.

In the first race, Blakeley started on pole, but had to grapple with reigning champion Jarno Opmeer in order to take victory. In a perfectly-orchestrated move, he and McLaren team mate Bari Boroumand got past Opmeer's Mercedes coming down the main straight on Lap 21.

In the second race, Blakeley duelled with Red Bull Racing



**RACE REPORT**  
By **NAMAN ARORA**  
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Esports' Marcel Kiefer, cementing the Scot as this year's favourite with a 29-point lead after two races. "We've done it again!" the excited driver posted on *Twitter* after the race.



Blakeley

"Outstanding work to absolutely everyone. This felt like the longest race of my life. Good game Marcel! Let's keep it up going into the next race." The third race was rougher for the Scot, but he was still able to make it to the podium.

"I struggled a lot with the car and wasn't quite as confident as in Bahrain, but I'll take P3 all day," he explained on *Twitter*.

Rasmussen took home the top prize at the virtual Silverstone race, after struggling in the first two races.

An uncharacteristic mistake in the curtain-raiser in Bahrain earned him a penalty, and he was stuck in a queue for the lead in Imola, unable to pass. Nothing and nobody would stand in his way in Silverstone, though, and he

crossed the line just ahead of the ever-impressive Thomas Ronhaar.

Qualifying in Silverstone came with a few shocks, not least of which was Thursday's runner-up Kiefer dropping out in Q1. Usual suspects Blakeley and Rasmussen placed well, but Opmeer could only muster P9. Rasmussen put it on pole, with Red Bull family alumnus Sebastian Job filling the P2 spot for AlphaTauri, and Ronhaar just behind.

Not content with going backwards at the start in the first two races, Ronhaar powered past Job through Abbey and settled in behind Rasmussen for a long first stint. With no other option, Opmeer decided to run a contra-strategy, ditching his Medium tyres on Lap 10 to go long on the Hards to the end of the 26-lap affair.

Two laps later, the first of the leaders – Blakeley (P4) and Longuet (P5) – came in to trade for the Mediums, but they emerged ahead of Opmeer. The reigning champion's gamble on a tyre differential didn't work out, much like Ferrari's at Monza just five days prior.

Leading duo Rasmussen and Ronhaar came in together and when the pit stops shuffled out, they maintained the lead. The loser in all this was Job, demoted to fourth, with Blakeley taking his spot on the podium.

The first event leaves Lucas Blakeley firmly top of the pile, boasting a 21-point gap with Rasmussen in second.

Ronhaar's spellbinding first event sees him positioned third, ahead of double-champion Opmeer, and

Boroumand rounds out the top five.

In the team standings, McLaren lead the way after three consecutive podiums for Blakeley. Hit and miss

races for Red Bull Racing Esports and Mercedes-AMG F1 Esports Team means they have ground to make up, and Haas are in the mix, outscoring their 2021 tally

several times over already!

*The second event with three fresh rounds of racing in Austria, Belgium and the Netherlands will kick off on October 12.*



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RACING ACTION: The Silverstone race





ACTION: Excitement on the pitch



# Charity football fun



**SPORT REPORT**

By MAI AL-KHATIB CAMILLE  
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**YOUNG footballers from across the kingdom will be lacing up their boots and kicking for a charitable cause next month ... in a bid to raise funds while also having fun.**

The registered, non-profit organisation Al Aatah Legacy is staging the second annual football tournament on October 7, for boys and girls aged eight to 10, to raise funds for a library project that is close to their hearts.

The event will be held under the patronage of Bahrain Trust Foundation chairperson Dr Fatima bint Mohammed Al Balooshi.

"Our first annual football tournament in October in support of the Bahrain Breast Cancer Society was a huge success. As a small non-profit organisation, our aim is to support the people of Bahrain and other communities around the world as much as we can," said Al Aatah Legacy's secretary general Fatema A Rasool. "The event will be held at Winners Academy and organised by volunteers of all ages."

The group had raised BD617.943 last year and hopes to garner more for their current cause, in collaboration with the Bahrain Trust Foundation.

"Charity is all about generosity and empathy," added Rasool.

"Our main goal is to raise more funds than the past year to support our project in collaboration with Bahrain Trust Foundation to build a library for children in a school in Kerala, India.

"Libraries are essential, especially in poor areas that don't have access to the Internet and other



ACTION: Throwback to last year's event

educational resources. The funds raised will be donated to Bahrain Trust Foundation.

"On the other hand, we want to host a tournament in which all players will compete and have fun while

supporting a charitable cause."

Previously, the Legacy was named the Fatima Bint Resq (FR) Project. It was founded in May 2020 by Shaikh Rashid bin Mohamed Al Khalifa, the charity's chief executive, in honour of his late grandmother Shaikha Fatima bint Resq bin Abdulrahman Al Khalifa.

The vision of supporting the community continues to resonate with the group through a board of big-hearted individuals and volunteers.

"Donating is a selfless act,"

added Rasool.

"As individuals, it gives us a great sense of responsibility and empowerment, knowing that you have played a role in changing something for the better. It is very important for us at Al Aatah Legacy to encourage Bahraini society as a whole to partake in any charitable activity as this harnesses the power of the community, and gives people a purpose and sense of responsibility."

Last year, 10 teams took part in the tournament while spectators enjoyed a small



Rasool

carnival set-up which included a series of activities such as basketball and darts.

There were also food trucks, coffee and dessert stands as well, with a percentage from all sales donated

towards the cause.

The final number of teams participating is yet to be confirmed and registration is still open for the event that will kick off at 3pm on October 7.

For details, WhatsApp 32313116 or follow @alaatahlegacy on Instagram.



TOGETHER WE STAND: Al Aatah Legacy members