

COMMUNITY groups aim to continue spreading plenty of New Year goodwill across the island with a series of charitable initiatives, writes Julia Cassano.

Warm clothing, meals and blankets have been distributed in recent days and donations are still coming in to help those struggling to make ends meet.

OneHeartBahrain, an unregistered not-for-profit charity group, for example, has launched its Winter Campaign, which aims to provide labourers with warm clothing and meals as the weather cools down.

"The labourers we are supporting have no spare cash for anything, which is why our initiatives are so meaningful," founder Birthe van der Heijden told *GulfWeekly*.

While describing the Winter Campaign as its 'most important one', Birthe explained that community contributions are a vital source of support and help workers navigate the cold season.

New as well as second-hand clothing items in good condition are much appreciated.

"We encourage people to donate coats, jackets, hats, scarves, gloves, jumpers and long-sleeve tops," she said, adding that their impact is not just about physical warmth, but reaffirming values of individuals who are going through rough times.

"Collective support makes a difference, and easing their burden while also inspiring them to persevere despite difficult circumstances, bridges the gap within a community," she added.

Donations dropped off at Bahrain Rugby Football Club in Janabiya until January 17 will be distributed by volunteers.

The Pakistani Women's Association (PWA), a registered charitable organisation, also extended its big-hearted assistance across the island to labourers and workers as part of its annual Winter Drive campaign.

"With this campaign, we aimed to bring ease and warmth into people's lives during the colder months,"



HELPING HANDS: Blankets and winter jackets being distributed by the Rotary Club of Salmaniya

A warm gesture



GENEROUS: OneHeartBahrain volunteer giving out food to workers



TASTY TREAT: Wajeeha, left and Shahmeen, centre, handing over kunafa to celebrate new year

PWA president Shahmeen Islam said.

The group worked hard to collect funds from generous individuals in the kingdom to cover the costs for new sweaters, jackets, socks and beanies and the items were distributed to labourers in several camps.

"I have always believed that when an individual has the opportunity to help another person, they should," said Shahmeen, highlighting the importance of community effort.

She added that giving back has the power to positively impact the lives of individuals and communities.

The PWA team distributed the items on New Year's day to welcome 2024 with a good deed. Shahmeen and the PWA's vice president Wajeeha Zarar have been leading the initiative for the past three years.

"Whether it's contributing towards the education of students, organising 'food drives' or mentoring the youth, we aim to bring

joy and ease the lives of deserving individuals across the island," Shahmeen added.

For the past 25 years, the PWA has been continuously supporting the needy and underprivileged, while simultaneously helping to unite the kingdom's community.

Likewise, the Rotary Club of Salmaniya extended its warmth and compassion by providing winter jackets and blankets to orphaned children.

The club is part of an

international service organisation aiming to bring together business and professional leaders in order to provide humanitarian services, encourage high ethical standards in all vocations, and to advance goodwill and peace around the world.

Members also initiated a community service programme that distributed warm meals in villages across the island.

"Ensuring the well-being of orphaned children and others in the community is a cause close to our hearts," Rotary Club of Salmaniya's president Khalid Alqoud said.

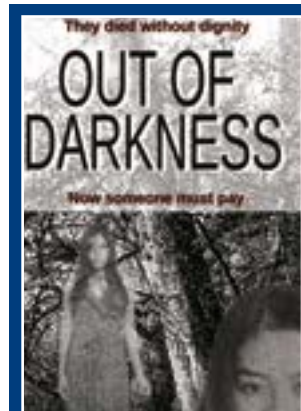
"Through these initiatives, we aim to provide warmth, comfort and a sense of security during the colder months."

In addition, non-registered charity group the Light of Kindness, which claims to have touched the lives of 50,000 people in Bahrain through goodwill campaigns, has been busy again in recent days.

The group distributed gifts, water and other necessities to a labour camp in the Salmaniya area on Monday to start the New Year in a positive way.

"It's our way of giving back to the community – to help make a difference," Light of Kindness' founder Syed Haneef said.

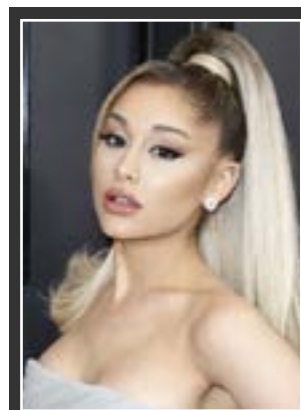
People wishing to donate to the goodwill campaign may contact @oneheartbahrain.



WHODUNNIT? Crime sequel release SEE PAGE 2



A NEW PERSPECTIVE Breaking stereotypes SEE PAGE 3



PULSE OF POP Music, films, TV & more SEE PAGE 6



BACK ON TRACK Dakar rally roundup SEE PAGE 7



TALK: Glen giving a lecture at a school



BOOK REPORT
By MELISSA NAZARETH
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A FORMER Bahrain resident is set to release his latest crime fiction novel *Out of Darkness* and it should be hitting the bookshop shelves next month.

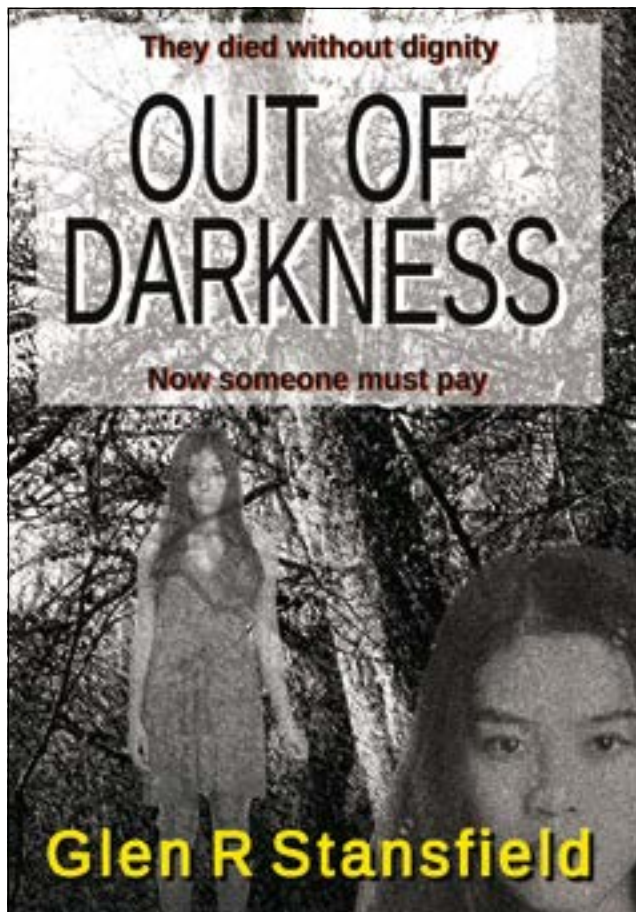
Retired aircraft maintenance engineer Glen R Stansfield lived in Bahrain with his wife, Jess, a retired pre-school teacher, from January 2014 until August 2023, and his detective thrillers and other works have riveted readers all around the globe.

The latest offering is part of the 66-year-old's *Invidia Syndicate* crime series, revolving around Detective Chief Inspector Helene Mackay tasked with spearheading a new crime-fighting initiative.

The group is a government-sponsored, black operations unit. With in-house departments capable of supporting a fast-moving investigation, they operate on the fringes of the law and sometimes beyond.

"The discovery of a shallow grave containing nine young Far-Eastern females creates the first case for *Invidia*," revealed Glen, who now lives happily in the sunshine of the Bocas del Toro region of

Riveting mystery



UNVEILED: Cover of the new crime fiction

Panama.

"Although not yet fully operational, Helene must pull her team together before they are ready to track down what she suspects is a major human trafficking operation. The trail takes them to Hong Kong to find the source of the trafficking and ultimately

leads to a shocking discovery in the UK," he added.

The novel is the second in the series, the first being the 272-page *Harry* released in 2016.

"Although the stories are sequential, they are also stand-alone, so it isn't necessary to have read

Harry," he added.

"The story is not inspired by the kingdom, but Harry has a Bahraini father and is fluent in Gulf Arabic, which I have put to good use in both the books," he added.

Originally, from Lancashire, the aircraft engineer worked as part of a Search and Rescue helicopter team in the South of England before moving to Bahrain.

Glen's previous work also includes a fiction title called *Fishing for Stones* released in 2015.

In 2018, he came out with a popular paperback cookbook titled *Around The World in Eighty Dishes*, inspired by *Around the World in Eighty Days*, an adventure novel by the French writer Jules Verne, first published in French in 1872. Glen's cookbook features recipes from all over the globe.

The author continues to be an active member of the Bahrain Writers' Circle, a growing community of scribes on the island. In the past, he has led the group's monthly creative workshops from February 2021 until October 2022 and even gave a talk about being a writer to students at the Canadian School in Bahrain.

Most of his titles are available in paperback and on Kindle from Amazon.

HAPPY: Glen with wife Jess in Bahrain



BRAIN-BUSTERS

Quizmaster and *Radio Bahrain* host Shannon Crockett, who has been entertaining people across the island with his brain-teasing quiz night sessions, has offered to put *GulfWeekly* readers' general knowledge to the test. Join in the fun every Wednesday with Shannon's seven brain-busters.

- 1.) What's the scientific term used to describe the winter sleep of animals?
- 2.) What is the alternative name for the African/Asian vegetable, commonly known as Lady's Fingers?
- 3.) Captain Nemo is a fictional character in which famous book?
- 4.) A hat-trick, three goals in football or three scores in many other sports. What sport originated this term?
- 5.) What colour is the 'Black Box' found in



- 6.) What 'M' word is something purely fictitious?
- 7.) What was the world afraid of on December 31, 1999?

ANSWERS
1. Hibernation
2. Okra
3. 20,000 Leagues Under The Sea
4. Cricket
5. Orange
6. Myth
7. Y2K

SEEKING REFUGE IN A UTOPIAN HAVEN



INTENSE EMOTIONS: A scene from the film

BAHRAIN CINEMA CLUB – Wednesday, 7pm, Juffair

Film: *Costa Brava, Lebanon*

Director: Mounia Akl

Duration: One hour and 46 minutes

Cast: Nadine Labaki, Saleh Bakri, Nadia Charbel, Ceana Restom, Geana Restom

Plot: The free-spirited Badri family escapes the toxic pollution and social unrest of Beirut by seeking refuge in a utopic mountain home they've devoted years to building for themselves. Unexpectedly, the government begins construction on a garbage landfill right outside their fence, bringing the trash and corruption of a whole country to their doorstep.

As the landfill rises, so do family tensions, and the Badris are left with a choice: stay off the grid and stay true to their ideals, or leave their idyllic home and face the reality they fled. The film got an Audience Award nomination at the Venice Film Festival and won in the category at the London Film Festival. It was also nominated for the Sutherland Award – First Feature Competition.

For details, call Huda Tabbara on 39682323.



FILM REPORT
By NAMAN ARORA
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AFTER bringing several award-winning short films to life, Bahraini filmmaker Deena Alsaweer is committed to telling more stories of Arab joy to change their stereotypical representation in 2024.

At the recently concluded Digi60 Digital Filmmakers' Festival in Ottawa, Canada, Deena was part of three projects that won numerous awards, including the Best Film, Best Director, Best Technical, and Spirit of the Festival.

"I had the pleasure of editing the Hassib Hani-directed film *Ayam Zaman* (*The Old Days*), which won Best Film and was written by Hassib Hani and Florence Desruisseaux," Deena told *GulfWeekly*.

"I also wrote and directed *Home Was Her Face*, which won the Spirit of the Festival award."

In addition, she played Tamara in *Watch What You Have*, which was directed by Palestinian-Canadian director Hussain Dawwas and won the Best Director and Best Technical awards.

Watch What You Have is about the art of the con - an exploration of distraction and strategy between the three main characters, played by Hussain, Hassib and Deena.

"Acting with people who are talented directors was a unique experience, we all brought our own movie magic to each scene and it really showed in the final result," she added.

"Overall, a lot of the films at the Digi60 Festival were a community effort, it was a chance for all the participating filmmakers to support each other to get to the next phases of our careers."

"Working on other people's projects - no matter what your role is - is immensely valuable, because you get to see how others respond to different methods and it's

TEAMING UP: Deena with fellow filmmakers at the Digi60 festival



Stories of Arab joy

kind of a masterclass from different filmmakers each time, no matter their level or expertise.

"Everyone has something to teach you if you know what lessons you're looking for. That's why I was able to support my fellow filmmakers this year in various roles as editor, actor, director, writer and producer."

Deena's filmmaking journey began 10 years ago when she started editing and creating content for social media.

A few years later, she completed her master's degree in film and television



WINNER: Deena wrote and directed *Home Was Her Face*, which won the Spirit of the Festival award

from the Savannah College of Art and Design as a Fulbright Scholar.

Currently based in Ottawa, much of her work these days revolves around writing and

directing short films, editing short documentaries and directing behind-the-scenes interviews for movies and television shows.

When she is not busy in her



role as social media producer for Hallmark Media, she teaches on-screen acting at the Ottawa School of Theatre.

"Early on in my career, it wasn't always possible to get an experienced actor that can bring your vision to life, so often I had to do my own research and take on that role myself," she added.

"After a few acting projects, I decided to take the leap, enroll in a professional acting course and use that skillset to elevate my own projects, learning how to better communicate with my actors, and also acting in films in



The film poster

Canada since there isn't a large pool of fluent Arabic-speaking actors.

"Overall, I think this was a necessary step to take for my directing career. Plus it's fun, and I turned out to be a natural."

As she looks to 2024, Deena noted that she is committing herself to making 'stories of Arab joy'.

She hopes to highlight talented Arabs in her upcoming projects in fields including sports, technology, music and 'anything that the Western world of film doesn't often portray'.

She plans for her films to veer away from the stereotypical Western juxtaposition of Arabs amid war or violence.

Deena is also planning to make the jump into feature-length film production, thanks to the experience she has gained in short films during the last years.

"Short films are a good way to get your reps (repetitions) in as a filmmaker and help you prepare for the beast that is feature film production," she explained.

"Over the last few years, I have directed more than eight short films and three music videos, which puts me in a comfortable position to take that leap into making my first feature film inshallah (Arabic for 'God willing')."

"Currently, I am on the hunt for a feature length screenplay and a writing partner."

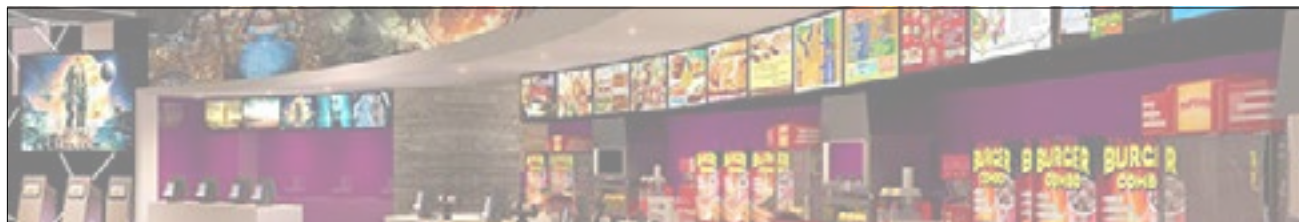
For more details, follow @batikha_pro on Instagram.



PREPARATIONS: Behind the scenes of *Watch What You Have*



ACTION: A scene from *Watch What You Have*



Exploring hidden treasures

BAHRAIN ceramic artist Mahdi Albannai has created a stunning array of bronze sculptures inspired by the hidden treasures of the sea, and has put them on display at Bahrain Arts Society in Jidhafs for all to enjoy, writes Julia Cassano.

Titled *Sea Whisper*, the exhibition showcases 29 sculptures meticulously carved by Mahdi and one mixed-media piece which depicts his unlimited love and admiration for the sea.

Among the pieces on display are models of fishermen, sailors and sea animals .. all chiselled to

perfection on bronze.

"It's an honour to display my sculptures at Bahrain Arts Society," Mahdi, who grew up in Ras Rumman, told *GulfWeekly*.

"It's special as my works have been inspired by my childhood memories and experiences, and viewers will get to see this," the 61-year-old added.

Mahdi explained that his passion and curiosity for the ocean grew as he became fascinated by the 'untold tales of the sea' during his school days.

"It's the simple acts of taking a dip in the sea, it is a freeing sensation that can only be felt in water, not on land," he said.

"For example, when you are on Earth, gravity holds you down, and you are limited in your movements. But when you're in the sea you have more freedom and are able to float away."

He added that his mind, emotions and thoughts are reflected in the sculptures and he wanted viewers to see the individuality in each piece.

"Each sculpture has a story to tell and they all represent the vastness of the ocean," he said.

He has used different inspirations in his pieces, for example, his bronze sculpture of a man and a woman, titled *Sea Breeze*, was created after he watched the 1997 blockbuster movie *Titanic*, directed by James Cameron.

The film is about a tragic love affair aboard a doomed ocean liner which sank in the North Atlantic in April 1912, leading to the death of more than 1,500 people.

"My sculpture also represents love in the sea, and even though the man sadly passed away, it represents their never-ending love," Mahdi said.

Another sculpture, titled *Stingray*, shows a man competing with the cartilaginous



DIVER: One of the highlights at the exhibition

fish related to sharks.

"It's a story, the diver and stingray are fighting against each other until one of them dies," he explained. "The shape of the stingray is beautiful, and I tried to recreate it as best as I could in my work."

His mixed-media art piece *Tornado* is about a tragedy that claimed the lives of several people in Bahrain in 1925.

"At the end of the fishing and pearling season, thousands of people went into the sea to celebrate and sadly a tornado struck, leaving most of them dead," he said.

"I am very proud of this piece as I was able to tell a real story through my

artwork.

"Even though each of my works are different, they share experiences and are all interconnected by the ocean," he said, adding that it took him one year to perfect all 29 sculptures and a mixed-media piece.

The full-time artist who specialises in both abstract and figurative sculpture used bronze as his material as ceramic was 'too difficult to use in this complex project'.

"As an artist, it's important to carefully decide which material is best suited for a project. Bronze can highlight the true beauty of the ocean, while also putting a spotlight on the finer details. Using ceramic would be too difficult for the designs I had imagined, as when clay is moulded and heated, there are chances of it breaking and collapsing. I then will

have to start all over again – it's time consuming."

However, he admits that using bronze was neither easy nor inexpensive.

"It would be too costly to have the sculptures made in the kingdom as bronze isn't a common material here," he said. So he opted to have them made in Egypt and ship them back to the kingdom when completed and just in time for the exhibition.

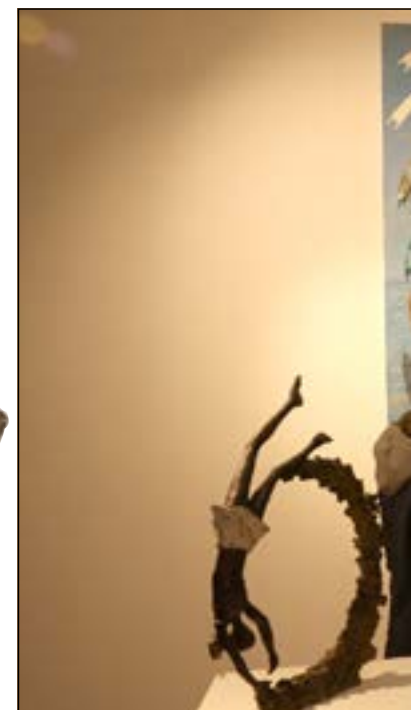
Just like his love for the sea,



DANCING: Sculpted to perfection



HARMONY: Sailing through



Weekly

treasures of the sea



THE PRIZE:
One of Mahdi's
sculptures



STINGRAY: A
sculpture on the
sea creature

Mahdi's art journey began in his youth, when he started painting and drawing at his school's fine arts club.

"I would have stayed in Bahrain for my studies, but there was no government scholarship to pursue fine arts, so I decided to look at other options," he said, adding that he wanted to settle somewhere where he could expand his creativity.

The young aspiring artist travelled alone, and admitted

that although frightened at that time, the move was a positive educational and creative experience.

"I went to Iraq to study fine arts in Baghdad University, and intended to take the painting journey but was given a chance to sample sculptures instead," he said.

His love for sculptures grew and since then there has been no looking back.

"During that time, the Iraq art scene was booming, and I

knew I had to take the chance to learn and grow there – which I did in the four years that I lived there," Mahdi, who graduated with his degree in fine art, in 1986, said.

"Iraq's art scene was not only lively, but rich in culture and innovation," he said.

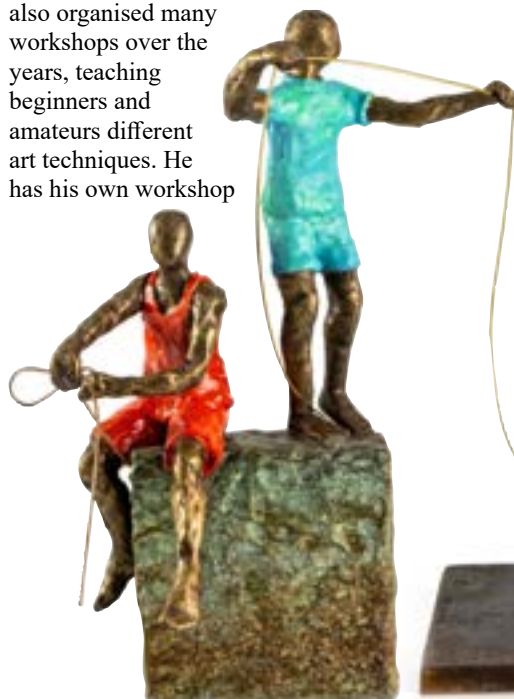
Mahdi has been an active member of Bahrain Arts Society since 1986, and has participated in numerous exhibitions, symposiums and contests all over the world. He has also organised many workshops over the years, teaching beginners and amateurs different art techniques. He has his own workshop

where he tells his tales through art.

The professional artisan has had his art featured at Bahrain International Airport and Bahrain National Museum. He has also won two Al Dana prizes – the top trophy at the prestigious Bahrain Annual Fine Arts Exhibition.



COLOURFUL:
Guests viewing
works at the opening
of the exhibition



Pulse of Pop

AROUND THE WORLD IN MUSIC, TV, BOOKS AND MORE - BY JULIA CASSANO



THAT'S SO FETCH!

THE 2004 comedy *Mean Girls* is returning to theatres on January 12 in the United States – promising to be an exceptional hit.

In an unexpected twist, the new film, directed by Samantha Jayne, is an adaptation of the 2018 Broadway musical based on the 2004 movie.

The announcement had fans speculating that the musical film would be turned into a remake. However, it's been described as a 'new interpretation' by the film's producer Lorne Michaels.

Sources say the film will portray a similar vibe to the original *Mean Girls* movie – but with a fresh approach – leaving fans across the world anxiously waiting for the release date.

"This is a very specific version of the musical that has a really specific place in a niche, culty theatre way, that I think expands it to maybe people who aren't into the theatre," Broadway *Mean Girls* musical star Reneé Rapp told *People* last year.

"Tina and our whole team just did such an amazing job adapting it, and the whole cast is really young and very cool," she added.

The original film's synopsis reads, "Teenager Cady Heron was educated in Africa by her scientist parents. When her family moves to the suburbs



of Illinois, Cady finally gets to experience public school. She gets a quick primer on the cruel, tacit laws of popularity that divide her

fellow students into tightly knit cliques."

It adds that she finds herself in the 'good graces' of the cool group called 'The

Plastics', but Cady soon realises that her new group of friends may not appear as nice as she thought.

The star cast for the musical drama includes Angourie Rice in the role of Cady Heron, Reneé Rapp as Regina George, Auli'i Cravalho as Janis I'm'i'ke, and Jaquel Spivey playing Damian Hubbard. Other cast members who will be sharing the screen are Bebe Wood, Avantika Vandanapu, Christopher Briney, Jenna Fischer, Busy Philipps, and Jon Hamm.

Paramount Pictures announced the film's development in January 2020. Dates for the film's release in Bahrain have not been announced yet.



WATCH OUT FOR KESHA

A **AMERICAN** singer Kesha has new music on the way.

The news came after the pop star was photographed holding up a cardboard sign that read, 'New Music Coming Soon', in a parking lot of a 7-Eleven in Los Angeles, on Thursday.

The *Tik Tok* singer's last album was out in May 2023. Titled *Gag Order*,

it marked her final release under her contract with her labels, which she signed when she was 18 years old.

Known for her styles of dance-pop and electro-pop music, Kesha rose to fame in 2010 with one of her number one albums, *Animal*. She has four number one singles including *Tik Tok*, *Your Love is my Drug*, *Die Young* and *Timber*.



YES, AND ARIANA IS BACK

POP superstar Ariana Grande has kicked the New Year off in style with her announcement of an upcoming single.

The singer and songwriter posted on her social media that her new single titled, *yes, and?* is scheduled to release on Friday.

No other details were shared.

The announcement was posted alongside a blurry picture of herself on *Instagram*.

The single comes from her highly-anticipated seventh studio album, which the star confirmed last month.

Ariana fans are excited for the

announcement since the star hasn't released an album, let alone a single, since her *Positions* album was out in October 2020, which received a nomination for Best Pop Vocal Album at the 64th annual Grammy Awards in April.

From teenager to pop star, the American actress has won many accolades and awards throughout the years, including two Grammys, one Brit Award, one Bambi, two Billboard Music Awards, three American Music Awards and more.

She also won Favourite TV Actress at the Nickelodeon Kids' Choice Awards in 2014, for her role in the teen sitcom *Sam & Cat*.

AFTER a difficult start to the Dakar Rally in Saudi Arabia, Sebastien Loeb is calling on his vast experience and legendary fighting qualities to put Bahrain Raid Xtreme back on track for a first victory in the event.

Over the first four stages, Loeb and co-driver Fabian Lurquin endured more than their fair share of misfortune in the BRX Prodrive Hunter, but were looking to bounce back with the kind of form which put them in the Dakar record books last year.

Three punctures and urgent repair work resulted in nine-time World Rally Champion Loeb losing 25 minutes on the 438km Stage 3 from Al Duwadimi to Al Salamiya, dropping him to ninth place overall.

But with another nine tough desert stages remaining before the finish in Yanbu on January 19, the Frenchman was confident of a recovery at the wheel of the BRX Prodrive Hunter which brought him a record six Dakar stage wins in a row 12 months ago, and seven overall.

Loeb and Lurquin have finished second in each of the last two editions of the Dakar Rally behind Qatar's Nasser Al Attiyah, plunging to 22nd spot on the opening stage before recovering over the next two days to lie in fourth place.

At this point, Saudi Arabia's Yazeed Al Rajhi held the overall lead in a Toyota Hilux, but only by 29 seconds from the Audi of Spain's

Carlos Sainz.

Reaching the finish of the third stage, Loeb said, "After the third puncture we needed to repair it and then had to stop every 20 km to inflate the tyre again and again. We really are unlucky as the puncture is within the tread of the tyre, not on the sidewall, but that's it so we finished the stage. Sure we lost 25 minutes but it could have been worse."

On completion of stage three, the

BRX Prodrive technical crew and the other teams were restricted to just two hours of work on their vehicles before competitors headed off for the overnight camp at the bivouac.

This is the eighth Dakar Rally for Loeb and the fourth for the powerful Hunter which has been built and prepared for BRX by world-leading UK-based motorsport business, Prodrive, now celebrating its 40th anniversary year.

Loeb keeps Dakar target in sight

VROOM: Loeb and Lurquin in their Bahrain Raid Xtreme Prodrive Hunter



LEWIS IS HERE TO STAY

CELEBRATION: Hamilton at Bahrain International Circuit in 2020



HAMILTON ended months of speculation over his F1 future by putting pen to paper on a new deal with the Silver Arrows last summer, an agreement that will keep him on board through 2024 and 2025 – when he will turn 40.

Explaining his change of heart in an interview with *BBC Sport*, Hamilton said, "What you've got to learn is you should never say never.

"But at that point, I definitely didn't think I'd be continuing. They are long seasons. It's a long time away from everyone. I've been doing it 16 years. It's gruelling.

"There's a lot of glitz and glamour and lots of positives, but it's by no means easy to stay at your best, to stay committed, to keep up the training, to continue to deliver.

"It's a lot of pressure. "You're being scrutinised all the time and I'm in a place in my life where there's no way I can win. If I win a race, it's, 'Oh, he's a seven-time world champion, you got 103 wins'. If I don't do well, it's

(criticism)... "I can only lose at this point in life. So, for sure there was a period of time when I was questioning whether I wanted to go through that."

Despite going another season without a Grand Prix win to his name, as Mercedes battled to tame their W14, Hamilton ended 2023 third in the drivers' standings behind Red Bull pair Max Verstappen and Sergio Perez.

According to *Formula1.com*, as he prepares to enter his 18th season and push to get back to winning ways, Hamilton made clear that his love for the sport, and driving, is as strong as ever.

"I still love driving, I still love getting into the car," said the Briton, who made his F1 debut with McLaren in 2007 alongside Fernando Alonso, another driver still racing into his 40s.

"When they start the car up and you have all those people around you, the crew, you go down the pit lane, I still get this smile on my face the same as I did the first day I drove."

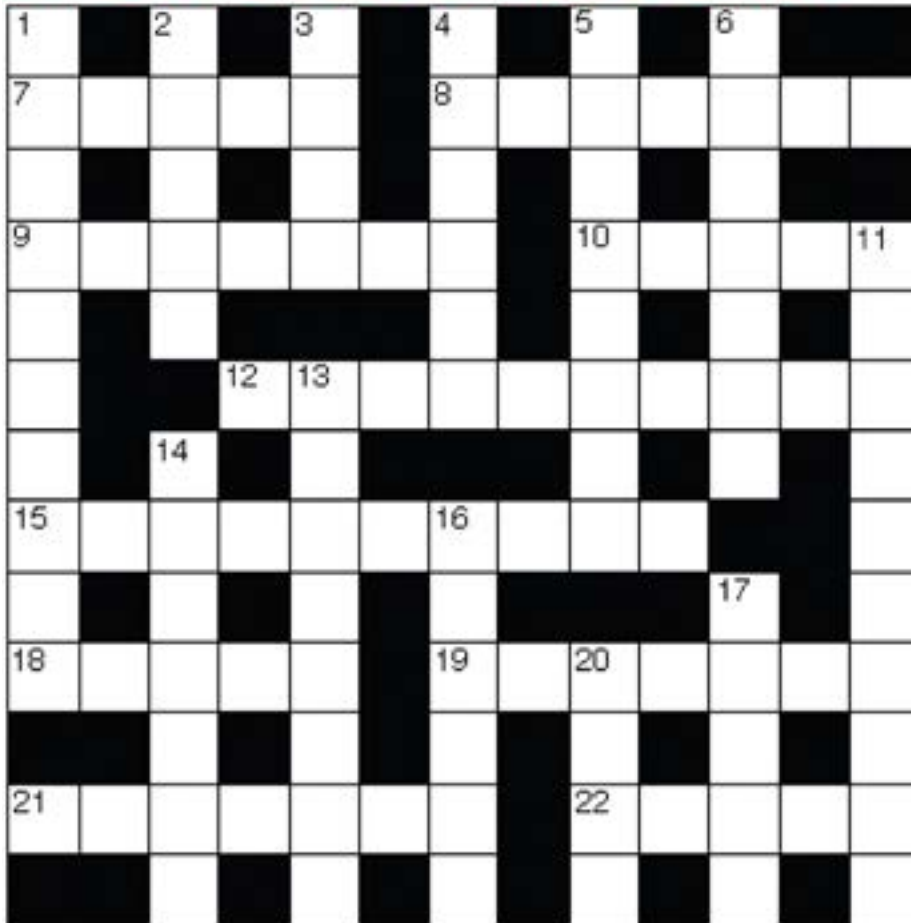
Time Out



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crossword break



Solutions in next week's issue.

ACROSS

- 7. Keen (5)
- 8. Obtain (7)
- 9. Atone (7)
- 10. Shoot (5)
- 12. Footpad (10)
- 15. Entangle (10)
- 18. Additional (5)
- 19. Sword (7)
- 21. Go before (7)
- 22. Banquet (5)

DOWN

- 1. Container (10)
- 2. Yawning (5)
- 3. Yard (4)
- 4. Address (6)
- 5. Perpetual (8)
- 6. Paramount (7)
- 11. Kindness (10)
- 13. Doomed (3-5)
- 14. Stifle (7)
- 16. Prestige (6)
- 17. Trite (5)
- 20. Quarrel (4)

who, what, where, when

WHO ... is the leader of the Mechanicals in Shakespeare's play *A Midsummer Night's Dream*?
WHAT ... is the capital of the Kingdom of Jordan?
WHERE ... in England is the town of Oakham?
WHEN ... did the English ballerina Alicia Markova die?
WHO ... stars as Dr Meredith Grey in the US television series *Grey's Anatomy*?
WHAT ... novel by Charles Dickens features the character Poll Sweedlepipe?
WHERE ... in Africa was Kwame Nkrumah the President from 1960-66?
WHEN ... did the New Zealand rugby union player Andy Haden win his last cap, against Argentina?

just so



revird taes

STA IV NCE

police man

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

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

darn tough sudoku

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

Sudoku

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

Sudoku

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

Last Week's Leisure Solutions

CROSSWORD BREAK:

Across: 1 Brought up; 8 Own; 9 Imprecation; 11 Breathe; 12 Ample; 13 Animal; 15 Rescue; 17 Idiot; 18 Abscond; 20 Assiduously; 22 Dot; 23 Stratagem.

Down: 2 Rim; 3 Greet; 4 Travel; 5 Primate; 6 Conspicuous; 7 In the lead; 10 Precipitate; 11 Beatitude; 14 Attests; 16 Larder; 19 Short; 21 Lie.

JUST SO: The plot thickens, Join the club, Come a full circle, Full of beans.

WHO, WHAT, WHERE, WHEN:

Ray Milland; Guy Mitchell and Tommy Steele; Surrey; 1836; Jean-Luc Godard; Theodore Roosevelt; Germany; 1926.

Darn Tough Sudoku

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