

# Gulf Weekly

The community newspaper at the heart of Bahrain

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## Tiny wonders



COMMUNITY REPORT

By RAJI UNNIKRISHNAN  
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**A**N EXPATRIATE artist who created a miniature of Bahrain's red transport bus has amazed many, including the authorities.

Restrictions to curb the spread of Covid-19, which hit many lives unexpectedly, proved to be a blessing for Bahrain resident Sajeesh M T, who discovered his hidden talent during this time.

Inspired by a piece of art done by a child, the 39-year-old car air-conditioning technician created a remote-controlled mini red bus using thick foam boards.

To his surprise, residents lapped up the little red vehicle and even placed orders for more.

Since then, there has been no looking back.

Sajeesh has been using the earnings from the sale of his craft to support students back home in Kerala who are in need of equipment for their

Sajeesh with the mini bus and aircraft which he created using foam boards



online schooling.

"I purchased two televisions and two smartphones for students in my home town who could not afford these for their online classes," said Sajeesh, who hails from Pandalam and has been in Bahrain for 18 years in Salmabad.

His red masterpiece, which resembles the kingdom's bus down to its minutest details, impressed the Bahrain

Public Transport Company so much so that they not only honoured him, but also placed orders for the remote-controlled miniatures.

"They wanted it as gifts or mementos to be distributed," he said.

"I also got orders from people who wanted to keep it as a show piece. I used foam sheets to make the structure, the wheel and the seats. I went on the bus to observe it



Leaf art featuring HRH Prince Salman

closely so that I could recreate it accurately. The only thing I purchased is the red paint and remote used for toys, to make the bus mobile."

Sajeesh takes almost two weeks to make one 54cm x 13cm mini red bus, based on orders and it's priced at BD30 each.

The bus is just one of Sajeesh's artistic discoveries during the pandemic as he subsequently took to bottle and leaf art too.

"One of my friends came back from a birthday party with a bottle art done by a child and it inspired me," he said.

"At that time, workshops were closed and we had no jobs. I realised that I could create many items using things that are harmful to the environment like plastic bottles. So I collected these and first made a palm tree. I am experimenting with more."

Sajeesh posted pictures of his creations on social media which attracted public attention. That is when he turned to miniature art and subsequently created a mini Air India aircraft.

He then turned to leaf art using broad banyan tree leaves on which he recreated pictures of celebrities.

"I used to draw when I was in school and college and it was this talent which prompted me to take up leaf art."

"It's time-consuming. It takes two hours at a stretch to complete a portrait."

He draws the picture of a person on the banyan tree, and then using a pen knife, slowly and gently, scales through the borders.

"I made pictures of the leaders of Bahrain - His Majesty King Hamad and His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, Crown Prince Prime Minister. The art drew public attention when posted on social media. I got many offers as it's also a great gift."

His wife Rakhi, a school employee in Alappuzha, Kerala, and his eight-year-old son Adidev, are delighted with his artistic accomplishments and charitable acts.

For details, follow @mtsajeeshpandalam on Instagram.



COMICAL CREATORS  
Spreading smiles  
SEE PAGE 2



COLOURFUL CAMPAIGN  
Auction for a cause  
SEE PAGE 3



TOO DUMB FOR YOUR GUNS  
Offtrack's first single  
SEE PAGE 4



VIBRANT HUES  
Artistic exhibition  
SEE PAGE 5

Sajeesh with his creations. Photograph by Hussain Almosawi



Scan the QR code to watch Sajeesh's creations



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# Lighting up lives



**COMMUNITY REPORT**  
By MAI AL KHATIB-CAMILLE  
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**A** mother and son have teamed up on social media to spread laughter and cheer during these difficult times while also shedding light through music on an array of topics such as bullying.

Bahraini-Saudi Arabian Amel Al-Dousary and her son Rayan Wilson have channelled their sense of humour and life experiences to produce a series of videos about what it's like to grow up with an Arab mum.

Launched in mid-March, the videos have already harnessed thousands of views.

"The idea was introduced as a result of us spending so much time at home together due to the pandemic," said Amel, who works as a senior technical specialist at The Council for Regulating the Practice of Engineering



Amel in action

Professions and lives in Saar.

"One day, Rayan, whose father is South African, told me that Arab mums are different. That's when I thought he could say what it is like to have an Arab mum, and share it with

the rest of the world in a humorous way. So we bought some equipment and started filming."

Families and friends have been enjoying their videos which range in topics from Arab mums communicating



Rayan at an open mic night

with their children using their eyes to their great slipper-throwing arms and obsession with TV series.

"We received a lot of support from family and friends and they want us to continue," said Amel, who also has Moroccan roots. "We were asked to do more videos since we post once a week. We are now considering doing at least two a week."

"Comedy is a way of tackling certain aspects of life using humour. I enjoy making people laugh and so does Rayan. We believe that especially during these challenging times people need some humour and laughter in their lives while relating to certain issues." The video can be found on Rayan's channel which originally started as a means to raise awareness about bullying.

"I moved to Bahrain from Saudi for my son, in hopes that living here would help him assimilate better since Bahrain has a large expat community," explained Amel.

"Rayan was bullied for looking different and being different. He inherited my passion for acting and sharing jokes. When he was seven, he told me that he wants to be a clown and make people laugh. And yes, he acted like the class clown. That could have been one reason for him getting bullied."

"I told him that he can become a comedian instead. So I enrolled him in drama

at the London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art, where he completed seven years and received certificates with distinction.

"One day we read an article about a child who committed suicide because of bullying and Rayan asked if he could do something about it. That is when he did a video and wrote a poem and rap, sharing his experience."

The video featuring the 'anti-bullying' rap was posted a year ago.

"We want people to know that it's fine to be different," added Amel. "And my message to parents is that your child being different may be an asset. Invest in it!"

Rayan gets his charisma and humour from his mum who has impressed audiences before the pandemic whilst on stage doing stand-up at open mic nights.

"Now, I am sharing my passion with my son on YouTube," she said. "We need to learn to not take everything seriously and always look for the silver lining in the clouds. We hope that people can learn to appreciate differences as well."

Subscribe to 'Rayan Wilson' on YouTube for funny videos of the duo.



Rayan getting ready for filming



Rayan and Amel



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# The art of caring

**ART REPORT**  
By MAI AL KHATIB-CAMILLE  
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**T**HE Bahrain Performing and Visual Arts Committee (BPVA) is rallying artists from across the kingdom to join their colourful campaign aimed at raising funds for a new project to be launched by Bahrain Society for Children with Behavioural and Communication Difficulties (BSCBCD).

The BPVA, which falls under the Council for Environmental Improvement (CEI), is a committee dedicated to making a change in the kingdom through performing and visual arts.

The group is planning to host an online art auction on August 5. All proceeds from the sale of artworks on show will be donated to the BSCBCD to support their new project, the Alia Comprehensive Centre.

The BD1.6 million youth care centre, being constructed by the BSCBCD in A'ali, is expected to be completed in a few months. It aims to offer educational, recreational and healthcare facilities to meet the needs of young adults with special needs.

"The name of the auction is *Cultures Through Time* and the type of art accepted, and not limited to, are paintings, prints, collage and sculptures," said 31-year-old May Hejiri, who is the head



of the BPVA and an artist herself.

"We are aiming to have around 10 to 30 pieces of art created by established and upcoming Bahraini artists."

Artists planning on donating their work can choose from these themes:

- ◆ Cultures and traditions around the world.

- ◆ Unity between citizens of the world.

- ◆ Modern vs vintage (contrast).

- ◆ Retro art (bringing the old back into modern items).

All artwork applications must be submitted by July 29.

In addition, the Teenagers for Autism committee, which

is under the BSCBCD, will be adding fashion to the virtual auction. The committee will showcase new and second-hand clothing and accessories for sale from luxury clothing brands.

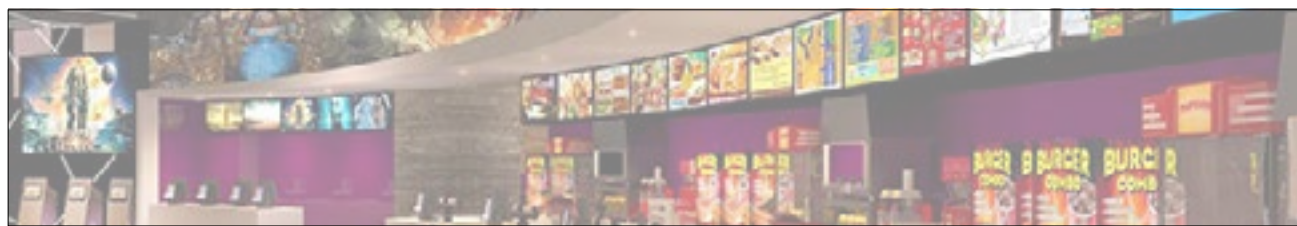
"When someone bids and the item ends up getting sold to them, they must pay a



deposit through BenefitPay to secure their bid," May added. "All funds will be handled by the registered charity (BSCBCD) in line with local rules and regulations. Please follow our Instagram account as we will post all the items that will be sold in the auction soon."

The items will include bags, dresses, heels and more from brands such as Christian Louboutin, Versace, DKNY and Zara.

The art and fashion auction will go live @bpva\_ on Instagram. Also, contact the CEI hotline on 32313116 to confirm your donation and participation.



# Culture

# Triggers on track



## BAHRAIN SUMMER FESTIVAL

**T**he Bahrain Summer Festival continues, with art workshops and educational programmes this week. All events will be live-streamed on Baca's YouTube channel.

### COFFEE ART

Today, 5pm

Learn how to paint on canvas using coffee and enjoy a demonstration of professional coffee-painting techniques.

### MIXED MEDIA ART

Friday, 5pm

Children aged six to 10 can learn how to create art using mixed mediums found at home like paper, masking tapes, combs and more.

### AWLAD HARETNA

Sunday, 5pm

This educational programme will teach children about the State of Palestine and its heritage, using stories, traditional foods, ancient collectibles and historical monuments.

### WONDERS OF SCIENCE

Sunday 6pm

Targeted at children aged seven and above, this educational programme discusses the science of the seas, oceans, space, animals and plants, in addition to showcasing scientific experiments conducted by young children.

### REHAB METAWI WITH THE BAHRAIN MUSIC BAND

Tuesday, 8pm

Organised in collaboration with the Egyptian embassy, join Rehab Metawi and the Bahrain Music Band for a nostalgic performance of classical Arabic music.

For more details, follow @culturebah on Instagram.



### MUSIC REPORT

By NAMAN ARORA  
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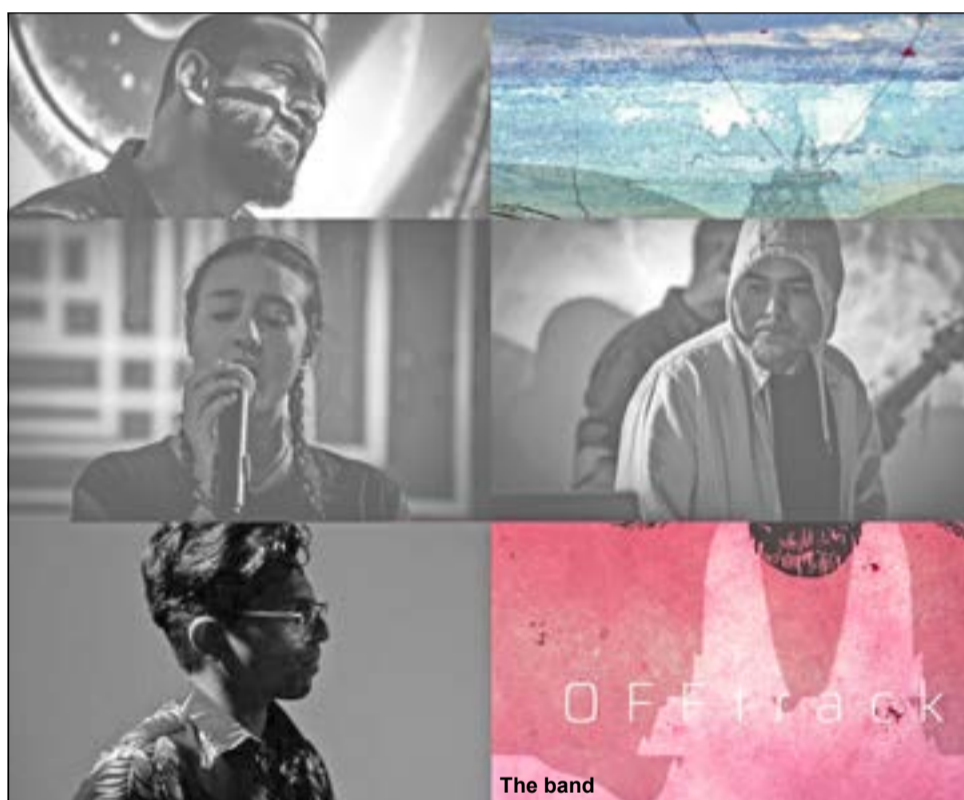
**E**MERGING electronic outfit Offtrack have launched their first single, putting guns in its cross-hairs and taking aim at the violence that the weapons have caused.

The four-minute musical *Too Dumb For Your Guns* was recently released by the four-piece band, comprised of drummer Sumit Sharma, vocalist Sara Alsayed, multi-instrumentalist Sean Fernandes and bass guitarist Ryan James.

It fuses scattered rhythm patterns with redolent vocals that try to dissect the roots of wars and conflicts, drawing parallels between using guns and drug addiction, while alluding to the violence that has claimed countless lives in the Israel-Palestine crisis.

"The idea came when I took a photograph of a soldier, praying next to his tank," Sumit tells *GulfWeekly*.

"The image was full of contradictions. We all pray for peace and wellness, which made me think what could be his prayers? Maybe killing on command is just a



The band

job for him like any other.

"Does he like his job or is he like me? What level of conditioning he must have gone through to execute his duties? It's not only the innocent who get killed, but the killer himself cannot decipher the ulterior motives of those in power."

The accompanying music video features drawings from *A Child's View from Gaza*, a not-for-profit project showcasing haunting dystopian drawings by children in Gaza aged four to 15 who most recently witnessed death, bombings, airstrikes, aggressive policing and much more, primarily in the Gaza strip, over a span of 11 days.

In contrast to the harrowing images, the cover art of the single seems simplistic, but this was intentional, according to Sumit.

"We wanted something neutral,

which does not say much but still stands relevant to the song," the 42-year-old sound engineer adds.

"We didn't want to use any of the images from the video for promotional purposes. So I looked for many dumb representations of guns and created a few pieces using available online sources."

The song has been produced by Sumit and mastered by Vishnu Pillai. The production is coated in a dystopian mist with melodic basslines, ear worm synths and cross-pattern guitars.

Recording was a challenge for the quartet due to the guidelines to prevent the spread of Covid-19. The group, which had started performing together just before the pandemic avoided meeting as a whole band.

"We had to record one person at a time, after work, in my living room in a makeshift studio over seemingly endless rounds of coffee," Sumit recalls.

The song does sound like a compote of different musical tastes that work in harmony

counts John Mayer and Jonny Buckland amongst his favourites.

American rock stars Tool have been 28-year-old Ryan's biggest inspiration, but he had to develop a new musical persona, because he found that Offtrack has 'fragments of many genres.'

Sumit, 42, has the most mottled music taste of the four, enjoying everything from post-punk electronic bands like Joy Division and The Damned to trip-hop musicians like Portishead and Massive Attack.

The four had just started to play locally, drawing regional appreciation for their unique sound, before the pandemic shut down venues everywhere.

"During the pandemic, entertainment avenues changed, and content was mostly consumed digitally," Sumit notes.

"But many independent artists with limited followers lost their connection with the audience. Many didn't survive and no one took notice."

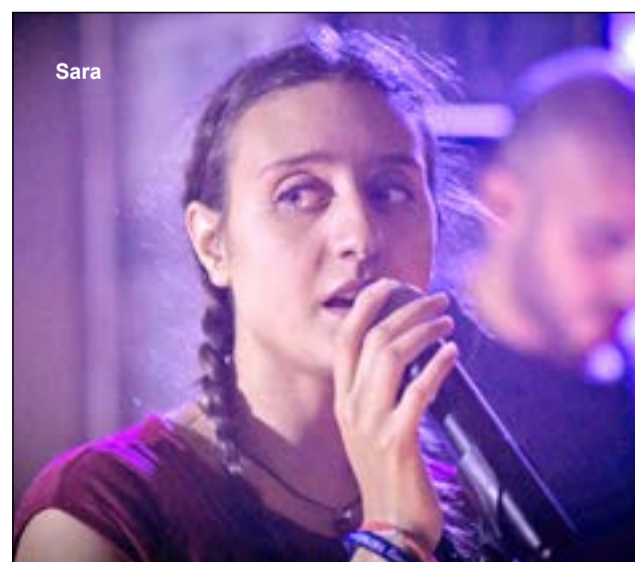
To avoid the same fate, Offtrack have recorded their debut album which is currently being mixed and will hopefully be available by the end of the year.

For details, follow @offtrack\_ on Instagram.

despite all odds.

Each of the seasoned musicians in Offtrack comes from different musical backgrounds. Sara, 25, draws her influences from English singer-songwriter Kate Bush, although Canadian duo Electric Youth is her current obsession.

On the other hand, Sean, 26, is inspired by the experimental Radiohead and psychedelic Tame Impala, but as a guitarist,



Sara



Sumit

# Weekly



At the opening of the exhibition – from left, US Navy Lieutenant-Commander Emiliano Rabor; Ambassador Alfonso; Alex Craine, CEO of BFH; Catherine Paje, Artist; Farida Hairani Hisham, Charge D' Affaires at the Brunei Embassy; and Indonesian Ambassador Nur Syahrir Rahardjo



*Dungawin mo Hirang* by Butch



*I'm Free* by Lhanz

# Cool colours of culture



ART REPORT

By NAMAN ARORA  
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**T**HE Philippines' rich history and vibrant cultural heritage are embodied in an art exhibition at the Bahrain Financial Harbour (BFH), featuring 150 artworks and 15 literary pieces.

The 'Iba't-Ibang Kulay at Hugis ng Kasaysayan' exhibition which translates to 'History in Myriad Colours and Forms' in Tagalog, opened on Saturday at Harbour Gate in BFH and runs until July 23.

"This exhibition features art and literary works crafted by Filipino artists and writers who have made Bahrain their second home," Philippines Ambassador Alfonso Ver said during the opening.

"Highlighted in this exhibition is the fact that Bahrain is a melting pot of different nationalities and culture, and a gold mine of talent and creativity."

"I hope people look to art as a way of bringing them closer and helping them unwind in this current situation."

A total of 60 people, split into three groups to ensure social distancing, attended the opening of the exhibition, organised by FilCreatives Bahrain with support from



*Plume* by Christine

BFH management.

A total of 42 artists, 10 writers and two photographers have taken part, creating literary pieces as well as different kinds of

artworks including paintings, sculpture, photographs and film, exploring a variety of themes within Filipino culture.

In *Everything Turns Gray*, Jie Refugio highlights

Filipino traditional tattooists in his charcoal-and-graphite sketch of Apo Whang Od. Apo is a 104-year-old living legend who is the oldest and last 'mambabatok' – a traditional stick and bamboo tattoo artist from Kalinga.



Butch

Jie uses charcoal and graphite in homage to the tattoo artist's own love for experimenting with light and shades.

English teacher Lhanz

Cabaraca explores superstitious beliefs in her painting *I'm Free*, focusing on the symbolism of the butterfly as a sign of a long and happy life in Filipino mythology.

"Butterflies are used during weddings in the Philippines," she explains.

"The new couple release dozens of colourful fluttering butterflies during the reception. It is believed that butterflies are a great

agent for granting one's fervent wish. So, the release of butterflies during a wedding brings hope to the newlyweds that their wishes will come true."

Focusing on a different aspect of nature, Faarni Sindatoc's *Zamboanga Hermosa* is inspired by the festival of the same name, which is one of the oldest

celebrations in the country and the most awaited event in the region. It is marked annually in Zamboanga, which is locally known as the 'City of Flowers.'

Butch Paje explores the



Faarni



*Everything Turns Gray* by Jie

long-lost courting tradition of men singing to their crushes beneath their windows at night, in his piece called *Dungawin mo Hirang* which is one of the courtship songs that are part of the Harana ritual.

Christine Eleanor looks to the literary works of Dr Jose Rizal, the national hero of the Philippines, for inspiration. Her piece *Plume* "resonates a strong visual imagery of his narratives," according to the art teacher.

"The profound story lies in the fluidity of brush strokes and the contrasting hues that accommodate a vast and empty landscape in the composition. Then, the mixture of the organic elements lain on top of the vivid palette seeks to trigger blissful emotions. Hence, *Plume* exemplifies a symbolic language of victory and peace."

For details, follow @filipinocreatesbahrain on Instagram.



Jie

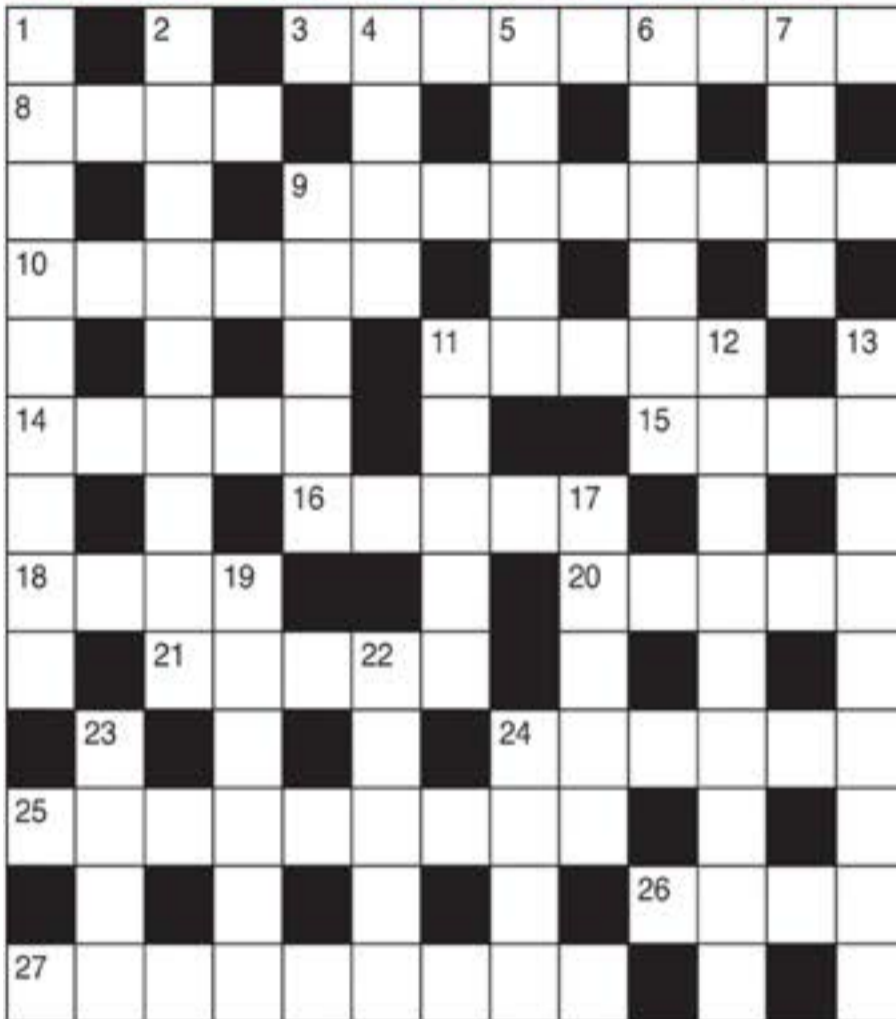
# Time Out



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## crossword break



Solutions in next week's issue.

### ACROSS

3. Try (9)
8. Plunder (4)
9. Guardianship (9)
10. Secret (6)
11. Gore (5)
14. Couch (5)
15. Remainder (4)
16. Flagrant (5)
18. Side (4)
20. Two-fold (5)
21. Dog-lead (5)
24. Aft (6)
25. Transient (9)
26. Bend (4)
27. Unfruitfulness (9)

### DOWN

1. Make clear (9)
2. Jolly (9)
4. Trim (4)
5. Register (5)
6. Seller (6)
7. Impel (4)
9. Time (5)
11. Stall (5)
12. Very pleasing (9)
13. Servant (9)
17. Harden (5)
19. Shooting star (6)
22. Purloin (5)
23. Mark (4)
24. Lure (4)

### who, what, where, when

WHO ... wrote the novels *Time for Bed* and *The Secret Purposes*?

WHAT ... actress was married to the film director Nicholas Ray from 1948-52?

WHERE ... in Ireland are the towns of Kilrush and Kilkee?

WHEN ... did Ciara have a UK No 1 single with *Goodies*?

WHO ... made his Broadway debut in 1951 as Hallam in the drama *Billy Budd*?

WHAT ... is the Italian word for 60?

WHERE ... in England is the market town of Daventry?

WHEN ... was the film *Star Wars: Episode VI - Return of the Jedi* first released in the US?

### just so



away

HUR

HEAD OF DIOCESE



## 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

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

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

### darn tough sudoku

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

Sudoku

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

Sudoku

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

### Last Week's Leisure Solutions

#### CROSSWORD BREAK:

Across: 1 Ostentation; 9 Nonplus; 10 Outre; 11 Layer; 12 Languor; 13 Number; 15 Superb; 18 Triumph; 20 Cheat; 22 Outer; 23 Dresser; 24 Unknowingly.

Down: 2 Sunny; 3 Enlarge; 4 Tussle; 5 Thorn; 6 Obtrude; 7 Inclination; 8 Retributory; 14 Moist; 16 Unclean; 17 Shadow; 19 Moron; 21 Easel.

JUST SO: A three ring circus, The fatted calf, Man in a thousand, High flyer.

WHO, WHAT, WHERE, WHEN:

Britney Spears; Peruvian; Off the East coast of Tunisia; 1476; Peter Ackroyd; Lee 'Scratch' Perry; Nottingham; 2004.

### Darn Tough Sudoku

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

**Quiz winner:** Manecris Tecson correctly stated that Nutty Raspberry Bronx is the signature drink named after one of the five boroughs of New York City in last week's quiz. NYC will contact you about your prize.

# MotoringWeekly

The top motoring and motorsport news

# The bad boys of F1



F1 ANALYSIS  
By NAMAN ARORA  
naman@gulfweekly.com

**B**YOND the podium, hard-core Formula 1 fans' eyes were glued to the FIA steward reports during the Austrian Grand Prix held at the beginning of this month.

Much conversation in the last week revolved around the penalties issued and which drivers were close to a race ban, after a number of them were punished for infractions ranging from speeding in the pit lane to forcing drivers off the track.

The driver who came closest to an automatic one-race ban, which kicks in at 12 penalty points, was McLaren's Lando Norris, who earned two points in the Austrian Grand Prix for forcing Sergio Perez (Red Bull) off the track during the race.

This makes him the 'bad boy' amongst the drivers – a name he has almost definitely never been called before. However, Norris has since gone back down to eight before even getting back into the cockpit after his two points for overtaking Pierre

Lando Norris... the 'bad boy' of F1



Gasly under yellow flag during practice at last year's Styrian Grand Prix expired.

Perez is also at eight points, having doubled his penalty points in just one race, by doing what Norris did to him, twice, to Charles Leclerc.

George Russell (Williams) is next in the stewards' bad books with six points – three each for failing to sufficiently slow down during the British and Turkish Grands-Prix last year.

Aston Martin's Sebastian Vettel was in the stewards' best books heading into the 2021 season with zero penalty points. But in his first weekend with the team, he single-handedly earned five penalty points – three for failing to slow under double yellow flags in qualifying, and two for his crash with Esteban Ocon (Alpine) in the race.

He earned his sixth point in Austria by inadvertently



Verstappen... the 'best-behaved' on the grid

blocking Ocon's teammate – two-time world champion Fernando Alonso in qualifying.

And tied with Vettel is the Iceman himself – Kimi Raikkonen (Alfa Romeo) with six points, having earned two of them during a crash with Vettel in the final lap of the race. But one of his points is set to expire next Tuesday, leaving him with four points ahead of the Silverstone Grand Prix.

Antonio Giovinazzi (Alfa Romeo) and Nikita Mazepin (Haas) each have five penalty points.

Meanwhile, Yuki Tsunoda (Alpha Tauri) has earned four in half a season, joining Lance Stroll (Aston Martin) in the four-point club.

Charles Leclerc (Ferrari), defending world champion Lewis Hamilton and Valtteri Bottas are close to the bottom of this list with just two points apiece.

Meanwhile Ocon, Daniel Ricciardo (McLaren), Carlos Sainz (Ferrari) and Pierre Gasly (Alpha Tauri) each have a single penalty point. And the steward's pets thus far are Max Verstappen (Red Bull), Alonso (Alpine) and Mick Schumacher (Haas) with no penalty points in the last 12 months.

*The next F1 race takes place this weekend at the Silverstone circuit in the UK.*

## FintechFocus

# Creators of a better future

**E**ight teams of aspiring tycoons from Bahrain have won the 13th Annual Young Entrepreneurs competition, organised by INJAZ Bahrain, and two of them will now represent the kingdom regionally, writes Naman Arora.

The two-day competition attracted 10 high schools and eight universities from across the kingdom.

Judges included Shaikh Abdulla Al Khalifa from Banagas, Abdul Nasir from Citi, Adnan Al Mahmood from GPIC, Ahmed AlKhenazi from Tamkeen, Ahmed Burashid from KHC, Hussain Haji from Inagrab, Mohamed Al Rayes from BBK, Nidal Al Basha from AWS Bahrain, and Hisham Abu Al Fateh from the National Bank of Bahrain.

"The success of this



year's edition of our flagship programme, the Company programme, is a true testament to the outstanding efforts and dedication of our students," said Shaikha Hessa bint Khalifa Al

Khalifa, chairperson of INJAZ. "Our vision is to create a platform where young people are supported and motivated to channel their innovation and creativity into building

a knowledge-based economy through our programmes and partnerships.

"The competition has proved the readiness and agility of our youth and their ability to utilise their skills

and creativity to adapt to the global challenges that the world faces. We would like to congratulate the winning teams and wish them luck in the regional competition."

The award ceremony took place virtually via the organisation's YouTube channel and teams in seven categories were recognised for their ingenuity and innovation.

'Hasib' from Naseem International School was crowned the 'High School Company of the Year', 'Hassad' from Royal University For Women won the 'University Company of the Year' award, 'Green Pot' from Al Hekma International School had the best 'High School Product of the Year', and 'ReachOut' from Bahrain Polytechnic presented the top 'University Product of the Year'.

'Enviro' from Sitra Secondary Girls School won the 'High School Best Social Impact Award', and 'Safaa' from Bahrain University took home the 'University Best Social Impact Award'.

'Hasib' from Naseem International School won the 'Excellence in Technology Award' and 'Saawen' from Abdul Rahman Kanoo International School won the 'Excellence in Marketing Award'.

The 18 teams presented entrepreneurial ideas and solutions in response to challenges identified in a number of sectors.

'Hasib' and 'Hassad' will be representing Bahrain in the regional Young Arab Entrepreneurs Competition, held annually by INJAZ Al Arab.

*For more details, follow @injazbahrain on Instagram.*

# Go for gold!

**S**EVEN athletes, adorned in the kingdom's colours, are set to make Bahrain proud as they take on the best of the best at the Tokyo Olympic Games, writes Lisa Pringle.

The Bahrain Endurance 13 team will see Vicky Holland (GBR), Vincent Luis and Cassandre Beaugrand (FRA), Javier Gomez (ESP), Kristian Blummenfelt (NOR), Henri Schoeman (RSA), and Tyler Mislawchuk (CAN) battling for glory in the global competition which kicks off on July 23.

The most recent announcement has put Mislawchuk on the Canadian Olympic roster for the second time in his career. As the winner of the Tokyo test event, he is the only one to have ever won on the course in similar sweltering conditions expected for the race at the end of July.

Fellow Bahrain Endurance 13 athlete Alistair Brownlee as well as team CEO Chris McCormack have pointed him out as the man to beat.

Holland, who has won an Olympic bronze medal, secured automatic selection to the British team in 2019 off the back of her finish at the Tokyo test event. Since then, she has put in the work she needs to do. Holland is currently in Italy, putting the final touches to her Olympic



Gomez

## RACE DETAILS

Men's Race  
**Monday July 26**  
Women's Race  
**Tuesday July 27**  
Mixed Relay  
**Saturday July 31**

preparation.

Luis and Beaugrand are part of a five-strong team announced in May. Brownlee and McCormack have tipped the French as favourites for the mixed relay alongside the Great Britain and Australian teams. Luis, as defending world champion, is also a dominating force in the

individual race.

After missing out on Rio after breaking his elbow in the lead-up, Gomez is heading to his third Olympic Games in 13 years. The Olympic silver medalist from Spain has mastered this distance and will be treasuring this final chance for gold.

There was no doubt that Blummenfelt would be making his second appearance for Norway. He is the form athlete on the World Triathlon Championship Series, with two wins and two Top 10 performances under his belt this year.

Schoeman has travelled



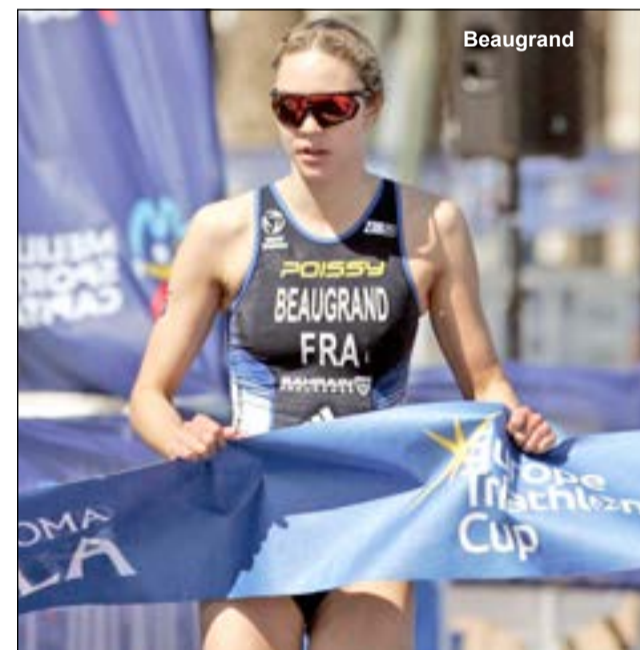
McCormack

under the radar, largely due to travel restrictions in South Africa. However, the Rio bronze medallist is a consistent performer who knows how to capitalise when he's in a good position and his strong swim should put him in the mix once again.

With the Olympic



Holland



Beaugrand

qualification period behind them and only two weeks to go, these athletes can

now focus on their final preparations leading to Tokyo.



Luis



Mislawchuk