

**A MESSAGE of peace through art is set to fly from Bahrain to Bosnia this autumn, as the kingdom's leading artist prepares to host an art festival in Sarajevo.**

The 'Art for Peace' festival is set to take place from October 5 to 12 and will be organised in a number of cities in Bosnia and Herzegovina by Abbas Al Mosawi.

"We are hoping this is the first of many future art festivals to host in Bosnia and Herzegovina," Abbas added, during a televised interview.

"Through art, people of all ages can connect and guide the future with light and beauty. That's the message of this art festival.

"Artists of all kinds – painters, musicians, thespians – are welcome to be part of these festivities and join us for this festival."

Canvases in the shape of doves featuring aspirations for unity and world peace by Bahrain and Bosnia's artists will be the centrepiece of the festival.

In April, hundreds of artists collaborated to complete 50 hours of creativity at the Karzakkan Forest, attracting more than 1,000 visitors.

These dove-shaped pieces, which were part of the Future Rise Exhibition at Seef Mall, are the inspiration for the pieces to be created in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

The art pieces were created during the Youth, Arts and Peace Art Exhibition by Abbas, who believes that painting, drawing, theatre, music, cinema, photography and other arts are the best way to spread the message of positivity.

A total of 200 artists – 100 from Bahrain as well as 100 from Bosnia and Herzegovina – will take over

# Flying in with a message of peace

**ART REPORT**  
By NAMAN ARORA  
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Novo Sarajevo Boulevard on October 9, live-painting pieces for the seven-day festival.

Alongside the painting, there will be children's painting workshops, a session to create art from recycled wood and more hands-on looks at various art forms. There will also be a cultural tour to introduce visitors to Bosnian heritage and art.

To cap off the festival, Abbas will exhibit his art and Bahraini artist and architect Mahdi Al Jallawi will showcase his photography during exhibitions from October 9 to 11. The exhibitions will take place at the Sarajevo Cultural Centre.

Abbas met Sarajevo Canton culture and sports minister Samir Avdić and



MEETING: Abbas and Reyadh, fifth and fourth from right, with Bosnian artists and festival organisers

representatives of the Bosnian Representative Association for Valuable Opportunities (Bravo) during a recent trip to Bosnia and Herzegovina to present the plan for the festival.

"The goal of the organising team is to gather 100 artists who, in addition to presenting their talent by painting two-dimensional doves as a symbol of peace, will have the opportunity

to be ambassadors of their culture," Bravo senior project Imran Polovina added.

"In order for the festival to be a space where visitors can get to know different cultures, we plan to include

cultural aspects of countries such as food, music and dance."

Abbas hopes to make the festival a long-standing tradition within the country and hold it at a new location within Bosnia and Herzegovina every year.

The festival is being organised in collaboration between Bahrain-Bosnia and Herzegovina Friendship and Business Society, represented in the country by Reyadh Yusuf Ali, as well as Colours of the East Art Gallery.

Registration for the festival will be announced in the coming weeks.

For more details, follow @coebahrain on Instagram.



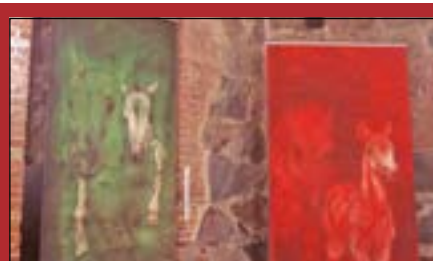
FLASHBACK: The Youth, Arts and Peace Art Exhibition



**GLASTONBURY FESTIVAL**  
Bahrainis go global  
SEE PAGES 2-3



**SUMMER FESTIVAL**  
What's going on  
SEE PAGE 4



**EVOCATIVE ARTWORK**  
From Bahrain to Finland  
SEE PAGES 4-5



**F1 RACE REPORT**  
Thrills and spills  
SEE PAGE 7



# Sounds of Arabia



UNREAL FEELING: Gilan performing at the festival



CROWD PULLERS: Dar Disku entertaining the crowd

**B**AHRAIN has made its mark on the legendary Glastonbury Festival in the UK with the sounds of Arabia entertaining the crowds.

The five-day Glastonbury Festival, which attracts thousands of music lovers from around the globe, is also a performing arts bonanza.

It features all kinds of music, cinema, poetry, drama, painting and circus acts, as well as mega stars such as Billie Eilish, Kendrick Lamar and Paul McCartney setting stages on fire.

For musicians and DJs in Bahrain, being a part of that festival which boasts 31 different musical areas and more than 100 stages over 900 acres, has always been a dream.

Dar Disku, which means the 'house of disco' in Arabic, made it a reality by playing an hour-and-a-half set at the Wow Stage to around 2,000 people and its founders, Bahraini Mazen Almaskati and Indian Vish Matre, described the experience as 'wonderful'.

"It was an unforgettable experience for sure, one of our biggest shows to date," said Mazen, 29, who is currently based in and around the English city of Bristol. "Glastonbury has always been a welcoming home for all forms of art, creativity and all walks of life and human experience."

"We felt embraced by a crowd who were rooting for us. We saw a lot of people



## MUSIC REPORT

By MAI AL-KHATIB CAMILLE  
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who were inquisitive and came to see us for the first time and plenty of familiar faces, smiling and dancing with us. It truly felt like a family and a 'home away from home'."

They thanked promoter Dave Harvey and the rest of Team Love 'for making our dream come true'.

Mazen and Vish, who had grown up less than a mile apart in Bahrain with a shared fascination for discovering new music, played a mixture of originals, edits and tracks from their past Dar Disku Records releases.

They also played tracks from their close friends Moving Still and Tjade, who have released songs on their label in the past, as well as tunes by other talented artists and producers.

"Hopefully, we created a magical moment to share with a wonderful crowd, some of whom know us well and others who have never ventured into that sonic space and yet feel eager to stay and find out more," said Vish, 28. "It's always been about creating special shared moments for us as well as a safe, welcoming space where we exchange cultures and stories."

Their label, which they founded in 2019, is said to encompass 'all things high energy, new beat, strange and pure' with a lot of their musical culture stemming from the kingdom.

"Our years in Bahrain were truly formative for our musical experience," added Mazen. "We were blessed to have grown up in a melting pot of cultures and had the chance to meet people from all around the world, many of whom opened our eyes and ears to genres and musical

styles we wouldn't have come across otherwise."

"It's also where we were supported and given the space and resources to record and produce our music in professional studios as teenagers, rehearse and play shows. It's these experiences that showed us the ropes and gave us the confidence to keep on this musical journey."

"That being said, it's also a place where we absorbed the music of our cultures, everything spanning from Khaleeji rhythms, Egyptian pop and Lebanese folk songs to Bollywood classics and hypnotic Ragas."

They were inspired to play in Glastonbury and encouraged to chase that dream after watching other artists from Bahrain making their mark internationally such as Ayad Al Adhamy (Passion Pit), Yazz Ahmed and their friends Flamingods.

"Seeing our peers and representation from Bahrain on a global stage made us feel like it was all possible and pushed us forwards," added Mazen. "That being said, it felt incredible to be able to proudly carry the influence Bahrain has had across the globe and into a place like Glastonbury."

Dar Disku have also been featured in Mixmag's dance and club magazine *Breakthrough DJ of 2021* and they were also named as residents on the iconic Worldwide FM.



THREE'S COMPANY: Mazen and Vish with DJ Louise Chen, getting ready to go on

Dar Disku will be continuing their run of shows with some UK and Europe dates and are also working on a full length original album.

Meanwhile, Gilan El-Attar, the daughter of well-known Bahrain-based soul singer and special needs advocate Christine Gordon, also strummed her guitar and captivated music lovers three times in different areas during the festival.

"It still hasn't sunk in that I got to play music at the same festival as so many people I admire," said the 32-year-old living in Richmond Upon Thames. She grew up in a musical household. Her father, Dr Emad was a chemist and musician, and her mum, Christine, could be found singing soulful and

jazzy renditions of various songs from the likes of Jamiroquai and Sade across the island. Gilan plays the guitar, bass and cello.

"It feels unreal," she added. "It has always been pretty high up in my bucket list. It means so much to me and I feel very humbled right now."

"I got to play a slot at a festival that I adore and meet like-minded people. In the future, I would love to play at as many of the different stages around Glastonbury as I can. Each part of the festival is so unique."

"Up next for me are some more solo gigs, but I cannot announce them yet so keep your eyes peeled on my social media. I'm very excited!"

Follow @dardisku\_records and @herecomesgilan on Instagram.



UNFORGETTABLE EXPERIENCE: Dar Disku filling up the area





BUCKET LIST: A proud Gilan



LEGENDARY: The sun setting on Glastonbury Festival



FLAVOURS: Chef Jinnie. Inset, Spicy braised chicken with vegetables, sea mustard soup and two kinds of stir-fried anchovies

**C**OOKING enthusiasts from across the kingdom participated in a three-week-long culinary journey through Korean cuisine, writes **Merlin Rose Babu**.

The event, which was organised by the Korean Embassy in collaboration with the Gulf Institute of Culinary Arts (GICA) at the Domain Hotel in Manama, had attracted more than 60 food lovers and it culminates this evening.

Ambassador Hae Kwan Chung told the *GulfWeekly* that the cooking courses, which the embassy has been holding since 2019, had to be put on hold due to the complications brought about by the coronavirus pandemic.

"I am glad that we could resume the cooking course, and in order to make up for the two years' lapse, we decided to expand our programme in collaboration with GICA," he said.

Once it was decided that the show would go on this year, the embassy reached out to supporting agency Korean Food Promotion Institute, which recommended multiple chefs for the role.

"Going through the documents and interviewing, the Korean Embassy decided that Chef Yeongjin Kim (Jinnie Kim) is the right person for this programme," Ambassador Hae Kwan said.

With more than 30 years of experience in the culinary field, Chef Jinnie's specialty is in Korean cuisine, especially the Royal Court Cuisine of Korea.

The 48-year-old chef began her culinary journey with the help of courses and hotel internships, after which, it was a learning by doing process.

"Whenever I have any chance, I am still passionately learning diverse types of cuisines such as Korean, Japanese, Chinese, Western," she said, adding that she loves baking as well.

Chef Jinnie learnt royal court cuisine from one of her

## Cooking up Korean delicacies



COOKING COURSE: Ambassador Hae Kwan

professors who was awarded the Human Cultural Heritage of Korea award.

"The process of cooking royal court cuisine is highly sensitive to the outer environment so that it is very difficult to replicate in foreign environment, so I feel sorry that I couldn't teach the royal court dishes to the students in Bahrain," she explained.

On her maiden trip to Bahrain, Chef Jinnie enlightened excited students to a variety of flavours central to the Korean-style of cooking.

Each week witnessed a different batch of students come together to create Korean favourites.

Day one saw students focused on making two kinds of kimchi as well as cooking rice, a technique that they would then have to repeat over the course of the next few days.

Day two featured popular Korean barbecued meat, Bulgogi with accompaniments of soybean paste stew, spring onion salad and onion and pepper pickle.

On day three, participants prepared spicy braised chicken with vegetables, sea mustard soup and stir-fried

anchovies, while the last day saw students cook up tteobokki or simmered rice cakes, flat dumplings and a pickled radish salad.

"These days it is very easy to get recipes on any type of cuisine through the Internet, especially through YouTube and that is why I tried to provide something authentic and something you should experience by yourself during the class," Chef Jinnie said.

Speaking about her experience teaching the classes, she said that she found Bahraini people very friendly and open-minded.

"I was very surprised to witness total strangers becoming friends, and on day four, they treat each other as if they have known each other for few years," she exclaimed.

Ambassador Hae Kwan believes there are two prominent reasons that more and more people are getting acquainted with Korea and its culture.

"First, growing interest towards Korean culture has become a global trend to a certain degree," he said.

"Secondly and most importantly, Bahrain and Korea share the family-oriented culture and that is one of the reasons for the affinity of people of Bahrain towards Korean culture.

"Whenever we travel to a foreign country, I believe food is the most important and critical means for understanding the people and culture there.

"In that sense, I hope this programme, '2022 Korean Cuisine Course' could be highlighted as a way to connect our two countries."





## BAHRAIN SUMMER FESTIVAL

**T**HE 14th edition of the three week-long Bahrain Summer Festival kicks off this week with a line-up of musical and educational activities.



**RISING STARS: A musical evening**

The festival will kick off with a musical evening featuring three rising Bahraini stars, Mohammad Al Najjar, Haya Al Hamad and Layan Al Hamad. Mohammad has won a number of music awards, performing shows across the United Kingdom, where he is studying piano and composition. Haya and Layan most recently opened the award ceremony for the Unesco King Hamad Bin Isa Al Khalifa Prize for the Use of ICT in Education. The three young musicians will be performing classical music at this event.

**Cultural Hall**  
**Monday at 7pm**



**LIVE SCIENCE: The Brainiacs**

The 'most outrageous live science' show is back, revamped and better than ever, with captivating high-energy experiments. Brainiac Live is taking the stage for the very first time in Bahrain and children, aged six and above, can enjoy and learn as these science adventurers leap with courage and curiosity from the safety of their seats.

**Cultural Hall**  
**Tuesday – July 14 at 5pm and 8pm**

A workshop focusing on freehand sketching techniques using perspectives in Bahraini heritage interior and architectural spaces will give participants, aged 15 and above, a chance to learn conceptual sketching that emphasises multiple key elements in designing buildings, inspired by the Dilmun civilization.

**Bahrain National Museum**  
**Tuesday and July 13 at 5.30pm**

### WORKSHOPS FOR CHILDREN AGED SEVEN TO 15

A number of workshops will be taking place during the first three days of the summer festival. Children can learn how to make famous Thai desserts with the ambassador's chef, draw and paint with recycled materials, or learn the techniques and basics of hand printing on different surfaces.

There is also a 'Colours of Pakistan' workshop, a session during which children can learn about plastic damage, a class to learn Saudi embroidery, a hands-on batik art class and an in-depth look at Ebru artworks.

**Art Centre**  
**Monday – July 13 at 5.15pm, 6.30pm and 7.45pm**

In addition to the workshops, children will be taken on an exciting journey into different worlds and diverse personalities through storytelling. The 'story-telling corner' will run alongside the workshops.

**Art Centre**  
**Monday – July 31 from 5pm to 9pm**



**GRAND: The Famine artwork on the far right**

# Horses for



**EXHIBIT: The Crypta Gallery**

**A**WARD-WINNING Bahraini artist **Mariam Haji, now known in the art world as Meri Helmi Särkka, makes history in Finland's cultural scene for being the first Arab artist invited to exhibit in the Helsinki Cathedral.**

The 37-year-old mother-of-two unveiled her UNTIL exhibition on June 29 at the Crypta Gallery in the basement of the Helsinki Cathedral, captivating more than 500 visitors with her powerful pieces of artwork on paper.

"I was invited in April this year and I was shocked because the space is huge and the walls are really high, so I was not sure how I would succeed," said the multi-disciplinary figurative artist who lives between Finland and Bahrain.

"The Crypt, which is the monument's basement that acted like a cellar to heat up the church, store wood and other large things, was cleared and opened to the public in 1875 and is now an art gallery.

"I was invited through The Artist Prayer Network and asked by the Bishop if I could



**ART REPORT**  
By MAI AL-KHATIB CAMILLE  
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make my art about the Bible and contemporary society. That was the main condition to get this historic exhibition. Without hesitation, I said the four horsemen."

The four horsemen of the apocalypse are four biblical figures who appear in the Book of Revelation. Hence, her exhibit features horses.

"Horses are another way of viewing ourselves," said the RMIT University Fine Arts degree graduate, who also specialises in drawing and has a visual arts diploma from the same university. She also did a year-long introductory course in art and design at Dundee College.

"When I read books enriched by the human interaction with horses, it becomes very apparent to me that the horse is repeatedly a character predictor of the human it is paired with," said Meri, who was recently featured at Mänttä XXV Art Festival and previously represented Bahrain in the 55th Venice Biennale 2013.



## Weekly



TERRIFIC TRIO: From left, Death, War and Conquest

## courses

HISTORIC EXPO:  
Meri with her work

"Whether it be in paintings, literature or political histories – the horse and the human become one person.

"For this exhibition, I seek to explore that very idea in the story regarding the apocalypse.

"I have removed the figure of a human from that narrative and focused on portraying the horse as an all-inclusive

representation of how it perceives the degeneration of human beings."

Meri has also set up art tours along with the cathedral tours to explain the concept to people and the history of the crypt.

The exhibition runs until July 10, moves to the Finnish National Museum in August followed by a show in

November with LUCKAN, a Finnish Swedish cultural institution.

She is looking forward to returning to Bahrain in December to visit family and friends.

Her art journey started in the kingdom when she won first place in a national prize competition organised by the Ministry of Education for children in 1992.

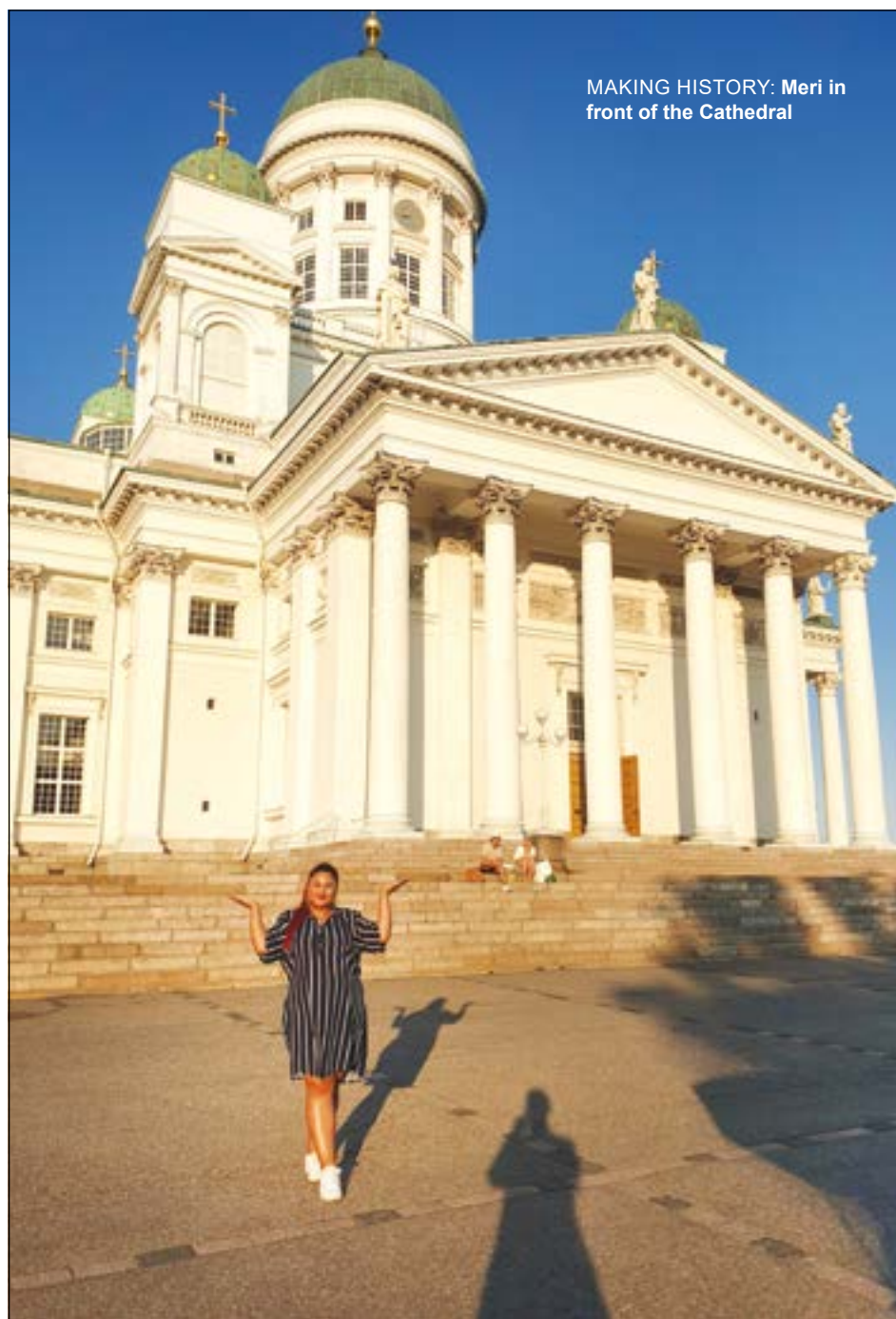
She was also the youngest artist ever to receive Bahrain's 38th National Fine Art Competition Award and her work is on permanent public display at the National Theatre and part of the permanent collection of the Bahrain National Museum.

China's Ministry of Culture has also gathered her works for its Arab artist's repository.

Meri also thanked Bahrain Authority for Culture and Antiquities president Shaikha Mai bint Mohammed Al Khalifa for her help.

"In the years she has supported me, her influence has given me perspective about the love for Bahrain and caring about museum collections and the cultural heritage of Bahrain," Meri added.

MAKING HISTORY: Meri in front of the Cathedral



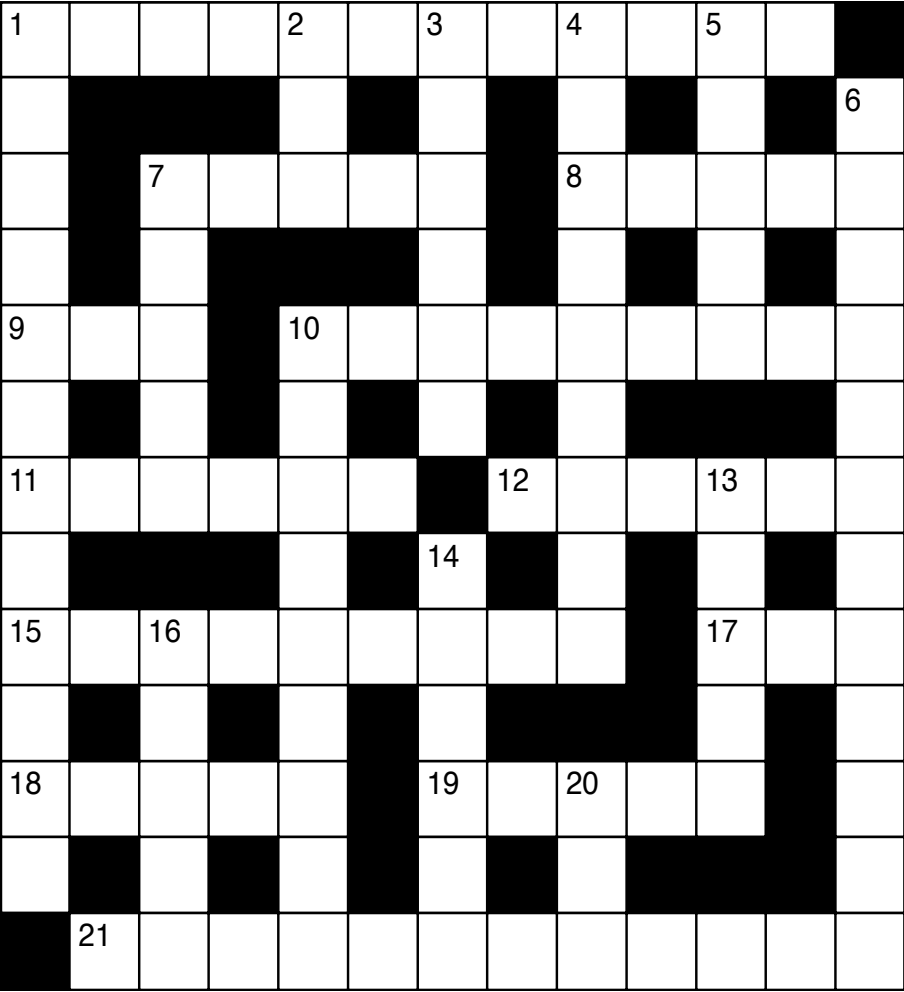


# Time Out



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## crossword break



Solutions in next week's issue.

**ACROSS**

- 1. Relation by marriage (7-2-3)
- 7. Frock (5)
- 8. Bet (5)
- 9. Throw (3)
- 10. Flags (9)
- 11. Thespians (6)
- 12. Minor (6)
- 15. Will (9)
- 17. Circuit (3)
- 18. Approaches (5)
- 19. Tale (5)
- 21. Steam (12)

**DOWN**

- 1. Hair oil (12)
- 2. Gardening tool (3)
- 3. Holiday place (6)
- 4. Paper-seller (9)
- 5. Quarrel (5)
- 6. Pharmacist's instructions (12)
- 7. First public appearance (5)
- 10. Exceeded (9)
- 13. Inane (5)
- 14. Logic (6)
- 16. Plumed military headdress (5)
- 20. Eggs (3)

**who, what, where, when**

- WHO...plays Chili Palmer in the films *Get Shorty* and *Be Cool*?
- WHAT...was named Best Motion Picture of the Year at the 2005 Oscars?
- WHERE...is the television soap *Coronation Street* set?
- WHEN...did Zimbabwe gain independence from the UK?
- WHO...was picked to lead the European Ryder Cup team in 2008?
- WHAT...two countries border Uruguay?
- WHERE...was Geir Haarde the Prime Minister?
- WHEN...did flanker Neil Back make his England rugby union debut?

**just so**

TALK  
P

C MUTT ♂

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hour hour hour dawn

## 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

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

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

darn tough sudoku

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

Sudoku

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Sudoku

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

**Last Week's Leisure Solutions**

**CROSSWORD BREAK**

- ACROSS:** 4. Apology; 8 Ambush; 9 Germaine; 10 Secret; 11 Edible; 12 Gangster; 18 Greenery; 20 Cohere; 21 Desist; 22 Insight; 23 Rebuff; 24 Primary
- DOWN:** 1 Massage; 2 Obscene; 3 Assess; 5 Preserve; 6 Limpid; 7 Gentle; 13 Together; 14 Devious; 15 Mystify; 16 Corner; 17 Medium; 19 Eleven
- JUST SO:** Hot dog, Made in Japan, Money, Old maid.
- WHO, WHAT, WHERE, WHEN:** George I; Play it - its a brass instrument; Croatia; 1690; Reginald Maudling; Terence; South Africa; 1982.

Darn Tough Sudoku

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

Your work pad space ...

# MotoringWeekly

The top motoring and motorsport news

## First for Sainz

**F**ERRARI'S Carlos Sainz Jr claimed his first Formula One victory on Sunday in a thrilling British Grand Prix halted by a first-lap crash and with the added mayhem of a track invasion by protesters.

Red Bull's Mexican Sergio Perez was runner-up, 3.779 seconds behind the Spaniard, with seven-times world champion Lewis Hamilton third for Mercedes in his home race and taking fastest lap for a bonus point.

"Yes! We did it! Vamos!" exclaimed a delighted Sainz over the radio after a win that had looked unlikely at one point despite him lining up on pole position for the first time, in his 150th race start.

"I don't know what to say, it's amazing."

"First race win, 150 races later, with Ferrari in Silverstone. I cannot ask for more. It's a very special day, a day that I will never forget, a very special weekend in general."

The last nine laps were frantic, full of overtaking as the safety car came in and Perez, Ferrari's Charles Leclerc and Hamilton battled for second.

At one point, eight-times British GP winner Hamilton passed both his rivals in one move and then went from second to fourth and back to third.

Championship leader Max Verstappen finished seventh for Red Bull with a damaged car, his lead over Perez cut from 46 to 34 points after 10 of 22 races.

Leclerc, who had led with 12 laps to go, finished an unhappy fourth after a strategy call that cost him victory.

The Monegasque stayed out during a late safety car deployment and then had to defend against rivals with fresher tyres.

Spain's double world



**MISHAP: Zhou crashes out at the start of the race**

champion Fernando Alonso was fifth for Alpine with McLaren's Lando Norris sixth. Germany's Mick Schumacher, son of Ferrari great and seven-times world champion Michael, scored his first points in F1 with eighth for Haas who also had Kevin Magnussen finish 10th.

Four-times world champion Sebastian Vettel went from 18th to ninth for Aston Martin on his 35th birthday in a race full of action and suspense but with only 14 finishers.

The race was red-flagged and halted for an hour after Chinese driver Guanyu Zhou's Alfa Romeo became wedged on its side between the tyre wall and catch fence on lap one. He was later given the medical all-clear.

The car skidded at speed upside down along the track before being catapulted over the barrier following a multi-car collision.

Williams's Alex Albon and Mercedes's George Russell, who had previously finished every race in the top five, were also caught in the first-lap mayhem and played no further part in the afternoon.

Albon was later flown to hospital for checks.

While the red flags were still being waved, and cars slowed and returned to the pits, a group of protesters ran on to the track to boos from the crowd before being wrestled away.



**ALL SMILES: Sainz celebrates with his trophies**

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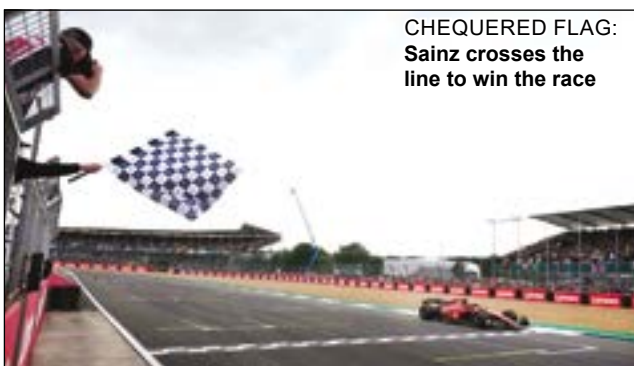
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**CHEQUERED FLAG: Sainz crosses the line to win the race**



# Challenges ahead

**T**HE 109th edition of Tour de France, the most prestigious cycling event in the world had a fitting start in the country regarded as one of the safest for cyclists, with more than 7,500 miles of dedicated routes, writes Abu George.

The race, which started in Copenhagen, Denmark, last Friday and will enter Belgium and Switzerland, was ideally taking cyclists past the burial site of Viking King Harald Bluetooth (now more famous for his name than conquests), and the UNESCO World Heritage sites at Jelling and Christiansfeld.

Quick-Step Alpha Vinyl riders took the first two stages. The prestigious opening was a 13km time trial which was won by Yves Lampaert while Fabio Jakobsen won the first sprint having carefully managed the potentially hazardous crosswinds on the Great Belt Bridge. He was unable to follow that with another victory with Dylan Groenewegen winning a photo finish.

The passionate Danish fans certainly provided a hero's welcome to last year's runner up, Jonas Vingegaard, one of the few men capable of dropping the race favourite Pogacar.

The Tour de France is effectively 21 races within a race – and even then, there are a number of sub categories that the riders aim to win; meaning there is always plenty to watch out for.

Preparations for le Tour did not exactly start well for Team Bahrain Victorious after the team was raided twice, disturbing riders and management in the night.

The team, as it did during the tour in 2021, have co-operated fully yet remain frustrated at being continually targeted with little or no communication as to the reasons or outcomes.

Since entering the world of UCI cycling in 2017, Bahrain Victorious has been making



**STRONGER: Team Bahrain Victorious during Tour de France**

steady progress. Dylan Tuens claimed the team its first stage win in 2019 on La Planche des Belles Filles before claiming another last year in Le Grand Bornand. The two stage wins for Matej Mohoric including a stunning solo breakaway on the climb up the Signal d'Uchon helped Team Bahrain Victorious to the title of best team. Mohoric has continued 2022 where he left off with victory in the Milan-San Remo "monument" race.

They are joined by Italian climber, Damiano Caruso, Jack Haig and Fred Wright as riders with the potential to succeed as the team hunts for further victories with Wright potentially looking to secure a podium finish in the white jersey competition for the best young rider.

His task is made harder by having to compete in this category with the overwhelming favourite for the overall race victory, Pogacar. The two-time winner seeks to make history by joining an elite category of only five cyclists to have ever secured three consecutive victories.

He looks in ominous form



**IN ACTION: Tuens in time trial in the pening stage as he secured top 10 finish**

having won three times this season and already taken time out of his main rivals in the individual time trial and will be looking to add to his six stage wins in La Grand Boucle.

Based on early-season results Roglic looks to be one of his main contenders after victories at the Dauphine and Paris-Nice while teammate Wout van Aert is probably one of the best all-round cyclists competing.

Ineos has a strong team led by previous winner, Geraint Thomas, who arrives having won in Switzerland, albeit against a weaker field as Covid

continues to make its mark.

The fifth stage, held today, will be one of the most interesting and potentially decisive with 11 different sections held over treacherous cobbled roads in the final 80km. There is an adage that you cannot win a race at this stage but you can certainly lose it. The leading contenders may look to simply avoid trouble although that could open the door to risk-takers (as with Nibali in 2014). Mohoric is looking forward to this stage.

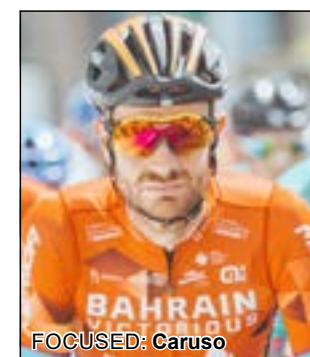
"My goal in this year's Tour is to try and win a stage again," he said. "My favourite stage will be stage 5 with the

finish at Arenberg forest".

The first summit finish of the race on Stage 7 will bring fond memories for Dylan Tuens after his victory in the same town in 2019 which preceded his proposal to his wife.

The race properly heads into the mountains on Stage 9 with both this and the following day producing opportunities for stage wins for TBV. With no major climbs, the main contenders are likely to mark each other leading to potential victories for riders that manage to breakaway early in each stage. With such a versatile squad Bahrain Victorious have a number of intriguing tactics to unleash.

The Swiss Alps are just a warm-up for a brutal day on Stage 11, featuring two massive climbs in the final 80km. The lengthy Col du Galibier is the high point of the race, while the Granon is the highest stage finish since the Galibier in 2011. It is this type of stage that excites Jack Haig as he looks to fight for the General Classification (GC). "I'm feeling really good coming into the Tour and maybe a little more relaxed this year



than last year," said Haig. "For my personal ambitions, I want to go well in the GC, and if I get a top 5 finish by the end of the Tour, I'd be quite happy. For the team's ambitions, we will look for some stage results, with the strong guys who will have opportunities to look for some results themselves."

The Tour de France concludes on the Champs-Elysees in Paris on July 24 after 3,350km of racing.

Lead Sports Director Gorazd Štangelj said on the team's overall objectives: "Our goal is to take the team's first podium at the Tour de France, which we narrowly missed out on with Landa back in 2020.

"We've selected a really strong group of riders for the Tour. It's a Tour with plenty of challenges. I think we have got a group of riders to cover all these difficult challenges and support our leaders, Jack and Damiano, to achieve our objective.

"We will also be looking for chances with our other riders to take stage wins or help us gain time for our overall objective. I'm convinced we have a strong team for the race itself."