



ART REPORT  
By NAMAN ARORA  
naman@gdnmedia.bh

**B**AHRAINI creative Nermin Habib is highlighting the kingdom's heritage on the global stage this year, with her work to be exhibited during the Paris Design Week as well as Cairo Design Week in the autumn.

During Paris Design Week, taking place from September 11 to 13 and Cairo Design Week from November 19 to 28, Nermin is continuing her deep dive into everyday vessels and historical objects, as well as how they connect the region.

"Rather than treating these objects as historical artifacts, I approach them as living forms whose meanings continue to evolve," she told *GulfWeekly*.

"My research creates an ecosystem that connects travel, documentation, archival imagery, material experimentation, photography, and ceramic practice.

"Clay becomes both a medium and a method for understanding how objects shape relationships between people, place, climate, and memory."

Her current focus is *Olla Forms* - a researched ceramic series that investigates historic water vessels and the cultural knowledge embedded within them.

With research focused on traditional clay cooling vessels found across Egypt, the Gulf, and the wider region, Nermin's project is exploring how everyday objects can carry memory, ritual and shared experiences.

During Milan Design Week which took place in April, Nermin presented the project as both an installation and participatory experience, inviting visitors to drink water from the vessels.

"The gesture reactivated the original social function of these forms, transforming the work from a display of objects into a contemporary act of hospitality and shared experience, echoing the communal role these vessels once played across the region," she added.



ARTIST: Nermin



OLLA FORMS: Nermin's new research focus centres on the traditional vessel

## Carriers of memory and heritage

WATER: The Zir vessel



She will continue this work with *Zir Vessel* - a new work created for 1000 Vases during Paris Design Week.

"Inspired by the traditional zir, a large porous clay vessel historically used to cool and store drinking water through natural evaporation, the work draws from a form that once occupied homes, courtyards, streets and gathering spaces throughout the region," she added.

"Historically, the zir served not only as a functional object but also as a social one, often positioned

in shared spaces where people gathered to drink water.

"Its cooling properties, achieved through the natural porosity of clay, reflect generations of material knowledge developed in response to climate and daily life."

Rather than just recreating these objects, she translates the intelligence behind their material design into contemporary ceramic objects, which walk the thin line between sculpture and function.

She uses hand-built processes and layered surfaces to create forms that appear to be weathered by time, creating objects that feel like they were discovered rather than made.

Field research is an essential part of her practice and through travel, photography, conversations with makers, and visits to workshops, she has traced the social lives of water vessels across different landscapes and cultures.

Nermin will also be the only Bahraini creative participating in Cairo Design Week through Creative Dialogues and Design Point.

She will be working with Egyptian



ZIR: A functional and social object

artist Yasmine El Meleegy and UAE artist Alia Al Shamsi, to explore contemporary tableware and lifestyle objects through shared themes of hospitality, material culture, and everyday rituals.

Rooted in regional traditions and branching out into contemporary gathering and living, the project is part of the wider Creative Dialogues programme.

For more details, follow @nerminhabib on Instagram.



HIGHER EDUCATION  
IRC Framework  
SEE PAGE 2



TROPICAL PARTY  
El Chapo brunch  
SEE PAGE 3



LEISURE SCENE  
FIFA fun & more  
SEE PAGES 4-5



ACTION IN AUSTRIA  
F1 preview  
SEE PAGE 7



**EDUCATION REPORT**  
By MELISSA NAZARETH  
melissa@gdnmedia.bh

**B**AHRAIN is emerging as the regional and international hub for higher education, offering promise to those seeking to pursue careers 'at home'.

As students ride the emotional rollercoaster of 'which university to attend' in the coming weeks, they and their parents can find assurance knowing that the kingdom has entered many academic partnerships in the last few years. Additionally, there has been a series of government policies aimed at making the island one of the Gulf's most attractive destinations for international pupils.

This week, Bahrain became the first country in the region to introduce the prestigious International Baccalaureate programme in government schools, nodding to Bahrain's efforts to offer quality education aligned with global standards.

The National Strategy for Higher Education and Scientific Research (2026-2036) was announced in April, with the aim to strengthen Bahrain's presence in international university rankings and expand cross-border academic co-operation.

Several Bahraini universities are now ranked in global classifications such as the Times Higher Education and the QS World University Rankings, Education Minister Dr Mohammed Mubarak Juma revealed.

In a recent report published in *GulfWeekly's* sister paper, the *GDN*, Dr Juma highlighted that more than 82 international programme accreditations have been secured, including ABET for engineering and AACSB for business studies.

Additionally, Bahrain has signed mutual recognition agreements for higher education qualifications, most recently with Cyprus, while Bahraini universities are listed among recognised institutions in several GCC and Arab countries, including Saudi Arabia and Jordan.

"I have witnessed remarkable progress in higher education during the more than 20 years I have worked in Bahrain," American University of Bahrain professor Maria del Mar de Fez Laso told *GulfWeekly*.

"The sector has evolved significantly, with strong quality assurance mechanisms, clear educational frameworks and a growing emphasis on student success. I have also had the privilege of working alongside many dedicated

# The heart of learning



**DEVELOPMENT:** Higher education equips students with specialised skills, broadens career opportunities and fosters essential critical thinking



**DIGITAL:** Front cover of the online booklet



**PROFESSOR:** Maria educators who are deeply committed to their students and their institutions," added the Spanish expatriate and academician specialising in physics, astronomy and mathematics.

Complementing the efforts of individuals, institutions and the Bahrain government to position itself as a regional and global hub for higher education, the 58-year-old has designed a new learning method that transforms students from passive recipients of information into active participants.

"The IRC Framework (Inquiry, Reflection and Communication) is a structured yet highly adaptable pedagogical approach. Students begin by investigating a topic

through inquiry, learning how to search for information, evaluate sources and formulate meaningful questions.

"They then engage in reflection, connecting new knowledge with broader scientific, social and personal perspectives. Finally, they communicate their findings through written and visual formats, strengthening their ability to express ideas clearly and effectively," explained the Amwaj resident.

The expert highlighted that since the first implementation of the method, more than 80 per cent of participants have described the experience as valuable.

The first implementation of the IRC Framework has been documented in a booklet entitled *Women Who Shaped Astronomy*. While the publication showcases an astronomy-based application – hence the title – the framework itself is not limited to the field and was designed from the outset to be transferable across disciplines.

One of its distinguishing features is its integration of AI-assisted tools within an

educationally meaningful process.

"Rather than treating artificial intelligence as a shortcut, students learn to use AI critically and responsibly to support research, translation, content refinement, visual design and communication. This mirrors the reality of modern professional environments, where the ability to work effectively with AI is becoming an increasingly valuable skill," she added.

The framework therefore develops not only subject knowledge but also a wide range of transferable competencies, including critical thinking, communication, digital literacy, creativity, cultural awareness, ethical use of technology and lifelong learning skills.

"Modern curricula are necessarily structured around disciplinary knowledge and measurable learning outcomes, which are essential. At the same time, many of the challenges that graduates face in their professional and personal lives do not fit neatly within a single discipline.

"For this reason, I believe there is great value in creating learning experiences that encourage students to connect ideas across fields, explore broader societal contexts and develop transferable skills alongside subject knowledge," Maria added.

Over the year, the professor plans to expand the IRF Framework's application to additional disciplines, including mathematics and other STEM fields, in order to evaluate its impact on student engagement, interdisciplinary thinking, communication

skills and the responsible use of AI-assisted tools. Additionally, she hopes to share the framework with the wider educational community through conference presentations, workshops and scholarly publications.

"I believe that innovation in teaching becomes most valuable when it is openly discussed, critically examined and adapted by others. At this

stage, my focus is on building a robust evidence base and fostering collaborations with educators who are interested in exploring new approaches to active and interdisciplinary learning. I would certainly welcome opportunities to work with educational institutions that share these interests," she added.

The booklet is available on [zenodo.org](http://zenodo.org).

## BRAIN-BUSTERS

**Q**uizmaster 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 Thursday with Shannon's seven brain-busters.



- 1) In which year did Microsoft launch its Teams platform?
- 2) What is the weakness of the Martians in the movie *Mars Attacks*?
- 3) Which tribe referred to gold as 'the sweat of the sun'?
- 4) Which game series is known for its 'Fatalities'?
- 5) With about 20km in diameter, what are the smallest known stars called?
- 6) Only two countries have purple on their

- 7) Which religious leader was granted an honorary Taekwondo Black Belt in 2017?

1. 2017
2. Music
3. Incas
4. *Mortal Combat*
5. Neutron stars
6. Dominica and Nicaragua
7. Pope Francis

## ANSWERS



STARTERS: The appetiser spread



VIBE: The El Chapo management with GDN Media sales director Alison Lillywhite, second from right



MAINS: Sliders galore

# Summer Vibes

**GOURMET REPORT**  
By NAMAN ARORA  
naman@gdnmedia.bh

**S**UMMERS in Bahrain can get scorching hot and to stay cool yet still simmering, El Chapo Lounge and Restaurant has unveiled its Tropicalia Brunch, bringing together great people for an unforgettable afternoon.

Last weekend, the GDN Media team visited the brunch to sample some of their bites and enjoy the vibes on a beautiful Friday afternoon.

“This summer, El Chapo is the place to be where tropical flavours, signature beverages and non-stop vibes take over the rooftop,” Dallah Promotions and El Chapo managing partner Khalid Bukhari told the team, as he welcomed us to the stunning terrace.

As we were ushered to our corner booth,



DIP: Fresh tortilla chips

the music started playing and our servers welcomed us with drink menus.

El Chapo has a range of tropical beverages to ensure that everyone in the party has a great time.

The brunch portion of the afternoon featured a range of starters, main courses and desserts, and to sample the spread, we ordered one of each.

The plantanitos - thin, golden plantain crisps,

perfectly crunchy and lightly savoury - were the first to arrive, followed by the tortilla chips and dip, served fresh and perfectly seasoned with a variety of sauces.

The avocado-based and fresh salsa dips were my favourite, as I alternated between dipping with the tortilla chips and plantanitos.

For the health nuts amongst us, myself included, the Sinaloa salad with fresh greens and vibrant ingredients topped with a



JUCY: Chicken wings

light zesty dressing was next on the agenda.

And with our veggies out of the way, we got down to the juicy chicken wings coated in a lightly spicy glaze as well as the Carne Mechada - slow-cooked shredded beef tender with rich, savoury depth.

Alongside the starters, we sipped our drinks and enjoyed tunes by DJ Jady who was mixing a selection

of Latino, house and dancehall beats.

Sliders, enchiladas and tacos were the highlight of the main course for the brunch.

The juicy beef sliders in soft buns with lettuce and tomato, as well as the chicken sliders both stole our hearts and palates.

The enchiladas rojas were next, with their soft tortillas

“This summer, El Chapo is the place to be where tropical flavours, signature beverages and non-stop vibes take over the rooftop.”

filled with chicken and finished with a rich tomato sauce.

The chicken tacos were the silent showstoppers with delicious seasoned chicken served with fresh toppings.

To round off the entire affair, just as DJ ZTOONZ took the stage, we enjoyed golden, crispy churros topped with cinnamon.

And with the extra energy, we enjoyed the rest of the afternoon swaying to the beats, which got more dance-sque as we approached sunset.

The Tropicalia Brunch runs throughout summer, twice a month, on Fridays from 2pm to 6pm, with sun-kissed vibes, tropical beats, and an unforgettable brunch experience.

For more details, follow @elchapo.bh on Instagram.



DESSERT: Churros



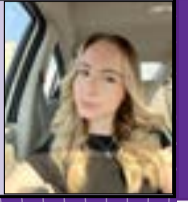
SLOW-COOKED: Carne Mechada



WRAP: The show-stopping chicken tacos

# Leisure Scene

What's on guide by  
Julia Cassano



## ALL FUN AND GAMES AT RITZ-CARLTON

**F**OOTBALL fans can catch every World Cup match at the Ritz-Carlton Bahrain's La Med Football Fanzone, where live screenings, great food and an energetic social atmosphere come together for the ultimate experience.

Gather with fellow fans, catch the action across multiple screens and enjoy a selection of light bites and breakfast favourites inspired by Mexico, Canada and the US.

For a more exclusive experience, private match viewings are available at La Table Krug for groups of 10 guests or more. Dining is priced à la carte, with screenings aligned to the World Cup schedule.

At Nirvana, guests can savour a traditional Indian thali, featuring aromatic curries, tender tandoori specialities and fragrant rice. Available every Sunday, Tuesday and Wednesday from noon to 3pm

and 7pm to 11pm, the experience is priced BD24 per person, inclusive of one lassi.

For a sweet indulgence, Café Gourmandise presents the Golden

Créma Trilogy, paired with a selection of artisanal sweets, thoughtfully crafted to add warmth and sweetness to every sip. Available daily from 8am to 11pm,

the offer is priced à la carte.

Sushi enthusiasts can head to Thai Lounge for an unlimited array of Uramaki sushi rolls and freshly crafted bites, from classic

California Rolls to flavourful spicy salmon, and more.

The experience is priced at BD18.500 and is available on Sundays from 6pm to 9pm.

At Cantina Kahlo, the Weekend Brunch Fiesta brings a vibrant Mexican dining experience to the table. Served family-style, the set menu showcases authentic dishes and elevated favourites prepared with fresh ingredients and rich traditional flavours. The brunch takes place every Friday and Saturday from 1pm to 4pm and is priced at BD35 per person, inclusive of soft beverages, or BD45 with selected beverages.

The celebrations continue every Tuesday with Taco Extravaganza, where guests can enjoy a variety of tacos from 7pm to 10pm for BD25 per person, including two selected beverages.

For more information or bookings, contact 17580000 or email [rc.bahrz.restaurant.reservations@ritzcarlton.com](mailto:rc.bahrz.restaurant.reservations@ritzcarlton.com).



PLAYTIME: Football Fanzone at the hotel

**C**ATCH all the World Cup excitement live on big screens at CLAW BBQ, Hilton Bahrain, in a lively, game-day atmosphere.

Enjoy an electric vibe, indulge in mouthwatering food and refreshing beverages, and cheer on your favourite teams as the action unfolds according to the tournament schedule.

The venue also hosts a variety of weekly promotions and themed events.

On Sundays, hospitality professionals can enjoy two hours of unlimited selected beverages from 4pm to midnight for BD12.500, with the option to extend the experience by an additional two hours for BD10. From Saturday to Thursday, guests can take advantage of Happy Hour until 8pm, with selected beverages available from just BD2.

Mondays are dedicated to the ladies, who can enjoy four complimentary drinks from 8pm to 11pm, along with a sharing platter for BD15. Ladies also receive 30 per cent off all full-priced food and beverages throughout the evening.

Taco Tuesdays bring a

## MATCH DAY MAGIC UNFOLDS

fiesta of flavours, featuring unlimited tacos and selected beverages from 6pm to midnight for BD16.

On Wednesdays, guests can enjoy two hours of unlimited selected beverages from 7pm to 9pm for BD12.500.

Fridays are all about the popular brunch experience, served from 12.30pm to 4pm, with Happy Hour continuing until 6pm. Packages start from BD24.

Elsewhere at Hilton Bahrain, Origin kitchen and Culture serves a lavish breakfast buffet from Sunday to Friday between 6.30am to 10.30am, extending until 11.30am on Saturdays. The buffet is priced at BD13net.

Guests can also enjoy Pan Asian Night, from 7pm to 10pm, with karaoke starting from 8pm. It costs BD26 with soft beverages.

Seafood enthusiasts can indulge in the restaurant's Thursday seafood night from 7pm to 10pm, featuring a selection of fresh catches for BD30, inclusive of soft beverages.

For more information or bookings, contact 33692013.



JUICY: Burgers at CLAW BBQ



CULTURE: Striking flavours and decor at Pan Asian Night

DECADENT: Desserts to satisfy your sweet tooth cravings



NATUR  
treats t

**E**MBARK on an elevated dining journey at Four Seasons Hotel Bahrain Bay, where award-winning restaurants, innovative menus and memorable culinary experiences come together in spectacular style.

For a more leisurely afternoon, Bay View Lounge

invites guests to discover its Botanical Afternoon Tea, a nature-inspired experience celebrating the season through delicate flavours, vibrant colours and elegant presentation.

Available until September 30 from noon to 9pm, the event is priced at BD24net, inclusive of one tea, or BD28net, inclusive of two teas or two mocktails.

At Byblos, the flavours of

# Leisure Scene

Weekly Entertainment



ON A ROLL: Delicious sushi bites

## TEA PARTY AWAITS



INSPIRED: Botanical Afternoon Tea to savour

Lebanon come alive by the water under the expertise of Chef Tony El Khoury. Guests can enjoy a generous selection of hot and cold mezze before sharing a flavourful mixed grill, with every dish rooted in Lebanese tradition and crafted with authenticity. To end the meal, a golden baked cheese kunafa is served fresh from the oven alongside ice cream, creating the perfect

balance of warm and cold flavours. Byblos is open from Tuesday to Sunday, from 5pm until midnight, with an à la carte menu.

Guests can indulge in bold, inventive flavours and a welcoming atmosphere at re/ASIAN CUISINE, the perfect setting for relaxed evenings.

Designed for sharing, the menu brings together premium sushi, creative plates and crafted beverages, all accompanied by DJ rhythms and sweeping skyline views.

The restaurant is open on Tuesdays, Saturdays and Sundays from 7pm to 11pm and Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays from 7pm to 11.30pm.

Experience the calming flow of Moon Yoga, where each session draws on the gentle energy of the lunar cycle to restore balance, clarity and inner calm.

It will take place on June 30, from 6.30pm to 7.30pm, priced at BD6 per person for hotel guests and BD12 for guests and members.

For more information or bookings, contact 17115500.

## EYE ON THE BALL

**I**NTERCONTINENTAL Bahrain is offering a packed line-up of experiences this week, from live football screenings and indulgent dining to stylish poolside parties and seasonal afternoon tea.

Fans can catch the FIFA World Cup matches live at the hotel's Elements Pool and Lounge, where the games will be screened in a fun atmosphere throughout the tournament. Guests can enjoy a range of food and beverage offerings while cheering on their favourite teams, with selected matches also featuring prediction contests, giving visitors the chance to guess the winning team and final score for a chance to win prizes.

For those looking for a premium dining experience, Legendz SteakHouse is serving a special à la carte menu. It is priced at BD28net with soft beverages or BD38net with unlimited selected beverages. Children under eight dine free, while those aged six to 12 receive a 50 per cent discount every Friday from noon to 4pm.

For Father's Day, Medzo is inviting families to celebrate with a specially curated three-course menu.

As part of the promotion, fathers dine with the hotel's compliments when accompanied by a minimum of two paying guests, whether adults or children. The offer is available until June 27 between noon



FRUITY: Mango creations at afternoon tea

and 10pm and is priced at BD9.900net per guest. Children under six dine free.

Step into an evening of elegance and celebration at the Epic White Party at Elements Pool and Lounge. Dressed in your finest white attire, soak up the vibrant atmosphere and stand a chance to win the coveted Best Dressed Award. It takes place tomorrow, June 26, from 6pm. Packages are priced at BD25, inclusive of bites and four premium

beverage vouchers, or BD20 with bites and soft beverages.

For a more relaxed summer treat, Noor Lounge is serving its Mango Afternoon Tea, featuring five tiers of sweet and savoury Alphonso mango-inspired creations. The experience is available from Thursday to Saturday, from 1pm to 5pm, priced at BD8net.

For more information or bookings, contact 17227777 or 36967701.



CHEERS: World Cup screenings at InterContinental Bahrain



**E**NJOY some of the English language films being screened at Cineco Seef this weekend.



### TOY STORY 5 (PG)

Woody, Buzz, Jessie and the rest of the gang's jobs are challenged when they are introduced to electronics, a new threat to playtime.

**Actors:** Tom Hanks, Tim Allen, Keanu Reeves

**Timings:** 12.15pm, 2.30pm, 4.45pm, 7pm, 9.15pm, 11.30pm

### THE DEATH OF ROBIN HOOD (18+)

Haunted by a violent past, Robin Hood is left gravely wounded after what seems to be his final battle. Rescued by a mysterious woman, he is given an unexpected opportunity for redemption and a chance to confront the life he has led.

**Actors:** Hugh Jackman, Jodie Comer, Bill Skarsgård  
**Timings:** 11am, 1.30pm, 4pm, 6.30pm, 9pm, 11.30pm

### BEAST (2026) (15+)

After years away from the cage, a once-feared MMA champion is pulled back in for the fight of his life when his younger brother is put in danger.

**Actors:** Russel Crowe, Mojean Aria, Daniel MacPherson  
**Timings:** 10.45am, 1.15pm, 3.45pm, 6.15pm, 8.45pm, 11.15pm

### THE MORTUARY ASSISTANT (18+)

Based on a video game, this story explores a new storyline involving the town's demonic entities. Newly certified mortician Rebecca Owens takes a job at the River Field Mortuary and is tasked with embalming bodies along on the night shift, but something sinister lurks beneath the surface.

**Actors:** Willa Holland, Paul Sparks, John Adams  
**Timings:** 4.30pm, 9.30pm, 11.30pm

# Pulse of Pop

AROUND THE WORLD IN MUSIC, TV, BOOKS AND MORE - BY RIMA ALHADDAD

## ONE LAST SERVICE



FINALE: The series' poster

### THE fifth and final season of *The Bear* is out now on Disney+.

Created by Christopher Storer, the critically acclaimed show follows young chef Carmen 'Carry' Berzatto (Jeremy Allen White), who inherits his family's rundown sandwich shop in Chicago following the death of his brother Michael. He is expected to run it while processing family traumas and dealing with his late brother's debts.

The chaotic series' cast also includes Golden Globe-winner Ayo Edebiri as crew member Sydney Adamu, and Emmy-winner Ebon Moss-Bachrach, who plays restaurant manager Richard 'Richie' Jerimovich.

Season four's finale concluded with Carry stepping away from the restaurant, as he no longer found joy in cooking and felt disconnected from

his passion.

The final season will pick up the morning after Sydney, Richie and Carry's sister and business manager Natalie (Abby Elliott) find out he left the restaurant to them.

With no money, the threat of a sale and a torrential storm in their way, the new partners must band together to achieve one last service in hopes of finally earning a Michelin star.

"The end of the show is, for Carry at least, about this sort of ultimate surrender and acceptance of an honesty with himself so, that all makes sense to me," Jeremy said in an interview, adding that he agrees with the decision to have his character step back from the restaurant.

"I'm proud of that for Carry, I'm proud of the rest of the characters for stepping up. They're so capable and so talented and so driven. I think it got

wrapped up in the perfect way."

*The Bear* has been praised for its 'engaging and genuine' storyline, which involves accurate kitchen lingo that fans of the series have become familiar with. Characters are often heard shouting 'corner, behind!', which prevents kitchen staff from running into each other, 'family style', referring to the staff sharing a meal, and 'chaos menu' for a menu that isn't curated around a particular cuisine or theme.

Fans are also hungry for more musical moments, as the series is loved not only for its mouth-watering dishes, but also for its sound tracks, which previously included tunes by Talking Heads' frontman David Byrne, LCD Soundsystem and, most famously, a moment from season two that featured Taylor Swift's 2008 country hit *Love Story*.

IMMERSIVE: A performance from Madeon's latest *Victory* Live tour



## ENERGETIC TUNES

### GRAMMY-NOMINATED French musician and DJ Madeon drops his new album *Victory* tomorrow.

The ten new tracks are described to have a blend of punk energy and dance music, citing punk rock band The Ramones and electronic duo Daft Punk as inspirations.

Madeon also characterised the new chapter to be focused on urgency and living the moment, which can be heard in the second single off the album titled *Fire Away* featuring American singer Catherine Garner, known professionally as Slayyyter.

"*Fire Away* is perhaps the most anthemic record on the album," Madeon said.

"It's a song about love as warfare, words like weapons of the brokenhearted. Slayyyter embodied the other side of the story and her voice took

the song to another level, her performance has so much confidence and attitude, she's electric," he added.

Born Hugo Leclercq, the 32-year-old creative talent started composing music at the age of 11.

He rose to fame after uploading a mashup remix in 2011 titled *Pop Culture* on *YouTube*, which featured samples from 39 songs mixed together on the fly using a Novation Launchpad music device. It currently stands at around 68 million views.

At age 17, he went on to work with Lady Gaga, producing three tracks for her 2013 album *Artpop*, and later working with her again on the track *911* from her 2020 record *Chromatica*.

His live performances stand out for their unique and immersive experiences that feature artistic visuals and storytelling.

## AN INTERSTELLAR JOURNEY

### AMERICAN superhero film *Supergirl* is out now in theatres.

Kara Zor-El/Supergirl (Milly Alcock) celebrates her 23rd birthday by travelling across the galaxy with her dog Krypto.

Along the way, she meets Ruthye Marye Knoll (Eve Ridley) and, upon learning about the young girl's father who died at the hands of space pirate and bounty hunter Krem of the Yellow Hills (Matthias Schoenaerts), the two join forces on an interstellar journey of vengeance and justice.

The film serves as the second instalment in the DC Universe

(DCU) franchise. It is a newly created production entity under Warner Brothers Discovery, co-chaired by film director James Gunn and producer Peter Safran, dissolving its predecessor DC Films in 2022.

The movie follows *Superman* (2025), which included a first look and cameo of Milly's *Supergirl*, starring David Corenswet, who is also reprising his role as Clark Kent/Superman and Kara's cousin who was sent away from Krypton as an infant and lives on Earth as a superhero.

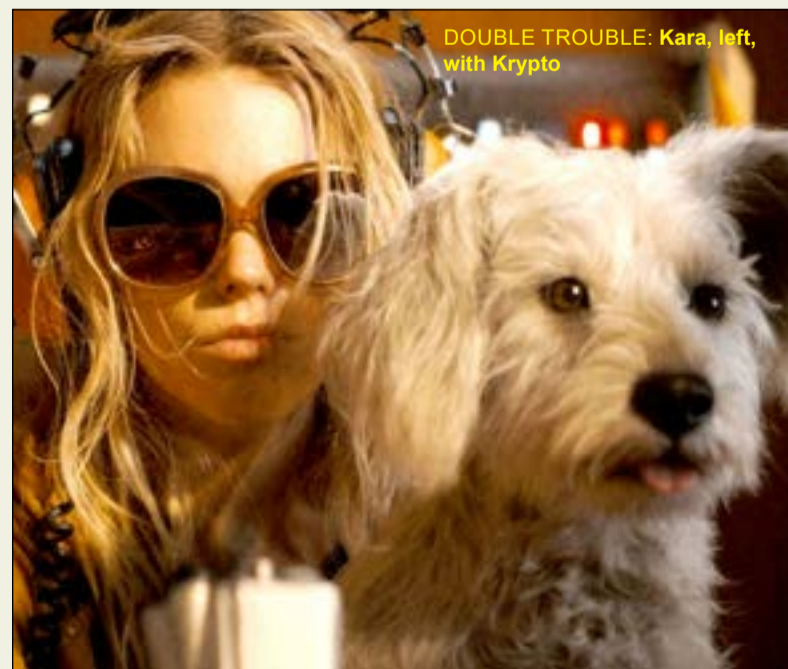
Unlike Clark, Kara stayed back and watched everyone around her die, making her a jaded person

who feels no duty to save or rescue others.

However, meeting Ruthye, who has also endured tragedy, gives her purpose and snaps her out of the destructive cycle.

"Through helping save this young girl and deal with her trauma from losing her entire family, there's a kinship there," Milly said in an interview.

"She realises that being Supergirl has nothing to do with her and has to do with everybody else around her. She needs to put her own feelings aside to help others, and through that she can save herself. So that's what the suit is for her," she added.



DOUBLE TROUBLE: Kara, left, with Krypto

# All eyes on Austria

## F1 BRACES FOR NEXT TWIST AFTER HAMILTON'S FERRARI BREAKTHROUGH

**F**ORMULA One could take another twist in Austria this weekend after Lewis Hamilton ended Mercedes' dominant run with his breakthrough first win for Ferrari in Spain.

The scenic Spielberg circuit hosts the eighth round of the season with Mercedes the favourites on paper after six wins — five in a row for Italian teenager and championship leader Kimi Antonelli — and seven pole positions so far.

Mercedes boast a good record at Spielberg and George Russell won there in 2024 but seven-time champion Hamilton has now had two second places and a win from his last three starts and is gathering momentum.

McLaren's reigning champion Lando Norris won from pole last year, with Australian teammate Oscar Piastri setting the fastest lap, and the team is the most successful constructor at the track with seven wins.

A first win of 2026 would send McLaren to their home British Grand Prix at Silverstone next week with an added spring in their step.

Red Bull's Max Verstappen meanwhile has a record four wins at his team's home track while Hamilton's teammate Charles Leclerc is also a past winner at Spielberg (2022), and was third last year, and is as keen as anyone to get back on top of the podium.

Throw in Antonelli's response to being sidelined by mechanical failure at the Barcelona-Catalunya Grand Prix, and Russell's eagerness to close the gap on his teammate, and Sunday's race has all the makings of an epic tussle.

"It's not going to be straightforward but I'm already looking forward to the next one because I really want to go back to where we left (off), from where we were finishing before," said Antonelli after his Spanish blow.

The 19-year-old is 41 points ahead of closest rival Hamilton, whose teammate Leclerc also failed to score in Barcelona through no fault of



ALL SET: Austrian Grand Prix will be held this weekend

- The Red Bull-owned circuit has the shortest lap, in terms of time, on the calendar with only 10 corners but aggressive kerbs. It takes a little over a minute to complete and races can be closely fought.
- At 700m above sea level, the track has the second-biggest difference between its highest and lowest points (69m), after Spa-Francorchamps.
- This year will be the 39th Austrian Grand Prix. The first was held at Zeltweg airfield in 1964 and moved to the Osterreichring (later renamed A1 Ring and now Red Bull Ring) in 1970.
- There have been 11 winners from pole in the last 21 races.
- Red Bull's Max Verstappen has a record four Austrian wins (2018, 2019, 2021, 2023) and other active winners are Charles Leclerc (2022),

Lewis Hamilton (2016), George Russell (2024) and Norris (2025).

- McLaren are the most successful team in Austria with seven victories in races counting towards the championship. Mercedes and Ferrari are on six each. Hamilton and Verstappen also won the two Styrian GPs held at the same circuit during the pandemic in 2020 and 2021.

### CHAMPIONSHIP

- Kimi Antonelli leads Ferrari's Hamilton by 41 points, with Mercedes teammate Russell a further nine adrift. Mercedes are 72 points clear of Ferrari in the constructors' standings, with champions McLaren third and 121 off the lead.

### RACE WINS

- Antonelli has won five of seven

- Mercedes have been on pole in every grand prix this season - Russell in Australia, Canada and Barcelona, Antonelli in China, Japan, Miami and Monaco.
- Mercedes won the first six races.
- Hamilton has a record 106 career victories from 387 starts and with three teams. The win at the Circuit de Catalunya was his first for Ferrari, who are now one win away from their 250th in Formula One.
- Verstappen has won 71 grands prix and is third on the all-time list behind Hamilton and Schumacher (91).

### POLE POSITION

- Hamilton has a record 104 career poles, his most recent in Hungary in 2023.

### MILESTONES

- Hamilton's win for Ferrari in Barcelona made him, at 41, the oldest F1 race winner since the late Australian Jack Brabham in 1970. Hamilton also extended his record for the longest winning career in F1, his first victory coming in 2007 and the latest in his 20th season.
- The Barcelona-Catalunya Grand Prix — with Hamilton, Russell and Norris the top three finishers — was the first time three British drivers had shared the podium since the 1968 US Grand Prix at Watkins Glen.

his own and needs to close a widening gap to the Briton.

Another win for either Hamilton or Leclerc would be Ferrari's 250th in Formula One.

Mercedes have recognised the Ferrari threat, with team boss Toto Wolff calling Barcelona a reality check and acknowledging that the team may have to change

their approach in future amid ongoing reliability concerns.

"Others have gained ground quickly and we need to respond," said the Austrian, whose team will bring some updates to Austria with a focus on performance and reliability.

"We are in a fight for both championships but must improve if we want to come

out on top come the end of the season. Our Achilles heel so far has been reliability."

Wolff said in Barcelona there would also be discussions with the drivers about handling "a situation where we risk holding each other up. I think it's not going to be a problem. It's just maybe we need to recalibrate."

Champions McLaren will be bringing an experimental rear wing for tomorrow's practice, with otherwise minor updates.

Norris took his first F1 podium in Austria in 2020 and, after looking like Mercedes' closest challengers in Miami last month when he and Piastri finished one-two in a

Saturday sprint, could pose more of a threat again in Spielberg.

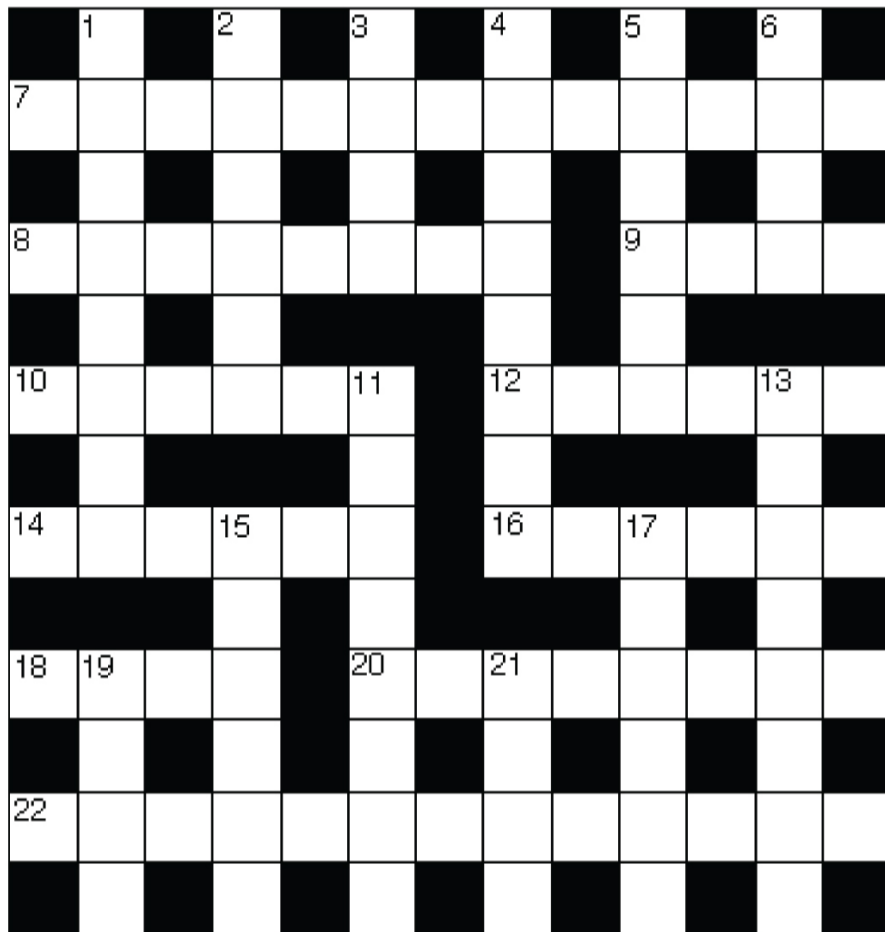
"While we take nothing for granted in such a tight field, we are optimistic that the car and driver characteristics will again suit the circuit, putting us in the fight at the front," said McLaren's applied engineering technical director Neil Houldey.

# Time Out



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

## crossword break



Solutions in next week's issue.

### ACROSS

- 7. Alone (13)
- 8. Consign (8)
- 9. Otherwise (4)
- 10. Fine fabric (6)
- 12. Keep back (6)
- 14. Pressing (6)
- 16. Particular (6)
- 18. Excuse (4)
- 20. Artisan (8)
- 22. In brackets (13)

### DOWN

- 1. Lower (8)
- 2. Approach (6)
- 3. Couch (4)
- 4. Superb (8)
- 5. Keen (6)
- 6. Muddle (4)
- 11. Reckon (8)
- 13. Hostile (8)
- 15. Rubber (6)
- 17. Calamitous (6)
- 19. Jump (4)
- 21. Head-cook (4)

### who, what, where, when

WHO ... did Philip Baker Hall portray in the film *Secret Honor*?

WHAT ... are the surnames of UK television's *Richard & Judy*?

WHERE ... in Europe is Sevana Lich the largest lake?

WHEN ... is Australia Day?

WHO... was the 1979 Benson & Hedges Masters snooker champion?

WHAT... novel by Charles Dickens features the character Harold Skimpole?

WHERE ... in Denmark is the city of Odense?

WHEN ... did the German Green Party activist Petra Kelly die?

### just so

Schnauzer  
 Mastiff  
 Terrier  
 Whippet  
 Tevuren  
 Foxhound  
 Spaniel

S  
O  
C  
I  
A  
L

C I II

ag  
e & xtc

## 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

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

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

### darn tough sudoku

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

Sudoku

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

Sudoku

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

### Last Week's Leisure Solutions

#### CROSSWORD BREAK:

Across: 1 View; 8 Indelicate; 9 Compress; 10 Iris; 12 Resist; 14 Drowsy; 15 Sample; 17 Boyish; 18 Zero; 19 Educated; 21 Accentuate; 22 Deed.  
 Down: 2 Immoderate; 3 Whisp; 4 Advent; 5 Closed; 6 Acrimony; 7 Less; 11 Insistence; 13 Improper; 16 Events; 17 Brutal; 18 Zeal; 20 Aged.

#### JUST SO:

A love triangle, The lion king, Nine times out of ten, Back and forth

#### WHO, WHAT, WHERE, WHEN:

Pink Anderson and Floyd Council; The Line of Beauty by Alan Hollinghurst; Vancouver, Canada; 1898; Guy Fawkes; The Meat Purveyors; Off the coast of Sierra Leone in the North Atlantic Ocean; 1977.

### Darn Tough Sudoku

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