

'HOOKED' ON CREATIVITY

COMMUNITY REPORT
By MELISSA NAZARETH
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CROCHET enthusiasts in Bahrain will come together to mark I Love Yarn Day, a major global celebration dedicated to sharing the joy of knitting, crocheting, weaving and yarn crafting, observed on October 10.

Bahrain Crochet Club is set to stage a fun session for members at Innovation Themes in Galleria Mall, Zinj. Founded in 2023 by Pakistani expatriate and creative entrepreneur Fakhira Syed from Manama, the group is a women-only platform dedicated to the craft.

Currently, there are around 35 members across nationalities and ages, who meet every month and participate in various activities.

"The idea was to gather



SISTERHOOD: Members at last month's anniversary session

ladies who crochet and want to crochet together," Fakhira told *GulfWeekly*.

"My friend suggested we set up a group and it has been

a wonderful journey so far. Members learn from one another and share patterns. Having structured monthly project deadlines offers a helpful, encouraging nudge to overcome procrastination and creative brain fog," she added.

The upcoming event will also mark Breast Cancer Awareness Month as members knit pink ribbons, expressing solidarity with the cause. It is open to the public with prior registration.

"This is a guest-friendly meetup and will bring crafters together to celebrate our shared passion while supporting a meaningful cause," added the educator, who conducts knitting classes and makes customised crochet items.

She recounted taking up the craft in school when she was 13. However, she started pursuing it seriously during the Covid pandemic – a time when many around the world turned to the arts.

"In 2017, I thought of

creating a page and making something for friends but during the pandemic, things clicked and it was the actual start of my project, you could say," explained the 35-year-old.

Crocheting is the craft of making fabric, clothing, or other items by interlocking loops of yarn, thread, or other fibres using a single-hooked needle called a crochet hook. Some have claimed its 'therapeutic' effects, as it comprises repetitive stitches.

"It is very therapeutic and during the pandemic it was my escape. It gave me comfort and peace. Many of our members have also found it relaxing," added the professional user experience designer, who has studied the science behind making digital products like websites and applications easy for users to navigate.

Echoing her sentiments is Raji Murali from Hoora, who has found the club's sessions to be enriching.



FOUNDER: Fakhira

"Although I joined the group only recently, I was impressed from the outset by the members' enthusiasm and the strong sense of sisterhood they share. The group is special to me because it provides a welcoming space where we can exchange ideas about crochet, colours and yarns, and celebrate our shared passion for the craft.

"My most memorable experience was the project we completed in September to mark the club's third anniversary. It gave us an opportunity to hear members speak about their creations and the personal stories behind them, making the project especially meaningful," added the Indian expatriate and quadragenarian.

Raji learned to crochet from her grandmother when she was a teenager and working with yarn makes her feel 'warm and protected', instantly taking her back to her childhood. "Crochet involves repeating patterns to create something new. The process occupies the mind, helps us relax and allows us to turn stress into something beautiful," added the educator.

For her part, Bahraini teacher Rawan AlHamad from Hidd is enjoying meeting people with the same passion.

"I made a hooded scarf that I'm really proud of," said the 27-year-old.

Meanwhile Fouzia Fazal, aged 41, revealed how crochet helped her heal after she lost her mother.

"After losing her, I found myself wanting to do the things she used to do. Crochet became one of those," added the accountant from Hamad Town.

For more information, follow @bahraincrochetclub on Instagram.



VIBRANT VERSES
Local exhibition
SEE PAGE 2



CHARM OF THE GULF
Bahraini artist
SEE PAGE 3



LEISURE SCENE
Food, fun, etc.
SEE PAGES 4-5



PULSE OF POP
TV, movies & more
SEE PAGE 6



VIBRANT: A virtual representation of the granny square rug project with individual squares knitted by members

Shades of poetry



EVENT REPORT
By MELISSA NAZARETH
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A GLITTERING world of words and visuals is set to come alive as Bahrain Writers' Circle (BWC) stages its annual poetry and art exhibition on Saturday.

A total of 23 teams will showcase their creativity at the ninth edition of Confluence – Where words and images meet, which will be held at Harbour Gate in Bahrain Financial Harbour.

Renowned Bahraini artist Thamer Al Reefy and noted Bahrain-based journalist Meera Ravi will attend the inauguration ceremony on October 10. The exhibition will run until October 22 and is open to the public.

The group will mark its 15th anniversary at the event, celebrating a legacy of nurturing writers in the kingdom.

"We are excited and preparations are in full swing," BWC director Saira Ranj told *GulfWeekly*.

"The arts help us make sense of the world, particularly when the world feels unsettled. For 15 years, Bahrain Writers' Circle has provided a non-profit platform for expression and connection, helping deepen our understanding of the humanities," she added.

This year, Confluence will merge with BWC's flagship event Colours of Life.

"The regional conflict prevented Colours of Life from going ahead as planned; its merger with Confluence carries that commitment forward. A heartfelt thank you to Bahrain Financial Harbour for its continued support over the years, and to LuLu Group



UNTAMED: Shikha captures the spirit of adventure



SHUTTERBUG: Shikha



CREATIVE: Glen

for joining us as a sponsor this year," she added.

Each team comprising

a writer and an artist will present works that are tied together by a common theme and colour.

Bringing alive the theme 'crossing the divide', former Bahrain resident and retired aircraft maintenance engineer Glen Stansfield will showcase his paintings.

"This year I am taking a break from writing and I have entered as an artist. My paintings represent something the world needs – bridges; bridges between faiths, genders, nationalities, ideologies... We need to understand we all have differences and we should embrace them, not fight over them," he added.

The crime novel writer left Bahrain three years ago but continues to work closely with the BWC from Scotland

where he now lives.

Offering diversity, Indian expatriate and photographer Shikha Varma from Awali will present her aerial shot, connecting it to her poem *Colour of Escapades*.

"Kayaking, here, becomes a metaphor for self-discovery, breaking frontiers and embracing the joy of the journey. The fuchsia embodies its central spirit; bold, untamed, and vibrantly alive," explained the shutterbug and three-time winner of the Her Royal Highness Shaikha Sabeeka Bint Ibrahim Al Khalifa Cup for photography.

Meanwhile, educator and poet Nivedita Roy from Adliya will present her verses published in her latest book *Recipe for a Poet's Broth*. She will collaborate with Indian expatriate and creative talent Pallavi Jain from Saar.

"Pallavi's deft hands worked on a sculpture that transformed my words to another level," she remarked.

An excerpt from Nivedita's poem reads:

'Add a flavour of rhyme and rhythm

Adjust the metre to suit the flavour

Squeeze your aches into the pot

Drop in those unshed tears hidden from the lot...'

BWC has many members who are published poets and authors, committed to the literary arts. Among them is Rupa Bhargava from Saar.

Participating for a third time, she is excited to collaborate with Bahrain-based talents Sriparna Ghose and Aditi Patel.

Talking about one of her exhibits, she said: "The



POET: Nivedita



TALENT: Rupa



DARK: Aditi's painting inspired by *The Depth of Black*

Depth of Black was written about a year ago and examines the concept of black through the perspective of a blind man. In the poem, darkness is not merely the

absence of light, but a state of mind and a distinct way of experiencing the world."

For more details, follow @bahrainwriterscirclebwc on Instagram.

BRAIN-BUSTERS

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

- 1) Edward Nigma is better known as which Batman character?
- 2) Which living bird has the longest wingspan?
- 3) Introduced in 1929 and still popular today, which carbonated beverage contained the mood stabilising substance Lithium until 1950?
- 4) Which 1967 song written by Cat Stevens, became a hit for Rod Stewart in 1977 and Sheryl Crow in 2003?
- 5) The 1863 Battle Of Gettysburg was fought in which American state?
- 6) What is an electrical device and the most



- 7) Which country has a national holiday on May 28 each year in order to celebrate its first nuclear test?

- 1) The Riddler
- 2) Albatross
- 3) Twp
- 4) The First Cut Is the Deepest
- 5) Pennsylvania
- 6) Dynamo
- 7) Pakistan

ANSWERS

KNOTS OF HOPE

AN interactive installation honouring breast cancer awareness month will be showcased at the exhibition. Guests will be able to tie a pink ribbon on the artwork, expressing solidarity with the cause.

"It is about combining a joyful event with a strong message of health first," creator Pallavi noted.

"As an eco-conscious person, I enjoy repurposing the things that would go waste otherwise. For this piece, I have used ribbons and leftover wool. Even the wooden frame used has been recycled," she added.



ART: Pallavi with her piece

Traditional treasures



ART REPORT
By NAMAN ARORA
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BAHRAINI creative **Salman Al Najem** is bringing the Khaleeji spirit to bags around the Gulf with handmade pocket-sized charms.

The 33-year-old artist took inspiration from his A97AB (pronounced as-haab and translated from Arabic as 'friends') plushie dolls to create a new couple - this time donning a bisht and mukhawar.

"It was a way to portray and display another aspect of Khaleeji culture," he told *GulfWeekly*.

The dolls were handmade in Agra, India, and the process took about eight months of back and forth till it was perfected.

The first release earlier this year sold out, and Salman decided to make the 16.5-by-6cm-by-2cm dolls.

"A97AB is back again with handmade bag-charms keychains," he added.

"A97AB is a gentle call to smile and point at relatable figures that represent our shared Khaleeji culture, people and family.

"The pair of dolls intend to act as a visual representation of Khaleeji people; in a light-heartedly fun way, evoking feelings of friendship, love and belonging."

The original A97AB dolls were exhibited during the SIKKA Art fair in Dubai, where art lovers also had a chance to spice up their interiors with mini-versions of the dolls.

"I had created these characters originally in 2019 in the form of rugs, made of 100 per cent New Zealand wool, and then later made solid gold necklaces with them," he had said at the time.

"This time I wanted to create something more accessible, so came up with these smaller plushie dolls.

"I have exhibited the extra-large dolls in previous exhibitions and when the factory that made them had sent me a miniature sample of the dolls, I knew I would want to release them as such at some point."

Beyond their visual appeal, A97AB are a reminder of what connects human beings, highlighting how relationships create cohesion within communities, with the lighthearted design

encouraging engagement rather than just a 'hands-off' spectacle.

Salman graduated with a Master's degree in fine art from the Royal College of Art in London, and a Bachelor's degree in interior and spatial design from the University of the Arts London.

For more details, follow @smnajem and @_a97ab_ on Instagram.



CREATIVE: Salman



CHARMS: The Khaleeji couple



DUO: The popular dolls



DETAIL: The bead embroidery, evoking the spirit of local culture



SOLIDARITY: The pink ribbons that will be on sale at the event

Woven with love

LOCAL art group **Bahrain Crochet Club** is set to stage an event in Muharraq, expressing solidarity with breast cancer patients, writes **Melissa Nazareth**.

Visitors can buy handmade knitted items and proceeds from sales will be donated to Bahrain Cancer Society.

The programme will happen on October 10 in Al Manara Art and Culture Space at the Muharraq Youth Centre.

Club founder Kadija Alsaeed from Salmabad noted that members have spent the days leading up to the event designing diverse items, from cardigans to socks, hats and keychains.

"We will also be selling knitted pink ribbons," the 39-year-old told

GulfWeekly.

"Bahrain Cancer Society volunteers will join us as well," she added.

There will be a free crocheting class on the same day for those interested, organisers revealed.

Launched in 2024, the platform welcomes women from all walks of life. Currently, there are more than 100 members across nationalities, including Bahraini, Brazilian, Sri Lankan and other Arabs.

Last year, they made a pink blanket, woven together using 30 granny squares that were individually knitted by the members.

This is a different Bahrain Crochet Club from the one featured on page 1. For more info, follow @bahrain_crochetclub on Instagram.

Leisure Scene



**What's
on
guide**

By Julia Cassano

DINING FOR A CAUSE AT RITZ-CARLTON



PINKTOBER: An array of pink bites and drinks

MAKE the most of the weekend at The Ritz-Carlton, Bahrain, with a tempting line-up of dining experiences waiting to be discovered.

In support of Breast Cancer Awareness Month, the resort is introducing a series of Pinktober offerings across its dining outlets. Guests can enjoy a signature Pink Afternoon Tea, pink risotto and a selection of pink beverages, with proceeds donated to the Bahrain Cancer Society to support its breast cancer awareness and care initiatives.

Priced at BD34net, the afternoon tea is available everyday from 3pm to 7pm at the Ritz Gourmet Lounge.

For a relaxed afternoon by the sea, head to Le Jardin by Cantina Kahlo, the resort's beachside dining spot overlooking the Arabian Gulf. Open from Thursday to Saturday, from 4pm to 8pm, it serves light bites and refreshing drinks in a laid-back setting, making it an easy stop

after a swim or a casual dinner by the beach.

Thursday nights bring Thai 'Drunch' to Thai Lounge, with two hours of unlimited Thai tapas and bottomless house beverages. Priced at BD45 per person, the experience runs from 7pm to 10pm, with a minimum of two guests per booking. October guests can dine for free with a valid ID. Terms and conditions apply.

At Plums, Sundays are made for sharing, with a selection of artisanal cheeses and premium cold cuts paired with carefully chosen grape. The experience is available from 7pm to 11pm and is priced at BD35.

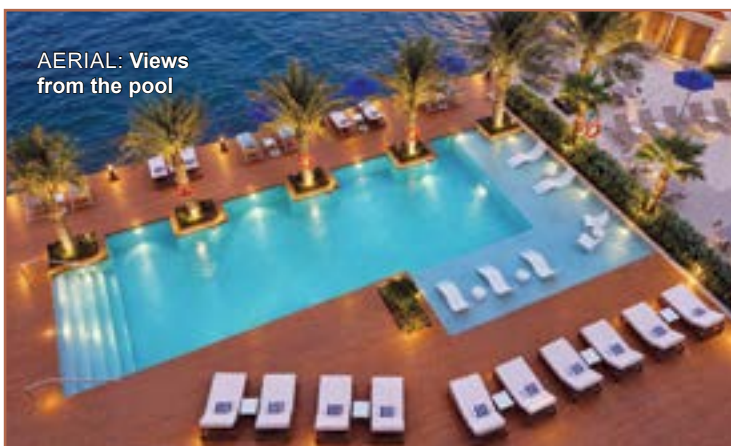
Wednesday nights at Plums are dedicated to meat lovers, with three tenderloin selections served with a signature side and homemade sauce. Priced at BD39, the experience is available from 7pm to 11pm, with an optional two-glass grape pairing for an additional BD10.

For bookings and more information, contact

SCRUMPTIOUS
cheeses and

17580000 d
reservation

AERIAL: Views from the pool



FLAVOURS FROM THE SEA

AQUA Vista Bahrain is turning weekends into an excuse to slow down, dine well and make the most of its waterfront setting, with a lineup of food, drinks and more.

For steak lovers, Maestro Lounge is serving up richly marbled wagyu steak, seared over an open flame and paired with fresh flavours from the sea. Prices start from BD28 per person, with the offer available daily from noon to 2am.

There is also a reason to linger over a drink, with 50 per cent off beverages at the lounge every day from noon until 2am.

Ladies can make it a night out at the lounge, with three complimentary drinks for women every evening from 5pm to 9pm.

Those looking to unwind can take to the water for Aqua Vista's Floating Sound Journey, held in partnership with Svava Space. Participants will drift across the water as crystal singing bowls, healing

frequencies and ambient soundscapes create a calming experience designed to encourage deep relaxation.

The sessions will take place on Saturday, October 10, and continue on October 17, 24 and 31 from 7pm to 8.30pm.

For an easier start to the weekend, The Waterfront Restaurant is serving a breakfast buffet overlooking the sea. The spread features market-fresh ingredients and live cooking stations, giving guests plenty of reason to take their time over the first meal of the day.

Breakfast is available on Fridays and Saturdays from 6.30am to 11am and costs BD10 per person.

Those in need of a proper break can swap the desk for a sun lounger with Aqua Vista's Pool Day Pass. Priced at BD9.900 per person, it includes pool access from 8am to 7pm and one complimentary drink.

For more information, contact 17177333.

BRUNCH AND BEYOND

GET ready for a long afternoon of food, drinks and live entertainment at Hilton Bahrain's six-hour Friday Brunch.

Held at Origin Kitchen and Culture from 1pm to 7pm, the brunch gives guests plenty of time to settle in and enjoy. Packages are priced at BD29net with house beverages, BD38net with premium beverages and BD27 for German passport holders.

Seafood takes centre stage tonight, October 8, at Origin Kitchen and Culture, with a selection of fresh catches, sushi and other treasures from the sea. The dinner runs from 7pm to 10pm and costs BD32 with soft beverages.

For an earlier start, the daily breakfast buffet is served from 6.30am to 10.30am, priced at BD13net.

For something lighter afterwards, stop by Lamar Café and Lounge for a matcha latte, with prices starting from BD3.500.

On the 44th floor, CLAW BBQ, brings together food, games, entertainment and panoramic views of Bahrain's skyline, making it a lively

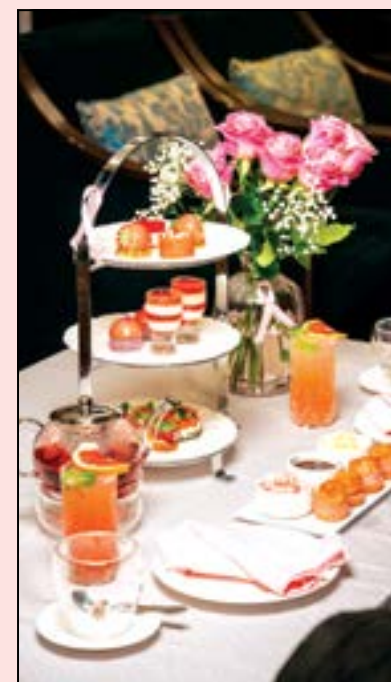
choice, whether you are looking for a long lunch or a night out.

Sundays come with an extra dose of indulgence, with two hours of unlimited beverages for BD12.500. The offer can be extended for another two hours for an extra BD10, while also enjoying 20 per cent off the full menu.

Monday is dedicated to the ladies, with Ladies' Night running from 8pm to 11pm. The offer includes four complimentary drinks and a sharing platter for BD15, along with 30pc off the full food and beverage menu.

CLAW BBQ turns up the flavour midweek with Taco Tuesdays, running from 6pm to midnight. Enjoy unlimited tacos and drinks for BD16, with the option to add unlimited selected beverages for an additional BD3.500. Fridays bring CLAW's signature brunch, featuring food, drinks and entertainment from 12.30pm to 4pm, with tickets starting at BD24. The fun continues afterwards with two additional hours of Happy Hour from 4pm to 6pm.

For bookings and more information, call 33692013.



SPREAD: Pink sweet and savoury treats

TREAT yourself and a friend to an elegant afternoon tea at InterContinental Bahrain in support of Pinktober.

Available daily from 2pm to 7pm until October 30 at Noor Lounge, the afternoon tea features a selection of savoury and sweet creations, including beetroot salmon with dill cream cheese and raspberry chocolate cake. A portion of the proceeds will be donated to the Bahrain Cancer Society. It is priced at BD8 per tray.

For those looking for a longer lunch, Legendz SteakHouse is hosting a sharing-style dining experience, with a selection of starters followed by signature mains, including Souvlaki Moshari, duck leg confit and wild mushroom risotto, Hünkar Beğendi and filet mignon Café de Paris, alongside a selection of desserts.

Priced at BD28net with soft



MOREISH: Breakfast picks at the hotel

Leisure Scene

Weekly Entertainment

ATLANTON



OUS: Selection of artisanal cold cuts and premium cold cuts

For email rc.bahrz.restaurant.
s@ritzcarlton.com.

A SUNSET GATHERING



RELAX: Enjoy bites and drinks while overlooking Manama's skyline

MAKE the most of the cooler evenings at **Sheraton Bahrain Hotel**, where outdoor dining, sunset views and generous flavours set the scene.

At Braserio Atlántico, settle into the welcoming terrace for signature grilled dishes, handcrafted beverages and sweeping views of the Manama skyline. Open daily from noon to 2am, it is an ideal spot for a sunset gathering or a relaxed

evening outdoors.

For an early-evening treat, Atlántico Hour brings curated bites and beverages to the rooftop from Sunday to Thursday, between 4pm and 7pm.

For something made to share, Golestan Persian Grill offers the Barreh-ye Kamel Tandoori, or whole roasted lamb. Slowly cooked with traditional marinades and authentic recipes, the feast is served with Chelow Zaferani, Zereskh Polow and Sabzi Polow. Designed for family

celebrations, festive gatherings and special occasions, it is available for dine-in or takeaway with 24 hours' advance reservation. Golestan is open daily from noon to 11pm.

For celebrations of any kind, Sheraton Cakes offers a selection of handcrafted artisan cakes, created for occasions ranging from birthdays and weddings to corporate events. Pre-ordering is required 24 hours in advance.

For bookings and more information, contact 17533533 or 38885408.



BREATHTAKING: The villas with views of the clear waters

TUNE INTO TRANQUILITY

A STAY at Hawar Resort by Mantis offers the chance to experience a private island escape beyond the villa.

The Royal Villa Elements combines a sound healing session with a couples massage and a choice of fishing, dolphin watching, or bird watching at Rubud Island.

A family boat package is also available at BD45 for four adults or more.

Guests can enjoy a cultural desert tour followed by a private barbecue prepared by their own personal chef at the villa. Younger guests are catered to as well, with the option of a private Bear Grylls Survival Academy session with certification.

Together, the experiences offer a chance to discover a different side of Hawar, balancing relaxation in the privacy of the villa with opportunities to explore the island's natural surroundings, culture and sense of adventure – all at your own pace.

For more information or reservations, call 32183610 or email reservations@hawarresort.com.

A SIP OF HOPE

beverages or BD38net with unlimited selected beverages, the experience is available tomorrow, October 9, and October 16, from noon to 4pm. Children under six dine for free, while children aged six to 12 receive 50 per cent off.

Meanwhile, Legendz SteakHouse brings a taste of France to the table with a new selection of à-la-carte dishes. The menu includes rich foie gras, entrecote with crisp mesclun salad and steak frites, served with a choice of green olive tapenade butter or classic Bordelaise sauce.

Available Monday to Friday from 6pm to 10pm, the menu offers a selection of French-inspired classics for an elegant evening.

For a more leisurely start to the day, try Your Floating Happiness, a floating breakfast experience designed for two adults at Elements Pool and Lounge. Enjoy a curated breakfast from the comfort of your pool, with a touch of luxury and a little everyday escapism.

Available from 9am, the experience costs BD22net for two adults and requires 24 hours' advance reservation. It is exclusively for adults.

For more information or bookings, call 36967701.

ALL THINGS PINK

SPEND the afternoon at **Four Seasons Hotel Bahrain Bay** with a **Pinktober Brunch** supporting **Think Pink: Bahrain Breast Cancer Society**.

From freshly prepared sushi and ceviche to Italian pasta, Asian wok dishes and Indian favourites, there is plenty to explore across the live stations.

Complete the experience with an array of pink-inspired desserts, from pink velvet cake to strawberry and rose creations, alongside live entertainment.

It will be held tomorrow, October 9, and continue on October 16 and 23, from 1pm to 4pm at Bahrain Bay Kitchen. It costs BD35 including soft beverages and BD48 with a selected beverage package. Children

under six dine with the hotel's compliments, while those aged six to 12 enjoy 50 per cent savings.

Indulge in a traditional Roman sweet bun, as the iconic maritozzo takes centre stage at Bay View Lounge.

Made with a soft, airy dough and filled with lightly sweetened whipped cream, the classic Italian treat is available in a selection of flavours, including vanilla cream, tiramisu, fragola (strawberry) and pistachio.

Served at the elegant lobby lounge, overlooking Bahrain Bay, the maritozzi are available daily, from 11.30am to 11.30pm, priced à la carte.

Byblos welcomes guests back for evenings steeped in Lebanese flavours, with live music and stunning sea views. Oriental specialty chef Tony El Khoury has prepared a selection of dishes, including sawda djej and makanek bi limon, bringing traditional creations to the beachfront setting.

The à la carte menu is



DESSERTS: Pink treats at Bahrain Bay Kitchen

available from Tuesday to Sunday, 6pm to midnight, every Friday.

For a more private evening, guests can also opt for a beachfront experience for two, featuring a gourmet menu, personalised beach setting, private transportation, sparkling beverages and live entertainment, along with a gift from Byblos.

The experience is available from 7pm to midnight for a three-hour duration, with the last seating at 10pm. Packages range from BD175

to BD400, depending on the selection.

Slip into serenity with the Night Spa experience for two, featuring a 60-minute aromatherapy massage beside the softly lit indoor pool, followed by pool time with chocolates, macarons and fresh berries. The 120-minute experience costs BD280 from Sunday to Wednesday and BD295 from Thursday to Saturday and on public holidays.

For bookings and more information, contact 17115500.



CALMING: Enjoy a Night Spa experience for two

Pulse of Pop

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



EERIE: Jessica portraying her character

HAUNTING HER HOME

PSYCHOLOGICAL horror film *Other Mother* is out now in cinemas. It stars Jessica Chastain as Ursula, a mother who finds herself having to protect her daughter Bela, portrayed by Arabella Olivia Clark, from a supernatural entity that resembles her, as she haunts her home and threatens her family. In an interview, producers James Wan and Rob Savage spoke about their experiences working with Jessica, who they say will have the audience constantly

questioning which version of her character they are looking at. “The great thing about Jessica is she is an absolute horror fan, and she completely understands the assignment,” Rob said. “She’s able to just achieve that technicality that horror needs, whilst at the same time giving this really raw, emotional performance, both as other mommy and as Ursula, the mother character. “It’s an incredibly emotional movie, as well as a terrifying one. Being

able to switch between those two modes so seamlessly was when we knew the movie was going to work,” he added. Echoing his co-producer’s sentiment, James described Jessica as the ‘secret sauce to the movie’. “It would not work as well as it does if it were not for her, and it’s truly not your typical slasher/horror villain movie. So much of what makes this movie work is what she brings to the table,” he noted. The film’s concept has had people draw

comparisons between it and the 2009 animated film *Coraline*, telling the story of a young girl discovering an idolised alternative world with other versions of her family. However, *Other Mother* is based on the 2024 novel *Incidents Around the House* by Josh Malerman. Aside from earning a film adaptation, the book was nominated for the 2024 Bram Stoker Award for Superior Achievement in a Novel and was a finalist at the 2025 Locus Award for Best Horror Novel.

NEW MUSICAL PHASE DAWNS

SOUL and R&B singer Remi Wolf drops her new album *Mud* tomorrow, October 9.

Reflecting on its title, the artist revealed that she felt literally covered in dirt during the process and clean and clear by the end of it.

“I feel like I’ve crossed into a new phase of life because of this album,” Remi said in an interview.

“It has been a very cleansing record to make for me,” she added.

The upcoming 11 tracks were composed after a period of self-reflection, according to the 30 year-old artist, who embarked on her career as a high school senior on *American Idol* in 2014.

She made her debut in 2019 with the extended play *You’re A Dog!* after completing her undergraduate music studies the previous year.

Her first full-length studio album *Juno*, released in 2021, received critical acclaim from



SHOWMANSHIP: The artist at a recent event

critics, with review aggregator *Metacritic* rating the record 85 out of 100.

In a previous interview, she had described her musical style as ‘funky soul pop’, with an aim to constantly innovate the sound of pop music and erase any rules that might be associated with the genre.

“I want to push the soundscape and the sounds we’re able to use, the words I’m able to use, the vocal tone that I’m able to use. It would be my dream if radio was like ‘Wait, this is sick’ because it’s so different than everything that’s on the radio now. At the end of the day, I want everybody to like my music,” she had said.



TROUBLED: The series’ poster

LIFE OF A TEENAGER

SUPERNATURAL horror miniseries *Carrie* is out now on Amazon Prime Video.

It follows Carrie White (Summer Howell), a sheltered teenage girl who has spent her life in seclusion with her overly protective mother Margaret White (Samantha Sloan), as she joins high school following her father’s death and develops mysterious telekinetic powers.

Based on the 1974 namesake novel by Stephen King, it is the first series adaptation of the eponymous franchise and the fourth screen adaptation of the novel.

In an interview with showrunner Mike Flanagan, he explained how his version is different compared to previous attempts.

“Our version of Carrie is a character who is open, earnest, curious and kind, and wanting to be part of the world,” he said.

“The fact that that character gets to experience our contemporary reality in 2026 and react to that – all of that is new material not only for the character, but I think for fans of the story of Carrie,” he added.

In a social media post, novelist Stephen, who has a number of iconic titles

and films, including the famed *It* franchise and *The Shining*, praised the new series and the themes it tackles.

“Mike Flanagan’s version of Carrie is brilliant. What it has to say about social media is shocking and true,” Stephen noted.

Echoing his sentiments, his son Joe Hill said that he found himself ‘fighting back tears’.

“Never had that happen before, watching a preview. Maybe I’m getting a bit soggy in my fifties, I don’t know. Looks so good though – Mike Flanagan sure can make them,” he added.



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Solutions in next week's issue

1. Reared (7,2)
8. Possess (3)
9. Curse (11)
11. Respire (7)
12. Sufficient (5)
13. Beast (6)
15. Save (6)
17. Fool (5)
18. Decamp (7)
20. Diligently (11)
22. Speck (3)
23. Plov (9)

2. Edge (3)
3. Nail (5)
4. Journey (6)
5. Archbishop (7)
6. Glaring (11)
7. Winning (2,3,4)
10. Hasty (11)
11. Blessing (9)
14. Demonstrates (7)
16. Pantry (6)
19. Brief (5)
21. Untruth (3)

WHO ... won a Best Actor in a Leading Role Oscar for his role as Don Birnem in *The Lost Weekend*?
WHAT ... two singers had UK No 1 singles in 1957 with the song *Singing The Blues*?
WHERE ... in England is Donkey Town?
WHEN ... was the Texas Declaration of Independence that created the Republic of Texas?
WHO ... directed the 1965 film *Alphaville*?
WHAT ... US President won the 1906 Nobel Peace Prize?
WHERE ... in Europe is the university city of Erlangen?
WHEN ... did Gene Tunney become World Heavyweight Boxing Champion?

PLOT



come come come

bean bean bean
bean bean bean
bean bean bean
bean bean bean
bean bean bean
bean bean bean

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

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

Sudoku

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

Sudoku

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

Across: 7 Enable; 8 Junior;
10 Deserve; 11 Taint; 12
Cafe; 13 Craft; 17 Quash;
18 Ache; 22 Enemy; 23
Mixture; 24 Throng; 25
Scarce.

Down: 1 Verdict; 2 Falsify;
3 Glory; 4 Justify; 5 Vivid;
6 Trite; 9 Wearisome;
14 Buoyant; 15 Acquire;
16 Referee; 19 Petty; 20
Yearn; 21 Exact.

JUST SO: See how the
land lies, Thick as thieves,
Once and for all, The eye of
the storm.

**WHO, WHAT, WHERE,
WHEN:**

Andrew Flintoff; Japan;
Norway; 1968; Tiger
Woods; Port Vale F.C.;
Peru; 1989

Darn Tough Sudoku

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

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