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AUGUST 12-18, 2012 | Issue 61

Read.



BALANCING ACT

We offer the definitive guide on how to achieve the elusive work-life balance, allowing you to excel both at work and at home

STYLE IN THE CITY

Like any other venue, the city offers its own distinct styles, and fashion is now shot-through with metropolitan madness

TAKING ON TUSCANY



BETTER LATE THAN NEVER

It seems as if BMW's entry into the saloon-coupé market was well worth waiting for



Brain teaser

How to preserve your youth by flexing your mental muscles



Health | Fitness | Film reviews | Entertainment | Cars & gadgets | Community | Listings

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Letters

Email: letters@readme.ae

A selection of the letters we've received this week. Write in to have your say.

✉ Dear Read., On July 8 of this year, at around 5.45pm, I left my sunglasses in the male toilets of Dubai Marina Station. I realised it when I was aboard the train going to Rashidiya. I got out at the next available station in order to return to Dubai Marina Station as soon as possible. In the meantime, I also called the RTA toll-free number to report my lost sunglasses. Upon arriving there, I asked the guard on duty if they were able to recover any glasses with blue tint. Luckily, they had and were able to give them back to me. Thank you to the RTA and Dubai Metro staff, guard Krisna and teller Crisanto for being so helpful. Cheers, keep up the good work.

Jescel John Espinosa

It's not only the passengers that make Dubai Metro so enjoyable to use, but also the staff who work so tirelessly and honestly to ensure

the comfort and satisfaction of all riders.

✉ Dear Read., I am living in Sharjah and I travel five days a week to my office in Business Bay. Though the Metro can get crowded, I still feel very comfortable and safe travelling in it. It is rare, however, that I get the chance to commute in the ladies' compartment every day of the week, so I sometimes must try the second compartment. Fasting for Ramadan, for the past few weeks, I have noticed that men are getting into the same compartment. I represent the rest of the ladies who are travelling with me as day-to-day passengers on the Metro, and as such, as a lady passenger, I would like to request that the Metro authority add one more ladies compartment if possible. Thanks and regards,

Fathima Nazia

Thank you for your letter Fathima. We have passed on your letter and request to the relevant authorities and wish you continued safe passage and comfort.

Read. Poll

Have you visited At the Top (Level 124) at the Burj Khalifa?

- Yes
- No
- Intend to

Cast your vote online at www.readme.ae

LAST READ. POLL RESULTS

Are the best things in life free?

Yes	68%
No	20%
I don't know	12%

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FASEEHA BANI



ANUP JHA



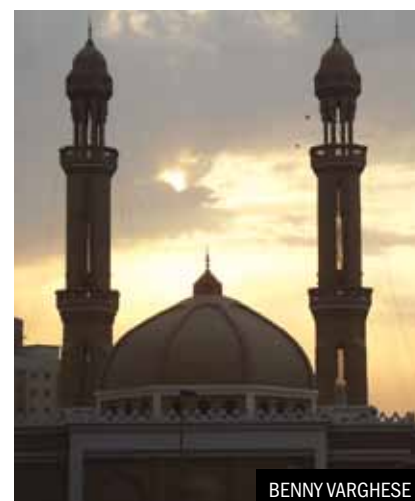
RIZVIYA RAHMAN



HUBERT UMALI



RIZWAN AHMED KHAN



BENNY VARGHESE

Station by station guide

Looking for something to do? You could always hop off the train and visit one of these...



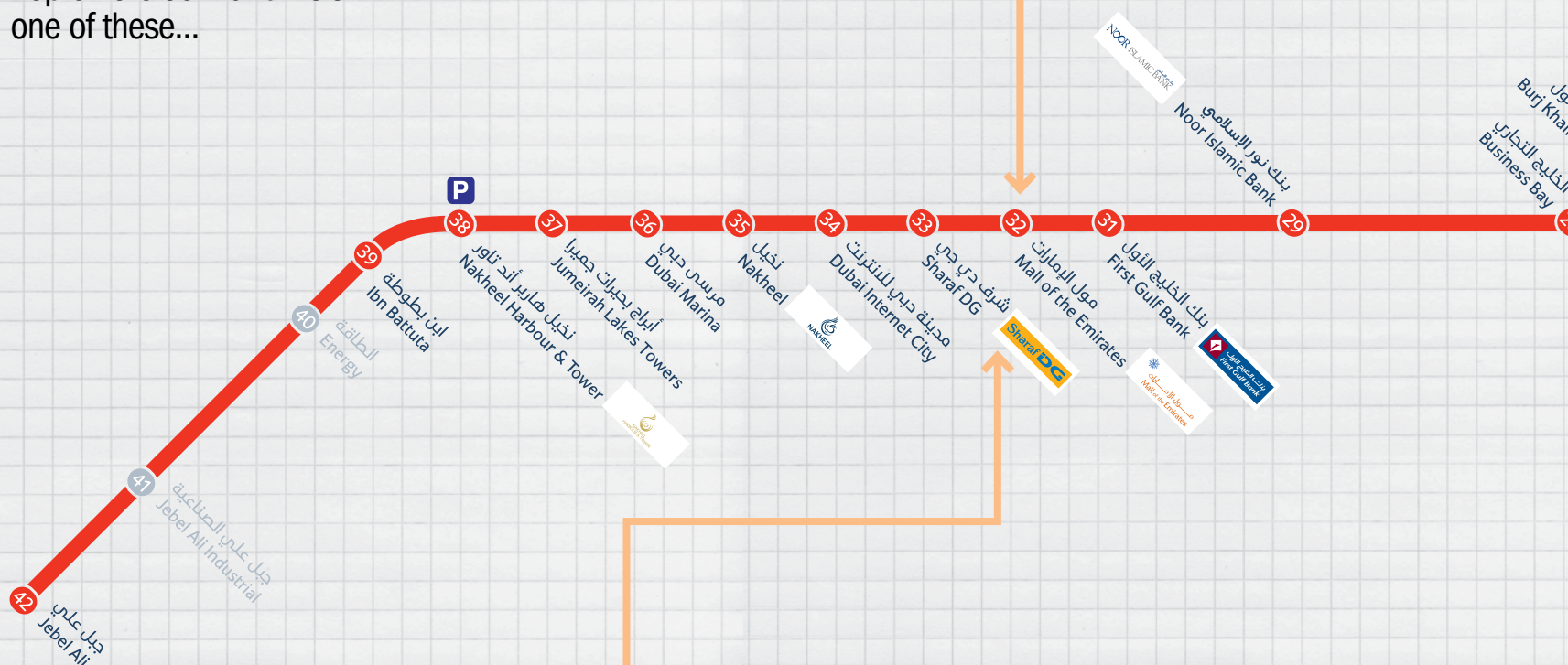
Sunday Funday

WEEKLY

VARIOUS LOCATIONS

This group organises regular Sunday events for children with special needs, or just those who find themselves in a "special predicament", with all events provided completely free of charge. Activities take place all over Dubai, and include skiing at Ski Dubai,

regular visits to Vox Cinemas, days out at Fun City and waterpark fun at Wild Wadi. Email fundaysunday@volunteerindubai.com to volunteer your time and help during the Sunday morning events and get into the spirit of Ramadan.



The Change Initiative

DAILY 9AM TO 9PM DURING
RAMADAN
AL BARSHA

Do your bit for the environment by popping in to The Change Initiative and quizzing the staff on how you can make improvements to your home this Holy Month. The first shop in Dubai to sell only sustainable, environmentally friendly products, the store in Al Barsha stocks everything from water and energy-saving technology for the home to organic food and fashion accessories manufactured using recycled materials.

TO FEATURE YOUR EVENT,
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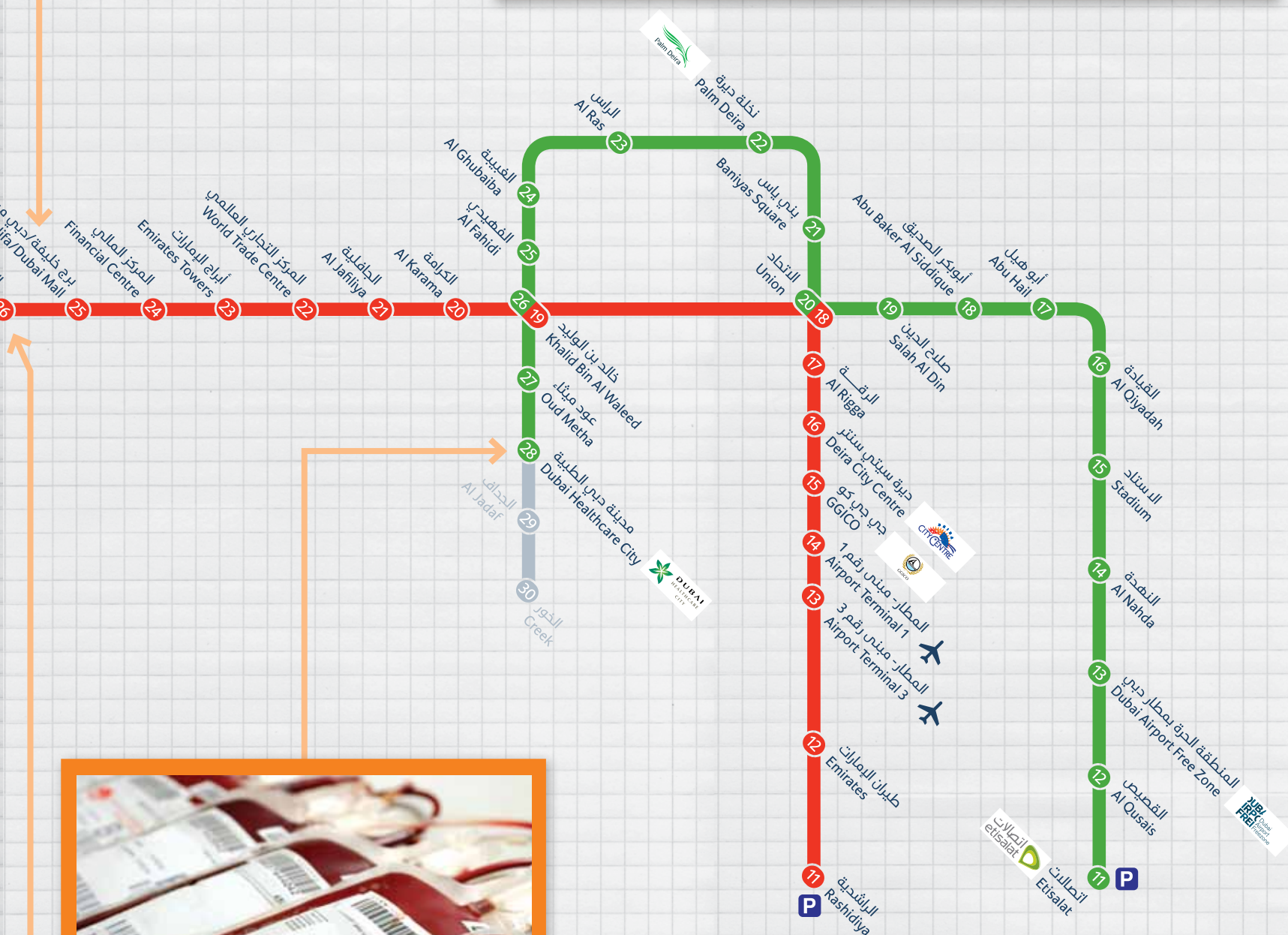
Hamdan Bin Mohammed Bin Rashid International Photography Award



UNTIL AUGUST 18

BLOOMINGDALE'S ATRIUM, DUBAI MALL

HIPAA is hosting an exhibition of photography during the Holy Month of Ramadan entitled *The World in Ramadan*. The exhibition, in its last week, has served as a tool to educate the general public about Islamic culture and traditions practised in the UAE and abroad.



Dubai Blood Donation Centre

ONGOING

LATIFA HOSPITAL, OUD METHA ROAD

Every three seconds, somebody, somewhere, needs a blood transfusion, and the job of Dubai Health Authority's centre is to make sure there is enough blood to enable the city's hospitals to do their job and save lives. Car crash victims suffering massive blood loss often need transfusions of 50 units or more, and considering that road traffic accidents top the list of deaths in Dubai, it's no wonder demand for blood is high. Call 04 219 2331 to see if you're eligible to donate and save a life this Ramadan.



Outdoor Art Project

UNTIL SEPTEMBER 1

THE EXECUTIVE TOWERS, BUSINESS BAY

Beautiful works of art deserve to be seen. And what better place to showcase them than the great outdoors? An al-fresco exhibition launched by Dubai Culture and Dubai Properties Group features the intriguing structural works created by a number of UAE artists. Showcasing billboard-sized art pieces, the collection is as varied as Dubai's cultural fabric, from the evolving skyline in mixed media to abstract renditions inspired by the UAE's heritage.

The Burning Question

Q Now that we are well into the Holy Month of Ramadan, what have you done to immerse yourself in the season's spirit of giving and contemplation?



Nicole Wingate

EXECUTIVE, UMM SUQEIM

I recently moved, and had plenty of spare things that couldn't fit into my new place. Rather than throwing it away, though, I found out about where I could donate my unwanted clothes and electronics, and I gave them away to charity.

Rebecca Teece

DESIGNER, AL BADA'A

Having grown up in the Middle East, I've come to know Ramadan as a time for giving back. Charity is a big part of Ramadan for me, and helping other people is something I feel compelled to do. There are many fantastic charities doing great things all over the city.



Vee Andreas

RESEARCH ANALYST, TECOM

Even though I'm not Muslim, I have learnt to respect the culture and feel the need to integrate with it. I haven't been fasting, but I still give a little extra wherever I can, and I appreciate the dedication that people show during Ramadan.



Megha Gobalan

COORDINATOR, AL GHUSAIS

The Holy Month hasn't made that much difference to me, as I've just been staying at home and working as I usually do. But I respect the culture and spirit of Ramadan, and think that those taking part in fasting should be applauded.



Tracy Dockery

HAIRDRESSER, TECOM

This is my first Ramadan in the Middle East, so it's quite a new experience for me. I've been embracing the new culture by going to a few nice Iftar dinners, which I found really pleasant and interesting.



Shawn Stephens

ACCOUNT DIRECTOR,
SHEIKH ZAYED ROAD

I don't really wait for Ramadan to come around in order to be sharing and caring. I think that, throughout the year, you need to be generous and compassionate about what's happening around you.



Noora Al Sadek

EXECUTIVE, AL BARSHA

I've been fasting for the Holy Month of Ramadan, and it's helped me to develop a better understanding of what people less fortunate than me have to deal with on a day-to-day basis.



What's happening this week on **readme.ae?**

Make sure you check out our website for these daily specials, which appear online every afternoon. 'Like' us on Facebook so that we can keep you up to date with our latest online features and fun.

Coming up this week



TODAY

Today, the conventions of the Olympics are thoroughly plotted out. Each host city adds its own local flavour, of course, but it does so within the scope of the rules and laid out in the Olympic Charter. The audience knows what to expect from one games to the next. As this year's tournament comes to a close, we take a look at some events that didn't last in the past.



MONDAY

If you want to meet a nuclear-powered, laser-toting monster truck of science, head to the Gale Crater on Mars to get a glimpse. Let us tell you a little more about the \$2.5 billion Curiosity rover.



TUESDAY

One evening, people heard Lake Nyos rumbling. Farmers knew the lake as large, still and blue. A day and a half later, 1,700 people were dead. What happened on that fateful night?



WEDNESDAY

Bram Stoker's *Count Dracula* was inspired by a 15th-century Romanian prince. The vampire was certainly a scary character, but was the prince as bloodthirsty in real life?



THURSDAY

Déjà vu is used to describe the feeling that you have experienced a situation before. It's not a glitch in the Matrix, but most of our knowledge on the subject is still theoretical.



FRIDAY

Once again our Facebook page has been full of your opinions on our daily Burning Question. We find the best responses from our Facebook fans and bring you the answers that matter most to the people of Dubai.

Facebook chatter

Here's what you have been saying on the *Read. Facebook* page.

(Responses only edited for length)

What was your favourite part of this year's Olympic Games?

The game of badminton is my favourite from the London Games. Apart from Saina's bronze winning moment, another quiet and shy player Parupalli Kashyap also made an impression by becoming the first Indian male shuttler to reach the quarter-finals stage of the Olympics Games.

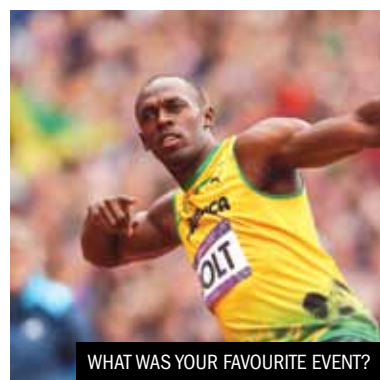
—Nouman Owaize

Yes, I really this was a brilliant show by London and hats off to it! The favourite game of mine in the London Olympics 2012 is Shooting. The reason is because shooting requires

some extra mind power as they mainly have to focus on the point. What I think of shooting is that it is rather like a puzzle..

—Muzammil Mohammed

I think that London did an excellent job for hosting the Olympics. My favorite part of it was the opening, the parade of the nations, the lighting of



WHAT WAS YOUR FAVOURITE EVENT?

the olympic torch and the fireworks. Can't imagine how much work they put to that.

—Ferdie Salas Santiago Jr.

Which toy from your youth would you like to see make a return?

A hoverboard :DD dont need to be worried of skateboarding without falling xp

—Nicole Pereira

Hmm.. being able to just go outside and play indoors at a minimum cost :)

—Leeroy Stefan Edirisuriya

Have you done anything charitable this Holy Month?

One of my closest friends, suddenly shoved a 5kilo Basmati Rice in front of me and told me to take it home. Touched and thankful! :)

—Danz de Asis



I still need help this ramadan from friends over my late baby bill have shared it here . please please. GOD BLESS

—Paustine Mogotu

Even if done something its better to keep in secret..as islam says..

—Noufal Nattukal

BYTES & PIECES

Kees Schouhamer Immink



Most people haven't heard of the Dutch scientist, inventor and entrepreneur, Kees Schouhamer Immink, but his contribution to consumer electronics has been so large that it is nigh on impossible to enjoy digital content that

doesn't reflect his work. "Immink pioneered the era of digital audio, video and data, taking it to new heights."

never believed possible. He was instrumental in the creation of the compact disc, DVD and Blu-ray disc, and he holds over 1,100 technological patents that relate to almost every walk of digital life. Because of his contributions, he has received numerous accolades and awards, and was also granted a knighthood by Queen Beatrix of the Netherlands.

Immink's career dates back to 1967, when he first joined the Philips Research Labs in Eindhoven. By 1976, Philips had been working with Sony to create digital audio disc players, using existing optical technology. And in 1979, the two companies joined forces to create the Compact Disc standard, which launched in 1980.

By 1996, Immink had worked on a Sony-Philips task force to create the DVD standard, and he then turned his attention to developing the next generation of digital video formats. He helped design the Blu-ray standard in the late 1990s, but it wasn't brought to market until 2005, before a format war with Toshiba's HD DVD was settled.

Putting the virtual into reality

Developers are now closer than ever to producing affordable VR systems.



It's often said that contemporary technology poaches its ideas from works of science fiction. Automatic sliding doors, for example, were famously inspired by the automatic doors seen aboard the Enterprise in the original *Star Trek* series, and the now commonplace touch-screen technology that can be found on smartphones, computers and even ATM machines is pure *Minority Report*. But another technology that takes its inspiration from the movies, virtual reality (VR), hasn't quite managed to catch on.

Essentially, VR should put the user into an immersive, highly visual and interactive 3D environment, allowing him or her to literally inhabit the digital world. In *Minority Report*, for example, the technology is sold to paying customers, who can use the digital world to live out their wildest

fantasies, be it soaring across the sky, or else winning the world title at a sporting competition. But present-day scientists have yet to come up with a high-fidelity and fully immersive VR system—at least one that can be marketed to the public—due to limitations on processing power, image resolution the speed of communication between the person and

the screen. But that hasn't stopped them trying.

A case in point is the Sony HMZ-T1 Personal 3D Viewer, which was released earlier in the year at a retail price of \$800. It comes in the form of a headset boasting a 720p 3D screen that sends different images to each eye, as well as a set of stereo earphones. With the headset on, the user is pretty much cut off from the rest of the world, making it one of the most immersive digital products out there.

Reviews of the T1 have been good; testers have described it as one of the most immersive 3D devices on the market, with a 3D experience that's much more realistic than any 3D TVs currently available. For gaming and movies, it's easy to forget the physical environment and to feel like actually being in the digital one. But unfortunately, due to the headset being reasonably heavy, wearing it

\$800

The regular retail price of the Sony HMZ-T1 Personal 3D Viewer when it was launched in February.

for prolonged periods of time can become uncomfortable, ending the user's suspension of disbelief.

Another new device, the Oculus Rift, promises to make up for the T1's shortcomings, though it is far from being ready to hit the market. Funded with cash generated from a Kickstarter campaign—using money from some of the biggest game developers in the world—the headset features a 640 by 800-pixel screen for each eye. Indeed, its field of vision is so much wider than what's come before that it promises to launch the market further than it's ever been. The product seems so promising, in fact, that it took the firm only four hours to raise the \$250,000 needed to get the project going.

That said, the technology still has a long way to go before it becomes viable. One of the biggest problems comes with tracking—how a device's sensors react to movement, and how that translates into movement on the screen. Many devices suffer from lagging issues, meaning that when the user moves his or her head, the scenery on the screen fails to change as rapidly, making the experience

feel slightly unrealistic. That said, there have been some successes in the field of virtual reality. The armed forces make extensive use of VR simulators to train pilots in combat scenarios, without putting them—or the expensive jet fighters—at risk. What's more, testing for Formula 1 cars relies heavily on computerised simulations, with the drivers spending hours on digital racetracks in order to hone their skills. The problem, though, comes with making this technology available to the public for a reasonably small price, and that feat still eludes technology manufacturers. ●



SONY'S HMZ-T1 OFFERS A MORE IMMERSIVE EXPERIENCE THAN A 3DTV

Tech beat

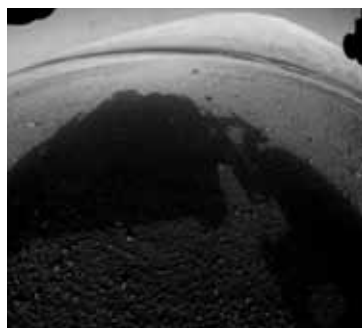


ACER URGES SURFACE RETHINK

The CEO of one of Microsoft's biggest manufacturing partners, Acer, has asked the company to "think twice" about its new Surface tablet, which is due to launch in October. In an interview with the *Financial Times*, he warned that "it will create a huge negative impact for the ecosystem".

APPLE DITCHES YOUTUBE APP

The Apple-made YouTube app, which has been a feature of the iPhone since it was first released in 2007, has been dropped from the brand's new mobile operating system, iOS6. Apple said that its licence to produce the app had expired, and that Google was now developing its own version, though it has not been announced when the new app will be ready for release.



CURIOSITY HAS LANDED

United States space agency Nasa has successfully landed its Curiosity rover in a deep crater on the surface of Mars, marking the beginning of a two-year mission to search for evidence of ancient Martian life. The news was confirmed with a signal sent to Earth via the agency's Odyssey satellite, which is currently in orbit around the Red Planet.

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Losing your balance?

Most people are so busy trying to earn a living that they don't ever make time to get a life.

It's so easy to get sucked in to working harder and harder and convincing ourselves that this is a good thing—that we are contributing to our family, to our business, to the world. But we can't contribute fully if we are exhausted, stressed out and run down.

The numbers

- According to a survey conducted by the National Life Insurance Company, four out of 10 employees think that their jobs are either “very” or “extremely” stressful.
- People working extremely stressful jobs are three times more likely than others to suffer from stress-related medical conditions.
- Between 46 and 59 per cent of people believe that work stress can affect their interpersonal relationships.
- Researchers have found that employees who feel their jobs are important to the company are more likely to respond to emails, text messages and calls outside of work hours.
- Despite many jobs causing plenty of stress, around 64 per cent of workers believe that their work-pressures are self-imposed out of a desire to excel.

In this ever-connected world, actually escaping from work is getting to be more and more difficult. It takes real self-discipline to not check the emails just before going to bed. And then once you've checked them, it only takes a few minutes to reply. Except by then, your brain is back in work mode and sleeping is going to be a real challenge.

Holidays used to be a time when you were beyond the reach of a phone, the papers were in a foreign language and the only TV was in the café. No internet, no Blackberries, no emails. Now, even when we are supposed to be away from work, the office is only a click away.

The reality is that making time for ourselves outside of work is as much part of doing a good job as sitting down at the desk and working. We owe it to ourselves and our career to rest, relax and have fun so that we can be as full of energy and creative as possible when we are in work. If you want to perform your best at work, you have to learn to rest and play at the same level of intensity.

So here are some ideas about how to regain your balance.

1. Have a work mobile and a personal one. Switch your work phone off when you're not working. If it's truly urgent, they will find you.
2. Learn to delegate. Empower the people in your team to take decisions without referring to you.



“Don’t stay late at the office just to impress people. If your boss is impressed by this, find a better boss.”

3. Limit your time at work. Set a timetable and stick to it. Work will always expand to fit the time available.

4. When you are at work, be 100 per cent present. Don’t waste time, focus on what needs to be done and be as efficient as possible.

5. Have a place for work and don’t let it escape from that place. This is especially important if you work from home a lot. Learn to shut the door on your home office.

6. Set very specific goals and to-do lists for work. If you know where you are and that you are on track, you



will be less tempted to work when you don’t need to.

7. Accept that there are slow times at work and enjoy them. Things will be quieter during the summer, during Ramadan, during the festive season. Don’t stress about it. Prepare for it and enjoy it.

8. When your work is finished, leave. Don’t stay late at the office just to impress people. If your boss is impressed by this, find a better boss.

9. Plan your leisure time. Do not start the weekend wondering what to do. By the time you figure it out, it will be Saturday evening.

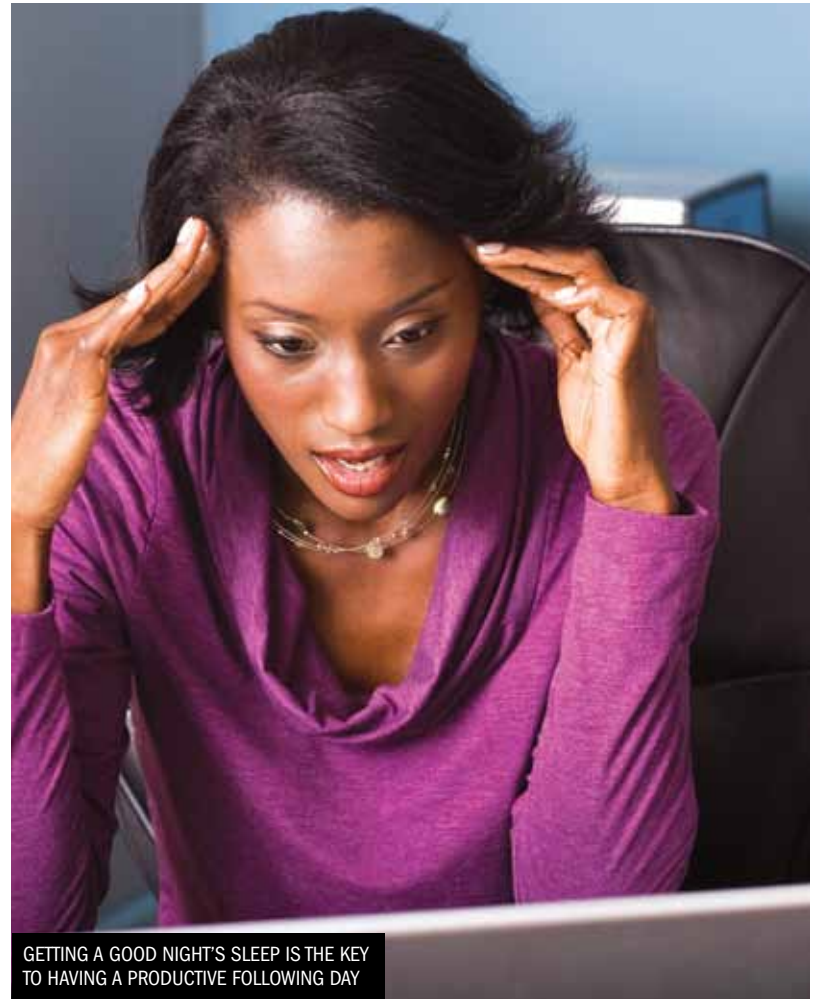
10. Involve your family and friends so they help keep you on track.

11. Use as much energy on play as you do on work.

12. Develop interests outside work that enthrall you and take up all your focus.

13. Take the time to really rest deeply. You will be more effective the next day and achieve more.

14. When you are away from work, really be away. Don’t have half your mind on what you could or should be doing at the office. ●



GETTING A GOOD NIGHT’S SLEEP IS THE KEY TO HAVING A PRODUCTIVE FOLLOWING DAY

The fabrication behind hydration

We’re often told of the positive physical effects that sports drinks can offer, but does the science stack up?

WELL-BEING

When it comes to staying hydrated, we’re often told that sports drinks such as Lucozade, Gatorade and Powerade are the way forward, and that water alone is sometimes not enough. Since the 1980s, when the fanfare surrounding hydration began to grip the sports industry, it’s been taken for granted that for real, performance-inducing hydration, a sports drink should be consumed, and never mind with boring old water.

But can a sugar-filled, man-made concoction really be that much better than water itself? And, as was implied by some of the sponsors at last week’s London Olympics, do well-trained athletes actually see benefits from drinking sports drinks? Well, according to a recent study published by the *British Medical Journal*, the science behind the sports drink claims is more than a little shaky.

The *BMJ* looked at a number of claims, including two upheld by the



European Food Safety Authority, which says that sports drinks hydrate better than water and that they help athletes maintain their performance over long periods of time. However, the *BMJ*’s independent evidence “does not uphold this view”, and instead shows that if sports drinks work at all, they only work for endurance athletes and certainly not for an Average Joe who simply visits the gym a couple of times per week.

More worryingly, though, the *BMJ* said that the current sports drink claims are upheld on the grounds of “a troubling circularity in the industry-influenced evidence base”. What this essentially means is that the sports drink industry influenced the results of the studies that say sports drinks do work. The *BMJ* discovered that these studies consisted of small sample sizes, poorly designed research, data dredging and significant financial conflicts of interest on the authors’ part. According to the facts, then, you still can’t beat water.

The secret to eternal youth

Well, maybe not eternal, but there is certainly one secret to staying younger for longer. It is all in the mind.

MENTAL HEALTH

The secret is flexibility. Think about it—when you are young, your skin is incredibly flexible, but as you age, it starts to lose its ability to bounce back. It sags and droops until, one day, you look in the mirror and see your mother staring back. Look at babies and small children as they play and twist themselves into positions even an advanced yogi would envy. It's hard to believe, but once we were all that flexible.

But the most aging thing is how you use your mind. Children's minds are wide open. They soak up information like sponges; learning is automatic. They're open to crazy risks and, if they get hurt in the process, after a few tears, they are back up and at it again.

But as we age, fear sets in. We take fewer risks and as our comfort zones get more comfortable, we discover that the secret to an easy life is to do familiar things. Suddenly, we realise that our thinking has become so automatic that we don't question anymore. Once our minds lose flexibility, the aging process has begun.

Think back to your childhood, when life was one huge adventure and falling down was part of the fun. When did that change? When did you become cautious and unwilling to take risks? And what can you do to get back to that state?

1

Use your body in new ways. If you're right handed, try using your left hand for more things, or try using your phone with the other ear. Swap your knife and fork around. A little confusion is a good thing.

2

Read books or articles by people who have views in total opposition to yours and read them with an open mind. Put yourself in the writer's position and ask, "How could they think that way?" This is not to suggest that you change all your views; just be open to the fact that people think differently. And understand that they hold their beliefs as strongly as you hold yours.

3

Do new things. As we get older, we start to believe that we are too old to change. But that is simply not true—it's just a belief that doesn't serve us. Learning new things is one of the best ways of staying young and keeping our brains open to new ideas.

4

Enjoy failing. Remember how many times you fell down when you were learning to walk? No one ever told you falling down and looking silly meant you should stop trying. Failing is all part of the learning process and it's fun.

Use your brain—that's what it is there for. Practice memorising things, learn a new language, do puzzles every day. There is clear evidence that people who constantly challenge their brains are less likely to get Alzheimers. There's not a lot of point in having a fit, flexible body if you have the mind of a 90-year-old.

5

6

Deal with stress. A flexible mind needs a flexible body and its greatest enemy is stress. As our minds tense up, so do our muscles and the best antidote to this is exercise. When your body is stiff, so is your thinking, and new ideas have a hard time going in. Find a way of dealing with stress that works for you.

Give meditation a try. Studies have shown that meditators live longer than people who don't. That should be a good incentive to give it a go.

7

Examine your belief systems. Think of something you are certain about and ask, "Is that a belief?" Then ask, "Does it serve me?" Belief systems are created when we are children, and while they may have been useful then, it's good to question them and to be prepared to dump the ones that no longer serve.

8

SPOTLIGHT ON...

Dandruff



Dandruff is a common skin condition that causes flakes of dead skin to appear in the hair and can also make the scalp feel itchy. It is not a contagious condition, and while it can be unpleasant and sometimes embarrassing, it is not harmful to your overall health.

Our bodies continually shed dead skin cells as new cells are formed. In most cases, this is a gradual process that goes unnoticed, but dandruff occurs when excessive amounts of dead skin cells are released quickly. While the causes behind dandruff are still unknown,

possible reasons include seborrheic dermatitis, a common

"Certain things can make dandruff worse, such as over-using styling products."

skin condition that causes oily skin, and—while not direct causes—certain things can make dandruff worse, such as over-using styling products, stress, and hormonal changes.

The most common treatment for dandruff is an over-the-counter anti-dandruff shampoo. The different chemicals in each brand of anti-dandruff shampoo work in different ways, so if one appears to be ineffective, you may want to try another one. If over-the-counter treatments fail to clear the dandruff after a few weeks, or your scalp is particularly itchy, you should pay a visit to your GP, who may need to give you a stronger prescription shampoo or a short-course of a steroid lotion, known as a topical corticosteroid.

Splash's new collection

Splash unveils its latest collection for Autumn/Winter 2012, featuring some of the hottest trends of the year.

FASHION

Splash is ahead of the game this season, following the launch of its new Autumn/Winter collection that offers high-voltage fashion trends that draw inspiration from the most popular catwalk styles from across the globe.

Ranging from a retro mix of the nineteenth century, through tapestry and heritage classics, all the way to military styles alongside Eastern futurism, the hot new trends are given a spin to provide chic and elegant fashion. Beautifully married into Splash's Fashion 365 campaign, the new looks are presented against a billowing background as florals and lace, bonded fabrics, fur and fabric, felted wool and silk combine to make the sartorial cut.

With belle Époque and baroque rococo as inspiration, and Bohemian skirt silhouettes teamed with long-haired gilet, the silhouettes



are all about sharp tailoring, peplums, throw-on or slouchy jacket shapes. Black is plentiful throughout textured florals, as an offbeat mix of electric blackberry, bitter chocolate, aubergines and plum-brown darks are worked with a tawny coral and mauve grey.

Military has also

re-surfaced as a key trend for the season. Military tailored pea coats, capes teamed with pencil or long pleat skirts, pocketed sweatshirts with skinny pants and jumpsuits remain an integral part of the collection. Autumn/Winter 2012 also sees retro style make a comeback but in a new avatar, with the French feel of the early 1960s as a key influence.

“Ranging from a retro mix of the nineteenth century all the way to military styles alongside Eastern futurism, the hot new trends are given a spin.”

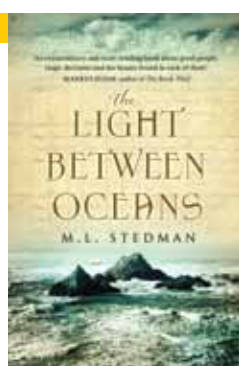
The Light Between Oceans

By M.L. Stedman

BOOKS

This unforgettable debut novel from M.L. Stedman is all about its compelling characters, all looking for their light in the world, despite the fact that finding it may mean tragedy for someone else. It follows Tom Sherbourne, a former soldier who has just returned to Australia after four harrowing years on the Western Front. He takes a job as the lighthouse keeper on Janus Rock, an isolated island nearly half a day's journey from the coast, where a supply boat comes once every season and leave is granted less than once a year.

Despite the lonely setting, Tom and his wife, Isabel, make a home



out of the island, though their dreams of having a child lie buried in the sand, with Isabel having endured two miscarriages and one stillbirth. But one night, grieving, Isabel hears a baby's cry in the wind, and finds a washed-up boat containing a

dead man and his still-alive baby.

Of course, the meticulous Tom wishes to report the incident at once, but, declaring it a gift from God, Isabel claims the baby as her own. It isn't all smooth sailing once the couple make it back to the mainland, though, as this is where their choice will have real consequences.

If you like this then you could try...

In the Shadow of the Banyan by Vaddey Ratner

This book ensures that the atrocities committed by the Khmer Rouge regime in Cambodia between 1975 and 1979 will never be forgotten. An estimated two million people died in this period, but Ratner's characters offer a ray of sunshine, hoping that those responsible will be held accountable.

Complete Clapton

Artist Eric Clapton Label Reprise

ALBUM

★★★★★

August has ushered in the era of best-of albums, with everyone from Genesis to The Doors re-releasing their greatest hits before the summer closes. After all, once the autumn kicks in, a host of big releases from current stellar artists are due to hit shelves, so it's best that the oldies get in while there's nothing else to buy.

Perhaps the best summer release from this crop of legends is Eric Clapton's best-of album, *Complete Clapton*. Originally released in 2007, it's now hitting the shelves again, largely unchanged, but still just as impressive as it was five years ago. Starting with some of the biggest hits churned out by Cream, such as *Sunshine of Your Love* and an exceptionally good live version of *Crossroads*, the album moves through Clapton's career with poise and zest, cataloguing the great guitarist's history like no rock history book can.

Early on, we're treated

to a song that Clapton wrote with Blind Faith, an alternate mix of *After Midnight*, which gives a new lease of life to an old classic, and a couple of gems from Derek and the Dominos, including *Layla*. From then on, it's a complete Clapton-fest, featuring pretty much every song that matters from the artist's catalogue. One of the stand-out tracks from this section comes in the form of *Riding With the King*, featuring B.B. King, but that said, everything else on the album is still solid gold.



كارفور



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Attainable Tuscany

Even within Italy, Tuscany has a reputation as the most perfect part of the most perfect nation.

THE LEANING TOWER OF PISA

Leslie Forbes' seminal travelogue, *A Table In Tuscany*, began life as a collection of cooking sketches and recipes, and ended up as one of the defining novels of the food and travel writing genre. She wrote so evocatively of Tuscany that you can almost taste it. Rolling fields, picturesque medieval hill-top towns, poplars studding the landscape, Tuscany is the quintessential experience of Italy.

The region about which Forbes wrote is in the north-west of Italy, an area of around 23,000 square kilometres, centred by the regional capital, Florence. It is a region steeped in history, and many of the world's most influential artists came from here—Michelangelo, Leonardo Da Vinci, Modigliani and Puccini, to name a few. It is no surprise that the region is rich with museums and art galleries, and is home to no less than six World Heritage Sites. That it also has over 120 protected nature reserves explains in part its popularity as a

tourist destination—Florence alone attracts more than 10 million visitors a year. Just try to avoid going in August.

But it is not just history that draws the curious, Tuscany is renowned for the quality and abundance of its food and drink. Blessed with a rich and fertile landscape, the cuisine of Tuscany is characterised by simplicity and rich flavours. Foods of peasant origins that have become staples of the Italian menu include ribolita soup with local cavolo nero, pappaardelle with game sauce, white truffles from San Miniato, panforte studded with dried fruit and nuts. Viticulture plays an important

Secret Tuscany

So popular is mainstream Tuscany with English visitors that part of it has been ironically nicknamed "Chiantishire". But there are other regions far less visited, and well worth seeking out.

One such region is the protected Parco Naturale della Maremma, a large stretch of deserted coastline and pristine beaches in the south of the region. Why is it deserted? It used to be a malarial swamp, until the Medicis started draining it in the 1700s, but the process wasn't completed until the 20th century. Many of the towns and villages are a long way inland on the tops of hills, and the countryside in between remains wild and romantic.

The sea is at its most pristine in the coastal stretch between the little port town of Talamone and the Ombrone estuary, where wild horses and long-horned cattle graze. Look for the beach at Marina di Alberese.

role, and many famous names will be immediately familiar to the oenophile, Brunello Di Montalcino and Chianti amongst them.

As a destination, Tuscany has few rivals, even in Italy. You could spend months here immersed in art and culture alone. Florence is Europe's best and best-preserved Renaissance city, a must to explore on foot. Siena is one of the most perfect of all medieval towns, and the smaller cities of San Gimignano, Lucca, Cortona and Pienza are some of the loveliest.

FLORENCE

You really need a week in Florence to do it justice, but you can get round the highlights in a weekend, provided you book advance.

GALLERIES

Top of most people's list is the Uffizi, but book a ticket to skip the inevitable queues. For Raphaels, Titians and others, visit the Palazzo Pitti, while the Museo di San Marco features the paintings of Fra Angelico.

SCULPTURE

The dramatic Museo Nazionale del Bargello is full of beautiful Gothic and Renaissance sculpture, as is the Museo dell'Opera. To see Michelangelo's *David*, visit the Galleria dell'Accademia. More of his work is

in the Cappelle Medicee, the Medici mausoleum.

CHURCHES

The two most-visited churches in Florence are Santa Croce and Santa Maria Novella, both full of frescoes and grand tombs (Michelangelo,

Galileo and Machiavelli, among others). San Miniato al Monte, perched above the Arno, is Tuscany's loveliest Romanesque church.

PIAZZAS

Crowds gather in Piazza della Signoria, home to the Palazzo Vecchio, the town hall for seven centuries, and the Loggia dei Lanzi, the setting for several major sculptures, including Benvenuto Cellini's recently restored Perseus. Bus parties also throng the Piazza del Duomo to see the cathedral, climb the Campanile and to visit the Museo dell'Opera del Duomo. There are other smaller piazzas as well, including the Piazza Santo Spirito across the Arno, which is the focus of a bustling restaurant district.

SMALLER TOWNS

Go to Pisa, see the Leaning Tower, but when you've done that, head to nearby Lucca, Tuscany's most charming town. Its grid of peaceful streets is a patchwork of Roman remains, exquisite Romanesque churches, ancient towers and fascinating museums and galleries, all sheltered by tree-lined walls.

Other popular and much-visited Tuscan towns include Montalcino, Siena, Cortona, Arezzo, Montepulciano, Sant'Antonio, San Gimignano and Pienza. Above all, Tuscany is a region to explore and discover your own secret spot, somewhere off the beaten track, to sit and watch the world go by as you sip a perfect espresso in the sun. ●

Getting there

Alitalia (www.alitalia.com) Etihad Airways (www.etihadairways.com) and Emirates (www.emirates.com) all operate direct flights to Italy (Rome, Milan, Venice), from where you can connect to Florence or hire a car.

PRISTINE SEAS ABOUND AT TUSCANY'S BEACH RESORTS



THE TOWNS ARE AWASH WITH FASCINATING ARCHITECTURE



NATURALLY GROWN FOOD IS A STAPLE OF THE TUSCANY DIET

Celebrating at the shops

We round up some of the hottest shopping bargains taking place throughout the Holy Month.

Ajmal launches Scentsational Offer

Ajmal Perfume has launched its latest offering, which brings together two of its popular products and two brand new ones in one package. The "Scentsational Offer", which has been specially designed for the Holy Month of Ramadan, comprises Sacrifice, the all new Ghair 4 and Aurum Body Butter, packed together in a special themed package.

Priced at Dh200 per box, the Scentsational Offer is available at Ajmal stores until September 19, 2012.



Mashreq offers Ramadan deals

Mashreq has unveiled special offers comprising a zero-per cent Easy Payment Plan across over 800 outlets and Ramadan travel packages for the Holy Month, including Eid. All Mashreq card members can enjoy these value-added offerings across the retail and travel space.

The zero-per cent Easy Payment Plan helps Mashreq customers to make high-value purchases on their Mashreq credit card and converts their transactions to equated monthly installments at zero interest.



While the Easy Payment Plan is valid until December 31, 2012, this Ramadan, Mashreq customers can avail of special extended six-month tenors across a range of brands, including electronics, home furnishing, jewellery and watches and travel, according to Nimish Dwivedi, Head of Payments at Mashreq (pictured).

Mashreq's Ramadan travel packages offer Mashreq customers the best rates for travel to destinations. These Ramadan packages are valid until August 31, 2012.

ENOC in Ramadan gesture

Emirates National Oil Company (ENOC) has partnered with Alokozay to roll out a dates and water Iftar pack campaign for Ramadan this year. Commuters who pass by any ENOC/EPPCO service station in Dubai, around Maghreb prayer time, will be given Iftar packs containing dates, water, tea bags and prayer beads throughout the Holy Month.

Offering commuters dates and water during Ramadan has been an ENOC/EPPCO tradition for more than a decade.



Enjoying Ramadan in Fujairah

Fujairah City Centre is giving residents in the community the opportunity to try new dining experiences for the very first time. The new mall is proving to be a popular meeting place for people looking to celebrate Iftar and Suhour during the Holy Month of Ramadan.

Fujairah City Centre features four sit-down restaurants, each offering spacious outdoor seating areas with a view. During Ramadan, Fujairah City Centre's restaurants have extended their trading hours to 2am, while the mall is open until 1am.



Fly to Paris with Renault

Arabian Automobiles, the exclusive dealer of Nissan, Infiniti and Renault in Dubai and the Northern Emirates, has launched its Bonjour Paris! campaign for the Holy Month of Ramadan.

As part of the campaign, any customer buying a Fluence, Safrane, Koleos or Megane model will receive two guaranteed free return air tickets to Paris on Air France/KLM, with Dh2,000 in cash for spending while in France's capital city. The offer is valid until August 31, 2012.

Michel Ayat, CEO of Arabian Automobiles said, "Ramadan being the period of giving, we decided to give every customer purchasing particular Renault models a holiday for two to France. The Bonjour Paris! offer stands out with a guarantee to our customers that their car purchase will turn into one of the best experiences of their lives." For more information, contact Arabian Automobiles Renault on 800-RENAULT (7362858).



Fujifilm Ramadan app for charity

Fujifilm has launched a first-of-its-kind Ramadan application, the Click to Care app, keeping in mind the spirit of giving during this Holy Month. The new app allows social media users to digitally donate by the simple act of clicking the donate button via the Fujifilm Middle East Facebook and Twitter pages—facebook.com/fujifilmme, twitter.com/fujifilmme, #ClickToCare.

Fujifilm is monitoring the total number of digital donations made and takes the responsibility of giving the equivalent amount to organise a grand Iftar for construction workers in Al Quoz.

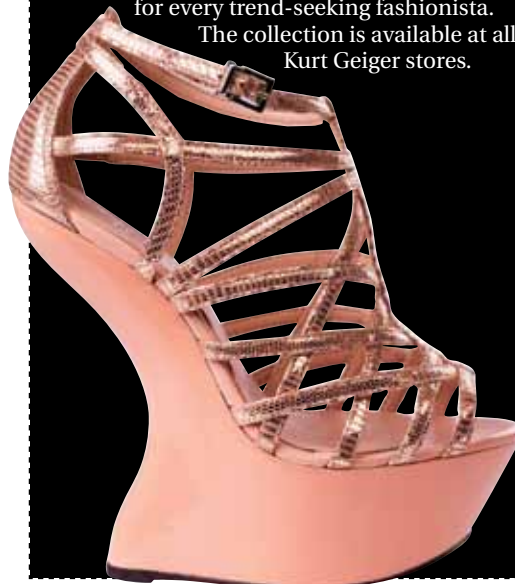
"This Ramadan application allows Fujifilm fans to become involved in a charitable cause during this auspicious month from the comfort of their homes," said Keitaro So, General Manager of Fujifilm Electronics Imaging Division, MENA.



Kurt Geiger's stand-out accessories

Kurt Geiger has created a unique capsule collection of statement shoes and accessories encrusted with bling for that extra something special this Ramadan. The selection comprises stilettos, wedges, platforms and flats in a vibrant colour palette of fuchsia, turquoise and gunmetal and is adorned with fierce studs that make the new items perfect for every trend-seeking fashionista.

The collection is available at all Kurt Geiger stores.



City slicker

From daytime cool to chic evening wear, summer is all about taking inspiration from the city's style.

Get the city look

Pair tailored shorts with a white, sleeveless shirt for a preppy-chic look that works whether you're hitting the shops in the day or the party scene at night. For a comfy and cool look this season, simply wear a pair of jeans with a silk top with spaghetti straps in bright hues. Finally, add some attitude with a leather jacket and stiletto heels.

If you are jetting off to a fashion capital such as Milan or Paris, your best bet is to wear a super stylish, shift dress in neutral colours for a sophisticated look. Pair the look with high wedges for more support and a graphic print clutch bag.



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DOROTHY PERKINS



JENNIFER ANISTON



KATIE HOLMES

Made for the metropolis

A city break is the perfect excuse for a stylish new day outfit. When going to a city, it's important to pack comfy but stylish pieces, that you can mix and match into a wearable but compact wardrobe. If you prefer spending your holiday taking in culture than sunning yourself beach-side, look cool while you're doing it in skinny jeans, knee-high boots and a blazer like Jennifer Aniston.



DOROTHY PERKINS

FASHION OPINION

ZOYA PASHA
FASHION BLOGGER



Chameleon Girlfriends

This week, my words are dedicated to the inspiring modern-day icon (ahem) that is reality TV Princess Kim Kardashian. Whatever you may think of her as an individual, Kim does a fantastic job dressing for her body shape and accentuating every last money-making curve. She's often seen in Herve Leger bandage dresses on nights out, which cling tightly to her form and flatter her body. In the day time she is almost always seen in high heels, blazers and tailored tops made to measure. Sure, she looks good, but is she fashionable?

The recent couple-coordinated wardrobe she's been sporting thanks to her new beau, Kanye West, has, in my opinion, been a fashion disaster, like when she was spotted in a pair of Kanye-customised hi-tops.

"Kim!" I want to shout. "You cannot pull off the hi-top. Leave it alone!"

She has also been documented wearing her interpretation of couture, which I'm sorry to say, she is too curvy for. Her recent dabble with high fashion has not gone unnoticed by the fashion pack. *Vogue* editor Anna Delo Russo actually banned the poor lamb from attending this year's Met Ball. It almost makes you feel sorry for her.

My message to Kim is to stay true to herself. Just because you've got a new boyfriend, it doesn't mean you have to start dressing like him. I call girlfriends who do that Chameleon Girlfriends. Stick to your original style, Kim; you just can't pull off the cutting-edge look, my dear.

"Her recent dabble with high fashion has not gone unnoticed by the fashion pack."

For him

No fashionable man should be without a tailored pair of shorts. Match burgundy shorts to a straw hat, a plain white t-shirt and canvas sole shoes for a stylish yet comfortable look.

The nautical look is perfect for a seaside destination. Choose a striped, light sweater and pair with brightly coloured chinos for a modern spin on the sailor look that will still look good out on the town.

Key items to take with you on a city break include a straw hat and comfortable, slip-on shoes. If you are in the sun all day, sight-seeing, it's important to protect your head, and a hat is the coolest way to do that and still look fashionable.





NEW RELEASE

For those who may have wondered if foot binding, domestic violence and a crooning Hugh Jackman could fit into one movie, here's the short answer: no. At once preposterously genteel and sadistic, *Snow Flower and the Secret Fan*, adapted from the Lisa See novel, turns on two sets of female friends, the first in early 19th-century China, the second in modern Shanghai. What joins all four women, beyond filmmaking folly, is love, feet and the sort of extravagant misery that routinely turns movie theatres into rain forests, drenched with the tears of audiences and characters who are all cinema's ladies of perpetual suffering.

You rarely get the opportunity these days to have a good (intentional) cry at the cinema. The woman's picture has fallen on hard times and sob-sister stories don't often make it off the page and onto the big screen. This alone makes *Snow Flower and the Secret Fan* a picture of interest or just curiosity, as does the presence of the director, Wayne Wang, whose career has included independent productions (the rollicking *Life Is Cheap ... but Toilet Paper Is Expensive*), but was probably hired for his work on *The Joy Luck Club*. Sin-



ONE OF THE MOVIE'S DRAWS IS THE INTEREST IN NUSHU

Fanning the flames of friendship

Four women from different times overcomplicate **Snow Flower and the Secret Fan**'s narrative, yet still produce a sense of sympathy through tear-jerking.

cere and contrived, amateurish and slick, this new one adds a baffling footnote to his résumé.

The opening credit sequence, which shows wrinkled hands writing with pen and ink, the rest of the body obscured, implies that what follows will be a memory tale. Amplifying greatly on See's 2005 best seller, the screenplay lurches from period to period with an increasing lack of focus. The movie is so pointlessly disjointed that it's hard not to wonder if several competing adaptations have been crammed into this one movie.

After the opening credits, the story soon shifts to a woman, Sophia (Gianna Jun), getting into a bicycle accident after failing to reach a friend, Nina (Li Bingbing). Nina, who's about to move to New York (she's a bank executive), races to the hospital, where she finds a comatose Sophia swaddled in bandages. Nina then begins poking into Sophia's life, trying to understand what happened to both their soured relationship and her best friend. That's when Hugh Jackman comes in. Back in the 19th century, Lily (also played by Li) and Snow Flower (Jun) are married off, have children, weep and exchange sad looks.

Shifting among moods, tones and, to an extent, visual styles (sometimes using a fixed digital camera for the 19th century and a hand-held one for the modern scenes) as he switches among

time frames and relationships, Wang never finds a groove. The most intriguing part of the story is Lily and Snow Flower's bond as each other's *laotong*, or "old same" (old friend), a relationship that allows them a closeness denied them in their difficult, brutal marriages. The pair communicate by writing on fans in nushu (women's script), a real language chanted, sung and written by generations of women to share private worlds. It's a fascinating topic and, like Li and Jun, unsteady yet sympathetic, the movie's real draw.

Though the lives of the two sets of women are put into play, this attempt at parallelism never takes, despite the constant oscillation between them. Yet it is laughable to suggest, as this movie does, that there are real analogies between Lily and Snow Flower—who are forcibly maimed and married—and their designer-wearing modern counterparts, who were invented for the movie. There are enough decent moments in *Snow Flower* that you can see the remains of a better movie, but these eras never really speak to each other, much less to the viewer. ●



THE 19TH-CENTURY CHARACTERS ARE MUCH MORE COMPELLING

Did you know?

- Media mogul Rupert Murdoch personally asked Fox Searchlight to release this film in North America.

- Bingbing Li's first big break came in 1999, when she played a kind-hearted cop in the film *Seventeen Years* (*Guo nian hui jia*). Her performance won her the Best Asian Actress award at the 2000 Singapore International Film Festival.

- Gianna Jun's second movie role was in *Il Mare* (2000), which was remade for American cinema as *The Lake House*, starring Sandra Bullock and Keanu Reeves.

Bollywood news

The myth of exes

Bollywood stunner Katrina Kaif has finally tired of speculation surrounding her love life and broken her silence, with special attention being paid to Salman Khan. "I am single," the star said recently. "Our equation is very different today and I believe that exes can be great friends."



Stars outshine the storyline

Another player in Bollywood that doesn't want to give Salman Khan full credit for his success is director Kabir Khan. The *Ek Tha Tiger* director believes Salman can almost guarantee a box office success, thanks in no small part to his reuniting (on screen) with his ex, but after the hype around the leading stars cools down, he's certain the movie will stand on its own.



Post baby photoshopping

Throwing herself back into her work following the birth of baby, Aaradhya, in June, Aishwarya Rai Bachchan looks a vision in an advertisement for a jewellery brand. Of course, when looking so flawless, critics will inevitably thank Photoshop, and not hard work. But the former Miss World still looks amazing in real life.



A-Z OF MOVIES

"U" is for Unexpected Twists



Spoiler alert: I see dead people. Ever since *The Sixth Sense*, Hollywood producers have been trying to capitalise on its success by distributing horribly illogical twist endings, hoping desperately to recapture what made the film such a surprise hit. And fail as they might, that certainly hasn't stopped them from continuing to try.

In *Secret Window*, Johnny Depp plays a writer whose life is being wrecked by a mysterious character named John Shooter. In *Hide and Seek*, Robert De Niro's life is being wrecked by Dakota Fanning's imaginary friend, Charlie. In both cases, their wives are killed by the menacing characters. In both cases, it turns out they have split personalities and are themselves the menacing character.

Both films attempt to dress up the clichéd "split personality" cop-out by calling it "dissociative personality disorder". Coming out within months of each other, two films that try desperately to have startlingly original endings made basically the exact same movie with the same twist ending.

There have been plenty of movies that made you think you were getting one kind of story, only to reveal something else. When done well, they are refreshingly surprising twists; when done poorly, they lead the film down a wrong turn that inevitably sours the entire movie.

"Two films made basically the exact same movie with the same twist ending."

Listings

THE READ. WEEKLY GUIDE TO WHAT'S ON AT THE MOVIES.



SILENT HOUSE

MOVIE GUIDE

Grand Cineplex - Wafi

The Amazing Spiderman - 18:40, 21:20, 00:00
Beastly - 18:30, 20:20, 22:10, 00:00
Cocktail - 11:30, 14:30, 17:30, 20:30, 23:30
The Dark Knight (2008) - 12:00, 15:00, 18:00, 21:00, 00:00
Gangs of Wasseypur 2 - 11:30, 12:30, 14:30, 15:30, 17:30, 18:30, 20:30, 21:30, 23:30, 00:30
The Guard - 11:15, 15:15, 19:15, 23:15
Ice Age 4 - 11:10, 13:00, 14:50, 16:40
Jism 2 - 11:00, 14:00, 17:00, 20:00, 23:00
Kyaa Super Kool Hain Hum - 11:40, 14:20, 17:00, 19:40, 22:20, 13:00
A Lonely Place To Die - 10:15, 12:15, 14:15, 16:15, 18:15, 20:15, 22:15, 00:15
Madagascar 3 - 11:00, 12:50, 14:40, 16:30
Reunion - 10:45, 12:45, 14:45, 16:45, 18:45, 20:45, 22:45, 00:45
Seven Below - 13:15, 17:15, 21:15
Silent House - 10:30, 12:30, 14:30, 16:30, 18:30, 20:30, 22:30, 00:30

Grand Megaplex - Ibn Battuta

The Amazing Spiderman - 10:40, 13:20, 16:00, 18:40, 21:20, 00:00
The Amazing Spiderman (3D) -

11:30, 17:00, 20:30, 22:30, 23:10
The Avengers (3D) - 11:30, 14:15, 16:30, 19:45, 01:15
Bachelor Party - 10:30, 13:00, 15:30, 18:00, 20:30, 23:00
Beastly - 10:30, 12:30, 14:30, 16:30, 18:30, 20:30, 22:30, 00:30
Bol Bachchan - 10:30, 13:30, 16:30, 19:30, 20:30, 22:30
The Chef - 22:00, 00:00
Cocktail - 10:00, 13:00, 16:00, 19:00, 22:00, 00:50
The Dark Knight (2008) - 12:00, 15:00, 18:00, 21:00, 00:00
Gangs of Wasseypur 2 - 11:30, 12:30, 14:30, 15:30, 17:30, 18:30, 20:30, 21:30, 23:30, 00:30
Ice Age 4 - 11:30, 13:30, 15:30, 17:30, 19:30, 21:30, 23:30
Jism 2 - 12:30, 15:30, 18:30, 21:30, 00:30
Just Crazy Enough - 10:00, 12:00, 14:00, 16:00, 18:00, 20:00, 22:00, 00:00
Kyaa Super Kool Hain Hum - 10:40, 13:20, 16:00, 18:40, 21:20, 00:00
A Lonely Place To Die - 10:15, 12:15, 14:15, 16:15, 18:15, 20:15, 22:15, 00:15
Madagascar 3 - 10:30, 12:30, 14:30, 16:30, 18:30, 20:30
Men in Black 3 (3D) - 14:20, 18:20
Reunion - 10:45, 12:45, 14:45, 16:45, 18:45, 20:45, 22:45, 00:45
Seven Below - 11:15, 13:15, 15:15, 17:15, 19:15, 21:15, 23:15
Silent House - 10:30, 12:30, 14:30, 16:30, 18:30, 20:30, 22:30, 00:30
Snow White & The Huntsman - 11:00, 13:30, 16:00, 18:30, 21:00, 23:30
Ustad Hotel - 10:30, 13:30, 16:30, 19:30, 22:30

Grand Cinemas - Festival City

The Amazing Spiderman - 10:40, 13:20, 16:00, 18:40, 21:20, 00:00
Beastly - 20:30, 22:30, 00:30
The Chef - 21:30, 23:30
The Dark Knight (2008) - 12:00, 15:00, 18:00, 21:00, 00:00
Gangs of Wasseypur 2 - 11:30, 12:30, 14:30, 15:30, 17:30, 18:30, 20:30, 21:30, 23:30, 00:30
The Guard - 12:15, 16:15, 20:15
Ice Age 4 - 10:30, 12:30, 14:30, 16:30, 18:30, 20:30, 22:30, 00:30
Jism 2 - 12:30, 15:30, 18:30, 21:30, 00:30

Just Crazy Enough - 10:00, 12:00, 14:00, 16:00, 18:00, 20:00, 22:00, 00:00
Kyaa Super Kool Hain Hum - 10:40, 13:20, 16:00, 18:40
A Lonely Place To Die - 10:15, 14:15, 18:15, 20:15, 00:15
Madagascar 3 - 10:30, 12:30, 14:30, 16:30, 18:30
Seven Below - 11:15, 13:15, 15:15, 17:15, 19:15, 21:15, 23:15
Silent House - 10:30, 12:30, 14:30, 16:30, 18:30, 20:30, 22:30, 00:30

Grand Cinecity - Al Ghurair

Bachelor Party - 10:30, 13:00, 15:30, 18:00, 20:30, 23:00
Bol Bachchan - 10:30, 13:30, 16:30, 19:30, 22:30
Gangs of Wasseypur 2 - 11:30, 12:30, 14:30, 15:30, 17:30, 18:30, 20:30, 21:30, 23:30, 00:30
Jism 2 - 11:00, 14:00, 17:00, 20:00, 23:00
Kyaa Super Kool Hain Hum - 12:20, 15:00, 17:40, 20:20, 23:00
Silent House - 10:30, 12:30, 14:30, 16:30, 18:30, 20:30, 22:30, 00:30
Ustad Hotel - 10:45, 13:30, 16:15, 19:00, 21:45, 00:30

Grand Mercato

The Amazing Spiderman - 18:40, 21:20, 00:00
Beastly - 21:30, 23:40
Gangs of Wasseypur 2 - 11:30, 12:30, 14:30, 15:30, 17:30, 18:30, 20:30, 21:30, 23:30, 00:30

Ice Age 4 - 11:10, 13:00, 14:50, 16:40
Jism 2 - 12:30, 15:30, 18:30, 21:30, 00:30
Kyaa Super Kool Hain Hum - 10:40, 13:20, 16:00, 18:40, 21:20, 00:00
Silent House - 10:30, 12:30, 14:30, 16:30, 18:30, 20:30, 22:30, 00:30
Tinkerbell (3D) - 10:00, 12:00, 14:00, 16:00, 18:00, 20:00, 22:00, 00:00

Vox Cinemas - Deira City Centre

The Amazing Spiderman (3D) - 10:30, 13:15, 16:00, 18:45, 21:30, 00:15
Bachelor Party - 14:15, 16:45, 19:15, 21:45, 00:15
Cats & Dogs (3D) - 12:00, 16:00
Chernobyl Diaries - 20:00, 22:00, 00:00
Cocktail - 11:15, 14:30, 20:30, 23:15
Gangs of Wasseypur 2 - 10:00, 12:30, 13:00, 14:30, 16:00, 17:30, 19:00, 20:30, 22:00, 23:30, 01:00
Ice Age 4 (3D) - 11:15, 13:15, 13:15, 15:15, 17:15, 19:15, 21:15
Jism 2 - 10:45, 13:30, 16:15, 19:00, 21:45, 00:30
Just Crazy Enough - 10:00, 12:00, 14:00, 16:00, 18:00, 20:00, 22:00, 00:00
Kyaa Super Kool Hain Hum - 11:00, 13:45, 16:00, 18:45, 21:30, 00:15
Monster in Paris (3D) - 10:00, 14:00, 18:00
Silent House - 10:15, 12:15, 14:15, 16:15, 18:15, 20:15, 22:15, 00:15
Ustad Hotel - 11:30, 17:30, 23:30



THE DARK KNIGHT

SCHEDULE CORRECT AT TIME OF
GOING TO PRESS; HOWEVER, PLEASE
NOTE THAT MOVIE THEATRES CAN CHANGE
SCHEDULES WITHOUT NOTICE

Vox Cinemas - MOE

The Amazing Spiderman (3D) -

10:15, 10:45, 13:00, 13:30, 15:45,
16:15, 18:30, 19:00, 21:15, 21:45,
23:30, 00:00, 00:30

The Avengers (3D) - 20:00, 23:00

Beastly - 10:00, 14:00, 18:00, 22:00

Cats & Dogs (3D) - 12:00, 16:00

The Chef - 18:00, 20:30, 22:30,
00:30

Chernobyl Diaries - 20:45, 22:45,
02:30

The Dark Knight (2008) - 23:30

Gangs of Wasseypur 2 - 10:00,
11:30, 13:00, 14:30, 16:00, 17:30,
19:00, 20:30, 22:00, 23:30, 01:00

The Guard - 10:00, 12:00, 14:00,
16:00, 18:00, 20:00, 22:00, 00:00

Ice Age 4 (3D) - 10:15, 12:15,
14:15, 16:15, 18:15, 20:15

Just Crazy Enough - 10:15, 10:45,
12:00, 14:15, 16:00, 16:15, 18:15,
20:00, 21:45, 22:15, 00:00

Madagascar 3 - 10:45, 12:45, 14:45,
16:45, 18:45

Men In Black 3 (3D) - 22:15, 00:30

Monster in Paris (3D) - 10:00, 14:00,
18:00

Seven Below - 12:15, 16:15, 20:15,
00:15

Silent House - 10:30, 12:30, 13:30,
14:30, 16:30, 18:30, 19:00, 20:30,
22:30, 00:30

Snow White & The Huntsman - 11:00,
13:30, 16:00, 18:30, 21:00

Tinkerbell (3D) - 10:30, 12:30,
14:30, 16:30

Vox Cinemas - Mirdif City Centre

The Amazing Spiderman (3D) -

10:15, 10:45, 13:00, 13:30, 15:45,
16:15, 18:30, 19:00, 21:15, 21:45,
00:00, 00:30

Cats & Dogs (3D) - 12:00, 16:00

Chernobyl Diaries - 20:00, 22:00,
00:00

The Dark Knight (2008) - 18:15

Gangs of Wasseypur 2 - 10:00,
11:30, 13:00, 14:30, 16:00, 17:30,
19:00, 20:30, 22:00, 23:30, 01:00

Ice Age 4 (3D) - 10:15, 12:15,
14:15, 16:15, 18:15, 20:15, 22:15

Just Crazy Enough - 10:00, 10:45,
12:00, 14:00, 16:00, 16:15, 18:00,
20:00, 21:45, 22:00, 00:00

Monster in Paris (3D) - 10:00, 14:00,
18:00

The Reunion - 21:15, 01:15

Seven Below - 23:15, 00:15

Silent House - 10:15, 12:15, 13:30,
14:15, 16:15, 18:30, 19:00, 20:30,
22:30, 00:30

Tinkerbell (3D) - 10:30, 12:30,
14:30, 16:30

Reel Cinemas - Dubai Mall

The Amazing Spiderman - 15:00,
17:40, 18:00, 20:40, 21:00, 23:40,
00:05

The Avengers - 14:15, 17:15, 20:15,
23:15

Beastly - 14:10, 16:10, 18:10,
20:10, 22:10, 00:10

The Dark Knight (2008) - 14:20,
17:20, 20:20, 23:35

Ek Tha Tiger - 14:00, 15:00, 16:45,
17:40, 19:30, 20:25, 22:15, 23:10,
00:55

Final Destination 5 - 16:30, 18:35,
20:40, 22:45, 00:50

Gangs of Wasseypur 2 - 14:25,
17:35, 20:45, 00:05

The Guard - 14:00, 16:10, 18:20,
20:30, 22:40, 00:45

Ice Age 4 - 14:20, 16:25, 18:30,
20:35, 22:40, 00:45

Jism 2 - 22:35, 01:05

Journey 2 - 16:15, 18:20, 20:25,
22:30, 00:35

Just Crazy Enough - 14:05, 16:25,
18:35, 20:45, 22:55, 01:00

Kyaa Super Kool Hain Hum - 16:00,
18:45, 21:30, 00:20

A Lonely Place To Die - 14:20, 18:30,
20:40, 22:50, 00:55

Prometheus - 18:10, 21:20, 00:35

The Reunion - 15:00, 17:10, 19:20,
21:30, 23:40

Seven Below - 16:05, 18:05, 20:05,
22:05, 00:05

Silent House - 17:00, 17:10, 19:00,
19:05, 21:00, 21:50, 23:00, 23:05,
00:50

Think Like A Man - 16:50, 19:20,
20:00, 21:50, 22:35, 00:20, 01:05

Tinkerbell (3D) - 14:00, 16:10,
18:20, 20:25

X Large - 16:10, 18:15, 20:20,
22:25, 00:30

Reel Cinemas - Marina Mall

The Amazing Spiderman - 15:30,
18:20, 21:10, 00:05

The Dark Knight (2008) - 15:10,
18:15, 21:20, 00:35

Ice Age 4 - 15:40, 17:45, 19:50,
21:55, 00:05

The Reunion - 15:50, 18:00

Silent House - 15:00, 17:00, 19:00,
21:00, 23:00, 00:50

Tinkerbell (3D) - 15:20, 17:35,
19:35, 21:35, 23:35

X Large - 20:10, 22:30, 00:45

TO FEATURE YOUR EVENT,
EMAIL EDITORIAL@README.AE

What's happening this week in Dubai



Ramadan Night Market

The Ramadan Night Market represents
a good opportunity to shop for festival
needs under one roof.

Date: August 10 - 19

Duration: 10 days

Audience: Public

Category: Shopping

Venue: Dubai World Trade Centre

Admission: Free

Telephone: 04 327 7743



Cultural Iftar at SMCCU 2012

Date: July 22 - August 22

Duration: 25 days

Audience: Public

Category: Cultural celebration

Venue: Bastakiya, Old Town

Admission: Dh135

Telephone: 04 353 6666



Festival Centre's Ramadan activities

Date: July 20 - August 18

Duration: 30 days

Audience: Public

Category: Cultural celebration, enter-
tainment

City: Dubai

Venue: Festival Centre, Dubai Festival
City

Admission: Free

Telephone: 04 425 4900



Ramadan Majlis 2012

Friends and family can enjoy the Dubai
World Trade Centre's annual Ramadan
Majlis.

Date: July 20 - August 19

Duration: 1 month, 1 day

Timings: 8pm - 3am

Audience: Public

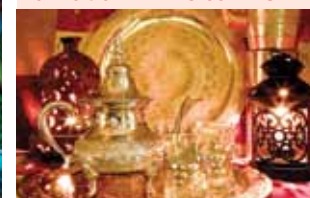
Category: Cultural celebration

Venue: Dubai World Trade Centre

Admission: Free entry

Telephone: 04 306 4000

Ramadan in Dubai 2012



The Holy Month of Ramadan is one of
the most important and reflective times
in the Islamic calendar.

Date: July 20 - August 18

Duration: 30 days

Audience: Public

Category: Cultural celebration

Dubai Sports World 2012



Don't miss your chance to get active
this summer and register in one or
several sports activities.

Date: June 8 - August 31

Duration: 2 months, 25 days

Timings: From 10am

Audience: Public

Category: Sports

Venue: Dubai World Trade Centre

Admission: Rates vary depending on
the activities

Telephone: 04 308 6332



Modhesh World 2012

Modhesh World is the best destination
for family entertainment during the
summer in Dubai.

Date: June 14 - August 25

Duration: 2 months, 13 days

Audience: Public

Category: Entertainment

Venue: Dubai World Trade Centre

Admission: Entry ticket is Dh10 for
children and adults, free for children
below two years old



Music to one's ears

Traditional Khaliji music remains a cornerstone for the continuation of Emirati identity and culture.

MUSIC

There are few things that can showcase a peoples' talent and offer an insight into their culture as much as the region's music and dance. And irrespective of the overwhelming influx of expats to the Middle East, the sounds and sways of Bedouin beginnings still ring true.

Music and dance in the UAE is an integral part of lifestyle to the people, and the inhabitants strongly believe in preserving their heritage, if not to educate the visiting hoards domiciled in their homeland, then to renew their connection to long-past ancestral traditions.

As pretty much everyone who has the pleasure to live here knows, the UAE is made up of seven emirates and, although each may have slightly different cultural traditions, the overall musical and dance traditions of the UAE are based on the Khaliji style of music, which is common among its Arabian Gulf neighbours.

Drums are an integral part of folk music in the UAE, and everyone attending a festive occasion should join the line or circle of swaying dancers, and dance to the accompa-

niment of tambourines. Khaliji music uses the traditional drum, Tabl, otherwise known as a goblet drum, chalice drum, dombek or tarbooka. There is also the Nay, a long flute-type instrument, an eighth-century stringed instrument, the Rababah, which resembles a violin, and, of course, the popular oud, a traditional instrument from the same musical family as the guitar, similar to the lute, pear shaped with 11 strings and no frets.

Long has Khaliji music held more importance than simple entertain-

ment, however. Unlike the riffs of today's chart-toppers, music, poetry and dance has been interspersed throughout the region as a way of portraying important stories across once non-existent borders from desert dwellers to pearl divers.

Leadership roles within communities of old were often afforded to those with a literary prowess capable of colourfully recalling stories, odes and love songs in Bedouin tradition. The orating poet, or *shaa'ir*, and the respect he earned for his rhetoric is still evident today. After all, for all the

“Poetry and dance has been interspersed throughout the region as a way of portraying important stories.”

technological advances the world has seen over the centuries, some poetry continues to be shared with generations through the medium of oration and not script, giving rise to new poets and improvisation with each passing student of Emirati culture and history.

Typically, the traditional music and dance of the UAE tells a story and, more often than not, the dances performed by men tell the story of brave battles. Like other countries, the traditional music and dance really shines brightest during festivals and celebrations.

Even though the UAE is now a cosmopolitan country and has state-of-the-art facilities for its entertainment, music and dance still rule over the minds and hearts of Emiratis. ●



PERCUSSION IS AN INTEGRAL PART OF KHALIJI MUSIC

Grand gesture



BMW joins the saloon-coupé party with its 6-Series Gran Coupé, a car that is extremely difficult to fault.

You've got to love the car industry. They create industry-wide segments and then spend huge amounts of money breaking the rules of the segment they just created. Look at the world of the crossover as a prime example.

In the coupé segment, the term was created to describe a two-door, sporty version of a saloon. But then the car industry decided to add a second set of doors to their luxury coupés, returning the car to saloon status. Confused? You certainly should be.

Mercedes was the main culprit with the first-generation CLS. Audi then joined the fray with the A5 and A7 range, and now BMW has joined the party with the great looking 640i Gran Coupé.

Looking like a cross between a 5 and a 6-Series, the Gran Coupé boasts four doors, a very low roof line and a dynamic-looking stance. The front is aggressive, without being over-the-top and the rear is neat and toned.

The interior of the

Gran Coupé is excellent, featuring a centre console that extends right through into the back of the car, splitting the rear seats and making the car pretty much a four-seater, rather than a venue for five. You also get some really high-quality trim, although the white marble-effect smooth surfaces might not be to everyone's taste. It's also very airy, with what feels like a lot of glass around you, despite the low window line.

At the back, you get a surprisingly large and deep boot. With such a low body design, it's amazing how the designers got so much practical luggage space into the car.

Under the hood, the twin-scroll turbo-charged 3.0-litre in-line six is smooth and powerful, although it could do



THE INTERIOR IS LIGHT AND AIRY

with a more urgent power delivery to match its looks.

What is perhaps the most impressive part of the Gran Coupé is its handling in the corners. Yes, it still crashes over speed bumps like the rest of the BMW range, but it luckily didn't inherit the sideways movement other BMWs

seem to have through rough corners. The Gran Coupé is solid and stable, building confidence to push a little harder in the bends.

If things do start to get out of hand, you have the excellent BMW safety systems that step in to gather it all up when the force begins to overtake brains and grip.

In all, the Gran Coupé is a pleasure to drive, looks good and has a great interior. Taller drivers might find the roofline a little low, but it's otherwise difficult to fault.

So if you need a sporty coupé with four doors and a large boot, this might be the car for you. Just try not to tick the marble trim on the spec list. ●

SPECS
(as tested)
Engine: 3.0-litre, six-cylinder
turbocharged
Power: 320hp@5,800-6,000rpm
Torque: 450Nm@1,300-4,500rpm
0-100km/h: 5.4 seconds
Price: From Dh360,000



Letting go the right way

Some practical advice on how to amicably terminate an employee when there are no other options left.



“Make sure the terminated employee understands that any experience is a learning experience. Pinpoint exactly what he did or didn't do.”

firm and always back up your speech with performance-related facts. Get straight to the point and don't label the employee himself, but the actions he or she has committed. Keep in mind that you should also allow the employee to vent. Listen to him, help him out and give him some useful advice. After all, he was one of your employees, and you don't want to have someone out there badmouthing your company.

MAKE IT A LEARNING EXPERIENCE FOR THE EMPLOYEE

Make sure that the terminated employee understands that any experience is a learning experience. Pinpoint exactly what he did or didn't do that led him to this point. Talk about what he can do differently in the future to improve his job. Offer to help your terminated employee with finding another job that fits his skills and strengths.

IT'S A LEARNING EXPERIENCE FOR YOU

The success of your company depends on its people; it all starts with hiring better. If the company's turnover rate is high, something wrong is going on for sure. It's either that the human resources department isn't doing a good job, employees are not well informed about what is expected of them, or you are just not hiring the right people in the right positions. Successful recruitment is never an easy task; you should have a clear idea of exactly what you need in an employee and look for successful patterns that have worked in the past to guide you through. Super performers are out there, but just as in the old days, you may need to do some detective work and actively seek out the people who will turn your company from a good one to a great one. ●

By Akhtaboot – the career network (www.akhtaboot.com)

DISMISSALS

No matter how we try to sugar coat it, there is no pleasant way to fire an employee. However, you can't afford to waste your time, money and effort by keeping bad performers around. While termination is a necessary part of any business setting, there are certainly right and wrong ways to go about letting someone go. Getting it wrong might cause heartache for the both of you, or worse, you may end up in court. So how can you fire an employee with minimum damage while keeping their ego in tact? Akhtaboot presents some useful strategies to follow when terminating an employee is the only choice you have left.

COMMUNICATION

There should always be an open dialogue between you and your employees from the very start. You should outline your performance expectations and make sure that your entire team understands their job description really well. If an employee is performing poorly, don't

hesitate to bring it to his attention before it's too late. Keep in mind that poor performers can be turned to company superstars with the right motivation tools and mentorship style. Have a clear warning system in place that gives your employees multiple chances before the final cut is made.

TREAT PEOPLE FAIRLY

Since you are not perfect, an employee who makes a mistake deserves a second chance. Find out the reason behind it and explain to him what he should have done differently to get a better outcome. Never make decisions based on your emotions rather than facts. You can't fire people

based on personal clashes that have nothing to do with the actual job. It has to be about the impact on the organisation, accountability and getting the job done. Your firing decisions should always be fact-based.

BE HONEST AND FIRM

If, after several warnings and second chances, you decide that firing an employee is in the best interest of the company, remember to be honest,



BRING UP THE EMPLOYEE'S ACTIONS, NOT THE EMPLOYEE

Post-it

To place your ad please email
advertising@readme.ae

JOBS AVAILABLE

Fish cutter/butcher urgently required for a leading chain of supermarkets in Sharjah and Ajman. Should have experience. Visa + accommodation will be provided. Visit visa is preferred. Email knownoemi@gmail.com.

Part-time income opportunity. A US-based health and wellness company offers income opportunity for professionals, after office hours/weekends/housewives and positive individuals. Be coached by the UAE's top distributors and add thousands to your existing income. Email CV info@theyellowsolution.com (Visa will not be provided).

Marketing executive required for part-time job at a large banking investment company. Keralites are preferred. Call 0567122501.

Well experienced property consultants urgently required for a real estate company in Dubai. Send CV to homere@eim.ae.

Senior marketing executive required in the interior division for an MNC dealing in architectural glass. Candidates with relevant experience & Arabic knowledge only. Salary is commensurate with knowledge & experience. Email CV to hr@merint.com.

Female manicurist and pedicurist required for a beauty salon. Full-time position. Call 0508331311.

Experienced hairdresser required for a ladies salon in Dubai. Any nationality. Send CV to Jobs-spa1@hotmail.com/call 043549001.

Sales executive urgently required for an IT and telecom company in Abu Dhabi. Send CV to hrd@alliancegulf.com.

An American MNC dealing with cutting edge online video solutions requires ambitious people. Gender not specific. Should be self motivated. Earnings will be paid according to efforts. Call 0507244743 or 0558821360.

Cleaning manager with 4-5 yrs experience. Electrician supervisor with 4-5 yrs experience. A/c technician with 4-5 yrs experience. Carpentry supervisor with 4-5 yrs experience and receptionist (lady) with experience. All urgently required for an LLC company. Call 0503269568/042364586.

Cleaning staff required for a full-time job. Gender not specific. Filipino/Sri Lankan/Nepali or Indian only. Send CV s.yaseen786123@gmail.com.

Service crew required for a company in Dubai. Should have experience in restaurants/food services. Send CV to emirates010@yahoo.com. Call 043549001.

Sales executive urgently required for a part-time job (preferably) at a banking insurance company. Keralites only. Salary + commission will be provided. Call 0529491457.

Experienced hydraulic technician required for a hydraulic hose manufacturing company. Should be fluent in English. Send CV to rayelectromech@gmail.com.

JOBS WANTED

Indian male seeks full-time job as an office assistant. 7 yrs experience. Familiar with MS Office. Call 0529804507/email prasanna8112004@gmail.com.

Filipino seeks full-time job as storekeeper/warehouse assistant or transport/cargo assistant. Call 0566105403.

Indian female, MCA, seeks full-time job. New in the UAE. On husband's visa. Call 0556095655.

Indian male, MBA holder seeks full-time job. Owns UAE D/L. Can join immediately. Call 0508671953.

Male seeks full-time job as a building management system operator. 16 yrs experience in relevant field. Call 0505988109/email ukrishnan70@yahoo.com.

Male Pakistani, MBA + Masters in international relations, seeks job in human resources/marketing. 3 yrs experience in similar fields. Owns D/L and owns car. Call 0503243191/email naeemutmani@gmail.com.

Pakistani female, 25, MBA (Marketing) degree holder seeks full-time job in an insurance company. Less than a year's experience in relevant job. Email eenukewalramani87@gmail.com. Call 0557124515.

Pakistani male, 25, MBA (Finance) degree holder/passed all 3 levels of CFA, seeks full-time job in corporate and investment banking, asset management, mutual funds and equity investment companies. Call 0509891296/email amitk.karira@gmail.com.

Pakistani male, graduate seeks job in any Gulf organisation. 7 yrs experience as PRO and marketing and sales supervisor. Fluent in English, Hindi, Urdu, Punjabi and Arabic. Holds valid D/L. Call 0509621037/email faroquisgranit@yahoo.com.

Housemaid seeks part-time job in Dubai. Call 0556796008.

MISCELLANEOUS

Advertise on a popular website. Dubai areas guide. www.dubaiaareasguide.com. Dh150 only/year. Limited time offer.

Visa assistance available. For Dubai tourist visa/transit visa 14-30-60 days. At Gulf Tourism. Call 0558046287.

Personal loan services available. We finance self-employed with minimum requirements. In a one-week process. Call 0551032210.

Astrology, palmistry readings available. Call 0558066470/0508408219/043582488 or email vyas75@yahoo.com.

Backlawa Oriental/Arabic sweets available. To place an order call 0509678438/email tweetydubs99@yahoo.com.

Personal loans and auto loan available. Non-salary transfer, Dh5,000 minimum salary required. Call 0501647611.

Nepalese male seeks part-time job on the weekends. Call 0561330455/email kkumarr123@gmail.com.

Indian male seeks full-time job as a security guard/office boy/helper or salesman. 13 yrs experience. Call 0509607581.

Indian male seeks full-time job as an accountant. 20 yrs experience (9 yrs in UAE). Knowledgeable in Tally & ERP packages. Call 0508590052.

AUTO

Toyota Camry, 2006 model for sale. XLI, fully automatic, driven for 150,000km, white colour, remote key, in excellent condition, registered. Located near Talal Supermarket, Hor Al Anz, Dubai. Call 0556796008.

Ford Escape, V6, 2009 model for sale. Driven for 29,000km. All services by Ford dealer. In very good condition. Price for Dh50,000. Call 0508191775.

Toyota Camry, 2000 model for sale. Comes with sunroof. Gold colour. Gulf specs. In perfect condition. Driven for 135,000km. Remote key. Dubai registration. Trouble-free. Price can be negotiable. Located in Karama. Call 0505766172.

ITEMS

Kenwood vacuum cleaner VC2400, available for sale. Red in colour. Dh290. Call 0557277085.

World class Dankotuwa, Jashanmal/brand new tableware available for sale. Contains 96 pcs. Priced for Dh1,500. Non-negotiable. Call 0557277085.

Wii NSTSC games: 2010 FIFA World Cup South Africa available for sale. Dh80 and a Disney all star party Wii game also available for Dh30. Call 0557277085.

Magrudy Oxford very first dictionary, compiled by Claire Kirtley, illustrated by Georgie Birkett, paperback, available for sale. Dh45. Call 0557277085.

Toshiba laptop available for sale. In good condition. Satellite A665D S6051. Dh2,250. Call 0557277085.

Curtain for half window, blackout, maroon golden vertical stripes, size 150 x 250cm available for sale. Dh350. Call 0557277085.

Du mobile broadband/internet key available for sale. 7.2 mbps 2GB including memory capacity. In good condition. Comes with prepaid data SIM card. Dh200 only. Call 0504687423.

LG front loading automatic washing machine 7 and 4 months old/5-feet Daewoo refrigerator available for sale. Dh1,000. Call 0508791227.

SERVICES

Car rent services available. On a monthly basis. Low charges. Call 0556796008.

Babysitting services available. Located in the OPC area, Bur Dubai. Call 0508057846/0502101329.

Point-On-Sale system services available. For restaurants/retail/hotel management software and hardware. Free training and demo. Call 043889633/0566923437. Email sales@omegasystemsuae.com.

Training services in computers, languages, accounting, and management available. Near metro stations Union in Deira, Al Fahidi in Bur Dubai and Al Nahda. Call 042213399, 043524700, and 042617877 respectively.

Car lift services available. Starting from Dubai city to all locations. Mail us your routes. Email rawazama@yahoo.com.

Party planning services available with Salama Events. For more details. Call 0551154198/email eva.salamaevents@gmail.com.

PC repair/IT services in homes or offices available. We help in fixing networking IP PABX, CCTV, data, voice installation and configuration. Call 0556789741.

Computer services available. We offer server router/wireless installation at office or home. Price Dh200. Call 009757414116.

IT/computer and communications services available. We offer all types of services. Call 0556398386.

Full-time babysitting/daycare services available. In Karama, near LuLu Center by an experienced Indian lady. Timing from 7:30am to 6:00pm.(Sunday to Thursday). Call 0559039701.

Home tutoring lessons in Chemistry available for IGCSE/IB/ICSE/CBSE/SAT and any other curriculum in schools or colleges. Also offer courses in Maths & Science for secondary/O level. Call 0557997357.

Tutoring lessons available. In Mathematics and Science, located at Rashidiya, near Rashidiya metro station. By Keralite teacher. Call 0553797445

ACCOMMODATION

Bed space available for rent. Kabayan males only. Gender not specific. Located in Al Karama. Walking distance to metro station, Al Manama, Sunrise and LuLu hypermarket. Rent for Dh450 with free Wi-Fi and TFC. Call 0559294435.

Room available for rent. To be shared with a Nepali family. Couples only. Located in Bur Dubai near Carrefour, Al Ghubaiba metro station. Call 0559223212.

Bed space available for rent. To be shared with 3 bachelors. Near Satwa bus stop. Comes with attached bath/kitchen/washing machine + free W/E. Rent for Dh550. Call 0556932581.

Bed space available for rent. Clean room. Bangladeshi only. Located near Talal Supermarket, Hor Al Anz, Dubai. Rent for Dh200, comes with free W/E, refrigerator, kitchen, rooftop, separate bath. Call 0556796008.

Partitioned bed space available for rent, Filipinos only. Located in Al Kuwait building, Maktoum road near Al Ghurair Center. Call 0507063737.

Bed space available for rent. Filipino men only. Located in Al Rigga road, Deira. Clean with internet, TFC and accessible to all parks and malls. Call 05292 94022/0554144831/0508512810.

2 bedrooms available for rent. Comes with common hall and bathroom. To be shared with three plp. Located near Karama metro station. Call 05594690822.

Master bedroom available for rent. Comes with attached bath, built-in wardrobe including all other facilities. Central A/c .Located in Hor Al Anz East, near Al Qiyadah metro station and bus stop. Call 0552706196.

Room/bed space available for rent. Arab nationals only. Located in Baniyas Square, near Day to Day. Call 0508553061.

Furnished bed space available for rent. Keralites only. Located in Deira, near Union metro station, behind Maktoum Hospital. Internet available. Rent for Dh450 + DEWA. Call 0561771549,050598 3599,0559912761,0557694329.

Bed spaces available for rent Executive Muslim bachelors only. Located near Al Ain Centre in Bur Dubai. Walking distance to Al Fahidi metro station. Comes with attached bathroom, balcony. Internet, kitchen and daily newspaper, etc also accessible. Call 0557892776/0558820247.

Shared room available for rent. Filipinas only. To be shared with one other person. Located in Al Rigga near metro station. Rent for Dh550 including internet. Call 0502537021/0555408179.

Room available for rent. Comes with attached bathroom. Female Filipinos only. To be shared with one other person. Located in Burj Al Noor, Al Nahda 1. Accessible to public buses and taxis, near Sahara mall. Rent for Dh1,800 + DEWA + Internet. Available starting August 30, 2012. Call 0502465589.

Wanted: shared room requested for a Keralite Muslim couple. Located near IBN or FGB metro station. Call 0556142432.

Furnished room/bed space available for rent in new flat. Executives only. Located near airport free zone metro station. Internet, gym, swimming pool facilities also available. Call 0501526125.

Bed space available for rent. Clean and neat flat in Al-Barha, near Danilo Restaurant. Keralite bachelors only. Dh320 including DEWA. Internet also available. Call 0502663846,0559981347, 0554525571.

Furnished room available for rent. Come with hall and attached. Dh1,500 plus DEWA. Located near Abu Hail. Call 0556677391.

Bed space available for rent. Clean and neat room. Executive Keralite bachelors only. Located near Rigga metro station. Free E-life, internet, kitchen, washing machine also available. Dh500. Call 0552854854.

Bed space available for rent. Pakistani bachelors only. Located near Al Sabka bus stop. Rent Dh400 including DEWA. Call 0555372707.

Shared accommodation available for rent. Keralite Christian couples/working ladies only. Located in Deira. Call 0561539594.

2 bed spaces available for rent. Executive Indian bachelors only. To be shared with 4 others. Located near Union metro station and fish roundabout, opposite Deira Snowwhite garment shop. Kitchen facility. Monthly rent. Starting from September 1st . Call 0507752605.

Room available for rent. Located in Satwa. Keralite males only. Internet facility is also available. Call 01505789433.

Offices/flats available for sale. In Al Warsan, International City. Direct from the owner. Call 0507177623.

Offices/flats available to let. Near Al Ras metro station. Direct from the owner. Call 0507177623.

Shared accommodation available for rent. Keralite couples/working ladies only. Spacious. Central A/c. Comes with attached bathroom. Located in Al Qusais. Internet and Wi-Fi facilities. Rent for couples Dh1,800 and for working lady rent for Dh800 + water and electricity. Call 0503904801.

Executive bed space available for rent. Kitchen facility. Located near Union metro station, Deira. Call 0507055962.

Furnished room available for rent. Goan working ladies/bachelors only. To be shared with a Goan couple in Al Khail Gate, Al Quoz. Rent for Dh1,500 per person (inclusive of internet and DEWA). Easy access to RTA bus and Noor Islamic Bank metro station. Call 0504989046.

Furnished accommodation available for rent. Indian executive ladies only. For two plp. Located behind Palm Beach Hotel, Bur Dubai. Call 0507358266.

Furnished room available for rent. Working ladies only. Located behind Palm Beach Hotel, Bur Dubai. Call 0506558907.

RTA receives DEWA delegation

RTA and DEWA officials meet in order to discuss the successful implementation of potential partnerships.

COLLABORATIONS

The Department of Development and Corporate Performance at the RTA recently received a visiting delegation from DEWA to discuss a number of issues of concern to both parties, particularly the results of questionnaires made to probe the extent of satisfaction along with an assessment of the standards adopted by the RTA.

The visit came in the context of boosting relationships with the strategic partners in the implementation of the objectives of the Dubai Government, simplifying procedures, overcoming obstacles, expediting delivery and improving joint services.

The two parties held a meeting at the RTA Head Office in the presence of RTA senior officials, including Abdul Mohsin Younes, CEO of Strategy and Corporate Governance Sector, Nasir Bu Shehab, Director of Strategic Planning, and Nabil Mohammed Salih, Director of Roads. From DEWA attended Waleed Ali Ahmed, Executive VP for Strategy and Business Development, and Hussain Eisa Lutah, Executive VP for Energy Transfer, in addition to several officials.

"During the meeting with the



RTA AND DEWA OFFICIALS REVIEW SURVEY RESULTS

“Both parties have agreed to work on improvements.”

DEWA delegation, we were keen on reviewing the findings of the survey made to measure the extent of DEWA satisfaction with RTA services, which is quite a substantive issue considering the joint cooperation agreement made between the two parties that

provides for reviewing feedback and suggestions made in the public interest,” said Younes.

“Fresh opinions were floated during the meeting with a view to boosting the level of satisfaction between the RTA and DEWA, which included reviewing joint pacts, constituting a work team and setting up performance indicators for periodic measuring of the impact of the partnership via submitting a joint report to this effect. The meeting also explored the possibility of framing up an executive team capable of taking

quick decisions to sort out technical and operational issues. Both parties have also agreed to work on improvements of the survey system and develop plans to further boost their relationship,” said Abdul Mohsin.

Ahmed praised the ongoing interaction with the RTA, saying, “Cooperation with community organisations is the cornerstone of the business success and this underscores our keenness on implementing the vision of the supreme leadership, which urges all community members to join hands and work in a team spirit.”

RTA supports needy Dubai families

INITIATIVES

In the context of its community-oriented initiatives, the RTA has initiated its Ramadan Ration and Charity Bus campaign to lend support to needy families in Dubai, and aid the humanitarian cases registered with the Dubai Foundation for Women and Children. The campaign is focused on collecting different sorts of foodstuffs and domestic requirements for distribution to those families during the Holy Month.

“The RTA is keen to mark the advent of the Holy Month of Ramadan with the launch of charitable campaigns in a bid to reach out to the needy and poor segments of the community, besides its role in adopting and supporting humanitarian cases under the auspices of the Dubai Foundation for Women and Children. In particular, the RTA is making tireless efforts to inter-



DR AYSHA AL BUSMAIT

act with community members and suffice their needs out of its social responsibility obligations, thus demonstrating that its role is not all about transportation, mass transit and

building bridges and tunnels alone,” said Dr Aysha Al Busmait, Director of RTA Marketing and Corporate Communication.

“The Ramadan Ration campaign offers us a splendid opportunity to serve the needs of a wide range of needy families registered with the Dubai Foundation for Women and Children in an effort to bring happiness to their faces and souls through supplying them with basic food items such as sugar, rice, flour, milk, juice, dates, canned items and oil, as well as providing them with general household cleaning products and children’s accessories,” she added.

“The RTA has also launched another distinguished initiative known as Ramadan Calendar. The calendar exhibits the fasting times and prayer times, along with speeches of the Prophet (PBUH) and religious prayers. RTA employees can access the calendar using the intranet,

“The RTA is making tireless efforts to interact with community members.”

and external customers can view it through surfing the RTA website or various social media networks like FaceBook, Twitter and You Tube.”

Al Busmait said that charity campaigns and distinctive initiatives were considered an integral part of the community-oriented initiatives of the RTA, reflecting a vision of its senior leadership that is customised to serve the needs of community members. She also added that social initiatives are considered an effective communication channel between the RTA and other entities.

Buenos Aires mayor visits RTA

Rail Agency officials play host to Argentine capital's mayor, briefing him on world-class technology in use.

DELEGATIONS

The RTA's Rail Agency recently briefed an Argentine delegation headed by engineer Mauricio Macri, Mayor of the capital city, Buenos Aires, on the best practices and cutting-edge technologies used by the Rail Agency, including those seen at the Dubai Metro Operations Control Centre.

The visiting delegation was received by Adnan Al Hammadi, CEO of the Rail Agency, in the presence of a number of directors, managers and employees of the agency. The Argentine delegation included Fulvio Pompeo, Undersecretary of International and Institutional Relations, Ivan Pavlovsky, Speaker for the Mayor, and Hernán Bielus, General Director of Protocol, in addition to Ruben Caro, Ambassador and Consul of Argentina to the UAE, and Marta Gonzalez Nieves, Deputy Head of Missions in the Argentine Embassy in the UAE.

Commenting on the visit, Al Hammadi said, "The RTA is always keen on sharing with the concerned



ADNAN AL HAMMADI, MAURICIO MACRI AND OFFICIALS FROM BOTH SIDES

institutions from sisterly and friendly countries its pioneering experience in mass transit systems, especially the Dubai Metro project, as it boasts sophisticated technologies considered the first of its kind. What is particularly interesting in the Dubai Metro is that it is the longest driverless Metro line worldwide, and uses advanced technologies which contribute effectively to the success of this leading project, highlighted by the Operations Control Centre.

"We received the Argentine delegation at the Operations Control Centre at Rashidiya, where the visiting delegation was apprised of the work mechanism in place, the vital and key role played by the centre in monitoring and controlling the systems, stations and depots for early detection and repair of breakdowns to ensure the highest degree of efficient and safe train operations," he added.

He pointed to the key role played by the staff of the centre, who make

strenuous efforts to monitor all aspects of the Dubai Metro trains' movement and stations. The delegation was also briefed on the security systems in place, which are run in cooperation with the Transportation Security Department.

Macri lauded the active role played by the Operations Control Centre in maintaining the security of the Dubai Metro stations and passengers, by applying the world's best surveillance and security systems.

RTA launches Water Taxi tourist trips

WATER TAXI

The Public Transport Agency recently launched four Water Taxi tourist trips, each lasting one and a half hours, from and to Jumeirah Open Beach Station, in a move aimed at boosting the marine transport services for both visitors and residents of Dubai.

"Operating tourist trips via the Water Taxi illustrates the vision we are seeking to realise in broadening the reach of public transport means on the one hand, and caring to foster the tourist mass transit systems on the other. It also marks our continuous endeavours to serve the needs of commuters through providing them a comprehensive transport network that responds to their needs and, at the same time, offers them a pleasurable and safe transit experience,"

said Eisa Abdul Rahman Al Dosari, Executive Director of the Public Transport Agency.

"We in the Public Transport Agency are keen on opening up new marine transit lines and stations throughout the year in order to attract more tourist marine transport users, and enhance the role of this sector in the transportation network of Dubai, while maintaining the active presence of RTA services in this field throughout the day.

"Adding tourist trips through the Water Taxi is tantamount to opening new windows of luxury and viewing the gorgeous sceneries of the tourist beaches of the emirate. The services are offered at reasonable fares, and the Water Taxi has a capacity to accommodate 10 passengers only and a slot for special needs as well. The trip can start with four passengers on



EISA ABDUL RAHMAN AL DOSARI

board as a minimum and the fare is fixed at Dh150 per passenger," added Al Dosari.

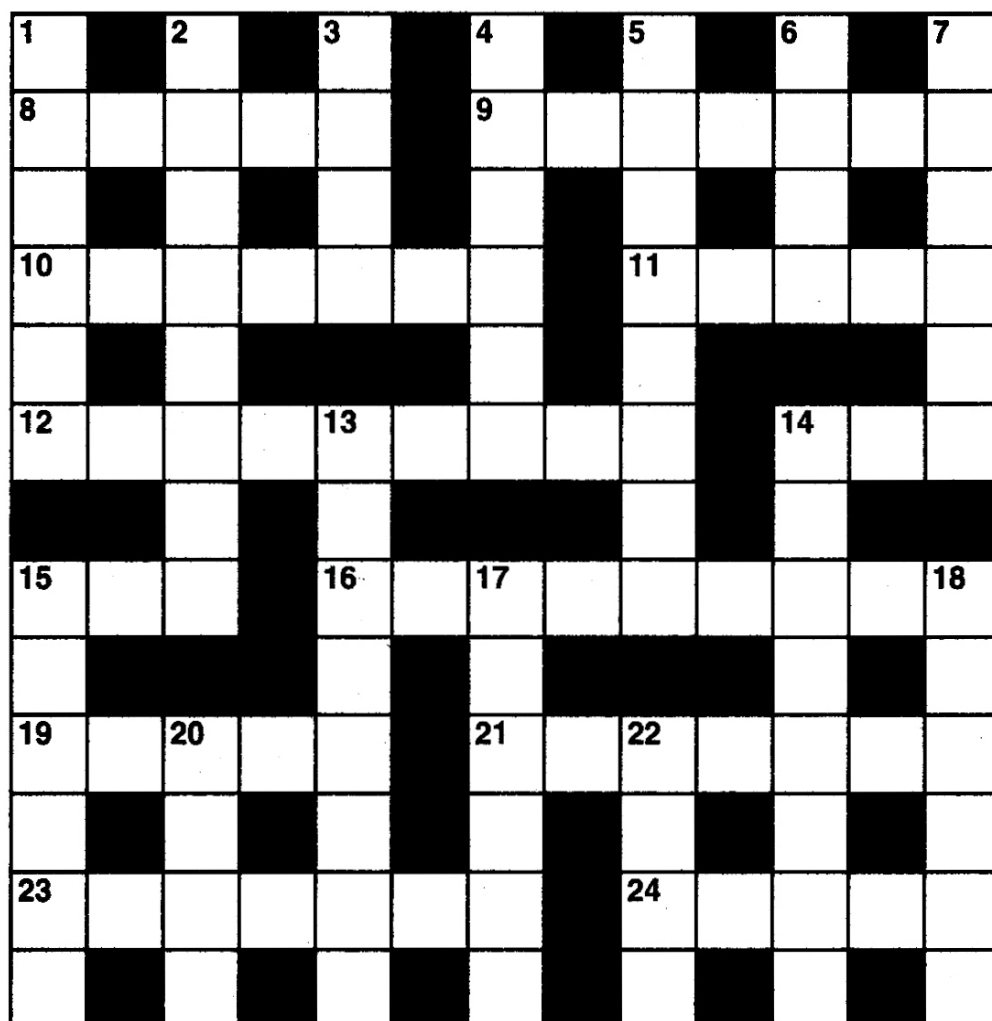
Two trips will be run in the morning, at 8am and 9.30am, and two others in the evening, at 5pm and 6.30pm. Additionally, the tour offers

"These services are offered at reasonable fares, and the Water Taxi has a capacity to accommodate 10 passengers."

a great experience to explore the glamour of Dubai's beaches and a view of both Burj Khalifa and Burj Al Arab. The tour offers a chance to contemplate the fascination of the Palm Jumeirah Island and the Atlantis Hotel, before heading back to the starting point alongside the World Islands.

Taking your time

Test your skills with our puzzles or try something new with a recipe.



Crossword

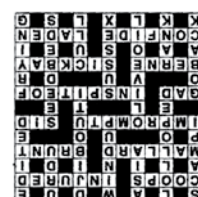
Across

8 Business owned and managed by their workers (2-3) **9** Hurt, wounded (7) **10** Variety of duck (7) **11** Full impact (of a blow) (5) **12** Off the cut (9) **14** ____ Vicious, 1970s punk rock star (3) **15** Wander about in pursuit of pleasure (3) **16** Undeterred by (2,5,2) **19** Swiss city and canton (5) **21** Room for ill people (4,3) **23** Entrust (7) **24** Having cargo aboard (5)

Down

1 Large sauteed prawns (6) **2** Bounded in a puppy-like manner (8) **3** Continent separated from Europe by the Urals (4) **4** Make tense or angry (4,2) **5** Country on the NE coast of Africa (8) **6** Language spoken in Karachi and Lahore (4) **7** Made cuts to (6) **13** Cooking grease from a Mediterranean fruit (5,3) **14** Areas of soil suitable for plant growth (8) **15** Return (2,4) **17** East or West southern English county (6) **18** Method of cooking an egg (6) **20** Film company whose symbol was a large gong (4) **22** Reduce the numbers of (4)

ANSWERS



Recipe

Creamy salmon and leek pasta

This salmon-based snack is an easy summer dish that's neither too heavy nor too light, but is actually just right.

Ingredients

1/2 pack spaghetti
1 tbsp butter
1 large leek—light parts only, rinsed, and chopped
Pinch of salt (to taste)
1/2 lemon, juiced
1 cup crème fraîche
1 tsp tarragon Dijon mustard
Cayenne pepper
6 ounces skinless, boneless salmon, sliced

Method

1. Bring a large pot of lightly salted water to the boil. Cook the spaghetti for about 12 minutes, stirring occasionally until cooked through

but firm to the bite. Drain and return to the pot. **2.** Melt the butter in a saucepan over a medium heat. Stir the leek into the butter for around five to six minutes, or until slightly softened, and season with salt. Pour lemon juice over the leeks, and bring to a boil while scraping any browned bits from the bottom of the pan with a wooden spoon. Simmer for around five minutes until most of the

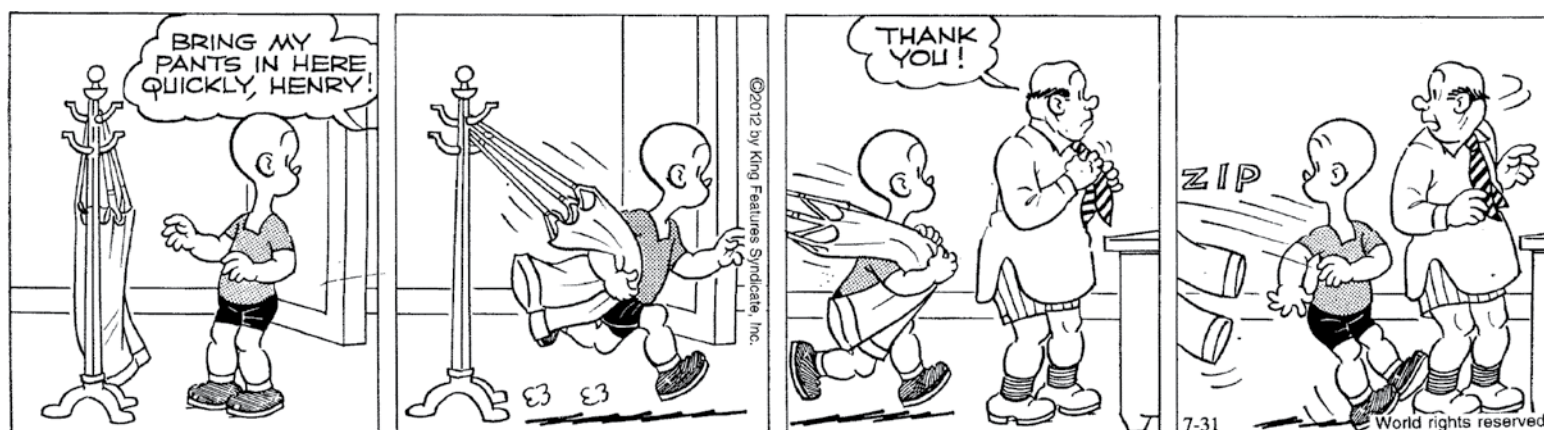
Serves

2

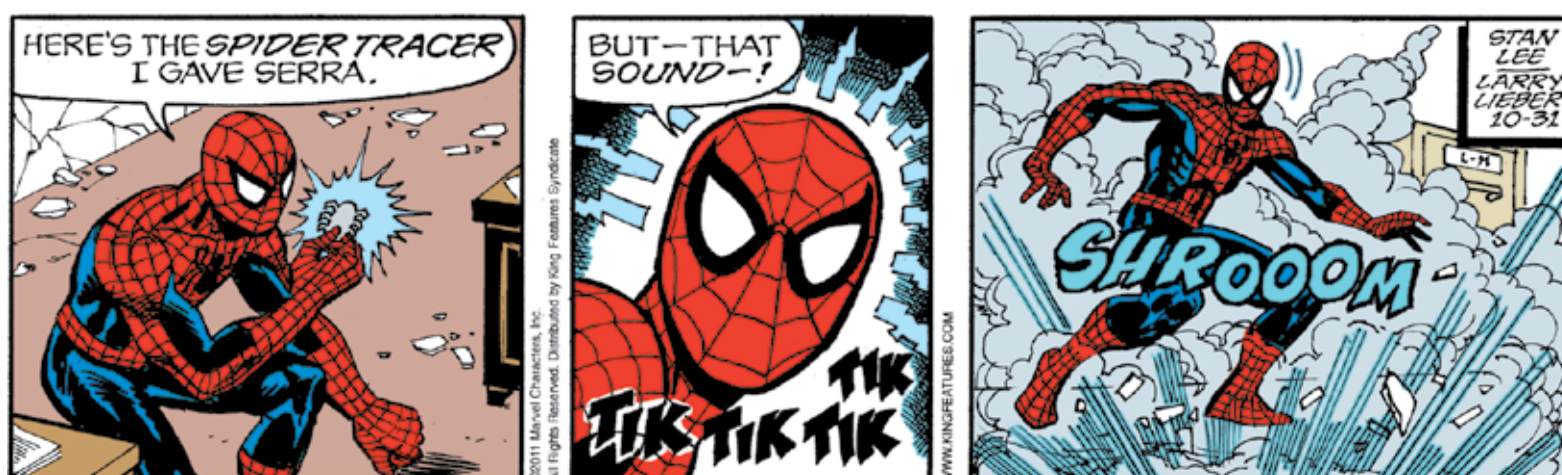


liquid evaporates. **3.** Stir the crème fraîche, mustard, and pinch of cayenne pepper into the leek mixture. Reduce the heat to low and let it cook for around five minutes until warmed. **4.** Add the salmon to the sauce. Cook and stir gently for a couple of minutes until the salmon starts to flake and is no longer pink in the centre. Remove the pan from the heat. **5.** Pour the sauce over the spaghetti and toss to coat. Garnish with another pinch of cayenne pepper.

Henry



Spiderman



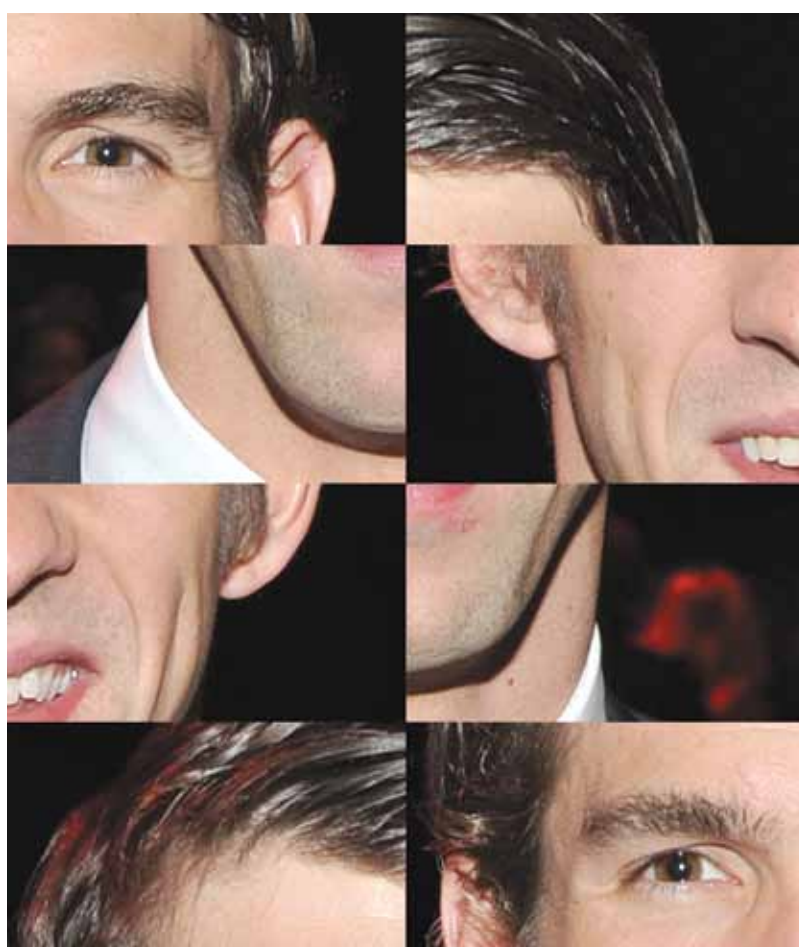
Dennis the menace



"WITH DENNIS AROUND, IT'S FIREWORKS ALL YEAR LONG."

Who's this?

ANSWER ON PAGE 34



Puzzles

Arrowword

Network	Amend proofs	Roman VI	Woolly animal	Huffman, Lynette actress	Loud sound of grief	Examine medically	Jewels
			Improves the quality of				
Cease to live			Mum's partner	Called before marriage	State firmly	German fairy-tale authors	Jowell, MP
				Psychological unease			
Blended (5,2)		Walking speed		Fixture on a bath	Digit on the foot	University city's river	
				Study of food intake	Scents		
				Annoying bark	Jane Austen novel		

Sudoku 1

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

Sudoku 2

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

ANSWERS



WHO'S THIS? ANSWER - MICHAEL PHELPS

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What's in your stars?

The *Read.* astrologer tells you exactly what to expect over the next seven days.

ARIES

(MAR 21 - APR 20)

While your elder relatives might not always approve of your eccentric opinions, they only comment so often because they care about you. Loyalty and sensitivity in your relationships feels greatly important right now, and simple pleasures appeal to you.



TAURUS

(APR 21 - MAY 21)

A tense and stressful situation at work has been going on for some time now. Your services may be in demand and you could make some important strides forward, if only you can sort out ongoing issues before taking on new responsibilities.



GEMINI

(MAY 22 - JUN 21)

Creative outlets seem to be giving you the most pleasure at the moment. You tend to express yourself creatively, which could soon see you becoming more involved with children and young people—perhaps in a volunteer role or mentor position.



CANCER

(JUN 22 - JUL 23)

You may have to take charge on the home front. This could see you investing in household repairs or family activities. There could also be tension within some family relationships, so even though you may feel the exact opposite, try to remain helpful.



LEO

(JUL 24 - AUG 23)

Your motivation is high and you can accomplish tasks quickly and easily. This means it is also a good time to start a new project, health routine, social activity or hobby. An opportunity to do something you have wanted to do for a long time is also on the cards.



VIRGO

(AUG 24 - SEP 23)

You could find yourself trying to demonstrate your worth by flaunting your money. This may make you feel secure about what you have earned, but it could trigger conflicts regarding ownership. Be sure you don't throw out any proof of purchase too hastily.



LIBRA

(SEP 24 - OCT 23)

This is an encouraging period for networking among those in a stronger position than you. You are in the middle of a charismatic and highly sociable period, which will see your efforts to integrate being well-received by the people you want to impress.



SCORPIO

(OCT 24 - NOV 22)

A taste for the extraordinary is favoured this week and you may long to expand your horizons. Bear in mind that any new opportunities are more likely to be offered due to the way in which you communicate, rather than what you actually say.



SAGITTARIUS

(NOV 23 - DEC 21)

You're whirling around like a social butterfly, but remember, there is a lot to do other than having fun. The good times continue but so do the numerous demands. Luckily, you will have the energy, enthusiasm and confidence to handle both work and play.



CAPRICORN

(DEC 22 - JAN 20)

You are intent on pushing forward in your career and professional status. Conflicts with those in authority are possible as you pour more energy into self-promotion or business activities, so don't let your enterprising nature come across as aggressiveness.



AQUARIUS

(JAN 21 - FEB 19)

This week could prove to be the perfect time for promoting your ideas, although coming on too strong could work against you. A move, transfer, or relocation is possible, but don't jump too far ahead of the starting gun—plans of this nature take time.



PISCES

(FEB 20 - MAR 20)

It's easy to get lost in your imagination. This may leave you feeling less able to face everyday realities, so try to stay grounded when it comes to plans for the near future. You may attract unusual situations, which could provide an injection of fun and glamour.



This week's local weather

SUN



HOT
HIGH 45C
LOW 32C
HUMIDITY 44%

MON



HOT
HIGH 44C
LOW 32C
HUMIDITY 42%

TUE



HOT
HIGH 45C
LOW 30C
HUMIDITY 39%

WED



HOT
HIGH 46C
LOW 32C
HUMIDITY 41%

THU



HOT
HIGH 45C
LOW 30C
HUMIDITY 42%

FRI



HOT
HIGH 45C
LOW 33C
HUMIDITY 45%

SAT



HOT
HIGH 46C
LOW 32C
HUMIDITY 43%



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