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WHAT'S ON IN CINEMAS THIS MONTH

See pages 44 & 45

■ Nazim Ali



MILESTONE: £900,000!

Ramadan Runner hits new fundraising record with Fleetwood 10K Run

He's a school career's advisor on a mission, who's recent 10K challenge while fasting 16-hours has taken his fundraising total to over £900,000.

Nazim Ali's dedication to charitable work is truly inspiring. His long history of humanitarian work,

both locally and internationally, demonstrates his unwavering dedication to serving others - from self-funded international aid deployments to distributing gifts to hospitalised children.

His latest bout saw the 'Ramadan Runner' completing his 11th Annual

Ramadan 10K Run on Sunday 7th April, while fasting almost 16-hours.

His fundraising challenges have now raised over £900,000 for various charitable causes, including his recent pledge to build new homes for impoverished families in Afghanistan.

Via his own 'Nazim Ali Foundation', along with Green Crescent Aid UK, Nazim aims to provide better living conditions for vulnerable groups in Afghanistan.

His selfless actions will not only provide shelter but also hope and dignity to those facing poverty and hardship.

Continued on page 6


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Thalassemia Relief

A beacon of hope in the fight against devastating blood disorder in Pakistan

In the heart of Pakistan, where poverty intertwines with the silent killer known as Beta Thalassemia, a glimmer of hope emerges through the tireless efforts of Thalassemia Relief.

Founded by Adam Khan, this organisation is more than just a charity; it's a lifeline for those battling this devastating genetic blood disorder.

Adam Khan's journey with Thalassemia Relief began from a deeply personal place.

Having witnessed firsthand the plight of underprivileged children suffering from Beta Thalassemia, Adam was driven by a simple yet profound belief: medical support should be a fundamental right, not a luxury.

With this conviction, he embarked on a mission to ensure that every child, regardless of their socio-economic background, had access to life-saving treatment.

The statistics are staggering. Between 500,000 to 900,000 children are born with Beta Thalassemia in Pakistan each year, a significant portion of whom are unable to afford even the most basic medical care.

The Amna Jahangheer Thalassemia Centre in Kotli, Pakistan, became the focal point of Thalassemia Relief's efforts. Here, the team could address the pressing needs of patients and work towards their ultimate goal of saving lives.

Beta Thalassemia Major looms large as a leading cause of mortality in specific regions of Pakistan. Recognising this grim reality, Adam Khan and his team at Thalassemia Relief set out to raise awareness and mobilise resources to support the most vulnerable members of society.

How it all began

The journey began modestly, with Adam and a dedicated volunteer, Bilal Hasan, leading the charge.

Through grassroots efforts and community outreach, they laid the foundation for what would become a beacon of hope for countless families. As the organisation grew, so did its impact.

Adam says: "Today, Thalassemia Relief boasts over 50 patients receiving essential long-term blood transfusions and iron chelation medicines, thanks to the generosity of donors."

"But the work is far from over. Thalassemia Relief provides a comprehensive range of services, including blood transfusions, tests, medication, food, transport, medical equipment, specialist appointments, and crucial awareness programs. Every donation, no matter how big or small, directly contributes to these vital initiatives."

Registered with the Charity Commission and Fundraising Regulator, Thalassemia Relief operates with a 98.9% donation policy, ensuring that your contributions go directly towards supporting those in need. They are supported by the UK NHS Beta Thalassemia Genetic Counselor, Sobia Khan.

What's next?

Looking to the future, Thalassemia Relief envisions expanding its reach beyond Kotli, Pakistan, to other regions where poverty and lack of access to healthcare exacerbate the suffering of those with Beta Thalassemia.

Adam says: "With your continued support, this vision can become a reality."

"At Thalassemia Relief, the mission is clear: to provide free, comprehensive care to patients battling Beta Thalassemia while addressing the broader issues of poverty and inequality."

"Through a combination of medical treatment, education, and community empowerment, they strive to create a brighter, healthier future for all."

Back in December 2021, Thalassemia Relief began as a humble appeal, driven by a sense of urgency and compassion. By June 2022, it was officially registered, marking the beginning of a remarkable journey towards healing and hope.

Since then, Thalassemia Relief has treated over 300 patients,



Thalassemia Relief operates with transparency and accountability, adhering to regulations set forth by the Charity Commission, Fundraising Regulator, Gift Aid, and HMRC.

extending its reach to over 10 different parts of the country, including remote villages where access to healthcare is limited.

Awareness has been at the forefront of Thalassemia Relief's efforts from the very beginning.

Through various methods such as

door-to-door campaigns, private fundraisers, and fund days, the organisation has sought to educate communities about Beta Thalassemia and the importance of early detection and treatment. These grassroots initiatives have played a crucial role in saving lives and preventing needless suffering.

Thalassemia Relief operates with transparency and accountability, adhering to regulations set forth by the Charity Commission, Fundraising Regulator, Gift Aid, and HMRC.

Supported by NHS Thalassemia Genetic CLLRS, the organisation is committed to providing gold standard, long-term care to its registered patients, covering a wide range of services from blood examinations to iron chelation therapies.



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The statistics are staggering. Between 500,000 to 900,000 children are born with Beta Thalassaemia in Pakistan each year, a significant portion of whom are unable to afford even the most basic medical care.

The Amna Jahangheer Thalassaemia Centre in Kotli, Azaad Kashmir, serves as the primary hub for Thalassaemia Relief's operations, providing essential care to 178 long-term registered children patients.

However, the demand for their services continues to grow, with 25 patients awaiting registration. With your donations, Thalassaemia Relief can extend its reach and support even more individuals in need.

Providing support

In addition to providing medical care, Thalassaemia Relief is committed to creating a supportive and nurturing environment for its patients. Last year, they invested in cosmetic renovations at the centre, transforming it into a child-friendly space filled with colourful cartoons and paintings.

"These small gestures make a big difference in the lives of children battling Beta Thalassaemia," Adam adds.

"The achievements of Thalassaemia Relief are a testament to the dedication and hard work of its team members and volunteers."

From receiving awards for their impactful work to halving excess iron levels and reducing the need for blood transfusions, the organisation has made significant strides in improving the quality of life for those affected by Beta Thalassaemia.

But Thalassaemia Relief cannot do it alone. They need the support of long-term donors, business leaders, and compassionate individuals like you to continue their life-saving work. Whether it's through local collections, pledges, or spreading awareness in your community, every contribution makes a difference.

"Looking ahead, Thalassaemia Relief's goals are ambitious yet achievable. They aim to register more patients, support additional centres, and expand regionally, ensuring that no child suffers

needlessly from Beta Thalassaemia," says Adam.

"With your continued support, they can turn these aspirations into reality and create a brighter future for generations to come."

"In conclusion, Thalassaemia Relief is not just an organisation; it's a beacon of hope for those battling Beta Thalassaemia in Pakistan and beyond. Together, let's stand with them in their fight against this silent epidemic and make a difference in the lives of those who need it most."

For more information on how you can support Thalassaemia Relief or to volunteer your time, visit their website at www.thalassaemia-relief.org or contact them directly at info@thalassaemiarelief.org or 01274 009575. Follow their journey on social media and show your support for this worthy cause.



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Ancient Roman coffin to be revealed in new exhibition

An ancient lead coffin which lay buried in a Leeds field for more than 1,600 years is set to be revealed to the public for the first time.

The astonishing discovery, described by experts as a once-in-a-lifetime find, was made during excavation work by West Yorkshire Archaeological Services in a previously unknown site near Garforth.

It contained the remains of a woman aged 25-35, believed to have been of high status and perhaps a Roman aristocrat, who was buried wearing a bracelet, glass bead necklace and a finger ring or earring.

In a fascinating revelation, archaeologists from West Yorkshire Archaeological Services, who carried out detailed analysis, have discovered that the coffin also contained the partial remains of an unknown child, thought to be aged around 10 years old.

Whilst it is not known exactly who the child was or their relationship to the Roman woman, carbon dating of the remains has revealed that their burials took place around the same time, raising intriguing questions about late Roman burial practices in Britain.

The coffin and its delicate lid, which have been extensively warped by centuries in the ground, are currently being carefully conserved and stabilised for display at Leeds City Museum. There, they will be mounted in a bespoke case as one of the central exhibits in Living with Death, a new exhibition opening on May 3 exploring how cultures across the world approach death, dying and bereavement.

As well as the coffin, the Garforth dig, which took place in 2022, also unearthed the remains of more than 60 men, women and children who lived close by more than fifteen hundred years ago.

They include both late Roman and early medieval people, with burial customs and objects from both periods found in their graves, including, knives and jewellery.

Kat Baxter, Leeds Museums and Galleries' curator of archaeology, said: "This is a truly unique and remarkable find which has potentially huge implications for our understanding of the history of early Leeds and those who made their home here."

"The discovery of the remains of a second individual within the coffin is fascinating, particularly as they belonged to a child. It poses some interesting questions about how people more than 1,600 years ago treated their dead."

"The Roman lead coffin itself is also the only one ever discovered in West Yorkshire and the site has provided us with new opportunities to study life and death in ancient Yorkshire. We're delighted to be able to display the coffin so quickly after excavation, and we're looking forward to sharing this amazing piece of history with our visitors."

As well as the lead coffin, Living with Death will include a range of exhibits which explore the different ways people experience death, dying, and grief.

They will include personal stories,

and objects from across the world and throughout history such as a spectacular, elaborate Ghanaian coffin shaped like a lion, on loan from ArtDocs, a Roman period painted mummy portrait from Egypt, on loan from Manchester Museum, The University of Manchester, and objects related to Mexican Day of the Dead celebrations.

A series of talks, workshops, and family-friendly events will complement the exhibition throughout the year, and it is hoped the exhibition will spark wider conversations about how we approach the subject of death.

Councillor Jonathan Pryor, Leeds City Council's deputy leader and executive member for economy, culture and education, said: "This fascinating exhibition will reveal some astonishing facts and information about the history of Leeds and how people lived and died in our city centuries ago."

"But it will also explore how the subject of death spans and unites different cultures around the world, and I'm sure it will provide some fascinating insights for visitors."

Living with Death has been developed with input from local communities, and is supported by Dying Matters Leeds, part of a national initiative promoting public awareness of dying, death, and bereavement.

Living with Death, which is generously sponsored by Co-op Funeralcare, will be at Leeds City Museum from May 3, 2024 until January 5, 2025 and is free to visit.

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Ramadan Runner hits new fundraising record with Fleetwood 10K Run

MILESTONE: £900,000!

Cover story continued

By personally covering race expenses, Nazim ensures that every penny donated goes directly to the cause. His transparency and dedication to ensuring 100% of donations support the intended beneficiaries reflect his integrity and commitment to making a meaningful difference.

Talking about the run, Nazim says: "I completed my 11th Annual Ramadan 10K Run (while fasting almost 16-hours) at the Fleetwood 10K Run in a time of 1 hour 3 minutes and 14 seconds.

"It was blustery conditions with the ferocious wind pushing against me for half of the race, which meant I had to work twice as hard.

"With the waves crashing on to the Fleetwood promenade overlooking Morecambe Bay meant our feet got wet!

"I finished the race at 11am and

“**It was blustery conditions with the ferocious wind pushing against me for half of the race, which meant I had to work twice as hard.**”

still had 9-hours before I opened my fast - no food or drink until sunset.

"Including this year's running challenge while fasting, I have raised over £400,000 during the last 11 Ramadan running challenges, which I'm so incredibly honoured about."

The 'Afghanistan New Homes Project' ensures that vulnerable people such as poor families, widows, orphans, the disabled and elderly can be moved from makeshift tent homes to safe and secure new two-room dwellings.

"I am grateful for the kind support of all my sponsors," he comments.

"I have worked with Green Crescent Aid UK which is an experienced UK registered charity for over seven-years now, having visited Malawi and witnessed 126 house transformations, providing over 600 live goats to poor villagers in Malawi and so forth."

Nazim's accolades, including an Honorary Fellowship from the University of Bradford, underscore the recognition of his remarkable contributions to society. Nazim's tireless efforts exemplify the spirit of Ramadan, embodying the values of compassion, generosity, and solidarity with the less fortunate.




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Mo Farah to make landmark visit to Kenya

The Olympic gold medalist and six-time long-distance world championship runner will be raising awareness and increasing support for the needs and aspirations of migrants in Kenya and advocating for sport as a tool to build confidence and integration.

Over his three-day visit, from 21 to 23 April, Mo Farah, a survivor of human trafficking, will witness first-hand the impact of IOM's humanitarian and development work and meet with migrants, local authorities, and civil society, among others.

"It's an honour to return to Kenya on my first official visit as IOM

Global Goodwill Ambassador, to meet with people in the region I was born in and share the power of sport – how it transforms migrants' lives, unites people from different backgrounds, and builds confidence and communities," said Mo Farah.

Kenya hosts over one million migrants and over half a million registered refugees affected by conflict, climate change, and economic hardships from across the continent. With the emerging trend in climate-induced mobility in the region, Kenya, as a country of origin, transit, and destination, is playing a crucial role in ensuring the protection of migrants and

facilitating regular pathways for all, especially young people.

"As an extraordinarily successful Olympic athlete who has experienced both the challenges and joys of migration, Mo Farah is uniquely positioned to raise awareness of how to include migrants in societies around the world using sport as one tool to make that happen," said IOM Director General Amy Pope.

Sharon Dimanche, Chief of Mission with IOM Kenya, said: "I am delighted to welcome Sir Mo Farah to Kenya. During his visit, we will inaugurate the 'Mo Farah Centre,' a digital library at the Mathare Youth Sports Association,

and the 'Mo Farah Cup,' an annual tournament. Through these initiatives, young people in Kenya can pursue economic empowerment and development through sports."

The 'Mo Farah Cup' tournament will include migrants, refugees, and host communities, and raise awareness of sport as a tool for promoting social cohesion and advocate for sport mobility as an alternative pathway for youth economic empowerment. Mo Farah will also run a symbolic sprint with youth, migrants, and refugees at the Kakuma-Kalobeyei resettlement in Turkana.



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Statement from Yorkshire County Cricket Club (YCCC) following the England and Wales Cricket Board's announcement over hosting Tier 1 women's cricket sides.

The Board of YCCC, said: "Yorkshire County Cricket Club are surprised and disappointed not to be awarded one of the initial Tier 1 women's teams as part of the first allocations from the ECB.

"The news is especially frustrating and upsetting for the players and staff at the Northern Diamonds. They have been trying to deal with it whilst preparing for their first game of the season in two days. Our focus is on supporting them through this difficult period and gaining as much clarity on what the future looks like.

"Yorkshire has the largest active playing base of women and girls in the country, has produced many players that have gone on to represent England in the women's game, winning the County Championship 16 times and Headingley has been successfully hosting the Northern Diamonds since 2020, so naturally the news has been tough to take.

"Yorkshire has a rich ethnicity mix and as part of our ongoing work to be the most welcoming and inclusive cricket club in the country, we use women's and girl's cricket as the cornerstone to creating real, tangible value in those communities that need it the most.

"We believe we hit all of the criteria set out as part of the tender, so we will be taking time to investigate and understand the detail behind the decision, assessing the best next steps for the club and most importantly ensuring we support the players and staff that are impacted."



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The ten most prolific towns and cities for searches relating to illegal vaping products

1. Croydon - with an average monthly search volume of 379 illegal vaping products per 100,000 people. 284 of these searches are for the 'Crystal Pro Max' vape, which is illegal in the UK due to the product's high 'puff' counts of 4,000 and 10,000.

2. Carlisle - with an average monthly search volume of 360 per 100,000 people. Like Croydon, the study also revealed that Carlisle most frequently searches for the 'Crystal Pro Max' vape, with accounts for 150 of the city's searches.

3. Batley - with an average monthly search volume of 311 per 100,000 residents, and 145 of these searches are for the 'Crystal Pro Max' vape. The 'R and M Tornado 9000' is another product which is frequently searched in Batley, accounting for 18 of the town's vape searches. The 'R and M Tornado 9000' is illegal in the UK, as the vape's liquid levels exceed the legal limit of 2ml per 600 puffs.

4. Bolton - with an average monthly search volume of 302 per 100,000 people. 22 of the town's searches are for the 'R and M Tornado 9000', and 12 of these searches are for the 'Crystal Prime 7000'. Due to the product's high puff count, the 'Crystal Prime 7000' is illegal in the UK when containing nicotine.

5. Washington - with an average monthly search volume of 289 per 100,000 residents. The town in Sunderland frequently searches for the 'Crystal Pro Max' vape, which accounts for 96 of Washington's illegal vape searches, and 35 searches are for the 'R and M Tornado 9000'.

6. Halifax - with an average monthly search volume of 274 per 100,000 people. 11 of these searches are for the 'Ene Legend' vape, which is commonly referred to as the 'Elux Legend'. This product is illegal in the UK due to its 10ml tank, which exceeds the legal limit of 2ml. The 'Elux Legend' also offers 3,500 puffs, making the product illegal when containing nicotine.

7. Widnes - with an average monthly search volume of 271 per 100,000 residents. Popular vape searches in the Lancashire-based town include the 'Crystal Prime 7000', which accounts for 45 of the town's searches, and the 'R and M Tornado 9000', which contributes to 29 of these searches.

8. Barnsley - with an average monthly search volume of 262 per 100,000 people. The town in South Yorkshire frequently searches for the 'Crystal Pro Max', which accounts for 117 of Barnsley's vape searches.

9. Blackburn - with an average search volume of 255 per 100,000 residents. Popular vape searches in Blackburn include the 'Crystal Pro Max', which makes up 155 of the town's searches. 11 of Blackburn's vape searches are for the 'Crystal Pro Max 4000', which is also illegal in the UK when containing nicotine.

10. Keighley - with an average monthly search volume of 253 per 100,000 people. Common searches in the town include the 'Crystal Pro Max', which accounts for 114 of the town's searches. 22 of Keighley's searches are for the 'R and M Tornado 9000', which contains more than 15 times the UK's legal liquid limit.



Illicit market

Three West Yorkshire areas among 'Top Ten' for highest demand in illegal vapes

An online vape retailer has analysed the monthly search volume for illegal vapes across the UK over the past 12 months. Terms included 'crystal pro max', 'r and m tornado', and '9000 puff vape'.

The search volume was compared to each area's population to determine the final ranking, with Batley, Halifax and Keighley listed in the illegal top ten areas.

It's illegal to sell vapes containing more than 2ml of e-liquid (equivalent to roughly 600 puffs) in the UK. However, illegal vapes containing more than 15 times the legal limit of liquid, are freely circulating across the country.

It's believed that a third of vapes currently sold in the UK are non-compliant, and this figure could rise



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significantly with the impending ban on disposable vapes due in 2025.

Research shows the vast majority of illegal vapes are purchased from brick-and-mortar stores, but the volume of online searches demonstrates the existence of a growing illicit market on the internet.

Guy Lawler, Managing Director of Vapekit.co.uk, who conducted the study comments: "It's incredibly concerning to see how illegal vapes are becoming more sought after in the UK, with many consumers having no idea that the products they're buying are untested and potentially unsafe."

"Retailers have a responsibility to adhere to UK vape regulations, but still, there are rogue operators, both on the high street and online, who openly sell illegal products and make no attempt to verify whether or not buyers are over 18."

"Enforcement by Trading Standards has been virtually non-existent in recent years, which allows these rogue retailers to continue operating with impunity."

"Vapes are meant to help people quit smoking, but the ever-growing black market is putting people's health at risk. Some of these non-compliant products even feature cartoon characters that attract younger people who should not be vaping."

"With the announcement on 6th March of the introduction of a new vape tax in 2026, and the pending ban on disposable vapes, it is feared the UK black market could grow exponentially as UK consumers find they are unable to source the products they want legally and affordably. The proposed vape tax will result in a 300% increase in cost for many vapers with those from low-income households hit the hardest."

"We strongly urge the government to prioritise public health and clamp down on black market importers and retailers as a matter of urgency."



It's illegal to sell vapes containing more than 2ml of e-liquid, equivalent to roughly 600 puffs, in the UK

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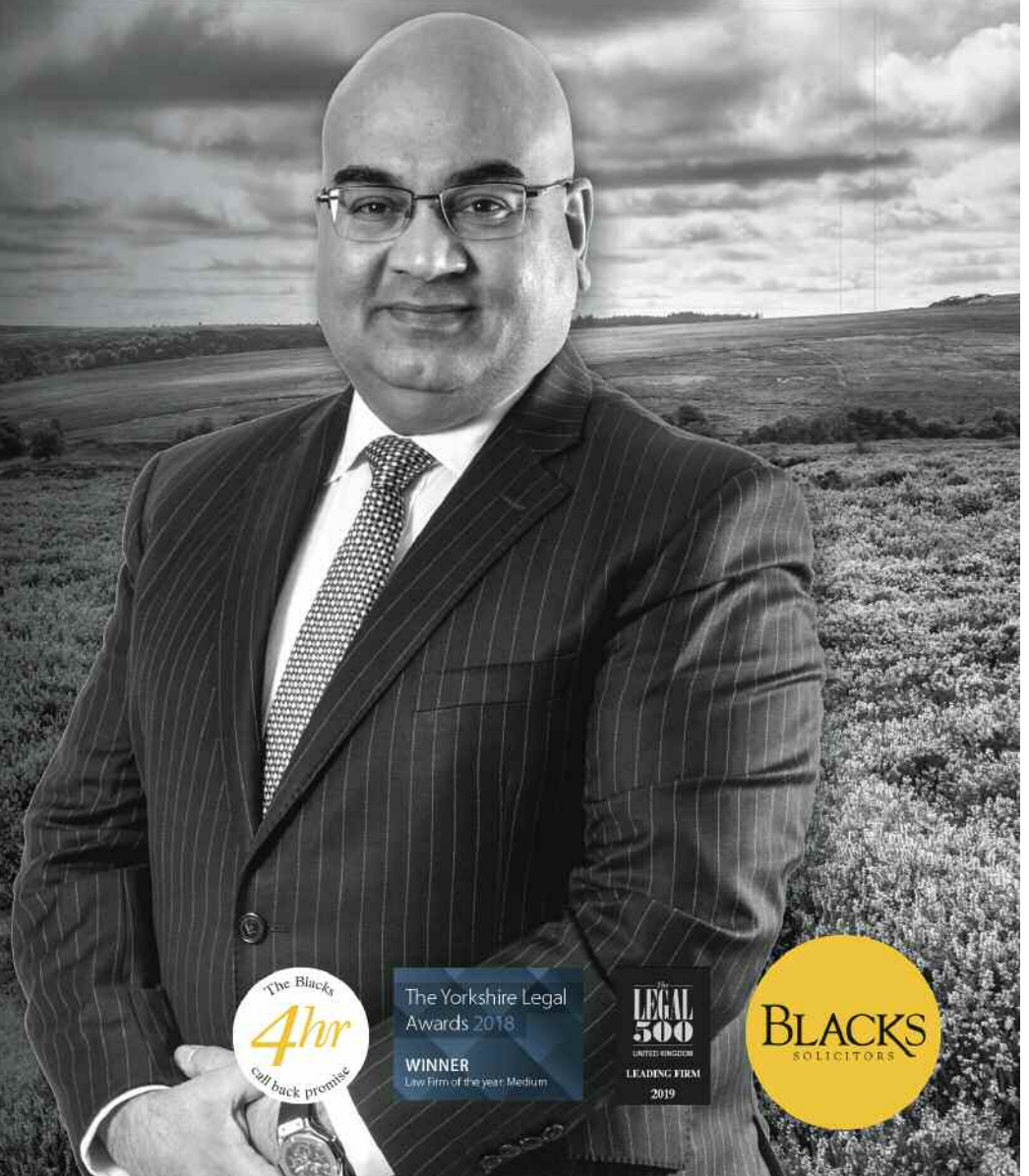
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■ Arshdeep Singh (24) - sentenced to 28 years, Jagdeep Singh (23) sentenced to - 28 years, Shivdeep Singh (27) - sentenced to 28 years Manjot Singh (24) - sentenced to 28 years, Sukhmandeep Singh (24) - sentenced to 10 years

Five men given a total of 122 years for murdering DPD driver

Four men guilty of murder and one guilty of manslaughter have been given a total of 122 years for beating to death DPD driver Aurman Singh, after ambushing him in broad daylight.

Aurman, who was 23 and lived in Smethwick, died after he was attacked and murdered in Shrewsbury by a group of men each armed with weapons including an axe, golf club and piece of wood.

The attack happened in broad daylight in the middle of the day on August 21, 2023 as the delivery driver made a delivery in Berwick Avenue in Coton Hill.

His injuries were so severe there was no chance of him surviving and he was pronounced dead at the scene.

The suspects fled in a white Mercedes Benz and grey Audi before discarding some of the weapons in nearby Hubert Way.

The Audi was followed by police as it headed towards Tipton in the West Midlands where the men were filmed dumping the axe, wrapped in a grey hoodie, in a bin.

The car was stopped and Arshdeep Singh, Jagdeep Singh, Shivdeep Singh and Manjot Singh were arrested on suspicion of murder.

All four men denied murder but were found guilty on Thursday 28 March by a jury after a six-week trial at Stafford Crown Court.

A fifth man, Sukhmandeep Singh believed to be the "the inside man" who sent information about Aurman's deliveries on the day he was murdered, was arrested a few days later in Peterborough. He was found guilty of manslaughter at the same trial.

The murder investigation was led by Detective Chief Inspector Mark Bellamy of West Mercia Police. He said: "I am pleased that significant sentences have been handed to these men for the brutal murder of Aurman Singh.

"These five men are dangerous individuals who will now serve a considerable sentence in prison where they cannot cause further harm to the wider public.

"We are incredibly grateful for the support from local residents and those who provided vital information to assist with our investigation and gave evidence in court.

"Aurman's family have understandably been left shattered, when he was tragically killed in a planned and brutal attack in Shrewsbury, and my thoughts and condolences remain with them.

"Today's sentence should send a strong message to those who think they can come into our towns and cities to commit violent crime that we will not stop in our efforts to find them and put them before the courts.

"This was a complex investigation which saw us work with police forces across the country and I'd like to thank the investigation team and those involved for their hard work and commitment."

Aurman's family have said in a statement: "There are no words that could ever explain the impact this tragedy has had on me and my family.

"Today a mother will grow old without her son. A sister will grow up without her brother. We don't want what has happened to us to happen to another family."

"Today a mother will grow old without her son. A sister will grow up without her brother. We don't want what has happened to us to happen to another family.

"It is an unbearable loss for us which has changed our lives. My daughter and myself will be living our lives for the sake of it but our happiness and the will to live is not there.

"We would like to thank the police for conducting their investigation diligently and supporting us through this tough time."

■ VICTIM: Aurman Singh, 23, died after being attacked with weapons including an axe, golf club and piece of wood





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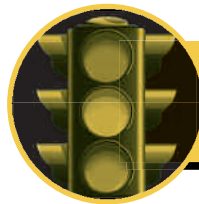
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Dead bodies of Palestinians killed in the Israeli attack are taken from the morgue of al-Aqsa Martyrs Hospital for burial in Deir Al-Balah, Gaza on 10 April, 2024 [Ashraf Amra/Anadolu Agency]

By Ramona Wadi

To keep reading that Israel's strike on the World Central Kitchen (WCK) that killed foreign aid workers besides Palestinians was the pivot point to slightly alter US President Joe Biden's rhetoric, is nothing more but an ongoing affirmation that Palestinian lives do not matter.

Referring to an interview which Biden did with Univision on Tuesday 9th April, the Times of Israel is constructing a narrative of the US politically opposing Israel.

However, there is no indication of opposition to Israel's genocide in Gaza.

The US is merely seeking a 'humanitarian pause' – a pause in which Palestinian suffering is temporarily alleviated until the next genocidal round.

Biden said he is calling for a six to eight week ceasefire to allow food and medical supplies into Gaza. "I think there's no excuse to not provide for the medical and the food needs of those people. It should be done now." Biden is reported to have stated.

And of course, the immediate context is not Palestinians facing famine, but the airstrike on WCK.

"I think it's outrageous that

A change in rhetoric, not in humanitarian aid

"Aid workers were killed in Gaza because Israel's starvation policy is a major component of its genocide."

those... three vehicles were hit by drones and taken out on a highway," Biden stated. Yes, but what about six months of genocide and using starvation as a weapon of war?

How is it that an airstrike on a humanitarian organisation can motivate a change in rhetoric, while the actual consequences of genocide and starvation only prompt promotion of Israel's security narrative?

Aid workers were killed in Gaza because Israel's starvation policy is a major component of its genocide.

The exploitation of both WCK and Palestinians is increasing. US

diplomacy is sending a message to the world that Israel's starvation of Gaza was not worth considering prior to the attack on WCK.

Even though the entire world has seen footage of starving Palestinians, of Palestinians who have died as a result of starvation, of the massacres Israeli forces committed when Palestinians were just trying to get some basic food supplies to feed themselves and their families.

Had the strike not happened, the US would not have been considering altering its rhetoric to get Israel to agree to allow a trickle of aid into Gaza.

And yet, airdrops are still happening and the floating pier will still be built, which points towards Israel maintaining its starvation policy in Gaza.

Nine countries participated in an airdrop coinciding with the end of Ramadan.

The international furore, weak as it is, needs to subside, however, and that is what the Biden administration is seeking. Not a cessation of genocide but the means through which Israel is not viewed through the genocidal lens as it deserves.

Public opinion differs, of course. Israel's security narrative no longer

holds sway as it did prior to its genocide in Gaza, but the colonial entity is still supported by the world's major powers. Hence, linking humanitarian aid delivery with the killing of foreign aid workers is an easier premise for both the US and Israel, but the deception cannot fool anyone, not even those disseminating it."

The views expressed in this article belong to the author and do not necessarily reflect the editorial policy of Asian Express Newspaper.

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NASA to create Lunar Time zone by 2026

NASA has been directed to create a standard time zone for the moon to make sure communications are synchronised and data transfers in space are secure. But the same clock on Earth would move differently on the moon - making the time zone both vital and complicated to develop.

The moon will get its own time zone after the White House directed NASA to develop a unified lunar time standard by the end of 2026.

The Coordinated Lunar Time, or LTC, would provide a time-keeping benchmark for lunar spacecraft and satellites that will require extreme precision for their missions.

Having a standard lunar time is vital - and complicated - because time unfolds differently on the moon compared to how it is perceived on Earth due to the difference in gravitational force.

"The same clock that we have on Earth would move at a different rate on the moon," Kevin Coggins, NASA's space communications and navigation chief, said in an interview.

For a person on the moon, an Earth-based clock would appear to lose on average 58.7 microseconds per Earth-day, the head of the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP) said in a memo.

Other periodic variations would further drift moon time from Earth time, Arati Prabhakar added.

The OSTP instructed NASA to work with other parts of the US government to devise a plan by the end of 2026 for developing LTC.

"Think of the atomic clocks at the US Naval Observatory [in Washington]. They're the heartbeat of the nation, synchronising everything. You're going to want a heartbeat on the moon," Mr Coggins said.

Under NASA's Artemis programme, the space agency is aiming take a team of astronauts to the moon in the coming years for the first time since Apollo 17 in December 1972.

Dozens of companies, spacecraft and countries are involved in the effort.

An OSTP official said that without a unified lunar time standard it would be challenging to ensure that data transfers between spacecraft are secure and that communications between Earth, satellites, bases and astronauts are synchronised.

Discrepancies in time also could lead to errors in mapping and locating positions on or orbiting the moon, they added.

"Imagine if the world wasn't syncing their clocks to the same time - how disruptive that might be and how challenging everyday things become," the official said.

On Earth, most clocks and time zones are based on Coordinated Universal Time, or UTC, which relies on a vast global network of atomic clocks around the world.

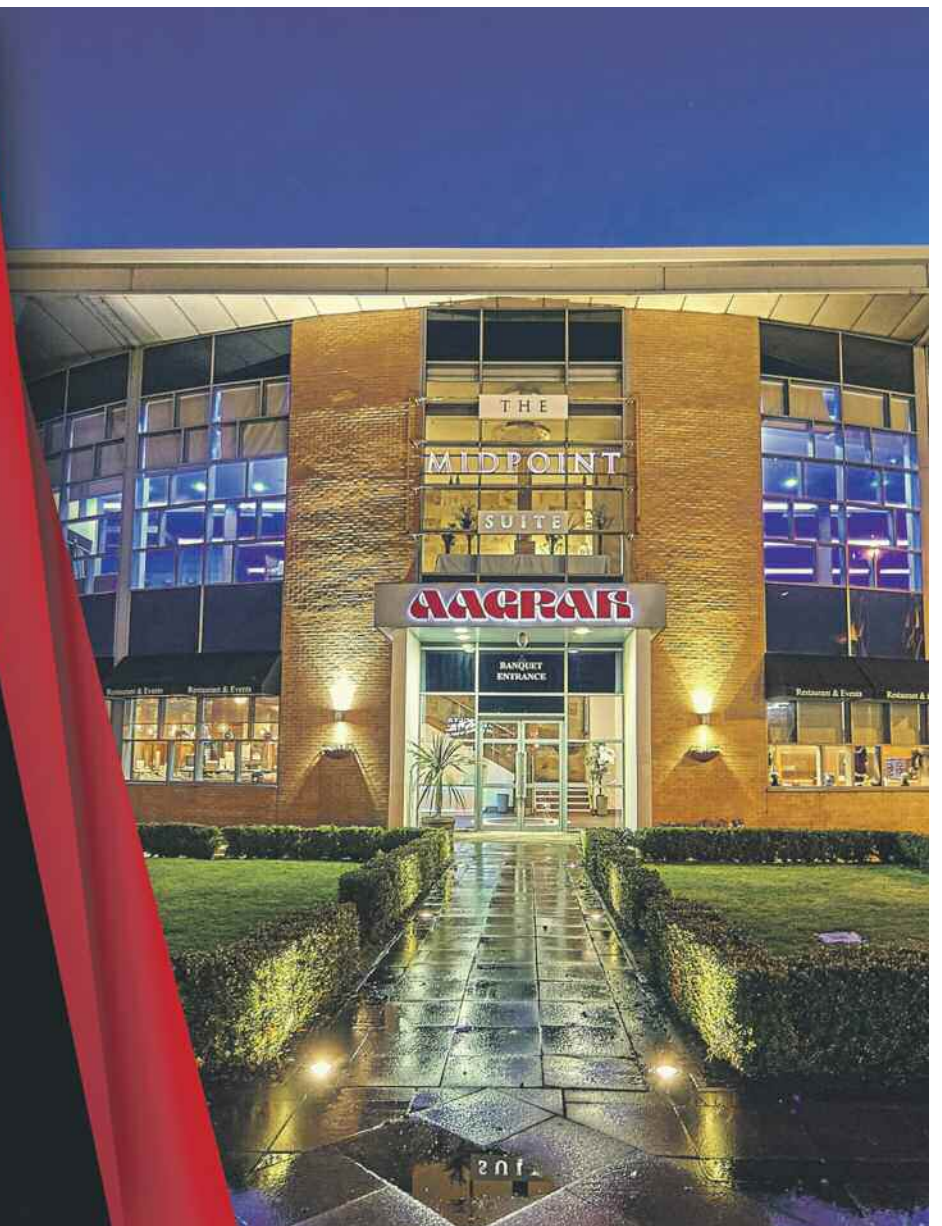


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Prayer ban

Muslim student loses High Court legal challenge against her school

A Muslim student has lost a High Court challenge against her school's prayer ban.

The High Court heard that about half of the school's 700 students are Muslim, and in March 2023, approximately 30 students began praying in the schoolyard, using blazers as prayer pads.

The student, attending Michaela School in Brent, took legal action against the policy, arguing it constituted a discriminatory ban on prayer.

The non-faith secondary school, led by its founder and head teacher Katharine Birbalsingh, defended its position in court, stating that permitting prayer rituals could potentially disrupt the inclusive environment among students.

The ban was implemented within days saying the ban was in response to concerns about a perceived "culture shift" toward religious segregation and intimidation within the group of Muslim pupils.

Mr Justice Linden, in a ruling,

rejected the student's challenge.

In an 83-page judgment dismissing the student's case, Mr Justice Linden said: "The claimant at the very least impliedly accepted, when she enrolled at the school, that she would be subject to restrictions on her ability to manifest her religion."

"She knew that the school is secular and her own evidence is that her mother wished her to go there because it was known to be strict."

"She herself says that, long before the prayer ritual policy was introduced, she and her friends believed that prayer was not permitted at school and she therefore made up for missed prayers when she got home."

Katharine Birbalsingh celebrated the ruling, stating it affirmed the school's autonomy to act in the best interests of its students.

She emphasised that parents have the freedom to choose whether to send their children to Michaela School.



Michaela School's founder and head teacher Katharine Birbalsingh

The pupil, who cannot be named for legal reasons, told the court the rule had "fundamentally changed" how she felt "about being a Muslim in this country".

The school argued its prayer policy was justified after it faced death and bomb threats linked to religious observance on site.

While the court upheld the school's prayer policy, it ruled in favour of the student regarding her temporary exclusion from the school.

Education Secretary Gillian Keegan expressed support for the judgment, affirming the authority of head teachers to make decisions that they deem appropriate for their schools.

Approximately half of the school's 700 students are Muslim





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The Logo Wars:

Tesco's branding battle sees Lidl come out on top

In the ever-evolving landscape of retail branding, every logo, every colour, and every design choice can become a battleground for supremacy.

Such was the case for retail giants Tesco and Lidl, whose clash over trademark rights left Tesco scrambling to redefine its iconic Clubcard Prices logo.

The High Court's verdict favoured Lidl, deeming Tesco's logo a trespass on its trademark territory. Thus, the yellow circle in a blue square faced a swift and decisive eviction from Tesco's branding repertoire.

It all began with a simple design: a yellow circle nestled within a blue square, a beacon of savings for Tesco's loyal Clubcard customers. However, this seemingly innocuous emblem became the centre of a legal storm when Lidl claimed infringement on its own yellow circle branding.

Now Tesco has begun the process of replacing millions of Clubcard Prices logos, after losing a trademark battle with Lidl over the design. The yellow circle is being replaced by a yellow rectangle, alongside a blue square.

With over eight million logos to replace across its stores, Tesco's task ahead was monumental, both in scale and in significance.

In the wake of the legal tussle, Tesco's spokesperson reaffirmed the company's commitment to its customers, emphasising the abundance of weekly deals awaiting Clubcard holders. They state the rebranding wasn't just about changing logos; it was a reaffirmation of Tesco's dedication to delivering value and convenience to its loyal patrons.

Meanwhile, Lidl watched from the sidelines, content with the outcome but ever vigilant. For them, it wasn't just about winning a legal battle; it was about protecting their brand identity and reputation as a discount retailer.

In the annals of retail history, the clash between Tesco and Lidl over a simple logo serves as a reminder of the power of branding and the lengths companies will go to safeguard their identities.



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Children's charity raises £45,000!



Forget Me Not Children's Hospice's hugely successful celebration ball held in Bradford raised an incredible £45,000 to support the charity's vital work.

The ball was an opportunity to celebrate the diverse communities that do so much to support Forget Me Not and to enjoy an evening of fine food and dancing together. Entertainment was provided by bhangra dancers and dhol

drummers, the band Indria, and DJ, Soulaisa Roadshow.

Forget Me Not says that every penny of the £45,000 raised in ticket sales and fundraising on the night will go towards supporting local children with life-shortening conditions and their families both at the children's hospice and in their own homes.

Brilliantly hosted by Lee Hayes, the evening was kicked off with a

speech by Forget Me Not's chair of trustees, Jeremy Cross and one of the mums the children's hospice supports told her story.

Then the fundraising got into full swing with an exciting and high stakes auction. The main auction prize - a fantastic 7-day stay in Barbados for 10 people generously donated by Ken Davy (local entrepreneur and president of Forget Me Not's Platinum Partners

consortium) was worth over £8,000. Enthusiastic bidding from a number of tables drove that up to a jaw-dropping £15,000!

Vicky Lough, event organiser, said: "What an amazing night it's been! A great atmosphere, lots of fun and a real community spirit. A huge thank you to all our guests for their generosity and support and to all the businesses who donated prizes as well as to our sponsors,

volunteers and everyone at the Cedar Court Hotel for helping make this an evening to remember!"

Forget Me Not's celebration ball was sponsored by Shaks Specialist Cars. Other sponsors were: entertainment sponsor Advanced Supply Chain, reception sponsor Towndoor, and programme sponsor Pinnacle Group.

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With new analysis showing that over four million young people are not even registered to vote, an unprecedented spread of some of the UK's best known organisations, companies and cultural institutions has mobilised to call on young people to step up ahead of National Voter Registration Day.

From Apple and Deliveroo to Premier League football clubs, Lime, Change.org, GoFundMe and Glastonbury Festival, alongside hundreds of youth organisations, this is a clarion call to the millions of young people who feel that politics isn't for them.

The scale of disenfranchisement is huge: put together they would make up the "UK's silent second city," new analysis from My Life My Say and Upvote shows.

Over half of 18-24s didn't vote at the last general election in 2019, with estimates of up to 6 million under-34s not voting.[2] National Voter Registration Day, coordinated by My Life My Say, is also being marked by leading youth sector organisations including the #IWillMovement, Volunteering Matters, Shape History and 250+ youth organisations, supported by the Power of Youth charter, and assisted by UpVote, a youth voter engagement campaign.

From competitions and giveaways to mailings, social media initiatives and targeted advertising, this National Voter Registration Day is shaping up to be the UK's largest ever youth-focused, pro-democracy mobilisation. The day kickstarts a wider push to get every single young person registered to vote ahead of the next general election, through the youth-led, non-partisan, Give an X voter registration campaign, with many of the organisations, companies and cultural institutions already signed up to further work in a critical year of elections.

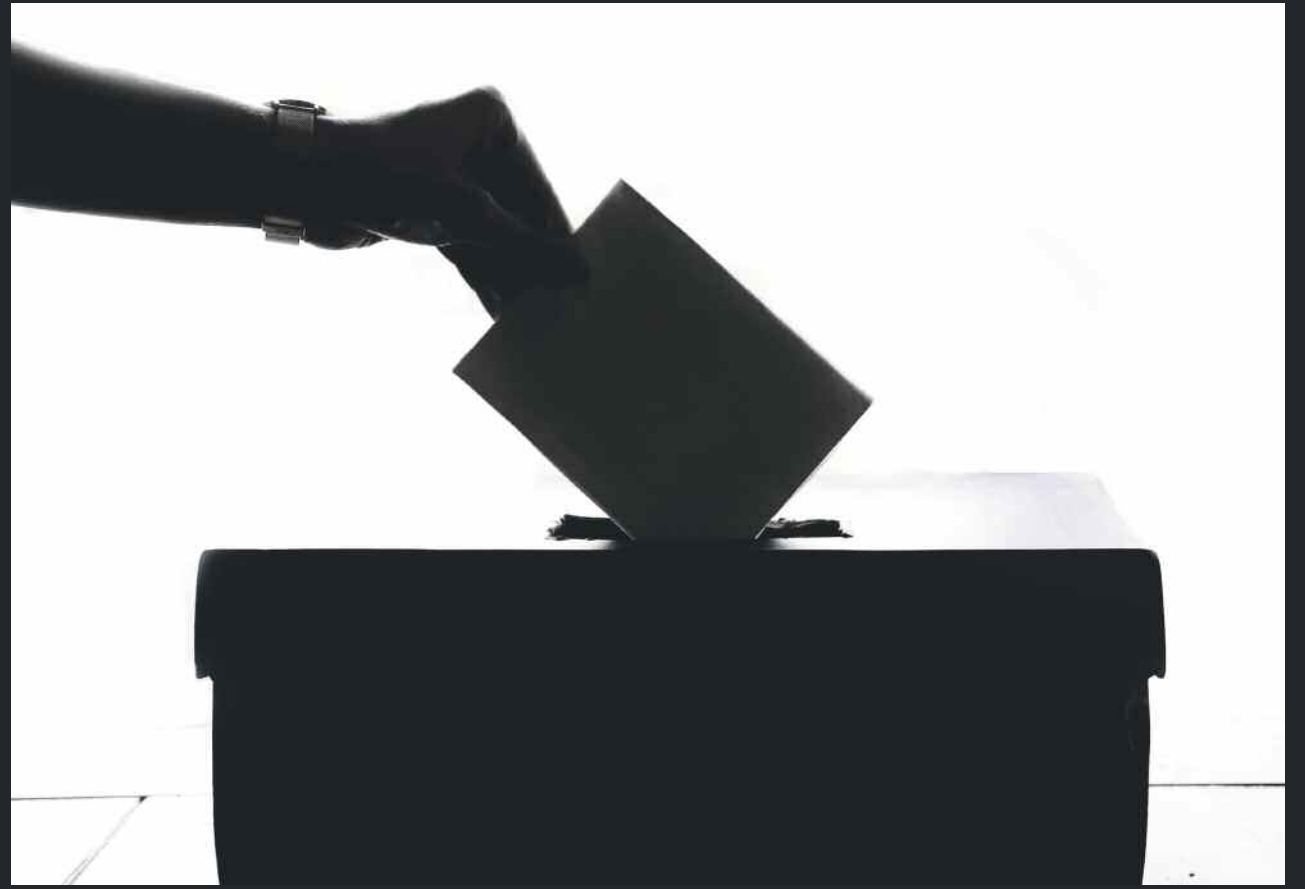
Dan Lawes, 22 at My Life My Say said: "Four million is a staggering number. Bigger than Birmingham. Bigger than Manchester. The UK's silent second city. But this city is turning up the volume.

"Young people across the UK are facing unprecedented challenges – from soaring living costs to mental health crises. On National Voter Registration Day, we are proud to be standing with hundreds of organisations with one collective message: young peoples' voices matter.

"It's a call to action for every young person to step up, be counted, and shape the future they want to see. My Life My Say stands firm in the belief that young peoples' views need to be heard in the upcoming elections, which is why we are on a mission to get every single young person voting through the Give an X campaign. By listening to young peoples' voices, we can strengthen our democracy and to make it truly inclusive for all."

New polling for My Life My Say by Opinium showed the power of personal relationships in encouraging young people to vote. In a poll of 1,001 young adults aged 18-24, four out of 10 said that a parent/guardian (41%) or friend (39%) would be the most likely to influence them to vote. Around 50% of those registered to vote said they are planning on voting in the upcoming local elections on Thursday 2 May.

Non-voting young people would make up the 'UK's silent second city'



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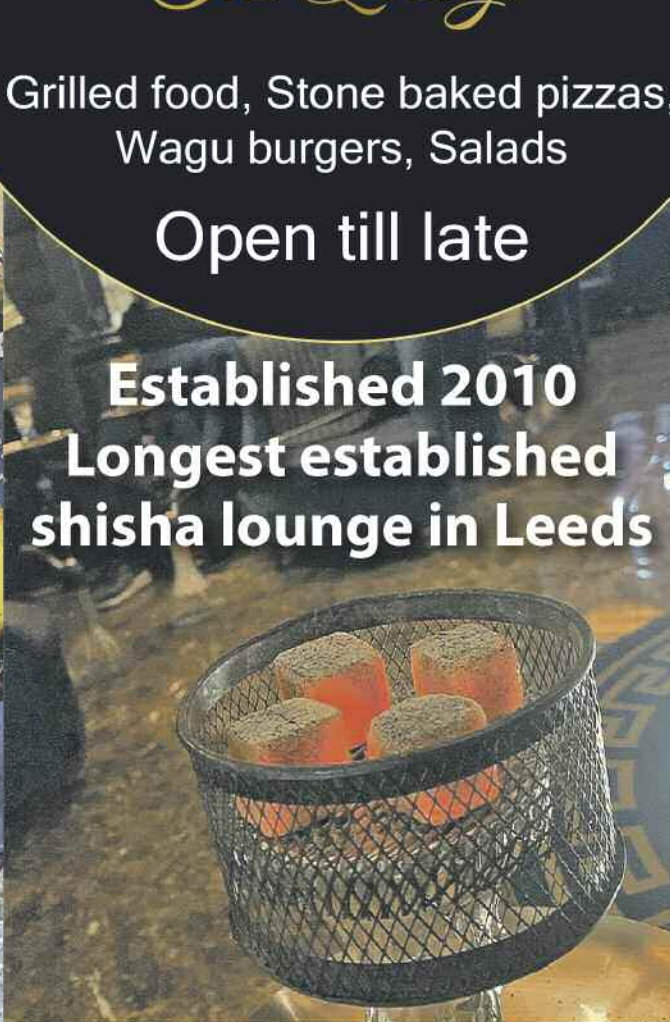


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Amnesty International in Jordan said that it is “concerned about the continued detention of several activists by the Jordanian General Intelligence Service.”

It added in a post on its official X page, “among them are activists Ziad Ibhais and Maysara Malas, according to their lawyer.”

The organisation quoted their lawyer as saying, “They were arrested on March 31, during a pro-Gaza demonstration, without being informed of the reasons for the arrest. They are still prevented from contacting their lawyers.”

Amnesty International said in a statement on its official website, “Since 7 October 2023, the Jordanian authorities have arrested at least 1,500 people, including about 500 detained since March following huge protests outside the Israeli Embassy in Amman.”

“The Jordanian authorities must immediately cease their crackdown on pro-Gaza protests and immediately release dozens of activists who have been illegally detained solely because of their peaceful criticism of the government’s policies towards Israel.”

“Dozens remain in detention pending trial, while at least 21 individuals are being held in illegal administrative detention on orders of the Governor of Amman even though the public prosecutor permitted their release.”

The rights group noted that “at least 165 protesters were arrested between 24 and 27 March, while scores have been detained since.”

“Dozens remain in detention pending trial, while at least 21 individuals are being held in illegal administrative detention on orders of the Governor of Amman even though the public prosecutor permitted their release,” it added.

“Lawyers and activists told Amnesty International that the Jordanian authorities also recently imposed new restrictions on pro-Palestine protests, including

prohibitions on holding the Palestinian flag and banners with certain slogans, and banned the participation of children younger than 18 years old. They also prohibited the continuation of protests after midnight.”

Dozens of protestors have also been charged under Jordan’s repressive Cybercrimes Law for social media posts in which they merely expressed pro-Palestinian sentiment, criticised the authorities’ peace deal with Israel, or called for peaceful protests and public strikes.

Amnesty: Jordan denying detained pro-Palestinian activists’ access to lawyers

■ Hundreds of people holding Palestinian flags and banners, gather to stage a pro-Palestinian demonstration in Amman, Jordan



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Heartwarming tribute



Friends unite through badminton tournament in memory of late friend

In a heartwarming tribute to their late friend, a group decided to organise a badminton event in his memory, a game he enjoyed playing with his friends.

Sadly, Ravi tragically lost his life in a road accident a few years ago, and the Leeds Charity Badminton Tournament, celebrates his life and cherishes the memories he has left behind.

Now successfully running into its third year, the tournament this time round, brought together 170 badminton enthusiasts from diverse backgrounds.

Participants competed fiercely in categories such as Women's Doubles, Mixed Doubles, and Men's Doubles at the Ramgarhia Sikh Sports Centre in Leeds.

This tournament not only attracted professional badminton players, but many youth participants also came to showcase their passion and love towards the sport.



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It was a day reflecting true sportsmanship, as all players played with great enthusiasm and energy and this further created a vibrant atmosphere full of fun and enjoyment.

The tournament's noble cause was evident: all profits raised were reversed to Leeds Children Hospitals.

Collaborating with the renowned Leeds Charity Cooking team 'AkshayaPatra, Leeds, UK', the event featured food stalls serving delectable Indian snacks, chaat, refreshing Indian drinks such as rose-milk, mango lassi, masala tea, furthermore a selection of Malaysian delicacies was sold at nominal costs.

Vegetarian and non-vegetarian Biryani were also sold by local caterers who generously donated a portion of their sales-profit to this beneficiary.

Safety was a priority, thanks to the support of Eshthaini Medicare Limited who provided a doctor and a physiotherapist to be there on standby and provided comprehensive medical assistance throughout the event.

The spirit of competition was matched by camaraderie, as winners, runners, and semi-finalists, all received well-deserved trophies, medals, and gift vouchers.

The tournament's turn-out made it a true community event, as everyone wanted to support this noble event, and help raise money for a great local cause.

Generous sponsors included: Tharavadu Restaurant, Munch Cafe, My Local Mart, Lifeline Protect, MSA Properties Limited, Arnold Estates Limited, Law & Lawyers Solicitors, and Scarcroft Cricket Club.

The tournament's success culminated in an impressive profit of approximately £2000, all of which will be contributed to the Charity of Leeds Children Hospitals.

A spokesperson from the Leeds Charity Badminton Tournament said: "This [event] exemplifies the power of sports, community, and compassion coming together for one sole reason, our dear friend, Ravi."

"Ravi's legacy and memory lives on forever with his family and through this remarkable initiative. Sports [badminton] connected us then, and will connect us forever!"



"This [event] exemplifies the power of sports, community, and compassion coming together for one sole reason, our dear friend, Ravi."



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Young people from ethnic minority receive £1.7 million funding boost to tackle workplace discrimination in West Yorkshire



Young people from ethnic minority backgrounds in West Yorkshire are set to benefit from a £1.7 million grant to tackle workplace discrimination and support employment opportunities, Youth Futures Foundation have announced.

The Hamara Centre has been selected to lead the project targeted at young people with Bangladeshi and Pakistani heritage living in Leeds and Bradford.

Nearly half of people (45%) in Bradford and one in ten in Leeds under the age of 21 have South Asian heritage.

The funding announcement comes after new research from Youth Futures Foundation found that almost half of young people from an ethnic minority background have experienced

prejudice or discrimination when seeking to enter the workplace.

This research is based on the largest survey of young people from ethnic minority backgrounds carried out in the UK, interviewing 3,250 young people.

Last year, Youth Futures Foundation worked with 30 organisations including the Hamara Centre to explore systemic barriers facing Bangladeshi and Pakistani communities and identify organisations to pursue potential solutions.

As part of this, the Hamara Centre engaged with 157 young people as well as family and community members with Bangladeshi, Pakistani, and other British Muslim

“The thought that there is tangible action being taken so that people will no longer have to endure the discrimination and disrespect I once faced brings me a sense of completeness and ease.”

backgrounds.

Young people shared their experiences and perspectives on employment through activity sessions, focus groups, interviews, and surveys.

This process highlighted a range of barriers facing young people from these communities, which go beyond the usual challenges faced by all young people from disadvantaged backgrounds.

Mustafa, aged 24 and Young Person at Hamara said: “I’m overjoyed to see young people from ethnic minority backgrounds receiving the platform they rightly deserve.

“This intervention planned by Youth Futures Foundation and Hamara for the upcoming years fills me with exhilaration.

“The thought that there is

tangible action being taken so that people will no longer have to endure the discrimination and disrespect I once faced brings me a sense of completeness and ease.”

The research revealed instances of discrimination in educational environments, during the hiring process, and in the workplace as well as mainstream employment and support services.

Additionally, young people reported that family pressures constrained their educational and employment choices and gender norms influenced decision-making.

The Hamara Centre has developed three key interventions to tackle the challenges encountered by young people in these communities.

This includes working with employers to reform recruitment and management practices, creating new employment pathways by channelling resources into excluded communities, and amplifying the collective voice of individuals from local communities across all levels of the system.

Sarah Yong, Director of Policy and Communications at Youth Futures Foundation, said: “Ambitious young people deserve to have the same opportunities as everyone else and have their voices heard, regardless of their race or ethnicity.”

“We’re excited to be working with the Hamara Centre, who have a track record of supporting local communities for over two decades, to unlock the potential of young people and help the regional economy thrive.”

Raheem Mohammad, Director at Hamara, said: “Ethnic disparity within the workplace has been ongoing for decades, but it feels like only recently it’s become recognised as something employers should be addressing.

“Unfortunately, damage will already have been felt by thousands of young people and their families across the country, but our work can change this for local young people today”.

“With this new project, Hamara will be working with other sector colleagues to bring this insight to the surface, and influence system change for the better of our future generations.”

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It Won't Be You

A player of an instant win game on the National Lottery website recently lost her long running legal battle with Camelot (the operator of the National Lottery). In the case of Parker-Grennan v Camelot UK Lotteries Limited the Claimant claimed that she had won £1m but her claim was rejected by Camelot.

The game required the player to match one of the numbers generated as "their numbers" to the "winning number". When the Claimant played, the games animation showed that she had matched the number "15" which started to flash and she was informed that she had won £10. However, the Claimant also saw that she had matched a second number, which carried a prize of £1m. The second number did not flash and no notification popped up saying that she had won £1m. Camelot told the Claimant that she had not won £1m because the second matched number was due to a coding error in the software responsible for the animations which had resulted in the Claimant being

shown images on her screen that were inconsistent with the prize on the ticket that she had purchased. Camelot pointed to the terms and conditions on its website which stated that the animated display had no bearing on a player's winnings.

Prior to playing the game the Claimant had clicked "confirm" to agree to Camelot's terms and conditions, a link at the bottom of the page led to the small print with hyperlinks to other terms.

The Claimant sued Camelot for £1m, contending that she had followed its rules and that any software error was simply a matter for Camelot. However, the High Court found in favour of Camelot rejecting the Claimant's Application for Summary Judgment of her claim.

The Claimant appealed the High Court's decision on several grounds:

- Were Camelot's terms incorporated into the contract?
- If they were, were those terms unenforceable pursuant to the Unfair Terms in Consumer Contracts Regulations 1999?

- As a matter of construction of the contract between the Claimant and Camelot, did the Claimant win £1m or only £10?

The Court of Appeal unanimously dismissed the appeal. The Appeal Judges found that the terms had been effectively incorporated into the contract and those terms were neither onerous nor unfair. Accordingly, the Claimant had only won £10. The Court said that: "This case is not about online retail but about online gambling, but it has squarely raised the issue of what needs to be done to incorporate standard terms and conditions into a contract for goods or services which is made online. So far as we are aware, this is the first case in which that issue has been considered by this Court".

This case highlights the importance of properly incorporating terms and conditions into a contract. In the digital age, such terms are commonly found on websites. Website owners should ensure that the terms are prominently displayed, accessible and drafted in language which is clear and easy to understand.

If you are involved in any contractual dispute or require assistance with the preparation of contracts, then Blacks Solicitors can assist. Please contact Luke Patel on 0113 227 9316 or by email at "LPatel@LawBlacks.com".



TAKEAWAY TILL FRAUD

Unannounced HMRC till inspections to be conducted at suspected premises

Takeaways across England have been subject to unannounced inspections as part of an Electronic Sales Suppression (ESS) probe.

The action by HM Revenue and Customs (HMRC) officers took place at a total of 17 different outlets in London, Ipswich, Manchester and Newcastle over the last month.

It follows several separate till fraud enquiries, which include the arrest of a 47-year-old man in Manchester on 21 February, plus voluntary interview invitations issued to 4 people in the Cheshire area.

HMRC knows some takeaways are using ESS tools which are either software or devices that alter electronic point-of-sale records. They are used to under-report a business's sales and consequently evade tax.

On the surface, a transaction might appear to go through as normal, but ESS tools enable records to be manipulated – sometimes by deleting sales and linking to either domestic or offshore payment platforms.

To combat ESS in the takeaway industry, HMRC has robust methods in place, including accessing data from external

sources, such as bank statements and transaction records from online food ordering platforms.

This includes payments some platforms facilitate between takeaways and wholesalers. The information is then

compared against a business's declared income to identify any discrepancies.

Anyone using, supplying, making or promoting ESS can face fines of up to £50,000 or criminal prosecution.

Those involved should come forward and use the disclosure facility on GOV.UK. The longer a business takes to disclose information, the higher the financial penalties will likely be.

HMRC also encourages anyone with information regarding ESS or any form of tax fraud to contact them. HMRC can commence a criminal investigation into tax fraud with the view to prosecution or, if appropriate, carry out a civil investigation under Code of

Practice 9 (COP9).

You do not need to wait for HMRC contact – you can voluntarily admit to tax fraud through the COP9 Contractual Disclosure Facility (form CDF1). Find out more at gov.uk/report-tax-fraud.



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...life & style

Top 10 cheapest European capitals for a city break

Warsaw, Poland

Warsaw, Poland, is the cheapest European capital for a city break.

Madrid, Spain and Sofia, Bulgaria follow in second and third place, respectively.

Vaduz, Liechtenstein is the most expensive capital for a city break.

New research has discovered the top 10 cheapest European capitals for a city break, with Warsaw taking the top spot.

Taking the crown for the cheapest European capital for a city break is Warsaw, Poland, with a total price of £161.67. There's plenty of places to explore the city's history, including the Palace of Culture and Science or the Museum of the Warsaw Uprising, as well as many restaurants that serve up Polish delicacies like pierogies – and a three-course meal for two only costs an average at £37.52 here. Not to mention, a return ticket will only set you back £88.89.

Continued on page 36

Alexander Nevsky Cathedral in Sofia, Bulgaria

Madrid, Spain cityscape at Calle de Alcalá and Gran Vía

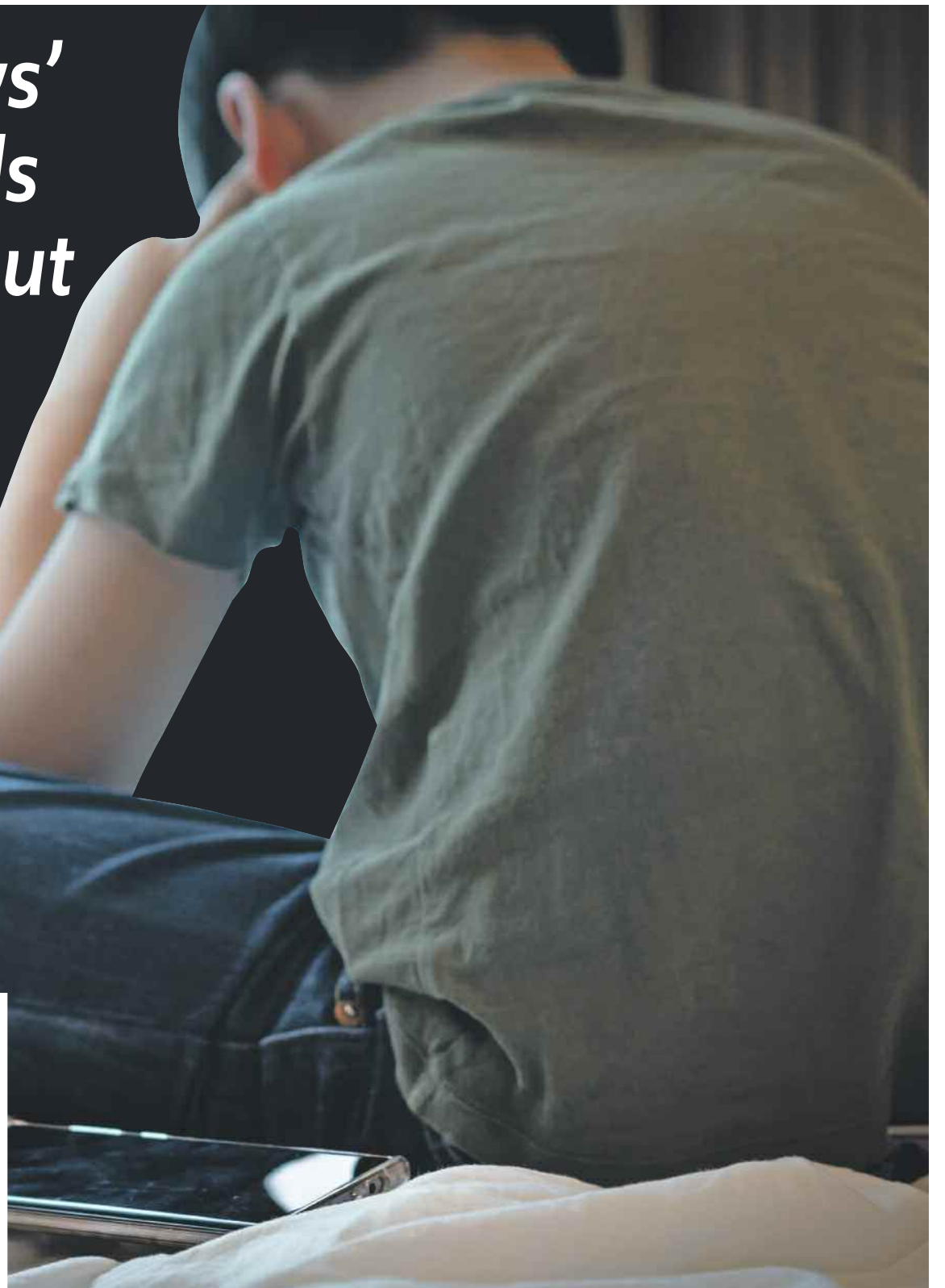


Sofia, Bulgaria, which has a total of £200.58. For architecture enthusiasts, be sure to see St. Alexander Nevski Cathedral, or alternatively visit Borisova Gradina if you like to soak up the nature. However you decide to spend your day, you can always finish it off in one of the many bars dotted around the city where a beer will cost an average of just £1.81.

Latvia's capital **Riga** is in fourth place with a total of £201.31. Riga boasts plenty of attractions, from the Old Town, House of the Black Heads, and Vermales Garden – and with a taxi costing an average of 79p per km, you won't break the bank travelling around the city.

In second place is Spain's capital, **Madrid**, amounting a total of £184.80. While many may expect the capital to be pricey like other Spanish cities, such as Barcelona, it's actually one of the cheaper cities in Western Europe – and a night's stay in a hotel will only cost an average of £35.91.

“It is likely that boys’ mental health needs are being missed, but also there may be more referrals for boys than will be anticipated.”



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Boys’ mental health impacted more by pandemic than girls’

Contrary to the findings of other studies, the COVID-19 pandemic had a greater impact on boys’ mental health than girls.

This is the main finding of new research published in European Child and Adolescent Psychiatry led by scientists at the University of Reading, Manchester Metropolitan University, University of Liverpool and King’s College London.

These findings could have a significant impact on the referral of adolescents to mental health services and on diagnoses, and greater awareness of age-related changes in mental health symptoms is needed by clinicians, educators and parents, the study team said.

According to the study, initial reports of a pandemic-related

increase in depression in young adolescent girls could be explained by a natural rise in these symptoms as they get older. In contrast, pandemic-related increases in boys’ depression and both boys’ and girls’ behavioural problems may have been masked by maturational changes over early adolescence.

The team were able to draw the conclusions by following young adolescents over three waves of measurement pre- and post-pandemic onset, between ages 11 to 14 in a unique longitudinal dataset the Wirral Child Health and Development Study (WCHADS). This enabled them to examine changes associated with increasing age as well as with the pandemic.

Professor Jonathan Hill,

University of Reading, one of the WCHADS investigators, said: “It is very important to take aging into account when considering diagnosis and prognosis in early adolescence, because maturational shifts may mask or over-state actual change in symptoms.”

Lead author Nicky Wright, a Lecturer in Psychology at Manchester Met, said: “Because of the general decrease in boys’ depression with age, and the general messaging about the impact of the pandemic being greater on girls, it is likely that boys’ mental health needs are being missed, but also there may be more referrals for boys than will be anticipated.”

The WCHADS is led by Jonathan Hill, Professor of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry at University of Reading and Helen Sharp, Professor of Child and Adolescent Clinical Psychology at the University of Liverpool. Statistical analysis is led by Andrew Pickles, Professor of Biostatistics at King’s College London. The WCHADS cohort was established with funding from the Medical Research Council, and the adolescent waves were funded by the University of Reading, a consortium of Liverpool partners, and the British Academy.

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STORY OF SUCCESS

“We were one of the pioneers for bringing in these niche products into the Western market,” he said. Ilyas explained that when he started the company there were very few people sourcing their own products and creating and blending their own fragrances here in the UK from these products.

ABOUT THE PERFUMES

Scent Salim is one of very few shops in the UK to offer an array of niche fragrances, Arabian perfumes and Oud.

This is the home of over 1,000 scents – Ilyas says they can recreate any perfume for a client. The products are made from natural and oils and sourced from all over Asia and the Middle East.

It is this concentration on genuine, quality products, from the original source that make the scents so special.

“We concentrate on the quality and that’s why we don’t want to grow too fast,” he explained.

Oud is the generic Arabic term for incense, or resinous wood taken from the agarwood tree. The agarwood trees in question are located in specific areas in the world – Malaysia, India, Cambodia, Indonesia and Brunei. The wood in these trees is of tremendous value, as the resin within them is distilled to create pure Oud scents.

Oud itself has gained popularity among celebrities, Royals and artisans worldwide. It offers a depth of fragrance, which is multi-layered and, Ilyas explains, lasts longer than a regular “French” style perfume.

But modern methods and a bit of a French/Asian fusion makes these fragrances so accessible and flexible. They are produced in a range of options from room fragrances to fragrant woods for burning.



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Herrengasse with a view towards imperial Hofburg palace in **Vienna, Austria**



Vienna, Austria, takes the seventh spot in the list, with a sum of £213.22. Schönbrunn Palace, Café Central, and Hofburg Palace are just a few of the many attractions that Vienna has to offer – and a return flight is priced at an average of £112.56.

Following closely behind is **Berlin**, Germany, with a total of £213.86. Those with a keen interest in history will particularly enjoy the Berlin Wall, where you can even take a walking tour to see the former border patrol stations. On the other hand, the city is known for its partying scene, so if you want to experience the vibrant nightlife head to Warschauer Strasse or Kreuzberg.

Next is **Bucharest**, Romania, taking a total of £215.14. Explore the culture by visiting attractions such as the National Museum of Art of Romania during the day, and head to the Old Town on the evening where you'll find beautiful buildings as well as many bars and restaurants. You won't spend an eye-watering amount of money getting around Bucharest with a taxi costing an average of just 53p for every 1km travelled.

Top 10 cheapest European capitals for a city break

Charles bridge in **Prague, Czech Republic**



In fifth place is **Prague**, Czech Republic, which takes a total of £202.19. A beer here is a steal priced at an average of £1.87, and you'll find many bars in the Old Square, which is particularly popular with tourists. Or, if you want to find somewhere with more locals, branch out slightly further and visit the districts of Prague 2 and 3.

Ranking in sixth place is **Budapest**, the capital of Hungary, taking a total of £204.93. The Parliament Building is a must-see – its gothic architecture is spectacular to say the least, and you'll get one of the best views of the attraction from across the Danube River. Plus, a night's stay in a hotel is priced at an average of £28.22, so you won't be spending a fortune on accommodation.

Last on the list is **Rome**, Italy, with a sum of £216.57. If you're a lover of pizza and pasta, this city is the perfect choice with many romantic restaurants serving up these traditional dishes – and there's an abundance of attractions here, including the Colosseum, the Roman Forum, and Piazza Navona. Accommodation won't cost you too much, with a night's stay in a hotel priced at an average of £36.72.

On the opposite end of the scale, **Vaduz**, Liechtenstein, is the most expensive capital for a city break with a total of £1021.65.

The data comes from analysts at Gambling 'N Go analysed the average cost of several factors in each capital city in Europe, including flights from any London airport, a night's stay in a hotel, and a three-course meal for two in a mid-range restaurant. The cost of each factor was added up to determine the ranking.

Coliseum at night in **Rome, Italy**



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It's been a challenging summer for maintaining our lawns. June was the hottest in the UK since records began in 1884. This was then followed by the sixth wettest July in the UK on record.

Keeping on top of what our lawns need as the weather changes can be tricky, but with the right approach and care, you can still achieve a healthy and beautiful lawn. Cheryl Harper, Managing Director of Greensleeves Lawn Care, has the following top tips to help you maintain a thriving green lawn.

Keep on mowing

Optimal care for a thriving summer lawn revolves around a simple yet effective approach: regular, gentle mowing. This task, however, becomes a delicate dance when confronted with the British climate. Wet grass blades are slick and tough to slice, creating an uneven shred (at best) rather than the clean cut which is healthier for the grass.

Whilst it's advisable to keep grass longer in hot weather (the extra length helps protect from the sun and stops water from evaporating), when the weather is as changeable as it has been recently, equilibrium is key. Allowing the grass to grow excessively long during damp spells might inadvertently foster a haven for invasive weeds, susceptibility to lawn diseases, and overhydration of your lawn.

Weed watch

There are some weeds that will thrive in whatever weather conditions you throw at them, and if not managed properly, you'll soon find them taking over your garden. When your grass has had a tough summer, the last thing you want is weeds stealing valuable nutrients and space from your lawn. Even if you successfully eradicate weeds once, new ones may appear later in the year so the key to effective weed control lies in both eliminating existing weeds and implementing preventive measures. Use a herbicide to target

weeds without causing harm to your grass.

Fun in the sun

One of the most common things we see is the damage done by outdoor toys, such as paddling pools, trampolines and slides. While they provide endless amounts of fun for all the family, under the surface they'll block air, sunlight and water from getting to your grass. The last thing you want to see is a large dead patch when you pack up the trampoline at the end of summer. To avoid this, continually reposition them around the garden to give the affected areas time to rejuvenate and recover.

Let your lawn breathe

With the kids at home for the summer holidays, soil can quickly get compacted with increased activity in the garden. Plants that rely on the health and vitality of the soil will struggle to get the support and space they need to grow and expand, with water and air also fighting to get deep into the roots. To combat this problem, it is advisable to carry out hollow-tine and spiking aeration treatments as these methods help to loosen the compacted soil and will promote healthier growth for your lawn.

Lawn woes and fungi foes

Fungi and other lawn diseases can have big breakouts at this time of year. The mix of warm and wet weather can be the perfect breeding ground for these lawn invaders. It's important to note that proper lawn care practices, such as regular mowing, adequate watering, and appropriate fertilisation, can help prevent and manage these diseases.

If you're struggling to find the time to manage your garden or need help or advice with lawn care treatments, you can always rely on the services of a professional lawn care company. Local experts know how to identify common issues and it will save you time, energy, and often money.

Battling the British climate to maintain a healthy lawn



For further information about Greensleeves and how they can help you with your lawn care visit www.greensleeves-uk.com/

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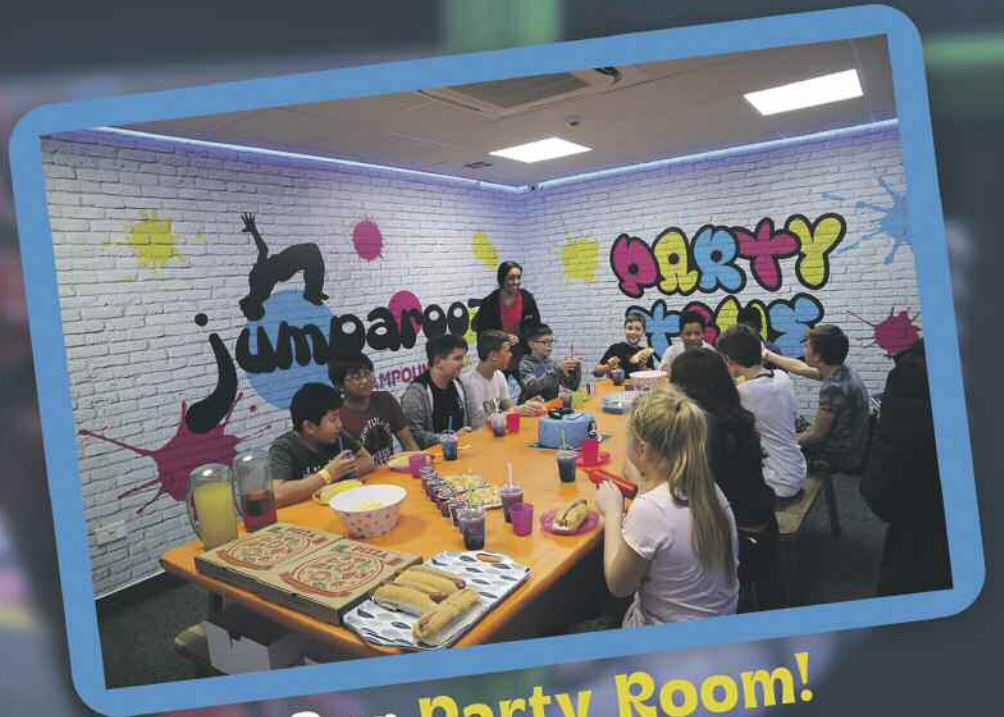
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Curtain call!

'Mrs Kapoor's Daughter's Wedding 2 Mauritius' becomes most successful touring British Asian play ever

In a historic milestone for British Asian theatre, 'Mrs Kapoor's Daughter's Wedding 2 Mauritius' is about to celebrate a monumental achievement as it reaches an astounding 100,000 audience members during its new tour of the UK, solidifying its status as the most successful touring British Asian play to date.

Following the overwhelming success of its previous sell-out shows, the highly anticipated sequel, 'Mrs Kapoor's Daughter's Wedding 2 Mauritius', continues to captivate audiences across the UK with its heartwarming narrative, vibrant performances, and infectious energy.

Since its inception, the production has garnered widespread acclaim for its ability to seamlessly blend comedy, dance, and music, offering a cultural experience like no other.

With a track record of over 86,000 attendees across four sold-out tours, 'Mrs Kapoor's Daughter's Wedding' has consistently delighted audiences and earned its place as a cultural phenomenon.

The sequel, 'Mrs Kapoor's Daughter's Wedding 2 Mauritius', embarks on its 2024 immersive tour, with a special one-night engagement at the prestigious Adelphi Theatre in London's West End.

Audiences can expect an interactive and

engaging experience, immersing themselves in the festivities from either the bride's side (red) or the groom's side (blue), promising an unforgettable evening for all.

The tour kicked off on April 6th and 7th at the Beck Theatre in London and will continue to enchant audiences at various locations including Fairfield Halls in Croydon, St George's Hall in Bradford, De Montfort Hall in Leicester, RNCM Theatre in Manchester, New Theatre Cardiff in Wales, and The Alexandra in Birmingham.

The tour culminates in a spectacular performance at the Adelphi Theatre in London's West End on July 16th.

Led by a talented ensemble cast, including comedian and actor Manoj Kerai as Mrs Kapoor, actor Kush Pattni as Mr Kapoor, pop sensation Rio Jai as the Groom, and award-winning radio presenter Vallisa Chauhan as the wedding planner, 'Mrs Kapoor's Daughter's Wedding 2 Mauritius' promises to deliver an unforgettable theatrical experience.

Archana Kumar, the visionary behind the production, expressed her excitement for showcasing British Asian culture on stage, stating: "This production is not just a mere spectacle; it's a testament to the essence of our British Asian identity."

"It's about honouring our roots, embracing our traditions, and showcasing the diverse narratives that define us. Through laughter, dance, and drama, we aim to offer audiences an unforgettable experience that resonates within the soul."



Routes to Roots

A much-anticipated South Asian heritage project promises to be a captivating exploration of the rich and multicultural heritage of Croydon, Sheffield and Bradford.

The exhibition, a culmination of Maya Productions' broader Routes to Roots programme, has over the past two years, successfully brought together heritage, community, and theatre arts partners to engage and work with South Asian communities.

Using a multi-arts approach, this showcase is capturing and preserving, and will archive authentic stories, challenging assumptions and stereotypes surrounding these communities in the UK.

Suzanne Gorman, Artistic Director of Maya Productions said: "The experiences of the Anglo-Indian community are rarely seen on stage, screen or in museums.

"The personal stories gathered in this exhibition originate and crossover with countries such as India, Guyana, Malawi, Bangladesh, Pakistan and Kenya.

"I look forward to more people engaging with

South Asian heritage project exhibition celebrates migration stories from Croydon, Sheffield and Bradford

Opens:
8th March to
26th April 2024
at the Museum
of Croydon



these stories, lives and the creativity of the individuals and communities we have been working with.”

Virginia Smith, Museums and Collection Manager, Museum of Croydon said: “The Routes to Roots programme has woven a rich tapestry of genuine and enchanting stories, dispelling stereotypes, and nurturing mutual understanding within the South Asian communities of the three places.

“We’re excited to share these narratives through this beautifully expressed multi-media exhibition.”

A participant of Routes to Roots, said: “By telling your stories and listening to their stories, it’s encouraging, and a relief that you are not alone in that sense. You have had problems, they have had problems, how people have solved their problems, and how you can help each other.”

The Routes to Roots exhibition will be at the Museum of Croydon until 26 April 2024. It is free to attend, and audiences can view it on Wednesdays and Fridays from 11am to 4pm.



■ Credit: Gemma Thorpe



A Journey of Migration:

The exhibition delves into the fascinating migration and settlement stories of the South Asian communities who came to the UK. Through interactive displays, it will celebrate the diverse identities that contribute to the rich cultural fabric of British society, exploring themes of migration, family, home and cultural identity.

Innovative Exhibition Design:

The exhibition is absorbing and thought-provoking, combining art, poetry, photography, documentary, podcast, and interactive installations to present compelling oral histories and experiences. It fosters community engagement and invites visitors to gain a deeper understanding of migration journeys.

Benny and the Greycats - A Musical Journey:

Routes to Roots is inspired by Maya Productions' musical in development, Benny and the Greycats. Inspired by Artistic Director Suzanne Gorman's family history, the production explores the migration experience of Anglo-Indian communities, telling the story of a family of Anglo-Indian railway workers who swap playing in a swing band in South India, for a new life in 1960s Sheffield.

Connecting Communities:

The exhibition takes visitors on a journey from Croydon, home to a close-knit Anglo-Indian community, to Sheffield, the setting of Benny and the Greycats, and to Bradford, a historical centre of the textile industry. It sheds light on the South Asian migrant experience, providing a platform for these communities to share their rich stories. The exhibition connects individuals, fosters meaningful dialogues, and creates a sense of community, celebrating hidden stories and amplifying voices that have historically been silenced.

Engagement activities:

Educational resources will be available for secondary school students and teachers to engage more deeply with the exhibition's themes.



The Accountants: Where cultural superpowers go head-to-head

The cultural superpowers of China and India go head-to-head in *The Accountants*, a high-tech, multimedia stage production about navigating cultural expectations and finding one's own path in life.

Factory International presents the World Premiere of Keith Khan's 'The Accountants' - a brand new stage production combining dance choreographed by global dance icons Terence Lewis and Xie Xin, transnational soundscape, and innovative video design, at Aviva Studios, the landmark new cultural space now open in Manchester.

An exchange played out in text and voice notes tells the story of Kash, voiced by Shobna Gulati (Coronation Street), and Liam, voiced by Josh Hart, who help each other navigate the cultural expectations surrounding their two disparate but connected British Indian and British Chinese heritages.

Against the backdrop of this intergenerational friendship, another story unfolds on stage. 12 dancers from the internationally renowned Terence Lewis Contemporary Dance Company (Mumbai, India) and Xiexin Dance Theatre (Shanghai, China) embody two competing accountancy firms and interpret, through movement, the desire to assess, compare and quantify the world around us.

The Accountants is a high-tech stage spectacle about two cultural superpowers set to a soundtrack by the ARIAS-nominated sound artist Somatic, and moving images on large on-stage screens animated by Manchester-based studio idontloveyouanymore.

Exploding stereotypes of these two powerhouse nations, the show explores cultural expectations, career choices and communication through technology, but its central question is simple: how, when navigating all of these things, do you find your own path in life?

One of India's most renowned choreographers and well-known as a judge on Dance India Dance and India's Best Dancer, Dr Terence Lewis, alongside the company's Creative Head and Chief Choreographer Mahrukh Dumasia, have been instrumental in raising the bar of contemporary dance in India over the last 25 years as founders of both the Contemporary Dance Company of India and the Institute for Dance Education.

Xie Xin meanwhile is an international rising star in the contemporary dance world who last year presented When I am facing U at La Biennale di Venezia, a specially commissioned project by Wayne McGregor, and became the first female Chinese choreographer to be commissioned by Paris Opera Ballet with Horizon.

This brand-new Factory International production is created by Keith Khan, a multi-disciplinary artist known for his cultural work from Notting Hill Carnival to the London 2012 Olympic Games. He has collaborated with Mark Fisher, Robert Lepage and Peter Gabriel, and in 2002, created the Golden Jubilee Celebration Commonwealth Parade for the Queen and was Director of Design of the Commonwealth Games Manchester. His Alladeen won an Outstanding Production Obie Award in 2002-4.

Keith Khan said: "I'm very interested in exploring form - this collusion of dance, sound and video in a seamless way. The Accountants is not one thing or the other. It's not a theatre play. It's not a dance show. It's this hybrid form of art. I hope it makes people question all sorts of things to do with identity, but also, I hope they are dazzled."

John McGrath, Artistic Director and Chief Executive of Factory International said: "I'm very proud indeed to see this intercontinental collaboration come to life on our beautiful new stage at Aviva Studios. I have long been a huge fan of Keith Khan's work."

"From the early days of his legendary company Moti Roti, through massive street parades, to today's production, he has had the rare capability to combine cutting-edge techniques and big social questions with an enormous sense of fun, colour and joy. International understanding is at the heart of our work, and this show is a particularly vibrant example of the rewards that a wide-ranging cultural collaboration can bring."

The Accountants will Premiere at Manchester's landmark new cultural space Aviva Studios, from 4th May to 11th May 2024. Book your tickets at factoryinternational.org now.

WHAT'S ON

in
cinemas
this
month



Bade Miyan Chote Miyan

Release date: 10/4/2024

Starring: Akshay Kumar, Tiger Shroff, Prithviraj Sukumaran, Sonakshi Sinha, Alaya F and Manushi Chillar

Director: Ali Abbas Zafar

Cert: 12A

When a masked enemy rises within the nation, mercilessly targeting the military by stealing the country's most dangerous weapon, Colonel Azad sends his best officer to unearth two legendary from his unit for the mission: Brooding Bade Miyan and cocky Chote Miyan.

What follows is Bade-Chote's unmatched camaraderie and courage as the duo strive to restore justice, delivering heart-pounding action and an adrenaline-pumping cinematic experience.

Producer Jacky Bhagnani and Director Ali Abbas Zafar have joined forces to deliver a heart-racing blend of action and adrenaline, guaranteed to captivate cinephiles worldwide.

Kung Fu Panda 4

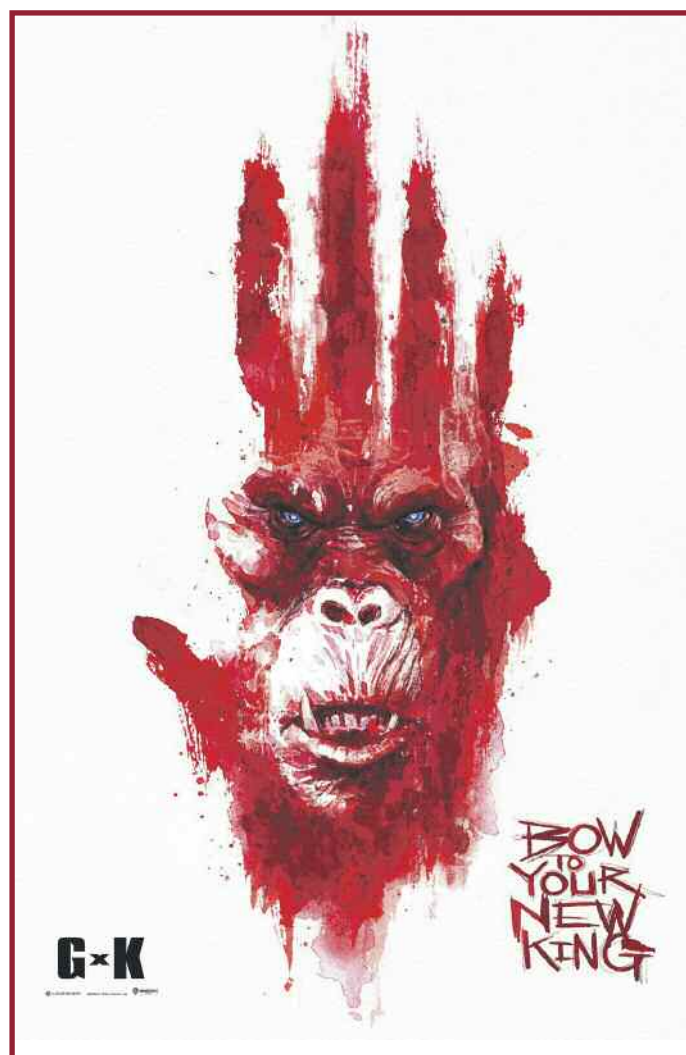
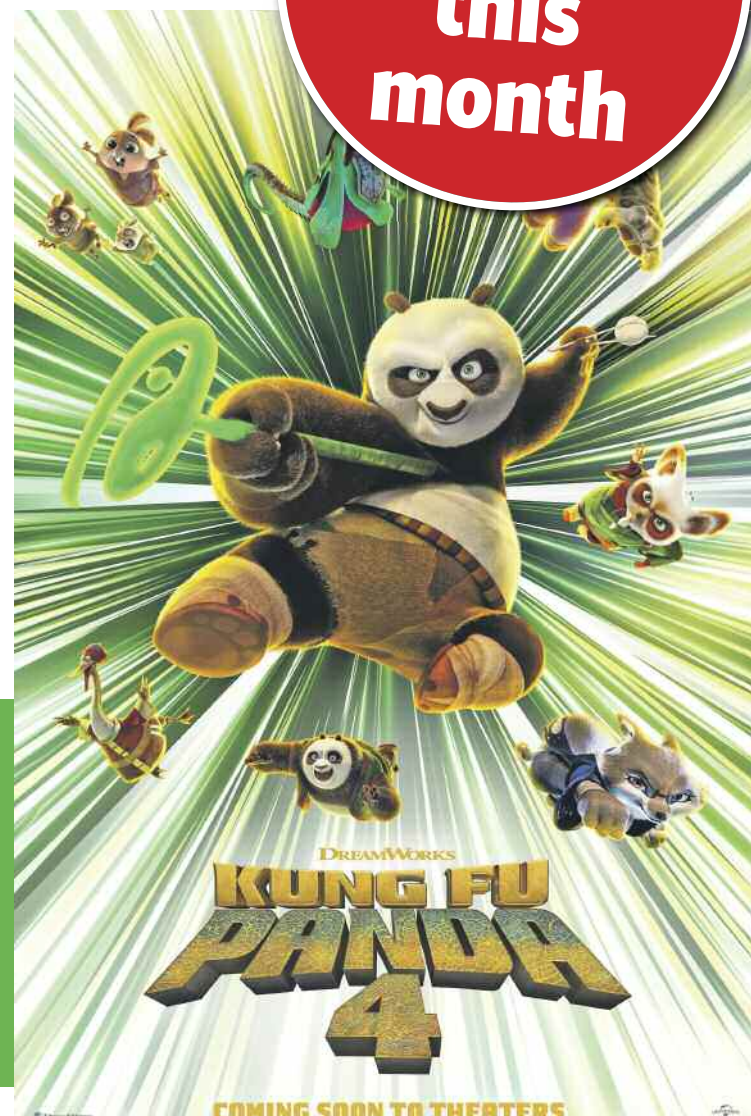
Release date: 28/3/2024

Starring: Jack Black, Viola Davis, Dustin Hoffman, Angelina Jolie, Jackie Chan, Lucy Liu

Director: Mike Mitchell

Cert: PG

This spring, for the first time in almost a decade, comedy icon Jack Black returns to his role as Po, the world's most unlikely kung fu master, with a hilarious, butt-kicking new chapter in DreamWorks Animation's beloved action-comedy franchise: Kung Fu Panda 4.



Godzilla x Kong: The New Empire

Release date: 29/3/2024

Starring: Rebecca Hall, Brian Tyree Henry, Dan Stevens, Kaylee Hottle, Alex Ferns

Director: Adam Wingard

Cert: 12A

The epic battle continues! Legendary Pictures' cinematic Monsterverse follows up the explosive showdown of "Godzilla vs. Kong" with an all-new adventure that pits the almighty Kong and the fearsome Godzilla against a colossal undiscovered threat hidden within our world, challenging their very existence—and our own. "Godzilla x Kong: The New Empire" delves further into the histories of these Titans and their origins, as well as the mysteries of Skull Island and beyond, while uncovering the mythic battle that helped forge these extraordinary beings and tied them to humankind forever.



Civil War

Release date: 9/4/2024

Starring: Kirsten Dunst, Wagner Moura, Cailee Spaeny, Stephen McKinley Henderson, Sonoya Mizuno, Nick Offerman

Director: Alex Garland Cert: 15

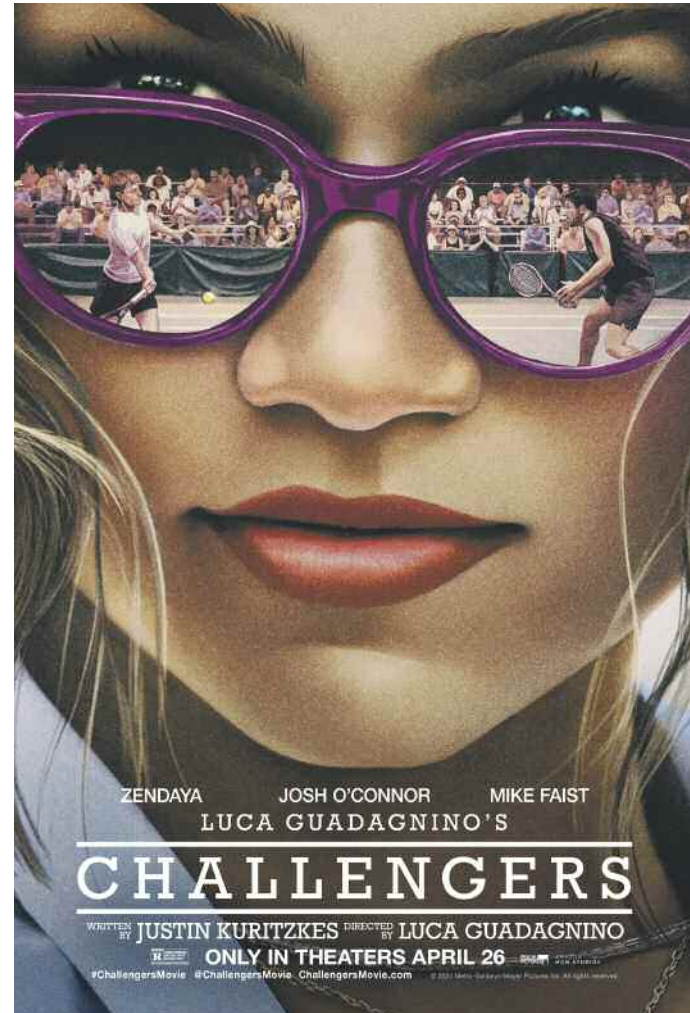
In the near future, a team of journalists travel across the United States during a rapidly escalating civil war that has engulfed the entire nation.

Challengers

Release date: 26/4/2024

Starring: Mike Faist, Josh O'Conner, A.J. Lister

Director: Luca Guadagnino TBC



A tennis coach helps her husband transform from a mediocre player to a champion. To end a recent losing streak, they enter at the lowest level of a tournament and find themselves facing off against a once-promising and now burnt-out former friend who used to date the wife.

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Who is the Director of **Bade Miyan Chote Miyan?**

Send in your answers to my.competition@asianexpress.co.uk. Don't forget to mention your full name, contact details and address. Entry closes **10pm, 30th April 2024**. Winners will be selected randomly from all correct entries. Hook on to this page for free cinema tickets to upcoming films.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS: The Competition is organised between the Asian Express Newspaper and Odeon. The Asian Express Newspaper reserves the right to cancel or amend the Competition, the Competition Notice or these Rules at any time without prior notice. Competition entries must be made in the manner and by the closing date specified on the Competition Rules. Failure to do so will disqualify the entry. In the event of any dispute regarding the Rules, Competition Notice, conduct, results and all other matters relating to a Competition, the decision of the Asian Express Newspaper shall be final and no correspondence or discussion shall be entered into. To qualify to enter the Competition you must be resident in the United Kingdom and aged 16+. Only one entry per person per Competition is allowed and multiple entries will result in an entrant being disqualified. Additional eligibility requirements may apply to a specific Competition, e.g. identification such as a valid passport, student card and/or driver's licence. Prizes are non-transferable and there is no cash alternative. Winners may be requested to take part in promotional activity and the Asian Express Newspaper reserves the right to use the names of winners, their photographs and audio and/or visual recordings of them in any publicity. Any personal data relating to entrants will be used solely in accordance with current UK data protection legislation and will not be disclosed to a third party without the individual's prior consent. The Competition and the terms and conditions of this agreement will be governed by English law.

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Extensive updates and new innovations for Mercedes-Benz EQS



Since their launch, Mercedes Benz has continuously developed the EQS and its siblings. Independent of model updates and faster than ever before, innovations have been incorporated into the series for the EQS, EQE, EQS SUV and EQE SUV.

The company has responded to market and customer feedback more quickly than ever before with numerous product upgrades. For the current change year 2024, the EQS is now receiving an extremely extensive update package.

The electric flagship comes with up to 82 kilometres more range, a new radiator cover with chrome applications and an upright Mercedes star on the front hood as well as even more comfort in the rear.

The EQS was already one of the electric cars with the longest range. In the future, customers will be able to cover even more distance without stopping to charge.

Thanks to an increased battery capacity from 108.4 to 118 kWh, the maximum range of the the EQS 450+ (combined energy consumption: 19.9 – 16.3 kWh/100 km | combined CO2 emissions: 0 g/km | CO2 class: A) exceeds the 800-kilometre mark (UK-specific figures TBC).

Another technical measure: Due to the high proportion of recuperation in daily operation, the brake discs are used less often than in combustion models. In the future, a special function will maintain the brake system by automatically applying the pads to the discs from time to time.

Continued on page 48

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Did you know, that ...

- The MBUX Hyperscreen is now standard on the EQS? There, three displays merge almost seamlessly into one another, creating a screen strip that is over 141 centimetres wide.
- The now standard heat pump increases climate comfort and efficiency? The waste heat from the electric drive (inverter and electric motor) and the high-voltage battery can be used to heat the interior. This enormously reduces the need for battery power for the heater and increases the range.
- The so-called Disconnect Unit (DCU) in the 4MATIC models automatically decouples the electric motor on the front axle depending on the driving situation and the required performance? At low loads, the DCU switches to 4x2 driving mode. Then the electric motor and the transmission on the front axle come to a standstill. This increases the range. (Note: in the UK 4MATIC is only available on AMG EQS 53)
- The recuperation level of the EQS has been increased? The greater deceleration (up to 3 m/s²) means more energy recovered and therefore a longer range. Mercedes Benz has now also optimised the braking system: It offers a better pedal feel thanks to a modified brake force cylinder.
- Many updates to the EQS were made using over-the-air technology (OTA)? These include, for example, Dolby® Atmos, the YouTube web app and a digital travel guide.
- The maintenance service in Germany is now basically standard equipment on all EVA 2 models (EQS, EQE, EQS SUV, EQE SUV)? This includes all required maintenance up to six years or 90,000 km (whichever comes first). Mercedes Benz will implement this in all other European markets in the second quarter of 2024.
- The EQS can be easily started and locked with the KEYLESS-GO comfort package with preparation for the Digital Vehicle Key[1] (standard equipment) if the driver has a compatible device[2]? Key sharing is also possible: family members or acquaintances can be digitally invited to use the vehicle.
- The drivers of an EQS and EQS SUV can get free electricity from the IONITY charging stations for a year? This applies from activation of IONITY Unlimited via Mercedes me Charge[3]. In total, Mercedes me Charge brings together more than 1.5 million charging points from over 1,300 charging providers worldwide, making it currently one of the largest public charging networks in the world.

LOADED

Extensive updates and new innovations for Mercedes-Benz EQS

Continued from page 47

The distinguishing feature of the Mercedes EQ vehicles is the deep black radiator grille (black panel), which connects seamlessly with the headlights. The designers have now refined this independent face for the EQS: The electric flagship is equipped with a new radiator cover with chrome applications as standard in the Business Class Line.

Chrome-plated and flush-mounted slats create an elegant contrast to the deep black surroundings. This grill is combined with a standing star on the front hood and combines EQ looks with the iconic, status-conscious Mercedes Benz symbol.

The sense of high-quality details is also reflected in the interior: the ventilation nozzles on the B-pillars now have a frame made of galvanised chrome. The additional cushion in the rear is enhanced by piping made of Nappa leather.

EQS that are equipped with the optional Extended Rear Luxury Lounge Pack now have a special slanted footrest on the right side in the rear compartment. Placed between the rails of the front seat, it noticeably increases comfort for the rear passenger because he or she can place his or her feet at an angle.

This latest detail is another, but by no means the only, convenience of the Extended Rear Luxury Lounge Pack: the passenger seat can be folded forward and the backrest in the rear can be adjusted

up to 38 degrees. This ensures more space. The optional equipment also includes seat heating Plus and neck and shoulder heating in the rear, as well as pneumatic adjustment of the seat depth. An illuminated trim piece is integrated into the back of the front seats.

The fact that Mercedes Benz has increased the rear comfort of the EQS in several steps also applies to the rear seat package that has been standard for some time. The angle of the backrest can be adjusted from 27 to 36 degrees at the touch of a button. The layered look of the seat covers emphasises the individual seat character. Five millimetres more foam in the backrest and the cover that is detached from the side bolsters ensure a softer seating experience.



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Premium British vehicle manufacturer Gordon Murray Automotive (GMA) has announced the 25 commemorative names to be paired with the 25 T.50s Niki Lauda chassis.

Each of the track-only T.50s supercars will celebrate Gordon Murray's rich racing heritage with their names commemorating the dates of his first 24 Grand Prix wins at different circuits, and a special endurance race victory.

Already allocated to their owners, each of the T.50s chassis is themed chronologically, starting with Murray's first race victory – 1974 South Africa at Kyalami – and continuing with each subsequent win at unique locations: 1974 USA at Watkins Glen; 1975 Brazil at Interlagos; 1975 Germany at Nürburgring; 1978 Sweden at Anderstorp; 1980 Italy at Imola; 1980 Netherlands at Zandvoort; 1981 Argentina at Buenos Aires; 1982 Monte Carlo at Monaco; 1982

Canada at Montreal; 1983 Brazil at Rio; 1983 Italy at Monza; 1983 UK at Brands Hatch; 1984 USA at Detroit; 1985 France at Paul Ricard; 1988 Mexico at Mexico City; 1988 UK at Silverstone; 1988 Belgium at Spa; 1988 Portugal at Estoril; 1998 Spain at Jerez; 1988 Japan at Suzuka; 1988 Germany at Hockenheim; 1988 Hungary at Hungaroring; 1988 Australia at Adelaide; 1995 France at La Sarthe.

The news comes ahead of the global dynamic debut of the T.50s Niki Lauda prototype on 13 April at the UK's Goodwood Motor Circuit.

The first public outing for the T.50s prototype will headline the 81st Goodwood Members Meet where more than 15,000 track spectators will enjoy the first outing of the race-spec car revving through to its 12,100 rpm redline. The T.33 mule 'James' will also make its dynamic debut at the event marking the progress made by the GMA R&D team and enabling the public to

“I'm also proud that we will participate in honouring a man who was a one-of-a-kind racer and a great friend by showcasing the T.50s Niki Lauda at Goodwood.”

hear the GMA.2 V12 engine for the first time.

The Goodwood event will celebrate the career of famed racer Niki Lauda – the 1970s and 1980s F1 driver whose name appears on every T.50s. Raising the occasion's significance further, GMA will explain the unique connection between the T.50s and the iconic Brabham BT46B 'Fan Car' that Niki Lauda drove to a commanding victory at the 1978 Swedish Grand Prix.

Conceived by Gordon Murray during his 17-year tenure as Chief Designer at the Brabham Formula One team, the BT46B rose to instant iconic status due to Murray's innovative addition of a ground-effect fan system. Having dominated and won its inaugural race at Anderstorp, Sweden in the hands of Niki Lauda, the model was withdrawn by Brabham to pacify other teams for the good of the championship.

Gordon Murray, CBE – Executive Chairman, Gordon Murray Group: “The dynamic debuts of the GMA T.33 mule and GMA T.50s XP1 mark an important milestone in the development of both supercars. I'm also proud that we will participate in honouring a man who was a one-of-a-kind racer and a great friend by showcasing the T.50s Niki Lauda at Goodwood. Additionally, revealing the 25 historically significant motor racing names for our track-only T.50s is the perfect way to celebrate a favourite event for me and the whole GMA team.”

GMA's Dario Franchitti will present attendees with an insightful overview of the story of the BT46B and its significance in the design and engineering of the T.50 supercar and its track-spec T.50s sibling. The GMA team will also be joined by His Grace the Duke of Richmond who will take a tour of the Murray display of heritage race cars and modern-day GMA supercars.

Gordon Murray Automotive reveals all T.50s commemorative names ahead of prototype global dynamic debut



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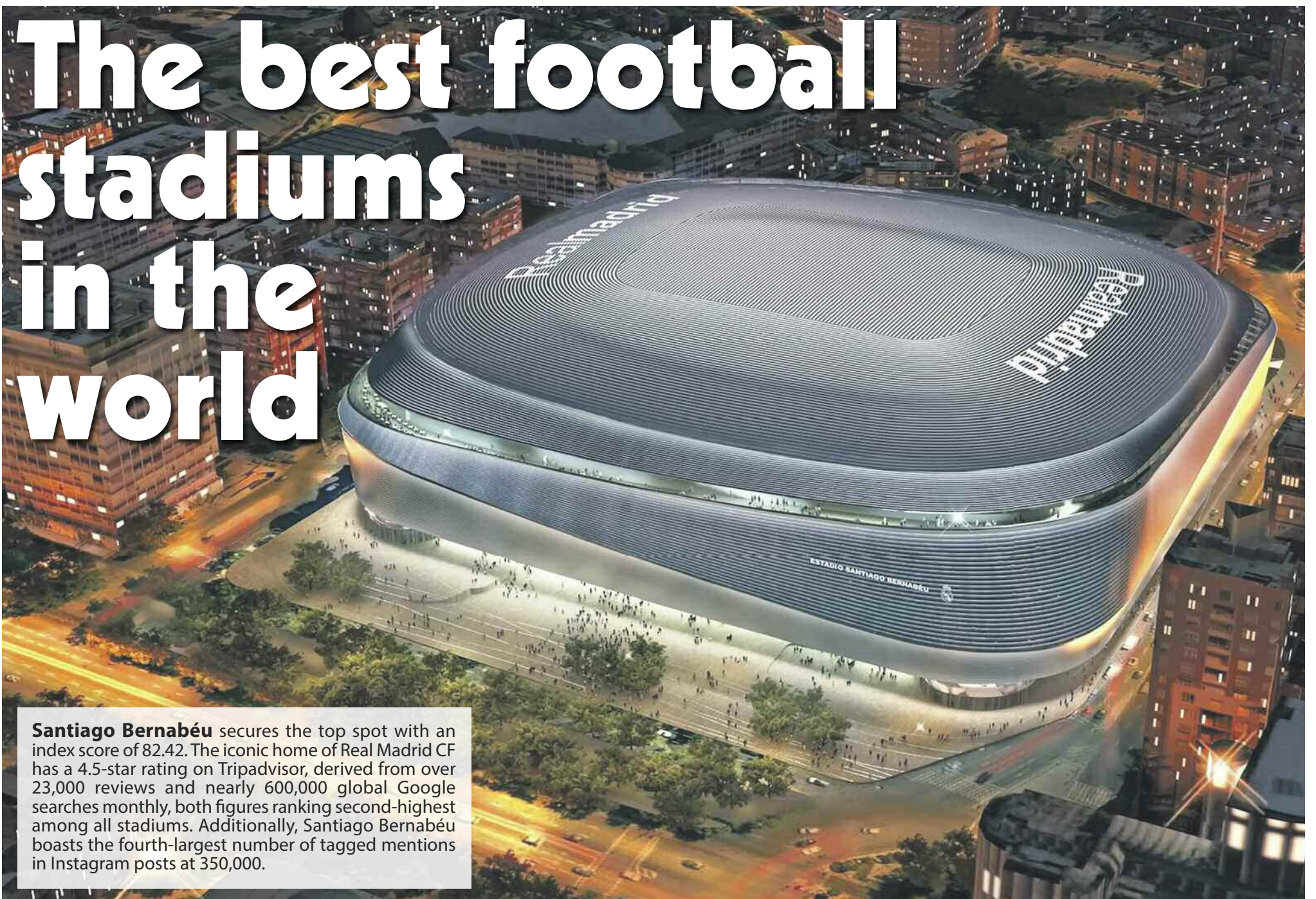


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The best football stadiums in the world



Santiago Bernabéu secures the top spot with an index score of 82.42. The iconic home of Real Madrid CF has a 4.5-star rating on Tripadvisor, derived from over 23,000 reviews and nearly 600,000 global Google searches monthly, both figures ranking second-highest among all stadiums. Additionally, Santiago Bernabéu boasts the fourth-largest number of tagged mentions in Instagram posts at 350,000.

- **Real Madrid's Santiago Bernabéu is the best football stadium in the world.**
- **Manchester United's Old Trafford comes second and is the most talked about stadium on TikTok, amassing more than 2.1 billion video views.**
- **Barcelona's Camp Nou comes third and has the highest number of Tripadvisor reviews at more than 40,000.**

A new study has named **Santiago Bernabéu, home of Real Madrid, the best football stadium in the world.**

The study by iGaming experts Betmaster looked at seven main factors when determining which football stadium should be crowned the best.

These included the total number and view count of TikTok videos tagged with the stadium's name, the number of tagged Instagram posts, Tripadvisor ratings and reviews, and the average monthly Google search volume globally.

Each stadium was scored in these metrics and given a final combined score out of a maximum of 100.

Old Trafford places second with a score of 81.41 points. This stadium, which is more than a century old and is home of

Manchester United F.C., is tagged in more than 58,000 TikTok videos, resulting in over 2.1 million views on the platform—surpassing any other football stadium. Affectionately dubbed “The Theatre of Dreams” by Bobby Charlton, Old Trafford also enjoys having the third-highest global Google searches, amounting to 485,000.

The Spotify Camp Nou ranks third with a score of 80.84 points. Known as 'the new field' when translated, this stadium, home to FC Barcelona, boasts the highest number of Tripadvisor reviews among all the stadiums listed, exceeding 40,000. Additionally, it leads in global Google searches, at more than 880,000 searches each month.

Continued on page 54



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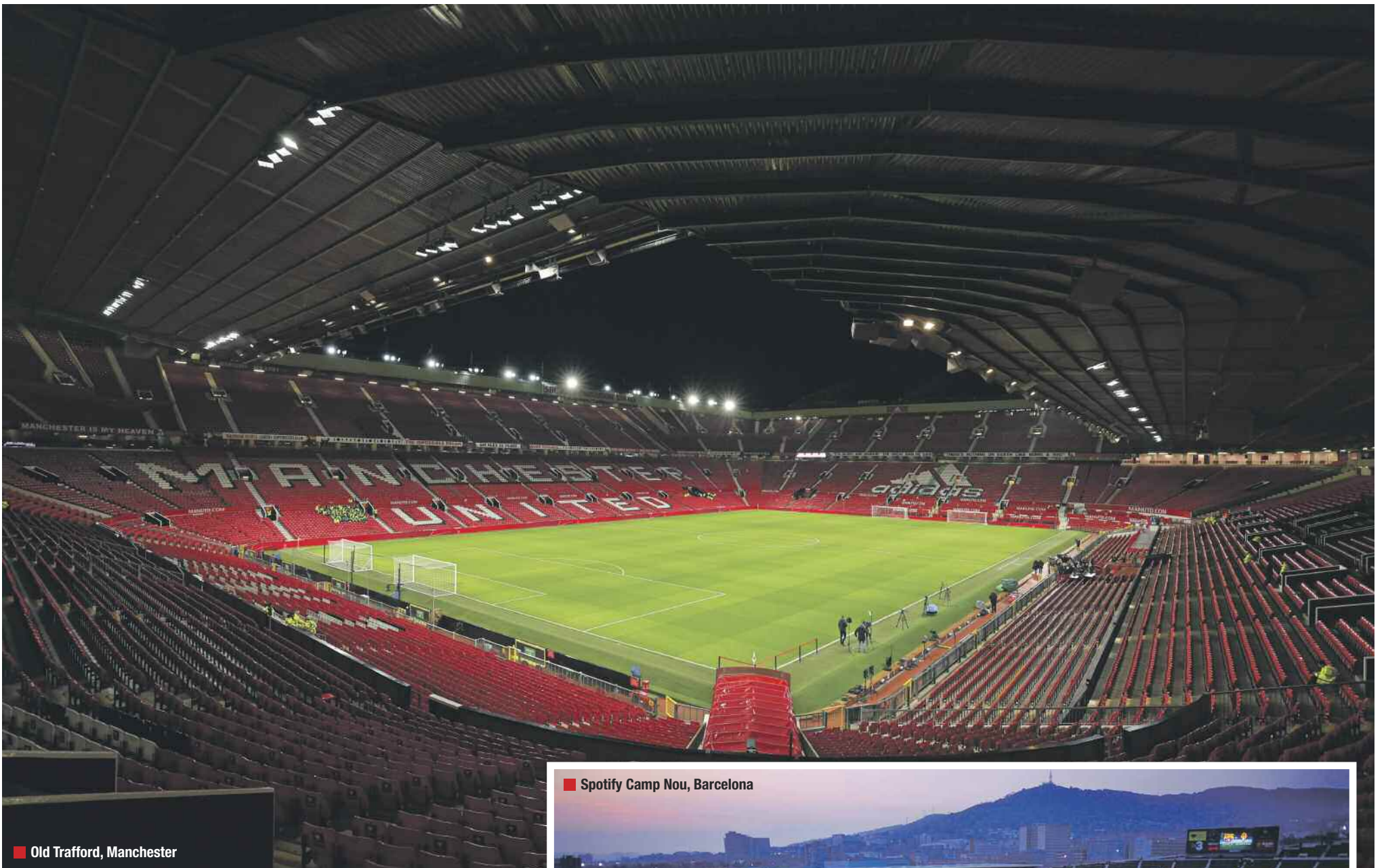


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■ Old Trafford, Manchester



■ Spotify Camp Nou, Barcelona

The best football stadiums in the world

Continued from page 53

Allianz Arena takes the fourth position with 78.53 points. This stadium, which is the home of Bayern Munich and the German national team, has the fourth-highest Google searches at more than 446,000. It has also featured in 9,100 TikTok videos, which have amassed more than 207 million views.

Wembley Stadium rounds off the top five with 77.22 points. The stadium, owned by the FA, which is

headquartered in the stadium, has been tagged in more than 47,000 TikTok posts and over 408,000 posts on Instagram, which is the third and fourth-highest of all stadiums, respectively. Wembley Stadium is also the fifth most-viewed stadium on TikTok, with over 659 million video views.

Tottenham Hotspur Stadium comes in sixth, with 76.07 points. The stadium, which is home to Tottenham Hotspur F.C. was the only stadium to score a perfect 5-star rating on

Tripadvisor and receives more than 245,000 global searches each month.

Anfield Stadium ranks seventh with 75.80 points. The home of Liverpool F.C. is tagged in more Instagram posts than any other stadium at 731,000. On top of this, the stadium is also tagged in 57,095 TikTok posts (the second highest overall), resulting in a combined 1.1 million views.

Stadio San Siro in Milan comes eighth with 75.46 points. This stadium, the home of AC Milan and Inter FC, receives an average of 258,000 Google

searches globally each month and has received more than 98 million views on featured TikTok posts.

Signal Iduna Park comes in ninth with 72.32 points. The stadium, home to Dortmund Borussia, receives more than 200,000 monthly searches globally on Google and is tagged in 82,000 Instagram posts and 4,000 TikTok videos.

Etihad Stadium completes the top ten with 72.24 points. This stadium, home to Manchester City F.C., receives an average of 364,000 Google

searches each month and has received more than 364 million views on TikTok.

James Loxdale, Sports Analyst at Betmaster, commented on the findings: "This study offers a unique insight into the appeal of football stadiums worldwide. By incorporating a diverse set of metrics, from social media presence to visitor reviews and global search interest, we can appreciate not just the size of the stadiums but also their impact on fans and the digital community at large."



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A priceless auction tale

The Legacy of Muhammed Ali's 'Thrilla in Manila' white boxing trunks

Back page story continued

According to Sotheby's, the trunks were auctioned in 1988 from Bundini's storage locker after his death for around \$1,000 and have since made their way through the auction market. They were last auctioned in 2012 for just over \$150,000.

In the sweltering heat of a Philippine afternoon, the world of boxing witnessed a brutal spectacle as Ali and Frazier fought each other for the third and final time in a clash of wills that etched itself into the annals of sporting history.

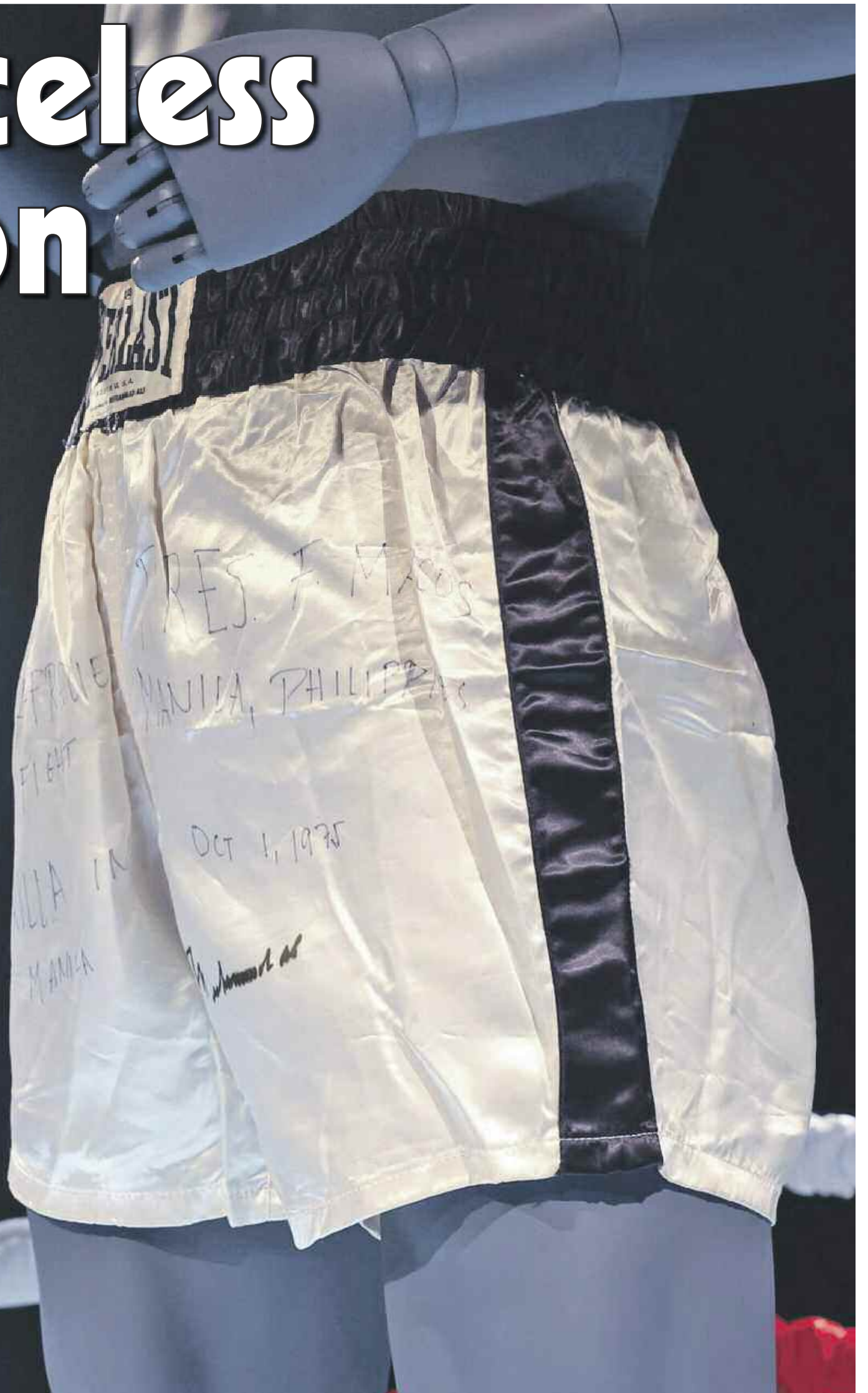
In what proved to be a frightfully punishing encounter, Ali retained the heavyweight crown when Frazier's trainer would not allow his fighter to answer the bell for the 15th round.

After the most trying fight of his storied career, Ali said it was the closest thing to death that he had ever felt.

In the first of three bouts between the two boxers, Frazier broke Ali's unbeaten record when he knocked him down with a left hook in the 15th round en route to winning by unanimous decision in March 1971.

Ali got revenge when he outpunched Frazier for a unanimous 12-round decision in January 1974, setting the stage for the 'Thrilla in Manila' nearly two years later.

Ali, whose record-setting boxing career, unprecedented flair for showmanship and controversial stands made him one of the best-known figures of the 20th century, died in June 2016 aged 74 of septic shock due to unspecified natural causes.





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A priceless auction tale



■ Muhammed Ali's famous 'Thrilla in Manila' trunks

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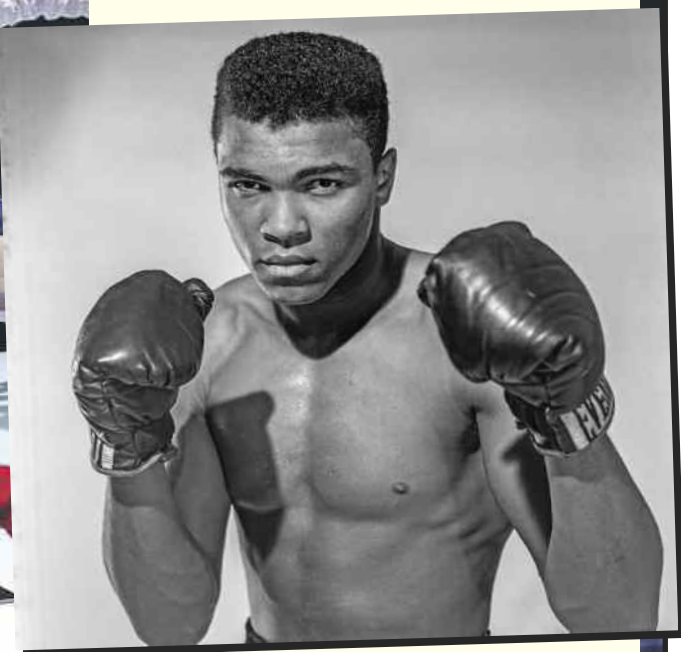
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The Legacy of Muhammed Ali's 'Thrilla in Manila' white boxing trunks

Auction house Sotheby's said the trunks from the October 1975 bout in the Philippines, which was won by Ali and marked a brutal finish to perhaps the greatest trilogy in boxing history, were up for auction.

The trunks, which feature a black trim at the waistband and black piping running down the side of each leg, are inscribed by Ali's assistant trainer and corner man, Drew "Bundini" Brown and signed by Ali in black Sharpie.

Continued on page 55



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