



DHURANDHAR: VIRAL MUSIC, FAN FRENZY & BOX OFFICE HIT







Bradford's multi-faith tree offers a luminous reminder of unity

Bradford's Centenary Square glowed warmly this week. Community leaders, faith representatives, and local residents came together to unveil a multi-faith festive tree.

This annual tradition captures the city's spirit better than any speech or slogan.

The multi-faith tree was installed beside the city's main Christmas tree. The Bradford Bronte Rotary Club organised it again, inviting businesses, organisations, and individuals to sponsor baubles that symbolise their commitment to an inclusive civic life.

Continued on page 6





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By Sneha Gupta

A candid conversation on women's wellbeing, from work pressures to long-overdue myth-busting around perimenopause and menopause, brought professionals together this week and underscored the urgent need for spaces where women can talk openly and receive practical support.

The 'Work-Life Balance & Wellbeing' session held in the conference room at Carlton Junior and Infant School, offered a structured yet welcoming environment for women to reflect on the pressures they face at work and

at home

The panel featured a strong line-up of specialists: lawyer Sarah Khan-Bashir MBE, headteacher and education consultant Rizwana Mahmood-Ahmed MBE, empowerment coach and former world martial arts champion Sobiya Jawaid, and women's health practitioners Noshina Kiani and Bushra Effendi.

Each brought expertise that addressed issues rarely discussed openly, despite their significant impact on women's wellbeing and decision-making.

Attendees ranged from senior professionals to women at the start of their careers, creating an atmosphere where shared experience took





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contribution prompted reflection

pressures they have unconsciously

Lionesses, said the response to the

session showed a pressing need for

Andleeb Hanif, Chair of the BPA

across the room, with many

accepted

attendees acknowledging the

precedence over hierarchy.

Aqsa Ali, an NHS clinical manager, said the gathering offered an important shift from the typical professional event. "It's inspiring to see women from different industries speaking honestly," she said.

"There aren't many spaces where this kind of conversation happens.

Sarah Khan-Bashir MBE examined the the challenges of juggling a demanding career alongside busy family life pressures that are often heightened within South Asian households.

She outlined the importance of setting clear boundaries, and provided achievable steps that help women manage expectations without compromising their own health or professional aspirations.

Rizwana Mahmood-Ahmed MBE spoke candidly about navigating the real-life challenges of patriarchy, sharing elements of her personal

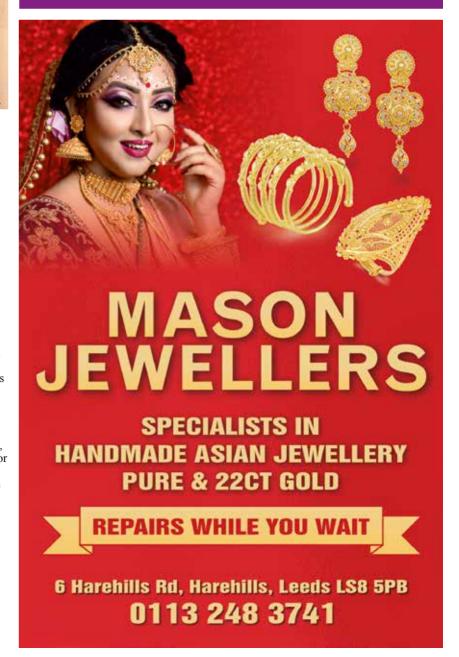
journey, as well as reading her published poem 'I'm Every Woman', which left the room visibly moved.

The wellbeing segment, led by Noshina Kiani and Bushra Effendi, addressed long-standing gaps in knowledge around menopause and hormonal health. They challenged myths that still influence women's



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Pupils from four Leeds secondary schools have stepped into the role of detectives this week as part of a pioneering knife crime education project run by West Yorkshire Police, transforming Leeds First Direct Arena into the setting for a fictional investigation.

Sixteen students from Corpus Christi Catholic College, Roundhay School, Ralph Thoresby School and Leeds West Academy took part in the Junior Detectives programme, which for the first time used the city's landmark arena as a simulated crime scene.

Wearing CSI suits, pupils spent a half day learning crime scene investigation techniques, supported by officers and partner organisations.

The students were formally sworn in by Chief Constable John Robins QPM DL before following a case from first report through to a mock court hearing at Leeds Crown Court.

Along the way, they developed interview skills by taking statements from actors playing the victim and suspect, and learned about the real-life consequences of knife crime through sessions with a surgeon from Leeds General Infirmary and Judge Guy Kearl KC, the Recorder of Leeds.

In another first for the programme, pupils also faced a mock press conference with journalism students from the University of Leeds.

The fictional case centred on the stabbing of a 15-year-old girl by a 17-year-old boy after she rejected his advances, deliberately exploring themes of misogyny and violence against women and girls.

Detective Inspector Nick Calveri said the programme was designed to help young people understand knife crime from multiple perspectives,



Junior Detectives programme turns Leeds arena into live crime scene for knife crime education

including those of victims, families and professionals dealing with its aftermath.

He added that early education was

vital to challenge harmful attitudes before they become entrenched. Developed jointly with the University of Leeds, the scheme also aims to turn participants into anti-knife crime champions in their schools. Alison Lowe OBE, Deputy Mayor of West Yorkshire for Policing and Crime, said hands-on education was essential to preventing knife crime and praised the partnership approach behind the initiative.



Two men convicted over deaths of mum and three children

Two men have been convicted for their roles in the death of a mum and her three children at their home in Bradford.

Bryonie Gawith, aged 29, and her three children Denisty, aged 9, Oscar, aged 5, and Aubree Birtle, aged 22 months, were killed, when their house was deliberately set of fire on Westbury Road, Bradford in August 2024.

On 10th December, at Doncaster Crown Court Sharaz Ali aged 40 was convicted of four counts of murder and one count of attempt murder and Calum Sunderland aged 26 was convicted of four counts of manslaughter.

The court heard how they filled up a canister with fuel from a petrol station in Keighley earlier that night, then drove to Westbury Road in the early hours of 21 August 2024.

Sunderland then kicked the door in

Sunderland then kicked the door in of the family home, whilst Ali poured petrol over the house and set it on fire.

The house engulfed with flames, leaving Bryonie and her three children inside

Despite the heroic efforts of emergency services, Bryonie, Denisty, Oscar, and Aubree all died from injuries sustained in the fire.

Ali was arrested at the scene on suspicion of murder but was seriously

injured. He was taken to hospital where he remained for several months

Extensive CCTV enquiries led officers to track down Sunderland in the basement of a property in Keighley. He was subsequently arrested and charged.

Ali and Sunderland will be sentenced at a later date.

Senior Investigating Officer
Detective Chief Inspector Stacey
Atkinson of the Homicide and Major
Enquiry Team said: "Bryonie and
her three children would still be
alive today if it wasn't for the horrific
and truly callous actions of Ali and
Sunderland that day.

"They left a mum and her three children completely helpless whilst her sister and their Auntie watched on in horror

"Our thoughts and sympathies are with the family, who despite their immense strength of character now face the rest of their lives without them.

"I would like to highlight the work of the emergency services that day. They were faced with a heartbreaking situation, and they did everything they could to save them.

"Whilst we know today's conviction will do nothing to bring them back, I hope the family can find some justice from it."



Drugs warrants executed in Bradford

Officers from Bradford East Neighbourhood Police Team and Bradford's Precision Team executed several warrants in the BD3 area aimed at tackling the illegal supply of drugs.

The warrants took place on 9 and 10 December at a number of addresses, with drugs and cash thought to be worth over £200,000 seized from the properties.

Akeel Khan, 30, of Folkestone Street, Bradford was charged with possess class A drugs with intent to supply and remanded into custody.

Danyaal Hussain, 27, of Amberley Street, Bradford was charged with possess class A drugs with intent to supply, possess class B drugs with intent to supply, and acquire/use/ possess criminal property and remanded into custody.

Haseena Akhter, 24, of Amberley Street, Bradford was charged with possess class A drugs with intent to supply, possess class B drugs with intent to supply and acquire/use/possess criminal property and released on bail.

Sirmand Ali, 25, of Thornbury Road, Bradford, was charged with possess class A drugs with intent to supply and remanded into custody.

Inspector Mark Chapman of Bradford East Neighbourhood Policing team said:

"This action saw several different policing teams working together, including PCSOs, officers from the Clear Hold Build team, specialist search officers and the Dog Unit.

"We know that drug dealing and the associated criminality that comes with it is a concern to people in the local area and we will continue to do all we can to tackle it.

"I would encourage anyone who has any information about drug dealing to report it via our website, www.westyorkshire.police.uk/report-it."

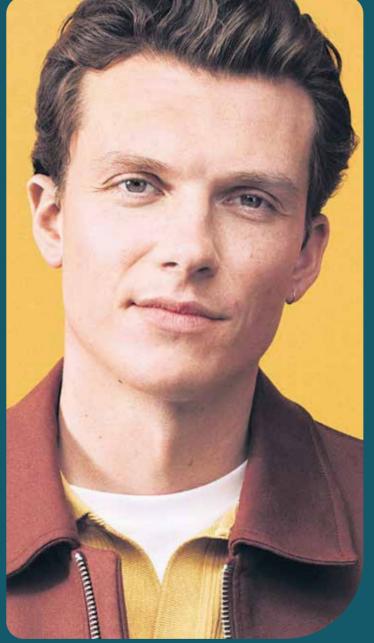
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Cover story continued

As each ornament was hung on the branches, it served as a small act of solidarity. It visually reminded everyone of the people who live, work, and worship alongside one another.

At the launch event, civic leaders and representatives from Bradford's major faith communities attended.

The Deputy Lord Mayor, Cllr Fozia Shaheen, praised the city's tradition of coexistence. Many speakers reflected on how meaningful moments of unity are, especially when global events often emphasise division.

For Rotary Club president Saleem Kader, the celebration was both festive and personal. He recalled arriving in Bradford in the 1970s, a time filled with its own challenges and misunderstandings.

This experience, he said, inspired a lifelong commitment to connecting people and building trust among

communities. "Bradford already knows how to live together," he remarked.

"Sometimes, we just need a reminder of how much that matters."

Faith leaders shared his views. Pastor Nathan Javed of Grace Urdu Hindi Church described the event as a display of shared compassion - a gesture of "love and care" offered to the city and everyone who calls it home.

Long-serving Rotary member Anne Griffin noted that multiculturalism in Bradford is not just a slogan, but a lived experience. It strengthens each time people gather across different traditions and backgrounds to celebrate their common ground.

As the speeches ended, religious figures stepped forward to hang their baubles. Each one represented a community, organisation, or business dedicated to promoting peace and understanding. The result was a tree that shone not only with colour but also with meaning.

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From Bhangra to BMX Bikers - get ready for spectacular closing event of Bradford 2025

The closing event of Bradford's year as UK City of Culture will star hundreds of Bradford residents in a powerful showcase of community, creativity and togetherness.

'Brighter Still' will take place at sunset on Saturday 20 and Sunday 21 December, the two longest nights of the year, at Myrtle Park in Bingley.

It will shine a renewed light on Bradford's people, stories and culture, and celebrate the end of the year by marking the winter solstice as a moment of hope and new beginnings.

Additional tickets for both performances are due to go on sale at 12pm on Monday 1 December, priced at £2 and free for under 16s and over 60s.

From BMX riders to bhangra and bassline, from gospel choirs to folk song, and from poetry to pompoms, the finale of Bradford 2025 is an invitation to audiences and participants alike to celebrate the end of the year together.

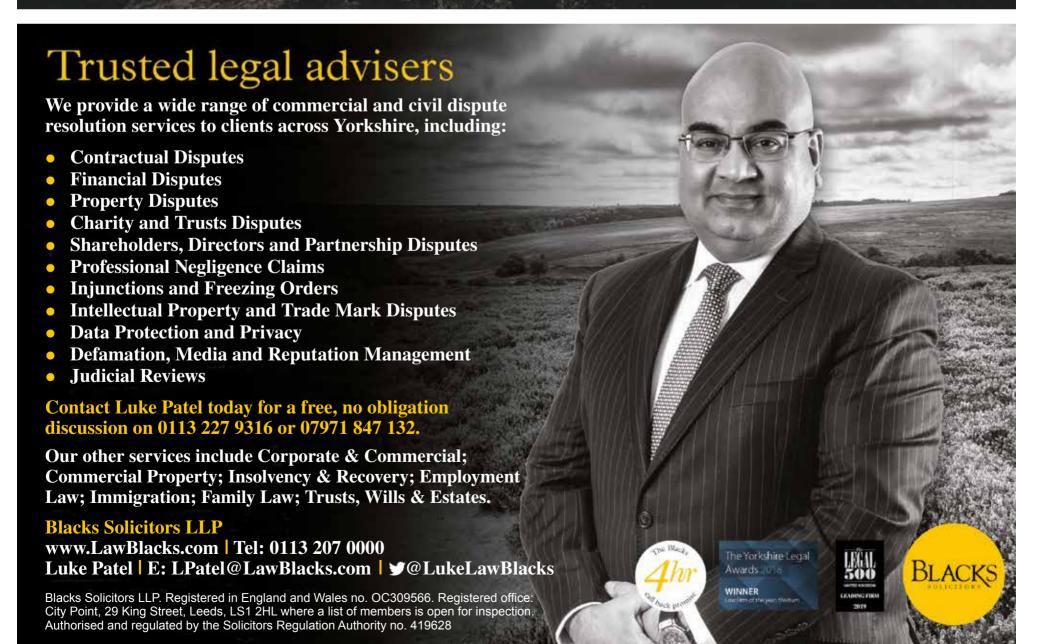
Locally based dance groups

joining 9 professional dancers on stage include young people from Stage 84 (Yorkshire School of Performing Arts), Freestyle Fanatics and X-Plosion, a bhangra group from women's fitness club Club Ekta, and members of the Bradford Bulls cheerleading squad Luvabulls.

The event will be one of the largest community participation events in the programme, featuring more than 250 local performers in total, with a community cast of 90 Bradford residents aged from 8 to 76 joining forces with dancers, musicians and choirs. 35% of performers are children and young people, reflecting the youthful population of Bradford, where more than a quarter of residents are aged under 20.

As well as performing movement and dance, the community cast play an active role in co-creating and narrating the show, weaving a tapestry of stories rooted in the life experiences of Bradford's people and communities.

































Cold temperatures cause blood vessels to narrow in parts of the body, like the skin, fingers and toes, so that less body heat is lost and more blood and oxygen are re-routed to essential organs, like the heart and brain. But this response means the heart must work harder to pump blood around the body, increasing the heart rate and blood pressure.

The BHF is encouraging people with heart conditions to take precautions to minimise potential health risks during the cold snap.

11

Cold temperatures can increase the risk of heart attacks and strokes, and people with cardiovascular disease are also more at risk of serious illness if they get seasonal respiratory infections like flu.

Ruth Goss, Senior Cardiac Nurse at the British Heart Foundation, said: "Cold temperatures can increase the risk of heart attacks and strokes, and people with cardiovascular disease are also more at risk of serious illness if they get seasonal respiratory infections like flu

"It's especially important that people living with heart conditions are well prepared for the cold snap this winter by wrapping up warm and having their free flu jab."

Ruth Goss has also shared eight top tips for protecting your heart as the weather turns cold:

- Keep Indoor Temperatures
 Comfortable: If possible, keep the room where
 you spend most of your time heated to at least
 18°C. Layer up with socks, jumpers and blankets.
 A hot water bottle or an electric blanket can help
 you to keep warm at night.
- **Stay Warm:** Wear lots of thin layers, rather than one thick layer. This will trap the heat in and keep you warmer. A hat, scarf and gloves will also help maintain your core heat.
- **Stay Active:** Keep moving while you're indoors, to build up your core temperature and boost your immune system.
- Maintain a Healthy Diet: Have warming meals and healthy hot drinks to give your body the energy it needs to keep you warm.
- **Wrap Up:** If you get angina (chest pain), wear a scarf wrapped loosely around your mouth and nose or wear a face mask, so you breathe in warmer air. This may help to improve your symptoms if they get worse in the winter.

- **Stay Informed:** Learn how to make your home more energy efficient, and receive any financial help that you're entitled to, such as the Cold Weather Payment, by contacting the Winter Fuel Payment helpline on 0800 731 0160. Citizens Advice also have useful advice on making your home energy efficient.
- **Get Vaccinated:** People with a heart or circulatory condition are more at risk of becoming seriously ill from flu and will be eligible for a free flu vaccination. If you want to book an appointment or find out if you are eligible, contact your GP or visit the NHS website to find your nearest pharmacy that offers a free flu vaccination.
- **Speak to a Nurse:** For any question big or small about cold weather and the heart, speak to an experienced BHF nurse on the BHF's Heart Helpline by phone, email or chatbot. The BHF website also has lots of information and advice on how to stay warm this winter, including money-saving tips and nourishing recipes.

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From spirals to sculptures - Nnena Kalu's rhythmic world wins the Turner Prize

Bradford has delivered a little magic of its own as artist Nnena Kalu was named winner of the Turner Prize 2025, announced by local illusionist - Steven Frayne, better known as Dynamo, at Bradford Grammar School.

The £25,000 prize, broadcast live on BBC News, added another celebratory moment to the city's year as UK City of Culture and to an exhibition that has already drawn more than 34,000 visitors to Cartwright Hall Art Gallery.

Kalu's win marks a powerful moment for contemporary British art. Born in Glasgow in 1966 and now based in London, she has worked for more than two decades at ActionSpace, the organisation that supports learning-disabled artists and helped nurture her distinctive approach.

Her practice is rooted in the body: repeated gestures, wrapping, knotting, looping and spiralling that accumulate into large, cocoon-like forms. Using repurposed materials including fabric scraps, rope, cling film, parcel tape, paper and reels of VHS tape, she builds sculptures that seem to grow rather than be assembled, their bright shells suspended like living organisms in mid-metamorphosis.

Her drawings carry the same intensity: dense, rhythmic vortexes created while standing, each sweep of graphite, ink or pastel mirrored across a series of paired works. The physicality of mark-making becomes a language in



itself, echoing the contours and energy of her sculptural installation.

The Turner Prize jury praised the sheer vitality of her work, describing the pieces as bold, compelling and "alive with gesture".

They admired her instinctive command of scale and colour, and the way she transforms everyday materials into something both monumental and tender.

Kalu was shortlisted for her

installation Hanging Sculpture 1–10. Barcelona at Manifesta 15 - ten towering forms suspended among the grey pillars of a disused power station, and for her contribution to Conversations at the Walker Art

Gallery

Her recent exhibition history spans Kunsthall Stavanger, Arcadia Missa, Deptford X, Humber Street Gallery and Glasgow International, marking her as an artist whose momentum has been steadily building. The Turner Prize has always been

The Turner Prize has always been designed to provoke debate around the direction of contemporary art, and Kalu's win feels like a widening of the field. It recognises not only her singular vision but the ecosystem that has supported her, including Studio Voltaire and ActionSpace, and signals a broader appetite for work that dissolves assumptions about who makes art and how it is made

Kalu's fellow shortlisted artists, Rene Matić, Mohammed Sami and Zadie Xa, were also commended for presentations that speak to the variety and urgency of British art today.

This year's jury comprised Andrew Bonacina, Sam Lackey, Priyesh Mistry and Habda Rashid, chaired by Tate Britain's Alex Farquharson. Their selection for the prize contributes to the remarkable cultural year unfolding in Bradford, where the Turner exhibition continues at Cartwright Hall Art Gallery until 22 February 2026.

Produced by Bradford 2025 in partnership with Tate, Bradford District Museums & Galleries and Yorkshire Contemporary, the show remains one of the flagship events of the city's programme.



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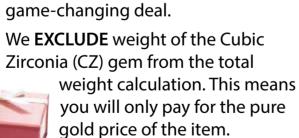
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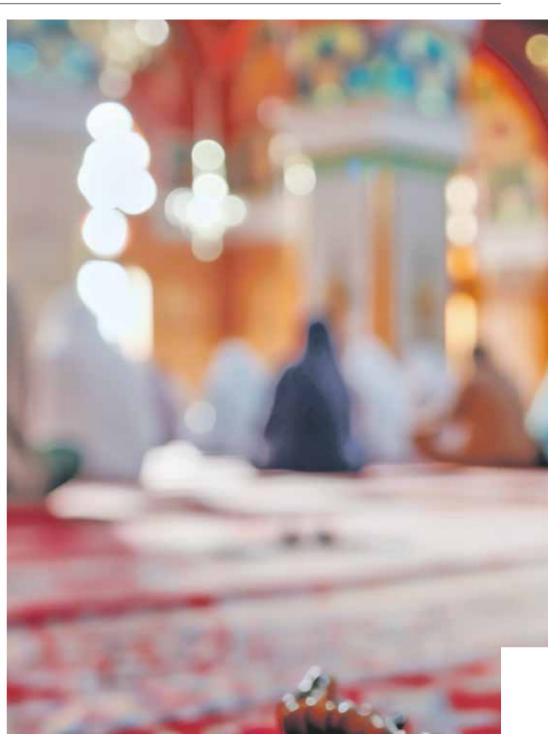
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Putting words into action with citywide toolkit to tackle Anti-Muslim prejudice

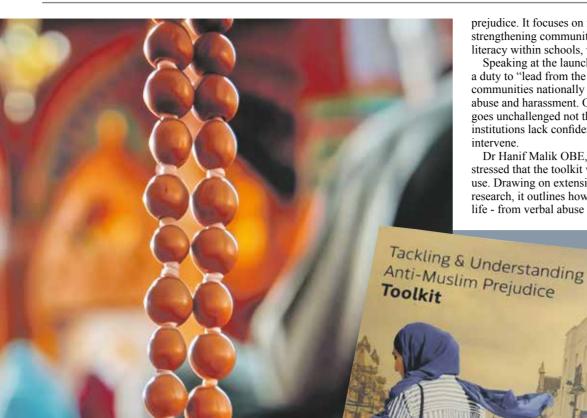
Leeds' new anti-Muslim prejudice toolkit is already being positioned as a practical blueprint for action across the city, weeks after its high-profile launch brought together civic leaders, faith figures and community organisations.

Unveiled last month, the 'Tackling & Understanding

Anti-Muslim Prejudice Toolkit was introduced at an event attended by Leeds City Council leader Cllr James Lewis, Imam Qari Asim MBE, West Yorkshire's first Inclusivity Champion Fatima Khan-Shah Safer Leeds chief officer Paul Money, and representatives from across Yorkshire's public, voluntary and academic sectors.

Several attendees described the moment as a turning point for how the city confronts discrimination.

Produced by the Leeds Muslim Network and Leeds Muslim Youth Forum, the toolkit sets out one of the most comprehensive local frameworks in the UK for challenging anti-Muslim



prejudice. It focuses on improving reporting systems, strengthening community cohesion and building cultural literacy within schools, workplaces and public bodies.

Speaking at the launch, Cllr Lewis said Leeds had a duty to "lead from the front" at a time when Muslim communities nationally are reporting rising levels of abuse and harassment. Others noted that prejudice often goes unchallenged not through indifference, but because institutions lack confidence or clear guidance on how to

Dr Hanif Malik OBE, a key driver behind the work, stressed that the toolkit was designed for real-world use. Drawing on extensive community engagement and research, it outlines how prejudice manifests in everyday life - from verbal abuse and workplace discrimination to

structural inequalities and harmful media narratives - and sets out clear, practical steps for prevention.

Asian Express editor Andleeb Hanif said the toolkit was a test of Leeds' values in action. "Compassion has to be measured by what we do, not just what we say - by how safe people feel going about their daily lives," she

As Leeds approaches the 400th anniversary of gaining the right to self-govern

speakers emphasised that inclusive policy-making must reflect the city's growing diversity. Supporters say the real impact of the toolkit will be judged by how widely it is used - not as a document on a shelf, but as a guide shaping classrooms, boardrooms and community spaces across Yorkshire.

Produced by the Leeds **Muslim Network and Leeds Muslim Youth** Forum, the toolkit sets out one of the most comprehensive local frameworks in the UK for challenging anti-Muslim prejudice.



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Yorkshire Asian Young Achiever Awards 2025 winners announced

Winners of the Yorkshire Asian Young Achiever Awards (YAYAS) 2025 were announced at the Cedar Court Hotel in Bradford.

Organised by the Bradford-based charity QED Foundation and supported by title sponsor York St John University, the awards honour young people of South Asian heritage aged 16 to 35 who have overcome barriers, disadvantage or discrimination to excel in their chosen fields.

Now in their fifth year, this year's ceremony, held on 27th November, shortlisted 26 nominees across 10 categories.

The overall Yorkshire Asian Young Achiever of the Year prize went to Dr Madiah Mahmood, a Leeds doctor who survived life-threatening autoimmune encephalitis in 2016 before returning to her studies and graduating six years later. Now a resident doctor at Bradford Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust, she has led awareness work for the Encephalitis Society and introduced new innovations within her department.

The Achievement in Media award went to Musharaf Asghar, the Dewsbury-born star of Channel 4's Educating Yorkshire. Despite a childhood shaped by bullying and a debilitating stammer, he earned a degree in broadcast journalism and now works as a motivational speaker, helping young people manage anxiety, build confidence and see possibility in their futures.

Sheffield boxer and NHS cardiac intensive care practitioner Nohmaan Hussain took home the Sport award, while the Health and Mental Health category recognised paramedic Adil Mohammed, who grew up in a deprived Sheffield neighbourhood and led a successful campaign to install community defibrillators in Tinsley.

The awards honour young people of South Asian heritage aged 16 to 35 who have overcome barriers, disadvantage or discrimination to excel in their chosen fields

In the Arts and Creative Industries category, 24-year-old Awais Hussain from Bradford was commended for his work with Apna Heritage, documenting and celebrating South Asian migration stories.

Bradford student Mohammed Ali Adnan, a

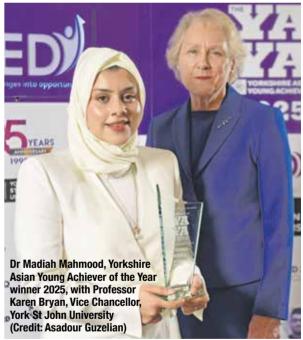
wheelchair user living with Spina Bifida, was honoured in the Education category for his determination and advocacy.

Entrepreneur Falaq Ujjala, founder of Skylight Lounge, won the Private Sector award, while trainee detective Aqsa Saleem was recognised for her trailblazing work in the Public Sector.

The Not-for-Profit award went to Aleem Bashir, chief executive of the University of Bradford Student Union, and the Overcoming Life Obstacles award was presented to Bradford business owner and single mother Sabba Nosheen.

The ceremony, hosted by comedian and broadcaster Noreen Khan, featured a keynote speech from Morrisons chief executive Rami Baitieh and messages of support from senior figures including Sir James Hill OBE and GCHQ director Anne Keast-Butler. Reflecting on the night, QED founder Dr Mohammed Ali OBE said the awards exist to shine a light on "gifted individuals" whose stories inspire communities across Yorkshire.

Deputy chief executive Adeeba Malik CBE added that the YAYAs continue to highlight the "great wealth of talent" in the region, reinforcing their status as a cornerstone of Bradford's civic calendar since their launch in 2020











Royal visit marks start on site for key Bradford Southern Gateway development

Prince Richard, the Duke of Gloucester, officially marked the start on site for the new Standard Health Hospital in Bradford, by unveiling the foundation stone for the development, which will form part of the city's new Southern Gateway.

The former Kingfisher House property, which is part of Jinnah Business Park and owned by established Bradford businessman Saleem Akhtar, will be transformed into a modern orthopaedic centre, providing much needed healthcare infrastructure in the city.

Jinnah Business Park was opened in 2023 following an investment of £5m, which has seen the development of 17 new enterprise units, that has resulted in many new businesses being created. The site, just off Wakefield Road, falls within the Bradford Southern Gateway – an area earmarked for major transformative regeneration.

The 'Southern Gateway' regeneration plan includes a proposed new £2 billion rail station that would connect Bradford to Leeds in just 12 minutes and Manchester in under half an hour. It would create a thriving hub with new homes, offices, retail, and leisure spaces.

During the special ceremony, the Duke spoke with key partners on the project, including local MP Imran Hussain and Council Leader Cllr

Susan Hinchcliffe about the strategic importance of the Southern Gateway as one of the most significant regeneration projects in the country.



Saleem Akhtar the owner of the Jinnah Business Park and founder of the Jinnah Group said: "It was a pleasure to welcome His Royal Highness to Bradford and have the opportunity to explain our plans in more detail. As a former architect, he was particularly interested in the building and construction methods we plan to use."

"The Standard Health flagship hospital represents an important moment for the Southern Gateway and our city and will act as a catalyst for other developments. Bringing investment into the area and transforming land at this location is a mark of confidence in the Southern



Gateway, as Bradford looks forward to significant regeneration over the coming years."

Dr Gorav Datta, of Standard Health, said: "Our new state of the art hospital will mean a considerable investment into the healthcare sector in the city, and include innovations in orthopaedic surgery such as robotics, an imaging suite, and in-patient facilities to allow seamless patient pathways from admission to rehabilitation."

Cllr Susan Hinchcliffe, Leader of Bradford Council said: "It's welcome to see the private sector investing in the



city at a time when we are progressing, at pace, our plans for the Southern Gateway regeneration area. It's about growth and, importantly jobs which are being created by a successful local developer bringing in additional investment. We anticipate further such investment will follow in what will be a key zone of regeneration for Bradford."

The site preparation works will be managed Fox Developments Ltd, with construction now underway and programmed to conclude in around 12 months' time.







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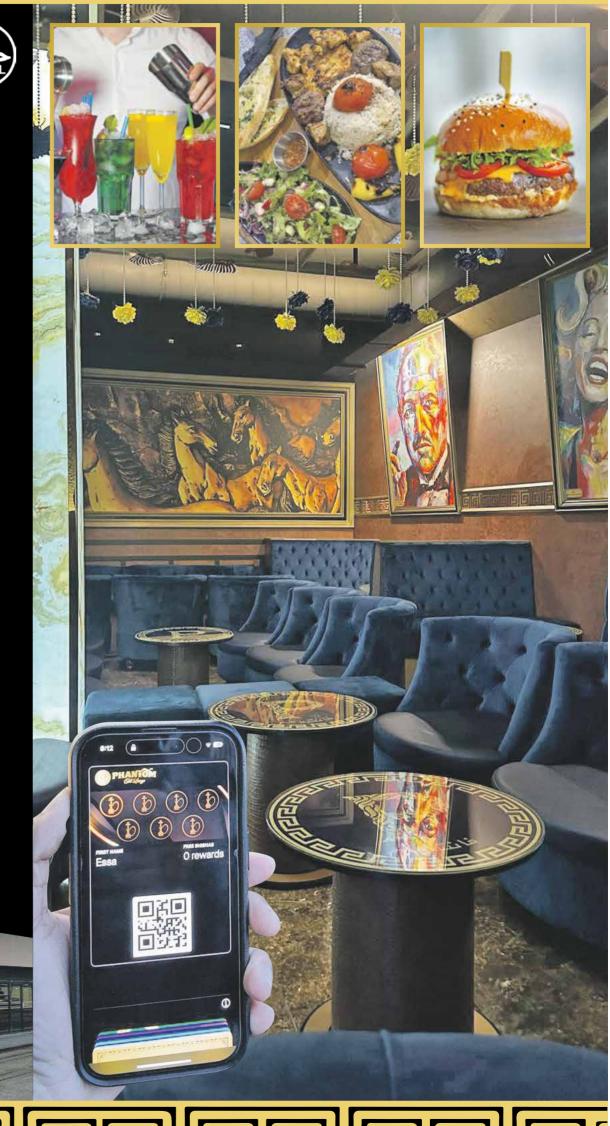
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Students launch oncampus food bank amid cost-of-living crisis

A group of students at the University of Huddersfield have launched a food bank on campus to offer free food and wider support to other students who may be affected by cost-of-living pressures.

The initiative called 'Care Cupboard', offers free food and wider wellbeing and financial support for students in need.

The organising group are part of Enactus, an initiative dedicated to inspiring students to build a better, more sustainable world through entrepreneurial action and community development projects.

Led by MSc Digital Marketing student Luke Hester, the team first developed the idea earlier this year for the Enactus UK & Ireland Action4Impact "Stop Hunger" competition, where they were named Top 5 Finalists and received £750 in seed funding.

Officially launched in October under the slogan "Students should be hungry for knowledge, not food", Care Cupboard is based in the Harold Wilson Building and provides a safe, inclusive space where students can access essentials discreetly.

Beyond food, the project connects users to key university services. The Student Finance Team offers advice on budgeting and hardship funds, while the Student Wellbeing Team provides counselling, workshops and emotional support.

"The cost-of-living crisis is affecting so many students right now," said team leader Hester "We're pleased to have opened Care Cupboard to aid those who need that little bit of extra help. Having it on campus means students can pop along in between lectures and don't have to go far for support."

The food bank also tackles food waste by collecting surplus stock from local supermarkets. Partnering with Neighbourly, Enactus Huddersfield has arranged a weekly collection from Sainsbury's to keep shelves replenished.

Nicola Walker, Enterprise Hub Manager at the University, praised the project's impact: "Students are not immune from cost-of-living pressures, so it's great to see Enactus Huddersfield leading the way with another layer of support. I'm particularly proud of how they've linked practical help with wellbeing and financial guidance."

Community links have also been forged with TSL Kirklees, which offers volunteering opportunities and a buddy scheme for those seeking to give back or gain experience.

Enactus Huddersfield's work aligns with the United Nations Global Goals for Sustainable Development, reflecting the society's wider mission to create responsible leaders and social innovators.

Through Care Cupboard, the students are proving that compassion and entrepreneurship can go hand in hand, and that no one should have to choose between studying and eating.



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With less than two months until the Self Assessment deadline, HM Revenue and Customs (HMRC) is asking people filing their tax return for the 2024 to 2025 tax year 'What's your filing style?' and encouraging them to start now.

HMRC is launching an online poll asking people to pick how they choose to file.

Are they an early bird – filing within a few days of the new tax year, a dipper – someone who dips in and out throughout the year – or, a last minute panicker – rushing to submit their form in the last hours of 31 January? The poll will run on HMRC's X, LinkedIn and Facebook channels for 7 days.

Last year more than 11.5 million taxpayers filed their 2023 to 2024 tax return by the 31 January deadline.

Millions of people have already filed their tax return for the 2024 to 2025 tax year, with 58,000 early birds returning theirs on 6 April 2025 – the first day they could. Customers can complete their tax return for the 2024 to 2025 tax year on GOV.UK.

Myrtle Lloyd, HMRC's Chief Customer Officer, said: "For customers yet to file, there's still time to start and submit an accurate tax return. Don't leave something as important as your tax return to the last minute. Go to GOV. UK to start today."

Those who start their tax return early can take their time to access the range of online help available to them. Once started they have time to dip back in as many times as they need to check it's accurate before submitting.

Those who file their tax return early don't need to pay their tax bill straight away but can

consider the best way to settle it ahead of the deadline.

The quickest and easiest way to pay is via the free and secure HMRC app although a full list of alternative payment options are available on GOV.UK.

For customers who are unable to pay their tax bill in full, HMRC may be able to help by arranging an affordable payment plan, known as Time To Pay. They can set up a plan online on GOV.UK. Alternatively, they can contact the helpline.

If anyone is unsure if they need to fill in a tax return for the 2024 to 2025 tax year, they can use the Self Assessment checker tool on GOV. UK where they can also register and notify HMRC if they no longer need to complete one.

Child Benefit claimants who would only file a tax return to pay the High Income Child Benefit Charge (HICBC) can now opt out of Self Assessment and choose to pay it through their tax code via the new PAYE digital service.

Eligible customers can call HMRC to deregister from Self Assessment before the filing deadline. Where a tax return has already been sent, customers can choose to de-register from the following tax year. HMRC will then amend their tax code and they will be registered to pay HICBC through the new PAYE digital service.

Customers do not need to include their 2025 Winter Fuel Payment, or Pension Age Winter Heating payment in Scotland, on their tax return for the 2024 to 2025 tax year as payments received in Autumn 2025 will be recovered in the 2025 to 2026 tax return, due by 31 January 2027. More information can be found on GOV.UK.



HMRC asks
Self Assessment
customers 'What's
your filing style?"

business power

Beware of Mission Creep

maritime advisory firm has recently lost its long legal battle with an oil tanker operator for payment for additional work which it claimed it had performed outside the scope of its retainer with the tanker operator.

The case of RMK Maritime (Europe) Ltd and Another v CMB.Tech NV (formerly known as Euronav NV) concerned a dispute in respect of mergers and acquisition advisory work carried out by RMK for Euronav, a Belgian crude oil tanker operator, in relation to the merger with Gener8, an American tanker operator, to form CNB.Tech NV, one of the world's largest crude oil tanker operators.

In 2016, RMK entered into a written agreement with Euronav which provided for the payment of a fixed fee of \$2m USD to explore the possibility of the merger. However, RMK ultimately provided a broader range of advisory services which included deal structuring, negotiation support and due diligence co-ordination; all of this work culminated in a successful merger between Euronav and Gener8 in June 2018.

June 2018.

RMK received the \$2m USD fixed fee pursuant to the agreement but claimed that Euronav had informally

This case of columns of colum

promised or led it to believe that a success fee or discretionary bonus would also be payable. Euronav offered RMK an additional \$1m USD discretionary bonus but this was rejected by RMK as being inadequate remuneration for the work that it had carried out. Instead, RMK brought proceedings against Euronav seeking \$11.6m USD in restitution on a quantum meruit basis (this applies where one party induces another to confer benefit on him through a non-contractual promise and fails to fulfil that promise) arguing that Euronav had unjustly enriched itself. RMK claimed that it had provided the additional services based on a shared understanding that Euronav would pay a further fee, either by agreement or at a reasonable market rate.

Euronav disputed the claim asserting that RMK's services fell within the scope of the original agreement and that it was not due any additional payment. Alternatively, Euronav argued that even if RMK performed some services outside the scope of the agreement, RMK's claim failed because the agreement contained a "no oral modification" clause that required the parties to agree in writing to any variation in the scope of the agreement.

The High Court dismissed RMK's claim. The Court found that RMK's services fell within the scope of the agreement due to a catch-all provision within the agreement which covered "other advisory related work" and even if RMK's services fell outside the scope of the agreement, the terms of the agreement precluded RMK from pursuing an unjust enrichment claim.

This case highlights that, in respect of contracts for the provision of services, it is crucial to ensure that the contract expressly and accurately reflects what services are to be provided and for what remuneration.

Where the scope of services may change, then any extra contractual work should be covered in a written variation of the original agreement.

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"

Please contact Luke Patel on 0113 227 9316 or by email at LPatel@LawBlacks.com





Race Equality Network marks 25 years with renewed call for justice at Bradford Live gala

Two weeks after hundreds gathered in Bradford Live to celebrate the Race Equality Network's 25th anniversary, the sense of momentum from that night still reverberates across the city's civic and grassroots spaces.

What might have been a simple commemoration has instead become a rallying point: a reminder that a quarter-century of work on racial justice is both a milestone and a mandate, as communities across Bradford continue to confront inequality and fight for human rights.

At the anniversary gala, REN members, activists, community organisers and national figures came together to reflect on the Network's legacy and to sharpen its purpose for the years ahead.

The evening, hosted by the artist and activist Jermain Jackman, blended celebration with a clear-eyed assessment of the challenges still facing racialised communities. Jackman's presence set the tone for a night that felt as much about the future as the past.

Speakers from across the movement shaped the narrative of resilience and resolve. Former Chair Yusuf Karolia and CEO Humma Nizami reflected on decades of capacity building and community development, while incoming Chair Carol Peltier offered a bold, hopeful vision for the next phase of REN's work.

MP Naz Shah spoke candidly about representation and lived experience, urging continued action to dismantle systemic inequalities

Contributions from Kojo of Black Lives Matter UK, Lee Jasper, Sammie Phoenix of Healthwatch Bradford, and Sam Keighley from the VCS Alliance underscored the breadth of the struggle for racial justice across sectors.

REN's staff team, including Nadim Qureshi, Fatima Mahmood and Piers Telemacque, added their own reflections, illustrating how advocacy, activism and lived experience intertwine in the fight for dignity, opportunity and safety for all communities.

Throughout the night, themes of hope,

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business power



justice, solidarity and human rights were woven through speeches, conversations and performances. For REN, hope is not passive: it is the collective belief that a fairer society can be built through persistence and accountability. Solidarity, several speakers noted, remains the movement's most powerful tool.

"This anniversary is not just a celebration of our history," said CEO Humma Nizami.
"It is a celebration of everyone who has stood with us over the last 25 years. REN has always been powered by people who refuse to accept inequality as inevitable." She added that racial justice "doesn't happen by accident" but through communities unafraid to challenge harmful systems.

Incoming Chair Carol Peltier echoed that sentiment, describing the evening as "a reaffirmation of our purpose." Every voice and every act of resistance, she said, brings society closer to fairness and equity.

Performances by Hassan Khan, Musumba and Ahmed Nizami added emotional depth to the programme, capturing themes of identity, resistance and collective memory. Around tables, attendees shared stories of progress, frustration and renewed determination, reflecting a movement that has weathered setbacks yet remains unshaken





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"The day of my diagnosis was the worst day of my life"

After shock diagnosis, MD launches £100k campaign and asks why **150 people a day** are being diagnosed with breast cancer

A British managing director has launched a powerful fundraising campaign after being diagnosed with Stage 2 breast cancer, asking the question many are too afraid to voice: "150 people a day are being diagnosed with breast cancer – why is that?"

When Worcester-based business leader Jothie Walford, 50, received her diagnosis earlier this year, her world stopped.

"I couldn't believe it – I was in total shock," she said. "With no family history I never thought it would happen to me. My first thought went to my children – I didn't want them to grow up without a mum."

That moment of devastation became

the spark for action.
Jothie, a
mother of two
and managing
director of British
home appliance
firm Gtech, has
since channelled
her experience into
a nationwide effort to
raise £100,000 for Cancer
Research UK and Worcestershire
Breast Unit Haven, while also
raising awareness about the sharp
rise in breast cancer diagnoses.

Continued on page 30





"The day of my diagnosis was the worst day of my life"

Continued from page 29

She said the statistics were impossible to ignore. "The day of my diagnosis was the worst day of my life.

"I have since found out that 150 people a day, every day, are also being diagnosed with breast cancer – they are having their worst day ever – and rates are increasing. Why is that?"

Her words have become a rallying cry for the company's new 'Powers Through Everything' campaign – a slogan that reflects both the company's product line and the resilience of those battling serious illness.

While still undergoing treatment, Jothie continues to work, supported by her colleagues, family and friends.

As part of the fundraising drive, the company will release a limited-edition Pink AirRam 3 vacuum cleaner, with 20% of profits going directly to the £100,000 target. To bolster donations, anyone who contributes £1,000 or more will receive a free Gtech product.

Two major fundraising events are also planned – including a Bollywood-meets-Hollywood charity ball at the Gtech Community Stadium in Brentford and a local gala in Worcester later this year.

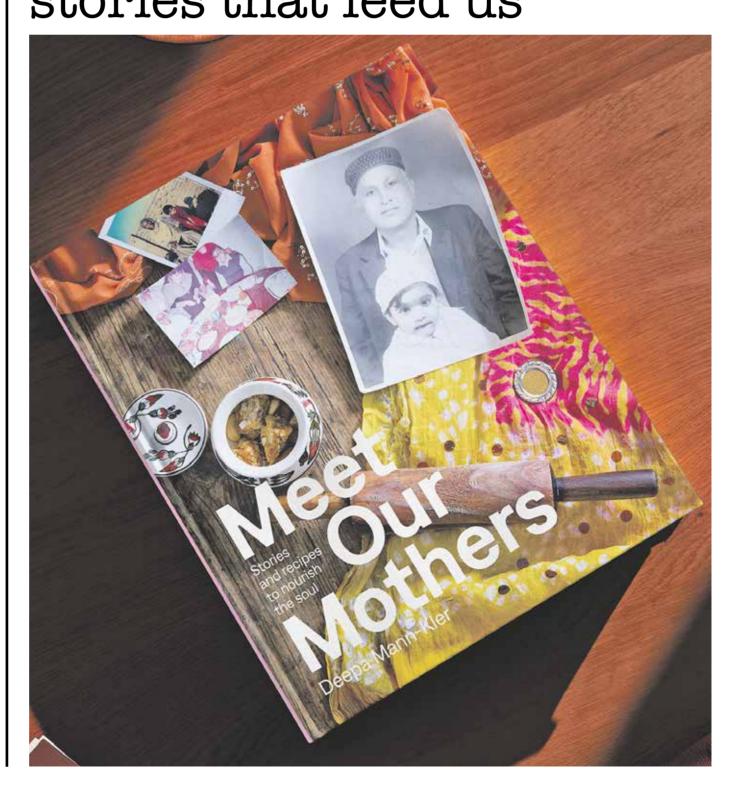
The campaign has already gained backing from leading medical professionals.

Mr Steven Thrush, Consultant Breast Surgeon at Worcestershire Breast Unit, praised Jothie's initiative: "From the point of diagnosis through surgery and treatment, our team and the Worcestershire Breast Unit Haven charity are committed to going above and beyond for patients.

"It's very special when patients decide to give something back. We are delighted to be working with Jothie and her team."

The initiative, supported under the hashtag #PowerThroughEverything, will also see the company's logo temporarily turn pink – a visible symbol of solidarity with those fighting cancer.

Ataste Of home Om: 'Meet Our Mothers' cookbook celebrates the stories that feed us





There are few things more powerful than the

memories stirred by food.

The smell of onions frying, the first taste of something new, or the comfort of a family recipe passed down through generations. All can transport us instantly to another place or time.

That's exactly what Meet Our Mothers, the new cookbook launched by Bradford 2025

UK City of Culture, sets out to do.
Unveiled at a colourful celebration

feast in Lister Park, the cookbook is a love letter to Bradford's people and their

From Ukrainian cheese pancakes to Ghanaian beef stew, Greek rice to lamb biryani, each recipe tells a deeply personal story - of migration, belonging, and the bonds formed in universal language of care and community

Curated by artist Deepa Mann-Kler, 'Meet Our Mothers' gathers recipes submitted by residents from every corner of Bradford.

Behind every dish lies a tale - funny, tender, or bittersweet. From first dates to journeys of resettlement. These are the flavours that define families and the friendships that make Bradford such a unique cultural

melting pot.

Mann-Kler says collecting these recipes has been 'a humbling experience - a celebration of memory,

migration, love, and resistance."

The project began with a public callout in 2024 and blossomed through a series of creative workshops held with community groups across the district. Contributors were later invited to a professional photoshoot at NEET in Northcliffe Park, watching their treasured dishes

cooked and styled for the pages of the book.

Adding a modern twist, Meet Our Mothers also embraces Augmented Reality (AR) - an immersive experience that allows readers to unlock digital layers of storytelling through a free companion app. With a quick scan, readers can see contributors talk about their dishes, their families, and the memories each recipe holds. It's a digital celebration of human connection that bridges past and present.
"This isn't just a cookbook," says Deepa. "It's an

archive of identity, love, and survival.

Creative Director Shanaz Gulzar calls it "a celebration of the rich cultural tapestry of Bradford and

the heritage that brings us together."
Supported by The National Lottery Heritage Fund, 'Meet Our Mothers' is available now via bradford2025.

"This isn't just



The quiet therapy happening in your kitchen

By Prity Farooq

Prity Beauty & Aesthetic, Bradford

or many of us, the kitchen has long been a place of obligation - another item on the to-do list, another task squeezed between work emails and the school run.

But as more people look for simple, grounding ways to support their mental health, cooking is quietly stepping into the spotlight. Not as a chore, but as a balm.

At its best, cooking functions as a kind of active meditation.

There's something strangely soothing about chopping onions or stirring a simmering pot – a rhythm that hushes the noise in your mind. Focusing on one step at a time can nudge you into that elusive flow state, where racing thoughts finally begin to settle.

And then there's the small but mighty lift that comes from making something - anything from scratch. A meal finished, a dish plated, a flavour perfected: these are tangible acts of achievement in a world where so much feels abstract and out of our control. For many, that sense of "I did this" becomes a quiet boost of confidence and self-worth.

Cooking also invites creativity in a way we don't always give ourselves permission for elsewhere. Trying a new spice, swapping ingredients on the fly,

decorating a dish just because it makes you smilé – it's play, disguised as dinner. And play does wonders for mood, curiosity, and positivity.

But perhaps what's most overlooked is how cooking anchors the day. Preparing and eating meals at regular times introduces structure, which can be a lifeline during periods when everything feels unmoored. Add to that the sensory comfort of scent, texture, heat, and colour, and suddenly the kitchen becomes one of the most grounding rooms in the house.

Of course, not everyone loves the actual process of cooking - and that's fine. The mental health benefits don't end at the stove. Eating meals at home, particularly shared ones, can be just as powerful. Eating together remains one of the most universal ways humans express care. Picture the laughter that rolls around a table, the stories swapped, the familiar clatter of cutlery, the silent reassurance of simply not eating alone.

These small rituals strengthen relationships and counter loneliness in ways that few other daily habits can.

Even the cognitive work of cooking – the planning, organising, problem-solving nudges the brain to stay sharp, offering a gentle workout for your executive functions.

So whether you're plating a masterpiece or reheating leftovers, the message is simple: the act of preparing and sharing food carries emotional weight. In a culture hooked

on speed and convenience, it's a reminder that slowing down, stirring a pot, setting a table, or passing a dish can be quietly transformative.

Local support is available for complementary therapies. Contact Prity Farooq on 01274 307040 for a free counselling session.

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DHURANDHAR: Viral music, fan frenzy and smashing box office records

In a whirlwind few weeks that has gripped audiences across the globe, Dhurandhar has transformed from a highly anticipated winter release into a

What began with the explosive

trailer drop on 18 November views in record time - has spiralled into a freezy of fan edits, music mania and unprecedented box office momentum ahead of the film's 5 December worldwide release.

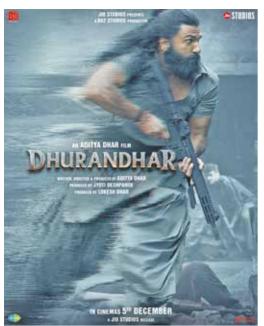
At the heart of Dhurandhar lies a high-stakes story that straddles the worlds of espionage, organised crime and political betrayal. Led by Ranveer Singh in what early reviews describe as one of his most commanding performances

to date, and supported by Akshaye Khanna, Sanjay Dutt, R. Madhavan and Arjun Rampal, the film marks a bold expansion of Indian cinema's

action—spy genre.
Ranveer Singh stars as a fiercely unpredictable operative whose past

and present violently collide when a covert mission exposes a powerful criminal syndicate working deep within the country's power structures.

Continued on page 34



DHURANDHAR:

Viral music, fan frenzy and smashing box office records

Continued from page 33

What begins as a routine intelligence operation spirals into a dangerous cat-and-mouse chase across borders, forcing him to confront a master strategist known only as "The Dhurandhar" — a phantom-like figure who stays several moves ahead of everyone else.

As alliances fracture and loyalties shift, the protagonist is drawn into a labyrinth of deception involving

a rogue intelligence faction, global weapons networks, and a conspiracy capable of destabilising entire governments. Akshaye Khanna, Sanjay Dutt, R. Madhavan and Arjun Rampal each play key figures orbiting this shadowy world - some allies, some enemies, and some impossible to categorise.

Their motivations intertwine in ways that keep the narrative taut and unpredictable.

Dhurandhar blends large-scale action with psychological depth,

exploring themes of identity, sacrifice and the blurry line between protector and predator.

With every revelation, the film pushes its hero closer to the truth, and deeper into danger, culminating in a showdown that tests not only his skills but his moral boundaries.

The result is a gritty, emotionally charged thriller that marries blockbuster spectacle with a layered, character-driven narrative, anchoring its adrenaline-fuelled set pieces in a story about how far one

man will go when the cost of justice becomes personal.

With an overseas weekend of £3.45 million and a total India £12.57 million, Dhurandhar has already cemented itself as a global phenomenon.

Written, directed and produced by Aditya Dhar, and produced by Jyoti Deshpande and Lokesh Dhar, this Jio Studios, B62 Studios, Saregama collaboration appears poised to redefine the December box office landscape.

South Asian indie is having its moment

India's indie scene is at the cusp of a massive cultural shift, with artists breaking out without film backing, fans discovering new voices organically, and a whole generation turning to independent music for honesty, mood and identity.

Stepping right into this moment is Bargad- Sufr's most exciting new single, created in association with Arpit Bala and producer Toorjo Dey, which has become one of the biggest breakout South Asian Indie tracks of the year.

With emotionally rich, universally relatable storytelling, the track has risen from a quiet indie release to a global viral wave, fuelled by a fast-growing fandom and dominating GenZ feeds as the definitive sound of being in love, delusional, and beautifully down-bad all at once.

Sufr, an emerging and largely self-made artist, has seen his rise driven almost entirely by a wave of organic, fan-led love that's turned casual listeners into a loyal community rallying behind his music.

Known for tracks like Zulfein and Chaandni, he continues to shape the next wave of South Asia's new-age indie sound with textured moods, brooding warmth and a voice that feels like falling in love in slow motion.

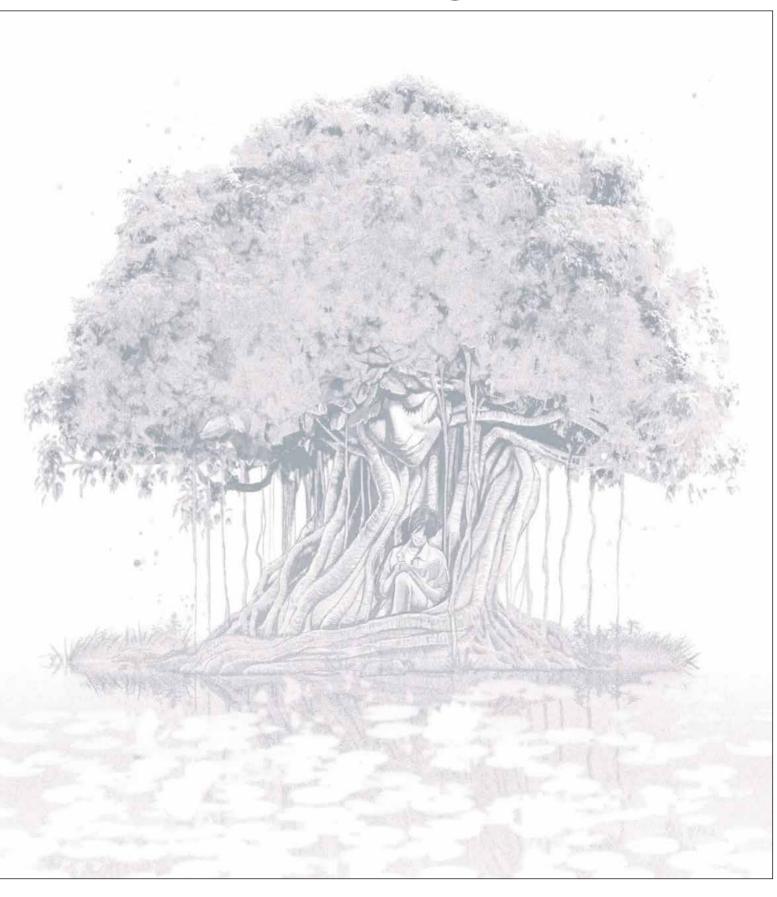
What started as quiet support across socials has quickly evolved into a budding fandom, with the track reaching No. 1 on the Global Viral Spotify charts, purely on the strength of the community behind it.

Reflecting on the global love, Sufr shared, "Everyday I wake up to something new that people have created with 'Bargad' - a new message, a new country discovering my song, and it all still feels unreal. 'Bargad' comes from a very personal place, and seeing people around the world connect to a feeling I wrote is the biggest reward.

"The love has been overwhelming in the best way and I'm grateful that the song is finding its people everywhere it goes. I'm grateful and excited to see how far the audience takes the song. Also, I am taking all this love with me into everything I create next."

To which Arpit Bala added, "'Bargad' came from a very raw space for me. I wrote it almost like a journal entry, without thinking about how big it would become.

"Watching listeners connect to that vulnerability, interpret it in their own ways, and create so much beautiful content around it... it's overwhelming in the best way. I'm grateful that something so personal has found a home in so many people."



in cinemas this month



Avatar: Fire and Ash

Starring: Sam Worthington, Zoe Saldana, Stephen Lang, Oona Chaplin, Cliff Curtis, Giovanni Ribisi, Sigourney Weaver, Joel David Moore **Director:** James Cameron

Cert: TBC

Genre: Action/Family/Fantasy **Release Date:** 19/12/2025

Avatar: Fire and Ash arrives as the year's most commanding cinematic event, pulling audiences back into Pandora with the force and spectacle only James Cameron can deliver.

Thirteen years after the Na'vi first captured global imagination and two years after the ocean-lit majesty of The Way of Water, Cameron's third chapter shifts gears once again – this time plunging deep into the volcanic heart of Pandora, where ancient rivalries, elemental power, and a new clan's fiery traditions collide in a story pulsing with danger, emotion and breathtaking world-building.

Set several years after the Sully family's escape to

the Metkayina reefs, Fire and Ash follows Jake and Neytiri as they confront a new threat born not just of human militarism, but of Pandora itself.

When seismic tremors start cracking open the planet's volatile interior, the couple are forced to seek refuge – and unlikely alliance – with the Ash People, a fiercely territorial, lava-forged clan whose worldview challenges everything Jake and Neytiri

Where the Metkayina were fluid, spiritual and ocean-bound, the Ash People are hardened by survival, shaped by fire, and suspicious of outsiders. Their crimson armour, volcanic forges and blackrock temples add an entirely new visual language to the saga, expanding Pandora in ways fans have spent over a decade hoping to see.

But survival, as Cameron loves to remind audiences, comes at a cost. As Jake struggles with the consequences of war and fatherhood, and Neytiri reckons with grief and rage that continue to reshape her identity, Fire and Ash becomes the series most emotionally mature chapter yet. New Na'vi characters take centre stage, while returning villains and morally grey human scientists complicate the boundaries between ally and enemy.

The franchise's long-standing environmental themes evolve too: this time the threat isn't only human extraction, but Pandora's own volatile ecosystems reacting to imbalance – a metaphor that feels chillingly contemporary.
Visually, Cameron pushes the limits of

performance capture and 3D cinematography, giving audiences spectral lava flows, glowing obsidian caverns, and airborne ash storms that blur the line between beauty and catastrophe.

The action sequences – particularly the mid-film siege on the Ash People's stronghold and a climactic battle that unfolds across magma riverbanks are already being described as some of the most

technically impressive moments in modern cinema. With its blend of mythic storytelling, raw emotion and state-of-the-art spectacle, Avatar: Fire and Ash isn't just a sequel – it's a world-expanding chapter that deepens the lore, raises the stakes and sets the stage for the franchise's next evolution. Whether you return for the artistry, the adventure or the environmental allegory, Cameron's latest epic proves one thing: Pandora still has countless secrets to burn and reveal

WHAT'S ON

in cinemas this month

Wicked: For Good

Starring: Cynthia Erivo, Ariana Grande,

Jonathan Bailey, Jeff Goldblum,

Michelle Yeoh, Ethan Slater, Bowen Yang,

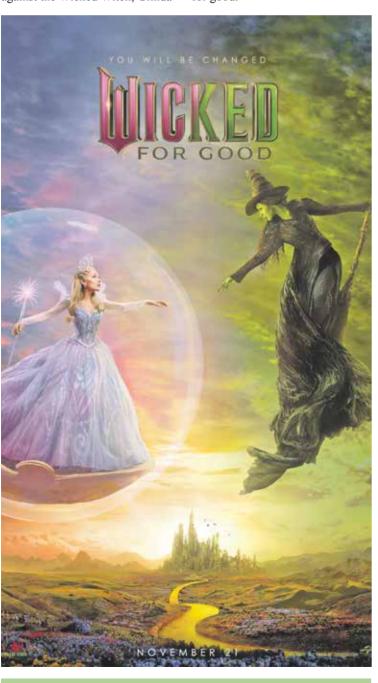
Marissa Bode

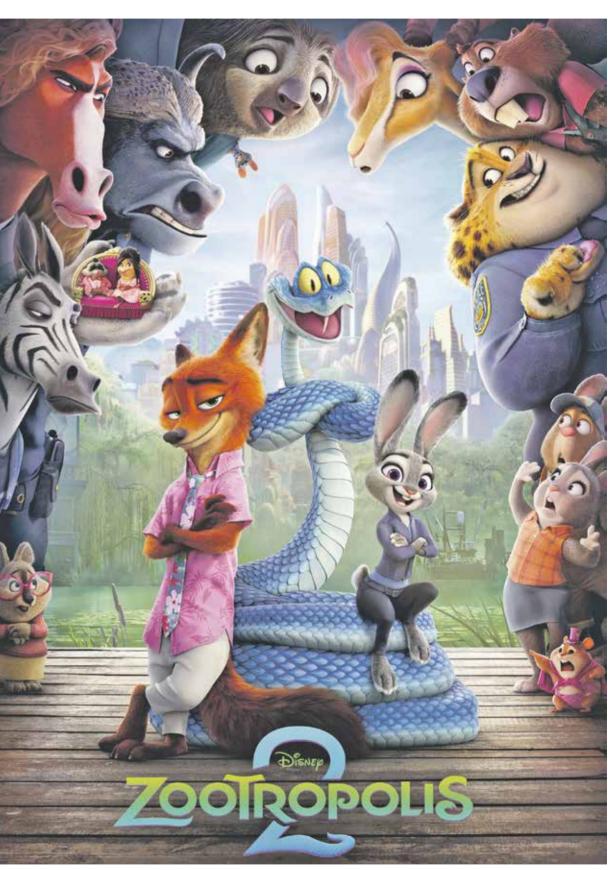
Director: Jon M. Chu

Cert: PG

Genre: Action/Family **Release Date:** 12/11/2025

Last year's global cinematic cultural sensation, which became the most successful Broadway film adaptation of all time, now reaches its epic, electrifying, emotional conclusion in Wicked: For Good. As an angry mob rises against the Wicked Witch, Glinda and Elphaba will need to come together one final time. With their singular friendship now the fulcrum of their futures, they will need to truly see each other, with honesty and empathy, if they are to change themselves, and all of Oz, for good





Zootropolis 2

Starring: Jason Bateman, Ginnifer Goodwin, Rolando Davila-Beltran, Fortune Feimster, Shakira, Ke Huy Quan

Directors: Byron Howard, Jared Bush

Cert: PG Genre: Animation/Comedy/Family

Release Date: 28/11/2025

Zootropolis 2 roars back into cinemas with Judy Hopps and Nick Wilde diving headfirst into a slick, fast-paced new mystery that pushes their partnership into uncharted territory. Set against the vibrant, ever-expanding metropolis of Zootropolis, the sequel introduces dazzling

new districts, a quirky cast of fresh characters, and a reptilian conspiracy that threatens the city's delicate harmony. With sharp humour, heart, and the same kinetic energy that made the original a global hit, the film blends buddy-cop action with warm, family-friendly storytelling.

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IT'S LIKE NAKED GUN IN BLACK TIE"

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KATHERINE DAMIAN LEWIS MCKENZIE RADCLIFFE WATERSTON WITH FELTON AND CARR

The Comedy with the Biggest Balls this Christmas



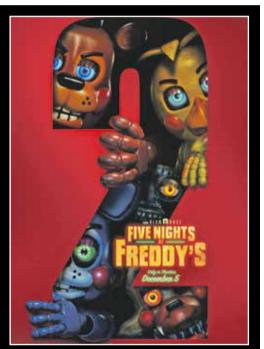
A THE RESIDENCE OF THE

Fackham Hall

Starring: Tom Felton, Katherine Waterston, Emma Laird, Ben Radcliffe, Thomasin McKenzie, Damian Lewis

Director: Jim O'Hanlon Cert: 15 Genre: Comedy **Release Date:** 12/12/2025

Fackham Hall is a raucous new holiday season comedy that gleefully skewers the tropes of British period dramas like Downton Abbey and Gosford Park with the frenetic energy of classics such as Airplane! and The Naked Gun. Directed by Jim O'Ĥanlon and co-written by comedian Jimmy Carr and a team of satirists, the film follows lovable pickpocket Eric Noone, who stumbles into a job at the grand Davenport estate and sparks a forbidden romance with aristocrat Rose Davenport amid a farcical murder mystery that turns class and tradition upside down. With a starry ensemble including Thomasin McKenzie, Damian Lewis, Katherine Waterston and Tom Felton delivering rapid-fire gags and visual absurdities, Fackham Hall blends high production values with irreverent humour, offering audiences an affectionate yet chaotic parody of heritage cinema that's perfect for



Five Nights at

Starring: Wayne Knight, Josh Hutcherson, Matthew Lillard, Skeet Ulrich, Piper Rubio, Freddy Carter, Theodus Crane, Elizabeth Lail, McKenna Grace

Director: Emma Tammi Cert: 15 Genre: Horror/ Mystery/Thriller

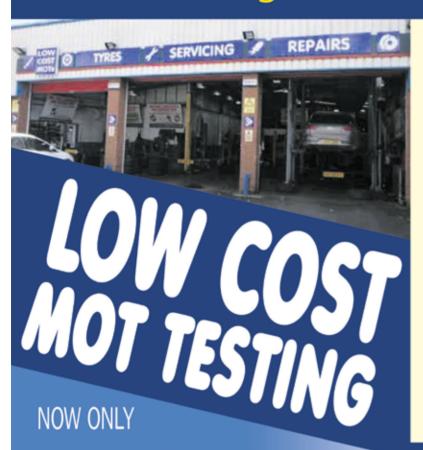
Release Date: 5/12/2025

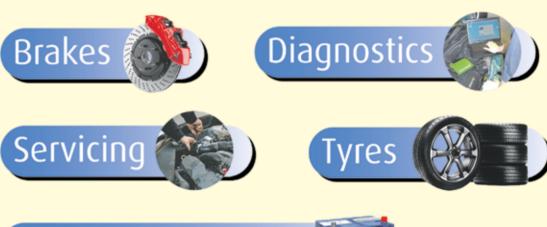
Five Nights at Freddy's 2 creeps into cinemas as one of the most talked-about horror sequels of the year, picking up the terrifying tale of animatronic mayhem a year after the events of the first film. Directed by Emma Tammi and starring Josh Hutcherson, Elizabeth Lail, Piper Rubio and horror icon Matthew Lillard among others, the sequel finds ex-security guard Mike Schmidt drawn back into the eerie world of Freddy Fazbear's Pizza when old horrors reawaken and new, dark secrets about the pizzoria's exiging come dark secrets about the pizzeria's origins come

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crossover-with-a-supercar-complex territory.

Here's where it gets silly. The G6's

Continued on page 40

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Almost half of UK drivers risk damaging their car with defrosting habits

Nearly half of motorists risk causing damage to their cars when scraping ice off their windscreens, and a third (34%) could even be fined for their typical winter morning behaviour, according to research from eBay, the UK's leading online marketplace for vehicle parts and accessories.

Following the UK's first winter cold-snap with vehicles frosting up across the country, eBay's research revealed one in five (19%) motorists have admitted to using boiling water from a kettle despite the fact it can crack the glass. Almost a third (30%) said they used their wipers to clear ice, which could damage the wiper blades and electric motor.

While the data found the most common ways drivers use to clear their windscreen was ice scrapers (32%) and de-icer spray (26%), it also revealed the more unusual methods including bank cards, CDs, CD cases, a paint scraper, cold water, and even the hot water bottle 'trick' made viral through social media.

As well as risking damage to their car, drivers could be fined for how they defrost their car. Nearly one in five (19%) were unaware that it was illegal to drive their vehicles without fully defrosted windows. This can result in a £60 fine and three points on your license according to rule 229 in the Highway Code.

Some motorists (18%) also said they were comfortable leaving their car running to fully defrost their car, with 15%

aiming to make the most of their busy morning while the vehicle runs outside. This is also technically illegal under rule 123 in the Highway Code and can result in a fine of up-to £80.

The attitude to clearing all car windows differs across the generations, with just over half (52%) of Gen-Z motorists saying they would fully defrost all windows before setting off on their journey, compared with over four of five (85%) Boomers.

The top tool for clearing frost differed across car owners. Renault drivers were the top ice scraper supporters with 90% of them choosing it as their preferred method, while Škoda owners were the top users of de-icer (88%).

Meanwhile, Lexus drivers were the main users (56%) of a windscreen cover.

Abir Tewari, UK Director of Commercial Operations, Parts & Accessories at eBay, said: "Following the first cold snap of the season, we're seeing motorists use a range of methods to clear their windscreens - some more effective and safer than others. It's vital drivers prepare their vehicles properly for challenging winter conditions. That's why eBay offers a wide selection of tried, tested and safe solutions to make cold mornings simpler and safer."

This winter, eBay is offering customers up to 20% off winter vehicle essentials until 20 February 2026, including ice scrapers, de-icer, windscreen covers and more.

Continued on page 40

The AWD Black Edition arriving in the UK for the first time gets 20-inch black alloys, smoked trim, black callipers, and an interior with grey suede-effect upholstery. It looks like it should pull up outside a cyberpunk nightclub.

Underneath, XPENG has retuned the chassis, steering, powertrain and NVH, claiming over 20,000 incremental tweaks. The result, they say, is sharper handling, better refinement and more confidence on Britain's broken, pothole-addled roads.

Design: Less bubble, more bladeOutside, the G6 gets a full-width
Starlight LED light bar, now stretching
an impressive 1,942mm, plus cleaner

wheel arches, a tidier rear diffuser, and

a new spoiler that adds a touch more stance. Aerodynamics remain impressive at 0.248 Cd, and buyers can now choose Stellar Purple, which sounds like a colour invented by a 90s boyband but looks rather good.

Inside, XPENG has added new woodgrain trim, suede-effect ceilings and upgraded wireless chargers. The front seats now heat, cool and massage, while the rear seats recline across 12 levels, making long journeys slightly more bearable for grumpy teenagers. Storage remains cavernous, with 571 litres in the boot and 1,374 litres with seats folded.

The infotainment system also gets a bump. The XOS cockpit is faster, smoother and boasts a more intuitive voice assistant that can now take commands from four zones in the cabin. The new 9-inch digital inner rear-view mirror on upper trims feels pleasingly sci-fi.

Safety: Built Like a Bunker

The battery pack sits inside a 4-3-4 structural safety cage with ballistic-grade shielding capable of surviving 1,000°C and 80 tons of pressure. XPENG will happily tell you this is "bulletproof-level protection." Whether you're planning a heist is your business.

The full XPILOT ASSIST suite brings adaptive cruise, lane centring, automated parking, surround cameras, and seven airbags. Nothing groundbreaking, but comprehensive and well executed.

A sub-£50k dual-motor EV with 450kW charging and 4.1-second pace? If XPENG wanted to ruffle feathers at Tesla, Polestar, Hyundai and the rest, consider them thoroughly ruffled.







Kia at Market Control Market

The past, the present and one outrageously slick concept car stealing the show Kia doesn't do quiet birthdays. So for its 80th, the brand didn't just blow out candles – it lit up its entire history, rolled out 17 of its most iconic machines, and then dropped a concept car so futuristic it makes a VR headset look analogue.

The celebrations took place at Kia Vision Square in Yongin, Korea, the brand's employee training and strategy hub, which for one night became part museum, part design lab and part high-gloss stage set for Kia's next era.

Around 400 guests filled the hall – a mix of current and former Kia employees, designers, engineers, global partners and senior industry figures.

At the front row sat some familiar heavy hitters: Hyundai Motor Group Executive Chair Euisun Chung, Vice Chair Jaehoon Chang, and Kia President & CEO Ho Sung Song, joined by the rest of Kia's executive leadership team. If you ever wondered what it looks like when several decades of corporate decision-making gather in one room, this was it.

But the real headline wasn't the speeches, the violins or the archive film montage celebrating eight decades of hustle – it was the Vision Meta Turismo, the concept car Kia whipped the covers off like a magician pulling a hyper-modern rabbit out of a carbon-fibre hat.

This thing is Kia's love letter to 1960s grand touring, reimagined through the glare of AR displays, sculpted digital interfaces and a cabin closer to a boutique hotel lounge than a car interior.

The exterior is classic Opposites
United – soft curves meeting sharp
geometry – with the confidence of a
brand that knows its designers are on
a decade-long hot streak.

Inside, the big flex is the steering wheel. Yes, the steering wheel. Kia has transformed it into a digital interface that lets drivers toggle between Speedster, Dreamer and Gamer modes, each layering augmented-reality graphics onto the windscreen.

Specs remain under wraps, but given this is the same brand that stuffed supercar levels of power into the EV6 GT, don't expect mild manners.

Away from the concept-car theatrics, guests were treated to an immersive 80th Anniversary Exhibition, showcasing 17 vehicles across eight zones – from the humble 3000-Liho bicycle and K-360 three-wheeler to icons like the Pride, Soul and Stinger, and ending with the EV6 GT and PBV future concepts.

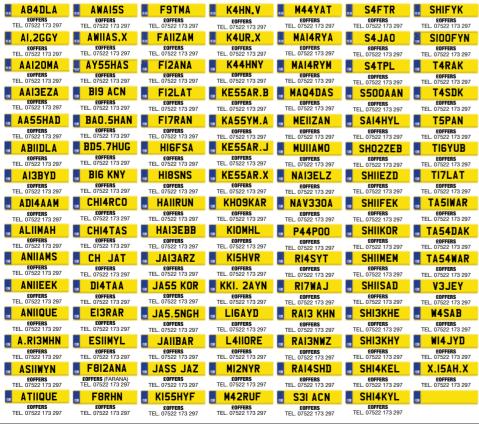
A solo performance by Kia Ambassador Clara-Jumi Kang added a dash of cultural finesse to a ceremony already heavy on nostalgia.

If birthdays are about reflection, Kia's 80th is really about expectation. The Vision Meta Turismo isn't just a concept – it's a statement. Kia has done a lot in eight decades, but judging by what rolled out in Yongin, the wildest stuff is still to come.

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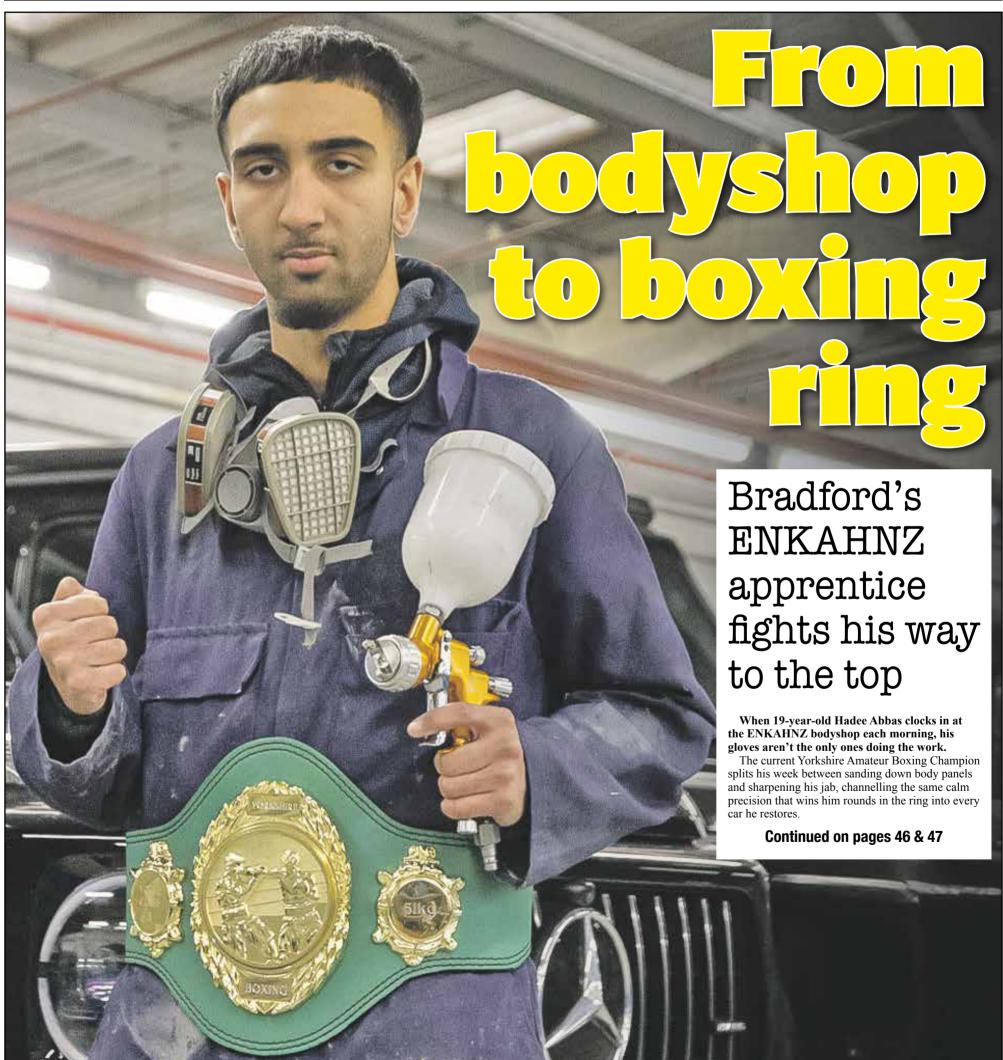












Round up of all your local, national and international sporting news



From bodysho to boxing

ring

Bradford's ENKAHNZ apprentice fights his way to the top

Continued from page 45

Ouiet, respectful, and relentlessly focused, Hadee's colleagues describe him as the lad who never cuts corners, whether it's a fine paint finish or a flawless one-two combination.

"He just gets it done," says one technician

"First in, last out. Doesn't talk much, but his work speaks for him."

The man who spotted that spark is Naveed Barugzai Khan, the self-made Bradford entrepreneur behind ENKAHNZ and luxury brand Barugzai.

A lifelong boxing enthusiast, Naveed once dreamt of a pro career himself, pounding the roads at dawn before school and perfecting footwork drills late into

When opportunities in the sport ran dry, he redirected that discipline into business, building ENKAHNZ from a single garage into one of the North's leading automotive customisation houses.

That same spirit is now fuelling Hadee's rise. Under coach Mo Ali at Aztec Boxing Club BD8, Hadee's style is all fundamentals: tight guard, clean feet, and composure under fire. In only a handful of bouts, he clinched the Yorkshire title against a seasoned rival, showing maturity well beyond his experience.

His secret? "Control the pace, stay disciplined." he says—a mantra that echoes through both gym and

Inside ENKAHNZ, Hadee's apprenticeship mirrors his training grind. From panel repairs to detailing and high-end custom builds, every day brings a new

Naveed designed his schedule around training camps and fight weeks, ensuring one ambition feeds the other.

"Boxing teaches discipline, focus, and respect," Naveed explains.

"That's the foundation for success in business too." Now, both mentor and protégé are chasing the next round of success. For Hadee, that means tougher opponents, longer bouts, and a refined skillset - inside and outside the ring.

For Naveed, it's about guiding the next generation, showing that the same mindset that builds champions can also build careers.

A proud champion on the Bodyshop floor, Hadee represents more than a fighter - he's proof that Bradford grit still shines brightest under pressure

ENKAHNZ is inviting sponsorships and mentorship partners to support Hadee's twin journey in boxing and business, through financial or in-kind backing aligned with amateur sport regulations.

Because in Bradford, some champions are built with sweat, steel... and a spray gun.







Round up of all your local, national and international sporting news

Asian Express







England roll the dice in Adelaide as Bashir left out of must-win Ashes Test

Continued from page 48

With temperatures forecast to climb as high as 39C, conditions are likely to accentuate the value of a specialist spinner.

Bashir's absence from the first two Tests was explained by conditions in Perth and Brisbane, where Australia themselves initially left out Lyon. However, his continued exclusion in Adelaide appears more significant.

England have invested heavily in Bashir over the past two years, encouraging him to learn at Test level despite not being Somerset's first-choice slow bowler. His contract at Taunton has expired and remains unresolved.

Since making his debut in India at the start of 2024, Bashir has taken 68 wickets in 19 Tests at an average of 39, becoming England's youngest bowler to reach 50 Test wickets.

His most memorable moment came in July, when he took the decisive wicket to secure a dramatic victory over India at Lord's. That remains his last Test appearance, after he suffered a broken finger in the same match.

On this tour, Bashir has struggled to make a compelling case, returning

figures of 2-266 in two warm-up matches and appearing short of rhythm in training. England also chose not to include alternative specialist spinners such as Rehan Ahmed, Liam Dawson or Jack Leach in their squad, narrowing their options.

Australia, by contrast, will welcome back Lyon, who sits seventh on the all-time Test wicket-takers list and needs two wickets in Adelaide to move past Glenn McGrath. Lyon suggested before the teams were confirmed that he would be surprised if England left out their preferred spinner, though he said Australia would focus on their own plans.

The pressure extends beyond selection. England's batting remains under scrutiny, with Harry Brook acknowledging he has failed to judge key moments in the series so far, managing only one half-century across four innings.

Tongue's return offers energy and past Ashes success, but England's decision to overlook Bashir underlines the scale of the gamble they are taking in a Test where momentum, confidence and reputations are firmly on the line. Asian Express

SPORT

Round up of all your local, national and international sporting news



England have left out Shoaib Bashir for the pivotal third Ashes Test in Adelaide, opting instead to continue without a specialist spinner in a decision that raises fresh questions about their long-term bowling strategy under Ben Stokes and Brendon McCullum.

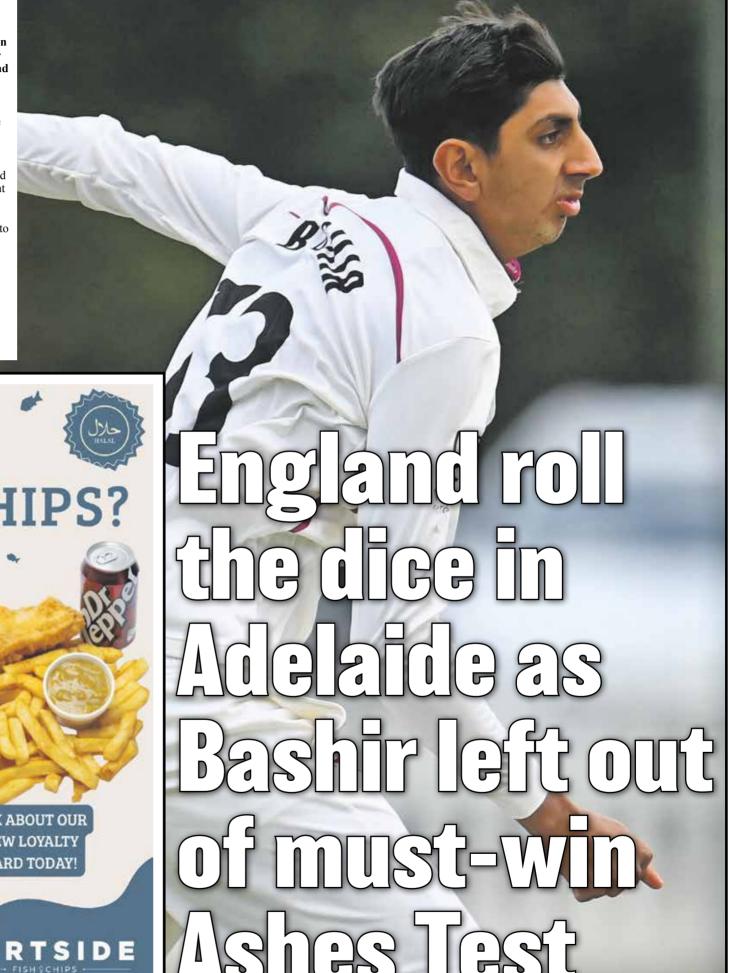
The tourists, who must win to keep alive their hopes of regaining the urn, have made one change from the side beaten in Brisbane, with Josh Tongue replacing Gus Atkinson in the pace attack.

Yet it is the omission of Bashir, the 22-year-old spinner previously backed as England's frontline slow bowler, that has drawn the most scrutiny ahead of a Test where spin is expected to play a significant role.

England have retained all-rounder Will Jacks, primarily selected for his batting, after he returned to the Test side for the first time in three years during the second Test.

Jacks will now be relied upon to provide England's spin options on a ground where Australia's Nathan Lyon has taken a record 63 Test wickets and is set to return after being rested in Brisbane.

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