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## **...if you buzz, you must answer!** Muslim student accused of anti-Semitism wins case against politician

On the show, Melika displayed her team's mascot - a stuffed blue octopus toy, and was wearing a multicoloured jacket that was navy blue, orange, pink and green.

However, Baroness Jacqueline Foster, a member of the House of Lords, took to X after the show was broadcast, to claim Melika was wearing the colours of the Palestinian flag and was responsible for the mascot.

Neither observation was true. The colours of the Palestine flag are black, white, green and red; and the mascot belonged to the team of four.

Foster described the octopus as one of the most "disgusting anti-Semitic symbols" and called for Melika to be "expelled" by her university and "arrested" by the police.

She also tagged top politicians, including Prime Minister Rishi Sunak, as well as the national communications regulator Ofcom, the BBC and the University of Oxford.

David Atherton, a right-wing commentator and journalist, posted on X: "Do you think it is appropriate Melika Gorgianeh ... displayed a blue octopus, a



## SERVITUDE Bradford man who's raised over **£800,000** for charity launches local community kitchen

A Bradford man who's raised hundreds of thousands of pounds for numerous charitable causes, celebrated the inaugural launch of his

local community warm food hub. Nazim Ali, who received an Honorary Fellowship last year from the University of Bradford, has to date single-handedly raised around £800,000 for local and global causes, and annually carries out hospital gift-giving for poorly children across Yorkshire.

At the inaugural launch of his Nazim Ali Foundation 'Khidma Community Kitchen' on 27th February, he carried out local outreach work and provided 129 warm two-course meals for some of Bradford's most vulnerable and

Prior to the launch of the 'Khidma Community Kitchen' (Khidma meaning 'service/servitude in Arabic) there was a gap in food provision in the Bradford District on a

Tuesday evening for those in need. Nazim explains: "For over ten years I have volunteered at the Curry Circle Food Provision on a Thursday at Manningham Library, and have seen the importance of such community kitchens due to people struggling from food

poverty an the cost of living. "During the launch of our community kitchen, we received so much positive feedback from service users, who were ever so thankful. This was incredibly heartwarming, and reaffirmed the need for me to begin this community kitchen. "I passionately believe that charity starts at

home. If you come across anyone in need of

meals then please send them our way. "As a devout Muslim I have a duty to help those in need irrespective of their faith or ethnicity, which is something I have endeavoured to do for the last 26-years via my extensive community and charity work both in the UK and overseas.

"I am grateful to my long-term sponsors, Haji Shiraz Ahmed (CEO) of Bradford-based Saveco Cash & Carry, without whom this would

not be possible." The 'Khidma Community Kitchen' takes place every Tuesday from 4:30pm - 6pm at the Millan Centre (off Oak Lane & adjacent to JTI Victor Street Masjid) 89 Victor Road, Manningham, Bradford,

BD9 4RA.





in need irrespective of their faith or ethnicity, which is something I have endeavoured to do for the last 26-years via my extensive community and charity work both in the UK and overseas."





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## Sharing powerfu stories **Cancer patients and** survivors take to the runway on this year's the inspiring others with their resilience. The women will exhibit stunning designs by Nikaza Asian Couture and Deesh London, whilst sharing inspiring others with their resilience. International Women's Day

This International Women's Day (IWD), ten women's Day (1997), ten incredibly brave women battling cancer and cancer survivors, are inspiring others with their powerful stories about their life challenges, struggles and

courage. They'll be taking to the runway, organised by the The Fashion Brunch, which has extraordinarily deviated from the actobilished perme from the established norms of fashion shows and beauty of fashion shows and beauty pageants, congregating women from different backgrounds and faiths, empowering them to be proud of their diverseness. The Fashion Brunch, established by Anisha Vacani (Creative Director)

Vasani (Creative Director) has proved consistent with it's execution of celebrating women with challenged differences.

With the IWD 2024 theme 'inspire inclusion', the runway spotlight will be succeeded by ten incredibly brave women battling cancer and cancer survivors, inspiring others with their

R&B/Bhangra artist Veronica Mehta withdrew from he public life when she was diagnosed with cancer in 2016

"Through this event, we aim to showcase their beauty, grace, and unwavering spirit, highlighting their inspiring stories of survival and hope. It's more than just a fashion event; it's a platform to uplift and celebrate the indomitable spirit of women everywhere."

inspirational and powerful stories about their challenges, struggles and courage.

One of the incredible survival stories is that of Kreena Dhiman, who was diagnosed with stage 3 Breast Cancer aged just 33.

In 2016, aged 36, Kreena was diagnosed with life-threatening chemotherapy-induced acute heart failure. She also suffered cancerinduced fertility and lost the ability to carry a pregnancy, but never lost faith.

There is often a negative stigma attached within the South Asian community, surrounding cancer, infertility and anything deemed as weak or flawed, but with four children born through IVF and Surrogacy, Kreena is just one of the incredible women sharing her story on the day. "We know that black and brown

people face inequalities when it comes to cancer care," says Kreena, founder of South Asian Supernovas.

"South Asian Supernovas was established to close the cancer care gap through education, awareness and representation. We've created a space allowing patients to be seen and heard

throughout their cancer experience". And meet Veronica Mehta, singer and breast cancer survivor. She became an influential household name within the South Asian community. The London born R&B/ Bhangra artist, a big name on the Asian music circuit, was diagnosed with breast cancer, in 2016.

She withdrew from her public life, to concentrate on healing. Only just returning with a new single called 'Gone'," she says.

"I'm really excited to be a part of such a great event.

"Going through breast cancer was an extremely traumatic and difficult time for me. Being able to connect with nine other cancer survivors and share our stories with one another and together be part of the photoshoot and catwalk with style and strength is incredible."

Coasting into it's fifth year, this annual celebration of women empowerment has seen women from all walks of life coming together for an elevation of acknowledgment.

With Anisha's 'Bold & Beautiful plus size' concept last year winning

the 'Best Creative Campaign' award for her visionary and ground-breaking accomplishments, she continues to break through the ideological norms of beauty.

Founder and creative director of The Fashion Bruch, Anisha Vasani, adds: "International Women's Day is a celebration of strength, resilience, and empowerment.

"It's my honour to champion the incredible journey of ten courageous cancer warriors.

"Through this event, we aim to showcase their beauty, grace, and unwavering spirit, highlighting their inspiring stories of survival and hope. It's more than just a fashion event; it's a platform to uplift and celebrate the indomitable spirit of women everywhere.

"I am immensely proud to witness the growth of The Fashion Brunch, knowing that we've created a platform where 300 women will gather to celebrate their worth."

Whilst inclusion and diversity is the pinnacle objective, this event continues to celebrate women's economic, social, cultural and political

achievements. Taking place at the stunning venue 'Courtyard by Marriott', London, The Fashion Brunch will be joined by successful influential household names, esteemed celebrities and motivational speakers, a wonderful celebration of empowered women.

Partnering with 'RecommendAsian', a platform of 75,000 women supporting and uplifting one another was a natural and easy execution for Anisha, with both platforms sharing the same values.

Highlighting the importance of this wonderful celebration of inclusion is Founder of RecommendAsian, Zamiha Desai. She says: "Both Anisha and I have a mutual passion for empowering women, and the original idea was inspired by Mala Secoomar and Ranjana Patel at a RecommendAsian business strategy session, highlighting the plight of women with life threatening illnesses".

"I am so pleased to be hosting The Fashion Brunch for a fourth consecutive year! I love being involved because it is such an empowering and impactful event where women are honest and open on the panel chat," comments ITV and Channel 5 News presenter Anila Dhami.

"It embodies the values of International Women's Day, particularly with the event entering on the theme of the year."





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#### **'Art is just one way to** keep stories in the light', says Palestinian illustrator



IL ne faisait pas

HAMZA RUSAHOOUTH

partie de moi.IL " étail tout de moi." WAEL AL DAHDOUH

In the realm of art, colours serve as messengers, conveying tales of struggle, resilience and hope.

One Palestinian illustrator, Omar Al Sayed, has emerged as a powerful voice in using digital illustrations to tell the story of his people.

"I really wanted my art to represent the Palestinian struggle," Omar says. Omar's artistic journey gained significant momentum since 7 October 2023, when his Instagram followers went from 500 to over 24,000 in just five months. This surge in attention prompted Omar to reflect on the measures he wished to envice through reflect on the messages he wished to convey through his art.

"It would be unfair of me to focus on the destruction, and only that part of what they are experiencing when it takes a lot of energy and a lot of power from somebody living this, yet they are resilient, yet they are finding the bright side," he told MEMO, adding that he seeks to connect the plight of the Palestinians to broader global struggles throughout history and across the world the world.

Omar's deliberate use of vibrant colours, even when depicting tragic scenes, serve as a visual representation of hope and resilience for the Palestinian people. Despite the atrocities and massacres, Omar's chosen colourful palette, he explains, aims to convey that life persists and Palestinians will find ways to live, cope and move forward

"I'm really inspired by the resilience of the Palestinian people, and I wanted to show that even with the colours

The colourful scenes illustrated stand in stark contrast to the grimness of the depicted situations. It's a deliberate choice to remind viewers that life continues, even after tragedy and atrocities and to remain hopeful about the future.

Omar believes that by highlighting the positive aspects of the struggle, he can inspire others to keep pushing for change and justice. However, he is concerned about the future. Art, for him, is not just a means of expression; it's a weapon to keep stories and issues alive, preventing them from fading into obscurity. In expressing his concerns about the potential aftermath of a ceasefire, Omar speaks to the danger of people forgetting about Israel's violations of international law, genocide and war crimes that have been taking place in Gene quer the pact faw months

been taking place in Gaza over the past few months. He emphasises the need to sustain momentum in

bushing for change, as politicians often rely on the fading of public attention to continue their actions unchecked.

His commitment to the cause is evident in his decision not to sell his art or accept donations. All his illustrations are accessible for demonstrations, exhibitions and use by activists. "I made most of the art available on a website," he said, expressing a reluctance to even ask for donations. Instead, he encourages people to use his art for meaningful purposes, such as demonstrations or exhibitions.

Omar's artistic journey highlights the transformative power of art in amplifying voices, fostering hope, and sustaining awareness of critical social issues. Through his colourful and poignant illustrations, he strives to ensure that the world does not forget the struggles faced by the Palestinian people, promoting a message of resilience, hope, and the ongoing pursuit of justice.

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#### 10 Local

Leeds charity Hamara Healthy Living Centre has won a major national award for its work to reduce health inequalities and poverty, particularly among people from ethnic minority backgrounds, in Beeston and Holbeck.

Following a rigorous selection and assessment process, Hamara Healthy Living Centre was chosen from more than 500 charities across the UK as one of the 10 winners of the 2024 GSK IMPACT Awards, which are delivered

in partnership with The King's Fund. Now in its 27th year, the awards are a mark of excellence in the charity sector, designed to recognise the outstanding work of small and medium-sized charities working to improve people's health and wellbeing in the UK.

Hamara Healthy Living Centre, established in 1994, is now the largest ethnic minority charity in Yorkshire, serving the population of Beeston and Holbeck – an area where people face significant health challenges.

As an award winner, Hamara Healthy Living Centre will now receive £40,000 in unrestricted funding as well as expert support and leadership development provided by leading health and care charity, The King's Fund. Beeston and

Holbeck faces considerable health disparities. For example, male life expectancy stands at 76.4 years, which is seven years less than men who live in Harewood – one of the most affluent areas in Leeds.

Additionally, 40 per cent of Year 6 children are classed as 'very overweight' in Beeston and Holbeck compared to 10 per cent in the least deprived communities in Leeds. Significantly more people are also recorded as having diabetes in the Beeston and Holbeck community.

The award win comes at a time when the triple threat of rising costs, falling income and increased demand continues to put small charities and their finances under extreme pressure. Despite this, the award judges were

impressed by the breadth of Hamara Healthy Living Centre's interventions. This includes providing a range of health-related services, running a food bank, community cafés, a Saturday school, and dedicated programmes of work to target older people including those with dementia, as well as activities for young people, and people with learning disabilities. The award judges also commended the cheritive strong relationships

the charity's strong relationships across the NHS and with Leeds City Council. During the Covid-19 pandemic, the charity played a key role coordinating food deliveries,

running a prescription delivery service and undertaking wellbeing calls. In 2021/22, the charity distributed almost 5,500 food parcels via its foodbank and 12,200 food parcels via the Cultural Food Hub, which provides a culturally appropriate foodbank via local community groups, well as carrying out almost 7,000 wellbeing calls with its local population.

It also delivers the Patient Ambassadors scheme for a group of 12 GP practices in East Leeds, which work one to one with people to improve their health and wellbeing through health education and supporting them to understand what services are available.

Many of the health issues they see are compounded by language barriers and non-medical issues such as poor



#### charity! Hamara Healthy Living Centre chosen from over 500 charities as one of 10 winners of the 2024 GSK IMPACT Awards

a specialism such as drugs and alcohol, and between them the team speaks seven languages. Separately, through its digital cafe, Hamara Healthy Living Centre helps people to use the NHS app so they can self-manage their GP appointments and repeat prescriptions.

The award judges specifically praised the work the charity is undertaking with people with learning disabilities. This includes the Halo project, a day service for people with learning disabilities to develop life

skills and support parents. The charity also secured management of the Cockburn Centre, which it is fundraising to convert into a vibrant facility, run and managed by people with learning displicities and housing and poverty. a vibrant facility, run and managed by To tackle this, each ambassador has

open to the whole community. Hamara Healthy Living Centre also works with researchers to ensure the experiences of people from ethnic minority backgrounds' voices are heard in large-scale projects such as one on poverty by the University of Leeds. The charity is now being consulted as a potential partner as Leeds City Council aims to become a 'Marmot City' - a city in which local organisations work together in a system to reduce health inequalities.

Lisa Weaks, Senior Associate at The King's Fund, said: "Through its broad range of services, Hamara Healthy Living Centre is embedded within its local community, dedicating itself to tackling stark health inequalities faced by its population whilst ensuring the

community voice is heard at a strategic level.

"It has effectively identified various challenges – such as food poverty and language barriers – and created targeted programmes of work to address these sensitively, with a culturally-appropriate approach. Hamara Healthy Living Centre is a trusted partner of local communities, who greatly benefit from the committed work of the charity, Leeds

City Council and the NHS." Commenting on the award, Raheem Mohammad, Director of Hamara Healthy Living Centre, said: "It is through the commitment and hard work of our entire team, partners and stakeholders that we have been recognised for the work we do in the

communities that face the highest health inequalities.

"We are truly honoured to receive this award and we will strive to continue our work on making a positive impact.

"Hamara has a robust plan of growth over the next 3-5 years that will allow the organisation to support a wider population of people, and this award and training program has come at the perfect time.

Developing leaders in the charity sector is a key aim of the GSK IMPACT Awards programme and all winners are invited to build on their success and take part in a tailored leadership development programme run by The King's Fund.





Wakefield-based charity Penny Appeal has been told to stop sending spam texts for the month Ramadan after it bombarded people

with 460,000 messages asking for donations. The Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) said Penny Appeal sent 52,000 messages to people over a 10-day period in 2022, triggering hundreds of people to reporting the matter to regulators.

The practice was described as "unacceptable" by Andy Curry, head of investigations at the

The marketing texts were sent to people who had never provided their consent, or who had "clearly opted out", said the ICO.

People received them between April and May 2022 as part of a sustained campaign over Ramadan, encouraging people on a daily basis to donate to the charity's appeals. Many of the texts urged people to pay their zakat, an obligatory donation to charity and one of the five pillars of lefan specifically to Panpy

Appeal, the regulator added. More than 350 people complained to the ICO and the Mobile UK's Spam Reporting Service. Complainants said their requests to opt out

were ignored and described the texts as "intrusive" and "unwanted." Complaints about a similar marketing campaign had been investigated by the ICO since 2020, with the regulator being obliged to intervene intervene.

The charity had committed to improving its compliance with direct marketing law, but further complaints revealed it had continued to

send illegal marketing texts. While still under investigation, Penny Appeal sent further spam texts over Ramadan, which prompted to even more complaints. The ICO has now issued an Enforcement

Notice, ordering Penny Appeal to stop sending marketing communications without consent within 30 days.

This is unacceptable and we will act decisively to protect the public from unsolicited marketing texts," Mr Curry said speaking to the BBC

"Despite providing advice and guidance to improve this charity's compliance, we were left with no choice but to take enforcement action in order to protect the public.

XIS Penny Appeal's bombardment of essages asking for donations

deemed 'unacceptable'



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Rifco Theatre Company in partnership with Watford Palace Theatre and HOME Manchester is delighted to announce the headline cast for its most spectacular and ambitious musical to date, Frankie Goes To Bollywood: A Billion Colour Musical.

A Billion Colour Musical. Conceived by Artistic Director of Rifco, Pravesh Kumar MBE, Frankie Goes To Bollywood is a spectacular all-singing-all-dancing tale of heroes and villains, with all the costumes and the spectacle of a Bollywood feature film. It tells the tale of being British in Bollywood and explores what it takes to get to the top. The musical will experience at Watford Bolese Theotem.

The musical will premiere at Watford Palace Theatre, running from Thu 25 Apr – Sat 11 May 2024 followed by a 10-day run at HOME Manchester Wed 15 May – Sat 25 May 2024, and then a national tour.

Frankie never wanted to be a star, all she's ever really wanted is a close and loving family - but after a chance encounter with an up-and-coming director, she finds herself transported to Bollywood, cast in a movie and thrust into the limelight. Might the Bollywood world provide her with the family and community she has always dreamed of?

Suddenly Frankie is immersed in the world of fame and fortune but as she climbs the sparkling staircase of stardom, each step makes her question what she is willing to do, or be subjected to, for success.

Drawing inspiration from both traditional Bollywood music and the best of western musical theatre, the music for Frankie Goes To Bollywood is a carefully integrated hybrid - designed to appeal to lovers of the Bollywood genre and also lovers of a good old West End extravaganza.

Frankie Goes To Bollywood is inspired by those true stories of young men and women who make the journey to India to become Brits in Bollywood.

Pravesh says "A lot of the story is about a question of belonging. In some ways in the UK, British born South Asian people, will still forever be seen by many as immigrants, no matter how many generations their families have lived in Britain.

"So forging a career in Bollywood, be that in front of or behind the camera can be seen by those who go out there, as somewhat of a homecoming. But then, being British born, and new to a lot of the culture, many of the women who go to work in the industry become acutely aware of the deeply ingrained sexism, not just within the industry itself, but displayed on screen. And that's something they have to address and decide how much of that disparity they can put up with."

aware of the deeply ingrained sexism, not just within the industry itself, but displayed on screen. And that's something they have to address and decide how much of that disparity they can put up with." "I wanted to highlight this issue, because as the world fights the good fight for increased equality between genders, it's men's responsibility to shine a light on sexism, and to call it out when they see it - at work, amongst their friends, and in the wider world. "Love Bollwood fierrely and this musical is at heart

"I love Bollywood fiercely and this musical is at heart, a celebration of the genre and the art and the people involved. But that doesn't mean I'm not still hoping and pushing for change. So my hope is that is this work a celebration of Bollywood, but at the same time, a small catalyst for improved social standing for women in the industry, both behind-the-scenes, and how they are portrayed on the silver screen." RIFCO Theatre has a long tradition of working to

RIFCO Theatre has a long tradition of working to celebrate and reflect contemporary British Asian experiences, culture and society. Pravesh's own experience working for a decade in Bollywood, alongside his extensive work in UK theatre and film looking at the British South Asian experience plays a fundamental role in the development of Rifco's productions and subject matter, focusing on untold stories and under-represented voices.

stories and under-represented voices. In Frankie Goes To Bollywood, Rifco have created a multi-layered piece of theatre.

On one level it offers a sumptuous British spin on the glorious visual and romantic stories of Bollywood; a breathtakingly colourful journey of romance, sweeping songs and vibrant dance; the big, bold explosion of movement, colour and music that 'Bollywood' immediately brings to mind. Yet this is juxtaposed against an exploration of the darker undercurrent within the culture. Frankie Goes to Bollywood delves into the influence the film industry has on society's views of women, both in India and for the 4 million South Asian residents of the UK.









FRANKIE goes to BOLLYWOOD Cast for major new musical inspired by true stories of Brits in Bollywood announced





#### Groundbreaking proton beam therapy trial for UK brain cancer patients opens

A cancer treatment that is currently available to only a limited number of UK patients is to be tested in a countrywide clinical trial to see if it causes fewer long-term side effects than standard radiotherapy. The brain cancer trial, which is now

recruiting patients in Leeds, Manchester, Oxford, London, Cambridge and Kent\*, will determine whether proton beam therapy can reduce the long-term side effects of radiotherapy and improve quality of life of patients compared with photon

patients compared with photon radiotherapy, the current standard treatment used globally. The technology uses a beam of a highly charged proton particles to destroy cancer cells. It does this by releasing a powerful burst of energy at the tumour site and delivers less radiation to the surrounding pormal tissues normal tissues.

The clinical trial, called APPROACH, funded by the National Institute for Health and Care Research (NIHR) and led by the University of Leeds, is open to patients with a type of brain cancer called oligodendroglioma that is diagnosed in about 350 UK patients per year. APPROACH stands for Analysis of Proton vs Photon Radiotherapy in vs Photon Radiotherapy in Oligodendroglioma and Assessment of

Cognitive Health. The trial is academically co-led by Dr Louise Murray, Yorkshire Cancer Research Associate Professor and Honorary Consultant Clinical Oncologist, and Professor Susan Short, Professor of Neuro-Oncology, both from the University of Leads's School of Medicine of Leeds's School of Medicine

It will be delivered through the University of Leeds Cancer Research UK Clinical Trials Unit, led by Professor Sarah Brown. Specialist teams at University College London Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust (UCLH) and The Christie NHS Foundation Trust in Manchester – the two UK proton beam therapy treatment centres – will lead on the development and delivery of proton beam therapy for this new clinical indication and support patients and families through treatment.

ΑΣΙΑΝ

AWARDS

2024



- Dates for your diary Nominations Close: 10th March 2024
- Shortlist Announced: 25th March 2024
- Voting Opens: 4th March 2024
- Voting Closes: 14th April 2024
- Judging Day: 23rd April 2024
- Awards Ceremony: 18th May 2024, starting at 6 PM at Edgbaston Stadium, Birmingham.

### Celebrating culture, creativity, and entrepreneurship in the UK

The Asian Lifestyle Awards, a prestigious event dedicated to recognising and honouring the vast cultural. creative, and entrepreneurial contributions of the Asian community in the UK, has announced its upcoming ceremony.

These awards showcase the remarkable achievements and positive impacts individuals, busin made bv businesses, and organisations within the community, society, and environment.

Encompassing 21 diverse categories, the Asian Lifestyle Awards highlight the dynamic and multifaceted aspects of Asian

lifestyle, reflecting the strength, resilience, and creativity of the Asian community in the UK.

The awards stand as a beacon of diversity, inclusion, and empowerment, celebrating the rich diversity, tapestry of Asian culture.

For more information and to submit your nominations, please visit: www.asianlifestyle.co.uk

Nomination Call: Recognise

**Excellence in Asian Lifestyle** The Asian Lifestyle Awards invite nominations to recognise exceptional achievements in the

Asian lifestyle sector. With categories spanning fashion, beauty, food, media, and more, the shortlisting stage, ensuring awards offer an opportunity for individuals and organisations to be acknowledged for their outstanding contributions.

Nominations are open to all, and individuals can nominate themselves or others. Be a part of this prestigious event and submit your nominations now!

#### **Selection Process: Shortlisting and Judging**

A panel of independent judges will meticulously assess each nomination across the various categories. Additionally, a voting process will be implemented at the comprehensive evaluation of all nominees

#### Celebratorv **Awards Ceremony**

The pinnacle of the Asian Lifestyle Awards is the awards ceremony, a glamorous event that epitomises the diversity, excellence, and innovation of the Asian lifestyle sector in the UK.

The much-anticipated ceremony, where winners will be announced, is scheduled for the 18th of May, 2024, at the Edgbaston Stadium in Birmingham.

#### **#ALA24**

18th May 2024 @ Edgbaston Stadium, Birmingham

**Celebrating Asian Culture, Creativity and Entrepreneurship in the UK** 

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## Southbank Centre announces new South Asian Sounds music series



Tickets for South Asian Sounds on sale now. Visit: www.southbankcentre.co.uk/whats-on/festivals-series/south-asian-sounds

A new series of South Asian Sounds is celebrating the rich and varied musical traditions of the wider Indian, Pakistani, Bangladeshi and Afghan diaspora as well as ambitious UK-based artists.

Taking place from Thursday 7th March until Sunday 10th March 2024, South Asian Sounds is part of the Southbank Centre's ongoing mission to reflect and support the breadth of creative communities represented in London and the UK.

Working at the intersection of cultures and genres, from bhangra to jazz, Qawwali to club music, this showcase has created an exciting space of interplay and experimentation between tradition and innovation.

Commenting on the launch of the series, Southbank Centre Artistic Director Mark Ball said: "From film soundtracks to prayer, music sits at the heart of South Asian culture and South Asian Sounds promises to be an incredible celebration of the richness and diversity of its forms.

"We're excited to present such internationally renowned artists representing a wide range of genres and traditions. Their appeal will reach audiences across the capital's South Asian diaspora, who make up a fifth of our city's residents. With projects like South Asian Sounds, the Southbank Centre is a home from home for all, in the heart of London."

The Afghan Youth Orchestra, which aims to heal wounds and build strong bonds within Afghan society, will appear alongside with some of UK's outstanding ensembles and soloists through music.

They open the long weekend of music on Thursday 7th March in the Queen Elizabeth Hall with a mix of Afghan traditional and folk songs as well as Western classical music. On Friday 8th March in the Royal Festival, the

On Friday 8th March in the Royal Festival, the 'King of Bhangra' Malkit Singh will take to the stage, showcasing his internationally successful brand of bhangra, a mix of traditional, rap, house music and more.

In the Queen Elizabeth Hall, Pakistani singer Zeeshan Ali, renowned for his

performances of Ghazal, Qawwali and Sufi music, appears alongside the Leo Twins, who took Pakistan by storm after their appearance on the country's music TV series Nescafé Basement in 2016.

Going late into the night, South Asian arts collective, Dialled In, which connects diasporic and native music, hosts its first event of the weekend with a club night in the Queen Elizabeth Hall Foyer. DJs include NTS regular and illustrator Anu, the genrebending Mumbai artist Kiss Nuka and the Vedic Roots sound system, a product of Southhall's historic incubation of bhangra and dub.

On Saturday 9th March, in the Royal Festival Hall, acclaimed Indian singer and Bollywood star Pratibha Singh Baghel stages a curated collection of popular old film classics, current Bollywood hits, and ghazals, accompanied by Southbank Centre Resident Orchestra Chineke! Orchestra.

Continuing their takeover, Dialled In curates a line-up of South Asian classical and contemporary live performance as well as spoken word in the Queen Elizabeth

Hall, diasporic and native storytelling through film in the Purcell Room and musical archive digging with DJs and selectors in the fover.

musical archive digging with DJs and selectors in the foyer. The last day of the series, Sunday 10th March, will feature a packed programme: in the Royal Festival Hall, Indian classical vocalist and composer Kaushiki Chakraborty performs an afternoon of raga music while. In the evening, worldrenowned Sitar maestro Ustad Nishat Khan and his equally talented brother and Surbahar maestro, Ustad Irshad Khan, come together to perform a rare duet for sitar and surbahar. In the Queen Elizabeth Hall, there will

In the Queen Elizabeth Hall, there will be a showcase of Indian folk music with the award-winning artists Malini Awasthi and Anwar Khan Manganiyar. Khiyo, the innovative London-based

Khiyo, the innovative London-based band giving Bengali heritage music a modern, fresh sound, will perform in this double bill with the Sufi Mystic Singers in the Purcell Room. Closing out the weekend is a double

Closing out the weekend is a double bill concert in the Queen Elizabeth Hall featuring sound artist Jason Singh and jazz star Sarathy Korwar, whose album 'Kalak' was ranked second in The Guerdian's Bock Global Albums of 2022

Guardian's Best Global Albums of 2022. South Asian Sounds is hosted at the Southbank Centre and presented in partnership with Asian Arts Agency, Darbar Arts Culture Heritage Trust, Dialled In, SAMA Arts Network and Ragatip.



Tickets for South Asian Sounds on sale now. Visit: www.southbankcentre.co.uk/whats-on/festivals-series/south-asian-sounds

## MIDPOINT

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#### Event Listings

• Afghan Youth Orchestra: Breaking The Silence Thursday 7 March, Queen Elizabeth Hall, 7:30pm

• The King Of Bhangra, Malkit Singh Golden Star Friday 8 March, Royal Festival Hall, 7:30pm

• Leo Twins & Zeeshan Ali Friday 8 March, Queen Elizabeth Hall, 8pm

• Concrete Lates: Anu + Kiss Nuka + Vedic Roots Friday 8 March, Queen Elizabeth Hall Foyer, 10pm

• Pratibha Singh Baghel: the Symphony of Love Saturday 9 March, Royal Festival Hall, 7:30pm

• Malini Awasthi & Anwar Khan Manganiar: Indian Folkloric Traditions Sunday 10 March, Queen Elizabeth Hall, 1pm

• Kaushki Chakraborty Sunday 10 March, Royal Festival Hall, 2pm

• Khiyo: From Bangladesh to Britain + Mystic Sufi Singers Sunday, 10 March 2024, Purcell Room, 3pm

• Ustad Nishat Khan & Ustad Irshad Khan: a Duet for Sitar & Surbahar Sunday, 10 March 2024, Royal Festival Hall, 7:30pm

• Jason Singh X Sarathy Korwar Sunday 10 March, Queen Elizabeth Hall, 7:30pm

### Husband and wife for 33 years Married couple Arti Dhir and aljitsinh Raijada were eac tenced to 33 years in prise



Arti Dhir, 59, and Kavaljitsinh Raijada, 35, from Hanwell, Ľaling, were identified by NCA investigators after Australian Border Force intercepted the cocaine, worth £57 million, upon its arrival in Sydney in May 2021.

The drugs had been shipped via a commercial flight from the UK and consisted of six metal toolboxes which, when opened, were found to contain 514 kilos of cocaine.

The drugs would have been worth up to £57 million when sold in Australia, where prices an significantly higher than in the UK. are

In the UK, a kilo of cocaine at wholesale is priced around £26,000 per kilo but in Australia the same amount sells for £110,000. Officers traced the consignment

back to Dhir and Raijada, who had set up a front company called Viefly Freight Services with the sole purpose

of smuggling drugs. The NCA's case was that there had been 37 consignments sent to

Australia since June 2019, of which 22 were dummy runs and 15 contained cocaine

Dhir had been employed by a flight services company at Heathrow from March 2003 until October 2016. Raijada worked at the same company from March 2014 to December 2016. NCA investigators believe that their knowledge of the airport freight procedures was used to cover their criminal activities.

Dhir and Raijada were arrested at their home in Hanwell on 21 June 2021. Officers seized £5000 worth of gold-plated silver bars, £13,000 inside the home and found £60,000 in cash in a safety deposit box. Following further investigations, the

pair were arrested again in February 2023 NCA officers discovered almost £3 million in cash hidden in boxes and which Raijada had rented in his

mother's name. Financial inquiries found they had also purchased a flat in Ealing for £800,000 and a Land Rover for £62,000, despite declaring profits of only a few thousand pounds to HMRC.

Investigations showed that both defendants held cash in bank accounts which far exceeded their declared suitcases at a storage unit in Hanwell, income. They had deposited almost

Investigations showed that both defendants held cash in bank accounts which far exceeded their declared income. They had deposited almost £740,000 in cash into 22 different bank accounts since 2019 and were further charged with money laundering.

£740,000 in cash into 22 different bank accounts since 2019 and were further charged with money laundering.

Investigating Officer, said: "Arti Dhir and Kavaljitsinh Raijada used their insider knowledge of the air freight industry to traffic cocaine worth tens of millions of pounds from the UK to Australia, where they knew they could maximise their revenue.

"They kept their illicit profits in cash at their home and in storage units, as well as purchasing property, gold and silver in an attempt to hide their wealth. These defendants may have thought they were removed from the misery caused by the drugs trade but their greed was fuelling it.

"The NCA worked closely with our partners in Australia and UK Border Force to dismantle the supply chain created by Dhir and Raijada and bring them to justice. We will continue to target class A drugs supply and the criminals overseeing it, both in the UK and overseas."





## Ramadan Mubarak



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## The WFP announced it could no longer send humanitarian aid to the area after its trucks were targeted

## Gaza SE **Geat**i 740);

### World Food Programme warns of mass starvation as Israel continues to ban entry of aid

Struggling to survive, Palestinians in Gaza have been eating grass, animal feed, and in northern areas simply drinking broth because aid is no longer entering the Strip, more Palestinians are now expected to die of malnutrition than have died as a result of Israel's brutal bombing campaign.

It is now 140 days since Israel launched its genocidal war on Gaza.

This week, the International Court of Justice (ICJ) in the Hague has been hearing the submissions of 50 countries on the legal consequences of Israel's occupation of the Weet Bank and consequences of Israel's occupation of the West Bank and East Jerusalem.

Israel is not attending the hearings but has sent a five-page written statement saying an There have been reports that advisory opinion would be Egypt is building a walled "harmful" to attempts to resolve enclosure for Palestinians on its

survive, the conflict because questions ve been posed by the UN General I, and in Assembly are prejudiced. drinking The ICJ has heard about Israel's

annexation of Palestinian land, the deliberate transfer of settlers on to occupied Palestinian territories and the restrictions Tel Aviv imposes on Palestinians with regards to accessing their agricultural lands, natural resources and communities. This, many states have argued, proves Israel intends to make the Israel occupation permanent, and under international law, occupations are temporary measures.

In Gaza, Israel has been edging closer to Rafah, the final 'safe zone' for Palestinians who have been forced to flee northern and central parts of the Strip.

side of the Rafah Crossing, in order to accept refugees fleeing Israel's expanding offensive. Egypt has denied the reports, but images from the area have circulated online.

Israeli opposition leader and former Prime Minister Benny Gantz has indicated that a ground offensive into Rafah could be launched during the Muslim holy month of Ramadan, which begins in just a few days.

Negotiations for a prisoner swap deal and ceasefire are ongoing in an effort to avert a further escalation.

The situation in northern Gaza has become so dire, after the World Programme (WFP) Food announced it could no longer send humanitarian aid to the area after its trucks were targeted by occupation forces, that Palestinians have reportedly died of starvation,

while children and pregnant women have been found to be suffering severe malnutrition.

NET TO VERY OWN

Meanwhile, the US and its allies continue to cut aid to the UN agency responsible for Palestine refugees (UNRWA) as a result of Israel's so-far unfounded allegations that some of its staff took part in the 7 October Palestinian resistance's infiltration of Israel. Israel has provided no proof of the claims, however 18 countries cut ties with the UN body.

Israel is putting in place laws to ban UNRWA from operating in the areas under its control, this would ban officials from the organisation entering the occupied Palestinian territories.

Israeli officials have also said they are preparing the "necessary procedures" to close Al Jazeera news channel.

The US and UK have continued to bomb Yemen because of the Houthis' targeting of Israel-bound ships, with the Houthis announcing the UK and US vessels in the Red Sea will now be targeted in response.

Israel's bombing of southern Lebanon has intensified over the past week, While the cross border battle between Hezbollah and Israel have also continued, 190 Hezbollah fighters have been killed as a result of the fighting since 8 October.

Negotiations for a prisoner swap deal and ceasefire are ongoing in an effort to avert a further escalation.

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"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.

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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.

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"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 mulit-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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G ( OV)

#### Growing Strength In Communities -New Grant Funding

A supportive new programme has the diverse communities of Leeds'. been launched in Leeds aimed at He went on to explain, 'We capacity building for small, not-for-profit

The fund, which is a partnership between Forum Central, Leeds Community Anchor Network (LCAN) and VAL will see up to 50 small groups

supported with training, linked into local networks and also given £1000 to support their ongoing work. 50 grants are being made available from the NHS West Yorkshire Integrated Care Board and will take place from now through until October this year.

Hamara Healthy Living Centre is an LCAN member and coordinator of the project. Raheem Mohammed, Director at Hamara, stated 'This fund is a great opportunity for us to work closely with our partners to cultivate and support the small groups in Leeds that do so much hard work representing and supporting He went on to explain, 'We are

targeting the work in the 6 priority wards plus Middleton and are looking for applications from organisations working with groups most affected by health inequalities. We are here to help, so if you need help with the application

or just want a chat please get in touch'. Each applicant will get to choose 3 free training courses to help bring capacity to their organisations, for example applying for funding, registering as a charity or even courses such as Food Hygiene. Groups wanting support are encouraged to get involved and be part of the programme.

So, if you or a group you know have a turnover of less than around £25,000 a year and want to get involved, please have a look at the poster below and share!

For more information, please contact Nachu at Grants@hamara.co.uk.

'This fund is a great opportunity for us to work closely with our partners to cultivate and support the small groups in Leeds that do so much hard work representing and supporting the diverse communities of Leeds'



Society has sleepwalked into a position where children are addicted to harmful 'electronic drugs

Mobile phones are set to be prohibited in schools across England as part of the Government's plan to minimise disruption and improve behaviour in classrooms.

New guidance issued on 19th February backs head teachers in prohibiting the use of mobile phones throughout the school day, including at break times.

Many schools around the country are already prohibiting mobile phone use with great results. This guidance will ensure there is a consistent approach across all schools. By the age of 12,97% of children

their own mobile phone, have according to Ofcom. Using mobile phones in schools can lead to online bullying, distraction and classroom disruption which, in turn, can lead to lost learning time. Last year, Unesco called for

smartphones to be banned from schools as evidence showed it was linked to reduced educational performance and that excessive screen time had a negative impact on children's wellbeing.

Schools will be supported to prohibit mobile phone use with examples of different approaches including banning phones from the school premises, handing in phones on arrival at school, and keeping phones securely locked away at

school.

The guidance will respond to concerns from parents about mobile phones, with the latest data from ParentKind's National Parent Survey, revealing that 44% of parents are concerned about the amount of time their children spend on electronic devices, rising to 50% of parents of secondary

school children. Education Secretary Gillian Keegan said: "Schools are places for children to learn and mobile phones are, at a minimum, an unwanted distraction in the classroom.

"We are giving our hard-working teachers the tools to take action to help improve behaviour and to allow them to do what they do best teach.'

Lead Behaviour advisor to the Department Tom Bennett commented: "Mobile phones may be ubiquitous, but we have a strong and growing understanding of how damaging they can be for a child's social and educational development. And it's the least advantaged who suffer most.

"Many schools already have some kind of policy on phones, but this guidance provides a clear steer for everyone, including parents, about what's right and what's not for the wellbeing of the child.

"Heads can know that they'll be

backed in their attempt to build safe and nurturing cultures, and they'll find advice about how to make schools a phone-free environment. And when that happens, everyone wins."

Technology Secretary Michelle Donelan said: "Growing up in today's digital world provides immense opportunities but this should not come at the expense of our children's wellbeing or education. That is why we have passed world leading legislation to make the UK the safest place in the world for young people to be online.

Chief executive of Parentkind Jason Elsom said: "Society has sleepwalked into a position where children are addicted to harmful 'electronic drugs', and have no-escape from their digital dealers, not even within the relatively safe grounds of their schools."

The latest government data finds around a third (29%) of secondary school pupils reported mobile phones being used when they were not supposed to in most, or all, lessons.

Schools have seen success in prohibiting mobile phones through tactics such as introducing lockers with charging points for students to ensure they don't come into classrooms.



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Deraton International efforts disrupt the world's most harmful cyber crime group 



National Crime (NCA) has revealed details of an international disruption campaign targeting LockBit, the world's most harmful cyber crime group.

After infiltrating the group's network, the NCA has taken control of LockBit's services, compromising their entire criminal enterprise.

LockBit have been in operation for four years and during that time, attacks utilising their ransomware were prolific. Their ransomware attacks targeted thousands of victims around the world, including in the UK, and caused losses of billions of pounds, dollars and euros, both in ransom payments and in the costs of

Agency decrypt their files and prevent their data from being published

Locking out 'LockBit' The NCA has taken control of LockBit's primary administration environment, which enabled affiliates to build and carry out attacks, and the group's public-facing leak site on the dark web, on which they previously hosted, and threatened to publish, data stolen from victims. Instead, this site will now host a series of information exposing LockBit's capability and operations, which the NCA will be posting daily throughout the week.

The has also obtained the LockBit platform's source code and a vast amount of intelligence from their

**"Through our close** collaboration, we have hacked the hackers; taken control of their infrastructure, seized their source code, and obtained keys that will help victims decrypt their systems."

The group provided ransomwareas-a-service to a global network of hackers or 'affiliates', supplying them and used their services to harm with the tools and infrastructure organisations throughout the world.

required to carry out attacks. When a victim's network was infected by LockBit's malicious software, their data was stolen and their systems encrypted. A ransom would be demanded in cryptocurrency for the victim to

systems about their activities and those who have worked with them

Some of the data on LockBit's systems belonged to victims who had paid a ransom to the threat actors. evidencing that even when a ransom is paid, it does not guarantee that data will be deleted, despite what the criminals have promised.

The NCA, working closely with the FBI, and supported by international partners from nine other countries, have been covertly investigating LockBit as part of a dedicated taskforce called 'Operation Cronos'. LockBit had a bespoke data exfiltration tool, known as Stealbit, which was used by affiliates to steal victim data. Based in three countries, it has been seized by members of the Op Cronos taskforce, and 28 servers belonging to LockBit affiliates have also been taken down.

#### International operation

The technical infiltration and disruption is only the beginning of a series of actions against LockBit and their affiliates. In wider action coordinated by Europol, two LockBit actors have been arrested this morning in Poland and Ukraine, over 200 cryptocurrency accounts linked to the group have been frozen.

The US Department of Justice has announced that two defendants responsible for using LockBit to carry out ransomware attacks have been criminally charged, are in custody, and will face trial in the US.

The US has also unsealed systems. indictments against two further individuals, who are Russian nationals, for conspiring to commit LockBit attacks.

Now the NCA and international partners are in a position to assist LockBit victims.

The Agency has obtained over 1,000 decryption keys and will be contacting UK-based victims in the coming days and weeks to offer support and help them recover encrypted data.

FBI and Europol will be supporting victims elsewhere.

National Crime Agency Director General, Graeme Biggar said: "This NCA-led investigation is a groundbreaking disruption of the world's most harmful cyber crime group. It shows that no criminal operation, wherever they are, and no matter how advanced, is beyond the reach of the Agency and our partners.

Through our close collaboration, we have hacked the hackers; taken control of their infrastructure, seized their source code, and obtained keys that will help victims decrypt their

"As of today, LockBit are locked out. We have damaged the capability and most notably, the credibility of a group that depended on secrecy and anonymity.

"Our work does not stop here. LockBit may seek to rebuild their criminal enterprise. However, we know who they are, and how they operate. We are tenacious and we will not stop in our efforts to target this group and anyone associated with them

Home Secretary James Cleverly said: "The National Crime Agency's world leading expertise has delivered a major blow to the people behind the most prolific ransomware strain in the world

"The criminals running LockBit are sophisticated and highly organised, but they have not been able to escape the arm of UK law enforcement and our international partners.

'The UK has severely disrupted their sinister ambitions and we will continue going after criminal groups who target our businesses and institutions."

#### About NCA's National Cyber Crime Unit

The NCA leads the UK law enforcement response to tackling cyber crime, disrupting offenders where possible by enabling criminal justice outcomes, and also through a broad range of other means including online disruption, sanctions, travel bans, and working with partners like NCSC to ensure technology is secure and safe by design.



The NCA's National Cyber Crime Unit also works with a network of Regional Cyber Crime Units based in the nine Regional Organised Crime Units (ROCU) of England and Wales. This operation developed from work by the South West ROCU, and continues to be supported by personnel there.

Public engagement is key to this response so it is vital that organisations report if they are

the victim of a ransomware attack. The earlier people report, the quicker the NCA and partners are able to assess new methodologies and limit the damage they can do to others.

If you are in the UK, you should use the Government's Cyber Incident Signposting Site as soon as possible for direction on which agencies to report your incident to. Visit: https://report.ncsc.gov.uk.

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## Apple hit with \$2 billion EU antitrust fine in Spotify case

Brussels fined Apple (AAPL.O), 1.84 billion euros (\$2 billion) for thwarting competition from music streaming rivals via restrictions on its App Store, the iPhone maker's first ever penalty for breaching EU rules.

A basic penalty of 40 million euros was inflated by a huge lump sum included as a deterrent - a first for the European Union's antitrust authorities. The European Commission charged Apple last year

The European Commission charged Apple last year with preventing Swedish streaming service Spotify (SPOT.N), opens new tab and others from informing users of payment options outside its App Store, following a 2019 complaint by Spotify.

It said Apple's restrictions constituted unfair trading conditions, a relatively novel argument in an antitrust case and also used by the Dutch antitrust agency in a decision against Apple in 2021 in a case brought by dating app providers. It ordered it to stop such conduct.

Apple said it would appeal the decision. A ruling at the Luxembourg-based General Court, Europe's second-highest, is likely to take several years. Until then, Apple will have to pay the fine and comply with the EU order.

**Continued on page 30** 

## BUSINESS

#### **YOUR LOCAL & BUSINESS ROUND-UP**

### A Small Claim With Big Ramifications

Claim for the sum of £1,560 was recently heard by the Supreme Court on a third appeal. Although the sum in question was relatively small, the decision has the potential to affect a significant number of other cases.

In the case of Armstead v Royal & Sun Alliance Insurance Company Ltd, the Claimant was involved in a car accident in which the hire car that she was driving was damaged through the fault of a van driver. The hire car belonged to Helphire Limited who had hired the car to the Claimant whilst her own vehicle was being repaired following a previous accident. The credit hire agreement between the Claimant and Helphire stipulated that if the hire car was damaged then the Claimant would be required to pay Helphire a daily hire rate up to a maximum of 30 days for Helphire's loss of use while the vehicle was being repaired.

The Claimant brought a claim against the van driver's insurers, Royal & Sun Alliance ("RSA"), seeking damages for the costs of repairing the

costs of repairing the hire car and for the sum that she was contractually liable to pay Helphire for their loss of use of the vehicle, such sum being £1,560. The Claimant's claim for the £1,560 was rejected by the County Court and subsequent appeals to the County Court and to the Court of Appeal were dismissed. In each instance the Court found that the relevant contractual provision was too remote to be recoverable as it was not a reasonable estimate of Helphire's loss of use given that the daily rate sought was significantly higher than the standard rate charged by a hire company that was not operating on credit hire terms.

The Claimant appealed to the Supreme Court. RSA opposed the appeal on the basis that the contractual provision that the Claimant relied on to recover the costs incurred under the credit hire agreement was an unfair contract term contrary to the provisions of the Consumer Rights Act 2015 and that the sum sought was not a genuine pre-estimate of its losses but instead a penalty which was unenforceable. However, the Supreme Court found in

favour of the Claimant and held that once the Claimant had proved that a tort (a civil wrong) had been committed and the loss was caused by the breach of duty, the burden then shifted to the Defendant to contest the recoverability of the damage claimed. As RSA had not pleaded a positive case that the loss was too remote and had produced no evidence to show that the sum being claimed was not a reasonable estimate of the hire company's likely loss it was not open to the Court to reject or reduce the amount being claimed by the Claimant. Before this case, there was a scarcity of

authority on the question of who bore the burden of proof as to whether a particular loss was irrecoverable on the grounds of remoteness. This decision confirms that the burden lies with the Defendant. Once the Claimant has proved that it has suffered loss due to the Defendant's wrong, it is then up to the Defendant to show good reason as to why it should not be liable to compensate the Claimant for the full extent of that loss. The law has now been clarified and Defendants who do not, or are not able to, challenge the loss established by the Claimant will be ordered to pay for that loss. Defendants must therefore be alive to positively preparing their defence to the losses claimed once intimated by the Claimant. If you are involved in any contractual dispute, then Blacks

contractual dispute, 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

#### Apple's €1.84-billion antitrust fine is EU's third biggest penalty The fine, a first for Apple, was triggered by a 2019 complaint by music streaming service Spotify for preventing it

The fine, a first for Apple, was triggered by a 2019 complaint by music streaming service Spotify for preventing it and other music streaming services from informing users of payment options outside the App Store.

#### LARGEST ANTITRUST FINES IN THE EUROPEAN UNION



#### Apple hit with \$2 billion EU antitrust fine in Spotify case

#### **Continued from page 29**

The fine was nearly four times the 500 million euros sources with knowledge of the matter had told Reuters they expected the European Commission to impose on Apple.

It comprised a basic element of 40 million euros - described by European Competition Commissioner Margarethe Vestager as a "parking ticket" for the U.S. tech giant - plus 1.8 billion euros slapped on top as a deterrent. The 1.84 billion euros total is equal to 0.5% of Apple's global turnover, she said.

Apple criticised the decision, saying in a statement it" was reached despite the Commission's failure to uncover any credible evidence of consumer harm, and ignores the realities of a market that is thriving, competitive, and growing fast".

#### The fine was nearly four times the 500 million euros sources with knowledge of the matter had told Reuters they expected the European Commission to impose on Apple.

"The primary advocate for this decision and the biggest beneficiary - is Spotify, a company based in Stockholm, Sweden. Spotify has the largest music streaming app in the world, and has met with the European Commission more than 65 times during this investigation," it said. "Millions of European music streaming

"Millions of European music streaming users were left in the dark about all available options," Vestager told a press conference.

"And Apple's anti-steering rules also made consumers pay more for such services because of the high commission fee imposed on developers and passed on to consumers." Spotify cheered the EU decision but said

spotly cheered the EU decision but said there were other issues in other areas.

"And while we are pleased that this case delivers some justice, it does not solve Apple's bad behaviour towards developers beyond music streaming in other markets around the world," the company said in a statement.

Although the fine is big, Apple can handle it without any immediate cash impact, said analyst Ryan Reith at tech and services company IDC.

But he added: "I believe this is another step in the on-going process of breaking down some of the walled gardens that Apple has created around its ecosystem."

In the past decade, the EU regulator has fined Alphabet's Google a total 8.25 billion euro over three cases.

Vestager's order to Apple to remove its App Store restrictions echoes the same requirement under new EU tech rules known as the Digital Markets Act (DMA) which Apple has to be in compliance with on March 7.



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## **A Little Bottle On A Mission** To inspire health and happiness this winter

Our mind doesn't immediately jump to the gut In the UK, during the winter months, we don't when we think about our wellbeing, but good gut health is key to helping us feel our best.

The role of the gut extends way beyond digestion - it can impact our immune function, mood, and mental wellbeing. In fact, around 70 per cent of our immune cells are found in the gut. The gut is pretty important which is why it's essential that we take good care of it. essential that we take good care of it.

During the winter months, it can be harder to make sure we're giving our bodies what they need.

make enough vitamin D through exposure to the sun alone, but luckily we can top this up with certain foods and supplements in our diet.

Yakult Light not only contains unique bacteria scientifically proven to reach the gut alive, but it is also enriched with vitamin D, which supports the immune system and helps maintain normal bone and muscle function. It also contains vitamin E, which helps protect your cells from oxidative stress

#### "Tastes really good"

Social media influencer Mira Manek is an author, founder of chai brand 'Chai by Mira', as well as an integrated health coach and Avurveda expert.

Her debut book, 'Saffron Soul' - a cookbook bursting with easy-to-make healthy South Asian dishes, draws from her mother's and grandmother's delicious recipes. Her more recent book 'Prajna: Ayurvedic Rituals for Happiness' focuses on physical wollbeing and is a simple to focuses on physical wellbeing and is a simple-tofollow guide to help you feel better and more energetic.

Meeting up with her mum for a grilled vegetarian meal, she recalls her childhood years, and mum's daily Yakult ritual."I used to give Yakult to you when you were a child before you went to school, and I thought it was very healthy, says mum.

"Yeah I remember that," recalls Mira happily. "Did you know that Yakult Light has got vitamin D for immunity and loads of good bacteria that actually get down to your gut alive - that's why I [still] have it. And it also tastes really good.

With 77,000 followers on Instagram, Mira credits her mother for her success. As a child, healthy foods like Yakult were interwoven, thanks to mum, into her life and she says her mum has been the influential factor in her health and career. You can follow Mira on Instagram at @chaibvmira.

Each bottle of Yakult Light is enriched with vitamins D & E. Health coach Mira Ma

Yakult is a fermented milk drink. It was first developed in 1935, by Japanese scientist, Dr Shirota but today, it is available in over 40 countries and regions worldwide. Yakult products are supported by over 85 years of research.

L. casei Shirota

Continued on page 34

LIGHT

Yakult

7x

### A Little Bottle On A Mission



Yakult

#### To inspire health and happiness this winter

#### "Fewer calories and less sugar"

Nazia Khatun, the voracious winning Bangladeshi fitness trainer and former boxer is creating a storm across social media, and knows no bounds in pushing herself physically.

Breaking stereotypes from an early age, Nazia battled to find a place for herself as a female athlete in line with the expectations of her community.

Her resilience comes from her own experience of struggling with an eating disorder which robbed her of happiness, self-worth and self-confidence.

Now, she uses her determination coupled with her influence on social media, to challenge perceptions and empower others to prioritise their health and wellbeing.

Her dietary needs are a top priority - no excuses - and that's why she loves Yakult Light 'there's a load of science proving



that the good bacteria gets to the gut alive, and it's got vitamin D too which supports immunity. But, less sugar and fewer calories than Yakult Original which is why it's perfect for me'.

Using neuroscience and fitness to empower South Asian women to champion mental health, healthy eating, and exercise to encourage people to love themselves more, you'll find lots of helpful tips on her Instagram @fitnessrebornuk1. Yakult Light contains billions of Yakult's unique bacteria which are scientifically proven to reach the gut alive.

#### 7 tips to lighten up your winter

• Get into a good habit: Set a reminder to get up and move regularly throughout the day. Try stretching during TV ad breaks or pacing around the kitchen while the kettle's boiling.

• Eat the rainbow: A diet that includes a colourful range of fruits and veggies is a key part of a balanced lifestyle.

• Take up a hobby: Active hobbies like gardening or DIY can be great for your mind as well as your body.

• It's better together: Bring out everyone's competitive side with activity challenges. Why not challenge your friends to see who can do the most steps in a day.

• Go from strength to strength: Activities like carrying supermarket bags or following an online pilates workout video can all help to keep muscles, joints and bones strong.

• **Reward yourself:** Set yourself activity goals and rewards. You could go for a long walk then treat yourself to an episode of your favourite TV show!

• Find something you enjoy: Not sure where to start? Why not go for a walk with a friend or give a yoga class a go. Alternatively, dancing to music in your room counts too (make sure you dance all the way to the end of the song!)

#### Make Yakult Light a part of your winter wellbeing routine this winter. Visit: www.yakult.co.uk



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## **"I serve one** of the most deprived areas in the country"

The face of local pharmacies has been evolving, which now goes beyond offering treatments for low acuity ailments, head lice fixes, sports injuries support and common cold and flu remedies.

Adeel Sarwar loves his job as a pharmacist for 24-years, and his Roundhay Pharmacy' in Leeds is considered a cornerstone of the community.

cornerstone of the community. Being local for so many years means that staff are familiar with patients, and patients trust the pharmacy's advice on minor ailments. However, his role of pharmacist goes beyond the counter. Adeel, a member of Community Pharmacy West Yorkshire (CPWY) which represents the interests of all 550+ pharmacies across West Yorkshire adds

pharmacies across West Yorkshire, adds that pharmacies have the potential to do so much more to improve access to care.

Having served on the Primary Care Network (PCN) and been involved with the Local Pharmaceutical Committees (LPC's) for many years, he engages with local mosques, churches, food banks and day centres for many years in the Harehills

and Chapeltown areas. And there's a great need for him to connect with the locals, since the communities he serves is in an 'IMD 1' score - the lowest measure of deprivation within the UK.

There are many socio-economic reasons

for explaining the differences in both length and quality of life of areas with differing IMD scores. Harehills has an IMD score of '1'.

It is known that populations in 'IMD 1' areas will typically have a 10%-15% lower life expectancy than those in areas with a higher IMD score.

Adeel says: "When the pandemic struck in 2020 it was traumatising for everyone especially those working in healthcare. "I went to work every day through the

pandemic and was the one of the first to line up outside East End Park Surgery in the pouring rain in December 2021 for the first Pfizer Vaccine. "Between December 2021 and

December 2023 I have offered influenza vaccination, travel vaccination and listened to many of our less mobile and elderly patients complain about travel to East End

Park from Harehills for covid vaccination. "It is not a simple journey, there have been pop up clinics and half day a week clinic at Bilal centre for vaccination. There is another site in Harehills South offering Covid vaccination however patients were not always willing to travel there. "Roundhay Pharmacy has offered Covid

vaccination alongside Influenza vaccination since September 2023. It was a somewhat haphazard rollout due to last minute changes and new variants of concern such


## Statistics show that in Harehills, Leeds, there was an average of just 16.2% uptake of the Covid booster jab

as the XBB.1.5 and the BA.2.86. "I had seen young healthy patients

pass away unexpectedly from Covid complications, so I was keen to support roll out of this service to our community." Covid booster

"I have had positive feedback from local surgeries and patients who could refer patients locally to get vaccinated," adds Adeel.

"It was very busy with vast majority of patients in September and October being the internet savvy, healthcare concerned populations from Harrogate,

Alwoodley, Adel, Scarcroft, Wetherby and similar patients. "All were very grateful for the vaccine and many had travelled some distance. I remember one patient sharing pictures of his yacht moored in the south of France while I jabbed both his arms.

'It was great to be able to provide a service to these people, but where were the people of Harehills and Chapeltown?"

Statistics show that in Harehills, Leeds, there was an average of just 16.2% uptake of the Covid booster jab. With diverse so many Harehills communities, and

experienced has Chapeltown

#### problems with vaccination uptake. Vaccine hesitancy Communities and individuals may

be reluctant to receive vaccines for a variety of reasons. These may include language barriers, historical reasons (some communities have a history of unethical vaccine testing, both historically and more recently), and occasionally the influence of debunked and outcast anti-vaxxer theories. There are also misconceptions about the Covid vaccine causing infertility or changes to DNA.

'My team and I opportunistically spoke to our regular patients there was some limited success," explains Adeel.

'This winter I was pleased to be asked to participate in a project which is different to every day practice and gives you the opportunity to get out into the community. It was the Access and Inclusion project. "I have since been able to visit

sheltered housing to vaccinate residents. I have been to Day Centres to visit ethnic minority elderly populations - not all chose to have the vaccination, some did but were useful there many conversations.

address issues such as vaccine hesitancy, which I see within the community and patients on a day to day basis but don't usually have the time or resources to tackle with quality conversations. "The more typical conversation

around hesitancy is 'I've had my two jabs - I don't need more

"The project has given me the time to patiently explain the rationale, changes to the vaccine issues of health inequalities etc.

"While the multi-language leaflets have been useful mainly it has been the trust built over many years that has convinced the hesitant to get vaccinated. We discuss other issues of lifestyle, hypertension, exercise, and diet.

More recently, Adeel joined Dr Mo Sattar on Asian Fever Radio to discuss health and music while also discussing vaccine hesitancy

"Dr Sattar is the Clinical lead for Chapeltown PCN and well aware of health discrepancies," says Adeel.

"The radio is mainly an Urdu language station that has been widely popular more may years in the Pakistani community. I used the resources of this project to work with the station to plan and discuss vaccine hesitancy in the Pakistani "It has given me the ability to and Asian communities."

Adeel feels deeply saddened when he hears of people from his local area ending up in hospital with complications from Covid or Flu infection: "While younger and healthy people can bounce back quickly from these infections it can take weeks of illness to recover for those who are at risk. It can result in weeks of time off work with illness. It can put huge pressure on family members in caring for those affected. The end that the extension to the

Covid program has now finished end of January, however, the Flu campaign continues until end of March. Those in South Asian communities, who haven't already had the flu jab, are urged to reconsider getting vaccinated. The Elu campaign starts every year in Flu campaign starts every year in September, as does the Covid booster, but some may need a spring booster. The NHS usually sends reminders via text or letter.

Roundhay Pharmacy offers vaccination services, even if you're not a regular patient. They also can provide access to multi-language leaflets explaining the benefits of vaccination; and of course the Pharmacists are well placed and accessible to deal with any concerns people may have. Find out more at www.roundhaypharmacy.co.uk

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## Scams originating from Meta platforms in the UK

Revolut's analysis for 2023 highlights that 60% of all reported scam cases in the UK can be traced back to Meta platforms Facebook, Instagram, and WhatsApp, with a 33% of the total value lost to scams. Global cybercrime is

Global cybercrime is increasing year on year, with the number of personal cyberattacks increasing by 125% in 2021 compared to 2020, and experts expect cybercrime to worsen as fraudsters become more intelligent.

Therefore, experts believe now is the time to be extra vigilant when using the internet, particularly online banking and shopping online. 3.02 billion people use at least

3.02 billion people use at leas one of Meta's products daily. With channels such as Facebook Marketplace and

Instagram Shopping driving ecommerce, it is important that users stay vigilant when using these platforms.

Facebook Marketplace has become arguably one of the biggest resale commerce sites in the world, with a reported 1.1 billion visitors. However, a large amount of traffic is also a huge draw for online criminals. Scammers are on both sides of the platform, as fake sellers and fake buyers, often looking to steal your personal information or even identity

or even identity. WhatsApp also circulates a large number of scams, from verification message tricks to scammers sending out fake Tesco, Asda, and Marks & Spencer vouchers.

Spencer vouchers. To avoid being a victim of fraud, it is recommended that you avoid sending personal banking details or passwords using these apps, avoid clicking on suspicious links that you aren't 100 percent sure about, and always look out for incorrect spelling and grammar mistakes on advertisements.

Following this report, the team at NoDeposit365.co.uk highlight ten of the most common ways online users put themselves and their personal data at risk and ways to combat these risks.



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# Entertainment

THE LATEST ENTERTAINMENT AND CELEBRITY NEWS FROM BOLLYWOOD & HOLLYWOOD

## Kiran Rao interview

Q How was the whole experience for you for creating the film and what was the conceptualisation behind it when you collaborated with the writers and the crew of the film?

**Kiran Rao:** The journey started with Amir who found the script in 2018, he was on the jury for a screenwriting competition when this script was submitted. The original story was written by a writer called Vipalabh Goswami. It's a wonderful little tale where these two girls get swapped on a train and find that they are on a little adventure almost to find themselves.

So I loved the idea, I loved the story. And I wanted to develop it further. I wanted to add some humour, add some characters, and change some of the existing characters. And so in 2020, I started working with Sneha Desai, a writer who's done a lot of work in television and theatre. And this is her first film. And she brought all these characters to life. She created a real screenplay full of twists and turns and, you know, a lot of humour, which was very important.

And then, we brought on a writer called Divya Nidhi Sharma to add some, and develop some characters further, like the character of Ravi Kishan, the policeman Manohar, and also to work a little bit on the Bhojpuri dialect that the characters speak. So it took us a year to write.

So it took us a year to write. And I find I feel very grateful that I had such a great writing team to, you know, sort of explore various ideas, create very characters that I feel are very fresh and new and have their own voices in this film. So yeah, it was actually a combination of a lot of people to get the script to the right place.

**Continued on page 42** 

we face in this country, and

perhaps women face everywhere in the world.

## **Ladies**: Kiran Rao's cinematic marvel weaving is delightful

After a 14-year gap since her haunting directorial debut Dhobi Ghat, Kiran Rao has returned with the sharp social satire 'Laapataa Ladies' (Lost Ladies), set in rural India.

This dramedy stuns with its clever commentary on patriarchy and heartfelt depiction of sisterly bonds.

Rao deftly balances meaningful messaging with delightful entertaining moments, ensuring the social critique never becomes overbearing.

Through humour and the metaphor of the ghunghat (veil), she reflects on deep-rooted gender inequalities and their repercussions with a light, slice-of-life storytelling approach.

Rao makes a strong case for women's empowerment, education and equality without disparaging men or resorting to prejudice, as shown in a line mocking regressive dowry attitudes.

The family-friendly film provides plenty of food for thought through the acutely observed, flawed yet likable characters penned by Biplab Goswami and Sneha Desai. Ravi Kishan is outstanding as a corrupt yet conscientious cop embodying shades of greed and justice. The newcomer leads also deliver commendable performances.

A standout scene crystallises the film's feminist vision - a tea-stall owner, hardened by abuse, chose to live alone rejecting disrespect, telling the protagonist "If those who love you can hit you Lavorcised my right too"

you, I exercised my right too." 'Laapataa Ladies' (Lost Ladies) tramples regressive notions labelling women as "over-smart" or "cunning", instead stating loudly that a "respectable girl" is society's biggest fraud for conditioning silence. Yet it avoids portraying women as victims, sternly noting there's no shame in ignorance but being proud of it is shameful. A delectable blend of heart, mind and humour, Rao's comeback is an absolute winner.

SHE REFLECTS ON DEEP ROOTED GENDER INEQUALITIES AND THEIR REPERCUSSIONS WITH A LIGHT, SLICE OF LIFE STORYTELLING APPROACH

#### Continued from page 41

Q What were the factors that you were looking for in talent when you were looking for casting for this film?

**Kiran Rao:** The big thing was to decide whether we wanted to cast well-known faces or whether we wanted to go with people who were completely just suited to the character and had no particular stardom or anything attached to them. So, when we did decide to go

So, when we did decide to go with fresh faces, we brought on a casting director called Romil, who cast the net very far and wide on social media and started getting auditions from all over the country. What I was looking for

what I was looking for were people who would embody in some way, a very kernel of the character in even the way they looked, and even the way they were personally. It was not just

about finding the right actor, but actors who could physically sort of fit or embody the idea of the character. And we needed people who, you know, you could just literally feel these characters in their faces.

## **EXCLUSIVE: Kiran Rao** interview

We were looking for people from around, like a wide spectrum of different kinds

of faces. But people obviously who would fit this milieu would fit the age group, of course, but like more feel authentic to where this story

is set.

Q: How would you want this film to resonate with the international audience? Kiran Rao: I think

internationally, people are interested to see something authentic, something that will give them a glimpse into, I feel something that's both visually and culturally rich with, you know, both character as well as situations and culture.

I do think international audiences will enjoy this film as much or if not more than an Indian audience because I think, they're not necessarily looking for stars when they're watching the film, they're looking for a good story and interesting characters and situations.

Q: What were the key messages or themes you aimed to convey through the narrative?

**Kiran Rao:** I do think that this film touches upon a range of sort of ideas and issues that

It examines patriarchy, it examines women's identity or lack of identity, and exercising women's choice in how they live their lives. Sisterhood and celebration of, you know, women supporting each other is also one of the themes that the film touches upon. I believe one of the strengths

of the film is that even the male protagonist is a very interesting and unusual man compared with what we see today's heroes portraying; you know, he's a vulnerable, emotional, and, you know, very upright guy, but unafraid to cry, unafraid to kind of feel very, very sort of devastated when he loses his wife.

I kind of feel like it really in that sense touches upon a new, the new man or a different kind of masculinity that I feel also needs to be celebrated.

#### Q: What's been your favourite moment?

Kiran Rao: I think a lot of the moments that we shot with the girls on their own or behind the scenes trying to plot out things are my favourite moments in the film. And they always resonated very deeply with me, because I feel we don't get enough opportunity to kind of explore, you know, sort of women's dreams and desires. Those moments always were wonderful, while I was there on set, but also always moved me when I saw them on screen.

## Co-op Live to host Arijit Singh as venue's first South Asian artist

Co-op Live, the UK's latest and largest live entertainment arena, opening this Spring, will be hosting the undisputed number one singer in India, Arijit Singh, live in concert as its first South Asian artist

The Bollywood singer, music composer and superstar in his own right will be performing at the venue on 11th August to kickstart his 2024 UK tour, brought to UK

audiences by FH Group and Rock On. Set to become the latest cultural and social hotspot, the UK's biggest arena, Coop Live, is purpose built to showcase the best music from around the world. As the befitting first South Asian artist to grace its stage, Arijit Singh has amassed an iconic following and fans across the Subcontinent as well as the global diaspora.

Beyond live music, Co-op Live will be a cultural hub reflecting the rich diversity of the UK and welcoming top tier talent both domestically and internationally - a place to experience the best global artists such as Singh.

Offering a fan experience like never before, it boasts an innovate, smart 'bowl' design that will also make it feel the most intimate for audiences.

Attracting the greatest global acts across live music, sport, comedy, family and award shows, Co-op Live has been built for the planet, harnessing renewable energy, smart building technology and toilets that flush with rainwater as part of a wide range of sustainable initiatives.

Ensuring inclusivity and access for all, the state-of-the-art venue will have hearing loops and audio enhancements built into the arena; multi-faith prayer rooms; step

free access at every entrance; and gender-neutral facilities among other features. In line with and supporting the convenience retailer Co-op's core brand values, the venue's 'Gigs that Give Back' will generate at least £1 million annually for the Co-op Foundation to support causes on a local and national scale, including delivering on its new youth-led strategy. The recipient of several awards and

accolades for his soulful and melodious voice including a National Film Award and seven Filmfare Awards, Singh has recorded songs in multiple Indian languages, predominantly Hindi and Bengali, during a prolific career featuring countless, smash hit movie songs that have championed the airwaves globally.

Coming to prominence with the contemporary classic "Tum Hi Ho" (Aashiqui 2), he has since become one of the most sought-after playback singers in the Indian film industry, lending his voice to numerous hit songs and praised for his ability to emote

through his singing. Other iconic tracks in his repertoire include "Kabira" (Yesh Jawaani Hai Deewani); and "Channa Mereya" (Ae Dil Hai Mushkil). More recently, 2023 saw Singh render some of the most chart torping tracks for the year's most chart-topping tracks for the year's biggest Bollywood blockbusters at the Global Box Office such as "Jhoome Jo Pathaan" (Pathaan); "Tere Pyaar Mein" (Tu Jhoothi Main Makkar); "Tum Kya Mile" (Rocky Aur Rani Kii Prem Kahaani); "Dil Jhoom" (Gadar 2); and "Chaleya" (Jawan), which become the most attracted space in a which became the most streamed song in a day and the fastest to cross 100 million streams on Spotify India. Gary Roden, Executive Director and

General Manager, Co-op Live said, "We're so excited to welcome Arijit Singh to Co-op Live as the first South Asian artist to headline the UK's largest live entertainment arena. We are always striving to represent the brilliantly diverse communities that make up both Manchester and the UK, and are delighted to be working with Arijit and his team to bring

one of the absolute best to the North West." In addition to Co-op Live, Arijit Singh will be performing two further dates as part of his 2024 UK tour: 16th August at Utilita Arena, Birmingham; and 17th August at The O2 Arena, London. The tour is brought to audiences by FH Group and Rock On.

## 'Magical Melodies' tour - Jubin Nautiyal set to ignite UK stage



**Tour Dates and Venues** London: OVO Arena. Wembley -Sunday 5th May 2024

**Leicester: De Montfort** Hall - Bank Holiday Monday 6th May 2024

**Manchester: Bridgewater Hall -**Wednesday 8th May 2024

For ticket information and updates www.jubinlive.com https://www.ticketmaster.co.uk/jubin-nautiyal-tickets Join the conversation: #JubinNautiyalUKTour

Bollywood's chart-topping will be captivating the hearts of his UK fans once again on his highly anticipated 2024 tour, Magical Melodies. Known for his soulstirring performances and mesmerising vocals, Nautiyal will grace the stages of iconic venues, OVO Arena, Wembley on Sth May; De Montfort Hall, Leicester on 6th May; and Bridgewater Hall, Manchester on 8th May. Jubin Nautiyal gained prominence in the Indian music industry with his participation in the reality show Y

participation in the reality show, X Factor India, in 2011.

However, his playback singing career took off when he lent his voice to the song "Ek Mulakat" from the film, Sonali Cable, in 2014. Since then, he has become one of

the leading playback singers in Bollywood, delivering multiple hit songs across various genres.

Among his most recent super hits are "Jaadui" (Tu Jhoothi Main Makkaar), "Rabba Janda" (Mission Majnu), "Bewaafa Tu" (Yaariyan 2)

and "Udd Ja Kaale" (Gadar 2) Nautiyal's return to the UK promises to be an unforgettable musical journey as he enchants audiences with a repertoire of chart-topping hits and soulful melodies.

Renowned for his versatile singing style that effortlessly transitions between romantic ballads and high-energy tracks, Nautiyal's live concerts are a celebration of music that transcends borders.

Brought to audiences by FH Group and Rock On, this tour marks a milestone in Jubin Nautiyal's illustrious career and serves as a testament to his global appeal. The tour is set to be a grand spectacle, showcasing the singer's unparalleled talent and reaffirming his status as one of Bollywood's most beloved voices.

Tickets for Jubin Nautiyal's 2024 UK tour are expected to sell out quickly, so be sure to secure yours early for an evening of musical brilliance and unforgettable moments. Don't miss the opportunity to witness the magic of Jubin Nautival live!

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## **Bob Marley: One Love**

Release date: 14/2/2024 Starring: James Norton, Anthony Welsh, Michael Gandolfini, Tosin Cole, Kingsley Ben-Adir, Umi Myers, Nadine Marshall, Lashana Lynch Director: Reinaldo Marcus Green Cert: 13A

BOB MARLEY: ONE LOVE celebrates the life and music of an icon who inspired generations through his message of love and unity. On the big screen for the first time, discover Bob's powerful story of overcoming adversity and the journey behind his revolutionary music. Produced in partnership with the Marley family and starring Kingsley Ben-Adir as the legendary musician and Lashana Lynch as his wife Rita.

#### Madame Web

Release date: 14/2/2024 Starring: Mike Epps, Dakota Johnson, Tahar Rahim, Emma Roberts, Adam Scott, Celeste O'Connor, Isabela Merced, Zosia Mamet, Sydney Sweeney Director: S.J. Clarkson Cert: 12A

In a switch from the typical genre, Madame Web tells the standalone origin story of one of Marvel publishing's most enigmatic heroines. The suspense-driven thriller stars Dakota Johnson as Cassandra Webb, a paramedic in Manhattan who may have clairvoyant abilities. Forced to confront revelations about her past, she forges a relationship with three young women destined for powerful futures... if they can all survive a deadly present.

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#### Imaginary

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Release date: 8/3/2024 Starring: Betty Buckley, DeWanda Wise, Tom Payne Director: Jeff Wadlow Cert: TBC

From Blumhouse, the genredefining masterminds behind FIVE NIGHTS AT FREDDY'S and M3GAN. When Jessica (DeWanda Wise) moves back into her childhood home with her family, her youngest stepdaughter Alice (Pyper Braun) develops an eerie attachment to a stuffed bear named Chauncey she finds in the basement. Alice starts playing games with Chauncey that begin playful and become increasingly sinister. As Alice's behaviour becomes more and more concerning, Jessica intervenes only to realise Chauncey is much more than the stuffed toy bear she believed him to be. www.asianexpress.co.uk

#### Lisa Frankenstein Release date: 1/3/2024 Starring: Kathryn Newton, Carla Gugino, Cole Sprouse, Liza Soberano, Henry Eikenberry, Joe Chrest Director: Zelda Williams Cert: 15

A coming of RAGE love story from acclaimed writer Diablo Cody (Jennifer's Body) about a misunderstood teenager and her high school crush, who happens to be a handsome corpse. After a set of playfully horrific circumstances bring him back to life, the two embark on a murderous journey to find love, happiness... and a few missing body parts along the way.





#### Combat Wombat: Back 2 Back

Release date: 29/3/2024 Starring: David Wenham, Ed Oxenbould, Grant Denyer, Deborah Mailman, Mark Coles Smith, Elizabeth Cullen, Dan Brumm Directors: Tania Vincent, Richard Cussó Cert: U

Life has become a little too demanding for Maggie Diggins aka Combat Wombat. Whilst the Sanctuary City crime rate is at an all-time low, she's now expected to spend her days helping unclog drains instead of saving the world! But when evil tech genius Lenny Glick threatens to trap the whole city in a 'perfect' metaverse simulation, Combat Wombat and her sidekick Sweetie must work together to save the day.

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Odeon and The Asian Express bring back the movie mania as you get a chance to win free cinema tickets. Answer a simple question and you could win tickets to a film of your choice.

## Who is the director of Dune: Part Two?

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**, **31st March 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.





# Ultra-exclusive ercar trio

**Gordon Murray** Automotive make their Saudi Arabian debut

A trio of supercars from premium British vehicle manufacturer Gordon Murray Automotive (GMA) are set to make their Saudi Arabian debut on 1 March at the SEVEN Concours 2024 in Rivadh. For the first time in the region, GMA will show its halo T.50, track-only T.50s Niki Lauda, and its latest model, the beautiful T.33 Spider. Housed in the event's VIP area, the three GMA models highlight to showgoers the company's obsession with lightweight, artistic engineering.

Meanwhile, multiple display laps by the T.50 will illustrate how design, engineering, performance, and the 12,100 rpm V12 combine to create driving perfection. At the event, Gordon Murray Group CEO, Phillip Lee will be joined by famed racing driver and GMA Executive Product and Brand Director, Dario Franchitti MBE to meet customers and fans of

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the brand. Phillip Lee, Gordon Murray Group CEO: "Our customers in Saudi

Arabia, and nearby countries, are hugely significant to Gordon Murray Automotive. As customers receive their cars, they will experience the driving perfection we've engineered into every model. Exhibiting these cars and showcasing the GMA brand for the first time in Saudi Arabia is a great honour. We look forward to sharing our passion for performance with local automotive enthusiasts."

**Continued on page 49** 

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## **Bentayga EWB**

## infinite choice, curated by Mulliner

its expectant customers, having been crafted by hand by Bentley's bespoke and personalisation division, Mulliner.

An example of the growing trend among Bentley customers for personal commissions, the car is a stunning example of a truly individual Bentley – the result of the free rein that a Mulliner commission provides. Among the unique features requested by the owners was a bespoke two-tone exterior finish, prompting Bentley Motors to bring forward its introduction of two-tone finishes for Bentayga EWB by 12 months

Going beyond the tens of billions of Bentley options list, Bentley customers are encoursed customers are encouraged to participate in the design of unique vehicles, as part of a process that Mulliner terms 'co-curation'.

Vibrant colour schemes, bespoke materials and customised features are welcomed as a challenge in the Mulliner workshops by their team of designers and skilled artisans.

#### The 'Kingfisher' Bentayga EWB

A commission by a couple in Irvine, California for a Bentayga EWB is typical of the way a Bentley handcrafted by Mulliner can evolve. The customers originally visited

Bentley Newport Beach to order a

A striking, highly personalised duo-tone Bentayga EWB Azure V8 – the first of its kind – has been delivered to 46 billion different configurations available with the standard options range.

But with the help of Mulliner's Design Manager, Phill Dean, the couple were soon inspired to let their imaginations roam free. They were instantly attracted to Kingfisher, a brilliant metallic electric blue finish, but felt it needed a contrast exterior colour to complement the Blackline styling specification.

Conversations with Bentley's Paint Shop established that a duo-tone would be possible, initiating a process to bring the launch of this option on Bentayga EWB forwards by a year.

"With a Mulliner commission, anything is possible," explains Dean. "We started to discuss the specification in the showroom at Newport Beach, but it soon became clear that we needed more time to go over every tiny detail. We resumed the commissioning at the customers' home - we finished at around 1.00 am" he recalls.

#### The 'One of One' edition Bentayga

The Bentayga EWB commissioned by the customers is a striking and individual creation, with a duo-tone exterior of Onyx over Kingfisher Blue conceived to dazzle in the California sunshine.

base Having established а

specification of the Azure wellnessfocused package, complete with Blackline and Touring specifications, the couple also requested rear privacy glass and the deletion of Bentley lettering on the tailgate, being content to let the winged B badge speak for itself.

The Onyx finish chosen for the bonnet, roof and upper body is seamlessly integrated with the gloss black grille, front air intakes, wing vents, side coachlines and rear diffuser of the Blackline specification. It makes a dramatic contrast with

the Kingfisher blue finish, while the dark roof and cabin creates a lower, sportier visual impression. The colour split is repeated in the 22" ten-spoke wheels with a painted finish in Kingfisher and Beluga. Self-levelling Bentley wheel badges add the finishing touch to the exterior.

#### A personal vision of luxury

The interior of this unique Bentayga EWB is as stunning as it is meticulously crafted, and the customers spent many hours exploring the palette of choice with Phill Dean.

Their choices included the four-seat configuration with Bentley's airline specification for the two rear seat seats, Naim for Bentley audio system and mood lighting. More vibrant however is the customers' own vision of luxury, with a cabin in the dramatic combination of Mandarin and

Imperial Blue leather.

Light, contemporary and sustainable Open Pore Koa Veneer was chosen for the fascia, rear centre console, door inners and picnic tables. But it's the flashes of Kingfisher accent hide that make the most dramatic impact, appearing on the seat bolsters, lower fascia, six o-clock tab on the steering wheel, gear lever and door trim. Kingfisher hide is also revealed on the upper surface of the

picnic tables when extended. A Mulliner key box provides security for jewellery and valuables and is delivered in a combination of Imperial Blue hide and Mandarin, with Imperial Blue Alcantara for the inner surfaces. Bentley seat emblems are embroidered in Kingfisher, with the same colour being used for contrast stitching throughout the cabin.

Even the Imperial Blue overmats

feature Kingfisher micro piping with Mandarin stitching and outer binding. Fittingly, the door treadplates are engraved with a "One of One" message bespoke to the customer. A growing trend for personal

#### commissions

The two-tone exterior finish chosen for this Bentayga EWB is now offered as a factory option, one of many examples where customers have helped to shape the company's product options in colour and trim. Meanwhile, the trend for Mulliner bespoke commissions continues to grow, with around 75 per cent of the vehicles that left Bentley's Dream Factory in Crewe, England in 2023 featuring Mulliner content. This represents a 43 per cent rise in Mulliner content over 2022 (itself a record year), proof of the growing demand for luxury personalisation across the Bentley line-up.

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## Ultra-exclusive supercar trio

SHAKS SPECIALIST CARS LTD

Gordon Murray Automotive make their Saudi Arabian debut

#### Continued from page 47

Defined by its central driving position, the T.50 on display at the Riyadh concours is the final 'Production Series' model built for validation before customer cars began production. The striking 'Bespoke Rio Blue' model showcases the most advanced aerodynamics ever seen on a road car – highlighted in the clearest way by the 400 mm rear-mounted fan, which boosts underbody ground effect to deliver an unrivalled driving experience.

experience. Alongside its physics-bending aerodynamics and 12,100 rpm, 670 PS Cosworth GMA V12 engine, the T.50 breaks the supercar mould by offering owners true practicality alongside performance. Each model features 295 litres of usable luggage space, accessed through unique gullwing openings, enabling drivers and passengers to enjoy thrilling road trips in this one-of-a-kind supercar. While the T.50 will entertain the

While the T.50 will entertain the Riyadh crowds with periodic parade laps on the event's display course, the T.50s has its own contribution to the proceedings – a demonstration of the screaming V12 engine. This circuitready model features the track car's race-tuned engine that utilises 772 PS as it powers to its astonishing 12,100 rpm limit. Just 25 of the £3.1m T.50s models will be produced, each unique to its owner – GMA will display XP1 in Riyadh, the first 'Experimental Prototype' model, finished in a deep, shimmering red. While the T.50s shares the same central driving position as the T.50, it is a completely new car from the ground up including its carbon fibre monocoque and each body panel. Completing the GMA trio in Riyadh is the timelessly-styled T.33 Seider This come to a version of the

Completing the GMA trio in Riyadh is the timelessly-styled T.33 Spider. This open-top version of the T.33 was planned from the outset of the T.33 programme to ensure that both it and its coupe sibling were engineered with the correct attributes to deliver driving perfection. With the roof open, owners will enjoy the most immersive driving experience, hearing the 617 PS 3.9 litre Cosworth GMA.2 V12 engine revving past 11,000 rpm. The SEVEN Concours 2024 in Riyadh, runs from 1-7 March 2024 in the Saudi Arabian capital, GMA will

The SEVEN Concours 2024 in Riyadh, runs from 1-7 March 2024 in the Saudi Arabian capital. GMA will exhibit in the VIP area of the show with periodic laps of the demonstration circuit by the T.50. For more information about GMA and its supercars visit GordonMurrayAutomotive.com.



### **First ever Mulliner Bespoke Edition created for Indian market**



Five individually curated Bentley models, commissioned by a Bentley retailer, comprise the first Mulliner Bespoke Edition created exclusively for the Indian Market.

All feature an extensive specification, with unique exterior and interior finishes inspired by the colours of the Indian flag. Each example is handcrafted in Crewe, England, by Mulliner, Bentley's in-house personalisation and bespoke department.

The Opulence Edition for India is limited to just five vehicles: a Continental GT Speed, a Flying Spur Speed and three Bentayga EWB Azure models.

All five are presented in Scarab Green exterior finish, an exclusive Mulliner development inspired by the iridescent green exo-skeleton of the Scarab beetle. Complemented by bespoke interior

Complemented by bespoke interior colourways of Mandarin and Cumbrian Green hide, each car is a tribute to India's national colours.

Although different in character, all five models in the Opulence Edition have key

bespoke elements in common. All feature the lustrous Scarab Green exterior finish that was first developed for Bentley's first coachbuilt barchetta, the Bacalar.

Inside, the orange and green of India's national colours are represented by upholstery of Mandarin main hide and Cumbrian Green secondary hide. The mirror-like Piano veneer of the

The mirror-like Piano veneer of the fascia and trim is also finished in Cumbrian Green, with an inset chrome motif on the fascia of wild horses and mountain peaks. From the initial brief, designers and artisans painstakingly produced multiple depictions until the perfect composition was achieved.

produced multiple depictions unit the perfect composition was achieved. The design was ultimately hand-drawn, and carefully applied to the fascia using a chrome overlay technique. This unique colour and trim specification is the outcome of close collaboration between Bentley Mumbai and the Mulliner team, and celebrates the first-ever Mulliner bespoke edition created for the Indian market.

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E8,895 0NO E10,000 0NO (ANWAA	AYII UBS E2,000 TEL: 01274 414141	CII EWY	EA55TAL E0FFERS T: 07740 784 985	<b>FAH44D</b>	EL. 07985 455 057	<b>IEL. 07985 455 057</b> <b>JSIISAN</b> £7,500 (J SUSAN)	L IMRN £10,000 0N0 (MRAN)	EL. 07867 886 786 MEIIBUB £19,000 (MEHBUB)	EL: 07985 455 057 MY5ISHA E995 (MY SHISHA)	EL. 07588 326 444	TEL. 07985 455 057	548 EYA £2,500
TEL 07779 324 610 TÉL 07946 162 099 A SII AHS E3,000 (A SHAHS)		TEL. 07764 656 667	EASSTLE EOFFERS T: 07740 784 983	<b>FAZ44L</b>	TEL. 07985 455 057	TEL. 07985 455 057	TEL. 07759 097 070	TEL. 07985 455 057	TEL. 07834 531 683 <b>MY55TYC</b> <b>£7,500</b> T: 07740 784 983	TEL. 07985 455 057	TEL. 07985 455 057	TEL. 07588 326 444
TEL. 07588 326 444 TEL. 07815 114 201	TEL. 07971 850 490	TEL: 07815 114 201	EASTS EREASONABLE OFFERS	FAZ 786	TEL. 07973 165 474	TEL. 07985 455 057	TEL. 07427 677 989	TEL. 07985 455 057	EOFFERS	TEL. 07985 455 057	TEL. 07985 455 057  ROIIANP  £15,000 (ROHAN P)	TEL. 07791 919 237
TEL. 07733 244 444 MON - FRI: 9-5.30 AALII5 ASII GER £10,000 FEL: 01274 414'	Privateplates@hotmail.co.uk BIII NAA SOFFERS	E9,000 (C AISHA	TEL. 07974 179 156 EBIIATT £7,000 (E BHATT)	TEL. 07765 555 786	TEL. 07908 472 121	TEL. 07985 455 057	TEL. 07779 050 970	TEL. 07985 455 057	TEL. 07870 696 399	TEL. 07985 455 057	TEL. 07985 455 057  ROIIANX £12,500 (ROHAN X)	TEL. 07508 341 074
IEL. 07733244 444         MON - FRI: 9-5.30           AAZIS         ASIIOKB           £0FFERS         £9,500 (ASHOK B)		TEL. 07985 455 057	TEL. 07985 455 057	TEL. 07985 455 057	TEL. 07866 947 665	TEL. 07985 455 057	TEL. 07985 455 057	TEL. 07985 455 057	TEL. 07427 677 989	TÈL. 07967 350 957 <b>OBIIACK</b> £8,500 (O BLACK)	TEL. 07985 455 057	TEL. 07473 865 081
TEL. 07977 612 479 TEL. 07985 455 057 TEL. 0	TEL. 07834 016 393	TEL. 07985 455 057	TEL. 07985 455 057	TEL. 07985 455 057	TEL. 07867 861 193	TEL. 07985 455 057	TEL: 07985 455 057	TEL. 07985 455 057	TEL. 07774 112 121	TEL. 07985 455 057	TEL. 07962 394 890	TEL. 07949 891 313
TEL. 07754 852 402 TEL. 07985 455 057 TEL. 0	TEL. 07405 763 319	CA55Y MS E0FFERS T: 07740 784 983	TEL. 07985 455 057	TEL. 07954 389 874	TEL. 07731 464002	EL. 07985 455 057	TEL. 07985 455 057	TEL. 07794 820 437	TEL. 07969 914 041	TEL. 07985 455 057	TEL. 07707 707 609	TEL. 07867 861 193
ABIIACK         asilot           £8,500 (A BLACK)         asilot	TEL. 07530 612 171	privateplates@hotmail.co.uk		TEL. 07846 480 112	TEL. 07985 455 057	TEL. 07815 114 201	TEL. 07985 455 057	MON - FRI: 9-5.30	TEL. 07751 427 106	TEL. 07985 455 057	TEL. 07816 488 420	
COVER 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10	TEL. 07866 860 894	TEL. 07908 472 121	TEL. 07513 257 029	TEL. 07985 455 057	TEL: 07985 455 057	TEL. 07774 112 121	E15,400 (L YUSAF)	TEL. 07774 246 877	TEL. 07766 645 325	<b>NGIIPTA</b> <b>26,995</b> (O GUPTA)	TEL. 07866 992 500	TEL. 07946 (SALDAH) TEL. 07946 162 099 SAIIHAS £1,500 0N0 (SALIHA)
TEL. 07707 146 047 TEL. 07985 455 057	E3,495 TEL. 07954 389 874		TEL. 07985 455 057	E15,000 (F KUMAR) TEL. 07985 455 057	TEL. 07985 455 057	TEL. 07506 342 385	TEL. 07985 455 057	TEL. 07928 473 771	TEL. 07969 914 041	TEL. 07985 455 057	TEL. 07779 300 128 <sup>7</sup>	TEL. 07946 162 099
TÉL. 07946 162 099 TEL. 07985 455 057	📕 BIG SLD	<b>£7,000</b> (C DILEEP) TEL. 07985 455 057	£15,000 (E KUMAR) TEL. 07985 455 057	<b>£7,000</b> (F LUCAS) TEL. 07985 455 057	£15,000 (HELEN R) TEL. 07985 455 057	OFFERS OVER £5,000 FAZ911@MSN.COM	£15,000 (L YUSUF) TEL. 07985 455 057	29,500 (MR HOOK) TEL. 07985 455 057	£1,995 TEL. 07954 389 874	E15,000 (O JUDGE) TEL. 07985 455 057	OVER £2,000 ONO           TEL. 07427 677 989           R24 SAM	E1,500 0N0 (SAIKA) TEL. 07946 162 099 SAIIMAD
TEL. 07946 162 099 TEL. 07985 455 057	BILRL	EOFFERS Panaceahealthcare@hotmail.co.uk	ELIISAA	E4,900 TEL. 07867 861 193	E15,000 (HELEN T) TEL. 07985 455 057	E10,000 (KAURS) TEL. 07815 114 201	EOFFERS TEL. 07787 334 567	<b>£9,500</b> (MR HOBB) TEL. 07985 455 057	EL. 07896 699 241	E15,000 (O KUMAR) TEL. 07985 455 057	E0FFERS TEL. 07962 394 890	£15,000 (S AHMAD) TEL. 07985 455 057
£10,000 000 (ABRAAR)         £9,500 (ASHOK K)           TEL. 07946 162 099         TEL. 07985 455 057           C         ADIIEEP           C         ASIIOKL	E0FFERS (BILAL) TEL. 07808 950 492	E7,000 (C BHATT) TEL. 07985 455 057	<b>E20,000</b> (ELISA A) TEL. 07985 455 057	£7,500 (F SUSAN) TEL. 07985 455 057	<b>£1,500 0N0</b> (HELLO X) TEL. 07946 162 099	EL. 07867 861 193	EOFFERS TEL. 07787 334 567	£15,000 (MR HOWE) TEL. 07985 455 057	E10,000 (NAWED, NAWED) TEL. 07731 464002	TEL: 07985 455 057	EOFFERS TEL. 07928 473 771	TEL. 07946 162 099
£7,000 (A DILEEP)         £9,500 (ASHOK L)           TEL. 07985 455 057         TEL. 07985 455 057           AESIALT         a SIIOKM	<b>B4 RUF</b>	E10,000+ (CHOWDRY) TEL. 07973 165 474	EMILY C) TEL. 07985 455 057	£15,400 (F YUSAF) TEL. 07985 455 057	<b>£7,000</b> (H DILEEP) TEL. 07985 455 057	E2,500 0N0 (KAABAH) TEL. 07779 300 128	£7,000 (MONTY P) TEL. 07985 455 057	E29,000 (MR LLOYD) TEL. 07985 455 057	£15,000 (NAHEED) TEL. 07985 455 057	EL. 07962 394 890	EOFFERS TEL. 07779 675 730	EOFFERS TEL. 07983 104 538
software	EDFFERS TEL. 07796 008 786	E10,000+ (CHILLER) TEL. 07973 165 474	<b>£8,000</b> (EMILY D) TEL. 07985 455 057	£15,000 (F YUSUF) TEL. 07985 455 057	E14,000 (H KINGS) TEL. 07985 455 057	EOFFERS T: 07907 318 666 no withheld numbers	TEL. 07985 455 057	<b>£9,500</b> (MR HACK) TEL. 07985 455 057	<b>£2,500</b> TEL: 01274 414141 MON - FRI: 9-5.30		E0FFERS TEL. 07868 572 069	TEL. 07838 603 001
£2,000         TEL:         01274         414141         £9,500         (ASHOK N)           MON - FRI:         9-5.30         TEL:         07985         455         057           AFII         LAK         a         ASIIOKO	EL. 07867 770 940	EOFFERS TEL. 07928 473 771	<b>£8,000</b> (EMILY E) TEL. 07985 455 057	EOFFERS TEL. 07913 919 169	E15,000 (H KUMAR) TEL. 07985 455 057	E3,995 0N0 TEL. 07890 201 854	EOFFERS T. 07954 370 359 MOHAMMED SIDDIQUE	TEL. 07985 455 057	£10,000 (N AHMAD) TEL. 07985 455 057	E10,000 (O VIJAY) TEL. 07985 455 057	E2,800 0N0 TEL. 07974 179 156	E2,995 0N0 TEL. 07729 288 346
£2,500         TEL:         01274         414141         £9,500         (ASHOK O)           MON - FRI:         9-5.30         TEL:         07985         455         057           AFII         SAN         a         ASIIOKP	E12,500 TEL. 07891 217 880	£7,500 (C SUSAN) TEL. 07985 455 057	<b>£8,000</b> (EMILY F) TEL. 07985 455 057	EOFFERS TEL. 07977 802 112	<b>£7,500</b> (H MILES) TEL. 07985 455 057	£1,500 TEL: 01274 414141 MON - FRI: 9-5.30	TEL. 07597 572 045	<b>£9,500</b> (MR HAYE) TEL. 07985 455 057	E1,500 ONO (NAIMA) TEL. 07946 162 099	£15,400 (O YUSAF) TEL. 07985 455 057	E0FFERS TEL. 07968 163 510	E5,000 T: 07740 784 983 privateplates@hotmail.co.uk
£1,500         TEL: 01274 414141         £15,000 (ASHOK P)           MON - FRI: 9-5.30         TEL: 07985 455 057           AHIIMDS         A SIIOKS	E1,500 TEL. 07838 130 681	£15,400 (C YUSAF) TEL. 07985 455 057	<b>£8,000</b> (EMILY M) TEL. 07985 455 057	TEL. 07501 292 802	<b>£21,000</b> (HUNTER) TEL. 07985 455 057	<b>£2,000</b> TEL: 01274 414141 MON - FRI: 9-5.30	E20,000 0N0 TEL.07774 112 121	£9,500 (MR HAYS) TEL. 07985 455 057	<b>£3,000</b> TEL: 01274 414141 MON - FRI: 9-5.30	TEL: 07985 455 057	<b>£2,500</b> (RAJHA) TEL. 07786 424 251	E7,000 TEL. 07825 040 037
£1,000 (AHMADS)         £15,000 (ASHOK S)           TEL. 07846 269 808         TEL. 07985 455 057           A JIIDGE         a SIIOKV	TEL. 07812 728 079	£1,495 0N0 TEL. 07832 302 222	£15,000 (EMILY S) TEL. 07985 455 057	£10,000 (G AHMAD) TEL. 07985 455 057	E10,000 T: 07740 784 98: privateplates@hotmail.co.u		EOFFERS TEL. 07894 335 033	E20,000 (MR HUGH) TEL. 07985 455 057	EOFFERS (TEXT ONLY) TEL. 07884 064 015	E0FFERS (PREMIER) TEL. 07837 780 981	<b>£5,000 0N0</b> TEL. 07969 914 041	E2,000 TEL. 07947 979 777
£25,000         (A JUDGE)         £9,500         (ASHOK V)           TEL. 07985 455 057         TEL. 07985 455 057         TEL. 07985 455 057           AKII BER         a SIIOKX	BAIIMAD	E8,000 TEL. 07921 576 971	<b>£49,000</b> (ERNEST) TEL. 07985 455 057	£15,000 (G AHMED) TEL. 07985 455 057	<b>20FFERS</b> (HUZAIFAH) TEL. 07737 071 097	E3,000 TEL. 07983 480 777	£10,000 TEL. 07779 117 865	E13,250 0N0 TEL. 07837 867 868	E5,000+ (NAIWAAB) TEL. 07973 165 474	<b>£3,995</b> TEL. 07954 389 874	£10,000 (R AHMAD) TEL. 07985 455 057	£12,000 TEL. 07867 861 193
E5,000 TEL: 01274 414141 MON - FRI: 9-5.30 TEL: 07985 455 057 AKII SAR ASIIOKY	E10,000 (B AHMAD) TEL. 07985 455 057	£10,000 (D AHMAD) TEL. 07985 455 057	<b>£7,500</b> (E SUSAN) TEL. 07985 455 057	<b>£9,000</b> (G AISHA) TEL. 07985 455 057	E10,000 (H VIJAY) TEL: 07985 455 057	£1,500 0N0 (SHAB) TEL. 07977 348 295	<b>2850</b> TEL: 07977 118 134 no withheld numbers <b>M7NA X</b>	privateplates@hotmail.co.uk	E10,000 T: 07740 784 983 privateplates@hotmail.co.uk	E3,000 (PAAYJA) TEL. 07786 424 251	E9,000 (R AISHA) TEL. 07985 455 057	<b>£7,000</b> (S DILEEP) TEL. 07985 455 057
£2,500 TEL: 01274 414141         £9,500 (ASHOK Y)           MON - FRI: 9-5.30         TEL: 07985 455 057           AKIIMAR         ASIIESH	E15,000 (B AHMED) TEL. 07985 455 057	£1200 TEL. 07947 979 777	<b>£8,500</b> (ETHAN A) TEL. 07985 455 057	<b>£7,000</b> (G DILEEP) TEL. 07985 455 057	<b>£9,500</b> (H YUNUS) TEL. 07985 455 057	E3,995 TEL. 07867 861 193	EL. 07958 000 480	E5,000 (MR SPOK) privateplates@hotmail.co.uk	£10,000 TEL. 07588 326 444	£1350 TEL. 07867 861 193	EOFFERS TEL. 07557 472 855	E15,000 0N0 TEL. 07706 216 060 SHOII4B
£20,000 (A KUMAR) TEL. 07985 455 057         £15,000 (ASHESH) TEL. 07985 455 057           AK55AAH         a ASIIFAO	£3.000 T: 07740 784 983	£7,000 (D DILEEP)	<b>£8,500</b> (ETHAN B) TEL. 07985 455 057	E8,000 0N0 TEL. 07908 472 121	£15,400 (H YUSAF) TEL. 07985 455 057	EOFFERS T: 07523 264 595 no withheld numbers	TEL. 07764 511 955	E10,000 T: 07740 784 983 privateplates@hotmail.co.uk	£10,000 TEL. 07588 326 444	EL. 07966 386 755	<b>£7,000</b> (R DILEEP) TEL. 07985 455 057	EOFFERS TEL. 07919 583 618
£5,895 0N0         £25,000 (ASHFAQ)           TEL. 07779 324 610         TEL. 07985 455 057	£3.000	£7,500 (D MILES) TEL. 07985 455 057	£8,500 (ETHAN F) TEL. 07985 455 057	£7,500 (G MILES) TEL. 07985 455 057	£15,000 (H YUSUF) TEL. 07985 455 057	£7,000 (K DILEEP) TEL. 07985 455 057	£15,000 0N0 (MAWLA) TEL. 07842 955 147	£5,000 T: 07740 784 983 privateplates@hotmail.co.uk	£100.000	£3,500 (P ALLANS) TEL. 07985 455 057	£0FFERS (ROHAN) TEL. 07970 026 653	£2,995 TEL. 07793 628 670

SH04 BEK         SHA2D         TAIIHAS         TVIIJAY         VY55 HAL         MDIIEEP         XX 56XY XX           E1995 0N0         E25,000         TEL.07867 865 667         TEL.07867 861 193         TEL.07867 865 667         TEL.07867 861 193         TEL.07867 865 667         TEL.07867 861 193         TEL.07867 865 667         TEL.07868 786 193         TEL.07868 786 193         TEL.07868 786 5667         TEL.07868 786 567         TEL.07868 786 444         SE995 (W GUPTA)         SE15400 (Y USAF)           polythicklamabers         MON - FRIE - 9780 5450         SE15400 (T Y USAF)         TEL.07888 455 057         TEL.07888 455 057         SE15400 (T USAF)         SE15400 (T USAF)         SE15400 (T USAF)         TEL.07888 455 057	
International maintain maintai maintain maintain maintain mai	
E0FFERS         TO7754         852.000         CMO 0000         E1,600 0100         E1,600 0100000100         E1,600 0100         E1,	£25,000 QUICK SALE TEL. 07969 914 041
SHII AED         SYIISAF         TA55TEE         UKIIORD         W33DY K         WYIISAF         Y9 ALT           £1,000 TEL: 01274 414141         £15,400 (S YUSAF)         £5,000 TO 7740 784 983         EL 07525 199 997         TEL 07799 994 695         £15,400 (W YUSUF)         £15,400 (W YUSUF)         £15,400 (W YUSUF)         £10,000 TEL: 07795 994 695         £15,400 (W YUSUF)         £10,000 TEL: 07525 817 453	
SHII AFS         SYIISUF         TA55TYE         UMM444R         W33NTD         WYIISUF         YAIIMAD           \$1,500         E1,500         SYUSUF         \$5,000         YAIIMAD         \$10,000         YAIIMAD           MON - FRI: 9-5.30         TEL. 07985 455 057         \$10,000         YVISUF         \$10,000         YAIIMAD           SHIIAHZ         TOYSR         TA55TYE         UMM444R         \$20,000         WAIIMAD           MON - FRI: 9-5.30         TEL. 07985 455 057         \$10,000         YAIIMAD         \$10,000         YAIIMAD           SHIIAHZ         TOYSR         TA55TYE         \$20,000         YAIIWAD         \$10,000         YAIIWAD           WYIISUF         TA55TYE         WYIISUF         \$10,000         YAIIWAD         \$10,000         YAIIWAD	
E6,000         E15,000 (NO         E6,000 NO         E15,000 (NO (YYAA)           TEL 07973 787 934         TEL 07993 787 934         TEL 07993 787 934         TEL 07993 787 934         TEL 07993 787 934           SHII ANY         THIUCS         TAHIR         VOIIRAS         N4KY R         X 7BY X         YEILCOM           1000 TEL: 01274 411411         E0FFERS         E100,000 (TAHIR)         E2,000 (VOHRA)         TEL 07993 472 15         YEILCOM           MON - RH: 9-5.30         TEL 0793 187 934         TEL 0793 787 934         TEL 0793 478 785         YEILCOM	£1,000,000 TEL. 07969 914 041
SHIIKEL       TI4 REK       TBIIATT       VOIIVER       W4LYT       XAL IIX       YDIIEEP         54,999 000 (SHAKEL)       E00FERS (TARIO) TEL 07585 485 067       E5,000 TEL 07585 485 067       E15,000 TEL 07585 485 067       E15,000 TEL 07585 485 067       E15,000 TEL 07585 485 067       E15,000 TEL 07585 485 067         SHII OBY       TI9 ARX       TDIIEEP       V 4RFN       WAIEEM       X BAIG       YKIIMAR	
E1,000         TEL         01274         E1,000         FR.9-5.30         E1,000         YUMAR)           SHIPER         TILL         TILL         7890         TEL         07967         193<033         TEL         07947         979<777         TEL         07985         15,000 (WAHEEM)         TEL         07985         17079         170786         1802         170786         170786         170786         170786         170786         1802         170786         170786         170786         170786         170786         170786	
TEL 07985 455 057       TEL 07971 178 156       TEL 07739 413 695       TEL 07603 012 253       TEL 07985 455 057       TEL 0711 146 312       To withinkid numbers         SHIIYLA       T44 RKK       TJIIDGE       VAIIMAD       XAIITAD       XAIIAN X       YVIIJAY         E1,000,000       E1,000,000       E1,0500 (T)UDGE       VAIIMAD       XAIIAN X       YVIIJAY         TEL 07989 14 041       E2,200 0N0       E1,0500 (T)UDGE       E10,000 (Y AHMAD)       E10,000 (Y AHMAD)       E2,700         SHI2ADH       T444BYS       TKIINGS       VBIIATT       WAH330K       XKIIMAR       E10,000 (Y UJAY)	£37,995 HR4SH1D@GMAIL.COM
SHI2ADH         T444BYS         TKIINGS         VBIIATT         WAH330K         XKIIMAR         Y44SLK           E3,000 0N0         E995 0N0         E995 0N0         E14,000 (T KINGS)         E7,000 (V BHATT)         WAH330K         XKIIMAR         Y44SLK           E1,0702 (F L) 0787 099 553         E14,000 (T KINGS)         E7,000 (V BHATT)         E2,000 (W BHATS)         E15,000 (X KUMAR)         E2,000 (W BHATS)         E2,000 (W BHATS)         E2,000 (W BHATS)         E15,000 (X KUMAR)         E2,000 (W BHATS)         E2,000 (W BHATS)         E2,000 (W BHATS)         E15,000 (X KUMAR)         E2,000 (W BHATS)         E15,000 (X KUMAR)         E2,000 (W BHATS)         E15,000 (X KUMAR)         E15,000 (X KUM	
TEL_07870 993 553     TEL_07842 955 147     TEL_07985 455 057     TEL_07985 455 057     TEL_07985 455 057       SHI3 MLA     TRIH HAD     VSIISAN     VSIISAN     VSIISAN     VSIISAN       \$5,000<     E00F685 289 625     \$2,000     FEL_07865 455 057     TEL_07985 455 057       TEL_07373 165 474     E00F678     \$2,000     FEL_07865 289 625     \$2,000	<b>GB BRI/HMA</b>
SH54ZHD TAILATS TSIISAN VYIISAF E5,725 TEL 07867 886 786 786 786 786 786 786 786 786	<b>£30,000</b> TEL. 07999 754 999
SNAS         CHIEFS         PINEM           £30,000         £20,000 NNO         £20,000 NNO         £20,995 ONO (PUNEM)           TEL. 07540 176 854         TEL. 07786 615 234         TEL. 07305 700 800	
ATT4H         K7 PPA         BUK I IORD           E8,500 0ND TEL. 07786 424 251         E3,995 0ND TEL. 07890 201 854         E0FFERS TEL. 07522 199 997	<b>GBSIKHE</b>
E12,995 0N0 TEL. 07440 766 843         E0FFERS TEL. 07850 706 930         E75,000 0N0 TEL. 07887 837 553	£28,995 TEL. 07971 397 677
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"Together, let's embrace the power of football to bridge cultures and build lasting connections,"

# Footba fandom

### Pioneering fan club, Deshi Whites, celebrates multiculturalism in football

#### **Continued from page 53**

"We hope Deshi Whites brings together the community through fan engagement, and we are grateful to the fans for the diversity initiative, Leeds United Foundation, and Hamara HLC for the ongoing support," stated Humayun Islam, Director of ISSE, emphasising the collaborative effort behind the initiative.

Komar Uddin, a long-time Leeds United supporter, expressed his enthusiasm for Deshi Whites, added: "I have been a Leeds United fan for many years, and Deshi Whites will hopefully create an opportunity for me to engage with the club more closely.'

Likewise, Kutub Zilanee eagerly anticipates getting more involved with

Deshi Whites and relishing match day experiences at the iconic Elland Road Stadium. "I can't wait to get more involved and hopefully enjoy matchday experiences at the iconic Elland Road Stadium," said Zilanee.

The launch event was organised under the guidance of Jonir Ali, chairman of Cross Flatts FC, a project of Hamara HLC. Ali's dedication and support have been instrumental in bringing Deshi Whites to fruition, symbolising the collaborative efforts within the community.

Deshi Whites invites all football enthusiasts to join them in celebrating diversity, unity, and the shared passion for Leeds United FC at the launch event. "Together, let's embrace the power of football to bridge cultures and build lasting connections," they say.



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### DESHI WHITES

**Multicultural Fans** Group Supporting Leeds United 😹

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ISSE

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#### Canada sports organisations face crisis without extra funding, says COC

The Canadian Olympic Committee (COC) on Monday called on the federal government to increase financial support to national sport organisations, which it says are overstretched and face a substantial reduction in services

and programs. The request for additional funding, which the COC said was necessary to avoid the system taking a step backwards, comes less than five months before the start of the Paris Olympics.

A Deloitte study commissioned by the COC and Canadian Paralympic Committee (CPC) said the country's 61 national sports organisations need an extra C\$104 million (\$76.61 million) in direct funding annually. The COC and CPC said the gap in

funding is a result of 19 years of inflation since the last increase to sport funding in 2005 (C\$20 Million), the sunsetting of issue-specific funding (C\$57 Million), and the cost of increased demands on national sports organisations (NSOs) from

stakeholders (C\$27 Million). Without additional funding, a five-year forecast showed the bodies that govern amateur sports across Canada would run a deficit of C\$134 million while attempting to deliver on their primary mandates.

The COC said Canada's sport system is struggling to keep up with rising costs. Support for athletes at all levels will suffer without an increase to funding and the system risks taking a step backwards, it added. "We have known this was a growing

issue but seeing the numbers in black and white really highlight that we're on the brink of a crisis," COC's CEO David Shoemaker said in a statement. "NSOs cannot continue on this

trajectory. They can't run deficits, and if nothing changes difficult decisions will have to be made." The COC and CPC said the NSOs

were being asked to do more with fewer resources, and that the progress which has been made in safe sport, gender equity, community access and mental health support,

amongst others, is in "jeopardy" According to the budget request, 90% of NSOs rely on federal government funding as their primary source of revenue.

"Our day-to-day costs are increasing with inflation like every Canadian's, but we also have an important role in ensuring sport is as safe and inclusive as possible," said Canoe Kayak Canada CEO Casey Wade.

"We cannot properly fulfill those duties without an increase in funding."

## FIA chief faces allegation of interference 2023 Saudi **Grand** Pr

The head of Formula One's governing body, Mohammed Ben Sulayem, is under investigation for allegedly interfering in the outcome of last year's Soudi Arshier Grand Priv Saudi Arabian Grand Prix.

A spokesperson for the Paris-based International Automobile Federation (FIA), asked for a comment on the report, could not confirm any details but said

"the matter is being discussed internally". Ben Sulayem, an Emirati, could not be reached

immediately for comment. The BBC said it had seen a report by FIA compliance officer Paolo Basarri to its ethics committee in which a whistleblower claimed the president had intervened to overturn a penalty given to Aston Martin's Fernando Alonso.

It alleged that Ben Sulayem called Sheikh Abdullah bin Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa, the FIA's vice-president for sport for the Middle East and North Africa who was in an official capacity at the race

Double world champion Alonso was handed back the 100th podium of his Formula One career after a

U-turn by officials hours after the finish in Jeddah on March 19 last year. The 41-year-old Spaniard had finished third but was demoted to fourth by a 10-second post-race penalty for failing to serve properly a five second penalty for an error in placing his car on the starting grid grid.

Stewards found the rear jack was in contact with the car before the five seconds were up.

The second penalty, imposed more than 30 laps after his pitstop, was then reversed when his team won a right to review after presenting new evidence to support their case.

The new evidence included the minutes of a Sporting Advisory Committee meeting and video of seven different instances where cars were touched by the jack while serving a similar penalty... without being penalised."

Formula One F1 - Bahrain Grand Prix - Bahrain International Circuit, Sakhir, Bahrain - March 1, 2024 FIA president Mohammed Ben Sulayem applauds after qualifying





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## lyer, Kishan not considered for nnual BCCI contracts

Shreyas Iyer and Ishan Kishan were not during periods when they are not representing the national team," BCCI secretary Jay Shah said in a considered for annual contracts for the 2023-24 season, India's cricket board (BCCI) said when they announced a list of 30 players who had been handed contracts.

Iver was on a Grade B contract last year while Kishan was handed a Grade C contract but despite playing in the 50-over World Cup last year, the BCCI said both players were not considered in this round of recommendations.

Iver was one of seven batters to score over 500 runs at the World Cup. But both Iver and Kishan have not played for their state teams in the Ranji Trophy when they were dropped from the Indian national team.

"The BCCI has recommended that all athletes give precedence to participating in domestic cricket

statement.

Skipper Rohit Sharma, Virat Kohli, Jasprit Bumrah and Ravindra Jadeja have been retained in Grade A+ contracts, which were worth 70 million rupees (\$844,240) last year.

Additionally, athletes who meet the criteria of playing a minimum of three tests or eight ODIs or 10 T20Is within the specified period will automatically be included in Grade C on a pro-rata basis." Shah added.

"For instance, Dhruv Jurel and Sarfaraz Khan, having played two test matches so far, will be inducted into Grade C if they participate in the Dharamsala test match, i.e., the fifth test of the ongoing series against England.'

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