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APRIL 1ST EDITION 2024 **Midlands**

£250,000 DONATED AT IFTAR EVENT
 Sadiq Khan breaks his fast with leading figures from the British Muslim community



A family-run Black Country manufacturer has moved and doubled the size of its factory, following a £7.59 million investment from the West Midlands Combined Authority (WMCA), Drywall Steel Sections, which has invested alongside the WMCA into the wider £13 million scheme, has moved to a new 39,850 sq ft factory built on four-and-a-half acres of brownfield land in Ettingshall, Wolverhampton.

The firm was previously based in Cradley Heath, Dudley, for more than ten years but had outgrown the facility, which was also no longer fit for purpose for its modern production methods.

The factory manufactures light gauge steel framing for the construction industry (including modular housing), as well as steel products for wall partitions and ceilings. It also has an engineering department, DrySpec, which specialises in designing and detailing steel framing for a vast range of buildings across the country.

The investment is the latest to be made by the WMCA as part of its nationally leading 'brownfield first' regeneration programme. The programme helps unlock and transform former industrial land by cleaning it up in order to create more jobs and high quality affordable homes.

Andy Street, Mayor for the West Midlands, and Chair of the WMCA, said: "Manufacturers like Drywall are incredibly important to our regional economy which is why we use the money we secure from government to support those businesses who want to grow and generate new jobs for local people."

Continued on page 4

■ (l-r) Andy Street, Mayor of the West Midlands and Chair of the WMCA; Mayank Gupta, director of DryWall, and Stephen Simkins, Leader of Wolverhampton Council

Wolverhampton factory doubles in size

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Prayathon

Nasheed artist embarks on praying challenge visiting 313 mosques in seven days



New interventional radiology suite opens at BRI

Bradford Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust's Radiology department has a new, state-of-the-art interventional imaging system which will improve patient care.

The Trust's dedicated interventional room at Bradford Royal Infirmary now has an ALLIA IGS 740 system from GE Healthcare which allows interventional radiologists to perform intricate vascular radiology procedures with even greater precision.

Interventional radiology is based on the management of various diseases and conditions using image guidance for patients with cancer, vascular, gastrointestinal, urological, gynaecological, and respiratory diseases as well as other conditions.

Interventional radiologists specialise in minimally invasive image guided treatments that have proven to be less risky, less painful with better recovery time compared to open surgery.

Procedures use real-time imaging techniques, including X-rays and ultrasound, to guide the operator.

The new machine will help with vascular treatments such as

angioplasty, stent insertion, embolisation (a way of blocking abnormal blood vessels) and EVAR (endovascular aneurysm repair).

Consultant Interventional Radiologist, Jonathan Barber said: "The introduction of GE Healthcare's ALLIA IGS 740 system to our department represents a significant advancement in our ability to deliver cutting-edge interventional radiology services to our patients.

"This technology allows us to perform complex procedures with unprecedented precision – improving patient care and outcomes."

The Interventional Radiology team provides life-saving treatments which are much less invasive than traditional surgical procedures and improve patients' quality of life. Patients benefit from faster recovery times; shorter hospital stays and better outcomes.

Bradford Teaching Hospitals, along with Leeds Teaching Hospitals Trust, is one of two arterial centres in West Yorkshire where vascular inpatient services and vascular emergencies are located.

In a remarkable display of dedication that merges physical challenge with spiritual reflection, London based Nasheed artist, Omar Esa, has launched a unique fundraising campaign to support children all over the world.

Throughout the holy month of Ramadan, a time for heightened spirituality, prayer, and a significant focus on charity, Esa has begun a tough 'Prayathon', visiting 313 mosques across London in just seven days.

Esa has already raised over £68,000, and will go towards providing essential aid, and establishing a sustainable school meals program to nourish children all over the world.

"As Muslims worldwide observe Ramadan, a time for introspection and extending a helping hand to those less fortunate," Esa explains.

"I felt compelled to take action and raise awareness about children in Palestine and other countries such as Ethiopia and Malawi.

"This prayathon is a physical and spiritual challenge I hope will inspire others to contribute to their well-being."

Esa's ambitious journey will see him traveling extensively, offering prayers, and seeking blessings at each of the 313 mosques.

The number 313 holds significance Islam, regarding the number of soldiers at the Battle of Badr with the Prophet Mohammed, further emphasising Esa's dedication and the symbolic nature of his undertaking.

Charity Right, a UK-based organisation with a long history of supporting children globally, is proud to partner with Esa on this

impactful campaign.

The Prayathon challenge is designed to support their mission of providing nutritious meals to schoolchildren in need.

Funds raised will contribute to both ongoing emergency relief efforts and the establishment of sustainable school meals programs across eight countries - Pakistan, Sudan, Palestine, Turkey, Ethiopia, Malawi, Afghanistan and Bangladesh.

This means providing vital supplies to families struggling with hardship, but also ensuring children all over the world have access to the food they need.

“

As the provider for my own family, it pains me to think that there are thousands of children around the World and particularly in Palestine without any necessities — no home to live in, no family to turn to, no security of food at all.

Esa adds: "As the provider for my own family, it pains me to think that there are thousands of children around the World and particularly in Palestine without any necessities — no home to live in, no family to turn to, no security of food at all. It's a heart-wrenching reality that

compels me to reach out to you.

"These children, living in conditions we can hardly fathom, are no different from our own nieces and nephews or younger brothers and sisters.

"Just as a scratch on our child's arm causes us pain, the mere thought of these children, many of whom have become orphaned, their homes destroyed or families torn apart, is our worst nightmare.

"We, as a global community, need to come together and help alleviate the suffering in Palestine, Ethiopia and Malawi."

Asim Lone, Charity Right's CEO commented: "We are incredibly

inspired by Omar's initiative and the depth of his commitment.

"His prayathon during Ramadan serves as a powerful testament to his faith and unwavering compassion. The funds raised through this campaign will make a real difference in the lives of countless children."

Donations can be made via Omar Esa's Charity Right fundraising page: www.charityright.org.uk/cr-star-campaign/6370/omar-esas-fundraising-for-palestine

Wolverhampton factory doubles in size

Cover story continued

“We are also continuing to protect our green belt by prioritising investment on the regeneration of brownfield sites like this one. It’s important we clean up these sites to provide high quality affordable housing for local people and modern commercial premises for our businesses, helping to attract further investment into our region.”

Drywall Steel Sections Ltd is part of a family-owned group of companies set up by Rajinder and Sunita Gupta more than 20 years ago. Since joining the business six years ago, their son Mayank has taken over as the managing director, and the firm is seeing new growth through fresh vigour.

Mayank Gupta, who previously worked in television production management and

the financial sector before joining the family firm, said: “We are proud to bring Drywall Steel Sections Ltd’s headquarters back to our home city of Wolverhampton.

“Our new headquarters is equipped to handle significantly more manufacturing capacity with a much more efficient production process, allowing us to remain competitive in the market. Alongside our family investment, we are most grateful to the WMCA for its support in unlocking this brownfield site.

“The new Drywall HQ and commercial starter units on G5 Industrial Park will help safeguard current jobs and provide a much improved facility for the existing team. It will also create new jobs, help smaller businesses to grow in brand new premises, and boost the region’s economy.



“Our new headquarters is equipped to handle significantly more manufacturing capacity with a much more efficient production process, allowing us to remain competitive in the market.”



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Registrations still open for Venturefest WM 2024

Registration for Venturefest West Midlands 2024 are still open for entrepreneurs and innovators to develop their businesses and meet potential investors.

The West Midlands Combined Authority (WMCA) is sponsoring and co-hosting this free event, which offers the opportunity for entrepreneurs, innovators and investors to share ideas for co-operation and collaboration, particularly in the fields of science and emerging technologies.

The event is sponsored by ICure, Electric Revolution Skills Hub, Medilink, VVV, Natwest, Penningtons Manches Cooper and University of Birmingham.

Venturefest WM 2024 will include panel discussions, workshops and an exhibition of innovative products of interest to businesses from any sector.

Running alongside Venturefest WM for another year will be Minerva Birmingham Pitch Up, a 'Dragon's Den' style competition for business owners. The event provides a unique opportunity for businesses to raise their profile both in the West Midlands and in front of a national audience of investors.

Minerva Birmingham Pitch Up - run by the Centre for Growth at Aston University, BizzInn at the University of Birmingham and Minerva Business Angels, part of the University of Warwick Science Park - has put over 200 entrepreneurs directly in front of investors over recent years and helped bring more than £65 million of investments to the region's small businesses.

Nathan Guest, partner and head of the technology at VVV, said: "We are absolutely delighted to be sponsoring Venturefest for the third consecutive year, and to be working with our other event partners to showcase emerging science and technology businesses in the West Midlands.

"Venturefest is a great opportunity for us to reinforce our commitment to the fast-growing West Midlands science and technology sectors and the ecosystem that supports them.

"The event will provide an excellent platform for entrepreneurs, universities, investors and innovators to meet, engage and to collaborate through sharing ideas and experience. It will also provide young companies with an exciting opportunity to raise their profile and connect with allied organisations facing similar business challenges.

"We were delighted to sponsor Venturefest 2022 and 2023 and we are thrilled to be able to play a key role in the 2024 event."

Venturefest WM will take place on Thursday March 21st at the Eastside Rooms, Woodcock Street, Birmingham B7 4BL, from 8:30am to 5pm. Places can be booked here.

For more information about Venturefest WM 2024, visit <https://www.venturefestwm.co.uk/>

Eight locally led projects have shared almost £300,000 in the first round of grants from the West Midlands Combined Authority's (WMCA) £1 million Community Environment Fund.

They include a breeding programme to boost ecologically important crayfish numbers, training up environment champions in sports clubs and across communities, and helping local people to repair rather than throw away their clothes.

The fund was set up with Commonwealth Games legacy money to significantly widen the scope of funding the WMCA is making available for 'green' projects.

These grants mean the WMCA has now provided almost £1 million to support the work of grassroots environment projects right across the region.

Saathi House, in Aston, is one of

Projects across the West Midlands share £300,000 of new funding

the recipients, and will receive £20,125 to train 90 local women as environment champions to promote sustainable living practices, such as waste reduction, efficient cooking, recycling, and energy conservation, within their families and communities.

Birmingham County Football Association, also will get funding of £25,000 to train up 10 football climate champions and put 500 football club volunteers through Carbon Literacy for Grassroots

Football training to help them reduce waste and lower their energy usage and bills.

Andy Street, Mayor of the West Midlands and WMCA chair, said: "These are the first grants we're announcing from the new Community Environment Fund and they will pay for a wide variety of projects such as education programmes, a clothing repair scheme, and work to protect important species that have a valuable but largely hidden role in

our natural ecosystems.

"I look forward to visiting local beneficiaries of this new funding and see the positive environmental benefits they bring in the months and years ahead."

Community groups and regional organisations can still bid for small grants of up to £25,000 and large grants of up to £100,000.

Find out how to apply at www.wmca.org.uk/what-we-do/environment/community-environment-fund/.

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£250,000 donated at Iftar event

Sadiq Khan breaks his fast with leading figures from the British Muslim community in support of mental health projects

Sadiq Khan, Mayor of London, was one of many prominent British Muslims attending the British Asian Trust's annual Iftar at the London Grosvenor Marriott Hotel.

Other notable guests included government minister Lord Tariq Ahmad, Baroness Sayeeda Warsi, High Commissioner of Pakistan to the UK H.E. Dr Mohammad Faisal and British Asian Trust Ambassadors including music producer Naughty Boy and Pakistani actor Sanam Saeed.

The British Asian Trust Iftar attracted a diverse gathering of 350 guests from the South Asian Muslim diaspora, including celebrities, philanthropists, entrepreneurs, business leaders, professionals, and the Trust's Ambassadors.

Guests generously donated over £250,000 at the Iftar (breaking of the fast).

The event highlighted the often unspoken and invisible struggle of mental health issues and raised funds for the Trust's vital Mental Health programmes in Pakistan and Bangladesh.

The British Asian Trust was founded in 2007 by His Majesty King Charles III (when he was His Royal Highness The Prince of Wales) and a group of British Asian entrepreneurs, to tackle poverty, inequality and injustice in

South Asia.

Mayor of London Sadiq Khan said: "Ramadan is a time for charity and giving and this year the British Asian Trust has put together another wonderful Iftar event to support those in need with mental health services. The Trust's work has been life-changing for people and I am proud to support them again this Ramadan."

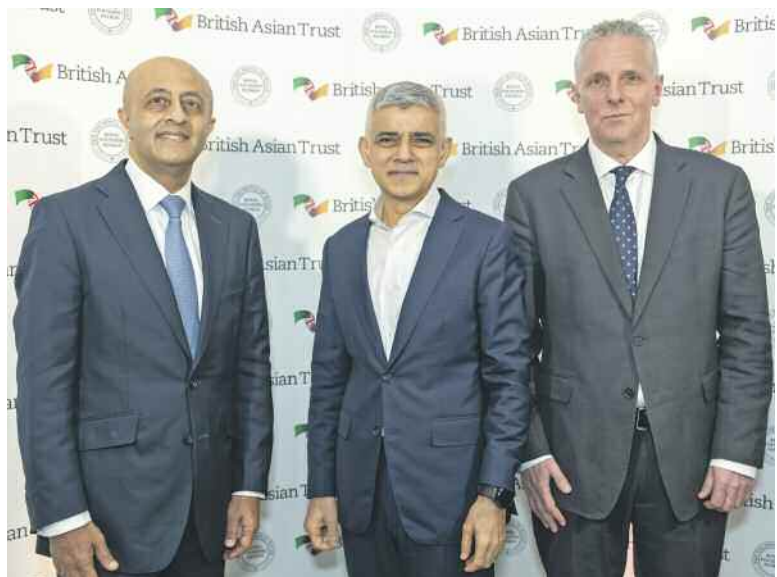
change the mental health landscape by destigmatising and raising awareness of mental health, promoting accessible and affordable services for all and building coalitions of support to drive change."

The evening was hosted by BBC broadcaster and British Asian Trust Ambassador Asad Ahmad. Other notable guests at the event included

“Ramadan is a time for charity and giving and this year the British Asian Trust has put together another wonderful Iftar event to support those in need with mental health services.”

British Asian Trust Chief Executive Richard Hawkes added: "The British Asian Trust has been working to improve the lives of people with mental health issues for over a decade. "Our work aims to fundamentally

Baroness Shaista Gohir OBE, Rushanara Ali, MP for Bethnal Green and Bow, Shadow Minister (Investment and Small Business) and Shabana Mahmood, MP for Birmingham, Ladywood.



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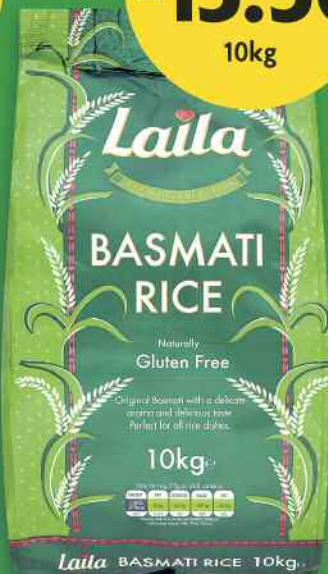
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Israel won't approve UN food convoys to northern Gaza

■ Head of the U.N. Palestinian refugee agency (UNRWA), Philippe Lazzarini

With more than 32,000 Palestinians been killed in Gaza since the war began in October, hunger has reached catastrophic levels, with over 90 per cent of the population facing acute food insecurity.

In northern Gaza, parents are feeding their children animal fodder and native plants, leading to possible malnutrition and nutritional deficiencies.

Now United Nations relief agency, UNRWA, has said Israel will end the U.N. food convoys to northern Gaza.

The head of the U.N. Palestinian refugee agency (UNRWA), Philippe Lazzarini, said on Sunday 24th March, Israel will no longer approve UNRWA food convoys to the north of Gaza.

Mr Lazzarini said on social media: "This is outrageous and makes it intentional to obstruct lifesaving assistance during a man-made famine. These restrictions must be lifted."

UNRWA, which provides aid and services to Palestinian refugees in Gaza and across the region, has been in crisis since Israel accused a dozen of its staff of involvement in the 7th October Hamas attacks against Israel.

The allegations prompted UNRWA's biggest donor, the United States, and some others to pause funding, putting the agency's future in doubt.

However, other countries including Canada, Australia and Sweden have since restored funding.

"By preventing UNRWA to fulfil its mandate in Gaza, the clock will tick faster towards famine and many more will die of hunger, dehydration and lack of shelter," Mr Lazzarini added.

Last week that Mr Lazzarini, who was on a visit to Cairo, was denied entry to Gaza by Israeli authorities.



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Boys' mental health impacted more by pandemic than girls'

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

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

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

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

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

enabled them to examine changes associated with increasing age as well as with the pandemic.

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

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

referrals for boys than will be anticipated."

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

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 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 one of Meta's products daily.

With channels such as Facebook Marketplace and Instagram Shopping driving

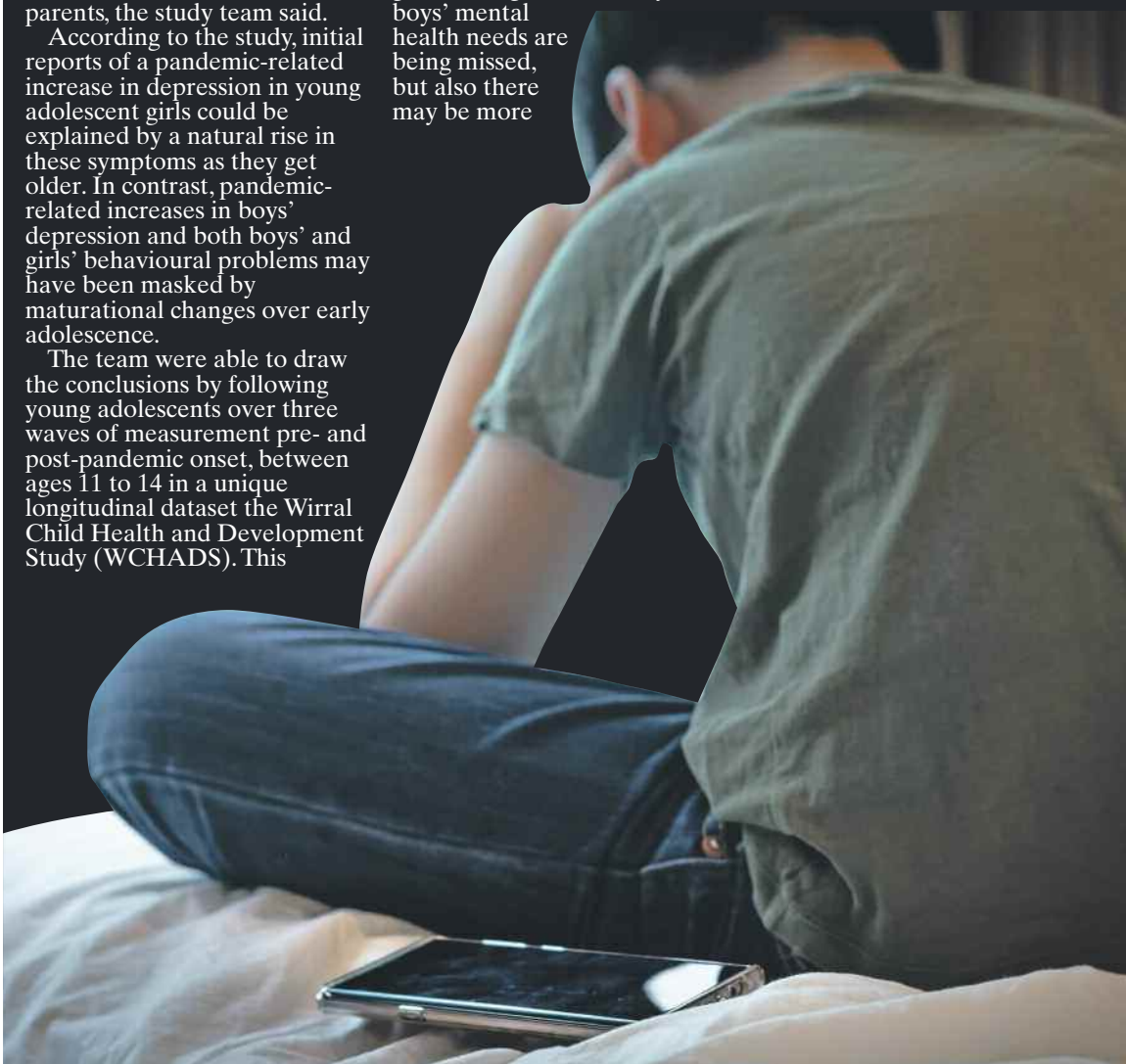
e-commerce, it is important that users stay vigilant when using these platforms.

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.

WhatsApp also circulates a large number of scams, from verification message tricks to scammers sending out fake Tesco, Asda, and Marks & 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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Child sexual abuse - let's start the conversation



■ Mohammed Ashfaq, Managing Director, Kikit

Shockingly, 1 in 10 children have experienced sexual abuse before the age of 16. A new campaign across Birmingham urges local communities to 'start the conversation' about child sexual abuse, encouraging us to bring the facts out into the open.

Birmingham-based organisation Kikit is leading the campaign, which is running across social media, local radio and press. In the experience of Mohammed Ashfaq, Kikit's Managing Director, people prefer not to talk about child sexual abuse. Changing the community's outlook on this is a top priority for the campaign:

"Child sexual abuse happens in every community, and unfortunately our community is no different. It's time we started understanding what child sexual abuse means, rather than thinking it isn't happening. We need to bring it out into the open so that we can protect our children."

Around 500,000 children are sexually abused every year. It can happen anywhere – by people we may trust and in places where we usually feel secure. Child sexual abuse can happen in person or online.

Ayisha Ali is a former deputy headteacher and now focuses on safeguarding work within schools



■ Ayisha Ali

across Birmingham. She says: "Child sexual abuse is a huge concern. The only way we can start to protect our children is to talk about it openly and understand more about what child sexual abuse means. Often, a child might be afraid to tell someone what's happening to them and need

the support to speak up."

When a child or young person (anyone under the age of 18) is sexually abused, they could be forced, tricked, or manipulated into sexual activities.

This can include

things like forcing a child to view sexual content, touching a child inappropriately or exposing yourself to a child. The child might not understand that what's happening is abuse or that it's wrong.

Nesath Khusbu is a legal

consultant as well as a content creator and social activist, Nesath often supports women and families in her work, and she agrees that sweeping child sexual abuse under the carpet is something we need to change:

"If I mention to someone that 1 in 10 children have experienced sexual abuse before the age of 16, they find it very hard to believe. It's a huge figure but, unfortunately, it's true and it's closer to home than we may think. We have to understand more about child sexual abuse and talk about it openly."

The campaign includes more detailed information and guidance on Kikit's website, including where you can go for support if you need it.

Rohit Sagoo is a paediatric nurse and Founder of British Sikh Nurses. He is supporting the campaign and agrees with the importance of opening up discussions about child sexual abuse:

"It can be hard to admit that something like this is happening on our doorstep, but the more we talk about child sexual abuse and the more we know about it, the safer we can keep our children."



■ Rohit Sagoo

■ Nesath Khusbu

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Pathways to Recovery

To find out more search kikitproject.org/conversation

If you feel you need to talk to someone at KIKIT, please call 0121 448 3883 and someone will be there to listen.



LET'S START THE CONVERSATION

**Around 500,000 children are sexually
abused every year**

We all want to keep our children safe. Child sexual abuse affects every community – including ours. And it can happen anywhere - by people we trust and in places where we feel secure. By understanding more about child sexual abuse and talking about it openly in our communities, we can make sure our children are protected.

You can find lots of information about what child sexual abuse means and what we can do about it at kikitproject.org/conversation

If you feel you need to talk to someone, please call Kikit on **0121 448 3883**

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Pathways to Recovery

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

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 messages he wished to convey through his art.

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

Omar's artistic journey highlights the transformative power of art in amplifying voices, fostering hope, and sustaining awareness of critical social issues.

"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.

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."

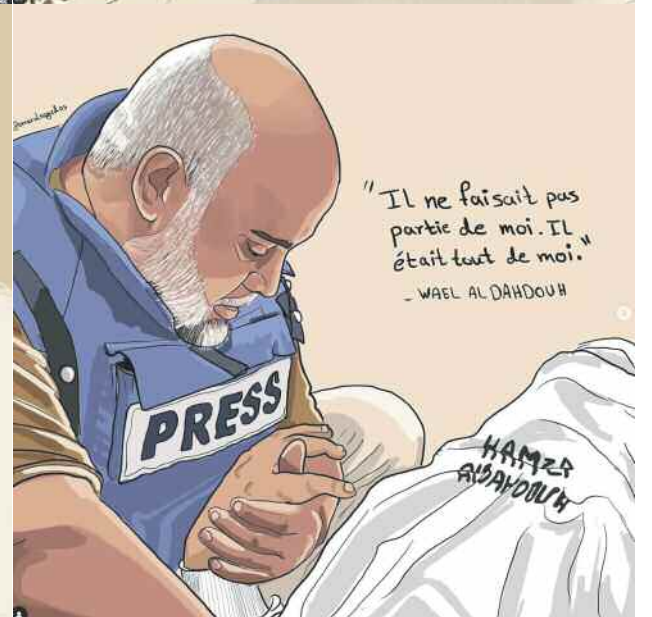
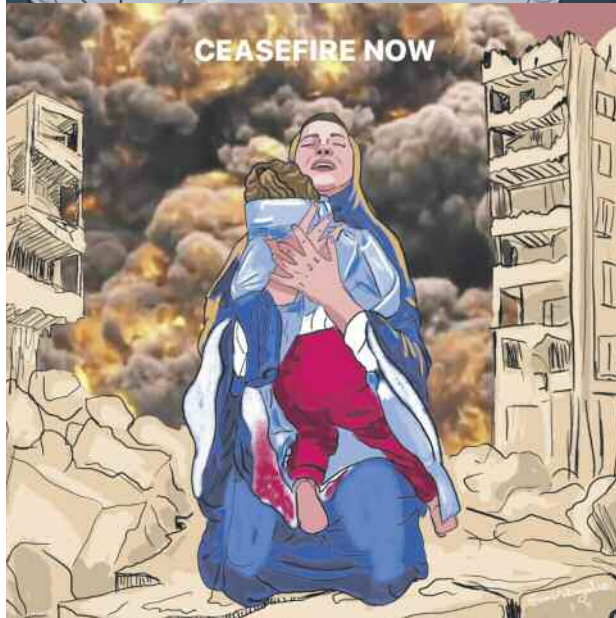
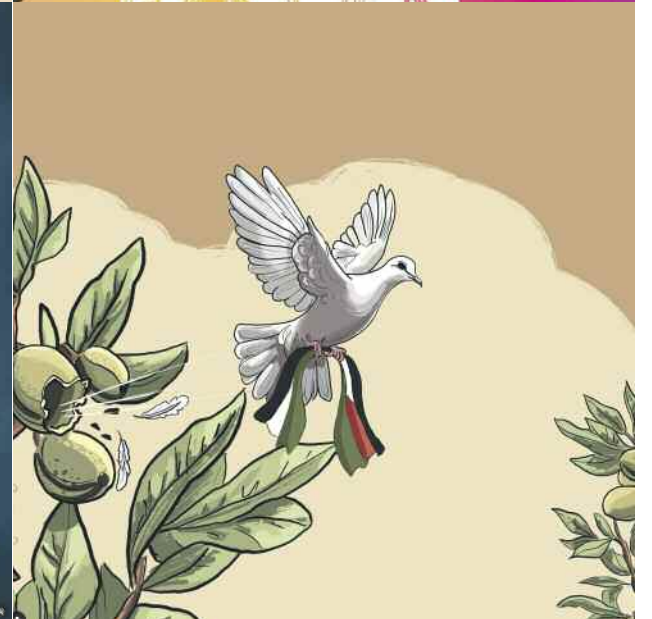
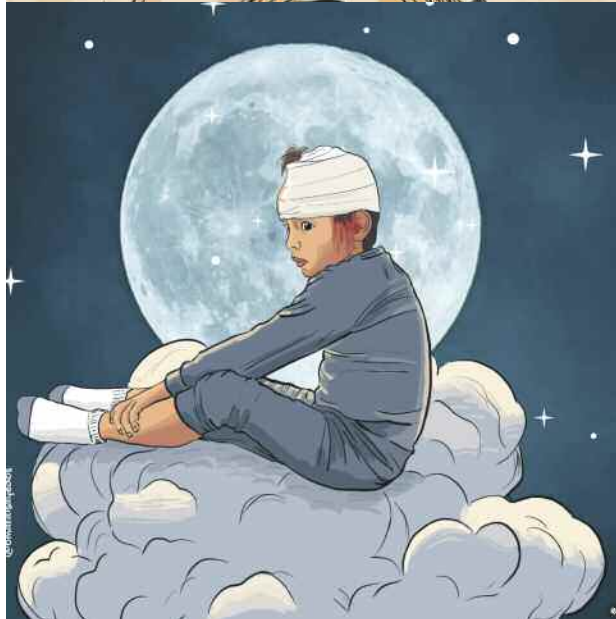
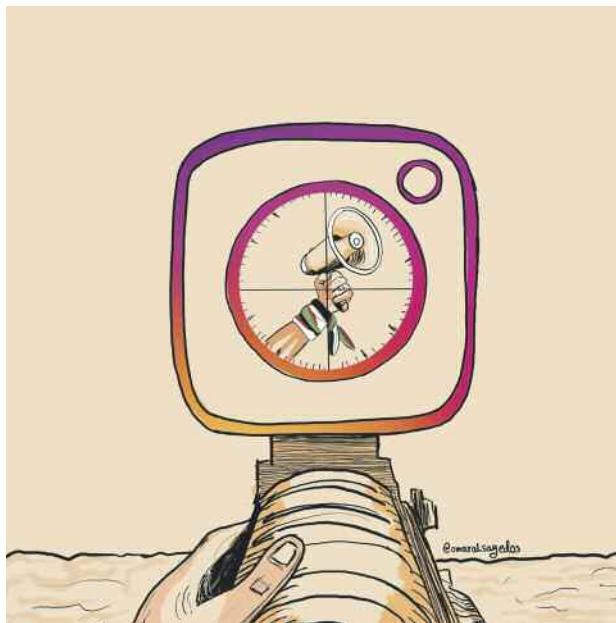
The colourful scenes illustrated stand in stark contrast to the grimness of the depicted situations. It's a deliberate choice to remind

have been taking place in Gaza over the past few months.

He emphasises the need to sustain momentum in pushing 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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Muslim student accused of anti-Semitism wins case against politician

A doctoral astrophysics student who received death threats after appearing on a popular British quiz show has won “substantial damages” and received a public apology from a Conservative politician who wrongly accused her of anti-Semitism, her lawyers said on Wednesday 6th March.

Melika Gorgianeh, a student at Christ Church, Oxford University, appeared on University Challenge, a BBC show, in an episode that was aired on 20th November.

University Challenge began 1962, and is a how beloved by Britons, seeing university students compete to answer difficult questions by an unforgiving host. Teams are encouraged to bring along mascots.

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 blatant anti-Semitic trope, used by the Nazis to show how Jews’ tentacles were spread round the world? ... Shame on Christ Church, shame on Oxford University.”

Ultimately, Melika’s Christ Church College rose to the occasion and won the challenge, with 155 points against rivals from Emmanuel College at the University

of Cambridge, who scored 130.

The episode was broadcast weeks into Israel’s war on Gaza at a time when community tensions in Britain were rising.

In late November, Melika complained to the commissioner of the House of Lords concerning Foster’s conduct, but it was not upheld.

“The false allegation of anti-Semitism has had a profound and deeply damaging impact on my life. I was a student appearing on my favourite TV quiz show. All of a sudden, lies told about me, and only me, led to me receiving death threats and to my mental health deteriorating,” she said.

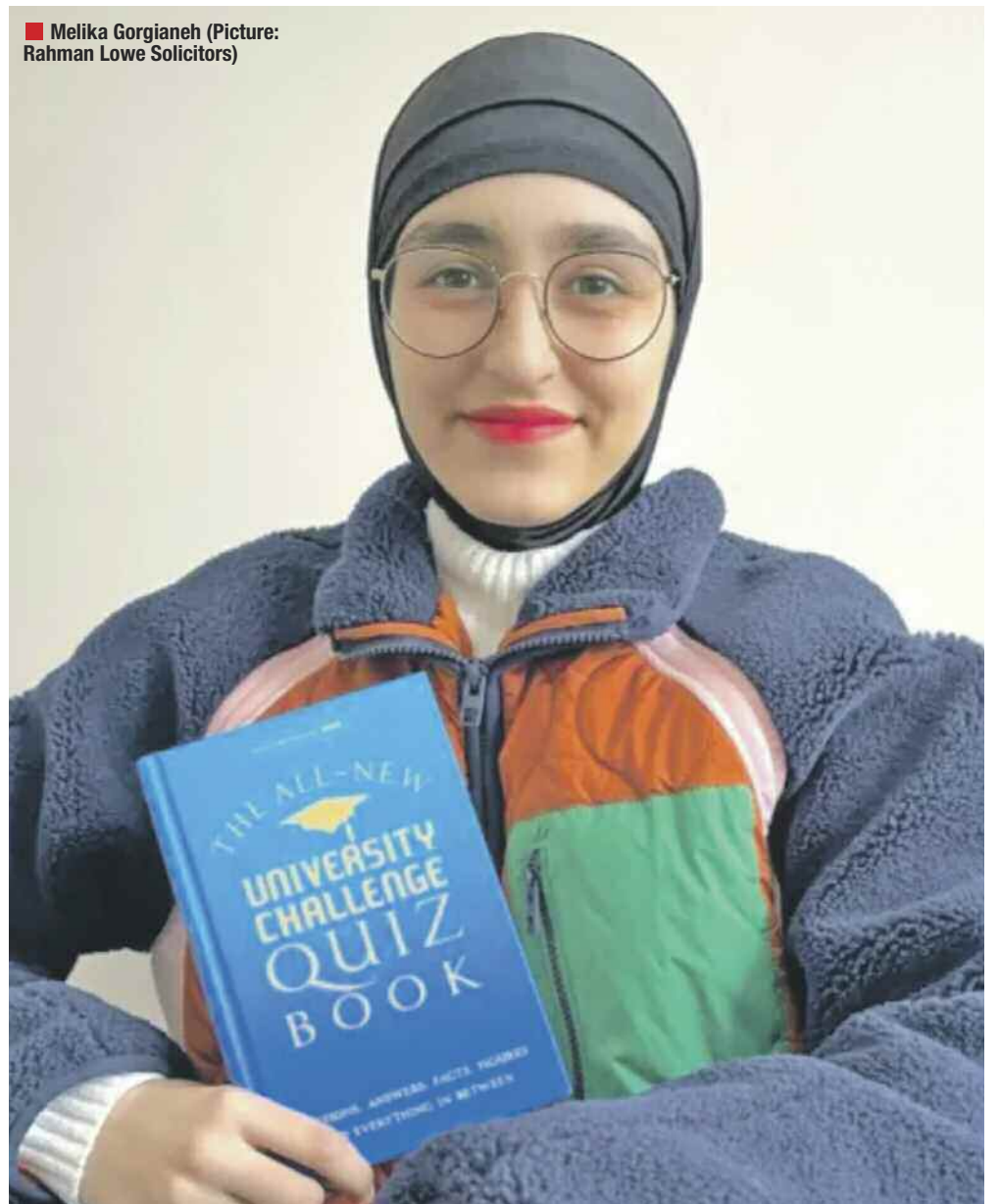
“Baroness Foster’s posts, and the posts of others who are yet to be held to account, affected both myself and my family. I felt unsafe to even leave my house.

“Nobody should ever have to feel how I felt or go through what I went through. Words have consequences. And now, through her apology, Baroness Foster’s words begin to have the consequence of healing the very real damage that had been done to me.”

Baroness Foster posted a lengthy apology on X on Wednesday 6th March, saying she “made a grave mistake in making those posts and I should not have donso”. Zillur Rahman, Gorgianeh’s solicitor, said that statements by a person in a position of power, authority and respect, carry “far greater weight and are liable to have a far greater impact than those made by less prominent figures”.

“Baroness Foster holds a DBE, and as a lifetime peer, she is quite literally a member of the ruling class of British society,” he said.

Rahman’s firm, Rahman Lowe, did not disclose the sum of the compensation awarded to Gorgianeh.



■ Melika Gorgianeh (Picture: Rahman Lowe Solicitors)

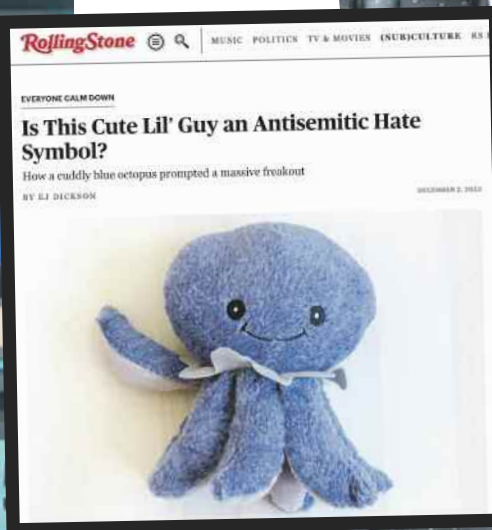
Baroness Foster described the octopus as one of the most “disgusting anti-Semitic symbols” and called for Melika to be “expelled” by her university and “arrested” by the police.



■ Member of the House of Lords, Baroness Jacqueline Foster



■ Melika Gorgianeh appeared on the popular quiz show, University Challenge, on 20th November (Picture: BBC)



■ The story was picked up by many media outlets and seized upon on social media. “Is This Cute Lil’ Guy an Antisemitic Hate Symbol?” asked Rolling Stone magazine in a headline, of the octopus

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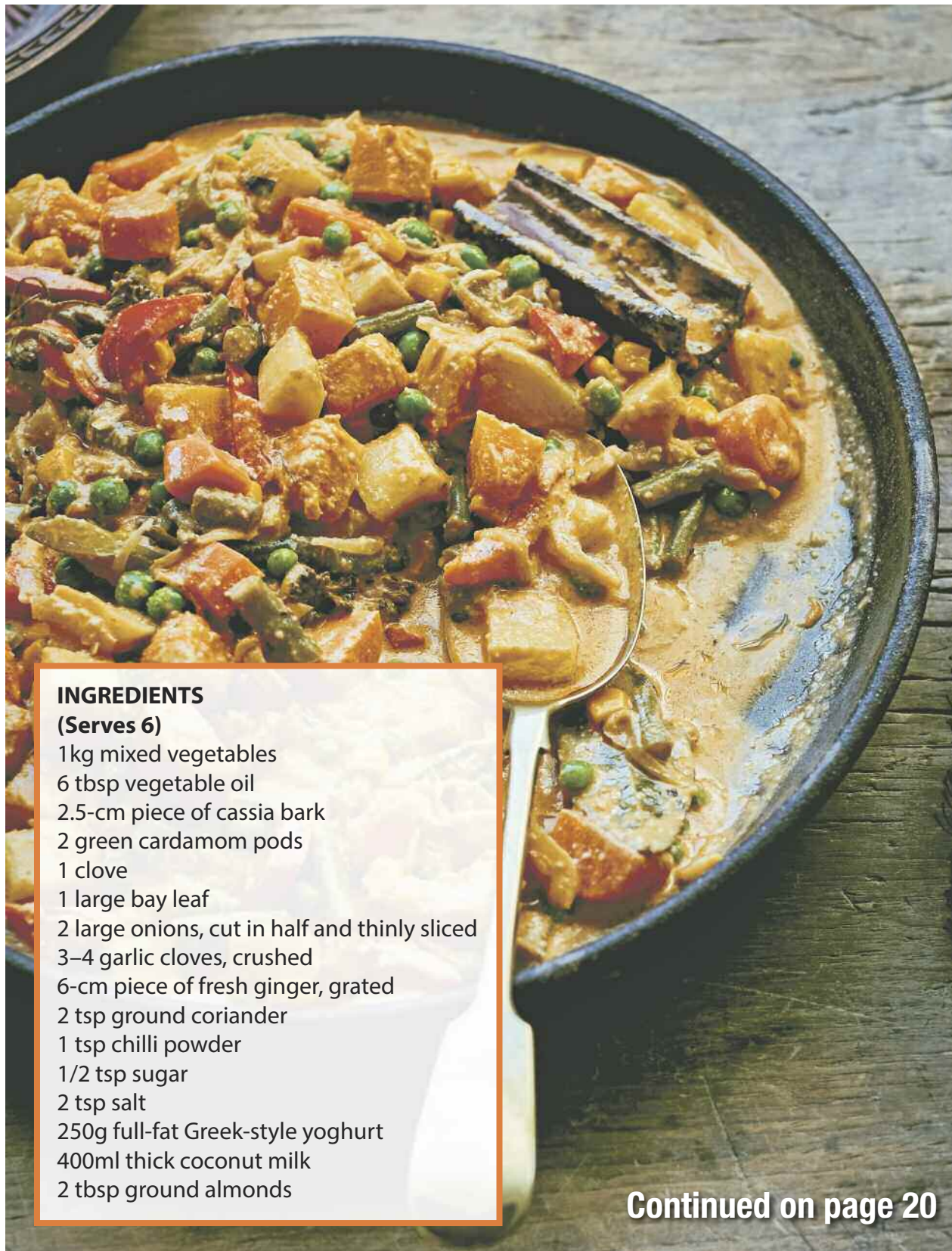


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YUM! Delicious recipes for Eid



Navratan Korma, Nine-Jewel Korma

Navratan is a traditional South Asian style of gem-setting based on nine different precious stones. This korma is made up of nine colourful vegetables. It's a great way to use up odd veg from your fridge. Try red, yellow and orange peppers, aubergine, courgettes, baby sweetcorn, mangetout, cabbage and spinach. Or you could par-boil some carrots, parsnips, potatoes, French beans and pumpkin, then add red pepper, peas, sweetcorn and purple sprouting broccoli. A comforting, creamy (and extremely nutritious) curry that is ideal for children, too!

METHOD

- Cut all the vegetables into evenly sized pieces and set aside on a tray.
- Heat the oil in a deep pan over a medium-high heat. Add the cassia bark, cardamoms, clove and bay leaf, then immediately add the onions and fry until golden brown.
- Add the garlic and ginger and stir for 1 minute. Then add the ground coriander, chilli powder, sugar and salt and stir for 2 minutes.
- Add the yoghurt, lower the heat to medium and stir until most of the liquid has evaporated.
- Add all the vegetables, stir and cook until tender. If the vegetables start to stick, add a splash of water. When they are cooked, add the coconut milk and ground almonds, and stir until the gravy thickens.
- Taste and adjust the seasoning before serving.
- This korma goes very well with any kind of rice or pulao, and is a great accompaniment for meat or fish.

INGREDIENTS

(Serves 6)

- 1kg mixed vegetables
- 6 tbsp vegetable oil
- 2.5-cm piece of cassia bark
- 2 green cardamom pods
- 1 clove
- 1 large bay leaf
- 2 large onions, cut in half and thinly sliced
- 3-4 garlic cloves, crushed
- 6-cm piece of fresh ginger, grated
- 2 tsp ground coriander
- 1 tsp chilli powder
- 1/2 tsp sugar
- 2 tsp salt
- 250g full-fat Greek-style yoghurt
- 400ml thick coconut milk
- 2 tbsp ground almonds

Continued on page 20

Rabri, Milk Dessert with Pistachio

Navratan is a traditional South Asian style of gem-setting based on nine different precious stones. This korma is made up of nine colourful vegetables. It's a great way to use up odd veg from your fridge. Try red, yellow and orange peppers, aubergine, courgettes, baby sweetcorn, mangetout,

cabbage and spinach. Or you could par-boil some carrots, parsnips, potatoes, French beans and pumpkin, then add red pepper, peas, sweetcorn and purple sprouting broccoli. A comforting, creamy (and extremely nutritious) curry that is ideal for children, too!

METHOD

- Heat the milk in a heavy-based pan over a high heat until it comes to the boil, then reduce the heat slightly to keep the milk at a steady rolling boil for 5 minutes.
- Turn the heat to low and leave the milk to simmer very gently, uncovered, for about 30–45 minutes, until the milk has reduced to one third of its original volume. When a skin forms, use a spoon to stick it to the side of the pan; you will need to do this repeatedly. Occasionally you will have to stir the bottom of the pan to ensure that the milk does not catch.
- Towards the end of the cooking time, add the sugar and the crushed cardamom seeds.
- When the milk has reduced, take it off the heat and use a spoon to push all the skins from the side of the pan back into the milk. Leave to cool slightly before adding the rose water.
- Spoon into a serving dish and place in the fridge to chill, preferably overnight. Sprinkle the pistachios on top before serving.



INGREDIENTS

(Serves 4)

- 1 litre full-fat milk
- 60g sugar
- 1/2 tsp seeds from green cardamom pods, crushed
- 1 tbsp rose water
- 3 tbsp unblanched shelled unsalted pistachios, finely chopped

Zarda, Sweet Rice with Saffron and Nuts

INGREDIENTS

(Serves 6-8)

- 1/2 tsp saffron strands
- 2 tbsp milk
- 250g basmati rice
- 100g ghee or butter (or flavourless vegetable oil), plus extra for greasing
- 6 cloves
- 8 green cardamom pods
- 40g each shelled unsalted pistachios and unsalted blanched almonds, cut into thick slivers
- 30g dried apricots, cut into small cubes
- 150g granulated sugar
- 2 tbsp kewra (screwpine) water or rose water



Anyone attending a milad (religious gathering) or a Muslim wedding in the subcontinent would have come across this saffron-infused glistening dessert. Saffron is one of the world's most expensive spices, but you

only need a little, and infusing it in warm milk is a very effective way to bring out its flavour. The addition of nuts gives this dessert a further luxurious touch. Definitely serve with some thick or clotted cream on the side.

METHOD

- Put the saffron in a small bowl, warm the milk to tepid and pour over the saffron strands.
- Gently wash the rice in a large bowl with cold water (not under running water as this will break the tips of the rice, which will make the rice sticky). Change the water several times until it looks clear, then soak the rice in cold water for at least 30 minutes or up to 3 hours.
- Drain the rice well in a strainer.
- Bring 1.5 litres water to the boil in a large pan. Add the rice once the water is boiling and boil until it is half done. It is hard to give an exact time for this as there are too many variables, but the way to check is to remove a single grain of rice from the hot water and squeeze it between your fingers – there should still be a hard core of slightly uncooked rice.
- Drain the half-cooked rice in a strainer and spread the rice thinly on a platter to cool and prevent it from continuing to cook.
- Preheat the oven to 180°C/160°C fan/gas 4.
- Heat the ghee or butter in a heavy-based pan over a medium-high heat. Add the cloves and cardamoms, followed by the pistachios, almonds and apricots.
- Add 250ml cold water and the sugar and stir until the sugar dissolves.
- Butter a casserole dish and add the rice, then pour over the warm, spice-infused sugar syrup.
- Add the saffron-infused milk and stir gently to ensure the saffron is evenly distributed. Cover tightly with foil and bake for 15 minutes.
- Take the dish out of the oven. Gently fluff the rice, then re-cover and bake for another 10–15 minutes.
- Remove the foil and leave the dessert to stand for a few minutes.
- Sprinkle the kewra or rose water over the warm rice before serving.



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With the average cost of a fully bespoke kitchen renovation setting homeowners back upwards of £35,000, it's no wonder that more people than ever are on the hunt for cost-effective and practical kitchen updates they can tackle on a budget.

In the era of trending hashtags like #homehacks and #lifehacks on platforms like TikTok, it's easier than ever to find creative solutions.

But how do you know which hacks are worth the cost and time investment? Here are the top kitchen renovation hacks that won't break the bank – or your patience!

Kitchen revamping hacks that won't break the bank



1. Island investment

One of the most impactful changes you can make to your kitchen without blowing your budget is by adding a freestanding kitchen island. Instead of shelling out a hefty sum to update your entire kitchen cabinetry, consider investing in a standalone island. From butcher's blocks to larger, eye-catching units that can comfortably seat four adults, these islands not only add a stylish touch but also create a cohesive feel in the space. By introducing a central gathering point, you'll encourage more socialising while enhancing the functionality of your kitchen – providing a hub for the whole family, whether that looks like the kids doing their homework whilst you prepare dinner, or simply a spot for reading the Sunday papers with a cup of coffee. Plus,

the flexibility of a freestanding island allows for easy rearrangement if you decide to change your kitchen layout in the future.

Top Tip:

Opt for an island in a complementary tone, rather than in the same colour as your wall units. Not only will this add a stylish element to the kitchen space, but it will also save the headache of trying to colour match all of your units!

2. A bright idea

Often overlooked but incredibly effective, adding under-unit lighting can completely transform the ambiance of your kitchen. This inexpensive addition brings warmth and depth to the room, making it feel more inviting and functional. Whether you opt for LED strips or puck lights, installing

under-cabinet lighting is a relatively simple DIY project that yields significant results. As well as improving visibility while cooking or prepping meals, adding under-unit lighting adds a touch of elegance to your kitchen's aesthetic.

3. Revamp – don't renovate

Homeowners are often cautious when approaching a kitchen renovation project. Rather than the issue of cost, the extensive length of time that the kitchen becomes a no-go zone can put owners off attempting the challenge altogether. Generally, a renovation can take anything from two weeks to a good few months to complete, which often isn't practical – especially for busy working professionals and young families.

So, instead of ripping the room back to the bare bones, why not refresh the units that you already have? Replacing doors, worktops and even handles is a much more cost-effective way to refresh your kitchen space – even replacing a kitchen tap can modernise a space completely.

4. Work with what you've got

Don't underestimate the power of upcycling when it comes to kitchen renovations. Instead of splurging on new furniture pieces, consider repurposing or refurbishing existing ones. Whether it's giving your old dining table a fresh coat of paint or repurposing an antique dresser as a kitchen storage unit, upcycling allows you to breathe new life into tired furniture pieces for less than the price of a takeaway.

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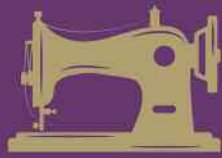


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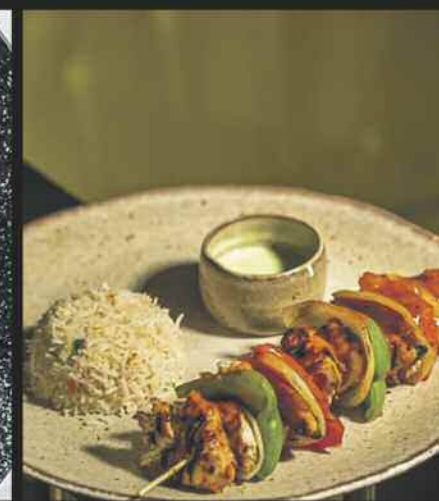
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'The Buddha of Suburbia'

With their production of Blue Beard currently on tour, Wise Children announced the full cast for the world premiere of Hanif Kureishi's *The Buddha of Suburbia* – adapted by the company's Artistic Director Emma Rice, with Kureishi.

The production runs at the Swan Theatre in Stratford-upon-Avon in a co-production with the Royal Shakespeare Company (RSC) as part of Daniel Evans and Tamara Harvey's inaugural season as Co-Artistic Directors.

Rice directs Dee Ahluwalia, Ankur Bahl, Raj Bajaj, Tommy Belshaw, Rina Fatania, Natasha Jayetileke, Bettrys Jones, Simon Rivers, Lucy Thackeray and Ewan Wardrop. The production opens on 30 April, with previews from 18 April, and runs until 1 June.

Emma Rice, Artistic Director of Wise Children said, "I'm honoured and excited to be part of Tamara and Daniel's inaugural season as Co-Artistic Directors at the RSC. It's magic to be returning to The Swan stage – and in such a thrilling way! There'll be no iambic pentameter here, oh no! Expect party poppers, lawn mowers, bean bags and balloons!"

"Hanif Kureishi's debut novel *The Buddha of Suburbia* is a messy, joyful, and angry love letter to family, theatre and music. Funny and tender in equal measure, this landmark story fizzes with rebellion, confusion, love and

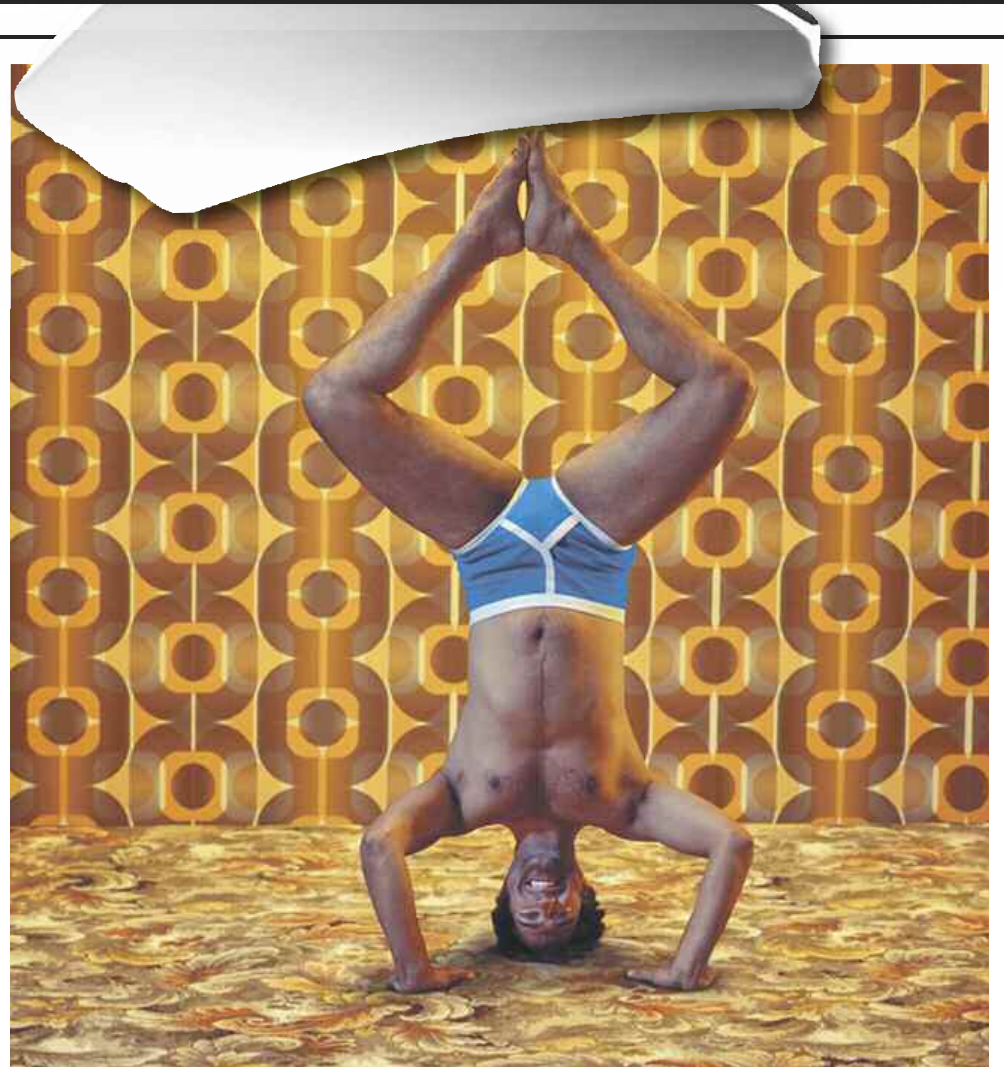
acceptance.

"I couldn't be more delighted to be working with my hero Hanif Kureishi on transforming his literary masterpiece into a joyful theatrical whoop. As the dawn of a new era shines upon the Swan stage, Buddha promises to be dashing, dirty, devastating and hopeful – just as theatre should be!"

Hanif Kureishi said today, "I am absolutely thrilled that Emma Rice is adapting my novel for the Royal Shakespeare Company. Emma has a uniquely theatrical imagination, which, in combination with my own theatre background and the novel's partial setting in the theatre, will result in a vibrant and provocative production."

Set Designer: Rachana Jadhav; Costume Designer: Vicki Mortimer; Sound and Video Designer: Simon Baker; Lighting Designer: Jai Morjaria; Composer: Niraj Chag; Choreographer: Etta Murfitt; Fight Director: Kev McCurdy; Casting Director: Matthew Dewsbury CDG

An irresistible, heart-breaking and joyful exploration of family, friends, sex, theatre and, ultimately, belonging. Emma Rice adapts the award-winning 1990 novel, *The Buddha of Suburbia* with Hanif Kureishi in a major new co-production with Wise Children and the RSC.



The Royal Shakespeare Company announces the cast for Hanif Kureishi's adapted novel



Ankur Bahl



Bettrys Jones



Devon Modha



Ewan Wardrop



Lucy Thackeray



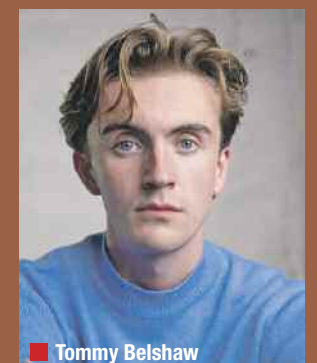
Natasha Jayetileke



Raj Bajaj



Simon Rivers



Tommy Belshaw

'Laapataa 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, 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



EXCLUSIVE: 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. 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.

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 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 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. 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 ideas and issues that we face in this country, and perhaps women face everywhere in the world.

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 to inaugurate the stage.

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, Co-op 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-topping tracks for the year's biggest Bollywood blockbusters at the Global Box Office such as "Jhoom 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 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.



For ticket bookings and further information visit:
<https://www.cooplive.com/events/61//arijit-singh>
 Join the conversation:
#ArijitSinghAtCoopLive

UK's latest and largest live entertainment arena to welcome India's biggest playback singer and music composer to kickstart 2024 UK Tour

'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 music maestro, Jubin Nautiyal, 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 5th 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, 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.

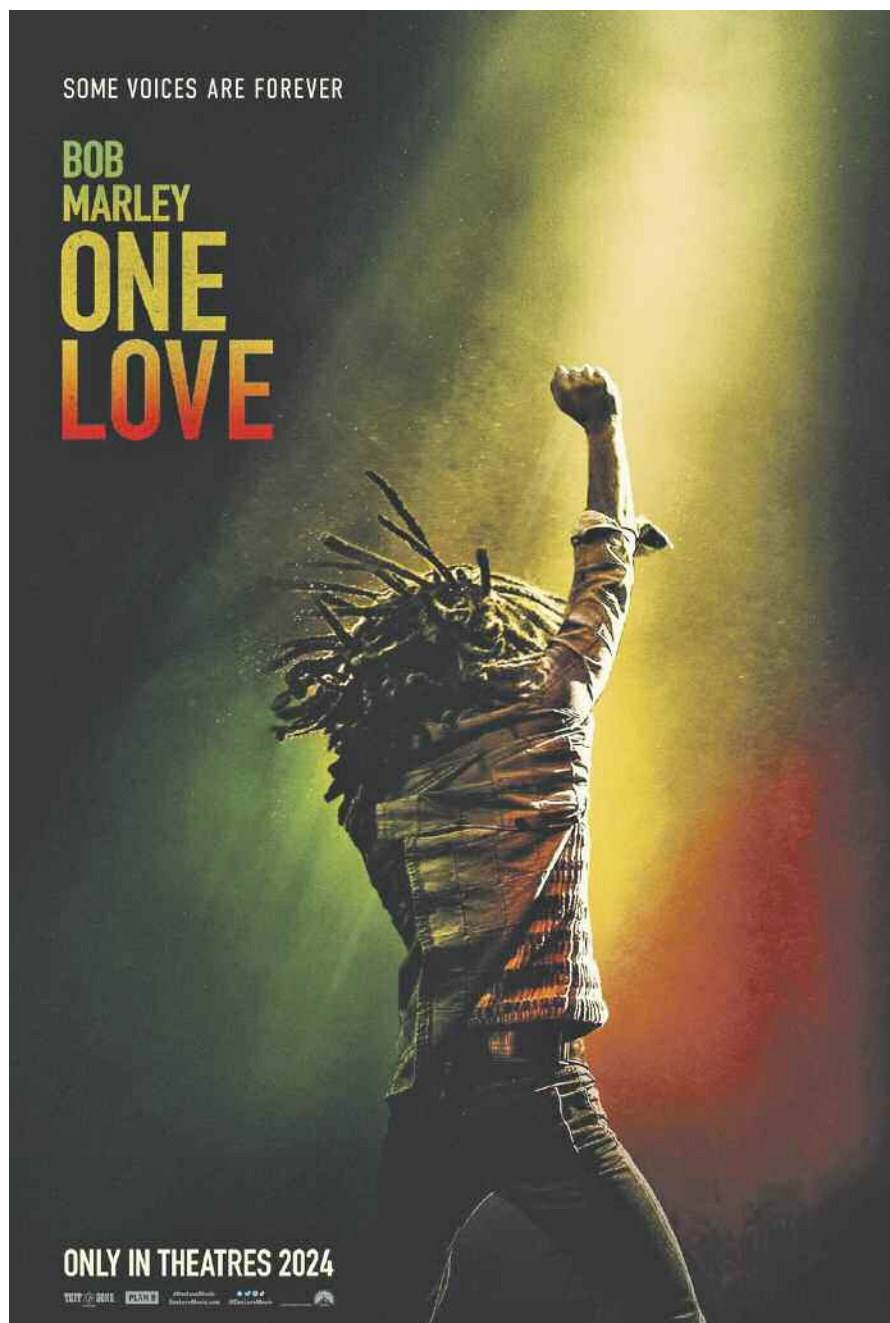
Renowned for his versatile singing style that effortlessly transitions between romantic ballads and high-energy tracks, Nautiyal's live concerts are a celebration of music that transcends borders.

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 Nautiyal live!

WHAT'S ON

in
cinemas
this
month



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:

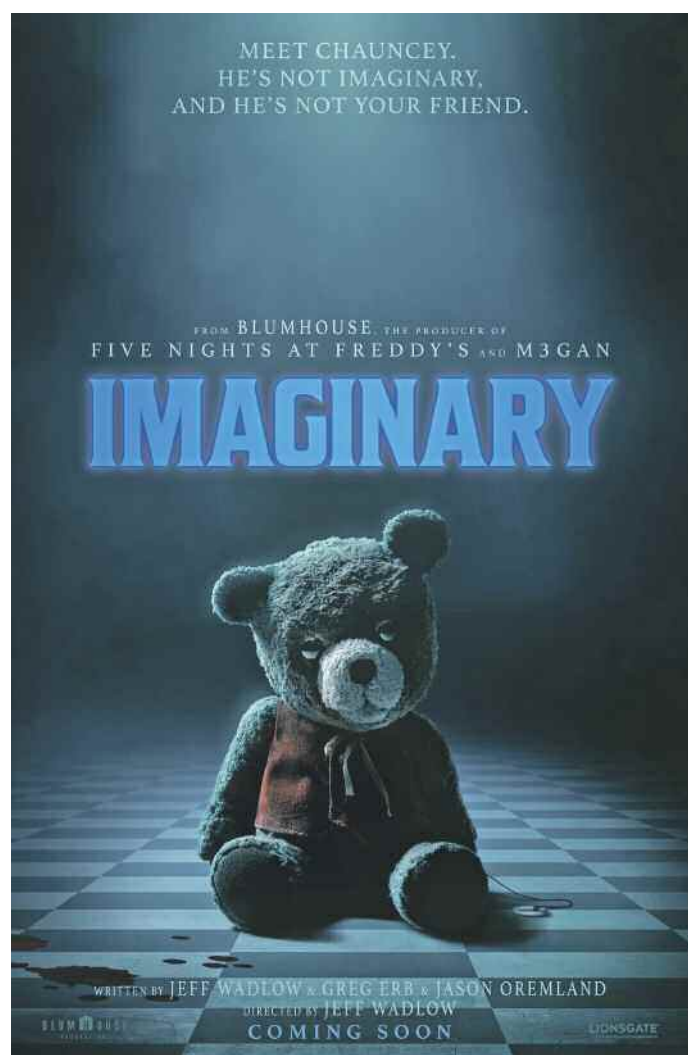
14/2/2024

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.



Imaginary

Release date: 8/3/2024

Starring: Betty Buckley, DeWanda Wise, Tom Payne

Director: Jeff Wadlow

Cert: TBC

From Blumhouse, the genre-defining 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.



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.



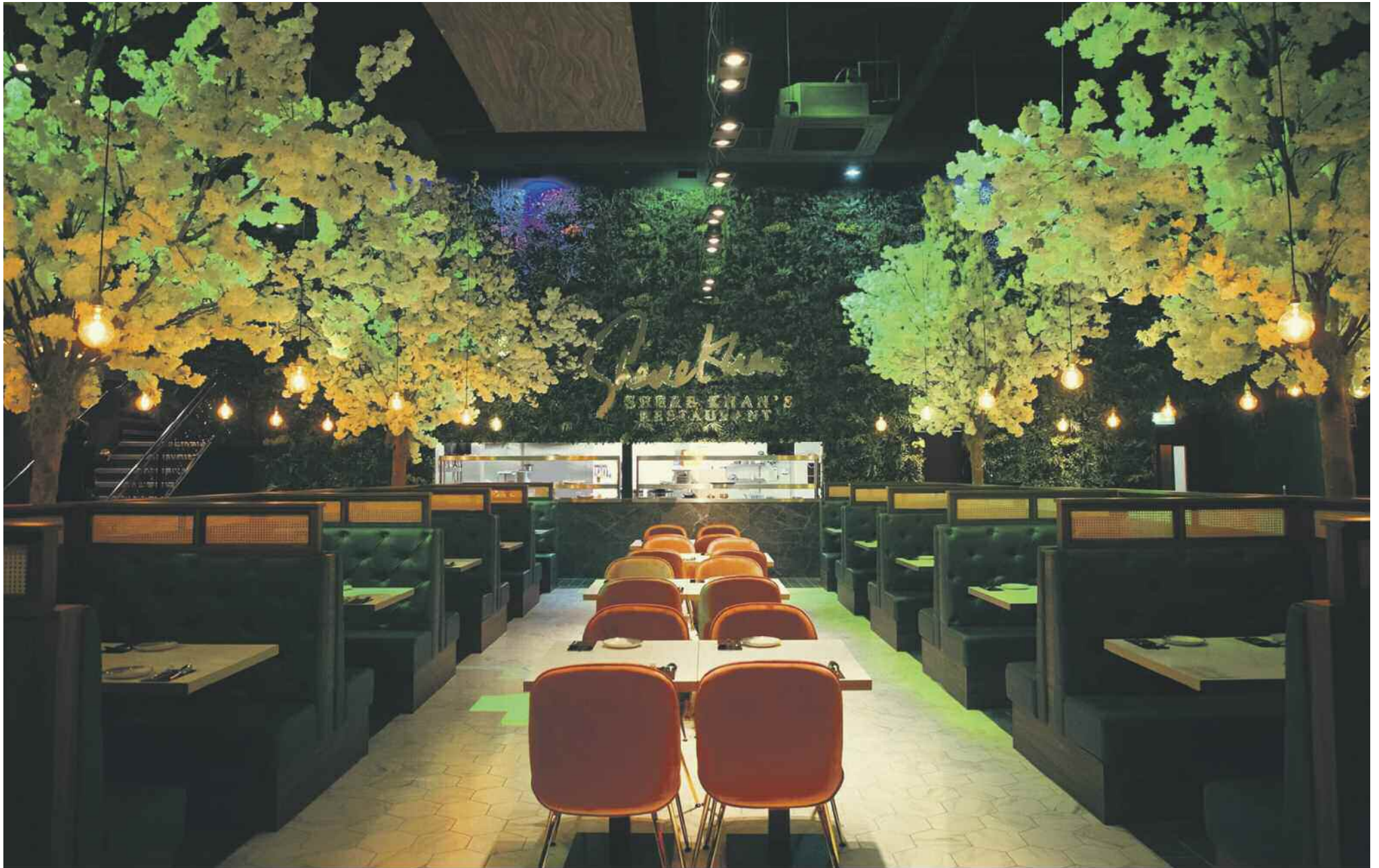
Combat Wombat: Back 2 Back

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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Ultra-exclusive supercar 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 Riyadh. 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 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 33

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Bentayga EWB – infinite choice, curated by Mulliner

A striking, highly personalised duo-tone Bentayga EWB Azure V8 First Edition – the first of its kind – has been delivered to 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 specifications possible from the Bentley options list, Bentley 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

Bentayga EWB Azure V8 First Edition, in-tending to select exterior colours and interior finishes from the 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.

Having established a base

specification of the Azure wellness-focused 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 seat specification for the two rear 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

Gordon Murray Automotive make their Saudi Arabian debut

Continued from page 31

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.

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 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 circuit-ready 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 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 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 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 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.

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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786 KAM £25,000 TEL: 07733 244 444	AMQ3EAR £3,000 ONO TEL: 07506 342 385	ASII4 NAK £1,500 ONO TEL: 07983 590 591	BD55TAN £2,495 TEL: 07954 389 874	DRIIAYS £8,000 (DR HAYS) TEL: 07985 455 057	EVIIKAR £650 ONO (EVIL CAR) TEL: 07411 953 337	GVIIJAY £10,000 (G VIJAY) TEL: 07985 455 057	J4 NGS £10,000 TEL: 07815 114 201	KHINGZ £13,000 TEL: 07921 576 971	MAIMED £29,000 (M AHMED) TEL: 07985 455 057	MSIHALY £9,500 (MS HALY) TEL: 07985 455 057	N KIANZ £1,500 ONO (NKHANZ) TEL: 07946 162 099	PAI VEZ £1,500 (P VEZ) TEL: 07985 455 057	RYIISAF £15,000 (R YUSUF) TEL: 07985 455 057
786 MAK £10,000 ONO TEL: 07877 895 098	AMQ4EAR £3,000 ONO TEL: 07506 342 385	ASII4 NJT £1,500 ONO TEL: 07983 590 591	BEIOLD £19,000 (BEHOLD) TEL: 07370 026 653	DR SINGG OFFERS TEL: 07720 976 861	EYIISAF £15,400 (E YUSUF) TEL: 07985 455 057	GYIISAF £15,400 (G YUSUF) TEL: 07985 455 057	J4UEO £2,495 TEL: 07954 389 874	KH59 LED £3,000 TEL: 07970 281 994	MAIMVD £1,800 (MAHMUD) TEL: 07867 886 786	MSIHAWK £9,500 (MS HAWK) TEL: 07985 455 057	NLIICAS £7,000 (N LUCAS) TEL: 07985 455 057	PDIIIEEP £7,000 (P DILEEP) TEL: 07985 455 057	RYIISUF £15,000 (R YUSUF) TEL: 07985 455 057
B2 GK OFFERS TEL: 07877 334 567	AMII AAD £2,000 TEL: 01274 414141 MON - FRI: 9-5.30	ASIANXSX £1,000 (ASH RAJ) TEL: 07908 472 121	BHO4GUL OFFERS (BHOGUL) TEL: 07970 026 653	DR5ISHA £995 (DR. SHISHA / SHA) TEL: 07834 531 683	EYISUF £15,000 (E YUSUF) TEL: 07985 455 057	GYISUF £15,000 (G YUSUF) TEL: 07985 455 057	JAIILS £15,000 (J ALLALS) TEL: 07985 455 057	KKIMAR £15,000 (K KUMAR) TEL: 07985 455 057	MAII RYM £1,500 TEL: 01274 414141 MON - FRI: 9-5.30	MSIIAYS £9,500 (MS HAYS) TEL: 07985 455 057	NOII SHN £2,500 TEL: 01274 414141 MON - FRI: 9-5.30	PD55ESS £10,000 (P DILEEP) TEL: 07971 732 789	SOILJA £10,000 (SOULLA) TEL: 07786 615 234
A17JEO £5,000 ONO (AMJED) TEL: 07971 732 789	AMII EEN £5,000 ONO (AMJED) TEL: 01274 414141 MON - FRI: 9-5.30	ASH42D £10,000 (A SH42) TEL: 07976 024 735	BHS4RAT OFFERS (SHARAT) TEL: 07970 026 653	DR 5 000D £8,000 T: 07740 784 983 privatplates@hotmail.co.uk	EYIISAF £15,000 (E YUSUF) TEL: 07985 455 057	GYIISAF £15,000 (G YUSUF) TEL: 07985 455 057	JAIIMAD £10,000 (J AHMAD) TEL: 07985 455 057	KSIAUN £15,000 (K SHAUN) TEL: 07985 455 057	MAITAB £18,000 (M AHMAD) TEL: 07985 455 057	MSIIUGH £15,000 (MS HUGH) TEL: 07985 455 057	NSIIAUN £15,000 (N SHAUN) TEL: 07985 455 057	PHIIFOX £29,000 (PHIL FOX) TEL: 07877 334 567	SOI4R OFFERS TEL: 07877 334 567
A2SSM £1,499 ONO TEL: 07875 337 224	ANII JAM £5,000 TEL: 01274 414141 MON - FRI: 9-5.30	ASKI £70,000+ TEL: 07854 012 093	BKIIMAR £15,000 (B KUMAR) TEL: 07985 455 057	DSIIAUN £15,000 (D SHAUN) TEL: 07985 455 057	FI7 STX £2,999 ONO TEL: 07904 018 063	HOS5AYN £8,995 ONO TEL: 07779 324 610	JAIIMED £15,000 (J AHMED) TEL: 07985 455 057	KU55 OOM £2,000 TEL: 07588 326 444	MA55 UDD £4,000 TEL: 07588 326 444	MSIIAN £7,500 (M SUSAN) TEL: 07985 455 057	NSIIAN £7,500 (N SUSAN) TEL: 07985 455 057	PKINGS £14,000 (P KINGS) TEL: 07985 455 057	SII ETK OFFERS (SHEIKH) TEL: 07815 114 201
A212 JAN OFFERS OVER £5,000 TEL: 07817 615 022	ANII SAR £2,500 TEL: 01274 414141 MON - FRI: 9-5.30	ATT4H £8,500 ONO (NO WITHHELD NO) TEL: 07786 424 251	BSIIAUN £15,000 (B SHAUN) TEL: 07985 455 057	DSIIANS £7,500 (D SUSAN) TEL: 07985 455 057	F44EEM £4,500 TEL: 07825 040 037	HOO5AYN £7,500 (H OLIVER) TEL: 07985 455 057	JAV333D £8,995 TEL: 07779 324 610	KVIJAY £2,800 TEL: 07588 326 444	MA55 UMM £2,800 TEL: 07588 326 444	MUIIAM £10,000 (MOHAMMAD) TEL: 07867 886 786	NSIIAM £1,500 (N SHAUN) TEL: 07985 455 057	PKINGS £14,000 (P KINGS) TEL: 07985 455 057	SII ETK OFFERS (SHEIKH) TEL: 07815 114 201
AAII LAM £1,500 TEL: 01274 414141 MON - FRI: 9-5.30	ANII SER £5,000 TEL: 01274 414141 MON - FRI: 9-5.30	AVIIJAY £10,000 (A VIJAY) TEL: 07971 732 789	BT55MLA £15,000 (B TISMILA) TEL: 07971 732 789	DVIIJAY £10,000 (D VIJAY) TEL: 07985 455 057	F44TMA £7,500 TEL: 07825 040 037	HII RAA £5,000 (F OLIVER) TEL: 07985 455 057	JAV333D £5,500 TEL: 07825 040 037	KYIISAF £15,400 (K YUSUF) TEL: 07985 455 057	M ALIIS OFFERS TEL: 07877 334 567	MUII SAH £1,500 TEL: 01274 414141 MON - FRI: 9-5.30	NSIIAH £10,000 (N SHAUN) TEL: 07985 455 057	PKINGS £14,000 (P KINGS) TEL: 07985 455 057	SII OHL £5,000 TEL: 07985 455 057
AAIIMAD £15,000 (A AHMAD) TEL: 07985 455 057	ANS4AR N £1,500 ONO (ANSAAR) TEL: 07946 162 099	ANS55OM £10,000 (AWESOME) TEL: 07985 455 057	BUS5TED £5,000 ONO (BUSTED) TEL: 07985 455 057	DYIISAF £15,400 (D YUSUF) TEL: 07985 455 057	F44TMA £7,500 TEL: 07825 040 037	HII RAA £5,000 (F OLIVER) TEL: 07985 455 057	JAV333D £5,500 TEL: 07825 040 037	KYIISAF £15,400 (K YUSUF) TEL: 07985 455 057	M ALIIS OFFERS TEL: 07877 334 567	MUII SAH £1,500 TEL: 01274 414141 MON - FRI: 9-5.30	NSIIAH £10,000 (N SHAUN) TEL: 07985 455 057	PKINGS £14,000 (P KINGS) TEL: 07985 455 057	SII OHL £5,000 TEL: 07985 455 057
AAIYAA £20,000 (AAIYAA) TEL: 07985 455 057	ANS5AR K £1,000 TEL: 07983 480 777	AYIINUS £9,500 (A YUNUS) TEL: 07985 455 057	BVIIJAY £10,000 (B VIJAY) TEL: 07985 455 057	DYIISUF £15,000 (D YUSUF) TEL: 07985 455 057	F44TMA £7,500 TEL: 07825 040 037	HII RAA £5,000 (F OLIVER) TEL: 07985 455 057	JAV333D £5,500 TEL: 07825 040 037	KYIISAF £15,400 (K YUSUF) TEL: 07985 455 057	M ALIIS OFFERS TEL: 07877 334 567	MUII SAH £1,500 TEL: 01274 414141 MON - FRI: 9-5.30	NSIIAH £10,000 (N SHAUN) TEL: 07985 455 057	PKINGS £14,000 (P KINGS) TEL: 07985 455 057	SII OHL £5,000 TEL: 07985 455 057
AAI2JAN £15,000 (ARJAN) TEL: 07731 464002	ANJ33M £4,995 TEL: 07867 861 193	ASISAF £15,400 (A YUSUF) TEL: 07985 455 057	BYIISAF £15,400 (B YUSUF) TEL: 07985 455 057	DYIISUF £15,000 (D YUSUF) TEL: 07985 455 057	F44TMA £7,500 TEL: 07825 040 037	HII RAA £5,000 (F OLIVER) TEL: 07985 455 057	JAV333D £5,500 TEL: 07825 040 037	KYIISAF £15,400 (K YUSUF) TEL: 07985 455 057	M ALIIS OFFERS TEL: 07877 334 567	MUII SAH £1,500 TEL: 01274 414141 MON - FRI: 9-5.30	NSIIAH £10,000 (N SHAUN) TEL: 07985 455 057	PKINGS £14,000 (P KINGS) TEL: 07985 455 057	SII OHL £5,000 TEL: 07985 455 057
AA5IZAA OFFERS TEL: 07977 612 479	ANW444R £10,000 ONO (ANWAAR) TEL: 07946 162 099	AYIISUF £15,000 (A YUSUF) TEL: 07985 455 057	BYIISUF £15,000 (B YUSUF) TEL: 07985 455 057	DYIISUF £15,000 (D YUSUF) TEL: 07985 455 057	F44TMA £7,500 TEL: 07825 040 037	HII RAA £5,000 (F OLIVER) TEL: 07985 455 057	JAV333D £5,500 TEL: 07825 040 037	KYIISAF £15,400 (K YUSUF) TEL: 07985 455 057	M ALIIS OFFERS TEL: 07877 334 567	MUII SAH £1,500 TEL: 01274 414141 MON - FRI: 9-5.30	NSIIAH £10,000 (N SHAUN) TEL: 07985 455 057	PKINGS £14,000 (P KINGS) TEL: 07985 455 057	SII OHL £5,000 TEL: 07985 455 057
AA55HAK £8,995 ONO TEL: 07779 324 610	ANW444R £10,000 ONO (ANWAAR) TEL: 07946 162 099	AYIISUF £15,000 (A YUSUF) TEL: 07985 455 057	BYIISUF £15,000 (B YUSUF) TEL: 07985 455 057	DYIISUF £15,000 (D YUSUF) TEL: 07985 455 057	F44TMA £7,500 TEL: 07825 040 037	HII RAA £5,000 (F OLIVER) TEL: 07985 455 057	JAV333D £5,500 TEL: 07825 040 037	KYIISAF £15,400 (K YUSUF) TEL: 07985 455 057	M ALIIS OFFERS TEL: 07877 334 567	MUII SAH £1,500 TEL: 01274 414141 MON - FRI: 9-5.30	NSIIAH £10,000 (N SHAUN) TEL: 07985 455 057	PKINGS £14,000 (P KINGS) TEL: 07985 455 057	SII OHL £5,000 TEL: 07985 455 057
AA55RII £8,995 ONO TEL: 07779 324 610	ASII AHS £3,000 (A SHAH) TEL: 07815 114 201	BO55 KHN OFFERS TEL: 07973 165 474	CI4 SSE £7,500 (CLASSY) TEL: 07815 114 201	EA55TAL OFFERS T: 07740 784 983 privatplates@hotmail.co.uk	FAH44D £9,995 TEL: 07530 612 171	HA13 ZAH OFFERS OVER £5,000 TEL: 07973 165 474	JA55BYR £8,995 TEL: 07779 324 610	KVIJAY £2,800 TEL: 07588 326 444	MA55 UMM £2,800 TEL: 07588 326 444	MUIIAM £10,000 (MOHAMMAD) TEL: 07867 886 786	NSIIAM £1,500 (N SHAUN) TEL: 07985 455 057	PKINGS £14,000 (P KINGS) TEL: 07985 455 057	SII OHL £5,000 TEL: 07985 455 057
AAI5 £15,000 TEL: 07733 244 444	ASII AKS £1,500 TEL: 01274 414141 MON - FRI: 9-5.30	BO55Y BO £999 ONO TEL: 07740 784 983 privatplates@hotmail.co.uk	C 5KY W £999 ONO TEL: 07427 677 989	EA55TAL OFFERS T: 07740 784 983 privatplates@hotmail.co.uk	FAH44D £9,995 TEL: 07530 612 171	HA13 ZAH OFFERS OVER £5,000 TEL: 07973 165 474	JA55BYR £8,995 TEL: 07779 324 610	KVIJAY £2,800 TEL: 07588 326 444	MA55 UMM £2,800 TEL: 07588 326 444	MUIIAM £10,000 (MOHAMMAD) TEL: 07867 886 786	NSIIAM £1,500 (N SHAUN) TEL: 07985 455 057	PKINGS £14,000 (P KINGS) TEL: 07985 455 057	SII OHL £

SH04 BEK £1,995 ONO TEL: 07764 656 667	SHA2D £25,000 TEL: 07867 861 193	TAIHAS £3,000 ONO (TALHA) TEL: 07946 162 099	TVIJAY £10,000 (T VIJAY) TEL: 07985 455 057	VY55 HAL £3,500 TEL: 07588 326 444	WDNEEP £7,000 (W DILEEP) TEL: 07985 455 057	XX 56XY XX £8,000 ONO TEL: 07908 472 121
SHIOAEB £2,000 TEL: 07754 852 402 MON - FRI: 9-5.30	SOII BYA £2,000 TEL: 01274 414141 MON - FRI: 9-5.30	TAIIMAD £10,000 (T AHMAD) TEL: 07985 455 057	TYIISAF £15,400 (T YUSAF) TEL: 07985 455 057	VY55 HNU £3,500 TEL: 07588 326 444	WGIPTA £6,995 (W GUPTA) TEL: 07985 455 057	XYIISAF £15,400 (X YUSAF) TEL: 07985 455 057
SHIOABY £4,000 ONO TEL: 07828 695 464	SPIIRTY £15,000 (SPORTY) TEL: 07985 455 057	TAIYRS £1,500 (TAHYRS) TEL: 07867 886 786	TYIISUF £15,000 (T YUSUF) TEL: 07985 455 057	WOIVER £6,500 (W OLIVER) TEL: 07985 455 057	WKIIMAR £15,000 (W KUMAR) TEL: 07985 455 057	YIINES £OFFERS (YOUNAS) TEL: 07834 016 393
SHIOKET £OFFERS T: 07754 852 402 no withheld numbers	STIIGGG £20,000 ONO TEL: 07786 510 000	TAI3BYS £1,600 ONO TEL: 07557 387 547	UAIIMAD £10,000 (U AHMAD) TEL: 07985 455 057	W2I JAS £1,200 ONO TEL: 07925 757 677	WMILES £7,500 (W MILES) TEL: 07985 455 057	YSIILMA £4,000 ONO (SALMA) TEL: 07969 598 969
SHIOKUT £OFFERS T: 07754 852 402 no withheld numbers	SUR87IT £1,500 (SUR87IT) TEL: 07985 589 631	TA55LYM £4,995 ONO TEL: 07779 324 610	UDIIEEP £7,000 (U DILEEP) TEL: 07985 455 057	W33DDY £5,000 ONO TEL: 07779 994 695	WSIISAN £7,500 (W SUSAN) TEL: 07985 455 057	Y55ANA £OFFERS TEL: 07835 316 786
SHII AED £1,000 TEL: 01274 414141 MON - FRI: 9-5.30	SYIISAF £15,400 (S YUSAF) TEL: 07985 455 057	TA55TEE £5,000 T: 07740 784 983 privateplates@hotmail.co.uk	UKIIRD £OFFERS TEL: 07522 199 997	W33DY K £5,000 ONO TEL: 07779 994 695	WYIISAF £15,400 (W YUSUF) TEL: 07985 455 057	Y9 ALT £30,000 TEL: 07525 817 453
SHII AFS £1,500 TEL: 01274 414141 MON - FRI: 9-5.30	SYIISUF £15,000 (S YUSUF) TEL: 07985 455 057	TA55TYE £5,000 T: 07740 784 983 privateplates@hotmail.co.uk	UMM444R £4,995 TEL: 07707 747 776	W33NTD £1,800 (WANTED) TEL: 01202 877 038	WYIISUF £15,000 (W YUSUF) TEL: 07985 455 057	YAIIMAD £10,000 (Y AHMAD) TEL: 07985 455 057
SHIIAHZ £5,000 TEL: 07921 576 971	TOYSR £15,000 ONO TEL: 07973 787 934	TAG7 ETS £8,000 ONO TEL: 07908 472 121	UYIISAF £15,400 (U YUSAF) TEL: 07985 455 057	W4JLD £1,995 TEL: 07954 389 874	X3 SINGS £3,500 (SINGHS) TEL: 07833 333 870	YAIYAA £15,000 (YAYYAA) TEL: 07985 455 057
SHII ANY £2,000 TEL: 01274 414141 MON - FRI: 9-5.30	TIUUCS £OFFERS TEL: 07581 169 231	TAHIR £100,000 (TAHIR) TEL: 07403 302 725	VOIRAS £2,000 (VOHRA) TEL: 07867 886 786	W4KY R £10,000 TEL: 07786 615 234	X 7BY X £2,000 TEL: 07767 778 798	YEIICOM £45,000 (YELL COM) TEL: 07985 455 057
SHIIKEL £4,999 ONO (SHAKEL) TEL: 07508 066 661	TI4 REK £OFFERS (TARIO) TEL: 07508 066 661	TBIATT £7,000 (T BHATT) TEL: 07985 455 057	VOIIVER £6,500 (V OLIVER) TEL: 07985 455 057	W4LYT £2,000 TEL: 07854 435 656	XAL IIX £15,000 TEL: 07733 244 444	YDIIEEP £7,000 (Y DILEEP) TEL: 07985 455 057
SHII OBY £1,000 TEL: 01274 414141 MON - FRI: 9-5.30	TI9 ARX £OFFERS (TIGER X) TEL: 07837 780 981	TDIIEEP £7,000 (T DILEEP) TEL: 07985 455 057	V 4RFN £1,000 TEL: 07967 193 033	WAIIEEM £15,000 (WAHEEM) TEL: 07985 455 057	X BAIG £50,000 TEL: 07947 979 777	YKIIMAR £15,000 (Y KUMAR) TEL: 07985 455 057
SHIIPER £15,000 (SHIPER) TEL: 07985 455 057	TILI 786 £1,500 ONO TEL: 07974 179 156	TERIK VALUED AT OVER £60K TEL: 07739 413 695	V 44MJD £850 ONO TEL: 07803 012 253	WAIISHA £9,000 (W AISHA) TEL: 07985 455 057	X K04SER £OFFERS TEL: 07811 146 312	YUIONES £OFFERS T: 07754 852 402 no withheld numbers
SHIYLA £1,000,000 TEL: 07969 914 041	T44 RKK £2,200 ONO TEL: 07926 095 168	TJIDJE £15,500 (T JUDGE) TEL: 07985 455 057	VAIIMAD £10,000 (V AHMAD) TEL: 07985 455 057	WAIITAD £10,000 (WANTED) TEL: 07778 881 126	X KIAN X £2,700 TEL: 07786 087 155	YVIJAY £10,000 (Y VIJAY) TEL: 07985 455 057
SHI2ADH £3,000 ONO TEL: 07870 983 553	T444BYS £995 ONO TEL: 07886 606 431	TKINGS £14,000 (T KINGS) TEL: 07985 455 057	VBIATT £7,000 (V BHATT) TEL: 07985 455 057	WAH330K £2,500 (WAHEED K) TEL: 07973 199 979	XKIIMAR £15,000 (X KUMAR) TEL: 07985 455 057	Y44SCR £2,500 ONO TEL: 07828 159 318
SHI2ANH £3,000 ONO TEL: 07870 983 553	T8WHD £15,000 (TAWHEED) TEL: 07842 955 147	TMILES £7,500 (T MILES) TEL: 07985 455 057	VDIIEEP £7,000 (V DILEEP) TEL: 07985 455 057	RYIISUF £15,000 (R YUSUF) TEL: 07985 455 057	XMILES £7,500 (X MILES) TEL: 07985 455 057	
SHI3 MLA £5,000 (SHIMMLA) TEL: 07973 165 474	T9RYK £OFFERS TEL: 07863 289 625	TRII HAD £2,500 TEL: 01274 414141 MON - FRI: 9-5.30	VSISAN £7,500 (V SUSAN) TEL: 07985 455 057	WAJ33D £2,995 TEL: 07793 628 670	XSHAKS £4,500 (X SHAKS) TEL: 07985 455 057	
SH54ZHD £5,725 TEL: 07802 183 450	TAIIATS £1,500 (TALLAT) TEL: 07867 886 786	TSISAN £7,500 (T SUSAN) TEL: 07985 455 057	VYIISAF £15,400 (V YUSAF) TEL: 07985 455 057	WASIIF £10,000 TEL: 07867 861 193	XXIO MAR £OFFERS TEL: 07928 473 771	

5 NAS
£30,000
TEL: 07540 176 854

CHIEFS
£20,000 ONO
TEL: 07786 615 234

PIINEM
£2,995 ONO (PUNEM)
TEL: 07305 700 800

ATT4H
£8,500 ONO
TEL: 07786 424 251

K7 PPA
£3,995 ONO
TEL: 07890 201 854

UK I IORD
£OFFERS
TEL: 07522 199 997

H4 SSB
£12,995 ONO
TEL: 07440 766 843

L99HOR
£OFFERS
TEL: 07850 706 930

YA55EEM
£75,000 ONO
TEL: 07887 837 553

J4 MEL
£15,000 ONO
TEL: 07870 496 535

NOO2HAT
£2,000 ONO (NUZHAT)
TEL: 07813 011 702

AB4DLA £OFFERS TEL: 07522 173 297	AWAISS £OFFERS TEL: 07522 173 297	F9TMA £OFFERS TEL: 07522 173 297	K4HN.V £OFFERS TEL: 07522 173 297	M44YAT £OFFERS TEL: 07522 173 297	S4FTR £OFFERS TEL: 07522 173 297	SHIFYK £OFFERS TEL: 07522 173 297
AL2GGY £OFFERS TEL: 07522 173 297	AMIIAS.X £OFFERS TEL: 07522 173 297	FAIIZAM £OFFERS TEL: 07522 173 297	K4UR.X £OFFERS TEL: 07522 173 297	MAI4RYA £OFFERS TEL: 07522 173 297	S4JAD £OFFERS TEL: 07522 173 297	SIDOFYN £OFFERS TEL: 07522 173 297
AAI2OMA £OFFERS TEL: 07522 173 297	AY55HAS £OFFERS TEL: 07522 173 297	FI2ANA £OFFERS TEL: 07522 173 297	K44HNY £OFFERS TEL: 07522 173 297	MAI4RYM £OFFERS TEL: 07522 173 297	S4TPL £OFFERS TEL: 07522 173 297	T4RAK £OFFERS TEL: 07522 173 297
AAI3EZA £OFFERS TEL: 07522 173 297	BI9 ACN £OFFERS TEL: 07522 173 297	FI2LAT £OFFERS TEL: 07522 173 297	KE55AR.B £OFFERS TEL: 07522 173 297	MAQ4DAS £OFFERS TEL: 07522 173 297	S50QAAN £OFFERS TEL: 07522 173 297	T4SDK £OFFERS TEL: 07522 173 297
AA55HAD £OFFERS TEL: 07522 173 297	BAO.5HAN £OFFERS TEL: 07522 173 297	FI7RAN £OFFERS TEL: 07522 173 297	KA55YM.A £OFFERS TEL: 07522 173 297	MEIIZAN £OFFERS TEL: 07522 173 297	SAI4HYL £OFFERS TEL: 07522 173 297	T5PAN £OFFERS TEL: 07522 173 297
ABIIDLA £OFFERS TEL: 07522 173 297	BDS.7HUG £OFFERS TEL: 07522 173 297	HIGFSA £OFFERS TEL: 07522 173 297	KE55AR.J £OFFERS TEL: 07522 173 297	MUIIAMO £OFFERS TEL: 07522 173 297	SHO2ZEB £OFFERS TEL: 07522 173 297	TIGYUB £OFFERS TEL: 07522 173 297
AI3BYD £OFFERS TEL: 07522 173 297	BIG KNY £OFFERS TEL: 07522 173 297	HIBSNS £OFFERS TEL: 07522 173 297	KE55AR.X £OFFERS TEL: 07522 173 297	NAI3ELZ £OFFERS TEL: 07522 173 297	SHIIEZD £OFFERS TEL: 07522 173 297	TI7LAT £OFFERS TEL: 07522 173 297
ADI4AAM £OFFERS TEL: 07522 173 297	CHI4RCO £OFFERS TEL: 07522 173 297	HAIIRUN £OFFERS TEL: 07522 173 297	KHO9KAR £OFFERS TEL: 07522 173 297	NAV330A £OFFERS TEL: 07522 173 297	SHIIFEK £OFFERS TEL: 07522 173 297	TA5IWAR £OFFERS TEL: 07522 173 297
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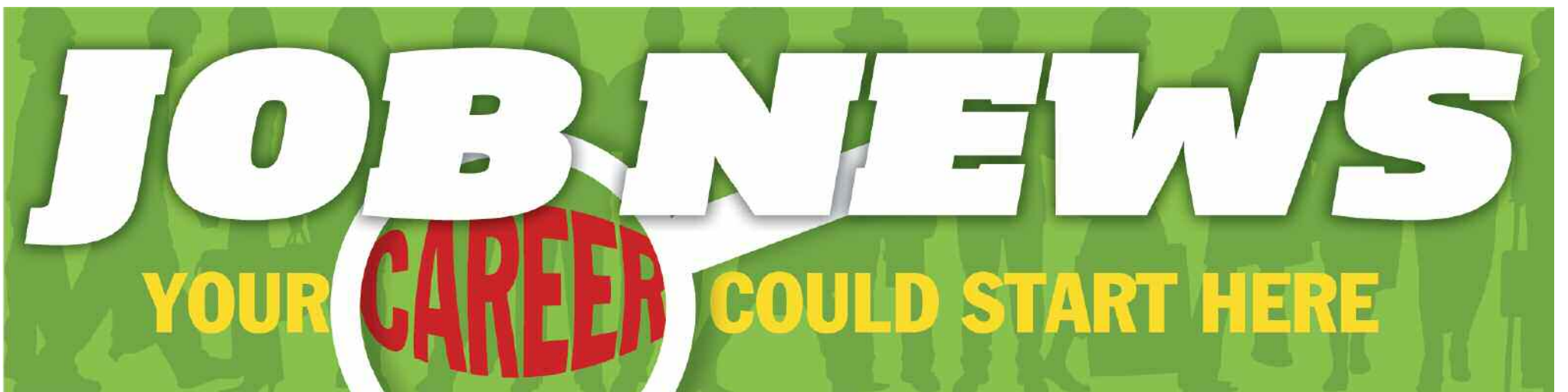
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The Yorkshire County Cricket Club (YCCC) can confirm that Darren Gough has stepped down from his role as Managing Director of Cricket.

Gough came into the role in December 2021 following a very difficult period for the Club and has gone on to shape a young and exciting squad.

The former Yorkshire and England fast bowler has overseen positive developments in the pathways, recruited a number of excellent support staff and steered the group through some turbulent times.

Gough, said: "It's been an absolute honour to work for my boyhood Club over the last two seasons.

"Having stepped in at a very challenging time, we've worked hard to steady the ship and develop our cricket department to ensure we can return to the top tier of English cricket.

"In my time here, we have achieved a great deal that I am proud of. The men's squad has been totally rebuilt with significant improvements behind the scenes across all support areas. This has put both the men's team and the Northern Diamonds in a much better place to be able to compete going forward.

"The performance pathway is thriving and continues to lead the way nationally, and there is a real energy around what is happening

with the Women's game and the next few years will be transformational I'm sure.

"Following conversations with the Club, I have decided now is the right time to step away from my role and give someone else an opportunity to take our playing squads forward. I'd like to thank all of our players, staff, members and fans for their considerable support over the last few seasons and wish them all the very best for the coming year.

"I will always be a Yorkshire Cricket supporter and look forward to returning to watch our teams in the coming years".

Stephen Vaughan, Chief Executive Officer for YCCC, said: "It's been an absolute pleasure to work with

Darren since taking on this role.

"The contribution he has made to stabilise the Club and drive our playing squads forward has been critical and, I know that, as a Yorkshireman who lives and breathes this Club, he has been so proud to carry out the role.

"The work that Darren has done over the last two seasons has built some fantastic foundations and we are very grateful for his time, commitment and the manner in which he has set about his role".

Colin Graves, Chair of YCCC, said: "I'd like to express our sincere thanks to Darren for the work he has put in over the last few seasons.

"Darren is a Club legend in his own right, having enjoyed two very

successful stints as a player here and now helped us through some very difficult times in his role as Managing Director of Cricket.

"Everyone at the Club would like to wish him all the best for the future, and we look forward to welcoming him back to Headingley again soon".

With the cricketing landscape changing rapidly, including the ongoing tender process to apply for a Tier 1 women's professional team, the Club will now take some time to consider the best structure for the cricket department that will put YCCC in the best position to continue to lead the way on and off the field.



YCCC: Darren Gough steps down from role as Managing Director of Cricket

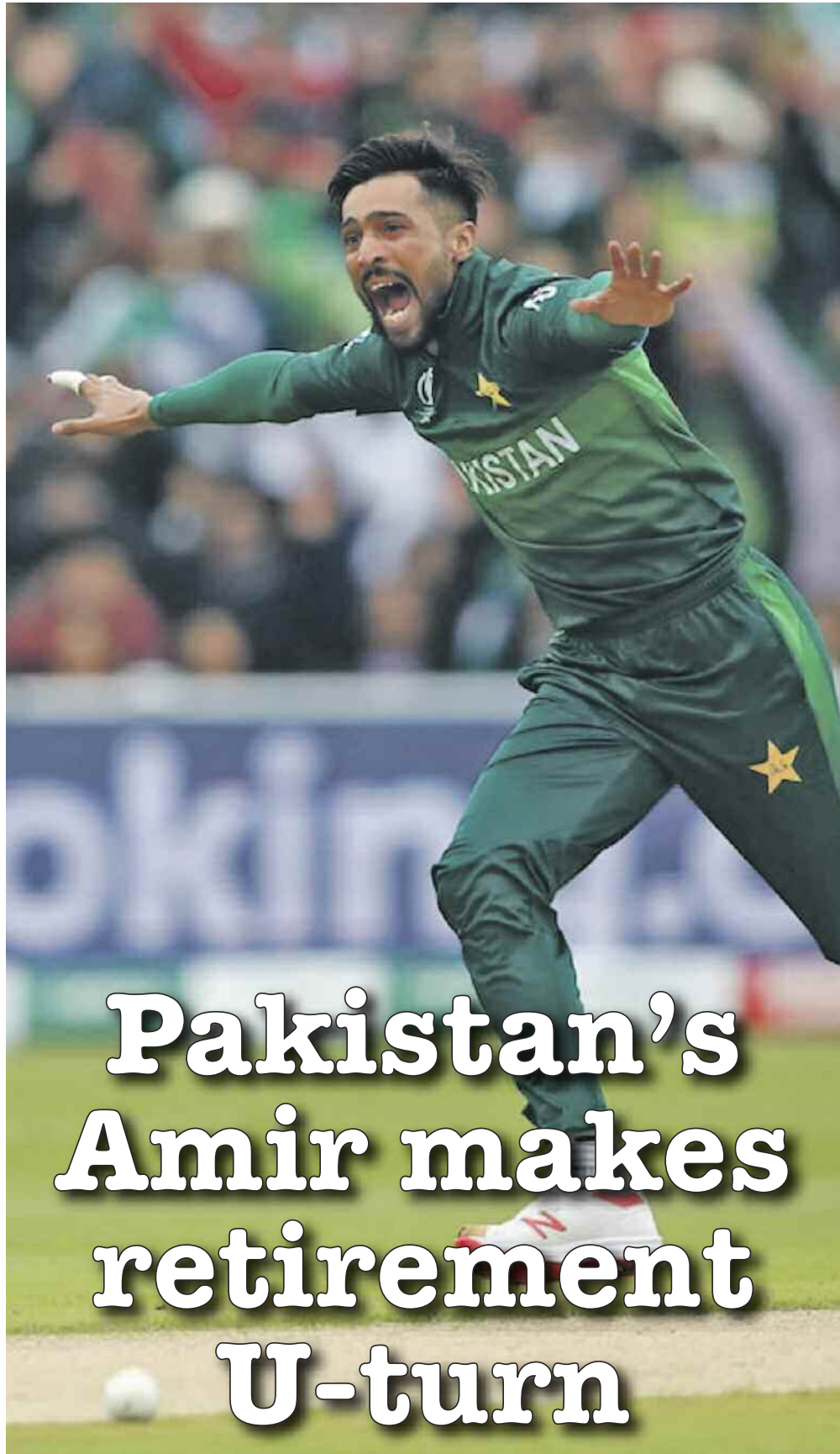


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Pakistan's Amir makes retirement U-turn

Pakistan fast bowler Mohammad Amir made himself available for the upcoming Twenty20 World Cup on Sunday, more than three years after retiring from international cricket.

The left-arm bowler announced his international retirement at the age of 28 in December 2020, saying he could no longer play under the management and that he was being "tortured mentally".

The 31-year-old, who was jailed in 2011 for his part in a spot-fixing scandal, served three months in prison and a five-year ban from all forms of cricket before returning to the Pakistan squad in January 2016.

Part of the team that won the 2009 T20 World Cup and 2017 Champions Trophy, Amir has played in franchise T20 leagues since his retirement.

"I still dream to play for Pakistan!," Amir posted on social media platform X. "Life brings us to the

points where, at times, we have to reconsider our decisions.

"There has been few positive discussions between myself and the PCB (Pakistan Cricket Board) where they respectfully made me feel that I was needed and can still play for Pakistan.

"After discussing with family and well wishers, I declare that I am available to be considered for upcoming T20 World Cup, I want do this for my country as it comes before my personal decisions..."

Amir has played 36 tests, 61 One-Day Internationals and 50 T20s for Pakistan since his debut in 2009.

All-rounder Imad Wasim, 35, also reversed his retirement decision and made himself available for the T20 World Cup on Saturday.

Pakistan will kick off their T20 World Cup campaign against co-hosts United States on June 6.



Heartwarming tribute

Friends unite through badminton tournament in memory of late friend

Back page story continued

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

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

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

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

Collaborating with the renowned Leeds Charity Cooking team 'AkshayaPatra, Leeds, UK', the event featured food stalls serving

delectable Indian snacks, chaat, refreshing Indian drinks such as rose-milk, mango lassi, masala tea, furthermore a selection of Malaysian delicacies was sold at nominal costs.

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

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

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

The tournament's turn-out Made it a true community event, as everyone wanted to

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

support this noble event, and help raise money for a great local cause. Generous sponsors included: Tharavadu Restaurant, Munch Cafe, My Local Mart, Lifeline Protect, MSA Properties Limited, Arnold Estates Limited, Law & Lawyers Solicitors, and Scarcroft Cricket Club. The tournament's success culminated in an impressive profit of approximately £2000, all of which will be contributed to the Charity of Leeds Children Hospitals. A spokesperson from the Leeds Charity Badminton Tournament said: "This [event] exemplifies the power of sports, community, and compassion coming together for one sole reason, our dear friend, Ravi. "Ravi's legacy and memory lives on forever with his family and through this remarkable initiative. Sports [badminton] connected us then, and will connect us forever!"



Argentina's Lionel Messi celebrates winning the World Cup with the trophy in December 2022 (Credit:Hannah Mckay)



Age won't determine when I retire, says Messi

Lionel Messi will not consider his age as a deciding factor in his retirement plans, the Argentine forward said, adding that he has no clear idea of what he will do when that time comes.

Messi, who played for 17 years at Barcelona before signing for Paris St Germain in 2021 and Inter Miami last year, will turn 37 in under three months but knows for sure that his age will not determine when it is time to hang up his boots.

"I know that the moment I feel that I am no longer performing, that I am no longer enjoying it or helping my teammates (I will retire)," Messi told the Big Time podcast in an interview published on Wednesday 27th March.

"I am very self-critical. I know when I am doing well, when I am not, when I play well and when I play poorly. When I feel

it's time to take that step, I will do it without thinking about age.

"If I feel good, I will try to continue competing because it's what I like and what I know how to do."

Asked whether he had started to think about what he does next, the record eight-times Ballon D'Or winner had no straight answer.

"I haven't thought about it yet. For now, I try to enjoy each day, each moment, without thinking about the future. I don't have anything clear yet," Messi said.

"I hope to keep playing for a while longer, because that's what I enjoy. When the time comes, I will surely find the path to what fulfils me and what I like, and a new role."

Messi missed Argentina's friendlies against El Salvador and Costa Rica in the United States this month due to a hamstring injury.



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Heartwarming tribute



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Friends unite through badminton tournament in memory of late friend

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

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

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

Continued on pages 38 & 39




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