

## Gone forever

Memories of a  
Palestinian village lost to  
Israeli occupation. **P2-3**



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★ Adnan Mahamid drinking water at the Ayn al-Hajja, in the now non-existent village of Al Lajjun. The verdant village was once home to 1,280 Palestinians, before it was occupied by Jewish settlers in May 1948.

Cover photograph: Mahamid with the map of Al Lajjun.

# Catastrophe of exile



This could be the story of hundreds of other villages, and hundreds of thousands of other Palestinians, for their tale is one and the same... **By Noreen Sadik**

**O**n May 15, 1948, the Palestine that was known and cherished by thousands of generations ceased to exist, and in its place, on its land, the State of Israel was created. For Palestinians worldwide, Al Nakba ("catastrophe" in Arabic) is filled with painful memories and

bitterness. This story does not offer a timetable of the events leading up to the UN decision to partition the land, which resulted in Israel's independence, and Palestine's loss of a nation. The historical account is too lengthy and detailed. It is, however, about the effect of Al Nakba, 62 years later, on millions of

Palestinians. The numbers speak for themselves. Over the years, five major episodes between 1922 until the present time have resulted in a forced exodus of Palestinians. According to Badli Resource Center, at the end of 2008, the Palestinian population worldwide stood at 10.6mn. A total of 7.1mn people have

been expelled from their villages by force. From this number, 6.6mn became refugees, and approximately 427,000 became internally displaced persons (IDP), people living inside Israel though not in their villages of origin.

The largest number of people expelled was during the Nakba in 1948 in which 750,000 to 900,000 Palestinians from approximately 500 villages were forced into exile and became refugees between 1947 and 1949. Various laws were created by Israel with the intention of hindering the return of the Palestinian people to their villages and homeland. Additionally, most of the villages were subsequently destroyed — two thirds of the refugee homes were demolished, and the remaining third were inhabited by Jews. This story is about a village called Al Lajjun, and about a man who once lived there. It is a story about covering the truth, but not always being able to hide it. It could be the story of hundreds of other villages, and hundreds of thousands of other Palestinians, for their tale is one and the same...

On this very land. It belonged to a village called Al Lajjun — home to 1,280 people — a village which no longer exists. Al Lajjun sat on a hill at the edge of Marj Ibn Amer (the Plain of Amer's son). Its history goes back 2,000 years to the time of the Roman legion camp when it was called Legio. It later served as the capital of a sub-district during the Abbasid rule (750-1258), and played an important role in the postal route during the Mamluk rule (1270-1516), and under the Ottoman rule (1841-1917) it was the capital of the district that carried its name, followed by the British Mandate (1920-1948). In May, 1948, Al Lajjun's rich history came to an end when the Israeli forces captured and destroyed it, and expelled its residents. All those who passed through it over the centuries, holding important roles in Palestine's history, and its most recent residents, now scattered around the world, have since become part of stories of this destroyed, uninhabited village.

Adnan Mahamid, former resident of Al Lajjun and now an internally displaced person, was only seven years old when he and his family fled empty-handed from their village in 1948 upon the assault of Israeli forces. He was too young to understand what was happening, but he remembers the great fear which overtook the Palestinians during this period in history. The villagers were told that they would be allowed back in about three days, however three days has turned into 62 years, and they have not been permitted to return.

Mahamid's family made a life in the nearby city of Umm al-Fahem, along with hundreds of other residents of Al Lajjun. In 1998, their descendants numbered 7,857. Now 69 years old, Mahamid has 10 children, and several grandchildren. But the years have not made his childhood memories fade. Though it has changed tremendously from the days he lived there, he visits the old village regularly, not wanting to let go of what rightfully belongs to him and his children and grandchildren.

Tall pine trees now cover a large portion of Al Lajjun's 10,996 acres, however, signs of a past life are evident. A tour with Mahamid showed me the deep sadness that lies within. With a map of the village up until 1948 in hand, Mahamid and I made our way through Al Lajjun. He pointed at the map to the list of names of the owners of approximately 200 homes, and then pointed to their location on the land. "Here was al-Mahajina family, al-Mahamid family, al-Ghbariyya family, al-Jabbarin family, and another branch of al-Mahajina family," he said, explaining that in spite of being one village, the families were separated. However, the village cemetery was in the centre of the village for all, tying the residents together.

"The plan for Al Lajjun, if it had remained a village, was that it be built into a city," Mahamid said. He recalled that the Mukhtar, the village leader who later became his father-in-law, had a good relationship with a British dignitary

(during the British Mandate), and invited a him to Al Lajjun with the city-plan in mind, and before his visit the residents lined about 200m of road with flowers and trees in his honour.

Mahamid talked about the village school which was made up of four classes. He was there only for one year, before his family was forced to leave the village. But he remembers happy days spent with his friends at school.

Al Lajjun also had two mosques, six grain mills, a Thursday market, a health centre, and a bus company which had 10 buses that provided transportation between the major Palestinian cities.

Numerous springs kept the land so fertile that almost every crop imaginable was grown there. A local legend surrounds the main spring, Ayn al-Hajja. It goes back to the 10th century during the time of Islamic rule. According to the legend, the prophet Abraham went to the village with his sheep, and was told that he should go elsewhere because there was only a small amount of water available.

Abraham struck a rock with his staff, causing a burst of water which was enough for the people and the fields and orchards. The water flows until this day. Aside from the chirping of birds, and a few glass bottles and plastic bags between the trees, there is no sign of life. "Now I want to take you to my house," says Mahamid. He took a few more steps and stopped. Standing on a piece of land, bare of anything but an overgrowth of dried thistles, cactus and pomegranate trees, with tears in his eyes and his voice choking, he said, "We just entered my home. Welcome!"

There are no signs that a house, rather, a home, once existed on this spot. However, this is where he was born, and the where he lived with his parents and seven siblings. "This was the kitchen, this was the family room," he said, pointing at spots of vegetation as he described his home. Actually, four houses were there

(belonging to his uncles), and there was also a storage room, and a stone guest room which his father and uncle built to welcome their many visitors. His father and uncles owned 67 acres. All the village houses were demolished and the village lands confiscated. Nothing remains. "This whole area was open, there were no trees around us," he said, explaining that his home, being at the highest point in the village, had a view of the Galilee. "The Israelis planted the trees to try to cover the remains of the village," he explained. It is common knowledge that where there are cactus, and fig and pomegranate trees, there once existed a Palestinian village.

He stood on the floor of his home, and went back in time. "I remember playing under the pomegranate tree with my brother, and a snake came down it, and my mother and cousin killed it. I remember our sheep, the horse and the donkey cart. I remember walking in my grandmother's funeral," he said. Silently we left his home, but did not close the door on the past — how could we? He recalls the land being filled with wheat, sesame, hommous and lentil plants, akoub, almond trees, and citrus and olive trees. Stopping on the side of the path, he leaned over and picked a stem of strong scented za'ater, and savoured the juicy, red mulberries hanging from the trees.

Further up the road nourishing the earth is the legendary spring, Ayn al-Hajja. The stone water pump, half covered by trees, is next to a pond of cool, sweet water. Mahamid bent down and splashed water on his face and drank the cool spring water. "Drink from it, it's clean, and delicious! Wash your face too!" he urged.

The call to prayer had come and gone. Spreading a jacket on the ground, he faced Makkah. "I am going to pray on Al Lajjun's land," he declared. "The author is an American of Palestinian origin currently based in an Arab city in Israel. She is a freelance writer for various publications."

Continuing our walk, we come across the remains of a house. Almost completely covered by the branches of a tree, just a few stones are visible, its owners now nameless. Up the road is an old mill, a stone structure, also partially covered by trees.

And sitting high on a hill is a mosque, peeking from between the bushes. It was later used by the Israelis as a carpentry workshop. Three layers of fencing now surround it as a means of preventing anyone from going there to repair the damage.

Ironically, the final site out of the forest is the village cemetery. In ruins, it holds the remains of residents of Al Lajjun. Mahamid's grandmother, whose funeral he walked in, is buried there.

Also buried there is Yousef al-Handan, a nationalist who was killed in 1936 during the Arab revolution. His tombstone remains intact. The cemetery and the graves of Al Lajjun's deceased have been demolished, the stones scattered around the fenced in area. These are the ones who can never be forced to leave their land.

Not far in the distance, a combine was harvesting the wheat field, land confiscated from Al Lajjun's residents. Mahamid's voice shook as he said with sadness, "They say the old die, and the young forget. But I tell my children and my grandchildren to be constant in their visits here. Our houses were here, this is our land. It is our right to return and build the village again. One's homeland is the most important thing!"

We walked away from Al Lajjun's ruins and the cemetery, allowing the dead to rest on their land, leaving behind part of what once was.

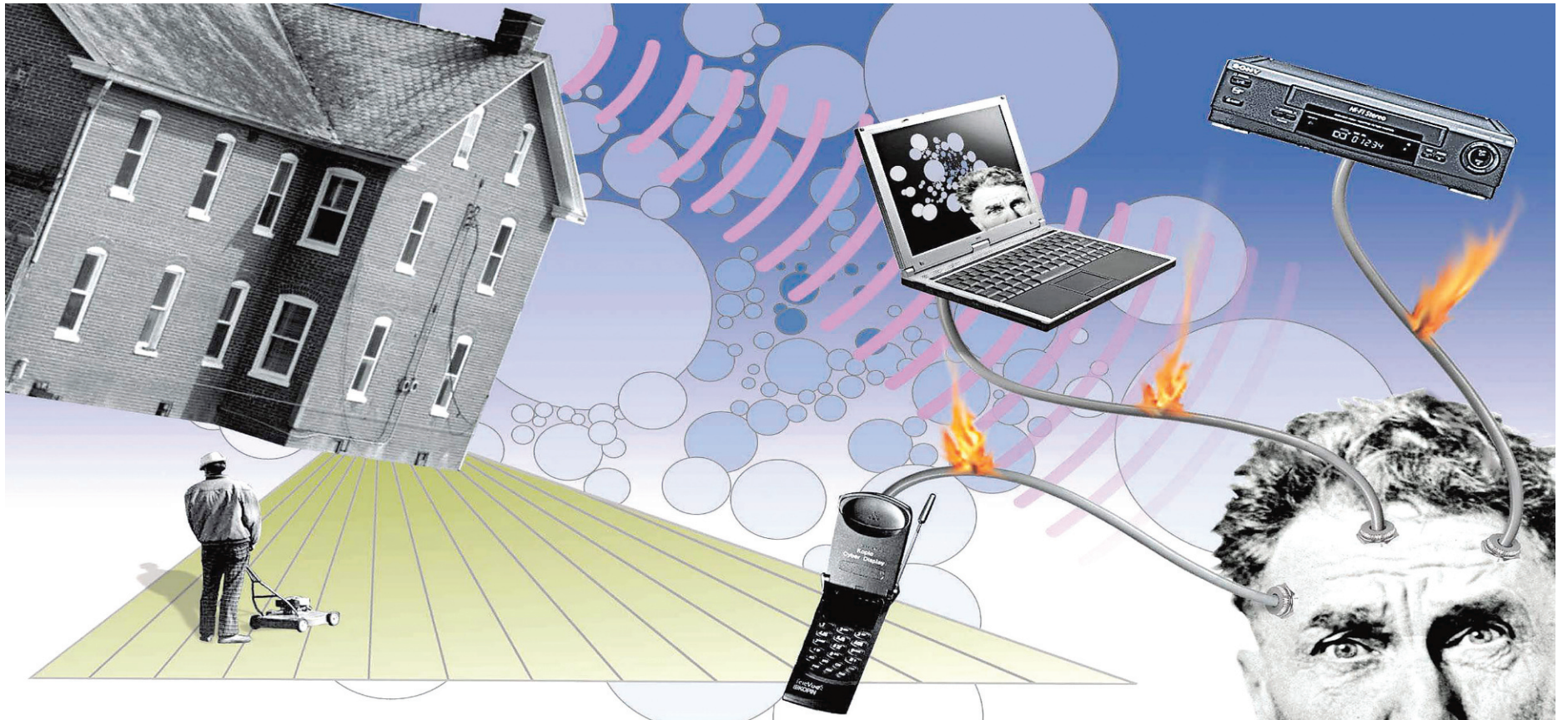
Confiscated Al Lajjun land being used by the Israelis to harvest wheat. Photographs by Noreen Sadik



★ Confiscated Al Lajjun land being used by the Israelis to harvest wheat.

Photographs by Noreen Sadik

# compu**tech**



## Great mobile apps for your smartphone

By Jay Dougherty

**A**s more people are performing computing chores on their mobile phones, the search for useful apps is on. E-mail is usually covered adequately by smartphones, but how about instant messaging, forum reading, better Web browsing, and tweeting? No problem. Read on for some suggestions.

**I'm addicted to instant messaging on the computer, but my iPhone doesn't seem to have the ability to tie in to my Yahoo! instant message account. Is there a cell phone app that will work?**

If you use only Yahoo!, you can certainly do worse than downloading and installing Yahoo! for mobile. Just navigate to <http://mobile.yahoo.com> and type in your phone number. Yahoo will message you a direct link to the application's download site. Or you can type

[m.yahoo.com](http://m.yahoo.com) into your phone's browser, and you'll get the same thing. The Yahoo! app will give you access to the IM client as well as plenty of other Yahoo! services, including e-mail.

If you need access to more than one instant messenger from your smartphone, though, try Beejive (<http://www.beejive.com>). This nifty little application can aggregate your IM account from multiple services, including Yahoo!, AIM, Google Talk, Windows Live Messenger, and more. Also available for BlackBerry, Beejive sports a very intuitive and easy-to-read interface, and with it, you'll be able to keep track of multiple conversations from multiple services at once.

**I use my BlackBerry for everything except Web browsing because the browser is so slow and hard to read. Is there a better browsing application I can use?**

The Web browser in the BlackBerry phone is indeed lacking. But there are options. Your first stop should be to <http://m.opera.com>

on your BlackBerry browser. There, you'll find Opera Mini, a free browser that does everything that the BlackBerry browser doesn't. It's fast, first of all. But just as important, it makes websites easier to read on the mobile phone by including a zoom rectangle around the mouse cursor. You move the rectangle to an area of a web page that you'd like to read, and the Opera Mini browser zooms in quickly to allow you to read that portion of the websites.

Opera Mini works not just on the BlackBerry, by the way. Just about anyone with a Web-connected smartphone should be able to install it.

Firefox fans will be glad to know that their favourite browser is coming soon to mobile phones. Firefox Mobile (<http://mzl.la/NQySZ>) will include such features as borderless browsing, so that your browsing is unhindered by toolbars, status bars, menus, and the like. It will also be able to synch your bookmarks between your desktop and browser, and it will include "location aware" browsing, which will allow the browser to offer you

maps or tell you about events based upon your current location. Right now Firefox Mobile is available only on the Nokia N9000, but ultimately it will be universally available.

Keep in mind that if what you primarily do on your BlackBerry's browser is go directly to Google to conduct a search, you may be happy with the free Google Mobile app. Google Mobile puts an easy-to-read mobile version of Google on your BlackBerry or other smartphone, and it also includes handy links to Gmail, Google Maps, YouTube, and Buzz. Since it's free and small, Google Mobile is worth a download. Point your phone's browser to [m.google.com](http://m.google.com) to download it.

**I'm a Web forum junkie, but browsing forums on my phone is painful, and creating threads and posting replies is next to impossible. Is there a better way?**

Yes. Tapatalk (<http://www.tapatalk.com>) has quickly gained popularity as a Web forum reader, and for good reason. First, for those forums that have integrated the code necessary for them to

become Tapatalk-enabled, it does away with the forums' bulky web interface and puts the primary content — discussions — in a phone-friendly format. Reading topics becomes a simple matter of scrolling through the threads, and of course you can create new threads or respond to existing ones directly from your phone.

Right now Tapatalk is available for iPhone, Android, Nokia, and — in beta — BlackBerry. Once installed, you can use the application to browse for forums by topic, sign up, and start talking.

**What are some good mobile applications for using Twitter from my mobile phone?**

The idea behind Twitter — to let followers know what you're doing as you're doing it — seems tailor-made for mobile phones. So there are dozens upon dozens of mobile phone apps that can tie in to your Twitter account. But perhaps the best place for you to start is with the official smartphone applications from Twitter itself.

Twitter for BlackBerry is available directly from your smartphone through the App World application. TwitterBerry (<http://bit.ly/3HKWsd>) is another good choice. For iPhone, Twitter acquired the popular Tweetie application (<http://bit.ly/LjStO>).

Once installed, any of these applications launch in a flash and let you make tweets as easily as you type a text message. Also, no matter which smartphone you might use, don't forget Google Buzz (<http://www.google.com/buzz>), which will tie in to your Twitter account and some other popular social networking sites, like Flickr. — DPA

# PC makers in race to duplicate iPad's success

By Brandon Bailey

**T**he success of Apple's new iPad has prompted other tech companies to plunge into the market for tablet computers, with startups and major PC makers racing to introduce their own competing devices before the end of the year.

Verizon Wireless confirmed that they have a tablet in the works. Speculation is swirling around the intentions of Hewlett-Packard, the world's biggest PC maker and the company that some believe has the best shot at catching up with Apple's early iPad lead. Meanwhile, everyone from upstart Fusion Garage to established names such as Dell are jumping into the pool.

Experts say the iPad's early sales figures — Apple said that it sold 1mm in four weeks — are proof there's a strong market for such products. But it's unclear if other manufacturers can duplicate the iPad's appeal, or if Apple will dominate the market

in the same way its iPods are much better known than competing music players.

"Anybody can make a tablet. I could go to Taiwan," hire a contract manufacturer, "and make 'Bob's tablet,'" said Bob O'Donnell, an industry analyst with International Data Corp. "The hard part is doing the software and getting the applications."

If any company has that ability, analysts say that HP, which sold nearly 60mn PCs last year, has the size and clout to line up deals with major content providers and mount a massive promotional campaign.

"They can do that. So you have to take HP seriously," said Jayson Noland, who follows the tech industry for Robert W Baird & Co.

Earlier this year, even before the iPad officially went on sale, HP launched an Internet marketing campaign to promote a tablet it calls the Slate, which was designed to run on Microsoft software and which HP promised to begin selling this year. But plans to buy smartphone maker Palm have raised questions about the Slate's future.

HP executives say they want to use Palm's rival software, webOS, to run a variety of

mobile gadgets, including smartphones, netbooks and tablet computers. Citing an unnamed source, the industry blog TechCrunch reported that HP had cancelled plans for the Microsoft-powered Slate.

Although the company declined to comment on that report, HP Executive Vice President Shane Robison said recently that HP may "at some point" build a Slate that runs on webOS.

The choice of software could be crucial. HP executives have previously said they believed Microsoft's newest operating system, Windows 7, offered touch capabilities and other attractive features for a tablet.

But critics say Windows 7, which was designed for full-fledged computers, may be slower and consume more battery power than software created for smartphones such as Palm's webOS, Google's Android or Apple's iPhone OS software, which is used in the iPad.

Redesigning the Slate to run on Palm's software could delay HP's entry into the market by months or even a year, experts said.

Industry analyst Ezra Gottheil said he still expects HP to introduce a Windows-powered Slate this year and follow later with a version running Palm's webOS. Gottheil, who tracks the PC industry for Technology Business Research, said HP could aim each model at a different audience, such as consumer or business users.

"HP has no problem putting out multiple products," Gottheil said. "Some people have even criticised them for putting out too many products. I can't see them killing one just because another is coming up."

While HP executives have said little about their plans, the company has released a handful of Internet videos and blog entries about the Slate — including brief promotional spots, backed by dramatic music, and short, low-key talks by HP executive Phil McKinney and Adobe Systems marketing manager Alan Tam.

Tam's pitch hammers home a likely HP selling point: Without mentioning Apple or the iPad by name, Tam proudly notes that HP's Slate will run Internet video, games and other online content created with Adobe's Flash and Air software, which Apple's device does not.

Apple has criticised Adobe's software as outdated, a charge that's sparked a full-blown feud between the two companies. But Flash is still widely used by Internet content developers.

HP's videos also show a few other things the iPad lacks, including a front-facing camera for video chatting, and a slot for a memory card that can store extra photos and other content.

But there are some things the Slate won't have, O'Donnell noted: "Apple has an unbelievable head start, with 140,000 apps that you can run on the iPad. That's going to make it a lot harder for anybody else."

That hasn't stopped other companies from dipping their toes in the water. Fusion Garage is already selling its JooJoo tablet online. Dell has shown a prototype device with a 5-inch screen — a bigger display than any smartphone, but smaller than the 9.7-inch screen on an iPad — and is working on larger models.

Toshiba, Asus and other manufacturers are also expected to introduce tablets running on Google's Android operating system. The *New York Times* reported that even Google is exploring the idea of producing its own tablet. Google declined to comment.

Analysts say they don't expect tablets to replace other types of PCs, which have more features and capabilities. But PC makers clearly don't want to leave the tablet business to Apple.

"People are going to choose the technology that best fits their lifestyle," said Dell spokesman Matt Parretta. "In the end, we want to build what they want." — *San Jose Mercury News/MCT*

## Facebook adds security tools

By Chris Lefkow

**F**acebook has added new security tools to prevent hacking and held a staff meeting at its California headquarters amid a growing storm over privacy at the social network.

The new security features, unveiled last week, include giving members the ability to approve which devices they commonly use to log on to Facebook — a home computer or a mobile phone, for example — through an "Account Settings" page.

"Once you've done this, whenever someone logs in to your account from a device not on this list, we'll ask the person to name the device," Facebook software engineer Lev Popov said in a blog post.

Facebook members would receive an e-mail notification or a text message if someone tries to access their account from a device that has not been approved. "This notification will provide steps on how to reset your password and remove the device, so you can quickly secure your account if it's being accessed from a device you don't recognise," Popov said.

He said Facebook had also built in controls to "block suspicious logins before they happen" by asking for proof of identity, such as a birth date.

The new security tools were unveiled as Facebook comes under fire from US privacy and consumer groups, lawmakers and the European Union over new features that critics claim compromise the privacy of its more than 400mn members.

Amid the criticism, Facebook held a staff meeting at its Palo Alto offices to discuss its privacy strategy.

A Facebook spokesperson confirmed the meeting in a statement to several technology blogs but said details of the internal discussions would not be released.

"We have an open culture and it should come as no surprise that we're providing a forum for employees to ask questions on a topic that has received a lot of outside interest," the spokesperson said.

The new features introduced last month include the ability for partner websites to incorporate Facebook data, a move that would further expand the social network's presence on the Internet.

A European Union group slammed the recent changes, saying "it is unacceptable that the company fundamentally changed the default settings on its social-networking platform to the detriment of a user."

The EU group, known as the Article 29 Working Party, said user profile information "is limited to self-selected contacts" and any further access "should be an explicit choice of the user."

Earlier this month, over a dozen US privacy and consumer protection groups filed a complaint with the US Federal Trade Commission accusing Facebook of "unfair and deceptive" practices.

"Facebook continues to manipulate the privacy settings of users and its own privacy policy so that it can take personal information provided by users for a limited purpose and make it widely available for commercial purposes," they said.

And four US senators, in a letter to Facebook co-founder Mark Zuckerberg last month, said they worried that personal information about Facebook users is being made available to third party websites.

The senators expressed concerns about privacy ramifications saying "Facebook now obligates users to make publicly available certain parts of their profile that were previously private."

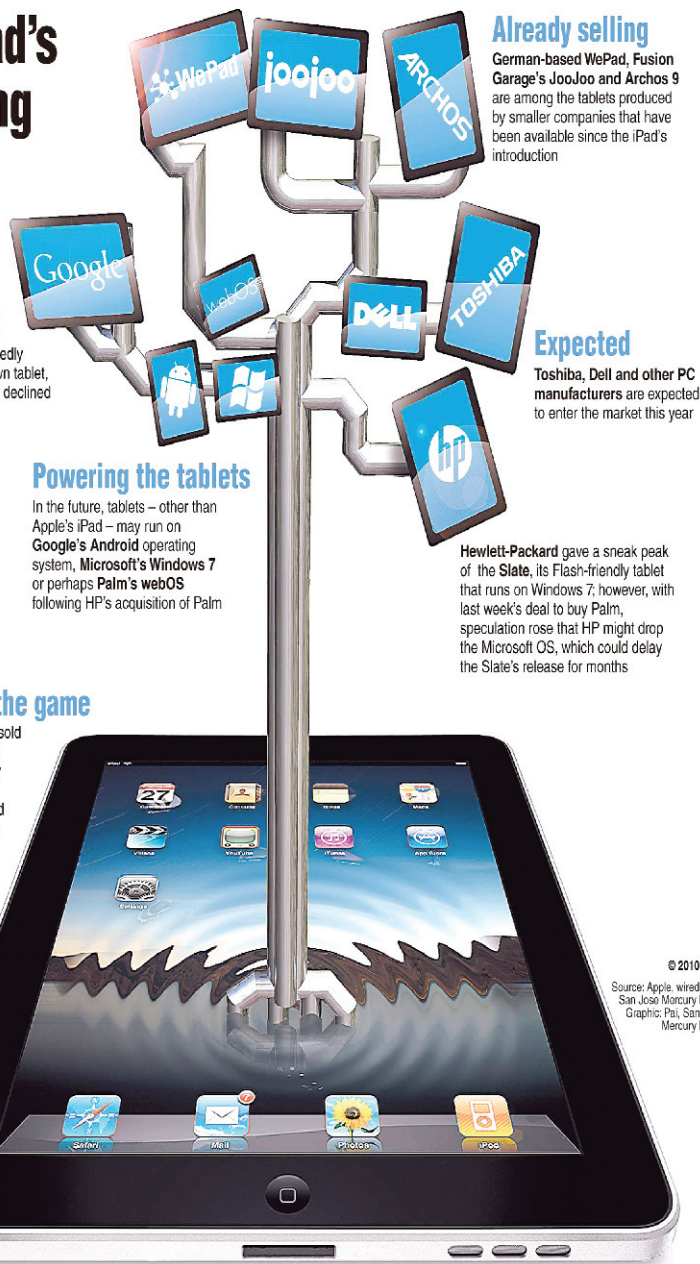
Sharing personal information should be an "opt-in" procedure in which a user specifically gives permission for data to be shared, they said. — AFP

### The iPad's offspring

A look at the competitors who are lining up to capitalize on the success of Apple's iPad.

#### Rumored

Google is reportedly developing its own tablet, but the company declined to comment



#### Already selling

German-based WePad, Fusion Garage's JooJoo and Archos 9 are among the tablets produced by smaller companies that have been available since the iPad's introduction

#### Expected

Toshiba, Dell and other PC manufacturers are expected to enter the market this year

#### Powering the tablets

In the future, tablets — other than Apple's iPad — may run on Google's Android operating system, Microsoft's Windows 7 or perhaps Palm's webOS following HP's acquisition of Palm

Hewlett-Packard gave a sneak peak of the Slate, its Flash-friendly tablet that runs on Windows 7; however, with last week's deal to buy Palm, speculation rose that HP might drop the Microsoft OS, which could delay the Slate's release for months

#### Ahead of the game

Apple's iPad has sold a million units, and users have already downloaded 12 million apps and 1.5 million e-books

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Source: Apple, wired.com, San Jose Mercury News  
Graphic: Pat, San Jose Mercury News

# music



\* Joanna Newsom: 'I haven't changed in the ways people think I have.'

## Down-to-earth star

She models for Armani, enjoys a game of baseball and likes to stay out drinking cocktails. **Jude Rogers** meets Joanna Newsom, the outspoken singer making harp-playing cool

**N**ot for the first time, Joanna Newsom looks a little out of place. We are on the set of the BBC TV music show *Later with Jools Holland*, and she is sitting behind her huge harp, a tiny figure, with Iggy Pop and Ozzy Osbourne to her left, and Courtney Love to her right. Then she starts to play, and sing. Iggy stares at her for a moment, before sitting back. A broad smile spreads across his face.

In the six years since Newsom released her debut album, *The Milk-Eyed Mender*, she has remained a constantly surprising presence. The reasons are legion. She makes ambitious folk-inspired records in an era when the album is meant to be dead. Her lyrics mix archaic language with modern vocabulary, sung in a distinctive, stark voice — which a critic for AllMusic.com described as “somewhere between Bjork and a handbrake”. She has made harp music influenced by Venezuelan and west African rhythms fashionable to indie fans.

And stranger still, this mix sells out venues such as the

3,000-capacity Royal Festival Hall, London, in minutes.

We meet again the afternoon after her performance on *Later*, and she has only been up a few hours after “quite a few post-show cocktails”. Newsom is easygoing and down-to-earth, staying in a nondescript Hyde Park hotel. I order some tea, and she bites her lip: “I thought it might be time for a glass of wine. But no, you’re right, tea! I can’t get drunk on tape!”

It was Newsom’s second album, *Ys*, in 2006 that made her name. A suite of five songs over 55 minutes, she had assembled a strong creative team, including Beach Boys collaborator Van Dyke Parks, Steve Albini, and her then-boyfriend, singer-songwriter Bill Callahan, to record it. In January 2007, she performed the album with the London Symphony Orchestra (LSO), and with symphony ensembles around the world — not bad for a 24-year-old.

Then there was a change of direction. In late 2007 she and Callahan separated; she toured with a group of friends she called The Ys Street Band. Then she played a

negligent mother in the video for MGMT’s single *Kids*, modelled for Giorgio Armani, and was photographed at baseball games with US comedian Andy Samberg, now her boyfriend. More dramatically, last year she had an operation to remove nodules from her vocal chords, leaving her singing voice still distinctive, but much less high.

Some fans objected, which Newsom finds perplexing. “They’re so horrified! It’s a very weird thing.” She speaks in elegant, carefully constructed sentences. “That’s not to say that I haven’t changed over time, because I have. But I haven’t changed in the ways people think I have. If you’d asked me about fashion in 2004, for example, I’d have responded in nerdy detail. I think what’s changing is that people are slowly understanding that I’m not what they originally assumed I was.”

Born in Nevada City in 1982, a tiny goldrush town in northern California, Newsom tends to get characterised as an otherworldly type — a fairy, a pixie, a magical soul.

Far from being a pixie, she worries that she doesn’t read enough

and watches “too much crappy TV”. She’s also a big fan of Jay-Z and Kanye West — though not Lady Gaga. “I’m mystified by the laziness of people looking at how she presents herself, and somehow assuming that implies there’s a high level of intelligence in the songwriting. Her approach to image is really interesting, but you listen to the music, and you just hear glow sticks. Smart outlets for musical journalism give her all this credit, like she’s the new Madonna...” She breaks off and laughs. “Although I’m coming from a perspective of also thinking Madonna is not great at all. I’m like, fair enough: she is the new Madonna, but Madonna’s a dumb-ass!”

Later, she e-mails to clarify what she describes as her “late-afternoon dopiness” on this subject: “I may have contradicted myself. My problem isn’t actually with Lady Gaga. But there’s not much in her music to distinguish it from other glossy, formulaic pop. She just happens to wear slightly weirder outfits than Britney Spears. But they’re not that weird — they’re mostly just skimpy. She’s fully

marketing her body/sexuality; she’s just doing it while wearing, like, a ‘fierce’ telephone hair-hat. Her sexuality has no scuzziness, no frank raunchiness, in the way that, say, Peaches, or even Grace Jones, have — she’s Arty Spice! And, meanwhile, she seems to take herself so oddly seriously, the way she talks about her music in the third person, like she’s Brecht or something. She just makes me miss Cyndi Lauper.”

And on the subject of Madonna: “I shouldn’t have called Madonna a dumb-ass. Her music and she have just gotten so boring to me, this last decade. I think maybe she doesn’t hold her money very gracefully, the way some people can’t hold their drink. But one thing she is surely not is dumb.” She signs off warmly and sweetly, but it’s not exactly a retraction.

When Newsom talks about her new album, *Have One on Me*, it becomes even clearer what bothers her about these two women. *Have One on Me* is a triple album that runs to almost two hours, but is much more direct than her previous work, and more grounded in female experience. The title track is about a 19th-century courtesan called Lola Montez, a mistress to the King of Bavaria, who was famous for allegedly inventing a dance in which she revealed she was wearing no underwear.

Montez lived for a time in Newsom’s hometown, and became a figure of local myth. “I’ve always been fascinated by her,” she says. “And in recent years, I found there was a parallel between what I do as a profession and what it meant to be a female artist at that time. I was noting the intersections between being a courtesan or a whore, and these professions that were socially looked down upon, the sort of professions that were basically creative.”

She admits Newsom the performer and Newsom the private person are closer now than they have been — particularly in songs like *Does Not Suffice*, which concludes the new album. It’s about a woman leaving her lover; she won’t say who it’s about, but hints heavily. “There were a few songs on the record that came to me quickly before I had a chance to stop them, and that was one. The mood of that song is the mood I was in.”

She places her tea cup back on her saucer, and wants to talk about things other than music — like the fire alarm that saw her on Bayswater Road in her pyjamas at 6am, the curry she is looking forward to having tonight, and the fact that *Simpsons* creator Matt Groening turned her into a cartoon for the All Tomorrow’s Parties festival she played at the weekend, which he curated.

“Holy \*\*\*\*! I’m a Simpson! I made it!” She giggles, and there is a trace of that famous squeak. “I don’t need a damn Grammy or anything. That’s the sort of magic all this madness is for.” — Guardian News & Media

# tv listings

## 18/05/10

### Cantankerous heart and soul of *House*

By Mary McNamara

**W**hen *House* debuted on Fox in the autumn of 2004, coverage quickly evolved into two basic story lines: Sherlock Holmes and Hugh Laurie. That the character of medical detective/misanthrope Gregory House was based on the world's most famous detective was an instant source of rousing geek-joy among those who write about television because, among other things, it allowed us to establish some smarty-pants literary credibility.

The same was true with Laurie, who, at the time, was known in the States mostly for playing Bertie Wooster to Stephen Fry's Jeeves in the British series *Jeeves and Wooster*. Along with the opportunity to wax poetic about Wodehouse, Laurie also offered the rare chance to reference British sketch comedy — *A Little Bit of Fry and Laurie* and *Black Adder* — which brought an added cool quotient.

He was also, from the moment the series debuted to the near final moments of this season's finale (the actual final moments were embargoed), consistently, and sometimes exhaustingly, brilliant.

After six seasons playing one of the most relentlessly complex characters on television, there's nothing cultish about Hugh Laurie now. Forget all that fey Brit comedy — he's ours now.

What's left, then, is the real story: that for six years Laurie has anchored a show that has consistently been among the top dramas on American TV, is one of the most popular shows in the world and has just had its best season.

Season 6 is often when many dramas start winding down, and indeed, *House* slipped to No. 19 in Season 5, which may be why it came out swinging last autumn. From the two-hour premiere, to Monday night's moving finale, this has been a stellar year. Problems of earlier seasons, which resulted

in essentially two supporting casts, have been smoothed out, interpersonal story lines among the characters all make sense, and the sometimes under-used pillars of the show — Lisa Edelstein and Robert Sean Leonard — each got episodes in which their characters, Lisa Cuddy and James Wilson, sang lead.

And in the middle of it all is Laurie, the Pau Gasol of television, keeping the show centred and vital with hard play, a lot of rebounds and an almost savant-like ability to focus on the next move.

Yet to hear him tell it, he is the world's most passive creature who simply takes the pages that are handed him by *House's* team of brilliant writers and attempts to do them justice.

This is, of course, nowhere as easy as it sounds. It is also a very specific creative decision.

"I'm like a goldfish," he says, speaking via cell phone from New York, "although goldfish are enigmatic creatures, so there's really no way of knowing what they're actually thinking, of course. ... But," he says, collecting himself from the fishbowl, "I'm about the execution — what is the best way to make this scene as funny, touching, disturbing as it can be. Because I think the actual 'what' that happens is less important than the 'how!'"

He is speaking from the set of *The Oranges*, in which he plays a romantic-ish lead opposite Leighton Meester. It's his first feature film since taking on *House*.

"My people, who actually is one person, is there to look out for the long term and said, 'It's time to spread your wings,' so I started reading scripts, and this was the best one I read."

Not that any, he hastens to add, were as good as a single episode of *House*. "And you can quote me on that." Since the beginning of the show, he has steadfastly handed most of the credit for *House's* success to creator David Shore, executive producer Katie Jacobs and their team.

Any attempts to discuss the evolution of the show or his character leads him inevitably back

to Shore and Jacobs and their ability to think big while leaving plenty of room for small.

"Ideas are 10 a penny. It's the execution that's the hard thing to do. House is standing up against a tide of sentiment and emotionalism over reason that threatens to engulf this world. When you think about it, a rationalist, a man of science and reason, is in a pretty lonely position."

So unlike other stars of successful shows, Laurie says he doesn't exercise his executive producer credit very often, doesn't pull Shore or Jacobs aside with thoughts about the direction of *House's* sobriety or his love life.

"I think when people do that, it has something to do with an underlying dissatisfaction — 'I want my character to be more this or that, I want him to be cooler.' I haven't felt the need to heckle the driver. Take it as a sign of my passivity or my contentment. Or my being a goldfish. I plead the goldfish."

Which is one reason it took him six seasons to direct an episode — this year's *Lockdown*.

The other reason, he says, was sheer exhaustion. Until this season, Laurie was in almost every scene of every episode. *House*, unlike its cable brethren, typically has 24 episodes, so that's a lot of scenes. And if Ginger Rogers did what Fred Astaire did backward and in heels, Laurie does what other stars do in an accent that is not his own and with the character's bum leg. Constant pain is a central part of *House*, which requires a lot of energy to play (and also probably makes Laurie legally ineligible for Botox or facial cosmetic surgery of any kind.)

As tantalising as a modern-day medical Sherlock Holmes with his "everybody lies" worldview might be, it was Laurie's performance that drew viewers to *House*, and what made *House* the blueprint for shows such as *The Mentalist* and even *Nurse Jackie*. Shows Laurie, by the way, says he has never seen.

"I never watched *Nurse Jackie* because when it began Edie Falco said she never watched *House* and she said it rather snottily, I thought,



✿ Hugh Laurie has been playing medical detective/misanthrope Gregory House for six seasons in the Fox drama.

so I didn't watch her show either."

Laurie's laughing, but that doesn't mean he isn't serious. He is still *House's* biggest fan, protective of its cast and creators and delighted to hear that someone thinks this was the best

season yet. "It is very reassuring," he says. "Because a show can change as it ages, and the other thing that changes is the audience. Their attention wanders to the new shiny thing, and that's difficult." — *Los Angeles Times/MCT*

**Al Jazeera Sport+3**

- 0530 Manchester City Tv
- 0830 The Global Game
- 0930 Omni Sport
- 1000 Basketball Nba Play Offs Semi Final Game 7
- 1200 English League Charlton V Swindon
- 1345 Fillers
- 1400 Omni Sport
- 1430 Manchester City Tv
- 1730 The Football League Show
- 1800 English League Charlton V Swindon
- 1945 Basketball Nba Play Offs Semi Final Game 7
- 2145 English League 1 Play Off Millwall V Huddersfield
- 2345 Spanish League Barcelona V Valladolid
- 0130 English League 1 Play Off Millwall V Huddersfield
- 0315 Basketball Nba Play Offs Eastern Final Game 1

**BBC Ent**

- 0515 Teletubbies
- 0540 Me Too
- 0600 Tweenies
- 0620 Teletubbies
- 0645 Me Too
- 0705 Tweenies
- 0725 Teletubbies
- 0750 Me Too
- 0810 Tweenies
- 0830 Teletubbies
- 0855 Me Too
- 0915 Tweenies
- 0940 Bargain Hunt
- 0955 Space Race
- 1145 Wine
- 1215 The Weakest Link
- 1300 Eastenders
- 1330 Doctors
- 1400 Cash In The Attic
- 1430 Bargain Hunt
- 1545 Last Of The Summer Wine
- 1615 The Weakest Link
- 1700 Doctors
- 1730 Eastenders
- 1900 Holly City
- 2000 The Weakest Link
- 2045 Doctors
- 2115 Eastenders
- 2145 Silent Witness
- 2245 Red Cap
- 2345 Love Soup
- 0015 Love Soup
- 0045 Silent Witness
- 0145 The Weakest Link
- 0230 Last Of The Summer Wine
- 0305 Teletubbies
- 0330 Me Too
- 0350 Tweenies
- 0415 Teletubbies
- 0435 Me Too
- 0455 Tweenies

**MGM**

- 0605 Soda Cracker
- 0740 Strictly Business
- 0900 Mr. Accident
- 0620 I Could Go On Singing
- 1210 The Hawaiians
- 1420 Uhf
- 1555 Hair
- 1755 Kidnapped (Epic)
- 1935 Elmer Gantry
- 2200 The Commitments
- 2355 Jimmy Glick In Lala Wood
- 0125 Evidence Of Blood
- 0315 Sunday, Bloody Sunday

**Cinema City**

- 0500 A Few Good Men
- 0715 Hard Ball
- 0900 The Truman Show
- 1100 Brassed Off
- 1300 Ensemble Cast Tout
- 1500 Uncross The Stars
- 1700 Moll Flanders
- 1900 Night Falls On Manhattan
- 2100 Frozen River
- 2300 High Roller
- 0100 The Company You Keep
- 0300 Frozen River



**Epic adventure:** The *Bounty* leaves Portsmouth in 1767. Its destination: to sail to Tahiti and load breadfruit. Captain Bligh (Trevor Howard) will do anything to get there as fast as possible, using any means to keep up a strict discipline. When they arrive at Tahiti, it is like a paradise for the crew, something completely different than the living hell on the ship. On the way back to England, officer Fletcher Christian (Marlon Brando) becomes the leader of a mutiny. Watch the 1962 classic *Mutiny on the Bounty* on TCM today.

**Disney Channel**

- 0510 Hannah Montana
- 0535 Jonas
- 0600 Handy Manny
- 0610 Jungle Junction
- 0700 Handy Manny
- 0720 Imagination Movers
- 0900 Handy Manny
- 0920 Jungle Junction
- 0935 Special Agent Oso
- 0945 Brandy & Mr Whiskers
- 1035 A Kind Of Magic
- 1100 I Got A Rocket
- 1145 Phineas & Ferb
- 1210 Suite Life On Deck
- 1235 Replacements
- 1320 Kim Possible
- 1340 I Got A Rocket
- 1405 Fairly Odd Parents
- 1515 A Kind Of Magic
- 1645 The Replacements
- 1950 Sonny With A Chance
- 2125 The Suite Life Of Zack & Cody
- 2145 The Replacements
- 2225 Replacements
- 2250 A Kind Of Magic
- 2335 Hannah Montana
- 0020 Special Agent Oso
- 0110 Imagination Movers
- 0135 Jungle Junction
- 0225 Mickey Mouse Clubhouse
- 0310 Jungle Junction
- 0320 Special Agent Oso
- 0335 Fairly Odd Parents
- 0400 Phineas & Ferb
- 0425 Suite Life On Deck
- 0445 Wizards Of Waverly Place

**Boomerang**

- 0515 Tom & Jerry Kids
- 0605 Yogi's Treasure Hunt
- 0630 Droopy & Dripping
- 0700 Tom & Jerry
- 0755 The Flintstones
- 0820 The Jetsons
- 0910 The Garfield Show
- 0935 Duck Dodgers
- 1000 The Scooby Doo Show
- 1100 Dastardly And Muttley
- 1125 King Arthur's Disasters
- 1215 A Pup Named Scooby-doo
- 1240 Popeye
- 1330 Top Cat
- 1365 Hong Kong Phooey
- 1420 Duck Dodgers
- 1510 The Flintstones
- 1535 Looney Tunes
- 1620 Top Cat
- 1740 First Time
- 1810 Diva
- 1840 Panday Kids
- 1910 The Last Prince
- 1940 24 Oras
- 2055 Eat Bulaga
- 2220 Panday Kids
- 2250 A Pup Named Scooby-doo
- 2320 Saksi
- 2350 Ofw Diaries
- 0000 Cont. Of Ofw Diaries
- 0020 Kapuso Mo... Jessica Soho
- 0105 Magtalong Kay Doc
- 0140 Unang Hirit
- 0435 Kapuso Mo... Jessica Soho
- 0220 Looney Tunes
- 0245 The Flintstones
- 0400 Tom & Jerry
- 0425 Popey
- 0450 Scooby Doo Where Are You!

**GMA Pinoy TV**

- 0510 Gumapang Ka Sa Lusak
- 0540 Ina, Kasusuklamam Ba Kita?
- 0610 Claudine
- 0700 Dis Is It!
- 0830 Eat Bulaga
- 1030 Gumapang Ka Sa Lusak
- 1100 Ina, Kasusuklamam Ba Kita?
- 1130 First Time
- 1200 Take Me Out
- 1230 The Last Prince
- 1300 Panday Kids
- 1330 Diva
- 1400 24 Oras
- 1515 Eat Bulaga
- 1710 Take Me Out
- 1740 First Time
- 1810 Diva
- 1840 Panday Kids
- 1910 The Last Prince
- 1940 24 Oras
- 2055 Eat Bulaga
- 2220 Panday Kids
- 2250 A Pup Named Scooby-doo
- 2320 Saksi
- 2350 Ofw Diaries
- 0000 Cont. Of Ofw Diaries
- 0020 Kapuso Mo... Jessica Soho
- 0105 Magtalong Kay Doc
- 0140 Unang Hirit
- 0435 Kapuso Mo... Jessica Soho

**Pinoy Extreme**

- 0530 Cfb (Celebrity Home And Business)
- 0600 Stop, Talk And Listen
- 0700 Duda
- 0900 Celebrity Real Life Stories
- 0930 Daily Top 5
- 1000 Sultana
- 1000 Sports Block
- 1300 Cfb (Celebrity Home And Business)
- 1330 Stop, Talk And Listen
- 1430 Duda
- 1630 Celebrity Real Life Stories
- 1700 Orbit Block
- 1730 Daily Top 5
- 1800 Sports Block
- 2000 Sultana
- 2100 Cfb (Celebrity Home And Business)
- 2130 Stop, Talk And Listen
- 2230 Duda
- 0030 Celebrity Real Life Stories
- 0100 Orbit Block
- 0200 Daily Top 5
- 0300 Sports Block
- 0430 Sultana

**Orbit News**

- 0600 Nbc Nightly News (Mon)
- 0700 Abc World News (Mon)
- 0730 Nbc Nightly News (Mon)
- 0800 Pbs Newshour (Rec. 0200g)
- 0900 Abc Nightline (0335)
- 0930 Nbc Nightly News (Mon)
- 1130 Nbc Early Today Live
- 1200 Abc America This Morning Live
- 1300 Abc America This Morning Live
- 1330 Nbc Early Today (0830g)
- 1400 Nbc Today Show Live
- 1830 Abc Now / Good Money (Rec. Mon. 2000g)
- 1900 Msnbc Live
- 2000 Mitchell Reports
- 2100 Pbs Newshour (Rec. 0200g)
- 2200 Msnbc (Rec. @0000g) Countdown W/K. Obermann
- 2300 195943 Abc Now Bell / Good Money Live
- 2330 Abc Now News / World View (0730g)
- 0000 Abc Now Top Line / Inside The Newsroom (0600g)
- 0030 Abc Now Daily Download & Now You Know
- 0100 Abc Nightline (0335)
- 0230 Abc World News (Tue)
- 0300 Nbc Today Show (Rec. Tue. 1100/1500gmt) Reduce Breaks

**Sky News**

- 0500 News On The Hour
- 0530 Cbs News
- 0600 Sky World News
- 0630 Sky World Review & Business Report
- 0700 Sky World News
- 0730 Sky World Review & Business Report
- 0800 Sky World News
- 0830 Sky World Review & Business Report
- 0900 Sunrise
- 2130 Sunrise
- 1200 The Live Desk
- 1230 The Live Desk
- 1600 The Live Desk
- 1630 The Live Desk
- 1700 Afternoon Live
- 1730 Afternoon Live
- 1800 Afternoon Live
- 1830 Afternoon Live
- 1900 Afternoon Live
- 1930 Afternoon Live
- 2000 Live At Five
- 2300 Live At Five
- 0000 Sky News At Six
- 2130 Sky News At Six
- 2200 Sky,Com News
- 2230 Jeff Randall Live
- 2300 News, Sport, Weather
- 2330 News, Sport, Weather
- 0000 News, Sport, Weather
- 0100 Sky News At Ten
- 0130 Sky News At Ten
- 0200 Sky News Tonight
- 0230 Press Preview
- 0300 Sky Midnight News
- 0330 Cbs News
- 0400 News On The Hour
- 0430 News, Sport, Weather

**Discovery Channel**

- 0540 How Does It Work?
- 0605 Dirty Jobs
- 0700 Extreme Engineering
- 0755 Mean Machines
- 0820 Overhaul'n
- 0915 Mythbusters
- 1010 Ultimate Survival
- 1105 Huge Moves
- 1200 Border Security
- 1230 How It's Made
- 1255 How Does It Work?
- 1320 American Chopper
- 1415 Miami Ink
- 1510 Mythbusters
- 1605 Dirty Jobs
- 1700 Deadliest Catch
- 1800 Border Security
- 1830 Overhaul'n
- 1930 Destroyed In Seconds
- 2000 How It's Made
- 2030 How Does It Work?
- 2100 Mighty Ships
- 2200 Mega Builders
- 2300 Extreme Engineering
- 0000 Border Security
- 0030 Destroyed In Seconds
- 0100 Miami Ink
- 0200 Overhaul'n
- 0255 Mighty Ships
- 0350 Extreme Engineering
- 0445 Mythbusters

**Animal Planet**

- 0540 How Does It Work?
- 0605 Dirty Jobs
- 0700 Extreme Engineering
- 0755 Mean Machines
- 0820 Overhaul'n
- 0915 Mythbusters
- 1010 Ultimate Survival
- 1105 Huge Moves
- 1200 Border Security
- 1230 How It's Made
- 1255 How Does It Work?
- 1320 American Chopper
- 1415 Miami Ink
- 1510 Mythbusters
- 1605 Dirty Jobs
- 1700 Deadliest Catch
- 1800 Border Security
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- 2200 Mega Builders
- 2300 Extreme Engineering
- 0000 Border Security
- 0030 Destroyed In Seconds
- 0100 Miami Ink
- 0200 Overhaul'n
- 0255 Mighty Ships
- 0350 Extreme Engineering
- 0445 Mythbusters

**Extreme Sports**

- 0500 Odyssey Driving Around The World
- 0600 Anderson Cooper 360
- 0700 World Report
- 0730 Inside Africa
- 0800 World Sport
- 0830 Backstory
- 0900 World Report
- 1000 World Report
- 1030 World Sport
- 1100 World Report
- 1130 World Business Today
- 1200 World Report
- 1230 Inside Africa
- 1300 Larry King Live
- 1400 World Report
- 1430 World Sport
- 1500 World Report
- 1600 Amanpour.
- 1630 News Special
- 1700 World Business Today
- 1800 International Desk
- 1900 The Brief
- 1930 World Sport
- 2000 Prism
- 2030 News Special
- 2100 International Desk
- 2200 Quest Means Business
- 2300 Amanpour.
- 2330 World One
- 0100 Backstory
- 0130 World Sport
- 0200 The Situation Room
- 0300 World Report
- 0400 World Business Today
- 0430 World Sport

**CNN International**

- 0500 Odyssey Driving Around The World
- 0600 Anderson Cooper 360
- 0700 World Report
- 0730 Inside Africa
- 0800 World Sport
- 0830 Backstory
- 0900 World Report
- 1000 World Report
- 1030 World Sport
- 1100 World Report
- 1130 World Business Today
- 1200 World Report
- 1230 Inside Africa
- 1300 Larry King Live
- 1400 World Report
- 1430 World Sport
- 1500 World Report
- 1600 Amanpour.
- 1630 News Special
- 1700 World Business Today
- 1800 International Desk
- 1900 The Brief
- 1930 World Sport
- 2000 Prism
- 2030 News Special
- 2100 International Desk
- 2200 Quest Means Business
- 2300 Amanpour.
- 2330 World One
- 0100 Backstory
- 0130 World Sport
- 0200 The Situation Room
- 0300 World Report
- 0400 World Business Today
- 0430 World Sport

**Cartoon Network**

- 0500 The Powerpuff Girls
- 0515 Foster's Home For Imaginary Friends
- 0540 The Secret Saturdays
- 0630 Ben 10
- 0655 Best Ed
- 0720 Samurai Jack
- 0745 Cramp Twins
- 0810 Elio Kid
- 0925 Chowder
- 0950 Best Ed
- 1015 Chop Socky Chooks
- 1030 Fantastic Four World's Greatest Heroes
- 1155 Elio Kid
- 1230 Squirrel Boy
- 1255 Robotboy
- 1415 The Powerpuff Girls
- 1430 Class Of 3000
- 1435 Ed, Edd N Eddy
- 1525 Codename Kids Next Door
- 1550 Ben 10
- 1640 Squirrel Boy
- 1705 Elio Kid
- 1800 Skunk Ful
- 1850 Bakugan Battle Brawlers
- 1915 The Secret Saturdays
- 2005 Ben 10 Alien Force
- 2030 Squirrel Boy
- 2125 Chop Socky Chooks
- 2205 The Powerpuff Girls
- 2245 Ben 10 Alien Force
- 2310 Camp Lazlo
- 0000 Ben 10
- 0025 Samurai Jack
- 0115 Out Of Jimmy's Head
- 0140 Chowder
- 0230 Cramp Twins
- 0255 George Of The Jungle
- 0345 Elio Kid
- 0410 Ed, Edd N Eddy
- 0435 Class Of 3000

**Discovery Science**

- 0510 Weird Connections
- 0540 Sci-Fi Science
- 0610 Nextworld
- 0700 Scrapheap Challenge
- 0800 Race To Mars
- 0900 Da Vinci's Machines
- 0955 Stuntdaws
- 1020 Weird Connections
- 1050 Nextworld
- 1145 How Stuff's Made
- 1215 Building The Biggest
- 1310 Sci-Fi Science
- 1335 Da Vinci's Machines
- 1430 Mighty Ships
- 1525 How Stuff's Made
- 1555 Race To Mars
- 1650 Brainiac
- 1745 Extreme Engineering
- 1840 Eco-tech
- 1930 Mean Green Machines
- 1955 Mean Green Machines
- 2020 How It's Made
- 2045 How It's Made
- 2110 Mythbusters
- 2200 Eco-tech
- 2250 Mean Green Machines
- 2315 Mean Green Machines
- 2340 Extreme Engineering
- 0030 Mighty Ships
- 0120 Eco-tech
- 0210 Mean Green Machines
- 0235 Mean Green Machines
- 0300 Beyond Tomorrow
- 0350 Scrapheap Challenge
- 0445 How Stuff's Made

**MBC 4**

- 0530 Sports Kids Moms And Dads
- 0615 House
- 0700 Dawson's Creek season 3
- 0745 The Insider
- 0815 Late Show With David Letterman
- 0915 Jeopardy
- 1000 Wheel Of Fortune
- 1030 The Doctors
- 1045 Dr Phil
- 1120 Days Of Our Lives
- 1200 Home Shopping
- 1300 Less than perfect
- 1315 Oprah
- 1400 Dawson's Creek season 3
- 1500 Lost hearts(Turkish series)
- 1540 Rachel Ray
- 1630 Sports Kids Moms And Dads
- 1715 ALIVE
- 1800 House
- 1900 The Doctors
- 2000 Oprah
- 2100 Lost hearts(Turkish series)
- 2200 ALIVE
- 2300 The Good Wife
- 0000 The Nation (Turkish series)
- 0100 Lost hearts(Turkish series)
- 0145 ALIVE
- 0230 Entertainment Tonight & The Insider
- 0315 Late Show With David Letterman
- 0400 Rules Of Engagement
- 0430 The Nation (Turkish series)

**Dubai One**

- 0500 The Bold and the Beautiful (Season 8)
- 0530 Curly Your Enthusiasm
- 0600 Emirates News
- 0630 Curly Your Enthusiasm
- 0700 Notes from the Underbelly (Season 1)
- 0730 One Tree Hill (Season 3)
- 0830 CSI Crime Scene Investigation (Season 4)
- 0930 Movie Small Time
- 1130 The Bold and the Beautiful (Season 8)
- 1130 The Bold and the Beautiful (Season 8)
- 1200 Justice
- 1300 One Tree Hill (Season 3)
- 1400 Twenty Something (Season 1)
- 1430 Movie Brothers Grimm
- 1630 CSI Crime Scene Investigation (Season 4)
- 1730 One Tree Hill (Season 3)
- 1830 The Bold and the Beautiful (Season 8)
- 1900 Curly Your Enthusiasm # 6
- 2200 ALIVE
- 2300 Movie Last Days of Disco
- 0100 Movie Harry Tracy Desperado
- 0300 Emirates News
- 0330 Notes from the Underbelly (Season 1)
- 0400 CSI Crime Scene Investigation (Season 4)

**MBC Action**

- 0500 La Femme Nikita
- 0545 Six feet Under
- 0630 The Dead Zone
- 0715 Viper
- 0800 World's Wildest police Videos
- 0845 BONES
- 0930 La Femme Nikita
- 1015 The Dead Zone
- 1100 Viper
- 1145 Most shocking
- 1215 Bones
- 1300 Movie Taxi 3
- 1500 The Vampire Diaries
- 1600 Monster Garage
- 1700 BONES
- 1800 La Femme Nikita
- 1900 The Dead Zone
- 2000 Driving Forces
- 2100 24 season 7
- 2200 Movie Million Dollar Baby
- 0000 Six feet Under
- 0115 24 season 7
- 0200 Movie Layer Cake
- 0330 Driving Forces
- 0430 Most shocking

**Zee TV**

- 0500 Benny Hinn
- 0530 TVC Skyshop
- 0700 Jhansi Ki Rani
- 0730 Chhoti Bahu - Sindoor Bin Suhagan
- 0800 12 / 24 Karol Bagh
- 0900 Pavitra Rishta
- 0930 Do Saheliyaan - Kismat Ki Kathupatalyaan
- 1030 Jhansi Ki Rani
- 1100 Pavitra Rishta
- 1200 Do Saheliyaan - Kismat Ki Kathupatalyaan
- 1230 Agle Janam Mohe Bitiya Hi Kijo
- 1300 12 / 24 Karol Bagh
- 1400 Chhoti Bahu - Sindoor Bin Suhagan
- 1430 Agle Janam Mohe Bitiya Hi Kijo
- 1500 Jhansi Ki Rani
- 1530 Pavitra Rishta
- 1630 Do Saheliyaan - Kismat Ki Kathupatalyaan
- 1700 Chhoti Bahu - Sindoor Bin Suhagan
- 1730 Jhansi Ki Rani
- 1800 Pavitra Rishta
- 1900 Agle Janam Mohe Bitiya Hi Kijo
- 1930 12 / 24 Karol Bagh
- 2030 Pavitra Rishta
- 2100 Jhansi Ki Rani
- 2130 Teleshopping
- 2330 Agle Janam Mohe Bitiya Hi Kijo
- 0030 Jhansi Ki Rani
- 0100 12 / 24 Karol Bagh
- 0130 Baba Ramdev Ka Yoga
- 0230 Teleshopping
- 0330 Sant Nirankari Mandal
- 0400 The Faith Show
- 0430 Enjoying Everyday Life

**Star Plus**

- 0500** Aek Chabhi Hai  
Padose Mein  
**0600** Shararat  
**0630** Sasural genda Phool  
**0700** Mann kee Awaaz  
Pratigya  
**0730** Des Mei Nikla Hoga  
Chand  
**0830** Sajjan Ghar Jana Hai  
**0900** Raja Ki Aayegi Baraat  
**0930** Yeh Rishta Kya  
Kehlata Hai  
**1000** Sapna Babul Ka ...  
Bidaai  
**1030** Tere Mere Sapne  
**1100** Hamari Devrani  
**1130** Mann kee Awaaz  
Pratigya  
**1200** Shararat  
**1230** Khichdi  
**1300** Saath Nibhana  
Saathiya  
**1330** Sajjan Ghar Jana Hai  
**1400** Behenei  
**1430** Sasural genda Phool  
**1500** Mann kee Awaaz  
Pratigya  
**1600** Sapna Babul Ka ...  
Bidaai  
**1700** Tere Mere Sapne  
**1730** Raja Ki Aayegi Baraat  
**1800** Saath Nibhana  
Saathiya  
**1830** Sasural Genda Phool  
**1900** Beheni  
**1930** Sabki Laadli Bebo  
**2000** Sapna Babul Ka ...  
Bidaai  
**2030** Yeh Rishta Kya  
Kehlata Hai  
**2100** Mann kee Awaaz  
Pratigya  
**2130** Sajjan Ghar Jana Hai  
**2200** Sasural genda Phool  
**2300** Tere Mere Sapne  
**2330** Behnei  
**0000** Sapna Babul Ka ...  
Bidaai  
**0030** Yeh Rishta Kya  
Kehlata Hai  
**0100** Mann kee Awaaz  
Pratigya  
**0130** Sabki Laadli Bebo  
**0200** Raja Ki Aayegi Baraat  
**0230** Hamari Devrani  
**0300** Sajjan Ghar Jana Hai  
**0330** Shararat  
**0400** Yeh Rishta Kya  
Kehlata Hai  
**0430** Sapna Babul Ka ...  
Bidaai

**TCM**

- 0625** The Screening Room  
**0625** The Screening Room -  
Berlin Film Festival 6  
**0700** Where Were You  
When The Lights  
Went Out?  
**0830** Ben-hur  
**1155** Never So Few  
**1355** Welcome To Hard  
Times  
**1535** Ice Station Zebra  
**1755** Kelly's Heroes  
**2015** Travels With My Aunt  
**2200** Mutiny On The  
Bounty  
**0050** Crazy In Love  
**0105** Some Came Running  
**0325** Screening Room, The  
- Women Directors  
**0325** The Screening Room  
**0400** National Lampoon's  
Movie Madness

**Star World**

- 0500** Kyle XY  
**0600** Scrubs  
**0700** The King Of Queens  
**0730** According To Jim  
**0850** Different Strokes  
**0900** Grey's Anatomy  
**1050** Who's The Boss?  
**1100** Reaper  
**1150** Different Strokes  
**1200** The King Of Queens  
**1300** Kyle XY  
**1350** Charlie's Angels  
**1400** Grey's Anatomy  
**1450** Who's The Boss?  
**1500** [V] Tunes  
**1600** Criminal Minds  
**1700** Scrubs  
**1730** Scrubs  
**1800** The King Of Queens  
**1830** According To Jim  
**1900** American Idol  
**2000** Australia's Next Top  
Model  
**2050** Starsky & Hutch  
**2100** BOSTON LEGAL  
**2150** Who's The Boss?  
**2200** American Idol  
**2300** Australia's Next Top  
Model  
**2330** Starsky & Hutch  
**0000** BOSTON LEGAL  
**0050** Who's The Boss?  
**0100** Grey's Anatomy  
**0200** [V] Tunes  
**0300** [V] Tunes  
**0400** [V] Tunes

**National Geo**

- 0500** Most Dangerous  
Moments  
**0600** Animal Autopsy  
-Crocodile  
**0700** Rescue Ink -Biting Back  
**0800** ABOUT ASIA -ShowReal  
Asia Kick Fighters  
**0900** Boy Soldiers  
**1000** The Pyrenees  
**1100** Amazing Moments  
-Most Dangerous  
Moments  
**1200** What Would Happen  
If... -3  
**1230** Storm Stories -Thailand  
Tsunami S2-3  
**1300** Fight Science Super  
Cops  
**1400** Wounded Bird  
**1500** ABOUT ASIA -ShowReal  
Asia Kick Fighters  
**1600** Dive Detectives  
-Submarine Graveyard  
**1700** The Best Job In The  
World Day 11  
**1730** The Best Job In The  
World Girlfriend On  
The Run 2  
**1800** Fight Science Super  
Cops  
**1900** Inside -Inside Afghan  
Heroin  
**2000** Wounded Bird  
**2100** Submarine Graveyard  
**2230** The Best Job In The  
World Girlfriend On  
The Run 2  
**2300** Inside Afghan Heroin  
**0000** Submarine Graveyard  
**0100** he Best Job In The  
World Day 11  
**0130** The Best Job In The  
World Girlfriend On  
The Run 2  
**0200** THEME WEEK -Fight  
Science Super Cops  
**0300** Asian Tsunami S3-6  
**0400** ABOUT ASIA -ShowReal  
Asia Japanese Cowboy

**Channel V**

- 0500** Kyle XY  
**0600** Scrubs  
**0700** The King Of Queens  
**0730** According To Jim  
**0850** Different Strokes  
**0900** Grey's Anatomy  
**1000** October Road  
**1050** Who's The Boss?  
**1150** Different Strokes  
**1200** The King Of Queens  
**1230** The Bold and the  
Beautiful  
**1300** Kyle XY  
**1350** Charlie's Angels  
**1400** Grey's Anatomy  
**1450** Who's The Boss?  
**1500** [V] Tunes  
**1600** Criminal Minds  
**1700** Scrubs  
**1730** Scrubs  
**1800** The King Of Queens  
**1830** According To Jim  
**1900** American Idol  
**2000** Australia's Next Top  
Model  
**2050** Starsky & Hutch  
**2100** BOSTON LEGAL  
**2150** Who's The Boss?  
**2200** American Idol  
**2300** Australia's Next Top  
Model  
**2330** Starsky & Hutch  
**0000** BOSTON LEGAL  
**0050** Who's The Boss?  
**0100** Grey's Anatomy  
**0200** [V] Tunes  
**0300** [V] Tunes  
**0400** [V] Tunes  
**0430** Loop

**The History Ch**

- 0540** Dogfights  
**0630** Deep Sea Detectives  
**0720** Battlefield Detectives  
**0810** Decoding The Past  
**0900** Man Moment  
Machine  
**0955** Mega Movers  
**1050** Battle Stations  
**1140** Dogfights  
**1230** Deep Sea Detectives  
**1320** Battlefield Detectives  
**1410** Decoding The Past  
**1500** Man Moment  
Machine  
**1555** Mega Movers  
**1650** Battle Stations  
**1740** Dogfights  
**1830** Deep Sea Detectives  
**1920** Battlefield Detectives  
**2010** Decoding The Past  
**2100** World War II Lost  
Films  
**2155** Dead Men's Secrets  
**2250** Desperate Crossing  
The Mayflower  
**2340** Battles B.C.  
**0030** Dogfights  
**0120** Ice Road Truckers 2  
**0210** Mega Disasters  
**0300** World War II Lost  
Films  
**0355** Dead Men's Secrets  
**0450** Desperate Crossing  
The Mayflower

**On the radio****QBS English Service**

- 0600** Holy Qur'an and  
Islamic Programme  
**0630** The Breakfast Show  
News Summary  
**0900** London Line  
**1000** 30 Minutes Feature  
Sports Connection  
**1100** News Summary  
**1105** Var Music  
**1300** The News  
**1315** French Transmission  
**1600** S&B Music  
**1700** Evening Show  
**1800** The News  
**1815** Evening Show contd...  
**2000** News Summary  
**2005** Nic's Nu Tunes  
**2100** The Alternative Rock  
Top 40

**QBS French Service**

- 0725** Espresso  
**1345** Sports without  
borders: Weekend  
results with Younes  
**1400** Heartbeat: World  
news through  
Cecile's eyes  
**1500** Zoom on Africa, the  
story of a famous  
African singer

**QBS Urdu Service**

- 1858** Opening Music  
**1900** Opening & Holy  
Qur'an  
**1910** Hamd or Na'at  
**1915** Islamic Heritage  
**1930** News  
**1945** Bazm-e-Ahbab  
Saif-ur-Rehman  
**2015** Poetry & Songs  
Ferzana Safdar  
**2100** Phone Fermaesh Dr  
Fozia Shafeeq  
**2200** National Anthem

**Radio Asia****Malayalam Service**

- 0500** Manjurukum Pular  
Kalam  
**0530** Life Magazine  
**0605** Keraleeyam  
**0700** Sarasakeralam  
**0800** Hello Rainbow  
**0900** GMG  
**1000** Comedy Serial  
**1100** Daily Diary  
**1305** Sneha Veedu  
**1330** Aardrabhavangal  
**1357** Nam Engottu  
**1420** Atlas Daily SI  
**1500** Viva Dhaparvam  
**1530** Quiz Time  
**1600** Kerala Link  
**1702** Snehithare Ithile  
**1800** Hotline  
**1900** Sneha Sandeshan  
**2000** Nenchild Ninte Ran  
gam  
**2100** Isai Malai  
**2130** Uravamu Padalum  
**2215** Ragamrutham  
**2300** Songs

**Asianet Radio 648AM****Malayalam Service**

- 1000** Opening and Holy  
Qur'an  
**1010** Good Morning  
Gulf  
**1040** Sneha Sandesham  
**1100** News Headlines  
**1105** Daily Serial  
**1135** Film India  
**1200** Hot News  
**1210** Mayuri Tex  
**1235** Lulu  
Kudumbasamedham  
**1300** Hitachi

- News  
**1310** Cinema Cinema  
**1335** Atlas  
Suvannanimishangal  
**1400** News Headlines  
**1402** Sharp Public Demand  
**1420** Requested  
songs  
**1445** Westar News/close

**BBC****World Service**

- 0500** BBC News  
**0505** World Briefing  
**0520** World Business News  
**0530** World Briefing  
**0540** Analysis  
**0550** Sports Roundup  
**0600** BBC News  
**0605** The World Today  
**0700** BBC News  
**0705** The World Today  
**0720** Sports Roundup  
**0730** The World Today  
**0800** BBC News  
**0805** World Briefing  
**0820** World Business News  
**0830** World Briefing  
**0840** Business Daily  
**0900** BBC News  
**0905** The World Today  
**1000** BBC News  
**1005** Documentary  
**1030** The Strand  
**1100** BBC News  
**1105** Outlook  
**1130** Health Check  
**1200** BBC News  
**1205** World Briefing  
**1220** World Business News  
**1230** Business Daily  
**1250** Sports Roundup  
**1300** BBC News  
**1320** World Update  
**1400** BBC News  
**1405** World Briefing  
**1420** World Business News  
**1430** World Briefing  
**1440** Analysis  
**1450** Sports Roundup  
**1500** BBC News  
**1505** Newshour  
**1600** BBC News  
**1605** Documentary  
**1630** Health Check  
**1700** BBC News  
**1705** Outlook  
**1730** The Strand  
**1800** BBC News  
**1805** World Briefing  
**1840** Business Daily  
**1900** BBC News  
**1905** World Briefing  
**1920** World Business News  
**1930** World Briefing  
**1940** Analysis  
**1950** Sports Roundup  
**2000** BBC News  
**2030** Europe Today  
**2100** BBC News  
**2105** World, Have Your Say  
**2200** BBC News  
**2205** World Briefing  
**2220** World Business News  
**2235** World Briefing  
**2240** Analysis  
**2250** Sports Roundup  
**2300** BBC News  
**2305** Documentary  
**2330** Health Check  
**0000** BBC News  
**0005** Newshour  
**0100** BBC News  
**0105** Outlook  
**0130** The Strand  
**0200** BBC News  
**0205** Documentary  
**0240** Health Check



\* Musician Ben Folds performs a version of Elliott Smith's *Say Yes* in the studios of the A V Club, a part of *The Onion*, in Chicago, Illinois. The *Undercover* video series from the *A V Club* features musicians performing work by other artists.

# Standing out in a crowded music scene

By Steve Johnson

**B**en Folds sits in a round interior room in an office north of downtown Chicago, fingers gliding across a borrowed, early 1970s Wurlitzer electric piano.

He is singing *Say Yes*, one of the finest songs written by the late Elliott Smith, a singer-songwriter revered by his peers and many music aficionados but little known to the general public.

Two video cameras track Folds' face and hands. A sound guy is outside, monitoring the proceedings in an adjacent cubicle. And it seems that most of the Chicago staff of the satirical newspaper *The Onion* has gathered by the unusual room's door to listen. Folds, perhaps best known for the song *Brick* and his Ben Folds Five trio, is the most famous performer yet to record a tune for the *Onion A V Club's Undercover* video series.

Folds finishes his first take of the song, a lilting, wistful examination of a relationship and its "morning after," and it sounds great. Except to the musician.

"Can I hit it one more time?" he asks. "Sometimes you hit keys on this thing that just don't play. Not that that's why I (messed) up."

*Undercover* is the latest, and one of the more creative, entries in the burgeoning world of casual, online music video series.

Prominent among them are NPR's *Tiny Desk Concerts*, the *Black Cab Sessions* out of London ("one song, one take, one cab") and the *Take-Away Shows*, from Paris.

In Chicago, editors for *A V Club*, the *Onion's* fact-based arts and entertainment section, present visiting artists with a list of 25 songs they've decided they want to see

covered, then record each performance in the room and post it on [avclub.com](http://avclub.com), one video per week, through August.

First Starbucks and now Budweiser sponsor the series, which unfolds almost like a mystery: "Who will cover Pink Floyd's *Wish You Were Here*?" asks the site. It's a question that will be answered in the offices two days later — when a hot indie band out of Brooklyn comes in to play it — but won't be answered for the public until probably a month from now, when that video goes up.

The series spotlights a developing promotional ecosystem that sees musicians not only doing interviews with radio stations and the like, but also leaving behind a bit of exclusive content that the hosts can feature on their websites.

Sites are asking themselves: "How can we not just re-post content? How can we be a destination?" says James Bailey, national publicity manager for North Carolina-based Yep Roc Records. "The biggest, most obvious answer to that is to have exclusive content."

At the same time, artists and labels are fighting to get their material heard amid the multitude of choices people now have.

Bailey cites an example: He just had Yep Roc artist Josh Rouse cover The Cult's *Wildflower* for *Billboard* as part of a series of cover songs the New York-based music-industry magazine is featuring on its website.

"It's a give and take," Bailey says. *Billboard* gets fresh material for its branded, sponsored feature. Rouse gets a well-done bit of video (and audio) Yep Roc can add to its promotional materials or embed on its own site. "Everybody scratches the other side's back," Bailey says.

Another Yep Roc artist is veteran LA punker John Doe (of X). Doe says he has seen

an evolution in what is asked of artists in promoting their work. "Twenty years ago you would come for an interview," he says. "Ten years ago people would ask if you'd (also) sing a song, and you could either agree or decline. Now you're expected to."

"I'm fine with that," he adds. "In general, I think more is better, but you still have to be careful not to put out crap. It's kind of a challenge to keep yourself in people's mind, but not just be annoying."

And, he cautions, the new, digital tools of self-promotion can get in the way of what's important.

"Too many bands have their Facebook page before they have any good songs," Doe says.

To "bump up" attention for its recently released first full record, *Born and Thrown on a Hook*, the up-and-coming Philadelphia band Drink Up Buttercup recorded a "purposely home-video-looking" version of each of the 12 songs and released them on their website, countdown-style, one song per week, until the record came out in late March.

"A magazine used to sit on a table for a month," says frontman Jim Harvey. "When you're posted on a blog, you're up on top for half an hour, then it falls out. You want to have as much content as you can out there. The more times you do that, the more visibility your band is going to get."

If there is a downside to the on-site recordings, it's that Drink Up Buttercup is a high-energy live act, and "it's kind of hard to capture that energy when you're in, like, a sterile room without any audience or booze or anything," Harvey says.

Back at the offices the *Onion's* business operations share with *A V Club's* editorial workers, Folds records a take of *Say Yes* that he likes.

"All right," he says. "Cool."

The acoustics? "Very round," he says. "Slightly bright. The piano is kind of a hunk of (junk), but we bonded."

After signing his name on the room's wall, along with the song he performed and a line drawing of a piano, he notes that he's actually gotten "pickier" lately about which on-site recordings he'll do.

"In my career, I've done gazillions," Folds says. "That's not really a number, as you know, but that's as accurate as I can get."

He's frequently impressed by them, despite their "throwaway nature." "I'm often presented with recordings I've done in someone's office to approve for some kind of charity record or something. And sometimes I'm amazed how real and good those recordings are."

"They're done quickly; they're not thought about. That's the way great music of the era of the 70s and old blues and wire recordings were done. And I don't see any difference, so I'm really happy."

He agreed to be a part of *Undercover* because he liked the concept (and actually used to play that Smith song in concert) and because he feels an affinity for the publication.

*A V Club* was hoping that might be the case when it thought up the *Undercover* idea but wasn't completely sure.

"I like to say this is five totally unoriginal ideas mashed into one semi-original idea," says Josh Modell, *A V Club's* editor-in-chief.

"Just having a band come in and play, lots of people do that. Having a band come in and do a cover, lots of people do that. The thing that made me excited was coming up with the game concept."

Bands have to choose from the songs on the list — selected for quality, interest and a certain lack of obviousness — and can only pick ones that have not yet been spoken for.

Modell figured Starship's *We Built This City* might be the last to go, but it was actually snapped up early, by the band Cursive.

"They tore it up," Modell says. "Our (website) commenters hated it. I loved it."

The videos are another way the site tries to bond with readers, he says: "It's not like all of a sudden we have a million viewers, but people are really digging it." — *Chicago Tribune/MCT*

# focus



\* The exterior view of the resort at dusk.

## Earthy comforts

Tucked away at an altitude of 3,500ft above sea level, this eco-friendly getaway in Kerala and Asia's first 'earth resort' is built of 95% mud and 5% cement. **By Ashraf Padanna**

**A** resort built of mud is the new attraction for holidaymakers in the southern Indian state of Kerala. Tucked away at an altitude of 3,500ft above sea level on the mist-clad hills of Wayanad, Banasura Hill Resort is Asia's first 'earth resort'.

Spread across 35 acres of verdant terrain and set against the legendary Banasura hills, the resort is a complex of earth rooms, twin villas and suites. Cement constitutes only 5% of the buildings and the rest is the mud abundantly available there besides locally resourced degradable materials.

India's tourism superbrand has recently embarked on a major initiative on sustainable tourism and this resort can rightly claim to be a trailblazer and a strong answer

to the concrete jungles being erected in Kerala's tourist hotspots like Munnar causing large scale environmental destruction.

"The basic concept is there should be no damage to the environment in any manner. Whatever material we use for construction should return to earth after their lifecycle without damaging the eco system," said renowned architect Eugene Pandala.

This is a brainchild of Pandala, who holds his masters in urban design from School of Planning and Architecture, New Delhi. He has pioneered the state's two major heritage conservation projects of Fort Cochin in the port city of Kochi and East Fort located in the state capital Thiruvananthapuram.

According to him, mud is

energy-friendly, safe, recyclable and economical. There is no smell of synthetics, no sound of mechanical systems and no rattling when the wind roars. It simply is a constructed environment that grows from the earth, yet remains as a natural, sustainable environment.

A fellow in heritage conservation at the University of York and Fort Brockhurst English Heritage Training Centre in UK, Pandala was the founding head of the department of architecture at the Architecture School in Quilon, Kerala.

While studying in New Delhi, Pandala met Hassan Fathy and he was heavily influenced and inspired by the legendary architect and author of *Architecture for the Poor: An Experiment in Rural Egypt* who

pioneered sustainable architecture in Egypt.

"Organic designs using natural materials perfectly blend with cultural continuity. The building should be so natural to its surroundings and that exactly is what we have done here too," said Pandala. "The mud used for the building came from the same property."

Pandala has constructed several mud houses over the years but this is for the first time that a tourism entrepreneur has come forward to tap its potential in line with the state's policy of sustainable tourism. His other notable mud buildings include a 13,000 sq ft studio that has a sound-proof room.

Pandala says his concept is not something new. Part of the Great



Wall of China was built of rammed earth and stone in 246 BC and the biggest earthen building is a world heritage site, the Dejenne Mosque in Mali, which can seat 3,000 people. The Kerala capital, Thiruvananthapuram, also has more than 100-year-old mud buildings still intact.

The Banasura Sagar Dam overlooking this resort is also built up of mud and it is India's largest earthen dam and Asia's second largest. Built in 1979, the dam is also a major tourist attraction in the region.

Pandala was here before, to build the tomb of the legendary warrior king Pazhassi Raja, who used the guerilla warfare against the British from these hill forests. The tomb, a mud structure built for the Kerala Government, is situated at Mananthavady on the way to the resort.

According to Pandala, almost 50% of the people all over the world live in houses made out of mud and mud was the major construction material till the beginning of 20th century in Kerala as well.

"Mud construction is cost-effective and renewable though a lot of labour, abundantly available in the region, is involved in it," he says. "The cost can be cut down to almost 40% of conventional construction. It still can be reduced if you use the local earth from the site itself."

Pandala does not prefer geometrical shapes and his buildings have flowing, curvaceous form which is evident here too. He prefers to have lighter roofs that will not be a burden for the walls.

The concept of the Banasura resort is unique in many ways. No air-conditioners are needed as the mud walls act as an effective regulator of heat and cold. And there is a cooling stream flowing through the property.

The main building of the resort with a plinth area of 20,000 sq ft is a massive two-storey structure made entirely of mud with a roof of bamboo and coconut palm fronds. All the 31 spacious rooms, villas and suites are tastefully furnished.

A multi-cuisine restaurant,



\* Coffee shop

coffee shop, conference hall, Ayurveda spa, library, playing area and gym are awaiting the guests within the muddy walls. Rooms have modern bathrooms, terracotta flooring with wooden floors around the bed.

Recycled wood is used for much of the woodwork and periodic anti-termite treatment is done using cashew-shell oil rather than chemical agents. Natural light is exploited to the fullest, while CFL lamps provide extra lighting, minimising energy consumption. A bio-gas plant recycles organic waste and fires the resort's kitchens.

The only handicap of this resort is that it's a bit unfriendly to the disabled and the elderly like all similar structures built by Laurie Baker, the British-born Indian architect considered the guru of cost-effective and energy-efficient architecture, and his disciples in Kerala.

Pandala employs rammed earth technique. Only 3ft high walls can be made in a day and it must dry before the next portion is made

in Kozhikode. You'll be greeted by swinging monkeys at the hairpin bends (there are nine) as you wind your way up through the 14-km long mountain pass through the canopy of tree branches amidst the misty hills.

The traditional Kerala cuisine, using spices which Wayanad is famous for, is the highlight of the multi-cuisine restaurant. You can savour the delicacies taking a breathtaking view of the surrounding landscape.

The Ayurvedic spa where an excellent package of rejuvenation therapy is available is another attraction. On offer here are massages using herbals oils for body, face and head and an herbal steam bath that would follow.

You can also take a guided trek to the forests or visit the historical and religious monuments.

Banasura hill, Pookote lake, Meenmutty waterfalls, Kuruva island, Soochipara Kanthanpara waterfall, Chembra peak, Begur wildlife sanctuary, Tholpetty wildlife sanctuary and Muthanga wildlife reserve are some of the options. Or you can visit the tribal hamlets at the foot of the Banasura hill which has been in existence for centuries.



\* Lobby

over it and that way the labour involvement is much high. It is a time consuming process too.

"In this technology, we use damp or moist earth with or without additive which in this case is 5% cement," he says. "Earth is flexible because it can be moulded and shaped when wet, and rammed and pressed when moist. It hardens when exposed to the sun making it a durable building material."

Mud is non-toxic, non-allergic, rot and termite proof, controls humidity and offers great sound isolation. These structures can balance fluctuations in temperature throughout the year.

"We initially planned to build the resort for our executives in India and abroad to unwind, but decided to tap its commercial potential as the enquiries swelled," said Shankar Thiruvillakkat of Advanced Software Services Inc (ASSYST), a US-based software development company with its strategic support facility based in Kochi, which owns the resort.

The nearest airport and railway station is three hours' drive away



\* Mud structures can balance fluctuations in temperature throughout the year.



\* Lounge



\* An inside view of one of the rooms at the Banasura Hill Resort.

**'Getting Better' Wordsearch**

R E D W O P A B O L U P S B  
 P T M E H T N D Y L E A P B  
 I T R L E L A N D I G N O L  
 L U O L A Y L T E N A A R N  
 C C B N L B G O M E S C D O  
 S A P O I S E N E C O E I I  
 T O L M N C S V R S D A L T  
 N B A N G E I A A M L I D O  
 O E B A N S C P I C N L L P  
 I C L A I D R O C C C E I C  
 T A I E T O D I T N A I O P  
 O L B O L U S U C H E A N D  
 L P H E A E S O P U R Y S E  
 E L I X I R E N I C I D E M

Find and circle all of the words that are hidden in the grid. The words may be hidden in any direction.

- |           |          |         |
|-----------|----------|---------|
| Analgisic | Lotion   | Vaccine |
| Elixir    | Syrup    | Drops   |
| Potion    | Cordial  | Placebo |
| Antidote  | Medicine |         |
| Healing   | Tablet   |         |
| Powder    | Cure     |         |
| Balm      | Panacea  |         |
| Linctus   | Tonic    |         |
| Remedy    | Dosage   |         |
| Bolus     | Pills    |         |

**Codeword**

Every letter of the alphabet is used at least once. Squares with the same number in have the same letter. Work out which number represents which letter.

Puzzles courtesy: [Puzzlechoice.com](http://Puzzlechoice.com)

	10	22	25	17	2	4	9	22	4	24	10	16	26	
16		12		13			24		7		2		2	15
4	25	17	2	13			10	7	2	22	18	18	24	4
10		13		4			4		24		18		22	6
10	12	16	4	3	19	24	22	4		12	23	12	24	4
4		4		14			10		9			16		24
3	19	15	2	12	10	4	16	4	13	7	12	24	4	9
13			9		22		22			17				4
4	16	4	22	10	3	12	22	7	4	14	2	22	10	16
3		21		3		4			19		7			4
6	11	12	3	15		15	4	22	19	24	10	4	3	9
4		24		3		2		18	3		5			9
22	7	2	24	19	20	19	3	4		10	8	2	10	16
10		10		1		16		3		22		12		26
3	4	19	9	9	4	9	9	14	4	24	10	9		

**Change Word**

By changing one letter at a time to form a new word, transform the beginning word to the ending word in the rated number of steps (or fewer).

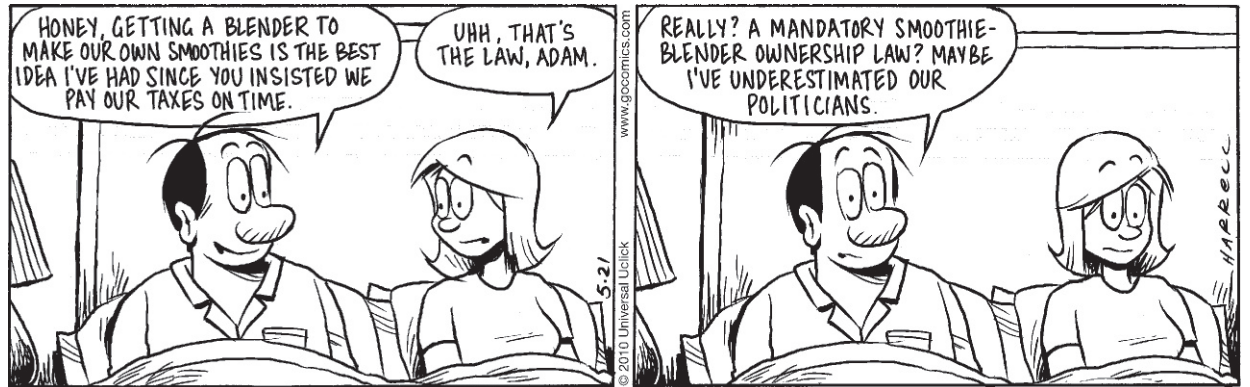
Puzzle courtesy: [allstarpuzzles.com](http://allstarpuzzles.com)

<u>C</u>	<u>O</u>	<u>V</u>	<u>E</u>
—	—	—	—
—	—	—	—
—	—	—	—
—	—	—	—
—	—	—	—
—	—	—	—
—	—	—	—
<u>M</u>	<u>I</u>	<u>S</u>	<u>T</u>

Solutions on Page 16

# comics

**Adam**



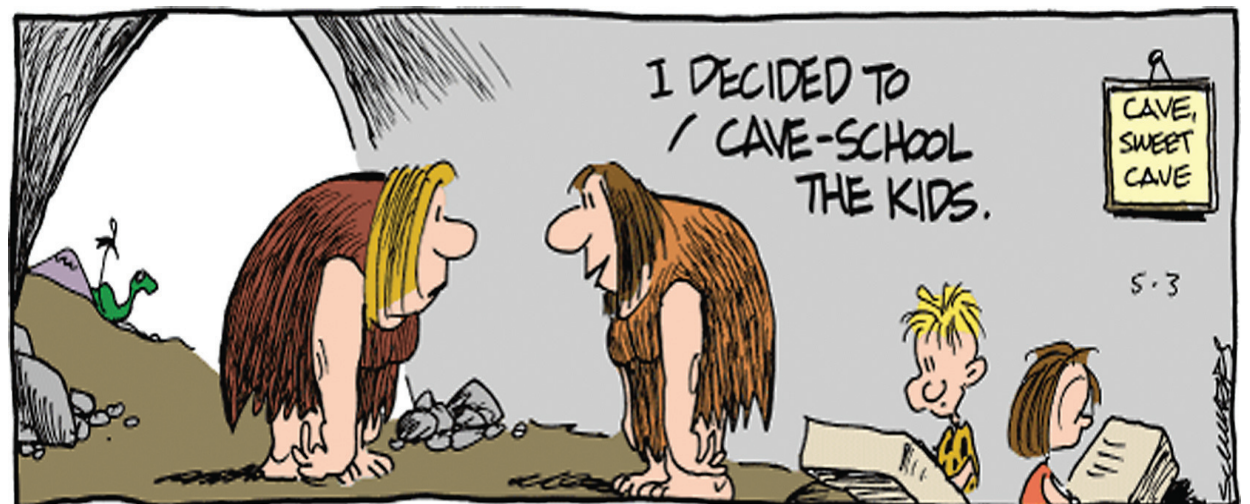
**Animal Crackers**



**Garfield**



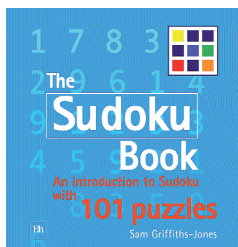
**Bound & Gagged**



# puzzles

## Sudoku

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



Sudoku is a puzzle based on a 9x9 grid. The grid is also divided into nine (3x3) boxes. You are given a selection of values and to complete the puzzle, you must fill the grid so that every column, every row and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 to 9 and none is repeated.

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

## Colouring



# horoscopes

### ARIES 21 Mar - 20 Apr

Major moves will be emotional and not necessarily to your benefit. Build on friendship. Financial matters need careful handling. Expenses are mounting.

### CANCER 22 Jun - 22 Jul

Exaggeration or deception coupled with overindulgence might be a problem. Try to be patient and understanding. Depression may result if you don't get to do things your own way.

### LIBRA 24 Sep - 23 Oct

You are best to concentrate on work. Don't let an incident at work play on your mind. Keep your expenses on the minimum. Don't sign up for a deal that looks too good to be true.

### CAPRICORN 22 Dec - 20 Jan

This will not be the day to start new business ventures or make drastic changes in your career. Stay out of arguments. Frustrations and limitations could cause anxiety today.

### TAURUS 21 Apr - 21 May

Don't overindulge in anyway. Deal with the needs of children and get into groups that deal with self awareness. Opportunities will develop through those you encounter while attending organisational events.

### LEO 23 Jul - 22 Aug

You are likely to reveal information unintentionally. Take a long look at your present direction and consider your professional options. You can meet friends who will help you out.

### SCORPIO 24 Oct - 22 Nov

You will back yourself into a corner if you are baited and your stubbornness will only make matters worse. Be sure to find out all you can before you commit to anything.

### AQUARIUS 21 Jan - 19 Feb

Don't let domestic problems interfere with your objectives. Your home environment may be hectic, which could result in emotional upset if you aren't well organised.

### GEMINI 22 May - 21 Jun

You could experience delays in routine work. Don't expect the whole family to be overjoyed. Opportunities to make advancements through good business sense are apparent.

### VIRGO 23 Aug - 23 Sep

Opportunities to get ahead will be evident. Much knowledge can be obtained through the experiences you have. Take care of yourself or you can expect to suffer from minor illness.

### SAGITTARIUS 23 Nov - 21 Dec

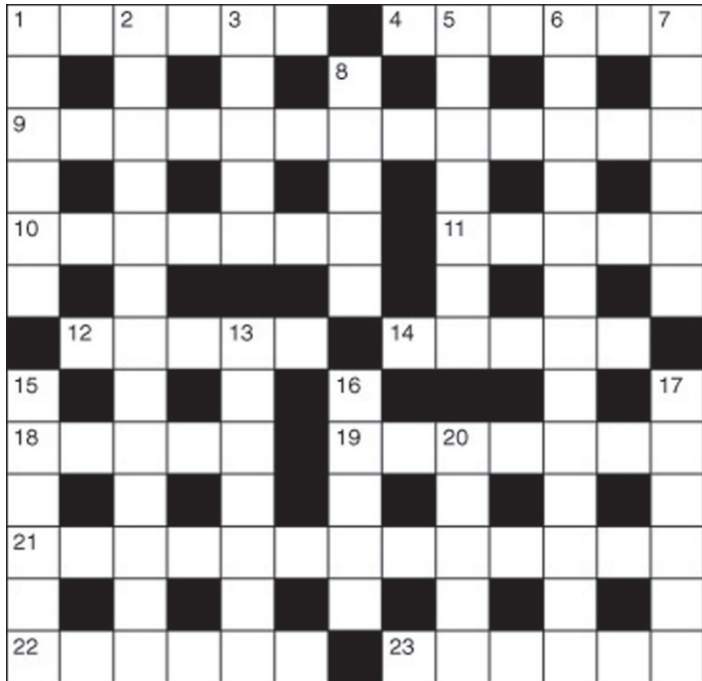
Your need to put great detail into everything you do may cause you to miss the overall picture. Don't be disappointed if you don't get your way emotionally.

### PISCES 20 Feb - 20 Mar

Your partner's a little jumpy. It's time to reconnect with some of the people you used to know. You can continue to forge ahead if you make a few long distance calls pertinent to pending deals.

# puzzles

## Quick Clues



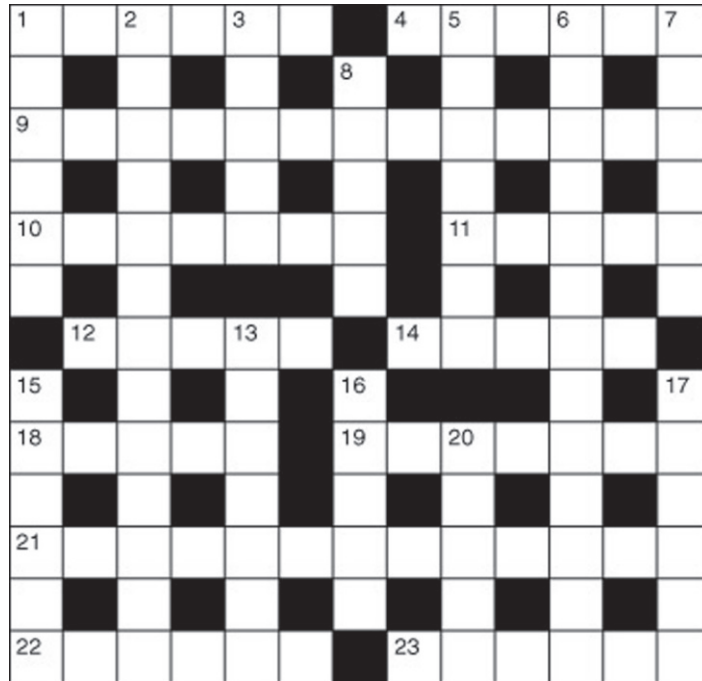
### Across

- 1. Steal (6)
- 4. Party Committee (6)
- 9. Refractoriness (13)
- 10. Zealot (7)
- 11. Think Idly (5)
- 12. Lesser (5)
- 14. Sea-Room (5)
- 18. Bizarre (5)
- 19. Very Hard (7)
- 21. Face-To-Face Meeting (13)
- 22. Losing Moisture (6)
- 23. Abundance (6)

### Down

- 1. Economy (6)
- 2. Discordance (13)
- 3. Man-Servant (5)
- 5. Shorten (7)
- 6. Focussing (13)
- 7. Vaporous (6)
- 8. Bit (5)
- 13. Infest (7)
- 15. Compelled (6)
- 16. Dim (5)
- 17. Mean (6)
- 20. Benefit (5)

## Cryptic Clues



### Across

- 1. The Spirit Of Hogmanay? (6)
- 4. Reasons For Which People Fight (6)
- 9. Little Wonder! (6,7)
- 10. Hero Worshipper! (7)
- 11. Not Smiling Back (5)
- 12. A Number Fit To Accommodate (5)
- 14. State From Which I Had Returned With Love (5)
- 18. It May Come Between Neighbours (5)
- 19. To Commit It One Rats Perhaps (7)
- 21. Try To Look Smart In Order To Go Courting? (5,4,4)
- 22. What Is Wrong In A Record Being Beaten? (6)
- 23. Shut Up! (6)

### Down

- 1. Runs Out Of Lighters (6)
- 2. Indifference Caused By Losing One's Grip? (13)
- 3. Punished For Disturbing A Dance? (5)
- 5. Woken In So Rude A Fashion (7)
- 6. Pins An Opponent's Arms, Making Him Defenceless? (6,3,4)
- 7. Saw Part Of An Essay In Greek (6)
- 8. Not All Isolated? (5)
- 13. Don't Stop The Wrong Persons (5,2)
- 15. Man Goes Over The Spanish Place Of Worship (6)
- 16. Don't Sit Where The Dearest Seats Are (5)
- 17. Possibly Untied, But Here Joined Together (6)
- 20. Stand In Front Of Artists (5)

## Yesterday's Solutions

### Quick

- Across:** 1 Reminiscence; 7 Steer; 8 Incur; 9 Ore; 10 Sacrilege; 11 Intend; 12 Tariff; 15 Elucidate; 17 Ash; 18 Crude; 19 Abuse; 21 Clothes-Horse.

- Down:** 1 Radio Licence; 2 Nee; 3 Strict; 4 Eliminate; 5 Cache; 6 Free Of Charge; 7 Sweet; 10 Sentiment; 13 Inane; 14 Vacate; 16 Usual; 20 Ugh.

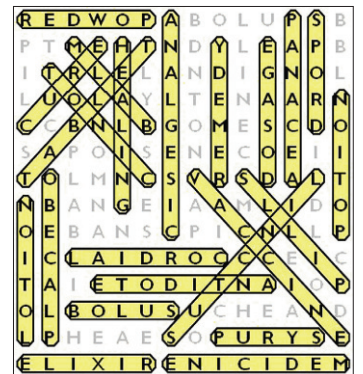
### Cryptic

- Across:** 1 Out Of Service; 7 Sided; 8 Incur; 9 Use; 10 Chameleon; 11 Petard; 12 Gemini; 15 Hard Lines; 17 Lac; 18 Abuse; 19 Ivory; 21 Person Of Note.

- Down:** 1 One Jump Ahead; 2 Fed; 3 Endear; 4 Voiceless; 5 Cache; 6 Frankincense; 7 Sheet; 10 Carollers; 13 Inlay; 14 Ensign; 16 Rouse; 20 Off.

## Answers

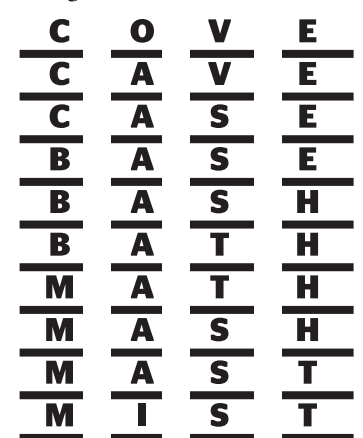
### 'Getting Better' Wordsearch



### Codeword



### Change Word



## Information

### Prayer Time

- Fajr 3.23am
- Shorooq (sunrise) 4.48am
- Zuhr (noon) 11.30am
- Asr (afternoon) 2.57 pm
- Maghreb (sunset) 6.14pm
- Isha (night) 7.44pm

### Doha Zoo

Open from 8am to 12 noon and 2.30pm to 7pm daily. Tuesdays are reserved for women. Friday for general public in the afternoon only.

### Consumer Complaints

- (Food control department)
- Head of dept 4347633
- 5570888
- Deputy head of dept 5555296
- Central operator 4347777
- Food consultant 4347540

### Help Line

Is drinking a problem for you or someone you love?  
Call Alcoholics Anonymous: 5605901

### Hospitals

**VISITING HOURS:**  
Hamad General Hospital,  
Women's Hospital and Rumaillah Hospital: 6am to 7.30am, 4pm to 8pm.

### Useful Numbers

- Police, Fire, Ambulance 999
- HMC 4392222
- Women's (Rumaillah) 4393333
- HMC (Emergency) 4393507
- Veterinary 653083
- Water & Electricity 991
- Flight Inquiries 4622999
- Doha Seaport 4457457
- Museum of Islamic Art 4224444

Mumtaz Post (24hr) 4415566

4432211

(Car) 4483555

Ship Phone Service 4864444

Ministry of Interior main switchboard 4330000

Public Department

for passports, nationality and residence 4882882

Capital Security Dept 4444420

Criminal Info Dept 4477477

Boundaries and Coasts Security 4414488

Civil Defence

Department 4413666

Rescue Service 4682888

The Grand Cinecentre 4839064

Cinema Palace 4320938

The Mall Cineplex 4678666

Cinema Land 4881674

Gulf & Doha Cinema 4671811

Qatar National Theater 4831246

### DVD, Video releases

**ENGLISH:** *Waled In* (Mischa Barton); *Ruslan, Driven to Kill* (Steven Seagal); *Brothers Bloom* (Rachel Weisz); *Three Investigators* (Chancellor Miller); *Tenderness* (Russell Crowe); *Blood River* (Andrew Howard); *Macbeth* (am Worthington); *Stag Night* (Kip Pardue).

**HINDI:** *Click* (Shreyas Talpade); *Ishqiya* (Naseeruddin Shah); *Ram* (Amitabh Bachchan); *Chance Pe Dance* (Shahid Kapoor).

**FRENCH:** *Les Enfants De Timpelbach* (Raphael Katz); *Quatre Etoiles*.

**GERMAN:** *Der Baader Meinhof Complex* (Martina Gedeck).

(Information courtesy: Kings Electronics at Al Safer Centre, Tel: 4626965.)