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live the island dream today!

Issue 3 | February 2011

The Amwaj Islander



Letter from the MD

Behind the Name

Dear Amwaj Islanders,

Welcome to our third issue of the Amwaj Islander – our monthly newsletter designed to bring you closer to your community in Amwaj Islands. Our newsletter will bring you dates of upcoming events, updates of the array of developments on the islands, interviews with your neighbours, and ‘behind the scenes’ profiles of the various individuals involved with Amwaj Islands.

January has already proved to be a great start to the year; the second ‘Amwaj Marina Market’ was held and drew over 700 people from across Bahrain. The race for ‘Sailing Arabia – The Tour’ set sail on January 30th, where six teams sail the length of the Gulf from Amwaj Marina through the Strait of Hormuz arriving in Muscat, Oman two weeks later.

There are many more exciting events taking place in Amwaj over the next few months, all of which will be mentioned in each issue of the newsletter.

Thank you for your valuable feedback so far; we have taken many of your suggestions and ideas into account and will be incorporating many of the fantastic ideas in upcoming issues of the Amwaj Islander.

Thank you for taking the time to read this issue.

Sincerely,

Jameel Almatrook
Managing Director, Amwaj Islands

In the first two issues of the Amwaj Islander we discussed the meanings of four of the islands; Asdaf, Tala, Murjan, and Najmah. In this issue we are going to take a look at the two remaining islands of Amwaj.

Lulu Island, or Pearl Island in English, features premier academic, and soon medical and business facilities over an area of 200,000 sqm. Lulu Island includes major developments such as the renowned International School of Chouiefat, as well as the future Amwaj Polyclinic and Amwaj Business Park.



Jood Island is Amwaj’s very own fun-filled theme island, covering a total of 480,000 sqm. Jood, which means ‘courtesy’ in Arabic, will include recreational facilities such as the already existing Beach Club, and in the future botanical gardens, bird sanctuary, aviary, theme park and a family resort.



Amwaj Islands has become a well-known name in the Kingdom, but it is only fair to mention the six islands that make up Amwaj: Asdaf, Tala, Najmah, Murjan, Lulu and Jood, each with its own identity and purpose to make up Amwaj Islands as a whole.

If you would like to receive a copy of the newsletter by e-mail, or contact the Editor, please email us on info@amwaj.bh



Name: Mohammed Abbas Haji

Position:
Managing Director,
Nardin Properties

•Can you tell us a little about your work background and how Nardin Properties came about?

I joined Al Abbas Gallery in the year 1990 when it was selling sanitary ware, pipe fittings and other items.

We then expanded the business by shifting focus to large scale projects, added a new product range of international brands, opened state-of-the-art showrooms in Bahrain and expanded regionally to Qatar.

In 2007 we jointly, with professional developers, created a company which is how Nardin Properties started.

•Nardin has projects throughout Bahrain; how was Amwaj chosen to be one of your preferred locations?

Zawia Towers was our first project in Amwaj, and it proved to be a great success with overwhelming demand, so we decided to build Zawia 03- another great success. After that we wanted to venture into houses and villas, which is how Amwaj Homes came about.

•What can we look forward to in 2011 from Nardin Properties?

2011 is going to be an exciting year for Nardin. Zawia 02 is now complete and being handed over to the owners, and Zawia 03 will be finished by the end of the year as well.

Zawia 02

Zawia Towers, located within easy walking distance of the commercial centre of Amwaj, where it overlooks The Lagoon, offers you the chance to create your home in the centre of the wonderful Amwaj Islands development. Zawia Towers presents you with the perfect lifestyle solution. Whether you choose life in the fast lane or relaxing island life, you will enjoy one of the finest living experiences available in the region.

Recently opened Zawia 02, with 162 apartments, offers you a range of superb designer living spaces at a price that will suit your desires and your pocket. From penthouses and duplexes to 2, 3 and 4 bedroom apartments, Zawia offers its residents amenities designed to help make the most of life, including a kids safe swimming pool, gymnasium, relaxing spa facilities, a landscaped garden with BBQ, and a ground floor commercial centre.

International interior designers and architects have designed all the apartments in Zawia Towers to the highest standards, allowing you to choose your own selection of signature furnishings. No matter what your choice of apartment, you are guaranteed a superbly designed apartment.

On the ground floor of Zawia 01 individuals will be able to select from a wide range of furniture from the Mobilia Uno furniture showroom.

In your opinion, how has the crisis affected the property market in Bahrain?

Luckily, the conservative policies of the Bahraini economy helped protect us against the crises, so we were not hit as hard as some other countries. Residential property rates have remained largely stable and we found that there is a significant demand for affordable housing.

Have any of your projects suffered or been put on 'hold' due to the crisis?

Most of our projects were sold before the crises, so we were largely unaffected. However, the sales of the very little percentage we had remaining has slowed down.

What is your favourite project in Amwaj Islands?

I would have to be biased with this question and say Zawia Towers, not only because it was our first project in Amwaj but also because of its fantastic location, stunning views of The Lagoon, and its beautiful architecture.

You are an extremely busy man, yet you are very much a family man, aren't you?

I am indeed. My joy in life is my family, and as they say: a family is a gift that lasts forever.

How do you like to spend your spare time?

Spare time? I'm not sure what that means as I barely have any! But, as I said before, I am a family man, so I will spend it with my family, whether it's in Bahrain dining out, or travelling abroad.



The Batelco F1 Fanzone™, coming to Amwaj!



A week long international style festival, a first for Bahrain, will be held at the Amwaj Marina from March 7th-13th 2011 and promises to be a great day-out for all the family.

The Batelco F1 Fanzone™, in conjunction with Formula One Administration, has created the official LIVE viewing event for Formula One fans.

Visitors will have the opportunity to try out Formula One Race Car Simulators, take part in the Pit Stop Challenge, and have photos taken on the Winner's Podium. A special feature for younger children, is the F1 Kids Zone which includes activities and a kid's driving school. Additionally, there will be hourly competitions with a chance to win fantastic prizes, a variety of live bands and performers, an official team merchandise kiosk and as a special added bonus, official F1 Driver Autograph Sessions.

Race day coverage of the Formula 1™ Gulf Air Bahrain Grand Prix as well as the practice sessions and qualifying rounds will be broadcast LIVE on the world's largest and most advanced LED digital screens, complete with Dolby surround sound.

Come and join in the action!

Did You Know?

- Once all the projects are completed, the total population in Amwaj will reach up to 35,000.

- Nuetel is the first telecommunications company in Bahrain to use fiber optic cables.

- The Amwaj Polyclinic is due to open by the end of 2012, and will include 55 bed medical center, and will have family practitioners, dieticians, diagnostic and clinical facilities as well as holistic medical centers.

- The Lagoon, Bahrain's first outdoor shopping complex, is being developed by Abu Dhabi Investment House (ADIH).

- The canal gates used in Al Marsa Floating City are there to facilitate the movement of the boats from/to the canal to/from the sea. The gates are placed into a 40 meter long, five meter deep basin, that will accommodate boats up to 60 feet long.

Below: Al Marsa Floating City Canal Gates



Alosra Supermarket

The new Alosra Superstore is almost ready to open its doors to customers at Amwaj. Idyllically located at the entrance to the property development, the store will offer residents the chance to enjoy shopping by the sea.

Once open, the fresh and friendly supermarket will bring you a great range of the freshest produce from all over the world, as well as every grocery item you will ever need.



Amwaj Updates

Yamin Jana - The Dragon Hotel & Resort



Treat yourself to a refreshingly different dining experience at Yamin Jana, a newly-opened Mediterranean-Style seafront lounge with an Arabic twist.

Allow yourself to be transported all over the Mediterranean when sampling tapas in true Spanish style, as well as authentic Lebanese mezze. The beverage selection is as vast as the Mediterranean, with great juices and an amazing variety of different shisha flavours.

Yamin Jana seats 140 guests on a beautiful al fresco wooden deck. Watch the evening come alive when the whole of Amwaj and all its lights breathe life into the lagoon in front of the Dragon Hotel & Resort.

Nuetel



Nuetel Communications is the leading provider of telephone, internet and IPTV services to over a thousand Amwaj Islands residents, and has geared up to be able to accommodate all the growing demands of the flourishing Amwaj Islands lifestyle.

Very recently, Nuetel has launched the Nue-Soft feature, giving customers the freedom to be in touch with the rest of the world whenever they want, wherever they are, by installing soft phones on computers, laptops, or smart phones, so they can call anywhere in the world using a 1-6-0 number on local rates.

Nuetel has also begun to spread its reach onto main land Bahrain using state-of-the-art Microwave Connectivity, making its innovative plug-and-play technology available to the rest of the Kingdom.

The Lagoon



The Lagoon is delighted to announce the opening of six new stores during the month of February, including Burger Lounge, ID Design, KARE furniture and the well-known supermarket 'Waitrose'. House Boat Asian Restaurant, Costa Coffee and Curry Tree Indian Restaurant will open at the end of the month, and in March Chili's, Papa John's and Whopper Bar will open their doors. These new stores join the already operating T-Club, Choco Loco, Tuga Bakery and Pink Diamond.

Amwaj Homes



Amwaj Homes comprises two superbly designed residential complex's offering its residents an exceptional tranquil life style experience out of the fast lane.

Amwaj Homes A, located just behind the Nuetel building, is a 50 villa project of which 65% has been sold. 50% of the villas have been completed and handed over to the owners, with the whole project to be completed in May 2011.

Amwaj Homes B consists of 39 villas located opposite Raniya Row. 70% of the project has been sold, and 65% of the villas completed and handed over. The remaining 35% will be completed in May 2011.

Photo of the Month!



In this section we will be featuring one residents photo every month, which depicts Amwaj's beauty, lifestyle, and stunning architecture.

There are great prizes to be won, so what are you waiting for? Get creative and send in your photos to info@amwaj.bh

Congratulations to **Zain Abu Qurah**, from Tala Island, who won a BD25 voucher from Alosra Supermarket for January's 'Photo of the Month' competition with the picture above!



Upcoming Events

Don't forget to check this section for upcoming events in Amwaj!

February

- 4** • 'Battle of the Bands' comes live to the Amwaj Marina, February 4th, 12pm to 12am.
- 11** • Bahrain Road Runners will hold a Full Marathon in Amwaj Islands, starting at The Lagoon, February 11th at 6am.
- 18** • If you have not done so already, register now for the 'Amwaj Island's Environmental Treasure Hunt', which takes place on February 18th.
- 26** • Come and see 'The Recyclable Fashion Show', February 26th at The Lagoon.

March

- 4** • Local artists will be showcasing their work at the 'Pecha Kucha Night', March 4th, 6.30pm at the Beach Club.
- 5** • The fourth 'Amwaj Marina Market' will take place on Saturday, March 5th. Come along and enjoy a day in the picturesque Amwaj Marina.
- 7** • Try the Formula One race car simulators and take part in the pit stop challenge at the 'The Batelco F1 Fanzone™' at The Amwaj Marina, March 7th to 13th.
- 10** • Fashion TV brings you House music artist 'Inna' live in concert at the Amwaj Beach Club, March 10th.

April

- 2** • Bid spring farewell with the last 'Amwaj Marina Market' this season, at The Amwaj Marina, 10am to 5pm.
- 15** • Run in the annual 'Amwaj Triathlon' on April 15th. All proceeds go to the Special Olympic Team.
- 27** • The Amwaj Marina will host 'The Bahrain Boat Show International' (BBSI) on April 27th - 30th for the third consecutive year.

AMWAJ ISLANDS
Kingdom of Bahrain

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Eventscom

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Head of the Public Commission for the Protection of
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18th February 2011
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Meet Your Neighbours

Name: Mohamed Zainal
Nationality: Bahraini
Place of stay: Al Marsa Floating City



How long have you been living in Amwaj?

Since 2008- our house in the Floating City is our weekend home.

What attracted you to Amwaj Islands?

The proximity to the sea, and being able to live so close to the water.

In your opinion, what makes Amwaj stand out from the other developments in Bahrain?

It is close to Manama, and the community here is great. We also love the view from our house.

What is your favourite hobby to do in Amwaj with your family?

We love to go on boat trips together, and living in Al Marsa Floating City makes it easy to do so.

Name: Gaye Bentham
Nationality: British
Place of stay: Saraya Al Bahar



How long have you been living in Amwaj?

Exactly four years – I was one of the first owners to move in. Back then I never saw another soul when driving around the island, so it is great to see how it has developed – and is still developing.



Name: Rickey and Nelda Lindsay
Nationality: American
Place of stay: Al Marsa Floating City

How long have you been living in Amwaj?

Rickey and I arrived to Bahrain September 29, 2010 and stayed at Mannai Sea Plaza for 3 weeks, while we waited for our furnishings to arrive from the U.S. and then moved into our villa in October. Our 2 daughters, Cassie (28, lives in Houston, Tx.) & Kelli (27, lives in Las Vegas, Nevada). Our little dog, Bailey accompanied us to Bahrain!

What are three things that made you choose Amwaj as a place to live in?

The three things are the tranquility the island has to offer without the busyness of “city life”, its architectural structures of different villas that remind me of the Riverwalk in San Antonio, Texas, and I enjoy meeting people and don’t feel isolated compared to other places we had looked at in Bahrain. I love being near water and the beauty of the canal each morning through my windows and sitting outside just takes my breath away!

Why did you choose to live in Amwaj Islands?

Because I loved the peace and tranquility, and my dream has always been to have a house on a beach somewhere warm.

You are a regular at the Amwaj Marina Market, can you tell us a little about what you’re selling?

I sell photo artwork, i.e., photographs which are transferred onto canvas or mounted on foamboard. It is a simple idea but I saw a gap in the market for affordable, unique artwork for both home and business. The beauty of it is that orders can be customized– you simply select an image and decide whether you want canvas or photoprint, and which size (and even color in some cases!). The business is relatively new, so the portfolio of images is growing weekly. I have now set up a website (www.gayebentham.com) that will make it easier to view the images and to place orders.

What is the inspiration behind the photographs you take?

I love nature and I wanted to take pictures that would induce a feeling of peace and tranquility in the viewer, hence the name “art for the soul”. So I mainly go for flowers, birds, landscapes, inspiring architecture, that sort of thing. Recently I have started to experiment with manipulating images, which is a lot of fun and produces some interesting results. The only limit to what can be achieved is imagination... so watch this space!

Spot the Difference



Can you spot the 5 differences in these two pictures of the beautiful Island, Tala?

Answers will be posted in the next issue of the newsletter!

For the safety of the Amwaj Islands community, please adhere to the 40 km/hr speed limit. If you would like a copy of the Amwaj Islands Rules & Regulations, kindly send an email to info@amwaj.bh

Recipe of the Month Pineapple Upside Down Cake

The cake:

2 eggs
4 oz butter
6 oz sugar
8 oz plain flour
2 tspns baking powder
pinch salt
1 orange

Topping:

about 1 cup diced pineapple
2 tblspns rum
4oz butter
1 1/2 cup brown sugar
time: 1 hour

You will need:

electric beaters
mixing bowl
kitchen scales
8 inch baking pan
grater or microplane

Being an upside down cake, we have to start with the topping:

Topping:

Beat the soft (not melted) butter with the brown sugar to form a paste. Spread this over the base of the cake pan. Arrange the diced pineapple into the sugar paste.

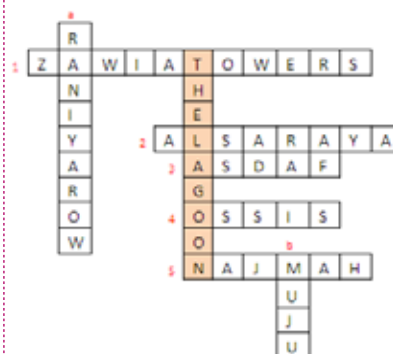
Cake:

Preheat oven to 375f
Beat butter until pale
Add the sugar and beat to combine
Add the eggs, one at a time and beat
Grate the zest from the orange and add to the mixing bowl
Measure the flour, add the baking powder and a pinch of salt
Pour the flour into the mixing bowl and beat to combine
Squeeze the juice from the orange and beat into the batter
Pour the batter over the pineapple topping
Bake for about 40 mins
Serve warm with cream and ice cream
Source: www.thelovebite.com



Last issues answers

Crossword



Guess Where?

Last issues guess where was the Astrolabe located in the Amwaj Beach Club!



Directory

Amwaj Numbers

Amwaj Islands Security
Operating Hours: 24 hrs
Location: Amwaj Islands entrance
M 39 866 952

Amwaj Main Office

Working Hours: 8am – 5pm,
Sunday to Thursday
Location: Entrance of Amwaj Islands, Behind Al Osra supermarket
T 16 033 100
E info@amwaj.bh
W www.amwaj.bh

Nuetel Communications

Working Hours: 8 am – 5 pm
Sunday to Thursday
Location: Nuetel Building,
Amwaj : 16 033 000

International School of Choueifat

T 16 033 333

Amwaj Marina

T 16 011 160

Nearest Hospitals to Amwaj

Al Hilal Hospital
T 17 344 199, 17 344 70

Bahrain Specialist Hospital

T 17 812 000

King Hamad Hospital

Opening Soon

Amwaj Hotels

The Dragon Beach Hotel & Resort
T 16 031 111

The Sea loft Boutique Chalets

T 16 031 111

Home Manintance Services

MASY
T 17 822 404

ReactFast

T 17 585 367

Amwaj Food Outlets

Muju Lounge and Restaurant
T 16 039 800

The T-Club

T 38 887 107

Tuga Bakery

T 16 010 284

ChocoLoco

T 16 123 456

Yamin Jana

T 16 033 800

Amwaj Health Clubs

Maya Beach Resort and Fitness

Working Hours:
Saturday to Thursday, 6.30 am to 10 pm
Friday 8 am to 10 pm
Location: Meena 7
T 16 030 070

TLC (Tala Liesure Center)

Working Hours:
Weekdays 6 am to 10 pm
Weekends 9 am to 6 pm
Location: Tala Island
T 16 071 007

Amwaj Supermarkets

Al Osra Supermarket
Location: Entrance of Amwaj Islands
T 16 033 772

Jawad Express

Location: ground floor, Nuetel building
T 16 034 501

24-Hours Supermarket

Location: Tala Island
T 16 034 498

Amwaj Beauty Salons

Joz Salon & Spa, The Dragon Beach Hotel Resort
T 16 031 120
Opening Hours: everyday 9am – 7pm

Food Deliveries:

Hunger Line
T 17 506 070 (Papa Johns, Dairy Queen, Burger King, Quiznos, Chilis)

Breadtalk

T 17 535 371

Little Ceasars Pizza

T 17 675 552

Pizza Hut

T 17 111 113

KFC

T 17 111 111

Hardeez

T 17 111 112

China Express

T 17 717 598

Wahid Pastries

T 17 466 771
M 39 614 237

EZ Burger

T 17 241 111

YO! Sushi

T 17 583 373

Closest Pharmacies to Amwaj

Al Quds Pharmacy
T 17 470 080

Ibn Sina Pharmacy

T 17 677 207

Nasser Pharmacy

Opening Soon in Amwaj

Closest Post Office to Amwaj

Al Hidd Post Office
T 17 673 157
Working Hours: 7am – 2pm
Saturday to Thursday

Taxi Services

Bahrain Taxi
T 17 682 999

Bahrain Limo

T 17 266 266

Arabian Taxi

T 17 461 746

Emergency Numbers

Emergency line
T 999

Al Hidd Police Station

T 17 671 212

Traffic Police

T 199

Bahrain International Airport

T 17 339 339

Shopping Malls

Seef Mall
T 17 581 111

Aali Mall

T 17 581 000

City Centre

T 17 179 779

Moda Mall

T17 533 140

Closest Vets to Amwaj

Dr Nonie Coutts
T 17 245 515

Dr Mohammed Hussain

T 17 292 125

Classifieds

Have something to sell? Looking to buy? Want to list your business in our directory? Starting next issue you can post your classifieds here for the rest of the residents to see!

For more details, and to book this space, please e-mail info@amwaj.bh or call us on 16 030 605/ 16 030 607

Write To Us!

Participate and tell us whats on your mind! We'll be waiting for your pictures, recipes, tips & comments!

You can fax, email or simply drop off your letter to Fax 16030601
Email: info@amwaj.bh
Address: Nuetel Building 4th floor, Amwaj Islands