

# SAWALEF

SPRING 2017

NEWSLETTER

*Win  
a private tennis  
lesson at the Al  
Habtoor Tennis  
Academy!*



**EMPLOYEE EXCELLENCE AWARDS 2017**

# A NOTE TO OUR READERS

Dear Readers,

We kick off this year with several initiatives as part of the 'Year of Giving' with the Al Habtoor Group and the Khalaf Ahmad Al Habtoor Foundation at the forefront.

Since its founding in 2013, Khalaf Al Habtoor has donated over AED 370 million towards local and international projects supporting its main pillars: Community Development, Interfaith Dialogue & Understanding, Education & Research, Healthcare and Poverty Alleviation.

In March, the Khalaf Ahmad Al Habtoor Foundation broadened its scope to include support for Arts & Culture in the UAE and beyond by launching the Khalaf Ahmad Al Habtoor Achievement Award and honouring Kuwaiti writer and actor Abdulhussain Abdulredha with the first ever accolade.

A part of the Emirates Airline Festival of Literature, the Khalaf Ahmad Al Habtoor Lifetime Achievement Award session took place for the fourth consecutive year on 4 March 2017 recognizing His Excellency Dr Mana Saeed Al Otaiba at a star-studded ceremony.

The Al Habtoor Group announced that it will extend its sponsorship for the 13th Zayed Charity Marathon in New York for the second consecutive year pledging a remarkable sum of AED 1 million.

And finally, we bring you a feature on the UN Sustainable Development Goals and encourage you to share your progress using the hashtag #HabtoorGlobalGoals

Change starts with you...  
Happy 'Year of Giving'!

Michaela

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Sawalef is brought to  
you by the  
Al Habtoor Group  
Media &  
Communications  
Department





## بسم الله الرحمن الرحيم، السلام عليكم ورحمة الله وبركاته

Ladies and gentlemen,

We are all here in this blessed country, in this blessed place, where we have started our business. This country has a lot of ground to support anybody, any group or individual who wish to start their business or an employee who wishes to create success and always to be a leader. We as the Al Habtoor Group are working parallel to our country and government. We are working very hard and we are very close to our government in terms of development and commitment and success of our country, for example, in the last two years we have opened four hotels and soon this year we will open three residential towers and a museum, which is the most advanced in the world. The reason I did this with my strong team is because I believe in the United Arab Emirates as the safe haven of the world and the place of opportunity.

Ladies and gentlemen, you are the assets of the Group. Without you we cannot achieve what we have achieved. True, 2016 was not as good as 2015 but we passed that with success. I believe 2017 will be much better, Inshallah. We have to work hand in hand, without you we cannot achieve anything. All of us, we have to work hard, we have to focus, we have to see the future with positivity not looking back. We should always feel that we want to be a leader in the market, not only in the United Arab Emirates but also in the GCC and beyond. We have to be the ambassadors of the country and ambassadors of the Al Habtoor Group. We have to be working hard, we should not abuse our juniors or talk anything less than to be proud of our Group and our country.

We are growing, we are working hard but as I said earlier, we cannot achieve this without you and you are all doing a great job for me and I am trying my best to plan things, to do things, to work hard, to make things easier for you.

## Chairman Khalaf Ahmad Al Habtoor

**Keynote address at the Employee Excellence Awards 2017  
Habtoor Grand Resort, Autograph Collection**

**14 March 2017**



Audience of the inaugural Open Talk held on 17 January 2017

## Khalaf Ahmad Al Habtoor launches face-to-face 'Open Talk' series

The Chairman has successfully launched his monthly series of face-to-face discussions on key issues impacting the UAE and wider region. Over 50 participants took part in the first 'Open Talk' session held at the Al Habtoor Group headquarters. The audience was made up of several nationalities including people from around the GCC, North Africa, Iran, Iraq, Jordan, Italy, Poland, the United Kingdom, South Korea, Saudi

Arabia, Bahrain, Oman, Lebanon, Syria, Malaysia, Greece and Germany.

Al Habtoor said, "Social media is such a powerful platform. I have many followers who I have been interacting with for some time. It was good to get the opportunity to meet some of them face-to-face. I look forward to the next Open Talk session with more of my social media followers."

The Open Talk session, which lasted one hour, generated a lot of debate on issues ranging from entrepreneurship to the political challenges in the Middle East as well as political changes in the United States and Europe. The Chairman also discussed the ease of doing business in the UAE, and his endeavours to support the Government's plan for the 'Year of Giving' in 2017.





Audience of the second Open Talk held on 22 February 2017

The event was streamed live in English and Arabic, on Khalaf Al Habtoor's social media platforms including Facebook, Periscope, Twitter and YouTube, as well as the Chairman's 'KAH Publications', a website and application featuring his articles, research and speeches. Interact with Chairman Al Habtoor by

sending you questions to [@khalafalhabtoor1](https://twitter.com/khalafalhabtoor1), using the hashtags:

**#KAHOpenTalk**  
**#AskKhalafAlHabtoor**







1.



1. (L-R) Khalaf Al Habtoor and Lt. General Mohammad Halal Al Kaabi attend the signing ceremony

## Al Habtoor Group sponsors the 13<sup>th</sup> Zayed Charity Marathon in New York

The Group celebrates the Year of Giving by extending its sponsorship for the popular sporting event for the second consecutive year.

Khalaf Ahmad Al Habtoor proudly announced the Group's AED 1 million sponsorship for the UAE Healthy Kidney 10K in New York's Central Park for the second consecutive year at a press conference held at The St. Regis Dubai, Al Habtoor City on 24 January 2017. The ten kilometer race is now registered on the New York calendar

and draws tens of thousands of people from across the city and abroad. The year's marathon will take place on Sunday 9 April 2017.

Chairman Khalaf Ahmad Al Habtoor said, "I am proud to announce the Al Habtoor Group's sponsorship of the Zayed Charity Marathon in New York

in honour of the late Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahyan. The event raises awareness for a good cause and honours the generous, caring spirit of the Founding Father of the UAE."

We look forward to bringing you more coverage from the event in our Summer issue!



# TODAY'S MOST INFLUENTIAL LEADERS ARE SOCIAL LEADERS!

**“Social media is such a  
powerful platform.”**

**Khalaf Ahmad Al Habtoor**



Khalaf Ahmad Al Habtoor, Founding Chairman of the Al Habtoor Group joins  
Facebook and Twitter to broaden his engagement with the social media community.

[Stay connected with Khalaf Ahmad Al Habtoor on five social media platforms](#)



# GROUP NEWS

## INTRODUCING OUR NEW HABTOORIANS



1.



2.



3.

1. Welcoming back **Sanjeev Agarwala** as the Group as Chief Operating Officer Hospitality & Investments

2. Introducing **Anas Al Marzouqi**, Group Head of Security

3. **Honey Kailash Gupta Khandelwal** is the Group's new ERP Finance Executive

4. **Jewel R Espinosa** joins as Secretary at the Community Relations & Safety Department

5. **Maysaa Kamal Al Nuaimi** joins the team as the Executive Assistant to the Chairman



4.



5.





NOBODY WANTED TO  
MISS THE PHOTO  
OPPORTUNITY WITH  
SANTA!

# Merry Xmas & Happy Holidays MENU

EMPLOYEES  
RECEIVED A BOX  
OF TREATS MADE  
BY METROPOLITAN  
CATERING

Habtoorians meet Santa during festive lunch

Habtoorians gathered for a festive feast of freshly roasted turkey, chestnuts, lamb biryani and cakes on 22 December 2016. The employee event was organised by the Group's HR Department in collaboration with the Media & Communications Department and the Group's Culinary Director, Chef Paul Hage.





Khalaf Al Habtoor in conversation with HE Dr Mana Saeed Al Otaiba



Watch the full event video

## Khalaf Ahmad Al Habtoor Lifetime Achievement Award Presented to HE Dr Mana Saeed Al Otaiba

A part of the Emirates Airline Festival of Literature, the Khalaf Ahmad Al Habtoor Lifetime Achievement Award session took place for the fourth consecutive year.

Khalaf Ahmad Al Habtoor, Founder of the Khalaf Ahmad Al Habtoor Foundation presented the fourth Khalaf Ahmad Al Habtoor Lifetime Achievement Award to His Excellency Dr Mana Saeed Al Otaiba at a star-studded ceremony during the Emirates Airline Festival of Literature 2017. The ceremony was hosted by Sami Al Reyami, Editor in Chief of Emarat Al Youm at the InterContinental Dubai Festival City on Saturday 4 March 2017.

Al Habtoor, said, "It is with great pleasure that I bestow this award on Dr Al Otaiba. His exemplary career in the world of business, economics and politics warrants recognition in itself, but today we commend and recognise him for his literary efforts. His body of published work has become an indelible part of Arabic, and especially Emirati, literature and it is a legacy that the UAE will always benefit from." His Excellency Dr Mana Saeed Al

Otaiba has served as President of the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) a record six times, between 1971 and 1983, as well being Minister of Petroleum and Mineral Resources of the UAE under President Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan before becoming Advisor to both President Sheikh Zayed and later Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan.

Dr Al Otaiba's literary work has been renowned for decades. He was a





The session brought together an audience from across the UAE and abroad

prolific poet, writing 42 books of poetry, in colloquial Arabic, formal Arabic, and English, along with novels and non-fiction books about the Petroleum Industry. The story of his novel Karima was later adapted for television as well. His stature in the literary world has seen him receive many accolades, including honorary doctorates from universities around the globe.

Established in 2014, the Khalaf Ahmad Al Habtoor Lifetime Achievement

Award is presented annually to recognise individual contributions to UAE literature. The inaugural awardee was Dr Rafia Ghubash, Professor of Psychology, Founder of the Women's Museum and Trustee of the Emirates Literature Foundation. In 2015, noted Emirati businessman, philanthropist and one of the first published writers of Dubai, Abdul Ghaffar Hussain, received the award and in 2016 renowned Emirati poet, diplomat and UAE businessman Mohammed Bin Hadher was posthumously felicitated.



**EMIRATES AIRLINE  
FESTIVAL OF  
LITERATURE**



KAHAA recognizes individuals or an organization who have a proven track record of contributing to the arts and culture for at least three decades.

## Launching the Khalaf Ahmad Al Habtoor Achievement Award

Inaugural award honoured to Kuwaiti actor and writer Abdulhussain Abdulredha.

With the 2017 coined as the 'Year of Giving' by the UAE President His Highness Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan, the Khalaf Ahmad Al Habtoor Foundation launched the Khalaf Ahmad Al Habtoor Achievement Award (KAHAA) with the aim to foster arts and culture in the region and beyond. On Tuesday 7 March 2017, Khalaf Ahmad Al Habtoor, Founding Chairman, Al Habtoor Group honoured famous Kuwaiti actor and writer Abdulhussain Abdulredha with the inaugural award at a ceremony at The St. Regis Dubai in Al Habtoor City. The audience got the opportunity to hear from guest speakers including

Dr Fahad Alshlime, well-known composer Ibrahim Jumaa, and Dr. Habib Ghuloom, the actor best-known for his roles in City of Life, Etma and The Worthy. The event was moderated Yousef Almamari, a television presenter from Al Dafrah TV. Al Habtoor said, "Abdulhussain Abdulredha is a worthy winner. For years, he has been entertaining the Arab World. He has had an exemplary career and sets a positive example for aspiring actors. He is a good role model for others to follow. I am delighted to present him with the inaugural Khalaf Ahmad Al Habtoor Achievement Award."







Abdulredha, whose acting career began in 1961, was one of the founders of the art movement in Kuwait, as well as one of the founders of Arab theatre in general.

He is best known for his sarcastic humour. He has taken part in numerous plays, television series, films, operettas, radio series and cinema films. Some examples of his

work include Haggard, Hello Dolly, Darb Al Zalag (The Slippery Path), Basat Al Fager, Mahkamat Al Fireej (The Neighbourhood Court), Bye Bye London and Al Afoor.

Abdulredha has received several awards throughout his career including The Arab League Award for Pioneer in Theatre, The Award for Theatre Star in Kuwait, The Award for

Entrepreneurship in Theatre in Tunisia, the Award for Pioneer of Arabic Theatre in Cairo, Sultan Bin Al Owais Award for Arabic Artistic Creativity.

**Don't forget to follow the Khalaf Ahmad Al Habtoor Foundation on social media.**





# EMIRATES INTERNATIONAL SCHOOLS



Emirates International School – Jumeirah Early Years programme new building



The opening coincides with the school's 25th anniversary celebrations



State-of-the-art learning facilities







Follow  
EIS-Jumeirah  
on Twitter



[Watch the inauguration ceremony](#)

## Chairman Al Habtoor officially inaugurates state-of-the-art new primary school at EIS - Jumeirah

Emirates International School - Jumeirah, a quarter of a century providing quality education.

Khalaf Ahmad Al Habtoor, Chairman Al Habtoor Group and Founder of Emirates International Schools officially inaugurated the brand new, state-of-the-art primary facilities at Emirates International School - Jumeirah at a ceremony coinciding with the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary year of the school.

The Chairman said, "Emirates International School - Jumeirah was one of the first schools to open in Dubai providing international standard education. Each year the school has produced excellent results, sending students to some of the best universities in the world. I am proud to officially open the world class primary school. The facilities are exceptional."

Also present was Amna Al Habtoor, Director of Schools; David Hicks, Principal, EIS-J; senior management from the school and Al Habtoor Group.

The outstanding premises includes more than 50 classrooms over three floors; a fully equipped library, science labs, art room, dance and drama studio, IT lab, and multi-purpose spaces as well as multiple sensory areas and outside space for sports and play. Class sizes from EY1 to Year 3 are maintained at optimal levels for age-appropriate learning.

Al Habtoor added, "The facilities are unrivalled. The children at EIS are

benefiting from first-class facilities at the start of their educational life. They have a long way to go before they graduate and we want to ensure that the school children have a positive learning experience at Emirates International School."

David Hicks said, "We are the oldest, most established international IB school in Dubai. We have been an IB world school since 1992. We are one of only a handful of schools worldwide to be authorized to offer all four IB programmes – the IBPYP, IBMYP, IBDP and IBCP. We are proud to perform consistently above national school standards."

# AL HABTOOR CITY



Offering Dubai's best American steakhouse classics

## J&G Steakhouse voted best steakhouse in Dubai!

The team at The St. Regis Dubai collects yet another award, this time celebrating the victory of their five-star J&G Steakhouse at the TimeOut Dubai Restaurant Awards.

Earning the title 'Steakhouse Winner 2017', J&G Steakhouse offers a sophisticated collection of steakhouse classics as reimagined by the 'greatest hits' of cuisine inspired by Michelin-starred chef, Jean-Georges Vongerichten.

The restaurant features an elegant

but relaxed décor creating an inviting atmosphere with world-class appeal with its rich wood interiors, stunning marble, and vintage artwork accents. Resident Chef Daniel Ferreira skillfully selects the daily ingredients guaranteeing the freshest meats, fish, and vegetables sourced from the best markets in the world. Try for yourself!

Faiek Elsaadani the Hotel Manager, said "We are pleased to announce that J&G Steakhouse at The St. Regis Dubai has been recognised as the

'Best Steakhouse' at the Time Out Awards on 23 February 2017. J&G Steakhouse is the signature restaurant of The St. Regis Dubai that launched when the hotel opened its doors in 2015. The team at J&G Steakhouse looks forward to another great year ahead. Thank you to all our valued guests, we appreciate your loyalty and continued support."

For bookings call **+971 4 435 5577**  
**[jgsteakhouse.dubai@stregis.com](mailto:jgsteakhouse.dubai@stregis.com)**  
 Open daily from 6:30 p.m. to 12 a.m.  
**[www.jgsteakhousedubai.com](http://www.jgsteakhousedubai.com)**



## The Rose & Crown Dubai FRIDAYS

The BritBrunch – Dubai's most British brunch.

Join the Rose & Crown Dubai every Friday from 1pm – 4pm for the amazing brunch. **For only AED 200** feast on British pub food and play a game or two of darts, pool or one of our board games!

[www.roseandcrowndubai.com](http://www.roseandcrowndubai.com)



## Blind Dragon Dubai THURSDAY

'Bubble Room' Every Thursday.  
Join the Dubai luxury dining party at Blind Dragon.

A fun, sophisticated evening with delicious food and a stunning urban atmosphere created by our interantion DJ LuWayne Wonder.  
9pm – 2am.

[www.blinddragondubai.com](http://www.blinddragondubai.com)



## SUNDAY – WEDNESDAYS D'gustando ZOCO

Experience an evening of traditional Latin American flavours created by Chef Jimmy Rojas Lopez, tasting his signature dishes. The menu is available from Sundays – Wednesday from 7pm – 10pm.

**Prices start from AED 200** for the 6 course tasting menu.

[www.zocodubai.com](http://www.zocodubai.com)



## The City Grill TUESDAYS

Unlimited BBQ  
Join The City Grill every Tuesday from 5pm onwards and satisfy your carnivorous cravings in the South African steakhouse with an unlimited selection of the best BBQ in Dubai.

**Prices start from just AED125** for the unlimited BBQ.

[www.thecitygrillsteakhouse.com](http://www.thecitygrillsteakhouse.com)



**DUBAI'S  
FAVOURITE &  
MOST UNIQUE  
GASTROPUB**

**Call +971 4 435 5566  
for reservations**



# AL HABTOOR CITY



Learn how to play or  
improve your game...

**Sign-up today!**

- Private lesson
- Semi-private lesson
- Kids group lessons
- Ladies clinics

*\*(outdoor/indoor)*

For bookings call +971 4 444 1010 or email  
[info@alhabtoortennisacademy.com](mailto:info@alhabtoortennisacademy.com)



# Meet the resident coaches at the Al Habtoor Tennis Academy



AL HABTOOR TENNIS ACADEMY  
أكاديمية الحبتور للتنس



**Tibor Horvath**  
Assistant Academy Director

**Age:** 30  
**Nationality:** Hungarian

#### Career Highlights:

- 5 times Hungarian National Champion
- Represented the Hungarian national tennis team in numerous international events
- Played in the Junior Tours with Rafael Nadal, Andy Murray and Novak Djokovic
- Ranked top 10 in the European Junior Tour

Tibor began coaching in Dubai in 2009 and worked at the Habtoor Grand Resort, Autograph Collection since 2010. Throughout his career, he has worked with young talented players, often times travelling abroad to attend international tournaments. With over 12 years of coaching experience, Tibor has developed specialised programmes for young players, combining tennis teaching techniques with physical training.



**Luka Lucian Bosovcki**  
Senior Coach

**Age:** 28  
**Nationality:** Romanian

#### Career Highlights:

- Represented the Romanian national tennis team
- Played over 100 finals and semifinals in national and international tournaments
- Coaching experience in Romania, Germany, Poland & UAE
- Coaching and touring with players in the Tennis Europe Tour, ITF Tour and ATP Challenger Tour

Luka holds over 10 years of coaching experience, arriving in Dubai in 2011. His unique style in combining the technical and practical aspects of the game with great ease makes him a favorite among his students. Luka graduated with a Bachelor's Degree in Sports Science from the West University of Timisoara (Romania). As a USPTR certified professional, ITF Play & Stay certified coach and Romanian national team coach, Luka has all the skills to take your game to the next level!



# AL HABTOOR CITY



Mona Barthel and coach Christopher Kas during practice on 16 February 2017

## Top ranked tennis pro Mona Barthel plays at the Al Habtoor Tennis Academy

German tennis pro Mona Barthel and her coach Christopher Kas held their practice sessions ahead of the 2017 Dubai Duty Free Tennis Championships at the Al Habtoor Tennis Academy, Al Habtoor City.

Mona got to try out the fully air-conditioned indoor tennis pavilion court and one of the three outdoor courts. Over the

course of her career, the 26-year old has earned three WTA Singles titles, two WTA Doubles titles, including five ITF Women's Circuit Singles titles.

For membership and booking inquiries please contact:

[info@alhabtoortennisacademy.com](mailto:info@alhabtoortennisacademy.com)



The state-of-the-art tennis facility is the latest addition to Al Habtoor City's Leisure Collection offering:

- An indoor air-conditioned pavilion
- Three outdoor tennis courts
- Men's & women's changing rooms
- Fully-equipped gymnasium
- Café overlooking The St. Regis Dubai Gardens
- Private & group outdoor/indoor lessons
- Kids group lessons
- Ladies' clinics



# WIN

a private tennis lesson  
at the Al Habtoor Tennis  
Academy!

Book your next free-play or tennis lesson  
at the Al Habtoor Tennis Academy now  
open for tennis enthusiasts of all ages!

**To win your first private lesson  
send us the correct answer to the  
following:**

**In 2017, the Al Habtoor Tennis  
Challenge be celebrating its....**

- a) 19th anniversary**
- b) 20th anniversary**
- c) 21st anniversary**

Email your answers to [sawalef@habtoor.com](mailto:sawalef@habtoor.com) by 31 May 2017.



## Cater for your next party with Metropolitan Catering!

Al Habtoor Group employees can avail an exclusive 25% discount using discount code **AlwaysDelicious25%** when ordering from 1 April to 31 July 2017\*.

**Send your orders to:**  
**Allene Sermo Estrebillo**  
**Sales Manager – Metropolitan Catering**

[allen.estrebillo@habtoorhospitality.com](mailto:allen.estrebillo@habtoorhospitality.com) / +971 50 5172880

\*Must present valid AHG ID or Business Card.

### Kids Menu Sample Menu 1 at AED 75/ per person



#### Salad

Pasta Salad  
Chef Salad

#### Sandwiches

Tuna Sandwich  
Vegetable Sandwich  
Chicken Mortadella Sandwich  
Cheese Sandwich

#### Fried Food

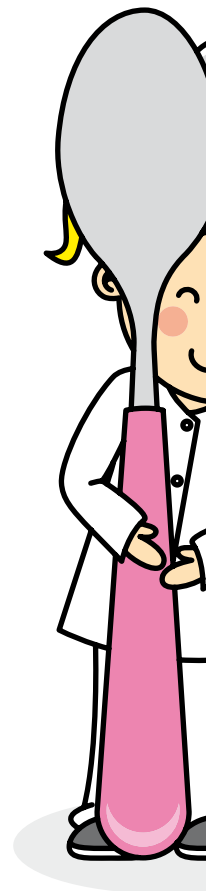
Mini Vegetable Pizza  
Punjabi Samosa  
Fish Finger with Tartar Sauce

#### Sweets

Assorted Mini Pastries  
Cream Caramel

#### Beverages

Chilled Juices and Water







# Kids Menu

## Sample Menu 2 at AED 100/ per person

### Salads

*(strictly no nuts/no seeds)*

#### Macaroni Salad with Pineapples

(Macaroni pasta mix with mayo and slices of pineapples)

#### Salad Dippers

(Fresh Cut vegetables sticks with cream cheese)

### Hot Starters

Chicken Nuggets

Mini Vegetable Pizza



### Main Course

*(strictly no nuts/no seeds)*

#### Chicken Tenders

(Baked breaded Chicken Breast Strips)

#### Mini Beef Burger

(Char Grilled beef patty in a soft mini bun with tomato and lettuce with our special sauce)

#### Penne Di Verdure Alla Pomodoro

(Toss Penne pasta with vegetable & Tomato Sauce)

#### Orange Glaze Carrots

(Simmered Carrot Sticks in a sweet of Orange Juice Brown Sugar and Butter)

#### Buttered Corn On the Cob Steamed Rice

### Assorted Bread Basket

Bread rolls and Khuboos

### Dessert

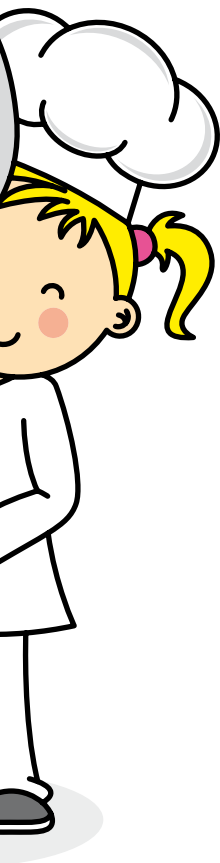
*(strictly no nuts/no seeds)*

Fresh Fruit Salad

Mini Pastries

### Beverages

Chilled Juices and Water



# HABTOOR HOSPITALITY



Fredrik Reinisch, General Manager, Habtoor Grand Resort, Autograph Collection collects the awards at the World Travel Awards held at Olhuveli in Maldives.

## Habtoor Grand Resort, Autograph Collection wins 'World's Leading MICE Resort 2016'

The Group's flagship beach resort, the Habtoor Grand Resort, Autograph Collection was yet again recognized by the World Travel Awards early this year when it received the 'World's Leading MICE Resort 2016' award.

The World Travel Awards have been called the 'Oscars' of the travel industry by The Wall Street Journal and are voted for by travel and tourism professionals worldwide. This accolade recognises the commitment to excellence which the hotel has strived to uphold and demonstrate throughout the international and local MICE

Market.

Fredrik Reinisch, General Manager, said "The hotel has a great location on the beach and close to city life. Unlike many resorts in Dubai, we offer great outdoor and indoor event venues. The World Travel Awards are similar to the Oscar's of the travel industry and winning this award helps reinforce the trust in the market."

**What makes The Habtoor Grand Resort, Autograph Collection an experience "Exactly like nothing else"...**

- 446** spacious guest rooms
- 15** dining venues
- 3** swimming pools
- 4** tennis courts
- 2** squash courts
- 5** relaxing spa and treatment rooms
- 1** fully-equipped gym
- The Al Andalus ballroom accommodates up to 1,000 guests offering 5 additional breakout rooms for all trainings and exhibitions.
- The Lawn and Beach areas are able to accommodate up to 3,000 guests
- A luxurious traveler's lounge
- Exceptional location on Jumeirah beach





HABTOOR GRAND RESORT

AUTOGRAPH COLLECTION<sup>®</sup>  
HOTELS

## IT'S BRUNCH SEASON AT THE HABTOOR GRAND RESORT, AUTOGRAPH COLLECTION

**Project Brunch - 'Geek Chic'** is the new sexy with The Underground Pub's all new and ultimate quiz brunch! Great Entertainment, Board games on the tables and house beverages by the jug. A British Pub that guarantees great fun.  
AED 199/- per person, Friday's 1pm to 4pm.

**The Family Garden Brunch** - The Family Garden Brunch - why should grownups have all the fun? Offering the perfect outdoor family brunch with great entertainment for adults and kids.

Live BBQ and cooking stations with bouncing castles, face painting and live entertainment to be enjoyed by all!

AED 275/- inclusive of soft beverages.

Friday's 12:30pm to 3:30pm

### **Mama Mia! Your authentic Italian brunch!**

Relish in our robust and traditional Italian fare with assorted live stations and pool access for friends and family to enjoy a great day out. Packages starting at

AED 210 with soft beverages,

Saturday's 12:30pm to 3:30pm.

To book, please call 04 408 4257 or email us at [hgrs.fbreservation@habtoorhospitality.com](mailto:hgrs.fbreservation@habtoorhospitality.com)

Habtoor Grand Resort, Autograph Collection  
Al Falea Street, Jumeirah Beach | Dubai, UAE  
T. 971 4 399 5000, F. 971 4 399 4547  
[www.marriott.com/dxbhg](http://www.marriott.com/dxbhg)



# HABTOOR HOSPITALITY



Group senior management team



Chef's cook up a feast at Don Corleone



(L-R) Noura Badawi, Sanjeev Agarwala, Joanna Andrews and Gilda Castro Rios



Habtoor Hospitality team welcomes guests



Media & Guests



The Red Lion pub quiz winners





## Media event and culinary journey at the Metropolitan Hotel Dubai

Mohammed Al Habtoor, Vice-Chairman and CEO of the Al Habtoor Group welcomed several members of the media on Monday 6 March 2017 at the iconic Metropolitan Hotel Dubai. The culinary journey began at 5 p.m. with sampling of tasty bites and signature beverages at the Tropicana pool bar.

Guests then continued to experience the atmosphere and cuisine of two old-favourite outlets that have made a revival in the new hotel – The Red Lion, one of the oldest English pubs in Dubai, and Don Corleone Italian restaurant, another popular eatery.

The Metropolitan Dubai is also home to other culinary outlets including Al Safa, an all-day dining restaurant serving international cuisine, and Al Sheif Lounge, serving Arabic cuisine.

The refined and vibrant 4-star property is situated in a new location in the heart of the city, near Exit 41 (Al Thanya

Street). The elevated Metropolitan Hotel Dubai still exudes the “home away from home” feel which is impeccably present the minute you walk into the property, with many familiar faces greeting and welcoming guests and the media who were among the first few invited to experience what the new hotel offers.

Chairman, Khalaf Al Habtoor said, “We have come a long way since 1979. We are proud to bring back the Metropolitan Hotel Dubai. The success of the hotel has helped shape our growth in the hospitality sector.”

Experience the beginning of a new chapter in the legacy of the Metropolitan Hotel Dubai. Create new beginnings while reliving good memories.

Visit [www.metropolitanhoteldubai.com](http://www.metropolitanhoteldubai.com) or contact the Metropolitan Hotel by calling **+971 4 343 0000**.

# AL HABTOOR POLO RESORT & CLUB



The five-star hotel is set in the heart of the Al Habtoor Polo Resort & Club



An equestrian haven with 520 stables offering lessons in horseback riding, polo, show jumping and dressage

## The St. Regis Dubai, Al Habtoor Polo Resort & Club makes its debut as a world-class destination

The world's first St. Regis Polo equestrian and polo resort and Dubai's second St. Regis-branded property makes its debut in March 2017 at the Al Habtoor Polo Resort and Club.

A part of the Habtoor Hospitality portfolio, the resort is renowned as the first St. Regis property of its kind, promising unforgettable polo experiences combined with the brand's iconic personalized service across 136 rooms and suites, 25 St. Regis branded villas and six culinary venues. Khalaf Al Habtoor, said: "The Al

Habtoor Group creates luxury lifestyle destinations in Dubai. We are committed to growing with the United Arab Emirates and promoting it as a tourism destination. The St. Regis Dubai, Al Habtoor Polo Resort & Club is a unique destination that will attract equestrian enthusiasts locally, regionally and internationally."

The new resort reinforces Dubai's standing within the global polo circuit and St. Regis's rich polo history dating back to the Astor family, founders of the original St. Regis New York in 1904.

Designed around four lush polo fields, The St. Regis Dubai, Al Habtoor Polo Resort & Club is located just 30-minutes from Dubai International Airport in Dubailand.

### Six Distinctive Culinary Venues

The hotel has opened five of its six dining venues including: **The Grill Pit** – an Argentinian asado-inspired steakhouse where guests will overlook a theatre-style kitchen; **Andalucia** – serving Mediterranean flavors in an open plan dining venue framed by a dramatic double staircase; **Taperia**





Marriott International has appointed Andrew Henning as general manager of The St. Regis Dubai, Al Habtoor Polo Resort & Club, ahead of the property's opening this year.

In his new role Henning will oversee operations at the 136-key resort, which is the first polo and equestrian-inspired St. Regis hotel globally.

Henning said: "Following the long-standing association with polo, the sport of kings, it is an honour to lead the team at the world's first St. Regis Polo Resort. This is an exciting project with a great team behind it, and we are confident that it will significantly contribute to Dubai's dynamic hospitality landscape. I look forward to the adventure ahead with a wonderful team."

"Polo is a growing sport in the UAE. The Al Habtoor Polo Resort & Club is unique in the fact that it offers the best of equestrian facilities in the region. Guests of The St. Regis Dubai, Al Habtoor Polo Resort & Club can partake in the sports activities or watch one of the most exciting spectator sports from the comfort of their hotel room ."

- Mohammed Al Habtoor

– a Spanish tapas bar with views of the main polo field and a central open kitchen; and the St. Regis Polo Bar.

Extending across five spaces, including two terraces with polo field views and an intimate outdoor courtyard, **The Equestrian Lounge**, invites guests to enjoy the St. Regis Afternoon Tea ritual. Opening later this year, **Oasis** poolside venue will serve light bites by day and Arabic cuisine by night.

#### **Horse Riding School & Polo Academy**

An expert team of fully qualified professional instructors cater to new riders and to seasoned equestrians offer riding lessons, desert riding, pony club activities and camps, evening rides, bonfires, and clinics. The academy offers a full programme for both adults and children, designed to improve skills in show jumping, dressage and polo, with tailored tuition from experienced professionals.

#### **Five-star Iridium Spa & Tennis**

This summer, The St. Regis Dubai, Al Habtoor Polo Resort & Club will be home to Dubai's second Iridium Spa with a world-class facility featuring six treatment suites complemented with steam and sauna facilities. Other recreation facilities include a children's play area and two tennis courts.

#### **Exceptional Indoor & Outdoor Events**

The St. Regis Dubai, Al Habtoor Polo Resort & Club presents the 500-square-meter Abjar Ballroom, crowned by a dramatic chandelier made from hand-cut crystals in the shape of a galloping horse that illuminates the pre-function area. The outdoor terraces can accommodate up to 1,000 guests, and the polo fields can also be considered as outdoor alternatives for grand-scale celebrations. The resort is ideal for corporate retreats, team building events and weddings.

# AL HABTOOR MOTORS



1.The new 17MY Mulsanne parks in front of The St. Regis Dubai, Al Habtoor City 2. Inside the Bentley Suite

## Bentley Emirates launches the new **17MY Mulsanne**

The new Mulsanne displays the finest craftsmanship, the most luxurious materials, thoughtful design and state-of-the-art technology to achieve the very highest levels of luxury and style.

Al Habtoor Motors, Bentley Emirates launched the new 17MY Mulsanne on 13 – 15 February 2017 at The St. Regis Dubai Bentley Suite.

Bentley Emirates Mulsanne owners were invited to witness its new features - a striking new front, designed to give

a more purposeful and contemporary presence on the road, the restyled radiator and headlights, which give the vehicle a more modern appearance, the entire front end from the windscreen forwards has been redesigned – the bumpers, bonnet, radiator shell, grilles, lights and bumper are all updated, as

are the rear bumper and tail lights.

The event also gave Bentley Emirates the opportunity to give their customers a glimpse of the Bentley Suite, inspired by the unrivalled craftsmanship of the Bentley Mulsanne and a look at the extraordinary world of Bentley.





Al Habtoor Motors invests AED 4.4 million to build the new 647 sq m showroom

## Al Habtoor Motors opens new high-tech McLaren showroom on SZR

Al Habtoor Motors and McLaren Automotive celebrate the fifth anniversary of operations by opening a new Dubai showroom.

McLaren Automotive and its sole retailer partner in the UAE, Al Habtoor Motors, have opened the new McLaren showroom in Dubai on Sheikh Zayed Road. The facility is the most technically advanced McLaren sales site globally.

The opening comes nearly five years to the day since the first showroom in the Middle East, also in Dubai, was opened and the first delivery to a customer was made of a McLaren 12C in the region, the supercar which marked the start of the modern McLaren Automotive era, both of which took place in Dubai. McLaren also confirmed that 2016

was a fifth consecutive year of record sales both globally and in the Middle East, Africa and Latin America, with the region delivering over 200 cars to customers in a single year for the first time.

Al Habtoor Motors once again achieved notable sales growth overall benefiting from the introduction of the McLaren Sports Series.

Ahmed Al Habtoor, CEO, Al Habtoor Motors said, "We are delighted to be opening this brand-new facility with McLaren Automotive. Since we started our operations back in 1983,

we have always embraced innovation and excellence, the new McLaren Dubai showroom we have unveiled is testament to this and we look forward to welcoming our loyal McLaren customers, as well as many new customers, to what we truly believe to be a new benchmark in the automotive sales experience here in the UAE."

One of showroom's new features is a high-tech configuration suite that will allow customers to plan every aspect of their purchase virtually – from exterior paint options to interior trim – on a large, 4K-resolution screen.

# In the Spotlight



## Meet Tamer Ayesh Project Engineer



**A proud winner of the 2017 Individual Employee Excellence Award, this issue's spotlight is on Tamer Ayesh...**

### **Tell us more about your role at the Al Habtoor Group...**

I love what I do and I'm always looking for ways to improve the quality of the end-product. I'm ready to take on the necessary challenges that may arise and I won't give up until I get the job done. I consistently give my best effort and I work with a great team of engineers and colleagues.

### **Where did you grow up and study engineering?**

I grew up in Palestine where I began my studies and continued to finish my engineering degree in Russia-Crimea.

### **What are the key attributed**

### **of being a successful project engineer?**

There are several aspects that are critical in project management. To be successful, in addition to delivering a project that is up-to-date in terms of today's standards in quality and innovation, you must deliver on expectations of time and within budget.

### **What has been the most challenging yet rewarding project to date you have worked on?**

I joined the Group in 2011. The most challenging project to date with the Group has been the purpose-built aqua theatre at Al Habtoor City. We

are building a truly state-of-the-art and world-class structure, nothing like this has been built in the region. It is a masterpiece. Can you imagine that just the central stage will be filled with 2.5 million litres of water? That is incredible! I can't wait to see the show come to life.

### **What do you do for fun with family and friends?**

Dubai is a city that has so much to offer in terms of leisure and family activities. I enjoy spending my free time with family and friends, playing sports, going out to one of Dubai's many shopping centres and dining out.



[Click here  
to view](#)

Al Habtoor Group  
**EMPLOYEE  
EXCELLENCE  
AWARDS**  
2017

**EVENT  
GALLERY**  
2017

# AL FAROOQ MOSQUE & CENTRE



Sheikh Dr Fares Al-Mustafa delivers the Friday sermon and lectures . Photos from the cultural evening held on 19 December 2016

## AFMC launches **series of lessons** on the life of Prophet Mohammed (PBUH)

The Al Farooq Omar Bin Al Khattab Mosque & Centre launches a series of lessons on the Life of the Prophet of Mercy to coincide with the birthday of the Prophet Mohammed (PBUH). The lessons took place from 16 December 2016 to 12 January 2017.

Sheikh Dr Fares Al-Mustafa, Religious & Cultural Adviser, Al Farooq Omar Bin Al Khattab Mosque & Centre said, "The life of Prophet Mohammed (PBUH) teaches us many things. It is a good opportunity to remind

ourselves of important values, like respect and tolerance, that can be drawn from the Prophet's life."

Events organized for the community included lessons on the Teachings of the Prophet by Sheikh Dr Fares Al-Mustafa and a cultural evening with speeches, poem recitations and competitions. A special programme was created for visitors and non-Muslims to learn about the life of Prophet Mohammed (PBUH) and Islam in general, which included

engaging activities for children.

Abdul Salam Al Marzooqi, General Manager, AFMC, commented "Al Farooq Mosque and Centre always embraces religious events, and especially the birthday of the Prophet Mohammed (PBUH), which initiates the right meanings of coexistence. The importance of this event lays within being a response to the extremists who are distorting the message of the Prophet (PBUH)."



# *and the* **WINNER** *is...*



*Congratulations to Charmaine!*

*Charmaine Cuachon, Guest Relation & Reception Officer at the  
Al Habtoor Group headquarters*

*is the winner of our winter competition and receives a voucher to stay at the newly opened  
Metropolitan Hotel Dubai.*

*For your chance to win a private tennis lesson at the Al Habtoor Tennis Academy!  
turn to page 21.*

FEATURE



## LET'S TALK ABOUT THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT #GlobalGoals

# GOALS

On 25 September 2015, countries across the world adopted a set of goals to end poverty, protect the planet, and ensure prosperity for all as part of a new sustainable development agenda. Each goal has specific targets to be achieved over the next 15 years. For the goals to be reached, everyone needs to do their part: governments, the private sector, civil society and people like you!

As we celebrate 2017 as the 'Year of Giving', let's give back to our plant! Change starts with you...

### 17 GOALS TO TRANSFORM OUR WORLD

## #GlobalGoals



Download



# How can I contribute as an individual in my day-to-day life?

We've made it easy for you and compiled just a few of the many things you can do to make an impact:



## STEP 1: SOFA SUPERSTAR

- Save electricity by plugging appliances into a power strip and turning them off completely when not in use, including your computer.
- Don't print. See something online you need to remember? Jot it down. No paper, no need for forest destruction.
- Do a bit of online research and buy only from companies that you know have sustainable practices and don't harm the environment.
- Speak up! If you see an interesting social media post about women's rights or climate change, share it so folks in your social network see it too.
- Offset your carbon emissions! You can calculate your carbon footprint and purchase climate credit from [Climate Neutral Now](#).

**Tell us about your actions to achieve the global goals by using the hashtag #HabtoorGlobalGoals on social networks.**

**Stay in touch with the Global Goals online or on social media at @GlobalGoalsUN.**



## STEP 1: HOUSEHOLD HERO!

- Air dry. Let your hair and clothes dry naturally instead of running a machine. If you do wash your clothes, make sure the load is full.
- Take short showers. Bathtubs require gallons more water than a 5-10 minute shower.
- Eat less meat, poultry, and fish. More resources are used to provide meat than plants.
- Freeze fresh produce and leftovers if you don't have the chance to eat them before they go bad. You can also do this with take-away or delivered food, if you know you will not feel like eating it the next day. You will save food and money.
- Recycling paper, plastic, glass & aluminium keeps landfills from growing.
- Buy minimally packaged goods.
- Adjust your A/C thermostat, especially in during the summer months.
- Replace old appliances with energy efficient models and light bulbs
- If you have the option, install solar panels in your house. This will also reduce your electricity bill!
- Don't rinse. If you use a dishwasher, stop rinsing your plates before you run the machine.



## STEP 1: GET INVOLVED IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD!

- Shop local. Supporting neighbourhood businesses keeps people employed and helps prevent trucks from driving far distances.
- Shop Smart—plan meals, use shopping lists and avoid impulse buys. Don't succumb to marketing tricks that lead you to buy more food than you need, particularly for perishable items. Though these may be less expensive per ounce, they can be more expensive overall if much of that food is discarded.
- Bike, walk or take public transport. Save the car trips for when you've got a big group.
- Use a refillable water bottle and coffee cup. Cut down on waste and maybe even save money at the coffee shop.
- Bring your own bag when you shop. Pass on the plastic bag and start carrying your own reusable totes.
- Take fewer napkins. You don't need a handful of napkins to eat your takeout. Take just what you need.
- Maintain your car. A well-tuned car will emit fewer toxic fumes.
- Donate what you don't use. Local charities will give your gently used clothes, books and furniture a new life.

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