

THE  
VENETIAN  
MAGAO

# times Extra

weekend Guide

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MOVIES: AMERICAN SNIPER  
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WINE: THE SHADES OF GREEN II  
FOOD: SOPHISTICATED THAI  
TECHNOLOGY: SMART AND PRETTY! FASHION DESIGNERS SPRUCE UP  
TRAVEL: HEAVY SNOWFALL, STRONG WINTER STORM HITS MIDDLE EAST

## The hidden history of Portuguese of Burma

X6-7 MDT FEATURE

talkers back in town



## DRIVE IN

Jake Coyle, AP Film Writer

# 'AMERICAN SNIPER' IS QUINTESSENTIAL EASTWOOD

AP PHOTO  
 A mere six months after releasing the Four Seasons drama "Jersey Boys," Clint Eastwood has again lapped his younger directing colleagues with his second film of 2014 and his best movie in years. "American Sniper" is quintessentially Eastwood: a tautly made, confidently constructed examination of the themes that have long dominated his work. "American Sniper," based on Navy SEAL marksman Chris Kyle's best-selling memoir, is both a tribute to the warrior and a lament for war. Shirking politics, the film instead sets its sights squarely on its elite protagonist (Bradley Cooper), a traditional American war hero in an untraditional war. Here is an archetypal American: a chew-spitting, beer-drinking Texas cowboy who enlists after the 1998 bombings of American embassies with resolute righteousness and noble patriotic duty. The once wayward Kyle finds his true calling in the Navy, and he heads to Iraq with a moral certainty that no amount of time served or kills will shake. He's there to kill bad guys — "savages" he calls them at one point. And kill he does. With 160 confirmed kills, Kyle is believed to be the most lethal sniper in U.S. history. The film starts with a remarkable scene of Kyle poised on an Iraq rooftop with a



Kyle Gallner, left, and Bradley Cooper appear in a scene from "American Sniper"

young boy holding a grenade in his scope. Eastwood and screenwriter Jason Hall flashback to Kyle's upbringing, where his father taught him about "the gift of aggression" and the honor of defending others. It's the first of many cuts between far-away battle and the personal life Kyle leaves behind. Shortly before shipping out, he weds Taya, played by Sienna Miller, who gives a refreshingly lively take on a usually one-dimensional character. She's

more cynical than her husband, who returns to their growing family between tours, his head increasingly stuck in Iraq. He's much like a terse and weary Western hero torn from home; an early shot through the front door of their home evokes the famous final image of John Ford's "The Searchers." Instead of a Stetson, Kyle wears a baseball cap, turned backward when he takes aim. "I'm better when it's breathing," he tells an early

instructor after shooting a snake. Cooper is extraordinary as Kyle. He has beefed up, adopted an authentic Texas drawl and endowed Kyle with a commanding swagger. The war steadily takes its toll on his psyche, even if he'd never admit it. When Kyle's younger brother, passing him on a Tarmac in Iraq, curses the war, Kyle looks him at with genuine befuddlement. Eastwood has, of course, long been drawn to stories about violence — ne-

cessary if regrettable — in meting out justice and the cost to those that carry its heavy burden. The question is if the mythical rendering of "American Sniper" fits its more complex basis of reality. Kyle, who died tragically in early 2013, belies easy summary. He, for one, boasted of shooting looters in New Orleans after Hurricane Katrina. His clarity of mission could also be said to mirror the mistaken convictions of politicians that put him in Iraq.

But I believe Eastwood's purpose here is to depict a straight arrow in the fog of a questionable war. (A pivotal late scene takes place in a gathering sand storm that obliterates the frame in clouds of dust.) The soldier is true; the war — confused, bureaucratic — isn't. The film's narrow perspective, centered on Kyle, is both the best and worst thing about it. "American Sniper" may be a much needed tribute to the sacrifice of American soldiers, but it's lacking context. Few Iraqis here are seen as anything but the enemy. When Eastwood delved into World War II in "Flags of Our Fathers," his switch to the other side of the battlefield for "Letters From Iwo Jima" remains one of the most profound moral decisions in moviemaking. As fine as "American Sniper" is, it's in need of a companion piece.

"American Sniper," a Warner Bros. release, is rated PG-13 by the Motion Picture Association of America for "strong and disturbing war violence, and language throughout including some sexual references." Running time: 124 minutes. ★★★★★



Bradley Cooper



Sienna Miller portrays Taya Kyle

## BOOK IT

# FISHING GUIDE PLUNGES INTO EVILDOINGS IN THRILLER

Vivid scenery and a likable protagonist mark the second book in a series by David Riley Bertsch. In "River of No Return," Wyoming fishing guide Jake Trent, a former Department of Justice operative with a violent past that has left him emotionally scarred, must deal with a vixen who tries to lure him back to Washington, with the kidnapping of his friend's girlfriend and with a nefarious population-control plot.

The cast of characters also includes a couple of no-good rednecks, an evil U.S. senator, a Chinese megalomaniac and an assortment of locals from Jackson Hole, Wyoming. "River of No Return" is a breezy read with locales shifting from Jackson Hole to China, Washington and Idaho, but it suffers from plot twists that at times seem thin and stretch plausibility. Some scenes are shoehorned in. One that doesn't prop-

pel the plot forward involves fishing for steelhead. But of course how could one not have a fishing scene in a novel whose protagonist is a fishing guide? And its extraneousness is redeemed by bright writing. "The repetitive motion of the cast and the swing eased Jake's mind," Bertsch writes. "A smart steelheader was resigned to being unsuccessful, and so could achieve a kind of inner peace. Sometimes the strike of

a fish interrupted that Zen moment, but the indignity was quickly forgotten." Bertsch, who himself is a fly-fishing guide and whose first novel in this series, "Death Canyon," was published in 2013, has placed himself among a growing list of Wyoming thriller and mystery writers, including C.J. Box and Craig Johnson.

Andrew Selsky, AP



"River of No Return" (Scribner), by David Riley Bertsch



## jack black



In a matter of weeks the whole mechanics of the MSAR Government has changed. Now, the secretaries come out in public to hear the people, the media, the professionals and the operators in each and every sector under each one's supervision. The gov't secretaries came out of the seclusion of their offices in order to explain their plans, to gain the trust and support for their plans; and to make promises publicly with policies and deadlines. Notwithstanding the profile of each of the members of Dr Chui's team, the Chief should be behind this new way of operation. More or less 'advised' by the Central Government, **Chui Sai On** is to be credited for this – for good or bad.

A promising hand if you've got the right numbers - of players, capital and contacts, but anything can happen depending on what comes next. Revenue's down, 2.6 percent way down; the big boss's watching more closely; investors got scared off by the Huang Shan scam hitting liquidity and closing doors of some VIP operators. Local expert, **Ben Lee**, reckons on a couple of ways forward: either the big **junket operators** holding about 60 percent of the VIP market will absorb the smaller fish or will be more selective with their clientele. Now's the time to get back to business basics of playing a solid game: building stronger relationships with casino operators, marketing to the right players and understanding the new rules. Bulls have become bears but it's either way for 2015.



The new Secretary for Security's "state of grace," which is usually enjoyed by newly-appointed politicians, may not last long for **Wong Sio Chak**. The year started with the news about Emily Lau being barred from entering the territory. Ms Lau, who is a member of the Hong Kong Legislative Council (Legco) and leader of the Democratic Party, came to Macau accompanied by friends, allegedly for leisure. Nevertheless, she was barred. "This is ridiculous," she said. "It sends a very wrong message to the people in both Macau and Hong Kong; that the 'one country, two systems' principle is fading." In recent times, there have been too many cases of people being prohibited from entering Macau, with the police always citing the Internal Security Law and security concerns. To bar someone on those grounds is a very serious matter and much more so when the person is a lawmaker. Secretary Wong needs to give more explanations about these cases; otherwise, it appears that people are being barred simply because they think differently. Is this not what it seems?

## tea leaks by talkers

### NOT EXAGGERATING: MARK TWAIN PLAQUE STOLEN FROM GRAVESITE



Police are investigating the theft of a bronze plaque from a monument at Mark Twain's gravesite in upstate New York, the Associated Press reported this week. The plaque showing Twain's image was one of two on a 12-foot-tall, 78-year-old granite monument commissioned by Twain's daughter, Clara. The other plaque, of Clara's husband, was untouched. Twain was born Samuel Langhorne Clemens and grew up in Hannibal, Missouri. The man who penned "Tom Sawyer" famously said at some point in his life, "the report of my death was an exaggeration," responding to rumors about his passing. Unfortunately – Talkers has just confirmed with very hot sources – the news about the disappearance of Twain's plaque is not exaggerated. Ah, and Mark Twain (eventually) died in 1910.

### CHUI'S NEW APPS

The Governor, sorry, the Chief Executive is an 'appy man, or better put: an appi man. Since Dec 20 he got himself a brand new set of apps, so new that he can sleep like a baby panda. Five new apps – and just for the government: Chan 2.0, Leong 1.2, Wong 1.0, Tam 3.8 and Do Rosario Beta.2. What's more, these apps are just like drones, with a life of their own. They work, they say they work, and, hopefully, they work as they say. Well, some glitches here and there. Can't blame the developer. These apps need improving and fixes all the time: they're only...human. But Chief Chui is on for a tranquil mandate. Talkers overheard he's already ordered a yacht, which he's even already baptized as... "Panda of the Pearl."



### THE GREAT CONTENDERS

We know it's not time for that, but five years just go, you know, just like a match fire. We know it, they know it. And the whispering all over town is almost deafening: Lionel and Alexis are presumably the front-runners to become the next CE. They sure are... running. Looking at them both. It's obvious they represent the two poles, negative+positive (no valuation here), that really ignites the action in Chui's cabinet. Just saying...



## times square by rodrigo



## in others' words

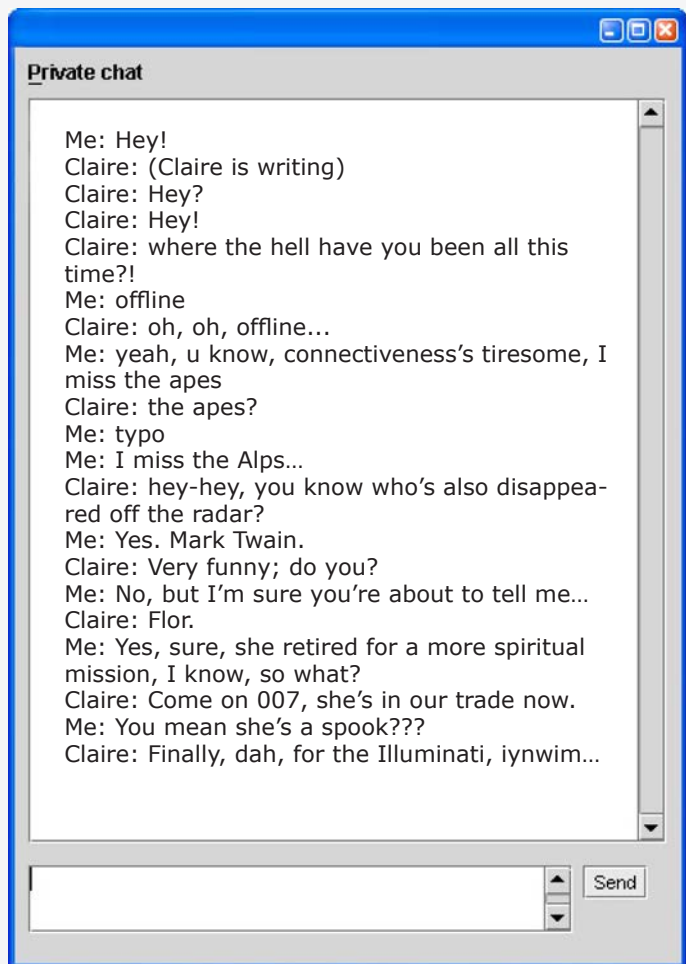
**“80 to 90 percent of the problems and opinions heard from the doctors and nurses can be attributed to poor hospital management.”**

ALEXIS TAM, Secretary for Social Affairs and Culture



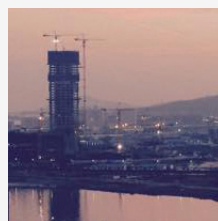
### GODZILLA IN TOWN?

Talkers got exclusive access to this amazing picture that documents what really triggered the fire in the Galaxy tower. See for yourself; unbelievable. However, warm-to-cold sources are telling us a totally different story, 'twas all part of a rehearsal. Apparently, Uncle Lui's guys are emulating the Sistine Chapel and the black-smoke/white smoke system for the papal vote when the Vatican changes diapers, pardon, leaders, as an alarm-system. White smoke would mean the gov't smoking guns are near: Stop smoking in VIP rooms, smash those cigs. Now! On the contrary, the black smoke... is the actual nicotine smoke coming out of those VIP rooms...



### THE SMOKING JOINT

Stop press! A junket operator who asked to remain anonymous (and quite understandably, we may add) is planning to open a smoking-only Chinatown. Where? Hengqin. Why? Diversification by relocation. It's not a hint anymore, remember? It's an order! (From Heaven.)





## WORLD OF BACCHUS

Jacky I.F. Cheong



### QUINTA DE COVELA ESCOLHA BRANCO 2013

An imaginative blend of Avesso and Chardonnay, briefly macerated and spontaneously fermented in temperature-controlled stainless steel vats. Light citrine with pale golden reflex, the nose is lifted and refreshing, offering calamansi, lime and peach for fruits, decorated by elderflower and wet stone. Braced by piercing acidity and palpable minerality, the palate is clean and tantalising, delivering bergamot, green apple, apricot and greengage for fruits, infused with cut grass. Medium-bodied at 13%, the tangy entry continues through a fleshy mid-palate, leading to a focused finish.



### QUINTA DE COVELA ESCOLHA TINTO 2005

An innovative blend of Touriga Nacional, Cabernet Franc and Merlot, spontaneously fermented under temperature control and underwent prolonged maceration. Dark garnet with carmine-ruby rim, the nose is redolent and smoky, effusing cassis and damson for fruits, enriched by smoked bacon and cedarwood. Supported by ample acidity and clear tannins, the palate is firm and mature, providing black cherry and prune for fruits, augmented by leather and cigar. Medium-full bodied at 13.5%, the fruity entry evolves into a vegetal mid-palate, leading to a potent finish.



### QUINTA DE COVELA COLHEITA SELECIONADA TINTO 2004

An inventive blend of Touriga Nacional, Cabernet Sauvignon and Merlot, fermented under temperature control, underwent prolonged maceration and matured in French oak. Deep garnet with carmine-ruby rim, the nose is aromatic and complex, emanating blackberry, black cherry and cassis confit for fruits, complemented by cocoa and sandalwood. Buttressed by generous acidity and tasty tannins, the palate is developed and rich, supplying bilberry, damson and prune for fruits, enhanced by allspice and wild mushroom. Medium-full bodied at 14%, the creamy entry transforms into a corpulent mid-palate, leading to a persistent finish.

## The Shades of Green II

(Continued from “The Shades of Green” on 1 October 2014)

The term “Vinho Verde” not only refers to the particular style of refreshing and often slightly petillant whites produced in northwestern Portugal, but it also indicates the wine region, indeed the biggest of the country. Confusingly, wine regions in Portugal do not always fit neatly into the country’s administrative divisions. Whereas Portuguese wine regulations have seen substantial changes over the past decades, changes in Portugal’s administrative divisions over the last 200 years have been even more complicated. Entre-Douro-e-Minho (literally: Between-Douro-and-Minho) is one of the 6 historical provinces of Portugal since medieval times. Subsequent to reforms in 1832 under the Kingdom of Portugal and 1936 under the Second Republic, also known as the Estado Novo (literally: New State), it was split into the provinces of Minho and Douro Litoral, which finally became today’s 18 districts. Outside of Portugal, little known is the fact that the southeastern edge of Vinho Verde borders with Douro, where many of Portugal’s finest gems and the majestic Port come from. It would appear less surprising, therefore, that Vinho Verde does produce full-bodied, richly coloured and strongly flavoured reds, even if overshadowed by its illustrious neighbour. With nearly 500 years of history, Quinta de Covela is a leading estate in southern Vinho Verde, known for its adventurous style. Possessing fine vineyards with granitic soil located on the right bank of the Douro river, the estate adheres to organic viticulture and insists on natural yeast (spontaneous fermentation), manual harvest plot by plot, little fining and filtering.

To discover the charm of Vinho Verde, contact Mr Pedro Lobo of Palatium Fine Wines; W: [www.palatiumwines.com](http://www.palatiumwines.com); E: [pedro.lobo@palatiumwines.com](mailto:pedro.lobo@palatiumwines.com); T: +852 2875 0782

Jacky I.F. Cheong is a legal professional by day and columnist by night. Having spent his formative years in Britain, France, and Germany, he regularly writes about wine, fine arts, classical music, and politics in several languages

## RESTAURANTS

### CANTONESE



**GRAND IMPERIAL COURT**  
11:00 - 04:00 - Mon - Sun  
T: 88022539  
Level 2, MGM MACAU



**IMPERIAL COURT**  
Mon - Friday  
11:00 - 15:00 / 18:00 - 23:00  
Sat, Sun & Public Holidays  
10:00 - 15:00 / 18:00 - 23:00  
T: 8802 2361  
VIP Hotel Lobby, MGM MACAU



**JIN YUE XUAN**  
101, 1/F, Galaxy Hotel™  
Galaxy Macau™  
T: 8883 2200  
10am – 3pm / 5:30pm-11pm



**KAM LAI HEEN**  
Grand Lapa, Macau  
956-1110 Avenida da Amizade, 2/F  
T: 8793 3821  
11am-3pm / 6pm – 10pm  
(Close on Tuesday)



**PAK LOH (CHIU CHOW)**  
G56a, G/F, Galaxy Macau™ Casino  
Galaxy Macau™  
T: 8883 2221  
11am –11pm

### SHANGHAI

**CATALPA GARDEN**  
Mon - Sunday  
11:00 - 15:00 / 17:30 - 23:00  
Hotel Royal, 2-4  
Estrada da Vitoria  
T: 28552222

### FRENCH

#### 寶雅座 AUX BEAUX ARTS

**AUX BEAUX ARTS**  
14:00 - 24:00 Tue - Fri  
11.00 - 24.00 Sat & Sun  
Closed every Monday  
T: 8802 2319  
Grande Praça, MGM MACAU

### GLOBAL



**BELON**  
31/F, Banyan Tree Macau  
Galaxy Macau™  
T: 8883 6090  
6pm-12am Bar & Oyster  
6pm-11pm Dinner  
Tuesday Closed

**CAFÉ BELA VISTA**  
Grand Lapa, Macau  
956-1110 Avenida da Amizade, 2/F  
T: 87933871  
Mon -Thurs  
06:30 am – 3:00 pm / 6:00 pm – 10:00 pm  
Fri – Sunday  
06:30 am – 10:00 pm



**DIM SUM LUNCH**  
28/F, Hotel Okura Macau  
Galaxy Macau™  
T: 8883 5099/6368 4808  
11:00am – 2.30pm



**VIDA RICA (RESTAURANT)**  
2/F, Avenida Dr Sun Yat Sen, NAPE  
T: 8805 8918  
Mon - Sunday  
6:30am – 14:30pm / 18:00 pm – 23:00pm



**MORTON’S OF CHICAGO**  
The Venetian(r) Macao-Resort-Hotel  
Taipa, Macau  
T:853 8117 5000  
[mortons.com](http://mortons.com)  
• Bar  
Open daily at 3pm  
• Dining Room  
Monday - Saturday: 5pm - 11pm  
Sunday: 5pm - 10pm

## ABA BAR

**ABA BAR**  
17.00 - 02.00 Tue-Sun  
Closed every Monday  
Grande Praça, MGM MACAU



**MGM PATISSERIE**  
09:00-21:00 Daily  
T: 8802 2324  
Main Hotel Lobby, MGM MACAU



**ROSSIO**  
07:00 - 23:00 Mon - Sun  
T: 8802 2385  
Grande Praça, MGM MACAU



**SQUARE EIGHT**  
T: 8802 2389  
24 hours  
Level 1, MGM MACAU

### ITALIAN

**LA GONDOLA**  
Mon - Sunday  
Praia de Cheoc Van, Coloane,  
next to swimming pool  
T: 2888 0156  
11:00am – 11:00pm



**TERRAZZA**  
201, 2/F, Galaxy Hotel™  
Galaxy Macau™  
T: 8883 2221  
Mon – Sat: 6pm-11pm  
Sunday Closed

### JAPANESE



**NAGOMI LOBBY LOUNGE & BAR**  
G/F, Hotel Okura Macau  
Galaxy Macau™  
T: 8883 5116  
10:00am – 11:00pm

### ASIAN PACIFIC



**SPICE GARDEN**  
G23, G/F, East Promenade  
Galaxy Macau™  
T: 8883 2221  
12pm-3pm / 6pm – 12am  
Weekend & PH: 12pm – 12am

**亞洲美食坊 TASTES OF ASIA (14 STALLS)**  
G43, G/F, East Promenade  
Galaxy Macau™  
T: 8883 2221  
10am-12am

### PORTUGUESE

**CLUBE MILITAR**  
975 Avenida da Praia Grande  
T: 2871 4000  
12:30pm – 3:00pm / 7:00pm – 11:00pm

**FERNANDO’S**  
9 Praia de Hac Sa, Coloane  
T: 2888 2264  
12:00pm – 9:30pm



**GOSTO**  
G21, G/F, East Promenade  
Galaxy Macau™  
T: 8883 2221  
Mon – Fri: 12pm-3pm / 6pm-11pm  
Sat, Sun & PH: 12pm – 11pm

**O SANTOS**  
20 Rua da Cunha, Taipa Village  
T: 2882 5594  
Wednesday - Monday  
12:00pm – 3:00pm / 6:30- 10:00pm



**NAAM**  
Grand Lapa, Macau  
956-1110 Avenida da Amizade, The Resort  
T: 8793 4818  
12pm – 2:30pm / 6:30pm – 10:30pm (Close on Mondays)



**SAFFRON**  
G40, G/F, Banyan Tree Macau  
Galaxy Macau™  
T: 8883 6061  
7am – 11pm

### KOREAN



**MYUNG GA**  
G27, G/F, East Promenade  
Galaxy Macau™  
T: 8883 2221  
11am –11pm

### BARS & PUBS



**38 LOUNGE**  
Altrira Macau,  
Avenida de Kwong Tung, 38/F Taipa  
Sun-Thu 5:00pm – 2:00am  
Fri, Sat and Eve of public holiday:  
5:00pm – 3:00am



**THE MACALLAN WHISKY BAR & LOUNGE**  
203, 2/F, Galaxy Hotel™  
Galaxy Macau™  
T: 8883 2221  
Mon – Thu : 5pm-1am  
Fri – Sat, PH & Eve: 5pm-2am  
Sunday Closed



**D2**  
Macau Fisherman’s Wharf  
Edf. New Orleans III  
Macau



**LION’S BAR**  
Tuesday to Sunday  
7pm – 5am  
(Close every Monday)  
Tel: 8802 2375 / 8802 2376

**VIDA RICA BAR**  
2/F, Avenida Dr. Sun Yat Sen, NAPE  
T: 8805 8928  
Monday to Thursday: 12:00 – 00:00  
Friday: 12:00 – 01:00  
Saturday: 14:00 – 01:00  
Sunday: 14:00 – 00:00

**VASCO**  
Grand Lapa, Macau  
956-1110 Avenida da Amizade, 2/F  
T: 8793 3831  
Monday to Thursday: 6:30 pm – 12:00pm  
Friday to Saturday: 6:00pm – 02:00am  
Sunday: 6:00pm – 12:00 midnight



## TASTE OF EDESIA

Irene Sam

### FOOD SOPHISTICATED THAI

The flavors of Thai cuisine can be very strong, often too salty, too sweet, too spicy, just way too much intensity for me, but I have found a sophisticated Thai restaurant with dishes and flavors that have been toned down a bit, yet still in line with the art of tradi-

tional Thai cuisine in all its splendor. Presenting the authentic tastes of Thai cuisine at its best, Saffron at Banyan Tree Macau allows us to savor Thai flavors in a contemporary yet classically elegant setting. The lights are dimmed and you will, on certain days, find a Thai artist



playing traditional Thai music alongside your dining table. Traditional cooking methods reminiscent of the techniques passed down from generation to generation are steep in Saffron's culinary presentation. Saffron sets itself above the rest as a premium restaurant offering fine Thai cuisine complemented with the warm and graceful service distinctive of the

renowned hospitality of Banyan Tree and Thailand. Ms. Kanokwan Pungjaroenjkul, Gina, is the Chef du Cuisine of Saffron restaurant at Banyan Tree Macau. She has earned an excellent reputation in her native Thailand from securing a gold and silver medal in the national "Thai Food Competition" for three consecutive years from 2004 - 2006;

and a silver medal in the celebrated "Som Tam Contest" in 2005. Other than having an award-winning chef and mouthwatering dishes, the most exciting element about Saffron is that it now has an extensive buffet featuring the best of traditional Thai cuisine and a large selection of fresh seafood on every Saturday night. So don't hesitate to make a reservation!

### SPA CHILL LIKE CLEOPLATRA

We all have heard about some of the beauty secrets of Cleopatra, the last pharaoh of Ancient Egypt who captured the heart of powerful men such as Julius Caesar and Mark Antony. Her most well known beauty habit was that she loved to bath in milk. Indeed, the benefits of milk on the skin are backed with science. Rich in amino acids and vitamins, milk hydrates the skin and helps it to retain moisture. Lactic acid can also be found in milk. An alpha hydroxyl acid, it exfoliates the skin

gently and enhances moisture penetration. I personally find the weather during winter to be unbearable. First of all, humidity is low and the skin can lose its moisture quickly. Fortunately, the Banyan Tree Spa at Banyan Tree Macau has a wonderful treatment that takes care of this problem, named "Winter Escape." Just like Cleopatra, guest can enjoy a beautiful milk bath. More than just milk, the bath also has another special ingredient inside, green tea. Green tea is known to be packed with antioxidant, which can neutralize free



radicals and reduce inflammation. While the weather outside of the spa is cold, the warm, nourishing milk bath keeps the body warm. It is indeed the most suitable treat for winter skin. In addition to the bath, the "Winter Escape" package also includes a perfect combination of Thai and Chinese massages for total rejuvenation. Chill and relax as the therapist blends subtle stretching with rhythmic massaging to promote deep relaxation while improving flexibility. Finally, the treatment concludes with a foot therapy as the stress melts away. Now we can all be as beautiful and relaxed like Cleopatra.





# New book reveals hidden hist

By Mark O'Neill \*

**M**any of us here were born in Portugal or at least Goa. We have spent many years here in Burma. We always feel like we are prisoners or guests or visitors. Now is the time to accept Burma as our country. We are still Portuguese but will never see Portugal again. Some of you have never seen it at all."

The year is 1628 and the scene is Ava, a city in upper Burma. The speaker is Captain António do Cabo, an officer in the Portuguese army who has spent most of his adult life in this country, thousands of kilometres from home.

It comes from a new book that tells a remarkable story. "Cannon Soldiers of Burma" recounts the history of hundreds of Portuguese who arrived there at the start of the 16th century seeking opportunities for trade.

Its kings and rulers immediately recognized their superior military skills in the use of cannon and muskets and hired them as mercenaries. So it was that they came to stay in Burma, bringing their families and their priests with them. They intermarried with local people and became part of Burmese society; most never returned to Portugal.

The author of the book, James Myint Swe, is a descendant of these people. He was born in 1948 in Chan Tha Ywa, Ye U, one of the Portuguese settlement villages in the north of Burma.

He migrated to Canada in 1976 to have a better life for his young family. While working as a healthcare professional, he continued his studies and graduated in political science from the University of Western Ontario. Upon completing his Masters in Health Care Administration from Sienna Heights University, Michigan he served as a vice chief executive of the Lambton Hospitals Group in 2002-2003.

In 1995, he and his wife Janis received the Peace medallion; in 2009, the Mayor honoured them for more than 20 years of community work and helping in a medical clinic on the Burma/Thailand border. They live in Sarnia, Ontario in Canada.

## HISTORY

"The westerners, mainly the Portuguese, reached the shores of

Arakan/Rakhine – the western province of Burma today – in the early 1500s, while searching for new nations in the East and new trading routes to China and Japan," he writes.

From the 1500s until the late 1600s, the Portuguese established trade with different kingdoms in Burma, followed by the French in the late 1700s.

"This early European involvement in Burma has been ignored and almost eliminated from Burmese history. However, numerous historians would attest to the fact that the Portuguese involvement in Burma – between the Mons, Arakans and the Burmans – was crucial to laying down the foundation of the contemporary nation of Burma/Myanmar."

Most Europeans who came to Asia before the modern era stayed only long enough to

complete their business transactions or hold a comfortable position in the colonial administrations before going home to enjoy the fruits of their work.

But these Portuguese were different. They took employment as soldiers or bodyguards for Burmese kings and warlords, settled down and married local women. They became a part of the nation's fabric and history.

"This story attempts to reconnect the relationship between the Burmese and the Portuguese as business partners, in trading, as close friends and allied mercenaries serving the kings at times and, at other times, as adversaries. Events during those missing three hundred years were pivotal in the development of the historical structure of today's Burma," writes Myint Swe.

Initially, the Portuguese were involved with the nation-states of the Mons, Arakans and Burmans, helping with military support in internal wars. Their downfall came when Felipe de Brito, governor of Thanlyin/Syriam, betrayed his master, the Arakan king. He was later defeated in 1613 by the Burmese king Anaukpetlun; thousands of Portuguese and their followers became prisoners of war.

The king brought them to Ava, the capital at that time. After his death, a new king Thalun ordered the Portuguese and Burmese to marry and serve his palace, allowing them to integrate into Burmese society.

Around 1630, the Portuguese who settled in Ava were given a territory to settle between the valley of the two rivers, the Chindwin and the Mu; they were allowed to occupy and expand the land to protect the northern Burman empire. They never returned to Portugal.

For the next two centuries, they served the kings as cannon operators and gunners. When the British took over Mandalay Palace in 1885, they defended King Thibaw until he ordered them to surrender as he was taken to exile in India.



The author, James Myint Swe





# History of Portuguese of Burma

## SEARCHING FOR THE TRUTH

Myint Swe writes that he was inspired to write the book based on the stories he had heard from elderly relatives during the summer months spent at his birthplace. "This impelled me to delve deeper into the past, resulting in many years of research." This took him through thousands of kilometres across Asia, Europe and North America, where he searched through museums, libraries and old bookshops looking for material.

The book is in two parts, the first of them this novel. "This first part was written as a novel to allow the reader to understand the 200 years of history that have been lost. The names of the main Portuguese characters are real, whereas the Burmese characters are fictitious, to make the story more meaningful."

The second part will be published soon and support part of the novel's accuracy in a historical way. "Though written documents that would verify some of the facts have been destroyed, there is a scientific way to prove the historical presence of the Portuguese and Europeans in the Two Rivers valley."

## STRONG CHARACTERS

The novel is mainly told through two Portuguese characters. One is Paulo Seixas, a Portuguese officer assigned to train the Mons in weaponry. He is one of 100 such officers, following an agreement to supply the Mons with 200 muskets, gunpowder and bullets and 100 small cannons.

He learns the Mon language and visits Pegu, the capital of the kingdom; as a major sea-port, Europeans often visited the city. Paolo marvels at its wealth and magnificence. It is

80 km northeast of Yangon and is now known as Bago.

There he meets and falls in love with Ziwa, a local princess. They are married in a Buddhist ceremony and Paulo loyally serves the local king.

Then the Burmese king attacks Pegu with a powerful army; in the fierce fighting, there is Portuguese fighting on both sides. Finally, the Mon king is forced to surrender. "Paulo and Ziwa bowed deeply to the royal family, touching the ground three times, a sign of deep respect, then slipped away into the night."

The great city is looted and destroyed and Paulo's house burnt to the ground. Broken-hearted, Paulo and his family leave for Goa on a merchant ship; then they go on to Portugal, never to return.

## LEAD MY PEOPLE

The second main character is Luisa de Brito, who is taken prisoner together with thousands of Portuguese by the victorious King Anaukphetlun; he has ordered the death of her husband Felipe after the siege of Syriam. Two men held his arms while two soldiers, each brandishing a bamboo spear, ran ten steps towards him and drive them though his stomach; four then hung his body on top of a bamboo spike, 20 feet in the air. The king also kills Luisa's son and grandson.

A short time later, Luisa and the other prisoners begin a 75-day march to the capital city of Ava, where the king intended to use the Portuguese prisoners skilled in musketry and cannon gunners in his Royal military. They march with chains and bonds, escorted by 200 Burmese soldiers. Many die along the route, especially the old and the children.

Luisa cries in anger at the treatment meted out to her people; she is punished and tied to a tree for a whole night. She emerges as the leader of the Portuguese.

When they finally reach Ava, they are placed in a detention camp; conditions there deteriorate and supplies of food dwindle. Under the guidance of a Catholic priest, they keep the Portuguese traditions as best they can, with a Mass every day and a celebration of Christmas.

## CHANGE OF FORTUNE

Their fortunes change dramatically after his son, who was having an affair with a member of his harem, assassinates the cruel king.

A new king Thalun, the oldest brother of the dead king, is chosen. He is of a different character and decides to free the Portuguese and give them land to settle down; many of those who had served in the army had married local women and had families of their own.

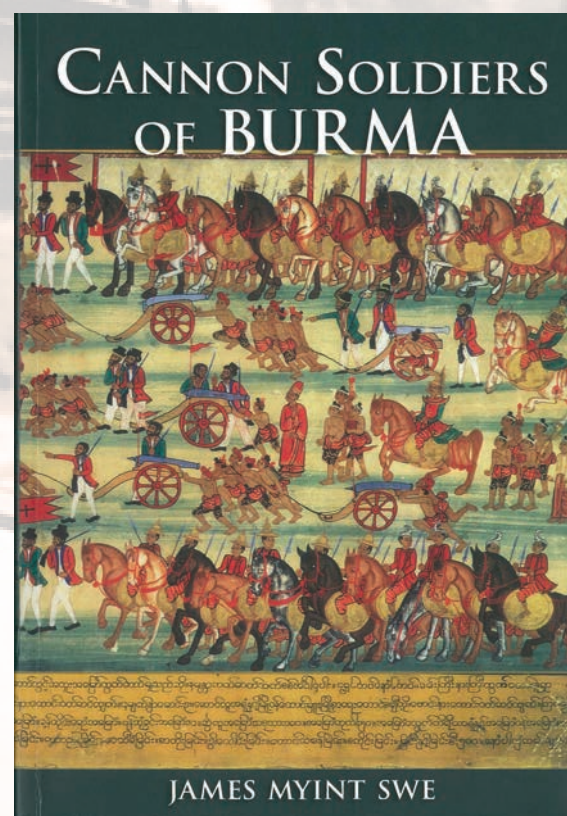
The king allocates them fertile land in the north of Burma. Nearly 2,400 Portuguese reach the west bank of the Mu River. "Our people shall never know hunger again," says Luisa, the matriarch of the new settlement. "We have truly found a paradise here. God has answered our prayers from so many years ago."

They established prosperous villages. "Between intermarriage and gradual assimilation, the Portuguese became almost as culturally Burmese as the Burmese, though they still faithfully maintained their Catholic traditions and holidays." They wore traditional clothes and the soldiers were tattooed with the same royal crest as Burmese soldiers.

The king sends them money to build more churches and invites priests from Portugal, France and Italy to celebrate Mass in this remote corner of Burma.

Luisa dies in her 70s, after spending more than 50 years in Burma. She is given a large Catholic funeral, with a procession waving a Portuguese flag, a flag of religious symbols and a flag of the royal Ava military service of the Portuguese.

"Very few of the younger Portuguese ever actually saw their ancestral land; they were all buried in grounds far away from the ocean and no-one in Portugal or Goa was ever to know their names."





## SCREEN PEOPLE

## CELEBS

## Madonna defends altered photos of MLK, Mandela



Madonna is defending herself against criticism after she posted Instagram photos of Martin Luther King Jr. and Nelson Mandela that were altered to look like her own image on her new album.

Madonna's cover for the album "Rebel Heart" is a closeup of her face with black string on it. Her social media posts show the faces of King and Mandela doctored to make

it appear as though they have similar string on their faces. Some consider the posts offensive.

In a statement, Madonna said she was not comparing herself to them but acknowledging that they were rebels. She also said the images were fan-generated and defended herself against claims of racism, adding she also posted other famous faces who were not black.

## FACEBOOK

## Mark Zuckerberg starts reading program



Mark Zuckerberg is attempting to add a little more "book" to Facebook.

The Facebook founder and CEO announced on his page recently that he has vowed to read a book every other week in 2015, with an emphasis on learning about different beliefs and cultures.

Zuckerberg created a "A Year of Books" page and urged his friends to join him in the project. As of 7pm

yesterday, it had 223,677 likes.

The first book in his program, Moises Naim's "The End of Power," available on Amazon.com, jumped from #203 to #30 in sales ranking. The book was first published in 2013.

## BOOKS

## Ali Smith's 'How to be Both' named Costa prize novel of year



Scottish writer Ali Smith's "How to be Both" has been named novel of the year at Britain's Costa Book Awards.

The book, which interweaves the stories of a 15th-century artist and a modern teenager, was also a finalist for the 2014 Booker Prize.

The Costa prizes give 5,000 pounds (USD7,600) each to winners in five categories: novel, first novel, biography, poetry and children's book. One

will win the 30,000 pound Book of the Year prize on Jan. 27.

Smith is up against first novelist Emma Healey's mystery "Elizabeth is Missing"; Helen Macdonald's memoir "H is for Hawk"; Jonathan Edwards' poetry collection "My Family and Other Superheroes"; and Kate Saunders' tale for young readers "Five Children on the Western Front."

The awards are open to writers based in Britain and Ireland.

## TV

## 'Real Housewives' star makes prison her new home



One of New Jersey's "Real Housewives" has gone to prison.

Teresa Giudice surrendered at the Federal Correction Institution in Connecticut earlier this week to begin serving a 15-month sentence for bankruptcy fraud, her attorney said.

Giudice's last meal before turning herself in was at a 24-hour diner near the facility, according to attorney James Leonard, who drove the "Real Housewives of New Jersey"

star from her home in northern New Jersey to the prison, about 90 minutes north of New York City.

Giudice and her husband, Giuseppe "Joe" Giudice, pleaded guilty last year to hiding assets from bankruptcy creditors and submitting phony loan applications to get some USD5 million in mortgages and construction loans. Joe Giudice also pleaded guilty to failing to pay taxes totaling more than \$200,000.

## sciTech

Anick Jesdanun, Technology Writer, Las Vegas

## TECH &amp; STYLE

## SMART AND PRETTY! FASHION DESIGNERS SPRUCE UP SMARTWATCHES

AP PHOTO



Smartwatches based on Qualcomm chipsets are on display at the Qualcomm booth at the International CES

Smartwatches don't have to look ugly to be functional. Clothing and accessories designers are collaborating with engineers to produce computerized wristwatches that people will want to wear all day and night.

With Apple Inc. preparing to release a watch line that includes an 18-karat gold edition, rivals know they need to think beyond devices that look like miniature computers — with their rectangular screens and wristbands made of rubber-like materials. If the watches aren't attractive, the market won't grow beyond a small niche of users.

"The big brick on the wrist is not what a fashionable person is going to wear on a day-to-day basis," says Cindy Livingston, CEO of Sequel,

a Timex business that makes traditional watches under the Guess clothing brand. That's especially so for women, she says — many of the existing smartwatches are simply too big for their wrists.

At the International CES gadget show in Las Vegas this week, Guess said it's partnering with Martian Watches to make a line of fashionable smartwatches. Guess took its leading line of traditional watches, Rigor, and incorporated Martian's technology. From a distance, the new Guess Connect watch looks like a Rigor, with analog hands and a crown, or dial, on the right. Closer inspection reveals the addition of two control buttons and a small, one-line display for notifications near 6 o'clock.

LG, meanwhile, consulted with outside design experts and a sister company that makes fashion and home-decor products. Its first smartwatch was rectangular primarily because of production constraints. A round model followed just months later.

Other companies took fashion into

account from the start. Burg's Dutch founder, Hermen van den Burg, has had 20 years of work in design. At CES, the company showcased new stainless-steel models and one with Swarovski crystals, both due out in March. Van den Burg says a watch, as something you wear, is highly personal and must fit your lifestyle. Cogito filled an in-house design studio in Paris with people from the fashion industry. Last summer's Classic model has room for just 24 characters of text, so that most of the face can be devoted to making the watch a watch. A fitness tracker coming this April will have interchangeable parts to add patterns on the rim.

The Consumer Electronics Association projects that U.S. sales of wearable devices will reach 31 million this year, up 61 percent. Most will be health and fitness devices, such as step counters. Although general-purpose smartwatches are expected to reach just 11 million, or about a third of all wearable devices, that's more than quadruple what was sold in 2014.

Those seeking specialized functions might not care about design, but those looking to wear something around the clock might, says Ralph de la Vega, head of AT&T's mobile and business solutions division. Apple will "raise the bar," de la Vega adds. "Others are going to have to work hard to stay up with it."

High fashion won't come cheap. Health-tech company Withings hired traditional watch designers to make a fitness-tracking watch called Activite, pronounced Activity. It looks like a regular watch except for a second dial on the face to show progress toward that day's fitness goals. The watch can measure a lot more, but you'll need a smartphone app to

view that. Activite is being manufactured at an unspecified watch factory in Switzerland, rather than in Asia, where consumer electronics are typically produced. With high-quality materials, including calf leather for the band, Activite costs USD450, compared with \$200 to \$300 for typical smartwatches today. But even at that price, Withings sold out an undisclosed number in a day when it came out in November.

At CES, Garmin says it partnered with designer Jonathan Adler to make patterned straps for its Vivofit 2 fitness tracker, to be sold in sets of three for \$40. And Sony is making a stainless steel edition of its SmartWatch 3 for \$50 more, or \$300.

Efforts to make wearable technology more fashionable are intriguing, but companies will still need to convince consumers they need yet another device, says Jorge Aguilar at the brand-consulting firm Lander Associates. Apple is one of the few companies that might pull it off, he says, but even the iPad and iPhone maker still needs to make the case for yet another screen.

Apple has teased consumers with promises of an Apple Watch that can locate parked cars in a crowded lot or unlock hotel room doors with a tap. It will also make smaller versions, which might appeal to women, and designs and bands appropriate for different settings, such as a workout or a night out. But a lot still isn't known, including how much these fashionable configurations will cost. The base model will cost \$349. There's been speculation the gold edition could cost in the thousands of dollars.

At such a price, the wearer will be making much more than a fashion statement. AP



**TRAVELOG**

Hussein Malla &amp; Daa Hadid, Anjar, Leb.

**DESERT STORM****HEAVY SNOWFALL, STRONG WINTER STORM HITS MIDDLE EAST**

**S**now fell in parts of the Middle East this week as a powerful winter storm swept through the region, killing two Syrian refugees in Lebanon and forcing thousands who have fled their country's civil war to huddle for warmth in tents in refugee camps.

In Syria, the guns fell silent as snow fell in the cities of Damascus and Aleppo and government warplanes remained on the ground because of bad visibility.

The storm dumped rain and hail on Lebanon's coast and heavy snows in the mountains and central Bekaa Valley. Gas stations, schools, banks and shops shuttered and power was cut throughout Lebanon, but it was particularly trying for the hundreds of thousands of Syrian refugees who live in tents and makeshift shelters.

In eastern Lebanon, security officials said a Syrian shepherd, Ammar Kamel, 30, and a 7-year-old boy, Majed Badawi, died in the storm Wednesday as they made the dangerous trek through the rugged, snow-covered mountains from Syria to the Lebanese border town of Chebaa. The officials spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to speak to the media.

Near the town of Anjar, on the border with Syria, refugees used brooms and sticks to try to clear heavy snow from the tops of their tents, fearing the shelters would collapse. Inside, adults huddled around wood-burning stoves to try to keep warm.

In Beirut's slum of Shatila, residents waded through dirty water

and floating garbage that clogged the narrow alleys while children played, trying to catch hail.

Ibtisam Mohammed, a 37-year-old mother of seven, managed to get her rusting diesel stove working again on Wednesday, in an effort to warm her home. The wind had ripped away the plastic sheet used for windows and water dripped on the floor from the tin roof.

"We dragged the mattress to that corner, it's the only dry place in the house," she said, adding she hoped the cold wouldn't make her sicker — she has throat cancer and relies on charity for medical care.

Nearby, Abu Hussein, 32, huddled under blankets in his tiny one-room home with his two children. "This is how we keep warm," he laughed.

Elsewhere, Palestinian authorities in the West Bank and Gaza Strip declared a state of emergency over the storm. An eight-month-old Palestinian infant in the Tulkarem refugee camp died in a fire caused by a heating stove, said Palestinian civil defense ministry spokesman Louay Bani Odeh.

Snow also accumulated in the Golan Heights and northern Israel. Jerusalem schools closed ahead of a forecast warning of 10 inches (25 centimeters) of snowfall. The weather dominated Israeli media newscasts as snow fell in repeated bursts in Jerusalem, with media promising more snowfall later.

Israeli police closed roads in the country's north as Jerusalem city officials directed snow preparations from a "war room" in a bunker underneath city hall, and deployed about 150 snowplows. The military readied armored per-

sonnel carriers to help the police.

A downtown supermarket said it stored up on five times the amount of provisions, and employees were to spend the night at the store because of road closures.

In Egypt, a sandstorm engulfed Cairo for a second day, followed by a brief rainfall Wednesday while in the Mediterranean port city of Alexandria, gusty winds toppled a minaret. The state MENA news agency reported no casualties, adding that the mosque was subsequently shut down for repair work.

**In Syria, snow blanketed Qassiyoun Mountain, which overlooks the capital, Damascus.** The snowfall also brought traffic to a near standstill in the city and the Education Ministry shuttered schools and universities for two days.

Heavy fog also blanketed parts of Pakistan on Wednesday morning. Pakistan's Civil Aviation Authority said officials temporarily closed Islamabad's Benazir Bhutto International Airport due to bad weather, diverting incoming flights to Lahore.

In Amman, Royal Jordanian cancelled some of its Thursday and Friday flights due to bad weather, including those to Iraq, Tel Aviv, Dubai, Riyadh and Cairo.

Some found joy amid the stormy weather. Abdul-Hamid Ayash, a 32-year-old trader stranded in Beirut after snows closed the route to his mountain home, smoked a cigarette by the sea, watching waves crash against concrete breakers. **"I'm not sorry I'm stuck here," he said. "Is there anything nicer than walking in the rain?"** **AP**



People walk across a snow-blanketed street in Damascus, Syria

**SCREEN PEOPLE****MOVIES****Mariel Hemingway working on memoir and young adult novel**

Mariel Hemingway has a lot to say about the pain of being a Hemingway.

Regan Arts announced that the actress has a memoir and young adult novel coming in April. The memoir is called "Out Came the Sun" and has the sobering subtitle "Overcoming the Legacy of Mental Illness, Addiction, and Suicide In My Family."

As noted by the publisher, seven members of the Hemingway family have committed suicide over the past four generations, notably author Ernest Hemingway, Mariel's grandfather.

Mariel Hemingway, known to many as Woody Allen's young love interest in "Manhattan," will offer "never-before-told stories" about her life and career, including experiences with "world-class" filmmakers and actors.

The novel is called "Invisible Girl" and is based on her childhood.

**ENTERTAINMENT****Kevin Hart on Sony cyber-hack: 'It's not that serious to me'**

Kevin Hart says the Sony cyberattack will not have lasting consequences on him or the entertainment industry.

The actor-comedian, who was mentioned in a disparaging way in leaked emails, says "things happen" in business, but "it has nothing to do with the entertainers."

While promoting his Sony comedy "The Wedding Ringer," Hart summed up the attack as "a bump in their road," adding "it's not that serious to me. That's their deal."

In one email, Sony CEO Michael Lynton called Hart a "whore" for asking for compensation for tweets.

In a separate exchange, producer Scott Rudin and Sony Pictures co-chair Amy Pascal riffed about President Obama liking films with African American casts, including Hart.

"Ringer," starring Hart as a best man for hire, opens Jan. 16.

**COSBY SHOW****3 new women in LA accuse Cosby of sexual assaults long ago**

Three more women have accused Bill Cosby of drugging and sexually assaulting them years ago.

Attorney Gloria Allred held a news conference Wednesday in Los Angeles with the women who described unwanted encounters with the comedian between 1981 and 1996 in LA and Las Vegas.

Allred says the accusations are too old for criminal charges or lawsuits, but she reiterated her challenge that

Cosby waive the statute of limitations to allow lawsuits.

More than 15 women have come forward with claims Cosby sexually assaulted them decades ago. The star of the "The Cosby Show" has never been charged in connection with any of the allegations.

**ADVERTISING****US brewery apologizes for using Gandhi on beer can**

A brewery is apologizing to Indians offended that the company is using Mohandas Gandhi's name and likeness on one of its beers.

New England Brewing Co. in Connecticut apologized over the weekend on its Facebook page for the India pale ale it calls Gandhi-Bot.

"Our intent is not to offend anyone but rather pay homage and celebrate a man who we respect greatly," the company said.

Critics in the U.S. and India have complained about the commercial use of Gandhi, revered for leading India to independence through non-violence.

Proloy K. Das, a Hartford lawyer, tweeted that Connecticut "should be ashamed to be home" to New England Brewing.

MDT/AP



## WHAT'S ON

**TODAY (JAN 9)**

"SEE AND TOUCH" - TOUCHABLE ARTS EXHIBITION

This exhibition deprives us of the sense of sight for a purpose. Visitors can touch, smell and even taste the exhibits created by local artists and the visually impaired. So get the goggles on supplied by the organizer and 'appreciate' the art works with all of your senses but one for a sense of heightened awareness and a unique take on appreciating art.

TIME: 12pm-7pm (Closed on public holidays)

UNTIL: March 31, 2015

VENUE: Artistry of Wind Box Community Development Association / Rua Tomas Vieira 3A R/C

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 6685 9215

ORGANIZER: Artistry of Wind Box Community Development Association

<http://www.facebook.com/Artwindbox>

**TOMORROW (JAN 10)**

LMA PRESENTS - FABRIC FACTORY X SONIC DEADHORSE MACAU TOUR

Described as a 'one-man band which can also be played around by joining many people', the Taiwanese 'Sonic Deadhorse' combines electronics with the acoustic guitar to deliver music 'embracing the indulgence of the 70s, the melancholy of the 80s and the nihilism of the 90s'. The music style on this tour includes IDM, Ambient Pop and Experimental Rock, and stars special guest Sonia Ka Ian Lao from Macau band Evade. Both groups are into retro electro music, with Fabric Factory classic and Sonic Deadhorse modern.

TIME: 9:30 pm

VENUE: 11B, 50 Avenida do Coronel Mesquita Freguesia de Nossa Senhora de Fátima, Macau

ADMISSION: MOP120

ENQUIRIES: (853) 2875 7511

ORGANIZER: LIVE Music Association (LMA)

<https://www.facebook.com/LMA.Macau>

**FRAGRANCE FROM THE EAST - HERITAGE CONCERT**

The Macao Orchestra performs once again in culturally rich World Heritage sites to bring music lovers unique experiences of Eastern music in to buildings with a rich history. Featuring Rachmaninoff's 'Vocalise' and Mozart's 'Divertimento in D major, K. 136' in the most perfect of settings.

TIME: 4pm

VENUE: Mandarin's House

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 2853 0782

ORGANIZER: Macau Orchestra

<http://www.icm.gov.mo/om>

**SUNDAY (JAN 11)**

RED MASTERPIECES: LACQUERWARE FROM THE REIGN OF EMPEROR QIANLONG - PALACE MUSEUM

Red Masterpieces: Lacquerware from the Reign of Emperor Qianlong - Palace Museum is a golden opportunity to comprehensively examine the craftsmanship of lacquerware in this great reign. Over 120 exhibits will be showcased under ten themes: carved lacquer, gold-inlaid colour lacquerware, golden lacquerware, coloured lacquerware, gold-and-colour painted lacquerware, lacquerware coloured with Tung tree oil, bodiless lacquerware, filled-in lacquerware, gold-painted lacquerware and inlaid lacquerware. With the complex production of lacquerware, such a fascinating exhibition will definitely, and pleasantly, surprise exhibition-goers.

TIME: 10am-7pm (Closed on Mondays, no admission after 6:30 pm)

UNTIL: March 8, 2015

VENUE: Macau Museum of Art, Av. Xian Xing Hai, s/n, NAPE

ADMISSION: MOP5 (Free on Sundays and public holidays)

ENQUIRIES: (853) 8791 9814

ORGANIZER: Macau Museum of Art

<http://www.mam.gov.mo>

**MONDAY (JAN 12)**

REVELATION OF THE UNKNOWN HISTORY

Revelation of the Unknown History - A Special Exhibition of the Relics of the State of Ba in Western Zhou Dynasty showcases 119 treasures - bronze, primitive pottery, porcelain, jade, gold and more - unearthed in 2007 in Shanxi Yicheng County. Found in the village cemetery estuary, these artefacts represent a major archaeological discovery. The first section of the exhibition details the find itself, while the second section interprets it, and the third section explores the culture and feudal structure of Ba, detailing its origins, rise and fall.

TIME: 9am-9pm

UNTIL: March 1, 2015

VENUE: Temporary Exhibitions Gallery of the Civic and Municipal Affairs Bureau / Avenida de Almeida Ribeiro No.163

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 8988 4100

ORGANIZER: Civic and Municipal Affairs Bureau

<http://www.iacm.gov.mo>

**TUESDAY (JAN 13)**

MIRROR SEA SPIRIT

Celebrating the 15th Anniversary of the Establishment of Macau SAR, Mirror Sea Spirit - a sweeping historical Beijing Opera - takes a potted look at the last 100 years of the territory via the intensity of opera because, as local playwright Mu Xinxin puts it, "opera precisely coincides with the story of the soul." The opera stars the Beijing Opera Troupe of the Jiangsu Performing Arts Group, featuring Macau's signature drunken dragon performance, the soul of the work threading its way through the vicissitudes of history.

TIME: 8pm

DATE: January 13 & 14, 2015

VENUE: Macau Cultural Centre, Avenida Xian Xing Hai, s/m, NAPE

LANGUAGE: Mandarin

TICKETING: (853) 2855 5555



ORGANIZER: Macau Foundation  
ADMISSION: MOP100  
<http://www.macauticket.com>



**WEDNESDAY (JAN 14)**  
MALAYSIAN CONTEMPORARY PAINTINGS EXHIBITION  
OF LEE KIAN CHONG

The artist's rural upbringing and interest in photography, Eastern aesthetics and Western modern art deeply informs his contemporary paintings. He also has a great yearning to explore the 'unknowable' via abstract expression. As renowned French architect Paul Andreu put it: "Art is not a search for the source of creation but rather to explore the unknown." Lee's paintings revolve round three major themes: the Malaysian countryside, the essence of life, and the universe. Seventeen of his coloured ink works are on display for public appreciation.

ART LIFE - MALAYSIAN CONTEMPORARY PAINTINGS  
EXHIBITION OF LEE KIAN CHONG  
VENUE: Taipa Houses-Museum  
TIME: 10am-6pm (Closed on Mondays, except Public Holidays)  
ADMISSION: Free  
DATE: January 10-March 15, 2015  
ENQUIRIES: (853) 2882 7103  
ORGANIZER: Civic and Municipal Affairs Bureau  
<http://www.iacm.gov.mo/scrweb>

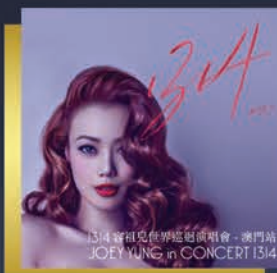


**THURSDAY (JAN 15)**  
SELF / UNSELF - DUTCH CONTEMPORARY DESIGN

Macau roving exhibition displays 27 sets of works from Dutch design studios and designers, and showcasing the representative works by famous designers in Dutch design scope. The works in the exhibition originates from the designers' personal perception of arts and the world through various media with installation, image and multimedia in society, by manifesting meaning of sign and symbolize the unique glamour of expression.

TIME: 12pm-8pm (Closed on Mondays and public holidays)  
DATE: January 15-March 15, 2015  
VENUE: Macau Design Centre, Travessa da Fabrica No. 5, Macau  
ADMISSION: Free  
ENQUIRIES: (853) 2852 0335  
ORGANIZER: Macau Design Centre  
<http://www.facebook.com/macaudesigncentre>

# Sands WEEKEND



SUN CITY GROUP PRESENTS JOEY YUNG  
IN CONCERT 1314 MACAO

**23-24 January, Friday and Saturday, 8pm**  
**Cotai Arena**

Hong Kong's multi-award-winning Cantopop diva Joey Yung returns to the Cotai Arena as part of her world tour. Her Macao appearance is sure to delight audiences as she delivers her greatest hits including "Little Day", "My Pride", "Forest of Flowers" and "Wallpaper".

Tickets: HKD/MOP 280, call reservations +853 2882 8818



<THE AGE OF MOKNIFICENCE> KAREN MOK  
CONCERT WORLD TOUR 2015 - MACAO

**30-31 January, Friday to Saturday, 7:45pm**  
**The Venetian Theatre**

Hong Kong star Karen Mok is set to wow Macao audiences for the very first time. Billed as a theatrical concert, it incorporates plenty of audience interaction and participation, and with dazzling special effects, magnificent costumes and exciting choreography, the show promises a Broadway-style musical experience.

Tickets: HKD/MOP 380, call reservations +853 2882 8818



PENGUINS UNDERCOVER ICE WORLD  
WITH THE DREAMWORKS GANG

**Daily 11am-8pm, until 8 March**  
**Cotai Expo Hall F, The Venetian Macao**

Take an unforgettable journey this winter with the Penguins of Madagascar and their entourage of fabulous and funny friends. Our DreamWorks stars invite you to join them on their global adventure. This year's Ice World will be the most spectacular yet, with a host of colourful new characters, vibrantly brought to life by dazzling light and stunning sound effects.

Tickets: HKD/MOP 120, call reservations +853 2882 8818



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澳門金沙度假區

# Sands RESORTS COTAI STRIP MACAO





# World of Wonder

EXPLORING THE REALMS OF HISTORY, SCIENCE, NATURE AND TECHNOLOGY  
By Laurie Triefeldt

# HEDGEHOGS

This mammal is about the size of a small rabbit. Covered in short, sharp spines, the solitary hedgehog has become a popular pet in some parts of the world. 17 species of hedgehog can be found in Europe, Asia and Africa.

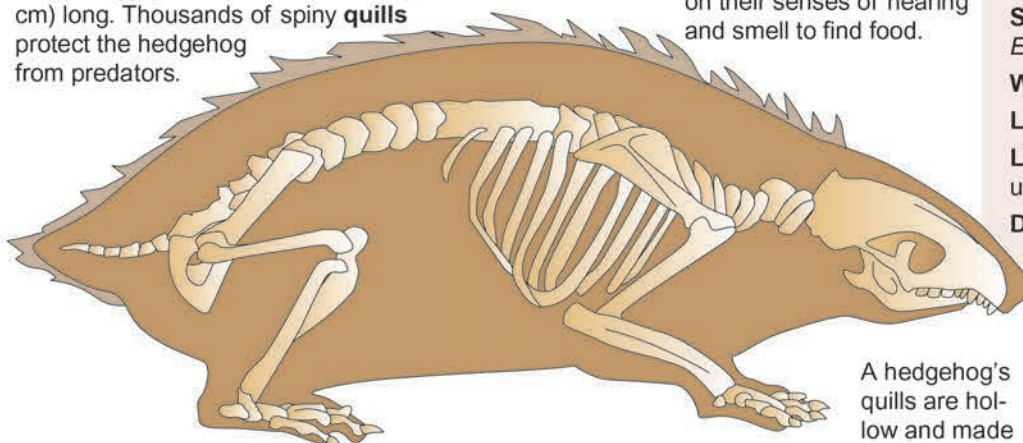
European Hedgehogs are found in woodlands, farmlands and suburban areas throughout Europe. They are sometimes seen rooting around in gardens.



## Anatomy 101

Hedgehogs grow to about 9 inches (23 cm) long. Thousands of spiny **quills** protect the hedgehog from predators.

Hedgehogs have very poor eyesight. They rely on their senses of hearing and smell to find food.



A hedgehog's quills are hollow and made of keratin, similar to human fingernails.

## Quick facts

**Scientific name:**

*Erinaceus europaeus*

**Weight:** 1 to 2 lb. (400 to 1,000 g)

**Length:** 7 to 9 in. (16 to 35 cm)

**Life span:** 4 to 7 years in the wild, or up to 10 years in captivity

**Diet:** Insectivorous/Omnivorous

## In a word

Hedgehogs are sometimes called pincushions with legs. They like to root around in hedges and undergrowth while snorting and grunting much like a pig or hog — which is why they are called hedgehogs.

## Dinner in the wild

Hedgehogs are **nocturnal**, meaning they sleep during the day and hunt at night. Their diet consists largely of insects, worms, centipedes, snails, bird eggs, frogs, snakes and mice, but they also feed on roots, grasses, berries and mushrooms. They can eat one-third of their body weight in an evening.

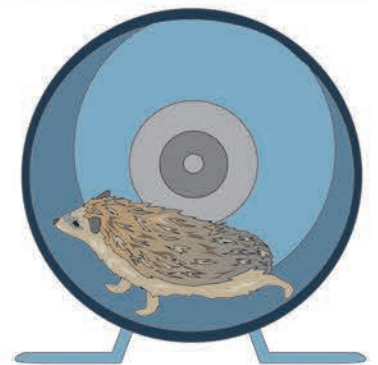


## Pygmy hedgehogs

The **African pygmy hedgehog** is a domestic hybrid combination of the white-bellied hedgehog and the Algerian hedgehog. It was bred to be smaller and tamer than its wild cousins. This little critter weighs in at 1 to 1.5 pounds (0.5 to 0.7 kg) and grows to 6 to 8 inches (15 to 20 cm) long.



Pygmy hedgehog



## Life as a pet

Hedgehogs are easily tamed, and some people keep them as useful pets, relying on them to get rid of insects and other pests.

Owning a hedgehog is restricted in some places, so you need to make sure they are legal to own where you live. Also, hedgehogs live a long time and require special care; adopting one as a pet should be carefully considered as a long-term commitment.

A pet hedgehog should always be treated gently, as a frightened hedgehog will roll into a ball and deploy its sharp quills — ouch!

Hedgehogs need a large, clean cage, at least 4 square feet (0.37 square meters). Choose one without wire, as little hedgehog feet can get stuck in wire spaces. They also need a lot of exercise, so a running wheel is a must — remember to choose a solid one, not a wire one.

One of the most challenging aspects of keeping a pet hedgehog is making sure it gets a proper diet. Pet hedgehogs can be fed dry cat food, ferret food and cooked chicken. As a treat once or twice a week, you can feed your hedgehog mealworms, crickets, fruit or vegetables. And, of course, your hedgehog needs a fresh and plentiful source of water.

SOURCES: World Book Encyclopedia, World Book Inc.; <http://hedgehogheadquarters.com>; nationalgeographic.com; [sandiegozoo.org](http://sandiegozoo.org); <http://www.onekind.org>

## Where in the world?

Hedgehogs are related to moles and shrews. They are native to Asia, Europe and Africa, and have been introduced in New Zealand. They live in many kinds of habitats, thriving in forests, deserts, savannas, scrublands and suburban gardens.

Hedgehogs hibernate in cold weather. In deserts, they sleep through heat in a process called **estivation**. They are active all year round in temperate climates.

## Dangers

Large birds and carnivores like the badger are the hedgehog's greatest enemies. Humans are also a threat to hedgehogs, as construction and agricultural activities often push hedgehogs out of their natural habitats.

## Finding a mate

Hedgehogs prefer to live alone and usually get together with other hedgehogs only when it's time to mate. Young are born 35 to 58 days after mating, depending on the species. Litters range in size from one to 11 babies, but three to four is average. Hedgehogs are born blind, with a membrane over their quills. The quills sprout two or three days after birth. Baby hedgehog spines eventually fall out and are replaced with adult spines. This is called "quilling." Young hedgehogs leave the nest four to seven weeks after being born and are able to mate at about 10 weeks old.



## Did you know?

Hedgehogs have 5,000 to 6,500 quills.

A hedgehog's home range is 120 yards from its nest.

Hedgehogs share distant ancestry with shrews.

When stimulated by a strong smell or taste, hedgehogs will self-anoint — this means they cover their prickles in foamy saliva. Why they do this is not known.

Unlike the porcupine's quills, hedgehog quills are not barbed. Like porcupines, hedgehogs do shed sometimes.

Hedgehogs chirp, hiss and growl if frightened or angry.

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