

HOBBYIST

● WORLD

TM

D-I-Why NOT?

PURE
MAGIC



THE
GREAT
ESCAPE

JAM
SESSIONS

HORSING
AROUND

HOBBYISTTM

● WORLD

THIS ISSUE

- 01 HORSING AROUND
- 03 PURE MAGIC
- 06 JAM SESSIONS
- 09 THE GREAT ESCAPE
- 10 D-I-WHY NOT?

HORSING AROUND



Horses have been a huge part of our lives from centuries. After being domesticated in 3500 BCE, horses have been used on farms, as mounts for travellers, law enforcers, sportspersons, and even bandits and dacoits. But most importantly, horses have served as companions and friends. Hobbyist World catches up with Manasi Scott, who talks to us about her love for equestrians and equestrianism.

Q. Why do you think it's important to have a hobby?

A. It's important to have many if we're going to get even close to living our one, wild, precious life to the fullest!!

Q. How do you take out time to pursue your hobby?

A. I just wake up and go. Horse-riding demands an early night and a 5 am wake-up call and one ride is enough to take away all the stress and power you on for a long time.

Q. How were you introduced to horse riding? And how long have you been riding?

A. My father was a competitive level rider, as was his father and both were Lt. Generals in the Armed Forces and as such it was in my blood, I guess.

Papa tried to put me on a horse when I was barely 3 and they looked so daunting I shied away.

When I was 9, I think, he didn't give me a choice and put me on my first ever horse.

I fell off.

He put me back on and from then on it was in my veins. I loved every second of it.

I gave it up for almost 20 years and got back on a horse a few years ago and have stayed on as much as I can.

Q. What discipline do you ride?

A. Right now I just 'joy ride'. I used to compete in Dressage and Showjumping and win almost all!!



Q. What discipline do you ride?

A. Right now I just 'joy ride'. I used to compete in Dressage and Showjumping and win almost all!!

Q. Favourite place to ride?

A. Haras du Morne in Mauritius, with hills and forests on one side and the sea on the other.

Q. Describe your ideal horse to ride.

A. I don't know about ideal but my 2 greatest horses were from the OTA.

Gambhir was a brown stallion I won many a Dressage medal with.

Patton was a black beauty with a white diamond on his forehead and took me to many showjumping wins.

Manasi Scott is a singer, songwriter and actress. To find out more about Manasi, you can visit her website

PURE MAGIC

Magic, as is recognisable today, has been around for almost 5000 years. From the Ancient Egyptians performing tricks like the cup and ball routine to the street magic that is more common now, we've always had a fascination with these performances that are seemingly impossible and make us wonder "how did they do that?" Nakul Shenoy joins Hobbyist World in a conversation about his love for performing magic, and how it kick-started his career as a renowned mentalist.



Q. How and when did you get started with magic?

A. I was five years old when I came into contact with Mandrake The Magician comic books. I was fascinated that Mandrake could hypnotise people with a wave of his hand and use his magical powers to fight crime. Since then, I was hooked into magic and wanted to be a magician. I learnt magic tricks from various books, practised and rehearsed them, and gave my first public show at age 15. It started as a hobby, but it always felt much more than that.

Q. What is your favourite magic trick?

A. I like all types of magic, but the ones I love most are those that are interactive and performed with household objects. These are effects that can be performed almost anywhere, at a moment's notice. My most favourite effect is one where two or three playing cards disappear from one person's hand and travel invisibly to appear in another person's hands!

Q. What is your favourite thing about magic?

A. Magic entertains and fascinates everybody, whatever be their age. It is a wonderful way to connect to people and ensure they remember you

in a good way. The best thing about magic is that it can be performed almost anywhere, with anything

Q. What is your most difficult magic trick?

A. Prediction effects. Since what is supposed to happen is in ink and held by a spectator, the pressure has already been made. Even the simplest magic tricks can be turned difficult in certain circumstances. So it is important to entertain the audience and have them on your side. The success of Mind Reading type effects is dependent completely on the audience too. After all, only the volunteers know what they are thinking of — and the success of the effect is completely dependent on their saying Yes!

Q. What is the most rewarding part of doing magic?

A. You have to put in a lot of effort to perform a magic trick well. A lot of learning and repeated practice goes into making the tricks into magical performances. But once that has been achieved the response and admiration that people give — be it friends, colleagues or complete strangers — is unmatched! And this is most rewarding. Really, there is no better hobby than Magic!



Q. How would one learn how to do magic?

A. I learnt to perform magic from books and my recommendation still remains: learn from the books. They provide you with different perspectives and best of all, the hundreds and thousands of effects in the magic books help create unique performances and acts.

Q. Can you tell us something that people may not know about magic?

A. Everybody loves magic. Adults love magic! Much as many loudly proclaim that they don't like magic that and that magic is for kids, they are really the first to be amazed and entertained by a good magic effect. And once entertained, they turn the loudest fans!

Q. What's one piece of advice you'd give budding magicians?

A. Do not try to learn from YouTube videos. Most of those teaching magic there are newbies themselves, and it will only spoil your learning process. Learn from magic books or from teach-in videos of top magicians. And of course, practice, practice, and practice. Perfect your act, and then only perform for others.

Nakul Shenoy is a leading mentalist and magician and has been performing magic since age 15. Based in Bangalore, he performs his unique Mind Reading shows for top corporates around the world. He is the author of 'Smart Course in Magic' published by Harper Collins, a book that which teaches people the easy and correct way to learn and entertain with magic.

You can buy his book here. You can also find out more about Nakul Shenoy on his website.



*"Everything
in this world
is magic
except to the
magician."*

JAM SESSIONS

A photograph of a person's hands holding a guitar, positioned in front of a window with a grid pattern. The background is slightly blurred, showing an outdoor scene with buildings and trees. The text is overlaid on a white rectangular area in the center of the image.

Music is an art form, a recreational activity, a cultural identity, a stress-buster, an educational resource, a medium of communication and to many people, a coping mechanism. We don't often realise how important a part music plays in our lives. You are probably humming a song in your mind right now, and you didn't even know about it. Music speaks where words fail, and well, who doesn't feel graceful with earphones on and soft music playing in the background?

There are a hundred reasons to love music, but here comes the question: What do you do of that love? Sure, time spent listening to music is time well-spent, but have you ever wondered if music lovers could have hobbies that were possibly more than just listening to music?

As a matter of fact, there are a number of hobbies that music lovers can pursue. They range from the most basic of ideas to things you probably didn't ever consider.

- **Creating Music**

- a. **Singing**

Quite obviously, if you're in love with music, you should probably hone your singing skills. Take classes, sing at a college festival, audition for a show, do a little more for your hobby than you already are.

- b. **Playing an Instrument**

This one's on the bucket lists of many, but very few actually end up doing. Start with something small like a ukulele and put in regular hours. Play covers, play your own tunes, present your music at a house party, impress the peers, bag dates, all of those things.

- c. **Songwriting**

You've made up tons of songs in your mind, never to be actually written down and now lost somewhere in your mind. You could pursue songwriting

as a pure hobby, writing whatever you want to and loving it, or you could strike the middle ground between a hobby and a profession by writing and composing songs that you could present at local platforms and make some money off of it. Either way, songwriting can be a highly refreshing hobby to pursue.

- **Consuming Music**

- a. **Attending Live Music**

In the age of digital records and online streaming, one would expect live music and concerts to lose popularity, but thankfully, that doesn't seem to be happening. The same digital presence has shot musicians and artists to never seen before levels of popularity, and fans would pay outrageous amounts to see their heroes in person. Live music at your local pub is still more charming than the



sounds from a cassette or the internet, and discovering and attending live music shows can be an excellent hobby, for it soothes the human mind and also supports our local artists.

b. Sharing Music

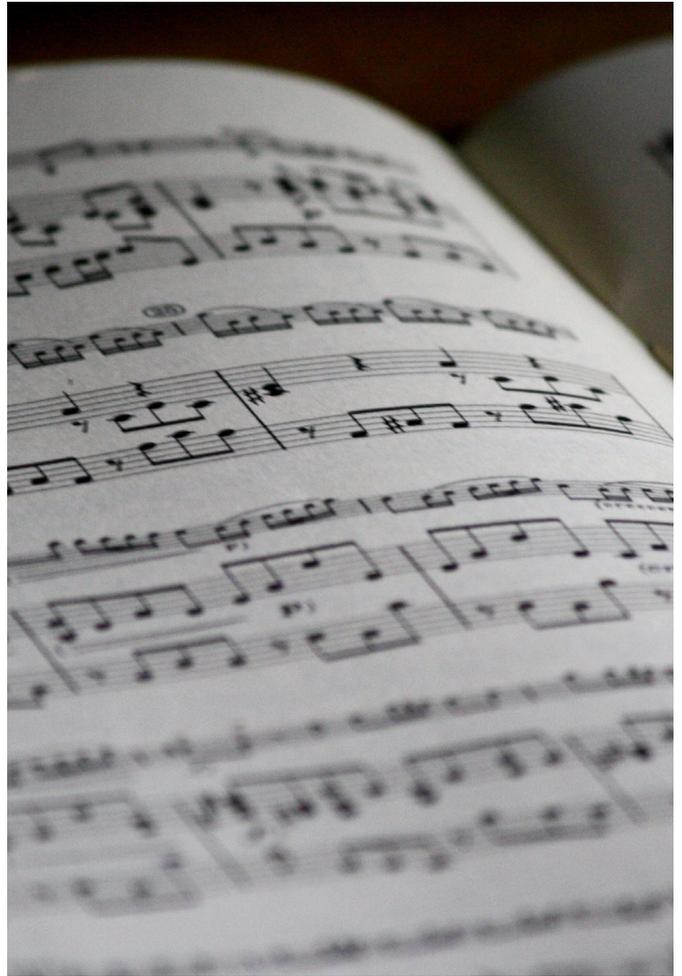
Yes, sharing music can be a hobby too! With the rise of social media, where every part of our life is celebrated and all emotions expressed, sharing one's favourite music or other stories can bring as much pleasure as actually listening to music. There are a number of Instagram pages made with the sole motive of sharing music recommendations, and you can start one of your own! Sharing is caring, lads.

- *Interacting With Music*

a. Karaoke

People should really stop debating about how 'Karaoke' is pronounced and give it a chance. It is an excellent bonding activity, and who are we kidding, it is loads of fun.

b. Music Visualisation



Music Visualisation was one of the coolest things once upon a time, and it's still extremely swell, we think! A number of Music Visualisers can be found online and installed for free.

- *Music Theory*

This one's for the geeks, but who are we kidding, there's a tiny, tiny geek in all of us. If you are really fascinated by the evolution of music over the years and want to know the stories of all your music heroes and their heroes, you should probably give Music History a try. You don't have to write a full-blown research paper, but if you want to, power to you!

- *Music Collecting*

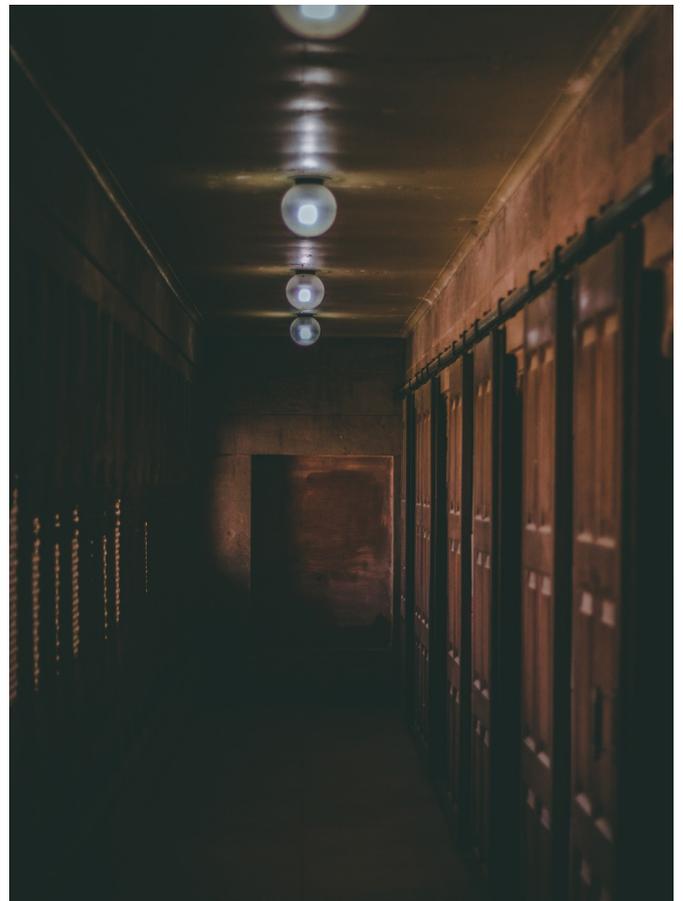
This is for the old schoolers who still miss the audio tapes and long for the vinyl records. Collecting objects can be oddly satisfying and calming and when it comes to music, these are signs of its rich journey and a record collection never really goes out of style, does it?

THE GREAT ESCAPE

Escape Rooms are real-life, team-based adventure games, usually lasting 60 minutes. They're all the rage in the west these days, with an escape room situated in almost every city, and guess what, they're making their way to the Indian fun scene too. The next time you and your friends meet up, instead of going for the usual games night, maybe you could google the location of the nearest Escape Room and have a night filled with adventure, fantasy and of course, fun!

Escape Rooms are ideal choices for almost all gatherings because of their universal appeal and suitability for almost all demographics. They are great ideas for a family outing, corporate team-building or a fun adventure with friends.

Every Escape Room has its own unique theme, narrative and mission. Some of the most

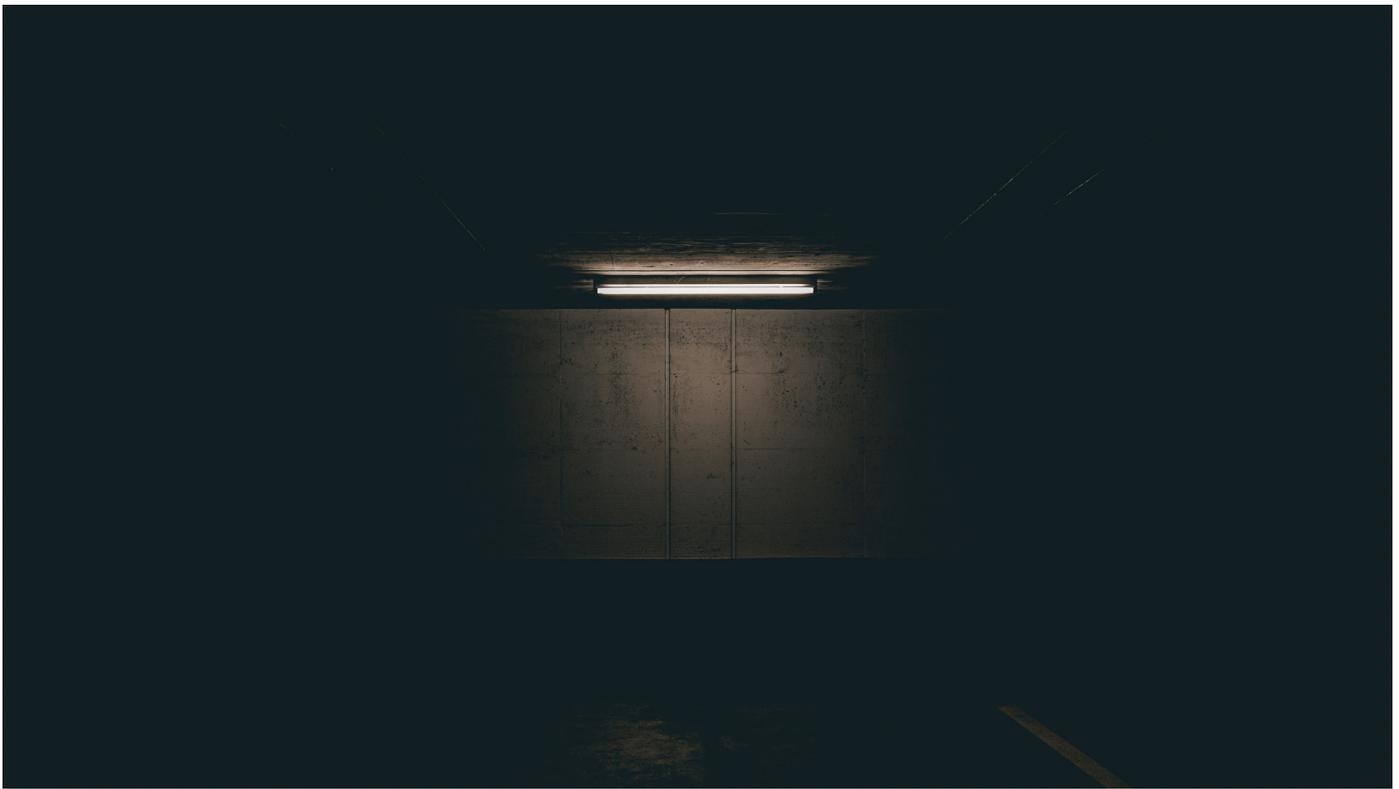


common escape Room themes are prison cells, space, horror, zombie, etc. There are also special themes like Harry Potter, Game of Thrones and are an excellent option for the fangirls and fanboys amongst us.

These rooms are stuffed with potential clues or riddles, solving which will get you out of them. Escape room experiences are intense, filled with brainstorming sessions because everywhere you look, there might be a potential clue or riddle waiting to be solved that will get you out of an escape room. These experiences call for teamwork, creativity, quick-thinking and sometimes, trust. They could help you bond and make friends for life, with your work team or with plain strangers.

An Escape Room can hold practically any type of clues, although most range from technical clues like morse codes to word puzzles. They could hold hidden objects, significant light, clues held in images, mosaics, algebraic questions, different patterns, etc. Hence, to escape from an Escape Room, you will have to put your thinking cap





on and utilise the skills and knowledge of different members of your team based on their inclinations. You will have to think like an engineer and a writer too. Most Escape Rooms allow their players upto three hints, and you can ask your Game Guide, who will be an Escape Room staff member, for them. Escape Rooms can be hard, they were not meant to be simple, and you should not let ego get in your way. Ask for these clues at the right time, and you increase your own chances of emerging victorious.

There are close to five thousand Escape Rooms world-over today, and new ones are being built every week. The idea of Escape Rooms took root from first-person adventure video games in which players interact with objects in their surroundings by clicking on them. Videos games such as Myst and Crimson Room among others are said to have fueled this trending concept.

The first Escape Room is said to have been designed and created by a Japanese company 'SCRAP' in 2007. Escape Rooms then spread like wildfire from Japan to China to the rest of Asia, Europe and America, being the exploding idea that they are.



Escape Rooms in India are on their way to getting a strong foothold in the Indian adventure scene. Escape Room companies such as 'Breakout' and 'Mystery Rooms' have their branches in various cities and are some of the top-rated Escape Rooms of the country.

With one cropping up almost every month in major cities of the country, they will soon become one of the most accessible forms of outing ideas. What are you waiting for? Find the Escape Room setup closest to you and transform your regular family weekend into a real-life fantasy by fighting demons, solving puzzles



D-I-Y-WHY NOT?

With the grey monsoon clouds looming over our

heads and the rains putting a damper on all your outdoor plans, all you want to do is laze around all day doing absolutely nothing. But instead, why not do something that is fun come rain or shine. Hobbyist World has created this list of DIYs that everyone will enjoy.

1. T-Shirt Rug

Learn how to make it here

2. Crate Table Workstation
Learn how to make this and other crafts with crates here

3. DIY Magnetic Bottle Opener

More things to decorate your man cave with can be found here

4. DIY Men's Cologne

Find more recipes for colognes here

5. Airplane Craft

Learn how you and your tot can make it here

6. DIY Stress Balls

Get ready to be stress free. Full recipe here

7. Frog Corner Bookmarks

You can find out how to make these and other bookmarks here

8. DIY Embroidery T-shirt

You can find the pattern for this design, among several others here

9. Cement Balloon Planters

Spruce up your plant game. Directions here

10. DIY TASSEL AND MACRAMÉ KEY-CHAINS

Add an extra something to your keys. Directions here

11. Cardboard Bus Cat House

Give your kitties a treat. Learn how to make it here

12. Dandelion Paperweight

Up your office supplies game. Learn how here

13. DIY Floam

Give your kiddies something interesting to play with. Learn how here

14. Cat Ladder Fort

Give your kitties a treat. Learn how to make it here

15. Potted Water Plant

Directions here

