

โทร 976 โทร 7752 โทร 5138  
 Rak Mak! Awards  
 More winners on page 15!  
 Yes, we love Phuket!

The destination for design lovers  
 PASAYA  
 Home Fashion & The Textile Gallery  
 1st Fl. Central Festival Phuket Tel. (66) 76 209 006-7  
 www.pasaya.com

Simply... the Finest in the Kingdom  
 BAAN RIM PA  
 Royal Thai Cuisine  
 Resv: 0-7634-0789, 0-7634-1768

# The Phuket Gazette

Volume 12 Issue 24 News Desk - Tel: 076-236555

June 11 - 17, 2005

Daily news at [www.phuketgazette.net](http://www.phuketgazette.net)

20 Baht

The Gazette is published in association with

The Nation

## IN THIS ISSUE

**NEWS:** Woman dies as dive boat sinks; Immigration counter for Chalong

Pages 2 & 3

**INSIDE STORY:** Property boom for Koh Sireh?

Pages 4 & 5

**AROUND THE ISLAND:** Where art and coffee meet.

Page 6

**AROUND THE REGION:** Plain sailing off Samui.

Page 8

**PEOPLE:** A sporting chance for Phuket.

Pages 10 & 11

**LIFESTYLE:** Oriental and original on Dibuk Rd; Music: Moby checks in.

Pages 12 & 13

**SPA MAGIC:** Start making Sense in Kata.

Page 14

**TRAVEL:** Back to Phi Phi.

Pages 15

**FIRST PERSON:** Why now is a bad time for bar license fees.

Page 21

**BUSINESS:** Tafta times ahead; Money Talks; On The Move.

Pages 22 & 23

**SPORT & LEISURE:** Novice golfer reaches climax; ASEM soccer reaches fever pitch.

Pages 24 & 25

**PROPERTY:** Doven; Construction: Koh Maphrao; Home of the Week: Koh Kaew; Bloomin' Bert enjoys rubber.

Pages 28 to 31

## PLUS

**QUEER NEWS 4; AROUND THE NATION 7; HAPPENINGS 9; OUTSIDE IN, BOOKS, WORDLY WISE 16; KIDS 17; STICKERS, TOON TOWN 18; TOWNINGS, HOROSCOPES 19; EDITORIAL, LETTERS 20; ISSUES & ANSWERS 21; COMPUTERS 22; WINE, THE TIME MACHINE, PHUKET DIARY 26; MOTORING 27; CLASSIFIEDS 32-39.**

## Three proposals made for Chalong marina

By Athiga Jundee

PHUKET CITY: Three proposals have been received by Phuket Governor Udomsak Uswarangkura for the construction of a large marina in Chalong Bay, to be financed by a mixture of government and private sector money.

One proposal is from a consortium headed locally by Lifestyle Properties Co Ltd, and the *Gazette* understands that two other concepts have been submitted, one by an Australian consortium and one by a French group.

Lifestyle Properties Co Consultant Ken Abday was close-lipped about his company's proposal. He told the *Gazette*, "Until it gets further along, I don't want to comment. We explained our concept to the Governor, and we'll see where it takes us."

None of the plans has been made public, but the *Gazette* understands that the finished marina will be larger than Phuket's three existing marinas combined,



'A win-win situation': Gov Udomsak with the Lifestyle Properties proposal.

and the construction will involve huge dredging works and the reclaiming of some 30 rai of land from the sea.

The announcement, made at a meeting on May 31, follows

a previous one, on July 22 last year, that the Phuket Provincial Administration Organization (*OrBorJor*) was keen to pursue a joint public-private initiative to develop a new marina to support

Phuket's burgeoning marine industry.

In October last year, Vice-Governor Niran Kalayanamit told the *Gazette* that Ian Davey, Commercial Consultant for the Australian Embassy in Thailand, had been brought in to assist the *OrBorJor* in finding a professional consultant to develop the master plan.

Commenting on the Lifestyle Properties Co submission, Gov Udomsak described the project as "...a win-win situation [that will] benefit the government, the private sector and the public [in Phuket]".

He speculated that the project would cost "...more than 1 billion baht", and that the *OrBorJor* would contribute "between 30% and 40% of the total."

He added that the public would be given an opportunity to comment on whichever proposal is selected by both the *OrBorJor* and the central government, although he could not give the time frame for a decision being made.

## 'Bad land' back on ministerial agenda

By Anongnat Sartpisut

PHUKET CITY: Revocation of improperly-issued land title deeds will remain a top government priority in the upper southern provinces of Thailand, the Interior Minister announced at a meeting with provincial officials on May 31.

The meeting, held at the Royal Phuket City Hotel, was chaired by Interior Minister Pol Gen Chidchai Wannasatit who, in his dual role as a Deputy Prime Minister, also serves as Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra's right-hand man.

The session, entitled "The fight against

drugs, mafia, poverty and threats to public safety", was attended by some 300 government officers from Phuket, Phang Nga, Krabi, Chumphon, Ranong and Surat Thani, which collectively form the "upper southern" region.

In his report on problems facing Phuket, the island's Governor, Udomsak Uswarangkura, said land encroachment issues were at the forefront, largely because the island's migrant workforce had swelled the actual population to about 500,000, nearly double the official population of about 290,000 [as counted by house registration forms].

Most alarming, he reported, was that many encroachment cases involved protected mangrove forests.

Foreigners, too, were involved in encroachment, many living in homes built above the 80-meter limit on construction. More than 200 such homes were constructed on land for which Chanote titles had been issued, he reported. This necessitated a review of existing regulations, he said.

In the fight against those involved in organized crime, referred to as "influential people" in government parlance, the Governor said that people relying on public

Continued on page 2

Thank you for your confidence  
 5 Minute Car Wash System  
 For your convenience the offer is extended to June 30, 2005.  
 = 2X0 Baht = 99 Baht  
 Premium washed in 5 minutes



## Punchline comedy returns

PHUKET CITY: Another evening of adults-only hilarity is set for June 22 when another three stand-up comedians from London's Punchline Comedy Club take to the stage at Watermark Bar & Restaurant, at the Boat Lagoon Marina, in a show co-sponsored by the *Phuket Gazette*.

The three comics are ventriloquist Paul Zerdin, whose puppets have a reputation for viciousness; London-born Richard Blackwood, known for his frenetic delivery; and the "darkly humorous" Andy Askins, who is not only a top comedian but has

also been a professional jazz musician for 15 years.

Tickets, at 1,700 baht for the show, are already selling well, so those interested are advised to book early. A limited number of tickets are available from the *Gazette* offices.

The Watermark is also laying on a special three-course dinner for 850 baht – beginning at 7 pm – with the show starting at 9 pm sharp.

Contact Stuart Bird at Watermark on Tel: 01-7376184 for more details or visit [www.watermarkphuket.com](http://www.watermarkphuket.com)

## Scheduled blackouts for June

PHUKET: The Phuket Provincial Electricity Authority (PPEA) has announced its scheduled blackouts for June. The power outages are needed for the agency to continue its on-going inspection, maintenance and repair work on the island's high-voltage power lines.

All blackouts will be from 9 am to 4 pm.

June 17, **Rassada:** Vanich Rd from Karn Kheha Junction to Ploemsuk Beach, including Theppratan Rd, Vanich Rd, Soi Honsaitong, Baan Laem Nga and Baan Laem Tukkae.

June 22, **Samkong:** From Samkong along Phra Phuket Kaew Rd, including Phuket Island Ville, Moo Baan Kathu Thani, Baan Kathu and Wat Kathu.

June 23, **Rassada:** From the three-way intersection at Moo Baan Rassada, along Rassadanusorn Rd past Soi Ta Chine, Soi King Kaew U-thit, Moo Baan Suwannakarn, Moo Baan City Home and Trang Rd to the Phu Yai Baan Rd intersection.

Note: This information is subject to change without notice. For more information or to check the latest status, call 076-211663.

# One dies as dive boat sinks near Similans

By Ananya Hongsa-ngiam

PHUKET: At least one person was reported dead after a dive-boat capsized and sank 40 kilometers off the coast of Phuket on the morning of June 7.

As the *Gazette* went to press, details were still sketchy but it was believed that the 20-meter boat, from Khao Lak-based dive business Bubble Blue, was traveling from Phuket to the Similan Islands when it sank during a storm at around 8 am.

It is thought that there were 13 passengers and five crew on

board at the time. One person on board, a woman tourist named as Sukonthapan Weerawan, is said to have died. It was not known what other casualties there were.

A police boat and a navy boat were sent to the scene after the alert was raised – at 12:50 pm – and Capt Kiatkul Suwan, Commanding Officer of the Naval Air Section, Third Area Command, told the *Gazette* that a helicopter was also sent to the scene.

Capt Kiatkul said the helicopter had been kept on standby until 5:30 pm, but did not pick anyone up, and it then had to be

sent to Cape Panwa, where another boat had sunk.

He added that the Royal Thai Navy vessel *Kamronsin* was put on standby during the day between the Similan and Surin Islands, but returned to Phuket just after 6 pm.

This was the second sinking of a dive boat in waters off the Andaman Coast of Thailand in two months. On April 11, six passengers and seven crew were pulled from the sea at the end of a seven-hour ordeal after the liveaboard dive boat *MV Rhap-sody* sank near the Surin Islands.

## Pelé, Cantona to visit island

PHUKET: The island will play host on July 28 to a charity beach soccer match, which will be attended by soccer greats Pelé and Eric Cantona.

The announcement was made by Somsak Thepsuthin, Minister of Sports and Tourism, who visited the island to watch the Phuket round of the ASEM

(Asia Europe Meeting) Youth Games at Surakul Stadium.

The exact location of the event was not known as the *Gazette* went to press.

Brazilian Pelé, 64, is feted as one of the greatest players of all time and holds a raft of accolades.

He was Brazil's Minister of Sports from 1995 to 1998, is an honorary Knight of the British Empire and a United Nations Goodwill Ambassador.

Among his less well-known achievements is that, in 1970, both sides in the 1970 civil war in Nigeria held a ceasefire so that they could watch Pelé play an exhibition match in Lagos.

The enigmatic and fiery Frenchman Cantona, 39, who was once captain of Manchester United and of the French national side, will also be in Phuket for the match.

The game in Phuket will be free to spectators.

## 'Bad land' on minister's list

From page 1

transport, particularly taxis, needed a greater variety of transport options [in order to break up the various transport syndicates].

Gov Udomsak said this would involve imposing stricter standards on the various existing taxi services, and introducing new ones.

There are currently 75 people on the provincial list of "influential figures", the Governor said, of whom 14 have already been arrested. Another 46 are "under surveillance", while 15 more are described as "potential" mafiosi, he reported.


In the War on Drugs, the Governor reported that the street value of drugs seized in 2004 was about one million baht. In the year to date the figure is 400,000 baht, he said.

Issues of concern reported by the Phang Nga delegation included illegal encroachment of forest land.

Security issues shared by many provinces included the presence of illegal Burmese workers and threats to security in public places, such as airports, shopping centers and piers.

Gen Chidchai said success in dealing with all of these threats rested in improving the flow of information from village level up to provincial level.




By way of example he said, "It doesn't matter if you make a drug arrest and seize a few [pills]; the key is using that information to work your way up to the kingpins."






PHUJA nirvana recommends...

### Asian Taste Oriental Style

In June, enjoy an exquisite array of rice dishes in Phuja Nirvana's chic Asian surroundings.

**CHINESE MENU**

Fried Rice "Yang Chow" Style 90.-

Roast Minced Pork and Chinese Olive with Rice 90.-

**INDIAN MENU**

Saffron Rice 65.-

Mutton Biriyani 275.-

**INDONESIAN/MALAYSIAN/SINGAPOREAN MENU**

Nasi Lemak Traditional 125.-

Nasi Goreng Istimewa 130.-

**THAI MENU**

Fried Rice with Green Curry Chicken 85.-


Fried Rice with Chilli Paste 85.-

**VIETNAMESE MENU**

Fried Rice with Pork & Egg Vietnamese Style 90.-

Baked Lemongrass Rice 90.-


...And more!




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

Reservation : 66 (076) 291 010

First Floor @ Lan Lom, Central Festival Phuket



ANDAMAN Lighting Systems



Are you in the dark about lighting?

[andamanlighting.com](http://andamanlighting.com)

Tel: 076 254 826 Fax: 076 254 827



Share in the profits of a coin-operated pool table.



For further details contact Phuket Pool Tables.

**Phuket Pool Tables.**

64/55 Moo 1, Chaofa Nai Rd, Wichit, Muang, Phuket, 83000.

Mobile: 01-8234627, 01-7555057

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





Now you see it – one of the new, very popular trash cans.

## A low-down, dirty crime

PHUKET CITY: The new garbage cans being distributed throughout the city have proved such a hit with the public that they keep disappearing.

The new blue plastic trash-cans, about a meter high, are of such heavy-duty construction that they can be rammed by a vehicle without cracking. Other special design features include high chemical resistance and a unique shape that prevents all but the cleverest of soi dogs from removing garbage from them.

The trouble is, they are so good that people keep stealing them.

Phuket City Deputy Mayor Sornsiri Koopongsakorn, who has been assigned the essential task of ensuring that the receptacles stay in the public domain, said the Municipality first noted the problem not long after the bins were first put on city streets.

"Currently, we are getting calls every week from people asking us to replace bins. In some cases, no sooner do we put a bin down than we get a call asking us to replace it," she said.

Some 500 of the bins were placed throughout the city in locations that did not already have the larger, standard-issue green or yellow garbage bins.

"With such special features, we expected people would try to steal the new bins to use for storing water, or for collecting things or even to sell as scrap," she told the *Gazette*.

"The new bins are definitely more popular with thieves than the old models."

The Municipality was not

able to say just how many of the new containers have been purloined.

But it is a large enough figure to have prompted the Municipality to take a hard line. K. Sornsiri said that the Municipality was prepared to prosecute to the full extent of the law anyone caught stealing one.

— Anongnat Sartpisut

# Immigration go out to their 'customers'

By Sangkhae Leelanapaporn

CHALONG: The Phuket Immigration Office was due to open a new immigration service counter at the Phuket Port Control Center in Chalong on June 7.

The counter will initially be open every Tuesday and Thursday between 9 am and 3 pm. It will be staffed by three Immigration officers.

Phuket Immigration Superintendent Pol Col Witawat Buranasompop told the *Gazette* he expected that, by the high season, the counter would be open full-time every day.

He said, "The Chalong counter will be useful for the many residents who live or work in Chalong, Rawai, Nai Harn or Kata-Karon, because it will save them having to go into Phuket City to deal with a variety of immigration matters."

Counter staff will be able to handle applications for short-stay extensions (10-30 days), re-entry permits, extensions of one-year permits to stay and notification of residential address for aliens,

and will be able to advise on other immigration matters.

He added that his office is looking to set up a similar service counter in Chong Talay, but has yet to find a suitable location.

Col Witawat acknowledged that the mobile immigration service offered in several hotels earlier this year had not been as successful as he had hoped.

"We think some residents were reluctant to use the service because they did not want to have to dress up to go into the hotels where Immigration staff were running counters," he explained.

More information is available from the visa section at the Phuket Immigration Office at Tel: 076-212108 or 076-221905, ext 28.

## New public parks planned

PHUKET: The island may soon get three new public parks under the Cabinet's "One Tambon, One Park" initiative.

The Phuket office of the Royal Forestry Department is to ask its national HQ at the Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives for permission to create Pa Bangkanun Park in Tambon Thepkasattri, Thalang District; Khao Toh Se Park in Tambon Rassada, Muang District, and Khao Panthurat Park in Tambon Koh Kaew, Thalang District.

The first project the Phuket office will submit for approval is

the 64-hectare (400-rai) Pa Bangkanun Park, with a budget of 630,000 baht.

Phuket Forestry Office Chief Phoppon Siriluksanapong told the *Gazette*, "We will send the proposal for the first project to Bangkok soon. We are sure it will be approved and we will start construction during this year."

"If the Ministry goes on to approve Khao Toh Se and Khao Panthurat, those two parks will be finished within the next two years, and we are looking to create a fourth park in either Patong or Kamala."

# Phuket Air hires human error experts

LONDON: Problem-plagued Phuket Air has recruited a British safety-training provider to instill "best practice" throughout every level of its operations.

The deal between Phuket Air and training and development company The Human Factor was announced in London by the founder of The Human Factor, ex-British Royal Air Force pilot George Duncan, and Phuket Air Executive Vice-President Captain Chawanit Chiamcharoenvut.

It is not known how much Phuket Air is paying for the services of Mr Duncan's company.

Since the middle of April, a Phuket Air plane has been prevented from leaving Sharjah airport in the United Arab Emirates after passengers saw fuel pouring from a wing (the company said the wing had been "over-filled" with fuel); a Bangkok-bound flight had to return to London after developing hydraulics problems; the airline was banned from flying into the UK and the Netherlands after safety inspectors found "serious" faults on

planes, and a plane was impounded at London's Gatwick airport for non-payment of landing fees.

In addition, the airline canceled its Bangkok-Bali route, claiming that passenger numbers had slumped because the ban on flying from Amsterdam had robbed the Bali service of "feeder" flights.

Mr Duncan outlined The Human Factor's plans for Phuket Air, saying: "A range of programs will be implemented across the supply chain, and across the company, to ensure that best practice in Western Eu-

ropean safety and service standards are embedded at all levels and locations."

The Human Factor specializes in reducing human error in "mission-critical" situations, a wide compass that could include anything from an aircraft cockpit to a hospital operating theater.

Sribenja Semmeesook, Communication Consultant of Phuket Air's PR company, Azi-

am Burson-Marsteller, told the *Gazette* that the airline hoped that recruiting The Human Factor would make customers more confident about using Phuket Air.

"I think this training will be good for crews, will make passengers more confident, and will enable us to develop our service, similar to other airlines," she said.

— Sangkhae Leelanapaporn

**Made to order:**  
Leather furniture,  
curtains and tents.  
Transforming space  
and a design service  
for resorts and spas.

**Leik Ken Boa Co., Ltd. (New cushion goods Phuket Co., Ltd.)**  
108/23 Moo 5, Chaloemphrakiat Ror 9 (the bypass road),  
T.Ratsada, A.Muang, Phuket, 83000.  
Tel: 076 261568, 224308 (Thai), 01-5389445 (Eng) Fax: 076 261569  
Email: info@cushionsandcurtain.com www.cushionsandcurtain.com

**Expert Property Advice**  
Local knowledge. Global presence.

- Sales (land & property)
- Consultancy
- Rentals
- Estate management
- Rental management
- Relocation advice
- Maintenance, repairs & construction

**LYNX management group** **Chesterton**  
076 239944 / 01 893 3434  
info@lynxmgmt.com  
www.phuket-villas.com  
www.phuket-homes.com

www.ksc.net service uninterrupted

**New! KSC Home ADSL**  
top quality hi-speed Internet  
access at an affordable price.  
Plus, subscribe before 30 June 2005 and get:

- Free activation fee (worth 2,000 Baht)
- Free installation fee (worth 1,000 Baht)
- Unlimited data transfer and usage hours
- After sales service from our specialist team at your location
- Discount of up to 10% for 6 and 12 month subscriptions
- Free email space

Remarks:  
• Service is restricted to 1 computer connection only  
• KSC reserves the right to limit ADSL session time (8 hours per session)  
• Services can be used with the telephone numbers provided by TAT only

For more information, please call KSC Phuket Service Center 076 214496-7 from Monday to Saturday 08.30-17.30 hrs.  
or contact KSC 24hrs Call Center 02 979 7000



## Queer News

### Monk War

**NONG KHAI:** A dispute over alms collection routes turned violent when three novices from Chansamakee Temple were set upon by an armed gang of monks and novices from a rival temple.

Police were notified of the "Monk War" on the morning of May 29. Arriving on the scene at the Kokmang-ngao community in Tambon Meechai, they found 17-year-old novice Vitthaya Sri-thep on the ground with slash marks on his forehead; his attackers had already fled the scene.

Vitthaya was rushed to Nong Khai Hospital, where he was treated for his wounds and released. He could not name his attackers during police questioning the following day, but told investigators that they were monks and novices from Koh Sri Thep Temple, about one kilometer away from Chansamakee Temple along the same road.

Vitthaya told police that he had been out collecting alms along his normal route when a group of some 15 to 20 monks appeared, put down their alms bowls, and charged him and two fellow novices. Some of the attacking monks were wearing brass knuckles; others were armed with iron bars.

Police said that the Monk War appeared to result from competition for an alms route in the Kokmang-ngao community, which had long been served by the older Chansamakee Temple of the Theravada sect.

After the Mahayana sect opened the Koh Sri Thep Temple, the resulting competition for adherents – and the alms to be derived therefrom – grew until it finally reached the breaking point. Both sects, it should be noted, hold non-violence as a principal virtue.

Following the investigation Phra Monton Nidtar, 24, Phra Boonlerd Bongpan, 28, and two novices, all of Koh Sri Thep Temple, were defrocked. They now face assault charges.

**Source: Kom Chad Luek**

# Koh Sireh: the next

**A**fter receiving a 300-million-baht government budget, Tambon Rassada Administration Organization has set about doubling the current width of the island's ring road from its current six meters. Someone, it would seem, expects the volume of traffic to increase soon.

Other *OrBorTor* projects in the works on the island, according to *OrBorTor* Vice-President Chamrat Kittivet, include 16 million baht to constructing a bund to protect the seashore, and landscaping around Sireh Bay.

An additional 30 million baht is earmarked for the development of the "Suriyatape mountain" sunrise viewpoint, which is primarily intended as a tourist attraction, but could also serve as an evacuation point in the event of another tsunami.

"The sunrise is so beautiful here, but at the moment we don't have any facilities like this for tourists to appreciate it," said K. Chamrat.

Longer-term plans include building a new pier that would make it easier for tourists arriving by boat to disembark.

With money flowing in, improved access to the mainland, and so many other projects in the pipeline, Koh Sireh is attracting interest from a number of property developers. In all, there are currently 10 private-sector projects underway – eight residential developments and two resorts – all near the beach.

But first impressions of Koh Sireh are, for many, a disappointment.

The dingy area around the fishing port (*sapan pla* in Thai), the only road access onto the island, has become notorious for

**K**oh Sireh, just to the east of Phuket City, has remained largely unchanged in recent decades, even while other coastal areas of the island have been completely transformed by property developers and the tourism industry. Apart from a few government buildings, much of the island is still devoted to rubber plantations – and most of its 2,700 residents are involved in the local fishing industry.

But since the replacement of the wooden bridge onto the island with a concrete one in 2002, more and more property developers are turning their eyes to this relatively unspoiled island with breathtaking views of Phang Nga Bay and easy access to Phuket City. The *Gazette's* **Rungtip Hongjakpet, Athiga Jundee and Anongnat Sartpisut** take a look at the future of the island.

the number of murders committed there.

And while the killings more often than not involve Burmese fishermen – not tourists – the port's unseemly reputation has been so bad that for many years visitors simply turned around and headed back to Phuket City. Would-be visitors have also been advised by the *OrBorTor* to leave the port area off their sight-seeing itineraries – no small thing in a province where promoting tourism seems to creep

what the fishing port is like until you actually get inside it.

"Look at Silom Rd in Bangkok. It's one of the most expensive addresses in the city, but to get there from Rama IV Rd you have to go through Klong Toey, the biggest slum in Bangkok.

"But that doesn't mean that Silom is a slum, and it's the same with Koh Sireh and the fishing port."

He continued, "I see myself as something of a pioneer developer. I view it as a challenge to establish a high-end property market here, but I have confidence in this project, because I have known this area since I was a young boy and the dark image doesn't bother me at all," he explained.

Eric Tomlin, of property managers Lynx Management Group, agrees with K. Kawee that the bad reputation of the port area is not an issue for developers.

He said, "The bad image of Koh Sireh is more in the minds of the local Thais. A lot has changed since the bad old days.

"There is better access because of the bridge, and although it is near the port, because the road has been improved, there is no longer a feeling that you are entering a no-go area," he said.

Although land prices have risen rapidly, land on Koh Sireh remains "good value" and this is

"We believe that in time, the value of land here will rise considerably. At present, though, emphasis should be placed on developing facilities here, such as shopping, restaurants and government infrastructure."

– Sakaodoun Vadhanabhuti, Project Representative for the Phuket Marina

into every government project.

Not surprisingly, K. Chamrat wonders whether this reputation will deter property developers from investing more on Koh Sireh.

Kawee Nganthawee thinks not. A shareholder in the Horisun Ville project on the island, K. Kawee does not see what goes on at the fishing port as a problem.

"It's only a small area of Koh Sireh which is tainted, not the whole island," he said.

"And you can't really see



attractive to buyers, said the bullish Mr Tomlin.

He added that another advantage of Koh Sireh is that buyers can live in "quiet countryside" but still have easy access to Phuket City, the bypass road shopping area, the international schools, golf courses and the airport.

"Koh Sireh is still a largely unknown place among most foreigners visiting Phuket. There has to be more advertising of the developments now getting underway to raise its profile," he added.

One of the biggest draws for developers is that – unlike many parts of the province – most of the land comes with clear land titles.

Most of the land is currently given over to agriculture and is owned by local families, who tend to own sizable amounts – in some cases parcels of 100 rai or more.

Many owners are reluctant to divide up their land and instead insist on selling the land in its entirety.

But with prices hovering around four million baht a rai,



**TOTO**  
Ristorante Italiano

**Laguna Resort Entrance**  
Tel: 076 271 430, 01-7875354  
Email: toto@phuket.ksc.co.th  
www.totophuket.com



Open daily  
from 11.30-15.00 and 17.30-24.00 hrs.



**THAI-DIEN**  
Building Technology

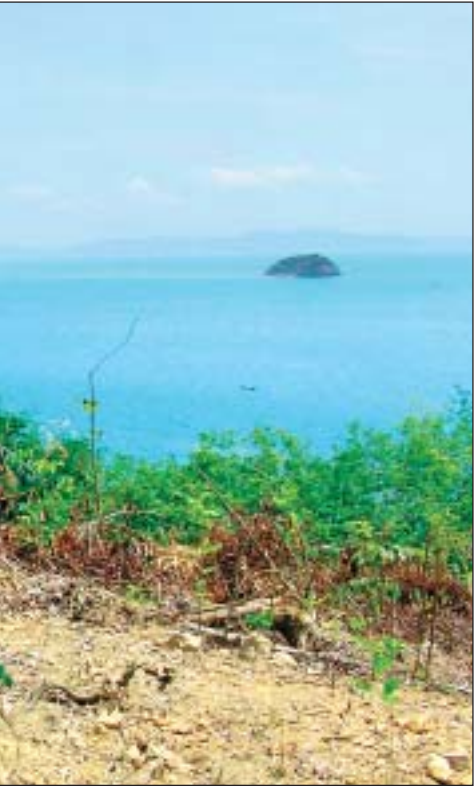
**Building & Construction Chemicals Since 1994**

- Waterproofing
- Structural repairs
- Concrete floor repairs & treatment
- All kind of sealants
- Vapour & radiant barriers
- Resin coatings
- Pool tile repairs
- Bitumen & polymer membranes & linings
- High-pressure foam injection
- Sales, consulting and application
- Experience, know-how & reliability
- Materials & work guaranteed
- Materials made by Fosroc, Sika, Cormix, Laniko, Drizoro and Henkel.

70/31 Pattana Thongthin Rd., Soi Muangthong Uthit 1, Phuket, 83000.  
Tel: 076 242 025, 01-397 1567 Fax: 076 391 680  
E-mail: thaidien@td-building.com, thaidien@hotmail.com  
www.td-building.com, www.phuketisland.info/thai-dien



# island hot spot?



**'Why should our project be cheaper?' asks 'pioneer developer' Kawee Nganthawee (left). 'We are offering this stunning view and location.' Construction began last year (below left).**

if you know where to look, said Khanitha Jarukirati, Project Sales Manager of CB Richard Ellis.

She said, "I have had clients – property developers – ask me about Sireh. The island is getting popular. As for small plots of land, if you really keep looking, it is still possible to get a hold of some."

"Driving around the island, I have seen at least five 'land for sale' signs. They were for plots of eight rai, six rai and four rai; the biggest one was a plot of 114 rai."

"As for the price of land, it's 8 to 10 million baht a rai for beach-front land and 3-5 million baht a rai for land overlooking the sea."

"I notice that most builders seem to be going for the northern part of the island, which has the highest coverage of rubber plantations."

"Maybe they don't want to buy in the south, which is a relatively poor area," she continued.

One of the newer players on Sireh is Helge Saatvedt, from Norway,

whose SunRay development is just a few hundred meters south of K. Kawee's Horisun Ville.

Mr Saatvedt said, "I chose this location because I think many people would want a house near Phang Nga Bay. Most of the projects here seem to be offering properties in the higher price brackets, so I have no doubt that there will be demand for my project."

"This part of Sireh is still pretty much given over to nature,

and I think this is a safe location as well as a pleasant one."

One of the biggest developments on Sireh is the Phuket Marina Residence. Project representative Sakaodoun Vadhana-bhuti predicts that the image of Sireh will change in the foreseeable future.

"There are already several high-end projects here, and I believe people will soon start to see Sireh as being just as valuable as other parts of Phuket, if not more valuable," she said.

"We believe that, in time, the value of land here will rise considerably."

"At present, though, emphasis should be placed on developing facilities here, such as shopping, restaurants and government infrastructure."

"The government has already improved some parts of Sireh, especially around the port. We've seen government improvements on Sireh, especially at the port."

"We intend to work closely with the *OrBorTor* and other agencies to develop Sireh into the next Phuket hot spot."

## Five leading Koh Sireh projects

### Horisun Ville project

Area: 18 rai.

No of units: nine (Phase 1).

Cost of investment: 150 million baht.

Price per unit: from 25 million baht  
Started: October 2004, to finish 2006.

Project is divided into two parts. Each villa in Phase I is on one rai (1,600 square meters).

Price per unit: from 4.4 to 12 million baht.

About 30% complete, due to finish June 2006.

Luxury condominium development with a private marina three minutes from the Andaman Sea, and a full maintenance team. Moorings for 68 boats up to 40 feet.

### SunRay

Area: 22 rai.

No of units: 35.

Cost of investment: not disclosed  
Price per unit: from 11 million baht up.

Started: due to start October 2005  
Overlooks Phang Nga Bay.

### Thanapat Siray Island

Area: 4.5 rai.

No of units: three.

Investment: 180 million baht.

Price per unit: 55-60 million baht.  
Started: July 2005, due to complete December 2006.

Spanish style two-story homes with pools.

### Phuket Marina Residences

Area: 11 rai.

No of units: three buildings with a total of 54 condominiums.

Cost of investment: not disclosed.



that means that developers are looking at laying out 300-400 million baht for land alone, before they have paid anything to add amenities such as roads and power and water supplies.

Strangely, though, the developers the *Gazette* spoke to thought the landowners' "all or nothing" was a good thing, as it should prevent the island being over-developed, or developing too fast.

Small plots can be found,



A tropical luxury lifestyle investment. A residential condominium project of 73 units only 2.5 kilometers from the heart of Patong. Our full resort facilities include:

- 24-hour security, restaurant and pool bar, convenience store, massage and spa, fully-equipped gym, swimming pools, waterfalls, BBQ areas, meeting rooms, a business center, Internet and more.

For more details, please call 07-0778454 or email: [patongharborview@aol.com](mailto:patongharborview@aol.com)

*The Plantation, Kamala Bay, Phuket.*  
Experience The Luxury Of Nature

## Now Introducing *The TERRACES*...

FOLLOWING THE PHENOMENAL SUCCESS OF *The APARTMENTS*, *The PLANTATION* NOW BRINGS YOU *The TERRACES* - 17 LUXURIOUS TERRACED APARTMENTS OVERLOOKING KAMALA BAY AND THE SURROUNDING COASTLINE...

*A Natural Paradise... Designed for Living*

**PRICES FOR *The TERRACES* START FROM 13,000,000 Baht**

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

### VISIT *The PLANTATION* SHOW APARTMENT

**Phuket Office:**  
17/37 Moo 6, Kamala, Kathu, Phuket 83150, Thailand  
Tel: +66 76 386040-2 Fax: +66 76 386043  
E-mail: [info@theplantationphuket.com](mailto:info@theplantationphuket.com)

**Bangkok Office:**  
Somkid Place, 6 Soi Somkid, Ploenchit Rd. Lumpini, Patumwan, Bangkok 10330, Thailand  
Tel: +66 2655 1970-4 Fax: +66 2655 1976  
Website: [www.theplantationphuket.com](http://www.theplantationphuket.com)

\*Details subject to change.

IN ASSOCIATION WITH PACVEST GROUP



By Sangkhae Leelanapaporn

Few products live up a room better than a painting, so Phuket homeowners seeking a nice landscape or seascape will be interested to know that there is a cozy art gallery-cum-coffee shop in Phuket City where they can relax, meet the artist personally, and peruse his impressive collection of watercolors, batiks and other art.

Opened about one year ago, Sea-Nam Water Colour Gallery & Coffee Corner, on Thepkrasattri Rd, is run by artist-in-residence Masani "Zone" Mawing who, in addition to being a skilled painter, also brews up a good cup of coffee.

Zone's shop features an eclectic mix of his own work, along with antiques, furniture, wood carvings, old clocks and other curios.

Amid the aroma of fresh-brewed blends of coffee from France, Switzerland, Germany and America, available at 25 to 40 baht a cup, Zone told the *Gazette* that his favorite medium is watercolors, thus the shop's name "Sea-nam", which is his English-language transliteration of the Thai word for "watercolor".

"The reason I like watercolor is that it allows me to make unique art that works well as stand-alone pieces. Watercolor is more complex than other forms of painting because of the need to incorporate the white of the canvas into the work. My favorites are landscapes, seascapes and other depictions of natural beauty," said the 30-year-old native of Narathiwat Province.

Another reason he now works almost exclusively in wa-



# Zone alone

ter colors is that he developed an intolerance to the vapors given off by oil paints, he added – just about every metier has its occupational hazards.

Unlike many artists who paint as a sideline, Zone knew from his earliest years that he would be a professional artist. Even as a young student he submitted paintings in art contests, sometimes winning prizes.

Buying direct from the artist has its advantages. Given their quality, Zone's watercolors are

reasonably priced at 1,500 to 6,000 baht, frame included, and much of the work features Phuket scenery.

The artist also dabbles in batik, creating unique designs that you will seldom see worn by the island's civil servants and airport-based taxi touts.

But despite strong demand, Zone doesn't spend much time doing batik. In fact, he admits that the quality of his work – whether it be in Batik or watercolor – goes down when he is

subject to pressure from buyers who want made-to-order work, especially when they give him a deadline to produce it by.

"The quality of my work definitely suffers when I am forced to work," he said bluntly.

Perhaps that trait, common among artists, also explains why he decided to give up his secure job as a full-time art teacher at the Bang Neaw School in order to start his gallery.

A graduate of Phuket Rajabhat University in education,

Zone still teaches at Bang Neaw on a part-time basis and also in a small classroom attached to the gallery. He brings his own dislike for having to work under pressure to his approach in teaching his pupils.

When it comes to producing art, it has to come from the heart, he maintains – nobody can force or even coax it out.

"I always tell parents that I only want to teach kids who are really interested in art. I tell them not to force them to study if they don't want to because that approach is futile.

"For people who do enjoy it, however, art can help develop their concentration and bring a real sense of relaxation and freedom," he said.

Apart from these obvious benefits, Zone also gets satisfaction from knowing that some of his students are learning skills that will someday be useful to them when they enter the workplace.

As for this artist's own livelihood, he told the *Gazette* that he has developed a client base of both Thais and foreigners who appreciate his work and have spread his reputation by word-of-mouth.

But thus far that success hasn't translated into having to hire staff, so Sea-nam is very much a one-man-show.

"Right now I am taking care of both the coffee corner and the gallery by myself, so I am lucky that the customers haven't been turning up all at once," he said.

*Sea-Nam Water Colour Gallery & Coffee Corner is located opposite Bangkok Bank on Thepkrasattri Rd. Open 10 am to 10 pm daily. For more information call Zone at Tel: 01-8920566,*

WARNING: SELLING ALCOHOL TO PERSONS UNDER 18 YEARS OLD IS ILLEGAL

*When the taste is perfect,  
it can be the start of a friendship.*





# Disaster early-warning center opens

Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra officially opened the National Disaster Warning Center in Nonthaburi and expressed satisfaction with a drill that simulated the system's response to a tsunami-producing earthquake.

The government will next draw up legislation to provide a legal basis for the work of the center, which has already been allocated a budget of more than 100 million baht.

If an earthquake capable of generating a tsunami occurs, the center will gather information from the Meteorological Department and seismological stations around the world on its severity, location and the likelihood of a tidal wave.

If a tsunami were considered likely to hit provinces on the Andaman coast, the center would inform senior officials and PM Thaksin before alerting the public via text messages to all mobile phones in the country and live TV and radio broadcasts. Warning towers on the beaches would alert tourists and residents.

**Security concerns:** A security guard in Rayong said police severely beat him in an attempt to get him to confess his involvement in robbery and murders on May 7 that left six Cambodian workers dead and four others seriously injured.

Urai Srine, 44, was in critical condition in Rayong Hospital with bruises all over his body.

"I cannot walk because police used batons wrapped in cloth to hit both my legs. I was taken from my house in Rayong to Chon Buri. They tried to force me to say that I was involved in the crimes, but I refused," he told reporters.

"After hours of beating me, they took me home, told me to



**COMIC RELIEF:** General Sirichai Tanyasiri, left, congratulates Lt General Khwanchart Klaharn, his successor as head of the Southern Border Provinces Peace-building Command.

Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra gave no reason for transferring Gen Sirichai to an inactive post at the National Security Council and replacing him with a lower-ranking officer.

keep my mouth shut and said that they would pay my medical expenses," he claimed.

**Smooth operators:** The Tourism and Sports Ministry announced the establishment of the Chinese Tourist Protection Association, with at least 25 of the roughly 80 low-cost tour operators specializing in the inbound Chinese market expected to become members.

The association will establish an around-the-clock center to serve Chinese tourists and will help crack down on so-called "zero dollar tours" that seek to make a profit from commissions paid by restaurants, hotels and souvenir shops, rather than travel expenses.

Money spent by tourists on the packages usually goes back to parent companies abroad, costing Thailand more than 100 billion baht a year, according to

government estimates.

Each member of the association will pay a 2-million-baht deposit to the center. If a tourist demands damages for problems caused by a tour operator, the center will pay the tourist and later deduct the amount from the deposit of the operator responsible. Damages will be paid only after an investigation.

**Magic potions:** The Fund for Boosting Health wants to study the impact of advertisements for "anti-hangover" beverages on drinkers, said agency Director Dr Supreeda Adulyanon.

"Anti-hangover beverages are like other soft drinks available on the market, except that they claim to cure hangovers. This sort of ad will encourage the public to drink more and give them the false impression that drinking to excess is okay," he said, adding that the fund will

appoint a working group to study the effect of limiting advertising spots for these beverages.

There are no authentic studies showing that such tonics are effective in curing hangovers, he said.

**Pouring concrete:** More than 80 motorists lodged complaints with police when their vehicles were allegedly damaged by debris falling from the Bang Na-Bang Pakong expressway extension project in Bangkok.

The angry motorists accused Vichitbhan Construction Company of negligence for allowing asphalt and cement to rain down on their vehicles as they drove under the project.

The following day the company was fined 1,000 baht and received a police warning. A Vichitbhan Construction representative offered to cover the costs of repairing the vehicles, but some of those who lodged complaints said they were offered as little as 1,000 or 1,500 baht for repairs.

**Crossbred controversy:** Conservationists accused the National Park, Wildlife and Plant Conservation Department of secretly allowing the capture of wild bulls and banteng in the Khao Ang Rue Nai Wildlife Sanctuary in Chachoengsao.

The Zoological Park Organization (ZPO) has reportedly been given a permit to catch six feral bulls at the sanctuary for cross-breeding with domesticated cows, while authorities such as the National Wildlife Committee were kept in the dark. Ten banteng (*wua daeng*) are also covered by the permit.

"I'm shocked. This is a big issue. You can't secretly implement this plan," said Jarujin Nabhitabhata, head of a research

division at the National Science Museum.

Sumeth Kamonnart, Director of the ZPO's technical division, said the programme was aimed at ensuring that the species will not become extinct in the wild.

"We have also set our eyes on cloning," he said.

**Lottery swindle:** Police in Yasothorn sought arrest warrants for a lottery vendor and four accomplices accused of stealing a winning lottery ticket and pocketing the 23-million-baht jackpot on May 16.

Police said the evidence clearly suggested the suspects deliberately defrauded the rightful owner of the ticket, Praiswan Hensamak, when they came to her house shortly after the lottery draw saying they wanted to take the ticket away to "double-check" it.

Lt Col Samniang said the apparent mastermind was Samang Khamthong, the Assistant Director of the Non-Formal Education board in Yasothorn Province.

K. Sam-ang offered K. Praiswan 5 million baht if she agreed to an out-of-court settlement.

"If she doesn't accept, I am ready to go to court and will hire the best lawyer in the country to defend myself. [I] taught the police officers in charge of this case," Sam-ang said.

He said the statute of limitations on such a legal case meant the offense would expire in two years, after which he would be able to withdraw the money, even if his funds were frozen during the trial.

*Around the Nation news roundup is sourced from the pages of The Nation and Kom Chad Luek newspapers.*

A UNIQUE SHOPPING DESTINATION

เดอะ พลาซ่า สุรินทร์

# THE PLAZA

SURIN

FASHION . FURNITURE . ANTIQUES . ART

5/50 cherngthalay phuket Tel 076 271 241 www.theplazasurin.com

Aleenta  
Lamont  
Fine9design  
Lola  
Cocoon  
Indigo  
Namsang  
Tamarine  
Soul of Asia  
Sivalla  
Candere  
Everything Underthesun

CANAL VILLAGE  
LAGUNA SHOPPING

30 Exclusive Boutiques  
in the Heart of Laguna Phuket

laguna PHUKET

Canal Village Laguna Shopping  
Tel: 66 (0) 7632 4453-7  
Fax: 66 (0) 7632 4066  
E-mail: shopping@lagunaphuket.com  
www.lagunaphuket.com



With lighter wind conditions than in previous years, the 4<sup>th</sup> Samui regatta took place from May 23-28.

The regatta featured a strong line-up in the top division, including well known Australian yachtsman Ray Roberts helming *Uluvalu*, Hong Kong businessman and racing enthusiast Frank Pong with his 75-foot yacht, *Jelik*, defending champion *Ffree Fire* sailed by Sam Chan, and Toby Connell's *Yo!* team, who, before the event, were close to winning the overall Asian yachting circuit title.

After very light winds in the first race, the sea breeze kicked in, much to the relief of both competitors and the race committee. However, wind shifts provided a challenge to even the most experienced sailors.

In the end, *Uluvalu*'s experienced crew took advantage of the conditions and their Australian tactician, Steve McConaghy, made sure his yacht started well and kept close to shore.

*Uluvalu* won the overall Grand Prix event ahead of *Jelik*, with the two boats finishing in an amazing tie on corrected time in the final race.

Meanwhile, Singapore-based *Foxy Lady* led the IRC second division with skipper Bill Bremmer scoring an impressive five wins in a row.

# Uluvalu takes the trophy

John Vause sailed his *Buzz 8* into second place ahead of Saranya Makison's *Magic Roundabout*, the Top of the Gulf regatta overall winner in early May.

In the Multihull class, the two Radical 8000 boats dominated every race and Koh Samui boat builder Kim Thomas, who also won the 2004 King's Cup, sailed *Coco Blues* into a narrow lead going into the final race ahead of Pierre Forsan's *Coco China House*.

Kim was beaten in the final race, however, and it was *Coco China House* that claimed eventual victory.

As always, the Central Samui Beach Resort hosted the Regatta Headquarters and this year set up a special "regatta tavern" on the beach, with the gala dinner being the social highlight of the week.

The pre-regatta party took place at Chaweng's popular *Coco Blues Bar*, with entertainment provided by Co Co York, a New Orleans blues singer flown over especially for the party.

Frank Pong summed up the spirit of the event. "Samui has some of the most beautiful beaches in the world," he said. "There couldn't be a better place for a regatta."

**Road improvements:** The Samui Highways Department recently received 40 million baht from the central government to be used for the repair and improvement of Samui's roads.

Most of the money will be



**JELIKNITE:** Although Frank Pong's sprightly *Jelik* (pictured) managed a tie against *Uluvalu* in the final race of the Samui Regatta, it was *Uluvalu* that took overall top honors in the event.

— Photo courtesy of www.shufen.net

spent on repairing the island's ring road, and installing drains and sewers to prevent flooding during the wet season.

In addition, the Municipality will take over responsibility for several stretches of road that were previously under the control of the Highways Department, including the road from Samui Airport to the Big Buddha temple and also the road from Hin Lad waterfall to Samui Hospital outside Nathan.

It is hoped that the funds will be spent wisely and responsibly in order to bring Samui's roads up to a level that matches the island's status as a major tourist destination.

**Tourist police seminar:** The Koh Samui Tourist Police recently held an open meeting and seminar at World Resort in Mae Nam.

The seminar focused on how to prevent and react to water accidents and drownings along Samui's coast, and provided training in how to report accidents and crimes.

The number of water-related injuries and fatalities is on the rise around Samui, particularly off the popular beaches such as Chaweng, which has dangerous rip tides at certain times of the year.

The seminar was aimed at people working in hotels, especially those close to the beach, who have first contact with tourists in need of assistance.

The Tourist Police have just 14 officers on the island, and are therefore looking to recruit about 80 volunteers for a special police force aimed at helping visitors feel safer on Koh Samui.

**Chinese education:** Surat

Thani Governor Vichit Vichaisarn and a representative from the Chinese Embassy opened the first Chinese-language school in Surat Thani on May 9.

The school was established to help Thai people learn and understand more about China's language and culture.

It is hoped that more Chinese visitors will arrive in the province over the coming years. The Governor therefore feels it is important to equip local children with the skills to welcome and do business with Chinese people.

The school is on 15 rai of land, is three stories high and has 24 rooms. Students will be taught in Chinese, English and Thai from kindergarten level up to primary year 6.

Cdr Swan is a writer with Koh Samui's community magazine.

## FROM THE GULF OF THAILAND



By Commander  
Sammy Swan

**PHUKET COSMETIC DENTAL CLINIC**

Come and enjoy the difference of our unique esthetic dental treatment.

- Tooth whitening by plasma arc
- Dental implants
- All-ceramic crowns
- Ceramic veneers

16/1 Hongyok-U-Thit Rd, T. Taladyai A. Muang, Phuket 83000 Thailand.  
Tel: 0 7623 6823 Fax: 0 7623 6824  
Email: info@phuketcosmeticedentalclinic.com  
www.phuketcosmeticedentalclinic.com

**Fast installation  
Removable**

**24,900 Baht (inc VAT)**

**FANT-ASIA**

**Jaidlee**  
Brings life into your garden

**HEIGHT: DIAMETER:**  
0.90M 4.6M

**INCLUDES:**

- POOL
- FILTRATION 4M<sup>3</sup>/H
- CHLORINE DISPENSER
- VACUUM CLEANER
- LADDER
- TIMER

**FANT-ASIA . TEL: 076 224 444**



## This week



**MUCH APPRECIATED:** Ty Collins (rear, center), Director of Rooms, and other staff at JW Marriott Phuket Resort and Spa recently raised more than 46,000 baht for Phuket Special School as part of the resort chain's "Associate Appreciation Week".



**EDUCATION ADVANCE:** Phuket Vice-Governor Supachai Yuwaboon (seated) on June 2 presented 375,000 baht to go towards the education of 15 tsunami orphans, from six months to five years old. The scholarships were part of the Ministry of Education's budget of 3.57 million baht to ensure that 150 orphans in the six tsunami-affected provinces will continue to receive an education.



**QUEEN OF THE CARS:** Prince of Songkhla University, Phuket Campus, student Apisada Phattarakorn (3rd from left), 18, won the Miss Phuket Motor Show contest at Central Festival Phuket on May 29. Here she poses with some of the 17 other contestants who took part in the beauty pageant.



**TSUNAMI SAPLINGS:** As part of their orientation on May 22 and 23, freshmen at Prince of Songkla University, Phuket campus, helped rejuvenate the flora at Mai Khao Beach by planting some 2,500 casuarina trees.



**DIVE DELEGATES:** Thailand Diving Association (TDA) President Ronachai Chindapol (right) and TDA Secretaire General Pragon Gaetgun (front, center) attended the General Assembly of the World Underwater Federation (CMAS), which was held recently in Seville, Spain.



**COUNTRY CROONERS:** (from left) Naratip Sirirat, Montien Poom-Oon, Sudatip Chaowatanapanich and Chanapan Boonsong were four of the 160 contestants who took part in the southern round of the "UBC Academy Fantasia 2005" singing contest held recently at the Royal Phuket City Hotel.

**EXPOSE YOURSELF! to 40-50,000 visitors a day!**

A Phuket Gazette website banner is your window to the world. Can you afford **NOT** to have one?

Ask Anna or Koy for details. Tel: 076-236555 Email: [anna@phuketgazette.net](mailto:anna@phuketgazette.net)





Promchote Traivate was born into a Royal Thai Air Force family and attended Saint John's primary school in Bangkok where he first harbored ambitions to be a boy scout.

He says, "At this point I felt a need to help society in any way possible. I attended the World Boy Scout Jamboree at Chon Buri and was impressed as the scouts seemed a good way for me to fulfill this need."

"While studying and boarding at Wat Mongkud Kasat school I would go out every Monday night with the scouts and do traffic duty."

K. Promchote explains that during the nationwide anti-government protests of "Black October" in 1973, there were not enough police to keep order, so he offered his services and was put on traffic duty for a month.

Later, while he was studying at Amnuay Silpa School, a perceptive teacher explained to him that a classroom education was simply not enough and recommended writing as a constructive and educational pastime.

Heeding this advice, K. Promchote, along with a friend, produced a newspaper called *Salua*. "Some teachers

# THE MAGIC KEY

Given the meager crowds attending some of Phuket's sporting events, one might be tempted to believe that local spectators think they have better things to do than expose themselves to the elements for up to two hours at a time in the name of a game. So Promchote Traivate, recently appointed Head of the Phuket Office of Sports and Recreational Development (POSRD), whose task is to develop and combine sport and tourism starting from grassroots level, has his work cut out for him. Here he tells the *Gazette's* Anongnat Sartpisut about his plans and beliefs.

showed their support, but some thought we were overstepping

entrance exam at Chulalongkorn University, but failed and went to what was considered then to be the inferior Ramkhamhaeng University, while his peers studied at the prestigious Chulalongkorn University.

K. Promchote felt embarrassed and disappointed, but a teacher pointed out that the textbooks used at both universities were identical and that it was up to him to forge his way ahead, regardless of the name of the college.

"I felt sorry for some of the other students as they were so poor," K. Promchote says.

'We learned quickly that charity begins at home and that if we all pulled together we could make a big difference to the community.'

the mark. It was not a time of open thinking in Thailand."

He sat the political science

"So we recorded study tapes and made our own textbooks and mock exams that we sold at one baht a sheet."

After graduation he landed a job with Sri Suthatip Co in Bangkok and, after just two weeks, was promoted to General Manager, in charge of two branches. "When I worked, I didn't have time to see my parents so, after two years, I applied at the Ministry of the Interior to be a social worker."

"In 1981 I trained in Chaiyaphum Province and we had many projects, such as a Young Children's Development Center. We learned quickly that charity begins at home and that if we all pulled together we could make a big difference to the community."

He also launched projects to help develop local infrastructure, by building roads and digging canals, as well as introducing a "Food for Work" project.

He was proud to be able to work with local people and believes that the main lesson he taught was cooperation with other local organizations.

K. Promchote spent 22 years working at Community Development Centers before moving into sports and recreational development.

"I live in Phuket, but I call



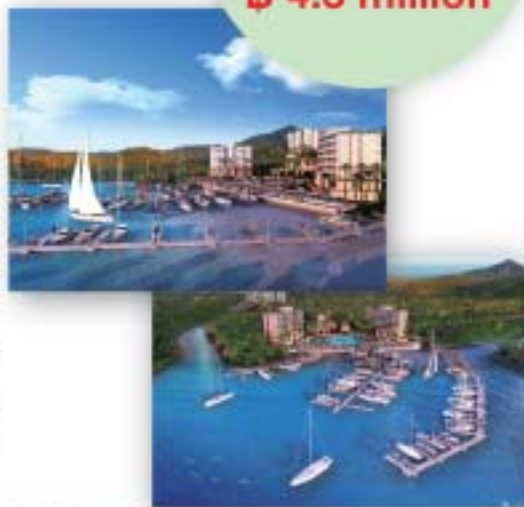
Nakhon Ratchasima [Korat] my home, and I sort of miss it. I tell my wife [who lives there] not to forget to give rice to the dog and to feed our six geese. Of course we'd feel better if we could live together but my work now is in Phuket."

But he believes the work here is important. "For Phuket to succeed, private and public sectors must cooperate. The local community is also very important and locals suffer from a shortage of information about events on the island."

"I feel that Phuket focuses too much on know-how and technology, based on foreign invest-



Only 54 units  
Prices from  
only  
฿ 4.3 million



Phuket Marina Residence is a 54 units property that reflect a tropical and contemporary design, with a self-contained private marina. It is equipped with world-class facilities such as a waterfront swimming pool, fitness room, sauna, business center, restaurant and a mini plaza. Nearby are the Andavana spa and water park. A boat resort & a golf academy are planned in the future.

Visit our sales office or for more info, please contact:  
Tel: 076 252917-18, 06 331 9933 Fax: 076 252 918

Krungsri Bank Public Company Limited  
Lynx  
Chesterton  
Pakiet One Real Estate  
EASTWEST  
CBRE  
LandSearch

On Site Sales Office: Telephone no. (66) 7625-2917, Facsimile no. (66) 7625-2918  
Project Owner: Phuket Seaside Company Limited, Registered Capital: 50 Million Baht, Registered Address: 2098/676 Ramkhamhaeng Road, Huamark, Bangkok, 10240, Site Location: On part of title deed no. 46513, Soi Mueangw, Shulais Road, Tambon Rasada, Muang District, Phuket Province, Project Area: Approx. 8 rai 215 square wah, Construction Permit No.: Being processed, Project's Construction Date Start: October 2004, Completion (approx) Mid June 2006  
"Juridic person will be registered after project completion and common area fee will be paid by unit owners to the project juristic person."  
Head Office Bangkok: Telephone no. (66) 2718 4032-3 or (66) 2300 1322, Facsimile no. (66) 2718 3091  
Head Office Address: 2098/676 Ramkhamhaeng Road, Huamark, Bangkok, 10240

Website: [www.phuketmarinaresidence.com](http://www.phuketmarinaresidence.com)

AMERICAN PACIFIC INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL  
[www.apis.ac.th](http://www.apis.ac.th)



Established in 1997 in association with The Taft School, Connecticut, USA  
Chiang Mai's only internationally-accredited boarding school

- International day and boarding school catering for students from 2-18 years old
- American curriculum taught by qualified native English-speaking teachers

• SUMMER PROGRAMS START June 26, 2005

• Seeking Residential Life Supervisor to begin August 2005

For more information, please contact the Admissions and Development Director:

In Chiang Mai:

By telephone: (+66)(0)53-365303/5  
By fax: (+66)(0)53-365304  
By email: [admissions@apis.ac.th](mailto:admissions@apis.ac.th)

Bangkok Office (Summer Program):

By telephone: (+66)(0)2-3814988/9  
By fax: (+66)(0)2-3814987  
By email: [apinter@loxinfo.co.th](mailto:apinter@loxinfo.co.th)



# OF COOPERATION



Thirty youngsters from various communities in Phuket spent two days in a 'camp' organized by K. Promchote, and which included such activities as learning how to survive in the jungle and lessons about the stars.

ment, and that there is sometimes a lack of support for tourism and sport inside the country.

"When the tsunami happened, it scared smaller businesses away from the area so Phuket needs to try to stimulate the domestic tourist market.

"We're cooperating with local universities to develop courses in tourism across the country - if we develop only Phuket we're not helping the country.

"We need the tourism expe-

rience of Phuket to help educate the rest of the nation."

A large part of this comes down to communication. "As regards sporting events in Phuket, local broadcasting is not an efficient way to boost tourism.

"What we need is inter-provincial cooperation in the private and public sectors; well-thought-out plans, corporate sponsorship, solid public relations work and a campaign to promote Phuket as a place where top athletes can come to train."

K. Promchote sometimes stays overnight in local communities to gauge what the area needs in terms of sports and recreation.

He says, "We can learn about successful businesspeople by reading about them in magazines but there's nobody covering the normal, local people, so we should spend time with them and in only a short period we can learn many things.



Promchote Traivate: 'For Phuket to succeed, private and public sectors must cooperate.'

"That's why I go to stay in local communities, to see what they need if they are to develop well. I encourage children to play sport with me, to show love to their families, to help their

parents and to greet and speak politely to them when they get home. We also try to expand their minds so that they realize their abilities and to teach them to live harmoniously."

**The European Union Film Festival 2005**

ชมสุดยอด  
ภาพยนตร์ยุโรป  
มากกว่า 30 เรื่อง

**16 - 26 มิถุนายน 2548**  
ที่ SFX Coliseum Cinema  
ชั้น 3 เซ็นทรัล เฟสติวัล ภูเก็ต  
**บัตรราคา 70 บาท**

สำรองที่นั่ง โทร 0-7620-9000 สอบถามรายละเอียดเพิ่มเติม : [www.efthta.org.th](http://www.efthta.org.th)

**June 16-26, 2005**  
At SFX Coliseum Cinema  
3rd Floor Central Festival Phuket  
**Ticket price 70 Baht**

Advance reservation Tel. 0-7620-9000 For more information : [www.efthta.org.th](http://www.efthta.org.th)

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



# Origin of the species

**A**ntique wooden figures, mostly from Burma but also from China, Laos and Indonesia are now available in the heart of Phuket City.

Oriental Origin, which opened on historic Dibuk Rd in April, consists of two floors of antiques collected from Thailand's neighbors.

Owner Orasa Tosawang told the *Gazette*, "Many of the figures we are selling have been imported from Burma and are more than 60 years old."

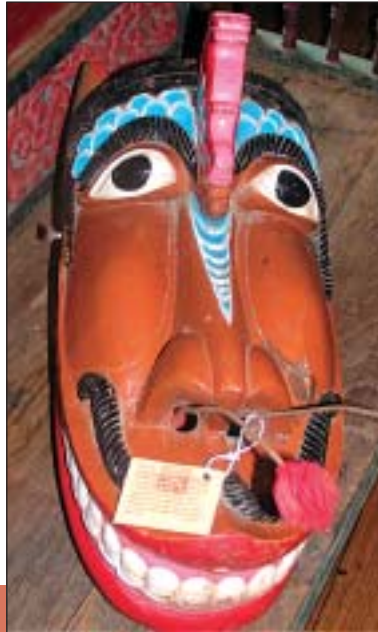
"If someone buys a doll or statue from us, they receive a

verified description of it, giving its name and its history. That applies to all the figures we sell."

In addition to the figures, Oriental Origin sells decorative items such as cupboards, bird-cages and antique doors from China and Indonesia.

Items range in price from 600 baht to 163,000 baht, but the shop is currently offering a discount of 15% on all sales.

*Oriental Origin, 97 Dibuk Rd, Phuket City. Tel: 076-258059. Website: www.oriental\_origin.com. The shop is open Monday to Saturday, from 10 am to 10 pm.*



Burmese figures adorned with gold leaf (right), a Chinese deity (bottom right) a monkey-head mask (left) from Laos and other items from throughout South-east Asia are among many intriguing pieces – including furniture – for sale at Oriental Origin in Phuket City's old center.



The Great Singapore Sale is back!

3 Day / 2 Night Package from  
PHUKET / SINGAPORE / PHUKET

**THB 7,200\***

- Enjoy additional 10 kg baggage allowance specially for this package
- These fares are available with Tradewinds
- Contact info: Tel - 076 219926, Fax - 076 219 531  
E-mail - silksales@csloxinfo.com

**SILKAIR**  
where the world unfolds  
www.silkair.com

\*Fares valid till 31 July 2005,  
minimum 02 passenger travel together.  
Package price does not include relevant taxes and surcharges.  
Package valid only for departure on MI751 & MI753.  
Other terms & conditions apply.

a watermark "Phuket Gazette" event

**BOOK NOW!**  
**GUARANTEED SELL OUT**

**JOHN MOORHEAD**  
presents direct from  
London's Comedy Circuit

**THE PUNCHLINE**  
COMEDY CLUB

**WEDNESDAY 22nd JUNE**

**ANDY ASKINS**  
"Too few comedians make an audience laugh like Andy Askins does, superb!"  
- The Mail

**PAUL ZERDIN**  
"Zerdin's puppets are sharp-tongued, malicious little bastards. Avoid the front row, especially if you're ugly!"  
- The Observer

**RICHARD BLACKWOOD**  
"It is no wonder Richard Blackwood is a star, he will soon be huge, go see him now!"  
- The Express

**VENUE: Watermark Bar Restaurant**  
Boat Lagoon Marina 076 239 730

Tickets 1,700 THB - Show starts 9:00 pm. 3 course set dinner 850 THB - 6:30 pm for 7:00 pm serving  
Ticket outlets - Watermark, West One Salon (Big C), Club Asia Fitness (Royal Phuket City Hotel),  
Phuket Gazette Office, Pun Pun Natural Juice Bar (3rd floor Central), The Deli Patong,  
Peppers Bar (Cherngtalay), Wine Connection (Chalong)

**TWIN PALMS PHUKET** **The Nation** **wave entertainment** **watermark**

For more info visit [www.watermarkphuket.com](http://www.watermarkphuket.com)

**House & Pool**  
Construction Co., Ltd. since 1995  
Thai - German Management

**Private & commercial construction**  
• Renovation / alteration  
• Swimming pools & Jacuzzis  
• Architecture design  
• Building permits

85/19 Moo 7 Sai Yaun Rob Koh Road  
Rawai, Muang, Phuket 83100  
Tel: 076-288845, 388078  
Fax: 076-288848  
English: 01-6067410 Thai: 01-7152819  
E-Mail: [info@siam-business.com](mailto:info@siam-business.com)  
[www.siam-business.com](http://www.siam-business.com)



Moby's *Play* and *18*, released in 1999 and 2002 respectively, are without doubt masterpieces of their own genre, a genre created by the vegan, non-denominational Christian and vociferous campaigner.

How can he follow those albums? was the question both fans and critics alike asked. With nothing like 1996's *Animal Rights* was surely the answer they all wanted to hear.

*Hotel*, released earlier this year, is – thankfully – nothing like *Animal Rights* nor is it like *Play* or *18*, generally speaking. Moby has broken his own mold, taking fragments from it to forge another unique sound.

Gone are the cranked-up grunge guitars and wall-to-wall sampled vocals and in their place is an album pared down to tunes and words.

While expressing and revealing the most intimate of thoughts (more easily understood after reading the concept album's sleeve notes) he makes music that soars.

Moby is intrigued by the anonymity of hotel rooms, almost using the sterility of the space used by hundreds of people to

sleep in, cry in, bathe in, have sex in, start relationships in and end relationships in as a muse.

Perhaps there is an analogy to be drawn between the public intimacy of a hotel room and the intimate publicity of his albums; both are intensely private spaces that are – ultimately – open for public use.

Comment from local hotel GMs would be superfluous.

The first single from *Hotel*, *Lift Me Up*, soars both aurally and spiritually. Listen closer, though; the lyrics are about the neo-fundamentalism sweeping The US.

He employs a fuzzy electric guitar in the background of the mix, and self-referential touches such as a diva singing into the stratosphere – not unlike Claire Torry's improvised orgasm in Pink Floyd's *Great Gig in the Sky*.

In *Hotel*'s Track 5, *Where*

*You End*, Moby echoes *We Are All Made Of Stars*, one of the biggest hits from *Play*.

*Some things fall apart; some things make you whole* he sings, before asking *What if the right part of leaving turned out to be wrong?*

Laura Dawn takes lead vocals on *Temptation*, a *largo* interpretation of the New Order classic. Played at this pace, and breathed by Ms Dawn, it is emotion laid bare.

With barely time to grab a hanky, Track 8, *Dream About Me* is a duet between Ms Dawn and Moby, with lullaby-style Hammond organ notes playing in the back of the mix. Bleak lyrics have never sounded so sweet:

*Babe, dream about me. Lie on the phone to me. Tell me no truth if it hurts bad; there's enough in my life to make me so sad.*

*Hotel* is a glorious album of sweeping instrumental pieces and carefully-observed lyrics. Check it out or check in soon.

Moby. *Hotel* Mute Records Cat. No. 0724386061027. Playing time 57 minutes 26 seconds.

## with Andy

## Ear Candy

The single and opening track is *Você Me Apareceu* (*You Appeared To Me*). It's an infectious blend of spunky lyrics, fast drum 'n' bass and bossa nova. It was an instant and worldwide hit. One version of the tune even topped the Brazilian mobile phone ringtone charts.

The standout track is *Aqui* (*Here*), the penultimate number on this 16-track album.

Beginning with the deepest of basslines, it kicks into a grungy guitar riff similar to T-Rex's

*Children of the Revolution* before Jainina's crystal-clear voice counterpoints the harsh rock and bass sounds with the lightest of lyrics.

Debut albums are rarely this uplifting, self-assured and worth obtaining; Kaleidoscopio deserve much success.

*Tem Que Valer* Kaleidoscopio IRMA Records IRM 801. Playing time 68 minutes 58 seconds.

Selections available from CD Warehouse Thailand. Contact isiporn Nurukkhe, Marketing Manager, at Email: mm@cdwarehouse-asia.com Web: www.cdwarehouse-asia.com



## The leading supplier of outdoor furniture



Royal Botania



## EVERYTHING UNDER THE SUN

RESOURCE ASIA OUTDOOR COLLECTION CO., LTD.

Unit M6, The Plaza, Surin, 5/50 Moo 3, Srisoontorn Road, Cherm Talay, Thalung, Phuket, 83110, Thailand.  
Tel: +66(0)76 271 626 Fax: +66(0)76 271 627  
E-mail: mouse@resourceasia.co.th, sopit@resourceasia.co.th Website: www.resourceasia.com.hk



## Spa MAGIC

By Alison Winward

### The Sense Spa

Entering The Sense Spa in Kata is more like walking into a trendy bar anywhere in the world than into a spa in Thailand.

The walls are distressed ochre, lined by small arch-shaped niches – some containing Buddha figures – the lighting is subdued, the décor is minimalist and the floor is patterned and varnished concrete.

“Thai-style” or “Balinese-style” it most certainly ain’t, well at least not as those adjectives are most commonly understood.

But it is exactly the effect General Manager Nipon Wongvuiwatchai set out to achieve when designing the spa last year.

“I call it modern Oriental style,” said K. Nipon. “Everyone who comes here praises the nice relaxing atmosphere. Normally spas are quite plush, but I didn’t want this to be plush. I wanted to create something different.”

I can understand why customers describe The Sense as relaxing. The Thai massage and reflexology room, with its six curtained beds and its massage chairs, is nightclub-dark but retreat-quiet. A peek through the door is enough to induce narcolepsy in even the most persistent insomniac.

The walk along the corridor to the private treatment rooms conjured up a feeling of walking through an adobe *barrio* in Mexico. Except that, waiting round the corner to get me on a couch in a darkened room, isn’t Antonio Banderas in full *Desperado* mode, but my therapist K. Sirirat.

With the help of friendly receptionist K. Nayika I opt for the “Sense of Relaxation” package, with a Swedish massage option and a “milk” bath, and the Classical Sense Spa facial using Rene Guinot products.

After steaming gently for



20 minutes in the glass-fronted sauna in my private bathroom and putting on the funkiest pair of disposable briefs ever – black and stretchy like nylon tights – I am ready for my honey, yoghurt and peanut body scrub.

The subtle lighting, for those who are not entirely comfortable about having their lumps and bumps subjected to close scrutiny, is very merciful; the only recognizably “Thai” decorative feature of the treatment room was the contemporary-style red-and-gold picture of the Buddha on the wall between the two couches.

I rins off the body scrub (applied with perfect pressure – exfoliating but not abrasive) in the “shower”, a slender concrete column against the wall with a lip at the top over which the water flowed, before sampling the “ilk bath.

I’ve never been interested in these baths before (the product of my no-nonsense Northern

English upbringing, perhaps?), but I know now what I have been missing.

The bath is roughly T-shaped, with three seats facing into the middle, and it is filled with warm water into which K. Sirirat pours some milky liquid, before scattering the surface with rose petals and flower heads.

It smells good enough to drink (“You didn’t, did you?” exclaims a horrified K. Nayika when I tell her this later), but I am content to float and contemplate for a little while, preparing myself for a Swedish massage, using specially blended “Sense” massage oil, and with a one-hour Guinot facial to follow.

K. Nipon used to have a

Thai massage salon, but after having one man too many turn up expecting to have more than just his energy lines released, he decided to move into the spa business.

Ironically, perhaps, around 40% of the The Sense’s customers are men, although they usually arrive with a female partner.

The therapists are now trained in-house, although they were originally trained at the Phuket Spa Academy, which also acted as consultant when K. Nipon was setting up the business.

His intention is to offer a quality service – the massage oils, for example, are from a company which supplies five-star resorts – at reasonable prices.

“People come here to relax, so they shouldn’t have to worry about the price,” he reasons.

Customers are asked to fill in a questionnaire as they leave. “The thing is,” says K. Nipon.



“When people are on holiday, they are relaxed, so I’m not sure they expect standards as high as they do at home, so ‘good’ or ‘excellent’ isn’t enough – we want to keep on improving.”

I had a good feeling about The Sense the first time I saw the discreet sign opposite Kata Beach Resort several months ago; my visit confirms that my own sixth sense was right.

*The Sense Spa, 2/12 Kata Plaza, Kata Road, Tel: 076-333014, email: info@kataminta.com Open daily 10am – 10pm.*

*“The Sense of Relaxation” package, including milk bath: B2,450 (B2,050 without bath); Classical Sense Spa facial B1,200.*



MANEE SAI

Open daily

Tel: 01 487 4139 Fax: 076 383 527

E-mail: manee\_sai@hotmail.com

STONE MURALS & STATUES & MORE

Showroom 500 meters from Chalong Circle, Chalong to Rawai road, opposite Chalong Post Office.





# Return journey

**M**y last trip to the Phi Phi Islands was in October last year, when I took a leisurely ferry to spend a few relaxing days at the Phi Phi Princess resort.

This time around I took a speedboat for a day trip to assess the situation on the island.

First port of call was Maya Bay, which seemed in better condition than before. There were no ferries, no herds of lifejacket-wearing tourists and, with the exception of one local fisherman and his long-tail boat and our own boat, there was no one around to disturb the scene.

The marine life is still there, with shoals of fish schooling around. Maya Bay and the whole of Phi Phi Lei was – thankfully – as stunning and serene as ever.

After circumnavigating the island, we went on to Tonsai Bay on Phi Phi Don, and our worst fears were realized as our boat swung into the bay.

The main village and buildings were destroyed. The small strip of land between the two major bays – previously full of buildings – is now empty.

Everything has gone, and – sitting on the beach surveying the scene – it is a wonder that anyone could have survived the horror of December 26.

It appears that the authorities are still in two minds as to what to do.

With the need for complete restructuring and development, there is a huge fight brewing over the future of Phi Phi Don, between the government and developers who favor transforming the island into an up-market destination, and locals who want the island to go back to the way it was, more or less.

No decisions have been made, however, and, as a result



of this indecisiveness, the clean up is far from over.

Many locals are, in fact, accusing the authorities of delaying funds, to try to squeeze out the current business owners.

Clearing up and rebuilding is being handled, it seems, only by locals and the scores of backpacker volunteers – in many cases very much against government wishes.

It is thought that more than 1,500 young people have traveled to the island since an ad hoc aid group, Hi Phi Phi, started up at the end of January, with the news spreading by word of mouth and through Internet cafés throughout the travelers' world.

We progressed onward to the east coast of the island, and – amazingly enough – the beaches, bays and resorts were left unscathed.

Our first stop was to one of my favorite resorts, the Phi Phi Island Village, which has a palm tree-lined beach and lovely bungalows. It is one of the hideaway places in the south of Thailand.

With so few tourists around, and such attractive rates currently offered, now is an ideal time to visit.

Next stop was the Holiday Inn Resort Phi Phi Island, which is still as lovely as ever. Its rooms are close to the

beach, and the hotel offers typically excellent Holiday Inn service, friendliness and efficiency.



ABOVE: No prizes for guessing where these ladies are, even if their form of GPS is outdated and somewhat large.

LEFT AND BELOW LEFT: The delightful views to and from The Holiday Inn Resort Phi Phi Island, where one almost has the beach to oneself.

Make time for a short stop-over at Phi Phi this low season, but don't dwell too long in Tonsai Bay. Instead, simply move to one of the still-stunning resorts on the east coast.

## How to get there

There are several ferry transfers every day to the Phi Phi Island Village and Holiday Inn. Check with the hotels for the best options.

## Where to stay

Phi Phi Island Village.

A 4-day/3-night package, including transfers, breakfasts and a set dinner, is currently offered at

7,200 baht per person sharing a twin/double room.

Tel: 076-215014. Fax: 076-214918, Email: sales@ppisland.com, Website www.ppisland.com

Holiday Inn Resort Phi Phi Island.

A low-season package including 3-days/2-nights accommodation, transfers, breakfasts and a ½-day snorkeling or sightseeing tour is pegged at 3,800 baht per person sharing a twin room.

Tel: 076-261860, Email: reserv@phipi-palmbeach.com or Website www.phipi-palmbeach.com

## Rak Mak! Awards

This week's winning numbers:

กลบ 976  
ภูเก็ต

Black Honda Motorbike

กฉ 7752  
ภูเก็ต

Gray Isuzu

กจ 5138  
ภูเก็ต

Red Honda

ม 1925  
ภูเก็ต

Gold Toyota

ก 7748  
ภูเก็ต

Silver Honda

วม 9282  
กรุงเทพฯ

Black BMW

The owners of these vehicles can choose from a two-night stay for two in a deluxe double room (accommodation only) at the Absolute Sea Pearl Beach Resort in Patong, or dinner for two at The Green Man Pub & Restaurant, or one round of golf (18 holes) at the Phuket Country Club.



Please contact the Gazette quickly to ensure you get the prize you want.

First come, first served!

Email LovePhuket@PhuketGazette.Net, or call K. Pam at 076-236555.

\*offer expires June 24, 2005

Love Phuket? Put this sticker on your car:



If we spot it, you could win a free one-month membership at Club Asia Fitness, or dinner for two at the Red Room, or a two-hour spa treatment at The Mangosteen Resort & Spa.



The Red Room  
Restaurant & Lounge



## WINE & TASTE

The finest wines for your money

International Wine Importers Co., Ltd.  
382/69 Moo1 Dusit-Laguna Rd., Cherrngtalay,  
Talang, Phuket 83110 Thailand  
Tel: 076 270852 Fax: 076 270851  
www.wineandtaste.com  
www.phuketwineclub.com



# Adrift in the irrelevant

As the poet said, 'O wad some Pow'r the giftie gie us, To see oursels as others see us!' And if you understand that, you may also understand some of the obscure references to Phuket unearthed below.

**Shameless plugging:** Since discovering on the Net last week that Phuket lies in the "Adman Sea", it comes as no surprise to learn that even online forums such as the highly-amusing [mt.skybuilders.com/blog](http://mt.skybuilders.com/blog) have been invaded by Phuket's overzealous property pushers.

In the middle of a witty exchange on topics decidedly other than Phuket comes the following irrelevancy, "Here is your one-stop shop for real estate in Phuket, Thailand - Phuket \*\*\*\*\*" [my deletion - no free real estate ads here, mate].

In the next few lines the property developer plugs itself no less than seven times. Leave it alone, won't you boys?

**Patong vs Pattaya:** [www.phuket-info.com/forums/forum](http://www.phuket-info.com/forums/forum) reveals that most younger male travelers prefer Patong to Pattaya. Patong is "... more compact, friendlier, has a better beach and is a lot younger (lots of older unfriendly guys in P a t t a y a )" whereas Pattaya has a "Far better selection of bars, better entertainment and cheaper transportation."

"The only bad thing is the 1 am kerfew" says Keef, no doubt from Kleeforpes, Kardiff or er ... Cansas. One succinct comment, "Pattaya is Patong on steroids" sums it all up.

**Kicking the bucket:** "I like much older man. The older the better," says Jintana, advertising for a farang hubby at a find-a-Thai-wife website. One can only hazard a guess as to why, and personally I don't think it's for his pipe and slippers. Only potential farm buyers need apply.

**Offroad driving:** "I must say that Phuket is one of the most beautiful places I've ever been, and that's saying a lot because I'm from San Diego" trills a flag-waving member of the female US soccer squad at [www.ussoccer.com/editorial](http://www.ussoccer.com/editorial).

She continues, "We seem to be forcing some scooters and cars off the road. I thought we had a bad driver in China but this [one] has been scary."

Seem to be forcing cars and scooters off the road? Don't

## OUTSIDE IN

By Lis Kinswoman

worry darling, that's nothing compared to what your fearless leader is up to with those naughty Iraqis.

**Plus ☐ a change:** Bad driving and public transport remain persistent and dominant themes in Internet discussions of the island.

At [users.pipeline.com.au](http://users.pipeline.com.au) a contributor warns, "Driving in Phuket [is] an experience not for the faint hearted. We have driven all over the world but nothing quite prepared us for this. The roads are excellent -

the drivers and vehicles (if that's what you like to call some of them) are definitely not."

At [www.asiahotels.com/traveltales](http://www.asiahotels.com/traveltales) - yet another forum - we have the following, "Getting around [in Phuket] was not a good experience owing to the fact that local transport charged ex-

orbitantly and [tuk-tuk drivers] passed rude remarks when we declined."

Prices are, "Comparable or more expensive than Tokyo."

"My main complaint about Phuket is the absurd price of private transportation. From the airport to the hotel was 650 baht. I laughed, knowing it costs only another 200 baht to go by bus all the way to Bangkok."

"The tuk-tuk drivers are a pest. We got ripped off - no wonder the driver was so friendly and accommodating - he probably made his daily quota out of us alone!"

However, totally against the flow of things, the following pops up on the same site: "You must go on a tuk-tuk. Very cost effective, original, refreshing, quick."

The penny drops when the writer twitters on, extolling the virtues of a humble plate of fruit on the beach for "just" 100 baht and a day trip to "Pipi" for a paltry 4,000 baht.

Like the man said, there's one born every minute.

We have driven all over the world but nothing quite prepared us for this. The roads are excellent - the drivers and vehicles ... are definitely not.

# A journalist among tigers

Mark Bowden wrote a wonderful book - later made into a film - called *Black Hawk Down* about a military fiasco in Somalia in 1993. Bowden's book was infinitely superior to the film, however, in that he also interviewed the Somali clansmen in the fight and portrayed their perspective on things.

*Road Work* (Atlantic Monthly Press, New York, 2004, 467pp) subtitled *Among Tyrants, Heroes, Rogues, and Beasts* is his seventh book. It is a collection of 19 stories written over two decades, first for the *Philadelphia Inquirer* and later for the *Atlantic Monthly*, where he is now national correspondent.

He opens with *Tales of the Tyrant*, which was the *Atlantic's* cover story in May 2002. This is a meticulous portrait of the character of Saddam Hussein, composed from dozens of interviews with exiled ex-colleagues. The tireless legwork and empathetic interviews that characterize this story are typical of the rest.

Just as he had befriended the veterans of the Somali incursion, he is adopted by the Bold Tigers, a squadron of F-15E pilots and backseat bombardiers ("wizzos" or weapons-systems operators) of the USAF 391st Fighter Squadron who plied their trade in Iraq and Afghanistan. He captures their mystique perfectly:

"Fun" is a word not often applied to warfare. It's unseemly; you aren't supposed to enjoy yourself while killing people. But the high-intensity enthusiasm of the Bold Tigers was unmistakable. They are young (most of them in their twenties), slender, fit, smart, patriotic, highly motivated, exhaustively trained, and crisply able. They are all in love with flight, with riding their sil-

ver bullets to the edges of the sky, peering down at the broad curvature of the earth, feeling the great surge of supersonic engines beneath them. Given the chance to show what they could do, taking a cause that both inspired and excited them, added a tincture of danger to the heady mix. It's no wonder that the pilots and wizzos of the 391st came to feel that this was the time of their lives."

Contrast this with his take on the leftist movers and shakers gathered to greet presidential candidate Al Sharpton at a Washington hotel: "Winnebago-hipped block captains with megaphone voices; tangle-haired young anarchists with tattooed necks and

bejeweled noses; grey-stubbed men with thinning ponytails in patched jeans and T-shirts that read IMPEACH BUSH and SOMEWHERE IN TEXAS A VILLAGE IS MISSING ITS IDIOT; big-armed unionists fed up with corporate power; confrontational lesbians, New Age grandmas; militant vegans; eco-guerrillas; international antiglobalists, fierce pacifists - in other words the Democratic Leadership Council's nightmare ... If anyone could think boldly enough to imagine Al Sharpton in the Oval Office, it was the people in this crowd."

By following Sharpton around the country, and letting him strangle himself with his own deeds and words, Bowden performs a character assassination so lethal that no reader could ever take this "Reverend" liar and charlatan seriously again.

In *The Dark Art of Interrogation*, Bowden investigates the arrest and subsequent breaking of Khalid Sheikh Mohammed, the suspected mastermind of the World Trade Center bombing. Delving into the delicate issue of torture, he talks to a wide range of Israeli, CIA and New York City Police interrogators.

His conclusion: "If interrogators step over the line to outright torture, they should be held personally responsible. But no interrogator is ever going to be prosecuted for keeping Khalid Sheikh Mohammed awake, cold, alone, and uncomfortable. Nor should he be."

The book concludes with two long pieces of investigative journalism. In *Mayberry Vice*, Mike White and Rudy Legenza, two young detectives in the little town of Central Falls, Rhode Island, stumble upon a multi-million-dollar Colombian cocaine smuggling ring.

It all starts with a routine bust in a Colombian dance hall: "In the men's room, Mike spied six feet under one of the stall doors. Due to his extensive police training, as he would later say, 'I knew something was amiss.'"

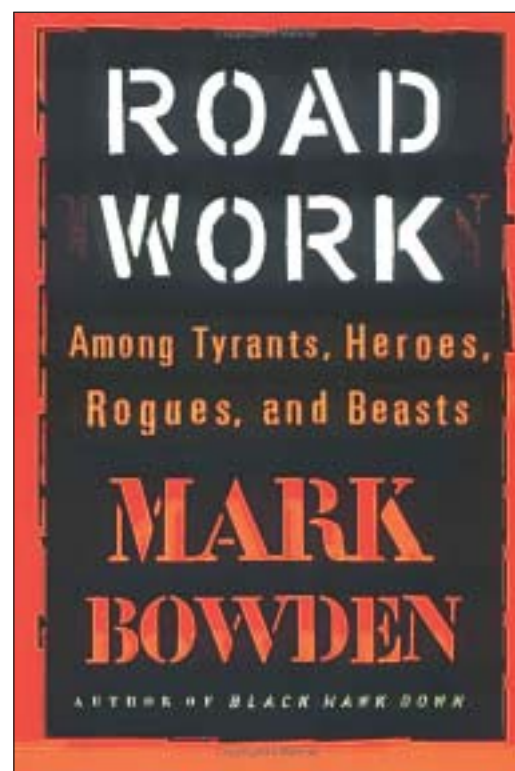
Finally, *Cops on the Take* is a masterful retelling of a canny and dogged brothel owner's co-operation with an FBI team to bring down a vast network of crooked cops in Philadelphia.

You get the feeling that Mark Bowden, like those young fighter pilots, is having the time of his life.



## Off the SHELF

By James Eckardt



## Wordly wise



"The biggest challenge in my life is always trying to think positive. I consider myself the kind of person who sees the world as a glass half-full, instead of half-empty."


With these contradictory words - offered in response to the question, "What's your biggest challenge in life?" - Canadian Natalie Glebova was crowned Miss Universe in Bangkok on May 31. Canadian Ambassador to Thailand, Denis Comeau, described the beauty queen's answer as "concise, articulate and cogent".




KIDS

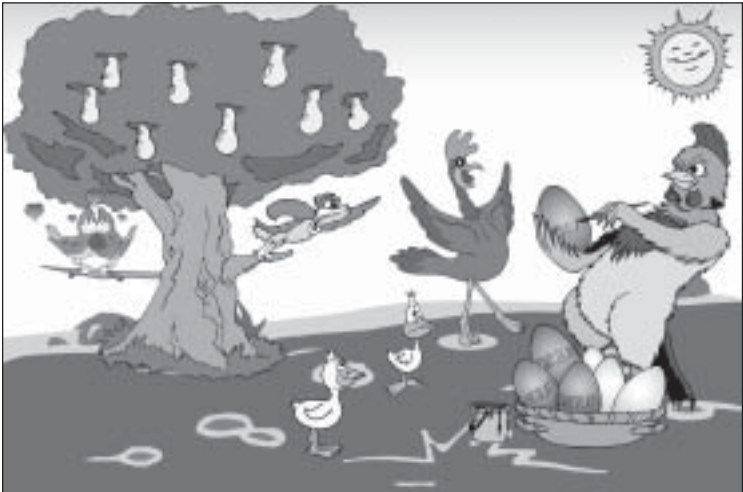
THE FUN PAGE  
FOR ALL  
THE FAMILY

Spot the Difference



Can you find the seven differences between the two cartoons below? And can you find them faster than the rest of the family?





Brain Buster!!


When she is at the market, Nui knows that her scales will balance if one durian and one lime are on one side and seven eggplants are on the other. Three limes will balance with 1.5 eggplants. How many eggplants will balance with one durian?

A. One durian will balance with 6.5 eggplants.

ANSWERS TO LAST WEEK'S MONSTER QUIZ

1. William Inge; 2. Sir Ridley Scott; 3. Dysentery and diarrhea; 4. A ghost or other supernatural phenomenon; 5. Scott Joplin; 6. At the back of your head; 7. Antony and the Johnsons; 8. Peter Mayhew; 9. 221cm; 10. She was a soldier in the People's Liberation Army; 11. 963; 12. The Star-Spangled Banner; 13. Francis Scott Key; 14. Captain Sir Robert Falcon Scott; 15. Jack Johnson; 16. Scissor Sisters; 17. Sonnet No 30; 18. The sacred text of Zoroastrianism; 19. The surface area of a sphere; 20. Tiananmen Square.

Get your brain in gear with The Monster Quiz



Kids! Get Mum and Dad to help you find the answers to these questions. They're not easy, but if you do some research you should be able to find the answers to all of them.

1. What is the term for a recess in castle chapels used to hold holy relics?

2. Which city was, until 1868, known as Edo?

3. How much did the Cullinan Diamond weigh?

4. What, in Hawaiian, is a kahuna?

5. Which techno group had a 1992 hit with Ebenezer Goode?

6. In terms of camera technology, the acronym FLIR stands for what?

7. By what name was the city of Tshwane formerly known?

8. Which Brazilian CSKA Moscow football player was born June 11, 1984?

9. Chongak and sogak are musical genres associated with which culture?

10. Mlodych is a district of which European city?

11. Which nu metal/mall-core band released the album Vol. 3 (The Subliminal Verses) last year?

12. Which airport has the ICAO code GATB?

13. Which band had a 1988 hit album with Intro-spective?

14. Which band had a 2002 hit album Outrospective/Retro-spective?

15. Which Beatles' song features the mantra Jai Guru Deva Om?

16. Who is the Prime Minister of France?

17. Which UK indie-rock band released Employment, their debut album, this year?

18. From what does the band take its name?

19. Who wrote Bridge to Terabithia?

20. In which Brazilian state is Vitoria da Conquista?

Answers next week.

Never a Cross Word!

- ACROSS
1. Very learned.

6. Did her face launch 1,000 ships?

7. Mr Eastwood, movie star and director.

10. Sinbad's mythical bird.

11. Something that ruins the view.

13. Try.

16. Baseball referee, briefly.

17. Mistake.

19. Japanese city next to Kobe.

20. An offense against religion.

- DOWN
1. Lawyer, in Britain.

2. From here.

3. Filthy money.

4. Mr Chaney, actor.

5. There's not enough.

8. Protect against disease.

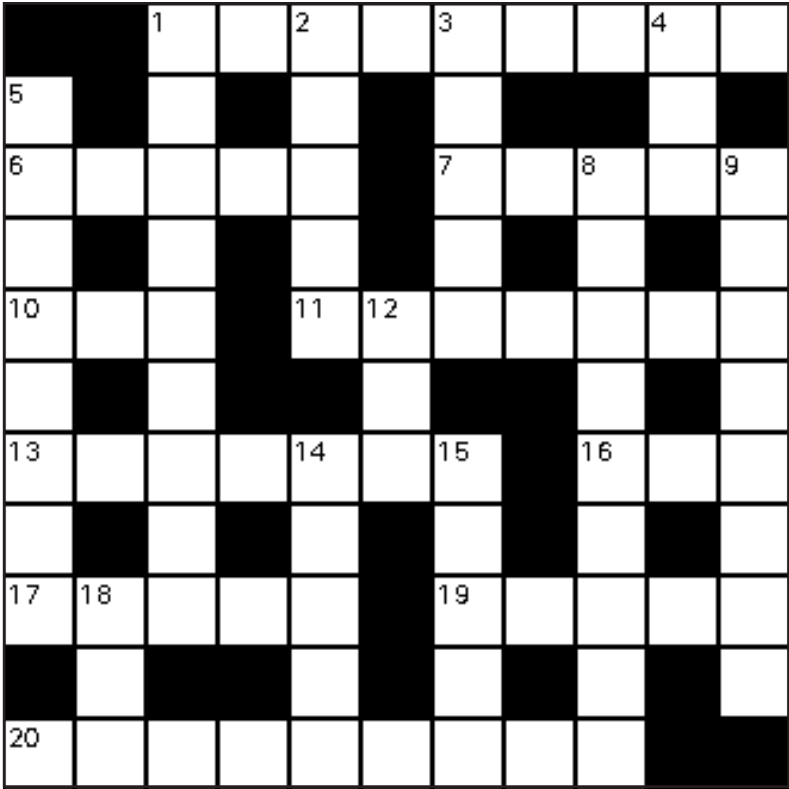
9. Actor.

12. Lapdog's bark.

14. It's thanks to the Parisian.

15. Steak.

18. Christina Aguilera's record label.



SOLUTION TO LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD

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

Solution next week





## STICKER DRIVE

Drivers from the Phuket International Airport Limousine Service (PIALS) proudly display their 'We Love Phuket' stickers.

PIALS has the franchise to serve the airport, and all 135 PIALS cars will display the stickers, so all arriving passengers will be greeted with the proud message.

The very excellent Khun Woody wrote recently in the *Gazette* about a speed test between the different alleged ADSL connections available on the island, after which he concluded that we have about the same cumulative bandwidth on the island as the average Korean housewife's toaster.

This somewhat dampened my excitement as, having been through the pain of getting a TT&T line installed (which took only five weeks), I had ordered an ADSL line as well.

Nine weeks later, I am still waiting for the "expert" (their word, not mine) to visit the building to say that yes, we can have it. Everyone else on the block has it, so it should be a formality, right?

In fact, the expert need not even visit; all he needs to do is check the records to know that we are in the zone. But two months later, there is still no sign of him.

I have come to suspect that the chap himself may be nothing more than a human email attachment being squeezed in my direction through the hub cables of Phuket Cyber City.

All this might sound like an irrelevance given the title of my column, but a walk around Toon Town these days leads one to conclude that the island's economy needs to diversify, so that we are not totally vulnerable to the whims of tourists.

And in order to achieve that diversification we need a communication infrastructure that enables modern commerce.

**Stalled:** As a deterrent to terrorists, Soi Bangla has finally been declared pedestrians-only, something that many people wanted to happen well before the threat of

# Exiled in Cyberia



bombs was so horrendously illustrated by the Bali bomb.

At the moment it is quite pleasant to walk along without being hassled by those pesky tuk-tuk drivers.

However, already there are the first signs of what I had feared when the idea was mooted previously: more traders are erecting temporary stalls and most of the hawkers have positioned themselves on the road.

This is a slippery slope, folks, and a slope I hope the local kickback merchants do not push us down. As an example of our future if this is allowed to continue unabated, I have one word for you all: Patpong.

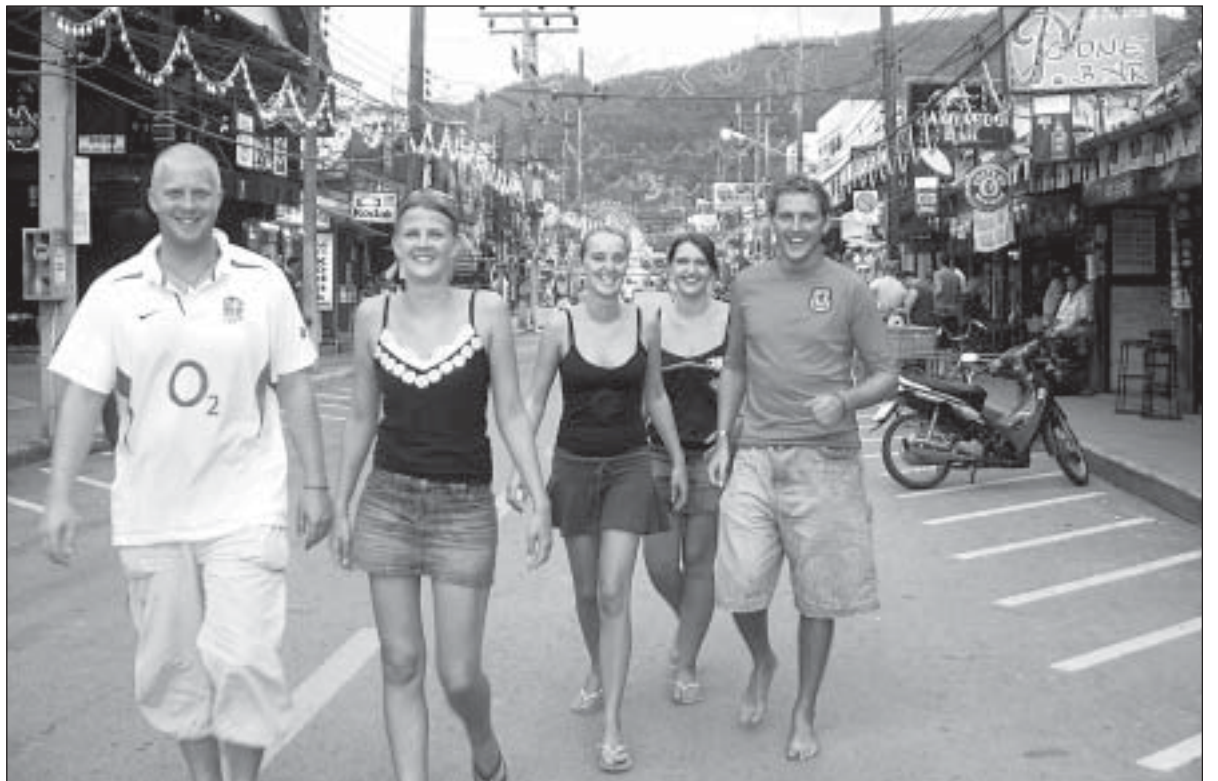
### Life behind bars:

Good to see Freddy at Koyote bar has invested in a new PA system. This means the drunken wailing of guest warblers like myself can actually be heard

over the plank-spanners' amplifiers.

Margarita Bar looks a confused place these days, and this is reflected in the number of vacant seats in what must be one of the best locations in Patong.

Why so much retail space is taken up by non-retail activity is a mystery. The place looks clut-



Plenty of room for manouver, at the moment anyway – but will vendors take over Soi Bangla now that the vehicles have gone?

tered, yet there are huge areas that cannot be used for seating. Time for a rethink, perhaps. This could be one of the stars of the next season, if only they get the concept right.

One of the busiest places in Patong that I have visited recently is the Winchester on Soi Seadragon.

It seems the departure of the much-liked Terry has not affected business at all, although the music is now chosen to meet the needs of the bar staff – not good, as most are at least 15 years younger than the punters.

**Currying favor:** Patong is about to get its first proper British curry house.

The owners of Kashmir Restaurant in Bang Tao are in the final stages of negotiations with a hotel in Patong that is currently

undergoing renovation. In August, Kashmir will take over the space previously occupied by the hotel's old restaurant and offer British toonies their favorite food.

**Crocodile rock:** It was fantastic to see Phuket legend DJ Paul Norris, of the much missed Chicago's Fun Pub, back in town and back behind the decks.

He guested at the now very busy Crocodile Disco for a few nights and the place went wild. Given what he now earns in the UK, it was highly amusing to watch other club owners offering him piss-poor salaries to try to entice him to come back to work for them.

It did my heart good to watch him rock the crowd without resorting to garbage hip-hop; not one song he played featured

the words "mother\*\*\*\*\*er" or "nigger".

**Bum rap:** This was unlike the tune I was treated to on a Nok Air flight from Bangkok recently. I kid you not.

Much as I hate Kenny G (jazz for people who want their mates to think they like jazz), there is a time and a place for such muzak, like in a lift or during the boarding of a plane.

What I do not expect is to come cross an airline greeting me on boarding with the unedited version of Snoop Doggy Dog's delightful *Who am I* (What's my name?), in which Snoop Dogg urges us to: "Throw your hands in the mother\*\*\*\*\*ing air, And wave the mother\*\*\*\*\*ers like you just don't care".

I managed to refrain from joining in, but only just.



# The quest for quality foreigners

As we move deeper into the era of Thaksin II, I'm becoming increasingly excited. Local soothsayers (all Thai Rak Thai party members) assure us that this signals the advent of the Kingdom of Heaven. What, I wonder, will it mean for foreigners like myself?

Last time I looked, the Thaksin I government wanted only quality foreigners in Thailand. Baffled by this cryptic term, I decided to interview a cross-section of foreigners and Thais to determine exactly what a "quality" foreigner is.

Once we knew that, I thought, we foreigners could try to upgrade our quality to make ourselves worthy of living in the New Social Order. Either that, or we could bugger off to some lesser paradise like Malaysia or Indonesia.

Preliminary results were not encouraging. Three typical responses:

**Bartlesby Winthrop-Scroggins of Wormsley-on-Peat, England:** "A quality foreigner is one who opens a bloody good British pub with a proper atmosphere and proper service and proper English ale and proper fish and chips, and above all a proper version of the renowned and venerated chip butty.

"It must also have proper barmaids who don't eat fried grasshoppers during working hours and who don't greet customers by saying 'Hello, whass you



naem, wheah you come fom, you buy me kolah, I love you same-same mon-key love banana."

**Eustace "Red" Nekke, of Possum Hollow, Louisiana:** "A quality furriner is one who drinks a lot of beer. This supports the local beer industry and gives jobs to all them great folks who work their butts off manufacturing Singha and Kloster and Chang.

"He may not be an actual Amurcan – he might be a Limey or a Kraut or an Aussie or even a Frog – but so long as he drinks lots of beer, he's OK."

**Somsak Sabaidee, tuk-tuk driver:** "Quarrrity farang say, 'OK, no plobrem' when I charge him two t'ousand baht go from Big C to Tesco Lotus, give me big tip duay. Then he let me take him jewry shop, buy many di'mond,

I get big commission. Dis kind farang have quarrry maak-maak. I want him satay Thailand forever."

Alas, I found these answers parochial and self-serving. I wanted a broader view, a cosmopolitan view, a view that encompassed the whole vast spectrum of what it means to be a truly "quality" human being on Planet Earth in the 21<sup>st</sup> century, with all the profound philosophical implications and metaphysical ramifications such a lofty concept suggests.

So I went to the Ministry of Social Control. There I was referred to a spokeswoman, Sadducee Riaproythisut, a stern and no-nonsense official who brought me down to earth real fast.

"Quality foreigners must have money, because in order to get money you have to be intelligent and hard-working," she snapped. "And that is the kind of foreigner we want in Thailand. We don't want idle layabouts."

"But, ma'am," I objected, "some people who have money are crooks."

"So long as they have money, we don't mind," she replied firmly. "Crooks we can handle.

"They should also be soft-spoken and courteous, clean and well-dressed, and abide by our cultural norms. It's best if they don't smoke or drink or have any unpleasant personal habits. Most impor-

tant, they shouldn't scratch their balls."

"But, ma'am," I cried, "that would give you a population of very boring foreigners. They would be almost as boring as Singaporeans.

"No right-thinking Thai would want to go near them. Don't you think it would liven things up a bit if you let in a few hell-raisers?"

She thought about that. "I suppose we could open a zoo, and put a few foreign hell-raisers in it for educational purposes," she conceded grudgingly.

"They might serve as reverse role models for our youth. We could put them in cages with trapezes and feed them bananas, just like monkeys.

"Then we could show them to our children and say, 'See? If you're a hell-raiser, you'll end up like that, living in a cage, swinging from a trapeze and eating bananas, slobbering in front of an appreciative audience and scratching your balls.' It could be very morally instructive. You want to volunteer?"

"Do you think it would be a wise career move?" I asked anxiously.

She smiled. "It's either that, or start packing."

*S. Tsow can be flamed at stsow@yahoo.com, except when he's swinging from his trapeze and eating bananas and trying to refrain from scratching his balls.*

## In The Stars

by Isla Star

**GEMINI** (May 22-June 21): Do not be afraid to branch out in a totally new direction; you will be able to sow seeds for a fruitful future. Romance is subject to ups and downs; give your partner the extra attention they seem to need and a mellower atmosphere will soon prevail. If you're celebrating coming of age this week, a surprise party guest will make your day.

**CANCER** (June 22-July 23): A loser's attitude is not doing you any favors at the moment. You are just as capable of winning as anyone else, so work on accumulating more positive energy. By the end of this month you will have to decide whether you want to remain just another cog in the wheel or to take control of the helm. Wear the color sunset red to encourage a brighter outlook on life.

**LEO** (July 24-August 22): You can look forward to a peaceful week with the emphasis on family bonding. Tuesday is the best day to get involved in business discussions but you should wait awhile before committing. If you've been waiting for the green light to plan a trip away, there are signs that you'll be packing your bags by the end of this month. The number 6 is promising on Monday.

**VIRGO** (August 23-September 23): You may be wriggling out of a tight spot at some point this weekend, but positive events on Monday should compensate for this annoyance. Smooth sailing is forecast for the rest of the

## What your stars foretell this week

week. If you've been stuck on the island since the beginning of this year, taking a break is strongly advised. Affairs of the heart are about to take on new meaning; those suffering from commitment phobia will be making a life-altering decision.

**LIBRA** (September 24-October 23): Striking a healthy balance between work and play is usually not a problem for you. However, unavoidable pressure during the remainder of June will mean that you'll have to plan carefully to ensure that there's some quality relaxation time on the agenda. Use your experience from last year to avoid getting stuck in the mud this rainy season. Cancer is starting to become romantically inclined toward you, but needs some encouragement.

**SCORPIO** (October 24-November 22): Getting an unusual idea off the ground proves more complicated than you had imagined. This is not a situation when delegation is advisable; if the job is important, you'll have to roll up your sleeves and do it yourself. Rest assured that all the energy you

put out this week will be repaid by positive results. Wearing amethyst color will help absorb negative vibrations.

**SAGITTARIUS** (November 23-December 21): Some kind of communication breakdown midweek could mean that information is withheld from you, giving competitors an advantage. It may be easier to look at a personal relationship through rose-tinted shades, but the truth will soon stare you in the face. Wear the color hibiscus red to tune into reality.

**CAPRICORN** (December 22-January 20): A quiet atmosphere temporarily prevails this week. Make the most of this calm before the storm of activity that is forecast for the last week of June. Tuesday is your best day for attending to personal administration; you are likely to discover that money is due to you. Your uncanny knack for being in the right place at the right time will pay off this week.

**AQUARIUS** (January 21-February 19): Your flirtatious advances are likely to fall on stony

ground this weekend. If you are single and would like to change your status, play it cool until next month when romantic sparks are forecast to fly. A new business partnership needs to be handled carefully; if you don't make your feelings clear at this point, an unfair share of responsibility could become a burden. The number 3 is lucky on Wednesday.

**PISCES** (February 20-March 20): If you can't get to grips with what's going on in your life, take a leaf from a more relaxed friend's book. If you can stop worrying about all those minor details, you will soon see that your prospects are actually excellent. Where work is concerned, expect to receive promising news midweek. Even though romance is not uppermost in your mind, a chance meeting this Sunday could soon change that.

**ARIES** (March 21-April 20): The ability not to let the grass grow under your feet is normally an Arian trait. However, energy will be in short supply this week and this could cause the loss of a promising opportunity. You are

advised to make an effort to get out and about on Monday and Tuesday to avoid this. Sagittarius asks a difficult question on Wednesday; events on Thursday should shed some light on how to answer.

**TAURUS** (April 21-May 21): If you thought you'd missed out on a birthday present you can look forward to receiving an overdue item in the mail this week. Romance occupies your mind after Sunday when you hear that someone has expressed interest in you. Play it cool for now. You'll make faster progress once you stop worrying about things that may never happen. A windfall is about to boost your bank balance.

**AN Production**  
DIRECT EXPORT  
Made to Order  
New T-Shirt  
European Quality:  
- Polo shirts  
- Sweatshirts  
- Baseball caps  
- Embroidery  
- Pens, Lighters  
Tel: 076-321850  
Fax: 076-321851  
Email: info@best-t-shirt.com  
www.best-t-shirt.com  
Ask for: Mr. FRANZ



**The Phuket Gazette**  
- Since 1994 -

367/2 Yaowarat Rd, Amphur  
Muang, Phuket 83000  
Tel: 076-236555  
Fax: 076-213971  
Email: info@phuketgazette.net

## Enough hit-and-run tourism

The news that the proposal for a large new marina at Chalong (see page 1) has taken one step closer to becoming reality is encouraging indeed.

So long as environmental factors are taken carefully into consideration, Governor Udomsak Uswarangkura's description of the project as "win-win" looks highly plausible. The marina may even help swing the pendulum back toward the time before mass tourism, when Phuket was a destination that attracted a combination of jet-set visitors as well as adventurous backpackers and yachties.

Reports reaching the *Gazette* indicate that some online travel services are now seeing solid bookings for December onward. In some cases, bookings look better than they did at this time last year.

This, too, is good news. Online services deal almost exclusively with FITs, as they are known – free, independent travelers – and not with tour groups.

Although there are many tour companies that bring tourists to Phuket for longer-than-average stays, there are also many others whose customers pay for everything in their home countries, stay here for a night or two at most, and add nothing to the island's economy apart from near-zero profits for hotels and bus companies.

All too often the success of Phuket as a tourist destination is measured in terms of a single raw number: the number of arrivals. But which is preferable? Five thousand people who come for two days and spend 500 baht a day? Or 50 people who come for two months and spend 2,000 baht a day?

A couple of minutes with a calculator will tell you that the second group of visitors are considerably more valuable, and because there are fewer of them, they place far less of a strain on the island's infrastructure and environment. Also, because they obviously like the place enough to stay a considerable length of time, they are more likely to be sensitive to Phuket's needs.

The government and the Tourism Authority of Thailand should stop being mesmerized by big numbers and concentrate instead on bringing in more long-stay guests to the island, from backpackers and yachties to retirees who want to spend six months or longer on the island.

If the facilities are here, they will come – and the Chalong marina will be a good start. What is needed now is wholehearted legal and bureaucratic support for changes to accommodate long-stay tourism, such as by making extensions-of-stay more easily obtainable for qualified applicants and by catering to the needs of the elderly. Let other countries take the in-out package tourists.

– The Editor

**The Phuket Gazette**

In association with The Nation Multimedia Group PCL

**Editor:** Rungtip Hongjakpet

**Managing Editor:** Alasdair Forbes

**Deputy Editor:** Chris Husted

**Chief Reporter:** Sangkhae Leelanapaporn

**Editorial Team:** Stephen Fein, Andy Johnstone, Anongnat Sartpisut, Alison Winward, Athiga Jundee, Sam Wilkinson

**Managing Director:** Rungtip Hongjakpet

**Marketing Manager:** Oranee Pienprasertkul

**Website Services Manager:** Natthira Susangrat

**Distribution Manager:** Passara Kaewbumroong

**Publisher:** The Phuket Gazette Co Ltd

### Contact us

**Advertising Sales:** adsales@phuketgazette.net

**Classified Advertising:** classads@phuketgazette.net

**Website Services:** anna@phuketgazette.net

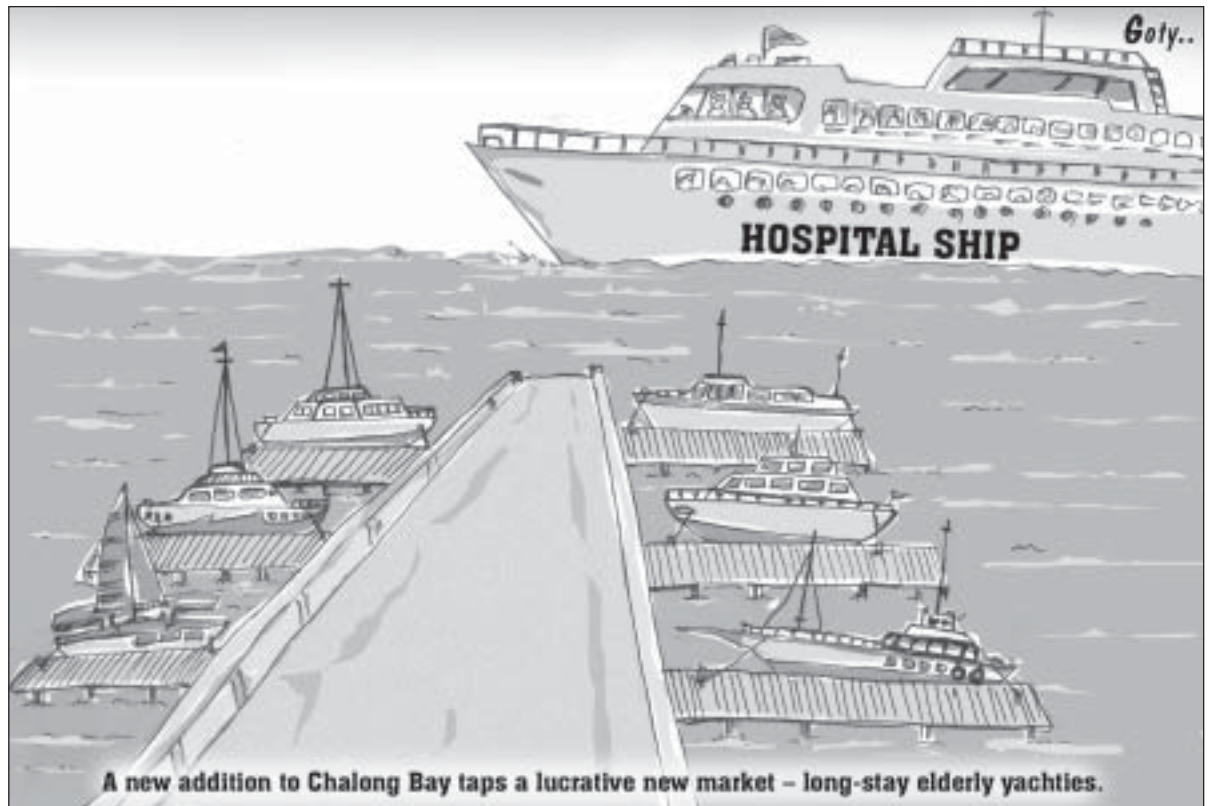
**Shopper Card inquiries:** shopper@phuketgazette.net

**Gazette Guide inquiries:** guide@phuketgazette.net

**Telephone:** 076-236555 (10 lines) **Fax:** 076-213971

The views expressed in the Phuket Gazette are those of the writers and contributors and do not necessarily reflect those of the publisher, the editor, the shareholders, or the directors of The Phuket Gazette Co Ltd.

Copyright © 1994-2005 The Phuket Gazette Co Ltd



A new addition to Chalong Bay taps a lucrative new market – long-stay elderly yachties.

## Letters

The *Gazette* is pleased to receive mail from readers. Please write to us at 367/2 Yaowarat Rd, Amphur Muang, Phuket 83000, fax to 076-213971 or send an email to editor@phuketgazette.net

with your views for publication in our next issue. We reserve the right to edit all letters. Pseudonyms are acceptable only if your full name and address are supplied.

### Not so light reading

What will the thousands of people who come to Phuket and the region to mourn lost relatives and friends make of your article and editorial on "dark tourism"?

I would expect them to be deeply offended, and with good reason. This piece is just as irrational as some of the crazy ideas about a tsunami memorial.

As for the strange byline, did a Thai really write the article, or is it just the musings of some gutless farang?

No wonder they want to hide; don't ethics require journalists and newspapers to be as honest and up-front as they insist other people should be?

Marsha Mallows  
Rawai

### Standing up to the stand-over experts

I read the article about the "stand-over tactics" allegedly employed by the limo company that operates out of the airport (*Gazette* June 4).

I used a mini van recently and was held up for more than 30 minutes while staff tried to get me to change hotels and buy tours.

So on my most recent, rather long trip, I paid 600 baht for a car thinking I wouldn't be subject to that ordeal. I was wrong.

The car stopped at the office and I refused to get out. After I had spent a suitable time in the sin bin for my refusal, we proceeded to the hotel.

My wife and I are coming to Phuket again this year, but with the budget airlines making it so

cheap to travel to other places in Thailand I fear that Phuket is at risk of becoming a transit destination.

I hope that tourists return to Phuket in large numbers, but since tourists have been complaining for years about tuk-tuks, jet-skis and aggressive touts, I'm sure that the limo company will be regarded as [yet] another thing that can't be changed.

Terry Emerson  
Perth, Australia

### Sniffing out the truth at Laguna

While Lis Kinswoman (*Outside In, Gazette* June 4) is correct in stating that the Laguna complex is a "...laudable triumph of environmental recovery," it is apparent that she hasn't spent much time there recently.

What once was a beautiful, quiet, natural habitat has been turned into a huge construction site. Every square wah is being used to build homes, villas or condos with all the noise and environmental pollution that this entails.

Until recently the one unspoiled piece of land within the Laguna complex was the golf course. Sadly, that is no longer the case.

Even this is now being used for construction on what used to be the driving range.

Only yesterday I was almost mowed down by a dump truck racing across the footpath leading from the 8<sup>th</sup> hole to the 9<sup>th</sup> hole.

As for the smelly ponds issue, I would invite the writer to walk past the large pond adjacent to the 17<sup>th</sup> hole and let her nose

be the judge as to whether or not the *Asia Guide* writer she takes to task is right or wrong.

It is depressing to witness what greed has done to this once pristine and beautiful resort.

Long live the almighty baht.

Steve Rubenstein  
Laguna Phuket resident

### Tense over complex verb abuse

I would like to offer some free English-language advice to the management of Central Festival Phuket.

Please note that it is both grammatically and physically impossible for me to "down the windscreen" of my car when I arrive at the entrance to your complex.

The first point is that "down" is not a verb, and the second point is that my "windscreen" is actually the [protective] glass at the front of my car.

I suggest that you change your sign to read: "Please open your window".

Elsa Crabb,  
Rawai Beach

### Expatriate survey

I am an academic at the University of New South Wales conducting a study on Westerners who have lived in Thailand for at least a year, now or previously.

Westerners are invited to help in an anonymous online survey, which takes around 10 minutes to complete.

The link is: education.arts.unsw.edu.au/farangsurvey.htm

Dr Robert Howard  
Australia

Letters conveying views and suggestions are published here. Those seeking comment from government officials or business owners are published as *Issues & Answers* on the facing page.



# Bad time to collect bar dues

People in the entertainment business waited for the best part of a year to learn how much an entertainment license would cost them.

In the past, operators of bars up to 100 square meters had to pay 1,000 baht for a permit to sell alcohol. I had expected the fee to rise to 5,000 baht per 100sqm, but it has been set at 10,000 baht – 10 times the old fee.

There are about 300 beer bars in Patong. They didn't all have licenses in the past, and I'm pretty sure not all of them will buy a license now.

It is also worth bearing in mind that the classifications for the new licences are still not clear. The 3(4) Entertainment Venues class has four subcategories – a, b, c and d.

What no one at the Ministry of Interior seems able to tell us yet is whether bars have to pay for separate licenses for each category that applies to them, or pay for just one license.

For example, if a bar occupies more than 301sqm, accord-

## FIRST PERSON

It is now almost one month since Phuket's beer bar operators learned that, for many of them, the cost of a licence had been increased by a factor of 10 – from 1,000 baht per 100 square meters in the past to 10,000 baht. However, the licenses are being re-introduced almost six months after the island's tourist industry was devastated by the tsunami.

Here, **Sompetch Moosophon**, President of the Patong Entertainment Business Association, ponders the wisdom of making bar owners, who have seen business slump disastrously since the tsunami, pay 10 times more than they used to for their licenses.



ing to the new law, the cost of the license for a bar that size is 50,000 baht. But if the bar could fall into three subcategories of the 3 (4) class – b, c and d, say – does the operator have to buy a separate license for b, c and d – making a total of 150,000 baht? Or just one license at 50,000 baht?

I really think the government should allow the province to take a flexible approach to en-

forcing this law. In practical terms, this would mean allowing the province to let bar owners defer payment.

The beer bars in Patong have lost around 80% of their trade because of the tsunami, and now we are in the "green" season, and I doubt most of them have the money to pay for a license.

If the government insists on collecting the money at this time,

it won't find it easy. I wouldn't be at all surprised if, rather than buying a license right now, some operators decide to shut up shop for the low season, and reopen during the high season when they hope to have customers again – and the money to pay for a license.

That may not be too bad for the operators – but it is bad for the people who work in the bars, as they will be out of a job, and

as business is so slack at the moment, they have precious little hope of finding another one.

The government says that once someone has bought a license, they need pay only 20% to renew it each year, but I don't see the sense of this. Surely it would be better to spread the cost out a bit – reduce the cost of the initial license and increase the cost of renewal?

I agree that it is good to license venues, and to apply the law equally to all venues, as it makes it easier for the government to control what happens in bars, with regard to illegal drugs, for example.

However, whether the licenses are a good thing or a bad thing, most bar operators in Patong still haven't received official notification about the type of license they need, when they should pay for it, or the deadline for buying one.

At the moment, even those who agree with the law aren't in a position to obey it.

– *Compiled by Anongnat Sartpisut*

## What happened to the free HIV treatment?

A friend of mine is HIV-positive and tried to get the free [government] HIV treatment at Patong Hospital. He was told that the hospital management knew nothing about free HIV treatment and that he would have to pay for it.

As I understand it, since August 1 last year, any person with a Thai social security card can get free HIV treatment at government hospitals. Why not at Patong Hospital?

MG  
Patong

**Ploenpit Pikulthong, Chief Technical Officer at the Phuket Social Security Office (PSSO), replies:**

In Phuket, the PSSO offers people who are HIV-positive free medication to inhibit the development of AIDS through Mission Hospital Phuket and Wachira Phuket Hospital only.

To get the free medication, any HIV-positive person holding a social security card must obtain from a doctor a letter confirming that he or she has a CD4 count lower than 200.

The doctors at either Mission or Wachira hospitals will then confirm with the PSSO that the patient is entitled to receive the free medicine before prescribing it.

Patong Hospital operates as a sub-section of Wachira Phuket Hospital. Whether Patong Hospital offers the free medication depends on hospital policy.

**Nuanpan Maipanich, a nurse in the Aids section at Wachira Phuket Hospital, replies:**

Wachira Phuket Hospital and Mission Hospital are currently the only hospitals [in Phuket] that issue the free medication under the PPSO project.

We are currently consulting with Patong and Thalang Hospitals so that the free medication can be issued to patients through those hospitals.

**Saovane Ratanadilok Na Phuket, HIV Specialist at the Phuket Provincial Health Office (PPHO), replies:**

The PPHO has been offering free HIV medication to Thai nationals only through a project that has been running since 2002.

The free medication is available at the three government hospitals in Phuket: Wachira, Patong and Thalang hospitals.

As long as the patient has a Thai ID card and a letter from a doctor confirming that he or she has a CD4 count lower than 200, the patient can receive free anti-AIDS medication provided by the Ministry of Public Health.

**The Gazette notes:**

For Thai nationals only, call the PPHO at Tel: 076-211330 ext 102; Nurse Nuanpan at Wachira Phuket Hospital at Tel: 076-217293 ext 406; Wanwimol Leelawattanayotin at Patong Hospital at Tel: 076-344225 ext 253; or Thalang Hospital at Tel: 076-311033 ext 306.

Holders of Thai Social Security cards (including working foreigners) may contact Nurse Nuanpan at Wachira Phuket Hospital or Rungtip Piman, Chief of the Outpatient Department at Mission Phuket Hospital, at Tel: 076-237220.

## What's the deal with playing cards?

I and some friends decided to play cards while relaxing near Patong Beach.

After buying some cards – which were bonded and taxed – from 7-Eleven, we played for an hour or so before police officers interrupted us and told us: "No. Cannot," and stood over us menacingly until we put the cards away.

We were not gambling as we know that is illegal in Thailand. But if just playing cards

is illegal, why are playing cards sold here?

Geoff  
Patong

**Pol Col Teeraphol Thipjaroen, Superintendent of Kathu Police Station, replies:**

Gambling is illegal in Thailand but people can still play cards in public areas, so long as they are not playing for money or property. People may play cards for forfeits, such as taking

off their clothes or drinking, that is not a problem, but it is if there is money or property involved.

If a police officer cannot be sure that people are not playing for money or similar, he must stop them playing. If we do not do this, we could end up with locals and tourists gambling all over the place.

Playing cards are sold so widely here because many people use them for telling fortunes, not for gambling.

## Issues & ANSWERS

**Want to know how to get something done? Can't understand some of the dafter things that seem to go on in Phuket? Want to pitch an idea to Phuket's authorities or institutions? Then this is the forum for you.**

**Submit your queries or suggestions to us and we'll ask the appropriate people to respond to them.**

**Write to: The Phuket Gazette, 367/2 Yaowarat Rd, Muang, Phuket 83000. Fax 076-213971, or submit your issue at [www.phuketgazette.net](http://www.phuketgazette.net)**

## Life in the 'L' lane

Do learner drivers need to display an "L" plate on the car while learning to drive? Also, is there a driving school?

Terence Bliss  
Phuket

**Raweevan Navarug, Director, Saran Driving School, replies:**

Thai driving schools do not have to display "L" plates on

their car but we have signs all over our cars that let other drivers know that these are cars being used by learner drivers.

We have driving instructors who can speak English. You can contact us at Tel: 076-248912.

**Taksina Boonmueng, of Taksina Driving School, responds:**

We have an English-speaking teachers and all our cars have signs saying "Driving Instruction Car" on them.

You can contact us at Tel: 076-224144.

**A spokesperson from the Phuket Provincial Transportation Office replies:**

In Thailand, there is no requirement for learner drivers to display an "L" plate on the car while driving. This is because no one may drive on the road without a driving licence, even if a license holder is sitting with them. Learners may practice driving only off the public roads.



## ON THE MOVE



Briton **Neil Todd**, 39, has been appointed Credit & IT Director of Courts Megastores Thailand Ltd.

Previously a board director of publicly-listed Courts (Singapore) Ltd, Mr Todd, a chartered accountant, was involved setting up Courts in Thailand. He is now responsible for managing its consumer credit and IT. He has worked in Singapore since 1990, first with Coopers & Lybrand (now part of Price-Waterhouse-Coopers) and, from 1993, Courts (Singapore) Ltd.



**Passaraporn Kaotan**, 40, from Krabi, has been promoted to Operations Controller – Southern Region, Courts Megastore Thailand Ltd.

K. Passaraporn joined Courts Megastore Thailand Ltd in February 2003 as Phuket Store Manager.

She was promoted to Senior Operations Manager in November 2003.

She has a degree from Ramkhamhaeng University and a short MBA from Chulalongkorn University.



**Tammasak Chootong** has been appointed Acting Executive Chef of JW Marriott Phuket Resort & Spa.

K. Tammasak joined the hotel in September 2003 as Executive Sous Chef.

He has a strong culinary knowledge and background, and is a graduate of the *Küchen Meister Schule* in Heidelberg, Germany.

In his new position, K. Tammasak will be in charge of the operation of all food outlets in the resort.

## Tafta tariffs fall,

By Chris Husted

PHUKET: When the Thailand-Australia Free Trade Agreement (Tafta) came into force on January 1 this year, Thailand eliminated its tariffs on 2,934 imports from Australia. But buyers have yet to benefit from lower prices for some Australian goods, including wine and beer.

On January 1, the 54% tariff on wine was reduced to 40%, and the tariff will be stepped down to zero by 2015. For beer and spirits, Thailand halved its tariff of 60% to 30%, with a zero tariff the target by 2010.

Sean Riley, Senior Trade Commissioner at the Austrade office in Bangkok, in Phuket recently, explained that wine distributors are currently capitalizing on the tariff cut to compensate for years of low profit margins. He added that he expected cheap prices to be passed on to consumers as the tariff on Australian wine is reduced further.

However, one importer of Australian wines and beers told the *Gazette* that the distributors pocketing the immediate benefits was not the problem. Rather, he said on condition of anonymity, it should be noted that prices of goods in Australia are on the rise.

"As an example, we are currently making only 30 baht more per case [after the tariff cut], but the brewery is about to raise its price to us," he said.

If he does not pass on that price rise, the extra revenue, post-tariff-cut, will fall to 15 baht a case, he calculated.

Mr Riley was in Phuket on June 1 to explain the workings of Tafta, which will see tariffs on 94% of imports from Australia reduced to zero by 2010. By 2025 all tariffs on Australian goods will be abolished.

With him was Stephen Gee, Political and Economic Counselor at the Australian Embassy in Bangkok, who explained the mechanics of the reduced tariffs.

# From A to B via the Web

Many of you have asked me about finding the best travel deals on the Web. Ends up, I'm not the right person to ask.

K. Add, my significant other, always books our flights, hotels, cars and the like. She graciously agreed to sit down with me and take me through her best tricks for getting the lowest prices, right here in Phuket.

Realize from the off that travel agents and travel agencies can help you in many ways that you can't help yourself.

Just for starters, if you need a real airline ticket (remember those printed hardcopy things?), you'll need to work through an agency.

I, for one, would never take international flights with aircraft

changes without hardcopy tickets.

It never hurts to look at prices on the Internet and compare them with your friendly local travel agents offerings.

Many travel agents right here in Phuket get deals that you can't match online.

And if you're booking less than 48 hours in advance (or 24 or 72, depending on the flight), or you don't have a credit card that the site accepts, you probably won't be able to use the Internet to book tickets.

K. Add's recommendations:

If you want to fly from Phuket to Bangkok, check what's available.

Many people think that Air Asia ([www.AirAsia.com](http://www.AirAsia.com)) offers the cheapest fares, but that isn't always true, particularly when you figure in the fees, service charges, and the like (which only appear on the screen toward the end of the booking process).

Check Bangkok Airways

([www.bangkokair.com](http://www.bangkokair.com)), Nok Air ([www.nokair.co.th](http://www.nokair.co.th)) and Orient Thai ([www.onetwo-go.com](http://www.onetwo-go.com)) before you press the final button.

Surprisingly, Thai Airways often has the lowest fare to Bangkok, or pretty close to it, when you take the fees into account. The trick is that you have to book through the Thai-language part of the site.

Start at [www.thaiair.com](http://www.thaiair.com). Click Andaman Sun, Sand & Sea on the left. You'll find yourself on a Thai-language-only page. If you click the button at the bottom, Thai Air presents you with the various flights on offer and reverts to English!

For flights to Singapore, K. Add checks with our travel agent. They have deals just as good as those you can find on the Internet, particularly if you need a hotel in addition to the airfare. You can always double-check at [www.silkair.com](http://www.silkair.com).

Airlines have dropped direct flights from Phuket to Hong Kong, but if you don't mind

doglegging through Bangkok, the round-trip fare from Bangkok to Hong Kong is 2,900 baht on Orient Thai ([www.orient-thai.com](http://www.orient-thai.com), for flights outside of Thailand).

My son, Justin, just took that flight and he said it was great.

Finnair ([www.finnair.com](http://www.finnair.com)) also offers cheap flights. We once got a super-cheap two-for-one deal for business class but the schedule is pretty bad.

Make sure you check Cathay Pacific ([www.cathaypacific.com](http://www.cathaypacific.com)) just in case they run a special.

For both Singapore and Hong Kong, keep your eye out for combination flight/hotel packages. If you need a hotel, it's frequently cheaper to book the hotel at the same time as the flight.

K. Add likes to scan the offerings at [www.bangkok.com](http://www.bangkok.com) and [hotelthailand.com](http://hotelthailand.com) when we go to Bangkok, and [www.phuket.com](http://www.phuket.com) when friends come to visit.

She tried Priceline in the US ([www.priceline.com](http://www.priceline.com)), a site where you bid for your hotel room, not knowing which hotel you will get, but Priceline in the US won't take a bid unless you have a mailing address in the US or Canada.

Then she discovered that Priceline Hong Kong ([www.priceline.com.hk](http://www.priceline.com.hk)) and Priceline Singapore ([www.priceline.com.sg](http://www.priceline.com.sg)) both take Thai mailing addresses, and work just fine.

She recently booked a bunch of hotel rooms for a trip to the US and Canada. They were great rooms in very nice hotels,

the system worked perfectly and it was cheap, cheap, cheap.

The only problem we ever encountered was location: some of the hotels were a bit out of the way.

Priceline has expanded its offerings. You can still bid for a room (say, offer 2,000 baht a night for a four-star room in Hong Kong), but also use the websites to search for deals on rooms, many of which are quite inviting.

K. Add also checks Accommodation Line, [www.accomline.com](http://www.accomline.com), to make

sure the amount she bids on Priceline isn't excessive. If you can't get Priceline to accept your bid, just go ahead and book the room on Accommodation Line.

For rental cars, K. Add checks Orbitz ([www.orbitz.com](http://www.orbitz.com)) and looks for the cheapest prices. She then goes to the rental company's website and tries to book there directly. (So if Orbitz says cars in Seattle are cheapest at Alamo, say, she checks the Alamo site, [www.alamo.com](http://www.alamo.com).) Most of the time it's cheaper to book directly on the rental company's site.

Finding great travel bargains is a lot of hard work. You have to keep good notes, and be willing to try new sites. It also helps to have a fast Internet connection.

In the end, however, you can save an enormous amount of money, minimize hassles, and have a wonderful trip, by playing the booking angles.

- **Woody Leonhard**  
[woody@khunwoody.com](mailto:woody@khunwoody.com)

Providing the best business solutions

World-class  
**Accounting Software**

**Accounting & Tax Services**

Thai Tax Courses (in English)  
Tax Clinic (For your tax solutions)

**Phuket: 076 212989**

Bangkok 02 5137151  
Pattaya: 03 8378178  
Koh Samui Branch: 0 7723 0831

[info@thaiaccounting.com](mailto:info@thaiaccounting.com)  
[www.thaiaccounting.com](http://www.thaiaccounting.com)

**Siam International**

**Siam International**  
38/54 Nanai Road,  
Patong, Kathu, Phuket 83150

- ❖ Legal consultation
- ❖ Company formations
- ❖ Notarial certifications
- ❖ Contracts
- ❖ Work permits
- ❖ Bookkeeping
- ❖ Visa service
- ❖ Translations

**Contact:**  
Tel: 076 346 149  
Fax: 076 346 150  
Email: [siamint@loxinfo.co.th](mailto:siamint@loxinfo.co.th)



# but benefits may be slow in coming

Mr Gee said that to have a reduced tariff on an Australian import, the exporter in Australia must be registered and must obtain a Certificate of Origin (CoO) at the point of shipping.

"The way Tafta is worded, if anyone presents that certificate, the Customs officers have to believe it; they have to take it at face value and grant the preferential rate," he said.

"If you import goods and haven't got a CoO and in the next 12 months you obtain one for those goods, you are entitled to a rebate," he added.

Mr Gee said that the two nations had experienced some problems implementing Tafta in the initial stages, but added that

the problems are being worked out. "There have been a couple of problems that we've had to iron out, but on the whole it's working well," he said.

Mr Gee said that the reduced tariffs were open to anyone importing Australian goods and that although he expected problems to arise from misunderstandings, his staff were willing to help sort these out.

Although Australia is the first to sign such a comprehensive deal with Thailand, other countries are expected to follow suit, probably starting with the US and Japan.

Mr Riley said that Austrade was aggressively promoting the benefits of Tafta as he believes

the competitive advantage of Australian imports will be eroded by Thailand signing other FTAs within the coming two years.

In addition, non-tariff benefits under Tafta have also yet to be realized. The Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) website claims that Tafta allows Australian companies that "manufacture goods in Thailand to provide distribution services in relation to those goods without limitation of Australian equity (i.e. up to 100%). The previous limit was 49.9%."

DFAT also says that Thailand "will" permit up to 100% Australian ownership of companies providing certain construction services and that Thailand

will permit 100% Australian ownership of companies providing management consulting services through a regional operating headquarters or associated company or branch. The previous limit for both was 49.9%.

Mr Gee strongly advised a thorough reading of Tafta, with particular attention to the document's annexes and footnotes.

For example, under Tafta, Thailand will permit up to 60% Australian ownership of major restaurants or hotels (the previous limit was 49.9%). However, Annex 8 stipulates, "The facility must have a minimum area of 450 square meters. The provider must have a minimum paid-up registered capital of 50 million baht."

Other benefits yet to be fully explained include "provisions on investment protection", greater freedom in transferring funds out of Thailand, and expedited issuing of visas, work permits and permits to stay.

Mr Riley said that Austrade will return to Phuket. "[Before the tsunami] We did not know the extent of the Australian business community in Phuket and the community itself was not well linked," he said.

"We look forward to the Australian business community in Phuket developing and becoming more cohesive," he added.

For more information on Tafta, see [www.dfat.gov.au/trade/negotiations/aus-thai](http://www.dfat.gov.au/trade/negotiations/aus-thai)

## Politicians fail France and Germany

The proposed new European constitution has generated an enormous amount of debate, much of it from completely uninformed opinion.

For example, the majority of French voters who voted "No" in the referendum did so for all the wrong reasons.

Jacques Chirac, the French President, who went to such great lengths in an unsuccessful attempt to secure a "Yes" vote failed to persuade the French electorate to change their minds.

He had at his disposal many good reasons for the French electorate to favor a "Yes" vote but he apparently could not marshal the ideas into a cohesive speech.

In fact, had he been able to do so, the electorate might have questioned his heading a government that was so incompetent that these changes had not been enacted years ago.

Because of the enormous amount of bureaucratic intrusion into every aspect of their operations, the directors of one small French publishing house decided some years ago to move their main operation to the UK.

The UK is hardly the exemplar of a bureaucracy-free nation, but the company had simply had enough of trying to operate under French regulations.

The company maintains an office in Paris, and tends to employ French expatriate staff in its British office, finding the business environment much more conducive to running a small company.

One example of this is that, when calculating salaries in the UK, there are two deductions that are required to be passed on to the government. With their employees in Paris, they are required

to calculate no fewer than 30 separate deductions for each worker.

Small- and medium-sized businesses are simply not geared to deal with huge piles of government-imposed paperwork, and any government that makes small businesses climb such huge piles simply does not deserve to be in power.

In business, time is money. The more time a company has to spend satisfying the government, the less time it is able to devote to its primary activities.

Politicians are vastly over-rated creatures. The terms "political leaders" and "statesmen" – if they must be used – should be accompanied by a laugh or, preferably, a snort of derision.

In reality, politicians, where democracy exists, are voted into power and thereafter the public pay their salaries.

They are not leaders but representatives/public servants and should be models of frugality and financial responsibility.

Actors and rock stars are gazed at in awe by countless millions, but at least these individuals must keep producing successful products to maintain their status.

I wonder how many people would even recognize Warren Buffet or Jack Walsh if they passed them in the street? They are the true celebrities.

There are many more celebrities walking down the streets of virtually every city in the world and sadly they don't even view themselves as "celebs".

They don't know they are celebrities and neither does the public. They are the entrepreneurs of this world.

They may not control corporate empires with hundreds of billions of dollars/euros in mar-



### MONEY TALKS

By Richard Watson

ket capitalization or employ tens of thousands of people, but without them the world would be in desperate trouble.

In Germany, meanwhile, Chancellor Gerhard Schröder came to power in 1998 promising the German people that he would reduce unemployment.

For the first few years he seemed to think that meant polishing a seat and attending functions with other would-be statesmen.

Unemployment just kept on growing. The German economy, despite having a number of world-class companies, still did not manage to produce the necessary economic miracle.

The Chancellor, belatedly noting this fact, decided to enact long-overdue changes.

To give this august politician his due, if you were to employ him as a gardener he would probably use the lawnmower not only to cut the grass but the flowerbeds as well.

Chancellor Schröder has enacted some changes to German business, but they tended to benefit large German businesses.

He forgot – or never knew – a rather simple but basic fact: two-thirds of jobs in Germany are created by small- and medium-sized companies.

It doesn't take a rocket scientist to realize that this is the sector that requires the greatest attention and assistance.

The term assistance does not mean government handouts – that's the last thing these companies need.

What they do desperately need is less government regulation. One German state in 2003 alone passed 5,000 new laws,

many aimed at increasing requirements and restrictions on business.

Fortunately, in late May, Chancellor Schröder's party, the Social Democratic Party of Germany (SPD), was trounced in state elections in North Rhine/Westphalia, prompting him to call general elections in September this year.

This will almost certainly bring the Christian Democratic Union (CDU) back into power. The CDU will certainly have a more pro-business outlook and surely bring benefits to Germany.

However, before euphoria becomes the order of the day, it is worth mentioning that for the whole of its previous reign, which lasted 16 years, the CDU was led by Chancellor Helmut Kohl – who also liked to be known as a "statesman".

Kohl was not exactly an economic genius; it was under his leadership that unemployment rose to unprecedented levels [when the former East Germany and West Germany were reunified] and the German electorate voted for a change.

However, there is a third choice for German voters: the Free Democrat Party. They actually believe in a free-enterprise system – something as yet untried in Germany.

For parts of the world where democracy is long established, respect for politicians is generally minimal.

In Asia, this reality has still to be achieved.

*Richard Watson runs Global Portfolios Co Ltd, a Phuket-based personal financial planning service. He can be reached at Tel and Fax: 076-381997, Mobile: 01-081-4611. Email: [imm@loxinfo.co.th](mailto:imm@loxinfo.co.th).*

**One German state in 2003 alone passed 5,000 new laws, many aimed at increasing requirements and restrictions on business.**

**Itinerary Visa Run Trip (Hadyai)**  
**NO.1 Daily Trip**  
 By Phuket Air  
 (Start at 11.05am. to 18.00pm.)  
**ONE DAY ONLY**

11:05AM: Departure by 9R522 to Hadyai  
 12:05AM: Arrival Hadyai International Airport  
 Transfer to Border (Thai-Malay)  
 Sadao-Changloon (SIC)\*  
 13:10PM: Immigration process  
 14:10PM: Transfer back Hadyai International Airport  
 15:10PM: Hadyai International Airport, Check in, Leisure at Airport and wait for the flight  
 16:50PM: Departure by 9R525 to Phuket

**End of Program**

PRICE	PAX
ADULT	2,950
CHILD(2-12YRS)	1,550
INFANT	

**Program Includes:**  
 \*Airticket Phuket-Hadyai-Phuket  
 \*Transfer From Hadyai Airport to border, roundtrip, (SIC) (\*Seat in Coach)

**Excludes:**  
 \*Visa fee

**We are doing :**  
 Domestic and International Airlines Ticket  
 Outbound Package  
 Hotel Reservation  
 Visa for Vietnam, Laos, China, India

**TAURUS TRAVEL CO., LTD.**  
 ๒๕๓๓ ๓๐๓๓ ๓๐๓๓ ๓๐๓๓

For further information or reservation, Please contact:  
 Taurus Travel Company Limited,  
 Tel: 076 344521-22 Fax: 076 344523 or your travel agent

**Note:** This is only Visa Extension. For Stamp IN and OUT at border. Any extra expenses that are your responsibility.



By Andy Johnstone

And so, after weeks of lessons, hundreds of swings – some of them that even connected with the ball – and a few minor golfing injuries, the time has come to put it all into practice.

The butterflies in my stomach as I prepare myself for the humiliation of being trounced – sorry, I mean the thrill of enjoying one of life's finer games – are multiplying alarmingly.

Basic things first, such as – without putting too fine a point on it – balls. Bruce Whitehead, one of the pros at Laguna Phuket Golf Club and my mentor, suggests that I start out with three.

However, I aver that three balls will surely be enough to get me around the course. Bruce politely conceals a fit of the giggles before agreeing, adding that I can buy more around the course should my balls go AWOL.

Although we are not playing 18 holes, just the back nine, I am sure this will prove enough of a challenge – for both of us.

The Par 4 Hole 10 is 444 yards, although we are playing from the somewhat easier and shorter 356-yard tee.

I address the ball and prepare to swing. Most of the advice given to me in my lessons has deserted my mind but, what the hell, I have nothing to lose – except my dignity.

Something odd happens.

# Playing a round



Before he began playing golf, Andy Johnstone found the prospect of balancing one of his balls on a small piece of wood laughable. He knows better now.

One minute I am inching myself into position and then the next there are cries of "Good shot!" and "Well done!" from Bruce and the caddies. The ball has gone straight and lands on the fairway some 160-odd yards distant.

I offer up a silent "Bugger me" in thanks to the Great Golfer

in the Sky. I whack the ball again and only come a cropper after a too-short pitch to the green. It takes me three putts to sink the ball, and I complete the hole in six strokes.

Hole 11 looks, after my success on the 10<sup>th</sup>, like a doddle. It is only 160 yards, and we are

playing it from the 120-yard tee. Admittedly, there is water before and to the right of the green, as well as two bunkers, but how difficult can it be? I soon find out.

My delightful caddie hands me a 9 iron, but I slice left and end up short, and in a bunker, the pin a tantalizing 35 yards away. It is time for an impromptu lesson; the cunning Bruce has saved the bunker-shot lesson until now.

"Sand wedge," says Bruce. "Actually, I'm not very hungry," I riposte, the joke sadly lost on the caddies.

He suggests that I hit the sand a couple of inches behind the ball. This should be easy, as half of my swings do that anyway.

The ball is in the worst position possible – just under the lip of the bunker and resting on a near-vertical slope. Positioning my feet while maintaining the correct stance is tricky, but I resist the urge to "grip it and rip it" and instead play the ball gently.

The wedge dives in behind and beneath the ball and amid a shower of sand it leaps upward and onward, landing on the green. Two putts and I sink the ball in four shots – one over par.

My game takes on a militaristic air from Hole 12 onward. Left, right, left, right – occasionally landing in the rough, sometimes in a bunker, though never in the water.

Hole 13, a 174-yard Par 3, has some of the best views on the entire course, but even the views

away to the hills do not distract me – well, not too much – and I complete it in five.

I often find myself agreeing with many of the *bon mots* of Mark Twain, but I disagree with the great man's opinion that golf is "...a good walk spoiled".

It can often be a little too warm in Thailand to take a long walk. Out in the sun this glorious Sunday morning, everything suddenly seems right with the world, especially as Bruce is kind enough to "adjust" the location of the ball for me if it appears a little too hard to play.

The 612-yard – we play from the 498-yard tee – Par 5 Hole 17 is reputedly the longest hole in Thailand. It takes me eight strokes to complete it, but dammit, this is fun.

Playing a demi-round is a lot easier than I thought it would be. I now realize that driving, pitching and putting is much like foreplay; getting it all to come together is the best part, whether one gets one's balls wet or not.

Hole 18 is tackled two strokes over par to complete the round, and the winner? Me, I suppose, because even though it took me more strokes, I am now a golfer.

For more information about Laguna Phuket Golf Club beginners' and improvers' courses, contact Bruce Whitehead or Andy Combe at Tel: 076-270991-2 or Email: [golf@lagunaphuket.com](mailto:golf@lagunaphuket.com)

**FREE ENTRANCE**

**ARCHITECT & ENGINEERING EXHIBITION 2005**

**7-10**

**11am-8pm**

**JULY 2005**

**Royal Phuket City Hotel**

- New construction technology for housing projects, hotels & resorts
- Intelligent home/fast construction tools & materials
- Hi-tech hotel & restaurant equipment

**CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS & HOTEL EQUIPMENT EXHIBITION**

- The event is bigger than last time.
- All construction material - from floor to roof files - available at this event.
- See the latest technology for construction and property, interior design and maintenance of buildings and houses.

Supported by

**For more information please contact Tel: 076-258417-8 Fax: 076-210320 Mob: 01-2446090**



# South Korea scoop ASEM qualifiers

By Anongnat Sartpisut

PHUKET CITY: A determined South Korean side dominated play by taking all nine points from their three Group B matches in Phuket and qualifying for the quarterfinals of the Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM) football competition in Bangkok.

Also qualifying for the next round were runners-up Myanmar, who beat last-place finishers Indonesia 3-2 on June 4, the last of three exciting days of play at Surakul Stadium.

The Myanmar-Indonesia game was the first of the two matches on June 4, kicking off at 4 pm. Although desperate to leave Phuket with some face-saving points after going down 1-3 to Sweden and 1-4 to South Korea, the Indonesians got off to a bad start when Myanmar's Soe Thina Aung scored just eight minutes into the match.

Indonesia equalized in the 63rd minute, but only to see the lads from the Land of 1,000 Pagodas up the ante with another goal 10 minutes later.

Ten minutes after that, Myanmar upped the ante with another goal by Soe Thina Aung to go up 3-1.

With time running out, Indonesia kept it close, scoring at 85 minutes to come to within 3-2, but the Myanmar defense held firm, winning the game and ensuring a place in the quarterfinal – provided that the Koreans



Oh! Oh! Oh! Oh Se Ryong (pictured) of South Korea found Sweden's lack of marking to his liking in the Group B qualifying final, scoring a hat-trick to give his side an unassailable 4-1 lead.

could down the Swedes in the final match of the tournament – or at least hold them to three goals.

Riding a wave of confidence into their final match after easy wins against Myanmar (3-1) and Indonesia (4-1), the South Korea boys found themselves in an odd position – under attack – as Sweden took the play to them from the outset.

Some 26 minutes after the 6 pm kickoff, the Swedes' hard work paid off when Tom Camey put his side 1-0 up. The goal only seemed to work as a wake-up call to the Koreans, who started playing harder despite having a guaranteed spot in the next round. They eventually equalized just before halftime through a goal by Choo Sang Chul.

In the second half it was all Korea, with Oh Se Ryong slotting in his first two goals of the tournament in quick succession at 59 and 62 minutes, respectively. Desperate measures require desperate actions, and by now the Swedes had little choice but to throw caution to the wind.

Oh Se Ryong found the lack of marking to his liking, completing his hat-trick in the 72nd minute and giving the Koreans an unassailable 4-1 lead, much to the satisfaction of the Myanmar players who had stayed on to watch.

In the June 6 quarterfinals in Bangkok, Myanmar were

scheduled to take on Group A winners Thailand, while South Korea were to meet Group A runners-up Slovakia.

Songsak Kitakarnkul, head of the Sports Authority of Thailand's Phuket Office, hailed the games in Phuket as a success, noting that more spectators had turned up to watch matches played here than those held in Bangkok that didn't involve the Thai team.

"This will give Phuket the chance to host more big matches, both on national and international levels, now that we have successfully hosted two world-class soccer competitions," he said, in reference to the FIFA Women's Under 19 World Cup matches here last November.

Sports and Tourism Minister Somsak Thepsuthin, who was on hand for the June 4 matches, said that the tournament, along with other high-profile events such as the visit to the island by Miss Universe 2005 contestants, would help boost tourism in Phuket by showing the world that it is safe to travel here.

"I am satisfied with the work of the organizing teams for this tournament, both here in Phuket and also in Bangkok.

"We didn't allocate a great deal when budgeting this tournament, but the cooperation on all sides has been great," he said.

## Paddling in Phuket City

PHUKET CITY: Phuket Patri Tour Company and Phuket City Municipality arranged a four-kilometer canoe race to coincide with the United Nations Environment Program World Environment Day on June 5.

The winner of the 10-team dash – which was from Saphan Hin to Ko Jan Bridge on Kra Rd – was the "Alfred" team. Runners-up were Mairocha and Charena, who came in second and third respectively.

**Skiff Asia**

[www.skiffasia.com](http://www.skiffasia.com)  
[info@skiffasia.com](mailto:info@skiffasia.com)  
 phone 06 954 1915  
**Come Sailing Today!**  
 New performance sailing dinghies

- 4-day learn-to-sail package.
- Racing, instruction and scenic fun-sailing around Cape Panwa and Chalong Bay.
- New clubhouse facility has showers, views, beverages, sailing books and DVDs.
- Youth sailing program.

**Intro "have-a-go" day for 2,000 baht. Resident prices from 1,800 baht per session.**

**Ao Yon Phuket**  
(west side of Cape Panwa)

**FOR HOME AND HOTEL  
FOR ALL YOUR FITNESS NEEDS**

**Brand-new arrival....  
Body Charger Cardio Machine**

Special reductions on opening stock.  
Save up 40%. Limited offer.

**SPORTathlon**  
Tel: 076 356 273 Fax: 076 356 274  
[www.sport.co.th](http://www.sport.co.th) E-mail: [phuket@sport.co.th](mailto:phuket@sport.co.th)

**Get your Gazette Shopper Card today!**

20% discounts for the restaurant & spa at The Mangosteen Resort & Spa  
 99/4 Moo 7, Soi Mangosteen, T. Rawai, Phuket, 83100.  
 Tel: 076-289399  
 Fax: 076-289389  
 email: [info@mangosteen-phuket.com](mailto:info@mangosteen-phuket.com)  
[www.mangosteen-phuket.com](http://www.mangosteen-phuket.com)

See the Gazette website for details of more than 250 other offers:  
[PhuketGazette.Net/Shopper](http://PhuketGazette.Net/Shopper)

**SHADE SAILS**  
for wherever your imagination can use them

Now manufactured right here in Phuket to Australian specifications

resorts  
pools  
patios  
gardens  
shops  
schools  
car parks  
restaurants  
bars  
walkways  
playgrounds

**SHADES (Thailand) Co.,Ltd.**  
 Tel: 076-323600 [www.shades.co.th](http://www.shades.co.th)  
 Call us for an obligation-free design & quote

## PATONG DARTS LEAGUE

**May 31 results:** Pickles 3 Shakers 6\*; Didi's 5 Amigo's 4\*; Piccadilly 5 Dog's Bollocks\* 4; Two Black Sheep 1\* Queen Mary 8; Valhalla v Nag's Head postponed; OffShore win in walkover against Champs, whose home bar has closed down.

**Standings:** 1. OffShore (47pts); 2. Queen Mary (38); 3. Shakers (34); 4. Didi's (31); 5. Amigos (30); 6.= Piccadilly, Pickles (28); 8. Nag's Head (22); 9. Valhalla (21); 10. Dog's Bollock's (19); 11. Two Black Sheep (10).

**Quest for beer:** 1.= OffShore, Didi's (13 beer legs); 3.= Shakers, Pickles (12); 5. Piccadilly (10); 6.= Queen Mary, Amigos, Nag's Head (8); 9.=Valhalla, Dog's Bollocks (7); 11. Two Black Sheep (4).

**June 14 fixtures (home teams first):** Didi's vs OffShore; Nag's Head v Amigos; Queen Mary v Piccadilly; Shakers v Dog's Bollocks; Two Black Sheep v Pickles; Valhalla=3-point bye.



# THE FASCINATION OF BLENDS

**W**ines made from more than one grape variety, vintage or place of origin are known as blended wines. The ability to create a blend that is more than the sum of its parts is one of the most important responsibilities of any winemaker.

The first blended wines were created in the vineyard, so to speak, long before grape varieties were properly identified. Mixed plantings were common in olden times and grapes were indiscriminately harvested together in what came to be known as field blending.

Given that different grape varieties ripen at different times, winemakers today prefer growing different varieties separately and keeping the resultant wines distinct, later blending them only after their character and qualities are fully known.

The most notable examples of blended wines include Bordeaux, Champagne, southern Rhône Valley, Chianti, Sherry and Port.

These wines are made from several

different grape varieties in order to create more interesting, complex and harmonious wines than can be achieved with only a single variety.

Blending is mostly a European theory but one finds a notable difference of opinion on the subject in Burgundy and Alsace, where wines are single varietal.

Outside Europe, blends are created by winemakers either to mimic the European model or to fulfill the whims of marketing. Sometimes, blends are accidentally created by the unintended mixing of wines during processing – understandably winemakers don't like to discuss this.

The logic behind blending is to create a finished wine superior to its individual components. There is no doubting ordinary table wines benefit from blending of different components to mask de-

## WINE



By Steven  
Roberto

fects while complimenting the collective whole. However, to make an impressive blended wine the individual wines must also be superb. So why bother blending?

The reason is usually economic. In Bordeaux and Champagne, for example, the weather is highly variable and having different varieties that flower and ripen at different times serves as a form of insurance against total loss to frost or hail.

Blending also makes it possible to maintain a unique style over time. Another motivation for blending is that many successful wineries do not own sufficient vineyard land to meet demand for their wine, and are forced to buy fruit or finished wines from others, whatever the variety. Chances are, hidden economic considerations like these are the real driving considerations behind blending.

Whatever the motivation behind their creation, blended wines are fascinating to explore.

Exotic wines such as California's Caymus Conundrum white wine or Cain Five and Bacio Divino's Italianesque red wines are delightfully perplexing and complex.

The white wines of the Southern Rhône, Italy and Spain, crafted from many uncommon local grape varieties, have long been favorites of mine and are equally fascinating.

Blends take more effort and research to understand than wines named for a single varietal, but the discovery of the unexpected and captivating nuance a skilled winemaker and nature can impart to blended wines more than compensates for the effort.

*Steven Roberto is a winemaker and restaurant consultant from California. He is the Managing Director of enVision Phuket, a Phuket-based wine importer and consultant. Email: stevenroberto@lycos.com*

## Bangkok Phuket Hospital offers free medical check-ups in soft opening

– *Gazette*, June, 1995

During its "Soft Opening Week" last month, the new Bangkok Phuket Hospital, an affiliate of the capital city's big Bangkok General Hospital, gave free checkups to anyone wishing to avail themselves of the offer.

"Business" was very good,

with throngs of people showing up for tests of eyesight, blood pressure, sugar levels, lung capacity and other vital measures.

Dr Banlue I-yara, Medical Director of the 150-bed facility said that one of the hospital's primary objectives is to educate people about health and fitness [through] radio announcements, press releases, in-house exhibits, and well-publicized doctor visits to remote areas in neighboring provinces.

The new hospital is offering special programs for senior citizens (over 65) and reduced-rate checkups for people under 35.

## Kamala family named as descendants of legendary Langkawi princess

*Gazette*, June 1-14, 2000

**KAMALA:** Chern Yayee, 62, a local bus driver from Kamala, and his family have been named by the Malaysian Government as the long-lost relatives of Princess Mahsuri, a legendary figure on the Malaysian island of Langkawi, which lies just south of the Thai-Malaysian border.

Because of the connection, the Yayee family were invited to Kuala Lumpur, where they were due to dine last night (May 31) with Malaysia's Prime Minister, Dr Mahathir Mohamed.

According to the legend, Princess Mahsuri was a Muslim

Siamese immigrant to Langkawi about 200 years ago. She was unjustly accused of adultery and sentenced to be put to death with a sacred dagger.

When she was stabbed, people were astonished to see her blood come out white instead of red, signifying her innocence. With her dying breath, she cursed Langkawi, saying that the island would not prosper for the next seven generations.

Her relatives – terrified that they too might be put to death – fled, some of them to Phuket.

Over the past few years, Malaysian Government officials have combed historical docu-

ments in a bid to find Mahsuri's relatives and bring the story to a happy ending. That search, it seems, is now over.

"I am excited to be given a chance to meet Prime Minister Mahathir," K. Chern told the *Gazette*. "Actually, we have been told we may meet the King [of Malaysia] as well."

K. Chern is the last surviving member of the fifth generation since Mahsuri died. He has five sons and one daughter.

One of the sons, Suwan, has a 14-year-old daughter called Sirintra, who not only is of the seventh generation since Mahsuri, but also bears a strong resemblance to a portrait of the Princess painted 20 years ago by an artist who had spent years researching what she looked like.

## THE TIME machine

News from the past

**Mom Tri's Boathouse Wine & Grill**

*Celebrating fifteen years. More beautiful and delicious than ever.*

*New Mom Tri's décor. New chef Tammanoon's menu. New award-winning wine list.*

Mom Tri's Boathouse Wine & Grill is honored by Wine Spectator for having one of the most outstanding restaurant wine lists in the world.

**Same Top Service Please come & enjoy!**

*Reservations are recommended.*

**Mom Tri's Boathouse. Wine & Grill. Kata Beach.**

**Tel: 076-330015**

**www.theboathousephuket.com**

**NAVRANG MAHAL Indian Restaurant**

*Authentic and a friendly atmosphere. Vegetarian, non-Vegetarian and Muslim food at their very best, prepared by our Chefs from India. South Indian food is also available.*

**For free transport in Patong, call us.**

58/11 Soi Bangla, Patong Beach, Phuket  
Tel: 076-292280 Fax: 076-292281

## Phuket Diary

June 22

**Punchline Comedy Club.** Top UK comedians Paul Zerdin, Richard Blackwood and Andy Askins from London's Comedy Store will perform a one-night adults only show. Watermark will also put on a three-course set dinner before the show, strictly by reservation only. Book early to avoid disappointment.

Location: Watermark Bar Restaurant at the Boat Lagoon. Event time: 7pm-11pm. Contact: Stuart Bird. Tel: 01-7376184. Email: info@watermarkphuket.com. Websites: www.watermarkphuket.com and www.punchlinecomedy.com.

## RELIABLE SERVICE

**BUS COMPUTER AND SERVICE CO., LTD.**

**NOTEBOOK DESKTOP PALM & POCKET PC COMPUTER ACCESSORIES**

Big C (Basement floor)  
T/F: 0-7624-8699  
Phuket City  
T: 0-7621-8936-7  
F: 0-7621-8802  
www.buscomputer.com  
email: buscom@is-net.com



## BEHIND WHEEL

By Jeff Heselwood

**T**he oldest automaker you will never have heard of is the Dutch Spyker company. Originally a coachbuilding concern and established at the beginning of last century, Spyker produced, over some 30 years, some fine performance machines.

In 1898, two brothers, Jacobus and Hendrik-Jan Spijker, built their first Mercedes-engined motor car in Amsterdam. In the same year, the Spijkers produced the famous gold royal state coach, which is still in use today.

The company name was changed to Spyker for easier recognition in foreign markets and in 1903 Spyker introduced its advanced 60/80-hp model. It was the first car with a six-cylinder engine as well as permanent four-wheel drive.

Spyker's image was further enhanced when, in 1907, a privately-entered Spyker Tourer came second in the gruelling Peking-to-Paris race.

In the period leading up to World War I, the demand for luxury cars slumped and Spyker began making aircraft. During the war it built around 100 fighter aircraft and 200 aero engines, all to its own designs.

After the war, Spyker resumed car production and made some remarkable machines. Most famous of these was the Spyker C4, which featured a special engine built by famous German engineer Wilhelm Maybach.

The company ceased trading in 1929 but the name was resurrected in the 1990s under the leadership of head designer Maarten de Bruijn and CEO Victor Muller, a lawyer and corporate restructuring specialist.

Working with Cosworth Technology in Britain, Spyker sought and obtained approval from the NHTSA and the EPA, both American auto regulation boards, and will finally be allowed to export its cars as road legal to the US – by far its biggest potential market.

Audi, whose engines Spy-



Main picture: the stunning Spyker CW Spyder. Below, right, after spending World War I making warplanes, Spyker went back to manufacturing cars. This is the Spyker type 1919 Aerocoque.

# DUTCH CLASSIC REBORN

ker uses, also assisted the tiny company in its quest for recognition Stateside.

Launched this year, the C12 LaTurbie will be the first Spyker to use the powerful six-liter Audi W12 aluminium engine.

Maximum power is an awesome 500bhp (369kW) while the torque output peaks at a massive 600Nm. Top speed is in the region of 325km/h, while the benchmark 0-100kmh time is a mere 3.9 seconds.

Meanwhile, the C8 uses a twin-turbo version of Audi's 4.2-liter V8. A race version of the car, the short-wheelbase Spyker C8

Spyder GT2R, will be entered for the Le Mans 24 Hours on June 18, driven by experienced sports-car racers Marc Goossens and Tom Coronel, with Dutchman Donny Crevels taking the third seat. The car has been developed in-house.

"This will again be a challenging year for the Spyker Squadron, which intends to make its return to the international endurance racing arena," Mr Muller said.

"Le Mans is the ultimate endurance test for our cars."

Spyker has one entry at Le Mans guaranteed, and another on

the reserve list for the annual French classic.

"We investigated a number of alternatives for Le Mans 2005 and considered building a prototype for the GTP class. In the end we decided to develop the C8 for a return to the GT class," Mr Muller continued.

The C8 Spyder GT2R will be made available to privateers after the 2005 race, with prices starting at a hefty 325,000 euros [16.3 million baht].

The original road-going C8 Spyder was unveiled at the Birmingham motor show in England in October 2000, winning instant acclaim for its hand-crafted finish and beneath-the-skin technology. The coupé version, the C8 Laviollette, was launched the following year in Amsterdam.

Since then a number of other variants have appeared, in-

cluding a twin-turbo C8 and ultimately the 12-cylinder C12 LaTurbie, which appeared at this year's Geneva motor show.

Deliveries of the C12 will not start until the second half of 2006, and there is already a backlog of 100 orders for these little-known but much sought-after supercars.

The company is now listed on the Amsterdam Stock Exchange and has appointed 18 dealers worldwide, with California being by far its most important market.

Jeff Heselwood may be contacted by email at: [jhc@netvigator.com](mailto:jhc@netvigator.com)



TIMBER & STEEL TROLLEY BARBECUES - BUILT-IN BARBECUES - MARINE BARBECUES

## The Barbecue Store

Barbecue Grills & Accessories

"The largest range of top-quality gas barbecues available Thailandwide"





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

Call Brad: 01 829 8417



Build Your Own Gourmet Sandwich

**Khum Woody's Bakery**

Pattong - Opposite Andaman Beach Suites  
Open 8:00 am to 6:00 pm. Closed Sunday. 076 340 006



# Time for networks to make amends

In the past few days, I've been to Koh Samui, Hua Hin, Bangkok and Pattaya. Bangkok is always alive and, in my opinion, one of the world's most exciting cities, probably the most exciting, if you like wining and dining, entertainment and nightlife.

There are those who would argue the case for European cities, but Bangkok does not get cold – an important consideration for me.

There was the small matter of getting caught in the traffic in a rainstorm at 6 pm, and deciding to make my escape to the nearest railway station – although I've never quite understood why a downpour in Bangkok instantly brings traffic to a standstill.

However, my attempted escape resulted in both me and my shopping getting drenched, and, on my arrival in my favorite watering hole, needing to send somebody out to buy dry clothes to avoid catching my death of cold.

Bangkok is still firing on all cylinders – in spite of the pitiful efforts of authorities to solve teenage drug and alcohol problems by sending tourists to bed early.

It's not just Bangkok that's humming; both Koh Samui and Pattaya are supposedly in their

low seasons, yet are heaving with people. Businessmen in both places told me that they're having the best low season they can remember.

In both places, especially Pattaya, I saw large numbers of Asian tourists, many of them in couple, enjoying themselves and proving that Pattaya is not the Gomorrah that many critics would have us believe it is.

Samui is buzzing, with hotels, restaurants and other businesses doing great

trade.

Clearly, the reason behind Phuket's misery and the pitiful occupancy rates is the identification of the island with the Asian tsunami, even though most of Phuket's tourism infrastructure was little affected.

We cannot combat cultural obsession with ghosts, or what some see as sensitive issues, or even the fact that some people don't want to have a vacation in an area where many died.

But clearly, the perception of many travelers, including those in other parts of Thailand,

is that Phuket was – and still is – too badly damaged to visit.

This is undoubtedly a factor in many tour operators opting not to include Phuket in their programs, but there are other factors.

Several people in Pattaya told me that they go on vacation to have a good time, and they don't need to be told to go home to bed at 1 am. These conversations were happening at 3 and 4 o'clock in the morning and everything was humming as usual.

The tourism industry in Phuket needs more help than the phrase "time heals all wounds". Promotions by the tourism authorities, such as the Miss Universe visit, have been helpful – but they are clearly not enough.

The major culprits behind Phuket's perceived destruction – the big television news networks – have made little or no effort to repair the massive damage they caused by using Phuket and its comfortable and undamaged facilities to portray the devastation caused by the catastrophe.

These networks could help by first clearly explaining the cause of the tsunami and showing how a similar disaster could happen in many other parts of the world. They should also admit to their deceit in sensationalizing and distorting the actual events at the unnecessary cost of thousands of jobs and businesses.

The fact is that visitors are still coming to Thailand – but not to Phuket. Most of the people that I spoke to simply didn't know that Phuket is no longer a smashed-up mess full of sadness.

It's a pipedream to think that the big networks will admit to their abuse of power, but hopefully, a few happy scandals here may attract their attention.

It's too bad the Michael Jackson trial couldn't have been moved here for a while.

## LARGER THAN LIFE

By Graham Doven

It's not just Bangkok that's humming; both Koh Samui and Pattaya are supposedly in their low seasons, yet are heaving with people.

## Construction Update

Coconut Island Resort Co will break ground on its 500-million-baht villa and condominium project in August, with an expected completion date around the middle of 2007.

The Coconut Island Resort project will occupy 35 rai of land on the island's southern headland, just five minutes by speedboat from the Laem Hin jetty on the mainland.

The project will comprise 77 villa and apartment units in "Thai-contemporary" style for residents who wish to combine the quiet atmosphere of island living with easy access to the mainland, which will be accessible by a speedboat shuttle from the project's boathouse pier.

Eugene McCain and Rolf Jansson, Managing Partners of Coconut Island Resort Co, told the *Gazette* that the 20-berth boathouse, which may eventually be developed into a small marina, is expected to serve as a popular stop-off point for yachtsmen on their way back to the Boat Lagoon and Royal Phuket Marina after exploring Phang Nga Bay.

For those seeking longer stays on the island, there will be 33 villas ranging in size from one to four bedrooms, and from 200 to 300 square meters of living space. Two basic design options will be available – each with a 40-sqm private pool – at prices starting at around 9 million baht.

Apartments will be built in three blocks, all enjoying sea views. The three-story southwest and southeast blocks will house one-bedroom apartments, with four units on each level, for a total of 24 units.

The east block will have 20 one-bedroom apartments (16 two-story units and four single-story units), with prices starting at 4 million baht.

Mr Jansson described the project interior design scheme as providing "a bright, modern feel" with a minimum of wood in order to ensure ease of maintenance. Floors will be of cool marble or tile, he said.

Apart from two speedboat taxis, facilities and services will include a reception desk, restaurant, tennis court, spa and fitness center and three pools, one of which will be salt water.

The project developers are now considering hiring a hotel

## Maphrao



management company to oversee day-to-day operations of the property, such as garbage collection, water supply and wastewater treatment.

Water supply will be from two wells with reserve tanks. The developers will also install underground power cables, with initial power initially supplied by an on-site generator.

The developers said they have been in negotiations with the Koh Kaew Tambon Administration Organization and are confident that the project will be hooked up to the provincial power grid well before its opening.

The target market for the project comprises foreigners, resident expatriates and Bangkok-based Thais.

For more information contact the sales office: Room 1, Koh Kaew Plaza Office, 23/101 Thepkra-sattri Rd, Koh Kaew, Muang District. Tel: 076-353926; Fax: 076-353927; Email: eam1008@mac.com.

**TAWAN PROPERTIES**

Maan Tawan and Chom Tawan - two superb developments located in an area of stunning natural beauty on Phuket's north west coast. Comprising an inspired collection of luxury villas, apartments and penthouses for the discerning buyer and set amongst extensively landscaped gardens in a private, managed estate, the homes are of the highest quality design and construction.

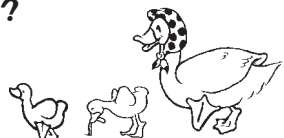
Our show property is now complete and ready for viewing.

+66 076 271 188

www.tawanproperties.com sales@tawanproperties.com

### ASK KHUN WANIDA! MOMMA DUCK

Problems with an extra-marital affair?  
Questions about Thai culture?  
Having communications problems?  
Need somebody to Love?



Read her advice in the *Phuket Gazette*.

Fax 076-213971 or email momma@phuketgazette.net

**Sai Taan**

**Luxury Villas For Sale/Rent**

Tel: +66 (0)7627 1255 Fax: +66 (0)7627 1256  
Email: info@sai-taan-phuket.com  
Web: www.sai-taan-phuket.com

**MR. CURTAIN**

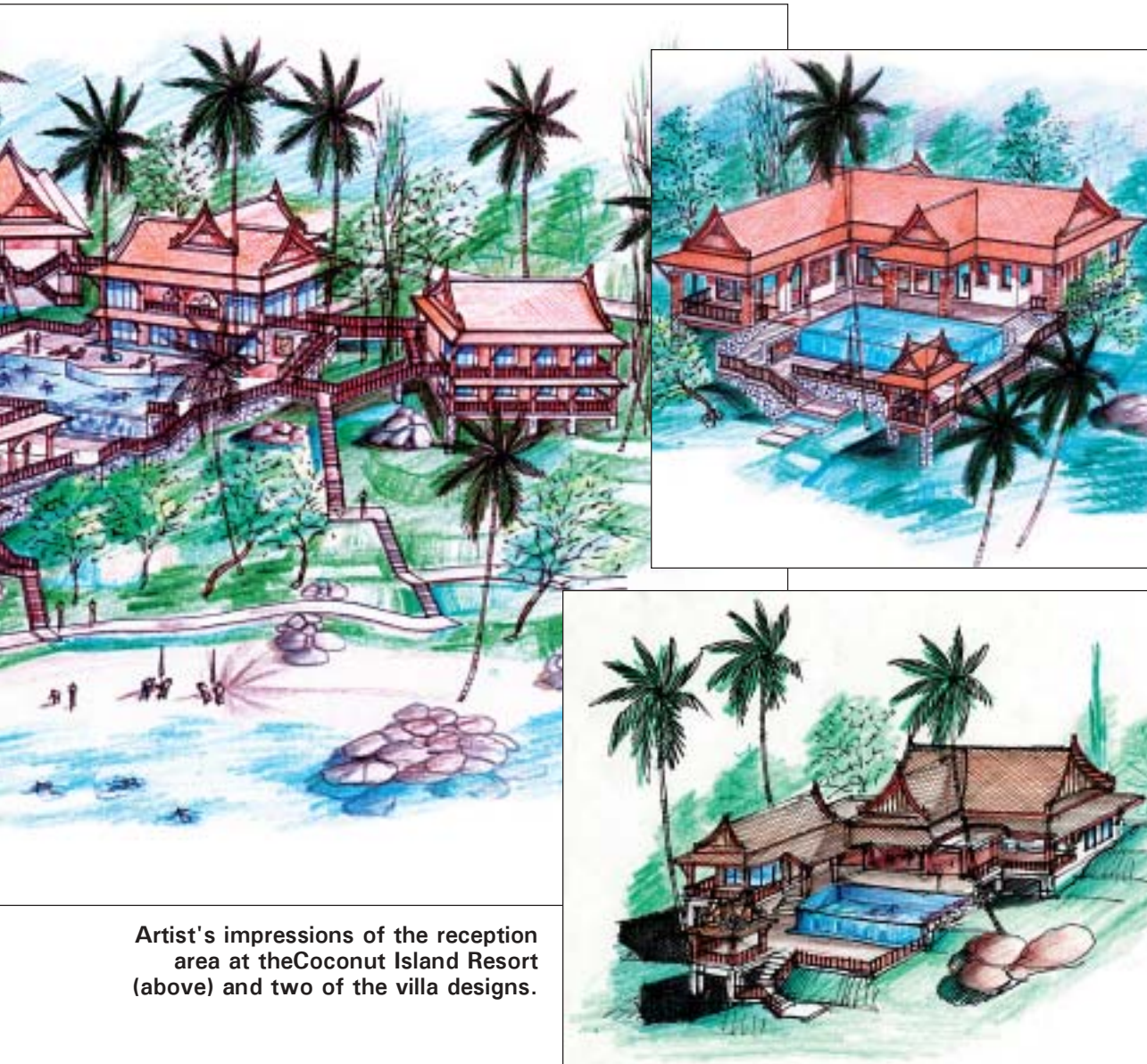
Curtains  
Furniture  
Wallpaper  
Carpets

Mr. CURTAIN (THAILAND) Co., Ltd.  
108/70-72 Chalemphrakiat Rama 9 Rd.  
Ratsada, Muang, PHUKET, 83000.  
Tel : 076-217462  
Fax : 076-217463



By Anongnat Sartpisut

# project set to break ground



Artist's impressions of the reception area at the Coconut Island Resort (above) and two of the villa designs.

## Allamanda Condominiums

**From 4.5m THB**

- 5% guaranteed rental return
- One and two-bedroom suites
- Freehold title available to foreigners
- Complimentary regular golf club membership

Sales Office at Canal Village  
Tel: 66 (0) 76 324 366 Fax: 66 (0) 76 324 065  
E-mail: [property@lagunaphuket.com](mailto:property@lagunaphuket.com)  
[www.lagunaproperty.com](http://www.lagunaproperty.com)

**laguna**  
PROPERTY

## A QUALITY LIFESTYLE INVESTMENT

A residential resort project of 2-, 3- and 4-bedroom townhomes and apartments with full resort facilities on the east coast of Phuket, including: restaurant and bar; convenience store; massage and sauna; gym; tennis court; swimming pools; putting green; BBQ areas and international management. For details call 076 239 820 or visit our sales office: 382/32 Moo 1, Cherm Talay, Phuket (near the entrance to Laguna).  
[info@grovegardensphuket.com](mailto:info@grovegardensphuket.com) [www.grovegardensphuket.com](http://www.grovegardensphuket.com)

**GROVE GARDENS**

## "THE FIRST EVER IN THE WORLD"

Pioneer Since 1989

### "HOME IN THE SKY... EACH WITH PRIVATE SWIMMING POOL"

**Two-Storey Penthouse**  
each with private swimming pool

Construction already commenced at Sukhumvit 31

**Le Raffine Sukhumvit 31, Bangkok.**  
A freehold condominium, only 45 units, 350 sqm.  
**Walking Distance to:**  
BTS-Phromphong Station, MRT-Sukhumvit Station  
Emporium Shopping Complex, Benjapark

**Le Raffine**  
Sukhumvit 31  
+66 2259 5326, +66 1918 5770  
[info@leraffine.com](mailto:info@leraffine.com)  
[leraffine.com](http://leraffine.com)

Le Raffine Sukhumvit 31 Project developer and owner: Le Raffine, 28 Corporate Limited, Registered capital: 100,000,000 Baht (fully paid up) Office location: 28 Sukhumvit 31 (2nd floor), Sukhumvit Road, Phromphong Sub-District, Phromphong District Bangkok 10110. Project Manager: Project Manager P.O. Resident representative: 20 years with 40 units. Site location: On site check the 28/31, Klongkum Sub-District, Bangkok. Project Manager: Bangkok Bangkok. Unit area (Type 111) 176 approximately 270 sqm with Project completed and supported by Klongkum Sub P.O. Building construction permit has been approved. 14/01/04. Construction progress: 100%. Completion expected November 2005. This project will be registered as the condominium after completing the construction. Common area fee will be paid by owner in accordance with regulation of condominium project period.

## KEEHIN Quality in products Trust in service

- We sell and service electrical equipment, lamps, light bulbs, air conditioners, communication systems, closed-circuit television (CCTV), security alarms, fire alarms, motors, generators, water pumps, washing machines, water filter tanks, hot water systems, electrical hoists, televisions, refrigerators, high pressure power-jet cleaners, power tools, transmission gears, valve equipment, etc.
- We design and install electrical systems, switchboards, air conditioners, dumb waiters, etc.

100/2 Moo 5 Chaderprakit Rte 9 Rd. T. Kasasat, A. Muang, Phuket 83000.  
Sales Tel: 076 261450 Fax: 076 261456-7 Open daily 8 am - 6 pm  
Service Tel: 076 261460 Fax: 076 261464 Open Monday-Saturday 8 am - 5 pm  
Email: [keehin@keehin.co.th](mailto:keehin@keehin.co.th)

## House of sanitaryware and tiles

The most beautiful room in the house

Tel: 076 261 470-5 Fax: 076 261 477  
E-mail: [sanitary@loxinfo.co.th](mailto:sanitary@loxinfo.co.th)

Looking for a job?  
[www.phuketgazette.net](http://www.phuketgazette.net)



## Gardening

with Bloomin' Bert

I don't think that anyone in Phuket would disagree with the claim that we live in Paradise. In my humble opinion, Phuket has to be one of the most paradisaic spots in the world. And I think I've just added a word to the English language.

I chose to live here because I specifically wanted a house near the beach. But how often do I actually dip my toes in the water? Not often enough, all things considered. Then there's the food. Thai food is first-class; rarely will you eat a Thai meal that isn't *aroi maak*. It's also ludicrously inexpensive. So why do we keep on wanting to consume burgers and pizzas?

It's all a little strange. I think it all boils down to the fact that we tend to take what we have here very much for granted. Well I'm certainly guilty of that.

There are so many things that visitors to the island stop and stare at, whipping out their cameras to capture the moment. "It's only an elephant," I've found myself saying to visitors who I've been showing round the island. A daft reaction on my part, considering that elephants aren't an everyday sight in the UK.

When my mum comes over she tends to go a bit mental over the plants. In deepest, darkest Yorkshire, it can take her years to get a tropical plant to flower, and only then if she's managed to keep it alive all that time.

Here, plants are somewhat

# Living with the latex



Rubber trees curl gracefully over a road alongside a well looked-after rubber plantation.

more willing to produce the goods, and don't have the suicidal tendencies of their distant cousins in northern England.

One tree that seems to capture the imagination of visitors is one that many of us will pass every day without giving it a second thought – the humble para rubber tree, or *Hevea*

*Brasiliensis* as it's correctly known. This is perhaps one of the most common trees in southern Thailand, yet very few of us have one in our gardens.

These things are everywhere, just quietly growing in huge plantations all over the island. But they haven't been here that long in comparative terms,

and they have a pretty amazing history.

Brazil provided the world with the rubber tree. In 1876, Henry Wickham, a local planter acting for the British Government, exported a few from the lower Amazon area to London.

The seeds were germinated later that year in London at the Tropical Herbarium in Kew Gardens. From there, some of the resultant seedlings were exported to Ceylon (now called Sri Lanka).

The next year, 22 seedlings were sent from Ceylon to Singapore, where they grew enthusiastically, and the technique of tapping (from the side of the tree) was developed. Before this, the trees had to be felled before the latex could be extracted, which wasn't ideal.

By 1900, most of the techniques and agricultural practices required to establish large plantations had been developed. One important technique used was bud grafting. This is essentially a cloning technique which ensures that genetically identical trees can be produced in unlimited numbers.

Over the next 40 years or so, the British in Malaya (now Malaysia) and the Dutch in Indonesia cleared large areas of rainforest to create rubber plantations.

At the same time, local

farmers saw the opportunities of rubber cultivation, and planted small groves of trees to supplement their own income.

This gave rise to two types of plantations in most rubber-producing countries: the estates, or plantations, and the smallholdings. It's the smallholdings that we see here in Phuket; they produce solid rubber sheets that you'll often see hanging from lines, looking like grubby white towels on a washing line.

All natural rubber originates in the *hevea* tree, and it starts its journey when the tree is tapped, which doesn't usually happen more often than once every couple of days.

A tapper starts the hike around his plantation before dawn. At each tree, he uses a sharp knife to shave off the thinnest possible layer from an intact section of bark.

The cut must be neither too deep, nor too thick, as either will reduce the productive life of the tree. This cut gets the latex flowing, and the tapper leaves a small cup underneath the cut, returning a few hours later to collect the sap. This double round trip usually finishes at about 2 pm.

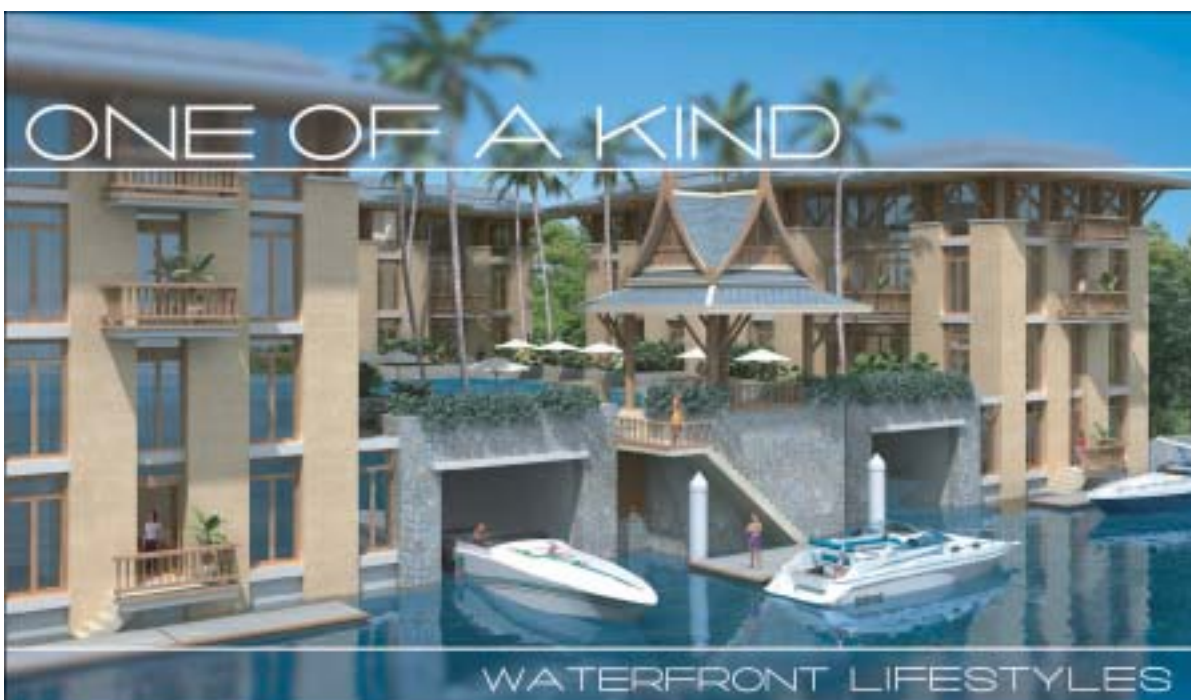
Surprisingly, the latex that rubber comes from isn't actually made from sap. The sap runs deeper inside the tree, beneath the cambium, which is the slightly harder part of the tree beneath the bark that does all the growing.

Latex runs in the latex ducts which are in a layer immediately outside the cambium. This shows how highly-skilled the tappers really are. If the cambium is cut, then the tree is damaged, because the cambium is where all the growth takes place. Too much damage to the cambium, and the tree stops growing and stops making latex.

Well I've managed to get through a whole article without making one single childish remark about what rubber can be used for. And I've invented a new word. Time for a pizza, I think.

Want to know more about a plant in your garden?

Email Bloomin' Bert at: [bloominbert@hotmail.com](mailto:bloominbert@hotmail.com)



## A NEW KIND OF INSPIRATION... the Aquaminum has arrived

The Aquaminum is destined to change the face of waterfront living around the world. Now you don't just live on the waterfront...you are part of it.

The Aquaminum's revolutionary design incorporates an absolute waterfront condominium of exclusive apartments with private boat berths into an exhilarating concept layout. Step from your home to your boat and onto the island paradises that surround you...in minutes. Life has never been so good.

The Aquaminum is just one of the fantastic features you will find at our super-chic tropical marina. A residential resort community with everything for the individual or family with style.

Even if you've never owned a boat, yacht charters are delivered to your front door, and our never-ending array of lifestyle facilities – set around a beautiful tropical marina – is guaranteed to inspire you for life!

Show apartments now open

For further information contact us directly: Royal Phuket Marina.  
68 Moo 2 Thepkasatri Rd, Koh Kaew, Muang, Phuket 83200, Thailand.  
ph: + 66 (0) 76 239 762 [paradise@royalphuketmarina.com](mailto:paradise@royalphuketmarina.com)  
[www.royalphuketmarina.com](http://www.royalphuketmarina.com)

ROYAL PHUKET MARINA  
RESIDENTIAL RETAIL ENTERTAINMENT



**Groundwater Drilling Service**

- Water quantity guarantee
- 1-year service warranty

**Soil & water investigation**

- Geophysics: by resistivity method
- Rock & soil profile
- Data analysis and interpretation

*(By Senior geologists and civil)*

**Before making a decision, use a geophysics investigation to test your property.**

12/14-15 Moo 2, Thepanusorn Rd, T. Vichit, A. Muang, Phuket, 83000.  
Tel: 0-7624-4638, Fax: 0-7624-4806, Mobile: 0-1978-8847  
E-mail: [mrp\\_group@yahoo.com](mailto:mrp_group@yahoo.com) [www.phuketdir.com/pktgroundwater](http://www.phuketdir.com/pktgroundwater)



## Home of the Week

Koh Kaew

**A**t Royal Phuket Marina, this week's luxury home is a fully-furnished two-bedroom unit in "contemporary tropical" style, one of the many luxury units now available at the island's premier marina complex.

Royal Phuket Marina has three condo buildings, each forming a U-shape around a 20-meter communal swimming pool with a *sala* at one end. The apartment for sale, located on Level 2 in Block C3, has two large outdoor terraces that lend an extra sense of spaciousness to the property's generous 252-square-meter area.

Inside, the 146sqm living space is finished with doors, walls and kitchen units in attractive red hardwood. The floors are imported New Zealand pine, and kitchen tops and furniture fittings are of African black



# Condo by the quay

granite. Both bathrooms feature handmade glazed tiles and frosted glass shower doors.

This property, which fea-

tures an 18-sqm master bedroom with Egyptian cotton bedding, also boasts local silks and other high-quality Thai fabrics for curtains, cushions and chairs.

The color combination of orange, beige and black, set off by the wood, gives the main room a rich, warm feeling.

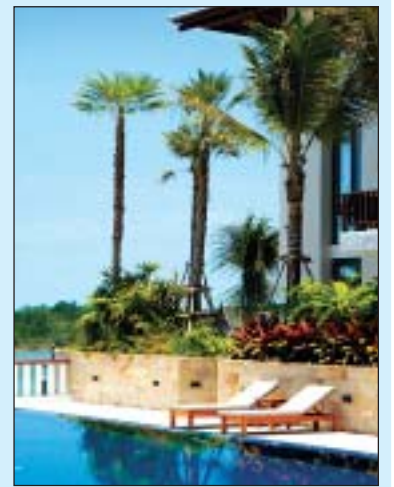
Sunlight streaming in from the terraces adds an attractive and refreshing alfresco touch to the waterfront residence.

There are potted frangipani and bougainvillea plants on the outside terraces, which afford

pleasant views over the marina, pool deck and waterfront *sala* areas. The outdoor furniture is of durable teak.

This home is for sale at 11.4 million baht.

For more information about this week's property, contact Jeanette Skelton, Marketing Manager, Royal Phuket Marina, 68 Moo 2, Thepkasattri Rd, Koh Kaew, Muang, Phuket, 83200. Tel: 076-239755. Fax: 076-239756. Email: [jeanettesk@royalphuketmarina.com](mailto:jeanettesk@royalphuketmarina.com)



## Trying to sell your home?

If your home is:

- an individual unit,
  - completely built, and
  - for sale at 10 million baht or more,
- then it can be featured here in Home of the Week.

Email

[chris@phuketgazette.net](mailto:chris@phuketgazette.net) now!



*We take pride in our exclusive selection of glazed and terracotta pottery from Thailand and our associated factories in Vietnam and China.*



*Plus a good selection of lacquerware platters. Located near Boat Lagoon.*

House & Garden Limited Partnership

8/1 Thepkasattri Rd, Sapom, Koh Kaew, Muang, Phuket 83000  
Tel/Fax: (06 76) 239 600 Mobile: 01 893 3571, 01 891 9051  
Email: [4sras@4seas.com](mailto:4sras@4seas.com) [www.4seas.com](http://www.4seas.com)



THANAPAT



**The exclusive tropical resort home**  
on Nanai Road, Patong

Prices start from  
**6.69 million baht**

**Tel: 01-599-8162, 09-470-6658**



# Property Gazette

## Properties For Sale

### HOUSES FOR SALE



Patong Soi Thumdee



Patong Soi Manesi



Rawai Wisaai Rd.

**Contact:**  
Peterwesche@hotmail.com  
www.phuket-besthomes.com

#### PATONG CONDO

Beachfront, 56sqm, freehold, for sale: 1.4 million baht. Please contact for more info. Tel: 09-4740227. Email: chotip\_5@hotmail.com

#### RAWAI-NAI HARN

land. Land plots & house for sale. Located on hillside, with sea view. 3,500 baht per square meter. Please contact for more details. Tel: 09-474-0227. Email: freehold\_prop@yahoo.com

#### FOR SALE

Attractive 3-bedroom house at bargain price, includes 3 bathrooms (1 en suite), large living room, kitchen/diner, inner verandah living area, parking area, 145sqm covered space, 340sqm land area. Convenient access to golf courses, supermarkets, 9 mins to Patong. 3.5 million baht. Tel: 076-321954, 04-8439579. Fax: 076-323421. Email: somsrijenner@lycos.com

#### 4 + 2 BEDROOM

house in Kamala. An excellent, top-quality 4 + 2 bedroom house near Phuket FantaSea, 1.5km from the beach. The house is located in a very quiet and safe area, next to a lake. All bedrooms with en-suite bathrooms, aircon and ceiling fan. European kitchen + Thai kitchen. Mature garden with outdoor Jacuzzi. Own water supply, hot water supplied by solar-heating system. For more details, contact Franz Brun in Kamala. Asking price: only 18 million baht, negotiable. Tel: 076-279075, 01-476-1415. Email: fbrun@loxinfo.co.th

#### LAND AT CAPE YAMU

3.5 rai, sea view, road access, gradual elevation. 9 million baht. Tel: 01-8944582. Email: gareth@yachtsolutions.net

#### LAND FOR SALE

Land for sale, Kwang Rd. 119 sq wah, just 3km to Big C. Selling for 1.9 million baht. Tel: 05-8833470.

#### LUXURY CONDO

Condo for sale in Kamala. Breathtaking views, ready for occupancy in September. Foreign freehold, 20 million baht. Tel: 01-9312866. Email: phuketlawyer@yahoo.com or phuketcondo@yahoo.com

#### GOLF COURSE LIVING

1-rai fully-serviced lots, exclusive gated community. Tel: 09-9725226. Email: bgbphuket@yahoo.com

#### RAWAI TOWNHOUSE

for sale. 950,000 baht. All-new interior, freehold, 160 sqm, beachfront. Please contact for more info. Tel: 09-4740227. Email: chotip\_5@hotmail.com

#### BAAN MANEEKRAM

house. New house available in Baan Maneekram (between Chalong and Phuket City). 440sqm of land, 250sqm + of living area; 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, phone, UBC, Chanote title. 4.9 million baht (negotiable). Please contact for more details. Tel: 09-292-2038. Email: simoncree@hotmail.com

#### MISSION HEIGHTS LAND FOR SALE

fully serviced building plots (underground 3-phase electric, free water, 8-meter concrete roads). From 2.25 million baht; 10% deposit, 18 months to pay. There is no better place to retire. Tel: 01-3444473, 01-8298101. Please see our website at www.missionheights.com

#### SEAVIEW LAND

at Kata Beach. 2 rai of land with sea views over beautiful Kata and Karon beaches. 5 million baht per rai. Tel: 01-6913362. Email: wisaroot@yahoo.com

#### NAI HARN HOUSE

for sale. Thai style, 3 bedrooms, pool, sala, 1 rai, 6.9 million baht. Please contact for more information. Tel: 076-288047, 01-8941660. Email: cottrell@loxinfo.co.th For further details, please see: www.homesinphuket.com

#### LUXURY APARTMENT

Luxury apartment on 30 + 30 + 30-year lease. Stunning views, Jacuzzi in master bedroom. 15 million baht, fully furnished. Tel: 01-9310866. Email: phuketcondo@yahoo.com

**Phuket One Real Estate**

EXCLUSIVE TO PHUKET ONE! ON-SITE SALES OFFICES NOW OPEN

**LAGUNA AREA**  
Luxurious pool villas and townhouses situated only 15 minutes from Phuket Airport and 5 minutes from Laguna Golf Course. Display homes open daily.  
**PRICE:** From 5.9 million baht.

**PATONG**  
Peaceful and secure estate only minutes from central Patong. 2-bedroom, 3-bathroom villa with granite floors and euro kitchen. Facilities include pool, spa, sauna, fitness centre.  
**PRICE:** 7.5 million baht.

**KALIM**  
Modern tropical design, large terraces and breathtaking sea views. Incredible value for one of the best locations in Phuket. Office open daily.  
**PRICE:** From 6.1 million baht.

Tel/Fax: 076 345707, 076 290 550 Mobile: 01 5354546, 09 5862959  
Email: info@phuketonerealestate.com www.phuketonerealestate.com

#### BAYVIEW PALMS

Patong. 6 luxury apartments with stunning sea views. 180sqm, with master bedrooms with en-suite bathrooms & whirlpools. Guest bathroom, spacious lounge, American kitchen, large balcony, large common gardens with swimming pool, car parking. Prices from 7.5 million baht. Tel: 07-8893838, 09-2911112. Email: bayviewpalms@yahoo.com

#### LAND FOR SALE

Seaview land plots from 9-30 rai. Please contact Khun Diana. Tel: 01-8918082. Email: seagullphuket@hotmail.com

#### PATONG GUESTHOUSE

for sale. Six rooms, living quarters and minimart. Chanote title. Price: 4.9 million baht. Tel: 07-8887676. Email: homeawaypatong@hotmail.com

#### NEW HOUSE

for sale. 2 bedrooms, one storey, nice spa garden with balcony, Land 106.5 sq wah. Price: 5.5 million baht. Tel: 01-8924735. Email: noksk@samart.co.th

#### LAND FOR SALE

Various plots, mountain view. 12,000 baht per sq wah. Tel: 07-2711270.

#### LUXURY 5BR HOUSE

Nice house: Land of 126 sq wah with 519sqm house 5 bedrooms, 4 baths, 6 aircons, living & dining rooms w/furniture, 2 kitchens w/bar and refrigerator, large garden, use of village swimming pools. Asking price: 6.1 million baht. Tel: 01-8915296. Email: hkthomesale18@yahoo.com

#### 1 RAI FOR SALE

Located in Mission Heights. Luxury development with underground electricity and 24-hr security. 10 mins to airport, 20 mins to Tesco Lotus. For quick sale: 2.1 million baht. Tel: 01-2712825.

**ANDREW PARK**  
Property Agents & Consultants

Sales and Rentals

Over 9 years' sales experience in Thailand

We can answer all your questions

Call us now at  
**01-8923633**

E-mail us at  
phuketsales@andrewpark.com  
www.andrewpark.com

Imagine a view like this... we have many seaview properties for sale. Call now to see the sunset.

We have homes in every price range. This large 2-bedroom home is priced to sell fast at only 3.8 million baht. Don't miss it, call now.

**RESORT APARTMENTS & SUITES AT LAYAN**  
FROM 3.5 MILLION BAHT

Telephone (076) 271 535 www.oceanbreezephuket.com

**The world is not enough... We'll go to the ends of the earth to help you live and let buy**

Whatever your property needs, local or international, reveal them to the team who can spy quality and potential anywhere. Knight Frank, the world's not-so-secret agent.

The local office with a global network

**076 318 151**  
www.knightfrankphuket.com

**Knight Frank**

**CBRE**  
CB RICHARD ELLIS

Professional real estate advice for those looking for property in Phuket

Residential Sales & Leasing  
Property Management  
Villa Rentals  
Research & Valuation  
Development & Design Consultancy

**TEL: 076 239 967-9**  
E-mail: phuket@cbre.com  
www.cbre.co.th







# Property Gazette

## Accommodation Available

**C.C. Bloom's Hotel**  
Beautiful small luxury hotel in the hills above Kata Beach



**Special Rates**  
1,400 To 1,800 BAHT PER NIGHT  
Rooms with kitchenettes for 20,000 baht a month - including breakfast, maid service and use of pool and the Sunset Bar, the perfect place to watch the sunset after a busy day. Come visit this special hideaway above Kata. We will be glad to meet you.

84/21 Patak Soi 10 POB 18, Karon Post Office, Phuket Thailand 83100  
076-333222, 07-2766546(Mobile)  
skippero@aol.com www.beachesthairesort.com

### HOTEL PROMOTION

Low season, long stay. Spa & pool, many facilities, beachfront, only 17,500 baht/month. Tel: 076-345518, 01-8920038.

### UNLIMITED INTERNET

access. Surf the Net in your room, with the works (aircon, cable TV, heater, fridge) for 5,000 baht. Please contact K. Passakorn at Tel: 09-188-5300. Email: passakorn@taitancourt.com or for further details, please see our website at: www.taitancourt.com

### APARTMENT

for rent. Unfurnished 65sqm apartment near Surin Beach. Aircon bedroom, living room, open-plan kitchen: 72,000 baht/year. Please call for more info. Tel: 01-7885419.

### PATONG LUXURY

apartment. Central Patong, 1- & 2-bedroom apartments. Email for info & photos. Email: suites247@yahoo.com

### LONG-TERM RENT

Kamala. Private, secure residence. 2 stories, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, kitchen, living/dining room. Aircon throughout, UBC included. Please contact for more info. Tel: 01-8931360. Email: info@phuketinvestments.com

### APT: 999 BAHT

for 4 persons at Sunset Apartments.

- 2 bedrooms
  - Aircon
  - 2 shower rooms
  - Living room
  - Private balcony
  - Fully-equipped kitchen
  - Refrigerator
  - Mini-bar
  - Dining area
  - Cable TV
  - Telephone
  - Safety box in apartment
  - Maid service
- Tel: 076-344484, 01-423-6906. Fax: 076-344485. Email: sunsetap@ji-net.com

### ROOMS TO LET

Lake-view apartments in Kathu. Fully furnished, with aircon, fridge, cable TV, hot water, car park. 183 baht a day. Contact for details. Tel: 076-202585, 09-1968449. Email: ketmaneeclayton61@hotmail.com

## Accommodation Wanted

### HOME WITH POOL

I am a single professional working in Thailand. I am looking for a home to lease for 1 year in Phuket. I am presently in search of a minimum 3+ bedroom home in a modern Thai- or Balinese-style with a private pool, Western-style kitchen and bath, and an ocean view. Lease to start from July or August at the latest. Tel: 06-0107500. Email: mfreemanh@hotmail.com

### HOUSE FOR RENT

We are looking for a house in the Patong area, 2 bedrooms and parking for car. We are looking for a one year contract, with max rent at 15,000 baht per month. Have lived in Patong for 9 years, so steady tenants. Quiet area preferred. Shop-house could also be OK. Tel: 076-296563, 09-8715642. Email: termalou@loxinfo.co.th

### APARTMENT

in Patong Sought. Seeking a reasonable self-contained 1- or 2-bedroom furnished apartment in or around Patong in August and September. Six to eight weeks. Will pay up to 3,500 baht a week all in. Aircon, kitchen/kitchenette, satellite TV and safe or safe deposit essential. Serviced and with balcony preferred. Email: karlh@labyrinth.net.au



**Do Not Drink Tap Water!**

### LUXURY HOLIDAY

accommodation. Luxury house or apartment required for the period 19 Dec 05 to 4 Jan 06. Must have seaview and at least 2 bedrooms. Photographs will be required. Email: wimo@mweb.co.za

## Building Services

**phuket home services**

building renovation  
shopfitting finishing  
repair maintenance  
electrical plumbing  
air conditioning  
roofing flooring  
painting stonework  
woodwork metalwork  
landscapes ponds

office : 076 324 400  
24 hrs : 01 60 60 200  
www.phukethomeservices.com

## P-CON

Phuket Construction and Home Services Co Ltd

Roofing, floors, walls, tiles, painting, aircon, electrical systems, repairs and other work done by our professional team  
Tel: 06-5933464  
Fax: 076-263204  
Email: p\_con@thaimail.com

### SIAM HOME & CAR SERVICES

Building renovation, repairs, maintenance

- Electrical
- Aircon/lights
- Woodwork/furniture
- Stone, cement, sandwash
- Steel, aluminium, tiles
- Grass screen landscaping.

Contact  
Khun Chuat  
01-4083800, 076-325391

## The Stone Doctor

Specialist European stone care products and services:

- Restoration
- Sealing/Finishing
- Maintenance

All your maintenance, protection & cleaning needs for natural and manufactured stone.

- Marble
- Granite
- Slate
- Sandstone
- Sandwash
- Terracotta
- Terrazzo
- Ceramics, etc

Prevent: rust, stains, mildew, algae, scratches  
Remove: builders' residue, incorrect sealants, rust, stains, mildew, etc  
Daily care & cleaning products also available

Tel: 07-2824930, 076-271217  
Fax: 076-271218  
Email: info@thestonedoctor-asia.com

## Household Items

### GAS STOVE

Baloma gas stove, for sale at half-price. Double burner, no rust. 600 baht. Tel: 09-291-3641. Email: sayan40@hotmail.com

### HOUSEHOLD ITEMS

For sale:

- 21-inch TV
  - microwave oven
  - washing machine
  - two-burner gas cooker with stand and gas bottle
  - DVDs, VCDs and CDs - large selection
  - hardback books (large selection)
  - two-door, stainless-steel fridge, suitable for restaurant.
- Please call Tel: 09-8687783 for full details.

### VERTICAL BLINDS

tracks and brackets. Approx 38m for 9 windows. Call for window sizes. 12,000 baht. Please contact for more information. Tel: 076-288-050, 04-1898419. Email: albertjames1940@hotmail.com

### TV, FURNITURE, ETC

- Diamond TV, 6 months old: 2,750 baht (cost 4,190)
- Konzept chest of drawers, five drawers high, top drawer locks, mint condition
- food blender: 1,000 baht
- small CD/radio/cassette player: 1,000 baht
- 20 band SW radio: 750 baht

- Minolta 35mm compact camera with 35-70 zoom, 2 spare batteries, and 4 x 36mm films: 1,500 baht. Please contact for more info. Email: detnon@hotmail.com

### KINGSIZE BED

I am getting my son for holiday, I am looking for a secondhand bed for him. Email: yak520@hotmail.com

### SHOWER HEATER

Sharp shower heater. A few months old. Take it away for 1,000 baht. Tel: 09-291-3641. Email: sayan40@hotmail.com

Don't miss....

Issues & Answers

phuketgazette.net/  
issuesanswers/index.asp

## Household Services

### LOCKUP STORAGE

Individual storage units from 4 cubic meters. Well ventilated, 24hr security, sensor floodlights. Tel: 01-0825707.

### HOUSE AND PET

sitting. Loving care for your animals while you are away. We will exercise, feed and comfort any household pets in your home. We are two fine young Canadians, who have loads of experience with animals. Gardening and general household maintenance is not a problem. We have been residents on the island for the past 5 years and have excellent local references. We are booked for August but are still available immediately until the last week of July. Those who may have already tried to contact the previous ad may find that the phone number no longer exists. Tel: 07-897-9987. Email: frasergow@hotmail.com

## Property Services

### PHUKET THAI HOME

company. If you can't sell your home, land or other property, let us sell it for you. Free consultation. Tel: 04-6268105 (English) or 01-7291391 (Thai). Email: phuketthaihome@hotmail.com

Would you like to keep up on what's happening in Phuket - the good, the bad and the bizarre? Let us share it with you - every week!

TO: The Phuket Gazette Co Ltd, 367/2 Yaowarat Road, Amphur Muang, Phuket 83000, Thailand.

YES, I want to receive the PHUKET GAZETTE for a full year - 52 issues!

I hereby authorize payment against my Visa ☐ / Mastercard ☐

☐ Thai Baht 1,560 for Phuket Special Delivery (Phuket Island only!)

☐ Thai Baht 2,800 for a domestic subscription (outside Phuket)

☐ Thai Baht 8,000 for an overseas subscription (any country outside Thailand)

Surname (as appears on card) \_\_\_\_\_ Given name(s) (as on card) \_\_\_\_\_

Card #: \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Security Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

Please Deliver To:

Street address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State or Province \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Country: \_\_\_\_\_

To ensure clarity, please email. Do not Fax!



# Boats & Marine

**LEE MARINE**  
International Marine Brokerage

REVIERA FERRETTI PERSHING JEANNEAU

Thailand's premier yacht sales company

**Don Brooke 77 (1978)**

**\$975,000 USD**

- Westerbeke 32 KW generator
- 2 new water heaters
- North Star GPS
- Robertson AP45 Autopilot
- 2 EHFSS
- 2 Sony Televisions + DVD
- 48 Mhp Furuno Pacer
- SEA SSB
- B&G digital depth/speedlog
- 2 ICOM V-H-F radios
- 2 hand held ICOM V-H-F radios
- Mini M sat phone

**Swanson 42 (1978)**

**\$120,000 USD**

**Steel 40 ft (1991)**

**\$80,000 USD**

**Pershing 43 (2002)**

**495,000 Euro**

**Tiara 4300 (1998)**

**\$279,000 USD**

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

**Dealership Office**  
The Boat Lagoon  
Contact: Martin Holmes  
Tel: 076 238 803  
Fax: 076 273 319  
Email: info@leemarine.com

**Brokerage Office**  
The Boat Lagoon  
Contact: Andrew de Bruin  
Mobile: 01 894 1530  
Tel/Fax: 076 239 729  
Email: brokerage@leemarine.com

**Yacht Haven Marina Office**  
The Yacht Haven Marina Phuket  
Contact: Jim Poulsen  
Mobile: 01 891 3237  
Tel/Fax: 076 208 260  
Email: yachtshaven@leemarine.com

**ROYAL PHUKET MARINA YACHT SALES**

**220 Dauntless**

This new 2005 model is one of Boston Whaler's most versatile boats on the water. The Dauntless 220 is rigged for all activities, sports fishing, waterskiing or just island hopping. With the inclusion of the T-top, deck shower and portable head you are ready for anything. This boat is now on the way from the Boston Factory. Contact us now and be the first Dauntless on the water!

**Savage SL 500 Aluminum Runabout**

**NEW ARRIVAL TO PHUKET**  
Royal Phuket Marina Yachts is pleased to announce the arrival of Australia's favorite recreational toy, the Savage Aluminum Runabout. This boat is great for all levels of users and is practically indestructible! The complete package includes trailer, VHF radio, 4150 fishfinder & cockpit carpet. Nothing left but to "JUST ADD WATER".

**SOLE DISTRIBUTORS**

**Royal Phuket Marina Yacht Co., Ltd.**  
68/1 Moo 2 Thepkasatri Road, Koh Kaew, Muang, Phuket, 83200, Thailand. Tel: +66 (0) 76 239 762, +66 (0) 76 239 755  
Fax: +66 (0) 76 239 756. Craig: +66 1 970 0583  
craig@royalphuketmarina.com, yachts@royalphuketmarina.com  
[www.royalphuketmarina-yachts.com](http://www.royalphuketmarina-yachts.com)

**THAI MARINE**

**46 Ft Dutch Pilot boat**

2 x 240 Hp Daf diesels Steel hull, wooden top  
Reliable in big seas  
**US\$150,000**

**52 Ft Crowther Cat**

2 x Volvo 59 Hp Luxury catamaran  
**US\$ 500,000**

Please contact Tel: 076-273464 Email: broker@thaimarine.com

**For a FREE-OF-CHARGE INSURANCE QUOTE FOR YOUR BOAT, COMMERCIAL OR PLEASURE**  
Tel: 076-273464 Fax: 076-238974 Email: insurance@thaimarine.com

**MARINE COVERS & STAINLESS-STEEL WORK**

**The one-stop shop that comes to you!**

ALL your boat covers and steel-work needs done without fuss

**shades**

[www.shades.co.th](http://www.shades.co.th)  
email: info@shades.co.th  
Tel: 076 323 600

**JET BOAT**  
(super toy). Searider, Thai registered, built in 2000. New 135hp engine (no hours on it); can see bill. 5 seater. In great condition. Very fast – put in your driveway and go in the water. Easy to handle and no marine fees. A bargain at 430,000 baht, including trailer. Be fast! Go fast! Tel: 01-0823240, 01-5376866. Email: bigbhouda5@hotmail.com

## SUNBRIDGE

Bayliner 2755. Full-deck cabin cruiser (galley, fridge, alcohol stove, head, shower, sink, 2 berths).

- New Mercruiser V8 (250hp) engine

- Raymarine chart plotter, HSB530 series 7, color LCD display (includes all charts of Indian Ocean)

- Raymarine Fishfinder + VHF

Very well maintained. All safety equipment on board (3 buoys, 6 flares, 12 life jackets). Licensed for 12 people. Perfect to discover the region. Can be seen at Yacht Haven (Dock A). Asking price: 1.4 million baht. Tel: 01-9799-307. Email: nathaliemuylle@hotmail.com

## ONE LASER LEFT

One laser sailboat left for anyone who is interested. Give me a call or an email to arrange a time to come look at this excellent boat. All equipment and a few extras, going for 60,000 baht. Please contact for more information. Tel: 07-8979987. Email: frasergow@hotmail.com

## QUALITY WOODEN

boat. Superbly-built 4-year-old boat with excellent stainless railings. Licensed for 150 pax - ideal for day trips or convert to liveaboard. 2 engines, 2 gen sets. First to see will buy. A bargain at 6 million baht. Pls contact for more information. Tel: 076-281526, 09-9720-423. Fax: 076-281527. Email: dougie@divejohnsandy.com

## TOURIST BUSINESS

Wanted: tourist boat operation with room for expansion. Phuket and surrounding islands. Please email as much information as possible to Wayne at: wmole@bigpond.net.au

## LOOKING FOR

longtail boats for tsunami relief. I am looking for a few secondhand longtail boats in good condition. They must be minimum 10m long and have an engine. My average budget runs around 50,000-70,000 baht – no more! Please contact for more information. Tel: 09-6498218 Email: makebetter2005@yahoo.com

**C&C MARINE**

**Marine Engineering Specialist**  
SERVICING ALL YOUR MARINE ENGINEERING NEEDS

Dealers For

**COOPER** **ELSCAN** **MANN FILTER** **ZE**

**KOHLER** **MERCURY**

**BOAT SALES**  
**BARRACUDA COMMERCIAL BOAT RANGE**

DIVE / SNORKELING BOAT	10.6m (Only 1,750,000)
PARASAIL BOAT	10.6m (Only 1,975,000)
FERRY INTER-ISLAND TRANSFER BOAT	10.6m (Only 1,700,000)
CENTER CONSOLE FISHING BOATS	8.8m (Only 1,550,000)

**BRO'S**

- COMMERCIAL DIESEL ENGINES
- 50% BETTER FUEL ECONOMY AGAINST STANDARD OUTBOARDS
- CRUISING SPEEDS OF 27+ KNOTS
- REBUILDS ONLY EVERY 3,000 HRS
- COMPLETE SERVICE BACK-UP PLAN
- FINANCE AVAILABLE THROUGH CORRESPONDING BANKS

**SPECIAL:** Newly arrived 8.8m centre console 170hp Mer-Cummins Diesel Engine, complete with Navman 8800 GPS/Fishtrack Nav system, VHF Radio, Vacuum flush Head, Bimini with Thai registration. Price includes 10 months' berthing in the Boat Lagoon. "Complete Package" 1,850,000.

**C&C MARINE**  
Contact: Craig Holmes +66 (0) 76 273247  
Thai Marine Center, 16/2 Moo 4, So. Nana, Thepkasatri Rd., Koh Kaew, Phuket 83200, Thailand  
Email: cholmes@cando-marine.com Website: [www.cando-marine.com](http://www.cando-marine.com)

## MARINA BERTH

Freeze your monthly payments for the next 14 years on this 15m Boat Lagoon berth. Pls contact. Tel: 076-383670, 09-6459470. Fax: 76-383670. Email: beeguy@phket.loxinfo.co.th

## 16M CATAMARAN

I'm looking for partner(s) for my catamaran, made for charter work. US\$12,000 = 20% of the boat. Tel: 07-8919620. Email: catnoina@yahoo.de

## BAUER COMPRESSOR

K14 Bauer diving compressor, in very good condition. Email: saildivefree@yahoo.com

## DIVE BOAT- KOH TAO

16m wooden Dive Boat for sale:

- Cabin for 4 people
- Tiled bathroom
- Stainless steel cooking area
- Bottom sounder
- Communication radio
- Tank racks (for 20 tanks)
- Hino Engine
- 600-liter fuel tank
- 600-liter water tank
- Thai registered
- Meets TAT requirements

A perfect boat for daily dive or snorkeling trips, in very good condition. Pls contact for info. Tel: 077-456216, 07-970-0913. Email: charlott\_ragnarsson@hotmail.com

## CUSTOM BOAT BUILDER



Custom professional boat builder. Our mission is to manufacture enjoyable boats that will last for years and that carry the value of workmanship. Boats with the traditional look and classic lines are pleasing to the eye. Custom craft that are fulfilling and rewarding to own and use. We build for people who seek the maximum value without spending a fortune, realized in Thailand under professional Italian management supervision, using best materials and new technologies, such as the vacuum infusion process. You will be surprised by our prices and quality. Current projects: new 30ft Lobster Boat; new 6.5m Italian planing Gozzo. Please contact for more information. Tel: 038-706060, 01-3854058; or Email to: info@andamanboatyard.com For further details, please see our website at: [www.andamanboatyard.com](http://www.andamanboatyard.com)

## TEAKWOOD VESSEL

23m teakwood boat with Hino engine. Ideal for conversion to tour or dive boat. Seller can assist with design and construction. Offered as is, at 1.5 million baht. Please contact for more information. Tel: 09-6500957. Email: thavorn@andamandolphin.com



# Island Job Mart



ISLAND POOLS CO., LTD. IS A LEADER IN THE FIELD OF SWIMMING POOL DESIGN & CONSULTANCY AND IS SEEKING TO EXPAND ITS SUCCESSFUL TEAM IN PHUKET & THEIR NEW OFFICE IN KOH SAMUI

## I. M & E ENGINEER

2 POSITIONS

- Bachelor's degree in M & E Engineering or related field
- Minimum of 5 years' experience (Swimming pool industry will be an advantage)
- Experienced in Autocad
- Good command of spoken and written English
- Strong leadership and people management skills
- Based in Phuket and Samui

## II. ELECTRICIAN

2 POSITIONS

- Degree in Electrical or in any related field
- Minimum of 3 years' experience (Swimming pool industry will be an advantage)
- Must be a team player with a friendly personality and positive attitude
- Based in Phuket

We offer an excellent salary and the opportunity for career growth. Qualified candidates are invited to apply in person at the office or send a CV to Greg Moore by email, fax or post to:

**Island Pools Co., Ltd.**

53/83-84 Thepkasatri Rd., T. Srisoontorn, A. Thalang, Phuket, 83110.  
Tel/Fax: 076 273 087 Email: moose@islandpools.co.th

## Sales and Marketing Manager



- Thailand based
- Great opportunity

*Dive Supply, a leading sporting goods distributor (scuba diving) based in Phuket, Thailand, offers an opportunity for a suitable and qualified Manager to live and work on this tropical island paradise.*

*This long-established company has its head office with 30 staff in Phuket plus five branch locations throughout the country, and distributes the finest brands of diving equipment and educational materials.*

*The role of Sales and Marketing Manager is integral to the continued growth and success of the company. Reporting to the Managing Director, you will be responsible for the company's entire marketing, sales and business development activities. Your input into the general management of the company will be expected and highly valued.*

### Ideally, the successful candidate will have/be:

- ▶ A university degree in sales/marketing
- ▶ 3-5 years' experience in a managerial position
- ▶ A track record of delivering results
- ▶ Up to 40 years of age and a native English speaker
- ▶ German and/or Thai as second/third language would be a plus
- ▶ A dynamic team player with excellent communication skills and good ability to motivate and develop people
- ▶ A driving license and is a non-smoker
- ▶ Experience working in foreign countries

### We offer:

- ▶ Long-term employment
- ▶ Work permit and one-year non-B visa
- ▶ 5-day work week
- ▶ 15 days paid holiday
- ▶ Good salary package, including social insurance and benefits

To apply please email your resumé to our MD Holger Saupe at:  
[holger@divesupply.com](mailto:holger@divesupply.com)



Executive serviced apartment towers in Bangkok and Rayong are looking for energetic and young graduates to accept the challenge of:

### ITALIAN CHEF (BANGKOK)

- Native Italian
- Energetic and creative
- Have a hands-on approach
- Well versed in traditional as well as modern Italian cuisine
- Candidates with Asian experience and currently residing in Thailand preferred

### GUEST SERVICE MANAGER (RAYONG)

- European national
- 25-35 years old
- German-speaking preferred
- Pleasant & matured personality
- Hotel experience with F&B skills

Interested persons are invited to send a resumé with photograph and contact number by email to:

**Mr. Sophon Hingpin Mobile: 01-682-7037**

E-mail: [rayong@kanarybay.com](mailto:rayong@kanarybay.com) [www.kanarybay.com](http://www.kanarybay.com)

PRECISION SHIPWRIGHT  
SERVICES CO., LTD

## Precision Shipwright Services Co Ltd Boat Lagoon

### Company Secretary

1 Position

#### Requirements:

- Female Thai national
- Good command of English
- Experienced in Microsoft Word/Excel, Windows
- Skilled in phone management and use of Internet

### Accountant

1 Position

#### Requirements:

- Thai national
- Experienced in stock management and all aspects of accounting

Precision Shipwright Services is a boat repair facility and importer of products for boats located in Phuket's Boat Lagoon. Interested persons should be willing to learn about the fast growing marine trade in Phuket. Commitment to long-term employment is preferred.

Please contact Scott Bradley for an appointment:

01-891 3067 or 076 239113

Email: [pss@loxinfo.co.th](mailto:pss@loxinfo.co.th)

[www.precision-shipwright.com](http://www.precision-shipwright.com)

**HOUSEKEEPING/**  
nanny. Job wanted. Full-time, 2 years, Thai, female, English, cooking etc. Tel: 01-5697618.

### NANNY WANTED

English/Thai family with 3 small children needs live-in nanny to help 2 domestic staff. Must have car driving license and speak some English. Tel: 01-8937028. Fax: 076-383106. Email: [andamanartifacts@hotmail.com](mailto:andamanartifacts@hotmail.com)

### NEED DRIVER

urgently for Pa Khlok area. Good salary. Tel: 076-273-427, 01-8295388.

### WEB SHOP DESIGNER

I need to hire some professional Web shop builders to do updates, create new shops, etc. I work with OS-Commerz and Shop-Factory (PHP, MySQL). Please contact for more information. Tel: 09-8093566. Email: [lennartviberg@hotmail.com](mailto:lennartviberg@hotmail.com)

### SECRETARY / PA

wanted. Established lighting business needs fluent English-speaking, experienced secretary to assist in day-to-day business management. Please contact for more information. Tel: 076-254826, 01-8937027. Fax: 076-254827. Email: [ian@andamanlighting.com](mailto:ian@andamanlighting.com) For further details of our company please see our website at: [www.andamanlighting.com](http://www.andamanlighting.com)

### INVESTOR & STAFF

wanted. Danish grillhouse chain seeks investor for the last 29% of shares. We have 3 shops, with a turnover of about 20 million baht. We are also looking for franchisees in Kata, Kamala, Phuket City, Krabi. Franchise investment 400,000 baht. Staff wanted: Thai, 28-40 years, must have skills in Word and Excel and be English-speaking. Admin work, 3-4 hours/day. Please contact Mr Kim Kristiansen. Tel: 06-2989-500. Email: [la@grillhousedk.com](mailto:la@grillhousedk.com) For more details please see our website at: [www.grillhousedk.com](http://www.grillhousedk.com)

### BOOKKEEPER

wanted. Min 3-years' experience, knowledge of Quickbooks Pro. Office near Wat Chalong. Email: [bic1@phuket.ksc.co.th](mailto:bic1@phuket.ksc.co.th)

### KINDERGARTEN

teacher. Need 2 kindergarten English teachers. Native speakers only, please. Email: [info@kajonkiet.com](mailto:info@kajonkiet.com)

### SAILING INSTRUCTOR

Permanent position/s for Thai nationals or foreigners. Requirements: excellent spoken and written English, integrity, good personality and ability to take responsibility. Advantages: sailing skills, yacht knowledge, car licence. Training and formal qualifications will be provided. Please contact for more information. Tel: 076-232960. Fax: 076-232961. Email: [info@sailing-thailand.com](mailto:info@sailing-thailand.com)

### SECRETARY/PA

to Manager. Must be good at English and have a good, happy personality. Experience preferred. Knowledge of accounting and office computers. Please contact for more information. Tel: 076-344350. Fax: 076-344350. Email: [manager@kalimresidence.com](mailto:manager@kalimresidence.com)

### ACCOUNTANT

Fluent written English & computer skills. 1-year project, good package. For more information or apply, please call Tel: 06-2670352 or Email: [stan@csloxinfo.org](mailto:stan@csloxinfo.org)

### IT SUPPORT OFFICER

At least 2 years' experience in networking and hardware maintenance. Good command of spoken English would be an advantage. Please contact for more information, Tel: 076-272572 or 01-5358041; or Fax: 076-273447 or Email: [wilawan@greatglove.com](mailto:wilawan@greatglove.com)

### SITE MANAGEMENT

We need a professional individual or company to manage a small condo project in Karon. Please call for more information. Tel: 06-6673249 (English), 09-4005907 (Thai).

### COOK NEEDED

Small restaurant urgently needs a cook for breakfast, European food and Thai food. For more information or to apply, please call Tel: 01-8914019 or contact by email at: [tkoschig2000@hotmail.com](mailto:tkoschig2000@hotmail.com)

### EXECUTIVE

assistant. Phuket-based advertising company is looking for a hard-working Executive Assistant. Education or experience in communication arts, marketing or related field or will be favored. Applicants need to have a good level of spoken and written English; computer skills in MS Office, Word, Excel and PowerPoint is a must; and have a bright personality, be good at working with members of a team, and mature. Must have a driver's license. Email applications to [bee@leadingedge-media.com](mailto:bee@leadingedge-media.com) or call Tel: 076-239746 for an interview.

### NATIVE ENGLISH

teachers. Many excellent jobs available; must be TEFL-trained. Apply now. For more information or apply, please call Tel: 06-9520088 or email: [paul@langserv.com](mailto:paul@langserv.com)

Find more Recruitment Classifieds at  
[www.phuketgazette.net](http://www.phuketgazette.net)!



# Island Job Mart



## ART TECHNICIAN DULWICH INTERNATIONAL COLLEGE

Dulwich International College requires an art technician to start August 15th 2005.

The successful candidate will have a wide range of duties including:

- Assisting in the classroom when necessary and appropriate
- Preparing materials
- Monitoring and maintaining stock
- Assisting with displays and exhibitions
- Assisting in some administrative duties, such as liaising with the purchasing department
- Helping to maintain the classrooms and specialist areas, such as ceramics.

**Additional notes on the qualities a suitable candidate will have:**

The assistant will need to have some basic English and be prepared to learn technical language appropriate to the job. Ideally the assistant would have some interest in the visual arts and the workings of an art department. The successful applicant must be practical by nature and have some understanding of the materials and processes employed within the art department. He/she must demonstrate the ability to work alongside teachers when required but should also, after training, be able to carry out duties independently. It would be extremely useful if the assistant were able to use equipment in the design technology area to assist in the cutting and preparation of materials. Thai national.

Candidates should email a short letter of application, CV, recent photograph and email/fax and telephone contacts of referees to [kanitthas@dulwich.ac.th](mailto:kanitthas@dulwich.ac.th)

The closing date for applications is **June 17th**. Interviews will be held in Phuket.

59 Moo 2, Thepkasattri Road, Koh kaew, Muang, Phuket 83200

Tel: 076 238711-20 Fax: 076 239040

A full job description is available on the school website [www.dulwich.ac.th](http://www.dulwich.ac.th).



Chandara Resort and Spa, a unique five-star resort of 51 villas located at Ao Por on Phuket's northeast coast, is scheduled to open soon.

We are looking for suitable, qualified persons for the following positions.

- Front Office Manager/Assistant Manager/Porter and Driver/Operator
- Housekeeper/Supervisor/Room maid/Laundry crew
- Reservations Manager
- Food & Beverage Manager/Restaurant & Bar Manager/Supervisor/Waiter, Waitress/Bar staff
- Accounting Manager/Accounts staff/Shop Attendant
- Chief Engineer/Engineers
- Spa Manager/Therapist/Hairdresser

All positions are for Thai nationals only.

### Walk-in interviews

**Monday 13, Tuesday 14, June between 9 am and 3 pm at**

Chandara Resort and Spa

Pre-opening office – c/o Tour East (T.E.T.) Ltd.

99/39 Moo 5, Chalmprakiat Rama 9 Rd, Ratsada, Muang,

Phuket, 83000. Tel: 076-255030

[www.chandara-resort.com](http://www.chandara-resort.com)



**DIVING ONLINE**, a leading Internet provider of discount dive packages, is seeking qualified staff to join its team in July 2005. Applications are being taken for 2 booking officers. The positions are based in Phuket and preferred candidates' requirements are:

- Male/female
- Thai national
- Bachelor's degree in tourism or a related field
- Proficiency in written and spoken English
- Good computer skills
- Service-minded and have a result-driven attitude
- Experience in e-commerce industry and/or diving industry is a plus

Applications stating qualifications and experience, as well as expected remuneration should be sent to:

[info@save-money-diving.com](mailto:info@save-money-diving.com)

### WEB AND GRAPHIC DESIGNERS REQUIRED

INTERNATIONAL COMPANY REQUIRES FOUR DESIGNERS FOR MAINTAINING OUR WEBSITES AND PRESENTATIONS.

MUST BE PROFICIENT IN THE FOLLOWING AREAS:

- FLASH
- 3D DESIGN
- PHOTOSHOP
- HTML
- PDF
- SHOW REEL (QUICK TIME)

MUST ALSO BE ABLE TO PROVIDE OWN SOFTWARE AND HARDWARE. FOR FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT MISS WASANA ON 01-5368909 BETWEEN 09.00 AND 18.00 MON-FRI. THAI NATIONALS ONLY

### E-COMMERCE

opportunities. Phuketsail Group, Thailand's yacht equipment leader, is seeking highly-qualified candidates:

- Accounting Manager
  - E-Commerce Manager
  - Franchise Operations Manager
  - Yacht Insurance Manager
  - Business Sales Manager
- Tel: 076-238804, 09-6521-159. Email: [info@phuketsail.com](mailto:info@phuketsail.com) Please see our website at: [www.yachtsupplyasia.com/join\\_us.htm](http://www.yachtsupplyasia.com/join_us.htm)

### ACCOUNTANT

wanted. Fluent English, 5 years' experience in AR/AP/VAT, filing social security. Call Tim. Tel: 01-9279328.

## Employment Wanted

### MY NAME IS DON

My name is Don Copley. I am a West Australian who has been visiting Phuket for nearly 20 years. I have a Thai partner and intend to take up permanent residence in Phuket. I have spent 40 years consulting in real estate and related fields. I hold licences for real estate, valuation, land conveyancing and auctioneering, and have vast experience in subdivision and project management. I am looking for full- or part-time consultancy or related work. Excellent references can be provided. Please contact me for more information at Email: [ccopleya@bigpond.net.au](mailto:ccopleya@bigpond.net.au)

### THAI WOMAN, 39, RETURNING TO PHUKET

Thai woman, 39 years old, is returning to Phuket after more than 12 years in Europe and is looking for employment. Experienced in tourism-related jobs (receptionist and head-cashier in hotels, lounge hostess at Vienna International Airport, employee in a tour agency), computer literate, native Thai speaker, good command of English, excellent command of German language, good personality, friendly, polite, concerned about customer care and service-oriented. CV available on request. Please contact Mrs Metta Krenn for more information. Email: [gueni.k@gmx.net](mailto:gueni.k@gmx.net)

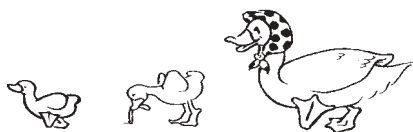
**GAY MALE FOR HOTEL** in Portugal. Looking for gay young Thai male to work in a gay guesthouse in Portugal. Gardening, swimming pool handling, cooking, receiving guests. Please send background information and photo. Tel: 351-284434105. Email: [quintadafe@clix.pt](mailto:quintadafe@clix.pt)

### TEACHERS WANTED

Phuket Wittayalai School requires native English-speaking teachers with TOEFL certificates and a degree. Please contact Khun Boonthong at Fax: 076-213922 or send Email to: [boonthong\\_a@pkw.ac.th](mailto:boonthong_a@pkw.ac.th) for more information.

## ASK KHUN WANIDA! MOMMA DUCK

Problems with an extra-marital affair?  
Questions about Thai culture?  
Having communications problems?  
Need somebody to Love?



Read her advice in the *Phuket Gazette*.

Fax 076-213971 or email [momma@phuketgazette.net](mailto:momma@phuketgazette.net)

## 25% Discount on Classifieds for Shopper Card Holders

### IF YOU...

Place your ad in these pages;  
Present your Shopper Card; and  
Pay for the ad at our offices,

you'll enjoy a 25% discount\* AND have your ad appear free of charge in the Phuket Gazette Online.

*With more than 10,000 visitors a day, the Island Trader Online is Thailand's most active classified marketplace.*

\*Ads may be submitted in person or online ([phuketgazette.net/classifieds](http://phuketgazette.net/classifieds)), but must be paid for at the Gazette offices. The discount is not available when payment is made at our agents.

**The Phuket Gazette Co Ltd**  
367/2 Yaowarat Road, Phuket City  
Tel: 076-236555 Fax: 076-213971



# Tout, Trader & Trumpet

## Bulletins

### Alcoholics Anonymous

is holding meetings in English at the following places:

**Phuket City**  
Mission Hospital  
on Wed and Sun at 7 pm

**Bangkok Phuket Hospital**  
on Fri at 7 pm

**Patong**  
Patong Hospital  
on Mon, Tue, Wed, Sat, Sun  
at 7 pm and on Fri at 8 pm

For more info, please call  
012732053 (Scandinavian),  
018954763 (English) or  
018912895 (Frank)

**ORIGINAL CHRISTIANS** pray. Do you believe in the power of prayer? Original Christians pray – Christ heals. For those who are ill, in distress or in need: Simply write or call + 49 931 3903-290 and you can send us a picture for long-distance Healing by Faith: Worldwide Center of Prayer and Healing of Jesus, the Christ: P.O.Box 5643, 97006 Wurzburg, Germany. Email: hansgerodetti@yahoo.de For further details and healing reports, see our website (9 Languages) at: www.heilzentrum.cc

## Business Opportunities

**ICE-CREAM BUSINESS** for sale in Soi Bangla, Patong. New company with 2 work permits, new equipment Carpigiani technology. 2.1 million baht. Tel: 06-992-8026.

**OFFICE, INTERNET** shop for sale. Office in Sajuan (near Chalong) with ADSL (256/512) flatrate, including 5 PCs (networked), fax, printer, modem, fridge, etc. Or start with the existing Internet cafe (expandable to a game shop). Rent: 5,000 baht. Business takeover: 200,000 baht. Tel: 01-892-4282. Email: taxiregio@freenet.de

**PROFITABLE BIZ** One of a kind; monthly net profit 120,00 baht. Price: 2.5 million baht. Tel: 01-0808557.

**KATA BAR FOR SALE** Good location. 500,000 baht. Call Tel: 07-8814415 for more information.

**HOTEL FOR LEASE** Small easily-run hotel for lease. Please see website for all info. For more information, see our website at: www.kohjoy.com/building or call Tel: 01-8922824 or Email: junaworn@hotmail.com

**RESORT FOR LEASE** Min 10 years, on about 2,500sqm. 15 bungalow units with swimming pool, surrounded by a tropical garden. Key money: 5 million baht, then 80,000 baht a month. Please contact for more info. Tel: 076-330-980, 07-2849690. Fax: 076-330284. Email to: fullmoonbeach@hotmail.com For more information, please see our website at: www.fullmoon-bungalows-phuket.com

**RAWAI – STORAGE** Cars, boats, lockers. Tel: 09-9088675.

**PHUKET** secondhand. Teak king-size bed, desks, dining room set, beds, Karcher rug cleaner, safe, pictures, books. 64/30 Chao Fa Rd (East).

**RESTAURANT/BAR** for sale. Kamala, main road. Aircon, 40 seats, well-established walk in. Take over: 6,000 baht/month; 900,000 baht for sale. Please call after 4 pm. Tel: 076-385940.

**COMPANY FOR SALE** Corporation for sale: 15,000 baht. Please contact for more information. Tel: 07-8934960.

**PLACE FOR FOOD** production. available to share in Patong. Cheap. Please contact for more info. Tel: 06-2688061. Email: schendl@loxinfo.co.th

**BUSINESS FOR SALE** in Kata Plaza. Options No. 1 Internet cafe, with flat screen monitors and ADSL + USB; motorbike & chopper rental tour counter with high turnover. Price: 750,000 baht. Please call for more information. Tel: 04-8374429.

**LOOKING FOR** sea lovers. Looking for partners for our three-year-old company speedboat service around the beautiful islands. Please contact for more info. Tel: 01-7370164, 06-269-9484. Email: simbaseatrips@yahoo.com

**TSUNAMI RESORT** Active investor/partner sought for redevelopment of eco-resort on Phra Thong Island in Phang Nga. Site is a world-class setting, with two beautiful beaches, abundant wildlife, years of successful operation based on a love of nature. Email: simi@losthorizonsasia.com

**BUSINESS FOR SALE** Seven rooms, restaurant, everything ready to go into business immediately. 100m from the beach. Staff available. Please call for more info. Tel: 09-9701283.

## Business Products & Services

**FOREIGN LEGAL** assistance. We can help you register a limited company, prepare a work permit (also for a bar) and a visa application. You can get it within 1 month! 30,000 baht (including all fees). Don't have 2 million baht and/or Thai partners? No problem, we can help with that! Tel: 075-378805, 09-4727205. Fax: 075-378873. Email: nakhon@mail.com

### DAY TRIP TO RANONG

New double-decker tour bus (not minibus), non-smoking and smoking areas, toilet, films/music, snacks and drinks, on-board buffet lunch. No extra tp pay, fully inclusive. Only 1,300 baht. Every Mon, Wed, Fri, Sat, Sunday. Tel: 04-7457024.

### SWIM IN DRINKING WATER

- \* almost no chlorine
- \* no burning eyes
- \* no bleached hair
- \* no salt or corrosion

Caribbean Clear Water Treatment Systems for pools, spas and ponds.  
Tel: 06-6822639.  
Email: nomochlo@yahoo.com

## Club Memberships

**LAGUNA** Laguna Golf Club membership for sale urgently. 18 years. Price: 270,000 baht ono. Tel: 06-2772691.

## Computers

**COMPUTER** services. New + used. Repairs, GPRS, ADSL, WLAN. Internet: no phone, no problem. English Computerman. Tel: 09-4735080.

## Miscellaneous for Sale

### INT'L DRIVERS LICENSE

5,000 baht, valid up to 10 years, 6,000 baht valid up to 20 years. Sole agent in Thailand. Free pick up & delivery, open 365 days a year. Please contact Khun Christine for more information. Tel: 04-0068736.

## Notice

### FAMILY COURT FOR THE STATE OF DELAWARE NOTICE OF FAMILY COURT ACTION

To: Gail Roger Turpen, Respondent. Petitioner Patricia Turpen n/k/a Patricia McCowan, has filed a Rule to Show Cause petition against you in the Family Court of the State of Delaware Sussex County on 5/12/05. If you do not file an answer with the Family Court within 20 days after publication of this notice, exclusive of the date of publication, as required by statute, this action will be heard in Family Court without further notice.

## Personal Services

**THAI VISA & LEGAL** Tired of the visa run? Let us help you obtain a one-year visa. We are Thailand's largest legal services network. Call 24 hours. Please contact for more information. Tel: 076-345277. Website: www.siam-legal.com

**HOME-SCHOOLING**

We support homeschooling parents, with professional child-centred know-how, lesson-plans, curricula, parent-training, e-learning math, science, social language skills, group events for students and families and much more.

Support in German, French, English, Thai, most others by request possible - i.e. Korean.

We are flexible over time and place. Please contact us for further details.

Tel: 076-383308

## Personals

**LOOKING FOR THAI** lady. I am a guy from Holland, 29 years old, and I am going to Bangkok in October/November this year. I am looking for a nice Thai lady to travel with and have some fun, showing me around Thailand and stuff. Please send photo to my email and I will reply back. Email: vdb417@hotmail.com

**TRIP TO EUROPE** Easy-going European guy (46), living in Phuket, is traveling to Europe for a couple of weeks in August, and does not want to go alone. If you are a nice, charming, uncomplicated and slim Thai lady between 20 and 40 and want to join me, then I would like to invite you. All you need is a passport, and I do the rest. Don't wait too long, and send me an email with a picture of you. Let's go. Please contact for more information. Email: bpaiduai@yahoo.de

## ROMANTIC LADY

Single UK businessman, 48 years old, tall, fit, in Phuket, seeks soulmate – slim, attractive, possibly a college teacher, doctor, nurse or similar. Should have good English and be under 30 years old. Email: bgf@excite.com

## BACKGAMMON

Retired businessman looking for backgammon players on Phuket Island. Please call if interested. Tel: 076-386-113, 01-5778443.

## USA MAN SEEKS

Thai lady. Businessman is traveling to Phuket and is seeking to meet a Thai lady for romance and companionship. Please contact me for more information. Email: lmbrjack60@yahoo.com

## Pets

### BABY COCKATOOS

Electus parrots, sun conures and many more birds for sale at Phuket Bird Paradise. Tel: 01-5979255.

### NEED DOGSITTER

Reliable, trustworthy, honest dog-lover needed to baby-sit my two dogs from time to time, at my home or possibly yours, either long days or overnight or holidays. Must have excellent references and they will be checked. Please Email: chantanaj@yahoo.com

### ROTTWEILER

Female, 7 months old, all vaccinations. 6,000 baht. Email: juergenhoelscher@yahoo.de

### KITTENS FOR FREE

2 female kittens need new home, both 2 months old, one black and one gray. Don't want to put them in a temple, so please help adopt them. Email: phuketinasia@yahoo.com

## Do Not Drink Tap Water!

## Have something to sell? Tell the WORLD!

All CLASSIFIED ads in the Phuket Gazette  
appear FREE OF CHARGE in the

# Phuket Gazette Online

Always on top in Google

30-40,000 visitors a day!

## Phuket Gazette.Net/Classifieds

Focused exclusively on **Phuket** -  
and delivered to the world!



All advertising must be paid for in advance.  
**Deadline for Wheels & Motors page: Saturday 12 noon.**





**Skin Tightening and Contouring -without surgery-**  
with technology cleared by the US FDA  
practiced by an American Board Certified Dermatologist

- Botox, Collagen
- Laser Hair Removal
- Mesotherapy

**APEX**  
Only a single-treatment session

2nd Fl. Central Festival Phuket Tel: 076 240-0213 • Cell Center 3 2894-8817  
3rd Fl. Emporium Tel: 0 2894-8813-4 • 3rd Fl. Siam Center Tel: 0 2895-156-7

*To ensure you find the perfect home*



**www.phuketimmo.com 076-249-315**

**PATONG LANGUAGE SCHOOL**

**TEFLPlus®** Teacher training  
**LinguaPlus®** Language centre

Your first choice for language classes on Phuket island, with branches in Patong and Chalong.

Thailand's best value TEFL course at only 35,000 baht.

**Patong Language School**  
Aroonsom Square, Patong, Kathu, Phuket 83150.  
Tel 0 7634 0373 Fax 0 7634 0873

**LinguaPlus Language Centre**  
86/6 Wiset Road, Chalong, Phuket 83000  
Tel/Fax 0 7628 0368

**TEFLPlus Teacher Training**  
www.teflplus.com info@teflplus.com  
info@phuket-languageschool.com www.phuket-languageschool.com

**ANDAMAN BOATYARD**  
FINE CUSTOM BOAT BUILDER  
wood, epoxy, fiberglass, composite.  
Specialists in cold mold, strip planking, plugs and mold making, vacuum bagging technique and vacuum infusion.  
Free quotation on 'Your desired boat plan'.  
All enquiries are welcome.  
Italian management.  
Italian designer available.  
Computer-assisted concept design, scantlings and calculations.  
We can export worldwide.  
CE mark available.



Visit us at:  
111/4 Moo 1, Nat Jomtien soi 6  
20250, Sattahip, Chonburi, Thailand  
next to Jomtien Yacht Club 1  
tel: 0066 38 706060, fax: 0066 38 255782  
www.andamanboatyard.com

**Perfect Shape ✓**  
**Perfect System ✓**  
**Perfect Service ✓**  
**Perfect Price ✓**

**...only with J.D. Pools !**

Tiled freeform pools, infinity- & liner pools. High quality pool equipment sales and service. Custom designs made to order.



**J.D. Pools (Phuket) Co., Ltd.**  
6/2 Moo 2 Thepkasatri Road - Phuket  
Tel 076 239 771-5 Fax 076 239 776  
e-mail phuket@jdpools.com

A real 10-year guarantee.  
No piping...No leaks.  
**No.1 in the world.**  
Any shape.  
Any size.

**Desjoyaux**

80% concrete 20% ingenuity  
Installed in 80 countries.  
More than 150,000 references.  
Since 1966.

Desjoyaux in Thailand  
Bangkok: Tel:+66 2 9889333 Fax:+66 2 2611264  
Phuket: Tel:+66 76 263688 Fax: +66 76 264023  
Chiang Mai: Tel:+66 53 283901-2 Fax:+66 53 202859  
Hatyai: Tel:+66 74 262934-5 Fax:+66 74 262936  
Samut: Tel/Fax:+66 77 427256  
www.desjoyauxasia.com



Find more Property Classifieds at  
**www.phuketgazette.net/**