

# Phuket Gazette

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# Long live the king!

It has been more than half a century since His Majesty King Bhumibol Adulyadej ascended the throne as the ninth monarch of the Royal House of Chakri.

All through these years, His Majesty has devoted his time and energy, working alongside his subjects in remote areas in all parts of the Kingdom to improve their living condition and livelihood.

No place in the Kingdom is too remote, nor is any task too difficult for him. Large and small projects have been initiated by His Majesty, aimed at economic and social development, as well as the conservation of natural resources and the environment, with the people's well-being and happiness as the goal.

His Majesty's development projects are based on morality, true knowledge and understanding of the situation, the expertise and experience of the society and communities, scientific studies, local wisdom, and appropriate technologies.

His principles have been simplicity, frugality and effectiveness, with all projects tailored to meet the needs of localities and solve problems at their root causes, laying a firm foundation for the prosperity and happiness of the people in all parts of the country.



Since 1973, His Majesty the King emphasized in his royal addresses and speeches on various occasions development guidelines based on sufficiency, mod-

eration, economizing, rationalization and the creation of "social immunity" for the majority of the people who are in the farm sector. He cautioned Thais not to be

imprudent in conducting their lives, but to be fully aware of the development process in accordance with proper theories, and within the framework of good morality.

This has become known as "Sufficiency Economy".

When the country experienced the 1997 economic crisis, His Majesty reminded the people of the need to be "self-contained".

In his royal address on the eve of his birthday anniversary on December 4, 1997, His Majesty said:

In fact, I have often said... to be a tiger is not important. The important thing is for us to have a self-supporting economy. A self-supporting economy means to have enough to survive.

With this thought in mind on the auspicious occasion of His Majesty the King's 79<sup>th</sup> birthday on December 5, 2006, the *Gazette*, its publishers and staff say: Long Live The King!

Excerpted from: *King Bhumibol and His Enlightened Approach to Teaching*, which is distributed as an e-book by the Foreign Office of the Thai Government Public Relations Department

For the full version of this text and other e-books visit: [www.thailand.prd.go.th/ebook/king/new\\_theory.html](http://www.thailand.prd.go.th/ebook/king/new_theory.html)

## Solo Aussie sailor rescued off Phuket coast

**PATONG:** An Australian sailor who had been adrift in the Andaman Sea for more than three weeks was rescued by Phuket Marine Police on Saturday, November 25.

Rocky Bonow, 52, left the Cocos Islands on October 17 on his 13.2-meter boat *Moonstar*, bound for Phuket.

As he rounded Sumatra,

the boat's engine stopped, leaving the Aussie adrift with limited supplies.

Pol Lt Col Prathueng Srilamontree of Phuket Marine Police told the *Gazette* that he received a report from fishermen about 4 pm informing him that they had received contact from *Moonstar*, about seven kilometers west of Patong, and that the

sailor on board needed assistance.

"It took about two hours to find him and another three hours to tow the boat from Patong Bay to Chalong Pier," Lt Col Prathueng said.

"He looked tired, but he was still strong and did not ask for any help after arriving at the pier.

"He told me that he was

nearly out of food and that he collected rainwater to survive. He continually tried to contact help by walkie-talkie but the signal was too weak. I think he will have to stay in Phuket a while to fix the boat," Lt Col Prathueng added.

The *Gazette* has since learned that Mr Bonow is now staying in Chalong.



## Gazette breaks new ground

Your *Phuket Gazette* sets a record this week with 56 pages! The increase, which has occurred in four increments over the past 11 months, represents a whopping 40% rise over the page count for the same issue last year.

The growth reflects record-breaking demand for both commercial and classified advertising, concurrent with rapid acceleration in the volume of news and pace of events that Phuket now generates on a weekly basis.

If the *Gazette* were a weekly magazine, printed on A4, it would now stand at 112 pages per issue, or 448 pages a month. With no more room for expansion in our current offices on Yaowarat Rd, construction on "Gazette Square" starts next month.

Located on three rai midway between the Boat Lagoon and British International School, Phase One of the new complex is scheduled to open about a year from now.

Meanwhile, readers and advertisers are going to receive bonuses that do not require immediate additions to *Gazette* pages, plant or staff.

The first of these appeared two weeks ago with the mirroring and simultaneous publication of our *classified* ads in our partner's mass circulation daily *The Nation*. A dedicated, full page of these can be seen in the 'Explorer' supplement enclosed with this issue.

The 'Explorer' is distributed every Friday in *The Nation*. As such, *Gazette* classified advertisers now enjoy an additional 50,000 readers – nationwide.

With the *Gazette's* provincial pricing at 95 baht a line, and with no additional charge to reach *The Nation's* mass English-speaking audience, this promotion currently offers the most cost effective classified advertising in the Kingdom.

# Boy driver dies in speeding motorcycle smash

By Natcha Yuttaworawit

KOH KAEW: A 12-year-old boy died when he crashed his motorcycle while overtaking a car on a curved section of Thepkrasattri Rd on Tuesday.

Pol Lt Apichart Rainchana of Phuket Police Station identified the boy as Adisak Det-aran, a student at Baan Sapam Mongkol Wittaya School.

He was still in his student uniform when police arrived at

the accident scene, about 4:30 pm.

The first-year high-school student was returning north to his home in Tambon Srisoonthorn from Phuket City, Lt Apichart said.

Riding his parents' black Honda Wave at high speed and without a helmet, Adisak tried to overtake a car on the left, Lt Apichart explained.

The bike grazed the side of the car, then Adisak smashed into

a guard rail and plummeted about 10 meters into a roadside ravine, where a sharp stick punctured his lung, Lt Apichart said.

He was dead by the time witnesses were able to get to his body, which was later taken to Vachira Phuket Hospital.

Adisak's home room teacher, Sangsuthin Krueasane, said that Adisak was a friendly boy and a diligent student.

"This is terrible news for us. I talked with the students this

morning and told them that Adisak's death should be an example for them. Adisak had only started riding his parents' motorbike to school a few days before," K. Sangsuthin said.

"Our teachers meet with parents at the beginning of every term and ask them not to let underage children ride motorcycles to school," she added.

Thais can apply for a motorcycle driving license from the age of 15.

# Homemade bombs blast new houses

By Gazette Staff

CHALONG: Three houses were badly damaged by improvised explosive devices (IEDs) that detonated about 2:30 am on November 25. Police believe the blasts were motivated by a land dispute. No one was killed in the blasts, but two Burmese workmen were reported injured.

The houses are located in a rural residential development on Soi Songkun, Moo 1, Nabon, Chao Fa Rd East.

Chalong Police Superintendent Pol Col Chalit Kaewyarat told the *Gazette* that the 10 rai of land on which the homes stand is reclaimed tin-mining land.

The homeowners, who financed the building of the properties themselves, said that they hold *TorBor 5* title deeds for the land. Approximately 100 families live on the land.

Samrun Mookwat, 33, had just moved into one of the houses. His two-story property, which cost him a reported 2 million baht to build, was destroyed in the blast, although he was not at home at the time. The other two houses were still under construction.

Chalong Police have several suspects and will contact the Land Office as part of their in-



One of the new houses torn apart by a homemade bomb. The owner was not at home when the bomb detonated about 2:30 am.

vestigation, Col Chalit said.

Phuket Provincial Police Deputy Commander Pol Col Prasit Sriwatanapong said the IEDs were homemade "fertilizer bombs".

He reported that other attacks, involving firearms and arson, have taken place in the past year or so. "The investigation might involve former suspects, although arrests have yet to be made. We are gathering more evidence first," he said.

Col Chalit added that the police will liaise with the Phuket

Provincial Land Department to investigate if there are any other claims on the land.

Speaking to the *Gazette*, The President of the Soi Songkun Residents' Association, Komit Phumi, said, "The people who live here are generally quite poor and don't have personal enemies."

"My feeling is that these 'accidents' and attacks are being orchestrated by people who have seen the value of the land here rise, and they want to scare us off so that they can buy the land cheaply."

## Rawai sea gypsies spared their homes

RAWAI: Four sea gypsy houses slated for demolition have been spared the wrecking ball in the Phuket Provincial Highway Office's (PPHO) road-widening project in Rawai.

Sarayuth Intarawichien of the PPHO said that the road-widening project will be finished on target by March next year.

The project began in May and extends along Chao Fa West Rd, from Darasamut intersection to Chalong Circle and on to Rawai Beach.

"We were flexible in building this road, basing it on the physical characteristics of the area, which is why some parts of the road are narrower than the original design."

"The road is designed to be 20.6 meters wide, but has been reduced to about 18.6m near the sea gypsies' houses, but the reduced width does not affect traffic," he said.

## Scheduled blackouts

PHUKET: The Phuket Provincial Electricity Authority (PPEA) has announced the following blackouts:

**December 6, from 9 am-4 pm. Kathu:** Wichit Songkhram Rd, from Wat Kathu to Kathu District Office, including Loch Palm Golf Club, Baan Mai Riab, Moo Baan Singtao Thani, Soi Kathu Cooperative and Baan Seekor.

**December 7, from 9 am-5 pm. Chalong:** West side of Chao Fa West Rd, from the PPEA substation to Wat Chalong, including Soi Nakok, Chao Fa Thani, Baan Nai Trok and Soi Sainamyen.

## The Key Piece of the Puzzle

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# Accidents, crime rated Phuket's biggest threats

By Supanun Supawong

PHUKET: Despite fears of terrorism, natural disasters and health pandemics, government officials rate everyday crime and road accidents as the greatest dangers to Phuket's tourism industry, a Phuket Provincial Tourism Management Strategy (PPTRMS) workshop revealed on Tuesday, November 21.

During the workshop, at the Royal Phuket City Hotel, government officials were presented with the results of a survey from the previous workshop, held on August 22, when attendees were divided into four groups.

Each group was asked to collectively assign a "likelihood" and "consequence" rating of 1, 2 or 3 to 12 potential threats, with the total "level of risk" calculated as the product of the two ratings.

The overall results found that "crime" had the highest overall risk level (7) on average, followed by "road accidents" (6).

Other potential threats were rated as follows:

- Fire, marine accidents, drought: 4
- Terrorism, tsunami, health pandemic: 3
- Flood/storms, landslides, earthquakes, pollution: 2
- Lack of medical care: 1

Not included in the overall results, however, was the threat to tourism posed by "migrant labor", which was assessed by only one of the four groups.

This group felt that migrant labor posed the greatest danger to Phuket's tourism, with a likelihood rating of 3 and a consequence rating of 3, for a combined "level of risk" of 9.

The workshop featured talks by Loy Rego from the Asian Disaster Preparedness Center (ADPC) and ADPC Acting Director Phijit Rattakul, as well as Ian Kean, Executive Director of the APEC International Center for Sustainable Tourism.

There to hear the expert advice were Phuket Provincial Administration Organization President Anchalee Vanich-Thepabutr and representatives from the Phuket offices of the Tourism Authority of Thailand, Marine Police, Royal Thai Police, Tourist Police and the Public Health Office.

The first workshop, held in April, outlined the national disaster warning system.

The second, in August, focused on the dangers to tourism posed by illegal foreign laborers.

A fourth PPTRMS workshop is planned to be held in early 2007.

## 70 Burmese arrested for singing loudly

KARON: Seventy Burmese workers celebrating a friend's wedding were arrested and taken to Chalong Police Station after a neighbor complained that they were singing too loud.

Pol Maj Peeranat Chatin-kaew told the *Gazette* that Chalong Police Station office received a complaint about 1:30 am on November 21.

Police were told that Burmese workers behind Wat Karon were "disturbing the peace" by singing karaoke too loud.

Some of them had been drinking, he said.

When police arrived at the scene the group quickly scattered, but police captured nearly all of them.

The 20 members deemed to have been causing the most noise were fined 500 baht each before the entire group was released, Maj Peeranat added.

— Supanun Supawong

## Former Kathu Land Office Chief sentenced to 20 years in prison

BANGKOK (*The Nation*): The Criminal Court in Bangkok on November 27 sentenced former Kathu Land Office Chief Bunchoo Limraksasin to 20 years in prison after finding him guilty on 10 counts of demanding bribes for land titles between December 21, 2001 and March 8, 2003.

The court also found a second defendant in the case, 34-year-old Meena Kalra, guilty on seven counts of conspiring to launder money for Bunchoo. She was sentenced to seven years in prison.

The court heard testimony that Bunchoo had accumulated 5.4 million baht from processing land titles for one woman in 2002, including a final payment of 2 million baht in cash delivered in a gift-wrapped box to Bunchoo by the woman's land broker.

A warrant was issued for Bunchoo's arrest after the woman reported him to police, but Bunchoo, who was transferred to



Bunchoo Limraksasin.

— Photo: The Nation.

Ubon Ratchathani in June 2003, initially evaded arrest.

After a manhunt in Phuket and Phang Nga in July that year, officers from the Crime Suppression Division eventually arrested Bunchoo in Ranong on July 20, after his return from the Andaman Club casino and resort in Myanmar.

The charges against Bun-

choo stated that he transferred more than 17 million baht to two bank accounts in Meena's name and bought a 2.1-million-baht condominium for her in Bangkok's Phaya Thai District.

Both defendants strenuously denied all charges, as well as allegations that they had been involved in an adulterous affair.

Regardless, the court found Bunchoo's denial of bribe demands and money transfers unconvincing, noting in its summary that it was unusual that Bunchoo's wife was unaware of the large transactions involving Meena.

Noting that Meena's monthly salary was only 5,000 baht, the court also found unconvincing her claim that she was able to amass 17 million baht in personal savings.

Meena had been employed as a part-time helper at the Kathu Land Office when Bunchoo was also employed there.

## Patong tuk-tuk driver stabs Welsh tourist

By Natcha Yuttaworit

PATONG: Welsh tourist Julien Bennett, 31, was discharged from Phuket International Hospital on November 25, after being stabbed in the chest following a dispute over a tuk-tuk fare.

Kathu Deputy Inspector for Crime Suppression, Pol Capt Leucha Polkarn, confirmed that Bennett was stabbed in front of the Royal Crown Hotel, where Bennett was staying, on Nanai Rd about 3:30 am.

Tuk-tuk driver Wisut Jampa, 40, told police that he had negotiated a fare of 200 baht to take Bennett back to his hotel. Upon arriving there, Bennett, who Wisut said was drunk, began arguing about the fare, saying the normal rate was 100 baht.

Bennett then took out 120 baht and threw it in his face, then began throwing punches at him, the tuk-tuk driver told police.

Wisut then went to the glove compartment of the tuk-tuk and grabbed a folding knife, which he used to stab Bennett. As Bennett ran to the hotel to seek assistance, Wisut fled the scene.

Wisut was released on bail but still faces criminal charges for the stabbing, Capt Leucha said, and any additional witnesses are urged to come forward.


## B2m of ya bah seized in Thalang

THALANG: Police seized 6,800 *ya bah* (methamphetamine) pills and arrested two men in a sting operation on November 23.

The total haul had a street value of about 2 million baht.

Phuket Provincial Police Commander Pol Maj Gen Decha Budnampeth said that undercover officers had arrested Chatree Waiyawut, 26, and Songcherd Krodsimai, 28.

The men were charged with possession of *ya bah* with intent to sell.



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Bangla Rd



Saphan Hin's Lucky Complex has been an albatross round the neck of the provincial authorities since its conception.

Construction of the complex began in 1992. In 1996, it finally opened as a shopping mall under the auspices of Lucky Seafood Co, part of the Kata Group of companies, which leased the building from the province.

Within a year the deal soured, however. Tenants left the new mall en masse after discovering that Lucky Seafood had not yet installed basic utilities, including electricity – nor did it have the funds to do so.

Following the failure of the shopping mall, the building stood abandoned by all except drug users and youth gangs, grateful for the shelter and dark corners the complex provided.

In 2002, the Phuket Provincial Administration Organization (*OrBorJor*) stepped in to reclaim the complex for the province on the grounds that Lucky Seafood had failed in its promise to turn the complex into something beneficial to the province and, perhaps more pressingly, had also failed to pay the rent for a two-year period.

After waiting another two years, the *OrBorJor* finally launched new plans for the building. The homeless were to be moved out, replaced by a high-end duty-free store to be run by Royal Sawasdee Co Ltd under a 20-year concession.

The deal should have proved lucrative for the *OrBorJor*, with Royal Sawasdee agreeing to pay about half a million baht per month in rent. Following the downturn in tourism after the 2004 tsunami, however, the deal fell through. The ill-fated building was again handed back to the *OrBorJor*.

At the beginning of this year, the *OrBorJor* floated an ambitious new plan to redevelop the whole 80 rai of land it owns in Saphan Hin, including Lucky

# Will fortunes change for

When its construction began 14 years ago, the Lucky Complex shopping center was heralded as a major new money-spinner for the province and the center point for the rejuvenation of Saphan Hin. Since then, the complex has proved to be a white elephant, with every attempt to put it to use failing. Here *Gazette* Reporter Supanun Supawong and Desk Editor Dominic Earnshaw examine the history of the project and Phuket Provincial Administration Organization's latest plan for the abandoned department store and the 80-rai area it occupies.



The dream: how the *OrBorJor* hope Saphan Hin will look at the end of the redevelopment.

Complex. *OrBorJor* President Anchalee Vanich-Thepabutr in August released more details of what the future might hold for the area.

The top four floors of the six-story building would be used to house new *OrBorJor* offices, as well as a science education area. Only the bottom two floors would have to contend with the vagaries of the business world. Ideas included renting them out to private companies or creating an IT center, K. Anchalee said.

Plans for a duty-free store in Saphan Hin have still not been completely abandoned, *OrBorJor* Deputy President Suthep Thepsakul said last month.

"We would like to find a

duty-free company or a super-store to rent the first two floors of the complex. This, however, depends on whether any companies are interested. The *OrBorJor* will repaint the inside of the building, but all other renovation work will have to be done by the tenants. The companies will rent the space from the *OrBorJor* and pay water and electricity bills themselves. At the moment, we have still not set the rental price," he said.

"The third and fourth floors will serve as the new *OrBorJor* offices. All of the *OrBorJor* staff will be transferred there as the offices we have now [part of the Phuket Provincial Hall complex] are too small. After all our officers have moved to the new offices we will consider putting our old building up for rent," K. Suthep explained.

"The fifth and sixth floors will be an educational science center called the Andaman Learning Center. The center will aim to spread knowledge about

science and astronomy to young people and students. We are hoping to install a planetarium as well.

"The center will focus on educating young people from Phuket, Phang Nga and Krabi. The *OrBorJor* will employ science experts from universities or private companies to run the

"About 70% of the goods on sale will be from Phuket OTOP schemes and the remaining 30% will be from other provinces, especially Phang Nga and Krabi," he said.

Muay Thai aficionados should not be too distressed about their stadium being replaced by a

The plan is for the fifth and sixth floors to be an educational science area called the Andaman Learning Center, with the aim of spreading knowledge about science and astronomy to young people and students.

project. The *OrBorJor* is now waiting to hear from experts with design ideas for the center.

"We think that work on the project should be finished by mid-2007," K. Suthep said.

That might seem quite ambitious, given the fact that the work has yet to commence.

*OrBorJor* Chief Architect Prachya Sukkeaw said that work on Lucky Complex had not yet started because the *OrBorJor* has still not decided on the project's contractor.

The money is available, however. At a meeting on November 7, 2006, the *OrBorJor* announced that construction of its new offices is budgeted at 85 million baht, with another 53 million baht earmarked for the Andaman Learning Center.

The redevelopment of the Lucky Complex is only one part of the *OrBorJor* plan for Saphan Hin. Another key part of the program is the conversion of the nearby Thai boxing stadium into a market for One Tambon One Product (OTOP) goods, K. Suthep explained.

selection of decorative knick-knacks, however.

"The Thai boxing stadium will be reopened in a new location, but we haven't discussed where yet. It will probably stay in the Saphan Hin area, though it could be moved somewhere else entirely," said K. Suthep.

Vendors currently operating out of a dilapidated row of one-story shops in the same area are also included in the redevelopment plans for the area. The *OrBorJor* has deemed their buildings unattractive and ill-fitting with its vision.

Somprasong Eimsakul, Secretary to the *OrBorJor* President, explained that the vendors will be rehoused in 52 new two-story shop shophouses, 38 of which will be built by the *OrBorJor* and rented out.

The remaining 14 units will be built by private individuals according to design specifications laid down by the *OrBorJor*. The owners will then have to pay land rent to the *OrBorJor* at the rate of 750 baht per year, K. Somprasong said.

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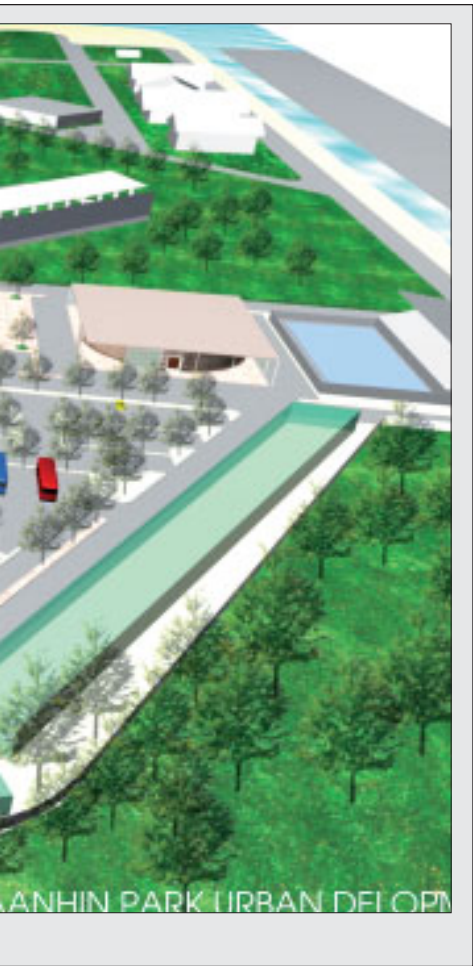
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# Phuket's Lucky Complex?



The Reality: Lucky Complex as it stands today. Over the years it has been deserted, the building has become a favorite hangout for gangs of youths and drug users as well as providing shelter for Phuket City's homeless population.



The rental price for the OrBorJor-owned units will be set by a committee comprising representatives from the OrBorJor and Phuket Provincial Treas-

ury Office, K. Somprasong explained.

Only current Saphan Hin residents will be allowed to occupy the new buildings, he added.

Construction of the 38 buildings has been split into three phases, with a different contractor for each phase. Work on the first lot of 20 units began in Au-

gust and work is now around 35% complete. They are expected to be finished in April of next year. A contract has already been drawn up for the construction of

the next lot of 10 units and bids are still being accepted for the final eight units. The project is expected to be completed within six to eight months, he said.

## Le SUNDAY BRUNCHEON



Relive those long lazy afternoons of self-indulgent delight on the Quarterdeck overlooking Nai Harn beach and enjoy a celebration of gourmet delights. The brunch's culinary highlights include rich appetizers and the sweetest treats, a carving trolley and a special selection of main dishes from our a la carte menu.

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## Queer News

## THE ROOT OF SUFFERING

*Attachment is the origin, the root of suffering; hence it is the cause of suffering.*

– The Dalai Lama at Harvard University, 1988

A devout monk in Phat-talung's Kongra District took the quest for non-attachment to an unprecedented level recently, when he cut off his erect penis, which was was distracting him during a meditation session.

News of the story was revealed after the monk, Phra Niwat Kaewnopparat (aka Phra Boonlert), was transferred on November 22 to Maharaj Hospital in Nakhon Sri Thammarat, where he denied offers by doctors to reattach the severed member.

Phra Boonlert, described as highly devout by villagers and fellow clergy at a remote temple in Tambon Klongsai, was practicing Vipassana "insight" meditation on November 11 when he was distracted by the erection.

He had earlier told relatives that he had encountered problems of "distraction" that affected his meditation, but never specifically mentioned that sexual urges were the source of the interference.

That fact only became apparent when villagers heard screams for help coming from

Phra Boonlert's cell at about 8 pm.

Rushing to assist, a villager found blood streaming down the monk's leg and his severed four-inch penis laying next to a small length of wood, used as a makeshift cutting board to slice off the offending organ with a sharp knife.

He was rushed to Kongra Hospital for treatment by villagers, who collected the severed organ, wrapped it in a plastic bag and put it on ice in the hope it could be reattached.

Phra Boonlert told them their action was not necessary, as he no longer had any use for the organ.

At last report, doctors at the hospital continued to keep the monk sedated and under close observation – even though his wound was healing well.

People who know Phra Boonlert said this was unnecessary as he had never previously displayed any signs of mental illness. He was only more ardent in pursuing the path to enlightenment than other monks, they said.

Sources: Daily News, Kom Chad Luek




## TRASHING Phuket

There has been some fuss recently about the squatters living in Soi Phra Barami 8 in Kalim, who have been trying to hang onto their homes in the face of a municipal drive to kick them out and bulldoze the lot.

Not mentioned in news reports so far is the mess around the area, with garbage scattered all along the soi – at the edge of the "village" and around the seaward end of the soi, close to the beach. This is despite the fact that there are many bins provided in that area.

It seems that pride in one's home may not be top of some of the squatters' agendas – nor that of the municipality. Or maybe it's a case of, "When the ground is full, please use the bin".







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# Water wonderful world

By Andy Johnstone

**L**ong-gone are the days when the most fun to be had on the water within a short distance of the shore was with the help of the lilo – the inflatable air mattress, that is, not the village in Armagh, Northern Ireland – or the near-ubiquitous inflatable dinghy of European seaside holidays, last seen being used by refugees trying to row across La Manche.

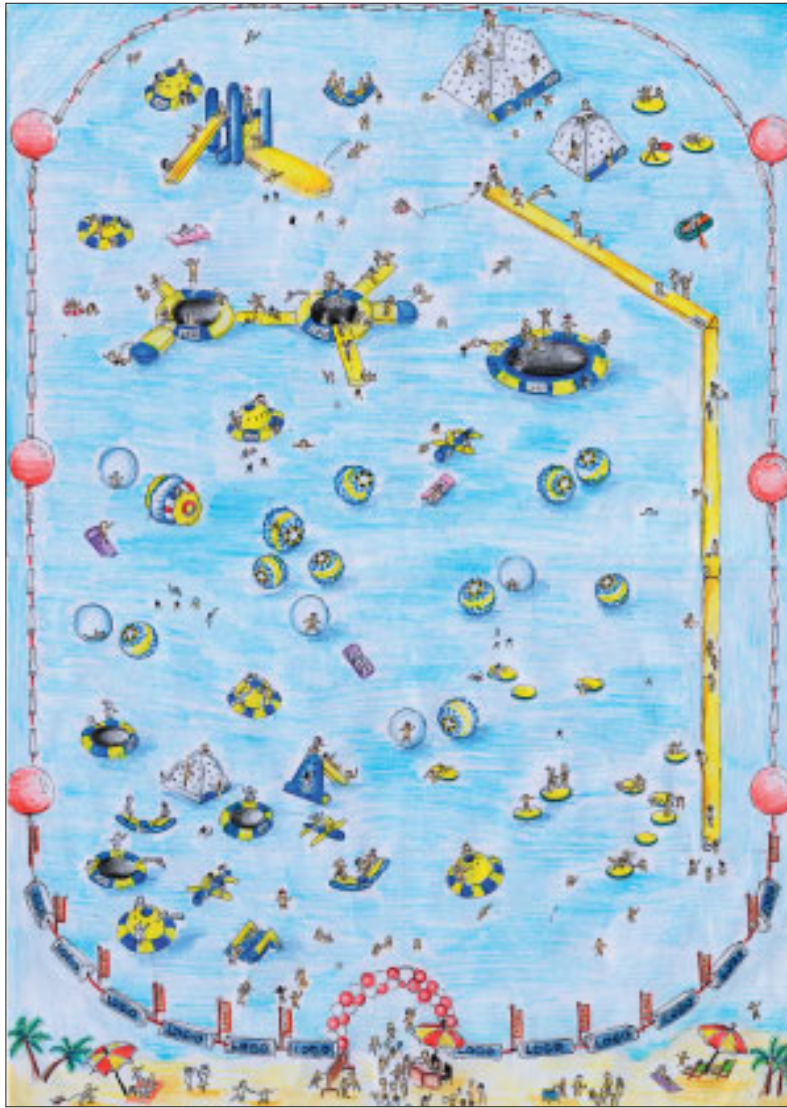
No, really, it was. Just Google “inflatable dinghy channel” if you are in doubt.

The Andaman Water Park (AWP), the brainchild of managers Vincent and Jazon Edouard, from Paris, uses inflatables, but not the type to have graced Thai shores before.

Filled with inflatable rides, a 6.5-meter-high pyramid, human catapults, bridges and even a floating bar – serving non-alcoholic drinks; remember, this is aimed at children and families, not just adults – the park looks likely to breathe fresh life into the island’s main playground, Patong.

The park, due to open this month on the beach across from the Patong Bay Garden Resort will be a 5,000-square-meter play area stretching some 150 meters into the bay.

Other attractions in the park – which Vincent reported will have a maximum capacity of 200 people – will include rolling logs, “Tarzan” swings, a floating



Artist's concept of the proposed water park which, the developers say, will be safe and non-polluting – and a lot of fun.

bridge, trampolines as well as low-powered inflatable sea scooters, each propelled by an electric motor.

Sure to be of interest to young and old alike will be the “gladiator”-style games, which include jousting and a novel form

of kendo played with what look like oversized cotton buds.

Also available will be water-walkers – imagine a giant-size hamster ball with space, not for a rodent, but a human.

Vincent, whose career began in the hospitality industry, explained that the water-walker is zipped up and inflated around the customer, who can then roll the transparent globe over the sea.

“Although it’s difficult to have a favorite, the water-walker is possibly my choice. The bottom of the walker gives a wonderful view of sea life,” explained Vincent.

“I have used them, and the sensation is really something special; you feel that you’re on the water, with all the sensations of floating, but without getting wet.

“We will also have Aqua-Skippers, which are a little like stand-up bicycles. They are powered by the rider and can reach speeds of up to 30kmh.

“Safety,” continued Vincent, “is vital. Of course, we want people to have fun, but we have made safe fun the priority. There will be 15 lifeguards, a rescue vessel, life jackets that are mandatory for children under 12 and recommended for everyone else – children under 12 must also be

under parental control – and we have comprehensive insurance through AXA.”

The floats – made from UV-treated commercial-grade PVC – will, he added, be anchored to the sea bed, and the whole area will be roped off with pontoons to prevent jet-skis and other craft coming too close.

“Water parks similar to this are quite a common concept in Europe, the US and Australia, for example, but I don’t think that there is another in Asia, certainly not another in Thailand,” he said.

He added that the admission charge for a day’s fun is a flat-rate of 250 baht for adults and children alike.

“One of the great things about the AWP is that it’s not going to harm the environment.

“Also, the only noise will be from people having fun, not jet-skis or speedboats towing parascenders,” said Vincent.

Messing about on the water just took on a whole new meaning.

*Andaman Water Park will open in mid-December. Opening times will be 8:30 am to 5:30 pm. For more information, contact Vincent Edouard at Tel: 081-9684541 or email: j\_vpartners@hotmail.com*

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# Unlucky day for Lucky's mahout

A 22-year-old mahout was killed by his musth-crazed elephant on November 19, when the pair were working in a rubber plantation in Nakhon Sri Thammarat. The animal had a history of aggressive behavior and had once trampled the car of a former provincial governor.

According to witnesses, the victim, Aekarat Bunmuang, had been hired to move logs in the plantation. As he was working, his charge, a 35-year-old bull elephant called Chok Dee ("Lucky"), became agitated and threw him to the ground.

Chok Dee then gored K. Aekarat repeatedly in the face with his tusks before stomping on his chest.

K. Aekarat somehow managed to scream for help, but no one came to his assistance until Chok Dee had calmed down, by which time Aekarat was unconscious. Villagers then managed to tie Chok Dee between two trees and sent K. Aekarat to hospital, where he died.

Pol Lt Col Apichat Kocha-

wen, Duty Inspector at Nakhon Sri Thammarat City Police Station, said that Chok Dee became angry because K. Aekarat had forced him to work for many days without giving him a proper rest, which caused him to be agitated.

**Road rash:** Police had to rescue a driver from a lynch mob enraged at the death of their friend in a traffic accident in Lansaka, Nakhon Sri Thammarat, in the early hours of November 24.

The mob later launched an attack on the hospital where the injured man was taken and also surrounded the district police station when the driver was transferred there.

The violence was sparked by the death of 23-year-old Pramot Khrutkhlaow, who was knocked off his motorcycle after a collision with a car driven by Nathaphong Thamathoon, 27, while driving back from a local bar.

Pramot's passengers, Sanchai Jitsompong and Jatuphon Hiranrak, both 23, were also injured in the accident.

Pol Lt Col Suphot Khongnaluek, an Investigator at Lansaka District Police Station, said that investigators had learned that before the accident, Pramot and his friends got drunk in a bar.

On the way back from the bar, Pramot's motorcycle and Nathaphong's car collided.

When Pramot's friends, who were following on motorcycles, saw what had happened, they seized Nathaphong and began to beat him. They also tried to smash his car, Col Suphot said.

By the time police arrived at the scene, about 10 youths were attacking Nathaphong, but they fled when they saw the officers approach.

As Nathaphong was being treated for his injuries in Lansaka Hospital, the gang arrived at the hospital and tried to continue their attack. Police then took him to Lansaka District Police Station where they could guarantee his safety.

The gang, however, followed Nathaphong to the police station, where they demanded that he be returned to the hospital so



Police in Ba Joh District, Narathiwat province, show the bounty from a November 22 raid on a factory producing an intoxicant made from cough medicine and krathom, an indigenous Thai plant that has a mild stimulant effect and is now a controlled substance.

Police made three arrests and seized 56 kilograms of krathom leaves, 79kg of liquid krathom extract and 37 bottles of cough medicine.

he could pay his respects to Pramot's body.

Col Suphot said that Nathaphong would be charged with violating the traffic code and the youths, once they had been

caught, would be charged with assault and criminal damage.

*Around The South news round-up is sourced from the pages of Kom Chad Luek newspaper.*



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# Domestic violence cases soar

**M**ore than 14,000 reports of domestic abuse against women and children were lodged across the country over the past 12 months, a sharp increase from the previous year, Ministry of Public Health (MoPH) Spokesman Supan Srithamma has announced.

There were 14,382 victims of violence from October 2005 to September this year, with 7,164 victims younger than 18. The total number of reports was 40% more than in the previous year, he said.

The figures showed that on average 39 women and children were victims of violence every day in Thailand.

Just over half of the incidents reported were physical abuse, followed by sexual assaults at 43%. Boyfriends or friends made up more than a third of the attackers, followed by husbands at 24% and relatives at 15%.

Alcohol was a factor in about 28% of the attacks, while 24% were caused by jealousy.

Of the victims, 8,797 had to undergo mental rehabilitation.

MoPH efforts to deal with the problem include the ministry's nationwide network of 104 "One-Stop Crisis Centers" and its 1669 help hotline, K. Supan said.

**Silence of the lambs:** The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) will seek National Legislative Assembly (NLA) action over 38 alleged "silence killings" during the Thaksin Shinawatra administrations "War on Drugs".

Commissioner Wasant Panich accused the Thaksin government of "doing nothing" about 38 specific killings it had investigated.

The commission received 40 complaints stemming from the 2003 War on Drugs. The investigation concluded that 38 people

who died during the campaign had no history of drug dealing, K. Wasant said.

The NHRC reported its findings to the previous government, but they were ignored, he said.

**Toxin tax:** A network of health and environmental advocates and economists is drafting a bill aimed at taxing the producers and distributors of chemicals for use in agriculture based on the toxicity level.

One of the group's members, Assoc Professor Teerana Bhongmakapat of Chulalongkorn University's Faculty of Economics, explained that unlike in the industrial sector, the use of chemicals in the agriculture sector lacks proper control. This results in excessive use that leaves toxic residue in the environment, especially in groundwater, he said.

The group wants the money raised by the tax be put into a new fund to be spent on a scheme to gradually convert the country's conventional farming to organic agriculture, heal the chemical-induced damage done to the environment and ensure food safety.

The highest tax rate of 30% is suggested for the most toxic group of agricultural chemicals, including pesticides and insecticides, with less toxic chemicals such as fertilizers subjected to lower tax rates.

**Candy caper:** A construction worker used a cigarette lighter resembling a pistol to rob a 7-Eleven store in Bangkok, but was arrested after he returned to the convenience store to get the five-baht candy he had forgotten there, police said.

About 3 am on November 23, Thongsuk Fangnin, 29, twice walked in and out of the store in



**HEAVY DUTY SONTAM:** Models dressed as "Ocean Devils", characters from a famous Thai fable, make spicy papaya salad using a giant pestle and mortar, to promote *sontam* dishes from around the country at special promotion at The Mall in Bangkok's Bang Kapi District.

Buang Kum District before buying a five-baht pack of candy on his third trip. He then pointed the cigarette lighter at the cashier and demanded the money in the cash register, all 1,600 baht.

When Thongsuk walked back to the convenience store to get the candy he left behind, the clerk remembered him as coming from a nearby construction

camp and called the police.

He was apprehended with the lighter that looked like a 9mm handgun and 1,400 baht in cash. After being booked for armed robbery, he told police he was stressed out from a fight with his girlfriend and wanted money to go home to Srisaket Province, so he drank three cans of beer and held up the store.

**The death of rock:** Bangkok Rock Festival 2007, initially scheduled for February 10 and 11, has been canceled – mainly due to the government's ban on alcohol advertising set to take effect on December 3.

Riverman Asia Company announced the cancellation of the rock festival, saying that it would be difficult to find sponsors for the event with the virtual ban on alcohol advertising.

"Such a big event is going to cost more than 80 million baht because international rock stars will be part of this festival," the company said.

**Unscheduled stop:** Five people, including two foreign tourists, were trapped in a malfunctioning elevator at Suvarnabhumi Airport for 40 minutes before they were rescued by staff.

Sasaphak Mangmool, a tour guide, said two airport staff finally arrived after she kept pressing an emergency button inside the glass elevator for 15 minutes.

"They stood and watched but did nothing to help. Five or six security guards showed up after quite a while, but none of them did anything to help us," she said.

She said some of them kept looking inside and smiling the whole time, for reasons she did not know.

She and the others had to put their noses up to the overhead fan inside the elevator to get some air, because the temperature rose uncomfortably.

After 40 minutes, two maintenance workers arrived and opened the elevator doors, she said.

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





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Following the recent announcement of the crackdown on company nominees, and especially on those companies with foreign shareholders, foreign-run businesses in the area are reporting that they are being audited by the Revenue Department, sometimes going back two to three years.

While this in itself is not extraordinary, many foreign business owners feel frustrated that Thai firms and unregistered businesses are not facing the same scrutiny.

In some cases, foreigners are working in unregistered businesses, tour agencies, restaurants and real estate companies without paying taxes or having work permits.

Foreigners who abide by the rules – are VAT-registered and registered with the Tourism Authority of Thailand, pay social security for their Thai staff, have work permits and licenses – feel that it is unfair that they are following the law 100%, yet are still being targeted by the tax authorities for audits.

Meanwhile, foreigners who are breaking the law on many counts are going unmolested.

There are cases where there are several businesses in the same area: some foreign-owned and fully legal, and others either unregistered or Thai-owned with illegal foreign employees.

The foreign businesses that are fully compliant with all regulations are being audited, while the other businesses are ignored.

In several instances where complaints have been made to the authorities about this type of situation, the answer has been something to the effect of, "We are too busy." Too busy investi-

# Crackdown on nominees hits legit companies



The Ao Nang Fishing Park is unique in that it is salt-water and is stocked with delicious marine fish.

gating law-abiding businesses with foreign directors?

The bottom line is that the many foreigners contemplating opening new businesses are now less likely to follow the proper guidelines. By following the law, all they will receive is a big headache. But it seems that they can open new businesses using Thai names and escape the hassles of being regarded as "foreign businesses".

**Fishing for compliments:** This month saw the reopening of the Ao Nang Fishing Park and Seafood Restaurant in the Klong Haang area of Ao Nang.

The fishing park has been in existence for years, but recently fell on hard times. Sayan Yoohkun, owner of the popular KR Bar in Centre Point, took over the 11-rai property two years ago and has been working tirelessly to upgrade the grounds.



## ACROSS THE BAY

By Gus Reynolds

pumped from a saltwater canal connected to the ocean to keep the salinity at the proper levels for the fish.

Most fishing parks in the area are freshwater and are stocked with catfish and other species not at the top of the dinner menu. The Ao Nang Fishing Park is stocked with saltwater species, including red and white snapper, grouper and milkfish, all excellent eating fish that you would order at your local seafood restaurant.

The added bonus is that if you catch a big fish, they will cook it right there, prepared exactly as you order. If for some reason you can't catch a keeper, you can order

one from the restaurant served right to your sala. It doesn't get any fresher than that.

It makes for a great afternoon with a group of friends and family, and it is just minutes from Ao Nang Beach. The fishing park is located near the St Agnes Catholic Church.



He refurbished the entire project, building a new sala, a new restaurant, new electric and water systems, and obviously building up a new stock of fish.

What makes this fishing park unique, besides its breathtaking views of the karsts, is that the lake is saltwater. Water is

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# Jungceylon's Main Attractions!



By Jungceylon

## Jungceylon Fountain:

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where they will project specially designed movies and images that you will only be able to see here at Jungceylon for free every night at 7pm and 9pm. Overlooking the fountain will be the world renowned theme restaurant, **IndoChine** all the way from Singapore, covering more than 3000 sqm, with a restaurant, club, bar and space for events. The Port's beautiful designs, non-stop activities and peaceful settings will definitely make it Phuket's new hotspot.

**That's Siam:** Another highlight of Jungceylon will definitely be **That's Siam**. It's a magnificent shopping gallery of arts and crafts from all over Thailand brought to one location, Jungceylon. The famous

this chic new shopping zone will be a smooth combination of eastern and western spirit.

600 sqm of the space is devoted to the **art exhibition and craft demonstration area** where revolving exhibitions will be held along with various events and activities to promote Thai products. Here visitors can learn more about the Thai arts heritage and the work that goes into fine Thai handicraft products.

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**Upcoming Events:** From December 20 til the New Year

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By Jeff Heselwood

# Volvo switches gears



Although the design of the latest C70 started as a conventional coupe, the design team decided to "open it up" with a convertible top.

**V**olvo is generally regarded as the maker of ultra-safe but rather staid and cumbersome sedans, frequently driven by middle-aged men wearing hats – not a producer of a stylish coupé convertible that appeals to the "young at heart" of both genders. But that is exactly what the new Volvo C70 is offering, and it has just been released in Thailand.

The C70 was originally conceived and developed by race car driver Tom Walkinshaw's TWR car company in 1997 and was built at a facility 51%-owned by Tom in Uddevalla, in western Sweden. More than 50,000 cars were built until it was discontinued in March 2005.

Now TWR has gone bust and the factory is 60% owned by Turin styling house Pininfarina and 40% by Volvo. The second generation C70 has been jointly engineered and developed by these two companies.

The latest C70 started life as a conventional coupe, says Volvo, but the design team, headed by Fedde Talsma, decided to "open it up" with a convertible top. The new car is shorter and lower to the ground than its predecessor, but retains the same width. Unlike some of its rivals,

it is a full four-seater, with wide opening doors to facilitate access to the rear seats.

While the C70 may not be the first coupe convertible on the market, it is the first in the premium segment with a three-piece top. It takes less than 30 seconds for the roof to disappear into its dedicated trunk compartment.

However, with the roof down, trunk capacity is halved, but a trunk divider makes it easy to assess how much luggage can be accommodated when the roof is lowered.

The interior is modern and typically Scandinavian in design with clean surfaces, genuine materials and a sound degree of functionality. There is also a cabin air filter and an advanced air quality monitor works by shutting out or removing unhealthy particles, gases and odors, ensuring the air occupants breathe is as clean and healthy as possible.

An open-closed car is a serious challenge to an audio engineer, but in the C70 occupants can experience a world-class sound system, complete with a mind boggling 910W output, Dynaudio speakers and dual subwoofers behind the backrests. To cope with the changeable conditions from closed to open configuration, Volvo has invested in the latest digital technology to adapt the sound system and maintain consistent reproduction.

Two engines are available in

Thailand: a five-cylinder 2.4i with continuous variable valve timing on the inlet side, or a five-cylinder, turbocharged 20-valve model with variable timing on both inlet and exhaust camshafts. The 2.4i produces 170 bhp (125 kW); the T5 220 bhp. Performance figures are a 0-100 kmh sprint time of 10 seconds for the smaller unit, eight seconds for the T5. Maximum speed is 215 and 235 kmh respectively.

More significantly, the torque output of the T5 is a strong 320 Nm, produced between 1500 and 4800 rpm. The 2.4-liter model still offers good torque of 230 Nm, but peaks at 4400 rpm.

Both cars are only offered with a five-speed automatic transmission in this market.

Volvo expects to sell 16,000 of the C70 annually, with half of that total going to the US. The UK and Germany will account for roughly 30%, with the remainder going to other markets, including Thailand. According to Volvo Cars' research, half of all C70 coupé-convertibles will be owned by women.

Prices are 4.19m baht for the 2.4i, 4.79m for the T5.

*Jeff Heselwood, a regular contributor, can be contacted by email at [jhc@netvigator.com](mailto:jhc@netvigator.com)*

**CRUISE CONTROL:** Hidden behind the chic interior is a built-in sound system that can blast the passengers with 910W speakers.



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# NATIONAL

Amy Jacobs decided to take part in the Miss Teen Thailand competition for the experience, and to the surprise of her Thai mother and Dutch father, she made it all the way to the finals. To their even greater surprise – and Amy's – she beat 1,000 other candidates to become the first contestant from Phuket to win the crown.

During the televised competition Amy also answered a number of questions, which she answered by saying that she supports preserving the environment, that she does not think name-brand items are very important, and that teenagers should wait until they have their own money to buy them instead of using their parents' money to look trendy.

The winnings were hefty and included a diamond tiara, 120,000 baht in cash, a brand-new Mitsubishi Lancer and many gifts from sponsors.

On the afternoon of Saturday, November 11, the *Gazette* had a chance to talk with the newly-crowned beauty queen at her family's business in Kamala. As I arrived she was preparing to record a television interview, but made sure to serve food to her guests that she and her mother had made.

Once she was able to take a break from recording the TV program, I had the chance to talk with her about her life. Even after the arduous television interview, in true beauty pageant fashion, she was still able to put on a bright smile for our conversation.

She began with the standard introduction of herself, "My name is Amelia 'Amy' Jacobs, I am almost 18 years old and my parents are from Thailand and Hol-

Phuket has a reputation for beautiful beaches, beautiful skies, and now it can even boast the most beautiful teenage girl in Thailand. Amelia "Amy" Jacobs, a young local woman who grew up in Phuket, recently won the title of Miss Teen Thailand 2006 at the competition in Bangkok.

Here Amy talks to the *Gazette's* Natcha Yuttaworrawut about what it is like to be the most beautiful teenager in a land renowned for its beautiful people.



Amy Jacobs (center) beat 1,000 other candidates to become the first contestant from Phuket to be crowned Miss Teen Thailand.

land. I was born in Phuket and I am growing up here."

Then she began to explain her life history. The current Miss Teen Thailand is majoring in English and German studies – she also introduced herself in German to show off her polyglotism.

In her younger years she attended kindergarten and primary school at Quality Schools International before moving to Satrie Phuket School. In one year she will continue her education by majoring in International Relations at Thammasat University.

Amy explained that she entered the Miss Teen Phuket com-

petition, her very first beauty pageant, because "...my friends suggested it. They said I should try to do it because I am the right age. At that time I didn't feel any pressure because I was just doing this for the experience. I was happy to be selected, but I did not think I would win."

She recalled that once she got up on stage, she was very nervous, but concentrated hard on what she needed to say. "I did not think of anything, I just tried to answer my questions as best as I could, even though I was very excited."

Since she snagged the

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# TREASURE



**'I want to be an ambassador after graduation. My mother said I have to take care of myself more than I have in the past, and if I have to move to Bangkok to study, I will have to stay alone.'**

— Amy Jacobs, 17.

crown, there are sure to be more opportunities coming her way ranging from modeling to commercials, but with the fame have come, inevitably, the detractors, who have posted negative comments on blogs and comment sections of news pages.

When I asked her about those, she became serious and she said, "I don't care about the bad comments because those people don't know me as my

close friends and my family do. But if they knew me better, then they might not make those comments. However, I can't control their thoughts, it's up to them."

While Amy said she was not very interested in becoming an actress, she will take any chance she gets to sing, as it is one of her favorite pastimes.

When I asked Amy about life at school, she said she hasn't changed much since winning the

competition. "I am still a normal student. More people know me at school and I'm very happy. I'm also not a very polite girl, but I have a tendency to be naughty like a child, even though I'm nearly 18 years old, because I still live with my parents.

"I never carry any makeup with me or put anything on my skin. I like to play badminton, but I never stress about dieting or weight. I do think we should exercise however."

As Miss Teen Thailand she also has a contract with Inspire Entertainment, the organizer of the competition, for three years, providing her with modeling work.

Contemplating her future, Amy said that her new lifestyle suits her well, but commented "I think the entertainment work is not permanent. I want to be an ambassador after graduation. My mother said I have to take care of myself more than I have in the past, and if I have to move to Bangkok to study, I will have to stay alone."

Amy's father, Jan, said, "We are very surprised that she won. She told us that she wanted to be a part of the competition all by herself. Her mother allowed her because we want her to be happy and have the chance to do whatever she wants."

Her mother agreed and suggested that this was a good chance for Amy to gain independence before she moves off for university. "Now she is nearly 18 years old, so she can decide by herself what she wants to do, we are only here to consult her.

"If she has a chance to work, we will let her do that but it must not interfere with her studies."

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## This week



**HEAVENLY SERENITY:** Phuket Governor Niran Kanlayanamit (center) attended the launch party of Serenity Terraces at Friendship Beach, Rawai on November 14. Also at the launch were Serenity Terraces Project Manager Izzy Ben Natan (left), Owner's representative Elad Kushnir (2<sup>nd</sup> from right), Managing Director Pipat R Panya (3<sup>rd</sup> from right), Owner-Developers Levi Kushnir (2<sup>nd</sup> from left), Izzy Shoat (3<sup>rd</sup> from left) and Dmitri Merkulu (right).



**OPEN UNIVERSITY:** Former Prime Minister Chuan Leekpai (2<sup>nd</sup> from left), also Vice-Chairman of the Prince of Songkla University (PSU) Council, opens PSU Phuket Campus Open Week 2006. Present are *OrBorJor* President Anchalee Vanich-Thepabutr (right) and Vice-President of PSU Phuket Campus Deputy-Assistant Professor Methi Sunphanich (left).



**BEACH BIRTHDAY:** DJ Tom Travers (center) of Laem Singh Beach's Soundwave fame celebrates his birthday at Laem Singh Beach with girlfriend Jen Khamsorn and Jan von Hildebrand, Events Executive of Sheraton Grande Laguna.



**VROOM:** A record 1,650 motorbikes took part in the 14<sup>th</sup> Annual 3 Nations Charity Ride on November 17 and 18. Riders from Malaysia, Singapore, South Korea and Thailand took part in the fund-raiser, which began in Haad Yai, passed through Phuket City and ended in Phang Nga.



**GOBBLE GOBBLERS:** Don Battles (right), MD of Don's Mall in Rawai, and a few of the 250 customers who attended a Thanksgiving Day dinner at the restaurant.



**GOING GREEK:** Indigo Pearl at Nai Yang held its inaugural beach "Olympics" recently. From left are Executive Assistant Manager Arnaud Girodon, General Manager Anthony Ross and Executive Chef Dion McGrath, captain of the victorious team.

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# HAVING A LAOSY TIME

**G**reat news for beer drinkers: the wonderful Beer Lao from Vientiane is now on sale in Phuket, and at a price that's right. It hasn't been hit with a heavy import duty and works out at the same price as Heineken.

The distribution company hopes to widen its network, so the beer should be more widely available soon. At first only the Aussie Bar on Soi Bangla and Faulty Towers Inn on Soi Sunset had it in stock, but in the past two weeks a good number of bars have added it to their offerings. In Kamala you can find it at the Ban Rim Klong restaurant on the main street, while Nikita's Bar in Rawai also stocks it.

**English karaoke?** The majority shareholder of the TaiLife Leisure Center has sold his stock and left the operation. A new Swedish owner has taken control and appointed the Yorkshire Inn group as management for the whole complex.

The first thing the team did was close the place down for a week for spring cleaning. Truckloads of plants were bought and positioned around the poolside area to give it a more garden-like atmosphere.

Membership packages are being reviewed, and the new crew are planning an open-house weekend to give potential members a look at the place.

The leisure center complements the Yorkshire Inn's expanding hotel business. It recently bought up both Cadillac Mansion and Reilly's Guesthouses in Soi Sansabai.

Another new story is that they are intending to change the TLC Bar into an English karaoke



Jungceylon is nearing completion and several restaurants and bars, including The Irish Times, are scheduled to open there, along with a multiplex cinema. It will be ideal for families of tourists, especially when it's raining. In addition, several new hotels have opened their doors in time for the high season, adding about 500 more rooms to the town.

bar and are advertising for an English manager.

Hmm, I wonder, should I be brushing up on my old Tommy Steele *Half a Sixpence* routine? [You are showing your age Prowler! - Ed.]

**Galactic shift:** After a two-year wait, Galaxy disco in Soi Sunset has finally closed. The building is to be demolished and the street revamped. Galaxy has moved to new premises along Phang Muang Rd, the new dead-end road that runs parallel to Rat-U-Thit 200 Pi Rd. The move will make life easier for the other businesses in Soi Sunset and the nightly struggle for parking has eased.

Guests at the surrounding hotels can also look forward to a decent night's sleep.

**Monica Bar:** This new bar has opened where Club Pirate used to be, at the end of Soi Seadragon. It is an open-air bar with four pool tables and plenty of seating. It also does bar food and pizzas. Good to see new businesses coming in before high season starts.

**Erotica:** A new go-go bar has opened on the site of the former TJ's Monkey Bar and The Winchester Club. Called Erotica, the

stunning venue stimulates fantasies with themed erotic dance shows. The costumes vary from nurses and Hawaiian dancers to construction workers (with shirts reading "Erection Crew").

## PATONG PATROL

By Prowler

All costumes are decidedly skimpy, with lots of stockings and suspenders, à la Angelwitch. The owners hired a choreographer who had worked with Tata Young, to teach the dancers for three months, and the ability they display shows this was a worthwhile investment.

They have also installed some of the latest lighting sys-

tems, which are programmed to match each unique routine.

I was told that Club Erotica had a slot on the stage during the Patong Festival and in front of 500 people on the beachfront did a show that was more risqué than anything currently seen in any go-go bar. Sounds like this could become a very popular place.

**The Tavern:** One of my snouts has turned up this little gem. The Tavern is an English-style pub at the southern end of Kata Beach, more or less opposite the Kata Beach Hotel. I'm told the pub grub comes in large portions and is a great beer absorber. I may have to get down there one day and try the cottage pie and mash.

**Under construction:** The rebuild of the Crocodile Disco is progressing at a fair lick so it shouldn't be many months until it's ready to open, the roof is already on. The Tiger Club is also building new premises on Rat-U-Thit 200 Pi Rd, which should open in the new year.

The secret passage out the back of Sukhumvit Road Entertainment Complex to Soi Seadragon has been blocked off by a wall. Apparently, some new buildings are going up in the car park area on Seadragon.

Too bad, the shortcut was a good way to get from Soi Seadragon to the main road without having to be hassled by all the annoying restaurant touts in the area. With the stagnant, poorly-ventilated air inside the complex, one would expect them to be knocking a few walls down, not putting them up.

This article also appears in the online Asia Bugle Newsletter. See: [www.baronbonk.com](http://www.baronbonk.com)

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# Road Rage – the battleground

In one of the worst cases of road rage reported to police in Germany, a man flung a three-kilogram sledgehammer through the windshield of a BMW driven by a woman on a busy motorway outside Munich. The hammer landed on the rear seat of the car, narrowly missing the woman's head.

The woman was lucky to escape serious injury. In the United States and Britain several drivers lost their lives when they were attacked by knife-wielding or gun-slinging fellow motorists.

Such incidents of road rage have captured the public imagination and every motorist has her or his story to tell of an incident involving unruly drivers.

Stresses of modern day life including work pressure, traffic congestion, the weather, noise levels and time constraints are some of the many factors fueling road rage. But it is a complex phenomenon with many aspects.

A study conducted by British stress expert Dr David Lewis has found that commuters experience greater stress than fighter pilots or riot policemen, which might partly explain the aggression.

The spectacular cases of road rage have also nurtured the



Tailgating by an aggressive driver at high speed, as seen on a German motorway. It occasionally happens in Phuket, too.

impression that aggression on the road is increasing, but there are no reliable statistics to support that idea.

A survey conducted in Australia, Canada, the UK and the US by [www.roadragers.com](http://www.roadragers.com) found that more than two-thirds of motorists are irked by another driver tailgating and encouraging them to speed up and go faster. In all four countries most respondents conceded using obscene

gestures with other drivers.

Simple human courtesy however can be enough to defuse a situation and potentially save your life. Signaling to the other driver that one is sorry if one has made a mistake can often prevent a situation from escalating. Some of the tips offered by [roadragers.com](http://roadragers.com) are:

- Don't tailgate, and if someone wants to pass, move over and let the driver by.

- Don't make inappropriate hand or facial gestures

- Use your horn sparingly and if you do encounter an aggressive driver, avoid eye contact and steer clear, giving the angry driver plenty of room.

Austrian human behavior expert Klaus Atzwanger believes man has tricked evolution with the motor vehicle as far as speed is concerned, but has not adapted

behavior accordingly. He compares the car to the thigh bone held by cave men to defend his territory and to measure his strength with others.

For incurable road ragers there is a way out. In the *Road Rage School*, a TV show in Britain, several experts confront the ragers with the worst aspects of their aggression and attempt to change their behavior.

All the participants are nominated by a close friend of family member fearing their behavior could cause them to end up dead or in prison.

It is a lesson in how perfectly amenable pedestrians can "turn into boorish thugs at the turn of an ignition key," the newspaper, *The Independent*, surmised.

The experts differ on how best to deal with the problem. Punishment with steep fines and more police control, says one school, while the other calls for technical solutions already available such as automatic distance and speed controls.

Traffic experts in Germany agree, however, that past attempts at educating drivers with expensive billboard advertising campaigns have had virtually zero effect.

– Reino Gevers, dpa

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Electronica musicians, perhaps with the exception of Rick Wakeman of Yes fame, tend not to peek out from behind the keyboards too much, preferring to hide behind pseudonyms or one-word names.

Eclypso, Droon, Phuq, Sister Bliss, Voodoo Child, Barracuda, UHF, The Brotherhood, DJ Cake, Lopez and Brainstorm/Mindstorm are just a few. The final seven are the less well-known monikers of Richard Melville Hall, great-great-nephew of Herman Melville, the author of *Moby-Dick*. Richard, rather sensibly, chose not to adopt the pseudonym "Dick", but opted for Moby.

A line such as "I'm not supposed to sell records or have songs that get played on the radio" from *Go - the Very Best of Moby* by the multi-million selling artiste should be taken with a pinch of salt. It was hopefully written with his tongue firmly in cheek.

*Go*, released last month, spans the years 1991 to 2006, including this year's contribution and ubiquitous single *New York, New York* with Blondie's Debbie Harry.

The international version of the album available in Phuket - five different versions have been produced to serve the UK, French, US, South American and international markets - kicks off with *Natural Blues* from his most commercially-successful and critically-acclaimed release, 1999's *Play*.

*Play* was also the first album to have all of its tracks licensed for use in movies, television shows or commercials. One

of the more notable advertisements features Tiger Woods playing golf around New York to the tune of Moby's *Find My Baby*, which is also featured on the new album.

At least 25 of his recordings have been used in about 48 films,

TV shows, advertisements, video games and documentaries, eclipsing even Fat Boy Slim, with Moby's ambient piece *God Moving Over the Face of the Waters* and *Porcelain* featured in five different productions apiece, the former in *Heat* and *Syriana*, the latter in *The Beach*.

One of the more interesting

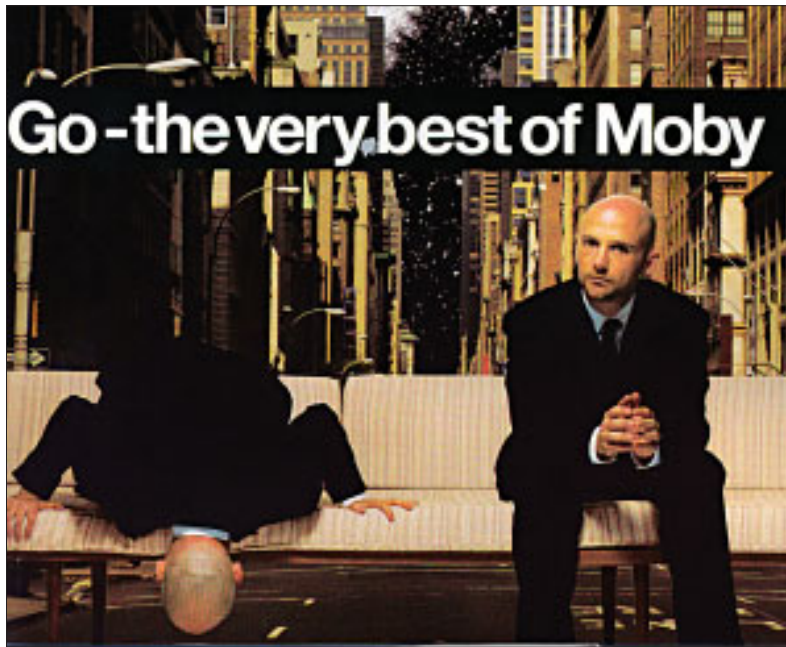
aspects of *Play* is the way in which it combines old folk-music rhythms with modern techno; Moby sampled heavily from the collected works of Alan Lomax on tracks such as *Honey*, *Find My Baby* and *Natural Blues*. This created a sound that was unique among the music that was being released at the time.

While the album *Play* also has some more standard electronic tracks and ambient pieces, the fusion of gospel and techno is what this album is most remembered for. Five tracks from *Play* feature on *Go*.

*Go*, the single, is a reworking of Angelo Badalamenti's *Laura Palmer Theme* from the unsettling early-'90s TV series *Twin Peaks*.

Moby's hard techno reworking of Monty Norman's *James Bond Theme* was used in

# Mobilization



Moby's *Go* offers incentive for casual listeners to seek out his other works and gives Mobyphiles enough fond memories to smile at.

the 1997 Bond film *Tomorrow Never Dies*, perhaps making an appearance on this compilation to coincide with the release of *Casino Royale*.

An odd omission from *Go* and Moby's canon of music used in films is *Extreme Ways*, heard first on 2002's *18*. This album follows a similar path to *Play*, using samples of old field recordings of African American spirituals, for example, and combining them with mellow dance beats.

*18* is, however, far more

melancholy, perhaps reflecting the events of 9/11, which coincided with the native New Yorker's 36<sup>th</sup> birthday.

In a slight nod toward Bond, *Extreme Ways* became the main theme to both Matt Damon films *The Bourne Identity* and *The Bourne Supremacy*, and may well feature in next year's *The Bourne Ultimatum*.

*We Are All Made Of Stars* from *18* makes a welcome appearance. The subtle increasing complexity of the guitar chords -

reminiscent of Aztec Camera's cover of Van Halen's *Jump* - combine with deft lyrics such as:

*Efforts of lovers/Left in my mind/I sing in the reaches/We'll see what we find/People they come together/People they fall apart/No one can stop us now/'Cause we are all made of stars.*

*Go* also features the glorious, uplifting dance-hymn *In My Heart* from *18* and an achingly-beautiful rendition of *Slipping Away (Crier La Vie)* from 2005's *Hotel*, with the delightful Mylène Farmer - the "French Madonna" - providing the French lyrics.

As with so many compilation albums, especially ones following the trend of different tracks for different regions, what has been left out often interests listeners as much as what is included.

There is no *Dream About Me*, no *South Side* and no *Hymn* on the international version, and in regions where these or other tracks are included they are new mixes, sometimes using different vocalists to the known versions.

That said, how could Moby encapsulate a career as eclectic as his? From the start, Moby's strength has been his ability to stand out from his peers.

His early days in hardcore punk sat uncomfortably next to his status as a pioneer of the American rave scene, yet he has managed to release a "Very best of..." that offers the casual listener enough to seek out his other works while giving the Mobyphile enough fond memories to smile at.



Ear Candy  
By Andy Johnstone



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Turning to the elderly English student who had decided to act as my unofficial tour guide as I meandered along Sunwen Xilu, the city's charismatic main drag, I asked, "What's the best thing about Zhongshan?"

I was expecting some sort of reference to Sun Yat-Sen, the father of modern China, who hailed from these parts.

"Pigeon," came the reply.

For a moment I thought of homing pigeons, or maybe it was some sort of slang term for the scores of unaccompanied and incredibly fashionably dressed young ladies who were browsing for bargains along the pedestrianized street.

Then I recalled that there are few parts of China that don't boast some sort of local culinary delicacy, especially in the south, where it's said, "If it's got four legs and isn't a chair, or flies and isn't an airplane", then it can be eaten.

"Yes, Shiqi pigeon," reiterated the graying gourmand. "Baby ones are best, their bones are softer, the meat's tender and the skin goes all crisp. Shall we try some?"

I pleaded a full stomach, then vegetarianism, then remembered an urgent appointment and fled, leaving behind one puzzled pigeon fancier more mystified than ever about foreigners' eating habits.

For anyone wondering where Zhongshan is, it's a good question.

South of Guangzhou, it's one of the more attractive cities in the Pearl River Delta, and thankfully well away from the beaten tourist track.

There's no Great Wall or Bund to lure the hordes. Instead

# In the heart of the South

## TALES OF A TRAVELER

By Ed Peters

it's a prosperous metropolis that has left its heart intact, rather than steamroll it beneath a load of concrete.

Sunwen Xilu was founded by wealthy emigrants in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. At No 152, the Commercial Culture Museum, housed in an elegant three-story building that was once the chamber of commerce, has well-interpreted English and relates the stories of more than a few local lads who made good.

A stroll along Sunwen is one of the most pleasant pastimes in Zhongshan, a city highly favored by tourists from Hong Kong as a weekend retreat.

The street is lined for much of the way by twin colonnades, painted in a variety of pastels and housing various shops and boutiques staffed by lively youngsters whose enthusiasm is infectious – although they are mainly selling cheap fashion items and kitschy souvenirs.

The street is backed by Zhongshan Park, which is topped by the 400-year-old Fufeng Cultural Pagoda, a favorite locale for both the tai chi brigade and couples going through their own stylized exercise routines.

Just outside Zhongshan in the village of Cuiheng stands the one-time residence of Dr Sun himself, a point of pilgrimage for students from around the country.

If you're going to start a revolution in somewhere as big as China, it makes sense to compose your plan of action somewhere comfortable, and the good

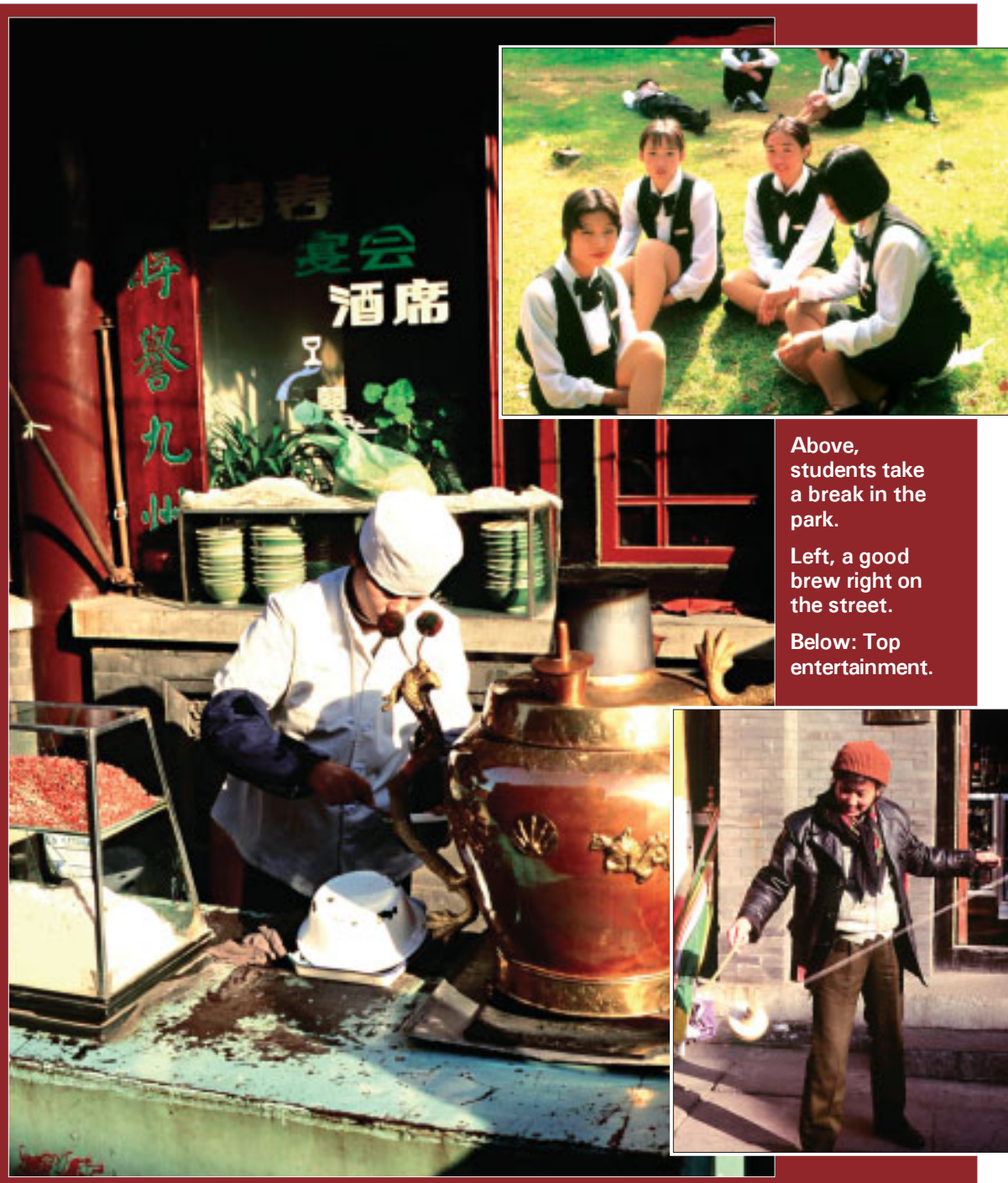
doctor obviously had ample space to compose his thoughts.

Now converted to a museum, his former pad is more of an honest tribute than downright propaganda, though some might

say that the whole Pearl River Delta – forecast to become one of the world's great manufacturing bases – is his true memorial.

There's no pigeon restaurant in the vicinity, but Zhongshan

itself makes good this deficiency. I'm willing to try most things, but for once sidestepped wolfing down braised baby birds, even if the locals do reckon they're finger lickin' good.



Above, students take a break in the park.

Left, a good brew right on the street.

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When you start seeing someone in an adult sort of way, sooner or later you are obliged to meet his or her friends.

You want to impress them, to prove that you are worthy of their cherished chum, while they in turn are very keen to like you.

All in all, there's just too much goodwill sloshing around for the meeting to be anything but a disaster.

I know a woman called Liz who had been going out with Sean for two months when he invited her for drinks at his friend's home. "I can't," she said. "I'm dog-sitting for my mother." "That's okay," he said. "Bring the dog – they like pets."

This was true. Only that day Sean's friends had bought a luxurious-looking parrot, which they christened Jasper because of his dandyish demeanor. Jasper would be a great talking point when Sean arrived with his new girlfriend.

And this proved to be the case. As smiling introductions were made, Liz's mum's dog broke free of his leash, bounded across the room, knocked over the perch supporting Jasper – and ate him.

There was an appalled silence as Jasper's feet disappeared from view. Liz, partly in embarrassed horror, partly in sudden memory of the famous Monty Python sketch, burst out laughing.

Although they were subse-

# With friends like Rocky the Biker...

quently together for years, after that incident Liz stayed at home when Sean went to visit the parrot people. She probably wouldn't have liked them anyway.

Logic suggests that she should have done – "I like/love him and he likes them, ergo I will also like them."

Sadly, though, logic and emotion are often unhappy bedfellows – which is why Pythagoras ended up living in a cave.

You choose your partner in a way that you do not choose your friends.

A high-powered woman in the City of London may cop off with an East End wide boy for entirely valid reasons, but each will feel uncomfortable in the presence of the other's mates.

Your partner and his/her friends together have a collective history, so you may have to endure many hours of reminiscing about people you've never heard of.

"Do you remember Rocky the Biker?" "Ooh, yes!" they coo in their shared memory. Everyone has a story about Rocky.

Later you are asked the inevitable question, "Did you like them?" And you say "Yes", but you can't resist adding, "But if I'd heard any more about Rocky the Boring Biker, I'd have taken my own life."

An argument ensues. Your partner goes on the attack with, "I had to put up with your drunken South London slapper friend Joanne and her animal impressions last week".

You are forced to concede that Joanne can be a thundering bore, but remind him that "we were at college together".

Dealing with the share-everything bosom buddy can be the hardest of all. You have a duty to get on with this person.

I knew one woman who took this responsibility too seriously – to the extent that within a year of meeting the "bezzie" mate



she'd married him.

Worse, she had to look at her ex and think, "Oh God, he's going to be best man at my wedding."

The close friend can be deeply protective. There can be very few men or women who haven't heard something like the following speech: "Listen, you'd better treat her/him well. She/he's a great woman/man and I love her/him but she/he's been hurt, so be nice to her/him."

"Just make sure you don't mess him/her about or you'll have me/me to deal with."

All anyone can do under such circumstances is to look serious and burble a few reassurances. At such a time, humor is untoward.

Men take note: never say something like, "It's funny you should mention that, because I was planning to take her for every penny she's got, impregnate

her, get her into drugs and leave her destitute in the streets. But after what you've just said, I may have to rethink."

I'm sorry if I've painted too bleak a picture here of botched meetings, insensitive replies and deceased parrots.

But it need not all be like this. You may hit it off famously with his social circle and form bonds with them independent of your romantic tie.

I have yet to experience this personally, but you shouldn't be disheartened – perhaps you will go on holiday with them and, on winter nights all will laugh at photos of you together in the sun.

Maybe you'll even meet Rocky the Biker and discover that he really is quite a card, and then you can have your own hilarious anecdote about him.

But never delude yourself. You may think after 10 years or so that his friends and yours are more or less the same, but in the event that you split up you'll discover that everyone knows where their allegiance lies.

And as you lie sobbing on your bed, remember the one comforting thought you can turn to – "At least I'll never have to see any of his stupid friends again."

*Ambrosia Sakkadas, a UK-born Greek Cypriot and graduate of Central St Martins College of Art & Design in London, is an artist, designer and newspaper columnist. Her new novel, Greek Girls Don't Cry, is available from amazon.com and amazon.co.uk*

## PHUKET DIARY

## Upcoming events on the island

### December 2-9: Phuket King's Cup Regatta.

Asia's largest and most prestigious regatta, the Phuket King's Cup, is held the first week of December every year, at Kata Beach, to celebrate His Majesty the King of Thailand's birthday.

This year is the regatta's 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary, and the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of His Majesty's accession to the throne.

Great racing and lively parties are signatures of this world-class event.

For more information contact Kae Wattana at Tel: 076-273380, or send an email to: info@kingscup.com, or see the regatta website at www.kingscup.com.

### December 3: Thai Airways International Laguna Phuket Triathlon.

Southeast Asia's top triathlon event is now in its 13<sup>th</sup> year.

The 1.8-kilometer swim, 55km bike and 12km run offers a US\$20,000 prize purse and 25 guaranteed entries into the 2007

Ironman Australia to the highest-placed finishers in each age group.

The event expects to attract 800 athletes from some 30 countries competing in both the individual triathlon and the Herbalife corporate team relay.

A 6km fun run for 500 participants will also be conducted during the event.

### December 5: HM the King's Birthday.

Public Holiday. Also marked as Father's Day in Thailand.

### December 7-10: Phuket International Marine Expo (PIMEX)

Southeast Asia's premier boating and lifestyle show, PIMEX, now in its fourth year, is one of Thailand's biggest international events, showcasing every aspect of marine leisure and island lifestyle, including yacht

sales, yacht charter, marine services and as properties on Phuket, Koh Chang and Koh Samui.

A great day out for the family, PIMEX has various food outlets all catered by Watermark. No entrance fee. There are parties on December 7 and 10, with live music, and open to all – entry is free. Cash bar. Starting 6 pm.

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# Hidden Words

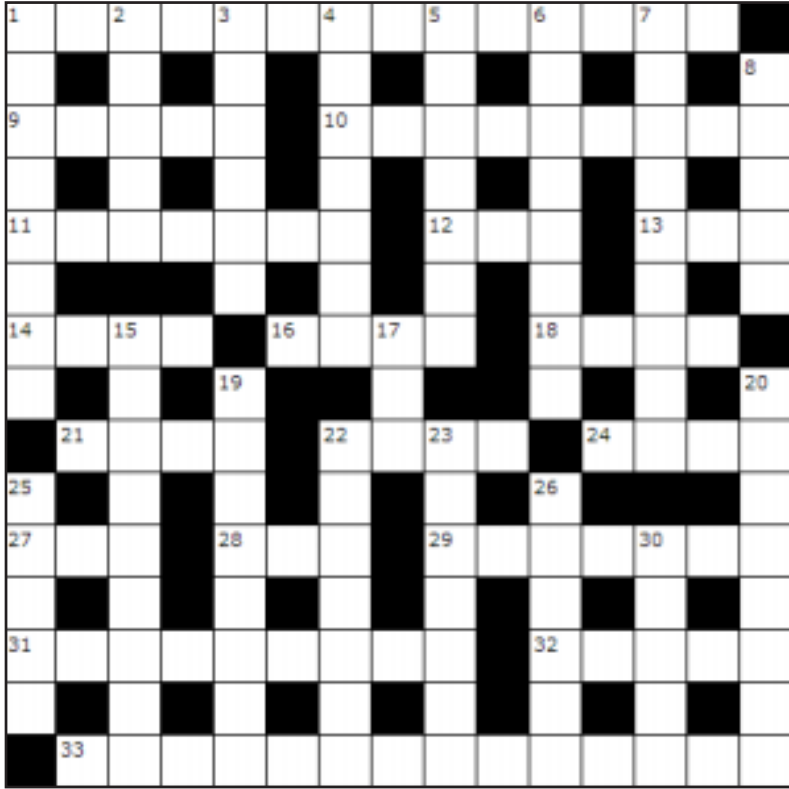
Hidden in the grid below are the family names of at least 20 famed Country & Western singers. The words may read vertically, horizontally or diagonally. They may also read right-to-left or down-to-up. Score: 10 or more, good; 15 or more, very good; 20 or more, excellent. Solution on the next page.

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

# The Cryptic Crossword

## ACROSS

1. Isn't lament, yet I tangled exaggerated emotion. (14)
9. Cleans back stitch – about pi. (5)
10. Dodges team stair units. (9)
11. It's quiet since Len went in. (7)
12. Poem owed, they say. (3)
13. She may bring a case. (3)
14. Electronic picture is big movie. (4)
16. One in a hundred in the past. (4)
18. Sea eagle, we hear, may get money. (4)
21. World body act to ruin. (4)
22. Platform to be master of arts. (4)
24. Small commercials we hear for tool. (4)
27. Special care for tea with Elsie, so to speak. (1,1,1)
28. From France, nothing. (3)
29. Louse egg speed makes fertilizer. (7)
31. Overzealous admirer at one with California. (9)
32. Playfully romance when lit about right coming on strong. (5)
33. Diver milieu, it's wrong, but having the appearance of truth. (14)



Compiled by Tortuus. © 2006

## Down

1. Greeting, saw as Aberdeen river. (8)
2. Directions to friend in country. (5)
3. Mad in Paris river, say. (6)
4. Each one back to Oriental. (7)
5. A little bit of fishing

- equipment to get polliwog. (7)
6. Lean over to direction with right auditor. (8)
7. Valued, certainly in step. (9)
8. Escort addict in hotel. (5)
15. Lack of guilt? In no sense, they say. (9)
17. Line up pool implement. (3)
19. Confusion to infect little bits of paper. (8)
20. Regarding badger den, the French provide new home. (8)
22. Bucking horse? Hello tubes! (7)
23. Liza's mine! Left to 51. (7)
25. Prig's corpse. (5)
26. 25 and cardinal makes Graf. (6)
30. Farewell to God in France. (5)

Solution on next page

## Scribble Space



## EZ TRIVIA QUIZ

1. The flag of Norway consists of which colors?
2. In which book do the Gryphon and the Mock Turtle appear?
3. Which the world's largest mammal?
4. Who painted a famous series of pictures called *Sunflowers*?
5. How much is CLVI minus XXXXI?
6. Where did she "sell seashells"?
7. Which band is will.i.am a member of?
8. If Leo is the Lion and Pisces is the fish, what is Capricorn?
9. If you combine blue and red, what color do you get?
10. Which European language is the official language of Brazil?

Answers on next page

# Rhyme Time

The words described below all rhyme with 'wrap'. What are they?

1. Snare.
2. Panic.
3. Reindeer herder.
4. Where child may sit.
5. Put a limit on.
6. Applaud.
7. Persian governor of old.
8. Tree juice.
9. Fellow.
10. Take the paper off

Answers on next page

su|do|ku  
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Solution, tips and computer program at [www.sudoku.com](http://www.sudoku.com)

						7
	7			8		
				1		6
		7			8	
3						
9	4		2			8
	9	6		5		
				7		
7	8	3				

Sudoku is very simple: each row, each column and each "box" of nine squares within the puzzle must contain all the numbers from 1 to 9 with, naturally, no repetitions. Beware: there is only one solution to this puzzle, which is on the next page.





2. Asian desert.
6. Smell.
7. US east coast state.
8. Bosses.
10. Vietnamese New Year.
11. Irregular.
12. Female sheep.
13. Successful invader.
15. Perfume's Ms Lauder.
16. Having no name.
17. Where yacht gets power.

1. Built.
2. A thousandth of a kilo.
3. He pretends to be someone else.
4. Equipment to make gun quiet.
5. Way to check dimensions.
8. Forever.
9. What 15 ac makes.
14. Ellipse.

*Solution below right*

## A cartoon illustration of a man's face. He has a very large, bulbous nose, wide eyes, and a slightly open mouth showing a tongue. He is wearing a grey pointed hat with a large black letter 'D' on the front. The background is a solid light blue color.

1.	Vexillology is the study of what?	8.	Who wrote the book on which the movies were based?	15.	Who starred as the investigating policeman in the original <i>Wicker Man</i> movie?
2.	In days gone by, what did a fletcher make?	9.	In which year did Yuri Gagarin become the first human to go into space?	16.	Who invented the ballcock, or balltap?
3.	What was the full name of the girl who inspired <i>Alice's Adventures in Wonderland</i> ?	10.	What word did Chinese astrophysicist Hong-Yee Chiu invent?	17.	An actor in <i>All My Children</i> , the writer of the <i>Callan</i> TV series and a former prime minister of St Vincent & the Grenadines all share the same name. What name?
4.	Alomancy, also known as adromancy, is the term for divination using what material?	11.	Who said, "If you think it's hard to meet new people, try picking up the wrong golf ball"?	18.	Who was the drummer in the rock group The Doors?
5.	In which sport would you encounter stretchers, hatchets and gumboots?	12.	Who composed <i>Cosmic Dances for Amplified Piano</i> ?	19.	Where is The Doors' Jim Morrison buried?
6.	If something were rangiferene, what would it resemble?	13.	Name the human-powered aircraft that successfully crossed the English Channel in 1979.	20.	Atenteben, Dupa and Hocchiku are all types of what?
7.	Actors Robert Donat, Kenneth Moore and Robert Powell all took the lead role in versions of which movie?	14.	In which US state is the annual Burning Man Festival held?		

**Answers below left**

*Answers below left*

# Puzzle Solutions

1. Flags; 2. Arrows; 3. Alice Pleasance Liddell; 4. Salt; 5. Rowing; 6. A reindeer; 7. *The Thirty-nine Steps*; 8. John Buchan; 9. 1961; 10. Quasar; 11. Jack Lemmon; 12. George Crumb; 13. Gossamer Albatross; 14. Nevada; 15. Edward Woodward; 16. Thomas Crapper; 17. James Mitchell; 18. John Densmore; 19. Père-Lachaise Cemetery in Paris; 20. Flutes.

1. Trap; 2. Flap; 3. Lapp; 4. Lap; 5. Cap;  
6. Clap; 7. Satrap; 8. Sap; 9. Chap; 10.  
Unwrap.

1. Red, white and blue; 2. *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*; 3. The blue whale; 4. Vincent Van Gogh; 5. CXV (156-41=115); 6. By the sea shore; 7. Black Eyed Peas; 8. The Goat; 9. Purple; 10. Portuguese.

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

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

8	3	1	6	2	9	7	5	4
6	7	4	3	8	5	2	9	1
5	2	9	7	1	4	6	3	8
2	1	7	9	3	8	4	6	5
3	6	8	5	4	7	1	2	9
9	4	5	2	6	1	8	7	3
1	9	6	4	5	2	3	8	7
4	5	2	8	7	3	9	1	6
7	8	3	1	9	6	5	4	2



I have a job for Thailand's Ministry of Culture. They should launch a campaign to rescue the lowly *pah-kow-ma* from extinction.

I bet some readers don't know what a *pah-kow-ma* is. It's the traditional Thai cloth that men wrap around themselves after taking a bath. It's a simple piece of cotton cloth, a little over two feet wide and a yard long, imprinted with a plaid or checkered pattern. You can see it on sale in most clothing shops. But its apparent simplicity is deceptive.

Other cultures also use a wraparound cloth in the bathroom. The Indians use a *gamcha*; Nepalis use a *lungi*; Malays use a *sarong*; Westerners use a large towel.

Thai women traditionally use a sarong, also called a *pah-thung*. But the *pah-kow-ma*, like its cousin the Cambodian *krama*, has a multitude of additional uses that make it the indispensable all-purpose cloth.

It can be worn around the head as a turban, strung up as a hammock for babies or tied into a bag to carry things in. It can be used as a shawl, scarf, sheet, towel, napkin, handkerchief, washcloth, dust-cover or tablecloth. It can be folded into a mat to sit on or rolled up into a pillow to sleep on. It can be used as a belt, and on formal occasions can be worn with a tuxedo as a cummerbund.

If you find yourself entering a posh restaurant that requires a necktie, you can quickly turn your *pah-kow-ma* into one, just so long as the headwaiter isn't looking. In emergencies it can function as a rope, sling or bandage. It can even be used to strangle somebody with if you are homicidally inclined, but this is not recommended because of the legal complications.

The Celtic bard Fonning Toaddy, enthralled by the *pah-kow-ma*'s many uses, is composing an ode to it. The opening lines go like this:

*The humble pah-kow-ma I sing.  
It's used for damned near everything.*

Of course, these are only the opening lines. It gets better later on.

You can see that the humble *pah-kow-ma* symbolizes all the richness of Thai culture in its unspoiled state, before Yuppification smote us with its leprous

# IN PRAISE OF THE PAH-KOW-MA



**TSOWNDINGS**  
By S. TSOW

to this nifty item. They will quickly fall in love with it, for it is the *only* garment to wear in Thailand's horrendous heat. Once they return home, they will popularize it among their countrymen.

Properly modified, the *pah-kow-ma* can be marketed overseas. In the summer heat, what Scotsman would not trade in his heavy woolen kilt for a sprightly *pah-kow-ma* patterned in the tartan of his clan? Shrewdly marketed as the MacPah, this Thai garment could easily become as Scottish as bagpipes and haggis.

The Arab headcloth has traditionally come in only three designs: red and white, black and white, or plain white. But the *pah-kow-ma* would mitigate the monotony and enliven the stern lives of Arabs with a splash of bright plaids. With colorful *pah-kow-ma* adorning their heads, Arabs might lighten up and smile more.

The Western business suit, too, is notable for its monotony. We could add to it a dashing *pah-kow-ma*, breezily thrown over the shoulder to convey a casual air of with-it hipness.

These innovations will take some smart marketing, but I'm sure the culture ministry is up to the job. The next time Thailand hosts a big international conference, I want to see George W, Hu Jintao and Vladimir Putin wearing *pah-kow-ma*.

*S. Tsow can be flamed at [stow@yahoo.com](mailto:stow@yahoo.com), especially when he's wearing his pah-kow-ma.*

hand. It is disappearing rapidly in the cities and is now identified mainly with old people and farmers. Young urban Thais have abandoned it in favor of the bath towel. In fact, I am informed that they laugh at it as being old-fashioned.

For these reasons, the Min-

istry of Culture ought to be promoting it. Let's have a *pah-kow-ma* renaissance. Let's take this noble garment out of the bathroom. In a burst of revolutionary fashion fervor, let's transform it into a trendy item of outdoor wear for both sexes on even the most formal occasions.

At the APEC conference a few years ago, visiting dignitaries were photographed wearing Chinese-style silk jackets that cost 90,000 baht a pop. It would have been much more Thai (and much cheaper) to have had them wear *pah-kow-ma* at 75 baht a pop.

Tourists must be introduced

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## The alien foundations of success

With the high-season well and truly upon us and the Phuket economy running close to full-throttle for the first time since the tsunami, there is much to be grateful for here in Phuket.

Tourism industry associations have been quick to laud the island for its post-tsunami recovery. Just over a year ago, Phuket was voted "Top Island in Asia 2005" by the New York-based Condé Nast Traveler magazine in its annual Readers' Choice Awards. In June, Phuket was awarded the Arabian Travel Market 2006 "New Frontiers Award" for being the tourism destination that recovered fastest from a natural disaster.

When such accolades come in, officials are quick to acknowledge them – often organizing official acceptance ceremonies to bask in the glory of the occasion. But do government officials, hotel owners and other tourism business operators really deserve all the credit?

While not overlooking the much-heralded work these groups have done, there is one group of people on the island who have been integral to the post-tsunami recovery, but whose efforts have been met with brickbats, not bouquets.

That group comprises "foreign laborers", whose presence here was assessed by officials at a recent government workshop as posing a greater "level of risk" to the island's tourism than all other threats considered – including tsunamis, terrorism, crime and road accidents [see News stories].

The term "foreign laborer" is, of course, a polite way of referring to the thousands of desperately-poor Burmese who have migrated to the island to take on dangerous and difficult jobs that many Thais refuse to do – such as in the fishing and construction industries.

During the past week, a group of 70 Burmese were arrested for singing too loudly at a wedding party in Karon. They were rounded up and taken to Chalong Police Station, where the 20 loudest of the bunch, as determined by officers there, were fined 500 baht each – a large amount to migrant Burmese, whose wages are scandalously low.

Although all of those arrested were found to have valid work permits, they were still treated in a way highly unlikely to have been considered had they been Western tourists or local Thais, who surely would have been given a warning first.

That the presence of so many poor foreigners here is considered a threat to Phuket is not in question. Any group of people living under such hardship poses some threat to society, whether it be a criminal or even a health threat. However, much less considered is the threat posed to poor people by prejudice and lack of compassion.

– The Editor

**The Phuket Gazette**

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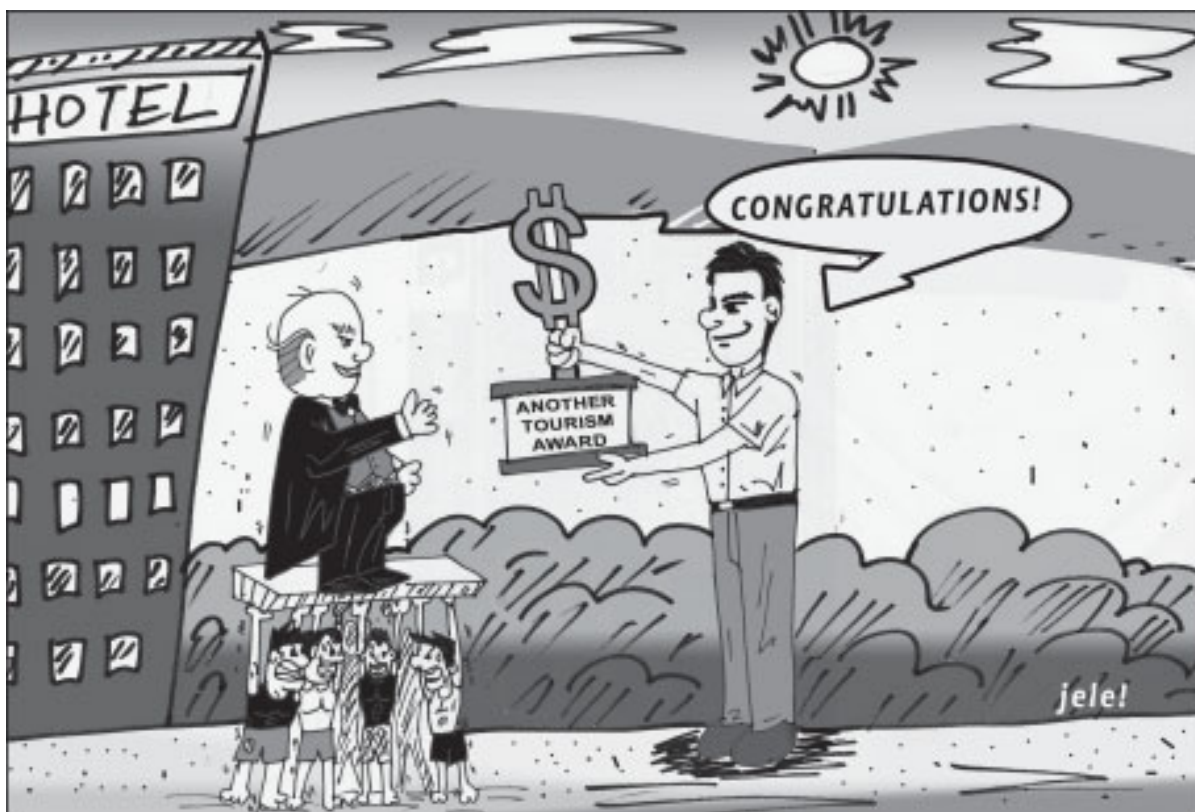
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## Letters

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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.

### Class at the School of Hard Knocks

There is a group of farangs here on the island that moan and complain about any of the Thai peculiarities, but after living here for 12 years, I have learned that you must accept them, however weird, or go home. That way when something that is either so stupid or downright wrong crops up, we will have the perspective to know we must stand up and say something.

The latest example of an errant policy is the requirement for foreign teachers to possess a BA or higher to teach Thai and foreign children English. It's not enough that they have to work in over-crowded classrooms with poor facilities, getting paid a mere pittance of what they should. Teaching is on par with nursing: the long hours, dedication to children and so on. They should be greatly revered. Isn't that the point of education? To provide them with a good standard of living?

I agree experience and a degree in teaching is required, but to jump it up to BA level is too much. It is surely more important to have enough teachers to give the students an all around education and the fundamentals of a foreign language.

The schools have a hard time paying an acceptable wage to foreign teachers from abroad today, how will they get along when teachers with BAs and higher apply and request salary information? Will the salary scales be improved to account for the higher level of requirement? Teachers, seeing the long list of drawn-out problems with settling in Thailand, will probably shake

their heads and remain at home, or seek positions further afield. Common sense is what is required here.

I see the teachers have rallied and protested as they should, if they require a further flag waver, I will oblige, whatever it costs me.

Derek S Priest  
Phuket

### Frankly, criticism is half-baked

The likes of Frank Vikassay shouldn't go around criticizing Andy Johnstone, your restaurant reviewer [Letters, Gazette edition of November 18]. Sure, Mr Vikassay may once have had his own restaurant and is now the author of a series of Bangkok-based "novels", but these potboilers are as close as he now gets to creative cooking, although I sense that Mr Vikassay's grilling stemmed from a hint of the green-eyed monster.

Mr Johnstone writes eclectically, intelligently, smoothly, wittily and, by his own admission as an amateur, extremely well on this subject.

We look forward to his reviews, and his style is pertinent, erudite (I have to use a dictionary sometimes, and often investigate the cultural references made, much to my pleasure) and positive. He reminds us of a younger, gentler Toby Young, another "bumbling Brit", who suffered at the hands of us Americans.

So he talks about the music he listens to on the way to a restaurant? Great, it sets the scene, engages the reader, my partner and I at least. This helps to make what would otherwise be a review of probably a pretty run-of-the-mill place an event.

You want to know what time the place opens and closes? Just a wild stab in the dark, but it's a restaurant, so it'll probably be open lunchtimes and at dinner time, right? Stick to the island's more mundane, obsequious and flattering reviews-by-numbers if that's your bag, but I'll opt for for Andy Johnstone's every time.

Charles Adams  
Surin

### Hey! Wait a minute, Mr Postman

Be happy, two weeks is not so bad. I sent a postcard to my wife in Phuket from Spain [Letters, Gazette edition of November 25]. It arrived at the Kata-Karon Post Office six months later, while a letter from Thai Airways in Bangkok took a swift – by comparison – 60 days to reach Phuket. Be glad for waiting only two weeks.

Jonas Yenghprakhon  
Kata

### Phuket noses ahead

My family – our children are one and three years old – moved to Phuket City from Singapore six weeks ago.

In Singapore, at least half of the time, one or both of our kids suffered from a cough and/or runny nose with difficulty sleeping at night. Doctors there attributed that either to outdoor allergies (pollen, fern or fungal spores; and recently haze from the Indonesian fires) or indoor pollution (house dust, dust mites, mold).

We had a big plastic tub filled with pills and syrups and on average were spending the equivalent of 5,000 baht per month on them.

After the first two weeks

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.



## Letters

here, the coughs and runny noses disappeared and haven't since returned. I don't know why, but I do know that our kids are a lot healthier here in Phuket.

Let's hope the rapid pace of urbanization we see going on here does not end up with Phuket becoming as unhealthy a place to live as Singapore, or God forbid, Bangkok.

Heavens Spent  
Samkong

### Take a stand against transport collusion

I read with great interest the news of a trial one-way traffic system [*Gazette* edition of November 25] to be introduced in Patong starting January 15, 2007. However, I was dismayed at the comments of the Deputy Mayor of Phuket, Chairat Sukbal, who said that that there will be no introduction of a Pattaya-style "baht buses", which are successful and popular with tourists, for Patong.

Apparently this suggestion made no progress when put before the Municipality.

Who exactly is in the Municipality? And will they step forward and justify to us, the public, why the unsuspecting tourist has to be ripped off by the red menace – the tuk-tuk drivers?

Surely the benefits of a baht bus, its cheaper service, simplicity and the added benefits of less vehicle pollution and reduction of traffic is plain to see, so why is there never any progress on this traffic problem?

Is it because there are too many people in high places who have business interests in the tuk-tuk mafia and in lining their own pockets?

These accusations are commonplace among the resident population, so what's the truth here? I want to know, Mr Deputy Mayor.

It's going to take a big individual or a large body of opinion to change things, so a suggestion: why not introduce a period of phasing out the licenses/permits issued to tuk-tuk drivers?

I know they have families to support, but a gradual removal of this form of livelihood would enable them sufficient time to find alternative employment.

However, I feel that there are too many people with a financial stake in the transport business to effect change, and a lack of backbone and will of those who are abusing their position as policy makers by not acting.

Therefore may I also suggest that tourists decide to vote with their feet wherever possible. In the future, we, the tourists and the residents should all give the tuk-tuks a miss and walk around and take in the flavor of the island. And when you hear the words "Tuk-tuk, tuk-tuk" say *paeng maak* (very expensive) and just walk away.

Stroller  
Phuket

# Meet the new Gov

## FIRST PERSON

**A**fter five years as Phuket Vice Governor, Niran Kalayanamit took over the top provincial post on October 1. With the promotion, Gov Niran became the first-ever Phuket Deputy Governor to be promoted to Governor inside the province.

His past experience includes a long stint as Director of Foreign Affairs at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Bangkok.

At the Channel 11 studios, where he was recently interviewed on the *Andaman Talk* program, Governor Niran told the *Gazette* that his past work on the island has given him valuable experience to cope with his new post, which includes continuing a number of existing provincial programs – and many launching new ones.



**B**ecause I am new to the position, I have to wait for and follow the new government's provincial development policies. Later this week, I will attend "sufficiency economy" meetings hosted by the National Economic and Social Development Board (NESDB). Many issues need to be considered.

A new Vice Governor will be assigned and take up his post on December 4, so at the moment I am still handling many issues while I wait for the new lineup to be in place.

The new policy will be based on the four words starting with *por pla*, namely *prongsai* (transparency), *prayad* (economy), *prasitiparb* (efficiency) and *pentham* (justice).

Important issues will emphasize economic sustainability, good living and social harmony, and how to instill democratic principles in society. Under the general principles of the 10<sup>th</sup> National Development Plan, the people are to be as one.

However, we have to look at the main policy principles in detail. These comprise strategies in several different areas, such as administrative and political reform, economics, social and foreign affairs, and state security.

Nevertheless, I will emphasize the four *por* as the prime minister has mentioned and follow HM King Bhumibol Adulyadej's guidelines on sufficiency economy. There is a detailed policy manual to be released, and I will provide more information after I come back from Bangkok.

The "CEO Governor" title will be changed to reflect a more integrated role, but in large part the change is in name only; whatever the exact title given, the Governor is still the Gov-

ernor...Even though there are only three *amphur* [districts] in Phuket, the Governor here is responsible for a lot. That's why a great deal of organization is needed, with delegation of work on some principle policy issues to my deputies and other subordinates. We will work as a team and help each other; I can't do it all alone.

In terms of economic development, we have to look at both the past and the future. We certainly cannot afford to ignore the needs of our all-important tourism sector. We need to focus on the continual development of our tourism resources, including our beach and marine leisure facilities and unique cultural heritage.

We need to support our vision for a better Phuket, both in terms of policy and in actual practice. To support small entrepreneurs in the tourism sector and ensure standards are maintained, we plan to apply the principles of sufficiency economy.

Phuket has progressed further than other tourism provinces due to our past development strategies, which foresaw the island's development into a world-class international tourism destination.

Now we have to maintain our standards and have quality marketing.

When we go for a roadshow to promote the island in a foreign country, we should promote not only the standard attractions, but also its emergence as a hub for spa treatments, information technology and high-quality but reasonably priced medical services, including dentistry.

Thais are service minded and very good at hospitality, which is why we have been successful at attracting tourists. There are several more countries that we want to establish sister

city relationships with towns in Russia, China and Scandinavia. Overall our approach appears to be working, as we can see with more airlines establishing direct routes to Phuket.

Recently there have been complaints about the price of beach chairs in Patong. I have asked the district look into and deal with this issue.

Also, tuk-tuks sometimes charge tourists 500 baht just to go over the hill, which is an unreasonable price that will only hurt the drivers in the long term because it destroys our reputation among tourists.

There should also be standards in terms of food pricing and quality.

The province also hears complaints about overpriced seafood at tourist-oriented venues that is not only poor quality, but actually makes people sick.

The demographic landscape of Phuket is changing. There are many people coming to live here from other parts of Thailand and well as from abroad – including some who come here without the correct travel documents and work without permission, which is improper.

Among my many priority issues are reducing road accidents, improving water supply resources, environmental protection, cracking down on illegal foreign labor, improving the road network and other infrastructure.

I also want to improve security on the island by lobbying for an increase to the Phuket Provincial Police budget, which is currently based on the registered population and is therefore insufficient given the the number of people who actually live on the island, not to mention all the visitors that come here.

With the high season now

here, security for tourists is particularly important. I would like both the government and private sector to keep an eye out for them, refrain from taking advantage of them and to smile and be friendly.

At first I did not think the government would keep me in the province. I have already been working here for five years, which is long time to be assigned to one province for a deputy governor; normally deputy governors are rotated out of a province after just a few years.

However, I think my experience here and work capabilities will serve to benefit government plans for the province. I appreciate the Phuket of people encouraging my work here. I am always willing and happy to work here.

There are so many issues I would like address: disciplinary regulations, social problems, population registration, road accidents, traffic, safety standards, a disaster early-warning system and emergency evacuation preparedness, environment, garbage, water treatment.

We also need to work on ways of informing foreigner residents of our rules and regulations – along with the disciplinary measures taken for failure to comply. We should promote the rules, helping them become legal from the outset in such matters as investment and joint partnership investment.

I would like to thank all Phuket residents and friends who have encouraged me, allowing me to learn and benefit from experiences that would not have been possible working anywhere else.

We are trying to make Phuket a better place to live, work and visit – and I believe everyone has a role to play in making that goal become a reality.



## In The Stars

by Isla Star

**SAGITTARIUS** (November 23-December 21): Sagittarians ended November on a high note. You feel charged with positive energy and ready to deal with whatever comes your way. Those celebrating a birthday during the coming days can look forward to a particularly stimulating year ahead, with a strong focus on travel and romance. If an affair of the heart has recently burned out, you will now recognize that this was inevitable and be ready to move on.

**CAPRICORN** (December 22-January 20): A lot of fuss over nothing could affect the pleasure levels of your weekend. If you are able to concentrate on what is really important at the moment you will be able to ignore this irritating matter, but those who are too worried about what others think will suffer accordingly. The outlook for romance is a little stormy, but will calm down as December begins. The number 4 could bring a bonus on Tuesday.

**AQUARIUS** (January 21-February 19): You will be pleased to see money coming from an unexpected direction. Your plans to spend a low-key holiday season could change in a heartbeat. Regarding affairs of the heart, expect to meet a captivating Cancerian soon. Wednesday is the most auspicious day for presenting an idea for a new project to someone who has the power to get it off the ground. The color butterscotch sweetens your charisma.

**PISCES** (February 20-March 20): Legal proceedings are affected by auspicious astral conditions this week. You are advised to move accordingly and not to wait until later this month when events will not go the way you would like. Remove your favored rose-tinted shades to look at an ongoing romantic dilemma in a more realistic light. Financial transactions are best instigated on Thursday, but you should watch out for a shady deal offered by Aries.

**ARIES** (March 21-April 20): Your excitable nature could get in the way of a business agreement being ironed out smoothly. It will be more profitable to approach this situation with a cool head. Where romance is concerned, your partner is tiring of your living for the moment approach to money – listen to their suggestions about preparing for rainy days ahead. Single Arians can expect an old flame to appear on the scene once more.

**TAURUS** (April 21-May 21): Your tendency to expect the worst needs to be curtailed. You will receive proof that positive thinking pays off. Romance is at an all-time high, and it's difficult for you to concentrate on more mundane matters. You are advised to knuckle down to administration before you miss an important deadline. Monday is a good day to approach someone in authority with an innovative idea.

**GEMINI** (May 22-June 21): A profitable week lies ahead for most of you. While this may not necessarily mean material gain, you are sure to learn something to your advantage. Aquarius encourages you to pick up the threads of an old idea that never came to anything. As long as you are ready to hone your expertise, there's every chance of it succeeding in the coming weeks. The number 6 could be fortunate on Sunday.

**CANCER** (June 22-July 23): Home is truly where the heart is for most Cancerians and you are about to be offered an opportunity to upgrade your living situation. This offer really will be too good to turn down, so even if it means tightening the purse strings for a while, you won't regret doing so. If possible, keep a fairly free schedule during the week ahead as visitors are likely to change their plans at the last minute.

**LEO** (July 24-August 22): You will realize that there is a fine line between doing your best and overdoing things this week. You should try to keep your social commitments to a minimum during the weekend as there will be plenty to occupy your attention after Monday. Holiday season plans are difficult to finalize because of other people's changing moods. Wear the color aquamarine to encourage balanced energy levels and make sure to drink plenty of water for good health.

**VIRGO** (August 23-September 23): Virgoans are not short on creative ideas, but you don't always find it easy putting them into practice. Take heed from someone with experience to find the way forward. An impulsive trip this weekend leads you to a magical place that inspires quiet contemplation. As the end of 2006 approaches, your thoughts should be turning to ways of making 2007 a pivotal year. The number 9 can bring luck on Tuesday.

**LIBRA** (September 24-October 23): The hectic pace of this week will mean that You won't be able to meet a promise you made to someone special. This could lead to a rift in an already rocky relationship and you should start building a bridge before communication breakdown sets in. On a more positive note, you receive news of an impending well-deserved end-of-year bonus, and promotion is very likely. The scent of jasmine soothes stress.

**SCORPIO** (October 24-November 22): An unusual request by a colleague or acquaintance early next week leaves you lost for words. Give yourself plenty of time to consider the situation before answering. You will be liable to jump off into the deep end until the middle of the month, which could certainly land you in hot water. An Aquarian friend offers a good suggestion to alleviate your boredom, and wearing the color scarlet should encourage some excitement to enter your life.

# Panoramic novel of Pattaya

The reason there are so many novels set in the hooker bars of Pattaya is that there are thousands upon thousands of retired sexpats who hang out in them every night. And they have a lot of time on their hands.

From *Beggar to Butterfly* (Bangkok Books, Bangkok, 2006, 206pp) does make a stab at being different. There is an ironic historical perspective, doses of broad humor and a wide array of Thai characters – beggars, restaurant owners, ladyboys, Thai boxers, scrap collectors, flower sellers, even soi dogs – that aspire to a panoramic portrait of

Pattaya. And unlike the typical Amateur Hour hack, author Peter Jaggs can write.

Providing historical perspective and periodic comic relief is Mickey Dylan, Pattaya's longest serving barfly. He was getting stoned under the palm trees three years before the first American GIs turned up in 1961.

"Pattaya was still known as Thap Phraya, and Christ, it was beautiful," he recalls. "Your typical wooden-housed little fishing village surrounded by coconut palms with a golden beach that ran into an impossibly blue ocean. Just look at it now. Sois and sois of bars, girls and drunken tourists. A Family Mart or a 7-Eleven on every corner. Pizza huts, KFCs and McDonalds. Cafes and restaurants selling everything from a full English breakfast to Turkish kebabs. We made do with

barbecuing the fish we caught off the old jetty over fires on the beach and *kao pad kai* or a bowl of noodles from the little shack along the dust-track where Soi Buakhwa is now."

Still, the centerpiece story of this collection, and the longest at 30 pages, is "Nu (Mouse) Wanphut, Soi Eight Bar Girl". Nothing new here: Buriram village girl Nu is raped by a friend of her boyfriend. The boyfriend nearly kills the friend and is sent to prison for 12 years. Nu flees the village in disgrace.

"I arrived at Pattaya bus station with nothing more than a small bag of clothes, two hundred baht in my purse and an address

scribbled on a piece of paper," she relates.

A bar, of course. She becomes the bar's biggest earner, with remittances from boyfriends abroad. "The *farangs* that I had once been so scared of seemed to me to be mostly rather foolish and almost unbelievably gullible over us bar girls."

After three years, her boyfriend turns up, freed in a pardon. The couple return to the village in Buriram. Happy ending. So what?

But then Jaggs is back in form with a comical story involving Mickey Dylan and a mysterious white cockroach. This is followed by the affecting story of two crippled beggars, a loving couple, who stumble upon the lucrative profession of scrap dealing. Then there's the story of Som Saichan, the ladyboy who gets away with murder and is shocked into turning into a good

person. And Mickey Dylan is back with an rollicking account of his confrontation with a huge drunken American sailor.

There's also a pointless story about Jimmy Flint, the cheapskate farang, who may be a familiar type but his story is hackneyed and hardly entertaining. We're back on firmer ground with "Janya Wattana, the Restaurant Owner" who provides her own history of Pattaya through a Thai point of view: her fisherman father and his friend Sataporn abandon their fishing trade to ferry tourists around the bay and she herself grows rich by catering to the new tourist trade and the assorted flotsam – motorcycle taxi boys, construction workers, bar girls – that attend it.

"I would part with all the millions of baht that I have in the bank to see the buildings, cars and the motorcycles along Soi Buakhwa fade away to nothing," she reflects. "In fact, I would give everything I own to see Father and Sataporn, once again dressed in their tattered old fishing clothes, walk smiling up the dusty track struggling under the weight of a huge ray that they had caught in their nets."

The book ends with "Tommy Sparrow's First Night in Pattaya", which is the story of an 18-year-old English kid's initiation into Pattaya nightlife. Another recruit is made! And what will Pattaya look like when he's a barfly as old as Mickey Dylan? Not a pretty thought.



## Off the SHELF

By James Eckardt

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# Sound progress at the pound

It has been some time since I last visited the government dog pound, which was officially named the Mid Road Dog Shelter. My last visit was a depressing experience. Miserable, diseased dogs, inadequate staff and so on.

The *Gazette* reported in October that the Soi Dog Foundation (SDF) had moved in there, prompting me to visit again, and I have to say that the transformation is remarkable.

Although building work continues, the place looks clean, the dogs healthy and, most importantly, happy in their surroundings.

The center has now been renamed the Phuket Dog Shelter and Rehoming Center, and I spoke to SDF's manager Ina Pietschmann about what had been done to affect such a turnaround.

**Top Dog:** How have you managed to make such a big improvement in such a short period of time?

**Ina:** Obviously improving the facilities has been important, but the main thing is our staff and volunteers. Previously there were only a couple of workers here. They had time to do only basic feeding and cleaning. Now we are able to spend time with the dogs, which means sick and diseased animals can be separated and treated and dogs that don't get on with other dogs can be segregated, and so on.

We have also been able to clean the whole place up and create a pleasant environment for the dogs. As a result they are much happier.

**Top Dog:** Have you had good cooperation with the Phuket Provincial Livestock Office (PPLO)?

**Ina:** Very much so, Dr Sunart Wongvorachart, the head

of the PPLO, has given us a virtual free hand, as he is keen to improve the lives of the animals. We have also been promised the services of a government vet two days a week once our clinic is complete.

**Top Dog:** What building work is currently going on?

**Ina:** We are extending the shelters and making them more weatherproof so the dogs are better protected from the elements. We have made the fences taller, as dogs could escape before and would inevitably end up on the road, which was a danger for both them and motorists.

Some of the compounds are being divided to enable us to provide separate enclosures for different types of dogs, such as elderly dogs, puppies and aggressive dogs.

We are building a purpose-built clinic and addressing other problems we have found. For example, in heavy rain, one enclosure would be inundated with up to 12 inches of water, so we are installing improved drainage there.

**Top Dog:** When will this work be completed?

**Ina:** That depends on donations. Companies and individuals are donating money and materials via our president, Dr Prasit Koeysiripong, but we can do only what we can afford to do, so we are addressing the most important issues first.

**Top Dog:** How many dogs are here now?

**Ina:** There are about 350 dogs here. Our main aim is to find homes for as many as possible. Some will spend the rest of their lives here, but the vast majority of these dogs – from large breeds to toy poodles – would make excellent family pets.



**BETTER DAYS:** Karin, a volunteer at the government pound in Thalang, enjoys time out with the dogs. Conditions for the dogs have improved, but much more work needs to be done, and donations are needed to make them possible.

**Top Dog:** Where do so many dogs come from?

**Ina:** Some are here as a result of roundups by the government, some have been abandoned here and at our old center.

Some of the dogs we rescued from abuse and cruelty, and others required such long-term treatment that it was not possible to return them to where they originally came from as they would no longer be accepted by other dogs.

**Top Dog:** Do you practice euthanasia here?

**Ina:** Euthanasia is not approved of in Thailand, but our vets will put down dogs that are suffering and have no chance of recovery, and dogs that are genuinely aggressive, though such cases are very rare here.

**Top Dog:** How does the new shelter affect the SDF's sterilization program?

**Ina:** We have already ster-

ilized over 14,500 cats and dogs [since the program began] and have passed our target of 5,000 dogs this year.

From studies we have done in sample areas, we know that the number of stray dogs on the island has fallen substantially over the past three years. This confirms what many long-term residents and repeat visitors tell us.

Also, the dogs still on the streets are in better condition. Although we still see dogs in terrible condition it is the exception rather than the norm.

As tsunami-based funding comes to an end though, we are having to cut back on the number of sterilizations we do each month.

However, by cooperating with other organizations on the island such as the Phuket Animal Welfare Society, hopefully we will be able to complete what we all set out to do, which is to see an end to stray dogs on the island.

**Top Dog:** What are the biggest problems you face in achieving this?

**Ina:** There are three main issues, one of course is funding. In reality, at present we get very little funding from Phuket directly. A recent donation of 1 million baht from long-time local resident Walter Hoffman is an exception. Virtually all our funding comes from overseas. We need to raise more funds locally to complete the work.

Although we receive many complaints about dogs from hotels and individuals, very few are prepared to help financially in solving the problem. We receive no government funding, everything is done through donations.

The second major problem is the number of puppies being bred here, as well as being brought onto the island. Many people are breeding dogs to make money. Advertisements for all sorts of breeds of dog appear all over and puppies can be found for sale in many local markets.

Unfortunately, most of these breeders do not care about the dogs. Any unsold puppies are simply dumped at temples or even on the roadside.

The third problem is that there are still many people who allow their female dogs to have puppies, and then again dump the puppies after they are born, often when only a few days old.

It is up to us to find these dogs and persuade the owners to let us sterilize them.

We can do nothing about the breeders, but we hope that the government will introduce legislation allowing only licensed breeders to sell puppies. Sadly, many of the pedigree dogs advertised here are poor quality and carry inbred faults.

*Any person interested in adoption or helping at the center can call Ina at Tel: 081-7884222. To make a donation, visit [www.soidog.org](http://www.soidog.org) or call John at Tel: 087-0508688.*



By Top Dog





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# Internet Explorer 7 versus Firefox

**Q** I just downloaded and installed Internet Explorer 7 (IE 7), and I can't seem to find my "Favorites". I used that for most of my Internet activity. Is it there under a different name? Also, is there any way to get IE 7 to do a "refresh"?

FN,  
Surin Beach

**A** Microsoft has hidden the menus – the line that says File | Edit | View, ... Help – in IE 7. You can get your menus back by clicking the Tools icon and putting a check mark next to the line that says "Menu Bar". That brings the Favorite menu back up to the top, where the web gods ordained it should go.

If you're feeling more adventurous, you can find your Favorites in their new location. Click the yellow star to the left of the tabs (see picture). IE 7 presents your list of Favorites. I readily admit that I far prefer the old Favorites menu.

IE 7's "refresh" icon is a pair of up-and-down arrows, to the right of the address bar, and just before the red "X" Stop button.

Now that I've explained the new icons in IE 7, let me take a moment to emphasize a point that bears repeating: I don't use Internet Explorer, and I strongly recommend that you don't either.

In its first two weeks of existence, security folks found four – count 'em, four – security holes in IE 7. This from a supposedly super-secure browser, Microsoft's flagship web product.

Two of the holes amounted to little more than parlor tricks, but the other two struck right at the heart of IE 7 and Windows.

The reason's simple: some-

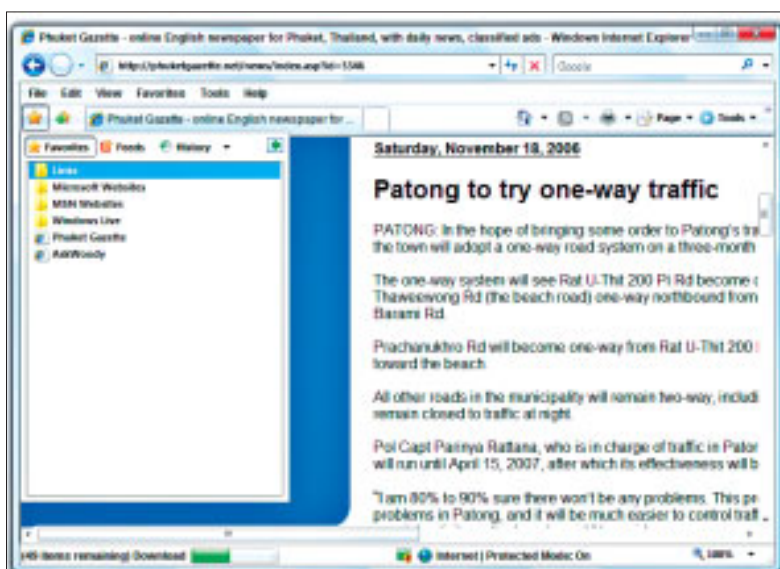
thing called ActiveX. Internet Explorer 6 and 7 both allow ActiveX programs to run. Malicious websites hitch a ride on Active X and clobber Windows. You should set IE 7 so it doesn't run ActiveX programs – see [www.askwoody.com/news/comments.php?newsid=694](http://www.askwoody.com/news/comments.php?newsid=694). But even so, Internet Explorer has all sorts of old security problems lurking.

Everybody – let me repeat that, for emphasis – everybody should download and install IE 7. But nobody – nobody – should use Internet Explorer unless there's a huge pressing need to run it. (Yes, I know, some sites only work with Internet Explorer.)

You should download, install, learn and use Firefox 2 ([getfirefox.com](http://getfirefox.com)). You can read a raft of reviews that will explain in picayune detail why Firefox 2 is a better browser than IE 7, but there's one overwhelming fact: Firefox has way, way fewer security problems. Why? Because Firefox doesn't and won't run ActiveX programs.

Firefox is a wonderful product. It's fast. It's stable. It co-exists with Internet Explorer, no problem at all. It's free. It's open source. (Yes, I know that the current government's ICT Minister doesn't believe in open source. Wonder if he's ever tried Firefox?) It's fixed quickly and competently. Most of all, it's not Microsoft.

In the past six months, I've written about 1,200 pages of Dummies books on Windows Vista. Every time I mention Internet Explorer, I also mention Firefox, usually in the same sentence. Firefox is the wave of the future. The only people who write



**If you're looking for familiar commands, the new Internet Explorer 7's menu bar can be resurrected. But Woody's recommendation: don't use it; get Firefox 2 instead.**

books about Internet Explorer any more are the ones working for Microsoft. Okay, I'm exaggerating. But only a little bit.

**Q** Microsoft's CEO Steve Ballmer has been quoted saying that everyone who runs Linux (except SuSE Linux) owes Microsoft money and that companies running Linux have an undisclosed liability on their balance sheet. Is it true that Linux infringes on Microsoft's patents?

DT,  
Patong

**A** What a crock. Linux is the free, open-source operating system that strives to compete with Windows. Most people are much better off with Windows, but Linux is a great alternative.

Ballmer cut a deal with Novell, which distributes and supports (for a fee) a version of Linux called SuSE. Microsoft gave Novell \$348 million for "get SuSE free" coupons that Microsoft may or may not hand out to customers. Novell gave \$40 million back

to Microsoft for reasons that are currently the subject of heated debate. Both parties signed agreements not to sue each other for patent infringements.

Two weeks later, Ballmer publicly stated that anyone who runs a version of Linux other than SuSE Linux owes Microsoft money, presumably because of as-yet-undefined patent infringements in all versions of Linux. Ballmer says that the \$40 million Novell payment was to cover patent issues.

Novell CEO Ron Hovsepian released an open letter that says, in part, "We disagree with the recent statements made by Microsoft on the topic of Linux and patents. Importantly, our agreement with Microsoft is in no way an acknowledgment that Linux infringes upon any Microsoft intellectual property. When we entered the patent cooperation agreement with Microsoft, Novell did not agree or admit that Linux or any other Novell offering violates Microsoft patents."

But, of course, Microsoft

made sure that the agreement included a payment that certainly could be interpreted as a patent pay-off. In the end, it makes Novell look stupid, which was certainly one of Microsoft's goals in the first place.

It's clear to me that Microsoft wants to clobber the popular Red Hat version of Linux, and doesn't care who it has to deal with to get that done. Microsoft's done that before, partnering with unlikely bedmates, weakening a relatively strong rival, then turning on the partner like a black widow.

Novell's being manipulated by the master manipulator. Joker to Batman: "Ever dance with the devil by the pale moon light?"

Currently, Woody Leonhard ([woody@khunwoody.com](mailto:woody@khunwoody.com), [www.askwoody.com](http://www.askwoody.com)) spends all of his waking hours slaving away on two new Windows books, Windows Vista All-In-One Desk Reference For Dummies and Vista Timesaving Techniques For Dummies. They should be available worldwide in January.

## ARE YOU HOT?

Here are three of the absolutely free Wi-Fi access hotspots on the island.

- **Watermark Bar Restaurant, at Boat Lagoon. Leased-line broadband. 10am-10pm daily.**
- **Dusit Laguna Resort. Free Wi-Fi in all public areas. TOT leased-line broadband. 24/7.**
- **Sandwich Shoppe, off Rat-U-Thit 200 Phi Rd, Patong. (Near Andaman Beach Suites and Patong Language School.) ADSL speed. 24/7.**

If you're hot – and free – just drop Woody an email at: [Woody@KhunWoody.com](mailto:Woody@KhunWoody.com)

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## ON THE MOVE

**Supphasak Nunsang**, 58, from Nakhon Sri Thammarat, has been named Director of Phuket Highways Office. He has a Master's degree in Public Works from King Mongkut's Institute of Technology in Bangkok. He worked at the Nakhon Sri Thammarat Muang District Highways Office for four years and at Trang Highways Office for two years before moving to Phuket.



**Dr Sasivimon Chandharsri**, from Bangkok, has been appointed Medical Director of Phuket Laser Center. She holds degrees in medicine from Siriraj Hospital and Mahidol University in Bangkok and has a diploma of Proficiency in Ophthalmology. Dr Sasivimon is a laser refractive surgery specialist, with years of experience in her field and has performed thousands of Lasik surgeries and other refractive procedures.



**Jarunya Chantakit**, from Bangkok, has been appointed Managing Director of Phuket Laser Center. Educated in Thailand, Britain and the US, she has more than 15 years' experience in the medical industry. She managed two Lasik centers in Bangkok and has also taken part in international management training seminars in Canada, the US, England and Portugal.



# Stable returns – an investor's choice

I have received complaints accusing me of referring too frequently to two topics: hedge funds and Brandeaux, a fund-management company. In an effort to answer those complaints, I examined my own work.

Although I have been writing for the *Phuket Gazette* for about 6½ years, I went through just the most recent 100 articles, almost two years' worth.

I counted just eight refer-

ences – often as little as one paragraph – to hedge funds, which hardly marks me out as a promoter for the whole industry.

Here are some examples. From the July 29, 2006, issue, while commenting on commodity prices, I wrote, "The reality is that many hedge funds were making excellent profits earlier this year on rising commodity prices. When commodity prices fell, so did the majority of hedge

funds. They forgot they were 'hedge funds' and had aggressively moved into long positions."

In another article I quoted Alan Greenspan's comment on hedge funds: "They have appeared to have picked all the lower hanging fruit."

In the same article I quoted Steve Forbes, the publisher of *Forbes Magazine*. During a television interview, he stated that there are around 8,500 hedge funds in the US, adding that he doubted that there are enough brains to manage them all.

In a different article on General Motors, published almost two years ago, I briefly mentioned hedge funds and the effect on them by the entry of Kirk Kerkorian as major shareholder in GM by saying, "The hedge funds suddenly faced sharp losses and the true situation will take some time to be known."

I also wrote about AMT Futures IQS Fund, but noted, "It is not for widows and orphans or those of a nervous disposition. The fund should ideally form only a small percentage of any investment portfolio." In another arti-

cle I wrote "hedge funds are hideously expensive entities when the fee structure is examined."

Turning to Brandeaux in the same 100 articles, I have written about Brandeaux four times. One of the articles was, in fact, not about Brandeaux, except to counter any impression that I favored groups like Brandeaux and Orbis because I received commission from them. I pointed out that neither Brandeaux nor Orbis pay commission to anyone, never have and probably never will.

I have supported both groups and others because they are very good at what they do. I have no fixed connection to any asset manager. In fact, all of my business is via insurance companies; I use them as a platform to hold assets and simply give them a shopping list of what funds to buy.

Brandeaux does not deal directly with the public, myself or

any other financial intermediary. It deals only with financial institutions.

Orbis, on the other hand, deals directly with the public. They charge no entry or exit fees, only management fees. However, Orbis closed for all new business on March 17, and have still not reopened, they will only deal with existing clients.

I have also received complaints that I have been isolated in Phuket for far too long and fail to report objectively on hedge funds, particularly Amaranth Advisers.

The cause of

Amaranth's problems were simple: they took huge, long, leveraged positions. In other words, they took investors' cash and borrowed extra to invest in natural gas prices. A long position means they were betting on the price rising.

They misread the market; the price of natural gas fell. Instead of abandoning the position, Amaranth held on until they lost about 65% of investors' money in a matter of weeks.

That is why, among other reasons, I wrote for anyone contemplating investing in hedge funds, "to access this 'brave new world' requires a lot of research. One tip: Look at the managers, what experience do they have and what is their track record?"

Why do I like Brandeaux? Because they deliver what they promise, usually more, and not one of their funds has ever fallen in price. Like most investors, I value stability and they have consistently delivered returns far in excess of cash or bonds.

Also, they once bought me lunch – although I had been dealing with them for more than nine years by that stage.

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: 081-081-4611. Email: imm@loxinfo.co.th

## MONEY TALKS



By Richard Watson

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Construction of the Shangri-La Phuket, to be built at Bang Tao Beach (pictured), is expected to begin soon in order to achieve its 2008 completion date.

# Shangri-La Phuket to open in 2008

BANG TAO: Shangri-La Hotels and Resorts will open a 315-room resort and villa development on Bang Tao Beach near the end of 2008, it was announced in a media release on November 20.

The 20-hectare property will feature lagoons, gardens and a river.

Designed by Arcadia Design Architects of Huelva, Spain, the resort will comprise 223 guest rooms and suites, and 92 villas.

All villas will include water features with either plunge pools or located immediately overlooking lagoon waters.

Private gardens will be accessible from large terraces. Resort rooms will cover a minimum of 50 square meters, while the one and two-bedroom villas will measure from 90 to 280sqm.

Fifty pool villas will be released for private sale through property consultants CB Richard Ellis soon, the company said, and will be operated by Shangri-La, Asia-Pacific's largest luxury hotel group.

Shangri-La's signature spa, CHI, will have its own spa village in the resort.

Guests will be able to enjoy a "CHI lifestyle experience" by opting for residential spa villas, the release said.

At more than 200sqm, these villas will create what CHI term a "spa within a spa environment" with space for in-room treatments and direct access to all CHI spa facilities and amenities, including 13 single and couple's treatment villas.

Additional recreational op-

tions will include a health club, tennis courts, squash court, water sports, a kid's club and entertainment center, and three swimming pools including a 3,000sqm, three-tiered cascading pool.

Dining options will include a piazza with a market atmosphere of open kitchens, cafés and specialty retail shops, a grill, a Thai restaurant, two pool restaurants, a tapas bar and lobby lounge.

A beachfront chapel will be the venue for weddings, vow renewals and related ceremonies.

Meeting and banquet facilities will include a 550sqm grand ballroom and a 165sqm foyer with a capacity of 400 and 100 persons respectively. Additional function rooms will offer 440sqm of meeting space.

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## Golf challenge champions crowned

THALANG: The Nike Canyon Team Challenge came to a close with the event leaders from the very beginning, "The Fabulous Fore", being crowned champions with a combined total of 78 points.

Over the last three months, seven teams have battled it out on the Canyon Course using a different format of play each match to earn points. Despite winning, "The Fabulous Fore", did not have it all their own way. The second place team, "Arahmas Killer

Bees", captained by Stanley Pao, were always within striking distance, even up to the final round last Tuesday.

The captain of "The Fabulous Fore", Liam Stewart, accepted the Nike Canyon Team Challenge Trophy on behalf of his teammates, Stephen Bailey, Hong Shen, and John Marinko. In his speech he noted that he was glad that it came down the final round to decide the who the champions would be.

Winners of the final day of

play were "The Valley Boys", who could only manage a fourth place in the overall competition.

The Nike Canyon Teams Challenge is a perennial event and will be held next year beginning in September.

Final scores: The Fabulous Fore, 78; Arahmas Killer Bees, 69; BBAP, 55; The Valley Boys, 53; Arahmas Mighty Might's, 52; Arahmas Blazing Bandits, 45; The Village People, 40.

— Tim Haddon  
BCCC Director of Golf



From left, the Fabulous Fore: Captain Liam Stewart, John Marinko, Hong Shen and Stephen Bailey.

## Bondi top Soccer 7s 'Masters'

PHUKET CITY: Team Bondi beat Soccer Experience to win the Cup in Masters category, for players 35 years or older, in the 2006 Hotel Travel Phuket Soccer 7s competition on November 25 and 26.

A field of 38 soccer teams took part in the tourney, held at Phuket Rajabhat University, drawing teams from Tokyo, Hanoi and Malaysia, among other places.

In the Cup final for the Open division, for players under 35 years old, Phuket Morning Stars lost to Tokyo Hibernian. In the other finals, Hanoi Drink beat Soccer Experience Penang to win the Masters Plate tourney, and RBSC beat RBSC Polo to win the Open Plate competition.

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## Record line-up for King's Cup Regatta

By Chris Husted

KATA: At the time of going to press, 102 yachts were entered in the 20th King's Cup Regatta (KCR), to be held off Kata Beach from December 2 to 9, setting a record number for pre-race entries, Simon James of the KCR Racing committee confirmed.

The KCR traditionally has a large number of late entries, he explained, adding that this year more boats have been entered early.

More important than the number of boats entered was the fact that more people will be competing in the event, James said.

"For example, we have more than 10 boats in the Ocean Rover class, which is more than we've had before. And these boats simply take more people to sail," he said.

Missing from the Racing class is Ray Roberts, who won the KCR last year on *Drumstick*. James explained that Roberts has launched a new boat and is busy gearing it up for a new campaign, possibly starting with the Sydney to Hobart classic at the end of the year.

However, Fred Kinmonth

and Nick Burns's *Mandrake* will take part, fresh from Malaysia's Raja Muda Selangor Regatta, where they won the overall IRC Racing title in this year's Asian Yachting Series. *Mandrake* was third overall in the KCR last year.

Frank Pong on *Jelik* will be looking to secure the first Chinese KCR win, and Neil Pryde on *Hi Fi* will be looking to improve on his second-place win last year.

Bill Bremner's *Foxy Lady*, which raced well in the Raja Muda this year and finished fifth overall in the KCR Racing class last year, however, has not been entered.

Other noticeable omissions are David Lindhal's *La Samudra* and, in the IRC class, John Vause's *Ruby Tuesday*.

The *Gazette* has heard reports that Lindhal recently suffered a serious blow to his health and that Vause, as with other captains, has had difficulty in securing experienced local crew, who have been drawn to joining the big international racers in order to broaden their racing experience.

Of the 25 yachts in the IRC class, *Rhythm Stick*, *Blue Juice*, *Master Blaster* and *Octopussy*

are expected to set the pace throughout the regatta. Making a return to the KCR will be Yachtpro's *Di Hard*.

Expected to race well in an IRC sub-class are *Royal Thai Navy I*, with some local heat among Keith Gary's *Beaux Esprits*, Kevin Gillow's *Minx* and Stuart Crowe's *Cinders*.

Sure to at least steal the show at the start line will be the all-female crew on *Tag*.

In the Sports Boats class, Scott Duncanson, who skippered a crew to victory in the recent national Platu racing championships, will be racing on his locally-built Phuket 8, *Somtarn Express*. Duncanson, looking to take top honors this year, has rigged *Somtarn* with trampolines and harnesses for maximum effect.

Jonathan Mahony's *Mumm 30 Happy Endings*, which finished third in the Sports Boats class last year, also will be vying for first place in the class.

In the Premier class, *Australian Maid* will be looking to continue its winning streak, after winning the Premier Cruising trophy in Raja Muda.

This year has seen an explosion in the number of multihulls registered, with 12 entries in the Multihull class alone. Designs by Phuket-based Mark Pescott appear set to dominate the field. *Charro*, *Chimera*, *Seekronhuk* (Four Broken Ribs) and *Xcatriot* from Australia are all expected to perform well, as are *The Sting*, *Cedar Swan* and Bob Mott's *Chameleon*.

Adding to the number multihulls on the water will be five Phuket-built Firefly 850s, all competing in a class of their own. Roger Kingdon's experienced crew on *Moto Inzi* are expected to sail well, but with hot competition from Henry Kaye's *Mamba* and Marc Cudennec's *Chi Machine*. Skippers also will be keeping a keen eye on Andrew Marshall's *Pink Lady*, which was launched just weeks before the regatta.

Also experiencing a boom in numbers is the Bareboat Charter class, with a record 10 entries.

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# Phuket cricketers record fine result at Hong Kong Sixes

HONG KONG: A Phuket squad managed to finish second in the Bowl competition in the Hong Kong Invitational Cricket Festival held November 17 to 19.

The result was a great success, as this was Phuket's first overseas foray since the Phuket Cricket Union was formed in 2003.

The annual six-player cricket tournament in Hong Kong was organized by The Asian Cricket Sixes Tour, which also runs the Phuket International Cricket Sixes. There were 28 men's teams competing, including clubs from England, Australia, Pakistan, Hong Kong, Malaysia, China, Taiwan, Bahrain, Japan and the Philippines.

The Phuket squad, picked from players who competed in this year's Island Furniture Cricket League, was Richard Brown (captain), Mark "Scarfy" Whetton, Hardeep Kapoor, Firoz Khan, Willy Kerr (tour manager), Jafar Ali Amerdeen and Roddy Meyer.

During the first day of competition the team met strong local opposition and suffered two losses, despite notable performances from Jafar and Hardeep, with some particularly fierce hitting from Jafar.

However, after recovering from jet lag, the team won their next two games the following day. In the first game, Phuket fielded first and all five bowlers found the line and length to restrict the opposition to just 30 runs from five overs, the lowest score of the tournament. Jafar once again batted well.

In the semi-finals, Phuket played against CBB MEP's, which included former Aussie Test bowler Terry Alderman.



Staff and pupils from BIS and pupils from Cherg Talay School show the true cricketing spirit of competition and friendliness after an action-packed Sunday of cricket at BIS.

Despite some opening setbacks Phuket scored 65, which was defended well by tidy bowling from Feroz and Scarfy.

After the semis, storms arrived and forced a delay, but when the rain stopped Phuket faced Beijing CC. The target of 73 was just too high despite a lusty performance by a pumped-up Roddy, and the team ended up losing by 20 runs.

"Runners-up in the Bowl is probably below par but we played the game in the right spirit, both on and off the field," said the Phuket skipper.

**BRITISH INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL (BIS)** played a cricket tournament against Cherg Talay High School on November 26. In the younger tournament, four teams of six players faced off on the BIS pitch.

In the first game, Cherg Talay Thunder pounded out 51 runs. BIS Sixes fought hard but were bowled out by Thunder for just 40 runs.

In the second match, BIS Attack, led by Phillip Johansson

and Alex Hamilton, overcame a less experienced Cherg Talay Doramon, captained by a gallant Kik. Kik led her team's bowling attack with some fast deliveries, troubling the BIS batters. Final score: BIS 53 Doramon 33.

The third game saw a dramatic 26-26 draw. Palm bowled with good line and length for Doramon, as did Sam Maynard for BIS.

With five runs needed off the last ball to win, Marcus Gotz smacked the ball to the boundary, taking a four, resulting in a draw.

In the fourth game, with pride and prizes on the line, BIS Attack batted first and scored a respectable 38 runs, although frustrated at times by their inability to hit the ball cleanly.

Thunder looked set to reach the total quickly but some tight bowling from Aaron Reading, Matthew Meyers and Peem Phanichwong forced the required run rate to a run a ball for the last two overs. Needing one run off the last ball to win, Oak pushed the ball into the clear for an easy single and victory for Doramon.



A team hurries to the beach with their overnight catch.

## Rotary Boat win night fishing tournament

BANG TAO: Hauling in 46 kilograms of fish, Captain Kampol Panan and his "Rotary Boat" also hauled in 3,000 baht and the winners' trophy in the 14th annual Bang Tao Night Fishing tournament.

The contest was held November 25 and 26 at Bang Tao beach and drew 38 teams.

The runner-up trophy and 2,000 baht award was given to "Hawa Boat", which landed 41.3 kg of fish, while third place went to "Panan Boat", which brought

in 27 kg, earning a trophy and a 1,000 baht award.

The Best Captain trophy and 5,000 baht award also went to winner K. Kampol, while the Best-Spirited Team trophy was won by "Narinthip Boat" from Bang Rong.

There was also a fish auction, which raised about 100,000 baht for religious study scholarships and for promotion of the local fishing industry. The contest was organized by Bang Tao Long Tail Boat Club.

## PATONG DARTS LEAGUE

A scheduling note: Team captains are reminded to reschedule the matches to Monday December 4 as it is likely that all bars will be asked to close for HM The King's Birthday on December 5.

**November 21 results:** Piccadilly 7 Dog's Bollocks\* 2; Queen Mary\* 6 Beach House 3; Shak-

ers 5 Offshore\* 4; Valhalla\* 2 Didi's 7; Funky Monkey 4 Coyote\* 5. (\* = winner of beer leg)

**December 5 matchups:** Queen Mary v Didi's; Piccadilly v Beach House; Offshore v Valhalla; Shakers v Funky Monkey; Dog's Bollocks v Coyote Bar. (home teams listed first)

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# Rawai Beach makeover underway

RAWAI: Rawai Tambon Administration Organization (*OrBorTor*) is constructing a new pier and implementing a beach beautification project in an attempt to draw more tourists to the Rawai area.

Rawai *OrBorTor* President Aroon Solos told the *Gazette* that among the new developments will be a new pier, with the hope that it will become a tourist attraction.

"Ten years ago we used to have an old wooden pier about 100 meters long and 2m wide, but it became delapidated over time.

"That pier was used for sightseeing by tourists who stopped here on their way to Laem Phromthep, and while they were here they also went shopping at the pearl shops around Rawai beach. The pier was also used for mooring by the fishermen," he said.

K. Aroon said that Rawai residents requested that he build another pier to take its place.

"This new pier will help

tourism in Rawai. Many pearl shops, seafood restaurants and even the sea gypsy villagers will benefit from the tourists' spending money here. It will also decrease the crowd at Chalong Pier when people want to take boats to other islands," he said.

The new concrete pier, 333m long and 4m wide, will stretch out into the sea beside the sea gypsy village. The pier has been under construction since June of this year and is due to be completed in June of next year.

The pier will be T-shaped, with three branches from each side to create about 50 mooring spaces. Each branch will be 24m in length.

The budget of 48.7 million baht came from different sources: 37.9 million baht was allocated by the Governor's discretionary budget, and about 11 million baht was supplied by the Japanese government.

"The Japanese government gave money to Thailand to help



The promenade at Pak Bang Beach is one of the new beachfront features in Rawai, and as the work continues there are fewer mooring lines cutting across the path of tourists walking along the beach.

rehabilitate the tsunami-affected areas. As Rawai was hit by tsunami, we got some of the funds," he said.

"We will also have two rest areas on the bridge, which will have a roof and some seats for people sightseeing or waiting for boats. Cars will not be allowed to drive on this pier, except in emergency situations," he added.

The beach beautification project is under construction with

a separate budget of 11 million baht, and will include repairs on the 300m-long dike in front of Mae Klong and Salalay Seafood restaurants.

The project will also include construction of an 800m-long walkway along Rawai Beach to Pak Bang Beach, as well as street lights, a parking lot and 14 stalls at Pak Bang Beach.

"We want the beach to be empty of the ropes used for mooring boats, and we are waiting for the 43 million baht budget in order to dredge Klong Pak Bang to moor longtail boats.

"The new area for longtail boats will be good place for them to avoid storm winds and it will make the beach clear and clean as well," K. Aroon said.

"We will make Rawai

Beach suitable for swimming, and aside from organizing boats' mooring, we will also move the food vendors to the new stalls at Pak Bang beach, leaving only 14 food vendors on Rawai Beach.

"We will also take care of the environment and keep the beach clean to make it more attractive to tourists," he said.

"Our project next year, in addition to dredging Klong Pak Bang, is to clean up and improve the landscaping at Laem Phromthep," K. Aroon added.

The beach beautification project will be finished in March of next year.

Six-X Co Ltd is the construction company for beach beautification project and the construction contractor for the pier is Intensive Mechanic Co Ltd.

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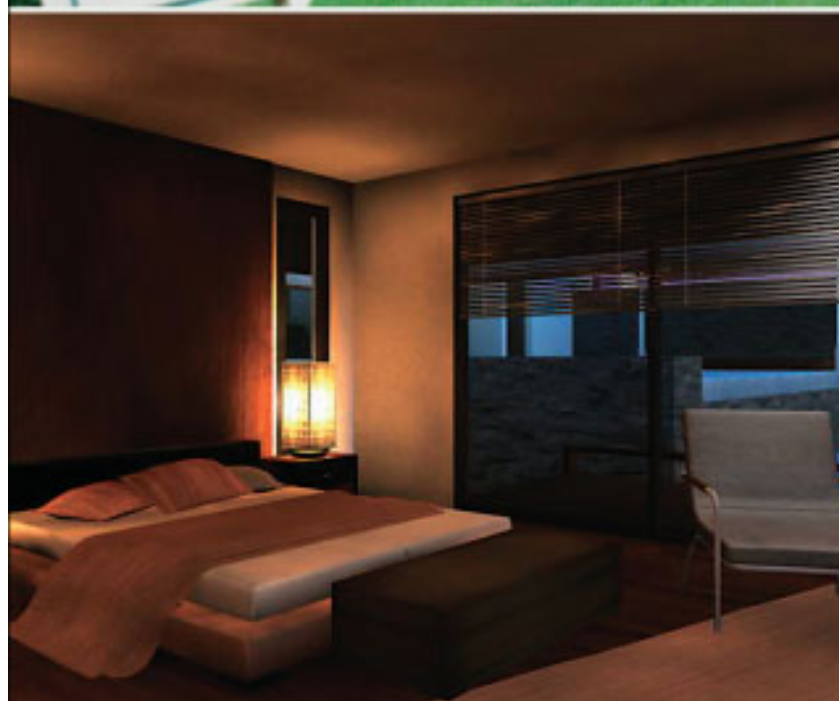
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## Decor

By Natcha Yuttaworawit

Two local ladies who have made a name for themselves in designing and creating contemporary and functional ceramics are sisters Namfon and Chernporn Kanjanasaya of Ceramics of Phuket. Their innovative creations reflect artistic flair at every turn.

K. Namfon and K. Chernporn use their own blend of "Phuket clay", a compound of high-grade molding clay mixed with Phuket tin, which they say preserves each piece's natural beauty with its texture and natural tone.

They also use imaginative blends of color, which General Manager Torwong Kanjanasaya says are inspired by the natural emerald green and blue hues of the Andaman Sea and the fresh tones of the nearby coral reefs.

The ladies' creations are on display at several hotels in Phuket, including the Banyan Tree Phuket and the Hilton Phuket Arcadia Resort & Spa, as well as several hotels and restaurants abroad, in places such as Hong Kong, Brazil and Singapore.

However, the success enjoyed by K. Namfon and K. Chernporn today was hardly envisioned some eight years ago, when K. Namfon, a marine biology major at Prince of Songkhla University, began creating her own pieces under the guidance of a local sculptor who owned his own potter's wheel and kiln.

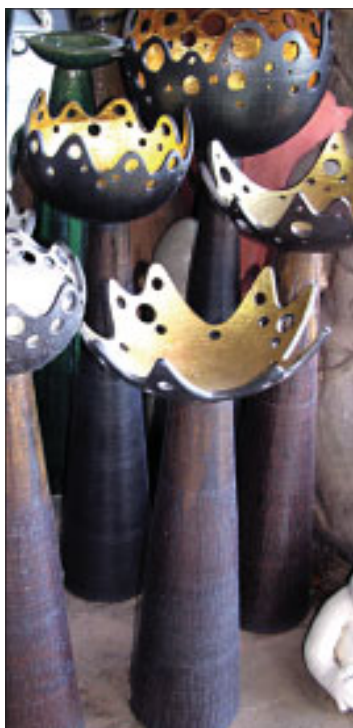
K. Namfon had just discovered that creating her own pieces had sparked a creative desire within her when the local artist she was working with simply disappeared, leaving her with the potter's wheel and kiln. K. Chernporn, in Bangkok at that time, came back to Phuket to help her sister keep the business running.

After a period of experimenting and learning, they began selling their pieces to local shops and hotels. "At first we made a lot of mistakes and had to throw many things away, but we didn't give up. We just tried again.

"In some ways I think our lack of experience was an advan-



## FIRED WITH ENTHUSIASM



tage in the long run. It made us more creative and willing to try different things. We weren't limited by a lot of preconceived ideas," K. Chernporn said.

Today K. Chernporn, a design graduate, helps K. Namfon with creating new designs and runs the marketing side of the business, while K. Namfon keeps her hand in, literally, making new designs and running the production of the handmade ceramics.

Together, they have seen

their business bloom, and now have a second showroom in Baan Manik, Thalang.

*Ceramics of Phuket. There are two showrooms: one on Wichit Songkram Rd in Kathu; another on Srisoonthorn Rd in Baan Manik, Thalang. Worldwide shipping available. Open Monday-Saturday, 8 am-5 pm. Tel: 076-321719, 07-3808933 (K. Torwong). Website: www.ceramicsofphuket.com.*

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## Gardening

with Bloomin' Bert

What is a bleeding heart exactly? To be honest, I didn't really have a clue until I asked a few Americans. It does seem to me to be a bit of a silly expression; yet another phrase that our transatlantic cousins have created for no particular reason, not really knowing why. They do appear to refer to "bleeding heart liberals" a lot, though.

To me, any kind of Liberal (with a capital "L") is a bloke in a tweed suit who is just unsure whether to go with the Tories or Labour, pounding the streets of sunny England doing his best to convince the populace to vote for him in the upcoming election; a kind of Monty Pythonesque character. Then again, I'm a Brit, so what do I know.

My dictionary defines someone with a bleeding heart as a "foolishly soft-hearted person, or somebody regarded as naively kind or sympathetic towards those who claim to be underprivileged or exploited". I'm not sure what that means, and I'm not even sure if it's a good thing or not.

A common theme is that bleeding heart liberals (BHLs) are generally political left-wingers who tend to be a bit subjective in their political views. These individuals are seen by some as a bit of a pain in American society, but on the other hand help balance out "crazy rednecks" (farmers, presumably) or "bureaucrat conservatives".

They should be fairly easy to categorize and label, but given the complete confusion that seems to surround American poli-

# My bleeding heart

The clerodendrum's growth rate is similar to that of a hormonal teenager. It can go through periods when nothing much happens, then without warning, an unexpected growth spurt can occur.



tics, I'm really not sure that they are. It would appear that you can have forms of BHLs on both sides of the political fence, but being called one by the other side isn't exactly complimentary.

I could have a rant here about "the nonsense that these bleeding heart liberals espouse" but then things get all intense, and people start accusing each other of all sorts of wrongdoings just because of their political view. Hang on a minute, I'm actually getting serious.

In that case, it's time for the inevitable, gratuitous, unwarranted attack on Americans. Why on earth do they all think that we Brits are best mates with the queen, and why do they do their very best to imitate an "English" accent, only to suffer the fate of

sounding exactly like Dick Van Dyke? Gratuitous attack over – sorry about that. Back to the bleeding hearts.

This is a gardening column after all, supposedly. It's about gardening rather than political systems. How about the bleeding heart vine then? You must have seen this one coming from a long way off.

Its alternative names, the glorybower or clerodendrum, aren't quite as interesting, and make about as much sense. Thais know this common vine as the *mangkon-khaap-kaew*. Before anyone writes to me to say that I've got the name completely wrong, which I probably have, I think it applies to the type of clerodendrum with small splashes of red that appear from the center of bright white flowers. The one in the picture is the red version of the same plant.

In both versions, the *clerodendrum thomsoniae* (the white one) and *clerodendrum splendens* (red), the flowers appear almost continuously in sprays, or calyxes, about the size of a tennis ball.

The plant's growth rate is similar to that of a hormonal teenager. It can go through periods

when nothing much happens, then without warning, an unexpected growth spurt can occur. The rate of growth can be mental at times, sending out tendrils in all directions.

During periods when it seems that every day another inch has been added to the ever-extending reach of the shoots, like a teenager, they need a fair bit of pointing in the right direction. The method of dealing with them is to tie them to a trellis, nails in a wall, or something similar to give them a little assistance during that difficult time. Not the ideal solution for a 15-year-old perhaps.

The bleeding heart vine is happiest in dry conditions, and shouldn't be over-watered. Ideally, the soil should be well-drained and rich in organic material. In Phuket, good drainage in the soil isn't usually a problem, but the organic material side will probably need a little help. When planting it in the garden, make sure it's surrounded by some of that compost you buy in those small white sacks from any garden center. That's all it needs.

It will tolerate full sun with adequate moisture, but prefers partial shade. Like many plants in this part of the world, it will

tolerate conditions that aren't perfect, but will give you the plant equivalent of a cheesy grin if it's treated well. They need protection from strong winds too.

Don't worry if parts of the plant seem to give up the ghost at times. After blooming, it's perfectly normal for that part of the plant to die back.

This is another one that can be propagated with cuttings. A few years ago, I was doing a little gardening after one or two polite beers. Well, perhaps more than one or two. Anyway, I was pruning away at a bleeding heart vine, cutting off those old tendrils that had long since shed their flowers and leaves.

One that looked a little bare at the base also deserved this treatment, until I pulled it away and realized that everything was very much alive further up the 6 foot stem. Normally a cutting of this size would be far too long to take root, as all the action was going on too far away from the cut end.

In my somewhat fuzzy state, I ignored this fact, and stuck it into the soil anyway, almost pretending that nobody would notice, and cracked open another beer. Far from withering and doing what my foolish act deserved, the cutting actually took root and eventually flourished as a whole new plant. These things are tough.

You can pick up a small bleeding heart vine at your local garden center for as little as 50 baht – not exactly the most expensive of garden purchases. Little effort is required to keep them going, and the plant can be kept in a pot or deposited in the garden.

It's probably a bit on the cheap side for American politicians though. They'd rather spend a few million on flags, balloons and marching bands. Having said that, why couldn't it become a symbol for some American politicians? If you think your political opponent is a "foolishly soft-hearted person", send him a plant. That could work.

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Phuket City



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# IN THE CITY

A four-story house – with balconies on the top floor that offer sweeping views over the city center is on sale in Samkong, in Phuket City.

The house has ground-floor parking for three cars, a security fence, concrete road and guttering. The sloping block of land is of approximately 400 square

meters and the landscaped yard includes gardens as well as grassy areas.

The house has five bedrooms, with the upper levels floored with *maka* hardwood. The five bathrooms are also fitted with granite counter tops.

A Western-style kitchen has been hand-constructed from wood and includes a gas and elec-

tric stove with matching extractor hood.

Included are UBC TV, two telephone lines, mains water with heating and filtration systems, three-phase electricity and three air-conditioning units.

The asking price is 14.9 million baht. The property has Chanote title and is available freehold.

For more details contact Richard Lusted at Siam Real Estate at Tel: 076-288908 or Email: [info@siamrealestate.com](mailto:info@siamrealestate.com), or visit [www.siamrealestate.com](http://www.siamrealestate.com).

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## Surin Beach – Modern Seaview Apartments for sale

Within 100 metres of the beach. 80 sqm. of living space. One bedroom, living room, European-style kitchen, fully furnished, air conditioning, hot water system, home security system, internet connection, television and satellite TV. The price starts from 6.5 million baht for the first-floor apartment.

Please contact Ann 66 1 866 7676 or email: ann@mms.ais.co.th



# Property Gazette

## 2 APARTMENTS FOR SALE



Rawai, Yanui 2x80sqm living space. Fully furnished, common pool, 4.6 million baht. Tel: 076-381490. Email: info@sea-property-international.com

## SUVARNABHUMI

Condo. 60sqm, fully furnished. Please contact. Tel: 081-772-7100, 081-5657427. Email: snonticha@hotmail.com

## LAND FOR SALE

In Mai Khao area.

- 10 rai on the beach. Price: 170 million baht.

- 1 rai 72 sq wah sea view. Price: 3.2 million baht.

- 7.3 rai 500m from the beach. Price: 3.2 million baht a rai.

- 3.3 rai quiet and private area. Price: 2.7 million baht. Tel: 083-1743880, 087-264-6808.

## SMALL RESORT

For boutique resort/hotel for sale top location great income. Tel: 089-6525664.

## PATONG CONDO

All newly remodelled. Ocean view, 36sqm kitchenette. 5-minute walk to Bangla. Big pool, low maintenance. 2.2 million baht, freehold title. Call Gunter. Tel: 085-7823231. Email: gunmit@aol.com

## LUXURY HILLSIDE

Villa. Magnificent new 2-story hillside villa featuring 3 bedrooms with en-suites, infinity pool, maid's quarters. Taste-fully finished and furnished in traditional Thai style with spectacular views of Patong. Please contact for more information or to view. Tel: 081-6911580. Email: homeinphuket@gmail.com

## HOUSE FOR SALE

New 2-story house, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, kitchen, garden. Price: 4 million baht. Please contact for more information. Tel: 083-1743880, 087-2646808.

## POOL VILLA

In Nai Harn. 2 en-suite bedrooms, big living area, pool. 4 million baht. Please call for more details. Tel: 076-288-047, 081-8941660.

## BEACHFRONT

Condo in Ao Makham. Great design. Owner going back home. Nice resale + good price. Tel: 086-2670898.

## PHUKET BOUTIQUE RESORT

Phuket's most unique and romantic resort is now for sale Offering 5-1 bedroom and 1-2 bedroom Thai-style (not Bali) self-contained units.

Plus small restaurant/kitchen, reception and managers residence. All on just over 1 rai of beautiful gardens, bronze statues, swimming pool with swim up bar and a jacuzzi inside the waterfall cave! 1km. from Nai Harn Beach. All this for a remarkable 35,000,000 baht.

Please phone Warren Crowe: 081 2704291 or email for further details at crowe-thai@hotmail.com

## SEAVIEW HOUSE

Rawai. 3 stories, 3 bedrooms (2 ensuite). Large balconies, roof garden, swimming pool, large garden, panoramic sea & mountain views. Western fittings. Completion: Jan 7. 8.5 million baht. Tel: 085-782-8405, 087-2655712. Email: shellycider@yahoo.com

## APARTMENTS

For sale. Sea view of Chalong Bay. Good rental income. Prices start from 2.5 million baht. Call Tel: 089-5319987. Email: ed2thai@gmail.com

## HOUSE FOR SALE



Quiet area Chalong. Land size 1,000sqm, living area 210sqm, 3 bedrooms, pool 7mx3m. 10.5 million baht. Tel: 076-381490. Email: info@sea-property-international.com

## BARGAIN HOME/ SPA POOL VILLA



Romantic Thai/Bali tropical home spa/resort-style courtyard garden pool villa, near Kamala Beach for only 8.9 million baht. 4-bedroom, 5-bathroom villa blending traditional temple-style architecture with hip, trendy resort spa design. A great location, along Bang Waan Rd, a popular, peaceful, quiet and safe farang enclave, in one of the island's most charming neighborhoods.

Features: 3 separate buildings, more than 220sqm of living space w/ shimmering glazed temple tiled roofs, sparkling pool/exotic waterfall and fountain, indoor/outdoor living via folding glass doors, gourmet garden kitchen w/granite, garden rain shower bathrooms w/ marble mosaic and Jacuzzi tub. Authentic Thai herbal steam sauna, gleaming hardwood floors and staircase, high vaulted wood ceilings. Romantic recessed, 3-phase lighting. Terra cotta balconies/patios and sunset lounge. Hand-carved wooden doors.

High privacy walls.

Carpport/exotic entrance-way, 4 air cons, hot running water.

Finished walls, built-in closets. Gardens, coves, fountains, statues, high-quality stains, paints and hardware. Spectacular sunset and hill views, and more. Great investment/incredible price.

You'll fall in love with this villa. Tel: 081-816-2066.

Email:

coneybeezo@aol.com

## Properties For Rent

### KARON STUDIO APARTMENT



Large studio apartment for rent. 1 bedroom, 1 bathroom, Western-style kitchen, pool. Near Karon beach. Free Wi-Fi (ADSL). Good price. Tel: 076-3984 36-7, 086-9062220. Email: karonstudio@hotmail.com Please see our website at www.karonstudio.com

## HOUSE FOR RENT



Ban Prangthong. 715sqm land, 400sqm living space. 5 bedrooms, pool, jacuzzi. Ready end of December. 80,000 baht a month. Tel: 076-381490. Email: info@sea-property-international.com

## HOUSE FOR RENT

Spacious, 3-bedroom house, Chalong. Furnished: 14,500 baht. Unfurnished: 10,000 baht. Tel: 084-8484344.

## PATONG APT

300m to beach, clean, modern, comfortable apartment. New aircon, big fridge, double bed, pool & parking. Tel: 081-0825707. Please see our website at: www.phuket-accommodation.info

## CHALONG-HOUSE

For rent. 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, furnished, garden, short- or long-term rental. Please contact for more details. Tel: 081-9895487. Email: aasvogel06@hotmail.com

## APARTMENT - LAGUNA AREA

Brand new 2-bedroom apartment in the Laguna area. Fully furnished with lots of great facilities, 2 minutes to the beach. Contact me for photos and prices. Tel: 076-271870, 087-0790650. Email: mlcberg@netvigator.com

## HOUSE FOR RENT

Chalong. 2 bedrooms, furnished, aircon, carpark, Internet, quiet, nice. 10,000 baht a month. Tel: 087-0929921. Email: joe\_anusara@yahoo.com

## STUNNING SEA VIEW



A villa with 3 bedrooms and bathrooms, plus a maid's room. Location: Cape Yamu, elevated, east coast, providing some of prettiest views on Phuket. Furnished with a pool and gardens in a very quiet, exclusive estate, 10 minutes to BCIS/Laguna. Asking only 80,000 baht per month. Please call for more information. Tel: 086-2796283.

## KAMALA VILLA

Beachfront. Fully furnished to a high standard. Western kitchen, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, lounge and dining areas. Large balcony overlooking swimming pool and landscaped garden. Stunning sea views, only meters from the beach. Private gated parking with storage. UBC & ADSL, including daily cleaning, washing, pool service and gardener. Long-term or short-term rental. Tel: 084-8436837. Email: info@phuket-island-homes.com Please see our website at: www.phuket-island-homes.com

## APARTMENT

New apartment in luxury estate. Tel: 087-8810813. Email: yumikoa@loxinfo.co.th For further details please see www.phuketnikoniko.com/roomforrenteng.htm

## 2-BEDROOM HOUSE

In Boat Lagoon, furnished, serviced. Short term: 40,000 baht/month. Long term: 35,000 baht per month. Now available. Tel: 086-2820567.

## ROOM + APARTMENT

Patong. For short- and long-term rent from 800-2,000 baht a day. 13,000-20,000 baht per month + electricity. Tel: 076-512151, 089-290-9567. Please see our website at: www.brommathaihouse.com

## LAGUNA AREA HOUSE

Pool, spa, poolside bar, A/C, large garden, like resort, lease 39,000 baht per month. Tel: 089-5944067.

## CHALONG NEW HOME

2-bedroom, swimming pool, villa with aircon UBC & telephone. Tel: 089-6521473.

## RAWAI LUXURY

Villa. Long-term rent. Furnished, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, kitchen, covered 2-car carport and terrace, garden. Rawai Beach. 20,000 baht per month. Tel: 086-940-8914. Email: freeholdprop@yahoo.com

## Great Property Deals..!

- Beautiful, 4-bedroom, Kathu Golf Home, furnished. Option 2 year rental return @6% fall in love at first sight. Stunning home & deal only 16.0 million baht.
- 1 rai golf view land 3.2 million baht excellent location.
- 3 rai, FULL Sea View on east coast north of Cape Yamoo. Excellent location, view & price only 16.0 million baht.
- 1,200 sqm commercial plot 1km from Heroines Monument only 6.5 million baht. Lots of drive by traffic for advertising, location location location...!
- 8 rai Beach front Koh Yao Yai @ 3.5 million baht per rai.

Contact Ken: 081-6493557.  
www.phuketlifestyle.com

## Rawai beach villa for sale



**Starts at 8.5 million baht.**  
Top quality. Luxurious unique design includes pool. Come and look at our house.  
Tel: 089-6525664

## KATA SEAVIEW APARTMENT



With the best view  
top design, high quality start

**14.5 million baht**

Tel: 089-6525664



# Property Gazette

## PATONG TOWER CONDO - A BEAUTY



Beautiful Patong Tower Beach Condo with stunning 280 degree panoramic views of the ocean, mountains and town. Large outdoor patio and wrap-around balcony. Completely renovated, Internet and washing machine. Available from March 1, 2007. Tel: 086-2815349. Email: txxtzt@yahoo.com For further details, please see our website at: [www.PatongTowerRental.com](http://www.PatongTowerRental.com)

## HOUSE FOR RENT

Chao Fa. Located in secure estate, 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, lounge, kitchen, dining room, study, laundry room, fenced garden, ADSL and UBC. 35,000 baht a month. Seeking long-term renters (6 months plus). Fax: 076-323-421. Email: somlerdee@yahoo.com

## HOUSE FOR RENT

7 rooms, 540sqm, on 1 rai in Sapam, Phuket City. Looking for long-term renter. Contact Tel: 086-6893289, 084-065-1133.

## SHOPHOUSE

for rent. 2½ stories, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, near Kunenti, Chalong Bay. Tel: 089-4736886.

## SHOPHOUSE

Near Super Cheap. 4 stories (5m x 16m), with 5 rooms, 7 aircons, 5 phone lines. Rent: 30,000 baht a month. Tel: 076-238777, 081-7371678. Fax: 076-239739. Email: supotpac@phuket.ksc.co.th

## ROOM + APARTMENT

Patong. For short- and long-term rent from 800-2,000 baht a day. 13,000-20,000 baht per month + electricity. Tel: 076-512151, 089-290-9567. Please see our website [www.brommathaihouse.com](http://www.brommathaihouse.com)

## LARGE HOUSE

For rent. Kathu. 3-bedroom, 2-bathroom, furnished house for long-term rent. Phone line, UBC, garden, etc. Close to golf course & international school. Located on quiet, private road 25,000 baht per month. Tel: 076-323663, 089-8752532. Fax: 076-323663. Email: paulstrong23@hotmail.com

## SEAVIEW HOUSE

In Patong. 2 bathrooms, 2 bedrooms, large lounge, kitchen, furnished, aircon. Tel: 087-8700434.

## PATONG SEAVIEW

Luxury 2-bedroom apartment, with en-suite, ADSL, UBC, aircon, large swimming pool. Long- or short-term rent. Secure parking. Please contact for more details. Tel: 086-2790837.

## MARINA VIEWS

Limited selection of various sizes of offices & apartments for rent, from December. Stunning views. Use of pool and gym. Contact for details. Tel: 076-206704. Email: info@yacht-haven-phuket.com

## BANGLA PATONG

Commercial or residential use. 140sqm, 2 floors. Price: 250 baht per sqm a month. Please call for more info. Tel: 087-8817600.

## VILLA FOR RENT

Fully-furnished pool villa with 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, garden, pool. For short-term rental. Tel: 076-381995, 084-8480907. Email: sama\_j1@hotmail.com

## 4-BED, LONG TERM

Spacious home, 4 bathrooms, spa, pool, aircon, phone, garden, great location. Chalong. 65,000 baht per month. Tel: 086-2817605.

## EXOTIC KATA

Oceanfront, 5-star, luxury 1-bedroom apartment. Spa, pool, quiet area, sea view, avail December. Tel: 089-9726017. Email: asiasail@yahoo.com For details, see [www.koumbele.com/kata1](http://www.koumbele.com/kata1)

## DISCOVERY GARDENS

Near Laguna. New 2-bedroom, fully-furnished houses available for a minimum of 3 days to 1 year. Pool, wireless internet, weekly or daily maid service. Tel: 076-527594, 086-274-3075. Fax: 076-271545. jziment@yahoo.com For details, please see [www.phuketmarbella.com](http://www.phuketmarbella.com)

## BIG SHOPHOUSE

For rent or sale. Located in Soi Patong Resort, off Soi Bangla, the commercial hub of Patong Beach. Approx 180sqm on 2 open-plan floors. Suitable for commercial use. Unfurnished. Tel: 076-340290. Email: paciugo89@yahoo.com

## AO CHALONG

Rental. 2-bedroom, Western-style home. Furnished, full kitchen, big yard, nice garden. Available now until Feb. 38,000 baht a month, includes all utilities. Perfect for short holiday in high season. Tel: 081-6930173. Email: jaksat@phuket.ksc.co.th

## STUNNING SEA VIEW

Both Andaman Sea and Phang Nga Bay. Land in Mai Khao. Hurry! Only last few rai left. Price from 2.5m - 3m baht per rai. Please contact PPH. Tel: 086-906-0166.

## APARTMENT

In Phuket City. Sino House Hotel/Apartments. Special rates of 12,000-20,000 baht per month. Tel: 076-232494. Fax: 076-221498. Email: sutida@sinohousephuket.com For further details, please see our website at: [www.sinohousephuket.com](http://www.sinohousephuket.com)

## KARON APARTMENT

Central Karon. 50m from the beach. Newly furnished and renovated 2-room apartment with 2 balconies, cable TV, WiFi, aircon. 20,000 baht a month. Tel: 086-2718254.

## SHOPHOUSE BLOCK

5 terraced houses for rent on the bypass road. 35,000 baht a month. Please call K. Vachira for more information. Tel: 081-3269495.

## CHALONG BEACH

3 bedrooms, furnished townhouse as new. Long term: 10,000 baht a month. Tel: 089-4706104.

## PATONG HOLIDAY

Studio apartment close to beach. Nice decor, clean and comfortable. TV, fridge, double bed, new aircon, pool, parking. Tel: 081-0825707. Please see [www.phuketaccommodation.info](http://www.phuketaccommodation.info) for details and photos.

## LAST STUNNING LAND

In Kata 400sqm sea view, Chanote title, access road, electricity & water. Decide & call. Tel: 086-2670898.

## DELUXE BOAT LAGOON



3 bedrooms. Long-term rent or sale (leasehold). Tastefully furnished, close to school and other amenities, pools, sauna, fitness - it's all there. Tel: 076-273466, 081-0780014. Email: bjarneaagaardhansen@hotmail.com

## LOVELY, 4 BEDROOMS

Chalong, 4 bathrooms, spa, aircon, pool, garden. 800sqm, UBC. Quiet area. 65,000 baht a month. Call for more details. Tel: 086-2817605.

## HOUSE FOR RENT

In Rawai. Fully furnished, 1 bedroom, fan, 29" TV, UBC, fridge, hot water, washing machine, oven, stove, kitchen supplies, fenced yard, nice & safe area, free power. Available until April 10, 2007. 15,000 baht a month. Tel: 089-2909525.

## 3-BEDROOM HOME

Chao Fa Rd, 207 sq wah, 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, nice living room, good kitchen, cool garden, parking for 3 cars. Fully furnished. For rent at 40,000 baht a month or for sale at 6.7 million baht. Please contact for more details. Tel: 081-5978315. Email: phuket8@hotmail.com

## DETACHED HOUSE FOR RENT/SALE



Located in Pa Khlok area, just 7 minutes from international school. Fully-furnished house with 3 bedrooms and 2 bathrooms. Ready to move in. For rent at 20,000 baht a month, or for sale at 2.45 million baht (negotiable). Tel: 081-539-9269.

## BEDSIT, CHALONG

Furnished large bedsit with kitchen and bathroom. Farang comfort in local area. Please contact for more information. Tel: 081-9683546. Email: robin46@gmail.com

## VILLA IN NAI HARN

Brand-new, furnished, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. 15,000 baht a month long term. Tel: 076-288047, 081-8941660. Email: cottrell@loxinfo.co.th

## OFFICE SPACE

Just 2km from Tesco-Lotus, on bypass road. 240sqm office space for rent in new 2-story building. Tel: 076-238-777 or 081-7371678. Email: supotpac@phuket.ksc.co.th

## ROOM FOR RENT

Large room with ensuite bathroom, hot water, fridge, cable TV and WiFi. 6,000 baht a month. Tel: 089-4727304.

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# Boats & Marine

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4.2l, 1.80w for fishing or diving or big dinghy. 120,000 baht. Please contact for more info. Tel: 084-6891568. Email: wycov@hotmail.com

**FISHING BOAT**

4 pax berth, toilet, cooking facilities, 185hp diesel, 15x3m. Please contact for more information. Tel: 084-6258909. Email: ken@thailand.tc

**PEGASUS**

8.2m fiberglass center console, Bimini top, hydraulic steering with 200hp Yamaha. 525,000 baht. Please contact for more information. Tel: 076-527129, 086-5950978.

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7.2m fiberglass center console, fish/dive boats from 345,000 baht. Pegasus 8.2m from 445,000 baht. Please contact for more info. Tel: 076-527129, 086-5950978.

**SILVERTON 40FT**

Family boat, 2 twin bedrooms, two bathrooms + shower, saloon, dinette, galley kitchen. Two years old but with complete interior refurbishment within 12 months. Twin Volvo Penta engines + turbo, dinghy. New Mercury outboard used regularly, very reliable. Sale due to owner upgrade. Viewing at Ocean Marina Pattaya. 5 million baht. Tel: 02-6777555 ext 238.

**TANKER VESSEL  
FOR SALE**



1.5 million baht with Thai registration. Width 4.9m, length 24 meters. 150,000 liters. Contact Surin. Tel: 081-8912333. Email: surin123@csloxinfo.com

**SAILING DINGHY**

Last chance to buy before export to Australia in new year. As new condition. Buy at 60% of cost to buy + ship. Phone Phil: 081-3970905, Robert: 081-5399560.

**SEA KAYAKS**

8 sea kayaks for sale. Used only once. 2 man feel free Gemini model. Asking 21,000 baht including VAT vs 26,500 baht new. Please contact. Tel: 081-2711347. Email: phuket@limestoneadventures.com

**SAILING BOAT  
FOR CHARTER**

35 foot, 2 years old, Aussie owner. Fast with fully batton main and spinnaker. Big cockpit. Please contact for more information. Tel: 089-5881011. Please see our website at [www.phuketsailingadventure.com](http://www.phuketsailingadventure.com)



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# Boats & Marine

## YACHT CHARTER

- Sunseeker Manhattan 58
- One-day tour 110,000 baht
- Price includes captain, food & drinks, diving & fishing equipment

Comments from our customer boarded during 14-16 Feb 06

"Everything was perfect. The boat was clean and was very good condition. Service perfect, Food perfect, Captain perfect. We enjoy very much."



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## TOUR/FISHING BOAT



Jim Young's "Vindex" design. Built-in cedar strip/epoxy. 35ft long, 12ft beam. 300hp Cummins turbo diesel ZF gear box. Hydro stunning from main cabin or fly bridge. Thai built & licensed. Price: 1.5 million baht.

Please call for more information.  
Tel: 081-8166940.

## SAFETY BOAT FEATURES



All fiberglass, length 43ft (13m) width 3.7m, built in 2005 only 1 year old, "LLOYD" registrar certificate, 24-seat available, 2x200hp Yamaha, accident insurance for tourists covered by New Hampshire Insurance and Por Ror Bo for registered license, life jacket, fire extinguishers, GPS navigator, depth sounder, communication radio, compass, full foam inside head section in the boat hull to make it unsinkable in case of emergency, lockers, shower rinse, transparent canvas on left and right hand side just in case of rain. Zinc in captain's cabin, Western toilet. CD player, boat insurance. 3.8 million baht (negotiable). Please contact K. Surawait for more information. Tel: 081-9582036.

## WANTED: ZODIAC

Speedboat or sailboat. Wanted either a Zodiac with outboard, a small speedboat or a small sailing boat. Offers with pics and specs, please. Thanks. Email: arjan@loxinfo.co.th

## STEPPA 36 FOR SALE

Due to an increase in our boat capacities, Sub Aqua Khao Lak is selling its speedboat fleet. *Blue Sea 1* (a Steppa 36 fiberglass hull built by Phuket Water Taxi) is still available for sale. Best offer gets it. Tel: 076-485165, 081-787-4043. Fax: 076-485165. Email: khaolak@subaquadivecenter.com

## SPEEDBOAT 27 FEET

Located at Chalong Bay, Phuket. Bottom renewed and Mercury 200hp 2-stroke engine fully serviced in February 2006. Make a good offer! Tel: 358-400446770. Email: vesa.ankio@suomi24.fi

## 20 FT SPEED FISHING BOAT

Fiberglass over wood, new hull 5 years ago, 60hp Evenrude, 5hp Yamaha trolling engine 6 months old, outriggers, Thai reg 1 driver, 6 passengers. New GPS & fishfinder. 199,000 baht. Tel: 089-6506331. Email: blkcmrlynn@yahoo.co.uk

## GAME FISHING

Aussie custom 6-meter center console, Thai flagged, in commercial survey! Import docs 100% correct. www.kohjoy.com/makocraft

## SAIL & KAYAK

Big boat, shade, good food. Captain + 12 people for day trips, 6 overnight. Tel: 081-6771641.

## 8-FT DINGHY

Rubber dinghy, 5hp engine, in good condition. 60,000 baht. Tel: 081-8951724.

**Knight Frank**

We are an international property consultant with 200 offices worldwide providing property agency services, asset valuation, property and facilities management, research and consultancy. Due to a rapid expansion, we are looking for qualified personnel to join our company as follows:

### 1. Estate Manager:

- Age over 28 years
- BA in Management or related fields
- At least 2 years experience in building/estate management
- 3 years in management level
- Knowledge in Juristic Person Acts is an advantage
- Strong leadership, good problem solving skills
- Able to work under pressure

### 2. Chief Engineer:

- Male, age over 25 years
- BA in Electrical or Mechanical Engineering
- At least 2 years experience in building services
- Knowledge of system maintenance management is an advantage

### 3. Project Coordinator:

- Age over 22 years
- BA in related fields
- Self motivated and possess good coordinating and problem solving skills with service mind

### 4. Accountant:

- Male or female, age 25 - 30 years
- BA in Accounting or Finance
- At least 3 years experience in related fields
- Familiar with accounting software and knowledge of MS Office, especially MS Excel
- Should be strong literacy in MS Office(Excel)
- Proficiency in both written and spoken English

### 5. Receptionist:

- Female, age over 22 years
- Vocational or higher in related fields
- Good telephoning, communication and interpersonal skills

### 6. Technician:

- Male, age over 22 years
- Vocational degree or higher in Mechanical/Electrical
- At least 1 year experience in system maintenance

Interested candidates are invited to write in with full resume, present and expected salaries, and a recent photo to:

### Remark:

Thai Nationality only, Position 1-5 good command of spoken and written English and computer literacy is essential, male applicants must complete or exempt from military service, Knowledge of real estate is an advantage

Knight Frank Phuket Co., Ltd.  
1 Plaza Del Mar Building, Room No. 109-111 & 201-202,  
Pasak-Koktanod Road, T.Chengtalay, A. Thalang, Phuket 83110  
Tel: 0-7631 8151-58; Fax: 0-7631 8159,  
e-mail: chutima.ninlawan@th.knightfrank.com

**SHERATON GRANDE LAGUNA PHUKET**  
Thailand

## Sheraton Grande Laguna Phuket

part of Starwood's Luxury Collection is located on the island of Phuket. Surrounded by tranquil lagoons on its own "island within an island" and facing the Andaman Sea, the five star property offers a range of 405 luxuriously appointed rooms and villas, plus ten dining and entertainment outlets.

**We are currently seeking qualified candidates to fill the following positions :**

- Russian Guest Relations Officer (2 Months Contract)
- Guest Relations Executive
- Assistant Director of Sales - Leisure
- Event Sales Manager
- Senior Sales Manager - Travel
- Golf Villas Housekeeping Manager
- Air Conditioning Tradesman
- F&B Attendant
- Room Attendant (Temporary)
- Houseman (Temporary)
- Cleaner (Temporary)
- Recreation Attendant (Temporary)
- Painter (Temporary)

Please apply in person or send your resume and recent photo to :

Director of Human Resources

Email : [sglp.recruitment@luxurycollection.com](mailto:sglp.recruitment@luxurycollection.com)

10 Moo 4, Bang Tao Bay, Phuket 83110 Thailand  
Tel: (66)(76) 324101-7 General Fax: (66)(76) 324108,

**BEL AIR PANWA**

LUXURY WITHIN REACH

## RECEPTIONIST

International property developer is seeking candidates for the position of Receptionist. Applicants must be good in written and spoken English, have good computer skills, and be hard working. Responsibilities for receptionist will include answering telephone, using office machines, managing company documents and office supplies.

Please email CV to [on@watsonpropertygroup.com](mailto:on@watsonpropertygroup.com)

## SALES REPRESENTATIVE

Highly-motivated Thai national with excellent spoken English required for busy real estate office. Previous sales experience not necessary. Good salary plus excellent commission. Please contact for more information. Tel: 076-527565. Fax: 076-527564. Email: [cv@phuket.ocean.villas.com](mailto:cv@phuket.ocean.villas.com)

## STAFF REQUIRED

To work with new company. All positions require a good command of English. Thai nationals only.

- Secretary/Research officer (marketing)
- Computer system operator
- Designer (web and print)
- Accounts clerk

Tel: 085-7962880. Please send CV and salary details. Email: [hr@auchencairn.com](mailto:hr@auchencairn.com)

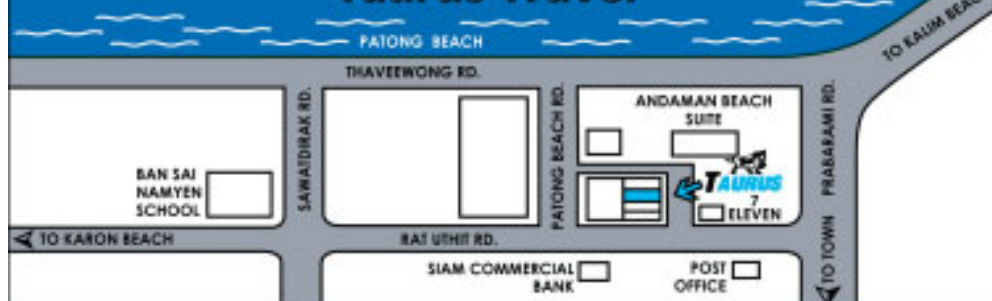
**YACHT SOLUTIONS**  
General Manager  
Qualifications:

- Thai male
- Age 40+
- Excellent written and spoken English
- Managerial experience essential
- Accounting experience beneficial
- Knowledge of Thai labor laws

Please send your application, CV with photo and expected salary to  
Simon Twist  
Yacht Solutions Co., Ltd.  
20/27 Moo 2 Thepkasatri Road,  
Muang, Phuket 83000  
Tel. 076-239 114 / 238 939  
Fax. 076-239 139  
Email: [simon@yachtsolutions.net](mailto:simon@yachtsolutions.net)

**PROJECT MANAGER**  
Engineer. Need good architectural skills, perfect English, experience with big projects, good salary & willing to work for a good future. Please contact by email: [info@platinumresidencepark.com](mailto:info@platinumresidencepark.com)

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# Island Job Mart

**wine connection**

We are now accepting application and resumes for the following positions. Please apply at our Chalong location.

**Wine Connection Bangtao Branch**

Shop Manager	1 Position
Restaurant Manager	1 Position
Sous Chef or Chef	1 Position
Shop Assistant	2 Positions
Bartender	1 Position
Cashier	2 Positions
Cook	1 Position
Helper	1 Position
Wait staff	2 Positions

**Wine Connection Chalong Branch**

Sales Executive	1 Position
Sales Admin/Secretary	1 Position
Assistant shop Manager	1 Position
Sous Chef	1 Position
Cook	2 Positions
Bar Staff	1 Position
Wait staff	2 Positions
Driver	1 Position

Please send resumes to

Contact: Wine Connection (Chalong branch)  
19/54-57 Moo.8 Chaofa Rd., T.Chalong, A.Muang, Phuket  
Tel : 076-282411-12 Fax : 076-282414.  
Email: shopmgphuket@wineconnection.co.th

**Liquid Lounge**

**STAFF REQUIRED**

The Liquid Lounge is now accepting applications for the following positions:

- Cashier	1 position
- Bartender	2 positions
- Cocktail waitress	2 positions

Please call Matt 081-0779365 for more information and to arrange an interview.

**OFFICE STAFF**  
Wanted: Receptionist, Admin & Secretary. Good English & computer skills. Tel: 076-260468. Fax: 076-260440. Email: admin@tacticalcapital.net

**LOOKING FOR MAID**  
Foreign couple is looking for a long-term maid with basic English. Working location: Kamala, in a new house. Must be honest and self-motivated. Maid has to stay at our place for cleaning and cooking. Good salary for the right candidate. We offer private maid room with bathroom, TV, etc. Please call or email for interview. Tel: 086-1727974. Email: rene.koller@bluewin.ch Please see our website at: www.romsai.ch

## INTERNET CAFE

Staff wanted full or part time to work in trendy Internet cafe and restaurant in Phuket City. Please contact for more information. Tel: 076-223210, 084-0143121.

## SALES/MARKETING

Real estate agent is seeking a self-motivated and organized Thai national with excellent English skills. Should be comfortable liaising with developers and clients alike. Excellent opportunity and package. Tel: 081-9705750. Email: info@baansiamrealty.com

## SALES ASSISTANT

Wholesale food company is looking for a sales assistant. Basic knowledge of English required. Call Simon. Tel: 084-1893070.

**ANDARA**

An Exclusive Luxury Villas and Hotel located at Kamala Beach, Phuket is seeking a qualified & energetic person to fill in the position below:

**VILLAS MANAGER**

- Male or Female, age over 35 years
- Bachelor's/Master's degree in Estate Management, Business Administration, Hotel Management or related field
- Minimum 5 years' experience in Luxury Property Management
- Strong analytical and problem-solving ability and proven team leadership skills
- Positive attitude, pleasant personality, with attention to detail, service-minded, energetic & hard working
- Excellent command of written and spoken English
- Able to work in Phuket, own personal transportation

Interested candidates, please send full resume, expected salary & enclose a recent photo by fax or e-mail to:

Chalyan Saehang, Human Resource Department.  
**PARADISE GROUP**  
The Plaza Surin, 5/50 Moo.3, Chermthalay Sub-District, Thalang District, Phuket 83110  
fax: +66 76 271242 e-mail: parn@paradisepuket.com

**job opportunity**

Legal & Property Consultancy Firm in Phuket urgently requires **Executive Secretary (Personal Assistant)** with these qualifications:

- > Thai National with Bachelor Degree.
- > Good spoken and written English.
- > Able to translate Thai-Eng & Eng-Thai.
- > Computer Literate: MS Word, Excel.
- > Knowledge of legal work an advantage.

**excellent benefits for the right candidate**

2044 Mae-Luan Road, T. Taladnuu, A. Muang, Phuket 83000, Thailand.  
Tel/Fax: (076) 234-074  
Mobile: 081-882-9031  
svone@coinfo.co.th  
www.phuketvlegalervices.com

## HOUSEKEEPER KUALA LUMPUR

Live-in housekeeper wanted for Thai-speaking British family. English not necessary. Duties include cleaning, laundry, dog walking, cooking and some childcare. 6 days per week. Excellent salary and all living expenses. SMS Singapore/Malaysia or email name and contact number and I will call you. Interviewing in Phuket from December 29. Tel: 65-9118 7043, +60-172032803. Email: ritalouisedobson@hotmail.com

## SOLAR TECHNICIAN

And sales. Wanted: technicians, sales and fitters for PV & solar hot water systems. Diploma or experience with solar energy is required. Please contact. Tel: 076-378361, 081-7722300. Fax: 076-244652. Email: info@phuketsolar.com

## NEW JOB SEARCH!

Male, 42, Swiss nationality is looking for a new challenge! Experienced in:

**Sales**  
(13 years outdoor advert.)  
**and Hotel Business**  
(head waiter)  
**Language Skills**  
(German, English, French)

Team spirit and good attitude.

I am looking forward to hearing from you soon.

Please contact me.

Tel: 087-2684981.  
Email: stefanhaldenstein@hotmail.com  
Kind regards, Stefan.

## O'MALLEYS PHUKET

The new management of O'Malleys Irish Pub in Phuket is looking for an experienced cook for its new Irish menu! We are also looking for musicians: solo performers, small jazz or blues bands, acoustic guitarists and so on, for Tuesday open mic nights. Please contact for more information. Tel: 085-7840608. Email: derek@omalleyphuket.com

## CLEANING IN KARON

Small guesthouse wants Thai lady to clean 3 rooms, 10.00-13.00, 7 days. 3,000 baht per month. Tel: 086-2718254.

## OFFICE STAFF

Wanted: Thai female with very good communication skills in English. Good personality, self motivated, service minded. Tel: 076-264773. Email: info@kajonkiet.com



**SEA Property International**, one of Phuket's leading Real Estate Agents with an expanding international network of franchised offices, invites applicants for the following position:

## PROPERTY SALES CONSULTANT

Work with the SEA Property International team. You will be responsible for your own clients, sales and generating new business. Work will be varied and challenging with high earning potential and the possibility for foreign travel.

Applicants will meet the following requirements:

- Foreign national (male or female)
- A minimum of 2 years experience in the Thai property market
- Full driving license and your own transportation
- Fluent English speaker (some knowledge of Thai would be advantageous)

You will also possess the following attributes:

- A team player
- Positive and outgoing personality
- Excellent communication skills
- A flexible approach to your work

Interested candidates are invited to submit their applications, full resume and a recent photo to:

## SEA Property International

5/3 Moo 5, Viset Rd, T. Rawai, A. Muang, Phuket, 83130  
email: HR@sea-property-international.com  
www.sea-property-international.com

## ACCOUNTANT

-Thai national male or female age over 26  
- Bachelor's Degree in accounting  
- Minimum 2 years experience in accounting  
- Experience in property development is a plus  
- Familiar with express accounting software is a plus  
- Able to communicate in English  
- Can work independently  
- Drivers' license is a must.

Interested candidates please send full resume, expected salary and a recent photo to Andaman Prestige co., Ltd. 126 Moo 3 Chermthalay, Thalung Phuket 83110 Please contact for more info. Tel: 076-325511. Fax: 076-325513. Email: jom@surinheights Please see our website www.surinheights.com

## EXECUTIVE SOCIAL

Escort. Female and male. Well educated, sophisticated, vivacious and humorous. Please contact for more information. Tel: 083-3913932, 083-3913937.

## RESTAURANT MANAGER & CHEF

Sunset Beach Resort is looking for a restaurant manager & European chef. Please contact for more information.

Tel: 076-342482-5.

Fax: 076-342500.

Please send CV to: info@sunsetphuket.com

## WORK FOR INTERNET SHOP

We're looking for:

-Women, Thai nationals, to work as cyber cafe receptionists. Full time or night time (18:00 to 24:00). Possibility of lodging. Patong, Phuket City or Kata.

-Men, Thai nationals, to do computer maintenance work.

Please contact K. Yupa by email or by phone. Tel: 076-341255, 089-471-9712. Email: leco@liontchai.com

## LAW FIRM

Looking for secretary and lawyer. Please email CV to scphuket@yahoo.com

Looking for a job?  
Still haven't found the perfect candidate?  
Find more Recruitment Classifieds at [www.phuketgazette.net](http://www.phuketgazette.net)!



# Tout, Trader & Trumpet

## Articles For Sale

### UP TO 14 E-Z-GO GOLF CARTS FOR SALE



Very good condition. All new batteries. 120,000 baht per cart. Based in Phuket.

Please Call Mr Tim.  
Tel: 081-8556915.

### FOR SALE FISH TANK

Beautiful fish tank. New 40,000 baht, sale price 15,000 baht. Tel: 087-1466622.

### SAMSUNG AIRCON

Ready for installation. 10,000 BTU. Perfect for a bedroom. Used 1 year. 9,000 baht. Please contact for more information. Tel: 076-280334, 086-9868964. Email: mail@asiavarer.no

### GOLF SET

Hogan, 3-9 irons + E, putter and 1 Big Bertha driver. New grips. Ready to go. Only 9,999 baht, including bag. Please contact for more details. Tel: 08-70929921. Email: joe\_anusara@yahoo.com

### DINING SUITE

Ultra modern glass table & 6 high-back, silver-gray chairs. 12,000 baht, less than half price. Also have a set of golf clubs, including putter bag. 4,500 baht. Tel: 076-288-491. Email: diverdongould@aol.com

## Bulletins

### ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

Is holding meetings in English at the following places in Phuket:

**Mission Hospital Phuket City**

Wed and Sun 7 pm

**Bangkok Phuket Hospital Phuket City**

Fri 7 pm

**Patong Hospital Patong**

Mon, Tue, Wed, Sat, Sun

at 7 pm and Fri at 8 pm

For Phuket info (English)

call 081-9564031,

081-8912895

Scandinavian speaking Group

**Wat Karon School Karon**

Tue 7 pm and

Nov-April only on Sat 7 pm

Tel 081-2732053 Nor

087-2795636 Nor

086-7458910 Swe

For info on other Thailand

AA meetings inquire

at Tel: 02-2318300

(for Thai language press 3)

www.aathailand.org or

email info@aathailand.org

### ASHES CRICKET IN RAWAI

Ball by ball coverage of every Test Match at the Last Paradise Bar & Restaurant, Yanui Beach, Rawai. Full English breakfast, cold beers, great service and good company. Everybody welcome.

Tel: 084-8486139.

Email:

mike.smith2000@runbox.com

### ASHES CRICKET

In Patong. The Yorkshire Inn, on Soi Sansabai (opp Soi Bangla), is showing every single minute of the Ashes series on the big screen in the main bar. We also have an award winning breakfast menu to help you through the morning too. Please contact for more information. Tel: 076-340904. Email: info@yorkshireinn.com

## Business Opportunities

### GUESTHOUSE FOR SALE-LEASE PATONG

- Best position - excellent people traffic
- Seafood restaurant/markets close by
- 16 big, clean rooms, cable TV, Internet, aircon, bar area
- Highly renovated - no maintenance needed
- The best in the area
- Unbelievable potential
- Close to beach and facilities

Serious buyers only

4.6 MILLION BAHT

Tel: 089-2173463.

Email:

tony\_willan@hotmail.com

### BOOK SHOP FOR SALE

Patong OTOP book shop & Nanai book shop. 2 shops for 980,000 baht. Tel: 084-1705552.

### BEAUTY SALON

Beauty salon for sale in Kathu 150,000 baht or 8,000 baht per month. You can live inside. Please contact for details. Tel: 084-8448589. Email: bb-anaiya@hotmail.com

### PROPERTY COMPANY

Thai registered. Full architect designs for six units, pool and site plan. Website. Thai business bank account. Negotiations for land in progress. Business for sale or partnership considered. Suit retired builder or architect. please email to: builderritire@yahoo.co.uk

### BUSINESS IN PHI PHI ISLAND

Now for sale in a top location. Popular fast food corner and Internet business, plus owner's room with balcony. 14-year contract and low monthly rent. Please contact for more details. Tel: 081-0820039. Email: asiantips@gmail.com

### BAR FOR SALE

Popular and successful. Amigos bar in Soi Seadragon for sale. Pool table, darts, own sound system. Price negotiable dependant on length of lease required. Tel: 087-883-8721.

### SHOPHOUSE

For sale, 2.5 stories, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. Near Kan-eng 1, Chalong bay. Tel: 089-4736886.

### BEACH RESTAURANT

Restaurant/bar on Surin beach with chairs. 1.7 million baht. No key money. Tel: 081-0898643. Email: opportunity@hotmail.com

### FUN DATING BIZ

For sale. Unlimited income potential! Price for quick sale: only 500,000 baht. Please email for information. Email: info@fun-dating-thailand.com

### BOUTIQUE HOTEL

Patong. Sea view, pool, VIP, restaurant, 23 rooms complete. Tel: 084-6301770.

### BAR FOR SALE

On Nanai Rd. 2-year lease, 10,000 baht per month. Pool table, darts, 42" plasma TV on wall, sound system, all fittings brand new. Buy now & enjoy high season. 950,000 baht ono. Tel: 084-8520862. Email: hotevo69@hotmail.co.uk

### BAR/RESTAURANT

Long established. More than 200sqm. Minutes from Karon Beach in prime tourist area. No key money 5 + 5-year lease available. Rent: 69,000 baht per month. Please contact Mark for more information. Tel: 087-2742759. Email: britcorp@hotmail.com

### OCEAN DEPT STORE

3-story building inside Ocean Time Square department store in Phuket City for rent/lease. Please contact for more details. Tel: 081-8909891, 086-3053922, 081-4452156. Email: mornsri@hotmail.com

### RESTAURANT/

guesthouse. Nanai road, 60 seats, big kitchen, beer garden, terrace. All fully furnished. 7 rooms, aircon, TV, cold & hot water. 3 + 3 + 3-year contract. 1.9 million baht. Email: thaipaul@gmx.de

### GUESTHOUSE FOR SALE



9.6 million baht or lease. 2-minute walk to Karon Beach, big living room, 6 aircon guest rooms, kitchen, coffee bar. Tel: 081-171-9705.

### BUSINESS IDEA

Looking for a business idea or opportunity? Email: admin@no1phukethomes.com For further details please visit: www.no1phukethomes.com

### EASY MONEY

Internet reservation system for sale! Get your investment back within this season! US\$2,700 only. Includes many link pages! Email: hakdagdo@yahoo.de For further details, please see our website at: www.krabi-reservations.com

### BAR 50% SHARE

www.homebarphuket.com Silent or working. Up to you. Contact Chad. Tel: 084-8466243.

### HILLSIDE HOTEL

Small hotel located in Patong, quiet area. 6 rooms, 2 apartments + 1 small house with wonderful view over the bay. Bar in the "garden" perfect for private party or barbecue. 4-year lease. Contact Johan for more information. Tel: 084-9107649, 076-545565, 084-9107649. Email: johan@baanmonhill.com

### PATONG BAR(S)

Wishing to concentrate on one bar, have the option of either GoGo in Sea Dragon (6-year lease) or Beer Bar (2-year lease) in Happy Road (next to Seduction disco). Tel: 089-9546433. Email: kjralph@hotmail.com

### TIME IS MONEY!

Farang offer for Thailand. Newly established Thai limited company fully qualified for visa and work permit. No competition, no wasting time, clients enough! Start-up money required: 30,000 Euros. Email: adventuraintern@hotmail.com

### NAIL/MASSAGE

Salon Patong Beach. Must sell this month. 265,000 baht. Bangla Road. Contact Anna. Tel: 089-0468603. Email: gordytlc@yahoo.com

### WORKING PARTNER

Needed for new exciting "never seen before" biz in Koh Samui. Price for partnership: 1 million baht. For further details please email: admin@no1phukethomes.com

### EJECTION SEAT FUN RIDE

Ejection seat bungee fun ride machine, imported from Austria. Full working machine and operating site, in Kathu next-door to go-cart track. This ride launches 2 people in a safety cage 60m into the air at a speed of 100kmh, in 1.8 seconds. I am looking for a working partner to invest and help run the ride. For full details contact Andy. Tel: 081-891-3466. Fax: 076-296160. Email: antc@phuket.ksc.co.th

### KARON BAR

For sale. Pool table, TV, Music system, etc. Please call for more information. Tel: 089-5879551.

### GREAT SALON

Brand new massage & beauty salon fully operating on the best location on Nanai Rd. Everything brand new. 3 + 3-year lease, no key money, only rent of 40,000 baht a month. Big shop, 160sqm, toilet, 5 aircons, etc. Call for discreet discussion. Family reason for selling. Price: 870,000 baht plus deposit for the rent. Tel: 089-8093566. Email: lennartviberg@hotmail.com

### RAWAI MASSAGE

2 large shophouses on main road. Has sea view, high-quality furniture, 4 aircon rooms, 8-year contract. Rent: 6,500 baht a month. Asking price: 985,000 baht. Tel: 086-7396031. Email: fepigada@yahoo.it

### BAR FOR SALE

Soi Gonzo Bangla road. 2 years left on lease. Genuine sale. 900,000 baht. Tel: 085-7826492, 085-7571301.

### PHUKET FRANCHISES

Island-wide opportunities, unique spa technology. Good and quick return on modest investment, no special skills required. Tel: 087-1446686.

### FOR SALE/RENT

Restaurant, Koh Lanta. Seats 27 inside, 12 outside. Lease contract to Mar 31, 2009. Rent 200,000 baht per year. Asking price 150,000 baht. Rent until Mar 1, 2007 included in the price. For more info contact Conny. Tel: 089-9858309. Email: crockstrom@hotmail.com

### ONLY 14 SHARES LEFT!

For a large, prime commercial site located only minutes from Kata Beach. Share value: 425,000 baht. Can be bought in lots (max 14). Tel: 087-2742759. Email: britcorp@hotmail.com

### BAR/RESTAURANT

Water front. Next to Marina. 1.5 million baht. Tel: 085-7838336.

## Emergency Numbers



✓ Police	191
✓ Fire	199
✓ Tourist Police	1155
✓ Marine Police	076-211883
✓ Hyperbaric recompression chambers	076-342518, 089-8712335
✓ Bangkok Phuket Hospital - Phuket City	1719 (Call Center)
✓ Vachira Phuket Hospital Phuket City	076-211114 ext 385 081-8951075



# Tout, Trader & Trumpet

## Business Products & Services

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Month	September 2006	October 2006	November 2006	December 2006	January 2007
Date	3,10,17,24	1,8,15,29	5,12,19,26	17	7,14,21,28

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baht, not including visa fee.  
For more information call K.  
Eve at Tel: 076-289201,  
081-5352637. Website:  
www.evevisarun.com

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@kidzsole.com

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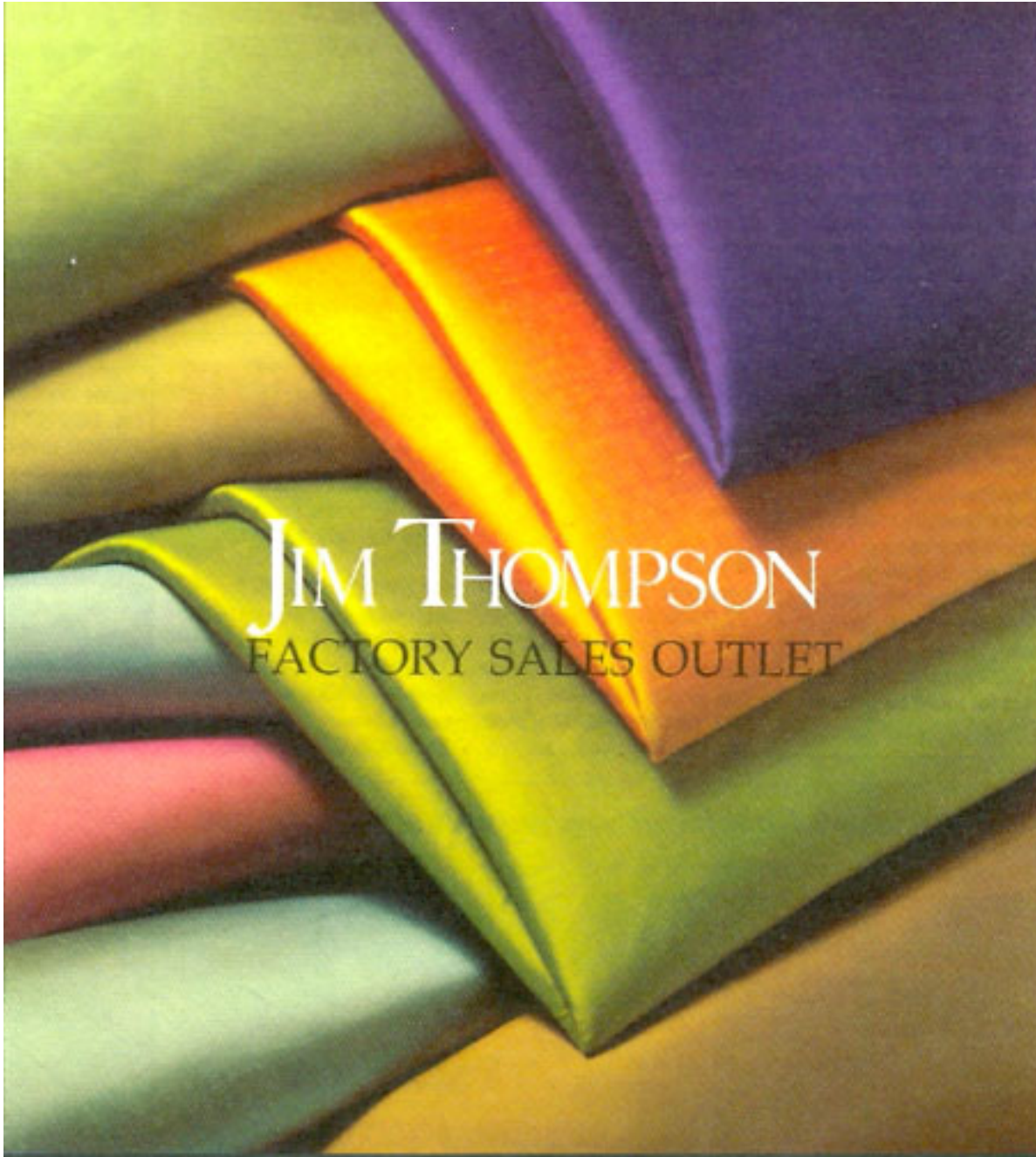




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