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# Long Live The King

By Pimpaporn Suwatthigul

**N**o matter where he may be, whether in a palace, a forest or being cared for in a hospital, HM King Bhumibol Adulyadej is always in the hearts of his people.

His Majesty hasn't used any magic to make this happen, it is the genuine love and compassion he has for his people. This has been felt and seen by people from all walks of life, from his first day on the throne until present.

His Majesty recently demonstrated his compassion when he was at the Siriraj Hospital. While in the hospital's care, he passed on some of the many beautiful flowers that he had been given by well-wishers to other patients.

He also asked his entourage to provide food for the people who were holding vigils at the hospital to extend their fondest and most respectful wishes for his recovery.

These simple yet compassionate gestures of kindness, along with more than 3,000-royally-initiated projects throughout Thailand for the betterment of his people, have prompted Thais and foreigners alike to wear yellow shirts to honor a beloved king.

Each day of the week has a color associated with it, yellow being the color for Monday, the day His Majesty was born. Pink and green shirts with an embroidered royal Thai emblem also recently became popular when Thai people learned that the colors are auspicious for the King's good health, longevity and a peaceful reign.

The Thai people proudly wear these colors as if wearing their hearts on their sleeves to



show their best wishes for a beloved king who will live with them forever. Thais will travel for miles and wait for days just for the chance to catch a glimpse of their king.

These phenomena do not happen because of an official force, people are simply reciprocating with true love and loyalty the love and compassion His Majesty has always shown toward his subjects.

Although Thais enjoy a beautiful culture and have an abundance of pride to share with the world, it is undeniable that the nation has recently faced – and in the South, continues to face –

political, economical difficulties and social issues. His Majesty is constantly concerned with how his people are suffering and what can be done to alleviate their pain.

In remote areas, his kind hands reach out to improve standards of health and education and raise income. In urban areas, he took the initiative to alleviate traffic and flood problems.

It is not only human beings who have been touched by His Majesty's kindness, but animals such as stray dogs also enjoy better lives because of His Majesty's compassion.

In addition to his compassion, His Majesty is also known

as a multi-talented man of high intelligence and creativity. He is an accomplished musician and composer, a painter of portraits and abstracts, an inventor, a photographer, a skilled sailor, an engineer and an economist. His introduction of the "self sufficiency economy" has contributed a great deal to the nation and the rest of the world, helping to reduce the waste of natural resources and address the issue of global warming.

One of his skills that is rarely referred to is his ability with languages. The King is a great translator, a powerful writer and a keen linguist. He has translated many articles and books, including *Fashion in Heroes* by George F. Wills, published in *Newsweek* (6 August 1979); *Tito* by Phyllis Auty and *A Man Called Intrepid* by William Stevenson.

As a writer, His Majesty added his own imagination, humor and philosophy to original stories of the Buddha. *Maha Janaka Jataka* is a story of "Perseverance", one of the 10 virtues of Lord Buddha. This is one of His Majesty's translated works from Thai into English.

In this translation, His Majesty used an older form of English to remain faithful to the character of the *Maha Janaka Jataka* story. In addition, *The Story of Tongdaeng* is a bestseller written by His Majesty and based on his favorite dog, which was once a stray.

Thailand is blessed with the world's longest reigning monarch of 61 years. On the occasion of this very special year for His Majesty and the nation – the 80<sup>th</sup> birthday of His Majesty – the *Phuket Gazette* extends our most sincere wishes for His Majesty the King to enjoy good health and a long life.



## Five arrests in teen knife attack

PHUKET CITY: Five youths were arrested on November 24 for the murder of 14-year-old Theerapong Thongklam, who died after being stabbed in the heart in the early hours of November 19.

Theerapong's friend, who was riding pillion when their bike on crashed about 1 am on the night of the murder, told police that he and Theerapong were driving to Thalang when Theerapong "teased" the girlfriend of one of the gang members.

The gang set upon the Theerapong, who sustained a single stab wound to the chest and then lost control of his motorbike at the intersection of Montri Rd and Phang Nga Rd in Phuket City.

Pol Sub Lt Jakrapong Suchol of the Phuket City Police said that of seven wanted gang members, five had been arrested. Two others are believed to have gone into hiding in other provinces in the South, he said.

Of the five in custody, three are 18 years old and two are minors. Police believe that Panupong Saetae, 18, was responsible for the stabbing, Sub Lt Jakrapong said.

Most of the seven gang members have criminal records, including illegal possession of firearms and convictions on drug-related charges, he added.

## Vachira Hospital blood drive

PHUKET CITY: The blood bank at Vachira Phuket Hospital will hold blood-donation sessions in Phuket City.

On December 5, the collection will be at the blood bank on the fourth floor of Vachira Phuket Hospital, Yaowarat Rd, from 9 am to 3 pm.

On December 8, it will be at Phuket Namsang Co Ltd, on Thalang Rd, from 10 am to 1 pm.

# Fireworks spark murder at Loy Krathong

By Natcha Yuttaworawit

SAPHAN HIN: Phuket City Police are investigating the fatal stabbing of man whose celebration of the Loy Krathong Festival with firecrackers allegedly angered a group of young revelers, two of whom allegedly stabbed him in the back while he was urinating.

Pol Capt Sathit Nurit, duty officer of the Phuket City Police, identified the victim as 29-year-old Apichart Kaewpanya, a resident of Damrong Rd in Phuket City.

After receiving a report of the stabbing just before 1 am November 25, Phuket City Police rushed to the scene, a grass field along Klong Bangyai near the municipal tennis courts.

There they found the victim lying dead in a pool of his own blood with four stab wounds: two to the back, one to his left ribs and another to his head, just below the left ear.

The victim's body was sent to Vachira Phuket Hospital for examination.

Capt Sathit said the victim had been drinking beer with a group of 10 friends, both male and female. Witnesses testified that he had been lighting off strips of firecrackers, possibly not realizing how much they had annoyed other groups celebrating the festival nearby.

"There were many groups of youths drinking around there. We suspect the victim's assailants were among those in the group sitting nearest to his," said Capt Sathit.

Police have a description of his assail-

ants from the victim's friends, but still do not know their names, he said.

"When we questioned the victim's friends, they told us that K. Apichart left them to urinate in the *klong*. As he was relieving himself, his two assailants must have approached from behind and stabbed him before fleeing," he said.

K. Apichart managed to walk back to his friends, but collapsed and died soon thereafter, he said.

A dagger and mobile phone found at the scene were collected as evidence.

"We need to continue questioning suspects, including many of the victim's friends, in order to learn the identity of the assailants. There are a lot of eye witnesses in this case," he said.

# Limo drivers vow to fight AOT over airport service

By Janyaporn Morel

PHUKET CITY: Representatives of the Phuket Limousine and Business Services Cooperative (PBC) yesterday said they would continue to fight the Airports of Thailand (AOT) decision to slash the number of PBC vehicles operating at Phuket International Airport from 150 to 90.

Following a meeting with Phuket Governor Niran Kalayanamit, PBC Secretary Niphon Piromrit said, "We have 110 saloon cars and 40 buses. If AOT wants to cut that down to 90 vehicles, it will be very difficult for us to choose which cars and drivers will remain and who will be left out.

"It's unfair because we have tried to improve our service. We don't mind if another company is also allowed to operate at the airport - we want to help tourism in Phuket - but we will fight to keep our service as it has been in the past.

"All I can say is that we will fight this and I cannot promise that there will be no problems," he said.



PBC Secretary Niphon Piromrit took the plight of the airport limo drivers to Phuket Governor Niran Kalayanamit, but with little success.

The meeting with Governor Niran came amid AOT accepting bids for a new limo operator to start operating at the airport. AOT started accepting bids November 19, with close of business November 23 as the deadline. The results of the auction were set to be revealed as the *Gazette* went to press.

Governor Niran, however,

stayed firmly on the sideline. He suggested that the PBC yet again appeal to AOT to change the conditions offered, citing the large number of PBC members whose livelihoods would be affected.

However, he added that AOT had the right to choose who would serve the airport, with the interests of visitors to Phuket as its priority.

Earlier this year, AOT offered the PBC to continue their concession from July 1, 2007 to June 30, 2009, but with only 90 vehicles at the airport.

In line with having less vehicles operating, the AOT set the concession fee at 428,000 baht per month for the first year and the fee for the second year yet to be set.

The PBC currently pays about 877,000 baht a month.

From July 1, 2006 to June 30, 2007, under the previous concession, the PBC paid AOT about 1.2 million baht a month.

The PBC immediately declined the offer and asked the AOT to reconsider the deal.

However, after a review by the AOT board in Bangkok, AOT on October 26 said they would not alter the conditions offered.

AOT referred to persistent complaints by passengers of PBC's service as part of the reason for the auction.

Until a new concession is signed, the PBC will continue operating 150 vehicles at the airport under a verbal agreement with AOT.

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The new Karon Municipality building next to the Kata Beach Resort.

## Karon Municipality office opens

KARON: Karon Municipality opened its new 63-million-baht office building November 22 morning with a ceremony presided over by Phuket Governor Niran Kalayanamit.

The new offices, which took about 17 months to complete, are on three rai at Kata Beach, next to the Kata Beach Resort. The stately four-story building replaces two old, single-story wooden buildings that were at the same site.

Beneath the building is a car park for 40 vehicles and on the top floor is an auditorium with capacity for about 400 people.

Karon Mayor Tawee Thongcham told Gov Niran that the new facility is intended to better service the needs of residents of the Kata-Karon area, which now has 7,000 hotel rooms.

Remarkably, the municipality had only 5,068 registered households as of February 2007. The official population in the most recent census, conducted in 2005, numbered the official population at 6,484.

Thailand conducts national census surveys every four years.

## Swede electrocuted in Patong guesthouse

PATONG: Kathu Police are investigating the death of 34-year-old Swedish tourist Robert Karlsson Svard, who was found dead in his room at a Patong guesthouse on November 23.

Pol Sub Lt Thitikorn Rawang, Duty Officer of the Kathu Police, confirmed that Mr Svard died of an apparent electrocution in his third-floor room in a guesthouse on Soi Paradise.

The guesthouse was named in Thai only as "Acorlian".

Mr Svard's naked body was found lying face up about 3 pm, still clutching the head of an opened shower hose in his left hand.

The room was flooded. Police and volunteer rescue workers from the Kusoldharm Foundation had the electrical power to the room switched off before entering.

When they did enter the room and examined the body,

they found Mr Svard had severe electrical burns on the fingers of his left and also on his left hip.

An autopsy confirmed the cause of death as electrocution, Lt Thitikorn said.

Police are still investigating the cause of the electrocution and have yet to lay any charges against the owner of the guesthouse, who has already taken steps to better ground electricity in the building, he said.

Acting Swedish Consulate General in Phuket Christina Palm confirmed that the case was being investigated.

The family of the deceased was notified on November 23. The Consulate is currently working to repatriate the body of Mr Svard, whose insurance will cover the related expenses, she said.

As of November 27, the Consulate had yet to receive a copy of the autopsy report, she added.

# Dutchman stabbed at Downtown Market

By Semacote Suganya

PHUKET CITY (*Kom Chad Luek, Gazette*): A Dutch tourist is recovering in Bangkok Hospital Phuket after being stabbed twice by a knife-wielding thief outside the Downtown Market on Ranong Rd On November 26.

The tourist, 51-year-old Thomas De Klerk, was shopping at the market with his wife Maria Kroezen at the time of the attack, staff at the hospital told the *Gazette*.

The victim and his wife were loading goods into a tuk-tuk about 50 meters from the entrance to the market about 10:30 pm when the thief ran up and ripped the victim's belt bag from around his waist.

Mr De Klerk gave chase and caught up with the man. The pair were fighting for possession of the pack when the thief pulled out a knife and stabbed De Klerk twice, once in the left hand and once in the abdomen, slicing through his bladder.

The thief then fled with the bag, which contained 20 euros in cash, a camera, credit card, cosmetics and other personal effects, the victim told Phuket City Police.

Mr De Klerk described his attacker as an Asian man about 1.7 meters tall, wearing a long-sleeved, collarless T-shirt and a hat.

Darkness and the speed at which everything happened made it impossible for him to give a



Stabbing victim Mr De Klerk in the ICU unit at Bangkok Hospital Phuket speaks with a translator and a reporter.

Photo by Yongyot Preuksarak.

more accurate description, he told police.

The victim was rushed to Bangkok Hospital Phuket, where he remained in the ICU unit at the time of going to press.

Staff at the hospital said De Klerk and his wife were on a one-week holiday staying at the Andaman Beach Resort in Patong.

The couple were scheduled to fly home on December 1, but will now stay on the island until Mr De Klerk is strong enough to travel, hospital staff said.

Remarkably, the latest victim of violence perpetrated against a foreign tourist said he

still felt good about Phuket.

Hospital staff quoted him as saying that such unfortunate events can happen anytime, anywhere.

Phuket City Police Superintendent Pol Col Nos Svet-talekha told the *Gazette* that a reported round up of about 100 Burmese laborers from the same general area where the stabbing took place was unrelated to the attack on De Klerk.

Of those rounded up, 60 were able to produce valid identification and 20 were not. The remainder managed to escape, read a local Thai-language newspaper reported.

## Veteran 'improper' crooner to play in Phuket

PHUKET CITY: A free concert of traditional Thai music will be held in the parking area at Saphan Hin on December 5 to honor the 80<sup>th</sup> birthday of HM King Bhumibol Adulyadej.

The show will begin at 7 pm and end at midnight.

There will be performances by old-style Thai

singers, including Dowjai Paijit and veteran crooner Suthep Wongkamhaeng. Both singers had tracks in a controversial list of 18 "improper" songs drawn up by the Ministry of Culture's Culture Watch Center in 2003.

The organizer of the event, the Khun Thanit Band, will also be performing at the concert.

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## STAMPS

The five-baht stamps features eight different images, including pictures of the Royal Barge Anantanakharaj, the Royal Barge Suphannahongsa, the Sappagab Phragajatar, the Sappagab Khram.



## ThaiPost to release special Queen's collection

PHUKET: Thailand Post will launch a stamp set on December 18 to honor the 80<sup>th</sup> birthday of His Majesty the King.

The stamp features works showcased in the Fifth Arts of The Kingdom Exhibition, which is being co-ordinated by The Foundation of the Promotion of Supplementary Occupations and Related Techniques (SUPPORT foundation), founded by HM Queen Sirikit to help farmers.

The five-baht stamps features eight different images: the Royal Barge Anantanakharaj, the Royal Barge Suphannahongsa, the Sappagab Phragajatar, the Sappagab Khram, a lustral water jar in gold niello, a gold-niello vanity set, a Yan Lipao basket and a gold-niello evening bag.

Measuring 63 by 31 millimeters, the stamps have a face value of 5 baht each.

Available at 90 baht each, the sets come in a special commemorative envelope. Only 800,000 sets will be produced. The sets will be available at all 10 Thailand Post branches in Phuket while supplies last.

## Andaman Motor Show 2007

WICHIT: The fourth Andaman Motor Show will take place December 3 to 9 at the Grand Hall, Central Festival Phuket.

To be held from 10 am until 10 pm daily, the event will showcase cars, trucks and vans as well as stereo systems, car accessories and various promotions and special packages on makes including Volvo, Toyota and Chevrolet.

Test drives will be conducted at the drop-off area near

Thainaan restaurant.

In addition to cars, there will be dance shows, cheer-leading shows, cabaret, a disco and even a Miss Andaman Motor Show beauty pageant, with a 60,000-baht first prize up for grabs.

Entrance is free on all days.

For further information contact ND Organizer: Tel: 089-7248824; 087-9704753; Email: nd\_property@hotmail.com or nat@nd-organizer.com

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## Queer News

# Heartbreak kid makes a break on wedding day

SAMUT SAKHON: Being left standing at the altar is an awful fate for any woman. For one woman in Ban Phaeo district, the indignity didn't end there – not only did her would-be husband do a runner on the big day, he also made off with the *sin sot* (dowry) that he had borrowed from the bride to be's mother.

The unfortunate young woman's mother, 53-year-old Somyong (surname undisclosed at her request), told reporters that around the middle of last year, her daughter, Netrsuda, 27, met her future fiancé, Aek Mankhong, 35.

Love blossomed between the pair and Aek, who had no job, asked to move in with Netrsuda and her mother.

Reasoning that her daughter was a grown woman, K. Somyong reluctantly agreed. She insisted, however, that the pair must marry.

After Aek had lived with them for two months, he had still not been able to raise enough money for a respectable *sin sot* to show the neighbors.

Not happy with the couple living under the

same roof without taking their vows, K. Somyong agreed to lend Aek 20,000 baht for the ceremony on the condition that it be returned after the wedding.

At 3 am on the day of the wedding, Aek took K. Netrsuda to the hair salon in preparation for the ceremony.

Aek asked K. Somyong for the *sin sot* money, saying that he would put it on the *khan mak* tray before the ceremony, scheduled at the auspicious daybreak time of 6:09 am.

When the time came, however, Aek – and the money – were nowhere to be found. K. Somyong rang his relatives, but no one had seen Aek Mankhong, whose name literally means "Number One Stability".

Despite her daughter's heartbreak, K. Somyong said the wedding had to be continued without the groom because she had spent 40,000 baht and invited all the neighbors.

Source: Daily News

## A buffalo's bid for freedom

ANG THONG: In Thai culture, buffaloes are synonymous with slowness and stupidity. In fact, the word *khwai* is frequently used to describe those among us who are a few sandwiches short of a picnic.

Despite her species' alleged lack of intelligence, a 10-year-old female buffalo waiting in a slaughterhouse pen in Pa Mok District had enough sense to know the end was near and gave people quite a scare on November 9.

The unnamed animal shook off the slaughterhouse workers, making a sudden dash for freedom to the city streets, pursued by a phalanx of excited workers. A pickup truck and the buffalo's owner on his motorcycle joined in the chase, causing pandemonium on the Pa Mok-Ang Thong highway.

The buffalo had no intention

of letting anyone get in the way of her spirited attempt. When Pramuan Phimphrom, 35, stepped out of a shop at the wrong moment, he found a full-grown buffalo bearing down on him.

He tried to jump aside, but the furious beast gored him until he fell down and then gored him some more. K. Pramuan was taken to Pa Mok Hospital with injuries, but is expected to make a full recovery.

K. Pramuan was not the only person to feel the force of the animal's drive to survive.

Burmese slaughterhouse worker Ya Sem also ended up on the wrong end of the animal's horns.

Ya Sem said that after the buffalo escaped from the pen, he and his colleagues gave chase, eventually catching up with her in Tambon Narasing.

When the buffalo saw him, Ya Sem said, she lowered her horns and charged straight for him.

Ya Sem turned and fled, but was not fast enough and was gored in his bottom and thighs.

Sali Rimseup, a shopkeeper who witnessed the goring of K. Pramuan, said, "This is the first time I've seen anything as scary as this. I think the buffalo knew she was going to be killed so she decided to struggle and fight for her life."

"When she saw people in her way, she assumed they were enemies so went on the attack."

The buffalo's heroic escape bid proved futile in the end. She was finally subdued by her owner, loaded into a pickup and taken back to the slaughterhouse, where she was put to death half-an-hour later.

Source: Kom Chad Luek

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As part of an initiative to encourage people to turn up on election day and oppose vote buying, 200 yellow crash helmets were given out to motorcycle-taxi drivers at Phuket Community Hall.

## Yellow-top bikers oppose vote buying

By Pathomporn Kaenkrachang

PHUKET CITY: Phuket Vice-Governor Tri Augkaradacha gave out 200 yellow crash helmets to motorcycle-taxi riders at Phuket Community Hall on Monday November 26.

The color yellow symbolizes devotion to the king and are part of a campaign to discourage vote buying in the upcoming government elections on December 23.

The helmets were donated by Ruam Pong Motor Co Ltd. and are adorned with a sticker

that reads "Do good for our nation's father - do not sell your votes".

During the ceremony, Vice-Gov Tri said, "About 30,000 people who work in Phuket are registered to lodge postal votes. These people can vote, but will not do so on election day on December 23.

They will vote on December 15 and 16. Anybody else who cannot vote on December 23 can cast their ballots at Phuket Community Hall on December 15 and 16 as well."

## Jazz night at Soi Romanee

PHUKET: An ensemble of local and international artists and singers are teaming up with the Phuket Art-Culture and Environmental Conservation Club to present an art exhibition and jazz-music event to celebrate the 80th birthday of HM King Bhumibol Adulyadej on December 5.

The event will be held at Soi Romanee off Thalang Rd, starting at 10 am with art displays along the soi throughout the day.

From 3 pm until 9 pm there will be live jazz music from Thai and foreign singers and musicians taking place on a stage that has been specially constructed at the corner of Soi Romanee where the soi joins Thalang Rd.

The event will be free. Soi Romanee will be closed on the day.

# Resort security guards charged with theft

By Natcha Yuttaworawit

KATA: Police arrested four employees of a private security firm for stealing valuables from the same people they were hired to protect: guests and staff at the Club Med Phuket resort in Kata.

Chalong Police Superintendent Col Samarn Chainarong presented the four guards to the media at a press conference at Chalong Police Station on the morning of November 20.

The first two presented were Nakhon Sri Thammarat native Thanawan Wanwet, 30, and his co-worker Sommai Chusit, 40, of Phuket.

They were arrested about 9 pm November 16 by an investigation team led by Lt Col Suchart Suwanpirom.

The pair were presented along with a Nokia N80 cellphone valued at 14,000 baht and 3,600 baht in cash as evidence to be used against them.

The stolen phone and money belonged to Club Med staffer Jeerasak Ngaokrachang, 33.

Also a native of Phuket, K. Jeerasak assisted in the successful police investigation that led to the return of his telephone after it was sold for 4,000 baht at the Ole Mobile Phone Shop on Patak Rd in Rawai.

The two guards were both employed by the Group 4 Securicor (G4S).

The second pair were identified as Nakhon Sri Thammarat natives Nattapong Banlang, 28, and Rattanaphum Krungkaew, 31. They were arrested by the same investigation team late November 18 for swiping a 50,000-baht notebook computer belong-



New Chalong Police Superintendent Col Samarn Chainarong (left) looks on as Club Med staff member Jessica Rachel identifies the notebook computer stolen from her by G4S security guards Nattapong Banlang, 28, and Rattanaphum Krungkaew, 31. The investigation and arrests on November 18 were led by Pol Lt Col Suchart Suwanpirom (center).

ing to Club Med employee Jessica Rachel, 26, from the US.

The computer went missing after she had placed it on a table in a changing room for entertainers on Friday. She noticed it had disappeared about 11 am the following day, she said.

Ms Rachel immediately suspected security staff and filed a report with Chalong Police, who quickly learned that the image of a man who tried to sell a used notebook computer at a shop in the area had been captured by the store's CCTV camera.

According to the press release, when investigators approached Nattapong at 10:30 pm on Sunday at the PTT service station in Karon, he asked them: "Who are you coming to arrest?"

"We are coming to arrest you," an officer replied.

The press release said that

Nattapong immediately confessed and later led police to Rattanaphum's home in Soi Kottanode in Chalong, where he was arrested.

The men sold the computer for 10,000 baht at the Mala Video shop and split the proceeds, much of which had already been spent, the press release said.

Without specifying names, the police report noted that some of the suspects' urine turned purple during a drug test, indicating that they had recently used *ya bah* (methamphetamine).

The report also said that a background check had revealed that some of the suspects had criminal cases pending against them in Appeals Courts in other provinces.

All four suspects were charged with robbery and were being held at Phuket Provincial Police Station.





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# Snapshot: Phuket through

**F**or a such a small dot on the world map, Phuket has a colorful history of cultural and racial diversity, yet few images of the island's vibrant past remain.

Much of the imagery of yesteryear would have literally faded away and been lost forever if it were not for photographer Jose Luis Gay discovering a collection of old photographic plates and patiently restoring them to their former glory.

Bruce Stanley finds out more about the collection and the people behind the discovery and restoration of the photographs that will be on display at Thai Hua museum from December 1.

**A**s Phuket embraces the trappings of a modern future, the past is quickly fading away. For the younger generation, it may be difficult to imagine what life on the island was like just 50 years ago. Of course, many of the old buildings that make up Phuket City are still standing after half a century, but what about the locals and people who have moved to start new lives here?

When photographer Jose Luis Gay was searching for visual records of old Phuket, he heard that Liang Ewe Studio photo studio, near Suriyadej Circle on Rassada Rd in Phuket City, still had glass photographic plates that were used to capture images of people and places from decades ago.

What Jose discovered when he went to the studio and met Liang Ewe Studio owner Manoch Khorcharoen, were images of the past in the form of discarded photographic plates that had been left to rot, gradually disintegrating in an old water tank in the backyard of the studio.

When Jose asked K. Manoch about the old images, he told Jose that his father, K. Aree, was one of only two photographers working in Phuket after World War II. "No-one at that time owned a camera, so when a family needed wedding photos or photos for special events, they had to come to our studio," K. Manoch explained.

"My father never threw away the old glass plates used to make the photographs. He stored them at the back of the studio. The glass plates date from 1951 to the early 1970s," he said.

By choosing to store the plates instead of throwing them away, K. Aree had, perhaps unwittingly, preserved some of the only images of the people living on the island at the time.

Until Jose discovered the photographic treasure, they had been lying in quiet ruin, gradually fading away as they gathered dust, dirt and mold. Jose offered to buy the photographic collection from K. Manoch – a total of 35,720 glass plates forming a visual history of Phuket dating from

the middle of the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

"I was incredibly excited to find such a treasure with many of the plates still in good condition," Jose said. "I decided to clean and restore as many of the photo images as possible and leave them as a historical resource for the community," he added.

Jose hired four photo technicians to carefully clean the encrusted dirt and fungus from the glass plates that had suffered years of neglect. After each plate was cleaned, it was then dried and stored with special photographic paper and recorded with a code. Each plate was cataloged according to its subject, grouped in categories of government officials, monks, weddings, children, plus individual men and women.

"It took the technicians more than a year to organize the entire collection. There are many interesting photos of people wearing clothes that are no longer seen in Phuket.

"Most of the people in the portraits had their faces lightened

and colored with a hand-painting process, as even back then it was desirable to be light-skinned," Jose explained.

Phuket historian Ajarn Pranee Sukulpipatana said that as a child she remembers Phuket as a culturally and racially diverse community where people always got along well regardless of nationality or religion.

"We had women arriving from China to be wives and Muslim men coming from countries such as Pakistan who settled here. Everyone got along well in those days," she recalled.

The glass plates depict Phuket as a fun place to live, even 50 years ago. There were dance halls where men would pay a few *satang* for a waltz with the lady

of their choice. Families were larger than they are today and children were cherished.

Jose has now finished cleaning and cataloging the historic glass plates. He has also digitally rendered all the images to ensure they will be preserved for the benefit of future generations.

"The biggest challenge is finding out who the people are in the photos. Many are still living on the island. I'm sure most of them do not have these photos anymore and would love to see these old images of themselves and their families, but until now I hadn't found a way to let everyone know I have these great photos," Jose said.

Fortunately, the Thai Hua Museum on Krabi Rd in Phuket City will house the historic glass plates, which will be available for viewing from December 1. Established Phuket families have been invited to view the collec-



Jose Luis Gay was searching for visual records of old Phuket.

He heard that Liang Ewe Studio photo studio had glass photographic plates that were used to capture the images of people and places from decades ago.



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# the looking glass

Jose discovered images of the past in the form of discarded photographic plates that had been left to rot, gradually disintegrating in an old water tank in the backyard of the studio.



tion and hopefully some of them will find dated images of themselves and their ancestors.

The Thai Hua Museum also has its own place in history. It was originally built in 1934 as a school for the Chinese community.

"Its magnificent Sino-Portuguese structure was the focus of local Chinese culture until [the building] became the new location for the Thai Hua School when it moved in 1995," said Weerasak Naveekarn, who is active in the current renovation and promotion of the Thai Hua Museum.

When the school moved, the old Thai Hua School building sat empty for 10 years until a government grant in 2005 provided funding for it to become a venue for local art and culture events.

The funding dried up after just two years, which is when the local Kusoldharm Foundation, led by Sombat Atiset, agreed to provide the four million baht needed to restore the building so it could become a permanent museum of Chinese history in Phuket.

Jose plans to set up his computers at the museum on the opening night so that local residents can search for old images of themselves and their families. There will also be continuous playing of a movie that was made in the 1930s which has also been restored.

"I hope that many people can reclaim something of their past with this project. Many local people have no record of their parents, grandparents or even themselves when they were young. From these photos, we'll

be able to make prints for them to keep and pass on to their children and future generations," said Jose, smiling.

Meanwhile, Jose is already on his next photographic mission, entitled "Invisible", which documents Jakarta's homeless children.

"I've already made five trips to Jakarta to work on "Invisible," spending about a week at a time with Jakarta's street children, making a record of these incredibly brave children," he said.

Jose is best known on Phuket for his work with the Life Home Project, a community on Koh Sireh for women and children with HIV.

Jose is a native of Zaragoza, Spain. He initially sailed to Phuket for a holiday but has since been involved in helping the individuals and communities who have not benefited from the island's prosperous economy.

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# Underage boxers risk brain damage

Nearly 8,000 children have been identified as having fought in professional boxing rings, exposing them physical injuries including brain damage, according to a recently-released survey by the Ramjitti Institute.

Most of the young boxers are boys from Isarn and earn from 50 baht to 600 baht per fight, but must give half to his or her boxing camp.

Deputy Social Development and Human Security Minister Poldej Pinpratheep told a seminar on November 20 that fighters younger than 15 cannot register as boxers and are therefore not protected by laws that entitle injured boxers to compensation if they are injured during a match.

"Most young boxers want to earn money for their education and their families. However, after they enter professional fights, they often miss their classes and are finally pressured by their teachers to quit," K. Poldej said.

Boxing may also affected the brain and joint development of young boxers and stunt their growth, he added.

Dr Uthen Pandee, a lecturer at Ramathibodi Hospital's emergency medicine department, said punches usually hit the young boxers' heads, faces, eyes, teeth and oral cavities. Teeth are often dislodged. In some cases, young boxers sustain brain damage, he said.

According to Dr Uthen, some boxers faced abrupt paralysis, while others will experience slow mobility and deteriorating memory when they become middle-aged.

Chulalongkorn University researcher Chatchai Komaratat said underage boxing greatly increased the risk of youngsters sustaining brain damage.

Use of protective headgear



## LONG ARM OF THE LAW

Former karaoke bar hostess Suphansa Wichanant is fitted with a free-of-charge artificial arm at the Police Hospital in Bangkok last week. Her right arm was lopped off with a machete in a vicious attack by a policemen and two volunteer security officers in Saraburi in February, after she refused to sit with them and tried to flee their harassment by motorbike.

K. Suphansa now makes a living selling garlands in a market in Pathum Thani, while her three attackers are standing trial for attempted murder and assault resulting in severe and permanent injury.

and pitting opponents of equal age, size, weight and ability could minimize the risks, he said.

Authorities such as the Education Ministry, the Tourism and Sports Ministry and boxing associations should work together to ensure boxing safety among children, he said.

Deputy Education Minister Varakorn Samkoses said there were around 20,000 boxers under 15 years old in Isarn alone. Only about 100 of them had

made it to famed rings such as Lumpini or Rajdamnoen.

Many stop boxing after sustaining injuries, especially to their heads and brains, he said.

**Community forest bill.** After 15 years of deliberation by successive governments, the National Legislative Assembly (NLA) on November 21 passed the Community Forest Bill.

The bill allows communities to continue living in forest areas if they had been there for at least 10 years.

Forestry Department community forest management director Cholathit Surasawadi said the issue had been hotly debated for 15 years.

The National Park, Wildlife and Plant Conservation Department will now decide which areas are to be designated community forests.

In Thailand there are 107

national parks totaling 34 million rai, 57 wildlife sanctuaries totaling 22 million rai and a further 14 million rai in the process of being declared conservation land. Of the total area, some 30 million rai could be affected by the bill.

**Sin tax surge.** The NLA on November 22 approved in principle four bills that will increase tax on alcohol and cigarettes.

The four draft laws are Excise Tax Bill, Excise Tax Tariff Bill, Tobacco Bill and Liquor Bill. NLA has established ad hoc committees to vet the bills.

**Pedophile sentenced.** The Criminal Court on November 23 sentenced German national Jorg Rudol Fiedle, 43, to four years and eight months in jail for having sex with two Thai girls, both under 13 years old.

Fiedle was found guilty of having bought sex from the two

girls at the Natural Beach Pattaya Hotel in November 2002.

The court initially sentenced him to seven years in jail, but commuted the jail term by one third after he confessed having bought sex from the two girls.

Fiedle appealed the sentence and was detained at the Bangkok Remand Prison pending the Appeals Court's decision whether or not to grant him bail.

**Instant increase.** About 30 manufacturers of almost 600 products are anxiously waiting for the green light to raise their retail prices after the Internal Trade Department allowed rises for Mama, Yum Yum and Wai Wai brands of instant noodles.

Companies on September 19 requested price hikes on 588 items. High oil prices and other rising costs, particularly for raw materials and ingredients, have put pressure on manufacturers to seek price relief.

The Internal Trade Department convinced them to delay the price rises for as long as possible, but finally relented and allowed the price of instant noodles to increase by 1 baht to 6 baht a pack on January 1.

**Drug deception.** The Criminal Court on November 21 convicted a former Immigration Police inspector and sentenced him to more than 13 years in prison and fined him 600,000 baht for a raft of crimes including drug trafficking and forcing a woman to take drugs.

Lt Col Thawatchai Lomwong was accused of luring a woman to his room at a police dormitory in Bangkok last December. There he forced her to take *ya bah* (methamphetamine) and sexually abused her, the court was told.

Acting on the woman's complaint, police arrested Thawatchai at his room, along with 87 *ya bah* tablets, a bag of marijuana, psychedelic drugs, a 9mm pistol and 14 bullets.

The sentence was halved as the defendant's confession was useful to the case.

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

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# Phuket arms dealer shot in escape attempt

Two suspected arms dealers were shot and seriously injured by police in Surat Thani while allegedly trying to escape in a police pickup truck on November 21. A third suspect was arrested but unharmed.

The two injured men were identified as 20-year-old Thiwa Waji of Koh Kaew in Phuket and Abdulloh Thipmat, 20, from Ranong. The third suspect was listed as 29-year-old Sa-ngiam Sala of Songkhla.

The trio had been lured to a gas station on the Surat Thani-Nakhon Sri Thammarat highway by police posing as would-be weapons buyers.

When the three men arrived in a pick-up truck, undercover officers went to start negotiations on the price of the guns. As the guns were handed over, police who had been concealed around the station moved in to arrest the suspects.

The three suspects were arrested and placed in the cab of a police pickup truck under the guard of Sen Sgt Maj Samphan Thaimuang while some 10 other officers searched their truck.

While Sen Sgt Maj Samphan was distracted, Abdulloh, who was sitting in the back of the cab, clambered into the driver's seat, started the engine and began to drive away. In response, Sen Sgt Maj Samphan grabbed the pickup's open door and attempted to drag Abdulloh out of the vehicle, police reported.

Sen Sgt Maj Samphan had been dragged along with the vehicle for about 200 meters before Thiwa, who was sitting in the back of the cab, allegedly grabbed his collar and made a grab for the officer's gun.

A high-speed scuffle that ensued was eventually won by Sen Sgt Maj Samphan, who somehow managed to rest the

gun from Thiwa and fire a full magazine of bullets into the cab, hitting Abdulloh and Thiwa repeatedly, police said.

The three men were also wanted in connection with a string of car thefts across the South, it was reported.

Thiwa, in particular, had a number of outstanding arrest warrants for car theft in Trang province.

Police Region 8 Commissioner Lt Gen Thanee Thawitsee defended the shooting of the suspects, noting that the three were trying to escape custody and had assaulted an officer and tried to take his gun by force.

**End of the line.** Police in Nakhon Sri Thammarat's Ron Phibun district have claimed that a high school student hit by a train on the railway line near Ban Khao Noi village early on November 23 was likely to have been placed on the tracks already dead or unconscious.

Chonkaphat Kaennam, 19, a final-year secondary student at Ron Phibun Kiatwasuntharaphiwasat School, was hit by the 171 Bangkok-Haad Yai train about 3:30 am. The train driver notified police of the incident, but apparently could not stop as that stretch of track is a main line.

Police found what was left of the student's body strewn along 50 meters of track. However, an autopsy reported that K. Chonkaphat had been beaten around the head with a blunt object before being hit by the train.

Witnesses reported hearing youths arguing and then an odd sound as the train passed. When they went to look for the cause, they found K. Chonkaphat's body on the track.

Col Arun Klaew, Superintendent of Ron Phibun District Police Station, said that police believe robbery was the motive



## Restaurant Blast

Officials search for evidence after a bomb blew up near a stone bench at the Jaydaeng Restaurant on Akhan Songkro Rd in Yala Town November 20. Six people were injured in the blast, but no deaths were reported.

According to witnesses, the suspected bomber posed as a customer and placed the bomb under a table. He is believed to have detonated the bomb by mobile phone after leaving the restaurant.

for the attack because K. Chonkaphat's motorcycle was missing.

"We understand that Chonkaphat was surrounded by a group of youths who tried to steal his motorbike. When Chonkaphat refused to hand it over, they beat

him unconscious then placed him on the rails to cover up what they had done," Col Arun said.

However, an officer in the investigation team said that the theft was probably to have been a cover for the real motive, as the

victim was known to have been in a dispute over a girl.

**Labor shortage.** Business operators in the three southernmost provinces November 19 are suffering a severe labor shortage of nearly 80,000 positions after Laos, Burma and Cambodia stopped issuing visas for their nationals to work there because of safety concerns.

Director of the Southern Thai Board of Investment, Jaras Sriprasom, said that many workers had moved to other regions, especially the tourist provinces such as Phuket and Phang Nga, to escape the unrest.

A large number of workers from Isarn had also moved away, many returning home, he added.

As a result, the three southernmost provinces had suffered labor shortages of about 80,000 positions, he said.

Songkhla Industrial Council President Olarn Uyakul said the shortages had seriously affected the industrial sector, especially the fishing industry.

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



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# Ill-suited progress irks Ao Nang

At last count there were more than 50 tailors in the Ao Nang area. That was at the time of the writing of this article, so by the time you read this you might as well add one or two more. This obviously begs the question, "Why are there so many tailors in Ao Nang?" Why are there so many Indian restaurants here, for that matter.

There are so many obvious gaps in the services provided, especially in the culinary scene, that we would love to see some diversity. We'd beg for some Greek food, Spanish cuisine or a kebab house. Even a few different Asian restaurants, say Korean or Vietnamese, would liven up the place.

But getting back to the tailors, I have always wondered, "How do all these guys get work permits?" My understanding is

that work permits are not issued for occupations that Thai people can do or are already working in.

Now there are Thai tailors, but not many – so why aren't there more? Is it because they can't find a space to rent? Or is it because they just aren't as proficient at following customers 100 meters down the road telling them they should buy a suit.

I point this out only because there are many qualified individuals who bring technical skills to this country but who have difficulty in obtaining work permits, and last I looked being a hawker for cheap suits wasn't a technical skill. So let's have some more chefs and less tailors.

**Soiled profits.** Skyrocketing land prices in Ao Nang continue to amaze the locals. Commercial lots are being divided, and subdivided again and again, so now



**A STITCH IN TIME?** The growing number of tailors in Ao Nang is quickly outpacing demand.

shop sizes are hardly big enough for a Labrador to sleep in, and the rents just keep going up.

Case in point is the corner of the beach by the Phra Nang Inn. The corner plot recently changed hands and was subdivided into smaller shop-lets.

One estimate of the land value according to the rental prices charged is 90 million baht per rai. Before you scream, "No Way!" the Krabi Provincial Land Office just finished their tax assessments, which are conducted every four years.

Land 700 meters from the beachfront was assessed at 10 million a rai, and we all know that you wouldn't consider selling your land for anything near the assessment value. So forget about 500-baht-a-night guesthouses or any new low-density, small boutique resorts (that charge less than 30,000 baht a night) as the escalating land prices will dictate the continued expansion of the four-story shophouse (ugh) and the

institutional tower block, high-density resort (yawn).

Businesses operating on leases can expect a big jump in rents upon the expiration of the lease as the owners will no doubt be faced with big buck offers to buy their property.

**No dumping.** With all the construction going on, we are unfortunately experiencing the side-effects of the boom. Why the inconsiderate behavior of contractors dumping their garbage and old construction materials on the side of the road goes unpunished is beyond me.

Some workers even dump just down the road from their own projects. Shame on you!

**Grant-a-rant.** Here is a list – totally unscientific and definitely biased – of what Ao Nang has too much of, and not enough of. This bogus poll was taken of local residents, Thai and expat.

## Too many

Cheap pizza restaurants  
Tailors  
Motorbike accidents  
People disregarding local regulations  
Litterbugs  
Wise guys and hooligans  
People complaining

## Not enough

Good, ethnic restaurants  
Qualified Thai staff  
Parking  
Nighttime police presence  
Public garbage bins  
Well-heeled investors  
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By Gus Reynolds

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# Phuket babes go for bebe

The distinctive American born bebe brand of daring clothes and accessories for confident women has heads turning across the globe as demand for the hi-class fashion wear spreads from the home of Hollywood to the cosmopolitan cities of South East Asia, including Bangkok and Phuket.

•By Nick Davies

The bebe brand has been warmly welcomed in Phuket by the cosmopolitan island's fashion conscious females who have a serious head for business and pleasure.

The powerfully sensual and seriously seductive bebe fashion wear gives women the confidence and power to get what they want, whatever they do.

Worn at work bebe makes a woman look like she means business. After dark it's time for the temptress to be dangerously sexy with the latest line of low cut tops and twist front dresses. For a touch of class, the pleated silk tube dress gives a sultry classic look that always gets a second look.

"The bebe brand is the perfect fit for today's modern and confident cosmopolitan Phuketian. The clothes and accessories fit perfectly with the fast lane lifestyle that many of Phuket's fashion conscious females lead," said bebe Brand Manager Jitrudee Panitpon.

"The sexy tops and daring dresses at Central Festival are just the right mix of tops and dresses for looking cool in the day time and daringly different at dinner parties," she added.

With winning designs for the femme fatale, the Phuket bebe boutique appeals to no-nonsense daring young adults, who want to shout out and let the world know who they are and what they stand for.

Far from naive, these discriminating females take pride in their appearance and demand high quality clothing that helps them make a bold statement to the world with sexy tops, sensually strapped high heels and sultry sunglasses.

Before arriving in Thailand bebe boasted more than 250 boutiques in the US and Canada with licensed stores in Thailand, Singapore, Malaysia and Indonesia since the San Francisco bebe brand was born in 1976.

The bebe brand has given women the power to choose powerful clothes and fashion wear for 30 years. Far from outdated though, the bebe brand continues to be the number one trend setter of quality classic yet modern sophisticated designs. The bebe brand was conceived with a determination to break the mould of the day's drab fashions for the masses and with an ambition to design fashion wear that gives women a way of expressing themselves in many ways.

bebe is the fashion choice of high profile, trend-setting celebrities with leading roles for today's no-nonsense fashion conscious go getting babes.

Top Victoria's Secrets' model and Hollywood movie star Rebecca Romijn, who plays voluptuous Mystique in X-Men, is today's face of bebe along with bebe sport model Eva Longoria.



such as pop idol Jennifer Lopez and modern day angels Cameron Diaz and Drew Barrymore, plus top fashion guru Paris Hilton.

bebe designs have also given television show actresses the edge when playing their parts on screen, in movies such as *Desperate Housewives*, *American Idol*, *Sex and the City*, and you'll often see the bebe brand sported by MTV's hottest new bands.

Not only is bebe for confident women, the line of quality seductive clothing gives a woman the confidence and power to go out and get what she wants. bebe is for the woman who understands the power of evocative imagery.

The bebe line of fashion wear at Central Festival is a blend of exotic East meets wild West with a wide range of sexy tops for the tropics, from pleat silk bustiers and ruffle trim blouses to silk chiffon sequin blouses and strapless silk waterfall tops.

No fashion line is complete without a range of complimentary accessories. The Phuket bebe boutique specializes in hi-class tropical accessories with a wide range of stylish sunglasses embedded with Swarovski crystals.

The bebe collection of bags is continually growing to give you something to mix and match for any occasion, including purses, shoulder bags, gym bags shopping and cosmetic bags, each in dramatic styles displaying the distinctively bold bebe logo; an essential addition to the babe collection for temptresses with taste.

Dare you delve into the dangerously sexy Holiday 2007 collection? Find out for yourself at the bebe boutique on the 1<sup>st</sup> floor of Central Festival Phuket.



By Janyaporn Morel

Smile Thailand uses dance to tell traditional tales of moon-eating monsters and half-woman, half-bird princesses at events and resorts around Phuket.

The small performance company, based in a modest shophouse in Phuket Villa 1 in the Samkong area of Phuket City, has been putting on shows for two years, striving to preserve Thai performance arts and adapt traditional dance into more contemporary forms.

Smile Thailand, well-known among the island's event organizers for entertaining cultural acts, was founded by Pairach Srihon and his wife Namkhang two years ago.

K. Pairach has a degree in Thai Musical Arts from Bansomdejchaopraya Rajabhat University in Bangkok, while K. Namkhang is a graduate of the Nakhon Sri Thammarat College of Dramatic Arts.

"We are working in both arts conservation and development. We want to conserve traditional Thai art forms such as Thai dance and music, but in order to serve all our customer's requests we also adapt some traditional dances to have a more modern style," K. Pairach said.

Some 60 of the 100 performance sets they offer are traditional Thai acts from four distinct cultural regions of Thailand.

"The classic play *Khon* (*The King and the Deer*, performed with masks) is considered the highest level of Thai dance.

"It dates back to the Ayudhaya period when it was only performed before royalty. In contrast, the Tari Kipus Payong, or Fan and Umbrella Dance, originates from southern Thailand. Its distinctive gestures, movements and music are clearly influenced by Malay culture.

K. Pairach and his staff developed the choreography, music composition and costume design for all of the 40 adapted, contemporary performances themselves.

"We invent the dances and design the costumes by ourselves, emphasizing a mixture of old and new. We want to create original work, yet we still conserve Thai art and culture," said K. Pairach.

Smile Thailand has seven full-time staff members, all graduates from various art and drama

# All the right moves in preserving Thai culture



Smile Thailand aims to preserve traditional dance and music, while adapting some styles into modern forms. The troupe offers traditional Thai performances from Thailand's diverse cultural regions.

schools. Many have other part-time jobs, but they all show up to practice everyday from 3 pm and perform evenings.

If Smile Thailand is contracted for a grand event requiring many performers and musicians, they turn to the local schools and colleges, with which they maintain strong contacts, said K. Pairach.

Although organizing and performing the shows is quite difficult, Smile Thailand keeps their prices reasonable. A simple show comprising four to five sets, for example, costs around 6,000 baht.

Their biggest gig to date was the grand opening of the Phuket Welcome Gate at Mai Khao in August, when they were paid nearly 100,000 baht by the Phuket Administration Organization (*OrBorJor*) for an extravagant production.

It might sound like a wind-

fall profit, until one considers that over one hundred performers needed to be paid for their parts.

K. Pairach is hoping his high-quality, low-cost strategy will pay off, making Smile Thailand the first choice among Phuket resorts and event organizers for cultural entertainment.

"We don't ask a lot of money per show, because we want people to know us first. We are becoming the first choice for organizers as we have done a very good job. Our shows and costume designs are unique and more creative than the other company's," K. Pairach said.

In the larger scheme, huge profits are not that important to K. Pairach.

"We do this job because we like it and we want to conserve our traditional Thai culture and show it to the world," K. Pairach said.

The Smile Thailand office is also open to any children or people interested in learning traditional Thai music and dance. The price is 100 baht per two-hour session.

To learn more about Smile Thailand, contact K. Pairach by calling 086-6862550, by Fax to 076-524055 or by Email to: [phuketmilethailand@hotmail.com](mailto:phuketmilethailand@hotmail.com)

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# News from Bang Tao's BBC

With its stilts firmly embedded in the sands of Bang Tao Beach and entrance less than two sun-lounger lengths from the Andaman Sea, the Babylon Beach Club restaurant exudes romance.

During the day, the wood-built restaurant offers glorious, unobstructed sea views and a magical sunset as the light fades.

Evenings bring candlelit tables with starched white linens and wind chimes tinkling in the sea breeze. During clement weather you can eat under the stars at tables in the powdery sand.

Babylon Beach Club (BBC, with due apologies to the venerable corporation with the same acronym) is owned and run by Lisa McWilliams and husband Phil James of property development company West Haven Group.

Lisa, from Northern Ireland, and Phil, from Wales, met in Hong Kong, where both were working at the time.

The couple married in January this year and would have loved to have been wed at their restaurant, but the logistics and timing involved to get members of both families together defeated them.

"We ended up getting married at the foot of Ben Nevis in the highlands of Scotland – windy, raining and freezing cold, but there was plenty of whiskey!" said Lisa.

During his 12 years in Hong Kong, Phil was on the lookout for investment property for clients of his private wealth-management company. He entertained guests at beach restaurants when they viewed potential purchases in Phuket.

With Lisa's family background in hotels and restaurants, it seemed only logical that they should build their own restaurant and develop their own property. Thus, Babylon Beach Club and Ocean Palms Condominiums were born.

Last December heralded the opening of BBC, and with its location between Laguna Beach Resort and the Amora Hotel, there has been no shortage of stroll-by trade on the sands.

Lisa decided to take the risk of keeping BBC open all year, despite the stormy weather during monsoon season.

The manager, Chavisa "Daeng" Apichart, and two young chefs, Phonsak "Eff" Lerswonghus and Wanchai "Chai" Thokinthorn, chose the food for us on our visit to BBC to highlight the Thai and international cuisine.

Served in a whole coconut,



Although it looks like it might take flight at any moment, this *khao pad sapparod* is just one of many treats dished out at Babylon Beach Club.

have melted over the ham giving the full range of flavors in each mouthful.

The BBQ white snapper in white-wine sauce was an off-menu special.

The Mediterranean-style sliced green and black olives with capers added powerful flavor to the white-wine sauce, but didn't overpower the more subtle flavor of the snapper.

Care was lavished on the presentation. The garnish was large enough to be a side salad; three types of lettuce with julienne of bell pepper and carrot under a well-balanced sauce vinaigrette.

The *khao pad sapparod* was an artistic triumph: a whole pineapple cut into the shape of a bird's body, with a banana neck and red pepper beak.

The pineapple flesh was replaced with fried rice and assorted seafood, raisins and cashew nuts. The rice was moist, as it should be, but with the grains definable rather than mushy.

Finally, a dessert of flambéed banana in honey sauce with chocolate ice cream – as sweetly naughty as in one's dreams. [yours, not mine – Ed.]

So what's next for BBC? "When the weather improves, we'll put the sun loungers out and get the water sports started, encourage more weddings, corporate functions, regular chill-out beach parties," said Lisa.

Babylon Beach Club is open daily 10 am until 10:30 pm.

The average cost of a meal for two persons without wine is 1,000 baht.

For more information contact Lisa McWilliams at Babylon Beach Club. Tel: 081-9705302 Website: [www.babylonbeachclub.com](http://www.babylonbeachclub.com)

## On the menu



WITH  
Alistair Why

### Babylon Beach Club

the signature Babylon Beach Cocktail combined dark rum, Malibu, pineapple and fresh coconut juice.

It tasted innocuous, as with many sweet and fruity concoctions, but it had a steely resolve to inebriate.

My companion enjoyed her favorite, Babylon Bubbles, or kir royale (sparkling wine with crème de cassis).

There was a children's menu that included non-alcoholic cocktails; children can choose from the likes of a Shirley Temple

(basically Sprite or ginger ale and grenadine syrup) so they don't feel left out at cocktail hour.

Adult cocktails were a reasonable 150 baht and each and kiddie cocktail was 100 baht.

The BBC wine list was varied, catering to differing pockets, with about 30% of the bottles priced 1,000 baht or less. We chose an Aresti Reserva Merlot 2005 from Chile at 1,800 baht. A smooth, rich, fruity wine with plum, blackberry and dried fig flavors.

The Phuket Selection appetizer (200 baht for two persons) alerted us to the fact that prices are reasonable and the portions generous.

We were served a plate of flour-dipped, deep-fried prawns, a large serving of succulent pan-

fried chicken satay, crispy vermicelli and vegetable spring rolls, and deep-fried chicken in pandanus leaves.

Thankfully, the cooking oil was clean and hot, allowing the food to absorb the flavors instead of the oil.

The bruschetta was a plate of toasted slices of baguette surrounding a glass jar of chopped tomatoes, garlic, onion and basil – you get to ladle the topping on in the desired quantity.

The Babylon Stuffed Chicken, deep-fried, breaded chicken breast stuffed with cheese and ham, was served with seasonal vegetables on a bed of mashed potatoes.

The chicken was crisp on the outside and moist on the inside; the cheese hot enough to

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## Happily Ever After

### Recent weddings in Phuket

Natthawit Athikitrungrueng and Pornthip Sae-thung were married at the Phuket Ballroom of the Royal Phuket City Hotel on November 23.



Ozan Uncel and Kylie Ward, from Turkey and Australia respectively, were married at Laguna Phuket's Chapel-on-the-Lagoon on October 13.



# Cupid scouts in

What does a loveless Irish farmer do when the loneliness of the prairie becomes too much to endure? He visits Willie Daly, the matchmaker.

Willie Daly has been helping men and women find husbands and wives for more than 40 years. He hails from Lisdoonvarna, a rural town in the countryside of western Ireland, where matchmakers have played an important role in society since the late 1800s.

With snow-white hair and a generous beard, Willie places his matchmaking portfolio on the coffee table. Beneath a brown cover with worn edges, tattered pages are held together by a shoestring.

"This was my grandfather's. It has names in it since the turn of the century. I don't open the old section much; it tends to fall apart when I do," said Willie in a thick Irish brogue.

The book was passed from Willie's grandfather to father and from his father to him – a family line of match-makers dating back more than a 120 years.

Willie thumbs to a section of the book where the names and photos of Thai women were added two years ago. "There's loads interested in them," he said.

Willie and his friend Marcus White, a resident of Patong and organizer of Ireland's Match-making Festival, are exploring the idea of facilitating marriages between Irish people and Thais.

Willie and Marcus are hoping to invite a small number of Thais to next year's Match-making Festival in Lisdoonvarna, Ireland.

In the past, matchmakers were men who frequented street fairs across the countryside searching for families with offspring eligible for marriage.

After the fall harvest, farmers and landowners from around western Ireland would bring their sons and daughters to the harvest festival held in Lisdoonvarna.

The matchmakers would introduce prospective couples and help parents negotiate dowries. This became the Matchmaking Festival.

Now every September, about 20,000 singles from Ireland

Willie Daly is a third-generation Irish matchmaker – and he's got the book to prove it. Willie recently came to Phuket to assess potential candidates for lads and lasses in Ireland, where he preserves a 120-year family tradition of matchmaking.

The *Gazette's* Skyler Swezy recently spoke with Ireland's Cupid in Patong to find out just what it takes to make the perfect pairing.

and Europe descend upon Lisdoonvarna for five consecutive weekends to look for love at the annual festival.

This is the busiest time of the year for Willie. During the festival, he can be found at a table in his pub, The Matchmaker, entering names in his book and introducing singles.

Six years ago, Marcus White's family hotel company, White Hotel Group, recruited 550 Thais, male and female, to work in hospitality positions in Europe. Many of these Thai immigrants, mostly women, married Irish people, Marcus said.

It's becoming common for Irish men to seek Thai brides.

"In the past three or four years, there's always people ringing me saying, 'do you have any girls from Thailand?'"

"These have been decent, respectable men, looking for a genuine partner – someone loyal they can trust and depend upon," he said.

The Irish are impressed by their new Thai spouses and neighbors, viewing them as hard workers who are committed to their homes.

"The Thais are unbelievably good workers. They're not into high-tech socializing. The home be everything; their children be everything," said Willie.

Willie believes the growing independence of Irish women has left a void in the homes of Irishmen in the countryside.

"Irish women have got considerably more independent with their good wages and good education.

"They're not dependent on the man. They probably say, 'well, I have a nice lifestyle, a nice home and good wages – I don't need

to start having kids and all that,'" said Willie.

Thai women are similar to the Irish women of 10 years ago, he added.

It's not just Irish men who are looking for Siamese soul mates. "You might be surprised that we have some Irish girls interested in Thai men. Opposites do attract," said Willie.

Willie said that it's important he meets singles individually in order to find them a match. Willie and Marcus will invite about 10 Thais to next year's Match-making Festival – seven women and three men, said Willie.

The Thai singles will be flown to Ireland free of charge and introduced to their prospective spouses.

Although Willie made his first match at 15 years old, "just for fun", he wasn't always keen on matchmaking.

Singles seeking consultation often visited Willie's father at home, which meant young Willie had to turn the radio down and sit in the kitchen.

"I would be a wee bit annoyed when people came," he admitted with a chuckle.

Thirteen years after his father stopped matchmaking, Willie was gazing out a window of his hilltop home, which overlooks the countryside. He recalled a "for sale" sign he'd seen earlier that day.

"I thought 'God, they were lovely people', but the last of that generation had died, so the place was being sold.

"Some German people bought it. Nice enough people, but kind of different, you know?" said Willie.

Willie feared his traditional farming community was fading



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# Thailand



**Matchmaker Willie Daly believes the growing independence of Irish women has left a void in the homes of Irishmen in the countryside – a void he is looking to fill with happiness.**

away. The children of farmers weren't marrying and having kids of their own.

When the last descendant died, so did the farm. Land was often sold for summer homes or new developments.

"From that point, I started making matches," he said.

In the past, 90% of matches resulted in marriage, with the exception of "runaway marriages", explained Willie.

"[A young lady's] representatives, maybe her father, could be negotiating a marriage for her. But she might in fact have a little piper she's in love with. And he might come in the middle of the night and they tear off through a window to try and get married somewhere else – that's a runaway marriage."

With the days of dowries and parentally arranged marriages gone in Ireland, Willie must rely on the powers of attraction.

Looks, lifestyles and interests must be compatible, but these can mean nothing without a little spark of "instant magic".

"When you introduce them, it has to be someone they want to be with – and fairly quickly, not in six months," said Willie.

Willie doesn't think too much has changed in Ireland:

women are looking for husbands and men are looking for wives, said Willie.

Willie said he came to Patong because his friend Marcus White has a home there – and nothing more.

Asked about the potential for bar girls to become loving and faithful wives, Willie said that he was looking to add professional, career women to his list of clients, not bar girls.

Willie is unsure which of his eight children will pick up the matchmaking book when he retires.

His daughter, Mauree, helps during the festival and his eldest son Henry shows promise.

For now, the book is Willie's and it contains one more of his passions.

"I play a good bit of music," he said, producing a small tin flute from somewhere in the stack of ancient pages.

"This is a little tune I wrote," he said before piping out an Irish jig as old as his profession.

*For more information contact Willie (williedaly@eircom.net) Marcus White (marwhite@iol.ie) or visit: [www.matchmakerireland.com](http://www.matchmakerireland.com)*

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## This week



**TAKE THAT!** Phuket Tourist Police volunteer Serge Meunier practices an armlock on fellow volunteer Ronny Bols during a recent training session conducted by security expert Aaron LeBoutillier the from UK. The training, attended by members of several agencies, took place at the Royal Phuket City Hotel. Topics covered included risk assessment, suspect control, appropriate response and officer safety.



**SPLASHING SUCCESS:** Vice-Governor Worapoj Rattasima (left) welcomes to Phuket Jean Desjoyaux, founder of the global pool company Desjoyaux Pools. Wongkarn Karnjananopini, Managing Director of the Desjoyaux Phuket branch, looks on.



**GOLDEN YEARS:** Tage Levin (right), President of the Swedish-Thai Chamber of Commerce, and colleagues are welcomed to Mom Tri's Villa Royale by General Manager Adisak Pitukrojjananont (left) during their recent visit to Phuket as part of their Education Trip for Elderly Care Program.



**ABSOLUTE SECURITY:** Bryan Lunt, Chairman of Absolute Group, hands to Kathu Police Superintendent Col Grissak Songmoonark a card marking the donation of five JRD scooters to Kathu Police Station from Absolute Sea Pearl Beach Resort & Spa and Bangla Suites.



**SEEDS OF CHANGE:** Children at Pruteaw Village in Phang Nga cheer after planting seedlings as part of the Nissan Mobile Library for Tsunami Children project, which included donating books and sports equipment and holding recreational activities for the children, as well as donating a Nissan Urvan to the cause in 2005.



**MAKE IT UP:** Make Up Store CEO Mika Liias (center) and President Kantima Sopakdee (right) celebrate the opening of their new store at Central Festival Phuket the November 10. Joining them (from left) are professional makeup artist from Stockholm Emilia Alvarez (left), Purchasing Assistant from Stockholm Elin Anderson and Swedish Acting Consul General for Phuket Christina Palm.

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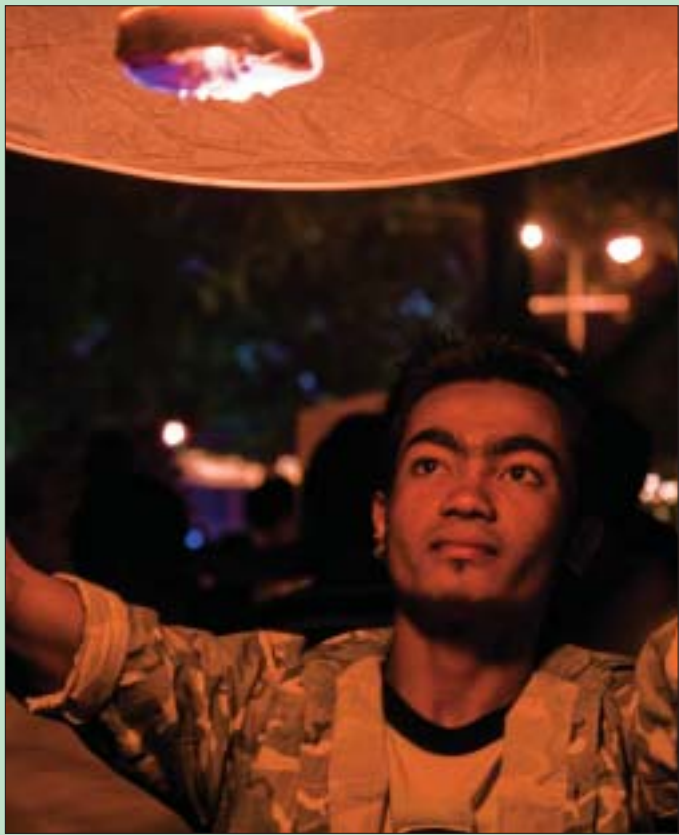
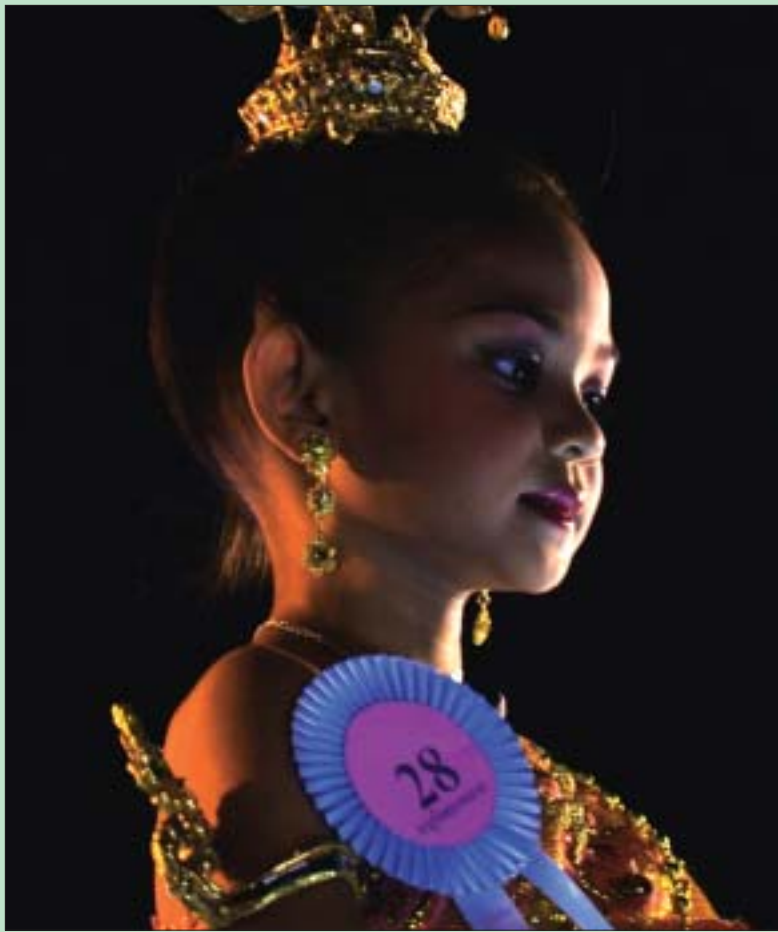


# A wish afloat

Friends and families gathered under the silvery light of a brilliant full moon. Trails of floating lanterns filled the sky while wishes were whispered and carried away with the currents as people placed their candlelit *krathongs* on the water on Saturday, November 24.

The annual Loy Krathong festivities that could be seen around the island wherever there was water included Noppamas beauty contests and traditional dancing. In such a romantically-charged atmosphere, young love surely blossomed around the lakesides.

Pictures courtesy of Lee Starnes.



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For more events, see  
our Events Calender  
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# Boogie-woogie charity blues

Phuket's elite turned out well-heeled and in their best dress for the 18<sup>th</sup> PIWC Gala Ball, Rhapsody in Blue, at Indigo Pearl, Nai Yang on November 24.

The fun-filled evening, featuring dinner and dance with dishy dames and dandy dukes, was held in aid of some of the island's less fortunate youngsters who will benefit with scholarships and funding from the money raised by the PIWC throughout the year and from items that were auctioned during the Gala Ball.

A group of scholarship recipients put on a performance of song and dance to

show their gratitude for the generous participation of local businesses and individuals, which exceeded organizers' expectations, who reported a record-breaking year of donations.

Bidding was feverish for some of the prestigious prizes, which included cruises, holidays, golf memorabilia signed by the pros and an impromptu donation of the chance to play a few rounds with golf pro Jean Van de Velde.

The photos here are by Skyler Swezy, *Phuket Gazette* and Four Seasons Info Media.



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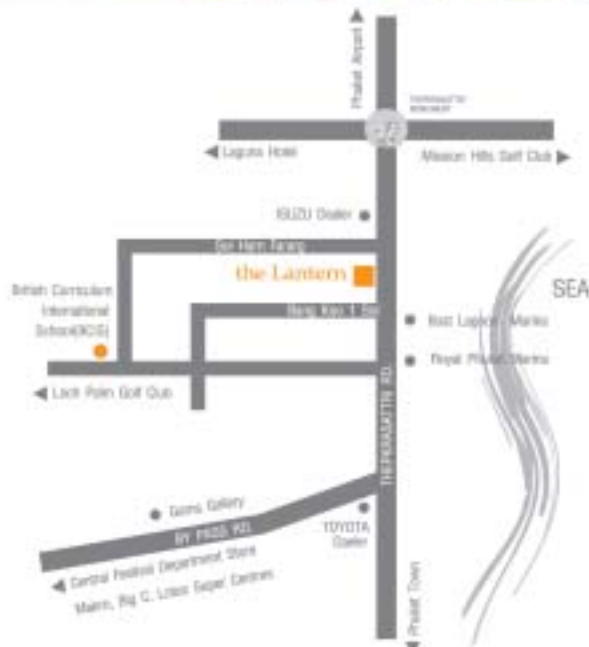


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# Top-secret Tesco bans photos

## LARGER THAN LIFE

By Graham Doven

I went to have a look at the new Tesco-Lotus Express store under construction in Cherng Talay – the one that is bringing protesters out in droves.

Stopping the car within the confines of the project site, I pulled out a camera and took a couple of photos when suddenly a man came out of the project office waving his hand, prompting a security guard to leap to action, also waving his hands at me. “No photos,” they said.

There’s something funny going on here, I thought. Why would a new supermarket be so secretive? I could see no rocket launchers ready for a Phuket independence revolution, no illegal drug production plants, no fake Johnnie Walker distilleries or money-counterfeiting machines – it looked like a normal supermarket.

It does have a claim to fame, however, being one of the stores that has got the locals out protesting about big supermarket names coming to take away their



**It looks innocuous enough, but could this building be a front for nuclear-missile research or a Soviet space station? The new Tesco-Lotus Express store is subject to numerous rumors.**

business. There is nothing new about this type of carry-on, it appears to be very much the done thing in rural Thailand at the moment.

I asked a few people what all the fuss was about and nobody could come up with a good reason to stop competition from opening in the area. As Communist states have unilaterally proved, enforcing absolute control over

everything in the world of business results invariably results in monumental failure. Just look at the crappy old cars that people drove in Russia during the Soviet Union era. Ugh.

Local shop owners say they will not have any business after the big supermarket opens, but to my reckoning most people don’t buy the same things in the small mom-and-pop stores as they do

at Tesco. People make small purchases such as a can of Coke or a tube of toothpaste in small shops. Even if the big supermarket is close, people are not going to bother to go queue up at checkouts just for a can of soft drink.

There may be an issue for the local agents who deliver the drinking water, but there’s only a few of those around.

Maybe the fresh-produce market will be affected, but the vendors shouldn’t vary the prices so much depending on the customer and they might be motivated to buy better quality onions and tomatoes, not to mention those beaten-up old spuds.

I am going to use the new supermarket because if it weren’t there I would still be heading off to the big centers on the bypass road. I’m not going to do my main shopping in a little soi shop.

Convenience stores are there for convenience when you’ve run out of something or forgot to get something when you went shopping.

The new Tesco store is going to bring more visitors, more work and more business to the area.

None of this, however, explains the mystery of the ban on photographs. Other places where I’ve come across this are go-go bars in Patong, Benny the Butt in Sydney – Benny “arranges” things, anything, my uncle used to tell me – and the Soviet space station being assembled in Kazakhstan.

I still think something is going on and I’m going to ask my friend St John about it. He’s good at conspiracies.

I’ll let you know if we discover something.

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## EVENTS CALENDAR

## Upcoming events on the island

**Until December 8. Phuket King's Cup Regatta.**

The King's Cup Regatta is held every year to honor the birthday of HM King Bhumibol Adulyadej. The week-long event is Asia's biggest and most popular regatta with great sailing and great parties along the way.

For further information visit [www.kingscup.com](http://www.kingscup.com) or call 076-273380.

**December 1. 6<sup>th</sup> Annual QSI Fun Run, 1km & 6.5km races.**

QSI International School of Phuket holds a fun run and auction each year to help raise money for important school projects and to promote good health. December 1 is the rescheduled date of the run.

This year's run will be held at the Bang Wad Dam. The run will be divided into two separate runs: 1 and 6.5 kilometers. Participation medals will be given to the first 200 registrants, along with gold, silver and bronze medals to the top three finishers in each age category, male and female.

For further information contact QSI International School Phuket. Tel: 076-354077, 081-6334279. Email: [qsi.funrun@gmail.com](mailto:qsi.funrun@gmail.com) Website: [www.qsi.org](http://www.qsi.org)

**December 2. Laguna Phuket Triathlon and 6km fun run.**

Southeast Asia's premier multi-sport event, the Laguna Phuket Triathlon, presented by Thai Airways International and the Tourism Authority of Thailand, is now in its 14<sup>th</sup> year, with a new swim course, altered bike and running routes, and a new start time of 7 am.

The 1.8km swim, 55km bike ride and 12km run offers a US\$20,000 prize purse. The event expects to attract some 800 athletes from more than 30 countries competing in both the individual triathlon and the Herbalife Corporate Challenge Team Relay. A 6km fun run for 500 participants will be conducted from 8 am until 9 am. Registration is 400 baht.

For further information call 076-324060, email [info@lagunaphukettriathlon.com](mailto:info@lagunaphukettriathlon.com) or visit [www.lagunaphukettriathlon.com](http://www.lagunaphukettriathlon.com)

**December 5. HM The King's Birthday – Public Holiday.**

HM King Bhumibol Adulyadej's birthday, also marked as Father's Day in Thailand.

**December 7. PIMEX Sponsorship Clinic.**

Seeking sponsors? Looking for an opportunity to sponsor? Out to maximize an already sponsored opportunity? The Phuket International Marine Expo (PIMEX) Sponsorship Clinic at the PIMEX Exhibitors Lounge, Royal Phuket Marina, will feature a free Q&A session presented by Paul Poole Co Ltd. The event will take place from 2 pm until 3:30 pm.

For more information contact Paul Poole. Tel: 026-220605/7. Email: [paulpoole@email.com](mailto:paulpoole@email.com) Website: [www.paulpoole.co.th](http://www.paulpoole.co.th)

**December 9. Phuket International Dragon Boat Challenge.**

Organizers Sail in Asia will have six 45-foot Chinese dragon boats at the PIMEX Boat Show on December 9 for Phuket's inaugural International Dragon Boat Challenge to take place from 10 am until 5 pm.

The aim is to engage the community in one of the world's most enjoyable sports. The event is open to all, schools, companies, charities – everyone. This is also an excellent opportunity for advertisers and sponsors due to the wide media coverage.

For further information contact Mike Downard. Tel: 087-2810458. Email: [mike@sailinasia.com](mailto:mike@sailinasia.com) Website: [www.phuketdragonboat.com](http://www.phuketdragonboat.com)

**December 10. Constitution Day – Public holiday.****December 12. Soi Dog Foundation Fund-Raising Christmas Party.**

The Soi Dog Foundation this year will hold its annual fund-

**PIMEX 2007**

December 6-9

The annual Phuket International Marine Expo (PIMEX) will be showcasing all aspects of the marine industry, from high-end pleasure craft to boating industry services, at Royal Phuket Marina. For more information visit [www.phuketboatshow.com](http://www.phuketboatshow.com).

raising Christmas Party on Wednesday, December 12, at Tatonka restaurant at Tinlay Place, near the entrance to Laguna.

Starting at 7 pm, enjoy an evening of globe-trotting cuisine and lots of surprises. The Tatonka Restaurant is donating the meal and all proceeds from ticket sales are going directly to the Soi Dog Foundation.

Tickets at 900 baht are limited. Book early to avoid disappointment. Email [jennifergardner@email.com](mailto:jennifergardner@email.com) to reserve your ticket or call 076-317937 or 086-0174525.

**December 13-19. 'These shoes are made for working' exhibition by Mia Gillow.**

A record of the restoration of Cariad, the largest, oldest gaff cutter in the world, being rebuilt in Thailand.

The result from this talented young photographer is an artistic view of the vessel's revival and the workers involved. Uniquely

seen through the eyes of a sailor and a yacht skipper in her own right, Mia's rare insight into the world of yachting is distinctive.

The exhibition, on show at Watermark bar and restaurant at Boat Lagoon, goes below decks to highlight the endless maintenance, craftsmanship and passion required, and the plethora of personalities magnetically attracted to it. Open 11 am to 11 pm

Contact Stuart for details. Tel: 081-7376184. Email: [stuart@watermarkphuket.com](mailto:stuart@watermarkphuket.com) Website: [www.watermarkphuket.com](http://www.watermarkphuket.com)

**December 24. Christmas Eve Wine Dinner @ Wine Connection Chalong**

Christmas Eve six-course set dinner, from 7 pm to midnight, with aperitif, six glasses of wine, fireworks and live band – all for 3,300 baht net per person.

For inquiries about the menu, please contact Pascal. Tel: 087-8896074. Email: [fb.phuket@wineconnection.co.th](mailto:fb.phuket@wineconnection.co.th)

**December 31. New Year's Eve. Public Holiday.****January 1. New Year's Day. Public Holiday.****January 12, 2008. Malaiwana TriBallistic Launch Party.**

From 6 pm to 11 pm at Skippers Sports Bar at Royal Phuket Marina. Live music by Indigo Pearl house band The Boom, featuring May Palmer and the "Sax Bomb" DJ and Saxophonist Gerard Cornielje. Buffet, dancing and lots of fun for all the family. Raffle prizes to be won.

Also includes pre-race registration for February 3 Triballistic race and a new range of Tri-Ballistic merchandise for sale.

Adults: 1,000 baht, inclusive of buffet, one beer or glass of wine (alcohol to be paid for after first drink) and raffle ticket. Children: 750 baht, inclusive of buffet, three soft drinks and raffle ticket.

Tickets are available from Shaun at 089-5902015 or info@triballisticclub.com; from Skippers Bar at 076-360890; and from the Helle Kirstein at the BIS – Phuket school library.

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# "If We Could Change the World"

Welcome to the 4th Junior IMPAC Dublin Literary Awards for Thailand 2006/2007

**Topic:** "If We Could Change the World"

**Language:** English

**Length:** 800-1,200 words

**Age:** 14-18, up to December 1, 2007

**Opening date for submissions:** November 1, 2007

**Closing date for submissions:** December 10, 2007

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- Phuket Gazette (for Phuket, Krabi and Phang-Nga)

2) Northern region contest: CityLife, Chiang Mai

3) Northeastern region contest coordinator: The Nation, Khon Kaen Office

4) Bangkok contest (including Central & Eastern region): The Nation, Bangkok

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- 2) The overall national winner will win a trip with one parent to Dublin\* where they will attend the senior international IMPAC Dublin Literary Awards ceremony to meet and take part in a reading with the winning author. The Dublin Literary Award is the richest literary prize in the world.

*\*The Dublin trip for the Thailand national winner is compulsory. If the national winner cannot go, the trip will be awarded to the next winner who can go.*

**Writers from the Southern Region should send entries to:**

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The Phuket Gazette  
367/2 Yacwarat Road, Taladyai, Muang Phuket 83000  
or by email to: [DublinAwards@PhuketGazette.Net](mailto:DublinAwards@PhuketGazette.Net)

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or Email: [jib@phuketgazette.net](mailto:jib@phuketgazette.net)

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# Tokyo unveils glimpse of the future

The 2001 Tokyo Motor Show, barely six weeks after 9/11, was understandably a poorly supported event. European and US journalists were reluctant to travel and world was still in shock. For some inexplicable reason, this year's show was also eerily quiet.

Very few foreign motoring writers were apparent. So, too, were there few exciting revelations in Japan, although according to the organizers there were as many as 32 new passenger cars on show. A possible reason for the lackluster showing by the media is the easy access via the Internet which renders foreign travel superfluous.

One rather special motor car on display, though, was the Alfa Romeo 8C Competizione, which combines state-of-the-art design with a heritage derived from a famous model of a bygone era. The exclusive GT, which will be produced in a limited series of 500 cars, stands out for its beautiful, sleek styling.

The past is conjured up in the name itself, which recalls Alfa Romeo's great motorsports tradition. In the 1930s and '40s, the 8C name was used to identify cars, racing and on-road, equipped with a powerful eight-cylinder engine produced by the famous designer Vittorio Jano.

On the Lexus stand there was a futuristic concept sports car, which, sad to say, will almost certainly never reach production.

Suzuki showed off a new idea in transporting mountain bikes, while Honda showed off its Civic Hybrid, as well as the futuristic FCX fuel-cell vehicle, which it claims can be in production by 2012.

Suzuki had its new SX4 WRC ready to take on the World Rally Championship in 2008. Already subjected to rigorous test-



Mazda's radical Taiki (pictured) was just one of the futuristic models unveiled at the Tokyo Motor Show.

ing, the SX4 first appeared in the Rally de France in Corsica recently, driven by Nicolas Bernardi.

Inevitably the buzz was of "climate change" and what major automakers were doing about carbon emissions. Most of the Japanese manufacturers promoted some kind of reduction in carbon dioxide air pollution, but not all were scheduled for production, at least, not in the immediate future.

Mazda showed its view of the future with the radical Taiki, which the company says "creates a sustainable society". Powered by the next-generation rotary engine, the Taiki reflects one possible direction for future Mazda sports cars. Clearly not a practical solution, but one that will promote ideas that are.

Fuel cells are certainly the way to go to reduce noxious emissions, but despite intensive research, both in Japan and elsewhere in the world, they appear

to be a long way from becoming a production reality. The idea is simple: a metal matrix that absorbs hydrogen, which is then used to generate electricity with which to power the vehicle, with the resultant emissions being nothing more hazardous than water.

The are currently around 50

fuel-cell cars on the roads of Japan, with Toyota, Honda, Nissan, Suzuki and Mazda all contributing to the project, which is overseen by the Japan Hydrogen and Fuel Cell Demonstration Project (JHFC).

Nissan appeared to go in the other direction from the so-called "responsible" motor manufactur-

ers with the launch of its latest GT-R, a four-wheel drive supercar powered by a 3.3-liter turbo motor. The new GT-R is very close to the concept model introduced in Tokyo two years ago.

Last but not least, Subaru launched its new Impreza WRX STI, complete with turbocharged 2.5-liter "boxer" engine. Producing an impressive 295 bhp (217 kW), the latest WRX is a worthy successor to the rally-winning Impreza that has endured for a number of years.

Despite the poor attendance on press day, the Tokyo Motor Show remains extremely important as a showcase to the Japanese manufacturers, and even Toyota, with dwindling sales in its domestic market, has reason to be optimistic of the future.

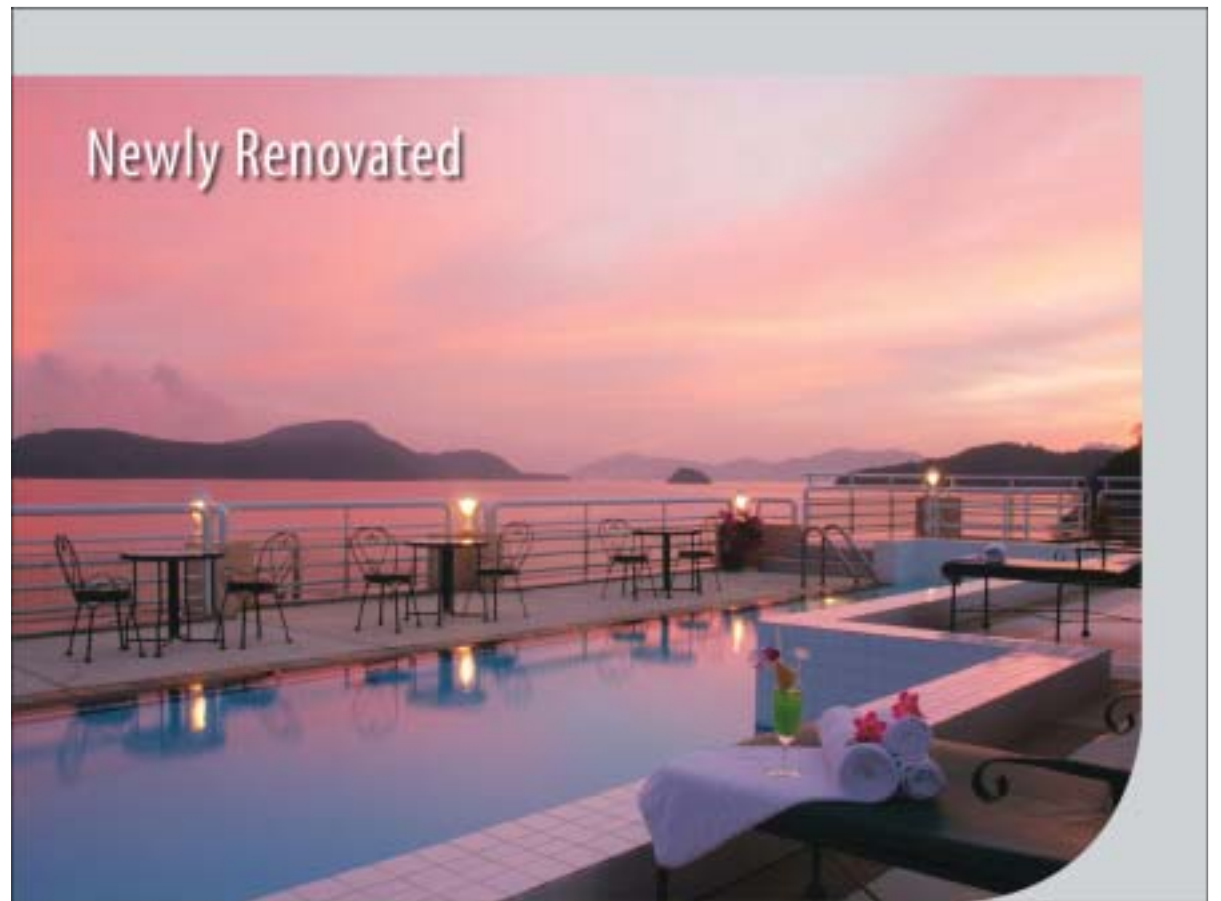
The Japanese giant may have failed to knock General Motors off its perch as world number one auto maker this year, but will surely succeed in early 2008.

For more information visit [www.tokyo-motorshow.com](http://www.tokyo-motorshow.com)

Jeff Heselwood can be contacted at [jhc@netcigator.com](mailto:jhc@netcigator.com)



By Jeff Heselwood



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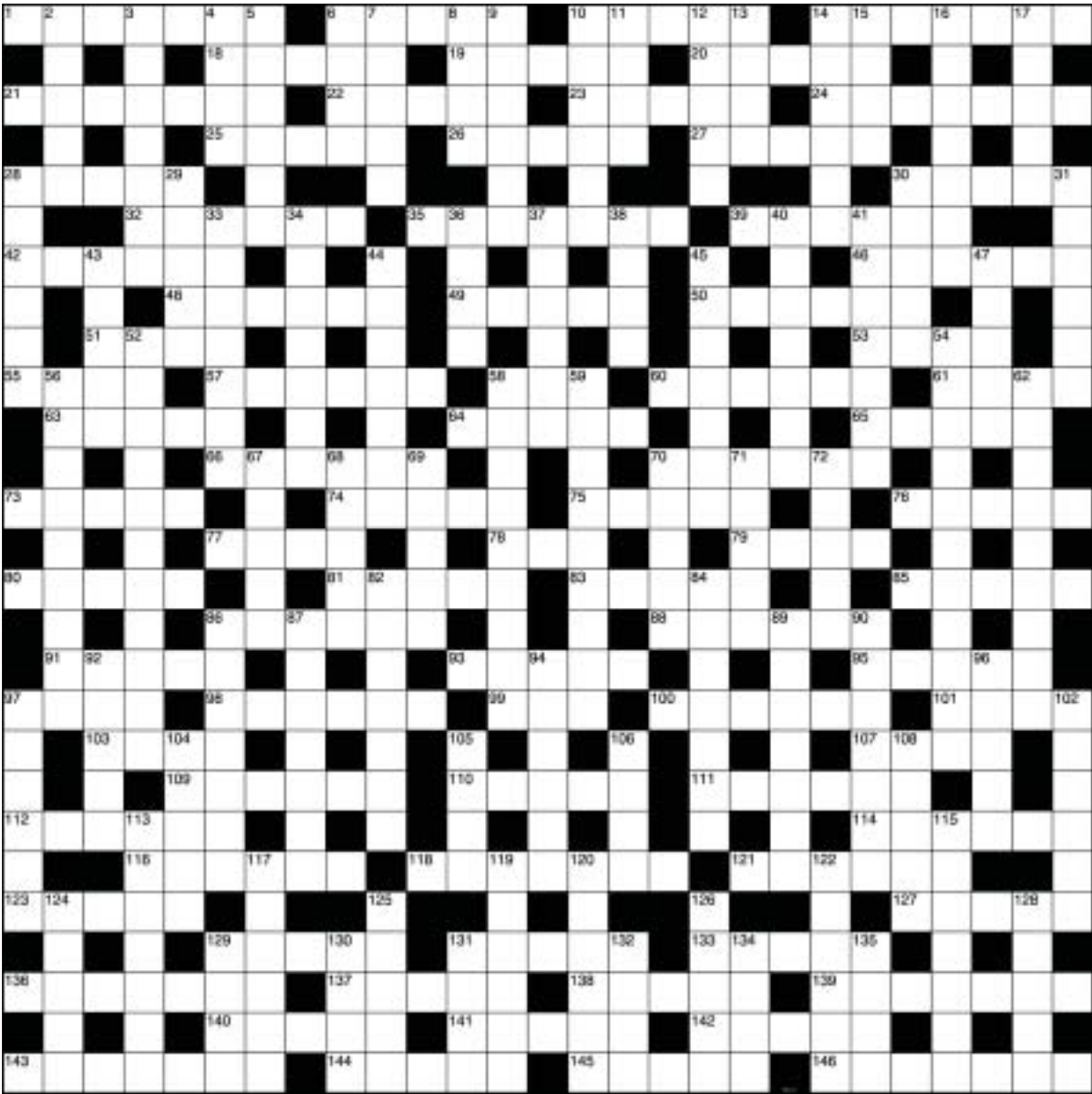


# The BIG Crossword

## Hidden Words

Hidden in the grid below are the names of at least 25 flavors of ice cream. The words may read vertically, horizontally or diagonally. They may also read right-to-left or down-to-up. Score: 15 or more, good; 20 or more, very good; 25 or more, excellent.  
Solution on the next page.

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



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- Across
1. Infant’s enclosure

6. Find answer to

10. Person, ...being

14. Shifting

18. Cod ...oil

19. Desert springs

20. Indian guitar

21. Renounce

22. Ethiopia’s ...Ababa

23. Open door to (3,2)

24. Undo (gate)

25. Climb

26. Plummeted

27. Business agree-ments

28. Viruses

30. Actress, ...Winger

32. Northern US state

35. Breakfast meals

39. Scallywag

42. Street stalls

46. French president’s ...Palace

48. Irrational fear

49. In outer...

50. Lights, ..., action!

51. Breed (with)

53. Mark as correct

55. Takes short sleep

57. American lizard

58. Wool thickness

60. Simple organism

61. Neither ...nor there

63. Beasts of burden

64. Good ...Bess

65. Dog, ...wolf hound

66. Composer, Wolfgang Amadeus...

70. Actor, Liam...

73. Authoritative com-mand

74. Drain supply of (3,2)

75. First, second,...

76. Shipments

77. Forewarning

78. Natural mineral

79. Gallivants

80. Asian country

81. Animal trainer

83. Superman star, Christopher...

85. Aplomb

86. Stages

88. Mafia, Cosa...

91. Actor, ...Carradine

93. Skewered meat

95. Temperamental star, ...Donna

97. Norway’s capital

98. US leader, Ronald...

99. Do-it-yourself

100. Flexible

101. Beach material

103. Dancer, ...Pavlova

107. Defence pact

109. On dry land

110. Hawaiian greeting

111. Screamed

112. Modernise

114. Spittle

116. Infuriate

118. Lengthy adventure

121. Crunchy

123. Slum

127. Court hearing

129. S. American parrot

131. African snake

133. Stylish

136. Judicious

137. Back tooth

138. TV hostess, ...Lake

139. Educates

140. Grass-cutter

141. Practised (trade)

142. Early anaesthetic

143. Expand

144. Informative

145. Fruit pips

146. Contaminate
- Down

2. Unpackaged

3. Face veil

4. Large deer

5. Brother’s daughters

6. Close (envelope)

7. Sequence

8. Not binding

9. Simpler

10. ...Bonham Carter

11. Not new

12. Incidental comment

13. Number in nonet

14. Recoils

15. Tea containers

16. Solemnly

17. More agreeable

28. Ham

29. Took 40 winks

30. Tibetan leader , ...Lama

31. Wide street

33. Godlessness

34. Israeli collective farm

36. Compass direction

37. Permit

38. Owed, time in...

40. Purposeless

41. Sure

43. Steak cuts

44. Decorum

45. Run playfully

47. Comic actor, Eric...

52. The A of YWCA

54. Foot specialist

56. First animals in dic-tionary

58. Professed

59. 24 hours ago

62. Dog, ...ridgeback

67. Vigour

68. Uncles &...

69. Pours (with rain)

70. Actor, David ...

71. Borders

72. More mature

82. Charges with gas

84. Salvos

86. Expressed

87. Seafood delicacy

89. Fishing boat

90. Suitability

92. Heavy antelope

94. Prejudiced people

96. New Zealander

97. Headlong surge

102. Force off tracks

104. Of birth

105. Plastic, credit...

106. Sound in health

108. Modify

113. United States of...

115. Romantic & poetic

117. Churchman

119. Annually

120. Cavalry swords

122. Foot arch

124. Smell

125. Cursed

126. Invited

128. Skilled

129. Wordless acting

130. Prayer ending

131. Road charts

132. Attendant

134. Reasoning ability

135. Brave man

Solution on the next page

## su|do|ku

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

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

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.





## Quick Crossword

### Across

1. Emblem
4. Flowing
7. Boxer, Mike...
8. Stop
10. Fib
11. Unpretty
12. Weather
13. Coffee cup
15. One of the senses
17. Women's clothing
19. Simple
20. Honorable

### Down

1. Water vessel
2. Spot
3. Artist's tool
4. Boundary
5. Weird
6. Nap
9. Specs
13. Doctor
14. Color
15. Grave
16. Fizzy drink
18. Cry

*Solution below*

## Get your brain in gear with The Monster Quiz



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

- |                                                                    |                                                                                              |                                                                                        |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. Jean-Paul Sartre was the father of what movement?               | 8. Who did the Romans drive out to establish the Roman Republic?                             | 15. What fruit lends its name to a shade of green?                                     |
| 2. In 2003, which probe crashed into Jupiter?                      | 9. Which flower inspired the Greek myth about a boy who wasted away from unsatisfied desire? | 16. In 1984, "Baby Fae" received a heart transplant from which animal?                 |
| 3. Which river forms part of the Venezuela-Colombia border?        | 10. Which South American first lady's body was kept in a dining room.                        | 17. What inflammation of the brain can result from viral infections or tiny parasites? |
| 4. Male first names in Lativa end in which letter?                 | 11. Robert Mugabe rules which country?                                                       | 18. During which century did a plague kill one-third of Europe's population?           |
| 5. What has been defined as "the dismal science"?                  | 12. Which fish lays its eggs out of water?                                                   | 19. Miss Universe 1976 served in which country's army?                                 |
| 6. What is the layer below the Earth's crust where volcanoes form? | 13. Which gypsy guitarist lost the use of two fingers?                                       | 20. What does a banderillero taunt?                                                    |
| 7. What is the leading cause of blindness in people 20 to 74?      | 14. Churchill, Stalin and FDR met during which 1945 conference?                              |                                                                                        |

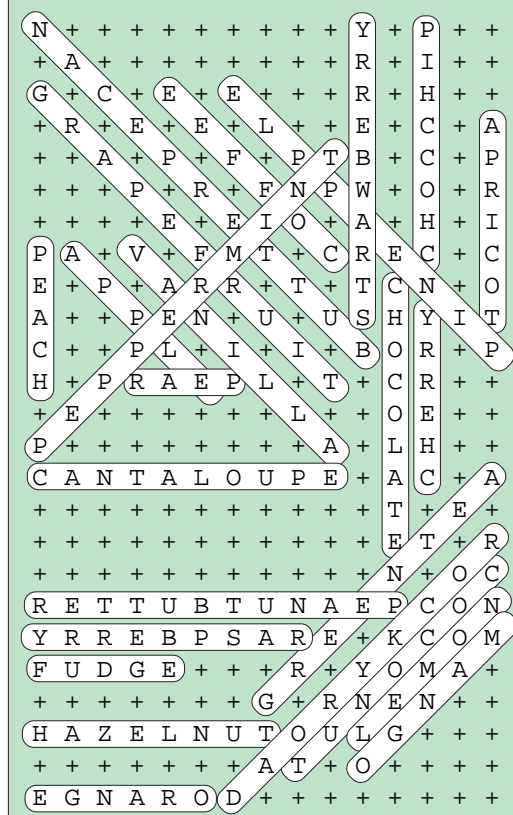
*Answers below*

# Puzzle Solutions

### Solution to this week's Quick Crossword

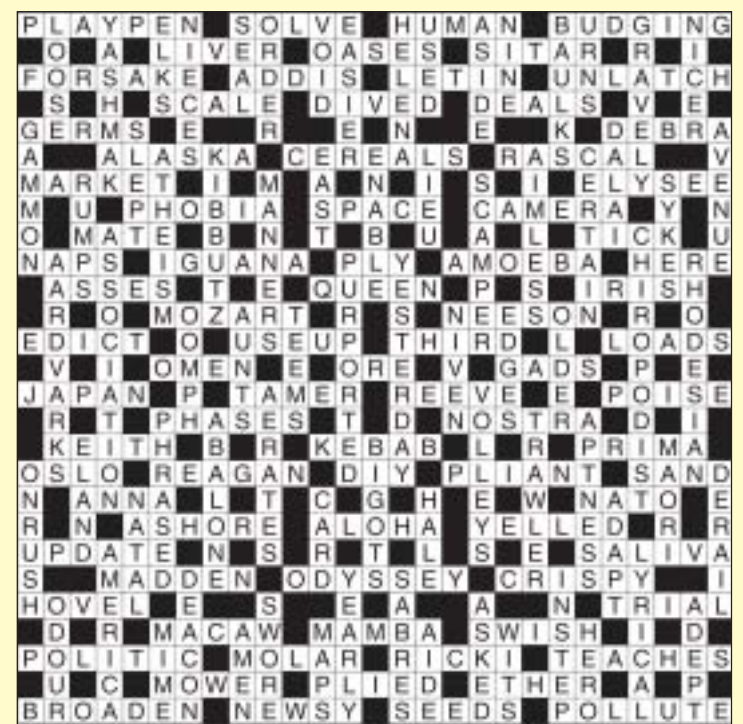


### Hidden Words SOLUTION



### Monster Quiz Answers

1. Existentialism; 2. The Galileo probe; 3. The Orinoco; 4. S; 5. Economics; 6. Mantle; 7. Diabetes; 8. Etruscans; 9. Narcissus; 10. Eva Peron; 11. Zimbabwe; 12. Grunion; 13. Django Reinhardt; 14. Yalta; 15. Olive; 16. Baboon; 17. Encephalitis; 18. 14th; 19. Israel; 20. A bull.



### Solution to this week's BIG Crossword

### Solution to this week's Sudoku puzzle

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



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**1<sup>st</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> December 2007**  
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# The King through foreign eyes

The book *The King of Thailand in World Focus* (FCCT, Bangkok, 2007, 259pp) is a tribute by the Foreign Correspondents' Club of Thailand (FCCT) to HM King Bhumibol Adulyadej on the occasion of his 80<sup>th</sup> birthday. It is an updated and greatly expanded version of the original edition published for his 60<sup>th</sup> birthday.

There are more than 80 new articles and 240 photographs out of a total of 375. They come from 56 media organizations in 24 countries to form, as Editor-in-Chief Dennis Gray notes in his introduction, "the clearest and most comprehensive foreign journalistic documentary on this remarkable man and monarch."

His introduction concludes, "*The King of Thailand in World Focus* is intended as a meaningful record of the man and his times rather than merely a laudatory exercise. If the thrust of this book is positive, that is the reflection of the bulk of journalistic coverage about him. The fact is that King Bhumibol has consistently enjoyed the kind of press most world leaders can only command in their daydreams."

The feverish imagery of early reportage on HM The King can make for fun reading today. On April 3, 1950, John Stanton of *Time* described how the news spread of the King's return to Thailand from Switzerland:



## Off the SHELF

By James Eckardt

"Up the great rivers, the Chao Phraya, the Mekong, the Tha Chin, the Ping, the Si and the Mun, [the news] had gone with wandering merchants thumbing barge rides. On the lips of mendicants with shaven heads and shaven eyebrows, it had traveled through cobra-ridden jungles where tigers lurked and elephants lurched, and on into the cool, airy teakwood forests of the uplands. In ancient, serpent-topped temples, yellow-robed monks prepared a welcome."

This article is accompanied by a magnificent photo of HM The King and his future Queen cruising upriver on a Navy launch while the banks and balconies and rooftops are lined with a cheering crowd.

In most photos, as is his custom, the

King is unsmiling – "The Queen smiles for me," he once told a photographer – but the text itself is laced with his dry humor.

In a 1967 audience, Gerson Zimmerman of *Look* asked HM The King what Americans might learn from Thais:

"I really don't know," he said. "The United States has so much. But, I was telling an ambassador that Americans might have more of a sense of humor about themselves and the mistakes they make. But even as I say it, I'm not so sure they have enough of a sense of humor to appreciate even that."

Some of the best reporting in this book are by veteran journalists – Sylvana Foa, Barbara Crossette, Derek Davis, Dennis Gray – on the King's arduous forays into the countryside from the hill-tribe North to the Muslim South.

After landing by helicopter at a mountain village near the Burmese border, Gray recounts this conversation:

"They say a kingdom is like a pyramid: the king on top and the people below. But in this country it's upside down," His Majesty told us. "That's why I some-

times have a pain around here.' He pointed to his neck and shoulders and his normally serious face broke into a broad smile."

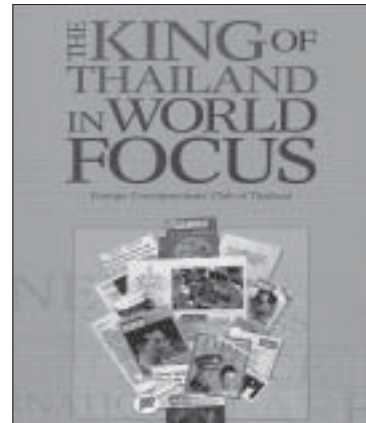
Later on, Gray recounts that the King was called upon to solve a hill-tribe marital dispute. The man complained that he had paid two pigs and some cash for his wife but she'd gone off with another man.

"The king resolved the crisis by deciding that the husband should get some compensation which would allow his wife to go free," Gray writes. "Everyone was happy. 'The only trouble was, I gave the money,' the king laughed. 'So the

woman belonged to me.'"

The climax of the book is a four-page color spread of the Diamond Jubilee Celebration as the Royal Family played host to monarchs from around the world.

This is an ideal Christmas gift, especially for someone who has never been to Thailand. After you fork over the 1,450-baht price, you'll be glad to know that 60% goes to HM The King's charities and 40% to the FCCT's educational funds.



Phuket Governor Niran Kalayanamit has a lot on his plate keeping tabs on Korean tour guides, rogue limo drivers and battered-and-bruised tourists, but when the title was held by two successive Frenchmen in the 17<sup>th</sup> century, the social and political climates were even more volatile than they are now – so much so that France's short reign of influence over the island would eventually end with one of the governors being executed.

At that time, Phuket's natural beauty was of little economic value.

Tourism was non-existent, although many traders still saw huge benefits to be gained from doing business with Phuket, which was then commonly called Thalang.

Tin had been discovered and was in much demand. In addition to tin, the tropical climate fostered numerous other resources, including various types of wood, animal skin, wax, sugar and bird's nests, which still carry a lucrative trade today.

At the beginning of the 17th century, Ayudhaya exercised its hegemony over much of Siam and its vassal states. It was during the reign of King Naresuan, in 1604, that the Dutch arrived, becoming one of the first European nations represented on the island.

The Dutch set up their trading post at Tha Kraeng, just south of Phuket City, likely choosing the location because of its close proximity to Chalong Bay, which made for an excellent natural harbor where ships could anchor safely.

Dutch traders initially found success trading here, but over

# A little too much influence

time the locals became unhappy with what they thought were unfavorable terms of trade. Rising anti-Dutch sentiment led to riots targeting every Dutch settlement on the island. Dutch trading posts were razed and many Dutch inhabitants were killed, forcing any survivors off the island.

Phuket was under the control of Ayudhaya, although the island was of little political significance due to its great distance from the capital. For the same reason, the governor on Phuket ruled over a mostly autonomous region, often with insufficient manpower to do so effectively.

In 1656, King Narai rose to the throne and promoted friendly, open-minded attitudes toward European traders and diplomats, particularly the French. His liberal policies, however, conflicted with the sentiment carried by many conservative Siamese courtiers at the time.

During his reign, King Narai received envoys from King Louis XIV of France and Pope Clement IX. He responded in kind, sending his own envoys to the court of King Louis XIV.

Diplomatic relationships with Ayudhaya benefited the French in many ways. In Phuket, French traders were given priority in trade and in 1681 King Narai appointed French missionary Renee Charbonneau Governor of Thalang.

Being governor gave Charbonneau supreme authority over the island and its resources. Traditionally, governors of Thalang were allowed to keep a share of the revenue from tin exports. They were, however, directly responsible for the production of tin and the running of the mines, most of which were state-owned.

Being governor was a powerful, yet dangerous job. If tin revenues fell short and tributes did not please the Crown, an army might be sent to collect the difference. Keeping up with tributary demands was difficult because the miners were conscripted from the local population, who worked to pay off their taxes. This gave them little incentive to produce and if they were pushed too hard they might rebel.

Charbonneau was governor until 1686. During his term, many foreigners found it difficult to trade with Phuket because of the extent of French influence. For example, the English were forced to buy tin from Phatthalung and Chaiya district in Chumphon.

During Charbonneau's term, Chevalier de Chaumont, ambassador from French King Louis XIV, sealed commercial treaties with King Narai, after which King Narai sent his own

ambassadors to France. As part of the treaties, Sieur de Billi, Chaumont's housekeeper, succeeded Charbonneau as governor in 1686. Charbonneau then returned to Ayudhaya.

Unfortunately for Sieur de Billi, King Narai died in 1688, taking his generosity and tolerance with him. When Prince Petracha was crowned King, disagreement soon broke out with the Europeans. Trouble escalated and most of the Europeans who held influence in the Siamese court were imprisoned, exiled or executed – a common reaction elsewhere in the world at that time.

Sieur de Billi was arrested and taken to Ayudhaya, where he was executed in 1688. The

French retaliated by threatening to occupy Phuket. French General Desfarges arrived with 332 men and looted Phuket's tin mines before leaving the island. Ayudhaya then severed all diplomatic ties with the French and closed its borders to the Europeans.

Looking back, it is easy to feel a little grateful that the same consequences are not so common today...

Anand Singh is an avid Phuket historian. He lived on Phuket from the age of 3 to 21. He is fluent in Thai and is currently completing his degree in economics at the University of Birmingham. Anand may be contacted at [as.pkt@hotmail.com](mailto:as.pkt@hotmail.com)

## LOOKING BACK

By Anand Singh

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## Give kids an alternative

At a recent seminar in Bangkok, panelists were told that the estimated 8,000 children who do Muay Thai professionally run a serious risk of injuries that can cause stunted growth, memory loss and other physical and mental impairments, either in the short term or later on in life [see "Around the Nation", page 8]

While the *Gazette* understands the risks involved and fully agrees with activists' calls for better safeguards to protect children involved in the sport, it is worth noting that taking up Muay Thai at an early age also offers youths an excellent path to personal development – physically, socially and mentally.

A quick glance through this week's news pages reveals yet another week of teenage gang violence, including two stabbing murders that might have been avoided had the youths involved been given a chance to develop self-discipline and a safe outlet for their aggression – the very things that Muay Thai offers.

While any martial art is potentially dangerous, the risks associated with properly-regulated Muay Thai pale into insignificance when compared with the dangers of allowing teenagers to roam the streets on motorcycles night after night. The risks are not only to themselves, but society at large – especially when the abuse of inhalants and other mind-altering substances comes into play.

Although we are well aware of the potential dangers of the martial art, the *Gazette* has yet to feature a report of a child losing his life in a Muay Thai ring in Phuket. In sharp contrast, the weekly number of teen deaths resulting from violence and recklessness on the roads far outstrips the ability of the local media to report them in a comprehensive fashion.

Spurred by the global interest in mixed martial arts and other factors, Phuket has in recent years surpassed Koh Samui as the leading destination in Thailand for foreigners wanting to learn the county's most internationally-recognized cultural export.

With no help from the government, Muay Thai camps have added a whole new dimension to the type of healthy, long-stay tourism that agencies such as the Tourism Authority of Thailand always talk about, but do little to effectively promote.

To continue to develop the sport in Phuket and make it safer for children, all youths involved must be required to wear regulation headgear and mouthpieces. When they reach 18, hopefully they will have the maturity to decide for themselves whether they want to continue fighting without these items.

Equally important: all young fighters must be paired against opponents of comparable size, age, experience and ability. Phuket's Muay Thai promoters and the people they employ to match opponents have a long way to go in this regard.

– The Editor

**Do you have an opinion you want to share?**  
Email [editor@phuketgazette.net](mailto:editor@phuketgazette.net)

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In association with The Nation Multimedia Group PCL

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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.

### Simen need not have died in vain

It has now been some time since Simen Sparre-Knudsen met his death and any news about the investigation and police actions has been conspicuously absent in the press. We should not let this dreadful crime just disappear from the public's attention.

I understand that the new chief of Chalong Police, Col Samarn Chainarong, has beefed up police patrols in Kata and Karon and has pledged to review the murder case files. Let us hope now that we will see some positive movement.

I feel that it is incumbent of all the residents in Phuket, farang and locals, to ensure that this beautiful island is a safe place to live in and to visit.

Simen was a man full of life and fun. For him to be cut down at such an early age and for the rest of the island to forget is a crime in its self.

The Norwegian and the Scandinavian press have not forgotten this crime and it has been suggested that many holidays booked from Northern Europe were canceled when this murder was reported. This could hurt all the local businesses if this is so.

It is imperative that there is a final solution to this case, especially for his friends and family, who are still in a state of limbo not knowing what is happening and not being able to have closure.

May I be so bold as to suggest, as the voice of foreigners in Phuket, that you, the *Gazette*, put pressure on the authorities and prominently feature weekly a

progress report on the police endeavors and investigations.

Even if there is nothing to report, that in itself is a report. Maybe, just maybe, this will be the catalyst to get this sorry episode concluded. It needs only to be a few lines but that could be enough to cause positive pressure.

Uncle Roy  
Singapore

### Is this Phuket's tipping point?

Occasionally, not very often, there are so-called turning points in history when things happen or are said that then determine how society and the environment will be affected from then on.

Phuket is surely at a tipping point over which direction it wishes to take – compete with Pattaya or compete with the Maldives? Today, I would like to draw my own line in the sand for whatever it's worth.

Phuket is on the brink of a full-blown high season, the first since the tsunami three years ago, and the expected armada of tourists will bring with them various consequences. For every action, there's a re-action.

I will take my case up with just one example of a vista that has made Phuket famous for its beauty and charm. A vision we all experienced the first time we arrived, driving home the impression that Phuket is a stunningly-beautiful tropical island in the Orient – the drive from Patong to Karon.

Not only is this one of Phuket's premier showcases to the world, but also one that few destinations could compete with or surpass.

But just go and take a look at it today. Advertising hoardings complete with new construction sites compete to block out what remaining view there is.

Then there's the eyesore of the new desalination plant that is yet to be operational and all the excess building waste that has been dumped along the side of the road.

What's happening? This scenic route should be a national institution. Doesn't anybody care? But, as we all know here, caring isn't enough. Paying lip service to Phuket's problems doesn't produce results.

The decision and, more importantly, any enforcement, lies and rests with the powers that be up in Bangkok. They have the power and the money to instigate action. Of course, at the end of the day, they will be held responsible.

Two sisters successfully inspired the locals to stave off a Burmese invasion several centuries ago. Who's going to stand up and save Phuket's environment today?

### What's in a wish?

Dear Santa,

I am 13 years old and have been a very good boy throughout the year. I love my Mum.

Please Santa, can I have a motorbike for Christmas so I can meet my friends at the park in our estate and practice wheelies?

My friends do it every evening with me on the back.

Oh, Santa, don't bother with a crash helmet, none of my friends wear one. They say it messes up their hair.

Teenager

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.



# Muslim morality: a time for reclamation

There are about 100 Muslim children and young people in our community who have very little opportunity to learn about morality. Imam Surin Tilanond stepped down from his position last year. He was the Imam for 12 years. He and his committee donated the building to Phuket City Municipality to use as the Children's Development Center for the community.

In my new position as Imam, which I took over just last year, I need the building back because it should be a place where we can teach Muslim children about morality.

We are unsure if the old committee had any conditions placed on the use of the building, but the Municipality has spent any on the center. We know that Phuket City Municipality allocates a budget of about 1.5 million baht every year for the upkeep of buildings like this one, but we haven't seen any evidence that there has been any attempt at maintaining the building.

In between the building and the mosque on the same plot of land, we use a small area of the car park as a classroom every Saturday and Sunday where we teach about 80 students.

The furniture and equipment

## FIRST PERSON

Some 12 years ago, Imam Surin Tilanond donated the building that is now the Children's Development Center on Lung Anuphas Rd, in Rassada, to Phuket City Municipality. Before then, the 50-year-old building was used to teach Muslim children morals.

Today, **Madem Islam**, Imam of Almadinah Mosque, is spearheading the fight to have the building, which is now used during the week as a nursery, returned to the Muslim community.

Here, he explains his reasons why.



inside is for nursery children. The children we plan to teach are about 12 years old, but the teaching equipment inside the building is too old for us to use or inappropriate as it is used for teaching much younger children.

Phuket City Municipality has many plots of land that they own where they could build an-

other Children's Development Center. They do not need to use our land – we need it because we need to teach our children.

When Anand Raksachart donated the money to build the mosque 50 years ago, he did so because he wanted it to be a building that could be used by the Muslim community.

I think it is essential that we take the building back to use as a training center for Muslim children because other children already have many places in Phuket where they can learn about their culture, but Muslim children do not.

The building has sand everywhere, no cement and holes

in the roof. If it rains, the roof leaks. We don't need money and we don't need anything from Phuket City Municipality, even if they want to renovate the building for us. We will raise the money ourselves. We just want a place where our youths can go and learn.

It has been very uncomfortable for us to set up our classroom in the car park because sometimes it is too hot and other times, when it rains, we suffer.

I feel sorry for the children because they should be able to learn about Muslim morals, but because of the problem of finding somewhere to teach them, they can only learn between 1 pm and 4 pm on the weekends. If we were to get our building back, we would be able to teach them all day Saturday and Sunday – the same as other mosques.

We do not blame the Children's Development Center for these problems because it has been good for the community, but we should have the right to use the building because it was the wish of the original donor, Anand Raksachart. The Municipality can find another site on its own land.

We just need our property back. We plan to file an official complaint directly with the Phuket Governor.

## Letters

### Out for a duck?

I would like to express my gratitude and regrets that Momma Duck has decided to migrate to pastures new.

She has not only put up a good fight over the years in defending her Thai corner, but has also acted as a great therapist and Thai cultural ambassador for all the new arrivals that have been washed up on these shores.

Of course we both espoused completely different agendas, hers through integration and mine through non-integration.

Through her column she has been able to highlight the formidable cultural differences we all face, going to great lengths to share with us detailed Thai explanations of how she interprets the frustrating encounters that we all face on a daily basis.

Although she may well have felt that I was trying to change Thai culture, that is not the case. On the contrary, I was just trying to ascertain some Thai reasonings that I could have felt comfortable with and accepted.

Since the day I arrived, in spite of how hard I've tried, the gap between our cultures for me is just too wide to bridge.

Although I am incredible happy to live in Thailand in person, I cannot say I live here in spirit.

Through her articulation, we have been left in no doubt as to where we all stand.

Although I speak for myself, I'm sure I speak for others in saying that Momma Duck is the closest I've come in getting to know a Thai.

David Kirk  
Phuket

### Phuket living: just wheezing on by...

The serious air pollution problem in Phuket was finally given some press recently in an article that reported that dioxin levels as a result of rubbish burning are 40 times higher here than acceptable limits.

This has resulted in a sharp increase in cancer cases on the island.

It seems that most residents and building sites prefer to dispose of their rubbish and debris by the open fire method

It is now quite common to have dozens of sooty fires burning in a locality at any given time.

On days when there is no breeze to carry away the smoke and ash, a thick toxic fog can settle on a neighborhood for several hours or longer.

Certainly something more to think about before one puts their life savings into a posh new villa.

James Litorice  
Phuket

## Why do we have no water?

I bought a house at Srisuchat Grand View 2 two years ago and we have always had water shortages.

This year's rainfall has exceeded that in 2005 and 2006, therefore how is it possible that we without a drop of water?

I have tried to be patient and have bought a big tank to ensure water supply for these bothering occasions, but unfortunately it cannot store enough water for even a shower.

I suspect that someone is looking after his own shameful interest, please convince me that is not true.

### Sayan Wareearoonroj, Chief of Phuket Provincial Water Supply, replies:

We restricted the water supply for the first two weeks of November due to a problem with the supply system, but the supply has been back to normal since November 13.

Now we don't have a water shortage as our desalination plant produces 10,000 cubic meters of water per day, supplying the Kata-Karon and Patong area. The water level in Bangwad dam is still sufficient to supply Phuket city and the area around.

If you continue to have water supply problems please call the Phuket Provincial Water Supply Office at Tel: 076-321023.

## Issues & ANSWERS

**Want to know how to get something done?  
Want to pitch an idea to Phuket's authorities?  
Submit your queries or suggestions to us and  
we'll ask the appropriate people to respond.**

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

## Any chance of a good night's sleep in Nanai Rd?

Are there any regulations about the noise being made late at night by the restaurants on the Nanai Rd in Patong? Are they allowed to be open 24 hours? Is all of Nanai Rd now a entertainment zone?

Sleepless in Nanai  
Patong

### Kathu Police Superintendent Pol Col Grissak Songmoonmark replies:

Nanai Rd is not part of the entertainment zone in Patong. It's a residential area, but because there are many guesthouses, apartments and bars and restaurants on that road to support all the people living in the area, it's normal that it's noisy there.

However, I would like to suggest you to specify your location, as well as specify the source of noise that is disturbing you and send your complaints to us.

We will send the officers to check the venues for you, but our officers will also investigate whether you have filed a complaint simply because of a business dispute.

You can call me direct on my mobile phone at 081-8699911 or at Kathu Police Station at 076-342719.



# Gazing toward the future of tourism

**W**ild Asia, a Kuala Lumpur-based NGO that promotes responsible tourism, recently held its Responsible Tourism Awards at The Evason Phuket. I must admit that Wild Asia's "eco-lodging" ethic was impressive.

Aside from the local media, Evason's Environmental Coordinator Arnfinn Oines and Resident Manager Claude Baltes, concerned local environmentalists included: Peter Oldfield from British International School; Lions Club (Pearl) Charter President Adrienne Tusoni; the Skat Club's resident intellectual and Kata Beach Resort GM Andrew Swatdipakdi; and Phuket Aquarium Education Director Dr Mark Wunsch. My apologies if anybody has been left out.

India led the way with impressive projects, offering cutting-edge innovations in lodging that all hotels and resorts will out of necessity soon be incorporating in our era of overpopulation and dwindling resources.

Spice Village (India) won the tiebreaker for first place in the Luxury Ecolodges category, nosing out Evason Phuket by a coin toss. Both scored 100 points from a panel of judges led by Wild Asia Executive Director Dr Reza Azmi, whose team actually visited contending eco-tourism sites and programs thanks to sponsorship from Malaysia Airlines.

The airline deserves credit for an eco-awareness rarely found in our skies and Wild Asia deserves credit for actually visiting award contenders, instead of judging from forms filled out by an applicant.

I haven't seen a Spice Islands resort, but their website is phenomenal. The architecture looks Indian, with British colonial flair. I was shocked to hear the properties were only recently built. Hotel programs spread throughout the local communities, with traditional boats following channels up to riverside villages. As regular readers know, The Evason Phuket covers all the infrastructure angles, but so do properties in the Spice Islands chain ([www.cghearth.com](http://www.cghearth.com)).

The real trend setter is Our Native Village near Bangalore,



**Eco-resorts are offering travelers much simpler accommodation, but are bringing them much closer to nature.**

which is touted as the world's first 100% eco-friendly resort.

Founded 18 months ago by former advertising director CB Ramkumar, the resort even has a swimming pool that uses plants and natural filtering devices instead of chemicals. Construction is traditional and the linens are locally produced from natural fabrics. There are composting, on-property vegetable gardening and traditional activities to keep guests occupied – one can even get training and a driver's license for a bullock cart.

You can also learn organic farming, eco-living and kite flying. Rather than speedboats, bicycle rides through the Indian countryside are the big thing ([www.ournativevillage.com](http://www.ournativevillage.com)).

The approach taken by The Evason and people like CB Ramkumar really is the future of tourism. All these places compost, use lemongrass for mosquito controls, emphasize conservation and encourage common-sense, healthy lifestyles.

The trend is slowly working towards high-quality, low-volume. Hotel rooms from US\$1,000 a night and up are not only vogue, but plentiful: the upscale eco-market has arrived. The 100% eco-resort, however, is a vision

of travel 20 years from now – bamboo and other natural construction materials, solar electric and hot water, organic rather than chemical and low-impact, tranquil, meaningful activities, and so on.

Malaysia's Langkawi Island has also gone to the high-quality, low-volume route. It does a far better job of protecting the island's environment than we do anywhere in Thailand. Both Wild Asia Responsible Ecotourism Lodges are in Bali – again, they were neck-and-neck for their category's award.

I have also just returned from an amazing orangutan experience near Medan, Sumatra – only a half-day trip from Phuket.

The Orangutan Lodge is at the other end of the scale – comfortable and clean rooms start at 300 baht, while the Garden Shower rooms are about US\$18.

You spend your money on the taxi ride and the nature guides – I was happy to spend 1,500 baht on a guide who found wild orangutan about 30 minutes into our hike, only five minutes into primate territory.

Great food, cheap rooms, and orangutan in the wild make for an overwhelming, unforgettable experience. Email

[go\\_gpm19to@yahoo.com](mailto:go_gpm19to@yahoo.com) for further information.

To remain prosperous, southern Thailand must now take charge of protecting what is left of the environment. We cannot continue our foolish, uncreative ways across the top of the bay, linking Phuket and Krabi in an unbroken circle of reinforced concrete, large infrastructure and haphazard development.

There is hope. In a recent interview with E-Turbo news, Tourism and Sports Minister Suwit Yodmanee admitted that Thailand is facing increasing pressure to protect its natural assets. E-Turbo called K. Suwit's attitude, "A revolutionary approach for a country that seems mostly obsessed by high numbers."

Acknowledging that his term in office finishes after the forthcoming elections, K. Suwit faulted Thailand's half-century addiction to mass tourism.

"We have to change course today if we want to preserve the environment," it quoted him as saying.

K. Suwit is now developing

parts of Sukhothai, one of Thailand's two ancient capitals, in a more eco-friendly way.

"We will have bikes for visitors to go around the province, garbage recycling, tree planting to provide fresher air at tourism sites and we will foster community tourism where foreign visitors experience people's daily lives," he said, adding that the same methods would next be tried in the southern region.

"I hope new ways emerge for a better mastering of our tourism resources. As I leave next year, I just want to lay the foundation for new initiatives for the new government. It is just like planting seeds, but I have to hope that the next gardener will help them grow," he added.

One big problem is Thailand's national parks, which are light years behind those in Malaysia and Indonesia, where park rangers actually go on active patrol. I supported Thailand's 200-baht park fees when they were introduced on the basis that the money would go into education and enforcement.

Since then we've paid a lot of fees, but I haven't seen any enforcement or education. If anything, Thai national parks are worse. Monkey feeding by irresponsible sea-canoes in Koh Penak is common, as is wildlife and exotic-plant poaching. Illegal logging, rampant in Phang Nga Bay, is still ignored by park authorities there.

If we don't get our act together, southern Thailand won't even be in the regional tourism game. Continuing environmental degradation and possibly even climate change will drive

the market for eco-resorts and sustainability – at least in those destinations that have natural resources left to sustain.

"Quality tourism does not necessarily mean people with money. In fact, I consider backpackers or students as quality tourists as they try hard to communicate with local people and learn our way of life," said K. Suwit.

Let's hope his replacement feels the same way.

## THE GRAY AREA



**By John 'Caveman' Gray**



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## In The Stars

by Isla Star

**SAGITTARIUS** (November 23-December 21): Take it easy this weekend as the astral atmosphere threatens to become stormy next week. Negotiating with Scorpio on Tuesday could prove to be an uphill battle unless you approach the meeting with a mellow frame of mind. Those prepared to take a financial risk or two should end the year on a happy note. Those celebrating a birthday this week will enjoy a year brimming with choices.

**CAPRICORN** (December 22-January 20): You will notice that your senses are finely tuned this week. Take advantage of this situation by trusting your instincts, particularly where business matters are concerned. Your partner will be pleased at how perceptive you are, particularly when it comes to an early holiday gift. Avoid the temptation of over-indulgence as there will be plenty of partying later this month. The color moss green encourages streamlined energy.

**AQUARIUS** (January 21-February 19): Health and prosperity are key during December. If you've been busy improving your fitness level recently, you will see tangible results, encouraging further effort. Money begins to flow toward you more consistently. This is an ideal time to spread your wings. Aries has an enticing business proposition, but do some background checking before committing. Romance is in the air on Sunday.

**PISCES** (February 20-March 20): A lazy week is forecast, which is exactly what you need. You will be tempted to push the boat out during a shopping expedition this weekend, but refrain from too much retail therapy as unexpected bills are forecast later in the month. Libra is curious about your availability. If you're single, a meeting of the minds is likely.

**ARIES** (March 21-April 20): Business is subject to delays this week as not everyone will be as easy to convince as you'd hoped. You should show some patience and allow others to mull over propositions without putting pressure on them. This approach will also have the best results where romance is concerned. Planning a surprise trip for someone special could backfire; making an offer they can't refuse is a more sensible option.

**TAURUS** (April 21-May 21): If you've been searching for a lucrative investment, you are forecast to find it this week. Disregard advice offered by Cancer; Leo has a more realistic outlook. Appointments made for Wednesday are subject to last-minute cancellation, so make a phone call to confirm before setting off.

**GEMINI** (May 22-June 21): Miscommunication on Sunday could lead you to believe something untrue. Ask for confirmation from a third party to avoid inconvenience. Your attraction is strong during December and flattery might go to your head. Putting family commitments first this month will make those close to you happy. Avoid making heavy financial commitments until after Thursday.

**CANCER** (June 22-July 23): Finding out what you need to know this week is like wearing a blindfold in a maze. Take an easy shortcut by asking a Capricorn friend for advice. Miscommunication with your partner could lead to an unnecessary argument on Saturday. Don't let the sun go down on this situation without resolving it. If you are single, you will become aware that Libra is interested. The color peppermint green encourages a lighter outlook on life.

**LEO** (July 24-August 22): If your life has become more complicated, you will find it hard to juggle commitments. One responsibility may need to be dropped; look for a way to do this on Tuesday. Love takes an unexpected turn when someone who rejected you becomes interested. The number 4 can be lucky on Sunday.

**VIRGO** (August 23-September 23): A business opportunity could be too good to be true. Endeavor to find out if someone has an ulterior motive before money flows down the drain. Capricorn can't decide whether they would like a more intimate relationship to develop; your patience should win the day. Family and friends put pressure on you to decide what you want to do for the upcoming holidays. The color turquoise enhances your energy.

**LIBRA** (September 24-October 23): Those of you looking for a good time this weekend should contact an Aquarian friend. Your social circle is set to widen and there will be no shortage of invitations to holiday festivities. You will be subject to a forgetful mood midweek; note important appointments carefully to avoid causing others inconvenience. If you are single, a blind date on Saturday is likely to float your boat. The number 8 is lucky this weekend.

**SCORPIO** (October 24-November 22): A week of coincidences lies ahead. You will be relieved when a lost object turns up this weekend. The tide is about to turn for those who have been scraping the bottoms of their wallets lately. On Sunday you will receive inspiration for a new project that promises to bring more wealth next year. Wear dark jade to encourage a more sensible outlook.

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# Weathering the infosec Storm

In my previous column (November 10 issue of the *Gazette*), I covered the basics of information security (infosec) and the current state of the industry. To review, security is an ongoing process, not one or more technologies. Infosec professionals have made much progress during the past 10 years, but as IT security guru Gadi Evron recently said, "We are powerless and have not made a real difference in the past six years, while things got worse."

There are three main reasons for the problems. First is poor software, which is everywhere and includes bugs from programming errors and flaws in the programs' design.

Second is the sheer volume of information and how easily the bad guys can exploit it.

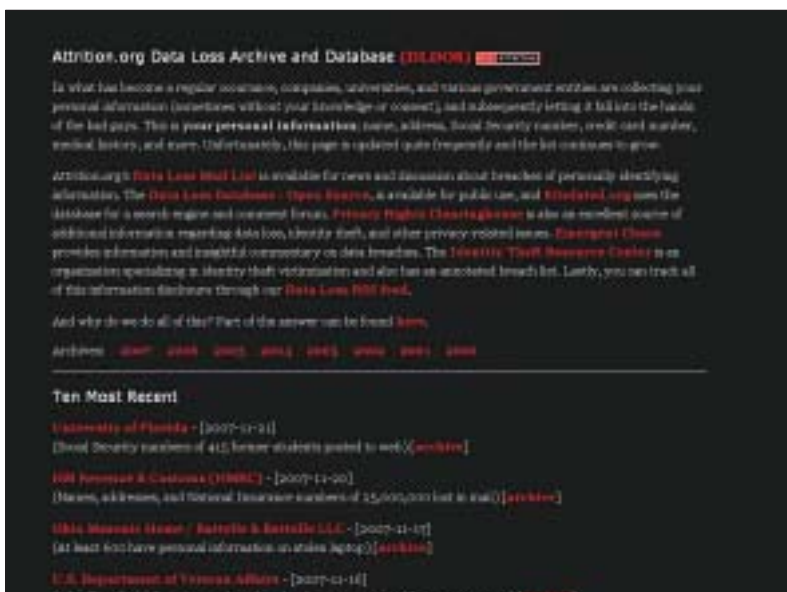
Third is the bad guys themselves, the cyber criminals.

Regarding bugs, software developers are very slowly learning to consider security when programming, but there is still little incentive to produce secure software because features and rush-to-market concerns almost always are considered more important than security.

As for design errors, software design and architecture has improved. However, even if a design is so-called "perfect" on release, it's impossible to foresee every possible way the software will be used, which makes it impossible to anticipate every single way the system might fail.

Also, there are scores of highly-automated, free software tools available that enable anyone to write software and make it available on the Internet.

Web 2.0 opening up social networks to programming by outsiders, AJAX, and "software as a service" will only make this worse.



**Think your private data is safe because a large organization is keeping it secure? Think again – attrition.org maintains a long, long list of recent data security breaches.**

And all this while rivers of data flow between corporate, private and public corporate servers, desktop computers, laptops, mobile phones, smartcards, ATM cards, network-connected game consoles, not to mention the email and chat servers of AOL, Yahoo, Microsoft and Google.

At the corporate level, it's out of control. In a recent poll of Chief Information Officers, 86% said they had no idea where their vital and confidential information was stored and when it gets moved. That's scary.

One take on the famous Moore's Law states that computing power doubles every 18 months. However, storage capacity doubles about every 12 months, while bandwidth doubles about every nine months. This means that threats are getting much closer to data. Data breaches occur from accidental exposure (information leaked through error); dishonest insiders (abuse of employee privileges); stolen devices (laptops, PDAs, smart phones, backup tapes); and

cracking (gaining unauthorized access).

Not long ago cracking – today often called "hacking" thanks to erroneous use of the term by the mainstream media – was mainly for fame and fun. Today, in nearly every instance it's for financial gain. In an article I read recently, an infosec expert claimed that the take from cyber crime exceeded that of the illicit drug trade.

The latest to hit the headlines is a particularly nasty and sophisticated form of malware called Storm, which has infected anywhere up to 15 million computers. The very worrisome parts are that Storm alters anti-virus software so that it appears that it and other security controls are functioning as normal.

Adding to this, Storm is a "botnet", which means that it has amassed an army of millions of zombie PCs that can be called on at any time to do nefarious things – and security researchers don't know what it's going to do.

James McGovern bluntly

sums it up, "Most folks that are security practitioners in large enterprises are networkers, while most folks that are doing exploits are software developers. Frankly, software people will always be superior... The folks exploiting enterprises are running circles around the network guys."

Heard enough bad news? Well, there's more. I won't go into the gory details, but if you want to find out more about the magnitude of data breaches and data loss, see the Data Loss Archive and Database at <http://attrition.org/dataloss/> and other sources cited at that website.

Security vendors and products in the past have focused on keeping the bad guys out. Now data loss prevention is a priority in the corporate world.

The good news is that infosec is finally evolving into risk management. Instead of blindly throwing money at security solutions with no thought of what is being protected, risk management involves focusing on where resources are needed most, improving security processes and by realizing that total prevention is impossible, putting more emphasis on detection and recovery.

IT expert Dan Geer said, "Information security is trying to prevent bad things from happening; risk management is knowing bad things will happen".

However, he also said, "If you are having zero security incidents, then you are overspending on information security". Thus, determining a company's effort towards IT security by its percentage of the overall IT bud-

get is no longer valid.

Risk management is what the insurance industry has been doing for 400 years: calculate out how much the asset is worth, multiply it by the frequency of occurrence, then add 50% or so and – *voila!* – out comes the insurance premium.

Insurance companies can do this because have available to them mountains of statistics to draw upon to help make accurate predictions – and insurance companies rarely go out of business.

Risk management is taking hold because the "old" ways aren't working and security is being looked at more from a management viewpoint.

Previously, security pros didn't think in numbers. The advent of automated tools are helping by creating a new emerging field of infosec, called "security metrics", led by Andrew Jaquith and Dan Geer.

Gathering metrics has its own challenges because companies, especially in Asia, want to keep security breaches secret.

However, in Boston in August 2007, the second annual Metricon security metrics conference took place and rapid progress is being made. To sum it up, again from Dr Geer: "The purpose of risk management is

to improve the future, not to explain the past. Security metrics are the servants of risk management, and risk management is about making decisions under uncertainty. Therefore, the only security metrics we are interested in are those that support decision making about risk for the purpose of managing that risk."

If I had the space and time, I would argue that risk management done properly shifts the responsibility of a company's security from the IT department to upper management.

So far I've painted a bleak picture of information security in the corporate world, but progress is being made. That will be the topic of my next article.

*Ignacio Evans is an information security consultant based in SE Asia who tries to be in Phuket whenever he can. Email him with questions, complaints or comments at: [iggy69.e@gmail.com](mailto:iggy69.e@gmail.com)*



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# Chinese investors looking to board the 'through train'

China is facing a liquidity problem. Normally, liquidity problems mean not enough cash, but China is looking at a glut of money that is continually rising. As a result, rising inflation has now reached 6.5% for the period October 2006 to October 2007. This is more than the Chinese government's maximum target of 3%.

Retail sales over the same period rose 18.1%. Personal incomes rose 13% in 2006 and are expected to rise more this year. Every week in Beijing, 1,000 new cars are added to the city's traffic jams.

China's foreign-exchange reserve – the world's largest – is now around US\$1.5 trillion and these pesky foreign investors keep adding huge amounts of cash.

One of the solutions, albeit to a moderate degree, is the "through train". This term used by the Chinese government refers to allowing mainland Chinese to invest in the Hong Kong stock market – and this move has been postponed twice. The most-recent announcement was by the Chinese premier at the end of October.

The rumor alone that this was what the Chinese government was intending to do was enough to send the Hong Kong

stock market (Hang Seng Index) to record highs. Foreign and domestic investment leaped into the Hong Kong market, wanting to enter before the expected surge of money arrived.

The latest announcement of postponement poured cold water onto a market that was overheating, however, in the short term this has led to substantial falls.

Another factor that is attracting investors is that many major Chinese companies are already listed on the Hong Kong stock exchange but trade on substantially reduced prices compared with their prices on the Shanghai and Shenzhen stock markets.

If China were to allow the "through train", there would be an instant appreciation of Chinese shares quoted in Hong Kong. However, the lower PE (price-earnings) ratio prevalent in the Hong Kong market would attract Chinese investors to other shares. China is hosting the Olympics next year. Will the ruling

party be able to resist an opportunity to display its booming markets – Hong Kong included?

The "through train" is actually happening now. Many mainland Chinese already access Hong Kong via offshore routes. They are the lucky ones who have businesses, normally in export markets, that allow funds to be siphoned off to remain outside China. Otherwise, strict exchange control regulations prohibit the retention of funds abroad.

The amount of money involved may be huge. One analyst interviewed on CNBC's *Europe Today* pointed out the strange points of origin of a substantial amount of foreign investment into China that came from three tax havens, all lesser known, including American Samoa.

The analyst then went on to say that around US\$1 trillion in "foreign investment" had originated from these three tax havens. It was his belief that Chinese businesses were reinvesting in China and that it was not true foreign investment.

The problem with analyzing this situation, though it seems very credible, is that the money

is also mixed with substantial investment from Taiwan, which often means activity is disguised because of political concerns.

The global impact of subprime loans and the state of the residential housing market may seem unending, but what we have seen so far appears to be the tip of the iceberg. Goldman Sachs, the US investment bank and the only one of the bigger groups operating in this area, appears to have avoided significant exposure to credit market woes.

The bank's chief US economist, Jan Hatzius, estimates that total losses in these areas may reach US\$400 billion.

Hatzius added that "the likely mortgage-credit losses pose a significantly bigger macroeconomic risk than generally recognized" and that "it is easy to see how such a shock could produce a substantial recession or a long period of sluggish growth".

Hatzius based his report on a conservative estimate of financial companies cutting lending by 10 times half the loss to their capital. This is founded on his assessment of US\$200 billion (half their losses) that would force financial companies to curtail lending by US\$2 trillion.

The US is moving even closer to election year and the various presidential candidates will have plenty of solutions – some effective, others not.

John Stumpf, CEO of major US bank Wells Fargo & Co, released a statement in mid-November stating that the US property market is at its worst since the Great Depression.

**'Around US\$1 trillion in "foreign investment" had originated from these three tax havens. It was his belief that Chinese businesses were reinvesting in China and that it was not true foreign investment'**

The US Federal Reserve, via Chairman Ben Bernanke, has indicated that it wishes to pause before considering any future moves on interest rates.

Bernanke is concerned that to signal further interest-rate cuts would add pressure for a further decline in the value of the US dollar.

The Federal Reserve has also stated that it intends to increase the level of transparency. In addition, the Federal Reserve, or "The Fed", is going to pay more attention to "headline inflation" instead of "core inflation". The latter excludes food and energy prices and reflects an inflation rate of only 2.1% compared with 3.5% of the all-encompassing "headline inflation".

Goldman Sachs believes that the Fed will have to reduce interest rates again by 0.25% (25 basis points) at its next meeting on December 11.

Whatever happens, the US economy is rapidly entering a period of great economic concern. Takashi Omari, chief economist at UBS Japan, puts the likelihood of a US recession in 2008 at 45%.

The UK situation is also deteriorating. The Central Bank, the Bank of England, announced that two interest-rate cuts will be needed in 2008 to stem an economic slowdown and prevent the rate of inflation falling too far.

Bank of England Governor Mervyn King said, "I came away from the recent International Monetary Fund meetings in Washington more concerned about the implications of these tensions precisely because the unwinding of the imbalances is not just a hypothetical prospect out there, but is happening now and I think this is a major concern."

This comment is in relation to huge trade imbalances, asset prices and tensions in global currency markets.

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## MONEY TALKS



By Richard G. Watson

### VITAL STATISTICS: COMPANY REGISTRATIONS

	Oct 2005	Oct 2006	Oct 2007
Limited company registrations	125	107	98
Limited partnership registrations	34	36	28
Limited companies changed	225	385	369
Limited partnerships changed	40	32	38
Companies de-registered	20	21	26
Partnerships de-registered	11	9	6

Source: Phuket Business Development Office

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By Gazette Staff

# Diesel price hike hurts local seafood supplies

The rising price of diesel fuel, with other factors, is causing fresh seafood prices to surge in Phuket. So high are prices now that one seafood supplier has even advised consumers to switch to other sources of protein.

Aoranoot Yutitham, manager of Sapam Seafood Supply, which buys direct from fishermen dockside, explained that seafood prices began rising at the end of September as rising fuel prices began to reduce the number of local fishing boats leaving port.

"Many operators said the higher fuel prices meant it was no longer cost effective to operate," she said.

The resulting fall in supply has resulted not only in higher seafood prices, but also shortages. "We have been unable to fill all our orders from customers, including hotels and restaurants."

"Demand for seafood always spikes this time of year, but this year [the higher diesel prices] has made filling orders more difficult," she said.

Costs of many popular types of popular seafood that normally double or triple during the high season are now four to five times the low-season cost, she said.

For example, last year, the retail price of Phuket lobster averaged about 400 baht a kilogram

in the low season, rising to a about 1,200 baht a kilo in the high season. This year, the low-season cost was around 550 baht/kg. Prices had already hit the 1,000 baht/kg mark in September, well before the traditional start of the high season, she explained.

The situation is similar in other Andaman Coast provinces, she said.

"We have received orders from hotels in Krabi and Phang Nga, but have been unable to fill them at any price due to supply scarcity at the docks," she said.

K. Aoranoot doesn't expect the situation to change until the middle of next year. "I think costs will not fall until about May, when demand falls and local suppliers recover," she said.

Until that happens, she recommended that consumers consider dining on foods other than fresh seafood.

Somyot Wongboonyakul, President of Phuket Fishery Association, said four factors are pushing up seafood prices.

"First is increasing fuel costs. Our members had typically

been spending about 30,000 baht a month to go out fishing every day. Then, around the end of September [state subsidized 'green diesel'] fuel increased from about 19.5 baht a liter to about 24 baht a liter.

"The price increase raised total monthly operating costs to about 120,000 baht per boat, he said.

"As a result, some have stopped fishing every day and others have ceased altogether, he added.

The second factor is the diminishing supply of fish and other seafood in and around Phuket waters, forcing fishermen to places including Satun and Phang Nga in order to fill their holds.

"This is hardly a new problem for us, but it is tougher to deal with now because there are so many other problems," he said.

The third problem is the fishermen's lack of negotiating skills, which forces them to sell at very low prices, he said.

Another factor is that the fishery industry is facing a labor

shortage. Phuket's commercial fishermen are getting older and are not being replaced by a younger generation, he said. "The new generation has to go to school and they have no time to help us. Fishermen are getting older every day," said K. Somyot.

"We understand that the problem is not an easy one to solve. We do get help from the government, such as with the state-subsidized [green diesel] fuel that is less expensive than diesel for cars," he said.

At the state-run Phuket Fishing Port, manager Pramual Rakjai told the *Gazette* that fuel costs remain the single greatest cost for fishing boat operators.

However, all 100 fishing boats that operate out of that port are still fishing as usual.

"I don't have much information about the private ports, so I don't know what effect there has been. However, increases in fuel costs usually hit trawlers the hardest, since they use the most fuel," he said.

K. Pramual described the recent rise in seafood prices as

"not so different" from years past.

However, the higher prices are not enough to compensate for the rising fuel costs and fishermen are being pressed to become more efficient, he said.

"Fishermen are now staying out longer than before and not returning until their hold is full, whereas in the past they would return their catch to port daily," he said.

Despite increases in its own operational costs, Phuket Fishing Port has maintained its monthly service fee at 400 baht per vessel for the past four years. The rate makes it considerably cheaper for fishing-boat operators than private ports, he said.

Phuket Provincial Fisheries Office Chief Pairoh Sutthakorn told the *Gazette* his office recognized that fishermen were suffering and working hard to find ways to get by.

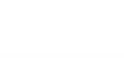
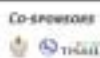
However, the Fishery Department is yet to issue new measures to help them cope with the price rises, he said.



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## Phuket teams miss out in 7s tourney

KARON: The second Andaman International Soccer 7s was held at Karon Stadium on Saturday November 17.

Twelve teams contested the tournament. Despite a poor playing surface, some high-standard soccer was played.

After 31 games, two teams from Singapore advanced to the championship final, with Stiff Chili Wanderers defeating Aioli United 2-1.

In the Plate championship, the German All Stars from Singapore defeated the Phuket team of Hotel Travel in the final.

A Phuket team was again defeated in the final of the Bowl championship, which saw SCI Saints lose to Singapore Hibernian.

The 5th Phuket International Soccer 7s will be held from November 24 until 25 at Karon Stadium with 16 Open teams and 14 teams doing battle in the Masters division.

For more information call Tim at 084-6283555 or Alain at 086-9998839, or visit [www.thai7s.com](http://www.thai7s.com)

# Thais win Rugby-80s final

PHUKET CITY: The Thai national rugby team stunned a team from Canberra, Australia, and avenged a defeat earlier in the tournament to win the international Rugby 80 tournament.

Games were played between November 17 and 23, with Thailand and Australia looking to fend off opposition from Sri Lanka and a Phuket-15 side in the round-robin qualifying matches at Sanaam Chai Stadium.

On the first day of play, Australia beat Thailand 34-24.

Thailand and Australia found themselves once again facing each other in the final of the tournament on November 23.

Australia took an early 5-0

lead when Matt Hamill scored an eighth-minute try. Thailand edged ahead after 15 minutes when Suppakorn Jarassaowapak converted his own try.

Tanapa Imjai rampaged his way through five Australian players to give Thailand a 14-5 lead after 18 minutes.

On the half-hour mark, Pongrapee Norrarat scored a try and stretched the lead before Kornpong Wongsalangkar added another try to make it 31-12.

Thailand went on to win the match a commanding 44-24.

In the third-place playoff, Sri Lanka beat the Phuket-15 team (the Thai national under-20 side) 19-7.



Kornpong Wongsalangkar (in yellow and black) of Thailand tackles his Aussie opposition in the opening match of the international Rugby-80 tournament at Sanaam Chai in Phuket City.

## Defending champs out of Laguna triathlon

CHERNG TALAY: Samantha McGlone, the winner of the 2005 and 2006 Laguna Phuket Triathlon, has pulled out of this year's competition due to injuries sustained at the Ironman 70.3 World Championships.

Samantha was lined up for a showdown with the 2007 Ironman World Champion, Briton Chrissie Wellington.

Wellington will still be competing in the event on December 2 this year, although her competition will come from the likes of American Mirinda Carfrae, the 2007 Ironman 70.3 World Champion. Wellington is the first Brit to have ever won the Ironman world title in what was a major upset at the time.

Carfrae won her Ironman 70.3 title November 10, breaking the half-Ironman record in the process with a time of 4 hours, 7 minutes

and 25 seconds. Also looking for a podium place in the women's race will be Belinda Granger from Australia.

Another absentee from this year's line up will be 2006 men's Laguna Phuket Triathlon champion Reinaldo Colucci, who has this year won the Ironman 70.3 Singapore, the Triathlon de l'Alpe d'Huez and the Mekong River ITU Asian Cup.

Looking for a place in the Brazilian Olympic team, Colucci decided to pass on the Phuket meet to wait out another race that he could use to qualify for the Olympics.

In the men's event, 2005 Ironman World Champion Faris Al-Sultan form Germany and will face stiff opposition from Italian Massimo Cigan and Australian Richie Cunningham.

Athletes will be competing for a share of US\$20,000.

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**Cinders, with her yellow We Love the King spinnaker in full bloom, on her way to win the final race in the ACYC race series on November 18.**  
Photo by Leslie Hand for Image Asia.

## Cinders wins ACYC final

By Leslie Hand

AO CHALONG: Ket Mangklaseranee and his crew aboard *Cinders* wrapped up the final race of the Image Asia Ao Chalong Yacht Club (ACYC) Keelboat and Multihull Race Series 2007 on November 18 in fine form with a clear victory in the Racing class over Roger Diggleman on *Nereida*.

Although relying on their tried and trusted – and patched – mainsail, Ket and crew made the most of their all-yellow We Love the King spinnaker on the downwind legs in fairly light and shifting winds.

However, victory on the day was not enough to win the Racing class series, which went to Ben Copely's *Asia Spirit*, which simply outclassed all opposition.

John Fenn on *Four Winds*

won the Cruising class, ahead of Tony Swain-Dudman on *Onyx*. Although Fenn entered the series late, he amassed enough points to take the Cruising class series title from Harry "Sir Pie" Usher on *Eos*.

This is the second consecutive year that *Eos* has failed to seal a series victory despite going into the final races with a healthy lead.

This year, *Eos* failed to start in the last two races of the series, which made way for Fenn to steal top honors in the class. Last year, needing only to finish the last race to win the Cruising class, Usher decided to sail in the Racing class, spoiling his chance of a Cruising class series title.

Tim Milner on *Seekrongsuk* won the Multihull class on the day, sealing victory for him for the series.

## PATONG DARTS LEAGUE

**November 20 results:** Shakers 5 Piccadilly\* 4; Offshore 3 Dogs Bollocks\* 6; Valhalla\* 6 Beach House 3; Queen Mary bye; Market Bar v Simply Red postponed (\* = winner of beer leg).

**Standings:** 1. Queen Mary (30); 2. Dogs Bollocks (27); 3. Piccadilly, Offshore (24); 5. Shakers (18); 6. Simply Red (15); 7. Market Bar (11); 8. Valhalla (9); 9. Beach House (4)  
(Games in hand: Market Bar 2, Queen Mary 1).

**December 4 matchups:** Shakers v Market Bar; Valhalla v Dogs Bollocks; Simply Red v Piccadilly; Offshore v Queen Mary; Beach House bye (home team first).

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# Sor Siriporn defends title in scrappy battle

By Scott Mallon

BANGKOK: WBC women's light flyweight champion and convicted drug dealer Samson Sor Siriporn (10-2, 2 KOs) successfully made her second defense of the title she won in April, winning a ten-round unanimous decision over Japan's Momo Koseki (3-2, 0 KO's) on November 19.

Against Koseki, Sor Siriporn found herself in the fight of her life. Although the winner of the bout, she received the worst battering of her career and was left to question whether boxing is a profession she enjoys and wants to continue.

Koseki, 25, who moved up from the 102 lb atomweight division to challenge for Sor Siriporn's 108 lb light-flyweight belt, has never scored a knockout and yet she punished the champion mercilessly.

The bout began slowly, with neither fighter landing any effective punches in the opening stanza. For the first four rounds, both fighters were wild and sloppy and the bout consisted mainly of the two women wrestling and the referee breaking them apart.

In the middle of the fifth, Sor Siriporn settled down and began landing combinations and straightening out her punches. She attacked the body when Koseki tried to clinch and used her left hook-straight right combination to score points and build a slight lead.

Koseki was relentless in her attack. By the seventh round, the entire right side of Sor Siriporn's face was swollen and disfigured. Obviously in pain, she gutted out the final rounds to win a narrow



**Battered and bruised, Sor Siriporn had her hands raised after being pounded by Japanese fighter Momo Koseki.**

decision. Her technical abilities have yet to match her desire to win.

After the fight, Sor Siriporn professed her happiness in garnering the victory and said, "I know I did not fight well and I'm happy to win the fight."

"I must improve if I'm to compete with the best fighters in the division," she added.

There were reports that Sor Siriporn did minimal training for the bout – failing to do her roadwork and training on her own – and it showed. She came in with

a visible roll around her stomach and looked winded after the first round, wincing from her light-hitting opponent's punches.

After the bout, her trainer, Khaokor Galaxy, declined to comment on the performance.

Sor Siriporn, 24, must defend her championship belt by April 3rd against the WBC's mandatory contender, Germany's Julia Sahin, or be stripped of her title. Sahin is undefeated in 19 professional bouts against credible opponents – Sahin can truly fight.

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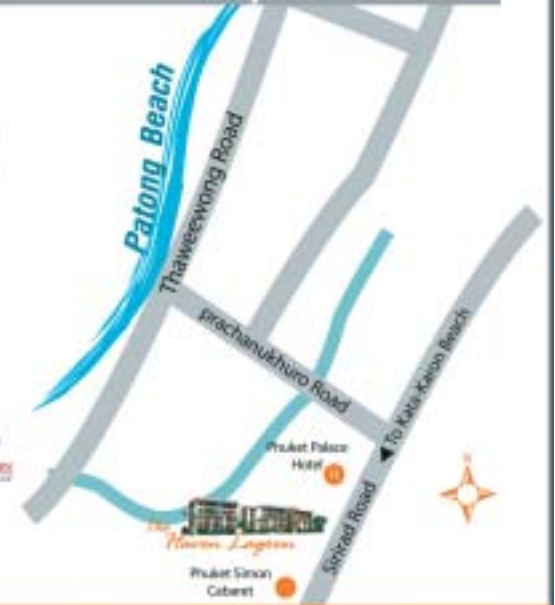
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The Kiri Villas complex is a low-density development consisting 7 luxury pool villas ranging from 2 to 4 bedrooms. The contemporary decor of The Kiri Villas is equipped with luxury fixtures and fittings such as teak wooden doors and high quality bright granite tile flooring.

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## Design

by Semacote Suganya

Set at the prestigious Royal Phuket Marina (RPM), luxury duplex and triplex “aquaminium” units surround a boat park filled with luxury cruisers and yachts.

The winning concept of exclusive condominiums with their own boat ports won RPM the Best Interior Design award at the International Property Awards in London in September.

From the outside, the aquaminium is unobtrusive, fitting in with the surroundings to create an elegant skyline when viewed from afar.

The structural aspects were designed by Palmer and Turner from Hong Kong, who have built a reputation for distinct city block designs, while the interior design is credited to dwp Cityspace Co, Bangkok.

The Aquaminium has seven designs of unit: duplex and triplex penthouses, waterfront duplex, three-bedroom satellite, three-bedroom marina view, and two- and three-bedroom cabanas.

The three two-bedroom and the one three-bedroom cabanas each have an en-suite bathroom for each bedroom. The two-bedroom is the smallest option, covering 156 square meters, while the three-bedroom cabana covers 183sqm.

The waterfront condominiums feature a private boat berth within the residence itself and have been conceived with distinctive features to accommodate the yachting lifestyle.

“The aquaminium concept caters to those who really love boating and being near the water,” said Royal Phuket Marina Property Sales & Marketing Director Norbert Zuber.

“Residents will always see boats just outside their home and, of course, some will have their own boats moored right inside their homes with the boat ports that are part of the triplex residences.

“Although the waterfront duplexes don’t have a private boat port, they share a common berth. When they need to use their

# Enter the ‘aquaminium’



The international-award-winning design of Royal Phuket Marina’s ‘aquaminium’ includes a ceiling-to-floor waterfall feature as part of the inside pool.

boats, they can call the concierge and their boat will be brought to the common berth,” Mr Zuber added.

The elements water and earth are the main features in the condominium and penthouse designs, giving the aquaminiums a back-to-nature feel. Everywhere you look there is water, both inside and out.

Especially impressive are the water features inside the aquaminium units, such as whirlpool pools and ponds under the stairway.

The fusion of clean architectural lines with the smooth yet constantly changing patterns of natural elements give the apartments their tranquil ambience.

In the pool of the triplex penthouses, which boasts a view of the private boat port and out over the marina, water cascades from the ceiling through a rectangular slot, fusing the clean lines of contemporary design with the

soothing sight and sound of a natural waterfall.

“Before embarking on the design, we looked at similar successful marina developments around the world, especially in the Mediterranean, Caribbean and around Florida. We certainly didn’t want to copy these designs but it was interesting to pinpoint what made them successful,” said Mr Zuber.

“We eventually settled on a contemporary tropical version with a slightly European feel. The clean lines of the architecture give an exclusive look that is prestigious yet subtle, the idea being to create a contemporary version of Venice, where the buildings seem to sit on the water.

“We have integrated high-quality fittings and furnishings with natural stone, such as granite and marble or porcelain tiles to bring residents close to nature yet provide all those luxurious resort-like comforts,” he added.

hance the tropical feel of the Aquaminium by using seamless glass walls wherever possible or simply making the upper floors open-air for alfresco dining and rooftop relaxation in the pools surrounded by greenery,” explained Mr Zuber.

Slim, elongated slots in the ceilings beam sunlight into the home and onto the interior water features. The play of sunlight reflected on water has been carefully planned to create gently moving patterns on the sandstone and ceramic tiled walls and clean white ceilings.

The design and layout still ensure that privacy is guaranteed despite the openness of the designs, so residents can choose seclusion when they feel the need.

*The Aquaminium is part of the exclusive shopping, dining and yachting environment that Royal Phuket Marina offers with a growing number of stores and restaurants that make it a playground for boat lovers and landlubbers alike.*

*For more information on the units still available, visit [www.royalphuketmarina.com](http://www.royalphuketmarina.com) or call 076-360811.*

The penthouse master bedroom is in modern Thai design with a balance of muted gold brass with natural tones of light and dark woods with a high ceiling and ambient lighting.

“Lighting is an important feature that we have used to en-



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## Home of the Week

## Loch Palm

# Green living at Loch Palm

Most golfers dream of walking off a fairway directly into their own private home and taking a dip in a pool to wash away all those wayward shots. This golf villa in Loch Palm can offer just that, with the property overlooking the 17<sup>th</sup> fairway.

If you are looking for a quiet and secure neighborhood, then the Loch Palm area would be ideal. This peaceful area boasts high-end homes in the luxury setting of a new golf course centrally located in Phuket.

Set in a valley surrounded by hills, the area is hidden away, yet just a few minutes from the Tesco-Lotus intersection.

Leading north from the residential community is a paved road passing the British International School, Phuket, about 5km away. With minimal traffic in the area, there is even a bicycle lane that is safe enough to use. The road leads to Thepkasattri Rd and towards the Boat Lagoon.

Built on a block of 450 square meters of landscaped gardens, this home is suited to golfers and those who want to be close to the international school, shopping centers (Tesco Lotus, Central and Big C) and interna-

tional hospitals (Bangkok Phuket Hospital, Vachira Phuket Hospital). The property is located near Royal Phuket Marina.

At the rear of the home is a storage area and parking for one car. The estate road behind the house leads to the management office and out into the grounds of Loch Palm.

This property has sliding windows along the front of the house, wooden floors and concealed air conditioning throughout.

With only one story, the house has two large bedrooms with bathrooms en suite. The bathroom of the master bedroom features a double sink and bath. The master bedroom also has a large walk-in wardrobe and the second bedroom has built-in wardrobes. The flooring is polished hard wood.

A fully-fitted, Western-style kitchen features an oven, stove and open-plan flooring that links up to a large terrace with views of the golf course.

The living and dining space is a large, open-plan area overlooking the 36-square-meter swimming pool, whirlpool and sala area. Utilities include satellite television, telephone lines, ADSL



broadband Internet connection, water heating and three-phase electricity.

The house is listed for 12.5 million baht. The property is one year old and available leasehold with a Chanote.

For information contact Patrick Lusted. Tel: 076-288908 Email: [patrick@siamrealestate.com](mailto:patrick@siamrealestate.com) Web: [www.siamrealestate.com](http://www.siamrealestate.com)



This golf villa is hidden away, overlooking the 17<sup>th</sup> fairway at Loch Palm. The property features a 36-square-meter swimming pool and sala area.

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## Gardening

by Bloomin' Bert

# The rough guide to pantomimes

Christmas is coming. In fact, it's just around the corner. Some shops in the Western world have had their Christmas decorations up for months – I'm not sure why they even bother taking them down in January. Why not leave them up for the whole year? Once the spray-on fake snow starts to smear you can always add a new coat of the stuff.

I haven't spent a Christmas in the UK for some time now, so I'm unsure what has happened to pantomimes. Do they still have them? Firstly, for those of you of the non-British persuasion, allow me to attempt to elucidate what a pantomime actually is, as it's a peculiarly British institution. I would put a pantomime in the same league as cricket when it comes to explaining it – to someone who has never seen it, it will probably make little sense, no matter how hard you try.

A pantomime is a curious type of entertainment. Originally a form of ritual theater staged around the winter solstice, it now appears in British theaters every year during the Christmas season. It apparently started many moons ago as a form of mime, but is now anything but that, with exchanges between performers and audiences creating quite a racket.

The stories are well-known, based on folk tales, populated with predictable characters, including: a principal boy, generally played by a young lady with gorgeous legs; the heroine, also played by a young lady (which gives an added edge to the inevitable romance); and a dame, played by a man, as a weird exaggeration of a lewd middle-aged lady.

Scripts change a bit from year to year, but are visual, topical, corny and sometimes downright rude, involving a lot of slapping on thighs and audiences arguing with the cast with, "Oh no it isn't!" being a firm favorite. In the UK, this is considered family entertainment.

One of the bizarre things about a pantomime is that the gentleman playing the dame is someone who you would never associate with anything even remotely female – he is always a bloke's bloke.

I can sit here and try to describe a pantomime until I'm blue in the face, but it won't make a great deal of sense until you actually see one. Perhaps seeing a pantomime for the first time would confuse a newcomer even further.

Anyway, the time has come for an inevitable weak, tenuous and totally inane link. For some reason, the most common name for a pantomime leading man who isn't playing a woman (this is starting to get really confusing now) is "Buttons".

I've no idea why. Buttons are precisely what the flowers of a plant that grows in abundance in Phuket are called – bachelor's buttons.

Otherwise known as gomphrena, globe amaranth or *baan mai roo roi* in Thai, it's easy to see how these flowers got their name. The flowers are bright magenta balls that appear in abundance. They aren't exactly the most difficult plants to grow, either. There are several steps:

1. Pay a visit to one of those local nurseries and hand over a few baht for some seedlings, which

Bachelor's buttons probably won't turn up in any pantomimes, but the flowers are easy to grow and can produce wild results.

are widely available. If you're feeling adventurous and are too dignified to cheat, it's also relatively easy to start from seed. You can probably get the seeds from the gardening section of Tesco Lotus. (If you're starting with seeds though, it's best to soak them first for 24 hours to speed up germination.)

2. Now you've got the seedlings, plant them a few inches apart.

3. Water them regularly.

4. Have a beer. Or three. You've earned them.

5. Keep watering them and wait for them to flower. This won't take long.

6. Heartless as it might seem, pinch off the first flowers that appear, as this will create bushier, healthier plants with more flowers.

7. Fight them back, as by now they'll be growing like there's no tomorrow.

The bachelor's button prefers average, well-drained soil and is fairly tolerant, even of drought conditions, so will survive independently in the dry season once it's established. It also likes



high humidity, so is very much at home here in Phuket.

It's yet another one of those plants that's self propagating. If you let the seeds drop to the flower bed and germinate, rather than pluck out those nasty, weed-like new plants by the roots, you'll be rewarded with volunteer plants soon afterwards. The only downside is that if you leave it alone completely, it can sometimes get a bit straggly. It needs controlling – like a teenager who wants to get a Mohawk haircut.

The flowers don't lose their color once their useful life has passed. They will dry while still on the plant. In fact, the main reason that a lot of people have them in their gardens, apart from their being happy to fend for themselves, is that they are the perfect flower to dry. Just pluck them off once they feel light and papery.

Alternatively, cut the flowers when partly open for drying and hang them upside down in a shady place for two to three weeks. I'm no flower arranger, so to be honest I haven't got a

clue. Just do whatever works or ask one of those elderly ladies with a dodgy blue rinse – they'll know.

I do know that when they form part of that dangly flower ribbon that I can never remember the Thai name for – the thing that hangs from the mirror of my car – the color never changes. [It's called a *phuang malai*, haven't you ever been to a Thai coffee shop? – Ed.] Everything else there turns a dingy, grubby brown, while the bachelor's button flowers are still a bright, grinning purple.

So how about a pantomime in Phuket? Just as long as I don't have to be Buttons. There are a few individuals here who would make perfect pantomime dames, one being the owner of a certain tudor-style drinking establishment on the island.

Even more people who have the legs to play the principal boy. The problem here is that some of them really are boys. As Soap once said, "Confused? You will be."

Want to know more about a plant in your garden?  
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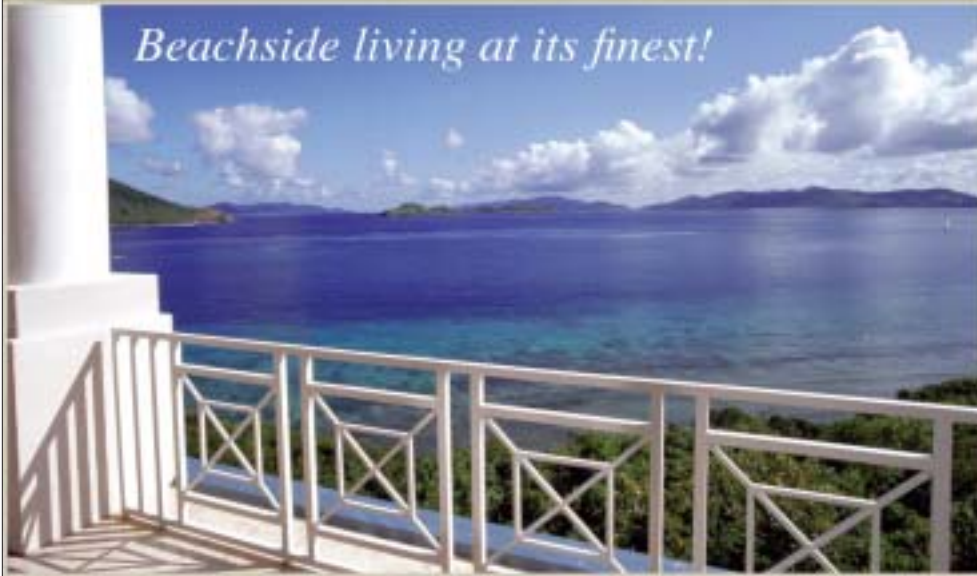
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## Construction Update

by Janyaporn Morel

# New apartments arrive in Kata

KATA: Construction of Kata Beach Studio serviced apartments on Soi Kuktanode is almost complete and its 20 studio apartments are scheduled to open for rental December 12.

Built by Siwapattara Thai Co Ltd and designed by architect Sponsil Bunchompaisarn from the same company, the five-story building has been under construction since December last year and is about 95% complete.

Each apartment has a total area of 28 square meters, including the balcony, and apartments on the fifth floor open directly on to the roof deck, which has a 32sqm, infinity-edge swimming pool.

"We saw a need for this new apartment [block] as demand for serviced apartments has gone beyond what we are able to offer with our Karon Beach Studio apartments. In those apartments, we offer simple amenities. The smaller units do not have a kitchen and in the larger units the cooking facilities consist of a microwave oven. So we built Kata Beach Studio Apartments to offer more," said project shareholder Phanuwatt Bunyang.

Guests and residents at the apartments will have access to a full range of services, including a ground-floor restaurant serving Western dishes that is due to open next month, as well as a maid service, security guards and CCTV, plus a simple chauffeur service and motorbikes for rent.

"We expect that in the high season most of our residents will be managerial-level hotel employees who rent the apartments on a monthly basis. They usually stay for about six months at a time and need the convenience of their own cooking facilities and wire-



less Internet connection," he added.

The apartments can be rented from 2,500 baht a day in the high season or for 37,000 baht a month for a minimum of three months. About half the units have been reserved.

"We want to offer convenience to our residents. The location is quiet and about 10 minutes' walk to Kata Beach. As taxis do not often pass here, we will also provide a chauffeur service from the apartments to Kata and Karon beaches from 100 to 150 baht per trip. There will also be eight motorbikes for rent," he said.

"Our goal is to provide convenience in the rooms and with the apartment's facilities. The pool on the roof deck offers a great view, there is a restaurant, maid and security services, elevator and free drink service daily,"

explained K. Phanuwatt.

The maid service is included in the daily and weekly-rental rates, and monthly-rental rates include water and electricity charges," he added.

**The Kata Beach Studio Apartments (right) features a roof deck (above) with a 32sqm infinity-edge pool.**



*Kata Beach Studio Apartments. 90/5 Kuktanode Rd, Kata, Phuket 83000. Office open daily, 9 am to 7 pm. For more information call 076-398436-7 or 089-7247148, or visit [www.katabeachstudio.com](http://www.katabeachstudio.com)*

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# Property Gazette

## Properties For Sale

**PATONG CONDOTE**  
28sqm, fully renovated and furnished. 1.95 million baht, freehold. Please contact for more information. Tel: 089-9715664.

### UNIQUE SEAVIEW – FAVORABLE PRICE



New seaview pool villa overlooking Karon beach. Build area: 450sqm; plot: 950sqm. Sale direct from Swiss contractor/owner. Documentation and pics available. Tel: 089-593 8690. Email: ruen\_narayan@hotmail.com

### PRIVATE POOL VILLA



2 bedrooms, 780sqm of land in Rawai. Tropical garden, 9 x 4m pool and 70m terrace. Doors and windows all real wood. 20,000L water tank and well. 5-year guarantee on construction. 10.9 million baht. Tel: 084-8374429. Website: www.chokechaiproperty.com

### BANGTAO SEAVIEW LAND PLOTS

Beautiful view, ready to build, large plots, quiet location. Starting at 3 million baht. Tel: 086-2670157. Email: bannuaton@yahoo.com

### VILLA SEAVIEW



Rawai – Nai Harn, Phuket  
Price: US\$1 million. Land: 700sqm. 5 bedrooms, 7 bathrooms, fully furnished, fitness room, swimming pool (communal). 1 minute drive to Rawai beach, 5 minutes drive to Nai Harn beach. Contact K. Sam. Tel: 085-1106449.

### BIGGEST BARGAIN IN PHUKET

Spacious detached house on 260sqm of land in quiet estate with swimming pool and 24hrs security. Centrally located in Chalong within minutes of Phuket town, shopping centers and beaches. 2-3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, Western-style kitchen, large living room, all fully-furnished. Quick sale, price only 2.95 million baht! You will not find anything better under 4 million. Contact K. Harry. Tel: 089-6639669. Email: andrekant@hotmail.com

### HOUSE IN PATONG B4.7 MILLION

23sq wah, furnished, 3 bedrooms - aircon, 1 bathroom, living room, kitchenette, washing machine, etc. Please contact for more information. Tel: 081-5690664. Fax 076-344485. Email: sunsetap@jinet.com

### NICE HOUSE IN CHALONG

3 bedrooms, large living room, large kitchen, private garden and more. Gated community. Only 7.9 million baht ono. Tel: 081-894-1804. Email: sanaralang@yahoo.de Photos available at www.bayoli.de

### SURIN LAND FOR SALE

1,016sqm: 6 million baht. 996sqm: 5 million baht. 5-minute walk to Surin Beach. Tel: 081-8687676.

### RAWAI 2-STORY HOUSE

160sqm. 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. 1.3 million baht. 400m to the beach. Tel: 086-9408914. Email: chotip07@yahoo.com

### LUXURY POOL VILLAS

Baan Boosakorn is an exceptional luxury estate of only 6 exclusive villas situated just 4km from Layan Beach. Beautiful homes and great investment. Finance available. Tel: 081-8912926, 081-891-1826. Fax: 076-238940. Email: info@baanboosakorn.com For more details, visit www.baanboosakorn.com

### STUNNING HOUSE, QUICK SALE

The only stunning house on top of Patong Hill. 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, kitchen, storeroom, office, car park, terrace and a large free area for house expansion and a big swimming pool facing 3 beaches. Located in a private and secure area. Very good for investment. Tel: 081-8921108. Fax: 076-345-821. Email: info@grottino-beach-inn.com For details visit www.phuketreal estatesolutions.com

### LAND MISSION HEIGHTS

225sq wah or 900sqm for 1.8 million baht or best cash offer. Concrete road, 3-phase electricity, 10 mins from airport and Blue Canyon Golf Club. Call Khun So. Tel: 081-3444473.

### COCONUT ISLAND LAND



for sale. 4.5 rai, Chanote, hillside panoramic sea view, close to beach. 14 million baht. Please call K. Bouddha for more information. Tel: 089-2900484.

### RAWAI SEA VIEW CONDO

Freehold studio for sale. 550,000 baht. Tel: 086-940-8914. Email: chotip07@yahoo.com

### LUXURY PROPERTIES

for sale or rent in Bang Tao, Yacht Haven. Please visit our website: www.janepropertyphuket.com

### VILLA WITH POOL

4 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, secured area. 6.9 million baht. Tel: 081-0918908. Email: stein\_dokset@hotmail.com

### RAWAI HOUSE READY FOR SALE

3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, swimming pool, garden, carport and built-in furniture. 6.3 million baht. Tel: 081-6067410.

### LAND FOR SALE

in Sai Yuan, 0.81 rai (1,320 sqm) on Soi Tristar. Call K. Ohn at Tel: 081-9706503.

### NICE LAND PLOT FOR SALE

228sq wah, Chanote. Electricity and road access. 10 minutes' drive to Laguna. 15,000 baht per sq wah (negotiable). Please contact for more info. Tel: 081-5399269.

### REPOSSESSION SALE

Apartment. Beautiful, new 1-bedroom apartment on 5th floor overlooking Kata Beach. 5-star hotel services, including pool, gym and international bistro. Was 5.9 million baht, now reduced to 4.9 million baht. Tel: 084-0639223, 081-7888280.

### KARON LAND FOR SALE



15 million baht per rai, Chanote, hillside, panoramic sea view, quiet area. Please contact for additional information. Tel: 089-7727012. Email: se\_rim@hotmail.com

### LAND AND HOUSE



Lakeside pool villa in Land & Houses Park. Comes with 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, aircon and Western kitchen with appliances. Tel: 081-8921715.

### GREAT OPPORTUNITY

Due to health problems, I am offering two houses for quick sale - one on 1 rai of land and another on one rai. Both located in a good residential area 5 mins from the Laguna resort. Buy both for 15 million baht. Call Bepy for more information. Tel: 081-8930692. Email: toto@phuket.ksc.co.th

### KOH YAO YAI LAND FOR SALE

4.5 rai, Chanote, hillside panoramic sea view, close to beach. Please contact for more information. Tel: 086-5955574. Email: kraisorn@ppfashionworld.com

### SEAVIEW LAND 1.1 RAI

Chalong. Chanote. Contact K. Don. Tel: 087-6279394.

### SEAVIEW APARTMENT

2 bedrooms, top floor, north Patong, 20 steps to the beach, freehold. Price: 9.7 million baht. Tel: 086-2765117. For photos please email: jihshand@gmail.com

### RAWAI BAY VIEW CONDO

Sale or lease. Foreign freehold. From 360,000 baht. Tel: 086-9408914. Email: chotip07@yahoo.com

### AO POR LAND URGENT SALE



150 rai, Chanote, panoramic sea view. From 2.3 million baht per rai. Contact for more information. Tel: 089-7727012. Email: se\_rim@hotmail.com

### PATONG – OCEAN VIEW



Condominiums. Contemporary, exclusive apartments with the best view over Patong. From 76 to 275sqm. Starting at 4.2 million baht, up to 20 million baht for the penthouse. Tel: 083-1736521. www.patong-view-talay.com

### RAWAI BEACH HOUSE

3-story, 2-bedroom, 2-bathroom house with loft. Sea views. 3.3 million baht. Tel: 086-3754711. Email: ben@LDSK.com Website: www.LDSK.com/house

### POOL HOUSE FOR SALE

in Bang Tao. 3 bedrooms, living room, kitchen, 2 car parks, automatic gate, satellite TV, Internet. Tel: 084-8516121. Email: phuketmat@yahoo.com

### NEW SEAVIEW CONDOMINIUM

New seaview condominium units: 60, 120 and 180sqm. Overlooking Chalong Bay and Rawai Bay. From 1.8 million baht. Contact Kuno. Tel: 081-9685963. Email: kuno@bayproject.com For details, please see our website at: www.bayproject.com/invest/index.htm

### RAWAI LAND, 359 SQ WAH

40m x 36m flat land in residential area. Chanote. 3.5 million baht ono. Tel: 089-474-1442. Email: lldphuket@yahoo.com

### LAND FOR SALE

Suitable to build house. 1 rai. Please contact at Tel: 089-4729870. Email: poyo123@hotmail.fr

## Agents for Classified Advertising

### PHUKET

#### K.L. Mart

Patak Rd, Chalong

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#### Sin & Lee

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# Property Gazette

## 3BR HOUSE IN CHALONG 4 SALE



Brand-new, luxury, 3 en-suite bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, partly furnished, swimming pool, Western kitchen, large dining area, large living room, 1 utility room, 2 carports with automatic gate and landscaped garden, 3 aircons. Total living area: 324sqm; total land area: 88sq wah. Chanote title, located in a quiet Chalong area, 10 minutes to Central Festival Phuket and 20 minutes to the Beach. Asking Price: 7.9 million baht. Tel: 086-6823672. Fax: 076-528508. Email: info@thespabasics.com For photos see our website [www.flickr.com/photos/phuket-property/sets/72157603248957651/](http://www.flickr.com/photos/phuket-property/sets/72157603248957651/)

## BEAUTIFUL HOUSE FOR SALE



51.47sqm, in Chanakran Property Village, 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms. Behind TOT Public Co Ltd in Chalong. Price: 3.6 million baht. Please call for more details. Tel: 081-9562406.

## BEAUTIFUL NAI YANG LAND



5 mins to Phuket airport, close to the beach, 10 rai. 120 million baht. Must see. Tel: 089-7727012. Email: gyb\_giff@hotmail.com

## BAAN DHAMARAKSA



Prices from 10 million baht. Tel: 076-236877-8, 076-237260-2. Website: [www.baandhamaraksa.com](http://www.baandhamaraksa.com)

## FAMILY HOUSE

Thai-contemporary, 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, study, swimming pool, 3x6m small garden, full aircon, Western kitchen. Ideal location, 1.2km to Bang Tao Beach and close to the new Tesco Lotus in Bang Tao. Price 6.9 million baht. Tel: 087-3863388. Email: shanya.arman@gmail.com

## MUST SELL BARGAIN HOUSE

Lovely Swiss-style, 3-4 bedroom, 2-bathroom, 2-story single-standing house on large land area (195sq wah) with Chanote title. Nice quiet area, cul-de-sac road, lovely garden, cable TV, phone line, alarm system, new aircon. Large land plot, can build second house. Priced for quick sale, 5.9 million baht. Website at [www.picasaweb.google.com/kingkongsimon/swiss\\_house\\_sale](http://www.picasaweb.google.com/kingkongsimon/swiss_house_sale)

## PATONG SHOPHOUSE

Soi Viking, Bangla Rd. 4 floors 6m x 14m each, good rental, Chanote title or 30 year + lease, no agents. Contact Luc. Tel: 085-7961335.

## URGENT LAND SALE 1 RAI

Chanote, Thalang near Ton Sai waterfall with good road, electrical line, next to European houses. Price 2.2 million baht (no commission). Tel: 081-6062827. Email: nij017@hotmail.com

## MISSION HEIGHTS LAND SALE

1 rai (1,600sqm). Semi-walled land with roads, underground electricity, water, in secure area. 10 mins from airport and beaches. 2.95 million baht. Tel: 076-528016, 089-2262612. Email: jim@jimmarsh.net

## EXCLUSIVE RESIDENCE

A beautiful 3-bedroom villa in an exclusive area on Kata Hill. Sea view, pool, etc. All set in a beautiful landscaped garden. Includes all furniture. 18 million baht. Tel: 081-7888280. Email: mauram7@hotmail.com

## KOH MAPHRAO LAND




3.6 million baht per rai, 5.6 rai, Chanote, panoramic sea view. Tel: 086-5754318. Email: bernhardmaximilian@yahoo.com

## UNIQUE LAND

for sale Karon beach off Bangla Rd, cleared/vacant land, can build 22-room guesthouse or 200sqm private house, Chanote. 5.9 million baht. Tel: 081-3032202. Email: globalinterests@aol.com

## RAWAI LAND SALE

1.1 rai on soi Suksan, Chanote, private access, quiet location and views. 4.5 million baht. (no agents). Tel: 076-521005, 085-7827551.



## Foreign Freehold Available

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[WWW.CHALONGBAYVIEW.COM](http://WWW.CHALONGBAYVIEW.COM) MOBILE: 087 898 7062

## LUXURY VILLAS



Close to Laguna. Best negotiable price. Brand-new. 1,100sqm land, 4 bedrooms, pool, lotus pond & garden. Contact K. Gai. Tel: 081-7344324. For more info, please visit our website: [www.phuketgreenlandvillas.com](http://www.phuketgreenlandvillas.com)

## CONDO FOR SALE

In Phuket Golf Resort  
1) 38.5sqm commercial unit  
2) 120sqm residential unit  
Please call 081-4084991. Managed by Bangkok Capital Alliance Co. Ltd.

## KOH YAO YAI

4 rai plot, 1 million per rai, chanote. Water, electricity, close to the beach. Please contact for more information. Tel: 081-8928208.

## NEW 3-BEDROOM HOUSE

2-story, open plan, big garden and office. 5.7 million baht. Tel: 086-6831964. Email: franklee200@hotmail.com

## THAI STYLE HOUSE - KAMALA



on more than 1 rai of landscaped gardens. Lighted security walls, electric gate, three 10,000L filtered water tanks with local water plus ground well with automatic pump. Emergency generator, cable TV, 3-phase electricity, 2 phone lines. Large swimming pool, waterfall koi fish pond, garden lighting. 3 to 4 bedrooms all en suite, 4 aircons, 4 ceiling fans, 2 stories plus wine cellar/storage room. Teak walls and hardwood floors. Fully-furnished with many extras. Natural surroundings and mountain views with enough land for future expansion, eg. 3 x 2-bedroom rental units. Chanote available through holding company for foreign ownership included. Asking 18 million baht walk-in walk-out. Willing to accept 50% down and 50% after 6 months. Includes Mazda 626 sedan car. Email: gsantos512@yahoo.com

## HEAVEN ON EARTH



5-bedroom, Thai-style villa in Phuket. Magnificent Phang Nga Bay view. 3 big bedrooms are en suite with sea view. Private swimming pool. Land plot 730.8sqm. construction area approx 573sqm. Full security service. Located at Rommai Chailay Estate. 27 million baht. Tel: 081-7191705. Email: layan@loxinfo.co.th

## AFFORDABLE LUXURY



Immaculate villa. Private area, big lush garden, pool, 4 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, living room, Scandi kitchen, huge patio, fully furnished, contemporary Bali-Thai style. Living area: 450sqm. Land area: 1,400sqm. Near Heroines' Monument with scenic hill view. Chanote. 14 million baht. Tel: 084-6907057.

## CHALONG VILLA SALE

Ready to move in, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, Thai kitchen, carport, cable TV, Tel line, furniture and aircon. Chanote, 52sq wah. 2.5 million baht (negotiable). Tel: 085-7827551.

## DISCOUNT PRICE

In January a beautiful, 1-story, 90sqm pool-villa in Rawai will be ready. Price in 2007: 4.5 million baht. In 2008: 5.5 million baht. Finishing is still flexible. Tel: 085-7955383.

## RAWAI BEACH DUPLEX

107sqm. For sale at 1.8 million baht. Pool, private parking, garden. Tel: 084-0579266. Email: chotip07@yahoo.com

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## EXCEPTIONAL COUNTRY RETREAT FOR SALE

*Baan Mae Nam*

Located on 1 rai of land on the Pasak, or Teak River, in Saraburi, Amphur Kaeng Khoi, less than 90 minutes from downtown Bangkok. Thailand's budding wine country around Muak Lek is minutes away, and Khao Yai Park a short 20 minute drive.



The main house is old teak from a Bangkok property and is designed for open air living. A large slate terrace connects with an outdoor sala, and a plunge pool surrounded by levels of wood decking leading to a riverside sala.

With 2 bedrooms, both with aircon, and a large kitchen, the property is perfect for families and entertaining.

An underground irrigation system keeps the surrounding gardens lush year-round and as the river is a water source for Bangkok, fishing and swimming are dry season past times. A local caretaker has been employed for the past 10 years and is willing to work for a new owner, providing convenience and security.

Asking price is  
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Call Khun Prasit:  
081 848 9070 or 02 752 0472  
or Khun Douglas:  
089 699 9686



# Property Gazette

## 2-STORY HOUSE



for sale on 1.5 rai of land in Kamala. 3-4 bedrooms (3 en-suite). Wine cellar, teak walls, hardwood floors, furnished, 2 phone lines, large pool and landscaped garden in safe and exclusive area. Includes Mazda 626 and Thai holding company. 18 million baht. Contact K. Gary. Tel: 081-8922942.

## ROCK GARDEN HOME



Furnished, excellent location, 2-story, 4 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms. Price: 2.9 million baht. Tel: 089-5444400.

## PHUKETS NO.1 PROPERTY SITE

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## KATHU HOUSE

for 5.4 million baht. Furnished family house with 3 bedrooms and 3 bathrooms. Only 5.4 million baht. Tel: 085-7900515. Email: andzi4@yahoo.com For further details, please see the website: www.freewebtown.com/andzi4/index.html

## CHEAP PLOT

Good size at 340sqm. 15m frontage road, easy access to airport, Phuket Town and beaches. Only 1.2 million baht. Tel: 087-3863388. Email: lebijouvillas@yahoo.com.

## BEST BUY

New townhouses: 2-story, 3 bedrooms, 105 sqm living space, built to Western standards and now available at a local price. Starting from 1.75 million baht. Not far from Laguna area. Please contact for more information. Tel: 087-3863388. Email: lebijouvillas@yahoo.com

## NEW LUXURY CONDO

Cape Panwa, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 106sqm, high-end finishing, end unit, custom kitchen, 5-star resort facilities, quick sale. Please contact for more information. Tel: 087-8938834.

## BALI-STYLE VILLA SAI YUAN/NAI HARN

3 double bedrooms with en-suite bathrooms, full Western kitchen with everything, marble bathrooms with Jacuzzi, private pool and gardens, shingled roof. Furnished with solid teak furniture. 9.5 million baht. Please contact for more information. Tel: 086-6845368. Email: bisop5@yahoo.co.uk

## SALE: 7.7 RAI NEAR LAGUNA

Cheng Talay. Land for sale, 7.7 rai. 2 plots, connected. Concrete road access. 7 million baht per rai. 5 mins to Laguna, good for developer. Please contact for more information. Tel: 081-9680309. Email: info@houseinphuket.com or visit www.landinphuket.com

## 20-46 RAI IN KAMALA



With sea view. All land has a fantastic sea view and good road access. Chanote. Land can be sold in divided plots. Thai owner. Price: 6 million baht per rai. Contact Sakorn. Tel: 087-6050365. Email: tim.kamalaparadise@hotmail.com

## THAI BUNGALOW

Rural Baan Liphon, Thalung. 2 bedrooms with aircons, lounge, dining room, large back patio with garden. 8 mins to Boat Lagoon, 15 mins to the airport. 920,000 baht ono. Call Clare at Tel: 083-3906700, or in the evening call 086-4702787 (English), or 086-0918355 (Thai).

## HOUSE FOR SALE



in Soi Naya, Nai Harn. 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, hot water, living room, kitchen, 3 aircons, 2 telephones, cable TV, furniture, garden, 60sq wah. Price: 2.7 million baht. Tel: 089-4716904, 085-7864509.

## NICE LAND FOR SALE

228sq wah. Chanote. Electricity and road access. 10-minute drive to Laguna Phuket. 15,000 baht per sq wah (negotiable). Please contact for more information. Tel: 081-5399269.

## HOUSE IN RAWAI FOR SALE

2 floors, 70sqm, corner unit, 25 years left on lease, option for 30 more years, only 1.2 million baht. Tel: 076-383052, 086-9529517. Email: condotel@web.de

## NAI HARN HOUSE

in quiet foreign area near the beach. 2 bedrooms, 264sqm of land, phone line, cable TV, and Internet. Excellent price: 2.9 million baht. Please contact for more information. Tel: 087-9261381, 089-9829460. Email: pakadog@gmail.com

## RAI NEAR MAI KHAO BEACH

600m to Mai Khao Beach. Freehold. 950,000 baht. Call Kenny. Tel: 086-5713667. Email: mmcgrath2@hotmail.com

## Properties For Rent



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## MODERN HOUSE, QUIET LOCATION

Fully-furnished Western house with large terrace and fenced-in tropical garden. UBC, ADSL, alarm, garage, 2 bedrooms with bathrooms en suite, full aircon and ceiling fans. Only long-term rentals. 28,000 baht per month. Tel: 089-8744050. Email: happyjo@procom.in.th

## SINGLE HOUSE FOR RENT

In Baan Suan Naramit, ready to move in.

- 10 minutes to Phuket City, 15 minutes to airport
  - 3 bedrooms
  - 2 bathrooms
  - kitchen
  - fully furnished and aircon
- 15,000 baht per month. Tel: 086-7432011.

## HOUSE AT CHALONG

For long-term rent near Palai beach. 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, aircon, fully furnished, phone line and car park. Please call 089-7288311.

## BOAT LAGOON LUXURY

Waterfront townhouses for rent. 2 & 3 bedrooms, UBC, TV. Long- or short-term rent. Pool, sauna included. Call K. So at 081-3444473.

## RAWAI SEAVIEW CONDO

Furnished studio for rent. Aircon, TV, UBC and ADSL. 5,500 baht per month. Please contact for more information. Tel: 084-0579266. Email: chotip07@yahoo.com

## HOUSE FOR RENT

New house for rent: 25,000 baht per month; or for sale at 4 million baht. Tel: 087-264-6808, 083-1743880.

## NEW FURNISHED VILLA



Close to Laguna. 300sqm. Fully furnished, 3 bedrooms, living room, dining, kitchen and pool. 2 mins to Laguna. Long- or short-term rent. Contact K. Gai. Tel: 081-7344324 or see our website at: www.phuketgreenlandvillas.com

## BANG TAO RENTALS

Furnished bungalows, 2 bedrooms, 1 bathroom, hot water, telephone-ADSL, car park, gated, quiet. With aircon and private terrace: 15,000 baht per month plus utilities, long-term. Please call K. Tee at 086-2786465 or Betty 076-270377.

**LAND NEAR KAMALA** for long-term lease. Contact. Tel: 081-5367435.

## MINI RESORT - POOL

Luxury 3-bedroom home and spa near Laguna. Reasonable weekly or monthly rates. Tel: 089-5944067.

## RAWAI FLAT/RENT

Fully furnished, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, living room, kitchen, swimming pool, balcony, cable TV, ADSL. Monthly 29,000 baht, long-term 18,500 baht. Tel: 081-6067410.

## BEACHFRONT CHALONG

3 new, furnished, 3-bedroom houses. Pools and great views. From 12,000 baht per month. Tel: 089-4706104.

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# Property Gazette

## TOP VILLA, TOP VIEW FOR RENT

Thai style with pool, on top of a private hill. 4 bedrooms, 5 bathrooms. 4 km to BIS. View of golfcourse, lake and valley. Quiet, security guard, maid, furnished, Wi-Fi and UBC. Yearly lease at 75,000 baht per month. Tel: 087-2698492.

## RAWAI STUDIO

For rent, fully furnished, terrace, swimming pool, cable TV, ADSL Internet. Long-term only, 10,000 baht/month Tel: 081-6067410.

## RAWAI HOUSE/RENT

3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, fully furnished, swimming pool, cable TV, ADSL Internet. Tel: 081-6067410.

## KAMALA BEACHFRONT VILLAS

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. Includes daily cleaning and washing. Pool & gardener service. Daily rental offered; weekly: 40,000 baht; monthly: 140,000 baht. Contact K. Suchada Tel: 084-8436837. For further details, please see our website at [www.phuket-island-homes.com](http://www.phuket-island-homes.com)

## KAMALA

4-bedroom, detached, executive house in small compound for long-term rent. Pool, UBC and security. 50,000 baht. For info contact Tel: 081-9560527.

## PATONG CONDO

2 rooms, 56sqm, quiet area, near beach and night life. Daily, monthly or yearly rates. Tel: 076-381260, 087-9362514. Email: jimbeckett41@hotmail.com

## BEST DEAL IN KATA BEACH!

3 minutes walk from Kata Beach! Tel: 081-8436349. Email: prisanan@gmail.com For details, please see our website at [www.huahin-propertiesjmt.com](http://www.huahin-propertiesjmt.com)

## KAMALA NEW HOUSE

For rent between Dec 20, '07-Jan 1, '08, 2 bedrooms, aircon, 100m to beach. Tel: 086-2746511.

## PATONG APARTMENT

300m from beach. Clean, modern and comfortable. Aircon, fridge, TV, big bed, pool and parking. Tel: 081-0825707. Website: [www.phuket-accommodation.info](http://www.phuket-accommodation.info)

## THALANG HOUSE

for long-term rent, 2 bedrooms, aircon, near waterfall. 37/136 Pernjun villa. 6,000 baht per month. Tel: 086-6831147.

## THAI STYLE VILLA



Tropical villa in Rawai, long-term rental. 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, 5 aircons, 42" cable TV, fully-furnished, lovely garden and large pool. 60,000 baht per month. Tel: 087-8916438.

## LUXURY VILLA - RAWAI

4 Bedrooms, large bath, pool and garden. UBC, aircon, European kitchen. 70,000 baht per month. Tel: 086-2790837. Email: bricothailand2@hotmail.com

## WHEN YOU WANT

a house or pool villa to rent or sale. We have quality choices, from a variety of locations for you. We try to do the best for you. Please contact for more information at Tel: 089-292 9095. Email: ppsr.property@gmail.com

## STUDIO APARTMENT WITH INTERNET

off Nanai Rd, 30sqm, fully-furnished. Includes: TV, DVD, large fridge, hot water, fan, aircon and kitchenette. From 7,500 baht per month, long-term. ADSL Internet optional. Please contact tel: 087-2650652. Email: gisbert1@gmx.net

## NICE, MODERN HOUSE FOR RENT



Furnished and excellent location, 5 mins to Rawai & Nai Harn beaches. 162sqm. 2 bedrooms with private bathrooms. 1 guest toilet. 3 aircons. Large living-dining room. Telephone line with ADSL. Free water supply and garbage service. 22,000 baht per month. Please contact Khun Nui at Tel: 087-3830936.

## TO RENT FOR 5 MONTHS

2 houses with 1,600sqm of land, 300m to the beach. Each house has 1 bedroom, living room, kitchen, bathroom and no furnishings. Price 12,000 baht per month, vacant from Dec 1, 2007 to April 31, 2008 (perfect for a family), Tel: 081-6913090, 084-8406775.

## NICE ROOMS

2 rooms for rent with own separate kitchen, UBC, TV. ADSL Internet optional. 500 baht per day or 13,000 baht per month. Tel: 076-279682, 086-2549466. Email: zaunotto@hotmail.de

## RAWAI HOUSE

for rent. 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, fully furnished, swimming pool, cable TV, ADSL Internet. Tel: 081-6067410.

## CHALONG SHOPHOUSE

This new 3-story shophouse is available for long-term lease. Ideal for home office/shop accommodation. Inquiries to Tel: 089-6521473.

## VILLA FOR LONG-TERM RENT

in Kamala. Consists of 1 large, 2-bedroom apartment, 3 studio apartments, swimming pool, 440sqm of landscaped gardens, private well and water supply and private road. 1 year or more on request. 50,000 baht per month or sale available at 6.5 million baht. Please contact at Tel: 084-8375985. Email: kamalarob@yahoo.co.uk

## VILLA 3 BEDROOMS

in Naiharn. Also aircon/fan room, low rates, long-term rent. Aircon restaurant, kitchen fully fitted, nice area. Tel: 081-8081804. Email: enqtpitstop1@hotmail.com

## CHALONG TOWNHOUSE

Furnished, 2 bedrooms, big kitchen, aircon, telephone line, TV, min. 6-month lease 9,000 baht. Utilities extra. Tel: 076-344487, 087-2814535.

## HOUSE - NAI YANG 2 BEDROOMS

Luxury furnished house, 2 aircon rooms, 2 toilets. 23,000 baht per month. Email: ek\_phuket@hotmail.com

## VILLA 2 BEDROOMS

3 mins to Mai Khao Beach. European standards, big sala, Internet, very charming antique furniture. 20,000 baht per week. Contact at Tel: 089-4708926, 081-7197015. Email: eanfievat@voila.fr

## PARADISE HOUSE FOR RENT

in Patong. Private hill, pool, UBC, ADSL, garden. 1 minute to beach. Must see! Tel: 081-5972116.

## KATHU, 3-BEDROOM

2-story, 3-bedroom, 3-bathroom home. Aircon in 2 bedrooms. Large fitted kitchen, storage room, TV with UBC, ADSL, washing machine, computer. Furnished. 18,000 baht per month. Email: cswift1@swift-mail.com

## CHALONG SHOPHOUSE

This new 3-story shophouse is available for long-term lease. Ideal for home office/shop accommodation. Inquiries to Tel: 089-6521473.

## CHALONG TOWNHOUSE

Furnished, 2 bedrooms, big kitchen, aircon, telephone line, TV, min. 6-month lease 9,000 baht. Utilities extra. Tel: 076-344487, 087-2814535.

## LONG-TERM RENT

Quiet, but central Patong 2-bed, fully-furnished house. 35,000 baht per month. Tel: 081-6932759. Email: wunhung@gmail.com

## CONDOS FOR RENT

Rawai. Renovated, aircon, TV. Tel: 086-9456650. Email: phuketcomfortcondos@hotmail.com

## PATONG SEAVIEW

condo 500m from beach. Fully furnished, 1 bedroom, kitchen, living room, pool, terrace. Please contact for more information. Tel: 086-6833836.

## RAWAI/NAI HARN

Large luxury house on the lake, 5-6 bedrooms, 7 bathrooms, swimming pool. Long-term rent: 60,000 baht per month. Tel: 081-3971835.

## BL APARTMENT

New in Kathu. Big rooms, 1 bedroom, 1 living room, aircon, cable TV, ADSL, hot shower, garden, car park. 8,000 baht per month. Tel: 081-6923163.

## THALANG HOUSE

for long-term rent, 2 bedrooms, aircon, near waterfall. 37/136 Pernjun villa. 6,000 baht per month. Please contact for more information. Tel: 086-6831147.

## HOUSE - NAI YANG 3 BEDROOMS

400sqm, luxury furnished house. Two aircon rooms, 2 toilets, cable TV, ADSL. 27,000 baht per month. Email: ek\_phuket@hotmail.com

## NICE ROOM

2 rooms for rent with own separate kitchen, UBC, TV. ADSL Internet optional. 500 baht per day or 13,000 baht per month. Tel: 076-279682, 086-2549466. Email: zaunotto@hotmail.de

## BOAT LAGOON

2-bedroom, lagoon-fronted townhouse. Modern, fully-fitted kitchen, use of communal swimming pool. Near international school, shopping, etc. 30,000 baht per month. Tel: 081-8337836.

## PALAI GREEN HOUSE

with big garden. Fully furnished, 2 aircons, 2 bedrooms, hot shower, ADSL, and cable TV. 12,000 baht per month. Chalong area. Tel: 081-8924311.

## HIGH-END RENTAL

2 minutes to BIS school, 5 bedrooms, private pool, 24hr security. Tel: 081-4077403.

## HOUSE FOR RENT

New house for rent: 25,000 baht per month; or for sale at 4 million baht. Tel: 087-264-6808, 083-1743880.

## RAWAI BEACH DUPLEX

House for lease or rent. Pool, UBC and ADSL. 9,000 baht per month. Tel: 084-0579266. Email: chotip07@yahoo.com

## BANG TAO HOUSE FOR RENT

3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, pool and 2 living rooms. Tel: 084-8516121. Email: phuketmat@yahoo.com

## COMFORTABLE HOUSE

in secure environment, 3 bedrooms (2 en-suite), 3 bathrooms, living room, study, garage, kitchen/dining room, fenced garden, furnished, UBC, ADSL. 35,000 baht per month. Near Wat Chalong. Tel: 084-8439579. Email: somlerdee@yahoo.com

## HOMES FOR HOLIDAY

Near Laguna, 3 bedrooms, pool, spa. Cheap rates and weekly rates. Need car to access house. Tel: 089-594-4067.

## RAWAI BEACH VILLA

4 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, UBC, ADSL, shared pool. Rent: 35,000 per month. Tel: 084-0579266. Email: chotip07@yahoo.com

Would you like to keep up on what's happening in Phuket - the good, the bad and the bizarre? Let us share it with you - every week!

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To ensure clarity, please attach photo. Do not Fax!







# Boats & Marine

## 4-STROKE OUTBOARD ENGINES

For Sale: 2 pcs Yamaha 40Hp Eco-friendly 4-stroke outboard engines. Long-shaft, tiller control, perfect for RIB inflatable or fiberglass skiff. Brand new. Price: 170,000 baht each. Tel: 081-891 3051.

## HOBIE 14 FOR SALE

Many spares and launching trolley. Can be viewed near Tesco. 75,000 baht. Contact at. Tel: 076-224596.

## ONAN MARINE

generator. MDK Series 7.5 KVA in good working condition. Asking 285,000 baht. For more details at. Tel: 081-8941994. Email: tom@freedomsurfing.com

## POWER DINGY

4.7m x 2.2m Nautica Dinky with 120Hp Jet inboard engine and trailer. Only 400,000 baht. Tel: 076-242091, 081-737-0557 Fax 076-242091. Email: Dive\_Block@web.de

## OLD TEAK RICE BOAT

- Needs restoration
  - Originally from Ayudhya but now dry moored in Phuket
  - Approx. 20 meters in length
  - These boat can be used as bars or additional accommodation
  - Sensible offers invited
- Contact at. Please for more info  
Tel: 081-747- 3425.

## BAVARIA 49 "2005"

NEW LISTING. Well maintained in as-new-condition and ready to sail away. The current owners are selling this yacht, which is fully-blue-water-equipped with all safety and general equipment on board, at well below replacement cost. Highly recommended for viewing. For more information please contact at Tel: 076-239768.

## SAILBOAT

1968 Islander for sale. 44-ft world cruiser, lying in Yacht Haven Marina. US\$50,000. For more info contact at Email: temptation44@hotmail.com

## ALUMINIUM BOAT

For sale: "Sessa", 3.9L Italian motor with 25hp Johnson. Accessories includes trailer. Sale by foreigner. Tel: 089-7309608.

## SEA RAY FISH'N SKII

Nice condition, 18-footer. 115hp Mercury. Galvanized trailer with power for easy loading/unloading. Fish-finder. Tel: 083-2802424. Email: mdamkvist@yahoo.com

## HOBIE 14 FOR SALE

Many spares and launching trolley. Can be viewed near Tesco. 75,000 baht. Please contact for more information. Tel: 076-224596.

## FISHING BOAT FOR SALE

Length: 11m. Beam: 2.20m. Engine: Isuzu 165hp. Price 220,000 baht. Please contact for more information. Tel: 081-8947565. Email: hade@seacano.net

## 66" CATAMARAN

6 double cabins, 2 saloons, 2007 built with wood-glass-epoxy. No engines. 1.9 million baht. Tel: 087-4618089.

## FERRY FOR SALE

Length: 30m. Gross: 322tons. 244 passenger capability. 8 million baht. Docked at Phuket. Managed by Bangkok Capital Alliance Co Ltd. Tel: 081-4084991.

## "TEMPO" SYMBOL 57

If you are after comfort at affordable value, this is for you. The current owner has just carried out an extensive refurbishment, including a complete mechanical overhaul, refitting most of the internal fittings and furnishings, new teak decking and external paintwork. A spacious yacht with liveaboard and sports fishing potential. We have been instructed to present all offers... Don't wait, it will sell quick with these conditions. Contact Simpson Marine. Please contact at. Tel: 076-239768.

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CRUISES IN THE ANDAMAN SEA

Weekly Departure 4 Days or 7 Days  
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M/S CARPE DIEM is a modern and comfortable catamaran with accommodation for up to 10 passengers and 5 double cabins with ensuite bathrooms.

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Ocean Marina Jomtien Beach  
Contact: Mark Heath  
Mobile: 0817879408  
tel: 038 235 061 fax: 038 235 062  
Email: mark@leemarine.com



# Island Job Mart



pattaya@phuketstuntshow.com  
SHOW NAI NAM CO.,LTD  
086-5497879, 083-10223111

## WANTED

THE PHUKET STUNT SHOW under the trading name Show Nai Nam Co.,Ltd was established on February 2nd 2004. The backbone of our professional team has many years experience producing, directing and creating, live stunt shows, entertainment, concerts and events.

We are located at Tambol Rawai, Phuket Thailand where the construction of our 'mega' outdoor stadium & entertainment center is almost complete, and due to open soon.

### Job Description:

- Accountant must be able to do secretarial and work permit /visa runs.

### Qualifications:

- Bachelor's in accounting
- English Speaking
- Skilled in Microsoft word and Excel.
- Own transportation ( bike or car)
- At least 3 years experience

### We can offer:

- Career advance opportunity.
- Exciting and challenging job.
- Good working relationships among the employees.

Interested persons, please send resume by mail only for an interview appointment.

Mr. Tihi Tel: 081-2410821, 080-1412878 (11.00-17.00)

### SHOW NAI NAM CO.,LTD.

135/11 Moo4, Patak Rd., Rawai, Muang, Phuket 83130  
www.phuketstuntshow.com, shownainam@hotmail.com



RPM Health Club will soon be Phuket's finest and most exclusive health and social club for adults. The club is now interviewing for the following positions:

## Membership Director Club Accountant Fitness Instructor Receptionist

Thai National, with applicable University degree and experience. The Membership Director position will give preference to Phuket native.

Please forward letter and resume to:  
Sports Engineering And Recreation Asia Ltd,  
cj@searaspports.com. Tel: 076 355-040. Fax: 076 355-039.

### SALES/SECURITY STAFF

Security guards and foreign sales staff required for Phuket-based security company. Sales staff must speak and write perfect English and have computer skills. Experience in security systems would be a benefit. Tel: 089-8736889, 089-8736889. Please email CV to wit@phuketsecurity.com.

### DELIVERY MAN OR LADY

Thai company in Kamala wants man or lady to deliver products in Phuket. Age not a problem, young or old accepted. Must have motorbike. Thai national only. Salary 7,000 baht per month, plus gasoline. Please contact for more information. Tel: 076-385221. Fax: 076-279340. Email: giovannifrova@libero.it



## Phuket - Thailand

MODERN CUISINE  
CONTEMPORARY DESIGN  
COMMITMENT TO EXCELLENCE

Service is not a job - it's a way of life.

It's a professional commitment to satisfy individual needs. It's a commitment to make someone smile, to create the ultimate experience, to surpass expectations. If you have this commitment, this is your opportunity.

### WANTED:

#### \* Head Chef

Experienced hotel sous chef who is ready to step up to the challenge of head chef of a 4-5\* private restaurant & events team. Must be talented, hard-working, great team-leader who can perform under pressure & can uphold high standards. Position is located in PHUKET 2 years contract, very good salary & package.

#### \* Restaurant Supervisor

#### \* Event Catering Supervisor

#### \* Hostess

#### \* Waiter / Waitress

#### \* Bar Supervisor / Bartender

Thai nationals only.

Some Experience, excellent English skills, great personality, inspired attitude & service-mind required in all positions.

watermark bar restaurant  
Phuket Boat Lagoon  
22/1 Thepkasatri Rd. Muang, Phuket  
Interview by appointment only  
send resume to info@watermarkphuket.com  
tel: 076-239078, 076-239730 fax: 076-273390

### HOTEL STAFF

Hotel in Patong require 1 receptionist with good English skills, plus 1 housekeeping maid. To apply or for more information please call 087-2674091.

### PRIVATE VILLA

manager with experience required. Will take care of bookings and staff. Must be capable of providing excellent service. Also, cook required. Call Lai. Tel: 084-6302027.



## SIX SENSES DESTINATION SPA

PHUKET  
AN ERWAN PROPERTY

## Do you want 10,000 Baht Guarantee Service Charge & The Other Great Benefits?

Opening in March 2008, Six Senses Destination Spa Phuket, offers world-class innovative experiences that combine the island's pristine natural beauty with cutting-edge holistic and contemporary treatments. Six Senses Erawan is located on the island of Naka Yai - 10 minutes by boat from Ao Po Pier on the north side of Phuket.

We are looking for candidates who have a great attitude and work ethic, strong beliefs, and a desire to be part of our organization.

## Management and Supervisory Positions

### Administrative Office

Social & Environmental Responsibility Coordinator

### Front Office

Security Manager

### Housekeeping

Assistant Executive Housekeeper  
Laundry Manager  
Laundry Supervisor

### Finance

Credit Assistant Manager  
Income Auditor

### HR & Training

Asst. Training Manager

### F&B

Sous Chef  
Senior Chef de Partie  
Chef de Partie  
Service Manager

### Engineering

Duty Supervisor  
MC/ Plumber Supervisor

### Wellness

Nurse  
Fitness Trainer

## Host Positions

### Front Office

Operator/ Front Office Clerk

### Housekeeping

Butler  
Room Attendant  
Owners Villa

### F&B

Waiter  
Bartender

### Life

Gym & Pool Attendant

### Spa

Spa Attendant (Male)  
Spa Receptionist  
Spa Therapist

All positions offer highly competitive salaries, a five-day working week, provident fund, housing, incentives, bonuses and 3 meals. Please apply in writing with CV and photograph to: Team Development & Support Department 103 Moo 5, Banpara, Paklok, Thalang, Phuket 83110  
E-mail: hrclerk-phuket@sixsensesdestinationspas.com



# Island Job Mart

**rainHAIL**

**Rain Hail**  
Restaurant & Lounge  
Bangtao Beach, Phuket

We understand that work and life cannot be separated in our modern day workplace. Rain Hail is a fun loving family of employees who strive to excellent quality and financial success. We are looking for customer savvy individuals with outgoing personalities and strong social skills in the following positions:

- 1) Restaurant Team Leader (1)**
  - Passionate in customer service, excellent communication and strong team building skills.
  - Experience in fast paced, energetic and upscale international restaurants.
  - At least three years experience in a supervisory role.
- 2) Hostess (2)**
  - Great communicator with inter-personal skills.
  - Excellent presentation.
- 3) Waitress/Waiter (7)**
  - Friendly, positive, energetic and outgoing with good communication skills.
  - Previous experience in upscale international restaurants.
- 4) Sous Chef (1)**
  - Fluent in English. Must be able to do ordering/stock control. Good understanding of pastry kitchen.
- 5) Chef de Partie (5)**
  - Fluent in English. Good knife skills, knowledge of fish and meat preparation and pasta making. Willing to learn.
- 6) Demi Chef (3)**
  - Some English. Good understanding of stocks, knowledge of fish and meat preparation and basic sauce making. Willing to learn.
- 7) Kitchen Hands (3)**
  - Clean and fast. Understand food hygiene and vegetable preparation.

For an interview please call 081 979 1967 or email us at benedikt@rain-hail.com

**OFFICE MANAGER / CUSTOMER SERVICE**  
manager wanted for yacht company. Excellent English skills, computer literate, knowledge of accounting, very responsible, well-organized and must have own transportation. We are looking for the best! Tel: 081-9687564. Email: customerthai@dreamyachtcharter.com

**MAID WANTED**  
Full-time, experienced, own transportation. Located in Ao Yon. Call K. Pen. Tel: 081-5376866.

**REAL ESTATE SALESPERSON**  
Property developer in Kata is seeking an experienced salesperson. Excellent English is essential. Good salary and commissions. Tel: 081-788-8280.

**BOAT BUILDERS**  
New European marine-development company is looking for a Production Manager and an Interpreter/Personal Assistant/Office Manager. Good Thai and English is a must. Basic computer skills required. Contact for more information. Tel: 083-174-0880 or email resumeto: mikhnoNS@gmail.com

**NEW OPENING!**  
We are looking for motivated individuals with a passion for people and service. Must be fluent in English.

- Receptionist (day & night)
- Restaurant Manager & Waiters
- Chef-cooks-stewards (Western Food)
- Spa Therapist & Hostess
- Maids
- Driver

Attractive salary and career opportunities. Tel: 089-444-4023. Email: ampalida@yahoo.co.th Email resumeto: info@royal-embassy-resort.com

**NATIVE ENGLISH TELE-APPOINTMENTS**  
Native English speakers required for tele-appointments opportunities in Phuket City. We require articulate, sales-driven individuals for our dynamic and professional company. We operate in the UK and Australian markets. Excellent salaries and benefits. Email: lan@evocation.net

**HOTEL STAFF – KATA**  
Receptionists with good English skills and housekeeping, maids. Please contact for more information at Tel: 087-2674091.

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Able Architects is full-service architectural and planning firm. Base in Phuket, we are dedicated to quality design compatible with the island's unique heritage and environment. We specialize in the planning and design of aesthetic, functional, and efficient project management and consulting.

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**Site, Kata, Cherng Talay, Rawai**  
Project Engineer 3-6 years  
Civil Engineer 3+ years  
Engineering Autocad 2-4 years  
Foreman 2-4 years

www.ablearchitects.com

**Cape Panwa Hotel**  
Cape Panwa is looking for candidates for the following positions:

<b>Accounting</b>	Assistant Chief Accountant Front Cashier
<b>Front Office</b>	Reception Supervisor
<b>Food &amp; Beverage</b>	Restaurant Manager (2) Restaurant Supervisor
<b>Kitchen</b>	Executive Sous Chef
<b>Personnel</b>	Personnel Clerk

Please send your resume with a recent photo or apply in person to Personnel Department.  
27 Moo 8, Sakdidej Road, Phuket 83000  
Tel: 076.391.123 Fax: 076.391.177  
email: gm@capepanwa.com, www.capepanwa.com  
Only short listed candidates will be contacted

**THAI STAFF WANTED!**  
We seek to hire the following:

- 1 Cook's helper
- 1 Dishwasher
- 1 Bartender
- 1 Cashier
- 3 Waiters/Waitresses

Respond in English by email with CV. Restaurant will open in December. Email: mona@oceanicdivecenter.com

**QSI INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL**

An American school has an immediate vacancy for an elementary classroom teacher. The ideal candidate will be a native English speaker, have at least a bachelor's degree and hold appropriate certification. Letters of interest may be emailed to alansiporin@qsi.org. Please include resumeto and references and be prepared to show a degree and certification documents.

**STAFF FOR INTERNET**  
business in Rawai. Thai females with computer skills and basic English wanted part-time Saturdays and Sundays. Good salary. Tel: 076-288-808, 081-0909640. Email: info@phuket-car-rentals.com

**HIGHLY MOTIVATED**  
Phuket-based individual, fluent speaker in English, French and Italian, seeks permanent employment. Experience in diverse working environments with background in administering and management. Email for CV and further details. Email: simone.allene@gmail.com

**HORSE CARER NEEDED**

Temporary experienced horse carer needed ASAP for 3 rescued horses. Full-time for 2 weeks, possible part-time thereafter. Tel: 084-842-4581. Email: PhuketHorseRescue@gmail.com

## ASIANA HOTEL

An international five-star hotel in Chennai, India invites applications for the following positions in the luxuriously appointed Thai Concept Spa.

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Tel: 00-91-99404-94855  
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## HOUSE SITTER

needed to look after a 3-bed-room house and dog in Kamala, also do shopping. Must be able to drive. Hours: 10 am to 6 pm, Mon to Sat. Please contact for additional information at Tel: 086-5932722. Email: jamesreanet@hotmail.com

## SALES / SECURITY STAFF

Security guards and foreign sales staff required for Phuket-based security company. Sales staff must speak and write perfect English and have computer skills. Experience in Security Systems would be a benefit. Please email your CV. Tel: 089-8736889. Email: wit@phuketsecurity.com

## BLUE GARDEN RESORT

New restaurant and bar at Bang Tao Beach Phuket opening in December is looking for staff for the following positions:

- Receptionist
- Hotel staff
- Cook
- Barman
- Bar/Restaurant staff
- Officer

Please contact Gerard at Tel: 086-2767650 Email: info@blueaventure.com

## TOUR OFFICE URGENTLY NEEDS

Thai female staff. English, computer and tour desk knowledge recommended. Salary and commissions. Contact Phil at Tel: 089-6186894.

## FOREIGNER/THAIS WANTED

- Construction Foreman. Thai, must speak English and have at least 3 years of experience.
- Property Designer. Thai or foreign, must speak English and have experience as chief architect and/or as AutoCAD program operator.
- Security guards and cleaning ladies. Tel: 089-8736889, 089-8736889. Email: mw@bayproject.com

## PERSONAL ASSISTANT

needed to work in Kamala and Patong from 10 am to 6 pm, Mon to Sat. Must have good English and be able to drive. Salary: 14,000 baht per month. Please contact for more information. Tel: 086-5932722. Email: jamesreanet@hotmail.com

## PCS SALES EXECUTIVE

Property Care Services urgently require sales executives. Applicants should be degree educated, have good English skills and own vehicle. Full product and technical training provided. Tel: 076-376557, 081-6949088. Fax: 076-376560. Email: sirinat@pcs.co.th

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Real estate business requires dynamic sales persons aged 30-40. Thai national, fluent in English, computer skills and result oriented. Duties will be property scouting, telemarketing and sales. Average salary 40-50,000 baht. Tel: 076-282394, 084-0535780. Fax: 076-282395. Forward CV via Email: info@ayudhya.net.

## DISTRIBUTION MANAGER WANTED

Publishing company looking for a distribution manager with good knowledge of Phuket. Applicant must have good command of English, be able to think and work independently and have strong organization skills. Good salary plus commissions for the right person. Thai nationals only. Please contact at Tel: 076-28221, 081-5353297. Email: hr@origopub.com

## MEXICAN RESTAURANT

One cook and two waitresses wanted for new Mexican Restaurant in Chalong. Must speak English. Please contact for more information at Tel: 089-1638166. Email: vjnong@gmail.com

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## SPA THERAPIST

Hotel in Patong area requires 1 therapist starting immediately. Tel: 081-8920038.

## MANAGERIAL POSITION

Italian lady, 56, is looking for a job in Thailand. English and German speaker, long experience as human resources manager and in the commercial sector, talent for organization and coaching. Please contact via email: d\_ambroset@virgilio.it

## TROPICAL PROPERTIES-PATONG

One of the island's leading real estate companies is expanding and urgently looking for 2 EXPERIENCED SALES PERSONS. Good command of English, both written and spoken, is essential. Own car is preferred but not a necessity. Good salary, high commissions, career growth possibilities and other bonuses for the right person. Thai nationals only. Please send your resume by replying to this ad or call 076-34079, 087-8822856. Email: luc@phuket-tropical-realestate.com

## GYMNASTICS

Gymnastic sports trainer wanted for child. Contact K. Celine at Tel: 085-7925636, or K. Nicolas 081-7286188.



# Tout, Trader & Trumpet

## Articles For Sale

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### 65-YEAR-OLD BICYCLE

Phillip-brand, like new. 2 Dupont mountain bikes, gold and glitter, with in-box guarantee, like new. 2 exercise bikes also for sale. Tel: 081-2945441.

### POOL TABLE

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### MOUNTAIN BIKES

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### MUSIC GEAR SALE

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### FURNITURE ETC.

Tables, chairs, beds and sofas. Top-quality household goods: TV, DVD, new phone. Tel: 084-3087974.

### 29" SONY TV

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### OUTDOOR BAR FURNITURE

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### FOR FINE ARTS LOVERS

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Bangkok Phuket Hospital  
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Patong Hospital Patong  
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Chalong Health  
Clinic-near Chalong Circle  
Tues 1 pm  
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081-8912895

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### FAMOUS KAMALA BAR FOR SALE

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### HAIR SALON

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### KATA BEACH TRAVEL WEBSITE

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for sale or rent. Furnished and equipped. 1,000sq wah, includes parking. Tel: 089-9711038.

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### BEAUTY SALON & MASSAGE

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### BEACH RESTAURANT

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### BAR FOR SALE

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in Laguna area. Includes nice decor and free Wi-Fi. Ready to move in. Only 12,000 per month! Contact Dome. Tel: 081-1994356. Email: dome\_glover@hotmail.com

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### Personals

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### ISUZU DMAX AUTO 3L 4WD

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### TOYOTA VIGO



Oct 2005, black, too many extras to list, must be seen. 730,000 baht. Contact Barry. Tel: 086-2791671.

### JEEP CHEROKEE AUTO

4L, limited edition, full leather seating, engine and body in very good condition. Please contact for more information at Tel: 086-0071505.

### TOYOTA VIGO

2004, 4x4, 3L automatic, 34,000km. Like new. 715,000 baht ono. Or I can swap for condo/land anywhere. Email for photo. Tel: 089-9945503. Email: warren1001@hotmail.com

### SUZUKI CARIBIAN LOW WHEEL BASE

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### FORD RANGER

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## Motorbikes

### HONDA STEED

150,000 baht. Good condition and green book. Tel: 076-527730, 084-8517692. Email: superoh@hotmail.com

### BMW RT1150 R



560,000 baht, 4 bags, excellent condition. Please contact Gianni for more details. Tel: 089-8972308.

### SUZUKI KATANA 1990



750CC. All parts original, best condition, green body, Phuket registration. Price: 30,000 baht. Tel: 081-9700569.

### HONDA PHANTOM

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### HONDA XR250 MOTARD

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### HONDA WAVE 125CC

Three years old, electric start, manual gear. All service followed, very good condition. Price: 25,000 baht. Tel: 087-2650283. Email: Bjarkehs@gmail.com

### SUZUKI SV 650



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### HONDA STEED 400CC

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### YAMAHA MIO



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## Rentals

### HONDA CITY 2007

for rent. V-tec, silver. 18,000 baht per month. Tel: 087-8833174.

### TOYOTA WISH FOR RENT

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## HONDA JAZZ

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## Others

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