

# Phuket Gazette

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**INSIDE**



## The Journey

**INSIDE STORY:** Phuket's key tourism experts give their opinions on the effect of Phuket's airport being closed, and what they think it will take to get tourism back on track. See full story on pages 4 and 5.

**NEWS:** Pian aims for Patong tunnel; PAD maintains protest pressure, but leaves airport alone. **Pages 2 & 3**

**MP3 COPYRIGHT:** You may already be breaking the law. Find out how to make your music legal. **Page 7**

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## Airport closure cost B250m a day

By Akbar Khan

**PHUKET AIRPORT:** Losses of an estimated 250 million baht per day have been reported to an ad-hoc committee set up to monitor and control safety at Phuket International Airport following the Peoples Alliance for Democracy (PAD) anti-government protests.

Phuket International Airport was closed at 4:50 pm on Friday, August 29 and did not re-open until 11 am, Sunday, August 31. Marking the return to normal services was the first departing flight, THAI Airways flight TG213 at 2:10 pm, and the first inbound flight arriving at 3:30 pm.

Following the closure, an Emergency Operations Command (EOC) was set up at the airport's VIP lounge on the Saturday with about 90 uniformed officers on duty, comprising military and volunteer personnel.

Phuket Vice-Governor Worapoj Ratthasima, who was acting-Governor while Niran Kalayanamit was in Bangkok, is currently president of the EOC, which will be stationed at the airport until it is deemed no longer necessary.

The EOC committee also includes the deputy commander of Region 8 police, the commander of Phuket provincial police, the mayor of Thalang, the Phuket Chamber of Commerce, the Phuket Tourist Association, the Thai Hotels Association, the Department of Transport, airlines that were affected by the protest and the Phuket International Airport director.

The committee met at 9 am on the Sunday and decided that it was safe to re-open the airport at 11 am.

A Ministry of Interior offi-



**NO LOOKING BACK:** A policeman watches an advancing crowd of protesters outside Phuket International Airport. Some protesters entered the main terminal and smashed glass doors at the VIP lounge before the airport was closed by authorities.

cial who asked to remain anonymous said that the PAD had been infiltrated by a third party that was trying to discredit them.

In doing so, according to the committee, they caused loss of revenue amounting to 250 million baht per day.

The committee reported that the airport closure had forced the cancellation of 88 outbound flights and 93 incoming ones (126 domestic flights and 55 international).

Consequently, about 13,000 passengers missed their outbound flights while some 17,000 missed incoming flights, the EOC reported.

Some 137 tonnes of air cargo was also delayed.

A total of 11 airlines had to cancel flights. These were: Thai International, Dragon Air, Silk Air, Air Asia, Bangkok Air, Malaysia Air, Jet Star, Sky Star, China Air, Tiger Air and Nok Air.

On September 3, *The Nation* quoted Tourism Council of Thailand (TCT) chairman Kongkri Hiranyakit as saying the worsening political unrest was prompting tourists and businessmen to cancel their trips to the Kingdom.

"Initially, we expected this would cause damage of between 50 billion and 60 billion, or up to 10% of targeted revenue of 700 billion baht," he said.

The state of emergency was declared at a bad time, with September being the usual booking period for the high season. About 40% of the industry's revenue was usually generated in October and November, he said.

The TCT plans to ask the Tourism and Sports Ministry to launch emergency measures to restore tourist confidence and approve use of the 400-million-baht Tourist Fund to assist stranded tourists, he said.

## Japanese tourists cancel trips to Phuket

By Janyaporn Morel

**PHUKET:** More than half of the Japanese tourists who planned to visit Phuket during the week after the closure of Phuket International Airport (PIA) on August 29 canceled their bookings due to concerns over political unrest in Thailand.

Phuket Tourist Association (PTA) President Somboon Chirayus on September 1 told the *Gazette* that despite the re-opening of PIA on August 31, there had been many cancellations among foreign tour groups.

Cancellation rates among Japanese visitors were the highest, at about 50%, he said.

Khun Somboon, of Merlin Phuket Hotels and Resorts, said the direct flight from Narita to Phuket was operating at half-capacity. These flights had been nearly full every day before the recent increase in tensions in the capital and closure of Phuket Airport by protesters over the weekend, he said.

"We need time to make tourists understand that the situation is back to normal," he said.

It is still too early to judge the effect of the airport closure on Phuket tourism, but the distress and inconvenience suffered by passengers who were unable to catch their return flights is bound to leave a bad impression, he said.

Embassies around the world are closely watching the situation here and travel advisories warning against travel to Thailand would have a negative impact, he added.



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## Bus crash causes injury, commuter misery

By Sompratch Saowakhon

THALANG: Four people were injured when a bus with bald tires overturned on Thepkasattri Rd on August 27, leaving commuters stuck in a traffic tailback stretching well over five kilometers long.

Seksan Konsakorn of Thalang District Police told the *Gazette* the six-wheel bus skidded out of control in wet conditions on a curve near Tha Reua Shine, where it crashed into a roadside power pole and came to rest on its side, blocking all northbound traffic.

Police and rescue workers were on the scene soon after the accident, which occurred at about 6:30 am.

Seriously injured were bus driver Sommana Nilmanee, whose liver was ruptured by the impact with the power pole, and a female passenger with serious head injuries requiring a brain scan. Her name was not disclosed.

At last report both were being treated at Vachira Phuket Hospital's Intensive Care Unit.

All three passengers in the bus were employees of the Trisara Phuket at Nai Thon, Maj Seksan said.

The driver would be questioned after he is sufficiently healed. He will likely face charges of reckless driving resulting in the injury of others, he said.

The bus, operated by the Phuket ARS Tour company, had several tires that were almost completely bald.

A crane finally removed the wreckage from the road at about 9 am, much to the relief of scores of stranded motorists.

## Spaniard's death being treated as suicide

By Gazette Staff

PATONG: Police are treating the death of Spanish national Josemaria Garcia Gonzalez, 38, who fell from the balcony of his room on the seventh floor of the Club Andaman Beach Resort on August 29 as a likely suicide.

He fell from the same floor where a female US marine fell to her death in June.

Patak Khwunna of Kathu Police said that he was informed of the death by a staff member at the resort at about 7 am.

There was no evidence that Mr Gonzalez had been involved in a violent struggle, Capt Patak said.

Room 708, where Mr Gonzalez was staying, had no signs of foul play, but there were a large number of empty whiskey and

beer bottles. His shoes were on the balcony and the room's door to the corridor was locked from the inside, he added.

A hotel chambermaid who said she saw Mr Gonzalez jump told police there was no one else on the balcony at the time.

Mr Gonzalez's body was sent to Patong Hospital for examination by doctors and police forensics experts.

## Pian keeps digging for Patong tunnel

By Pathomporn Kaenkrachang

PATONG: Pian Keesin, the recently re-elected Mayor of Patong, on September 1 announced he will continue with his plan to build a tunnel under the hills separating the popular beach resort town from Phuket City.

"We plan to set up a budget to study and research the impact of building a tunnel, in the hope that - if there are no objections - we can finish the research and design stages within a year and a half," he said.

Mayor Pian admitted that the project was still a long way from becoming a reality.

"Whether this project will go ahead depends on environmental factors, tourism and how local businesses, organizations and people will benefit from it.

"We are still talking with investors and considering how much budget should be set aside for research before we decide on a big project like this," he said.

Mayor Pian's announcement followed the first meeting of the new Patong Municipality 18-seat council on August 29.

The meeting, chaired by



Patong Mayor Pian Keesin.

Phuket Governor Niran Kalayanamit, saw Tanin Atthasap voted council chairman, beating fellow councilor Charoen Kwanyuen by 11 votes.

Prasob Prateep na Thalang was voted vice-chairman, beating Mana Panchalad by 10 votes.

Khun Pian was installed in his second four-year term as Patong Mayor after being cleared of three complaints of vote-buying by the Election Commission in Bangkok on August 20.

On September 1, he announced his seven-point platform, in which he pledged:

1. Education: To have Wat Suwankirirong School and Baan Kalim School be brought under the responsibility of Patong Municipality; to set up two childcare

centers; and to support construction of a sports complex at Tri Trang Beach.

2. Society: To improve the quality of life for the elderly, the handicapped and HIV sufferers.

3. Administration: To have Patong Municipality improve its effectiveness through developing its officers' skills.

4. Economy and tourism: To build a food court at Loma Park, to develop the quality of tour guides, to boost investment for development, to preserve the environment in Patong, to support a change in the law so that buildings can be above the current limit of 80 meters above sea level.

5. Public utilities: To finish Phang Muang Rd and to support construction of a Kathu-Patong tunnel.

6. Natural resource and environment: To improve wastewater treatment water quality in Patong Bay.

7. Safety and security: To install more CCTV cameras and to have more volunteers on the street to help tourists.

Mayor Pian has yet to announce who will be his "Deputy Mayors" and consultants, which are non-elected positions.

It is expected that Chairat Sukkabal, who was one of K. Pian's Deputy Mayors throughout his first term, will be reinstated as a Deputy Mayor.

## Phuket ICT a 'no show' at Chinese expo

By Janyaporn Morel

PHUKET: The project to have representatives from Phuket businesses and other organizations to highlight the island's information and communications technology (ICT) prowess at the 5th China-ASEAN Expo (CAEXPO) in Nanning City, Guangxi, China has failed due to lack of interest.

The Department of Export Promotion (DEP) aimed to run 69 presentation booths at the event next month. However, at a Provincial Hall meeting chaired by Phuket Vice-Governor Smith Palawatwichai on August 28, it was reported that the project had attracted very little interest from Phuket businesses.

Indeed, even the local branch of the Software Industry Promotion Agency (SIPA) withdrew, citing a lack of budget.

So far, only three Phuket businesses will join the event. Phuket FantaSea will send 10 staffers, including management and performance actors, to man two booths at the expo.

The Phuket Export and Manufacturing Association (PEMA) will occupy five booths, presenting local produce, including fresh and dried seafood, cashew nut products, abalone products and fish balls.

Silk Idol Co Ltd, which produces Thai silk and cotton, will display its wares at one booth.

The Tourism Authority of Thailand (TAT) Southern Region 4 Office will promote tourism to Phuket by distributing 10,000 brochures printed in Chinese and 1,000 copies in English at the event.

DEP Deputy Director-General Niramol Charoenphao still hopes that Phuket will be better represented, especially in the "City of Charm" zone, where Phuket spas, hotels, travel agents and hospitality businesses can pitch their sales to mainland Chinese.

"Unfortunately, we are still missing Phuket's most prominent point, which is tourism," Khun Niramol said.

"We expected spas, travel agents and hospitals to join, but as the economy has slowed down, businesspeople are being more wary about the potential returns," she added.

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## Highways Office chief ordered to speed up Chalong Circle removal

By Sompratch Saowakhon

PHUKET CITY: Phuket Vice-Governor Worapoj Ratthasima has told Saroj Suwinchai, the chief of the Phuket Provincial Highways Office, and Paiboon Upatising, president of the Phuket Provincial Administration Organization (*OrBorJor*), to expedite removal of Chalong Circle.

At the monthly Governor Meets Press meeting at Provincial Hall on September 1, V/Gov Worapoj said, "It's too old and not attractive for people who pass by and see it. I need to make it better."

"Also, there are serious traffic jams there in the morning and evening. So it should be done quickly." V/Gov Worapoj said.

Khun Saroj explained that he had to first apply to the *OrBorJor* for permission to remove the roundabout, including the large fountain that is the centerpiece of the circle, as the *OrBorJor* had paid for it, and thus it was *OrBorJor* property.

"The *OrBorJor* has now given us permission to remove it. But when I went to inspect the roundabout, I saw that the fountain is about three meters wide and made of concrete and steel. So now we are looking for a way to remove it," he said.

However, V/Gov Worapoj said, "I have asked K. Paiboon and he has agreed to remove it, but I still need you both [Saroj and Paiboon] to co-ordinate the budget required and get it done."

K. Worapoj told the press that the *OrBorJor* were co-ordinating with Srisoonthorn Tambon Administration Organization (*OrBorTor*) to expand the road around the Heroines' Monument by six meters.

"It will be good for traffic because every car must pass at that monument to come to Phuket City. The *OrBorJor* has given about 10 million baht to Srisoonthorn *OrBorTor* for the project.

"However, they have encountered a problem and are now in negotiations with a private landowner there," V/G Worapoj said.

He added that Srisoonthorn *OrBorTor* will soon receive 27 million baht to install roadside drainage ditches along Thepkasattri Rd from the Heroines' Monument to Koh Kaew.

"We need to fix the frequent flooding problems that follow heavy rains. The budget has been approved by the provincial committee and it will be given soon so the project can be started," he said.

## Phuket PAD protests continue; government utilities threatened

By Sompratch Saowakhon

PHUKET CITY: About 1,000 protesters marched on Provincial Hall on September 2 in support of the People's Alliance for Democracy (PAD) demonstrations in Bangkok. The PAD wants Prime Minister Samak Sundaravej to resign.

The large crowd was bolstered by many people who had turned out to rally against the violence in Bangkok the day before that left one PAD member dead and several others injured, resulting in PM Samak declaring a state of emergency in the capital on September 2.

Natjarong Ekpermsup, President of Phuket Watch, told the *Gazette*, "We are here to show our support for the Bangkok PAD, who are trying to oust Samak. We do not want the airport blocked as we need it ourselves so that we can send reinforcements up to Bangkok."

"I can't say how long the protest will continue because it really depends on the government. I have contacted the Krabi PAD and told them to protest at their Provincial Hall rather than at their airport."

Clarifying why protesters were still at Phuket International Airport, he said, "Now, at the airport there are about 200 people who refuse to follow PAD instructions. They are not PAD



About 1,000 protesters marched through Phuket City, many to protest the violence in Bangkok that left one PAD member dead.

members, they are just bystanders. We have asked them to join us here at Provincial Hall."

However, Khun Natjarong forewarned that the PAD may yet step up its campaign.

"On September 3, electricity and water supplies to government offices will be cut off."

"I think the government is cornered now so they have to hire agitators to try to disrupt peaceful protests."

"In my opinion, Samak's government announced the state of emergency in Bangkok to divert attention from the main issue, which is the need for him to

resign as Prime Minister.

"We will meet the governor and ask him to forward our request to the government to stop using violence against the people."

"There should be no double standards. They should not block the PAD and then allow the United Front for Democracy to do as they please."

Phuket PAD protesters on September 2 boarded five buses bound for Bangkok. "Protesters from Haad Yai, Surat Thani and Phang Nga will also head to Bangkok to join the PAD rally there," K. Natjarong said.

## 'Bang Hem' voted Pa Khlok OrBorTor president

PA KHLOK: In unofficial results of balloting held August 31, Athipong Khongnam defeated incumbent Panya Samphaorat by 261 votes to win the presidency of the Pa Khlok Tambon Administration Organization, or *OrBorTor*.

Turnout saw 6,307 of the sub-district's 8,131 eligible voters (77.6 %) making it to the six polling stations, which were open from 8 am to 3 pm.

Voters also cast ballots for representatives in nine individual constituency seats.

Some 1,000 people turned up at the counting station at the Phuket Panyanukul School. At about 10:30 pm it was announced that Athipong "Bang Hem" Khongnam had garnered 3,024 votes to win by a narrow margin over Panya Samphaorat, who tallied 2,763 votes.

There were 348 spoiled bal-

lots and 172 voters ticked the "no vote" option on their ballots.

The results have yet to be confirmed by the Election Commission in Bangkok, and thus remain official.

Although small in terms of registered population, Pa Khlok is one of the island's fastest-growing tambons, with many new residential housing projects mushrooming throughout the area.

— Janyaporn Morel

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Phuket International Airport (PIA) Director **Wicha Nernlop** told the *Gazette* that all airlines operating out of the airport resumed their normal flight schedules starting at 11:30 am on Sunday, August 31.

The airport and the carriers that service it did their best to help passengers left stranded during the closure, with THAI Airways, Bangkok Airways, Thai AirAsia and Korea-based Asiana Airlines all adding extra flights, he said.

THAI Airways led the effort, adding three flights with a capacity of about 500 passengers back to the capital on the Sunday afternoon and evening, he said.

"So far we haven't been informed of any decrease in the number of passengers taking flights to Phuket," he said the day after flight services had resumed.

"The passengers who wanted to come to Phuket and were stuck in Bangkok are happy; they still want to come to Phuket, as they understand Thailand's political situation. However, they still don't understand why Thai people are destroying their own country this way," said Wng Cdr Wicha.

As for the damage to glass doors in the lobby, he said Airports of Thailand (AoT) is still considering taking legal action against the person responsible.

# The long road to

**W**ith political events in the Bangkok still unfolding by the minute as this edition goes to print, there is little doubt that the two-day closure of Phuket International Airport will have a deep impact on the island's all-important tourism industry.

*Gazette* staff interviewed several tourism and aviation industry experts to get their initial reactions on what those effects might be.

"The person responsible has expressed guilt and knows he shouldn't have done that," he said.

Although K. Wicha hadn't seen much of a short-term effect when interviewed by the *Gazette*, he thought that travel agents and airlines will have their work cut out for them in keeping the number of high-season arrivals at target figures.

Phuket's high season for tourism officially starts November 1 with the three-day Phuket Carnival in Patong and generally hits its peak from Christmas through till the end of February or mid-March.

Heady predictions for a 20% increase in the number of tourists arriving in Phuket in 2008 would probably have to be re-evaluated in the light of the airport closure and the ongoing struggle in the capital, he said.

**Methee Tanmanatragul**, President of Thai Hotels Association Southern Chapter, estimated that the total revenue to Phuket as a result of the local protest amounted to 250 million baht per day; with the price tag for the entire southern region at about 400 million baht per day.

K. Methee, whose business

interests include the Rising Sun Residence in Chalong and the still-under-construction Regent Phuket on Cape Panwa, said the impact on tourism depends in large part on the ability of both the central government and the anti-government protesters to refrain from holding Thailand's considerable tourism assets hostage in their power struggle.

If Thailand's international reputation as a safe tourist destination is compromised, it will inevitably have a large negative effect, he said.

"Both the government and the protesters need to realize this. They can close down offices anywhere else, but not the airport. Nobody gains from closing the airport. Such an action negatively affects the livelihood of everyone – not just people living in Phuket, but also those in Phang Nga and Krabi," he said.

"Our association and the TAT [Tourism Authority of Thailand] are now finding a way to get tourism back to normal. Everyone has a part to play in ensuring that tourists know there will be no similar incidents like this in the future.

"I think the tourists who were affected by this incident are going to spread the word about their bad experience to others, so we have to make every effort possible to get our positive image back," he said.

Overall, however, K. Methee remained guardedly optimistic.

"I think if there aren't any more incidents like this, then it shouldn't affect our prospects for the upcoming high season too much," he said.

Phuket Tourist Association (PTA) President **Somboon Chirayus** painted a less rosy picture for the short term.

He told the *Gazette* on September 1 that despite the reopening of the airport, there had been many cancellations among foreign tour groups.

More than half of the Japanese tourists who planned to visit Phuket over the following week canceled their bookings due to



concerns over political unrest in Thailand.

Mr Somboon, deputy managing director of Merlin Phuket Hotels and Resorts, said the direct flight from Narita to Phuket was now operating at half-capacity.

These flights had been nearly full every day before the recent increase in tensions in the capital and closure of the Phuket airport by protesters over the weekend, he said.

"I think we will need more time to make tourists understand that the situation [in Phuket] is back to normal," he said.

The long-term impact on Phuket tourism would be closely tied to what happens in Bangkok in the coming days, he said.

It was still too early to judge the effect of the airport closure on Phuket's tourism picture in the long-term, but the distress and inconvenience suffered by passengers who were unable to catch their return flights is

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# tourism recovery



**WELCOME TO PARADISE:** (left) These foreign tourists will have a lot to tell their friends when they get back home.

(Above) Tourists, who are usually hassled by touts as they leave Phuket Airport's arrivals hall, were confronted with a different set of obstacles last weekend. Photo by Michael Cusick.

## The cost of political unrest: Airport siege by numbers

<b>250 million baht</b>	Estimated daily loss in tourism revenue in Phuket during the closure of its airport.
<b>400 million baht</b>	Estimated daily loss in tourism revenue to the southern region as a whole.
<b>200,000 baht</b>	Estimated loss in income for airport taxi and limousine drivers.
<b>10 million baht</b>	Estimated loss in revenue for 36 hotels in Kata-Karon.
<b>50%</b>	The rate of cancellations by Japanese tourists in the days following the airport blockade.

bound to leave a bad impression, he said.

Embassies around the world are closely watching the situation here and the issuance of travel advisories warning against travel

to Thailand will have a negative impact, he said.

In the hours that followed the declaration of a state of emergency in Bangkok, South Korea and Singapore, both important

sources of foreign tourists to Phuket, issued advisories urging its nationals to avoid "non-essential" travel to Thailand.

Many other countries, including the US, Australia and Taiwan, sent out warnings to its citizens already in Thailand to be particularly vigilant.

**Wolfgang Meusberger**, General Manager of the Holiday Inn in Patong, agreed with PTA President Somboon that events in Bangkok would largely determine what the impact on Phuket tourism would be.

He said his staff always spoke positively and reassured guests of their safety while on holiday in Phuket.

He said, however, that anticipated occupancy rates at the resort were about 20% lower than the expected figure of about 80% for this time of year.

**Taxi and limousine drivers** were first to feel the pinch of the

airport closure. Phuket Limousine and Business Services Cooperative (PBC) President Saravoot Sisakukam, put the loss in income to his 120 members at about 200,000 baht per day from the closure.

Mr Saravoot, who is also the President of the Mai Khao Tambon Administration Organization (*OrBorTor*), said the take-over should never have been allowed to happen because the fortunes of everyone in Phuket are tied up with tourism in one way or another.

"We received many complaints from our customers and our staff lost a lot of income."

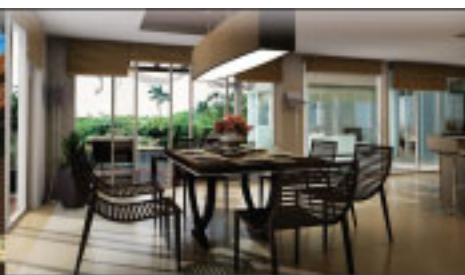
**Sombat Atisate**, President of the Kata-Karon Hotels Association, estimated the total loss in revenue over the closure period at about 10 million baht for his association's 36 member hotels, which have a total of about 5,000 rooms. Cancellations were at about 20%, he said.

Most of the tourists he talked to seemed to understand the situation, he said.

"I don't think this will affect the upcoming high season as I think the situation will improve before then," he said.

The "wellness" industry is yet another segment of the tourism industry that has not been doing so well as a result of the closure. **Sasithorn "Aom" Pinthing**, Marketing Manager of Sukko Spa said, "We have been affected greatly by the PAD rally at Phuket Airport last Friday. Normally we have about 100 customers per day, including both walk-ins and those on package tours. Now we have just 20 to 30 customers a day," she told the *Gazette* three days after the airport had reopened.

"Worse is that we have been receiving emails from tour agents saying they want to cancel tours they had booked in September," she said.



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# Police gear up for Veggiefest 2008

By Sompratch Saowakhon

PHUKET CITY: With the start of the annual Phuket Vegetarian Festival just a month away, Phuket City Police met representatives of all participating Chinese shrines to ask for their co-operation in keeping this year's event as safe and orderly as possible.

A key issue is traffic control, especially during the many street processions that are the highlight of the festival.

Phuket City Traffic Inspector Teerawat Leamsuwan said most – but not all – of the shrines had adhered well to the predesignated routes during last year's processions. He asked the shrines to provide good guidance to the many *mah song* (spirit mediums or, literally, "entranced horses").

"I am afraid accidents could happen if the *mah song* wander off while their bodies are possessed, so it is very important for their handlers to keep them on the correct route," he said.

He also requested that the

weapons such as swords and bayonets commonly used by the *mah song* be kept to reasonable lengths.

As for roadside stalls selling vegetarian fare, he said canopies could extend a maximum of 1.5 meters from the curbside to allow traffic to pass.

All vendors must display a certificate issued by a participating shrine to prove they have paid the necessary commissions. All violators, including those who set up stalls outside the designated zones, face serious fines, he warned.

"We need an advance list of all vehicles in the processions and their license plate numbers to prevent sound trucks and commercial vehicles from joining in for advertising purposes," he said.

As in previous years, the police said that only traditional Chinese firecrackers in strips would be allowed during the street processions.

This year's festival will officially run from September 29 to October 7, with the raising of

## 17 arrested in gambling sweep

PHUKET: In the latest bid to crackdown on illegal gambling on the island, 17 people were arrested in two weekend raids led by Phuket Provincial Police Commander Apirak Hongthong.

On August 23, eight were arrested in a suspected "high-low" gambling den in Tung Tong.

On the premises, police found 250 baht and papers believed to be high-low score cards. Seven of those arrested were held on 5,000-baht bail, while bail for Tassanee Klaharn, 37, believed to be hosting the activity, was set at 10,000 baht.

All have confessed to the charges, police said.

On August 24, Phuket City Police nabbed nine suspected gamblers and recovered 5,340 baht in cash and a deck of cards in a guest room at the Kathina Hotel on Sakdidee Rd in Phuket City.

Room number 1202 proved to be not so lucky for the seven women and two men police found inside and arrested.

## Queer News

# Hapless 'cop' lucks out of love

CHIANG MAI: Some women simply fall head over heels for a man in uniform. One love-sick Bangkok native, presumably with this in mind, found himself in trouble recently after impersonating a police officer in a bid to win the heart of a pretty Lanna girl.

According to the girl's neighbors, her pursuer, calling himself Pol Maj Krittanan Rattaradee, moved in near her house in Sanpatong district and enjoyed parading around in his uniform telling people that he was there on top-secret business.

The neighbors, sensing that the behavior of the new resident was inappropriate for an officer on a secret mission, became suspicious that Maj Krittanan was not all he was claiming to be.

The trickery finally came to light when, somewhat foolishly, the lovestruck major began showing off his fake ID card, which showed him to be a police major based in Nakhon Ratchasima. One of the neighbors managed to get hold of the card and make a photocopy before returning it.

On the morning of August 11, a group of villagers headed to Sanpatong Police Station with the copy of Maj Krittanan's ID card to check if he was really an officer of the law. On running the name through police databases, police found that there was no Maj Krittanan on record and the police department that the card stated Maj Krittanan

belonged to had ceased to exist some time ago.

Crime Suppression Inspector Maj Suthep Jilo then accompanied the villagers to find Maj Krittanan. This proved easy and the group soon came across their quarry wandering down the Sanpatong-Mae Wang road dressed in full uniform.

On searching Maj Krittanan, police found not only the fake ID card and a plastic toy pistol he kept in his holster, but also a copy of the official stamp of the Governor of Nakhon Ratchasima.

After being hauled into the police station, Krittanan finally admitted that he was just a 36-year-old regular citizen from Pathum Thani, though Krittanan Rattaradee was indeed his real name.

He told police he had met a girl from Sanpatong when she had been living in Bangkok and he had instantly fallen for her. When she moved back to her home town, he followed her.

Every morning he would dress up in full uniform and walk past her house telling her he was off to work on secret business; every evening he would repeat the charade on his way home.

The only purpose he used the uniform and false ID for were to show off to the girl, Krittanan said. He did not explain why exactly he thought the major's uniform would increase his chances with his sweetheart.

Regardless, police charged him with im-

## Buffalo ladyboys' carjack capers

CHIANG MAI: If you happened to have been out drinking in Chiang Mai over the last few months and, after a few too many beers, decided to do the responsible thing and pull over in your car for a rest to sober up before weaving on home, then you may have come across the Buffalo Ladyboy Gang.

The gang has not only robbed more than 40 drunks, but also performed oral sex on their slumbering victims to boot.

Police at Muang Chiang Mai Police Station have this year been receiving a slew of reports of robberies from sheepish men who claim that while they were sleeping in their cars, a group of four rather camp crooks have broken in and made off with their possessions.

As all the attacks happened very late at night and the victims were often three sheets to the wind, police had been unable to bring enough evidence to apprehend the gang – despite having a good idea of who they were.

On August 20, however,

this all changed when Sirichai Wutinansurasing, 34, walked into the station with a familiar tale of woe.

K. Sirichai told police that the night before he had been out on the town in Chiang Mai. Setting off home, he realised that he was in no condition to drive. Sensibly, he parked his car on the side of the Chinag Mai-Lampang road to sleep off the effects of all the alcohol he had consumed. Not so sensibly, he forgot to lock the car door.

The next thing he knew there were people in his car hunting for his valuables. Perhaps more worrying was the fact that one of the intruders was fumbling with his belt. Instantly sobering up, K. Sirichai fought off the intruders, who ran away while shrieking girlishly.

K. Sirichai noticed one of the four attackers was also morbidly obese, and thus had difficulty keeping up with his friends. K. Sirichai also got a good look at the man who tried to molest him.

On hearing these graphic descriptions, police instantly realised that this fitted all the hallmarks of an attack by the infamous Gang Kratoey Khwai, or the "Buffalo Ladyboy Gang", so named because of their portly member.

Shown the police black book of known criminal offenders who happened to be of the "third gender", K. Sirichai was soon able to pinpoint the perpetrators.

Chiang Mai Muang District Police Deputy Superintendent Bunyawat Kertklam then led a team of officers to the gang's known hideout – a dormitory in Saraphae District.

There police arrested Thanaphat "June" Thapawan, 38; Kritsada "Oh" Wichai, 25; Monchai "Mew" Lamnuan, 24, and Kritichai "Nong Nam Daeng" Kanthaya, 22, the Kratoey Khwai from whom the gang got its name. Police also seized 15 mobile phones, two laptop computers, a gold chain and a number of pawn shop tickets for mobile phones and jewelry.

Confronted with the evidence, the suspects admitted everything. They said that they had robbed at least 40 victims. Their modus operandi was to search for drunks sleeping in their cars who had forgotten to lock the doors. Finding one, they would post one man as a lookout while another took his valuables and third restrained him. Mew told police he performed oral sex on the hapless drunk as a token way of compensating for the stolen loot.

All four were charged with robbery, but it was not reported whether there were any charges of sexual assault.

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# Are you copyright? Or copywrong?

By Akbar Khan

The United States Trade Representative (USTR) elevated Thailand to the Priority Watch List (PWL) in its annual Special 301 Report, issued under the US Trade Act, on the grounds that there had been an increase in intellectual property (IP) violations in Thailand.

Considering that the above claim has direct bearing on the country's standing within the international community, the Thai government has developed a clear policy to tackle all violations associated with IP rights.

Presently, there is a nationwide crackdown, which has caused much commotion on the island – especially in entertainment venues raided for copyright violation during the past few weeks.

The Department of Intellectual Property (DIP) is the principle agency in the development of IP systems in Thailand and aims to develop sustainable IP protection by working closely with other relevant government agencies.

DIP Director Gen Puangrat Asavapisit said, "IP awareness events were held on December 5, 2007, so that the Thai public can follow in the footsteps of His Majesty the King, who is revered as the Father of Thai Innovations and who is aware of the importance of the creation, protection, and utilization of intellectual property in a systematic and comprehensive manner."

"Accordingly, a contest was held under the theme of sufficiency economy," he said.

Often joining local IP raids is the National Cultural Commission's Phuket office, which is located in Phuket City's Poonpol district, famed for its karaoke bars and massage parlors.

Although the NCC is not directly responsible for IP rights protection, it is responsible for issuing licenses to karaokes. The type of license issued depends on

whether or not the establishment provides girls to sit and drink with customers. This office is also responsible for issuing licenses for Internet cafes and vendors of CDs, VCDs and DVDs.

In addition, in order to ensure effective prosecution of IP violation cases, the government is co-ordinating closely with all relevant law-enforcement agencies, including the Office of Attorney General and the Central Intellectual Property and International Trade Court, to facilitate legal proceedings, such as the issuance of search warrants and appropriate sentences and penalties.

Pim Choowong, an IP representative for RS Promotions, informed the *Gazette* that he had come up against "dark influences" when trying to clamp down on some bars in Rawai and that some local police officers were providing protection.

In order to deal with resistance to conforming with license requirements, Khun Pim is now co-ordinating with senior officials in several departments. He expects to return to Phuket very soon with a large team to ensure that IP is being respected.

In addition to Phuket Provincial Police, Public Health and Revenue Department inspectors might also join the teams raiding entertainment venues in the "service" industry.

Sutthisak Prasatkrurakarn, Director of Laws and Suppression Department for Thai Copyright Collection Co Ltd (TCC), met Phuket Governor Niran Kalayanamit on May 19 this year to explain to owners of entertainment establishments about licensing requirements so that they would have fair warning before the crackdown.

"I would rather establishment owners obtained licenses than to file charges against them for IP violations," K. Sutthisak told the *Gazette*.

Readers should note that although the suppression of music-related IP offenses has been



Pim Choowong, an RS Promotions representative with Thai Copyright Collection Co Ltd, shows his DIP license.

in the spotlight recently, the DIP is clamping down on all IP violations, ranging from cable TV piracy to counterfeit pharmaceuticals, software and books.

Music protection includes the lyrics, tune and all sounds made during recordings. Sound recordings means any music with or without lyrics from any source, be it from a recording, movie or concert and refers to all methods of storage including CD, VCD, Minidisk, DVD as well as computer files such as MP3 or MIDI files.

Responsibility for licenses lies with owners and management of venues and organizers of events, when there are several parties involved then all of them are jointly liable.

One bar owner in Rawai complained to the *Gazette*, "If it's my CD bought legally, then why can't I play it wherever and whenever I want?"

A license is needed whenever music is played publicly. However, if the event is for charity, then it is wise to indicate so on the license application form – the license might be issued free.

Publicly means anywhere public and includes places such as bowling alleys, cinemas, super-

markets, spas, hotels and hospitals. Any private company that throws a party needs a little license for the event. If call holding music is used for the telephone system, then a license may also be required.

Acquiring a license can be done through a non-profit joint venture formed by Music Copyright Thailand Limited (MCT) and Phonorights.

MCT is a musical work's copyright owner organization established in 1994 that represents international and Thai musical composers and authors for copyrighted musical work of its members and the members of some 30 affiliated foreign societies. MCT is also a member of CISAC (The International Confederation of Societies of Authors and Composers).

Phonorights (Thailand) Limited is a sound recording right owner organization established in 1997 that represents the sound recording work's copyright owners, covering more than 10,000 labels – or 90% of all copyright owners of sound recordings worldwide.

Phonorights also works closely with The International Federation of Phonographic In-

dustry (IFPI).

Pathamabhan Pawai, Business Affairs director for Sony, said that Sony – like other big labels – have signed powers of attorney for multiple agents such as MCT to act on their behalf in Phuket.

She explained that private owners of CDs are allowed to make one copy of the CD onto a personal computer or Ipod for personal listening, the files must not be shared with others.

Technologies now exist that enable them to catch people who are transmitting sound files to others, for example, by using Bluetooth.

Some bar-owners told the *Gazette* that they were being threatened with fines higher than the maximum 200,000 baht quoted in last week's *Gazette*. K. Pim explained, "If they have multiple violations found on their hard disk then they will receive multiple fines. We can multiply the fine by the number of violations."

"In the arrest witnessed by the *Gazette*, we singled out four songs that we heard playing. We recorded evidence and seized the machines for inspection and found further evidence. We imposed fines only on the songs that we heard playing publicly and four times 200,000 is 800,000 baht."

"If we listened for longer, then the fines could have been even higher," K. Pim said.

The bottom line is that if you play sound recordings in public without a license, a court order can be issued to stop you playing sound recordings altogether – as well as making you pay damages and costs.

*Note that the DIP does not issue licenses. Those wanting to obtain licenses can find out what type of license is needed, how much it will cost and how to file an application by calling MCT-Phonorights (JV) at 02-6415211-3 or the TCC at 02-9388000.*



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Five were killed and another five injured when a van transporting *Thai Rath* newspaper reporters crashed and caught fire in Yingor, Narathiwat on August 26.

The group was travelling to the royally sponsored cremation of their colleague Chalee Boonsawat at Wat Thongdee Pracharam. The reporter was killed in a bomb attack in Sungai Kolok, August 22.

The van reportedly lost control, crashed into a roadside tree, causing its LPG tank to explode.

Five passengers managed to escape and were taken to Narathiwat Hospital, where they are being treated for burns and other injuries.

The dead are South region editor Thepnarong Wiriyakul and his daughter, Haad Yai reporters Sumolrat Wiriyakul and Sudjai Jittakan and Krabi and Phuket correspondents Thanapat Saengkaew and Thongtuan Sukmuang.

**Fertilizing violence.** A member of Krabi Provincial Administration Organization (*OrBorJor*) was shot dead in his fertilizer shop August 28. Police believe the victim's support for a *kamnan* (tambon chief) in an upcoming election provided the motive for the killing.

Prawut Phikunsonthaya, 42, was shot twice in the face and once in the collarbone with a 9mm pistol in the fertilizer shop he owned in Ao Luek District.

The victim's wife Acharee Phikunsonthaya said that around midday, two men pulled up outside the shop on a motorcycle. One of the men then walked into the shop and asked K. Prawut if he had any fertilizer for palms. As K. Prawut was answering, the man drew a pistol and shot him three times before running back to the waiting motorcycle.

Sonthaya Aolueknai, a member of Krabi *OrBorJor* who knew the victim, said that K. Prawut was a good man and an able politician who was well liked by his constituents. He had no disputes with anyone, K. Sonthaya added. K. Acharee also said that her husband had no business disputes that could have provided a motive for his killing.

Police said that K. Prawut had recently declared his support for a *kamnan* in the area who is standing for re-election, and this could have been the reason for his shooting.

# Five killed as van's LPG tank explodes



The burnt shell of the minibus in which five *Thai Rath* reporters were killed as they drove to their colleague's funeral in Narathiwat.

**INSET:** Phuket Reporters Club President Thongtuan Sukmuang, who died in the accident. K. Thongtuan was a highly-respected journalist known for his generosity in helping younger reporters learn their craft – regardless of what news organization they worked for.

K. Prawut was member of Krabi *OrBorJor* for Area 1 Ao Luek District and was serving his second term at the time of his death.

**ATM case continues.** Haad Yai police have arrested a village chief on suspicion of murdering three witnesses to the theft of an ATM machine who were shot dead in June.

On August 25 at Haad Yai Police Station, Maj Gen Wirun Iamphaijit, Commander of Songkhla Provincial Police, told reporters that police had arrested Chaikut Binae, 42, Chief of Village 7 Tambon Thung Wang,

Muang District Songkhla, on suspicion of premeditated murder.

Gen Wirun said the charges related to the killing of Thawee Chainu, Sukhiu Chainu and Suphit Phuttharat, who were all shot dead as they were driving through Tambon Koh Taow in Muang District Songkhla June 17.

Thawee had confessed to being involved in the theft of an ATM machine from outside Haad Yai Social Security Office on January 24, 2007, and was the primary witness in the case against his co-accused: Chaikut, Prayat Phengsuwan, Loh Kasemsuriya and Phakdee Chaplee. Thawee's brother

Sukhiu was also acting as a witness for the prosecution.

Police found fingerprints of Chaikut, Prayat and a third man, Praphan Inthadong, in the pickup used in the shooting, which the gunmen abandoned after losing control and crashing while making their escape, Gen Wirun said.

Police said that Prayat, the alleged gang leader, was already in custody in Krabi while co-accused Praphan was still on the run.

**Goldshop carnage.** A policeman and two robbers were killed in a gunfight during an attempted robbery of a gold shop in Krabi on August 29. A third robber was

later shot dead by police.

At 11:30 am, a team of officers led by Krabi Provincial Governor Siva Sirisaowalak and Maj Gen Phison Noksakul, Commander of Krabi Provincial Police, went to the crime scene at Sin Huat Heng 1 gold shop in Maharaj Rd.

Lying in the shop doorway they found the body of Sen Sgt Maj Bunsong Ratanatrimas, a Crime Suppression Squad Leader at Muang Krabi Police Station. He had been shot in the face with a shotgun.

Inside the shop police found the body of a masked man who they have yet to identify. A shotgun was lying next to the body. A second robber, identified as Nong Khai native Jakrakrit Khamphila, 22, had already been taken by police to Krabi Hospital suffering from multiple gunshot wounds. He later died from his injuries.

Shop staff told police that two men had come into the shop while a third waited outside on a motorcycle. When they entered the shop, Sen Sgt Maj Bunsong, who was stationed to protect the shop, challenged the men and a gunfight ensued leading to the deaths of all three men inside. The man waiting outside escaped on his motorcycle.

Around 12:30 pm, police received a report that a man fitting the description of the third robber had been seen riding past Krabi Technical College. Officers riding in a Krabi Phithak Pracha Foundation rescue truck rushed to the scene and found the man on Tha Reua Rd.

The rescue truck driver rammed the suspect, who fell to the road and then fired at police with a shotgun, police said. Police returned fire, killing the man, who was identified as Sathit Sithithawee, 27, from Krabi.

Sourced from The Nation, Daily Xpress and Kom Chad Luek newspapers.



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A 45-year-old man who suffered a head injury in a motorcycle accident died after he was turned away by 17 National Health Security Office (NHSO) state and private hospitals, the victim's sister has alleged.

Hua Hin resident Namphueng Sotthinpintha, 36, said that last year her elder brother Mongkon was admitted to a local government hospital after he suffered acute brain edema.

Mongkon needed emergency surgery to treat the brain injury, but the hospital's only brain surgeon left to fulfill his monkhood duties and Mongkon had to be transferred to another hospital, Khun Namphueng said.

Hospital staff approached 17 other hospitals in the region without success, she said.

A nurse advised Namphueng to have her brother admitted in a private hospital nearby, but it charged 100,000 baht for the surgery, which she could not afford.

Her brother died seven hours later.

After her brother died, she filed a complaint with the NHSO, which is responsible for healthcare service to patients registered under the universal healthcare scheme. Five months later, the NHSO paid her 200,000 baht in compensation.

The NHSO receives more than 1,000 complaints a year about referrals. Some hospitals decline to admit emergency cases because they do not have enough beds or specialists, Deputy Secretary-General Dr Peerapol Suthiwiseth said.

The number of complaints would increase due to insufficient healthcare infrastructure, he added.

In a bid to solve the problem, the NHSO has set up a hotline at Tel: 1330 to better manage referrals.

Meanwhile, the Public Health Ministry is planning to set up 12 referral centers to collect data about numbers of beds, doctors and specialists and to provide this information to hospitals that propose to transfer patients.

**Film fiasco.** More than 500 master copies of classic films dating back 60 years could soon deteriorate if the National Film Archive cannot find climate-controlled storage for them.

The archive recently ap-

# Accident victim dies after urgent brain surgery refused



## TEEN QUEENS

Ployprapat Thananchaikarn, Miss Teen Thailand 2007, and runners-up pose at a press conference for the upcoming Miss Teen Thailand 2008 contest. Local hopefuls can register to compete at the Kata Beach Resort until October 5. The finals will be held in Bangkok on October 31.

proached local film studios to collect the master reels, which it can no longer store in its vaults.

Chalida Uabumrungjit of the Film Foundation said some were in bad condition, scratched and melted. If they can be kept at 4°C and 30% humidity they can be preserved for another 150 years, she said.

The existing archive, which now comprises more than 1,000 masters, has space for just 20 more.

The foundation is planning to raise 10 million baht to build a new vault to house 1,000 more masters, she said.

K. Chalida insisted that keeping the masters is important, even if they were recorded onto DVDs. "It's not true that disc quality is better than a master copy. Keeping the original gives incomparable detail on screen, she said.

"10,000 baht can save one film for 150 years. It is not expensive at all," she said.

**Isarn horror smash.** A pickup truck crashed into a trailer truck in Roi-Et on August 30, killing 14 people and injuring two others, it

was reported.

The accident happened in Phanom Phra district at 8 am, when a pickup speeding to transport voters to a tambon administrative organization election swerved out of control after one of its tires burst. The pickup crashed into the truck parked on the roadside.

Fourteen people died at the scene and two others were injured. All were riding the pickup.

**Frightening E-fags.** Using electronic cigarettes to quit smoking is hazardous to your health and nervous system, as they cram too much nicotine into your blood, a study has revealed.

Mahidol University dental school researcher Dr Varanant Buejeap said electronic cigarettes contain nicotine and 28 carcinogenic substances, such as "alkaloid-a", which releases substances that have amphetamine-like effects.

These stimulants increases blood pressure and lipids in blood vessels, making the heart work harder. This can lead to heart failure and sexual dysfunction, she said.

Nicotine released by the electronic cigarette is absorbed into blood vessels faster than regular cigarettes and will stay in the body longer than nicotine chewing gum, she added.

The electronic cigarette is not recommended as a tool to quit smoking, she said.

"It is better to just stop smoking. Avoid smoking an electronic cigarette if you are using nicotine gum, as it will not help much. Instead, it will cause lung, liver and mouth cancers," she added.

**Corny cache.** Police on August 24 announced the biggest haul of *ya bah* (methamphetamines) in recent years after some 1.7 million pills were found under corn

in a lorry in Chiang Rai's Mae Sai district. Deputy national police commissioner Preawphan Damapong said he expects a major drug trafficker to be arrested as a result of the seizure.

However, there were no reports of such an arrest in the mainstream media by the end of the month.

**Storm in a teacup.** The Thai Meteorological Department (MET) said there is only a "very small" chance a true "storm" would hit Bangkok, although the southern provinces of Prachuap Khiri Khan, Chumphon and Surat Thani faced possible flooding from October to December.

MET Weather Forecast Bureau chief Somchai Baimoung told a recent water management meeting a storm surge could only happen if there was a tropical cyclone with gusts of more 118 kilometers per hour.

Using a model at the meeting, K. Somchai showed that storm surges do not affect vast areas.

If a storm did hit Bangkok, it would be concentrated in the narrow Samut Prakan Bay, he said.

There is only a 1% chance a storm surge would directly hit Bangkok and people should not worry because storm warnings would be released five days in advance, he said.

Rainfall was higher this year in the North, Northeast, South and the Central regions compared with last year, he added.

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

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# Animal clinic destroyed by arson

A fire believed to be caused by a homemade bomb has destroyed an animal welfare facility on the island of Koh Pha-ngan.

The building, occupied by non-profit organization Phangan Animal Care (PAC), was destroyed when arsonists carried out the attack on August 1 at around 10 pm.

Witnesses told police that motorbikes were heard in the area before the fire broke out. It is believed a brick was used to break a window in the building and then a homemade bomb similar to that of a Molotov cocktail was then thrown into the structure causing an explosion and igniting the blaze.

Two cats were the only casualties from the resulting fire. One died from its injuries while the other was rescued. No other injuries were reported.

The clinic has been operating on Koh Pha-ngan since 2001 and is supported entirely by donations and volunteers.

Police and residents are baffled by the attack and are carrying out investigations as to who may be responsible and what their motive for the attack may have been.

"We are all shocked and saddened by this development. For over seven years we have given every ounce of ourselves to help the animals of Koh Pha-ngan and the island as a whole.

"Our work is funded by donations alone. All earnings are re-invested into improving the lives of the island's animals," said a volunteer at the clinic.

"All of our work has been called to an immediate halt and the staff removed from the premises until the problem has been identified," added the volunteer.



## FROM THE GULF OF THAILAND

By Max Rogers

The Surat Thani police department have also been called in to aid in the search for the arsonists. Damage to the building has been estimated at more than 600,000 baht.

### Man found at sea after mutiny.

A man spent three days floating in the sea before being rescued after the boat he had been working on was taken over by its Burmese crew members.

Saknarong Sangchoo, 32, of Patthalung province, was one of several crew members working on the fishing boat *Sila Kaew 3* when its Burmese crew of 11 staged a mutiny after allegedly being maltreated by the Thai fisherman on board.

Mr Saknarong hid in a freezer on the boat during the attack, which took place when the boat was between Koh Samui and Koh Pha-ngan.

He told police that he lost consciousness while in the freezer and awoke when the boat began to sink and the freezer quickly filled with water.



Koh Samui's first Global Mala festival last year saw a variety of international performance artists descend on the island to promote environmental awareness. Many more are expected this year.

His escape from the sinking vessel left him drifting at sea for three days without food or water before a passing fishing boat rescued him.

Three Thai men are believed to have been killed when the mutiny broke out.

Police believe a body that recently washed ashore in Ban Thongniam in Khanom is one of those men.

Four of the 11 Burmese were rescued by passing boats after it sank. The men told police that they staged the mutiny only after enduring severe physical abuse from the Thai crew.

Police said that the rescued men were intending to take their catch ashore to sell, but later ran out of petrol and were caught in rough seas, causing the boat to sink. It is unknown what happened to the remaining crew members.

**Second global mala announced.** After a very successful first year, organizers of the Global Mala Samui have announced plans for another event this year.

Global Mala Samui 2008 will again be held at Tamarind Springs in Lamai on September 21 with a theme of sustainable living.

The event will feature practical demonstrations, workshops for adults and children, eco-products, healthy food and live music to promote mindfulness to help heal the ailing natural environment.

There will also be particular emphasis on the problem of water and how to use less, recycle more and keep our oceans blue.

The organizers promise a day of fun and action. The day will begin with an opening ceremony to start the "green clock" on Samui.

There will be booths for organizations involved in environment preservation to showcase their work and display eco-friendly products.

A tree-planting ceremony will be held and guests will be able to buy trees to take home and plant.

In addition, a children's seminar will be held on the day before the main event with team-building exercises for a core group of young environmental activists. They will then lead other children in activities on the day of the Mala.

The keynote speaker at the event is Dr Tom Goreau, President of the Global Coral Reef Alliance.

He was Senior Scientific Affairs Officer at the United Nations Centre for Science and Technology Development and his major focus now is on coral reef and fisheries restoration through community-based coastal zone management in developing countries, especially island nations.

The event is held on the United Nations Day of Peace and funds will be raised at the event via donations, entrance fees and a raffle, as well as from sales of food and drink.

Funds raised during last year's event supported pilot projects to teach young minds about the environment through an initiative called The Seedlings Club.

Forest walks, snorkelling trips, radio shows and performances also received funding from that event and plans to continue those programs are already in place, according to the organizers.

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# Indigo's riveting place to dine

Nai Yang Beach on a Sunday afternoon is a regular hive of activity. Even though the tide is right out today, kitesurfers hone their skills in the brisk August breezes. Walking along the beach, with their oblong-shaped sails hundreds of feet above, they look about as dignified as a cyclist in full kit, running along the road carrying a pair of outstretched handlebars.

Having said that, you should see these puppies in full flight with waves and a board beneath them in a full wind – wow; they're impressive. Mr Kobi's Bar ("Broken English Spoken Here Perfectly") is closed, but there is another beach bar featuring overpriced beer in which to catch up with my nephew Ollie, and Sue – his glowing bride.

They're here on their honeymoon. Sue is from County Cork in Ireland and Ollie is from the capital of Ireland – Liverpool – so what better milieu to catch up with each other than the neighboring Rivet Grill in Indigo Pearl Resort?

We arrive on the stroke of seven o'clock to enter a restaurant cloaked in a lighting setup normally associated with French cathedrals at dusk and pea-soup fogs in Hitchcock movies.

Feeling our way to the table, we're soon ensconced in a seating arrangement

that resembles two hotel foyer telephone booths pushed together. The cutlery and highly polished glasses glint in the penumbra and when the wine and aperitif list arrive I instinctively run my hand over the print to check if it is written in Braille. It's not.

Frankly, I can't read or indeed feel a word so we do the sensible thing and get another candle for the table: a whole lot safer than torching napkins to read by.

Anyone who has read Emile Zola's 19th century naturalist novel about mining in the north of France, *Germinal*, would feel right at home here as the entire resort is themed on Phuket's tin-mining past of 150 years ago.

There are rivets on the floor, rivets on the walls and in the loos; even some cutlery has spanner endings but there's really no immediate need for this appendage



Dark corners, a simple stark setting and cutlery with spanner endings together make the Rivet Grill a unique place to dine.

In summary, what can I say? I'll leave it to the lovely Sue: "I love the amount of thought that has gone into this place. All these nuts and bolts."

Special mention should be made of Indigo Pearl's Sunday brunches. Check out the offers at [www.indigopearl.com](http://www.indigopearl.com) and tune into the weekly events. Definitely a place to enjoy fine dining with great service in the north of the island.

*Rivet Grill, Indigo Pearl, Nai Yang Beach. Open 6:30 pm – last orders 10:30 pm. Closed Wednesdays and Mondays. Tel: 076-327006, 076-327015.*

## On the menu

WITH  
Sam Wilko

**Rivet Grill,  
Indigo Pearl**

as the wine, an Australian Shiraz Cabernet (1,890 baht), comes with a bottle screw top.

And the menu, too, is a right riveting read. For starters we choose steamed crab meat, seared scallops and grilled foie gras – all wonderfully executed. Main courses? Sue goes for Oz milk-fed veal medallions (990 baht) while Ollie – a big lad – opts for a 250g American Black Angus (1,950 baht) and

me, after a couple of glasses of the excellent Shiraz, I let myself be persuaded to try the unique-to-Phuket Oz Wagya 200g sirloin (definitely expensive).

Regular readers of this column will by now be looking out for just when and where I put the reviewer's boot in. But seriously folks; the main courses at Rivet Grill lend no such excuse for typically Liverpudlian behavior. Never mind the lugubrious lighting; the execution and presentation of each drink and dish at Rivet grill as sensations go, is... well, sensational.

As for me, if I eat enough carrots, I shall eventually see well enough to distinguish the wine list at Rivet Grill from the *International Herald Tribune* but the food – along with the service – is of international standard; make no mistake about it.

Sue "bolts" for the Ladies

by maneuvering her-and-Ollie's ambulant "phone booth" backwards and in so doing almost runs over a passing waitress. After excellent chocolate pudding and tiramisu, we lads relax over Irish

coffees in a decidedly smoke-free environment while Sue – the only Irish person present – enjoys a green tea crème brûlée in the process. Life's little ironies, eh?

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The gathering of thousands of anti-government protestors outside Phuket Airport on Friday, August 29 was a crowd filled with a mixture of emotions which spilled over to the tourists attempting to enter or leave the airport during the protests. Some cried whilst others laughed.

#### A tourist interviewed by PGTV:

"I know what's happening, it's a revolution, a coup d'etat regarding the King and Queen and the different governments. I think there must be a democratic solution – I don't like the inconvenience."

#### Phuket Governor Niran Kalyanarn speaking from the airport as the facility was being closed down:

"This is people power, if we try to stop them, they will become more violent, so we need to negotiate with them."

"They have already stormed the airport and created damage. We have spoken with PAD representatives, but they are unable to control the protesters. There are many groups: students and local villagers have also come here."

"We have to temporarily close the airport otherwise the protesters will not leave the building. This is a political stunt. PAD members are continually in contact with the PAD in Bangkok."

#### Tuesday, September 2. PAD supporters rallying at Provincial Hall:

"Five hundred of us arrived

in front of Phuket Provincial Hall at 8 am. Most of us are members of Phuket PAD and Phuket Watch, but there are people from other groups who

have come to support our cause.

"Samak should not have declared a state of emergency. One of our protesters was killed in Bangkok last night."



PAD anti-government protesters gathered at Phuket Provincial Hall on Tuesday to demand the resignation of Prime Minister Samak Sundaravej.

#### Phuket Vice-Governor Tri Augkaradacha:

"We have permitted the mob to use our electricity and provided a toilet bus for them, so there is no need for them to come in the building at all."

"The PAD need electricity to set up many speakers and a big screen to show the live ASTV broadcast from Bangkok so they can closely follow the situation."

#### Phuket Provincial Police Deputy Commander Col Paveen Pongsirin:

"I have been ordered to come here to monitor the situation. I hope they do not stay here too long, but at least being here is better than being at the airport. I heard rumors that some protesters would like to rally at the airport again."

#### Muang District Chief Wisit Kurattanavate:

"Vice-Governor Tri has asked me to be here to observe and help control the mob so that there is no violence. Their protest seems to be peaceful so far, though. We have assisted them by providing them with electricity and mobile toilets that are parked just outside."

#### Natjarong Ekpermsup, President of Phuket Watch and Phuket PAD leader:

"The mob is here to show our support for the Bangkok PAD, who are trying to oust Samak. We do not want the air-

port blocked as we need it ourselves so that we can send reinforcements up to Bangkok."

"I can't say how long the mob will stay here because it really depends on the government. I have contacted the Krabi PAD and told them to protest at their Provincial Hall rather than at their airport."

"In my opinion, Samak's government announced the state of emergency in Bangkok to divert attention from the main issue, which is him resigning."

"On September 3, electricity and water supplies to government offices will be cut off. I think the government is cornered

now so they have to hire *NorPorKor* ["mob agitators"] to try to disrupt peaceful protests."

"We will meet the governor and ask him to forward our request to the government to stop to using violence against the people. There should be no double standards. They should not block the PAD and

then allow the United Front for Democracy to do as they please."

"We plan to go to Bangkok this afternoon in five buses. Protesters from Haad Yai, Surat Thani and Phang Nga will also head to Bangkok to join the PAD rally there."

"Now at Phuket International Airport there are about 200 people who refuse to follow PAD instructions. They are not PAD members, they are just bystanders protesting and we have asked



Natjarong Ekpermsup

## Phuket International Women's Club



### Gala Ball 2008



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Hotels Association, Phuket Chamber of Commerce and Phuket Industry Association about methods to alleviate the situation.

"We will have a press conference with the media at 4 pm. We all need to stop the mobs as soon as possible.

"We need all sides to use the peaceful ways to talk together. The people do have power, but they need to think about the nation's long-term image. I need this to stop quickly and for us all to return to normality."

#### A German Tourist:

"If these people do not have a natural disaster then they create a man-made one of their own.

"Regarding the declaration of a state of emergency announcement in Bangkok, I do not agree with this decision. I think it will create more conflict rather than ease the situation.

"If the government cannot resolve outstanding issues, then they will need to consider very carefully all that they have done. There are almost 1,000 people here now and I think a lot more will come tonight."

#### British tourist Dominic Whitehead:

"The protest is really pathetic; quite small. I guess the Phuket people are quite lazy. Support is going down after all the mess created and locals are shocked by the violence they see on TV."

#### A French tourist:

"Ah, for me it is no problem but imagine if you come with your family and children – it would be a nightmare."

#### Tah Chat Chai policeman:

"We cannot do anything. The police created a problem in Bangkok by attacking protesters. Closing the airport is illegal, if we try to stop them, though, things could get nasty and the government would blame us. My station has 90 men, the island has 1,200 policemen, we are simply outnumbered."



(Above) 'Samak Out!' was the most common rallying cry among the PAD supporters.

(Left) Crowds of protesters created an eye-catching sea of yellow.

(Far left) Policemen were standing by, but no clashes with protesters occurred.

them to join us here at Provincial Hall."

#### Winai Chid-Chiew, Kamnan (Tambon chief) of Kata:

"I think this way of people expressing their opinions is good. It shows that Thailand is moving towards the next step of democracy. This shows that society is changing. This is the result of about 40 of the constitutional laws.

"We should let both sides

share their opinions so that everything is fair. We must select the correct path and follow the decision of the public. However, we must not have violent incidents like those in Bangkok last night."

#### Leader of Rajabhat University's student union, Anan-tapong Kunjan:

"After our student union committee heard the news that one PAD member died last night,

we were not happy. We had a meeting this morning to ask students at the university to do something to show the government.

"We came to Provincial Hall at noon to join the Phuket people who are against the violence that happened last night. We came here to use our right to protest in order to cheer up the PAD supporters in Bangkok," he added.

"We need the prime minister to think about what most benefits our nation before he decides

how to deal with people."

#### Phuket Senator Phummisak Hongsyok:

"I am worried about the situation in the country nation now, especially since the airport was blocked by the PAD on August 29-31.

"Phuket's image is seriously tarnished because Phuket airport is an international airport.

"I am consulting with the Tourist Association, Southern



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# This week



**THE WORLD'S A STAGE:** Students from all five Prince of Songkla University's campuses – Pattani, Haad Yai, Trang, Surat Thani and Phuket – put on stage performances with provincial themes for their annual 'Cultural Relationship of PSU' event, which was held at Central Festival Phuket on August 9. Phuket Vice-Governor Smith Palawatwichai (in plaid shirt) presided over the event.



**COCO KIDS:** Methaya Houihongthong (right), director of Cocolopes Charitable Trust, poses with students from Baan Prujampa School who received donations of books from the charity at an event on August 21. The event was organized by the Thepkrasattri Tambon Administration Organization (*OrBorTor*), which donated rice to the



**SEVENTH HEAVEN:** *Gazette* columnist and baking blogger Woody Leonhard tenders a tiramisu to Manapong 'Jack' Wannadee, Operations Manager of Starbucks Thailand; Kraiwut 'Dom' Sae-Auy, Store Manager; and Punnusorn Khorsanti, Starbucks District Manager for Southern Thailand; at the Grand Pouring ceremony for Starbucks Twilight Bangla. The new shop on Soi Bangla is the seventh Starbucks in Phuket, and the first to stay open until 4 am.



**FRESH FACE ON THE BLOCK:** Anchalee Vanich-Thepabutr (center) and Phuket Detox Health Care and Beauty Managing Director Sutisa Suksiri (right) cut a ribbon during the launch of the high-tech beauty center opposite Bangkok Hospital Phuket on Yaowarat Rd. The branch is the second Phuket Detox center to open



**THE LONG WHITE CROWD:** Sheraton Grande Laguna Phuket, in partnership with Singapore Airlines and Diethelm Events, welcomes travel consultants from New Zealand on August 21. The consultants were treated to a performance by the Angaloong Orchestra, met resident baby elephant Lucky and enjoyed a beachfront dinner and an overnight stay at the resort.



**MOONLIGHT IN TOWN:** Southern Thailand native and artist Muhammad Rojana-Udomsat (center) along with Art Rendez Vous Gallery Artistic Director Patrick Bois (4th from left) and guests celebrate the opening of K. Muhammad's *Moonlight* exhibition at the Yaowarat Rd gallery on August 22.



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# Getting Brunch Drunk

Sunday. Another lazy day in Phuket recovering from the stresses and strains of the weekly routine of getting out there and making a baht or two in order to keep the wolf from the door. It's celebrated by all and sundry as a day of peace, quiet and possibly even spiritual contemplation. Or at least it was until this insidious, all-pervading, phenomenon of "Sunday Brunching" seized hold of our tranquil tropical idyll.

Where did it come from this "Brunch"? What on earth does it mean?

When Sid was growing up in merry old England there was certainly something called "Sunday lunch" at which, if you were lucky, your mum would dish up a roast, maybe lamb or beef, with spuds and veggies and some rhubarb crumble and custard to follow.

There was also something called "breakfast" at which your dad was not to be disturbed as he glowered menacingly at the newspaper, while you attempted to chew your way through a bowlful of what looked like birdseed covered in tinned pears.

What there wasn't was anything remotely attempting to pass itself off as "brunch".

Sometime during the long, dark decade of the Thatcher Gulag, we seem to have imported this dubious brunching phenomenon from foreign parts, along with other equally fey, untrustworthy things like teeth whitening services and SUVs.

One minute Sid's mum was asking



ANDAMAN  
By SOAPBOX SID  
RANT

him to trundle down the garden to pick some fresh mint to go with the Sunday roast lamb and the next minute he found himself discussing the merits of Belon versus Fin de Claire oysters in some trendy Phuket brunching spot. What happened?

Like so may other unfortunate events, it all seems to have crept up during Sid's university years.

This was an epoch during which Sunday mornings became largely an unconfirmed rumor, a situation that lasted for four gloriously lost years, during which Sid managed to spin out his collegiate career.

Like many of my generation, I used to emerge from the standard Saturday night bacchanal at around two o'clock the following Sunday afternoon, wolf down some leftover pizza and whatever hadn't been drunk the night before and collapse

in front of the telly to watch re-runs of *Bonanza*.

Time warp to 2008 and our "tropical island paradise of Phuket". We are witnessing our very own social revolution in which a formerly contented agrarian society is engaged in a headlong rush to embrace all things trendy and uber-fashionable so that it can accommodate, or possible fleece, all those millionaire, baby-boomer retirees and holiday homers who are settling among Phuket's swaying palms and hips.

So, for better or worse, "doing brunch" is now at the very forefront of our island's social groundswell.

The whole brunching phenomenon reeks of lazy decadence, featuring as it does a huge array of international cuisines, hot tropical breezes, stunning views, cool music and copious supplies of naughty libations.

The prices at the brunching trough are positively Himalayan, so you feel you have to starve yourself from Saturday breakfast onwards in order to do justice to the overflowing tables of exotic comestibles on offer.

However, gorgeous girls in big sunglasses scoffing the sashimi, fresh oyster and cooked-to-order dim sum stations are not the worst of it. The ultimate challenge to the Phuket brunching fraternity is the booze.

Now followers of Sid's outpourings have probably grasped the fact by now that he is no more averse than the next

man to the occasional libation. And if the next man happens to be Keith Richards... so be it.

However, even a man of Sid's capacious appetite for ethylated beverages baulks at the Sunday brunch offerings.

We have "free flow champagne brunches". We have "all you can drink and we'll carry you home on a stretcher" brunches.

For all Sid knows, the insidious island brunch wars may have spawned a "share an opium pipe or two with Amy Winehouse and sleep it off in one of our pool villas" brunches.

Who knows? It's a war out there and no quarter will be expected or given.

While most normal Phuketians are worrying whether they will be able to afford their regulation bowl of Sunday noodles in the current hyperinflationary environment, the island's brunchers are paying half a week's family income for a cornucopia of choice, from which they never actually consume more than a tenth of what's on offer.

Filled to the brim with free flow rocket salad and rocket fuel, they leap into their cars to race homewards after a torrid afternoon of indulgence.

It's yet another example of the huge social disparities that are increasingly apparent as Phuket evolves and develops and it's enough to make a sensitive soul like Sid a little "brunch drunk".

Now if you could just pass me another plate of oysters...



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# Happy Birthday Harry

The life and soul of many of Phuket's parties, singer Harry Kerylidis with his trademark hand-in-hip-pocket stance – no matter whether he's on stage or off – gave his vocal chords a rest from his regular gig at Karma Lounge to enjoy a birthday bash thrown in his honor at the night entertainment venue on September 1.

Harry and friends, including Patong Deputy Mayor Chairat Sukban, Karma Lounge manager Tasanee "Lek" Pompassa, and DJ and entertainer Ricky Zen enjoyed drinks, dancing, silliness and a sumptuous buffet of Mediterranean dishes brought in by The Family Mediterranean Restaurant.

Circus-style entertainment was put on by the local Velasco Family of acrobats whose antics included limbo dancing and sword swallowing. Harry, luckily, decided he wouldn't risk his vocal chords.



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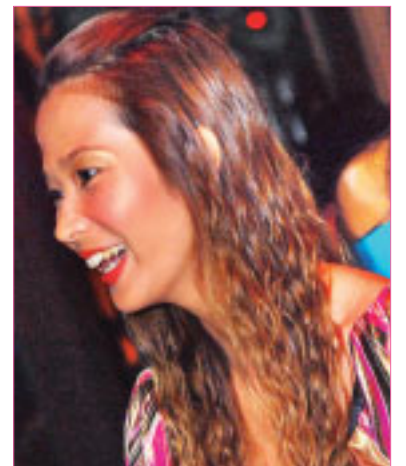
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# Party in Pink



**B**aba restaurant at Sri Panwa resort, on Cape Panwa, celebrated its first anniversary last month with a Party in Pink at the trendy bar and dining lounge that's very in with the young crowd and has become the base for some of the best bashes on the island with its monthly themed party nights.

On this special anniversary night, revelers put on their favorite pinks and partied in the pink-tinted dining lounge where DJ Op of Esco Bar was spinning house tunes accompanied by the powerful and sassy vocals of Bonnie Anderson.

On the third floor, local band SKA played live for party goers chilling in the loungers of wine bar with a cliff-side deck and a magnificent view.

The team of Baba's chefs led by Keon Hwa "Connie" Lee and Syed "Feisal" Mohammed fired up fusion menu of finger foods, such as lemongrass-infused chicken wings, satay trio, grilled sausages and homegrown oyster mushroom tempura, plus a taste of the dining lounge's signature dishes lychee duck and Andaman si dang shrimp.

Dannie Sorum and his team of Flow mixologists created Absolute Vodka-based concoctions for the evening, such as Tanja Hiding; Melon-berri, Born 8.08 and Babalicious.

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The latest addition to the impressive Mercedes-Benz line-up is its fantastic two-seater sports coupe-cabriolet, the 5.5-liter V8 SL500. Not suitable for everyone, but an amazing sports model that continues the prestigious line for Mercedes-Benz.

The most recent model in the extensive Mercedes-Benz line-up is the new SL500, equipped with a silky V8 engine, which in turn is mated to the Mercedes award-winning seven-speed automatic transmission. Optional – read “cheaper” – are a six-speed manual gearbox or a five-speed automatic.

Power output from the big V8 is a healthy 388 bhp, or 285 kW, while peak torque is achieved between 2,800 and 4,800 rpm, reaching 530 Nm. The result of all this gives the SL500 a sprint time from a standstill to 100 kmh of just 5.4 seconds, while maximum speed is electronically limited to 250 kmh.

The latest SL-Class has had a significant face-lift and features new lamps, a more prominent radiator grille and “gill-like” trim panels on the front wings.

The folding metal roof of the SL can disappear at the press of a button and takes just 16 seconds to lower into its own compartment. The Mercedes-Benz engineers in Germany have gone to a great deal of trouble to ensure that with the roof folded, there is still room for luggage. The roof mechanism is extremely clever and allows even golf bags to be carried in the trunk while the roof is down; roof up, the trunk is cavernous.

A novel – very useful – feature is a “hill-hold” device that enables the driver, by pressing once hard on the brake, to activate a full brake-on system until

# Benz like the wind



The impressive V8 under the hood takes the new SL from standstill to 100 kmh in just 5.4 seconds, perfect for those quick dashes down the bypass road.

the merest touch on the accelerator releases it; perfect for traffic conditions, particularly on inclines.

Inside the car, the instrument cluster shroud features improved shading, while there is a 3D instrument cluster with hanging needles and a sporty multi-function steering wheel in a three-

speoke design with a matte chrome decorative insert.

Although the SL500 is only a two-seater, there is a great deal of luggage space behind the seats, including lockable storage boxes. There are several other storage compartments dotted around the interior, including one under the passenger seat.

The interior is, as you would expect, extremely well finished and includes cruise control, automatic climate control, a premium sound system of 510 Watts with no fewer than 10 speakers. Electrically controlled seats that can “remember” two preset configurations are standard, while for colder climes the seats have heating.

The handling is almost perfect due to the light weight of the SL – the hood, front wings, doors and trunk lid are all aluminum – while there is little “roll” in the corners.

The suspension is firm and there is some tire thump over uneven surfaces, but this is a sports car after all and the noise is not particularly intrusive. Indeed, the ride is very comfortable in all driving situations.

The C63 that featured in these pages recently (*Gazette*, July 12) had hip-hugging seats that are quite narrow for Euro-

pean backsides, but comfort in the SL-Class is exemplary. No complaints whatsoever about the accommodation.

In addition, the seat belts are integral with the seats precluding any contorted attempts to reach a remote belt.

Access to the rear is achieved by an electric switch on top of the backrest, which slides the seat forward, although in reality there is little usable space behind the front seats.

The SL500 is not for everyone, and is certainly not cheap. The Mercedes-Benz official website lists only the SL350, which is priced at 11.79 million baht; the SL500 would have to be specially ordered. For more information visit [www.mercedes-benz.co.th](http://www.mercedes-benz.co.th)

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



By Jeff Heselwood





**The Soi Dog Foundation**  
in conjunction with  
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\*Special Room Rates at Evason Phuket contact : [reservations-phuket@sixsenses.com](mailto:reservations-phuket@sixsenses.com)



## EVENTS CALENDAR

## Upcoming events on the island

**Until September 26. Muhammad Rojana-Udomsat Exhibition.**

Muhammad Rojana-Udomsat is a famous Thai painter with a 28-year painting career whose works have been shown in Thailand, Malaysia, Japan, China, Taiwan and Indonesia. His exhibition at Art Rendezvous Gallery in Phuket City will be open until September 26.

Contact Patrick Bois for details. Tel: 076-219095. Email: art.rdv@gmail.com Website: www.art-rendezvous-gallery.com

**September 6. Comedy Theater at the Green Man.**

The Andaman Players return with a matched pair of one-act comedies:

*Night in a Bar Room.* Dysfunctional tourists seek refuge from the rain in a small bar. Rewritten and re-cast for this performance of a Phuket classic.

*Adjoined.* The trials and tribulations of tourist couples in adjoining rooms in a chaotic Patong hotel with very interesting "Noises Off".

Tickets: 500 baht (includes intermission drink).

Theater plus 3-course-dinner: 1,400 baht, including half-bottle of wine. First sitting: 6 pm. Last sitting: 7 pm.

Refreshments and light snacks available in the Club Room adjoining the theater.

Booking essential. Contact Khun Nui. Tel: 081-8897736. Email: info@the-green-man.net Website: www.the-green-man.net

**September 6-7. Family Weekend Fun at Grove Gardens.**

Fun family activities and games for all from 1 pm to midnight.

Accommodation + Dinner + Breakfast. Starting at 4,500++ baht per family, with kids aged 6 and under (300++ baht for kids aged 7-12 years).

Accommodation check-in from 1 pm. Activities and games start from 2 pm.

Call now for your reservation. Contact Khun Nuch. Tel: 076-302600. Email: nuch@grovegardensphuket.com Website: www.grovegardensphuket.com



## Photo Art by Dr Ilse Gibson at Mom Tri's Boathouse September 18-24

Dr Ilse Maria Gibson is a full-time university lecturer on computer and business subjects, but she still finds time to indulge in her early passions: photography and writing.

Her interest in computer science and photography led her to experiment with photos using various graphic programs, turning normal photos into pop art.

Opening cocktail reception on September 18 from 7 pm to 8:30 pm.

For more information contact Lisa Sol. Tel: 076-330015. Email: pr@boathousephuket.com Website: www.boathousephuket.com

**September 7. PC Group Therapy – Patong**

Is your Internet connection driving you nuts? Ready to throw your PC out the, uh, window? Need advice on where to buy a computer, or get one repaired? Join *For Dummies...* author Woody Leonhard for his weekly Group Therapy sessions from 10 am to midday. They're free.

Novices most welcome – no experience necessary. Bring your questions, bring your computer, bring your mother-in-law and your worry beads, and let's see if we can sort things out.

For directions to Sandwich

Shophe Patong, see the website. Sponsored by the *Phuket Gazette* and Khun Woody's Sandwich Shoppes.

From 10 am until midday at the Sandwich Shoppe Patong.

For more information contact Woody Leonhard. Tel: 089-1960940. Email: woody@khunwoody.com Website: www.khunwoody.com

**September 13. SDF Tails at Twilight Annual Fundraising Bone a Fit.**

The Soi Dog Foundation will hold its annual fundraiser "Tails at Twilight Annual Fund-

raising Bone A Fit" on September 13 at the Evason Phuket & Six Senses Spa.

It will be a private beach party extravaganza with raffles, auctions and a prize draw.

The ticket price of 2,000 baht includes a buffet dinner, free-flow beer and wine, non-stop entertainment, and lots of fun at the beautiful venue.

For tickets contact Cristy. Tel: 085-4734636. Email: cristy@soidog-foundation.org Website: www.soidog-foundation.org

**September 16. Punchline Comedy Club Live Stand-Up Comedy.**

The Punchline Comedy Club in association with the London Comedy Store presents a night of international stand-up comedy at the Holiday Inn Resort Phuket, in Patong.

In true comedy tradition, the night of laughter is brought to you by an Englishman, an Irishman and a Welshman: Greg Davies ("Superb! Controls the audience with such flair! Hilarious too!" – *The Daily Telegraph*), Neil Delamare ("One of the funniest things you'll see at the Fringe this year" – *Edinburgh Festival Magazine*) and Rhod Gilbert ("Rhod Gilbert makes me laugh like a pitiless idiot" – *The Scotsman*).

Tickets are 960 baht in advance, available at Woody's Sandwich Shoppes (see www.khunwoody.com for locations), or 1,200 baht on the door. A night of fun-filled laughter guaranteed.

For more information contact Pete. Tel: 081-9565650. Email: info@phuketcomedy.com Website: www.phuketcomedy.com

**September 20. Underwater Cleanup.**

Splash for trash on Interna-

tional Cleanup Day. Volunteer to help make clean waters a reality and join the biggest underwater cleanup of its kind. Green Fins Thailand (United Nations Environmental Program), Dive Asia, Sea Fun Divers & Scandinavian Scuba Doo are calling all divers to help clean up our oceans.

In 2007, a total of 358,617 recorded volunteers worldwide helped clean 34,560 miles of shoreline and remove seven million pounds of rubbish.

Only certified divers may join and all must be registered with the organizers. Only 100 places available.

Contact Juergen Schenker. Tel: 076-330598. Email: juergen.schenker@gmail.com Website: www.greenfins-thailand.org

**September 20-21. Scuba Cat Diving International Cleanup Weekend 2008.**

Scuba Cat Diving based at Patong Beach welcomes all divers and snorkelers to join us for a fun-packed, environmentally friendly weekend (2 days/1 night) to help clean up the underwater world at Racha Yai Island.

3,000 baht per person, including accommodation and meals for 2 days and 1 night, diving equipment, a Scuba Cat T-shirt and a celebratory BBQ for all on board.

For bookings, contact Kath or Sarah. Tel: 076-293120. Email: info@scubacat.com Website: www.scubacat.com

**September 20. Wine Tasting at Wine Connection Chalong.**

Come and taste our new wine selection and tapas buffet, and enjoy our live band. Entry: 400 baht, free for club members.

From 6:30 pm to 9:30 pm.

Contact Pascal. Tel: 087-8896074. Email: fb.phuket@wineconnection.co.th

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## ON THE MOVE

**Chanyanuch Sena** has been appointed Resort Manager at Grove Gardens. Chanyanuch graduated in management from the Hotel and Tourism Industry Faculty at Phuket Rajabhat University. Before her promotion, she was Operations Manager at Grove Gardens. Her experience includes working at the Residential Estate, Cape Yamu and as the Operations Manager at the Aspasia Phuket.



**Kitipong Jaramornbura-**pong is the new Executive Chef in charge of the MoMo Café at the Courtyard by Marriott Phuket at Surin Beach. Kitipong has 15 years culinary experience. After graduating from Culinary Art of New York in 1999, he worked in many restaurants around US, including in Virginia, New York and Washington DC with his favorite modern American home-style cuisine as well as Italian, Thai and fusion.



**Jittima Kontrong** has been appointed Cluster Public Relations Manager at JW Marriott Phuket Resort & Spa. Jittima holds a master's degree from Kasetsart University in management administration and political science. She has more than 10 years' experience in the hotel and tourism industry, including working for Four Seasons and Banyan Tree. Before her latest appointment, she was Marketing Communications Department officer at Banyan Tree Spa.



# Market action pointing to US rate rise

The US dollar, in recent years, has steadily fallen against virtually all major currencies. This has been propelled by a huge trade deficit, the major component in the even larger current account deficit.

This, naturally, should be self correcting. The US dollar falls in value progressively, making imports more expensive and exports cheaper, that is, more competitive. This is now happening; it does not follow a perfect pattern because the "real" world constantly interrupts the textbook economic world.

Perhaps a good example is the increased price of imported fuel that swells the overall import bill as around 50% of US oil needs are sourced from abroad. It certainly has encouraged US companies to engage in exports, in some cases for the first time in a company's history.

The revival in the fortunes of the US dollar may seem to many to have occurred at a surprising time. After all, the US

Federal Reserve (the "Fed"), has in the past year reduced its base lending rate – the "Fed Funds Rate" – from 5.25% to 2%. When interest rates are low, there is less incentive to hold a particular currency.

However, the market obviously believes that interest rates in the US have reached a bottom and the next move by the US Federal Reserve must be upwards.

Naturally, the Fed has its critics. One more prominent critic is Willem Buiter, a former Bank of England policy maker and now professor of European political economy at the London School of Economics and Political Science.

He was invited to address the Fed's recent annual gathering at Jackson Hole, Wyoming. He was strident in his criticism of the Fed, stating that, "they cut the official policy rate too fast and too far and risked its reputation for being serious about inflation."

Jean-Claude Trichet, president of the European Central

Bank, however, was supportive of the Fed's policy, stating that Europe has not yet been hit with "the volume of shocks" to its economy that the US has suffered. He also stated that had he been in Fed Chairman Ben Bernanke's shoes, he would have made the same policy decisions. Trichet stated "I do not agree that the Fed is too accommodative."

The Fed has looked a harsh reality in the face and has been determined to cushion the situation as much as was reasonably possible. There is still a lot of pain to be felt in the US economy, but perhaps within the next year the economy will reach a bottom from which to start a recovery.

Investors should be very aware that the effects of reduced interest rates are already benefiting the economy but the credit crisis is keeping interest rates at inflated levels.

Those who call on the Fed to raise interest rates at this stage are doing America no favors. There is little evidence of second-round inflation; unemployment is still rising and this helps to keep a cap on incomes. The credit crunch is alive and well and this also serves as a strong deflationary force.

When the economy does

reach bottom, however, stock markets have usually already discounted this in the price and have moved ahead.

The stock market, in previous situations, is usually around six months ahead of the real economy. Therefore, it is often just when everything looks at its worst that stock markets move ahead and it is also true that the initial rise is often the greatest in the whole future economic cycle.

Most investors will, naturally, miss the first rise as they follow the herd. It is not easy being a contrarian investor but in the longer term it is the only way to make maximum profits.

The other route is simply "drip feed" or use Dollar Cost Averaging whereby funds are added to the market on a regular basis. This takes care of the problem of market timing by simply averaging in entry levels.

The problems many investors face are procrastination and greed. The stock market is not a place to try and make a quick buck. The response to the old adage: "What is the definition of a medium-term investment?" is "A short-term speculation that went wrong."

It takes time to make money. I recently came across a case where an investor lost a six-figure sum in US dollars trying to play financial games with the private banking division of a large international bank.

The investor was lured into

something called "dual deposits", basically a "play" on US dollars and Australian dollars. Investors must be aware that when they demand higher returns from big banks, these banks are waiting for them. It is simply the same mindset (creative thinking) that created Structured Investment Vehicles (SIVs) and the like.

The bottom line is simple: the bank is seldom taking a risk. It leaves that to the client. However, it is going to make a profit and the client must pay.

The more difficult and demanding a client is, the more opaque the financial products the bank will offer. Bankers realize that most people's egos will not allow them to admit that they do not understand what is being proposed.

However, it has been my experience that most of those who have been "caught" by the private banking divisions of major banks have usually had much more greed than sense.

To be fair to the banks, it is usually only when a client has refused all other alternatives that the banks start playing "shell games" – *caveat emptor*.

*Richard G Watson runs Global Portfolios Co Ltd, a Phuket-based personal financial-planning service. He can be reached at Tel: 076-381997, Fax: 076-383185, Mobile: 081-0814611. Email: imm@loxinfo.co.th Website: www.global-portfolios.com*

## MONEY TALKS



By Richard G. Watson

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# Top hotels lend a helping paw

What do a stray-dog shelter and five-star resorts located in Rawai, Khao Lak and Koh Yao Noi have in common? At first glance you'd be forgiven for thinking, "Not a lot".

However, drive up to the Soi Dog Foundation (SDF) shelter in Mai Khao, look around and the answer becomes clear. The two main accommodation blocks at the shelter are made up of eight large runs, each named after the sponsor that paid for its construction.

The first run is named The Six Senses Phuket shelter. Its cost was funded by a private donation from Eva Malmstrom and Sonu Shivdasani of the Evason Phuket & Six Senses Spa, but the connection does not end there.

Soi Dog Foundation is a long-time favorite charity of Eva and Sonu (an SDF donation box sits in their head office in Bangkok). As a result, Area General Manager Henry Gray and his wife, Char, visited the shelter to see what all the fuss was about. After their visit they were determined to do more. With the blessing of Sonu and Eva, funds were raised at a recent group conference held at the Evason Phuket resort.

This resulted in a new play area where volunteers who visit the shelter can take their dogs and let them run free while being protected from the elements. In addition, with finance from their community

responsibility program, the Evason Phuket has improved and furnished the Six Senses run and has planted trees around the entire block and play area.

The Six Senses Destination Spa on Koh Naka Yai has already committed to improving one of the other runs and Char is now looking for other hotels in the area to do likewise.

"The subject of stray dogs is a problem in Phuket. Soi Dog Foundation is a prime example of an NGO contributing invaluable volunteer work towards such a challenge that helps alleviate their suffering. They represent a very good example of a local organization, which is co-ordinated, driven and successful at what it achieves," Henry said.

The Six Senses group, which has won several international awards for its environmental programs, was a finalist in this year's geo-tourism challenge sponsored by *National Geographic*.

Each hotel in the group has its own full-time environmental manager. In a world where there is ever more concern about the environment with eco-based holidays on the rise, such an approach is good for the environment – and it makes sound economic sense.

The Sarojin hotel in Khao Lak is also a strong supporter of SDF. Joint-owner Andrew Kemp, concerned about the growing number of stray dogs, is financ-

ing the employment of an additional full-time veterinarian through the hotel's community fund.

The fund, which supports community-based projects, has had a big impact. As Khao Lak continues its rapid growth, the number of stray dogs in the region has also increased rapidly.

Population control had consisted of the local authorities culling dogs by poisoning them to try and keep the numbers down. This is ineffective and brings protests from tourists, who do not want to see dead dogs on the streets.

In May, thanks to the support of The Sarojin, SDF started twice-monthly dog clinics with the co-operation of the local Tambon Administration Offices (*OrBorTor*), which provide the clinics and rabies vaccine, and a local school, which supplies accommodation for SDF's team.

Other hotels are also coming on board and Le Meridien Khao Lak now contributes to the costs of the operations. Dogs in need of more extensive treatment are transferred to the SDF shelter.

Both Sarojin general manager Leisa Kenny and Le Meridien general manager Martin Raich have noticed the difference. As well as sterilizing and vaccinating stray dogs and cats, local people also bring their animals in for surgery.

In June, SDF began a similar program on Koh Lanta, again with the financial backing of local businesses and the co-operation of the *OrBorTor*. The program should see virtually all the dogs on Lanta sterilized before December. With the

facilities to sterilize in excess of 10,000 dogs a year at its Mai Khao clinic, there is no reason why Phuket should have a stray dog problem for much longer.

However, with support coming from other locations, as well as rapidly increasing costs and donors having less disposable income in the current economic climate, this can only happen if more businesses follow the example of those mentioned above and understand that tourists will not want to visit an island overrun with stray dogs and cats.

Catching and sterilizing animals comes at a cost. SDF can do the work (nearly 20,000 dogs and cats have already been sterilized in the past five years), but only with the support of the local community.

In September, the Evason Phuket & Six Senses Spa in Rawai is sponsoring a fundraising evening for SDF at its Into the Beach venue.

Also sponsored by the *Phuket Gazette*, the event will raise much-needed funds for the SDF's sterilization program, which has recently expanded to other areas, including Koh Lanta, Khao Lak and elsewhere in the region.

The event will feature live entertainment and a disco, as well as sumptuous food and free-flow wine, beer and spirits all night. Tickets, at 2,000 baht, are limited and include free entry to a prize draw.

To learn more about how you can help, or for more information, call *Cristy Baker* on 085-4734636 or 084-0544367. Website: [www.soidog-foundation.org](http://www.soidog-foundation.org)



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# Pitfalls of smoking are a real drag

Everybody knows that smoking is bad for you and can kill you. The world's public spaces, such as restaurants and bars, have gradually become smoke-free areas. Smokers may be feeling a little unwanted or shunned. This is understandable since cigarettes are legal products.

However, smoking is a real problem and there are dangers associated with regular puffing on those "cancer sticks".

Among the many chemicals that flood your lungs with every puff, there are a few real nasties that can cause problems. The first is tar, a substance that coats the lungs and can cause lung and throat cancer. A heavy smoker's lungs will be covered in tar. If squeezed, a thick dark flow of goo-like gel would trickle out.

The second harmful chemical is carbon monoxide. The human body requires fresh oxygen in order to survive. For a person to top up on oxygen, he or she must breathe. Oxygen is then picked up by the blood via the lungs and pumped around the body by the heart to vital organs and muscles.

Carbon monoxide competes with oxygen in this process and, over time, causes airways to narrow and blood pressure to rise. This can lead to a heart attack, stroke or other circulatory problems.

Third on the chemical hit list is nicotine, which, when inhaled, produces enhanced alertness and concentration, mild euphoria, feelings of relaxation and an in-

creased heart rate and blood pressure.

Nicotine is addictive and difficult to quit, as any smoker will attest to. Although uncommon, it is possible to overdose on nicotine. Large doses can lead to feelings of faintness and confusion and a rapid decrease in blood pressure and breathing rate, eventually leading to convulsions and respiratory failure.

Smoking greatly increases the risk of dying from cardiovascular disease and accelerates decline in lung function. A smoker's lungs will be unable to send the same amount of oxygen to working muscles as a non-smoker's. Smokers have a lower uptake of oxygen and, therefore, lower levels of cardiovascular and aerobic fitness.

Fitness training can be difficult for smokers, particularly in endurance activities such as swimming, running and cycling.

Passive smoking can also result in a number of health problems. Apart from irritation to the nose and eyes, there is a risk of lung cancer and cardiovascular disease.

If you are a smoker and you want to give up, explore all the options available to you. Start an exercise program and feel what it is like to once again breathe in fresh oxygen. Your body will thank you.

Nick Dobyn is the manager of Phuket Personal Trainers Co Ltd, a Rawai-based personal fitness consultancy. Call 086-2514801 or email Nick at: [nick@phuketfitness.net](mailto:nick@phuketfitness.net)

## FIT FOR LIFE

By Nick Dobyn

# My Roman column

For the past few weeks I've been obsessed with bathtubs. Cast iron, acrylic, porcelain, claw-foot, marble, walk-in, Jacuzzi, free-standing, soaking, hot tub, hot tub for two – this thing of buying a new bathtub, much less renovating the bathroom, is driving me crazy.

I do not want a hot tub for two (or three); and I do not want a Jacuzzi, not even one that ensures bacteria do not collect.

Unlike my friend in London, I do not want a step-down sunken tub big enough for two made of jasmine onyx marble with an orchid jungle and a waterfall.

Unlike her, I have that in my back garden already.

And what's more, I most passionately do not want a bathtub that resembles a washing-up bowl or a giant's teacup. If I wanted to bathe in a teacup I'd drop through a rabbit hole.

I mean, this is really getting to be a kind of "Ambrosia Through The Looking Glass", and speaking of mirrors, the one I really love costs about \$4,000 (135,000 baht) and is only big enough for a mouse to look at himself in.

And what about the plumbing? Say I did spend \$10,000 on a tub, the equivalent of 337,000 baht? When I mention this to my plumber, who probably earns more than I do, his eyebrows pop up to hit his hard hat with a dismaying sound. And that's before he sets to work flooding the downstairs apartment.

There are so many variables out there – talking toilets, Victorian washstands, Finnish saunas – that I bounce fretfully from choice to choice as if I was on something more than filter coffee.

One week I want a lot of fabulous luxe, all marble and Roman columns, and perhaps a few British actors to play bath attendants – as in a 1950s movie epic about Cleopatra and her pals.

Then the next week I'm into minimalism, all slatted wooden floors, opaque glass doors and

cement walls. I do like minimalism, but then where does the other half throw his dirty socks?

It is said that many people now spend more on renovating their bathrooms than on any other part of their house or apartment. You see them in magazines, these fantasy bath salons, usually with a free-standing tub and open fire and a chaise longue.

Trouble is we live in an apartment. My bathroom has no window. My bathroom is big enough for me and my partner, used separately. It's fine, just not large enough to accommodate the living room furniture or, well, the kitchen sink.

I'm going crazy here. I mean, sinks are pedestal or not, vintage or not, sunken, semi-sunken, raised, or made to resemble a fruit bowl perched on top of a cabinet. No, no, no. No fruit bowls and no bidets (I am British, after all) – none of that weird foreign stuff.

The greatest bathroom I've ever been in was in Claridge's, a proper art deco bathroom with the requisite supply of gleaming chrome fixtures, blue and white tiles, soft, warm worn mahogany, a bath the size of the *Titanic*, elegant period sinks, mirrors in the right size, and enough shelves for all your stuff.

It was not effortful. It did not aspire to be a Thai spa, or even an Etruscan palace. Or anything other than a deliciously comfortable sanctuary for bathing and the rest of it.

From all this I have reduced my bathroom issues to a very few. A hundred times I have written out my new and simple rules of bathroom renovation. A bathroom

should be white – tub, toilet, sink and walls – although a few black and white tiles on the floor are okay.

I will not be swayed by fashion; either because this month's *World of Interiors* is pushing color, or because the plumber is trying to push gold taps. What's his problem? Is his brother in the gold tap trade? No, and no Venetian plaster, either, or hand-laid tiles.

The tub will be big enough for me to lie in, sit in, read in, and

it will have space for things that I want with me – bubble bath, shampoo, book, champagne, rubber duck, and that's it. Plenty of heated towel rails will accommodate lots of thick, white, juicy towels. Okay, and a deep sink, and plenty of shelves and a medicine

cabinet that does not resemble something in a hospital. And that's about it. No big deal, right?

Oh God, I've just been diverted by some astonishing green glass tiles, a walk-in shower fit for the gods, and then there's that designer-looking bathroom featured in a restaurant in London where you can see out and no one can see in, and what about some red lacquer on the walls?

Okay, I'm confused again. Designer tub or not, maybe what I really need is for my LBF (lovely boyfriend) to put on a toga and make a radical career move as my personal bath attendant...

Ambrosia Sakkadas, a Britain-born Greek Cypriot and graduate of Central St Martins College of Art & Design in London, is an artist and interior designer.

## AMBROSIA'S

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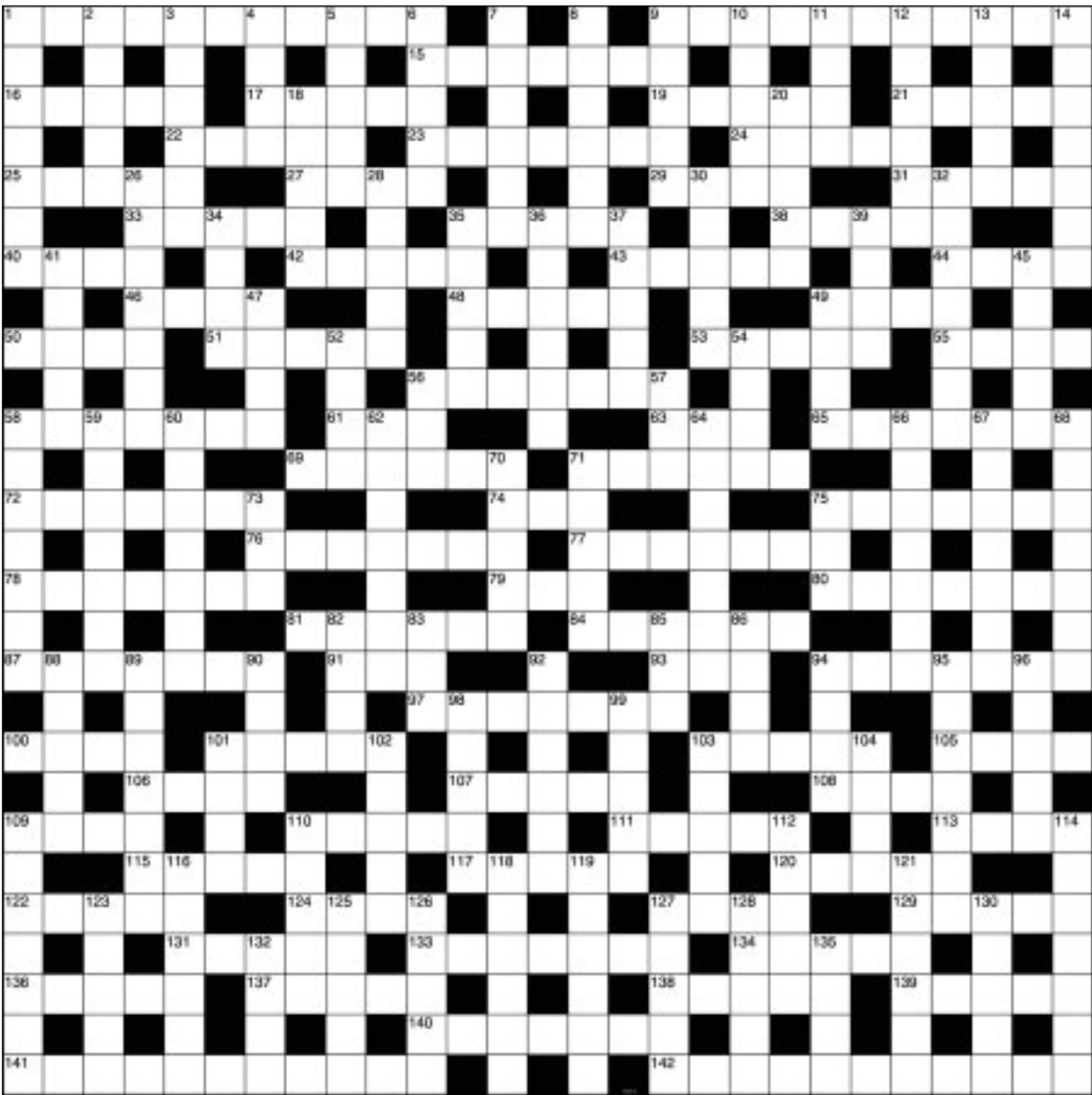




# Hidden Words

Hidden in the grid below are up to 30 words related to the Beijing Olympics. 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; 30 or more, excellent. Solution on the next page.

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



# The BIG Crossword

© Lovatts Puzzles – [www.lovatts.com.au](http://www.lovatts.com.au)

Across

1. Sets up
9. Multiplying by 4
15. High plain
16. Confusion (3-2)
17. Country, Sri...
19. Verbal assessments
21. Eloquent
22. Segment
23. Most orderly
24. Japan's capital
25. Edge (towards)
27. ...or evens
29. Supplements, ...out
31. Land, ...firma
33. Poet, ...Allan Poe
35. Apple drink
38. Have life
40. Uncomfortable, ill at...
42. Lordly
43. Knowledge tests
44. Notes & coins
46. Crustacean
48. Late Princess of Wales
49. Tuna or marlin
50. Silly talk
51. Rides waves
53. Creative thoughts
55. Gulf War nation
56. Futile
58. Stows
61. Trail (behind)
63. Frozen water
65. Ship's spars & ropes
69. Passe (3,3)
71. Fondle
72. Barrel taps
74. Belonging to that woman
75. Moved in circles

76. Take up (cause)
77. Toronto's province
78. Large building
79. Horseplay
80. Excessive utilization
81. Menacing remark
84. Flowing away
87. Sleighs
91. Or near offer (1,1,1)
93. Hotshot
94. Engine seals
97. Arresting
100. At summit of
101. Chocolate substitute
103. Ancient Peruvians
105. Distance unit
106. Sheep
107. Rolls up (flag)
108. European defense pact
109. Eager, ...as mustard
110. Follower of Brahma
111. Jewelled crown
113. Bare
115. Repeat symbol
117. Raunchy
120. Tropical fruit
122. Grilled bread
124. Fabricated
127. Office reminder
129. Playwright, ...Wilde
131. 3-D squares
133. Slashing knife
134. Actor, Ryan... (1'4)
136. From Emerald Isle
137. Debatable matter
138. Light push
139. Common-law spouse, de...
140. Acted in response
141. Silently
142. Help yourself policy (4-7)

Down

1. In a group (2,5)
2. Applied levy
3. Punched
4. Lazy, bone...
5. Sharpened
6. Stretches across
7. US island state
8. Peaceful
9. Speech extract
10. Lessen
11. Baby's biscuit
12. Swivels
13. Bring upon oneself
14. David's foe
18. Oak nut
20. Misplaces
26. Blood-sucking worms
28. Sums owing
30. Army color
32. Engraving
34. Mardi...
35. Surrenders
36. Dully
37. Harvests
39. Eye membrane
41. Allocate
45. Barcelona is there
47. Unopened flowers
49. Blond
52. Load completely
54. Fawns' mothers
56. Yuck!
57. Title of respect
58. Tenderizes
59. Offensive
60. Listening to
62. Postpone (trial)
64. Made of clay
66. Hanging... Of Babylon

67. Pry
68. Female deity
70. Larceny
71. Hag
73. Catch glimpse of
75. Slime
82. Jolly laugh (2,2)
83. Geological age
85. Case
86. Illuminating gas
88. Wood-shaping machine
89. Trusts in, ...on
90. Sail the seven...
92. Calls off
94. Mum's mum
95. Geisha's robes
96. Laid slates
98. Appalling
99. Horrid
101. Dollar division
102. Filleted
103. Very annoyed
104. Cut (timber)
109. Money pools
110. Own residences
112. Amid
114. Fleshy ear part (3,4)
116. Prickled
118. Unclothed
119. Attends medically
121. Tiger Woods or Arnold Palmer
123. Goodbye
125. Donkeys
126. Nailfile (board)
127. Repairs
128. Mannequin
130. Desert plants
132. Cycle
135. Congers or morays

Solution on next page

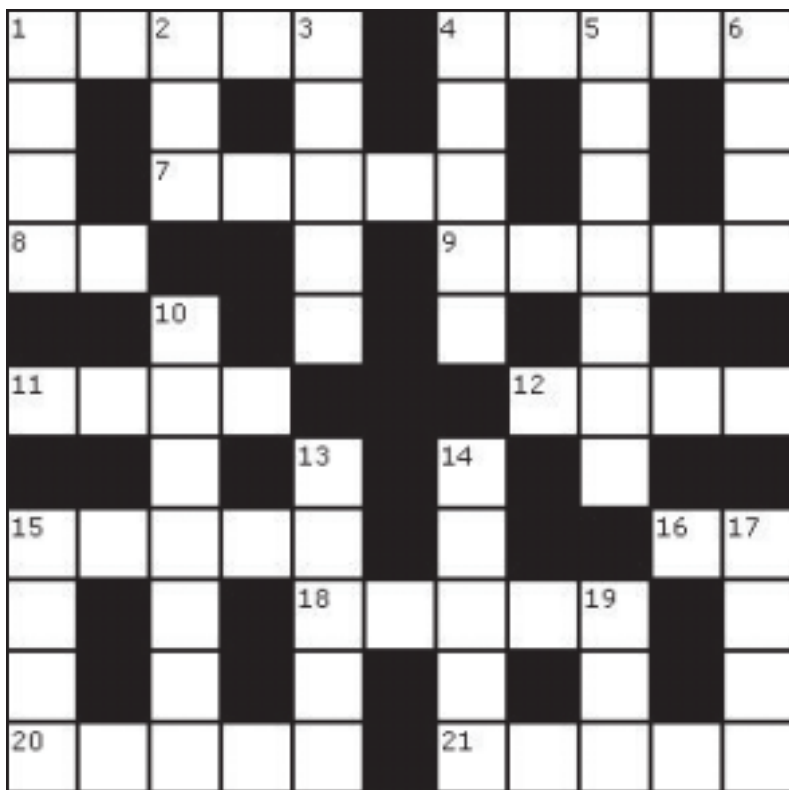


Solution, tips and computer program at [www.sudoku.com](http://www.sudoku.com)

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

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. Disappear
4. Fables
7. Objects
8. West Indies
9. Same
11. Cowboy's heel
12. Ignore
15. Presents
16. Blues legend...King
18. Needs exercise
20. Early invention
21. Invalidate

### Down

1. Went by air
2. Hideout
3. .... Diver
4. Thinks
5. Mexican city
6. Give for money
10. Rifle shots
13. Normal
14. Bulgarian capital
15. Radiate
17. Jump out
19. Root of 100

Solution below

## Get your brain in gear with the MONSTER QUIZ

1. In which movie did Jonny Depp make his Hollywood debut?
2. What movie gave him his first role as a voice actor?
3. Which former *Happy Days* star was also the director of *The Da Vinci Code*?
4. Who is the only person to appear on screen in both an episode of *Happy Days* and *The Da Vinci Code*?
5. With which movie did Wes Craven make his directorial debut?
6. In which year was Wes Craven's *Scream* released?
7. What was the name of the character Jamie Kennedy played in the *Scream* trilogy?
8. One of Jamie Kennedy's co-stars in *Malibu's Most Wanted*, Anthony Anderson, starred in which teen sitcom?
9. Reggie Theus, who appeared in the same sitcom, is now head coach for which sports team?
10. Which *Reservoir Dogs* actor appeared in the Spike Lee movie *Clockers*?
11. Which *Reservoir Dog* was played by famed director Quentin Tarantino?
12. What was the real name of Toto, the dog in the *Wizard of Oz*?
13. In what year was the *Wizard of Oz* released, and was it in color, or black and white?
14. The *Wizard of Oz* won how many Oscars?
15. What were they for?
16. How old was Judy Garland when she sang *Over the Rainbow*?
17. Which other musical did Judy Garland make famous?
18. Where is her star on Hollywood's Walk of Fame?
19. When and where did she die?
20. What was given as the cause of her death?

Answers below



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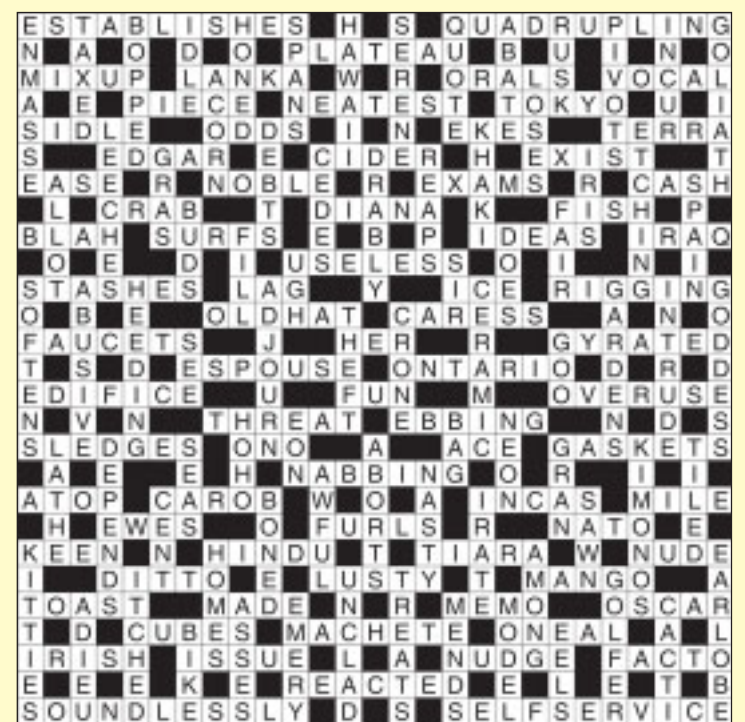
# Puzzle Solutions

### Solution to this week's Quick Crossword



### Hidden Words SOLUTION

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



### Solution to this week's BIG Crossword

### Solution to this week's Sudoku puzzle

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

### Monster Quiz Answers

1. *A Nightmare on Elm Street*; 2. *Corpse Bride*; 3. Ron Howard; 4. Tom Hanks; 5. *The Last House on the Left*; 6. 1996; 7. Randy Meeks; 8. *Hang Time*; 9. Sacramento Kings; 10. Harvey Keitel; 11. Mr Brown; 12. Terry, the cairn terrier; 13. 1939, in color; 14. Two; 15. Best Music, Original Score and Best Music, Original Song (for *Over the Rainbow*); 16. 17; 17. *A Star is Born*; 18. 1715 Vine St; 19. June 22, 1969, in Chelsea, London; 20. Accidental barbiturate overdose.



# Revisiting the Reagan era

Sean Wilentz has produced a massive tome of American political history called *The Age of Reagan* (HarperCollins, New York, 2008, 458pp), which covers the years from 1974 to 2008. His contention is that, just like the Age of Jackson or the Age of Roosevelt, Reagan's influence covered decades past his presidential terms, stretching from the Ford to the George W. Bush administrations.

Reagan's political ideology was simple: cut taxes and the role of the Federal government while boosting military spending. Abroad, confront the Russian Evil Empire wherever it reared its ugly head.

"How successfully Reagan accomplished what he set out to do is one of this book's basic themes," Wilentz writes in his introduction. "Another theme concerns how much these successes and failures actually had to do with conservative ideology about supply-side economics and confronting the Soviet Union and its proxies around the globe (the heart of what became known as the Reagan Doctrine)."

"The conclusions I have reached differ greatly from those advanced with increasing fervor in recent years by Reagan's admirers. They differ from those of his most vociferous critics. And they differ in several ways from the conclusions I would have expected myself to draw about Reagan's presidency and about much else



## Off the SHELF

By James Eckardt

when I began work on this book several years ago."

Most valuable is the author's account of the rise of conservative ideology. Once considered a fringe movement with only a few respectable bastions like William F. Buckley's *National Review* magazine, conservatism came to dominate the national agenda.

As the Democrats disintegrated into squabbling special interest groups that helped doom Jimmy Carter's presidency, the Republicans were getting their act together. Think tanks, neoconservative magazines and radio shows, political action groups that brought together disaffected evangelicals, Southern resisters to school desegregation and the northern, largely Catholic working class, all came together in a movement that revolted against the excesses of the 1960s.

Their takeover of the Republican Party from the moderate wing was swift.

"The new right would not have to slog through the party trenches to win national power; instead it could engineer a corporate funded takeover that, in time, would turn the Republican Party into a wholly owned subsidiary of conservative movement," the author writes.

"The major requirement for advancing the takeover was for the new right to unite in 1980 behind a national candidate—a relatively simple matter, given the ascendancy of Ronald Reagan."

Wilentz quotes Reagan saying at the beginning of his term that his overall strategy derived from show business: create a great entrance, slack off a bit, then rally for a slam-bam finish. So his term turned out: initial years of great success in turning the country around, a nadir during the Iran-Contra scandal, and a rousing finish with his cooperation with Russia's Gorbachev to reach agreement and end the Cold War.

In the process, Reagan ditched his hard-line advisers for more moderate pragmatists—a process that would repeat

itself in the administration of George W. Bush.

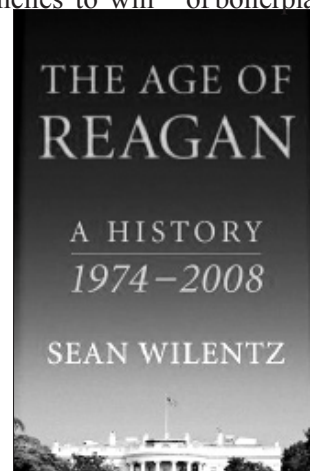
There are any number of keen insights in this book, but also a huge amount of boilerplate as the author trudges through 34 years of American policy making. Alas, too, he is not a particularly gifted writer. A long section on the Clinton years is just boring old news but is included to show how the conservative movement against him turned rancid, taken over by fierce, shrill, and often corrupt, ideologues.

To his credit, the author refuses to demonize nor canonize Ronald Reagan. His genius was his sunny good humor coupled with a shrewd pragmatism.

This was something he learned during his two terms as governor of California.

"Reagan displayed his greatest skills as a behind-the-scenes, bipartisan negotiator—listening as well as preaching, compromising when necessary with Democratic legislators, then taking the lion's share of credit for whatever was achieved."

This was a skill set, Wilentz notes, that Bush junior utterly failed to put to use, thus marking the end of the Age of Reagan.



When speaking a new language, it's tough to kick the impulse to translate what you want to say from your mother tongue.

When you're first learning, you're thinking of each sentence in English first. This can result in some pretty tortured Thai.

As you continue to improve, your speech patterns should start to sound more like a native speaker.

In achieving this, remember it's often the little things that count. Like prepositions: those words that pair up with a noun to tell us where things are, when something happens and so on.

Languages use prepositions slightly differently.

In English we're used to saying that we visited a friend on Sunday, but if we try to translate that into Thai using บน / bon, it sounds very silly. For Thais, you do things in a certain day. The same can apply to spatial descriptions. For example, in English we say the bird is in the sky, but that sounds silly in Thai.

Instead you have to say the bird is on (บน / bon) the sky.

There's plenty in common, too. Both English and Thai use "in" (ใน / nai) for months and years. Thai for "in 2005..." would be: ในปี ๒๐๐๕ / nai pii sawng phan haa.

Let's have a look at some basic prepositions:

1. บน / bon "on (top of)", as in the book is on the table" หนังสืออยู่บนโต๊ะ / nang sue yuu bon to.

Thais talk about the upper

# Don't speak it, think it



level of a house as บนบ้าน / bon baan "on the house", a reference to the traditional Thai house built on stilts. You'll hear this even in Bangkok, where elegant stilt houses have given way to hulking cement monstrosities.

2. ใต้ / tai "below, underneath", as in "the hammer is underneath the table": คอนอยู่ใต้โต๊ะ.

And the phrase ใต้โต๊ะ is also commonly used to mean illicit or secret dealings, probably from the English phrase "under the table". Also, the open-air area beneath a Thai stilt house is called ใต้ถุน / tai thun. ใต้ / tai is also the word for "south".

3. เหนือ / nua "above, over", as in "there's a spider hanging above the table" มีแมงมุมลอยอยู่เหนือโต๊ะ / mii maeng mum loi yuu nua to.

Similar to ใต้ / tai, เหนือ / nua is also the word for "north". But you'll see it in common phrases like เหนือหัว / nua hua "overhead" (or the more polite version เหนือศีรษะ / nua siisa),

and เหนือธรรมชาติ / nua tham-machaat "supernatural" (literally "over nature").

4. ข้าง / khaang "beside, next to", as in "the chair is next to the table": เก้าอี้อยู่ข้างโต๊ะ / kao-ii yuu khaang to.

You'll also see this word in phrases like ผลข้างเคียง / phon khaang khiang "side effects" and เข้าง / khao khaang "to take (a) side" in an argument.

5. ล่าง / laang "bottom-most, lowest to the ground", as in: "His room is on the ground floor". ห้องของเขายู่ชั้นล่าง / hawng khawng khao yuu chan laang.

Or if you drive a car in Thailand, you may have to fix the ช่วงล่าง / chuang laang, which is the "suspension", so-called because it's part of the underbody of the vehicle.

6. หน้า / naa "in front of, front", as in: "The car is parked in front of the house". รถจอดอยู่หน้าบ้าน / rot jawt yuu naa baan. หน้า is also the word for "face".

The word หน้า shows up all over the place; หัวหน้า / hua naa "boss"; ล่วงหน้า / luang naa "ahead of time, in advance, early"; หน้าตา / naa taa "appearance"; หนาด / naa rot "hood (of a car)".

7. หลัง / lang "behind", as in "the keys fell behind the sofa":

กุญแจหล่นอยู่ข้างหลังโซฟา / kunjae lon yuu khaang lang soofa. หลัง is also the word for "back", as in ปวดหลัง / puat lang "backache".

You'll see หลัง / lang in expressions like: ทีหลัง / thii lang "later"; หลังจาก / lang jaak "after (in time)", ถอยหลัง / thoi lang "to reverse, move backwards", สันหลัง / san lang "spine, backbone".

You can also add the word ข้าง "side" to the front of any of these, to be more specific. หน้า / naa can mean a lot of things, but ข้างหน้า / khaang naa narrows it

down to "in front of, ahead".

You can even say ข้างข้าง / khaang khaang. Repeating the word emphasizes that it's directly adjacent to what you're describing: อยู่ข้างข้างตู้เย็น / yuu khaang khaang tuu yen "it's right next to the fridge".

Paying close attention to how native speakers use these basic but important words can help your Thai immensely.

Rikker Dockum writes regularly at [thai101.blogspot.com](http://thai101.blogspot.com) Email: [rdockum@gmail.com](mailto:rdockum@gmail.com)

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## Tourists are always the losers

The two-day closure of Phuket International Airport highlights the need for much better security at the airport, especially in the upcoming high season. The continuous and safe operation of the airport is absolutely vital not only to the Phuket economy, but Thailand as a whole.

Roughly a third of all tourists who come to Thailand – about 5 million annually – include Phuket in their travel plans.

Direct losses related to the closure have been estimated at about 250 million baht per day, but indirect losses throughout all levels of the economy and the damage to the island's reputation are far greater.

Perhaps most disappointing is the fact that despite all the talk by government officials about the superiority of the Thai brand of hospitality and the incessant knee-jerk comments about the need to promote and continually expand tourism, it is always the tourists who suffer the most.

It remains to be seen just how much of the Tourism and Sports Ministry's 400 million-baht "Tourist Fund" will actually make it into the hands of the scores of stranded tourists who need emergency accommodations and a way to get home after missing non-refundable connecting flights.

Imagine the stories now being told around the world about how once-in-a-lifetime holidays to paradise turned into complete nightmares, all because of the actions of a few hundred "agitators", combined with an unjustifiable lack of resolve on the part of "security forces" to stand up to them.

The police should review security footage and media images to identify these "agitators". Once identified, they should be arrested and charged and their relationships with the anti-government People's Alliance for Democracy (PAD) or its archrival, the National United Front of Democracy Against Dictatorship (UDD), closely investigated.

While local PAD leaders held a press conference to distance themselves from these "mysterious" agitators, it is hard to believe they can claim no responsibility whatsoever when PAD leader Sondhi Limthongkul was quoted in the August 26 edition of the Bangkok Post as saying the PAD's "final war" against the Samak government would include instructing supporters to close both the Phuket and Haad Yai airports – which is exactly what happened.

Phuket has developed an almost legendary ability to bounce back from disasters, but it remains to be seen what the fallout from this latest, completely self-inflicted wound will be.

– The Editor

Do you have an opinion you want to share?  
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**The Phuket Gazette**

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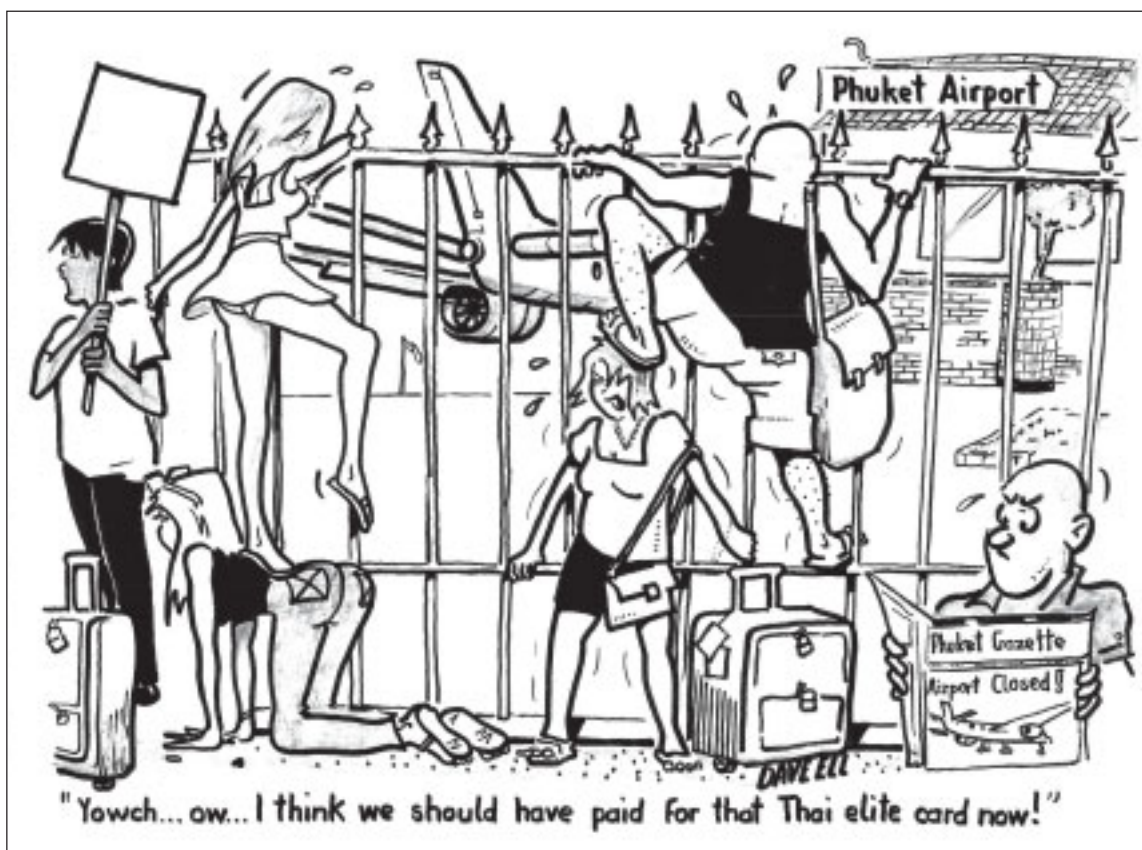
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by David Lodge

## Letters

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

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

### Democracy 101

The word "democracy" is used and abused so often that I wonder if Thai people truly understand its meaning. For example, Thais approved the 2007 Constitution charter drafted by those who were appointed by the coup makers. Is this a democratic process? Where was the PAD at that time?

Instead of occupying Government House, airports or smashing doors at NBT headquarters, that was the right time to fight.

You cannot behave like hooligans only because you want the PM to step down. Thaksin still makes the headlines two years after he was toppled, and most news of him is about corruption charges: how many people in Thailand are like Thaksin?

The issue is not about money, but about society: corruption is a way of living, with or without Thaksin. Thai society is rotten like a fish and the economy relies heavily on foreign investment.

The "loss of face" concept does not bring "clear cut" responsibilities inside companies. This country, which I do love, is often a laughing stock similar to Thai TV shows: silly soap operas, gags and little else.

Maybe it is time for all Thai kids to be taught properly, starting from learning 6x6=36 by heart at school and not by using a calculator.

Power, freedom and independence come with knowledge, intelligence and sacrifice, and this is the path that all civilized nations in the world, sooner or later, have been through.

At this stage, the quality of

life improves step by step and the vote-buying process is challenged by state-conscious citizens, although the exchange-vote-for-favor might constitute a minor disease still present in all modern societies.

C. Ekipaser  
Phuket

### Bitter end to a sweet holiday

We had a wonderful week's stay at the Phuket Marriott Beach Club. Well done Interval International for this selected resort and well done to the Marriott Phuket for its equal hospitality from all its staff.

Then we were caught in flight cancellations from Phuket airport during the recent civil disturbances and had to find some means to get back to Kuala Lumpur.

Our scheduled flight out was canceled following a text message from Air Asia. Our telephone calls to Air Asia Malaysia told us of long waiting periods from Friday to Sunday.

We decided to take a bus back to Malaysia and bought three first-class bus tickets from Phuket to Haad Yai for a 7:30 am departure on August 31 because all the VIP seats on the last Thai coach had already gone on that day.

The bus stopped at almost every stop so they could pick up passengers. This was better than a minivan though.

We arrived Haad Yai at 3 pm and scrambled to get seats for Kuala Lumpur. The first Thai company we asked told us all tickets were sold out and there were no more seats, full stop.

Fortunately, we had made

friends with a nice couple who were finding their way back to Miri, East Malaysia.

They found another bus company and we bought five tickets leaving Haad Yai at 7:30 pm. This was a Malaysian coach.

We arrived in Kuala Lumpur at 5 am on September 1. We discovered upon reaching home that we had lost our camera with all the photos we had taken.

My husband is trying to call the hire car company, bus companies and hotels to see if our camera has been found.

If anyone can ask Srirang Tour Company and speak Thai, that would be good (this was the bus from Phuket to Haad Yai).

Pangrazios  
Kuala Lumpur

### Immigration better

Last week, we went to the Immigration Office for a needed "visa", and we were impressed at the speedy and friendly service. Compared with a few years ago, the service has improved very much.

Lex  
Kathu

### Gambling raids: are they worth it?

In the first raid reported in "17 arrested in gambling den sweep" (Gazette online, August 28), only eight people were arrested and only 250 baht found among them.

Arresting, feeding, filling out police reports probably cost 10,000 baht, but since there are no other crimes in the area [joke], why not?

Don Aleman  
Phuket

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.



# Making the case for the Monkey Island project

## FIRST PERSON

It should come as no surprise when I say that it is not easy being a conservationist. Like the early pioneers in America, we invariably get scalped. The Monkey Island Project in Chalong (see *Gazette*, August 30 issue) appears to be no different. Sustainable use and conservation are easy topics to talk about, but putting sustainable use into practice invariably eludes the vast majority of people.

Monkey Island is a community-based, sustainable-use project designed to create broad-based awareness about the world's ecology and conservation, while simultaneously empowering the local community by allocating all the retail opportunities to them at no monetary cost.

Over and above the retail opportunities, the main crux of business to Monkey Island will be carried in the vessels of the existing Thai-owned speedboats and longtail boats, either as an add-on to their existing packages, or as a brand-new opportunity in the case of the longtail operators.

In addition comes a host of direct and indirect permanent work opportunities, ranging from monkey feeders, receptionists, marketing personnel, accounting and back office staff, boat operators (sewerage barge and security boats), security guards, cleaners, managers and up to 12 multilingual guides who will be spreading the conservation message in many languages.

Then there is the indirect employment flowing from the outsourcing of the monkey food preparation as well as accountants, auditors and attorneys. Add to this the procurement of everything from the food the monkeys eat to the paper used in the office printer.

The proposed project incorporates two islands, Koh Tanan

After years of Phuket pundits and top-end tourism figures calling for more sustainable tourism projects on the island, they might have just what they're looking for with the Monkey Island project in Chalong.

But is it true sustainable eco-tourism? Here, **Tony Blignaut**, CEO of Monkeyland Primate Sanctuary and Director of Touch a Monkey's Heart Foundation, puts forward his case for Koh Aew and Koh Tanan becoming monkey sanctuaries.

and Koh Aew, both of which are devoid of beaches and possibly the reason why through centuries of activity and development in the area these two islands remain deserted.

If this project is approved, Koh Aew, the larger of the two islands, will have no human footprint or any structures of any kind built on it.

It will become a primate conservation island where academics from every corner of the globe will come to study the primate populations that will be stationed there for conservation research purposes.

I envisage that the islands will fall under Touch a Monkey's Heart Foundation (TAMHF), a non-profit foundation that will work closely with an international university and a Thai university specializing in primatology.

Under these circumstances, Koh Aew would place Thailand at the very forefront of primate conservation in the world.

The credit for the existence

Situated in the eastern entrance to Chalong Bay, this tiny island will be host to a small population of about 30 individual monkeys, lemurs and apes.



of this conservation milestone will accrue to the governor, the mayors and the other officials who make this project possible.

They are the ones who will be standing on the world stage, on CNN, BBC and in *National Geographic*, receiving the recognition they will rightfully deserve for having the foresight to allow this sanctuary here in Thailand, when Singapore, Cambodia and Vietnam are all jostling for it to happen in their country.

The other island in the project, Koh Tanan, would act as the "shop window" for the larger project, and since it is widely accepted in recent times that conservation needs to pay its own way if it is to be truly sustainable, Koh Tanan will be expected to do just that.

Situated in the eastern entrance to Chalong Bay, this tiny island will be host to a small population of about 30 individual monkeys, lemurs and apes made up of 15 species in pairs.

They will form the focal point of the attraction for tourists who will view the primates from the pier, while trained guides explain the characteristics of the various species to them.

As with Koh Aew, the island of Koh Tanan will not have any human footprint of any kind, just the 30 primates.

The only structure will be a wooden viewing pier with a floating docking jetty built below the high-water line. We have completed a comprehensive coral survey using a prominent marine expert at a Thai university, and it would appear that the pier and docking jetty will not affect any coral or sea grasses.

These findings are to be presented to the committee set up to consider the project, by Phuket Governor Niran Kalayanamit, in due course.

Besides the 40 novelty and refreshment outlets that would be owned and run by local community members, the pier will house toilet facilities.

I cannot overemphasize our policy on anti-pollution and respect for the environment.

The pier will be equipped with two barges, or motorized floating tanks, which will receive and transport the sewerage and gray water to the mainland, where it will either be pumped into the main sewerage system or taken directly to the plant by

truck. Garbage will also be taken off the pier and disposed of in an appropriate manner on the mainland.

This is not a casino project, it is a conservation and environmental education project where the main promoter is a non-profit foundation.

This means that the emphasis here is not on how much money can be hived off of the tourists, but rather on how effectively we can pass on environmental information that will hopefully play a meaningful role in the way people view and treat the environment and the creatures it supports in years to come.

Visitors to the project will arrive at a world-class activity by boat, either as part of a package involving Phi Phi or other islands, or as a stand-alone visitor using a longtail boat operator.

Arriving on the pier, visitors will be welcomed by our staff, exactly as we do at our South African sanctuary Monkeyland. From the pier, the furry inhabitants will be able to be observed with commentary from our guides who will have language skills and display the flags representing the countries of the languages they speak on their sleeves.

These guides will be passing on information about the primates in view, about the challenges these and other animal's face, about the habitat and the resources we all come into contact with on a daily basis.

The guides will be talking about the small things we can all do to make the planet a better place, like how best to sustainably use natural resources, and what not to do with the resources after we have used them.

As in the case of our flagship sanctuary in South Africa, the TAMHF will encourage school groups to visit the project. The same free access will be offered to handicapped people, old age homes and other special-care groups. Nobody is too young or too old to learn.

Bona-fide tourists visiting the island sanctuary will be charged a nominal fee, which will cover all the expenses, including those related to conservation research.

I would like to add, that this project has no known detrimental impacts on the environment or on communities.

To the contrary, it will benefit the people and communities by taking two unused islands and creating an attraction that will create ownership and jobs for the locals and additional business for existing businesses, increase tourism to Thailand and entrench the country as a leader in primate conservation and research.

## Batteries too quick to die

Can you explain why "lead acid" car batteries last only a maximum of two years here in Thailand?

I know lead acid batteries. It was my job to look after them, and even when I was sailing continuously in the tropics, I always had a minimum five years' life out of them.

I recently had to change the battery in my six-year-old Honda City for the third time, and I bet that come July or August in two years' time, I'll be writing this letter to you again.

Michael Finn  
Phuket

**Gazette Motoring columnist Jeff Heselwood replies:**

## Issues & ANSWERS

Send your questions at  
[www.phuketgazette.net/](http://www.phuketgazette.net/issuesanswers/submitissue.asp)

[issuesanswers/submitissue.asp](http://www.phuketgazette.net/issuesanswers/submitissue.asp)

Car batteries are subject to heat and humidity in this part of the world, which leads them to deteriorate fairly rapidly. But the real answer to your question is that they are built to a price and are not designed to last.



Recently the newspapers reported a new development in the Chinese practice of burning paper items for the dead. Traditionally, Chinese people have burned paper money, cars, and houses as offerings to their ancestors.

The idea is that the paper replica will change into the real thing in the afterlife. So if you burn a paper Benz for your late grandfather, his ghost will soon be cruising around heaven in a real one. Or at least a ghostly one...

Trendy Chinese-Thais are now updating this practice by burning paper television sets, computers and DVD players. One newspaper suggested that they ought to start burning paper mobile phones, too.

Thinking about my own dear late grandfather, I realized there was a problem.

Grandpa died long before computers were invented, much less some of the more recent fol-de-rol. If I burned a paper computer for him, he wouldn't know how to use it.

Concerned about this, I consulted my old Chinese guru, Master Chang Shou, who is an expert on such matters.

Our conversation went like this:

**Tsow:** Master Chang, I want to burn a paper computer for my late grandfather to use in the afterlife, but he won't know how to use it.

**Master Chang:** Don't bother, my son. He never needed a computer while he was alive, so why would he want one

# Making Grandpa Happy

now that he's dead? Save your money and buy beer. You might offer me a bottle, too, while you're at it. Even gurus get thirsty occasionally.

**Tsow:** But I want to bring Grandpa up to speed with developments in our brave new high-tech world. I'm sure he'll enjoy heaven a lot more if he's got a computer to play with. And a DVD player, an iPod, maybe even a mobile phone.

**Master Chang:** How do you know he's in heaven, my son? Judging by the moral caliber of at least one of his descendants, it's quite likely he's in hell. And speaking of hell, where's that beer?

**Tsow:** If he's in hell, he'll need a computer even more. It will take his mind off the flames, the agony, and the screams of the damned.

**Master Chang:** In fact, my son, some people in hell do have computers, but they all have viruses and they're always crashing. It adds to the torment of their owners. Another thing that compounds the torment is the complete and

utter absence of beer, a condition which is afflicting me, right now, despite my perfect sinlessness.

But if your grandpa is in heaven, you can burn a computer manual along with the computer. Better still, burn a paper image of Bill Gates. That way, the Main Dude of all computerdom can teach him how to use it.

**Tsow:** But if Grandpa is in hell, will they let him use the manual? Or will they let Bill Gates in?

**Master Chang:** Well, they probably won't let him use the manual, because his agony will be compounded without it, and that's exactly what those fiendish demons want. But I'm sure they'll let Bill Gates in. In fact, I bet they'll welcome him. I think of this every time I have a problem with Windows.

**Tsow:** It would be exciting to send Grandpa a mobile phone and get a call from him in heaven. He could tell me what it's like up there.

**Master Chang:** Well, they wouldn't let him tell you. Keeping us in ignorance

about the afterlife is part of the cosmic plan. If we knew what it's like, that would spoil all the fun. I have a pretty clear idea of what life is like in hell, though.

**Tsow:** Oh? What do you think it's like?

**Master Chang:** There's no beer there. And none in my thirsty mouth, either, despite numerous subtle hints.

**Tsow:** Okay, okay, I'll get you a beer. Gurus shouldn't drink beer, though. It seems un-guruly. Shouldn't you drink something more high-class, like Chablis?

**Master Chang:** We working-class gurus drink beer. It's the hoity-toity white-collar gurus who drink Chablis. But if you offer me Chablis, I won't refuse.

**Tsow:** Ha. You'll never find Chablis in this apartment. (I get him a beer.)

**Master Chang:** (Taking a mighty swig) Thank you, my son. Hell has just morphed into heaven. Burn a couple of cases of paper beer for your grandfather if you want to make an old man happy. You can forget about the high-tech stuff.

*S. Tsow can be flamed at s.tsow@gmail.com, except when he's trying to find paper beer to burn.*



## In The Stars

by Isla Star

**VIRGO** (August 23-September 23): Burned out Virgoans will be able to enjoy some relaxation this week. Your commitments should ease and some tempting social invitations are forecast to arrive. Your heart is set on fire by a steamy Scorpio this weekend, but you may find it difficult to keep up with this livewire. If your birthday is on the coming days, the year ahead will bring more job-related satisfaction.

**LIBRA** (September 24-October 23): The astral atmosphere is unsettled until the middle of the month and the best laid plans are likely to go pear-shaped this week. Many of those born under the sign of Libra will feel frustrated by others' lack of cooperation. Rely on other air signs as you will find it easier relate to each other. Number 5 can bring good luck on Thursday.

**SCORPIO** (October 24-November 22): Your finances are set to stabilize in the middle of September,

but avoid making investments this week. Your astute business attitude should ensure you don't fall for a shady deal offered early next week. Flirting can be fun this weekend, but a romantic entanglement that leads the other person up the garden path should be avoided. The scent of pine can encourage clearer perception.

**SAGITTARIUS** (November 23-December 21): Balancing the budget could cause some of you stress this week. It is advised to monitor outgoings more carefully and inform certain family members that economy is the key word during the rest of September. Where work is concerned, a stroke of good luck cheers you up mid-week and there are signs that an intriguing job offer could be made soon. For those who are

single, Leo's interest comes as a welcome surprise.

**CAPRICORN** (December 22-January 20): You won't believe your luck this week. Your outlook is good concerning finances and the cementing of an important business agreement is highlighted. Affairs of the heart will also benefit from these auspicious conditions. Someone who you didn't believe was interested is about to demonstrate the opposite. The only down day could be Tuesday when technological hitches could cramp your progress.

**AQUARIUS** (January 21-February 19): It could prove hard to keep up with the pace this week. If you need to be a busy bee until the end of September, back-pedal on socializing. Where a tricky business arrangement is concerned, it would be wise to ask advice from someone with relevant experience. If you ignore the signs and jump in at the deep end, you may regret it. Number 7 can be lucky on Wednesday.

**PISCES** (February 20-March 20): You could be disappointed to learn that you aren't the only fish in the pool where a new work prospect is concerned. However, your experience should make the right impression and the stars indicate that satisfaction is guaranteed. This weekend, a chance meeting could lead to involvement in a community project. It would be wise to discuss this with your better half before committing. Wearing the color charcoal can encourage more self-confidence.

**ARIES** (March 21-April 20): You may need to dig deep in order to unearth a work-related secret this week. Your suspicions are confirmed that all is not what it appears to be, but the truth could remain elusive until the middle of the month. Those in a committed relationship will be called upon to support a distant family member. If you are single, fire and ice attract when a cool Sagittarius catches your eye.

**TAURUS** (April 21-May 21): Looking on the bright side is usually one of your talents, but many of you could be suffering from a temporary bout of pessimism during the beginning of September. An encounter with a friend this weekend reminds you that good luck crops up when you least expect it and you should be wearing your rose-tinted shades again soon. Wear a piece of light amethyst to encourage a more open outlook.

**GEMINI** (May 22-June 21): A celebration is highlighted this weekend and your reputation for being the life and soul of a party is forecast to be enhanced. Many Geminis will start the following week feeling somewhat under par - this is the ideal opportunity to begin that healthy diet you've put on hold for too long. Romance blossoms under auspicious astral conditions, but you are advised to wait a while longer before tying the knot.

**CANCER** (June 22-July 23): If you have been counting on support concerning a difficult project, you may be disappointed this week. However, someone born under another water sign could jump on board at the last minute. Your romantic prospects with Taurus begin to improve when you learn the reason for that hard-to-fathom behavior recently. Tuesday is the best day for a shopping trip since you will acquire more than you'd bargained for.

**LEO** (July 24-August 22): Those born under the sign of Leo who are finding it hard to get down to work after the summer vacation should be motivated by what happens this week. Your need for a challenge to get your teeth into is about to be satisfied. Where romance is concerned, you get on like a house on fire with Capricorn, but a keen Piscean leaves you cold. The number 3 can be lucky on Wednesday.

  
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I get a lot of questions both at the PC Group Therapy Meetings and via email. (Yes, I do answer all of my email, although sometimes it takes many weeks.) In this column I want to go through a bunch of questions that I've encountered recently that are of special interest to PC users in Phuket.

**Q** What is the best Internet connection right now?

**A** There's no clear answer. People all over the island are posting their observed international Internet speeds at live-access.com/phuketinternet.aspx, and that's where you should go to see what everybody else is getting. (Continuing thanks to Henry Habermacher and X-NET Computer Peripherals Supply for maintaining that site. It's become a goldmine of information.)

In most parts of Phuket, if you can get TT&T to install a line with MaxNet Premiere, and if you don't mind spending 2,000 baht a month or so for unlimited service, that's your best bet. You can see full details in my August 23 *Phuket Gazette* article at tinyurl.com/66t3l.

By the time you read this, I should have TT&T Premiere lines installed at my Sandwich Shoppes in Patong and Chalong, so you can drop by and test them yourself.

Unfortunately – and this is an increasingly common refrain – TT&T says it can't install a line in Laguna/Cherng Talay, so the Shoppe there will have to limp along with CAT HiNet. I'll put together a side-by-side comparison for this column as soon as the lines are in and we have some experience with speeds.

If you want a wireless connection, the CAT EV-DO system is the hands-down winner. Although EV-DO only runs one-fifth as fast as TT&T's MaxNet Premiere, it's far faster than any other wireless connection.

Expect to pay 11,000 baht for the card and 800 baht a month for the service, which you can only get at the CAT office. See my July 11 column at tinyurl.com/6plk2c and my July 26 follow-up at tinyurl.com/5vbqzb for important details.

DTAC just announced that it will have "3G" service in Phuket by the middle of 2009. I'm skeptical for several reasons, but if DTAC can get HSDPA into Phuket – and backs it up with fast data pipes running overseas – we may see a big change coming in about a year. You can safely assume that DTAC will sell its own hardware, just like CAT, and it won't be cheap.

I still haven't heard anything about TOT's promise to have 3,200 fiber optic lines working by July of this year. On January 24, a *Gazette* article quoted a Phuket TOT official saying a 200-kilometer-long 1 Gbps FTTx system would be operational around the beginning of July. One has to wonder *which* July.

# You have questions? We've got answers

**Q** Is the Windows XP Service Pack 3 okay to install yet?

**A** The short answer is "yes, maybe."

Windows XP Service Pack 3 is the final roll-up of Windows XP patches – Microsoft promises there won't be any more. Yes, security patches will continue to be issued (several every month, if the current trend continues), but after SP3 you have to download and install the patches one-by-one. SP3 also has support for several new kinds of hardware. But by and large, it's a yawner.

If you don't have a Microsoft-certified "genuine" copy of Windows XP, you should avoid Service Pack 3. It has at least two major new pirate-sniffing routines, and if your PC should run afoul of the "Genuine Advantage" detectors, you won't like the results: the next time you log on to Windows, your background turns black, and you see a watermark with a logo that says "Ask For Genuine Microsoft Software."

You can change your wallpaper, but every 60 minutes, WinXP reaches out and turns it black again. That doesn't qualify as a debilitating takeover of your machine. But it is a royal pain in the neck.

If you have a genuine copy of Windows XP, Service Pack 3 will probably go in very easily. There are a few niggling problems left, but the original big SP3 problems (specifically, an incompatibility with Microsoft's own Retail Management System) have been ironed out.



Want to save a YouTube video? The downloader at [downloader9.com](http://downloader9.com) saves Youtube videos as FLV files, which you can convert to other formats, or play directly.

microsoft.com/ph/11732. That's a first, as far as I know, and by all accounts the support is very good.

Like Windows XP SP3, Vista Service Pack

1 isn't a real big deal. Mostly it replaces the innards of Vista to make it more compatible with Microsoft's server software. But there are some improvements and fixes, and it's worth getting the new version if only to keep up with future security patches.

**Q** Sometimes I want to see a certain clip that is on Youtube, but I am busy with other things while I'm on the Internet. When I do get a chance to see it, I'm usually on the road without an Internet connection.

To be able to watch Youtube clips, I've started going to the clip,

A bit of warning. If you use Norton SymProtect (gad, you don't pay for that junk, do you?), you need to read the advisory at tinyurl.com/5bwk33. If you have a broadband router manufactured by a company called Billion (I've never seen any in Thailand), you need to update your firmware; see tinyurl.com/5pvshq. And if you have an HP computer that uses an AMD processor, check out Jesper Johnasson's blog at tinyurl.com/6zs52d.

**Q** Is Windows Vista Service Pack 1 okay to install?

**A** The short answer is, "yes, but make sure you have access to a different computer that's connected to the Internet." Microsoft has a very thorough set of upgrade instructions at support.microsoft.com/kb/936330. Read and follow them before installing Vista SP1.

In particular, note that anybody who upgrades to SP1 has access to unlimited, one-on-one free setup and compatibility support from Microsoft at support.

## PC Group Therapy

Join Woody and other Windows victims at his Sunday morning PC Group Therapy sessions, co-sponsored by the *Phuket Gazette*. On September 7 the group will convene at the Sandwich Shoppe in Patong, next to Andaman Beach Suites and BYD Lofts. On September 14, we'll be at Sandwich Shoppe Laguna, just before the main entrance to the Laguna complex.

On September 21 and 28, the PC group returns to the Sandwich Shoppe in Chalong, one km north of Chalong Circle next to Wine Connection. Sessions are designed to help everybody – even (especially!) complete computer novices – and they're absolutely free. Come early to make sure you get a seat. Driving instructions at [www.woody.info](http://www.woody.info)

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downloading it, then putting the computer in the hibernate mode. Then I take the laptop with me, and I'm able to see it on the road even without an Internet connection.

The problem is that every time that I do this, I get an error message that Internet Explorer will have to shut down, and I lose whatever clip I may have on there. If you know of any way to keep what was on my browser before it died somehow, that would also be extremely helpful.

**A** I'm not sure exactly why, but Internet Explorer is having a hard time storing the file. Firefox should do better. I hope.

You should be using Firefox anyway: it's faster, and much safer than Internet Explorer. Download Firefox at [getfirefox.com](http://getfirefox.com) and use it instead of IE for all of your surfing.

The best way to store Youtube files on your computer is to download the file directly using a service like the one [www.downloader9.com](http://www.downloader9.com) offers.

You can then play the downloaded FLV file or convert it to some other format with the free apps at [www.saveyoutube.com/youtube-flv-player-converter.htm](http://www.saveyoutube.com/youtube-flv-player-converter.htm)

Woody Leonhard ([www.askwoody.com](http://www.askwoody.com)) has written several dozen computer books, including a bunch "For Dummies". He's also a Contributing Editor at Windows Secrets Newsletter, a Microsoft MVP and a bagel fanatic.

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## Entries open for TriBalliastic finale

NAI YANG: After three successful events this year, TriBalliastic is once again set to return to the Indigo Pearl resort on October 11 for Race 4 of the Malaiwana Triathlon series, which will bring this year's series to a close.

Registration is now open with four categories:

- Senior Olympic distance (1.5km swim, 40km cycle, 10km run)
- Senior sprint distance race (750m swim, 20km cycle, 5km run)
- Junior race (200m swim, 6km cycle, 1.5km run)
- Splash 'n' dash (50m swim, 1.5km cycle, 750m run)



Online registration will close on October 9, although latecomers will still be able to sign up on race day.

There will be an awards party in the evening. In the event of bad weather, the swim will be canceled and a duathlon race will

be run for each race (run, cycle, run).

Online registration is available at [www.triballisticclub.com](http://www.triballisticclub.com)

For more details contact Shaun Boulter. Tel: 089-5902014. Email: [shaunboulter@triballisticclub.com](mailto:shaunboulter@triballisticclub.com)

## PATONG POOL LEAGUE

League standings as of September 1

	Team	Pld	Won	Lost	Beer	Pts
1	Offshore Bar	16	12	4	28	118
2	Anchor Bar	16	10	6	16	102
3	Frog Club	16	9	7	22	99
4	Black Dragon	16	10	6	18	98
5	Shakers	16	10	6	22	96
6	Montes	16	9	7	16	94
7	Thunder Bar	16	6	10	14	86
8	Skylight II	16	8	8	10	76
9	Kata Spa Club	16	4	12	10	66
10	No Name Bar	16	2	14	4	45

For further information about the Patong Pool League call Murray at 086-1511600.

## Trisara concedes victory in Dusit tennis after leg injury

CHERNG TALAY: Tough competition in the 7<sup>th</sup> Dusit Thani Laguna Tennis Double Tournament 2008, held from August 29-31, took its toll on Ronnarong Boonplod, forcing the 36-year-old and his Trisara partner Veerawut Kalsaman to concede the Hotelier League final due to a leg injury.

The couple had played well throughout the annual round-robin tournament, which attracted nearly 40 doubles teams playing in two divisions: the Hotelier League and Open League.

However, due to the forced retirement, the day belonged to their opponents Sport Manager Amporn Nookong, 35, and Sport Officer Chavalit Samanmit, 36, from the Hilton Phuket Arcadia Resort & Spa, who were declared this year's winner of the Hotelier League.

Open League favorites former champion Vitoon Khuncharean, a 48-year-old Lands



**WINNERS ARE GRINNERS:** (from right) Amporn Nookong and Chavalit Samanmit (Hilton Arcadia) beat runners-up Veerawut Kalsaman and Ronnarong Boonplod (Trisara) to win the Hotelier League competition.

Department officer from Trang, and tennis pro Somporn Supanrat, also from Trang, did not disappoint their fans.

They defeated doubles team Danai Wuttikornpun, 47, from Phang Nga, and Somsak Samart,

a 37-year-old tennis pro from Krabi, by four sets to eight to win the Open League division.

After the finals, Dusit Thani Laguna Phuket Executive Assistant Manager Prinya Onlahoong handed out the awards.

## Novotel does Phuket proud in first international dragon boat outing

PENANG: In their first international competition, the Novotel Beach Resort Panwa dragon boat crew represented Phuket at the Penang Dragon Boat World Championships last month.

"They were keen to compete with the other teams and fared reasonably in the 200-meter events but lacked stamina in the 500m sprint.

"For a first outing, the Phuket team did marvelously well and the team spirit was superb," said organizer Mike Downard of Sail in Asia.

"Keep a look out for this team next year as they are a class act now and with some serious training schedules could become a force to be reckoned with," he added.

Almost 5,000 competitors forming 170 teams, including one from Bangkok, competed in the event. Teams came from as far away as Australia and Canada, which was represented by 20 teams.

"The standard of paddling was high with amazing stroke rates by some teams, notably the Chinese women's team, who paddled at 100 strokes for the first third of the course and dropped stroke

speed to 74 per minute for the remaining leg," Mr Downard said.

One team that made a great impression at the event was Australian MC. Even the women's teams from Singapore, Malaysia and Thailand were somewhat outclassed, he reported.

"Some female teams were women who had survived breast cancer and use the sport to improve their health after surgery and medication. They were evident in their fabulous sporting gear with their great team spirit," he said.

"The event was a great occasion for all and our appreciation must be expressed to our sponsors, particularly Hotel Travel Network and the Tourism Authority of Thailand," said Mr Downard.

"Sail in Asia, the Phuket Dragon Boat regatta organizers, gave out 2,500 invitations to the 170 teams and representatives who attended the event.

"Over 400 dragon boat team details were collected as a consequence of attending this major sporting occasion," he added.



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# Surfers make the most of small swell

By Pathomporn Kaenkrachang

**KAMALA:** While the rainy season monsoon usually brings big waves to the west coast of Phuket, surfers at the 6<sup>th</sup> Kamala GO Contest on August 30 and 31 had to show what they could do with small breakers to impress judges.

The contest was organized by the Phuket Boardriders Club and was held at the north end of Kamala Beach with surfers competing in two divisions: long-board and beginner.

The short-board division was canceled as the surf was considered too small for the faster boards.

More than 80 surfers took part, including local surfers as well as many from throughout Asia, where surfing is growing in popularity, as well as some from the US and the UK.

Phuket local Oliver Penmit won the beginner division, with "Jon Kata" finishing second and "Walid Kalim" finishing third.

Genevieve Jane Irwin, better known as DJ Gene from 95 FM, finished fourth.

Chalee Yampluem, another Phuket local, won the long-board division, followed by Noppasit Boonchaay, Ton Patong and "Hide" from Japan finishing second through fourth, respectively.

Many of the same surfers who competed in the Kamala comp are expected to take part



**IF IT SWELLS, RIDE IT:** Surfers at the 6<sup>th</sup> Kamala GO Contest on August 30 and 31 had to show off what they could do on small waves, not the thundering breakers that the rainy season usually brings.

in the 8<sup>th</sup> Phuket Surfing Contest 2008 at Kata Beach from September 5 to 7.

To enter the annual Phuket Surfing Contest in September, surfers can register by September 2 at the Education Department on the third floor of Karon Municipality Office or before 8:30 am at Kata Beach on September 5.

As with last year, there will be five divisions: long board open, short board open, grommet (youngsters), women's and a body board division.

About 120 surfers are expected to join, including defending champion Nopphasit "Koh" Bunchuai of Kata as well as lo-

cal surfers from Kamala, Surin, Kalim. The international contingent is expected to include surfers from Japan, England, the US, France, South Africa, Norway, Finland, Sweden, Australia, Philippines, Indonesia, Malaysia and Singapore.



Rotary Club of Patong Beach President Michael Massey (center) poses with winning team members (from left) Andy Joyce, James Wilson, Steve Lever and Mervyn Baines.

## Swingers a hit for charity

**CHERNG TALAY:** Forty four kindhearted golfers took part in the Rotary Club of Patong Beach charity golf tournament at the Laguna Phuket Golf Club on August 31 to raise funds for a baby girl who was born with a life-threatening disease.

Ruby Lester was born with DiGeorge's syndrome, a disease that requires heart surgery and extensive after-care to treat. As Ruby was born with the condition, no insurance company will pay for her treatment.

The winning team of Merv Baines, Steve Lever, Andy Joyce and James Wilson scored an impressive 11-under-par to win the event, which was held in a Four Man Texas Scramble format.

The tournament raised 50,000 baht for the Baby Ruby fund and was followed by a buffet dinner and prize-giving ceremony.

## Patong Darts League

### August 26 results:

Beach House\* 2, Queen Mary 7; Piccadilly\* 8, Simply Red 1; Hilltop 0, Offshore\* 9; Marker Bar\* 9, Dogs Bollocks 0 (forfeit); Shakers\* 4, Celtic 5; Sick Buffalo bye (\* winner of beer leg).

### Standings:

1. Piccadilly (86 points, 11bl); 2. Queen Mary (86,8); 3. Offshore\* (81); 4. Market Bar\* (74); 5. Sick Buffalo\* (67); 6. Shakers (65); 7. Beach House (57); 8. Dogs Bollocks (52); 9. Celtic (49); 10. Hilltop (42); 11. Simply Red (41) (\* have had bye week).

### September 9 match-ups:

Celtic vs Queen Mary; Sick Buffalo vs Offshore; Market Bar vs Shakers; Dogs Bollocks vs Simply Red; Hilltop vs Beach House; Piccadilly bye (home team first).

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## Decor

by Natcha Yuttaworawit

# Reproducing Chinese art decor

There's something inviting and mysterious about the look of antique Chinese furniture. It can fit in with the decor of a modern or rustic-styled abode.

It's that combination of boxy sturdiness and oriental elegance in dressers and chests of drawers of worn hardwoods painted with delicate designs. They evoke feelings of Far Eastern mystery in any abode.

But buying genuine antiques can be prohibitively expensive and many Chinese antiques are supposed to stay in China. So what do you do if you want to fill your home with oriental art decor but don't want to pay the equivalent of a trip on the Orient Express?

Well, antique enthusiasts Marc and Qing Qing de Champeaux have a variety of genuine Chinese antiques and quality reproductions of them in stock at their furniture import store, The Gallery, in Thalang.

Marc is a designer at heart and considers tables, chairs, lamps and cupboards much more than just pieces of furniture. He recognized his true passion and took control of his destiny as a designer at an early age. This probably has a lot to do with the artistically upbeat cities he spent his formative years growing up in.

A New Yorker by birth, Marc later moved to Paris and lived there until he was 19 before going on to study at Milan's International Design School.

"I started my first business in Milan. I designed lamps and some kinds of furniture," said Marc.

His creativity as a designer won him loyal customers and an award at one of the city's international trade fairs. Since then, Marc has also channeled his tal-



Designer Marc de Champeaux (right) and partner Qing Qing recently opened The Gallery in Thalang, which is stocked with real and reproduction antique furniture and art decor from China.

ents as a designer into garment design and he even designed his own house.

Marc's hands-on experience with oriental designs came later in life. He continued to create furniture designs influenced by the cultures he experienced as he moved around Asia, starting with Taiwan when he was 35 years old.

He stayed there a year before moving on to Korea and living there for almost a year. After that he spent four years in Hong Kong before settling in mainland China for 17 years.

While in China, Marc ventured away from furniture design to apply his creative skills to designing garments, many of which his 17 garment shops produced for some of Italy and France's well-known brand names in fashion clothing.

Having indulged and succeeded in the garment industry, Marc could afford to take time to choose where he wanted to go

next.

He decided on Phuket as the ideal location to set up shop to import antique and reproduction antique furniture from China, and get back to creating his own designer furniture.

"At first, I considered moving to Australia, but I eventually chose Phuket because it's not far from China. Phuket is the best location for this business as it's near the sea and easy to reach customers, plus it's convenient to travel from here when I want to visit the gallery in China," he said.

"All of the products here are either Chinese antique furniture or reproductions. They are all imported from China. We pay a great deal of attention to the quality of all the shop's furniture items and give the same care to the reproduction furniture as we do the antiques," he added, explaining that everything in the shop is carefully packed in China and shipped to Phuket.

"If you walk around the

store, you'll see many familiar paintings. They are all reproductions of the works of famous Chinese artist Yue Min Jun," said Marc.

Yue Min Jun is one of China's internationally renowned artists and seen as a "Cynical Realist". He is best known for oil paintings depicting himself frozen in laughter in various settings. One of the most significant of these reproductions is the painting *Massacre of Chios*. The real one fetched US\$4.1 million when it was sold at the Hong Kong Sotheby's recently.

Marc added that he strives to help customers create personalized interior designs of elegance to give them unique living experiences. He said this is best done by mixing modern and traditional styles of Chinese art decor and



furniture.

As well as reproduction art to hang on walls, furniture items on display in the shop include beds, chairs, cabinets, tables, lamps and ornaments with prices ranging from 15,000 to 80,000 baht.

The Gallery is located on Thepkasatree Road in Thalang. Take the turnoff for Route 4031 toward the airport. For more info call Marc directly. Tel: 089-8662346. Email: marc@nwe-thegallery.com



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## Construction

by Janyaporn Morel

# Phuket Villa enters Patong condo market

PATONG: Starting just last month, construction of the Phuket Villa Patong Beach condominium project on three rai near Baan Zaan market on Phang Muang Sai Gor Rd is slated for completion by the end of August 2010.

Sales and Marketing Manager Pongsapak Upatising explained to the *Gazette* that after having been successful in the real estate business for more than 17 years, Phuket Villa Group has now started focusing on condominiums in Patong due to the resort town's tourist attractions.

Khun Pongsapak is the son of former Phuket Senator Paiboon Upatising, who is currently president of the Phuket Provincial Administration Organization (*OrBorJor*).

K. Paiboon and his family are well known for their Phuket Villa housing developments in and

around Phuket City.

United Property Co Ltd, an affiliate company under Phuket Villa Group, is the developer of the new seven-story condominium building, which will house 201 condo units.

The company's successful history of building high towers in Bangkok, including the Forum Tower, Lascolinas Tower and Asoke Place Tower, gave Phuket Villa the confidence to take United Property on as the developer, Khun Pongsapak explained.

Phuket Villa Patong Beach condominium building will be an L-shape, designed in tropical modern style.

The building will be home to eight different room types, varying in size from 43 square meters up to 81sqm, all with full-furniture packages included.



The condo tower, located on the new road behind Jungceylon in Patong, will be home to 201 apartments.

Khun Pongsapak said that the project has received good feedback since its units were launched on the market two months ago. "Although the official sales office at the site is due to open this month, we have already sold 65% [of the total area for sale] off-plan.

"Much of the interest has been from local Phuket customers, thanks to the good reputation of the Phuket Villa housing es-

tates. Almost all our customers are old customers from Phuket Villa projects who want to invest in condominiums in Patong," he said.

"We sell our units according to Thailand's property law, which allows foreign freehold ownership of not more than 49% of the total area being sold. But now that 65% [of the total area for sale] has been sold to Thais, the remaining 35% can be sold

freehold to foreigners," he added.

The Patong condo block will comprise 87 one-bedroom, one-bathroom Type A units with 43 sqm living space; 57 one-bedroom, one-bathroom Type B units with 63 sqm living space; 26 two-bedroom, two bathroom Type C units with 81sqm of living area; seven 42sqm Type D studios; and six units each of one- and two-bedroom Type E, F, G and H units with living areas from 56sqm to 69sqm.

Prices for the units range from 3.4 million baht up to 7.2 million baht.

"There will be other facilities on site, such as a large 8m by 20m swimming pool, fitness center, car park in the basement, lobby and a management office," said K. Pongsapak.

"We are confident in our project as we are in a prime location near all the facilities that Patong has to offer. We are close to Jungceylon shopping mall and not far from Patong Beach.

"We have rental pool management on site and full hotel services available, which help owners who want to rent out their rooms, making these condos good investments.

"This has been one of the major selling points that has helped our project to sell very quickly," he added.

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## PROPERTY WATCH

By Bill Barnett

**M**uch will be written in the coming days about the stunning effects of the sudden closure of the Phuket International Airport. As I type this, no doubt the latest news ages faster than a fine cheese left out in the tropical sun in our world of instant media.

As an observer of property and tourism, I have no intention to enter into or comment on the current state of political issues facing the country. I'm not a Thai national and frankly speaking it's a choice to live in a foreign country – expatriates learn to accept the good, the bad and the ugly that they encounter.

The events of August 29-31 have touched my life, my business and certainly have long-term implications for the future. In my own field of choice it's always important to keep a positive spin on downturns and crises no matter how severe. Damage control is an essential survival skill.

Over the past 12-18 months, with the coup, displacement of Thaksin, ongoing change of leadership and now the PAD action, here in Phuket the story has been, "In Phuket, things down here are different."

At times, while we are not entirely isolated from happenings in Bangkok, the most plausible pitch to tourists and investors alike has been through our door-to-door access from overseas, sending the message of relative calm on an island paradise.

However, in a single day, these of us in Phuket were thrown into the eye of a storm that has made international headlines and has become a pawn in a much larger game of chess.

On Friday August 29, I was looking forward to a laid-back weekend; maybe going to see a movie and kicking back to enjoy a nice spate of sunny weather.



While People's Alliance for Democracy protestors blocked the entrance to Phuket International airport, tourists arriving on the island were forced to clamber over security fences to get to their hotels.

# Phuket rolls up the welcome mat

That came to a sudden halt as phone calls rolled in from a close friend in Sweden who owns a villa in Layan. He was flying in for his wife's birthday and to meet a group of business associates who had been prevented from entering the airport – unable to catch their flight to Singapore.

Next were the calls from some overseas investment firms who were scheduled with appointments early in the week asking for information.

Despite having lived on the island for seven years and having good hotel and other connections, it was amazing how little anyone knew or was able to advise.

I can only imagine the uncertainty of the tourists arriving and having to scale fences and plodding distances of more than

a kilometer down the beach with baggage or those scheduled to leave for home not knowing how or when they could leave.

Having lived in Asia for close to 23 years, I've lived through the People's Power movement, the ousting of Ferdinand Marcos, six coups during Cory Aquinos' tenure, the departure of strongman Suharto and Jakarta riots, Asian financial crises, a tsunami and while living in the highlands of Papua New Guinea, finding myself stuck in a hotel in the middle of tribal war – complete with flying arrows. Let's just say I have experienced many risky situations in other countries compared to the average tourist.

Speaking to the average tourist about the situation, words such as "civil war", "evacuation" and "perceived harm to family

members" were voiced by many. The tragedy of the matter was the lack of up-to-date information about the situation, be it from the TAT, Phuket International Airport authorities, the government or any formal body. Someone needed to take control of the situation and take care of the many visitors to our island. This was left to the private sector – to hotels and the service economy – who remain the unsung heroes of this saga.

At a recent Raimon Land round-table function in Phuket that had a wide range of attendance from leading business and important Thai executives from Thai Airways, the Tourism Authority of Thailand (TAT) and the Thai Hotel Association, one overriding sentiment on the key selling point of Phuket was the qual-

ity of hospitality.

At the end of the day "Thainess" is what draws people here, from the simple smiles, graciousness of our local hosts to world-class cuisine. It's easy to make Phuket your home. You feel wanted, cared for and relaxed.

While we keep making our hotels bigger, more upscale brands and ultra luxury products keep upping the ante. What fundamentally draws visitors and investors here is a unique and exotic culture with warm and friendly people.

What happened on August 29 runs counter to everything this island and tourism stand for, and for nearly two days, the welcome mats were rolled up. Just like the well-known lyrics from the classic Eagles song, Phuket became Hotel California – where you can check-in but can never leave...

As we move into high season, the increasing hotel and property supply needs stability and peace in order to erase the effects of a tarnished image.

Tourism is the number-one earner in Phuket, and the day-to-day livelihoods of the hospitality, service and property sectors run deep into every economic segment of the population.

Hopefully, there have been lessons learned and – as stated many times in this column – the need for a definitive province-wide dedicated visitors' body would go a long way to being able to actively engage the entire tourism infrastructure in crises such as this.

As I finish writing this, the airport has been reopened. But at the same time, the Internet is buzzing with pictures of stranded tourists and angry visitors vowing never to return.

We've been damaged, but there remain the wonderful elements here that keep visitors and residents calling Phuket their place in the sun.

It's nice to have the welcome mat out again, but certainly some work is left to clean up the debris from the weekend's foray.

*Bill Barnett is managing director of C9 Hotelworks (c9hotelworks.com), a Phuket-based hotel and residential property consulting firm. With more than 20 years' experience in the region, he has played an active role in some of the island's biggest developments.*

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## Home of the Week

## Nai Harn



The home is in a secure, gated development and features a private 9m x 5m pool, replete with fountain and adjoining sala to relax in.



# Quiet community living

**T**his spacious, elegant and sophisticated three-bedroom pool villa is nestled in an exclusive fully-gated estate with 24-hour security in Nai Harn, just five minutes' drive to Nai Harn Beach and a 10-minute drive to Kata Beach.

Several shops and restaurants in the area are also within walking distance. The home is on a 422-square-meter plot and has been built to high Western standards in a design using fine materials and furniture to create a blend of elegance and functionality.

The two-story villa has a

private 9x5-meter pool with a cascading fountain and sala set in the property's well-maintained garden. The lower floor offers a large living and dining area with an open-plan kitchen and large, teak sliding doors that open onto the pool area.

The three bedrooms are all upstairs. One of them currently set up as a study. The master bedroom and second bedroom both have en-suite bathrooms and come furnished with built-in wardrobes and dimmer switches for the lighting.

The master bedroom also has a broad balcony from which



there is a dramatic view of the nearby hills.

The buyer of this home will be able to move straight in as it is equipped with high-quality appliances and fixtures, such as a home theater, lighting controls, a

wine fridge and a fully-fitted kitchen with built-in cupboards.

The house can be conveniently accessed from the covered carport, where there are also maid's quarters with a bathroom. These rooms can be accessed

separately from the house to ensure privacy. A covered walkway surrounds the villa.

The surrounding community offers a very private environment; making it ideal as a holiday home that can be rented out or as permanent residence.

The common area of the gated community has a number of well-maintained features, including a large pool with water jets, a large covered sala, a tropical landscaped garden and a clubhouse. The property comes with Chanote title and is on the market for 19 million baht.

For more information about this property contact Diane Stoffel at Phuket Premier Property. Quote reference number BB12. Tel: 076-289702. Email: [diane@phuketpremierproperty.com](mailto:diane@phuketpremierproperty.com)

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# Property Gazette

## Properties For Sale

### LARGE POOL VILLAS



near Boat Lagoon marina. Tel: 089-8731019. More details and pictures at: [www.phuketexclusiveholiday.com](http://www.phuketexclusiveholiday.com)

### AO POR LAND FOR SALE



150 rai. Nor Sor 3 Gor, sea view. Priced from 2.5 million baht per rai. No agents. Please contact by email: [allservices29@gmail.com](mailto:allservices29@gmail.com)

### CLUB LERSUANG CONDOS

for resale. Prices: 6.2, 7.5, 5.59, 5.5 million baht. Tel: 089-1956822.

### HOUSE, NAI YANG

for sale, airport area, 800m to beach, 4 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, new, 300sqm. Tel: 080-5358767, (US) 0011-7808584.

### OCEANFRONT VILLA

Chalong direct beachfront, 3 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, pool, furnished. 35 million baht obo. Tel: 087-2095174.

### CHERNG TALAY VILLA

4 bedrooms, ensuite, 8x3m pool, 500sqm, garden. Only 23 million baht. Tel: 089-1956822.

### MISSION HILL LAND

2,732 sqm. 2.25 million baht/rai (800sqm). 1.25 million baht. Close to golf course. Tel: 083-6473509, 087-2945737.

### PANORAMIC SEA VIEW



Seaview pool villa overlooking Karon Beach. Sale direct from Swiss builder/owner. Very affordable, favorable proprietary rights for foreigners. Documentation and pics available. Tel: 089-5938690. Email: [ruen\\_narayan@hotmail.com](mailto:ruen_narayan@hotmail.com)

### TOWNHOUSE IN THE PROJECT 'THE INDY'

At the entrance to BIS. Townhouse is at the corner and adjacent to the project's public garden. 2 floors, 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, 6.5 meters wide. Land: 32 sq wah. Tel: 089-4729118.

### BRAND-NEW SINGLE HOUSE

for sale at Baan Suan Loch Palm. Area: 480 sqm. 2 stories, 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms. 10.5 million baht. Tel: 087-2799500.

### FOREIGN FREEHOLD

condominium in Rawai, 250m from the pier. 580,000 baht. Tel: 086-9408914. Email: [rawai1@yahoo.com](mailto:rawai1@yahoo.com)

### HOUSE IN KATHU

2 storeys, 3 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, patio, garden. 86sq wah, 7.4 million baht. Tel: 081-9565650, 089-6469278. Photos, map and more details at [www.kathu-property.com](http://www.kathu-property.com)

### ON THE BEACH

2-bedroom apartment in north Patong. Foreign freehold, top floor, swimming pools. 9.7 million baht. Tel: 086-2765117. Email for photos: [jihshand@gmail.com](mailto:jihshand@gmail.com)

### NICE PLOT

near Layan Hills Estate and pool villas project. Chanote title and road access on 4 sides of the plot. 4.5 million baht. Tel: 081-5399269.

### NEW HOUSE NAI HARN-RAWAI



3-story house villa, sea view, hill view, garden, pool, 4 bedrooms, 2 en suites, 6 bathrooms, ADSL. Jacuzzi, big living room, kitchen/dining, laundry room. 5 aircons. Private pool 8x3.5m, 2 parking spaces. Chanote. 18 million baht. Tel: 081-6779837, 089-6464786. Email: [sync\\_koji@hotmail.com](mailto:sync_koji@hotmail.com)

### NEW HOUSE FOR SALE/RENT

2-story house. 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, fully furnished, True TV. Internet. 300m from Heroines' Monument, toward Pa Khlok. For sale at 3.7 million baht, rent: 25,000 baht/month. Tel: 087-2646808, 083-1743880.

### PATONG TOWER CONDO

1 bedroom, furnished, on 6th floor. Hill view. Only 5 million baht. Call for details. Tel: 085-7839062.

### 2-STORY HOUSE

5.5 million baht. 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 72sq wah with some furniture at Villa Samkong. Contact K. Nan. Tel: 081-6779837. Email: [knahnies@hotmail.com](mailto:knahnies@hotmail.com) or [okika\\_j@hotmail.com](mailto:okika_j@hotmail.com)

### VILLA & LAND

Villa near Heroines' Monument, built 2007, 4 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, 2 kitchens, pool, furnished. Living space: 450sqm. Land: 1,400sqm. 12.9 million baht. Also: Land: 1,100sqm, 2.5 million baht. Tel: 084-6907057.

### HOUSE NEAR BIS

2-story house with 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, ample parking space and nice landscaping. Total area: 336sqm. 4.5 million baht. Tel: 089-7247073. Email: [jutima021@hotmail.com](mailto:jutima021@hotmail.com)

### BIG HOUSE, RANONG

4 bedrooms, 5 bathrooms, 6 aircons, decorated with high-quality wood. Nice house. Tel: 083-1036578.

### PARICHART VILLAGE, CHALONG



35/20 Soi 1. 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 aircons, some furniture, 50sq wah, garden. For sale at 4 million baht or for long-term rent. Must see. Contact Nina. Tel: 087-6899679. Email: [tasuwan@hotmail.com](mailto:tasuwan@hotmail.com). No agents.

### LAND AT PA KHLOK



49 rai, nice flat land, Chanote, 2.5km from Heroines' Monument. Price: 1.7 million baht per rai. Tel: 083-1802143.

### PERFECT LAND

Nearly 2 rai at Bang Tao. Very good location for business. Price: 18 million baht. No agents. Tel: 086-9442065, 087-6899679. Email: [tasuwan@hotmail.com](mailto:tasuwan@hotmail.com)

### BRAND-NEW ESTATE HOMES

in Cherng Talay, serviced pool villas, 2 bedrooms at 6 million baht. Tel: 089-1956822.

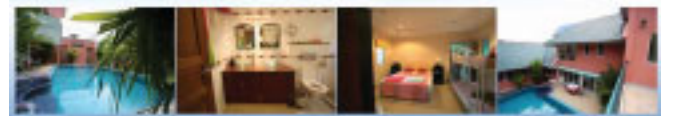
### NEW HOUSE

in Srisuchart Grand Ville 3. 47.5sq wah, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, some furnishings. Located in Phuket City, near Tesco-Lotus. 2.8 million baht (negotiable). Contact to view. Tel: 087-2770978.

### LAND AT RAWAI

Very good location, 1 rai, B4.3m. Also have one house for sale in Rawai, 100sq wah, B3.3m. Tel: 084-6268105.

## Rawai house



3-4 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms at Rawai Beach high-end building materials and furniture. Asking price: 220,000 Euro.

Email: [png.phuket@gmail.com](mailto:png.phuket@gmail.com)

### KARON SEA VIEW



Located between Centara Karon Resort and Secret Cliff Resort. 10.5 rai with Chanote. Very good location for business (hotel & resort). Asking price: 250 million baht. No agents. Please call: 087-2709093 or email [a.pueng@gmail.com](mailto:a.pueng@gmail.com)

### 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.

### PERFECT LAND FOR SALE

on the main road to Cherng Talay and Surin. 43 rai, 1 ngan, 85sq wah. For sale by owner. 5.5 million baht per rai. Tel: 081-9562406. Email: [phatsarar@gmail.com](mailto:phatsarar@gmail.com)

### CORNER SHOPHOUSE

Cherng Talay, brand new, 3 stories, near main road. Only 5 million baht. Tel: 089-1956822.

### KOH YAO YAI

2 rai, water, electricity. Chanote. Price: 500,000 baht per rai. Also, 3.2 rai, sea view, 2 million baht. Tel: 081-892-8208.

### BRAND-NEW VILLA

Near Chalong Circle. 2 stories, swimming pool, 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, 2 kitchens, 3 aircons, quiet and nice place. Tel: 080-5322136 (Thai), 087-8907561 (Eng). Website: [www.katahouseforsale.com](http://www.katahouseforsale.com)

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# Property Gazette

## FOREIGN FREEHOLD WATERFRONT



condo. Boat Lagoon. 2-story corner unit, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 parking spaces, 196sqm, includes boat mooring, fully furnished. 8.8 million baht. Tel: 089-8736592. Email: boat2345@hotmail.com

## 3-BEDROOM HOUSE



2 minutes from international school. 3 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, fully furnished. Tel: 081-8953649.

## PANORAMIC SEA VIEW



Karon land for sale. 15 rai, Chanote title. Hillside, panoramic sea view, quiet area. Very good location for business. 15 million baht per rai. No agents. Please contact by email: allservices29@gmail.com

## TRANG LAND



for sale. 3 rai in Baan Po, Muang, Trang. Very good location for business, suitable for house projects. Electricity access, road. Sale by owner. With Chanote. Price: 7 million baht ono. No agents please. Tel: 075-210646, 087-2709093. Email: a.pueng@gmail.com

## HEAVEN ON EARTH



5-bedroom, Thai-style villa in Phuket. Magnificent Phang Nga Bay view. 3 big bedrooms (en suite) with sea views. Private swimming pool. 730.8sqm land plot. Construction area approx 573sqm. Full security service. Located at Rommai Chailay Estate. 27 million baht. Tel: 081-7191705. Email: layan@loxinfo.co.th

## RAWAI SEAVIEW TOWNHOUSE



For sale or rent. Pool, 2 or 3 bedrooms. Price negotiable. Tel: 086-2832279.

## BEACH FRONT, 5.9 MILLION BAHT



Beautiful piece of land opposite Yacht Haven Marina. Ready to build on, road access, water, electricity. 7 rai with more than 180m of beach frontage. For quick sale. Only 5.9 million baht per rai. Tel: 081-3430777.

## EXECUTIVE POOL VILLA

Koh Kaew, 5 bedrooms, 5x14m pool, apartment, extras. 28 million baht. Tel: 089-1956822.

**KATA BEACH HOUSE**  
Reduced to 2.1 million baht. Only 1 minute to the beach. Owner moving. Chanote. Tel: 084-8405834.

## 50 RAI WITH CHANOTE TITLE

Phang Nga, 8km from city center, 30 rai of powered, licensed factory for meat + fish, walk-in fridge and freezer. 8,000 hardwood trees planted on 20 rai. Genuine sale. Tel: 087-2694083.

## EXCEPTIONAL BARGAIN

House located in desirable and secure estate for sale at 6.9 million baht. 3 bedrooms (2 en-suite baths), 3 bathrooms, living room, study, kitchen/dining, storage/laundry room. Verandas up and downstairs, fitted furnishings, ADSL & True TV. Fenced garden approx 500sqm, use of estate clubhouse and swimming pool nearby. Tel: 084-8439579. Fax: 076-323-421. Email: somlerdee@yahoo.com

## GARDEN VILLA AT BAAN SAKOO



on 1 rai with 3 big bungalows and 1 big house. 7 bedrooms & bathrooms, swimming pool, fully furnished, 2km to Nai Yang Beach and 5 minutes to Phuket International Airport. Only 9 million baht. Tel: 087-2709093, 087-6899679. Email: png.phuket@gmail.com

## LAND IN KATHU

Fabulous, elevated block opposite national park in Kathu. 1360sqm. Nor Sor 3 Gor. Comes with architect's plans for house and building permit. 6.4 million baht. Tel: 089-6498703.

## HACIENDA POOL

house. Cherng Talay, garden, 4 bedrooms, furnished, ready to move in. Only 9.5 million baht. Tel: 089-1956822.

## KOH SAMUI SEAVIEW LAND

Hillside sea view on Koh Samui. Size: 3,200sqm (2 rai). Chanote. Tel: 02-2771992, 083-6113020. Fax: 02-961-0072. Email: pharawee@yahoo.com For details visit www.lovesamui.com

## MY WIFE GAMBLLED

So now you get it cheap. Land and/or house for sale. Tel: 086-6831964.

## 2 HOMES, 2 BLOCKS

Chalong tropical views. 3, 4 bedrooms, pools. 5.5, 8.5 million baht. Tel: 086-2817605. For further details, please see our website at www.phuket-house-land.com

## KAMALA TOWNHOUSE



near Phuket FantaSea, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, car park. 3.2 million baht, negotiable. Email: png.phuket@gmail.com

## KATA SEAVIEW POOL VILLA

Brand-new, 4 bedrooms, 3 floors, easy access. 19 million baht. Tel: 089-1956822.

## RAWAI VILLA WITH POOL

Brand-new, 3 bedrooms, salt-water pool, steam sauna. 650sqm land, 220sqm villa, Chanote, double walls, tropical garden. Must see and a great price. Finance or trade-in is possible. 5% commission for agents. Tel: 085-7831890.

## KATA BEACH VILLA

New, 6 bedrooms, 7 bathrooms, pool. 20 million baht or rent. Tel: 081-0918908. Email: stein\_dokset@hotmail.com

## MISSION HILLS LAND

2,732 sqm. 2.25 million baht/rai (800sqm). 1.25 million baht. Close to golf course. Tel: 083-6473509, 087-2945737.

## LOCH PALM VILLA

at Baan Suan. Lovely villa with large plot including pool and sala. 20.9 million baht. Tel: 081-9241447.

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# Property Gazette

## SPECIAL PROMOTION SALE



11 big new luxury villas in Kamala with private pool. Modern Thai-Balinese style. 24-hour security in a gated community. Exclusive location a few minutes from beach and town center. Built in natural surroundings on flat land with a very good hill view. Chanote. 4 bedrooms. Fully fitted modern kitchen. All bedrooms with separate bathrooms and built-in cupboards. Jacuzzi. Rooms have aircon. Freehold or leasehold. 2 showhomes fully furnished. Ready now. From 21 million baht. Contact for more information. Tel: 076-279289, 086-2742308. Email: kamalaparadise@yahoo.com Website: www.kamalaparadise.com

## LAND PLOT, 2.3 MILLION BAHT

900sqm land plot with underground electricity and water supply in quiet, secure community next to Mission Hills Golf Course. For sale at only 2.3 million baht. No agents please. Tel: 081-2712825.

## NAI HARN LAND

700sqm. Residential area, road, electricity, water, fully fenced, ready to build on. Chanote. 4 million baht. Tel: 087-8821959.

## REAL ESTATE, PA KHLOK



Mini villa, Pa Khlok. 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms deluxe. Turnkey. 3% finder fee. 2.75 million baht. English: 084-5078140. Thai: 089-1975713.

## THALANG, PA KHLOK - CHEAP

Single house, 190sqm, with big fruit tree garden, 2 bedrooms with aircon, 2 bathrooms, living room, kitchen, one room without aircon, storeroom, carport, 30-year-old fruit trees, more than 1 rai, Chanote title, surrounded by wall. 5 million baht ono. Call Kamonwan Laohasunthatham at 084-4454574.

## KAMALA SEAVIEW LAND

6 rai with Chanote. Can be divided. All with good sea view. Road, water & electricity supply. Priced from 6 million baht per rai. Tel: 086-2742308. Email: kim@kamalafalls.com

## LAGUNA TOWNHOME

Brand-new. Lake view. Only 18 million baht for quick sale. Tel: 089-1956822.

## BEACHFRONT LAND

Beautiful breathtaking view on Koh Lanta, 20 minutes from Trang and 45 minutes from Krabi Airport. Road access, electricity, water, Chanote title. 4.5 rai. Only 1 million baht/rai. Quick sale. Tel: 084-8419794, 087-8821959.

## HOUSE WITH AMAZING SEA VIEW



in Rawai. Super-modern, furnished, 3-story house, 2 bedrooms and 2 bathrooms. All rooms are air-conditioned. Alarm system, water filter system, large private pool and safe car parking space. 320sqm block of land with Chanote title. The price is only 11.5 million baht. Email: png.phuket@gmail.com

## BEACH SHOPHOUSE

Kamala 5-bedroom perfect guesthouse. Great investment. 25 million baht. Tel: 089-1956822.

## MUST SELL FAST

155-sqm, 3-bedroom house on 1.54-rai of land. Worth 4 million baht but will take 2.5 million or best offer over 2 million for quick sale. Tel: 084-8524257. Email: bobcoppage@yahoo.com

## LAND PLOTS FOR SALE, LAYAN

2 land plots close to Layan Beach, ready to build on. 900 sqm & 856sqm. 5,000 baht per sqm. Great location in private estate. Tel: 081-8911826, 081-8912926. Fax: 076-238940. Email: kevinq@loxinfo.co.th



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## + WOODLANDS HOUSE



Largest lot 1,320sqm. Private corner villa, 5 bedrooms, 2 stories with open loft. 52sqm pool. Large sala & guest house. 10-min walk to BIS. Rent to own option. 28.5 million baht ono. Tel: 089-6527818, +8529-6868475.

## LAND IN KAMALA



Flat land from 1 rai up to 51 rai. Good road, electricity supply. Only 2 minutes from beach and center. Prices from 9.5 million baht per rai. Tel: 086-2742308. Email: kim@kamalafalls.com

## 3 BEDROOMS; NEAR BIS SCHOOL

3-bedroom waterfront townhouse for sale. Tel: 076-273466. Fax: 076-238948. Email: info@phuketpropertytrip.com For further details, see our website at: www.phuketpropertytrip.com

## BANGKOK/ PRACHUAP PROPERTY

High-end condos, beach houses and commercial properties for sale. Tel: 081-9944492. Email: julian@phuketsail.com Details www.phuketsail.com/property

## SEA VIEW IN KAMALA

Small plots, 1 rai. Very good sea view. Road, water & electricity supply with Chanote. Priced from 7.5 million per rai. Tel: 087-6050365. Email: tim@kamalaparadise.com

## BEAUTIFUL RAWAI

Units and houses from 2,000,000 baht.

Please contact Warren Crowe: 081-2704291.  
Email: thailandmls@gmail.com

## THE WHITE HOUSE VILLA



for sale (27.5 million baht) or for rent. The White House Villa is one of the finest tropical pool villas in Patong. Best location for nightlife and touring Phuket. Located high on the hill above the Amari Coral Beach Resort at the south end of Patong. No agents! Email: png.phuket@gmail.com

## MISSION HILLS LAND

Two 1.5-rai plots for sale in the heart of Mission Hills Golf Course. Tel: 081-8911826, 081-8912926. Fax: 076-238940. Email: kevinq@loxinfo.co.th

## BAAN RIM TARN

Resale of pool villa in Cherng Talay resort saves you 2 million baht. Only 1.95 million baht. Tel: 089-1956822.

## 3-BEDROOM HOUSE

In housing estate near Heroines' Monument. 2.3 million baht. Tel: 089-9732917. Email: brunuiviv@hotmail.com

## PATONG CONDO RENT/SALE

Rent: 11,000 baht per month. Swimming pool, near beach and Jungceylon. Aircon, TV, DVD. Sunny 32sqm. For sale at 1.8 million baht. Foreign-owned freehold. Tel: 087-1731773, 089-4746670. Email: seanthepilot@hotmail.com

## SEA VIEW IN KAMALA



Small plots from 1 rai up to 100 rai with very good sea view. A few minutes from city center and beaches. Chanote, road, electricity & water supply. Priced from 6.5 million baht per rai. Tel: 086-2742308. Email: kim@kamalafalls.com

## PATONG SERVICED FLAT

in resort, 20m from beach, 2 bedrooms, rental return. 9.7 million baht. Tel: 089-1956822.

## KARON LUXURY OCEANFRONT

18th floor condo in guarded 5-star high rise, just steps to beach and pool. Spacious (110 sqm), fitness, spa, tennis. 8.5 million baht. Also for long-term lease with furniture @ 45,000 baht per month. Tel: +1-480-234-5608. Email: topviewhome@yahoo.com For further details, please see our website at: http://phuketfurnishedapartments.com

## 100 RAI OF SEAVIEW LAND

in Kamala. Perfect for resort. 7.5 million baht per rai, has Chanote. Tel: 085-7839062.

## NICE 5-BEDROOM HOUSE

Perfect house for a family, ready to move in. Five bedrooms and bathrooms, close to Central Festival and Rawai Beach. Tel: 081-8915296. Email: hkthomesale18@yahoo.com For further details, please see our website. www.jikkycar.com

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# Property Gazette

## Properties For Rent

### NEW RAWAI POOL DUPLEX



1, 2 or 3 bedrooms. 12,000 baht per month. 300m to the beach. ADSL. Tel: 086-9408914. Email: rawai1@yahoo.com

### AMAZING SEA VIEWS



Large house with tropical gardens, 4 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, fully furnished, pool, security, 10 mins to British International School. 80,000 baht per month. Tel: 086-2796283.

### HOUSE FOR RENT, THALANG

3-bedroom, 2-bathroom house for rent immediately at Pa Khlok, Thalung, 800m from Heroines' Monument (located at Baan Suan Naramit 5, Moo 8). Fully furnished, ADSL, laundry, garden, kitchen fitted with Fagor oven. 23,000 baht/month or 21,000 baht/month for 1-year contract. Call 081-8512280 (English/Thai). Email: dennis.mo@hotmail.com

### STUDIO APARTMENT KAMALA

Aircon, True TV, near beach, pool, kitchen, private car park. 12,000 baht per month. Tel: 084-8500568.

**NEW CHALONG HOME**  
2-bedroom furnished home for rent. Phone line, True TV, aircon. Tel: 089-6521473.

**NICE TOWNHOME**  
for rent, 2 bedrooms, fully furnished. Tel: 086-7426989. Email: jayhero@msn.com

### NEW HOUSE



Semi-detached house near Dowrung School, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, unfurnished or furnished, small garden, security 24 hours. 12,000 baht per month. Tel: 081-6078567. Email: suksavat@hotmail.com

### PATONG



For more information email a.pueng@gmail.com

### 35,000 BAHT PER MONTH



Rawai pool villa. 4 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, ADSL, near the beach. Tel: 086-9408914. Email: rawai1@yahoo.com

### NICE AND COZY HOUSE FOR RENT



Furnished and excellent location, 5 mins from Rawai and 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-collection service. Please contact K. Nui. Tel: 087-3830936.

### THE WHITE HOUSE VILLA



for rent or sale (27.5 million baht). The White House Villa is one of the finest tropical pool villas in Patong. Best location for nightlife and touring Phuket. Located high on the hill above the Amari Coral Beach Resort at the south end of Patong. No agents. Email: png.phuket@gmail.com

### LARGE 2BED CONDO, PATONG VIEW

Our condo is currently available for the Xmas/New Year period and we are offering an early-bird special discount of 5% on any bookings made before 30 Sept 08. We are located at the northern end of Patong, but are only a 5-minute walk to the beach, shops, restaurants and nightlife. Tel: +85-2-28136093, +85-2-61004034. Email: casajope@yahoo.com

### RAWAI VILLA

3 bedrooms with pool. 30,000 baht per month, min 6 months. Tel: 087-8884895.

### PATONG TOWER CONDO

1-bedroom luxury apartment with sea view. Fully furnished, Cable/Sat TV/DVD, Wi-Fi. Tel: +44-79-77575685. Email: terrydv8@hotmail.com

### PATONG APARTMENT

2 bedrooms, furnished, air conditioning, shot- and long-term. Tel: 081-0877743. Visit www.shophousephuket.com

### RAWAI FLAT

Fully furnished, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, living room, kitchen, swimming pool, balcony, cable, ADSL. Tel: 081-6067410.

### NEW HOUSE IN NAI HARN-RAWAI



for rent. 3-story villa, sea view, mountain view, garden, pool, 4 bedrooms with 2 en-suites, 6 bathrooms, ADSL, Jacuzzi. Big living room, kitchen/dining, laundry room. 5 aircons. Private 8m x 3.5m pool. 2 car park spaces. Tel: 081-6779837, 089-646-4786. Email: sync\_koji@hotmail.com

### 3-BEDROOM HOUSE

Furnished, ADSL, cable TV, aircon. Near Heroines' monument. 18,000 baht/month. Tel: 086-2778461. Email: brunuiviv@hotmail.com

### HOUSE WITH POOL

Chalong Sunpalm Village, cozy, quiet, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, fully-equipped kitchen, partly furnished. 28,000 baht per month. No agents. Tel: 081-7280140. Email: jahellner@yahoo.com

### SUPER RENTAL OFFER

Discovery Garden, 2 bedrooms, houses with common pool, from 30,000 baht per month. Tel: 089-1956822.

### KAMALA HILLS APARTMENT

Super 3-bedroom, furnished, ground-floor condo. Internet, parking lot and security. On spectacular estate. 28,500 baht monthly. Tel: 076-317-534, 081-3977598. Email: kajoda1954@yahoo.co.uk

### RAWAI BEACHFRONT



house for rent. 3 bedrooms, aircon, True TV, ADSL, furnished. 1-year contract. Contact Gina. Tel: 089-6499939.

### HOUSE IN CHALONG

for rent near Palai Beach. 2 and 3 bedrooms, aircon, fully furnished, ADSL, car park. Tel: 089-7288311.

### HOUSE IN RAWAI

12,000 baht per month, fan, hot water, 1 bedroom, car park, fenced, 29" TV with cable, quiet, safe area. Available Oct 10/08 to April 6/09. Tel: 087-2668728.

### EAST COAST VILLAS

Best seaview unit, 2 bedrooms, furniture, True TV, pool. 48,000 baht/month. Tel: 087-0789707.

### B.L. APARTMENT

New in Kathu. Big rooms, 1 bedroom, living room, aircon, cable TV, ADSL, hot shower, garden, car park. 8,000 baht per month. Tel: 081-6923163.

### NEAR BIS: 3-BED POOL VILLA

70,000 baht per month for long term rent. New, modern, fully-furnished, on compound of six behind the Boat Lagoon. Includes gym, water, Wi-Fi, cable TV/DVD, pool and garden maintenance, security, pool speakers, linen and kitchenware. Tel: 084-7839054. Email: oggyowen@yahoo.com

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Bang Tao Beach







# Boats & Marine

## DINGHY FOR SALE

3.1m, 15hp Yamaha. Tel: 081-7874690.

## DIVE/SNORKEL/ FISHING

Boat for sale 20m/6m, 7 cabins. Tel: 081-7874690.

## NEW 10-METER CATAMARAN

Wood-epoxy composite, 4 double cabins, 32sqm sail area. 9hp Honda. 490,000 baht. Tel: 087-4618089.

## 17.5-METER DIVING BOAT



For sale or charter. Width 4.5m. Diesel engine, 320hp generator at 20kw. Capacity: 30 people. Great buy. Price: 490,000 baht. Tel: 081-9680571.

## BRAND-NEW BOAT

Brand-new flybridge boat. Fiberglass. Offers. Email: jkgk24@hotmail.com

## ESTABLISHED BIG GAME



Fishing. company in Phuket for sale.

- Tour license

- Similar licence + Website

For pictures Email: paweenaya@hotmail.com or ivararne@hotmail.com Tel: 086-9462494, 087-2765323. Fax: 076-282-092. www.mahimahi.as

## SKI & WAKEBOARD BOAT

19ft, fiberglass, 300hp Mercruiser, tower tow, trailer + many extras, must sell quickly. 240,000 baht. Contact for more details. Tel: 086-2697138. Email: tye\_cotter@yahoo.com.au

## CARVER 500 COCKPIT

Carver USA is well known for its solid design and comfort. This example is most probably the best one around and it is here in Phuket. Nothing has been spared on equipment or maintenance. She was extensively refitted in 2007 and is to a very high standard. With only 950 main engine hours, a 57,000 BTU aircon, 25.5KVA Genset and a water maker onboard, she is very well suited for the conditions here in Phuket, and she is awaiting your inspection. Contact Simpson Marine. Tel: 076-239768.

## MUSTANG 2800 SPORT CRUISER

One very remarkable sport cruiser. Fully serviced and maintained from new with only light engine hours. An extensive equipment list with custom features makes this one stand out. Not to be missed. Thai registered. Selling for only 3.6 million baht. Contact Simpson Marine for full details. Tel: 076-239768.

## BUSINESS FOR SALE

52-foot charter yacht, successfully run by couple in Phuket for 10 years. Price: US\$95,000. Tel: 081-677-1641.



## PRE-OWNED BOAT SELECTION



## Benetti 50m

Just out of a full refit at the Benetti yard - 6 double cabins - 2 x 2200 hp MTU speed 12 /18 knots. Steel hull, aluminum superstructure and much, much more.

Price on request for serious buyer only

## Boat Lagoon & Yacht Haven Office

Tel: 076-239111  
Email: broker@asia-marine.net  
www.asia-marine.net

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The Boat Lagoon Marina Phuket  
Contact: Andrew de Bruin / Marcus Overman  
Mobile: 081 894 1530 / 01 968 1437  
tel/fax: 076 239 729  
email: brokerage@leemarine.com

Yacht Haven Marina Office  
The Yacht Haven Marina Phuket  
Contact: Jim Poulsen  
Mobile: 081 881 3237  
tel/fax: 076 206 260  
email: yacht@leemarine.com

Pattaya Office  
Ocean Marina Jomtien Beach  
Contact: Mark Heald  
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## Contest 42S

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Full Specification on Request

**259,000 Euro**



## S&S 48

\$198,000 USD



## I-412

142,000 Euro



## Karsic 2250 Offshore

900,000 THB



## Bear Cat 9.5m

1,900,000 THB



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# Island Job Mart

**THE PARADISE KOH YAO**  
island hideaway near phuket  
www.theparadise.biz

The Paradise Koh Yao, a contemporary 70-room boutique resort is located on Koh Yao Noi island, a 60-minute boat trip from Phuket. Catering to the experienced traveler looking for unspoiled nature in uncompromised luxury - away from the crowded tourist spots of Phuket and Krabi.

We are seeking an outstanding personality to be a key member of our motivated team that is committed to personalized, superior customer service.

**HOST CHEF (in charge of kitchen/restaurant)**  
Covering all aspects of F&B operations, including kitchen and restaurant. Based at the resort on Koh Yao with regular visits to Phuket.

- At least 3-5 years' experience in 5- or 4-star hotels in executive kitchen assignments
- Leader personality, motivator
- Guest relations skills
- Implementation of innovative kitchen and restaurant concepts
- Previous assignment in Thailand/Asia an advantage
- Knowledge of Thai/German/English language is an advantage
- Foreign or Thai national, 35-55 years of age

Comprehensive remuneration package will be offered to the right candidate.  
Send your resume with recent photo, references and salary expectations to: [gm@theparadise.biz](mailto:gm@theparadise.biz)

**The Paradise Koh Yao - Boutique Beach Resort & Spa (Phuket Office)**  
12/39 Moo 2, THEPKRASATTRI RD., KOH KAEW, MUANG, PHUKET 83000  
Tel: 076 238 081 Website: [www.TheParadise.biz](http://www.TheParadise.biz)

**campbell kane**

Campbell Kane (Thailand) Ltd., the developer of The Cape, The Bay @ Cape Yamu, and The Yamu Resort Hotel and Villas, is seeking an experienced Site Civil Engineer for all three of its properties in Phuket. These are luxury seafront homes selling for between one and eight million USD each.

We are looking for competent, enthusiastic, honest and highly qualified individuals to join our growing business:

**Site Civil Engineer 1 position**

**Qualifications:**

- Male, age not over 30 years
- Bachelor's degree in Engineering (Civil or Structural), Civil Engineering license is a plus
- 3-5 years experience needed
- Experience in construction of hi-end villas with swimming pool is a plus
- Able to use AutoCAD 2005 (or higher), MS Office, Internet Access, proficient in MS Project 2003

**Job Description:**

- Able to read and interpret engineering drawings, specifications and blueprints
- Able to communicate effectively and maintain working relationships with supervisor, foreman and sub-contractors, monitoring overall works on site

Please send resumé with covering letter stating salary expectations to  
[annie@campbellkane.com](mailto:annie@campbellkane.com)

Campbell Kane (Thailand) Ltd., 28/7 Moo 2, Thepkasattri Rd, Koh Kaew, Phuket 83000 Thailand  
Tel: +66 (0)76-204008-9 Fax: +66 (0)76-239836

**WANTED  
Hotel Manager**

Savisalo Properties Co Ltd is opening a new high-class bungalow-resort in Khanom, Nakhon Sri Thammarat. Building will start on September 2008 and the resort will be open for customers in August 2009.

Employment will start in September-October 2008.

**Hotel Manager responsibilities:**

- Staff supervision
- Staff training
- Supply and Service Provider relationships
- Customer Service
- General Management tasks
- Continuous Business Development of the resort

**Requirements:**

- Fluent in written and spoken English and Thai (other languages ++)
- University/higher education degree in Hotel and Tourism field)
- Former experience in Hotel Management
- Good understanding of Western and Thai culture
- Good people skills
- Creativity and Initiative

Please post your application and resumé (CV) via email to: [atte.savisalo@savcor.com](mailto:atte.savisalo@savcor.com) and [atte3000@hotmail.com](mailto:atte3000@hotmail.com)

## ALEENTA RESORT AND SPA

This 5-star luxury boutique resort is looking for qualified candidates for the following positions: 1. Chief Accountant/Asst Chief Accountant for Phang Nga; 2. Guest Relations Agent; 3. Bellmen/Drivers; 4. Room Maids/Housekeeping Clerk; 5. Food Attendants; 6. Demi Chef / Chef De Partie; 7. Maintenance (basic plumbing, carpentry and electrical work). Successful candidates can look forward to a competitive salary & benefits package, continued growth & development, and a rewarding experience with the Aleenta Family. Tel: 076-580333, 086-269 6990. Fax 076-580300. Please email resumé with recent photo to [hr.development@aleenta.com](mailto:hr.development@aleenta.com) For further details, visit: [www.aleenta.com](http://www.aleenta.com)

## LIVE-IN NANNY REQUIRED

We require a Thai live-in nanny to care for our 9-month old baby girl. Salary: 7,000 baht / month. Full-time position. Tel: 084-8454922.

## 2 VACANT ADMIN POSITIONS

Established Real Estate agency has a vacancy for 2 admin positions. Good knowledge of Microsoft Word, Excel and Photoshop required. Good command of English, written and spoken, is a must. Good remuneration + other benefits for the right candidates. Thai nationals only. Tel: 087-8822856. Email: [luc@phuket-tropical-realestate.com](mailto:luc@phuket-tropical-realestate.com)

## PRESCHOOL TEACHER REQUIRED

Female caucasian, native English speaker, full or part time. Tel: 080-6247060.

## BAKERY AND PASTRY

Need 2 waitresses with good command of English and great personality, and 1 baker or pastry chef with experience in bakery and pastry. Contact Khun Garcia. Tel: 086-946-9375.

## MAID / DRIVER WANTED

English-speaking maid wanted for private house in Kamala. Driving skills preferred. Tel: 085-1587638. Email: [pierre\\_hammar@yahoo.se](mailto:pierre_hammar@yahoo.se)

## IN-HOUSE GRAPHIC DESIGNER

For real estate company. Thai national. Graphic / web design maintenance. Good English required. Modern, cheerful, creative office atmosphere. Tel: 076-385950, 087-2760141. Fax 076-385952. Please email CV to [kat@phuketocceanfront.net](mailto:kat@phuketocceanfront.net)

## SALES & MARKETING

Outgoing person required to assist with marketing and selling advertising space for an international newspaper company. Must be fluent in Thai with good English. Good knowledge of Photoshop or other design software an advantage. Good salary, commissions and great work environment. Tel: 076-346218, 084-7680536. Fax: 076-346232. Email: [info@news-paperdirect-phuket.com](mailto:info@news-paperdirect-phuket.com) See our website at: [www.newspaperdirect.com](http://www.newspaperdirect.com)

## MARINE AIR-CONDITIONING

electrician. Simpson Marine Phuket (SEA) Ltd (Service Department) dealer requires a qualified tradesman to act as marine electrician and air-conditioning service technician. Applicant must be fluent in English and hold relevant trade qualifications. Salary and remuneration package based on experience and qualifications. Inquire in person with CV to Simpson Marine (SEA) Ltd, Boat Lagoon. Tel: 076-239-768. Email: [greg.dick@simpsonmarine.com](mailto:greg.dick@simpsonmarine.com) Please visit our website: [www.simpsonmarine.com](http://www.simpsonmarine.com)

## SALESPERSON

Real Estate, Phuket branch requires dynamic salespersons aged 30-40. Thai national, fluent English, computer skills and results oriented. Duties will be property scouting, telemarketing. Candidates will go through a 3-month probation training period in Phuket. Average salary: 30-60,000 baht. Tel: 086-0043008. Forward CV via mail. Email: [g.marchi12@gmail.com](mailto:g.marchi12@gmail.com)

## FINNS & SCANDIS WANTED

Earn 20,000 baht per week. Work permit provided. 1 month free accommodation. Contact Jonny. Tel: 086-5967322. Email: [jonnyqvc@gmail.com](mailto:jonnyqvc@gmail.com)

## FOOD PRODUCTION PERSONNEL

Mr Moo Co Ltd is looking for experienced kitchen employees: one English-speaking for kitchen lead, two for food preparation. Please contact for more information at Tel: 081-0914335. Email: [ray\\_vallancourt@yahoo.com](mailto:ray_vallancourt@yahoo.com)

## NURSERY SCHOOL TEACHER

Seeking Thai national as full-time nursery school teacher. Spoken and written English essential. MUST be experienced, enthusiastic and love children. 5-day week, 8:30am-3pm. Good salary, 4 week annual holiday plus national holidays. Email CV or telephone. Tel: 089-9711813. Email: [lesleytucker@yahoo.com](mailto:lesleytucker@yahoo.com)

## ASSISTANT MANAGER

Real estate co. urgently requires Assistant Manager aged 30-35. Fluent written and spoken English, computer skills and results-oriented. Duties will be general project assistance, teamwork co-ordination. Attractive salary. Tel: 086-0043008. Email: [g.marchi12@gmail.com](mailto:g.marchi12@gmail.com)

## HEALTH SPA MANAGER

Must have management experience at a quality spa. Massage and beauty treatment certificates. English speaking & computer literate. Reply with full resumé and photo. Email: [keith.wickers@gmail.com](mailto:keith.wickers@gmail.com). Website: [www.eden-thailand.com](http://www.eden-thailand.com)

## SECRETARY WANTED

with some accounting skills. Full time, Thai nationality between 22-32 years old. Tel: 081-5376866. Please email resumé to: [info@platinumresidenecpark.com](mailto:info@platinumresidenecpark.com)

## TOUR LEADER WANTED

for live-aboard. Good experience at Andaman and Burma dive sites. Tel: 081-7874690.

**PHOTOSHOP EXPERT**  
to work on photographs of costume jewelry. Part time. Work from home. Good pay for expert. Contact for information at Tel: 089-7291968. Email: [jae@loxinfo.co.th](mailto:jae@loxinfo.co.th)

**NANNY WANTED**  
Must speak fluent English. Tel: 089-4744083.

**DELI SUPERMARKET**  
and restaurant looking for chef, waiter, waitress, store keeper, baker and accountant. Tel: 076-342275, 089-8741875. Fax: 076-340992.

**OFFICE MANAGER**  
Aqua Property Group, a new real estate company opening soon in Phuket, requires a Thai female who is punctual, presentable and organized. You must be proficient in Microsoft Office and communicate well in written and spoken English. Please send your CV and expected salary to [info@aquapropertygroup.com](mailto:info@aquapropertygroup.com)

**ASSISTANT NEEDED**  
Good written and spoken English. Basic accounting and computer skills. Thai national. Tel: 087-0778454. Email: [solitude001@aol.com](mailto:solitude001@aol.com)

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# Island Job Mart

**Black Forest**  
Distribution Co., Ltd. is looking for:

<b>Driver with Licence 2 (Truck)</b>	<b>Messenger</b>
Salary starts at <b>10,000 THB + Food Cost</b>	Salary starts at <b>7,500 THB + Food Cost</b>

**Black Forest Distribution Co., Ltd.**  
**PHUKET**  
204/42 Rat-u-thit Road, Patong Beach, Phuket 83140  
**076 - 344 705**

**THARADON ESTATE**  
The exclusive property development

**Management Group Position**

- Sales Property-Hotel Management
- Thai female 25-35 years
- Diploma degree or higher
- 1-2 years of sales experience in either field
- Hotel management education/experience
- Proficient computer skills
- Own car
- Fluent in written and spoken English

Send CV with photo in Thai and English, by email or directly at office, to Hakan Wallin.

Email: [hakan@tharadonestate.com](mailto:hakan@tharadonestate.com)  
Tel: 08 5784 2004, Direct 0 7624 5964

**Tharadon Estate Co., Ltd.**  
17/13 Choafa Rd, Taladnuer, Muang District Phuket 83000

**ONLINE JOB APPLICATION**  
HOTEL - ACCTING - SALES - IT - WEB DESIGN - F&B  
[www.KARON-PHUKET-HOTELS.com /JOB.htm](http://www.KARON-PHUKET-HOTELS.com /JOB.htm)

**RELAX BAY**  
Main Sponsor  
Ko Lanta  
Beach Cleaning  
Sept. 13 - 14, 2009

"Green Class"  
by  
[deqp.co.th](http://deqp.co.th)

"The only Ko Lanta Resort with a semi-private beach" has vacancies for the following positions:

- Restaurant Manager
- Front Office Manager
- Bar Manager
- Accounting Clerk
- Thai Chef

These candidates should be team players, organized, efficient, guest oriented and English speaking

- Receptionist
- Waitress/Waiter
- Housekeeping Attendant
- Bar Waitress/Waiter
- Cooks
- Maintenance Attendant (electricity, plumbing....)

These candidates should have a pleasant personality, be efficient, guest oriented, English speaking and motivated

Please contact: **Didier Vacher - Relax Bay Resort**  
111 Moo 2, Phra Ae, Ko Lanta 81150  
Email: [relaxbay-paradise@hotmail.com](mailto:relaxbay-paradise@hotmail.com)  
Tel: 084 327 3414 or 075 684 194

**Marriott VACATION CLUB**  
ASIA-PACIFIC

Marriott Vacation Club, Asia Pacific, a leader in the global vacation ownership business, is looking for competent individuals and active professionals to join our team in the following positions:

- **MARKETING EXECUTIVE**  
(English, Korean, Chinese, Japanese, Russian)  
Based in Phuket and Bangkok
- **RECEPTIONIST**
- **GUEST RELATIONS EXECUTIVE**
- **SALES EXECUTIVE**  
(English, Korean, Chinese, Japanese, Russian)
- **CONTRACT COORDINATOR**
- **GALLERY MANAGER**
- **MARKETING CUSTOMER CONTACT**
- **OPC MARKETING SUPERVISOR**
- **ON SITE MARKETING TEAM LEADER**
- **VIP GUEST SERVICE EXECUTIVE**
- **AYS OFFICER**

Most positions are based in Phuket. We require self-motivated, confident people with excellent interpersonal skills and who are proactive. An intermediate degree of proficiency in English is necessary. Candidates with the above qualifications should submit a resume with a recent photograph to the Director of Human Resources at [pansak.l@marriotthotels.com](mailto:pansak.l@marriotthotels.com) or fax: 076 348 354 or mail to:

MVCI, Asia Pacific  
234 Maikhao, Talang  
Phuket 83110, Thailand

Or apply in person  
Monday to Friday  
from 10 am to 3 pm

For more information, please visit our website at  
[www.marriott.com](http://www.marriott.com)

**ellezza Bio Latex Co Ltd**  
(Phuket branch)

We are currently seeking

**Salesperson**

- Russian nationality
- Minimum 3 persons to Maximum 6 persons
- Work Permit
- Accommodation
- Salary commensurate with experience (first 3 months 70% + accommodation) (after 3 months 100% + accommodation + commission)
- Working time - 9:30am to 5pm

**Phuket Spa**

We are currently seeking

**Administration Manager 1 position**

- Female, Thai nationality
- Salary commensurate with experience
- Good English language skills
- Experience in hotel and property would be an advantage

Please send CV, recent photo and references to:  
Email: [ellezza-phuket@hotmail.com](mailto:ellezza-phuket@hotmail.com)  
[kennyasumoto@gmail.com](mailto:kennyasumoto@gmail.com)  
Tel: 076-352013, 081-8937162 Fax: 076-352133

Le Meridien Phuket Beach Resort, a member of Starwood Hotels and Resorts, would like to invite Thai Nationals to apply for the following positions:

**Director of Human Resources  
Assistant Training Manager**

We offer an exciting career for ambitious professionals along with a competitive benefit package.

Please submit your resume with recent photo by email to:  
[narumon.chansriheraj@lemeridien.com](mailto:narumon.chansriheraj@lemeridien.com)

Le Meridien  
Phuket Beach Resort  
29 Soi Karen Nui,  
Karon, Muang Phuket 83100  
T: 076-370100 F: 076-340479  
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**TRAINED BAKER  
REQUIRED**

**Lady Pie**

for this dynamic expanding business. Thai national. Hours, salary negotiable. Contact K. Lilly. Tel: 084-8512176. Email: [info@ladypie.com](mailto:info@ladypie.com)

**INTERNET STAFF  
WANTED**

An Internet shop in Patong is seeking Thai female staff. Urgent. Email or call for more info. Tel: 076-293082, 081-5377137. Email: [app\\_wilawan@yahoo.com](mailto:app_wilawan@yahoo.com)

## Employment Wanted

**ITALIAN CHEF JOB**  
to help cook all types of cuisine specialities. Tel: 083-6394509. Email: [thailand2008@live.it](mailto:thailand2008@live.it)

**ITALIAN LADY**  
Looking for a job. Good computer skills. Speak and write 5 languages. Please contact for more information at Tel: 086-2741482.

**FOREIGN FEMALE**  
Long-term resident in Phuket looking for job. Nationality: Russian. Has bachelor's degree, good computer skills, driver's license. I do translations from English to Russian. Please contact for more details. Email: [phuket@list.ur](mailto:phuket@list.ur) or [arkadia2000@gmail.com](mailto:arkadia2000@gmail.com)

**SALES EXECUTIVE  
REAL ESTATE**  
Female, Thai national, very good in written and spoken English, experience in sales, admin skills including Microsoft Word, Excel, etc. Email expected salary and CV with photo to: [hakan@tharadonestate.com](mailto:hakan@tharadonestate.com)

**GRAPHIC ARTISTS**  
Highly experienced graphic artists wanted. Work consists of graphics + flash. If you have knowledge of 3D Max, great! Email: [admin@idevelop.tv](mailto:admin@idevelop.tv)

**LAW OFFICE**  
Seeks Thai and foreign lawyers, accountant, secretary and messenger. Email CV to [jobs@siam-legal.com](mailto:jobs@siam-legal.com)

**WEBSITE CODER**  
Website coder/programmer wanted for our Web TV company. Email for more info. Email: [admin@idevelop.tv](mailto:admin@idevelop.tv)

**ACCOUNTANT  
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For more information call Tel: 081-5376866 or send resume to: [info@platinumresidencepark.com](mailto:info@platinumresidencepark.com)

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TLI are currently looking to hire the following English-speaking Thai staff for our expanding Phuket office: Horticulturist, Landscaping Supervisor, Sales Executive. Please provide full resume including qualifications, photo, references and expected salary. Tel: 076-620099. Fax 076-620098. Email: [ben@tropical-landscaping.com](mailto:ben@tropical-landscaping.com) For further details, please see Tropical Landscaping International's website at [www.tropical-landscaping.com](http://www.tropical-landscaping.com) or [www.phuketlandscaping.com](http://www.phuketlandscaping.com)



# Tout, Trader & Trumpet

## Articles For Sale

### BAKERY EQUIPMENT

- 2 superposed gas oven. Stainless steel. King brand. 35,000 baht.

- Dough mixer, 10 liters, King brand. 10,000 baht.

Secondhand but in perfect condition. On Lanta Island. Tel: 075-684525, 081-0669459. Email: sergeyves@hotmail.com

### LEATHER VALEO BELT

New real leather Valeo belt for sale. Good for weight lifting. I have S and L size. Made in Pakistan. Tel: 080-698-5021. Email: phuketdolphin@hotmail.com

### GYM EQUIPMENT FOR SALE

Call Gerry. Tel: 086-1203660. Email: chilligarden@hotmail.com

### WIRELESS AIRCARD

Sierra Wireless Aircard 580. 2,500 baht. Call or mail for more info. Tel: 081-8941994. Email: tom.fekete@gmail.com

### SUBWOOFER FOR SALE

High-end subwoofer for sale, good for home cinema or stereo. Built-in 150-Watt amplifier. Driver 10", fully adjustable. Size 50 x 50 x 50cm. Black. Price: 7,000 baht. Call Robert at 089-8719152. Email: orita-ozone@usa.net

### AIRCONS

15,000 BTU, 8 months old, 7,000 baht. Please contact for more information. Tel: 085-0300612.

### SERVICE COUNTER

Service counter for sale: 2.5m long, 1.2m high. Good, solid counter, ideal for shop or bar. 8,000 baht. Tel: 076-200774, 081-0868041. Email: terry@belairpanwa.com

### 6-SEATER DINING SUITE

6-seater dining suite for sale. 25,000 baht. Moving house. Tel: 076-200774, 081-086-8041. Email: terry@belairpanwa.com

### WOOD CARVING



For sale: teakwood carving representing the Himavanta jungle. Size 120x220cm. Tel: 081-5699483.

### SEWING MACHINE & OVERLOCK

- Bernina 1000 designer sewing machine, Swiss made, 10 years old, excellent condition, 6,000 baht.

- Bernette Overlock 134DL, Swiss made, 8 years old, excellent condition, 5,000 baht. Tel: 076-285307, 087-265-8801. Email: ruckzuck98@hotmail.com

### SIERRA WIRELESS AIRCARD

4,000 baht, call after 2 pm. Comes with CD software. Not for Vista; XP is OK. Tel: 076-296351, 081-086-2772. Email: thewizardofrockandroll@gmail.com

### TO SELL

Complete restaurant with professional kitchen equipment for sale. Secondhand, but only 3 months old. Almost new. Good price. First come, first served. Freezers, refrigerators, dishwasher, Boncafé espresso machine, microwave, grill, racks, tables, chairs, complete bar equipment, bar counter with lighting, restaurant dishes, plates, glasses, cutlery, lamps, speakers, desks, office chairs. Electronics: Mini Mac with Samsung screen, stereos, CD-DVD players, amplifier, etc. Also staff-house equipment, beds, mattresses, closets, Philips TV, 1 complete bedroom with large bed with frame. Also motorbike for sale - all in good condition. Please call 089-7256994 (Eng), 086-7453359 (Thai).

### 40-INCH PLASMA TV

6 months old. 22,000 baht. (60,000 baht new). Tel: 085-0300612.

### KINGSIZE MATTRESS AND ANTI-MITE

Kingsize Carnation mattress with Anti-Mite. Size: 6'6"x5'6" (1.83m x 1.98m x 15cm). Used only with cover and only for 3 months. For sale because it's too hard for me. Pick up in Rawai. Only 1,000 baht. Tel: 083-3902970. Email: bastelman1@hotmail.com

### GYM FOR SALE G9S



Quality home gym. Cost 120,000, asking 75,000 baht. Tel: 081-0797025.

### PANASONIC LCD

projector. Watch DVDs/football on 100-inch white wall with 2m screen. 35,000 baht. Call Ian. Tel: 086-2680042.

### AIR CONDITIONER

We have a 13,000 BTU Sapphire air conditioner for sale. About 3-4 years old, serviced annually. 10,000 baht. Come take it away. Tel: 076-330-967, 081-8920474. Fax: 076-330990. Email: john@siamdivers.com

### SELLING ALL CONTENTS

of a nightclub/disco and furniture for 4 bedrooms. Sofas, tables, coolers, aircons, water pumps, sound and lighting equipment, visual effects systems from the best factory. Everything is new. Used only 6 months. Contact Paul. Tel: 084-6455971. Email: paul.phuket@gmail.com

## Articles Wanted

### USED SNOOKER TABLE

Must be delivered and installed in Kata area. Email your offer. Thanks. Tel: 081-2705374. Email: orcella@phuket.ksc.co.th

## Bulletins

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### BARRY BLENKENSOP

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a needy child. The Phuket International Women's Club is a volunteer organization raising funds for educational scholarships. We rely on the goodwill of donors and sponsors - small and large. If you would like to put something back into the community in which you live, contact us to find out more about giving a prize or being a sponsor. Contact Carol (Tel: 087-4178860 Email: carol.fryer@piwc.info) or K. Sue (Tel: 087-2776948. Email: sue.amulphy@piwc.info).

### WENDY AND TALITHA

We are back from South Africa and would like to get in contact with our friends in Phuket. I lost all email addresses, so please email us at wendytalitha@yahoo.com

## Business Opportunities

### KARAOKE NEAR SAFARI

120,000 baht, 1-year lease, includes 3 months' rent 10,000 baht/month. Furniture, bar inventory. Tel: 089-4746670, 084-6877884. Email: sean.thepilot@hotmail.com www.seabluephuket.com/karaoke

### PHUKET REAL ESTATE

Seeking sales team to run my office, who will cover operating costs and reap the profits. It is a well-renowned real-estate company with ranking on Google, large listing. Alternatively, join as a partner or buy my business outright. Tel: 076-245966, 085-7842004. Website: www.phuketan.damanrealestate.com

### FOR SALE

Bar-restaurant on Patong hill. Please contact for more information. Tel: 089-6546001, 087-3835790.

## Agents for Classified Advertising

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Chao Fa East Rd (next to Siam Commercial Bank)

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Patak Rd, Chalong Fax: 076-280403

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Phang Nga Rd, Phuket City Fax: 076-232398

**Sin & Lee** Tel: 076-258369  
Thalang Rd, Phuket City Fax: 076-211230

**Taurus Travel** Tel: 076-344521/2  
Aroonsom Plaza Rat-U-Thit 200 Pi Rd, Patong Fax: 076-344523

**41 Minimart** Tel/Fax: 076-324312  
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## HOT SALE NICE RESTAURANT

Only 40 meters from beach. Also good location for optical shop, real estate office, bar, massage, tailor shop, etc. Tel: 081-8916797, 084-6509076.

## SHOP, SAINAMYEN RD

Large, clean shop with room and shower. Fully furnished, pool table. 600,000 baht. Please contact K. Dean. Tel: 082-2780338.

## RESTAURANT WANTED

Restaurant for rent, good location 100-300sqm, or empty building good for restaurant. Tel: 089-5946456.

## BAR/RESTAURANT SALE

On main road, Kamala. Pool table, kitchen, long lease 8,000 baht per month. Asking 400,000 baht. Tel: 086-2663836.

## TRAVEL AGENCY

I am looking for a serious Thai partner, not a nominee, for starting up an agency working with Russian tourists. Tel: 083-6400108.

## INTERNET/COFFEE/GAMES

Internet, coffee, computer games, bicycle rental. Sale includes registered Thai Ltd Co. Good location, steady income. Tel: 076-333280, 086-2771046. Fax 076-333280. Email: jvfcoltd@aol.com

## LOOKING FOR AN INVESTMENT

in Phuket & Phang Nga. Seaview land/house. Tel: 081-5399269. Website: www.jan-property.com

## RESTAURANT, RAWAI

Established in Rawai for many years. Perfect location. 24 million baht. Tel: 089-1956822.

## GUESTHOUSE GEM

Bar, restaurant and thriving tour desk, Thai limited company, two work permits. 3.5 million baht. Contact Kevin. Tel: 084-7300190.

## RESTAURANT

Well-established restaurant and bar. Live entertainment venue in premium Patong location. For sale at 14 million baht. Genuine buyers only. Tel: 083-1736521, 084-0782753.

## BOOKS FOR SALE

Many language books and about 5,000 used books with bookshelves. Quick sale: 350,000 baht. Please contact K. Pui. Tel: 084-1705552.

## MASSAGE SHOP

for sale. 2 chairs, 5 beds, in Soi Kebab. Come and look. Give me a price. 1 year old. Tel: 083-6469047.

## RESORT, AO NANG. B4.8M

5.1 rai, Ao Nang bungalow project, yet to be completed (10 rooms). Land lease: 15 years & with optional 5-year rent. Price includes: company (Co Ltd), land (Chanote deed, licenses, approved), pre-payment for 10 years' rent. Private well water, tarred road, electricity. Price negotiable. Tel: 089-7865650. Email: gibbon@hotmail.de

## PATONG SHOPHOUSE

Cheap cheap cheap cheap. Bangla area. 4 floors, 6x4 meters. No agents. Tel: 081-0787743.

## 1-BEDROOM APARTMENT, KATA

4 million baht, no down payment, pay over 5 years, no interest, no bank. GBP 990 per month, 1,299 euros or US\$1,999. Better than stocks. Move in now. Quiet, swimming pool, gym, restaurant. Walking distance to bars & beach. Rental return: 50% of your monthly payment. Tel: 085-7831890.

## SHOPHOUSE IN PATONG

The only unit on the prime area on Rat-U-thit road. 5storeys corner unit, over 240sqm usable area. 9.5 million baht o.n.o. Tel: 089-7804568. Email: taaree@yahoo.com

## CACTUS BAR

for sale 3.5 M baht. Easy and fun business. 30 months left on contract. All included. No rent. Tel: 081-8936891. Email: danex01@gmail.com

## BAR, BANGLA RD

Soi Gonzo, good location in the heart of Patong, lease paid until 2011, good profits, low rent. 1.8 million baht. Tel: 089-0344565. Email: lesridd@hotmail.co.uk

## BUSY BAR FOR SALE

Bangla Rd area. Contact Kevin. Tel: 084-7300190.

## ELEGANT SHOPHOUSE

Bargain: 4-story shophouse with Chanote. Fully equipped restaurant on 1st and 2nd floors. Fully furnished apartment on 3rd and 4th floors. Value: 6.7 million baht. Now priced at only 5.5 million baht. Have to move out. Tel: 081-8915602.

## BAR AVAILABLE FOR LEASE

Excellent location. Nanai Rd. First 18 months' rent already paid. 1.8 million baht will secure this business. Contact Simon. Tel: 084-3047700.

## 26-ROOM GUESTHOUSE

for lease near Jungceylon. Includes company and long lease. Immaculate decor. Just 3.7 million baht. Contact Simon. Tel: 084-3047700.

## SWIMWEAR BOUTIQUE

Highly profitable bikini & clothing store, open two years. Great location in Kata. For sale as fully operational. All stock and fittings, supplier details. Brand name, good reputation. 2.5 million baht. Tel: 089-0200128. Email: boutiquephuket@yahoo.com

## 5 PREMIUM HOTELS

for sale freehold. Outstanding locations in Patong. Prices starting from 150 million baht. Contact Simon. Tel: 084-3047700.

## PUBLICATION FOR SALE

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## SKY STEAKHOUSE.NET

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## COFFEE LOUNGE

2-story shophouse set up as coffee lounge and ice cream parlor with Internet services. Rent only 13,000 per month, including business premises & accommodation. All recently renovated. All furniture & business inventory included in the price of 1.4 million baht - all you need is your suitcase. Currently has a 3-year renewable lease, no key money. Tel: 076-342338, 084-6976840. Email: terryballphuket@gmail.com

## DOUBLE BAR

for sale. 3-year renewable lease, air conditioned, music system. Tel: 080-7179353 (Eng), 085-7917579 (Thai).

## CONSTRUCTION CO LTD FOR SALE

Due to ill health in the family, we must return to my home country and sell our construction company in Phuket. The company is fully set up (good inventory) and running with future projects to be completed. Previous price was 6.85 million baht. Email: info@jntech.biz

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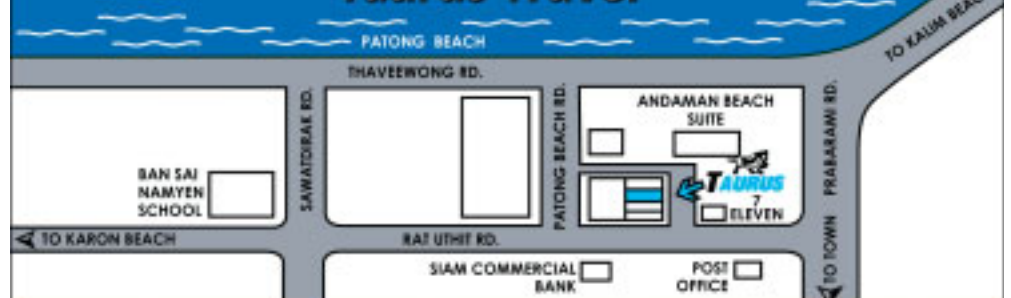
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1 million baht with full conditions. Tel: 081-4448970. Email: sikarin@hotmail.com

## PHUKET COUNTRY CLUB

Full membership for sale at 675,000 baht or best offer. Tel: 0708-153535. Email: tomas.sweijer@knowit.se

## Club Membership Wanted

## CLUB MEMBERSHIPS WANTED

Blue Canyon membership. Contact Pete. Tel: 084-3492325.

## Computers

### I.T. Solutions

Computer Problems? We can help!

English Technician with over 10 years experience

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Office: 076-272304  
Mobile: 087-124-1706  
Email: gordon@it-man-asia.com

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## CHINESE SPEAKER

Native Mandarin Chinese speaker required a few hours per week to communicate by telephone with China. Please contact for more information.

Tel: 086-0406866.  
Email: adrian.j.simpson@gmail.com

## Personals

### THAI PENFRIENDS WANTED

Middle aged American man seeks friendly correspondence with Thai males for friendship, and would also like to exchange stamps and/or post cards with those interested. I am an international-minded man of the world, who has always worked in foreign trade. Robert R Miller, PO Box 220, New York, NY 10785 USA.

### LONELY BRIT

Female, 32, looking to meet new friends, male/female. Email: kezz908@yahoo.co.uk

### BACKGAMMON

Retired businessman looking for backgammon players in Phuket. Tel: 081-5778443.

## Pets

### ENGLISH CAT



Black and white, 5 years old, cost 80,000 baht to bring to Phuket. Needs good home. Owner relocating. Serious offers only. Tel: 087-2658002.

Take me home with you!



Soi Dog Foundation Tel: 081-7884222

## Dear Readers,

We are now just three adorable homeless puppies, two boys & one little girl. Thanks to you, we have found a lovely family for our little brother.

We were ever so lucky to be rescued from the side of the road at a deserted gas station in Phang Nga when we were just two weeks old. We didn't have a very good chance of survival or a very bright future. Our mommy was very sick and hungry and we were weak and needed milk.

We were rescued by a lady from Phuket, who is a devoted doggie lover. She has given us all a temporary home and providing lots of food, training and cuddles. We are now nine weeks old and just full of life now that we are healthy and full up every day.

We are all toilet/paper trained, we eat dry food and we love splashing around in our water bowl. Our foster mommy has taken care of all of our vaccines and medical needs. We have clean ears, sparkly eyes and we are plump with healthy, shiny fur.

Each of us would love to have a family of our own. We are all domesticated and we sleep right through the night. We even play nicely and if you buy us a teddy we promise not to chew your shoes.

Please come to see us on our best behavior in our temporary home surroundings. Or we are happy to come visit you.

Love and paw hugs,  
Puppies xxx

Please contact Sandra O'Neill for your visit with us.

Mobile: 08-98677154 Office: 076-325986

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# Wheels & Motors

## Saloon Cars

### CAR FOR SALE

1994, manual, good condition. Asking price: 85,000 baht. Contact Joey. Tel: 081-0809170.

### '98 TOYOTA SOLUNA

Excellent condition, 1.5 liter, 5 speed, Power windows and locks. 255,000 baht. Tel: 081-0036902. Email: contact@purist.biz

### FOR SALE: NISSAN SUNNY 1,800

VIP Neo, leather, gold, 40,000km, 1-year full insurance, 4 years old. 495,000 baht. Tel: 089-8540277. Email: djxav@loxinfo.co.th

### SLK MERCEDES 200

1997, green. Perfect condition. 98,000km, full insurance. Asking 1.5 million baht. Tel: 087-2849690. Email: fullmoonbeach@hotmail.com

### SUBARU 1800 GLF-5

Metallic blue, very good condition, recently spent 50,000 baht to recondition engine, battery, petrol pump, alternator. Service receipts available. Price: 80,000 baht. Tel: 080-7179353. Email: wblueboy@aol.co.uk

### VW PASSAT 1996

New Toyota 2-liter engine. Just two months old, automatic, runs on LPG and gasoline, new aircon. Price: 250,000 baht ono. Contact Noo (Thai and English). Tel: 081-5378508.

### VOLVO 740GL: 120,000 BAHT

4-door saloon in really good condition. Toyota 1JZ engine with automatic gearbox. Tel: 084-6764261. Email: bigmeister2000@hotmail.com

### URGENT SALE, MIRA

Year: 1994. Price: 74,000 baht. Beautiful and in excellent condition, light gray, economical, new tires, CD player, aircon. Tel: 084-1841856.

### TOYOTA ALTIS 1.8

Silver, 2004, one owner, 72,000km. New 1st-class insurance. 640,000 baht. Tel: 087-0789707.

### HONDA CIVIC 2007

As new, only 6 months old. Low cost. New: 893,000 baht. Bargain at 800,000 baht. Has 20 years on warranty. Tel: 087-1612928.

### 1956 CHEVROLET

2-door, V8, auto, power steering, power brakes, fully restored and modernized. 600,000 baht. Tel: 086-2778461.

### VOLVO FOR SALE

Volvo S80 Sedan. 2.9L gasoline engine, automatic transmission. Year: 2002. Mileage: 161,000km. Color: dark green, metallic. The car was imported by the Embassy of Sweden in Bangkok and has recently been used by the Consulate General of Sweden in Phuket. The vehicle is in good condition and the engine was fully serviced in 2007. 700,000 baht or nearest offer. Tel: 076-380000. Email: h.hamrin@gkphuket.in.th

### DAIHATSU APPLAUSE

1994, 16-valve, blue book, very good condition. 75,000 baht. Tel: 089-5902539.

### TOYOTA COROLLA

Aircon, CD player, electric windows, central locking, new brakes. 85,000 baht. Tel: 084-3046723.

### 2003 CHEVY ZAFIRA 2.2

Eight seats, leather, black, new tires, TV and stereo, good condition. 520,000 baht. Tel: 081-5402561. Email: koko\_natee@hotmail.com

### TOYOTA CAMRY 2003

Black, 94,000km, 2.4-liter engine, 800,000 baht. Tel: 089-8733952. Email: bigmanfox@pacific.net.sg

### 1996 AUDI A4 AUTO



1.8L, 190,000km, dual airbag, new aircon, transmission, brakes, radiator. Only 190,000 baht. Tel: 081-4760380.

### NISSAN FOR SALE

Station wagon, 1999, green, new wheels. Insured until August. Tel: 081-7281887.

### MITSUBISHI LANCER

Champ 3, 1992, top model, digital odometer, no rust, new tires, disc brakes, silver. Urgent sale at 79,000 baht. Tel: 083-2525509.

### OPEL CORSA FOR SALE

Beautiful, in excellent condition. Blue, fully insured. 180,000 baht or nearest offer. Tel: 087-2781583.

### CHEVROLET OPTRA LT SS

2006 model. Metallic black, 32,000km, one-year warranty. Just serviced, excellent condition. 450,000 baht. Tel: 076-528016, 089-2262612. Email: jim@jimmarsh.net

**CLASSIC BMW 2002**  
1974 black. All original. Driven daily. New tires. CD player. Taxed. 150,000 baht. Tel: 086-9488139.

### MAZDA 323

5-door, cheap, 49,000 baht. Good condition, aircon, stereo and lots of new parts. Contact Sunny. Tel: 083-2525509, 084-1841856.

### FORD LASER TIERRA SV

Great condition, service history. Black. 4-years old. Call for details. Tel: 089-2167220.

### CHEVROLET ZAFIRA



2.2 Sport. Only 40,000km. All checks done regularly. Non-smoking driver and passengers. Bought for 1.4 million baht. Selling for 780,000 baht (negotiable). Tel: 081-7975764. Email: dennis.mo@hotmail.com

### NISSAN SENTRA

1995 model, 1,600cc, good condition. 120,000 baht. Tel: 081-5775719. Email: perigor2000@yahoo.com

## Pickups

### CHEVROLET COLORADO

Automatic, 2006 top model. First-class condition. 375,000 baht. Tel: 084-4413633.

### AMAZING MAZDA PICKUP

25D Fighter, superior cab seats 5, low mileage, low running cost, in great condition. Tel: 085-6927961. Email: office67@gmail.com

### 2000/01 NISSAN NV WINGROAD

2 owners, like new, 47,500km, service history, alloys. MP3, new tires, battery, brake pads. 240,000 baht.

Tel: 076-239432, 086-2708727.

Email: crob58@gmail.com

### 2008 ISUZU D-MAX

Like new, 18,000km. 2-door, silver. 180,000 baht and take over payments. Tel: 087-2095174.

### ISUZU D-MAX 4-DOOR 2004

2.5 manual, 96,000km, CD/DVD player, radio, TV screen. 475,000 baht ono. Good deal. Tel: 081-3873809.

### 2007 CHEVROLET COLORADO

4-door, common rail, 3,000cc, tax, insured. 395,000 baht. Tel: 084-4413633.

### TOYOTA PICKUP FOR SALE

Black, 4 doors, in perfect condition, 13,000km. August 2007. 690,000 baht. Tel: 087-8860448.

### 1988 MITSUBISHI

Aircon, stereo, 5 speed. Asking: 75,000 baht. Tel: 081-3709661.

### 2003 TOYOTA TIGER



54,000km, manual, 6" suspension lift, aluminum wheels, 7-speaker stereo, well maintained. Asking 415,000 baht. Tel: 081-8941994. Email: tomkat@phuket.ksc.co.th

### PICKUP FOR SALE

Ford Ranger 2.5 turbo, four-door with gull door at rear. Tax and insurance. Only 50,000km. Lightly used. 360,000 baht. Please contact for more information. Tel: 081-5399560.

### 2000 RANGER XL PICKUP

Well maintained, CD player, aircon, runs and looks great. 219,000 baht. For more info call 086-2699145.

### 1994 CAR FOR SALE

Mitsubishi 4-door. Aircon, CD stereo. Nice car. Asking price: 100,000 baht. Please call for further details. Tel: 081-3709661.

### CHEVROLET PICKUP

2007. New model, 13,000km. Looks and drives as new. 399,000 baht. Contact for details. Tel: 084-4413633.

### 2005 MITSUBISHI STRADA

4 doors, aircon. 30,000km. Manual, insured, service book. 285,000 baht ono. Contact for more details. Tel: 086-272-7636. Email: rewopnadia@hotmail.com

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# Wheels & Motors

## 4 x 4s

### VIGO 4X4 4-DOOR

Auto, gas powered, quiet, silver. 62,000km. 590,000 baht obo. Tel: 087-2095174.

### ISUZU CAB 4X4

Large tires, 2004, 11,000km. Dark blue. Price: 400,000 baht. Tel: 089-5944017.

### MAZDA TRIBUTE



Gold, 55,000km, good condition, 4-years old, automatic, 6 CD changer. 600,000 baht ono. Tel: 086-2772691.

### ISUZU DMAX LS

Perfect condition. 4D, 4WD, navy blue, many extras. Only 460,000 baht. Call/email for more info. Tel: 086-9421969. Email: laclisque@gmail.com

### TOYOTA FORTUNER

Gray, July 2006, 40,000km, automatic, xenon lights, leather, excellent condition. Full service, 1 year remaining on warranty. 790,000 baht ono. Tel: 081-6913285. Email: yuvwandabier@yahoo.com

### LAND ROVER SWB STATION WAGON

Ready to "RAID". 2.5 diesel turbo. 250,000 baht. Tel: 086-6826882. Email: amnuay\_r@yahoo.com

### 2006 MAZDA BT-50 4X4 TDI

In excellent condition. Only 18,000km. 5-speed, all options. 525,000 baht or trade for 4-door automatic car of similar value. Tel: 081-5350202. aadams007@yahoo.com

### 2005 VIGO 4 DR 4X4

Like new, 61,000km. Silver, auto, quiet. Gas 2.7 liter. 625,000 baht. Tel: 087-2095174.

### TOYOTA HILUX VIGO



Lady owner, 4 door, 2.5L, full service history, 2007, 36,000km, CD, MP3. Price: 520,000 baht. **Contact Por. Tel: 087-8164352.**

### 2002 4WD MITSUBISHI 4-DOOR

2.8 turbo diesel. 114,000km. 340,000 baht. 1st-class insurance. Tel: 087-9261381. Email: pakadog@gmail.com

### MITSUBISHI TRITON

2006, 3.2L 4WD, manual, black. Only 5,400km. 22-inch wheels. A bargain at 550,000 baht. Please call for more details. Tel: 089-0004400.

### TOYOTA TIGER 4WD

December 98, owner's manual, silver, 73,000km. Very good condition. 280,000 baht. Tel: 081-0855765. Email: beat19@loxinfo.co.th

### MITSUBISHI 4X4 TRITON



3.2 top model. March 27, 2007. 69,125km. 785,000 baht. 1st-class AIG insurance. More than 250,000 baht of extras. Must see. Tel: 081-6078000.

### FORD 4X4

Top of the line. Full options plus extras. Year: 2001. Less than 130,000km. Leaving Thailand. 330,000 baht ono. Tel: 081-6930766. Email: danielboychuk@gmail.com

## Motorbikes

### HARLEY-DAVIDSON

2003 DYNA low rider, mint condition. 625,000 baht. Tel: 089-9711847.

### BMW GS650 FOR SALE

Red, 4,000km, 16 months old, farang owner, green book, bargain price: 420,000 baht. Tel: 084-8520862.

### HONDA PHANTOM 200

Customized chopper style. Excellent condition, white-wall tires. Will take best offer. Tel: 081-0877743.

### SUZUKI BANDIT 400

1994, green book. Fully rebuilt, costing 38,000 baht. Fast & sexy. Tel: 085-2145056. Email: iibc.web@gmail.com

### HONDA WAVE 125 TYPE R

Perfect condition, 21,000 km. Well maintained, one owner. 24,000 baht obo. Tel: 084-6529085.

### HONDA AIR BLADE



Dec 07. 2,000km. Upgraded disks, shocks, loads of red decor lights, AMP meter sport exhaust. Relocating. 40,000 baht. Tel: 087-2658002.

### HARLEY-DAVIDSON V-ROD

1,200cc, Thailand's most beautiful anniversary model with original chrome parts all over. 17,000km. 2 years on the road. 1.2 million baht. Contact for more details. Tel: 086-2742308. Email: kim@kamalafalls.com

### CUSTOM CHOPPER



One of a kind, green book in foreigner's name, easy transfer. 259,000 baht. Tel: 085-2959683.

### HONDA 400 CHOPPER

Very good cond, runs well, sounds great, lots of fun to ride. Tel: 084-9032739. Email: lawrence.lab@gmail.com

### YAMAHA MOTORBIKE 20,000 BAHT

1 year, 12,000km, green book. Insurance to 2009. Tel: 085-5726339. Email: kelvin korea81@hotmail.com

### HONDA CLICK 125

600km, 8 weeks old, red, brand-new condition. Paid 49,500 baht. Will accept 35,000 baht. Tel: 086-2780054

### BMW K 1200R

2006, only 2,000km, green book, new tax, insurance, mint condition. 760,000 baht obo. Tel: 084-8507170.

### YAMAHA R1 FOR SALE

Model 2004 + Akrapovic exhaust system, power commander. Price: 400,000 baht. Tel: 087-0808524.

### SUZUKI STEP 125

2006, automatic, 125cc. Green, 7,300km, taxed & insured until June 2009. Green book. 27,000 baht. Tel: 084-8463887. Fax: 076-245736. Email: stefuena@hotmail.com

### HARLEY-DAVIDSON

1,450cc, excellent condition, used only 8 months. 30,470 km. 450,000 baht. Tel: 083-1731690, 083-6903179.

## Rentals

### A1 CAR RENTALS



Fully insured. 12,000 to 20,000 baht per month. Tel: 089-8314703. Email: a1carrent@myway.com

### CHEAP CAR FOR RENT

Honda City, automatic, long-term only. 12,000 baht/month. Tel: 086-7432011. Email: woon\_bank@hotmail.com

### P.M.P. CAR RENTALS

New cars for rent:  
Toyota Vios,  
Yaris, Fortuner,  
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Tel: 083-1743880,  
087-2646808.

### HONDA JAZZ 13,000 BAHT/MONTH

manual. Tel: 076-282182, 081-4763242. Fax: 076-282182. Email: nat@phuket-festival.com

### CHEVROLET CAPTIVA FOR RENT

2008 Captiva tiptronic-automatic, red, petrol engine, insurance. Long-term rental: 35,000 baht per month. Tel: 089-6671844. Email: slarti@onthenet.com.au

**CHEVROLET CAPTIVA** for rent. 2.4L, 2008, red, long-term lease: 28,000 baht/month. For more details, email: domecellar phuket@hotmail.com

### CAR RENTAL

10,000 to 20,000 baht per month, full insurance. Call 089-4727304 for details.

### D-MAX FOR RENT, 17,000 BAHT

Dark blue, 4WD, 4 doors. D-Max LS 2004. Full insurance. Tel: 086-9421969. Email: laclisque@gmail.com

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Vios: 20,000 baht/month. Fortuner: 40,000 baht/month. Tel: 080-6973174. Website: www.phuketrentcars.com

### NISSAN NV FOR RENT

Extra cab + cover wagon, 10,000 baht per month, includes full insurance. Tel: 081-5693768.

### RENT A NISSAN WINGROAD

Auto, gold, first-class condition. Long-term rental only. 13,000 baht per month. Tel: 083-3927150. Email: wunch art-thannawat@hotmail.com

## Bicycles

### BIANCHI C2C ROAD BIKE

2008 Bianchi C2C carbon-fiber road bike with 55cm medium frame and Cateye micro wireless computer. Tel: 085-6197492. Email: imarable@hotmail.com

## Wanted

### HONDA WAVE WANTED

125cc. Electric start. Disc brake. Maximum 2 years old. Tel: 081-3670991.

### TOYOTA FORTUNER WANTED

I want to buy a Toyota Fortuner, 0-2 years old. I am based in Phuket. Please email me with details and pictures if possible, with price. Email: paulmccarthy007@yahoo.co.uk

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