

# Phuket Gazette

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French beauties, one of whom will be crowned Miss France 2009, turned heads in Phuket recently.

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## Reef Squadron splashes down

By Tipwarintron Tanaakarachod

**BANG TAO:** The Thai Dive Association (TDA), For Sea Foundation, and the Royal Thai Air force joined forces on November 24 to sink ten decommissioned cold-war aircraft in the Andaman sea, creating an artificial reef in Bang Tao Bay.

The ten-plane "Coral Reef Squadron", as it has been dubbed, is made up of four Douglas C-47 Dakota Skytrain planes and six Sikorsky S-58T helicopters.

The operation to sink the craft was carried out in co-operation with Sang Charoen Shipping Industry Co Ltd.

Slated to start at 11 am, the procedure was postponed for three hours owing to heavy rain and poor visibility. While sinking the first plane, the team encountered further difficulties when air became trapped in the tail section, causing it to float.

The team managed to resolve the problem by punching holes in the tail and wing sections of the plane, allowing the trapped air to escape.

Thereafter, the mission proceeded according to plan and the plane finally came to rest on a specially created concrete platform 22 meters below the surface. This newly fashioned artificial reef will become home to a variety of fish and coral.

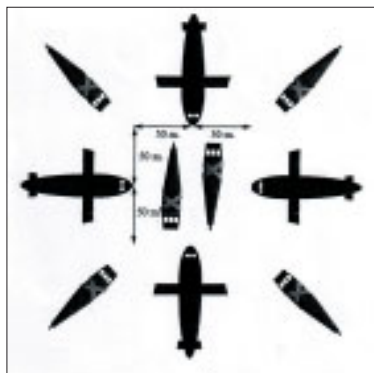
The aircraft used to build the reef are arranged in a circle formation with two craft positioned in the center.

Following the successful sinking of the first aircraft on Monday, the plan, at the time of going to press, was to sink two craft per day, culminating with the final aircraft being lowered to the seabed today November 29, which will mark the official opening of the Sea Air Wreck. Minister of Tourism and Sport, Veerasak Kosurat, will preside over the opening ceremony.

All the aircraft used in the Coral Reef Squadron project



The first of four Douglas C-47 Dakota Skytrains is gently lowered into the sea. It hit the ocean bed at a depth of 21 meters at around 2:30 pm on Monday, November 24.



The aircraft used to build the reef are arranged in a circular formation with two craft positioned in the center.

saw active service in the Vietnam and Korean wars and were later used as part of HM the King's project to create artificial rain. This sinking of a squadron of military aircraft represents a world first for Phuket.

The TDA is hoping that the new man-made reef will provide a boost to tourism, while helping to protect Thailand's other natural coral reefs, which have suffered great damage over recent years as the result of the large

numbers of resort divers visiting the sites.

Mr Vittayen Muttamara, secretary of the TDA, told the Gazette that a survey conducted by the For Sea Foundation had discovered widespread degradation of the coral in the Andaman sea. The decay was caused for the most part by tourist diving, he said.

World-renowned for the beauty of its coral, the Andaman sea each year attracts thousands of divers keen to explore its reefs. To service this demand, while at the same time protecting the beauty of the coral reefs, the For Sea Foundation came up with the idea of building a man-made reef using airplanes.

The For Sea Foundation first considered using a decommissioned fighter plane that was stationed in Hat Yai.

However, Royal Thai Air Force chief Marshal Knogsak Wattana cautioned against the use of this craft, recommending instead the use of a larger number of bigger aircraft, which

would provide a better environment for the formation of coral.

Marshal Knogsak subsequently sanctioned the acquisition of the Dakota planes and Sikorsky helicopters, which had long since been decommissioned and stationed in Lop Buri province.

In order to use the aircraft, however, the For Sea Foundation needed to secure approval from the US, which had earlier donated the craft to Thailand. This acquisition process took more than a year to complete.

Having acquired the planes, the For Sea Foundation then had to decide upon a location for the new reef.

In opting for Bang Tao Bay, the foundation calculated that by locating the new reef near to popular Koh Wew, the area would provide an attractive dive alternative to Phi Phi, Koh Racha Yai and Koh Racha Noi.

The total cost of the Sea Air Wreck project is around eight million baht, with the government footing about half the bill and the rest put up by sponsors.



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# Drunken villager confesses to brutal slaying of neighbor

KATHU: A Kathu man has confessed to the shooting and stabbing to death of a neighbor on the morning of November 23.

Under questioning at Tung Tong police station, Wichian Choosri, 38, stated that he killed 39-year-old Nitti Limboot while in a drunken rage earlier that morning.

Mr Wichian reported the murder to the police, who arrived at the scene off Wichit Songkram Road, Soi 4, in Tambon Kathu to find onlookers crowded around Mr Nitti's body.

Partially decapitated and lying face-up, the victim had been shot in the head and had his throat slashed.

He had also suffered deep lacerations to his legs and arms inflicted by a rubber tapping sickle.

Around him were hundreds of rubber saplings, some splattered with blood.

An investigation of the area uncovered one .38 caliber bullet casing on the ground in front of a small, one-storey wooden house located about 20 meters from where the body was found.

After Kusoldharm Foundation workers had taken the body to Patong Hospital, police continued their investigation at the scene.

Mr Wichian then arrived with 42-year-old local resident

Liam Thepkaew. Still drunk and covered with bloodstains, Wichian confessed to killing Mr Nitti in a fit of drunken rage.

Under interrogation at Tung Tong Police Station, he told officers, while still clearly drunk, that he had had a fight over politics with Mr Nitti a few weeks earlier.

When he saw Mr Nitti driving down the soi on his salaeng (motorbike with sidecar attached) towards the main road, he stood in the middle of the soi to block his path.

He wanted to "clear the air" and settle their differences, he told police.

However, when Mr Nitti refused to talk to him he pulled out a .38 and fired, hitting the victim in the head.

Mr Wichian then went back to his house to get a sickle, which he used to sever the victim's neck and slash his throat, arms and legs.

He then went to tell his neighbor Mr Liam what he had done, he said.

However, police noted discrepancies in his story and will investigate further. They believe that the failure to recover a .38 caliber weapon at the scene may mean that another person was involved.

Sources: *Manager Online, Siangtai Daily*

## "Au revoir" Miss France

Phuket's natural beauty was further enhanced last week with the arrival of 36 Miss France contestants who came here to film a special segment of the pageant to be broadcast in France next month. The choice of Phuket as a destination was largely due to a collaboration between the Tourism Authority of Thailand's (TAT) Paris office, XL Airways and BEST Tours.

Between November 16-21, the Miss France contestants and their entourage, totaling 85 people, stayed at the Indigo Pearl Resort where they were based during their stay here.

The ladies were flown to Phuket on a special XL Airways chartered flight direct from Paris. XL Airways is due to start its operation of regular Paris-Phuket charter flights in December 2008. The weekly one-flight service will continue until April 2010 using a 364-seat Airbus A330-200, with



What's your poisson? Beauty on parade at a local fish market.

the inaugural flight to take place on 21 December 2008.

While in Phuket the contestants were kept busy with photo shoots and other pre-event coverage as well as sightseeing organized by the TAT and BEST tours. With the wide and varied media channels for the Miss France 2009 campaign in Phuket and the inaugural flight, TAT hopes that more French people will now choose Thailand as their next holiday destination.

For years, France has remained one of the most important European markets for Thailand's travel industry, along with the UK, Germany and Sweden.

Thailand welcomed around 351,651 French visitors in 2007, an increase of 9.92% from 319,910 the previous year.

The Miss France 2009 pageant will be broadcast on December 6 on TF1 to an estimated 12 million French viewers.

## Bottled water set to slake taste for luxury

On November 22 beverage importer CVS Syndicate held a party at White Box, Kalim Beach to celebrate the opening of its new office in Phuket and to promote its new "super premium" brand of bottled water, FIJI Water, which it plans to distribute in Thailand.

CVS Syndicate is also exclusive distributor of Corona and Miller beer and is a subsidiary of Boon Rawd Co Ltd – the brewer of Thailand's well-known Singha beer.

The event was organized by CVS Managing Director Mr Preecha Chinart and presided over by Boon Rawd Executive Vice President, Mr Chutinant Bhirombhakdi.

The celebration was attended by a number of prominent Phuket businessmen, as well as Phuket Provincial Administration President Paiboon Upatising.

FIJI Water is bottled on the



Exclusive and expensive Fijian water claims to be the purest.

island of Fiji in the South Pacific. The brand has become a fad among Hollywood health fanatics, who believe FIJI is purer than other types of bottled water due to the distance of its source from the industrialized world.

FIJI Water Company, the owner of the brand, claims, "FIJI Water's aquifer is in a virgin ecosystem at the edge of a primitive rainforest, thousands of miles

from the nearest industrialized continent."

Mr Preecha added, "FIJI water has a lot of calcium and is good for the skin."

CVS will aim the brand at high-end customers. Marketing will target two types of buyer: firstly, large hotels and restaurants, such as the Hard Rock Café; and secondly, supermarkets.

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## 1,000 Words

When is a pavement not a pavement?



Photo and caption submitted by David Kirk.

Have you taken any pictures worth 1,000 words?  
Send yours to [editor@phuketgazette.net](mailto:editor@phuketgazette.net)

## Toilet paper inferno a close call

CHALONG: It took firefighters about an hour-and-a-half to extinguish a blaze that broke out in a warehouse on Soi Sanjaotaead in Chalong at about 11:30 am.

Four firetrucks and a "cherry-picker" were dispatched from the Wichit and Chalong Fire Departments to the warehouse, located about 200 meters behind the Phuket Spa and the grounds of The Andaman Cobra Show.

Fueled by the highly combustible paper and its plastic wrapping, the fire roared back to life several times after firefighters seemed to be getting it under control.

One firefighter in the bucket of the cherry picker punched holes in the corrugated tin cladding of the warehouse so that water could reach the flames.

Firefighters continued to douse the unburned merchandise to keep it from igniting and raced, under very dangerous conditions,



Firefighters battled the blaze for well over an hour

to remove as much toilet paper from the warehouse as quickly as possible to stop it catching alight.

One man high up in the rafters, dressed only in his underwear, bravely scooped paper from the blaze just meters away.

One gust of wind making its way inside the warehouse could have flared up the fire badly and

left him with terrible burns.

The brave efforts of these men saved new homes located just meters away from the fire.

There were no reports of serious injury. It is still too early to estimate the damage caused. One firefighter said he suspected the cause was an electrical short circuit.

## CCTV coverage expanded in Phuket City

B20M funding from province for 16 security cameras and 16 new buses

PHUKET CITY: More closed-circuit television (CCTV) cameras will be installed in the Phuket City area under a project with 20 million baht in funding from the Phuket Provincial Administration Organization (PPAO).

The PPAO President Paiboon Upatising said the installation will start in the city's two largest recreational areas: Saphan Hin and Rama IX Park, also known as Suan Luang.

Phuket City Police will oversee the CCTV monitoring center. Phuket City already has a network of 16 CCTV cameras, installed under a 16-million-baht contract with telecommunications provider CAT Telecom Public Company Ltd. Similar security networks were established in Patong and Karon at the same time.

The 48 security cameras were announced as being fully operational in February 2007, but Phuket Provincial Police Commander Apirak Hongtong recently admitted that some units were not yet operating properly.

In a related story, the PPAO also plans to launch 16 new public buses to cater to students and

other commuters.

Over 1,500 students have already registered to use the existing "Green Bus" service free of charge, while many schools have requested that the PPAO add additional routes to accommodate their students.

The authority also plans to organize a "musical fountain" at Saphan Hin as part of the New Year's Eve countdown celebrations to be held there.

As for the authority's "beachguards", after two rounds of bidding since the new administration took power, no company has yet been able to tender a successful bid for the 20-million-baht contract.

The problem is that the terms of reference for the contract are higher than before, with new requirements, such as certification of all beachguards and other conditions included to ensure "transparency".

If no single company manages to put in a successful bid soon, the PPAO will consider offering smaller contracts.

Those contracts would provide services in certain areas before the onset of the monsoon season in May, when surf conditions become more dangerous.

Sources:  
Andaman News and Manager Online.

## E-mail created to denounce drugs

PHUKET CITY: The Phuket Provincial "War on Drugs" Operations Center has established a new email address in a bid to garner more reports and anonymous tip-offs to aid its fight against illegal drug use.

Phuket Governor Preecha Ruangjan said he hopes that the newly created email address, [phuket\\_dru@moi.go.th](mailto:phuket_dru@moi.go.th), will en-

courage people who would be too afraid to report information by other means to come forward.

Other more traditional ways to report information about illegal drug use include writing a letter addressed to the Governor's Office or calling 076-211366 during normal government working hours.

Source: Siangtai



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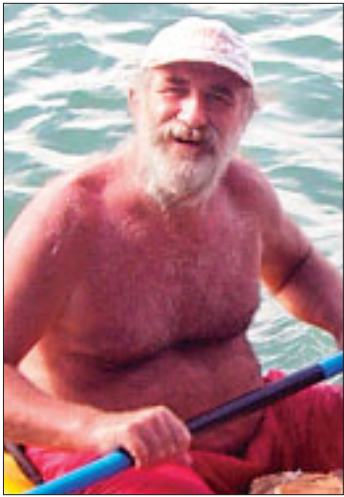
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## THE GRAY AREA



By John 'Caveman' Gray

I have just visited six countries in five months: Australia, Fiji, New Zealand, the Philippines, Taiwan, Vietnam, plus Thailand. In each country, I surveyed the cultural attitude towards wildlife as well as its impact upon it.

I have always known that local culture determines the status of natural ecosystems, an excellent case in point being Phang Nga Bay, where certain unscrupulous TAT managers and mass tourism operators sold out their integrity by choosing volume and profit over proper management of Phang Nga's tidal sea caves and

hongs – a delicate world treasure with unique and fragile qualities.

The actions of these “managers” reveal an utter lack of respect for their own country by turning these fragile ecosystems into a mass tourism party that has nothing to do with sea kayaking. Significantly, in 29 years, I have never actually seen one kayak in the bay that sustains their wealth as they trash their country's treasures. But more of that later.

My first trip was to Oceania. Ecologically speaking, Australia and New Zealand are pretty much as good as it gets. Both countries have iron-clad systems of agricultural checks, ensuring that not only cash crops but fragile ecosystems are protected from disease. In Sydney, the Rainbow Lorikeets did not so much as jump as I stepped out the door of my bed & breakfast. The next day, I got to photograph an Ibis in a downtown park. Australia has its problems, including agricultural siltation onto a dying Great Barrier Reef, but most of the countryside remains hospitable to wildlife.

If only the whole planet could enjoy the ethical standards

set by our southern hemisphere friends.

They may not be perfect, but the Kiwis and Aussies make a clear environmental commitment – strongly supported throughout the population. Do not forget that these environmentalists make up one of Phuket's major markets.

In Taipei, I didn't see a great deal: the airport, the Howard Hotel, and the Convention Center. It looked okay, but I didn't get to see the countryside. I do know some KMT types ate Tiger #6 from Khao Sok, and I'm one of those guys who asks, “What happened to the Formosans?”

I am happy to say that I did find some shops displaying Formosan traditional crafts and carvings, a very good sign. Blame it on the Aussies.

Fiji was just 50:50. I found linoleum flooring carpeting some reefs and I tried to buy a baby turtle off a Fijian. When he realized I wanted to release it back to the sea, he snarled, “Not for sale!” However, that is the exception, not the rule. I love Fiji and its friendly people (except on the rugby pitch). Most follow traditional Pacific culture that em-

phasizes a balance with nature. On Taveuni, if you want tuna for dinner, you jump in your canoe and go trolling; you won't be gone long. Gardens are green and full, and nobody wants for food.

Back in the '80s, a Korean fisherman went swimming in Suva Harbor. He was gobbled up at the dockside within five minutes by a 20-foot tiger shark. Unfortunately for the Korean, even Fiji's harbors maintain a healthy ecosystem.

I visited a pristine rainforest in the Suva highlands. The trailhead offered a spectacular view over Suva, and the Eco-lodge plays host to regular groups of ornithologists looking for a sumptuous variety of rare feathered friends. The most spectacular, like Lorikeets and musk parrots, fly right in front of your face.

Puerto Princesa is perhaps SE Asia's most “Eco” spot, but until its airport becomes international next year, I am forced to transit the Manila cesspool, literally stepping over nursing mothers with makeshift beds constructed out of cardboard boxes, sleeping on broken sidewalks. Fiji has no beggars, but SE Asia appears filled with them. While I tend to see the same beggars on Sukhumvit Road every time I visit Bangkok, that “Manila Mama” seems to have one more kid every year.

The brutal Spanish colonialists brought overpopulation, cockfighting and environmental devastation. Entire islands were denuded, reefs stripped, covered with silt and then overpopulated in the name of God. The Philippines may become the first country outside of Africa to suffer total environmental meltdown.

You certainly won't find many beggars in Singapore, but they've got plenty of bulldozers,

as much of the city state is built on reclaimed land. I have yet to figure out how a reef that's been bulldozed and then covered with high-rise foundations can be labeled “reclaimed”.

I can't say enough about “Eco” Puerto Princesa, standing at the pinnacle of SE Asia's environmental awareness.

In many ways, it even surpasses the southern hemisphere and, most remarkably, it is in the Philippines. Our own TAT managers would benefit greatly from a field trip to Puerto Princesa to witness an example of sustainable prosperity.

Hanoi in Vietnam is a clean, emerging city, where old culture blends with new high-rise architecture. But Vietnam is hell for wildlife, if any indeed still exists.

I have been exploring Halong Bay since 1992 and Ba Be National Park since 1995 and I can safely say that I have seen more wildlife in Phang Nga in a single day than I have witnessed in Vietnam over the past 16 years. And as we know, Thailand's record isn't much to write home about.

When I first explored Halong Bay, the place was full of Tokay Geckos, some of my favorite animals. A family of Tokay live in my home, watching me upside down as I write. I have become intimately acquainted with their distinctive voice.

A few years later, I found a Vietnamese hunting them. I asked him what possible financial value a Tokay could offer. I had expected to hear some story about the exotic pet trade, but instead he told me that the Tokay were destined to wind up in a traditional Chinese medicine. The medicine trade must have perpetrated 4,000 years of animal abuse in support of its various mystical claims. I on the other hand, pre-

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**Sure enough, I wasn't on the island more than two minutes when a hawker threw a baby gibbon in to my lap, so young it was still in diapers. Its eyes were filled with terror from the days-old memory of its mother being shot as it lay in her arms.**

ferring a dose of reality, recommend you try Viagra. It really works and is far cheaper. Until reality conquers tradition, wildlife has good reason to fear us.

Halong's waters are an open sewer. Nothing of interest grows in them, and I have seen only two white belly sea eagles in 16 years.

Back in Phuket, our family is blessed. The little patch of jungle we rent is an isolated island in a growing sea of development where wildlife is cut off from other populations. It should be said that many developers, especially Westerners, actually do their best not to disturb nature.

I watch squirrels skittering across my bamboo jungle, stealing bananas no human can reach. Our little jungle is host to at least one blood python, a reticulated python, a cobra, bamboo rats, blue-winged pitta, cane spiders, and brown frogs, proof that Phuket can still sustain our wild friends.

However, Phuket's human population is adept at destroying wildlife, even if only in a soft touch manner.

Feeding wildlife is illegal in

national parks, but, incredibly, the TAT actually encourages it. When I petitioned a former governor of Krabi to stop feeding the macaques in Talin, his response was an irresponsible, "It's good for business."

For crab-eating macaques, abuse starts with something as simple as feeding them bananas. The three important things to remember about feeding wildlife are:

- Human offerings are not part of their natural diet.
- The wildlife becomes dependent upon human handouts.
- Wildlife becomes habituated to human contact.

Primates, including humans, love bananas, but I've never seen bananas growing on Phang Nga's limestone islands. Unnatural food supply causes a number of problems. Broken limbs resulting from tourist-created food fights are a recurring problem in Penak.

Habitats are altered when macaques stay in one place begging bananas instead of engaging in wide-ranging foraging.

The habituation issue came

close to home recently when a long-tail boat sailed in between our support boat at anchor and the beach and shot a macaque right in front of our guests. The bullets didn't finish the job, so they beached the boat and clubbed the monkey to death with a stone, all in a national park.

But the accumulated problems of all six of the countries I visited seem inconsequential compared with what I ran into in a well-known tourist trap during a group inspection trip. I usually wouldn't go to this spot, but an academic friend told me he had seen gibbons for sale on his research trip there two years earlier.

Sure enough, I wasn't on the island two minutes before a hawker threw a baby gibbon into my lap, so young it was still in diapers. Its eyes were filled with terror from the days-old memory of its mother being shot as it lay in her arms.

This is the ultimate definition of "massacre" and it happens right in front of the eyes of the authorities, who, for some unknown reason, choose not to do their job. My professor friend was offered a gibbon for sale, and the ranger escorting him said it was okay because that gibbon was "just a pet".

I was never offered a gibbon, but the hawker did try to sell me a photograph. Fortunately, I had no money and therefore did not contribute to the animal trade.

Thanks to this evil practice, Thai gibbons are now rare. In an all-too-familiar scenario, three mothers holding babies are shot from the tree. Odds are only one baby survives the fall. What is

truly criminal is that this trade operates quite openly, with the obvious blessing of the authorities.

The point is that we abuse wildlife all over the planet. Yet Australia, New Zealand and Puerto Princesa prove that it doesn't have to be that way. The solution lies in improving education, forcing the authorities to do their jobs, and in encouraging the general population to support conservation.

Locals tend to dismiss conservationism with an attitude of "this is my country", but if they are so proud, why do they make Thailand look so bad?

Thirty years ago, on the Hawaiian island of Waikiki, some fool speared a turtle and walked home with his catch, spear still in its neck.

The police said he was easy to find because every house he passed called 911. That is the measure of respect for wildlife we need to develop in Thai society if we wish to preserve wildlife for future generations.

Sure, there may be cultural differences, but that's my point. The Aussies and Kiwis still slaughter their cows, pigs and sheep, but beyond the farm fence things look pretty healthy.

So why is SE Asia's wildlife situation so dramatically different from that of the South Pacific?

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## Student stabber sentenced

BANGKOK: The Criminal Court on November 20 sentenced 37-year-old Jitrada Tantiwanichayasuk to eight years in jail for stabbing four schoolgirls with a knife at St Joseph's school in 2005. The sentence was commuted to four years because the defendant confessed.

The court said the defendant, who has a history of mental problems, will be sent to receive medical treatment at a hospital after serving the jail term.

In September of 2005, Ms Jitrada stabbed and seriously injured four students at the girls-only St Joseph's School in the center of Bangkok. One of the students was left in critical condition but later recovered. Jitrada escaped from the school on a motorcycle.

While working at a Bangkok restaurant, the restaurant owner alerted police after recognizing her from a police sketch. Jitrada allegedly told police investigators she had heard "an order from heaven" telling her to "do something" to rich Indians and Chinese because they had taken advantage of the Thai people.

Psychiatrists treating Jitrada after the attack diagnosed her as suffering from mental illness. Police said Jitrada had taken 500,000 baht from her mother several months earlier to prepare for the mission and planned to attack only the children of wealthy parents.

## Nine killed at race track

PATHUM THANI: Nine people were killed late on the night of Saturday November 22 when a race car lost control and hit them at a race track in Pathum Thani.

Six people were crushed to death at the ring of the Bangkok Drag Avenue in Pathum Thani shortly before 11 pm. Eleven other injured people were rushed to hospital, where three later died.

Eye-witnesses told police that the race car lost control about 300 meters after leaving the start line. It collided with a concrete barrier before careening into a group of fans around the perimeter of the track. The race is a special annual event held to allow teenagers to race among themselves.

The driver of the race car, fled the scene.

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## Protest halts ThaiBev share plans

Thai Beverage, the country's largest producer of spirits and beer, decided on November 20 to postpone indefinitely the listing of its shares on the local bourse, following massive protests by anti-alcohol groups.

Vichate Tantiwanich, executive vice president of the Stock Exchange of Thailand (SET), said the filing was still incomplete and the firm wanted to delay completion of the process.

Due to the global financial crisis and increased market volatility, ThaiBev had also found it difficult to come up with an appropriate price for its initial public offering.

It announced the indefinite postponement of its plans as more than 10,000 people rallied in front of the SET headquarters in Bangkok to oppose the listing.

Among the protesters were thousands of monks.

Back in 2005, the Thai drinks giant applied to be listed on the local bourse but its bid was turned down when Maj Chamlong Srimuang led similar protests against the stock-trading plan, prompting ThaiBev to turn to



**DEMON DRINK:** Anti-alcohol protesters dressed for Halloween poured Beer Chang and other alcohol products produced by ThaiBev into a mock cauldron outside the Stock Exchange of Thailand (SET) on November 20.

Singapore instead.

Maj Chamlong did not join the recent protests, as he was preoccupied with the People's Alliance for Democracy's bid to bring down the Somchai Wongsawat government. Senior management sources at ThaiBev had earlier stated that its listing plan for the local bourse remained intact and that the protests were not unexpected.

Anti-alcohol groups have consistently opposed the listing of the company's shares on the grounds that it would further promote the alcoholic beverage industry and the consumption of its products. On the other hand, capital-markets advocates have insisted that trading of the shares should be approved and that the authorities should instead enforce the laws on drinking.

## Vaginal piercing fashion puts Thai teenagers at risk

BANGKOK: The Public Health Ministry has warned against vaginal piercing and decoration with jewelery, saying it could lead to bacterial infection and cause severe problems in the uterus and kidneys.

Some patients have had to have their uterus removed after having vaginal piercing and adornment with unsafe objects, said Medical Services Department deputy chief Boonreung Traireungwararat.

The ministry issued the warning after it became a popular fashion among young Thai girls who believe that piercing their vaginas and adorning them with accessories would enhance their sexual libido and increase a partner's interest while having sex.

Mr Boonreung believes the piercing fashion has followed a trend popular among Japanese girls.

Most of the women who do the piercings want the decorative objects on their clitoris, but the unsafe processes used by many piercers could cause inflammation and bacterial infection, he said.

An unsafe procedure could also cause urethral stricture – a narrowing of the urethra caused by injury or disease, such as urinary tract infection or other forms of urethritis. "There is no scientific evidence that vaginal piercing would enhance sexual activity," Mr Boonreung added.

## Debt collection turns deadly

NONTHABURI: A gang claiming to be debt collectors swooped down on an alley in Nonthaburi on November 22, attacking residents with knives and guns, leaving one person dead and three others injured.

Vehicles and other property were also damaged.

The 20-strong gang sealed off an alley in Nonthaburi's Muang district in the early-morning operation, before conducting their indiscriminate stabbing and shooting spree, police said.

*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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'The Governor's Letter' has been a regular feature in the *Phuket Gazette* for 15 years. Newly appointed Governor Preecha Ruangjan has kindly agreed to continue the tradition. Thanking him here are (L to R): *Gazette* GM Niladaa (Jib) Thanakul, MD Oranee (Ann) Hildebrand, and Managing Editor Nick Davies. What might Khun Preecha have in store for Phuket? See his first column, page 27, this issue.

## Look out for the Smiley in the Sky



An artist's impression of the Smiley in the Sky that will be visible from Phuket on December 1.

PHUKET: On the night of December 1, sky-watchers will be able to observe with the naked eye a rare astral phenomenon in which Venus, Jupiter and a quarter-moon will become aligned in such a way as to form the shape of a smile in the night sky. The best time to witness the celestial smiley will be between 6 pm and 8 pm.

Mr Sitichai Jantarsinrapin of the Bangkok Planetarium told the *Gazette*, "Venus and Jupiter are already aligned and on December 1 the orbiting quarter-moon will pass by, creating the image of a smiling face." This phenomenon is not visible every year, but only when the moon passes so close to these planets. Although not an unprecedented occurrence, Mr Sitichai said it is difficult to predict when we will next get to see the smile in the sky.

## Ancient temple reveals buried treasures

There are many temples in Thalang, home to Phuket's largest settlements in days gone by, but one recently rediscovered temple is thought to date back 300 years to the Ayudhya period. The old temple is now the site of an excavation by archaeologists.

Tribanyat Jariyalrpong, president of the Thalang Cultural Village, told the *Gazette* that Kanan Temple in Thepkasattri Village 2 was possibly built at the end of the Ayudhya period which ran from 1677 to 1767.

From recent archaeological finds there, he surmises that the Burmese invasion of Thalang in 1785 forced people to bury their belongings on the temple grounds and run to the hills.

From that time forward, the temple appears to have been deserted for 150 to 180 years, possibly because of spreading disease or the collapse of the central government in 1809, he said.

In 1994, Mr Traibanyat and local volunteers started to restore the temple, which is home to three



stupas, called *chedi* in Thai

Confirming the authenticity and importance of the site, the Thai Religious Affairs Department in 2001 accepted it as a national monument.

Work is still going on at the temple grounds, which initially covered 4 rai but was expanded to 11 rai after the purchase of additional land in 1996.

The three *chedi* were used

for keeping the remains of the deceased, whose bones were stored in clay pots after cremation. The age of the large bricks used in their construction is thought to be anywhere from 150 to 300 years.

Also found at the dig were *hin tarnar*, stones taken from the sea to honor important people, as the temple is far from the sea.

Belongings of the deceased,



LEFT: An archiological dig has unearthed brickwork at the site of an ancient temple.

ABOVE: Pottery found at the temple, possibly buried during the Burmese invasion of Thalang, in 1785.

such as tea kettles, teacups, pots and other utensils, were also found. These date from the late Ayudhya period and early Rattanakosin era.

Until recently, these finds were kept in the Thalang Mu-

seum. However, construction of a two-story *ubosot*, or temple hall, is now underway.

Once completed the artifacts will be kept in a museum constructed at the temple grounds to house them.

— by Atchaa Khamlo

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# Southern police capture ganja smugglers and pill pusher in war on drugs

Police in Chumphon arrested a methamphetamine dealer on November 18. The arrest followed the capture of three cannabis smugglers in the province the day before.

Other provinces around the South also saw major drug busts in the first month of the three month "war on drugs" that started on November 3.

After receiving a tip-off, Border Patrol Police had an informant contact Manas Chatcheua, 34, and ask to buy 70 ya bah pills. Mr Manat agreed to the sale at 350 baht per pill, a total of 24,500 baht. They agreed to meet next to Chumphon Technical College. When Mr Manas arrived, police moved in to arrest him.

Police said that Mr Manas confessed that he had been selling methamphetamine for around 10 years. He said that he bought the pills for 250 baht each and sold them on to local youths, mainly students and laborers, for 350-400 baht each.

Mr Manas was then sent to Muang Chumphon Police Station to be charged. Chumphon Governor Karan Supakijwi-lekakarn came to the station and helped to question Mr Manas.

Gov Karan said the case was particularly serious as Mr Manas was selling to school children. He urged police to capture other members of the dealing network.

The previous day, on November 17, acting on information from a source, Highway Police in Sawee District stopped a Sakon Nakhon-registered pick-up truck heading south on Highway 41.

The back of the truck appeared to be filled with sacks of fertilizer, but on removing the sacks police found two backpacks filled with blocks of dried marijuana. In total, there were 73 one-kilogram blocks.

Police arrested the three occupants of the truck, identified as 38-year-old Sanan Madngao and Sari Hatthapradit, 56, both from Trang's Kantang District, and Kanokanat Phumsawai, 40, from Muang district Sakon Nakhon.

Police said the three admitted that they had bought the drugs for 1,500 baht per kilogram from a contact in Laos, across the Mekong River from Sakon Nakhon. They said they were planning to sell the cannabis in the Trang area for around 30,000 baht a kilogram.

November 18 and 19 also saw major ya bah busts in Surat Thani and Narathiwat provinces.

**Senior killing:** An old woman was stabbed to death in her bed in Nakhon Sri Thammarat's Phomkhiri District in the early hours of November 17.

Iat Thongsamak, 71, an in-law of Nakhon Sri Thammarat Democrat MP Samphan Thongsamak, was found by neighbors about 9am that morning in her house in Tambon Phrom Lok.

The scene showed signs of a struggle and police believe Mrs Iat tried to fight off her attackers before being overpowered. The attackers entered the house through a back window, police said.

Mrs Nonglak Nakphalkang, 49, the victim's daughter, said that



Pairote Rattanarat of Nakhon Si Thammarat's Pak Panang district shows a cannon barrel he found at sea off the province recently. He asked the authorities concerned to check the age of the item.

200,000 baht in cash and a large amount of gold jewellery was missing from her mother's house.

Investigating officer Rengchai Rachkijja from the Phrom Khiri Police said that a neighbour heard Mrs Iat scream three times at about 3 am.

When the neighbors went outside to investigate they could see nothing amiss and went back to sleep.

Despite Mrs Nonglak's statement, Lt Col Rengchai said that nothing had been stolen from the house. Police are investigating a family dispute over inheritance as the motive for the killing.

"As none of the victim's possessions were missing, we are definitely ruling out robbery as a motive. Mrs Iat has nine children and they are currently locked in a dispute over the division of the family's 13-rai of land. They have already started legal action against each other at Nakhon Sri Thammarat Provincial Court and the

court is due to hear the case in 2010," he said.

Police are currently concentrating on this as the motive for the killing and have no other promising leads, he added.

**Acid horrors:** A man was left in critical condition after his wife threw acid over him in Satun's Tha Phae District in the early hours of November 17.

Neighbors took Arun Thawasikho, 33, to Tha Phae Hospital suffering from severe acid burns to his head, face and chest. He was then sent for further treatment to Satun Hospital, where doctors said he was in critical condition.

Two other men, Praset Song-iat, 32, and Jaow Song-iat, 35, were also admitted with acid burns to their arms.

The men told police that as they were sitting drinking beer outside Arun's house in Tambon Tha Reua, Mr Arun's wife Anong

Bualek, 28, threw acid over Mr Arun. Some of it splashed off, hitting Mr Prasert and Mr Jaow.

Mrs Anong later gave herself up at Tha Pae Police Station. She told police that she was suspicious her husband had a lover in Satun Town, as he liked to go there a lot.

The night of the incident, Mr Arun had been out drinking in Satun Town with his two friends, so out of anger she decided to throw acid on him. She has been charged with inflicting bodily harm on another person.

**Officer shot:** A brief gunfight left a police officer in Raman District in critical condition after suspected insurgents shot him in the head and arms.

Police Corporal Charin Saikew and a group of fellow officers were ambushed by gunmen on a back road in Tambon Kota Baru on November 21, police said.

The two sides traded gunshots for about five minutes before the culprits retreated.

Charin and the officers were returning to their station after attending a road accident.

A few days earlier, on November 16, gunmen shot dead a former village chief in Tambon Bangpor as he and his eight-year-old daughter were leaving the mosque, police said.

Gunmen in a pickup truck drove up to Asem Waji, 49, and commenced fire with an M16 automatic rifle, letting off at least ten rounds.

Three rounds hit Asem in the torso, and one in the head.

His daughter, who suffered a gunshot wound to her chest, was rushed to a nearby hospital.

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

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## Floods swamp Samui

KOH SAMUI: Annual monsoon weather has caused havoc to infrastructure around the island, leaving many areas flooded and impassable. Treacherous rains also necessitated the early closure of schools and businesses around the island.

Island residents have become increasingly irritated by the frequency of rising waters which cause disruption and pose a threat to businesses located along such routes.

"The rains at this time of year are entirely expected but it's disgraceful that the drainage issues have not been sorted out," said Ying Satayu, a shop owner near one of the trouble spots.

"I have put sand bags in front of my shop to protect it and now customers find it difficult to get into my premises. Aside from this, it presents such a hazard to people riding motorbikes or even small cars."

On taking office, the new mayor of Koh Samui, Ramnet Jaikwang, cited this problem as a priority and said that measures would be taken to limit the amount of flooding that occurs in many areas notorious for

such problems.

A team of surveyors appointed by the mayor were instructed to identify all the areas that had been affected by the floods in previous years so that preventative action could be taken. Fourteen such areas were subsequently pinpointed and named in a report.

The mayor has been working on a solution to unblock drains and has pumps in place ready for any substantial collection of water. He has also put teams on standby to monitor such areas when heavy rains are predicted.

After the rains of 2005, when several areas were devastated by floods and the island was declared a disaster zone, many residents feel that the flood problems should have been corrected and further chaos avoided.

Mayor Jaikwang's team has asked for subsidies of 14 million baht to repair roads and install a more modern and efficient drainage system.

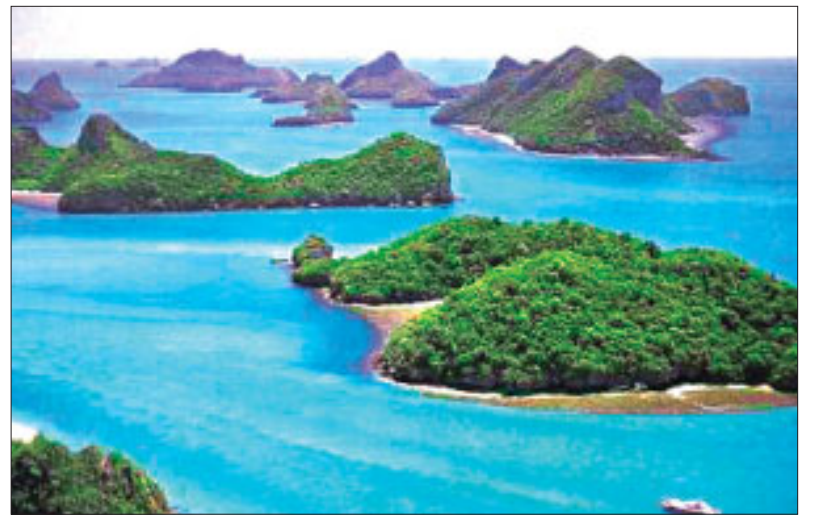
In the meantime, an emergency help line has been set up to assist residents in need during heavy rains in the flood-prone areas.

## Marine park closed to tourists

One of Surat Thani's more popular marine tourist attractions, and one where scenes were filmed for the movie *The Beach*, Angthong National Marine Park, has been closed down over concerns of safety.

The closure of the 102-square-kilometer park comes at a time when seasonal weather brings strong winds and rain which could pose dangers to small vessels or for people who intend to camp on the islands.

The closure was demanded



Angthong National Marine Park enveloped in more tranquil weather. Photo: Tourism Authority of Thailand.



FROM THE  
GULF OF  
THAILAND  
By Max Rogers

by the National Park and Wildlife Conservation Department of Thailand, which is the government agency charged with overseeing safety in all the country's national parks.

Chaisan Hiransalee, head of the Marine Park, has issued warnings to tour operators not to accept bookings from tourists asking to visit the park.

However, he states the closure is often ignored as tour operators have more interest in making money rather than taking safety into consideration.

Furthermore, Khun Hiran-

salee stated that, aside from keeping tourists out of harm's way, the closure also allows for the regeneration of flora and coral that often suffer due to the impact of visitor traffic on the natural environment. Maintenance teams also use this time to carry out vital repairs to park facilities.

The Angthong National Marine Park consists of 42 separate islands covering 102 square kilometres, and is one of the most popular venues for tourists visiting Koh Samui and Koh Phangan. The park will reopen on December 24.

## Island ferry operators slash fares

Passengers benefit from drops in oil prices and tourism

SURAT THANI: Operators of the Seatran and Raja Ferry Companies have agreed to cut passenger and car rates for journeys to and from Koh Samui and Koh Phangan.

The decision was made on November 3, after executives of the two companies felt that oil prices had now fallen and were showing some signs of stability.

Earlier this year, the companies were forced to hike their fares and make cutbacks to their timetables in an attempt to remain in operation.

A meeting was held be-

tween the operators, Surat Thani government officials and the provincial government's Marine Transport Authority, under the order of Surat Thani Governor Pracha Taerat.

After strong encouragement from the Tourism Authority of Thailand, the decision was taken in an effort to promote more travel to and from the islands, especially during the forthcoming high season in which significantly lower numbers of visitors are expected due to the global economic crisis.

Fares between Donsak and

Koh Samui have been reduced from 150 baht to 110 baht, while rates for cars and SUVs have been cut from 420 baht to 320 baht. The passenger rate for the trip between Donsak and Koh Phangan is now 210 baht, down from 280 baht. Four-wheel drives and cars now pay 550 instead of 800 baht.

Although this represents a significant decrease, officials were quick to point out that these new fares are a reflection of current oil prices, and, as such, may rise again as and when the market dictates.

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**T**oo few of us know them. Which is strange, really: winemaking has flourished on the Cape Peninsula since 1663. Success, moreover, came quickly to the region and during the 19th Century prices in Europe for the much-prized Constantia whites matched those of Sauternes' Chateau d'Yquem, France's finest dessert wine.

But then came the phylloxera vine-root destroying aphids, world wars, a 12-year alcohol consumption "Prohibition" in the United States, 'apartheid', ostracism and a 30-year trade embargo by the world community. The 20th Century was a write-off for South African producers; lovers of the grape largely forgot their wines.

Wine-making struggled on, however, and today South Africa ranks among the world's top ten producers, with 6.4 million hectoliters in 2001.

But its vintners find themselves locked in a death grip over markets with other "New World" winemakers. Its products languish in the bargain bins of big retailers because even the nation's best producers remain mere cyphers for most wine drinkers, with no pre-eminent brands such as Australia's Pen-folds or New Zealand's Cloudy Bay to lead the charge against consumer resistance. Desperate for recognition – anything to carve a niche for themselves – one group of winemakers in the Worcester appellation even decided to label their bottles in Braille.

While such is doubtless appreciated by the sight-impaired – and why aren't more producers following suit? – South African vintners shouldn't be reduced to finding clever gimmicks to sell wine. Over the past decade, scores for a number of South African wines have crept past the 90-point barrier in tastings, forcing critics such as Robert M Parker Jr and Wine Spectator magazine to pay attention. It's only a matter of time, perhaps, before the region becomes the next big thing.

In the meantime, South African winemakers tour the world trying to spread awareness (and vinous good cheer). One of their leading lights, Frank Meaker of Bovlei Winery, hosted a tasting in Patong recently, offering wares for consideration by vendors and meeting with the press. His wines have received several gold medals in recent years at the Michelangelo International Wine Awards, the region's premier event. Bovlei, distributed by BNK in Phuket, is in the increasingly well-regarded Wellington appellation, northwest of Cape Town, where the porous sandstone soils are "of limited fertility" – and thus perfect for wine.

Meaker, 53, is a Cape native, born in Cape Town, growing to maturity in Stellenbosch – heart of South Africa's first, smallest and most famous wine-

# Alas for South African wine growers!



**Reni Hildenbrand, owner of the well-regarded Hildenbrand Wine and Olive Estate, and Frank Meaker of Bovlei Winery hosted a tasting at Patong's Club Andaman Beach Resort. The award-winning South African winemakers are on a promotional tour of Thailand.**

growing area – and attending Stellenbosch University. The university is for South African wine-making, as the great wine critic Andre L Simon once observed, "what Montpellier is to French viticulture," or the University of California at Davis is in the US – the center of research and spawning ground for future winemakers. It is where the well-known Pinot Noir - Cinsaut hybrid 'Pinotage' was developed.

After school, he traveled the world, working in Pomerol – where the velvet softness and spicy aromas of the Merlot grape have made Chateau Petrus the world's most valued red wine – and at the Napa Valley's Robert Mondavi Winery, long California's most influential vintner.

"I was sent to see what the Americans were doing," he told me at Club Andaman Beach Resort amid the hubbub of a hundred or so schmoozing wine dealers. "They had a new vision; I brought home a few useful ideas."

He puts them into practice as production manager at Bovlei, a 101-year-old co-operative of 35 growers with annual output of over 8,000 tonnes. "Name a few businesses that are one hundred years old – anywhere," Meaker challenged. "You won't find many."

Something else one doesn't find many of are Shiraz wines as finished and appealing as Bovlei's 2006 Shiraz, a gold-medal winner at this year's Michelangelo International. Redolent of wild berries and mint, this exotic, dark-robed, long-legged beauty persists long on the palate. Carrying 13.93 degrees of alcohol and five grams residual sugar, it is a lush, heady wine, superb of its type, and probably more accessible now than Hermitage of the same year. "Integrity is the key," to fine wine-making, Meaker said, averring

the line [of command] is not straight. In South Africa it's straight."

Meaker is also proud of his 2007 Merlot: youthful, with slightly chewy tannins, it bids fare to be a stand-out after another year in bottle. Drier than the Shiraz, with only 2.1 grams of sugar, and slightly less alcoholic at 13.52 degrees, the Merlot's aromas suggest blackcurrants and mint – typical of the varietal.

Bovlei makes a full range of wines, including the 2006 Semi-Sweet Special Late Harvest white with 49 grams residual sugar, a rich, golden wine. Among the whites, Meaker wants to experiment more with Chenin Blanc – or "Pineau de la Loire" as it is sometimes called. Chenin used to be synonymous with France's Loire valley, but far more is planted today in South Africa than in France.

"It is most versatile," he said, and makes wines of great depth and complexity – whether unctuous, golden dessert wines or crisp, straw-colored whites. It can age for decades, gaining in complexity, developing bottle bouquet, and deepening in color. Bovlei's 2008 Chenin Blanc is aromatic of hay, tropical fruit and guava, and

finished dry with only two grams residual sugar and 12.36 degrees alcohol.

Regarding the current battle for global market share, in which Australia is leaving its rivals behind, Meaker observed that "production costs are generally lower in South Africa," and noted that "not many people know the Australians got most of their vines originally from South Africa." The South African economy, however, still sputters fitfully and the domestic market is oriented towards other beverages, thus SA wine sales lag several orders of magnitude behind Australia's. Nonetheless, as the rand "goes down and down," he said, "we sell more exports." Wine tourism to South Africa, also, "is so important" and has greatly helped both sales and promotion.

"People take away a bottle and then buy more [when they get back home overseas]," he said.

Meaker feels South African wines are under-priced globally – but what producer doesn't feel his wine is underpriced? In his case, however, he's probably right. Certainly the 2006 Shiraz is a heckuva bargain. Wine lovers can join in crying crocodile tears over the price.

## Rare vintage

By Marque Rome

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# Remembering Tom McNamara



Tom McNamara, founder of Baan Rim Pa restaurant, passed away on Sunday November 23 at the age of 62.

The last time I saw Tom McNamara, it was some weeks ago and he was sitting at his favorite table at Baan Rim Pa with his family and restaurant managers. He wasn't paying much attention to what was being said but was intent on listening to the popular piano music of Tommy Doyle, whom he brought to Phuket from Las Vegas in the early days of Baan Rim Pa, about 15 years ago.

I asked him how he was doing, knowing that he was in his seventh year of struggle against

a deadly form of prostate cancer. "I'm fine," he said with his renowned bravado. "I'm getting ready for my demise. I have no problem with dying. I've had a good, full, interesting life. I have no complaints."

It is hard to believe that Tom McNamara, the world-class restaurateur who helped put Phuket on the international tourism map, has left us. The news that he lost his battle with death left many of us who have worked with him and considered him a friend at a great loss. We will all miss his innovation with new dining con-

cepts, which has lifted the standard of hospitality on the island.

"I think Phuket has come of age," he used to say. "It's time for this island to provide our guests with a more international dining experience that will encourage them to return year after year."

When Tom first arrived here 20 years ago, founding a collection of world-class restaurants was the last thing on his mind. Like many of us, he came to Phuket to retire.

For him that meant deep sea fishing and playing golf. He rented a modest bungalow on the cliff overlooking Patong Bay and had settled in to enjoy the rest of his life when he got news that his accountant had swindled his life savings. Tom was forced to reinvent himself again and open a small restaurant in the living room of his home, which he named Baan Rim Pa.

Tom was no stranger to the restaurant business. He grew up in a family of entertainers and those given to having a good time. The young Tom opened his first restaurant in the 1970s in a former warehouse district of Manhattan which became the trendy SoHo. This was also the time when he met his lifelong friend, Mauricio Laureri, who was importing Italian jeans to America, and who decades later would become his

partner in Da Mauricio, the elite Italian restaurant that shares the seafront with Baan Rim Pa.

Tom had successful restaurants in England, France and the Caribbean before deciding he had enough money to retire on Phuket.

When he found himself almost destitute and forced to return to the business he knew best, he recruited chefs and managers from Bangkok's Oriental hotel.

Baan Rim Pa may have been small and modest, but Tom was determined to provide the best Royal Thai cuisine found on the island.

Success did not come easy or quickly. Baan Rim Pa in the early days was located far from the action in Patong. There was no road connecting Patong with either the north island or even nearby Karon Beach and the south. But, gradually, he achieved the same success here as he had with his restaurants in other parts of the world. He added Da Maurizio, Joe's (in two locations) and Hung Fat's – all successful – and developed an international following among people who felt they hadn't experienced Phuket until they had talked to Tom and eaten at one of his tables.

What seemed to give him the most pleasure, however, was the foundation 'Phuket Has Been



By Bruce Stanley

Good To Us', which he set up a few years ago to provide quality English language education for local children in government schools.

"I've been successful living and working here and I want to share that with the local people so they can have the chance to have an improved life," he said. "It shouldn't only be the owners and the rich who benefit from Phuket's success with international tourism, but everyone who wants to work. And the one thing the local Thais need is better English," he said.

Tom made many contributions to life on Phuket and will be vividly remembered as a man unafraid to speak his mind, dream his dreams, and make the most out of life.

The cremation ceremony will be held at Wat Chalong on Saturday November 29 at 11:30am



Bianca Goetz, a student with the British International School (BIS) in Phuket, recently represented Singapore in the fourth leg of the annual FINA/Arena Swimming World Cup Short Course Championships. Bianca, who is still in year nine, was called up as a member of the National Swim Squad for the event, which took place earlier this month.

Bianca qualified for three races, the 100 meters, 200 meters and 400 meters freestyle, and was competing alongside some of the world's greatest swimmers. Bianca was the youngest swimmer in the entire competition,

which also featured Beijing 1500m freestyle gold medalist Oussama Mellouli and former 50m freestyle world record holder and last year's World Cup winner, Therese Alshammar.

Despite aiming to gain valuable experience, rather than expecting to win any medals, Bianca still managed to break all her personal best times in these three events. She improved her 400m freestyle by nine seconds to achieve a time of 4:36.32, and her 100m freestyle by one second to achieve a time of 1:01.83. She also achieved an impressive 13th place overall for her 200m freestyle, improving her time by

three seconds to 2:12.29.

Bianca is now back in Phuket and continues her daily training schedule at BIS with her coach Jim Puleo. Bianca is sponsored by Club Asia Fitness & Spa, who have provided her with complimentary use of their facility at Royal Phuket City Hotel.

Bianca is now setting her sights on several other upcoming international swim competitions, including the first Asian Youth Games 2009 in Singapore, the SEA Age Group Swimming Championships 2009 in Kuala Lumpur, the SEA Games 2009 in Laos and the Inaugural Youth Olympics in Singapore in 2010.

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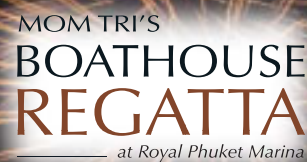
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# This week



**WATER WORKS:** On November 22, assembled guests were treated to a party at White Box, Kalim Beach to celebrate the opening of beverage importer CVS Syndicate's new Phuket office and promote FIJI Water, which will soon be distributed in Thailand. Pictured are (from left to right) Mr Preecha Chinaroot, Managing Director of CVS, Mr Kittikorn Kewkacha, President & CEO of Phuket FantaSea, Mr Chutinant Bhirombhakdi, Executive Vice President of Boonrawd Brewery Co Ltd, and Mr Paiboon Upatising, President of the



**MEMORIES:** Vichayane (Nong Kaem) Peakhien (left), the 4<sup>th</sup> annual winner of "The Star" singing competition, paid a flying visit to the Metropole Hotel in Phuket City on November 22 to witness aspiring stars registering for this year's competition. Since winning the competition last year, Nong Kaem has risen to become a singing sensation in Thailand.



**FRENCH DRESSING:** On November 15, 35 beauty queens dazzled Phuketians on a trip to prepare for the annual Miss France pageant. The bevy of beauties were hosted by the Indigo Pearl Hotel at Nai Yang Beach.



**GIMME SOME AIR:** The Two Villas Group held the Oxygen Open House Party last month to introduce the new Oxygen Condominium to agencies and clients. Pictured are Mr Kanokpan Pranveerapaiboon, Director of Sales & Marketing, with his team as they prepare to welcome honored guests.



**CHOPPER SQUADRON:** On November 22, the Blue Canyon Country Club played host to the Child Watch Charity Golf tournament. Since the competition was launched in 1999, the British Business Association Phuket and Blue Canyon Country Club have jointly raised in excess of 6 million baht for various local charities. The event supports an education programme for over 70 local school children, managed by Childwatch



**SPECIAL SPORTS:** Students from the British International School (BIS) help out at Phuket Special School. The BIS students make the trip twice a week to play a variety of games with children from the Special School.



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# Bedroom or 'Boredroom'?

## Advice with spice for married couples

tide you over until your copy arrives.

### Be Spontaneous

After endless years of marriage, when sex with your spouse retains all the euphoria of stuffing the turkey, it can be tempting to fall into a monotonous routine, in which *hanky-panky* occurs somewhere between washing the dishes and putting the cat out.

You can, however, rediscover the thrill and exhilaration of wedded whoopee by surprising your partner with impromptu invitations to partake in a spot of spontaneous love-making. Suitably unlikely occasions would include:

- jury duty
- scuba diving
- queuing for cinema tickets
- taking the sacrament
- robbing a bank

### The Attraction of Danger

Nothing gets the juices flowing quite like the mortal fear of impending death. Anecdotal evidence suggests that the introduction of dread and trepidation into your love-making can often work wonders.

So the next time you make love, try having someone shoot at you from across the street.

Clinically obese couples might also try making love in a sauna or on top of a volcano, just to keep the adrenaline pumping.

### Role-play

Role play is an easy and effective way to inject a little variety into your conjugal coitus. Acting out simple role-playing scenarios such as *doctor and nurse* or *master and slave* are recommended for beginners.

As a general rule, It is important to agree on the roles beforehand. Having two *masters* and no *slaves*, for example, risks degenerating into an unseemly fistfight. Having thus mastered the basics of role-play, a couple may wish to move on to ever more demanding and challenging scenarios, such as *'Watership Down'* or *'Fidel Castro with Cigar'*.

### Experiment with new Techniques

The missionary position, whilst affording the best view of the television, is but one of myriad different positions available to energetic and open-minded couples.

So, why not give Red Rum a rest and have a go at something a little more imaginative next time there is nothing good on HBO? One of my personal favorites is the *Tutankhamen* position, in which the woman wraps her husband up in toilet paper and goes shopping with his credit card.

### Explore New Locations

Familiarity breeds contempt. Here, I am referring not to your partner but rather to the place of your love-making. Toiling away on the same old bed, in the same old

room, time after time, year after year is assuredly a recipe for boredom and indifference, particularly if you are doing it with the same person or at least people who all look the same.

Re-ignite the sexual spark by exploring new and interesting locations in or around the homestead for your love-making. Recommended alternative locations include:

- either side of the front door
- in the azaleas
- behind a coat stand
- under the carpet

### Manage your Expectations

When all is said and done, it is important to remember that no matter how hard you try or how weird you get, making love for the 963rd time to the same person is never going to be a bundle of laughs, not even for slow learners.

Once you come to terms with this harsh and unforgiving reality, you can begin to appreciate the 964th time for what it really is; an uncomfortable way to read the paper.

But before you lament your lot, with illusions that the grass is greener for all those *singles* frolicking orgiastically on the other side of the fence, remember that new shoes may look nice, but they will probably give you some nasty-looking blisters.

Now where are my slippers?

## Beautiful Objects Make You Smile.



Yin Da, "In\_Outside the Car"  
Oil painting on canvas  
136 x 122cm.



Ma Ye, "Happy Ladies"  
Oil Painting on Canvas  
180 x 140cm.



Bui Huu Hung, "Bamboo River"  
Lacquer painting on board  
122 x 122cm.



Yan Yu, "Smoker"  
Oil painting on canvas  
67 x 167cm.



Ren Rong "Mao"  
Oil painting on canvas  
125 x 160cm.



Andy Warhol, "Kang Fu"  
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# Tai Chi Timeout

Welcome to the second in a series of Tai Chi Timeouts. Each timeout takes you through a single, easy-to-follow Tai Chi-Chi Gung exercise. One of the aims of Tai Chi is to develop the intrinsic energy (*Chi*) within the body through slow, rhythmical breathing exercises known as Chi Gung.

The ancient oriental martial art exercises are a great natural way to relieve tension from stress, and aches and pains from stiff limbs.

They can be performed whenever you want to unwind and loosen up, but are particularly beneficial when done in the early morning when the Chi is especially clean and light, relaxing and energizing the mind and body for the start of a new day.

In this particular exercise, inhale through the nostrils with a slow, even, steady breath, while slowly lifting the hands and opening the arms to maximum extension. On the exhale, first release any tension in the shoulders, relax the elbows and slowly allow the hands to return to your center (*Tan Tien*). Inhale and exhale each time to a slow count of eight.

Please note that when there is an upward movement of the hands there is an equal and opposite sense of sinking through the hips. Alternatively, when there is a downward movement of the hands, there is a sense of rising through the hips. Without an experienced instructor there to guide you, it's up to you to experiment, find the correct stance and to "feel" the sense of movement within the body.

Before beginning exercise, release the tension in the neck and shoulders by slowly rolling the shoulders forward and backward. Then roll your head in a circle – keeping your neck loose – first to the right, then to the left. Once you've completed five of these rotations place your hands over your *Tan Tien* and relax into a comfortable, forward-facing posture.

## This Week's Exercise

**Step 1:** Place your feet shoulder-width apart, knees slightly bent, hips tucked gently under the spine (back straight). Relax your shoulders and hold up your head, but keep your neck relaxed.

**Step 2:** Begin the breathing exercise by slowly inhaling to the count of eight, relaxing your abdomen and allowing it to expand. Keeping your shoulders and elbows relaxed, slowly allow your hands to expand and open.

**Step 3:** Continue to inhale while allowing your hands to float up from the elbow without engaging your shoulders.

**Step 4:** Continue to inhale until your hands reach head height.

**Step 5:** When your hands reach head height, slowly relax the wrists and open the hands, keeping relaxed arms and shoulders and begin to exhale, allowing your abdomen to slowly contract.

**Step 6:** Continue to exhale to a count of eight while releasing any tension in your neck and shoulders.

**Step 7:** Continue to exhale while allowing your hands to slowly lower to your *Tan Tien*. When your hands reach your *Tan Tien*, slowly allow them to begin to expand and open while you begin to inhale. Allow the abdomen to relax and to slowly expand again. Continue like this for fifteen minutes.

**Step 8:** To complete the exercise, cross your hands over your *Tan Tien* and gather the Chi within.

Rick Attix has been studying Tai Chi Ch'uan for over 20 years with masters from China, Malaysia and the U.S. He offers regular classes in Kamala, Mon, Wed and Fri, starting at 9am. He also holds a Saturday afternoon class at 4pm. Tel: 081-728-9980, Email: serenethai@yahoo.com, Website: www.taichiphuket.com



Step 1



Step 2



Step 3



Step 4



Step 5



Step 6



Step 7



Step 8

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# Small town artist explores movement of light and shadow

Vietnamese artist Nguyen Thanh Hoa comes from Phan Thiet, a small seaside town in Vietnam. Born in 1965, he Graduated from the Fine Arts University of Ho Chi Minh City in 1991.

His paintings document the rich mood of life in his home town. His palette is somber and his style approaches a blend of realism and surrealism.

Focusing on the the places and people he encounters, Hoa reveals their interior and exterior lives at work and play. His still life paintings are often images of rattan baskets, earthenware pots, crabs, shrimp and fish.

Hoa has noticeably refined his skill in seducing the viewer with the softness of colors and the gentle movement of light and shadow.

Nguyen Thanh Hoa has received several awards from the Vietnamese Literature and Arts Association in Vietnam, and the Vietnamese Fine Art Association.

In 1995, his paintings were exhibited at the Asian Art Museum of San Francisco. His work is currently on display at D Gallery in Royal Phuket Marina.



**Golden Bowl** by Nguyen Thanh Hoa, 2008. Oil on canvas. Dimensions: 62 x 72 cm.

For more information contact Ms Jittiporn at D Gallery. Tel: 076-360867. [jittiporn@dgallery.co.th](mailto:jittiporn@dgallery.co.th)  
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# Getting ready for the Italian Job

Several months ago I was singing at a piano bar in a hotel in the center of Phuket for some guests from Italy. After the performance a member of the audience approached me and my band.

We started talking and came up with the idea of organizing a tour of my father's homeland: Sicily.

I can't remember if I've written about Sicily in this column before. It's an island located just off the southern tip of Italy's famous "boot". Those new friends were from Vita and Trapani, in the extreme east of Sicily, and they invited me there to introduce Phuket to their community, visit the local school, and give a talk about the culture of my mother's homeland: Thailand.

Awesome! I thought I was dreaming. Returning to Italy with an important assignment. My mother shares my enthusiasm because I can continue her work of promoting Thailand, which she stopped when we returned here.

Gradually, the program took

shape. The tour was to begin in Milan, then on to Trapani, followed by Vita, Leonforte, Enna, Catania and then back to Milan.

But these things can be easy to think of and not so easy to do. As we worked out the details of what to do and how to do it, I started to realize how many difficulties I had to face!

The plan is to visit secondary schools, where we will show a 25-minute movie, "Schooling in Thailand", and give a musical performance for six minutes, including a Thai song, "Phuket a Beautiful City", and an Italian or English song with a social theme.

A debate will follow and I'm literally terrified of having to deal with Italian teenagers.

Of course there will be lots of questions about Phuket, so I've had to do some studying – about the old town and its history at the time when there were tin mines.

I'm not worried about this part, but I'm also going to talk about something that is highly controversial with students: discipline, uniforms, haircuts, flag

raising, the national anthem and, in short, the Thai way of life (*wattanatham Thai*).

I think I will get several arguments, especially when I say that I agree with the uniforms and hair cutting, and talk about the problems that the free Italian style is creating among young people.

Schools in Italy have become a fashion show, and the students have to have what they want – they're ashamed to go to school if their parents can't afford to get them designer clothes and expensive accessories.

I think I have a difficult job to do, but if I can do it well, then many other students from Phuket will be invited, and of course I will be asked to lead and I can achieve one of my dreams: to travel!

The mayor of the town of Vita has set up an annual folklore festival, in which folk groups come to participate from countries all around the world, and I'll be representing Phuket.

And my former language school in Enna has asked to make a cultural exchange with my school, Satree Phuket. It all depends on whether my job is done well. Of course I will inform readers upon my return.

## Youth 'n ASIA

By Maria Giuletta



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## EVENTS CALENDAR

## Upcoming events on the island

**November 29-30. Sixth Phuket International Soccer 7s.**

The one and only Phuket Soccer 7s will celebrate its 6th anniversary this year. The tournament has developed into one of the largest 7s tournaments in the Asia-Pacific Region. This year, 32 teams from 14 countries will compete in Open and Masters Categories.

What are you waiting for? Come and experience for yourself the excitement and buzz of the most popular and memorable event on the soccer social calendar. Teams will play a minimum of 4 games over 2 days, on a 7-a-side grass pitch (70m x 45m). Seven-minute halves, full-size goal, no offside, rolling substitution. For more information contact Alain and Tim. Tel: 02-990 6881. Email: info@Thai7s.com. Website: www.Thai7s.com.

**November 29. Tax Seminar (English) for Investors in Condos & Apartments.**

Network Advisory Team Ltd (NAT) invites you to join a half-day (1pm-4.30pm) seminar in English today for developers and investors in condos or apartments.

Developers will gain a deeper understanding of tax issues related to the freehold or leasehold scheme of your condo or apartment project, as well as tax issues in management and after-sales service. Investors will gain a knowledge of tax applicable to sales, rental or transfers of the properties by inheritance. Participants will be able to identify relevant tax issues and to learn how to plan aggressively for their benefit. The seminar will be conducted by Miss Sirirat C, the managing director of NAT. Reservations recommended. For more information contact Ms Jantima. Tel: 089-4743694. Email: info@thaiaccounting.com

**November 29. Phuket International Women's Club Annual Ball.**

The Phuket International Women's Club (PIWC) Annual Ball will be

**Phuket King's Cup Regatta**

Starting Saturday. Five days of great sailing and six nights of some of the best island parties. All the action takes place at Kata Beach from 9am to 8pm and beyond. For more information contact Khun Kae. Tel: 076-273380. Email: info@kingscup.com. Website: www.kingscup.com.

held tonight at The Hilton Phuket Arcadia Resort and Spa.

This year's theme is "Diamonds Are Forever". The annual ball is the club's main fund-raising event for the PIWC scholarship program, which has helped over 550 students and young people in getting an education, with over 250 currently attending school and college on PIWC scholarships.

For more information contact Sue Arnulphy. Tel: 087-2776948. Email: amulphy@loxinfo.co.th

**November 30. Mac Group Therapy - Laguna.**

Is your Internet connection driving you NUTS? Ready to throw your PC out the window? Need advice on where to buy a computer, or get one repaired? Join "For Dummies" author Woody Leonhard for his weekly PC Group Therapy sessions. They're absolutely 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. From 10am until midday at the Sandwich Shoppe Laguna.

For directions to Sandwich Shoppe Laguna see the web site. Sponsored by the *Phuket Gazette* and Khun Woody's Sandwich Shoppes.

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

**November 30. Old World Wine Tasting @ Wine Connection Chalong.**

From 6pm to 9pm Italian winery Umani Ronchi will be laying on a wine tasting at Wine Connection in Chalong. The evening will feature six tasting glasses, a personal plate of imported cheeses and assorted cold cuts. Price: 600 baht per person. Free for Club Card members. For more information contact Pascal. Tel: 076-282411. Email: fb.phuket@wineconnection.co.th

**December 7. 2008 Laguna Phuket Triathlon.**

From 7am to 1pm at Laguna Phuket. Southeast Asia's premier multi-sport event, the Laguna Phuket Triathlon, presented by Thai Airways International, the Tourism Authority of Thailand and Herbalife, is now in its 15th year. The 1.8km swim, 55km bike ride and 12km run offers a US\$20,000 pro prize purse. The event expects to attract some 800 athletes from over 30 countries competing in both the individual triathlon and the Herbalife Corporate Challenge Team Relay. A 6km fun run for 500 participants will also be conducted during the event. For further information call the race office. Tel: 076-324060. Email: info@lagunaphukettriathlon.com or visit the Website: www.lagunaphukettriathlon.com.

**December 9. Christmas for Soi Dog Foundation at Tatonka.**

From 7pm to 11pm, the Tatonka Soi Dogs' Annual Christmas Dinner is being held at Tatonka restaurant at Laguna.

Tatonka owner Harold will be serving up a dazzling array of delicious courses. Dinner tickets are 1,000 baht, with half of the proceeds going to The Soi Dog Foundation.

Lots of great prizes to be won in the raffle and silent auction. A great night to be had by all! For more information contact Cristy. Tel: 085-4734636. Email: cristy@soidog-foundation.org. Web: www.soidog-foundation.org.

**December 10. Constitution Day - a Public Holiday.****December 4-7. Phuket International Marine Expo (PIMEX 2008).**

From 10am to 6pm daily. Yachts, marine equipment, property and much more will be on display at Asia's biggest on-water boat show at Royal Phuket Marina. For more information contact Andy Dowden. Tel: 081-8927670. Email: info@phuketboatshow.com. Web: www.phuketboatshow.com

**December 5. HM The King's Birthday (Father's Day) - a Public Holiday.**

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# Bond markets suffer in meltdown

## MONEY TALKS



By Richard G. Watson

**W**henver there is panic in the financial markets, the proverbial baby often gets thrown out with the bathwater.

The turmoil may have been most noticeable in the stock markets of the world, but huge damage has also been inflicted on the fixed income (or bond) markets. The bond markets are, in reality, where the initial action took place since this all started as a credit crisis. Money flowed into government debt as it represented the safest refuge. Normally, a lot of this money would have ended up in bank deposits but since they were at the root of the problem, this was an area to avoid.

The "spreads", that is to say, the difference in yields offered on government debt as opposed to corporate debt, widened rapidly. Prior to the credit crunch, the spreads were very tight, but fear drove money into government bonds at the expense of corporate bonds. Some of this was deserved, as many companies, including banks and other financial institutions, were going to find themselves in difficult times.

However, many companies are not in financial trouble and will continue operations regardless of the current economic climate. Their bonds have been sold heavily for two reasons. Firstly, there was a flight to "quality" (sovereign bonds), and secondly, many institutional investors needed cash quickly and where better to raise cash than in the highly liquid bond markets. This debacle has left the bonds of many top-quality companies now yielding 10% and more.

This makes them very attractive investments, not only for their high yield but also for capital gains as markets settle and

value comes to the fore. Not everyone is a seller in these markets; pension funds are just one example where buyers are looking for real value. The target companies are those with long standing high investment grade credit ratings. It is still too early to easily identify opportunities in the lower quality arena, although those with the skill, and perhaps luck, will be more than adequately rewarded for their bravery. Conversely, fools rush in where angels fear to tread.

Many of the safest bonds are to be found in the utility sector (water, electricity); basically areas where there is always demand, limited competition and frankly, the nearest thing to a safe haven that investors are likely to find in these volatile times.

Henry "Hank" Paulson, the US Treasury Secretary, has changed policy on several occasions in recent months. Naturally, in these difficult times, he has become the target for a lot of criticism. Some of the negative comment has simply been political in nature and is understandable with a forthcoming change in the US administration. However, much is not deserved. As Paulson himself remarked, the economic situation deteriorated so rapidly and unexpectedly that policies have had to be adapted.

President-elect Obama is on record as saying that the public should not be concerned about the deficits for 2009 and 2010. He is correct, in that these deficits are going to be enormous. In addition to the financial sector and the automotive sector, we now have a new list – cities. The economic slowdown has adversely impacted the finances of many cities. They are already approaching the Federal government for assistance and more will join the queue. Many other sectors of the economy are also going to suddenly require "assistance". Perhaps Phuket could also add its name to the list; just tell them in Washington DC that we are in the South East.

The biggest problem is the sheer speed of the slowdown. For the first nine months of 2008 it was pretty much business as usual, but then October came along and changed everything. Spending patterns plummeted alarmingly. The drop was so abrupt



General Motors HQ in in Detroit, Michigan: Not living in normal times.

that many manufactures, and particularly the big car manufacturers, realized that they were not living in normal times.

The US, Europe and Japan have all now entered recession and the number of countries suddenly needing IMF (International Monetary Fund) assistance is rising rapidly.

The G20 Summit in America, where the heads of state of the world's leading twenty countries met in mid November, apparently achieved very little. In fact, the meeting only lasted six hours. What was important was that every country agreed that this was a common problem that required the co-operation of all countries to resolve. One other major agreement also reached was that nobody was going to adopt a protectionist position. Trade remains vital to the prosperity of all and there was an urgent need at the G20 meeting for a common consensus to resuscitate the stalled DOHA round of trade talks.

It is when countries understand that they share a common problem that can only be solved through co-operation that mankind can realize that we are all in this together. Unfortunately, the next meeting of the G20 is not due until April 2009, which begs the question: are the politicians giving this crisis the attention it deserves?

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

*See also the Website at [www.global-portfolios.com](http://www.global-portfolios.com).*

# The iPhone is coming to town, but not in time for Christmas

**G**ood news for techno-geeks: The iPhone 3G is coming to Thailand – legitimately – as the youngest of Thailand's trio of major phone operators, True Move, has sealed a deal with Apple to distribute the sleek must-have.

The bad news is that it may be months before the device arrives on our shores, so drop any plans of having one for Christmas.

A senior official at True Corp, which owns 75 percent of True Move, said True Move would work with Apple on the launch of the sleek new 'smartphone', which offers faster Internet access and improved email features.

Thailand is still in the testing stage for 3G networks, but meanwhile 3G iPhone users can surf the Internet via existing EDGE or GPRS networks, which are 2.5 generation mobile technologies.

Despite being years ahead with its coverage area and 3G deployment, AIS, who were in negotiations with Apple, seem to have dropped the ball with this deal. The reason True Move trumped AIS and number two carrier DTAC has nothing to do with 3G, but rather owes itself, it seems, to TrueMove having become a media conglomerate over the past few years.

Scooping up UBC after Shin Corp was sold off by former PM Thaksin Shinawatra to Temasek of Singapore, True Corp was able to corner the Thai pay TV market. With their abundant media distribution agreements and locally made 'Academy Fantasia' program, there is no lack of content to fill up the iPhone and possibly even a local iTunes store.

It is worth noting that True Corporation is a subsidiary of CP, Thailand's largest agricultural producer and one of the Kingdom's biggest companies. CP also happens to hold the franchise for Thailand's 7-11 convenience stores, which cover nearly every square kilometer of the nation. Who might be better as a partner for getting a product out to the masses, providing infrastructure and content delivery channels, and having a massive retail network with which to collect monthly payments of phone bills?

On top of all this muscle, True is among the few companies in Thailand to have WiFi hotspots at major shopping malls and other public gathering centers.

Because there are no public 3G networks aside from AIS's 900MHz service in Chiang Mai, the iPhone, which operates on the 2100MHz 3G, will not show blistering speeds or 3G content as it will be limited to an EDGE data service. However, True Move currently streams live TV, radio, music, movies and other services you would come to expect from a mobile carrier with an EDGE network.

It has yet to be disclosed what the price will be for the iPhone 3G. However, since Thai law prohibits any carrier from 'locking down' phones to their own network, it is likely that the iPhone will enter Thailand under the same terms and conditions as any other phone does, i.e., unlocked. And by subsidizing the price of the iPhone, True Move should be able to count on an acceleration in the growth of new service contracts, despite the fact that buyers can use the device on other networks.

With these factors working against excessive pricing, a legitimate iPhone is bound to be cheaper than the current asking price (at MBK and other phone shops) for pirated iPhones. A 3G iPhone smuggled from the United States currently costs around 29,500 baht (\$842) in Thailand. One from Hong Kong costs about 35,000 baht, since it offers an easier way to insert a local SIM card.

Although True Move appears to have won the iPhone deal, don't count out AIS and DTAC just yet, as a signed deal does not mean that True will have the 3G out in stores before anyone else. Commenting on the question of what happened to their rumored deal, AIS says the agreement with True Move is nonexclusive, leaving the door open for speculation that AIS may still be in negotiations with Apple.

– compiled by Marc Mulloy  
from a feature on PGTV

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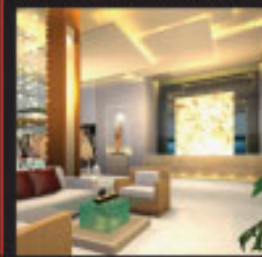
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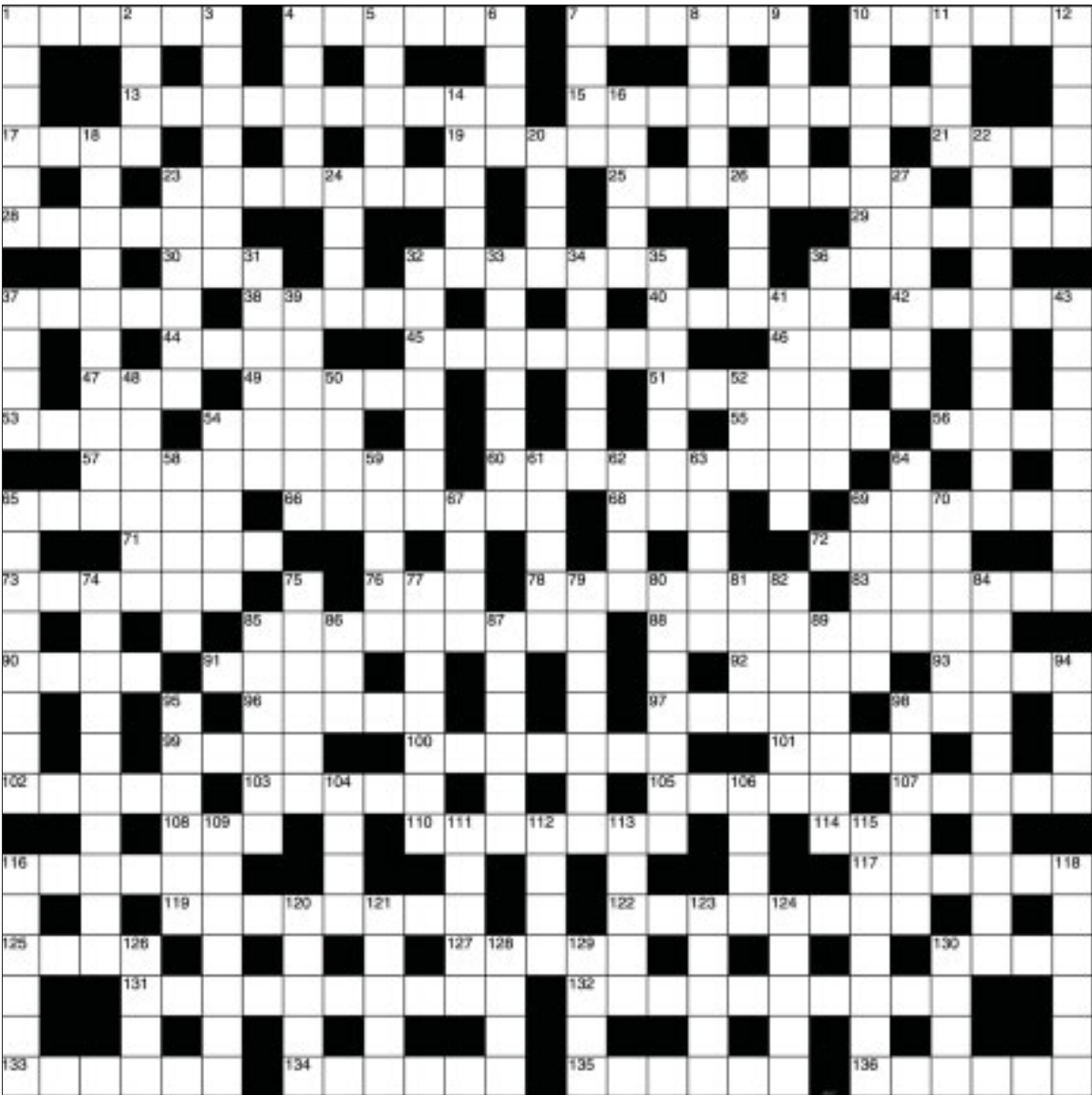




# Hidden Words

Hidden in the grid are lots of words related to computers. The words may read vertically, horizontally or diagonally. They may also read right-to-left or down-to-up. Score: 15 or more, good; 20 or more, very good; 25 or more, excellent. Solution on the next page.

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



# The BIG Crossword

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- Across
73. Visual cassettes

76. Do battle (with)

78. Having more foliage

83. Made insensitive

85. Former times (5,4)

88. Official records

90. Be gloomy

91. Early Peruvian

92. Departs

93. Scruff (of neck)

96. Actors Jane or Henry...

97. ... not, want not!

98. Typist's ailment (1,1,1)

99. Israel's Tel...

100. Moscow language

101. Rim

102. Duck's mate

103. Carried out again

105. Escape

107. Overly masculine

108. Nautical shelter

110. Kelp

114. Female rabbit

116. Chiefly

117. Lazing

119. Making fizzy

122. Openly

125. Da Vinci's... Lisa

127. Dutch centre of govt, The...

130. ... & evens

131. Burglars

132. Fluffiness

133. Playground toy

134. Bengal big cats

135. Rarely

136. Curled
2. Treaty

3. Most extensive

4. Bake

5. Bar seat

6. Smell strongly

7. Resign

8. Hindu land

9. Prized river fish

10. Prattled

11. Scottish dance

12. Sounds alike

14. Talk (oneself into)

16. Director,... B DeMille

18. Complete

20. Film star,... Baldwin

22. Functions

23. Engaged (gear)

24. Wood-shaping tool

26. Salty white cheese

27. PLO hero... Arafat

31. There

32. Diver's breathing tube

33. Never growing old

34. Abduct

35. Comes to notice

36. Ember

37. Floor rugs

39. Shakespeare play, Julius...

41. Damsel

43. Increased

48. Add-on building

50. Skeleton component

52. Reggae singer,... Marley

54. Cougars

58. Disband (troops)

59. Chisel out

61. Charlotte, Anne &... Bronte

62. Bass brass instrument
63. Scientist,... Curie

64. Thighbone

65. Remodelled

67. Frozen,... over

69. Air ducts

70. From Italy's capital

74. Group of delegates

75. Niche

77. Entrails

79. Male title

80. Looked worried

81. Omelette ingredients

82. Rampaged

84. Creative thought

85. Ablaze (2,4)

86. Judo level

87. Northern US state

89. Rated (in tennis)

94. European currency unit

95. Spanish rice dish

98. Cure

104. Dimple

106. Russia's... Mountains

109. Hair arch over eye

111. Number of spider's legs

112. Plane part

113. Banish from school

115. Petroleum pit (3,4)

116. Impersonates

118. Slashed

120. Warn

121. Biscuit topping

123. Raise at stud

124. Local saying

126. Sadly

128. Inquires

129. Alien spacecraft (1,1,2)

130. Knuckle of veal stew,... bucco
- Down
1. Launch forward

4. Rota

7. Charmingly old-fashioned

10. Hotter

13. Type of melon

15. Chilled beverage

17. Champagne style

19. Glide on ice

21. Hover menacingly

23. In the mind

25. Cunningly

28. Fills with joy

29. Restaurant patrons

30. Pig home

32. Leg-iron

36. Audio discs (1,2)

37. Bog

38. Atlantic or Pacific

40. Florida resort

42. Entitlement

44. Famous volcano

45. Late

46. Get Smart's... Hathaway

47. Mum &...

49. Exclude

51. Fanatical

53. Autograph

54. 100 centavos

55. Dedictory verses

56. Cocaine source

57. Stamina

60. Ninth month

65. Make amends,... oneself

66. Down-to-earth philosophy

68. America (1,1,1)

69. Practised

71. Christmas

72. Demonstration
1. Stone

Solution on next page

## su|do|ku

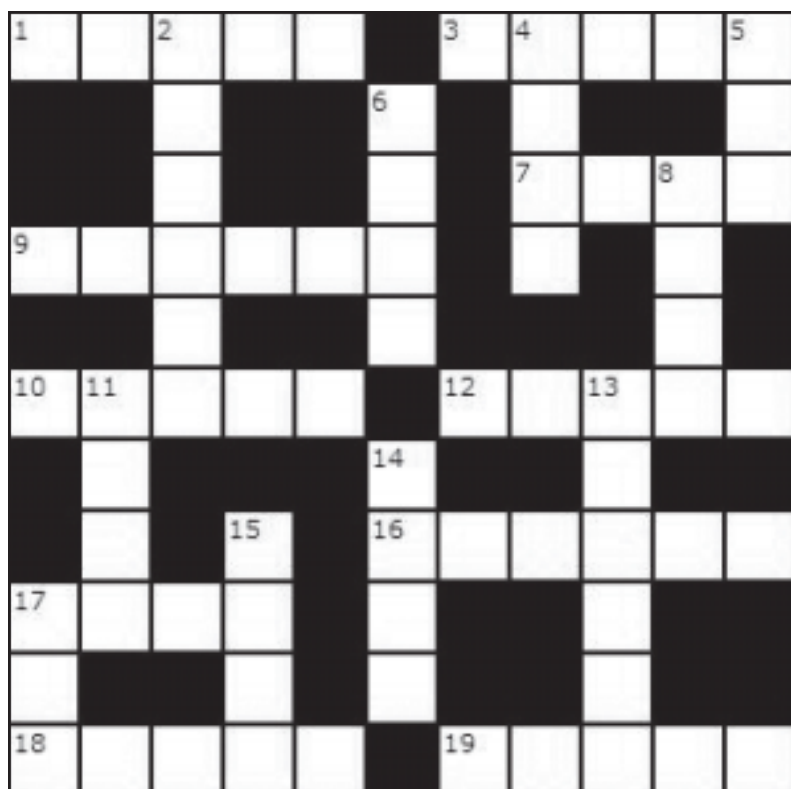
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Solution, tips and computer program at [www.sudoku.com](http://www.sudoku.com)

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

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. Not light
3. Ponder
7. Fix
9. Mystery
10. Poison
12. Extra
16. Draw
17. Volcano
18. Furniture
19. Prankster

### Down

2. Movement
4. House
5. Child
6. Flesh
8. Close
11. Direction
13. Assault
14. Reply
15. Mexican food
17. Mythical creature

Solution below

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1. In which sport is the Telemark landing highly regarded?
2. In filmmaking, what is the head of the electrical department known as?
3. In which American city is Samuel Adams beer brewed?
4. Which US President was wheelchair bound?
5. In what city was the TV detective series *Van der Valk* set?
6. "None of the clever men at Oxford know one half as much as Intelligent Mr..." whom?
7. Who did Idi Amin oust from power in Uganda in the 1970s?
8. Which gas is sometimes called Marsh Gas?
9. What is the name of Apu's convenience store in *The Simpsons*?
10. What type of dog was owned by Elle Woods in the *Legally Blonde* films?
11. The invention of what in 1867, made Alfred Nobel famous?
12. Who wrote *Bridget Jones' Diary*?
13. Who has had hit albums called 'Mutations' and 'Midnight Vultures'?
14. Which American wrestler uses the finishing move 'The Peoples Elbow'?
15. Which two European countries are linked by the Brenner pass?
16. How many pairs of chromosomes are there in the human body?
17. Which number is written 1010 in binary?
18. Which actress played a mermaid in the film *Splash*?
19. Which country has the world's oldest flag?
20. In which TV show would you find the character of Edina Monsoon?

Answers below



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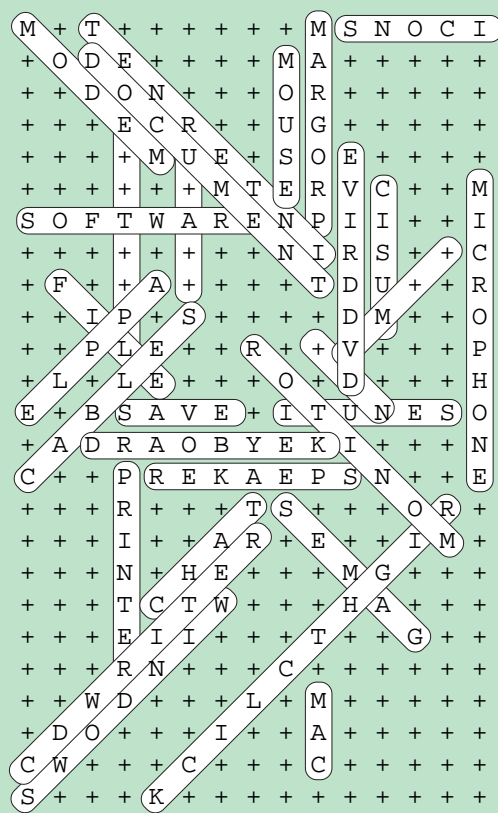
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# Puzzle Solutions

### Solution to this week's Quick Crossword

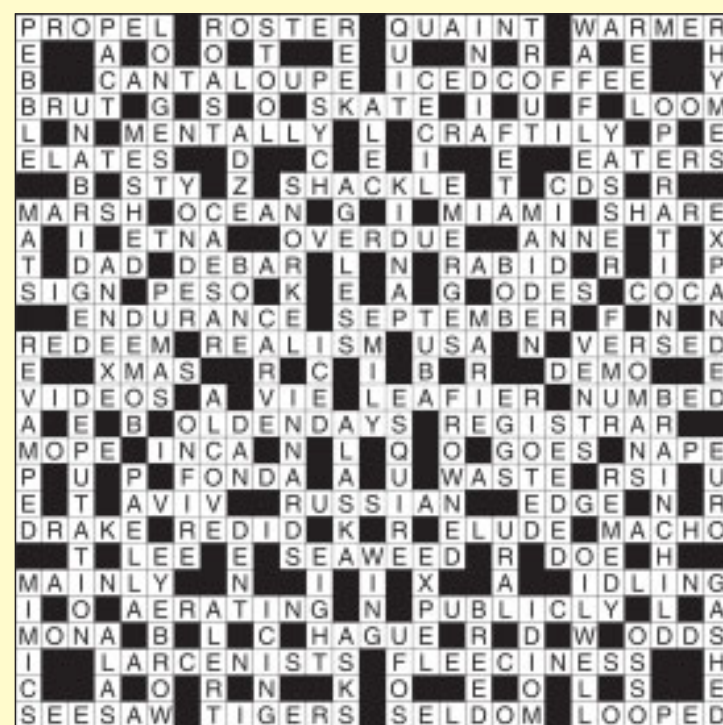


### Hidden Words SOLUTION



### Monster Quiz Answers

1. Ski-jumping; 2. Gaffer; 3. Boston; 4. F.D. Roosevelt; 5. Amsterdam; 6. Toad; 7. Milton Obote; 8. Methane; 9. Kwik-E-Mart; 10. Chihuahua; 11. Dynamite; 12. Helen Fielding; 13. Beck; 14. The Rock; 15. Austria and Italy; 16. 23; 17. 10; 18. Daryl Hannah; 19. Denmark; 20. Absolutely Fabulous.



### Solution to this week's BIG Crossword

### Solution to this week's Sudoku puzzle

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



# Becoming a mother of kings

A personal memoir by HRH Princess Galyani (1923-2008)



## Off the SHELF

By James Eckardt

**A**s *Mother Told Me* is the personal story of the late Princess Mother (1900-1995) from her humble origins as a child of commoner parents in Thonburi to her eventual rank as mother to two Thai kings.

Recorded as a memoir by her only daughter, HRH Princess Galyani Vadhana Krom Luang Naradhiwas Rajanagarindra (1923-2008), it was originally published in Thai in 1980 as *Mae Lao Hai Fang*, becoming one of the most widely-read royal biographies.

The young Princess Mother,

or Sangwan as she was then known, grew up in a dilapidated one-storey shophouse in Thonburi. Both parents had died by the time she was nine.

She was presented as a retainer to the household of HRH Princess Valaya Alongkorn as a means to an education, and at 17 was one of two nursing students selected to study in the United States.

One night in September 1918, the 69th child of King Rama V, Prince Ma-hidol, met Sangwan with a group of Thai students at the Boston railway station when he was studying public health at Harvard University.

They were engaged and married two years later in Bangkok.

For nine years after that, they moved between Siam, Europe and the United States, while the Prince completed his medical education.

Though the prince was a pioneer of modern Western medicine in Siam, he tragically

succumbed to kidney disease in 1929.

The Princess Mother then moved with her two sons and one daughter to Lausanne, Switzerland in 1933, and by 1935, due to a quirk of history, had become mother of two heirs to the throne of Siam.

Besides the story of her mother's life from 1900 to 1938, Princess Galyani included extracts from the Princess Mother's favorite works, from Pascal, Ro-usseau, Sartre and King Rama V.

The book contains over 100 photographs, mostly taken by the young Sangwan, among whose first purchases in the United States was a box camera.

Included are the first end-of-term shots which were taken with the nursing students in 1916 and also those charting her family's travels across America, Asia and Europe.

A personal memoir as well as an historical record, *As Mother Told Me* is an inside look at the love and humanity of this en-



The book contains over 100 photographs, including Sangwan's first end-of-term shots with fellow nursing students in 1916 to those charting her family's travels across America, Asia and

during royal line of the Chakri Dynasty, and the values which have accompanied Thailand's evolution through the Eighth and Ninth Reigns.

This book can only be purchased through The Siam Society and is

priced at 800 baht for Siam Society members and 990 baht for non-members. To order a copy, write to: Publications Co-ordinator, The Siam Society, 131 Soi Asoke, Suk-humvit 21, Bangkok 10110. Enclose a crossed cheque

# A few facts about 'farang'

**A**ny white foreigner who spends even a few days in Thailand will learn at least one Thai word: ฟาร์ง farang. It's being used by Thais to refer to them – whether they're aware of it or not.

Farang is one of the first words that will stand out from the jumble of Thai constantly spoken on all sides. People are most likely to be saying things like, "Come take this farang's order, my English is terrible," or "Help! I can't make head nor tail of what the farang wants."

If you're in a place foreigners don't normally frequent, you're likely to hear it randomly shouted at your very presence, by staring children and adults alike.

For the most part, it's used harmlessly. Some people take it as an insult, but I don't. If somebody uses it like it's my name, I might let them know. Thais generally mean no harm by the word, even if they tend to overuse it.

The etymology behind the word farang is relatively clear, but some persistent folk etymologies muddy the waters. I don't want to get too much into tracing the history of the word right now, though.

The short version: farang doesn't come from the Thai word ฟาร์งเซต /farangseet/ "Français", since its use predates the arrival

of caucasians in Thailand; nor does it come from the fact that white people have skin like the inside of a guava.

Likely cognates of farang are found in many languages and many countries, stretching from the Middle East out to Oceania. It was almost certainly spread by Persian

traders across mainland Asia many centuries ago. Such traders arrived in Siam by the 16th century, bringing along with their wares the word farangi, meaning Westerner

or white man, from the Arabic word "faranji", and ultimately referring to the Germanic tribe the Franks, dating from the crusades, perhaps as early as the turn of the first millennium, AD.

Yes, that really is the short version.

The so-called farangs have shared their appellation with many things in Thai. The guava, known as ฟาร์ง farang in Thai, is actually native to the Americas and was most likely introduced to Southeast Asia by the Portuguese.

In the early 19th century, John Crawford wrote of a fruit the Thais called "banana of the Franks (Kloa-Farang)", or กลอฝาร์ง /kluai farang/.

So the fruit gets its name from the foreigners who introduced it, and not the other way around.



The original Thai *makok*, as opposed to *makok farang*: the olive.

It's not just guavas, though. Many of the things introduced by westerners are called "X farang", which is to say, "the farang version of X". Common ones include the following:

มันฝรั่ง /man farang/ = potato (มัน /man/ is a general word for tubers, thus potatoes are "farang tubers").

หมากฝรั่ง /maak farang/ = chewing gum (หมาก /maak/ is betel, thus gum is "farang betel").

หน่อไม้ฝรั่ง /naw maai farang/ = asparagus (หน่อไม้ /naw maai/ are bamboo shoots, thus asparagus is "farang bamboo shoots").

ผักชีฝรั่ง /phak chii farang/ = parsley (ผักชี /phak chii/ is cilantro/coriander, thus parsley is "farang cilantro").

In addition to asparagus and potatoes, there are several more plant species not native to Southeast Asia that are known as the "farang" version of some other

common plant. These include the following:

มะกอกฝรั่ง /makok farang/ A western-style olive, as opposed to the larger Thai 'makok'.

Incidentally, the name of the city of Bangkok is believed to derive from มะกอก (makok).

แคฝรั่ง /khae farang/ = *Gliricidia sepium*, a medium-size leguminous tree.

ตะขบฝรั่ง /takhop farang/ = A kind of flowering plant.

ผักบุ้งฝรั่ง /phak boong farang/ = Morning Glory, as opposed to the aquatic version (*Ipomoea aquatica*) used in the popular Thai dish ผักผักบุ้งไฟแดง /phak boong fai

daeng/ = stir-fried morning glory with oyster sauce

ประทัดฝรั่ง /prathad farang/ It is a shrub or small tree native to Brazil.

แพงพวยฝรั่ง /phaengphuai farang/ The Water Primrose, a herbaceous perennial plant native to the Americas and found on the margins of lakes and ponds.

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



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## Easy rentals breed dangerous rides

Because one can rent a small motorbike in Phuket for as little as 150 baht per day, it is an attractive transport option for many visitors. This is especially true given the exorbitant pricing of tuk-tuks and taxis on the island, with a ten-minute hop in a tuk-tuk costing the same or more than 24 hours' worth of motorbike rental.

Renting a motorbike here couldn't be much easier. For a start, most rental agencies could care less if a potential customer is actually licensed – or even knows how to ride. All one has to do is sign a contract, plunk down the money and hand over a passport as collateral.

Sometimes, it's even easier than that. One reader confided in the *Gazette* that he has successfully driven off with rented motorbikes using only what he calls his "special ID", which is nothing more than a laminated, reduced-size photocopy of the identification pages of his passport. Of no official value, it nevertheless appears to the locals like a foreign version of a Thai ID card – and is accepted.

While motorbike rental offers good value and convenience, the obvious downside is that old Achilles heel called Safety. Even for the most cautious and experienced rider, potential tragedy is always lurking around the next corner. In addition, some unscrupulous operators also charge renters for "damages" they didn't cause.

Recently, Kathu Police Superintendent Grissak Songmoonark said that about 60% of motorcycle accidents in Patong involve unlicensed foreign riders. This is a sad state of affairs, though it no doubt contributes significantly to the high occupancies in our local hospitals.

Besides reducing the number of tourists who leave the island maimed or in body bags, there are other good reasons for taking a more serious approach to better regulating the motorbike rental industry.

First, it's against the law to rent a motorbike to anyone who doesn't have a Thai license. Unfortunately, no police station on the island chooses to enforce this particular law.

Second, rented motorbikes are increasingly the transport of choice among the island's criminals, especially snatch-and-ride bandits like "Nop" Tongboon who was finally arrested in September and charged with multiple counts of grabbing women's shoulder bags and knocking the victims off their bikes, resulting in serious injury.

Despite there being several good reasons to better regulate this industry, don't expect it to happen soon. After all, as past news reports in the *Gazette* have revealed, some of these agencies, at least in history, were owned and operated by police officers. One can only hope that such is no longer the case.

– The Editor

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

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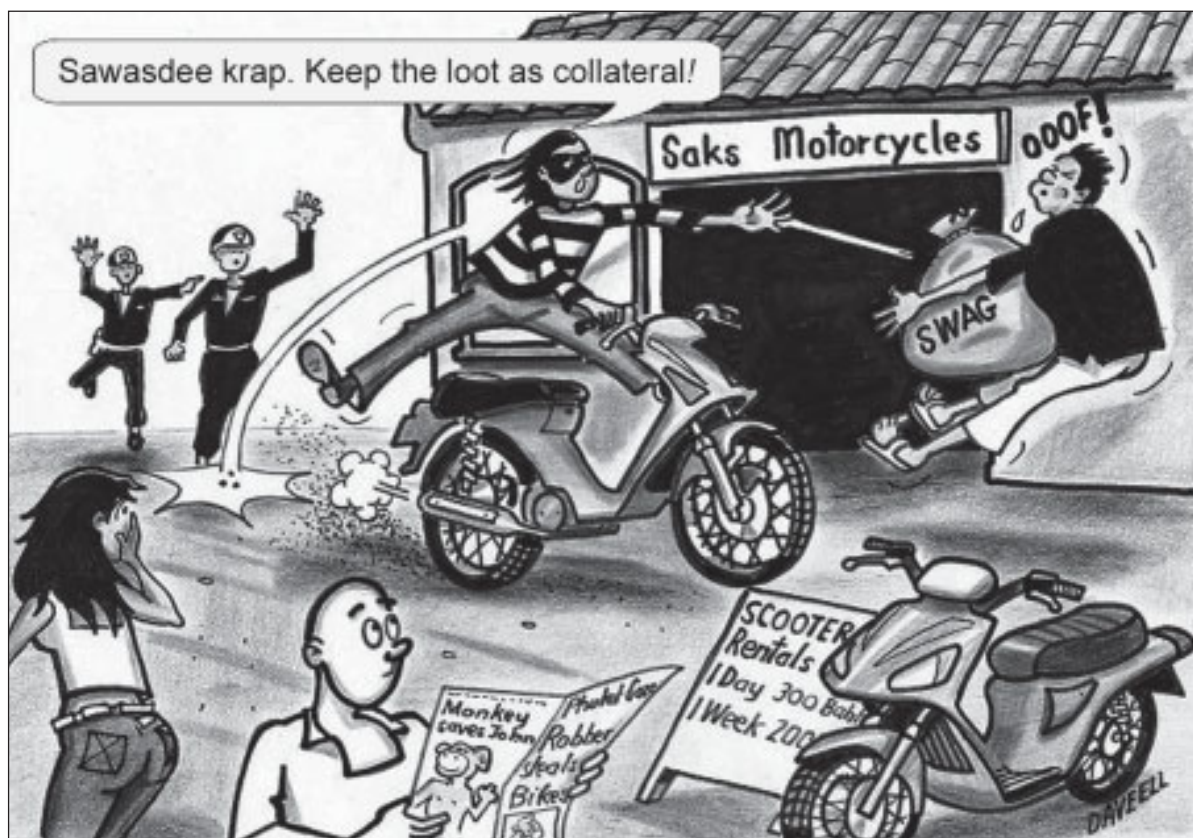
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## Letters

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.

### Tourism ambassador will be sorely missed

With the passing away of Tom McNamara, as reported on your website yesterday [Nov 24], Phuket has lost one of its greatest and best ambassadors. He brought so much joy to the people who visited his restaurants and made them into friends of Phuket. His 'Phuket has been good to us' foundation exemplifies Tom's values, and we will miss him dearly.

Wolfgang Meusburger  
Holiday Inn, Phuket

### Stop suffering silently

Your editorial on noise pollution in last week's *Phuket Gazette* [Noise, p. 26, Nov 27], was music to my ears. It is indeed time for the silent majority to make its voice heard, loud and clear.

Let us shout it from the rooftops that the cacophony that permeates our daily existence can no longer be suffered in silence. Let us answer the clarion call by sounding the alarm bells, as we trumpet the the cause of those crying out for a little peace and quiet. The stentorian voice of silence shall be heard.

Loud and Clear  
Tambon Kathu

### Noise not a problem

The solution to noise in the malls is simple. Don't go there. Go back to the Mom & Pop stores. You'll pay about five percent more, but you'll make the Commerce Ministry happy and you'll leave with your hearing intact.

Ellen Warburton  
Baan Sekoo, Thalang

### Visitors Wanted

Robert "Rob" Pauly is known to many in Phuket for his guitar playing and singing in various musical groups and venues around the island, and as a racing yacht crewman in both local and regional sailing events. Perhaps less well known to many of his friends and acquaintances is that Rob has, since August 26, been confined to a bed in the Intensive Care Unit of Bangkok Hospital Phuket, following a horrific car accident. Mercifully, Rob survived, but he faces a long recovery in hospital, where he is undergoing, twice daily, physical therapy that may in time see him once more enjoying life.

In the meantime, Rob must endure a grueling journey to restored health and, naturally, would welcome occasional visits from friends to relieve the monotony of protracted hospital confinement. So if you know Rob and would like to wish him well, pay him a visit in room 203 of the hospital's ICU (Tel: 076-254425, x1250) between 10 am and 3 pm, or from 6 pm to 8 pm. He'd really appreciate it.

Steve Lawrence  
Rawai

### Ticked off at tuk-tuks

I am a frequent visitor to Karon, Phuket where I find the stranglehold on transport by the tuk-tuk operators intolerable.

The beach in Karon extends just over one kilometer south from Karon Circle. Within that strip, there are now seven 'taxi, tuk-tuk stations' occupying all the public beach shelters as well as several makeshift huts. The number keeps increasing. Up to a

dozen people occupy the bigger stations from 8am–8pm. After 8pm, the tuk-tuks join the hundreds of others jamming the streets of Patong looking for business.

Some Thais say that the purposes of the tuk-tuk stations are: (i) to divide the tourist strip into zones for transport teams to monopolize; (ii) to define turf for touting purposes; (iii) to warn off the driver of any 'outside' vehicle who is seen parking in a space controlled for exclusive use by the team; and (iv) to ensure that no other operators (such as metered taxis, motorcycle taxis, and tuk-tuks or unlicensed taxis not affiliated with the control group) are able to pick up passengers.

Within each stand, or team, there is a queue to determine who will take the next fare.

Although the monopolies deny tourists access to any alternative means of transport, thereby enabling the exorbitant fares, the system actually doesn't work in the tuk-tuk operators' interests either. When a tuk-tuk driver drops a passenger, he has to return empty to his home station and face a long wait in a long queue for his next piece of business.

It is obvious to most tourists that they are being exploited, so many rent a motorbike instead of dealing with the 'take-it-or-walk' tuk-tuks. You can rent a bike for a week for the cost of just one round-trip (800 baht) to Patong, a distance of about 6 kilometers each way.

The transport cartel is clearly not in the public interest and is highly detrimental to the tourism business not only for Karon, but also for Phuket as a whole.

Eric Steen-Olsen  
Malmo, Sweden

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.



# Phuket: a province with promise



## The Governor's Letter

Phuket recently welcomed Preecha Ruangjan as the province's new governor. This week's Governor's Letter is the first to be published in the *Gazette* since Mr Preecha moved in to his new office at Provincial Hall on October 20. Mr Preecha is a native of Pidjit Province, where he also held the position of governor. Here, he talks about his first impressions of Phuket and some of the issues he plans to address. Compiled by Nick Davies.

I've been in Phuket about one month now and I can already see that most of my work will concern operating Phuket as a tourist destination, which is very different to the issues I had to deal with as governor of Pidjit.

The predominant issues I am faced with here are to do with drug offenses, public health, traffic, rubbish collection, waste water treatment and conserving the environment. The quality and cleanliness of food is also a major issue because we have to ensure that visitors to the province have good dining experiences wherever they go.

Phuket has a registered population of 325,000, which is about average for a province of this size, but there are many more than that actually living here. Add to that the five million visitors who come here each year... and we can see that the job of ensuring enough food and produce for everyone, without relying heavily on imports, becomes an exceptional task. However, if Phuket didn't have tourism as a source of income, the province would have difficulty prospering.

People see Phuket as a paradise island, so we have to ask ourselves what makes that so. If we put ourselves in the shoes of a tourist, the first thing we think about is Phuket's natural beauty; clean water, beautiful beaches and so on, in a tropical setting.

Secondly, there is the attraction of Phuket's culture and the traditional way of life. Many tourists come here because they want to experience that. In fact,

many tourist destinations around the world are popular because they have preserved aspects of their culture for tourists to experience.

Thirdly, tourists come here because of the warm welcome they receive from Thais. When tourists are welcomed with a smile, it makes them feel safe. A smile costs nothing. There's no investment.

However, the island's natural beauty is already rapidly disappearing for the sake of high profits for a few individuals. This is one of the first things we have to take care of because if the destruction continues, Phuket will no longer be an attractive place to visit.

Nature has a way of healing itself, just like a cut on the skin that eventually turns to a scar and fades away. If we just leave the environment alone for a while and allow it to recuperate, a balance will return. The less we interfere, the better.

Development must be restricted. Those who are building properties without regard for the environment have to realize that if they do not stop developing in a way that damages nature, they are ultimately destroying themselves because tourists will no longer come here.

Phuket is a very small place. Imagine a room designed to hold ten people – with 100 people staying in it. Very soon that room will become uninhabitable.

So we have to ask: is Phuket full yet? If so, then we have to

think of new, sustainable ways to keep the island inhabitable. For example, the owner of a hotel with 200 rooms should not be thinking of expanding to 2,000 rooms. Rather, he or she should be thinking in terms of improving the quality of the existing rooms and the quality of the guests the resort attracts.

A few decades ago, Phuket was a world export hub for tin. It also had a very strong culture and unique way of life, but with so many international influences, that has all changed now and many traditional practices have simply disappeared. These days, if you want to find out about the old Phuket way of life, you virtually have to dig it up.

I would like to see some of those traditional aspects of Phuket life return and be celebrated in the form of tourist attractions. I would like to see a shopping street developed in Phuket like those in other countries where cars are not allowed to go. Not another Soi Bangla – that's not the kind of culture I'm talking about – but a walking street, where people can shop and experience traditional ways of life. Staff would be in traditional dress and customers could sit and enjoy things like coffee prepared in the traditional way.

For this to be achieved, the younger generation have to see themselves as ambassadors of Thailand and Thai culture. Tourists fly directly to Phuket, so for many of them Phuket is Thailand. The idea is to encourage repeat tourists, and the best way

to ensure that is for people to come here, have a good experience and then go back home and tell the people they know. That's the best way to market Phuket.

Native Phuketians are very few. Most people living and working here are from elsewhere, but it's important to preserve the way of life for Phuket natives. We need to initiate cross-training projects and workshops that encourage people who make their living from tourism to make it sustainable – not to overcharge tourists and not to commit crimes against tourists.

Tourists need to feel safe when they come here. They need to know that they can have a worry-free holiday and relax at the beach without being disturbed. They shouldn't have to worry about thieves, and they should feel that the police are their friends. Locals must help each other by not allowing criminal activities to take place.

I know that tourists are often forced to pay too much when they shop here. This gives them a bad feeling and they relate those bad experiences to friends when they go back home. The opportunist culture of overcharging is self destructive, so we have to change that. Don't forget that what we do today is for our children and their children.

Apart from tourism, Phuket is a producer of export products, such as rubber and fish. Breeding fish for export is something we are currently working to expand and improve by working with other countries, such as

Malaysia, Singapore and Brunei.

As for continuing with the projects that my predecessor Mr Niran Kalayanamit was overseeing, such as the planned conference facilities and other large projects, I have yet to take a close look at all the plans, the investors and their involvement before going ahead.

Even though Phuket is a small province, it makes a huge financial contribution to the central government because of the island's tourist industry, but the province receives comparatively little funding for sufficient infrastructure in return because that funding is based on the number of residents registered as living here. As I mentioned earlier, Phuket has a registered population of just over 300,000, but in reality the number of people putting demands on the island's infrastructure and facilities is at least ten to twenty times that number.

With such demands on facilities such as water supply and treatment, and all the refuse that is created by so many people, Phuket needs a lot more funding and investment from the central government.

I aim to demonstrate that Phuket should be considered a specific economic zone; not one that is based on the number of registered residents, but one based on appreciation of how much Phuket contributes to the country's economy. Without such investment, Phuket will not prosper in the long term.

## Issues & ANSWERS

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

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

## How to deal with disruptive dogs in the neighborhood

**Issue:** In our soi there is one house where many dogs seem to live with the two occupants. The dogs are kept inside day and night and when they all bark in unison it is quite deafening.

The house also seems to attract many birds and the disgusting smell of excrement wafts into the soi and surrounding homes.

This house is in a poor state

of repair and is a disgrace to the neighborhood. A number of people in the soi have reported it to the *OrBorTor*.

However, despite visiting the property, they seem to be unwilling to forcibly enter the premises to carry out an inspection. What else can be done about this potential public health and noise problem?

James

**Public Health officer, Chalongsak, Somnuk Hasem replies:**

You should consider sending a letter detailing your complaint to the Phuket Public Health Department.

Once they have received your complaint, they will investigate and then decide how to proceed. Normally, they will talk to

the owner of the dogs and if the situation does not improve, they will send a warning letter.

If the problem persists thereafter, they might decide to remove the dogs.

To obtain more information, contact Chalongsak public health office. Tel: 076-282255. Address: Phuket Public Health Office Narison Road, Taladyai, Amphur Muang, Phuket 83001.



# The Good News about Death

Today I'm going to stretch my writing abilities by saying something good about death. Death has received very bad press. Everybody fears it, nobody has a good word to say about it, and most people don't even want to think about it.

Fairness requires that somebody should point out the good points of this much-maligned condition. One good point is that it provides an option. If things get really bad, you can always kill yourself. Alternately, you can write a letter complaining to the *Phuket Gazette*.

It is widely believed that death can significantly impact your life. Indeed, I can think of no better way to spoil your day. Here you are, drinking your morning coffee, eating your toast, and enjoying the witticisms of S. Tsow in the *Phuket Gazette*, when wham! Death pounces from out of nowhere and wipes you out.

That can be unpleasant, especially if it happens before

you've had a chance to read the letters column to see what the people who haven't killed themselves are complaining about.

Death is a tricky topic to write about, because none of us have been there yet – at least, not in our lifetime.

What's it like? We don't know, but it seems a fair bet to say that it's probably one big long sleep. We get a foretaste of it every night. Nobody is afraid of sleep. Most of us enjoy it. I certainly do. I sleep all the time. I am sleeping as I write this. (You can probably tell.) So why do we fear death? Well, it's because death, so far as we know, lasts forever. We don't fear sleep because we know we'll wake up. We don't wake up from death. I wouldn't mind being dead for a few days, or even a few weeks. It would be a nice vacation. But to keep me dead for all eternity seems an unreasonable imposition on my time.

Many people believe in an afterlife, but empirically ver-

ifiable evidence of such a state is hard to come by. The afterlife taught by some religions sounds idyllic – an eternal frolic in the gardens of paradise – but unfortunately it goes on forever. Most people would be bored silly after two weeks.

The idea of reincarnation, too, is a dreary prospect. If you remembered the lessons you had learned in this life so that you could do better in the next life, there might be some chance of making progress. But you don't. You forget everything and have to start all over again from scratch. The whole business is pointless.

The idea of death as an eternal sleep has advantages nobody ever thinks of. You don't have to get up in the morning. You don't have to shave. You don't have to go to work. You don't

even have to mow the lawn.

It's true that you don't get to enjoy the brilliant witticisms of S. Tsow in the *Phuket Gazette*, but you're dead, so you don't need them. (Some cynics will sneer that

you don't need them even when you're alive, but I think we may safely dismiss such ravings as the misanthropic effusions of diseased minds.) The main advantage of being dead is that you don't need anything.

Some people might want to phone out for a pizza, but hey, you're dead. You don't have a mouth, you don't have a stomach. What would you do with a pizza? There would also be the awkwardness of paying the delivery man, because you don't have a wallet, either. Some people might want to see a movie. With what eyeballs, pray?



They might want to listen to music. With what ears? You don't have a body, so you can't do anything. You don't have a brain, so you can't WANT to do anything. It's an ideal setup.

In fact, death is such a splendid condition that I can't understand why everybody isn't eager to embrace it immediately.

Aside from the personal advantages, there's an altruistic motivation.

The planet is overpopulated; there are too many of us. We'd be doing the rest of our species a favor by selflessly sacrificing ourselves and getting out of the way. Nowadays it's fashionable to reduce our carbon footprints.

We can eliminate them completely if we stop existing. You first.

*S. Tsow confesses that he will probably want to phone out for a pizza even after he's dead. You can scold him for this inconsistency at s.tsow@ymail.com.*

## In The Stars

by Isla Star

## Single Sagittarians celebrating birthdays this week will have Cupid on their side

**SAGITTARIUS** (November 23-December 21): A half-baked idea is not as crazy as it first appears. Scheming Sagittarians will soon see the value of the suggestion put forward by an acquaintance this weekend. Your financial situation is set to become rosier during December, but holiday outgoings will need to be carefully monitored. Family members could try to stretch your spending power to the limit. Singletons celebrating a birthday this week will find true love during the year ahead.

**CAPRICORN** (December 22-January 20): Capricorns may need to be on their guard as somebody born under the sign of Libra is out to cramp your style. A romantic triangle is the probably cause of this, so if your interest in someone special is not being

truly reciprocated, this is the time to back down gracefully. Business affairs require a watchful eye on Monday when a colleague can't be trusted to carry out an important responsibility.

**AQUARIUS** (January 21-February 19): Aquarians who are running out of steam need to realize the importance of rest. Being selective when accepting invitations will result in a happier social life. A fledgling personal relationship gets off the ground when you learn that you have more in common than was first obvious. A disagreement with Leo on Monday should be discussed in depth before you jump to hasty conclusions. The number six can bring some good fortune this weekend.

**PISCES** (February 20-March 20): Pisceans who suffered heartbreak earlier this year could find out something to their advantage. A Sagittarian thinks you are red hot and is waiting for the right moment to make this known.

Expect to be on the receiving end of romantic overtures before the middle of December. A job offer is tempting, but unless you're desperate for change, it would be wiser to remain in your current situation.

**ARIES** (March 21-April 20): If you allow others to have the final word, carefully made plans are liable to go up in smoke. Arians are advised to stay at the helm as you are definitely heading in the right direction. Wednesday is the best day for discussing financial matters with those superior to you; your powers of persuasion will be hard to resist. Romance perks up when Libra looks at you with fresh perspective.

**TAURUS** (April 21-May 21): Those Taureans who are feeling full of beans will jump at the chance to discover new horizons this weekend. An adventurous trip into the unknown makes you realize that it's important to leave home comforts behind sometimes. Where love is concerned, a recent flame shows signs of being ready for commitment while you are content to keep the relationship casual. The number nine can bring some good luck on Tuesday.

**GEMINI** (May 22-June 21): Business matters are forecast to demand your full attention during the first half of December. Those born under the sign of Gemini who have become suspicious of another air sign's motives will

receive confirmation that this person is untrustworthy. Your social life becomes more satisfactory when you are introduced to a new group of people who share some of your interests. Wear the color violet to encourage stronger perception.

**CANCER** (June 22-July 23): A rocky relationship in the world of work is forecast to come to a head during the first week of December. Cancerians are usually the first to walk away from a disagreement, but you will find the strength to state your case on this occasion. After the air has cleared, it should be possible to continue with better understanding. Christmas plans are subject to alteration when you learn of an impending family visit.

**LEO** (July 24-August 22): An ongoing game of cat and mouse starts to grate on your nerves this weekend. Leos are advised to handle this situation with tact, as the other person is more vulnerable than you imagine. The area of employment is better starred in the New Year – trying to force change before then is not recommended. Your luck in love is particularly strong after next Wednesday. Wearing the color ruby red can encourage harmony.

**VIRGO** (August 23-September 23): Virgoans who have experienced a less than satisfying year should start considering what they really want to happen in

2009. The stars promise to support your endeavors to make more progress, but concrete plans are necessary. During the first week of December, you are forecast to receive inspiration from an unlikely source, and romance is also likely to develop when you least expect it to. The number five is lucky this weekend.

**LIBRA** (September 24-October 23): A promise that you thought someone had forgotten is about to be kept and enjoyment is the main theme for this weekend. You start December in a positive frame of mind and this should encourage success at work. The only cloud to affect your good mood concerns family – a brewing disagreement needs to be nipped in the bud. Wear a piece of light jade to encourage a sensible outlook.

**SCORPIO** (October 24-November 22): December is forecast to be a more profitable month for those born under the sign of Scorpio. Where money matters are concerned, a lucky break is forecast later next week and you could be considering a holiday getaway that was previously out of the question. Those already in a relationship who learn that their partner has to travel for work should be supportive as this could lead to worthwhile promotion.

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# Rally Rather Splendid

A unique event is taking place in February next year: the Hero 4x4 rally, which will begin in Singapore, visit Phuket and Chiang Mai, hit mainland China and end in the seedy gaming center of the Far East, the Chinese territory of Macau, on March 8.

The event was originally part of the London-Cape Town rally, which was opened to modern 4x4 vehicles as well as classic cars in 1998. Today, the Hero Club has some 2,000 members, the great majority of whom have competed in at least one major classic car or 4x4 event.

The rally will run over a period of 30 days, including six rest days and will cover roughly 9,450 kilometers. It is open to any modern four-wheel drive SUV. Although modifying the vehicle is not required, the organizers recommend ensuring the suspension is in good order, particularly the shock absorbers.

But this is no grueling, day-and-night test of endurance. The crews convene at the legendary Raffles hotel in Singapore – no doubt with a few Singapore Slings to set them up for the impending journey – where their vehicles will be scrutinized and registration will take place.

The event begins gently, with a short run on relatively easy roads through busy but often beautiful rural landscapes, affording glimpses of scenic and historic places seen by relatively few tourists.

The following morning, it's another quick drive up the expressway to Malaysia's capital, Kuala Lumpur, arriving mid-morning. For the rest of the day, the intrepid crews are free to explore and shop. In the evening, they are treated to a sunset supper in the revolving restaurant of the slender Menara KL Tower.

Their luxury hotel in KL is one of Malaysia's finest: the Mandarin Oriental. After taking in the picturesque Cameron High-

lands and Penang, it is onto Thailand, where, for the first few days, the crews wander up the beautiful Andaman Sea coast, stopping here and there for a swim or for a fresh-fish lunch at a beach shack. They have a rest day at the Rayavadee resort, before checking into the Sheraton Grande Laguna Phuket.

On day eight, the 4x4s follow the road along the Andaman coast north to Ranong, where there are views across the water into Burma. They take a scenic secondary mountain road across the isthmus, ending the day at the Novotel Resort hotel on the Gulf of Thailand near Chumphon.

They then head north up the Gulf of Thailand coast to Bangkok, where, after a day of rest, they take a less-traveled road into Cambodia, hugging the shore between the coast and the Kardamon Mountains.

A loop around Chiang Mai, where their luxury accommodation is The Chedi, also forms part of their itinerary. From there, it's a very early start, partly because of the time it will take and partly to see the sunrise from the top of Doi Ithanon, Thailand's highest mountain. The rest of the day will be spent enjoying the wonderful roads and scenery, including a superb 20 km stretch of jeep trail, and stopping at remote hill villages. Taking in parts of Laos and Vietnam before crossing into China, eventually the crews will take advantage of China's expressway network to travel to Zhuhai, a city just outside Macau.

Here, the adventure drive closes with a ceremonial finish, before they hand the 4x4s over to a shipping agent to be returned home. They will then transfer by coach to the Westin Resort in Macau, a luxury golf venue away from the main casino centers.

For more information, see [www.4x4xplore.com](http://www.4x4xplore.com)

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



Land Rovers are a popular choice for the Hero 4x4 rally.



Contestants in the Hero 4X4 Rally will not exactly be roughing it. While in Phuket, they'll be staying at the Sheraton Grande Laguna Phuket.

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The annual Phuket International Sports Fishing Tournament took place in Chalong last week. The three day tournament, the biggest event of the fishing calendar in Phuket, attracted teams from all over the world.

The biggest winner of the tournament was Walter Dreier from Austria, whose team, 'The Rat Pack', won the trophy for the most points overall. Walter said, "This is the culmination of years of work and I am really pleased."

As well as Austria, there were representatives from Norway, Canada, Germany, Hawaii, Ireland and Singapore.

'Team 99' from Germany and Austria took home the prize for the biggest Sailfish, at approximately 1.5 meters, but did not take home the fish itself as it was under the mandatory size of 1.75 meters.

The biggest winner of day three, the final day, was Team 'Thai 2on' who caught not only

the biggest fish of the day but also the biggest Wahoo, at 12.2 kg, of the entire tournament.

Ky Doucet, from the US, said, "We're very pleased because we didn't catch much; actually, it was the only fish we caught in three days!"

However, Ky claims that the decision to save the best till last was deliberate. "We tried to really fish strong on our last day and our strategy paid off. It's our first time at this tournament, but we'll definitely be back next year," he said. Despite some 'imperfect' weather, tournament organizer Michael Hochgeladen was clearly delighted. "The weather was a problem, but I think people enjoyed themselves and the event has been a big success. We are all looking forward to next year," he enthused.

For more information visit: [www.phuket-international-sportfishing-tournament.com](http://www.phuket-international-sportfishing-tournament.com)

## Sportfishing tournament reels in teams from around the globe



One that did not get away - The winning team Thai2on, on day 3, with their prize wahoo.

## Andaman 7s kicks off 2-week football fest

PHUKET: Teams from Singapore swept the board at the Andaman football 7s, winning both the Masters and the Open

Tournament.

The tournament took place at the Tsunami Memorial Field, midway between Phuket Town



Teams battle it out at the Andaman football 7s.

and Cape Panwa.

The switch to a new venue this year, due to concerns over the playing surface at the former site in Karon, also afforded the organizers the opportunity to expand the tournament, with 29 teams participating.

The Masters Cup, for players over 40 years of age, was won by Orchid Rovers from Singapore. In an exciting final, their 3-2 victory over Hanoi Capitals from Vietnam owed much to some goalkeeping heroics from keeper Scott Starr. Rovers captain Reggie Wanchop was quick to heap praise on his ace shot-stopper.

"He's a former professional footballer and the best goalkeeper in Singapore," he commented.

The final of the Open Cup was more one-sided with Stiff

Chilli Wanderers comfortably defeating Australian side Perth Select International 2-0 to add yet more silverware to their fast-expanding trophy cabinet.

Captain Dan Lane has become accustomed to success, "We have some of the best players from Singapore in our team."

"We won here last year and also won the 7s tournament in Bangkok," he said.

Stiff Chilli Wanderers will return in 2009, hoping to make it three in a row.

"We'll definitely be back next year. We love it here. Personally, I just come for the football but the rest of the lads like the night life," Dan said.

For tournament organizer Tim Hodgson, the Andaman 7s, the first of two consecutive seven-a-side football tournaments in Phuket, was a great success.

"We are really pleased with the new venue, there have been some exciting games and the weather has been great," he told the *Gazette*.

Now in its third year, the Andaman 7s acts as an overflow for the highly successful Phuket 7s, which will be held this weekend (November 29-30).

With too many teams to accommodate over the course of a single weekend, the Phuket 7s was expanded, with the addition of a second tournament. Together, they comprise the biggest seven-a-side tournament in Asia.

The sixth Phuket 7s will also be held at the Tsunami Memorial Field, and will feature 36 teams from 12 different countries.

For more information about either of these tournaments visit: [www.thai7s.com](http://www.thai7s.com).

### PATONG DARTS LEAGUE

After taking 20 points from their first two matches, first-place Piccadilly dropped four points, at neighboring Simply Red.

With Billy, Steen and Joy

out sick, Queen Mary was lucky, as some "reserves" showed up, ensuring a 6-3 (plus beer leg) win over Beach House. Leif of QM took the high score with 180.

Paul of Celtic took the high score with 180 in Celtic's 7-3 win over Shakers, while Phil of Celtic closed out the beer leg with a 5 finish (1,d2). Skinny Dog took a 4-6 home loss to Boozers.

**November 18 results:** Queen Mary\* 6 Beach House 3;

Simply Red\* 3 Piccadilly 6; Offshore 6 Hilltop\* 3; Celtic\* 6 Shakers 3; Skinny Dog 4 Boozers\* 5; Market Bar bye; (\* = winner of beer leg)

#### Standings:

1. Piccadilly (26 pts.); 2. Queen Mary (23); 3. Offshore (19); 4. = Boozers, Skinny Dog (14); 6. = Hilltop, Market Bar\* (13); 8. = Beach House, Simply Red (9); 10. Celtic\* (7); 11. Shakers\* (3). (\* = already had bye week).

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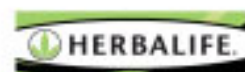
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## Home of the Week

## Patong

**O**ur latest Home of the Week is a modern colonial style house in the tranquil fishing village of Rawai. This four-bedroom property is 450 square meters in size and set within more than one rai of land. It offers a massive garden, terrace, balconies, private 44sqm swimming pool and two Jacuzzis – all guarded by a large perimeter wall that provides sanctuary and security in equal measure.

The first thing that will strike you about this property is the sheer size of the garden. The lawn is neatly trimmed and dotted with flower beds, pot plants and small trees that turn this area into a tropical oasis.

The adjoining pool area is spacious, with room for plenty of sun loungers for guests to while away the hours in front of the house and its overlooking balconies and terrace.

Security gates lead to a concrete driveway that sweeps toward the large covered carport, big enough for two vehicles. A large fish pond completes the effect: this garden has all you need to truly enjoy Phuket's sun-kissed climate.

The modern colonial-style design sits very comfortably within the tropical setting. Large balconies rest upon every floor, and the immediate ground-floor covered terrace is spacious, equipped with fans, and affords great views overlooking the pool and fish pond.

Not only does this property feature four bedrooms, but also a separate building which could quite easily serve as a guest house or maid's quarters. Alongside the swimming pool already mentioned, there is an external and internal Jacuzzi, a study/office and a laundry room.

This partly furnished abode offers a large lounge area decorated with painted white walls and a host of wooden fixtures and fittings, including paneled wooden flooring and luxurious shelves that separate the lounge from the dining room.

The lounge also features a

# In grand colonial style



The spacious garden of this colonial beauty in Raiwai includes a large pool, Jacuzzi, fish pond and guest house.

comfortable beige three-piece suite, a flat-screen TV and two large tropical fans hanging from the ceiling.

With a hop, skip and a jump you are in the dining room, which is equipped with a circular four-seat table. The dining room hugs a Western-style standardized kitchen fitted with wooden units and cabinets.

The kitchen includes a host of modern appliances that will make life much easier. The ground floor is also home to an adjoining utility room which could masquerade as a play room for the kids.

The wooden staircase leads to the second floor, on which there are four bedrooms, three of which

are ensuite and offer double beds and mirrored built-in wardrobes. The master bedroom includes an ensuite bathroom with a lavish Jacuzzi. All the ensuite bathrooms have wooden floors, and are neatly decorated and offer beautifully designed showering facilities.

The fishing village of Rawai is positioned at Phuket's southernmost tip, offering privacy and tranquility. At the same time there is a wide choice of restaurants serving all manner of cuisine, plus numerous beaches and newly built shopping facilities within a five-minute drive.

Rawai is fast becoming a highly sought-after locale and its growing infrastructure will ben-

efit anybody who wishes to purchase a property in this area.

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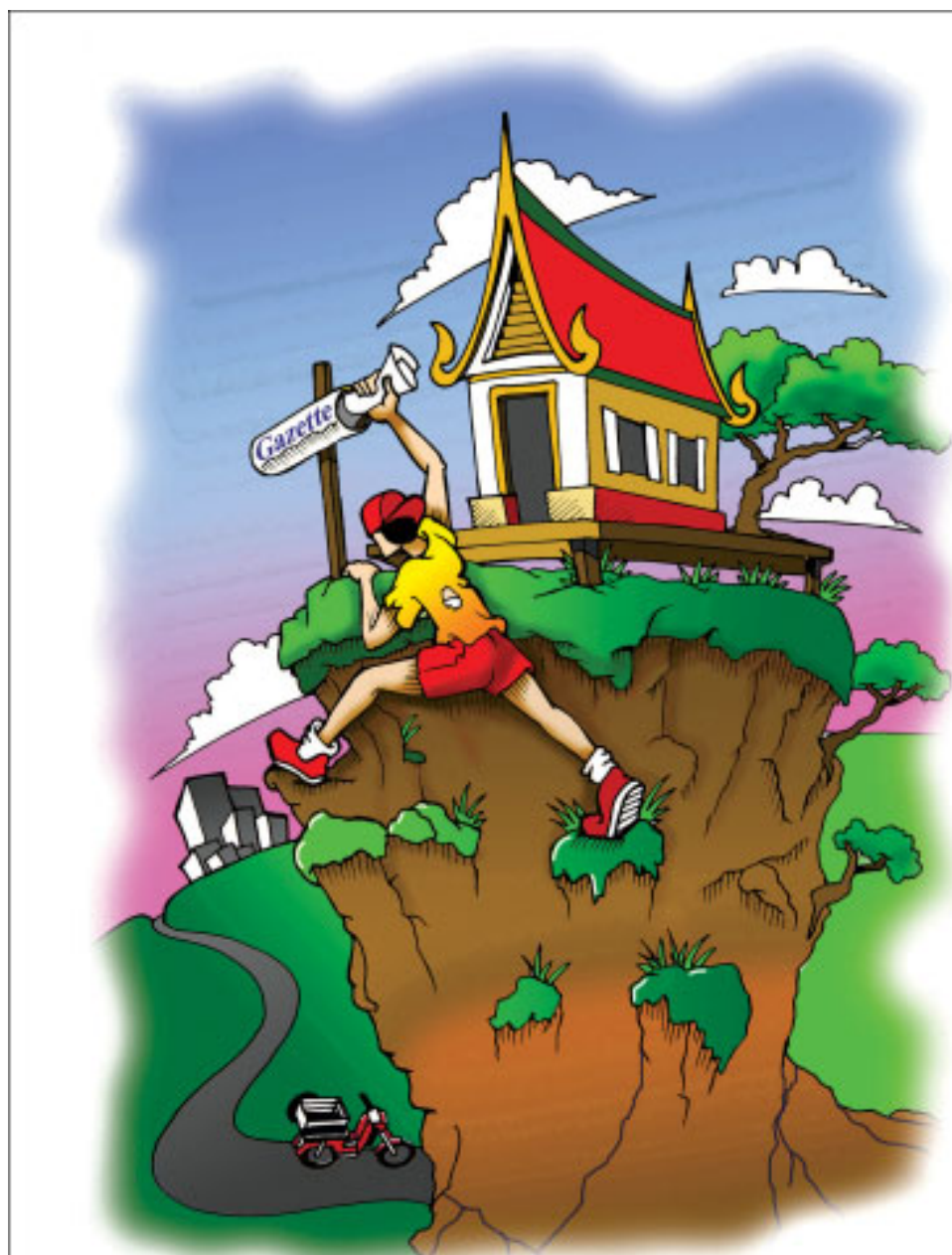
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## Construction

## Village Outlet Phuket

## Weather hampers mega mall construction

**M**otorists heading along the bypass road towards Thepkrasattri Road cannot fail to have noticed the gargantuan development destined to become Outlet Village Phuket.

With a total investment of over a billion baht, the development is divided into two parts. The first part is a collection of ten one- and two-storey buildings consisting of offices and restaurants and occupying nearly 19,000 square meters.

The second is the Galleria, which will be made up of five separate buildings, covering around 4,000 sqm of retail space, selling mostly discounted branded goods in what is described by the developers as a "factory outlet".

Construction of the Outlet Village mall is being managed by Movida Co Ltd and the design concept has been described as "modern".

The project is under the ownership of Outlet Village Mall Co., Ltd, which already has similar ventures in Pattaya, Krabi, Cha Am and Khao Yai.

Work started in March 2006 and was scheduled for completion by the end of the year. However, unseasonal weather has delayed construction. A spokesman for Movida Co stated that the project is about 40% complete and should be finished early next year.



Work continues but there will be no Christmas bargains this year at Outlet Village.

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## Legal

Kert Stavorn

# Planning a property development project in Thailand

Thailand's continuing economic growth and thriving tourist industry have caused a noticeable revival of the property development market, and the steady influx of tourists and investors means there is growing demand for new accommodation and recreational property developments. As such, property development has become an attractive business venture to those with cash to invest.

However, property development is a complex process, and unlike some other businesses, involves several intricate steps and solid financial management.

Property development is certainly not for the faint hearted and requires just as much effort, if not more, than any other businesses to yield a healthy turnover. The good news is, that with good planning and a healthy dose of hard work, property development can indeed be very profitable for the developer.

This article aims to provide a helpful guide for investors planning to venture into property development projects in Thailand. There are various types of property development so it is essential to identify at the onset the end goal of the project. This is essential because it will help you to identify a host of variables that will influence the viability and direction of the project.

In this article, we will concentrate on property or real estate development as opposed to land development or 'fixer-uppers'. Property or real estate development can be defined as the construction of physical buildings on raw land. It can take the form of residential, commercial, institutional, recreational or industrial projects.

## The property development process

In general, a development project can be broken down into five stages. They are, in respective order, inception and feasibility, design, tendering, construction, handover and maintenance.

This article will focus on the first stage, which is crucial, as it will guide the decision making throughout the development and will show early on whether the



Laguna Phuket

The good news is that with good planning and a healthy dose of hard work, property development can be very profitable for the developer.

project is worth the projected time and effort. Moreover, it will provide the strategic framework with which to establish the subsequent development stages.

## Project inception

The first thing to do is to evaluate your finances and draw up a budget outline for your project. With this in mind, you can then search for a block of land with potential for development. It is a good idea at this stage to work with a team of consultants to provide you with the needed expertise in data gathering and assessment.

You can either have a development manager who can co-ordinate the whole process or you can liaise individually with a number of advisers, which may include a lawyer, architect, quantity surveyor, urban planner and estate agent. They will be there to provide you with initial advice on the property and the marketability of any possible development. This is also the stage in which you, together with your advisers, identify your project objectives.

## Land investigation

The next stage is to conduct a legal and ground investigation of the land. All issues concerning the land must be ascertained and assessed including ownership, title,

encumbrance, easements, zoning laws or ministerial regulations, and land capacity. These are the crucial issues which may affect land acquisition and what or how much you can build on the land. This is also a good time to find out what licensing will be required for your proposed project and whether you will need a property allocation license for the subdivision of separate plots.

## Environmental regulation compliance

Environmental regulations are becoming one of the prominent issues facing property developers today. In late 2007, the Office of National Resources and Environmental Policy and Planning issued a new regulation requiring every new property project to plant a tree at least five meters in height and width for every air conditioning unit between 12,000 and 24,000 BTU. Also, a condominium project in Thailand which has more than 79 units or housing projects with a land area of more than 100 rai will need to apply for an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA).

Smaller projects may also need to have an Initial Environmental Evaluation (IEE) done.

## Project brief

After ascertaining and evaluating land viability for the development

project, you will then need to set up a 'User's Requirement' in the form of a preliminary project brief. This is where you examine and assess what the market wants in that area in order to build something that would sell or lease well. User's Requirements are works in progress and are progressively refined into a detailed project brief throughout the design and tendering stages, so do not be too concerned if you haven't figured out exactly what it is you want to build at the onset.

## Feasibility study

The feasibility study will essentially identify the financial viability of the project and establish the potential for profit in relation to the risks involved. Factors to consider include, among others: time scales, costs for consultants, cost of construction, as well as the likely sale value and the profit margin you want to make.

There is a lot of software available today that can help make this part faster, cheaper and easier. A project's success depends on this feasibility study as this is what allows you to make an informed decision.

## Project structure

The final step is to outline the project organization and management structure. The players in the

project should be identified and their roles delineated. This is important in the development process as it sets out accountabilities and provides a framework in which the players in the organization can work and effectively contribute to achieve the final goal.

## Final word

The planning stage of any property developments is crucial and requires a lot of hard work and perseverance. Property development is an inherently risky business as capital expenditure is often high and liquidity is, by nature of having property as its main asset, extremely low.

Financial management is decisive to the success of a development, and good financial management is in turn dependent upon good planning of the technical aspects of the project.

At least with good planning, you will know early on whether to continue on with the project and proceed to the next stage.

*Kert Stavorn is a senior legal consultant for Siam Legal International. Kert's practice primarily focuses on real estate, construction and corporate matters. Email: kert@siam-legal.com*

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<p><b>3 Laguna Townhome II THB 24 M</b></p>   <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2-storey Townhome</li> <li>• 25 sqm private pool</li> <li>• on golf course</li> </ul>	<p><b>4 Dusit Thani Pool Villa THB 36 M</b></p>   <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 3-storey Townhome</li> <li>• 2 beds • rooftop pool</li> <li>• guaranteed rental return</li> </ul>
<p><b>5 Laguna Residence I THB 39 M</b></p>   <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2-storey detached house</li> <li>• 4 beds 3 baths</li> <li>• 48 sqm pool • on golf course</li> <li>• guaranteed rental return</li> </ul>	

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# Boutique Hotels – Size Matters

When the all-pool-villa hotel Phuket Pavilions opened a few years back, one of their key positioning points against larger, upscale competition was, “no welcome drinks, no buffets and no tan line”.

Now, meet the sexy and provocative world of design and boutique hotels, where size really does matter and small rules.

Looking back at the evolution of these types of hotels, the emerging tide shift was clearly the entry of Twin Palms.

The hotel launched successfully without the advantages of a beach-front location or the backing of a large international management chain.

On top of that, it couldn't even boast having pool villas, yet the hotel created a buzz in the local community as well as among overseas visitors, who raved about its unique design and how it reflected their lifestyle ambitions.

Financially, the hotel became a screaming success story, eliciting a league of return guests. Its occupancy and average-rate performance was envied by many of the island's elite-brand hotels.

Page forward into more recent times and scroll back into the Greater Phuket landscape, where hotels such as Aleenta, just over the bridge in Phang Nga, and the Sarojin in Khao Lak have wooed investors and guests by presenting a stylish image.

The developers came up with innovative designs and styles for the hotels, effectively enabling them to get approval from the bank for the projects.

Just last year, the stylish design of the Department of Architecture's Amata Lupaiboon at Sala Phuket captured the imagination of a new set of tourists. They are looking for a more personalized, tailor-made holiday arrangement as opposed to the



**Boutique On The Build:** The B-Lay Tong hotel in Patong is shaping up to be a totally unique offering and is set to be completed next year.

standard cookie-cutter holidays.

A growing number of smaller properties are also developing in this niche, such as Manathai in Surin, and BYD Lofts in Patong, and it looks as if 2009 will usher in more new properties in this segment.

One much anticipated project is the B-Lay Tong, which is located at the northern end of Patong Beach Road, north of Graceland and south of Novotel. This 125-key property is scheduled to open in the second quarter of next year and it may well set a new benchmark in innovation and imagination.

Sarinrath Kamolratana-piboon is one of the B-Lay Tong project's directors. She has extensive experience with top design firm dwp in Bangkok.

Having walked through the project last week, it's clear that the when completed, the hotel is going to turn a few heads.

At the same time, other independent hotel projects, such as Sri Panwa with its headline-making outlet Baba, has generated huge interest among the crowd from Bangkok and has become a destination unto itself through its focus on creating great events and unique culinary experiences.

Other properties set to enter this segment include the recently-opened Anantara in Mai Khao. Although this is a smaller institutional brand, its Bill-Bensely designs, the small number of villas, and attention to artwork will put it in competition with larger luxury-pool-villa resorts like Banyan

Tree and Trisara.

In Kamala, Cape Sienna, which is set to open next year, is also carving out a unique offering. These additions will give visitors to Phuket a lot more freedom of choice.

Yet another new entry about to start construction is the Langham Place Resort & Spa in Kalim. The resort is a 78-key, all-pool villa, which was designed by Clint Nagata of Blink Designs. As with its flagship hotel in Hong Kong, the new Langham will highlight original artwork and introduce to the market place a number of ground-breaking service innovations.

Andrew Jessop, who was a mainstay at the Sheraton Grande in Laguna for a number of years, is co-ordinating new ideas into this hotel. It promises to be stylish and cater to a more demanding client base.

Any rundown of boutique-design hotels wouldn't be complete without including the granddaddy of 'em all: The Yamu.

This iconic Philippe Starck/Jean-Michel Gathy collaboration has been slow into the ground but is now looking at opening in 2009 and may give birth to the concept of Phuket Luxury 2.0.

While the current benchmark for chicness is the Amanpuri, the Yamu will offer a truly new concept for accommodation options in Phuket and looks to be the cream of the crop in the years ahead.

On the institutional boutique front, there are rumours that Starwood's W Hotels is coming to Phang Nga, however no announcement has been made yet. Over the past year, a number of lifestyle brands have been taking hard looks at Phuket, including Per Aquum, Kor/Viceroy, and Nikki Beach.

Globally, even the conservative market leader Marriott Hospitality, which has luxury brands such as Ritz Carlton and Bvlgari under its umbrella, is now spinning the 'Edition' brand in partnership with Ian Schrager, who is the one of the godfathers of hip, modern-lifestyle hotels and was behind the success of the Morgan's chain.

To sum it all up, in the growing age of long-tail customized consumer experiences, even the staid hotel market is starting to take heed of demand and is offering a broader scale of options to give guests more intimate experiences when they travel.

*Bill Barnett is the 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.*



## PROPERTY WATCH

By Bill Barnett

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# Property Gazette

## Properties For Sale

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for sale or rent. Pool villa, modern design, in Kamala. Total area 320sqm. Built-up 250sqm. 1.5-story with open loft, 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms. 13.5 million baht. No agents. Tel: 080-532 8773. Email: brown\_17@windowslive.com

**SALE/RENT, KAMALA**  
Single house near beach, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, living room, kitchen. 4.2 million baht. Tel: 086-277 3381.

### QUICK SALE

Only 5.1 million baht, near Laguna. Thai-style home. 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, kitchen, living room. Telephone: 087-893 8590.

### CONDO 63SQM PATONG

Renovated, freehold, 2 rooms, terrace, nice view, pool, beach 200m, furnished, TV, Wi-Fi, 2 aircons. 4.9 million baht. Tel: 086-976 0809.

### CONDOMINIUM PROJECT

Beautiful 19 rai of seaview property. 13,412 sqm of living space. Tel: 075-667071, 081-597 9310. Fax: 075-667071. Email: lantalandandhouse@GMX.net. For further details, please see our website at [www.lanta-apartment.com](http://www.lanta-apartment.com)

### NEW 3 BED POOL VILLA

at Mission Hills golf course. Luxury finishing. Buy it at 9.5 million baht, or rent it long term for 40,000 baht a month. Tel: 087-893 4636. Email: [info@phuketbedandbreakfast.com](mailto:info@phuketbedandbreakfast.com)

## NEW STUDIO APARTMENTS IN RAWAI

4 new apartments with shared swimming pool. Kitchenette, Bathroom and Terrace.  
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Tel: 084-0639223 or 081-7888280

### SEAVIEW LAND



4 rai prime sea view land for sale in Kata. Reduced to 10 million per rai. Tel: 081-273 5047.

### MAI KHAO LAND



for sale. 11 rai, Nor Sor 3, 500 meters to the beach. Contact Tor. Tel: 084-5071834. Email: [mrpantor@hotmail.com](mailto:mrpantor@hotmail.com)

### HOUSE FOR SALE 2.5 MILLION BAHT

Ban Maneekram Chalong. 2 bedrooms, 3 a/c, fully furnished, cable TV, ADSL phone line for Internet. Existing tenant on long term rental. Tel: 076-264692, 086-281 2115.

**LUXURY POOL VILLA**  
Large 600 sqm pool villa, 5 mins to Laguna, 4 bedrooms, fully furnished. 16 million baht. For sale or rent. Tel: 081-734 4324. For further details, please see our website at [www.phuketgreenlandvillas.com](http://www.phuketgreenlandvillas.com)

**FOREIGN FREEHOLD**  
condo in Rawai, 250 meters from the pier. 54sqm. 1.3 million baht. Tel: 086-9408914. Email: [rawai1@yahoo.com](mailto:rawai1@yahoo.com)

### PATONG TOWER CONDO

6th floor, mountain view, 72sqm, furnished. Only 5 million baht. Tel: 087-272-0303.

### LUXURY DEVELOPMENT LAND



Ao Po, Phuket, Thailand. 23.5 rai seafront/view. Ideal for development or subdivision. Neighbors include The Estate luxury development, the new Ao Po Marina and Jumeirah Private Island. Quick sale. Call 081-970 4765. Visit [www.phuketluxuryland.com](http://www.phuketluxuryland.com)

### 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)

### ON THE BEACH

2-bedroom apartment in north Patong. Foreign freehold, top floor, swimming pools. 9.7 million baht. Tel: 086-276-5117. Email for photos. Email: [jihshand@gmail.com](mailto:jihshand@gmail.com)

### BOAT LAGOON

Twin house for sale or rent, 2 and 3 bedrooms, fully furnished. Tel: 081-344 4473, 081-862 2962.

### LUXURY HOUSE

for sale or rent. Mission Heights community, 5 mins from Mission Hills Golf Club. 4 bedrooms, en-suite bathrooms with bath and shower, large Western kitchen, 90-sqm pool, garden, service included. Fully furnished. Contact So. Tel: 081-862 2962, 081-344 4473.

### 2-STOREY HOUSE

5.5 million baht. 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 72sqm with some furniture at Villa Samkong. Call Khun Nan. Tel: 081-6779837. Email: [knahnierz@hotmail.com](mailto:knahnierz@hotmail.com) or [okika\\_j@hotmail.com](mailto:okika_j@hotmail.com)

### PHUKET COUNTRY CLUB



Duplex renovation project directly on 15<sup>th</sup> fairway for sale. Reduced price. See [www.fairway15.com](http://www.fairway15.com) Tel: 081-894 1994.

### RAWAI, 2-STOREY HOUSE

160sqm, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 400m from beach. Price: 1.8 million. Tel: 086-940 8914. Email: [rawai1@yahoo.com](mailto:rawai1@yahoo.com)

### HOUSE NEAR TESCO LOTUS

2 bedroom, 2 bathroom, 3-aircons, water. European style kitchen. Fully furnished. Land 36sqm. Price 2.95 million baht. (Eng) Tel: 086-683 6913, (Thai) Tel: 080-529 4944.

### 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: 081-539 9269.

### PERFECT LAND

Nearly 2 rai at Bang Tao. Very good location for business. 18 million baht. No agents. Tel: 086-944 2065, 087-689-9679. Email: [tasuwan@hotmail.com](mailto:tasuwan@hotmail.com)

## Absolute Beach - Front Land

at Maikhao Beach

For sale or long lease. Plot: 1-22 rai



Contact Khun Suchon: 081-8936355

### 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. Tel: 087-270 9093. Email: [a.pueng@gmail.com](mailto:a.pueng@gmail.com)

### 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](mailto:allservices29@gmail.com)

### SURIN BEACH

Land on Soi Haad Surin 2 for sale. 2.2 Rai, 5 min walk to Surin Beach. Tel: 082-411 2138.

### LAND IN RAWAI

and Nai Harn. Many small and big plots. Special: 1,773sqm w/ sea view, 5.9 million baht. Tel: 085-795 5383.

### KARON LAND

Hotel-condos-townhouse, 1 minute to the beach. Price: 7 million baht or trade. Tel: 081-446 0215.

### QUICK SALE

5 bedrooms, 5 bathrooms at 4.5 million baht. Tel: 081-894 2009.

### VILLAS, CONDOS

Great properties for sale in Phuket at [www.janepropertyphuket.com](http://www.janepropertyphuket.com)

### BARGAIN. KATA BEACH

3-level house, only 1 min to beach. Owner moving. 3.3 million baht. Tel: 084-840-5834.

### COMMERCIAL RAWAI

88 sq wah, 32 meters frontage on busy Sai Yuan Rd. 4.9 million baht. Good investment. Tel: 085-794 2675.

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# Property Gazette

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## PATONG DELUXE CONDO

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**PATONG GUESTHOUSE** in the Paradise Complex. Fully furnished. Freehold sale for 5.9 million baht. Contact sumalee1955@yahoo.com, or by telephone to 082-558 8037. Email: sumalee1955@yahoo.com

## BARGAIN KATA BEACH

3-level house, only 1 minute to beach. Owner moving. 3.6 million baht. Tel: 084-840 5834.

## TOWNHOUSE IN PHUKET TOWN

Chanakarn Baan Klang Muang Project, 5 minutes from Central and Big C, 2 floors, 140sqm. Resale contract 500,000 baht. Call Kosta. Tel: 080-071 9098.

## HOUSE IN RAWAI

for sale. Corner unit, 26 sq wah. Price 990,000 baht. Tel: 086-952 9517. Email: condo tel@web.de

## LUXURY VILLA IN KATA HILL

3 bedrooms, landscaped garden, swimming pool, jacuzzi. Includes all furniture. Only 18 million baht. Tel: 084-0639223 or 081-7888280

## CHEAPEST SHOPHOUSE

in Phuket Town. Great location and ample parking. Selling below market price. Yaowarat Rd, same road as Timber Hut Pub. 5m x 60m long = 62 sq wah. Not to be found elsewhere. Will let it go at 5.5 million baht. Tel: 076-612730, 089-726 0446. Email: oldphu ketshophouse@gmail.com

## EXCLUSIVE PATONG SEA VIEW



Exclusive Patong Sea view villas looking to Patong Bay. Freehold: 20 million baht. Tel: 076-612744, 086-982 2888. Fax: 076-612744. Email: prim\_purdue@yahoo.com

## BRAND-NEW HOUSE

For sale in Baan Suan Loch Palm. 2 stories, 3 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms. Price: 10.5 million baht. Urgent sale! Tel: 087-279 9500.

## PERFECT LAND FOR SALE

on the main road to Cherng-Talay and Surin. 43 rai, 1ngan, 85sq wah. For sale by owner. 5.5 million baht per rai. Tel: 081-956-2406. Email: phatsarar@gmail.com

## STUNNING PATONG STUDIO APT

Large studio in Phuket Palace condo near Simon Cabaret. All modern conveniences, large balcony, bath, aircon, kitchen, cable TV, on the top floor. Spectacular views of the ocean and Patong Bay. Huge swimming pool & tennis courts. 3.7 million baht or near offer. Tel: 076-296738, 087-031 2154. Email: info@kellyshotelphuket.com

## NEW HOME IN CHALONG

2-3 bed. Near Circle. Quiet, close to all amenities. Top quality build, with garden. 5.5 million baht, or long-term rent. Tel: 089-652 1951. Email: phuketsuperhome@gmail.com

## HOUSES IN RAWAI

and Nai Harn, from cheap to luxurious. Special offer: 2-bedroom house and pool, 4.8 million baht. Contact Nico. Tel: 085-795 5383. For further details, please see our website at [www.warmwaterland.com](http://www.warmwaterland.com)

## AMAZING CONDO VILLA LAND



Up to 16 meters building with 3 stories. Full sea view of 180 degrees, from Chalong Bay to South Islands. 5 rai at 10 million baht per rai. Tel: 084-445 2831.

## KOH SIRAY LAND



4 plots of land on Koh Sireh, park view, 480sqm, beach, Chanote title, concrete road access, 300 meters from new yacht marina. Asking for 1.5 million. Tel: 081-536 9252. Email: sppcnx@gmail.com

## NEW HOUSE, NAI HARN-RAWAI



3-storey 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. Tel: 081-6779837, 089-646-4786. Email: sync\_koji@hotmail.com

## KRABI AREA SEAVIEW LAND

19 rai of hillside land overlooking mountains and Phang-nga Bay. 1.2 million baht per rai. Tel: 086-9410410. Email: here@fastmail.fm For further details, please see our website at <http://krabi.land.here.fastmail.fm/>

## PATONG LAND

Prime land, 5.5 rai, central location in Patong. Mail or call after 11am. Tel: 081-4095175. Email: jctailor@loxinfo.co.th

## NAIHARN CONDO, 1.8M

Modern, beautiful surroundings, swimming pool & fully furnished. Please contact. Tel: 086-596 9601. Email: ford asia777@gmail.com

## VERY LARGE VILLA IN KATA HILL

7 bedrooms, large landscaped garden, 2 swimming pools, 2 kitchens. Standing on 1 rai. Only 49 million baht. Tel: 084-0639223 or 081-7888280

## COCONUT ISLAND LAND



for sale. 4.5 rai. Chanote, hillside panoramic sea view, close to beach. 14 million baht. Please call K. Bouddha Tel: 089-290 0484.

## 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, 6.5 meters wide, 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms. Land: 32sq wah. Tel: 089-472 9118.

## CONDO: 63SQM, PATONG

100% renovated, freehold. 2 rooms, terrace & nice view, pool, security. Beach: 200m, furnished, TV, Hi-Fi, 2 aircons. 4.9 million baht. Telephone: 086-9760809.

## STUNNING PATONG STUDIO APT

Large studio in Phuket Palace condo near Simon Cabaret. All modern conveniences, large balcony, bath, aircon, kitchen, cable TV, on the top floor. Spectacular views of the ocean and Patong Bay. Huge swimming pool & tennis courts. 3.7 million baht or near offer. Tel: 076-296738, 087-031 2154. Email: info@kellyshotelphuket.com

## CORNER BUILDING OFF BYPASS

2 units, 24 + 33 sq wah, 4 stories. Located opposite Kejmukda restaurant, 300m from the Bypass road. 7-Eleven is on the ground floor. Price for the building is 15 million baht. Tel: 081-893 6630. Fax: 076-241408. Email: baansorada@hotmail.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

## CHALONG, 2-STORY HOUSE

for sale. 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, aircon, fully furnished. Down payment: 850,000 baht o.n.o. Tel: 084-841 5835, 086-595 0013.

## AGRICULTURAL LAND

for sale. 120 rai of agricultural land for sale, 20km from resort area of Khao Lak. Total price 3.84 million baht. Please telephone 087-020 0191 for further information.

## FREEHOLD IN PATONG

for sale. New studio with pool in Patong, 45sqm. 3.2 million baht. Quick sale. Tel: 089-728 4005. Email: antoniocpala@yahoo.it

## HILL LAND SOUTH OF AIRPORT

18 Rai of Nor Sor Sam Gor land for sale by owner. Six km south of airport. Prepared for development with roads and drainage. Partial sea view towards NaiYang. 36 million baht. Tel: 081-8936630. Fax: 076-241408. Email: baan sorada@hotmail.com

## TOP SEAVIEW LOT

2 rai, Yamu hills. Chanote, gated, good road, 11.5 million baht. Tel: 080-5358767, Tel (US): 0011-760-7808584. Email: phuketone@gmail.com

## KOH YAO YAI

3.8 rai, 1 million baht. Chanote, electricity, near pier. Thai owner needs money. Call for more details. Tel: 081-892 8208.

## 68 RAI OF KRABI LAND

Super-prime hilltop, 280 degree bay view above Sheraton. Chanote and Norsor 3. B6.5m per rai. Email: thunderoredigger@gmail.com

# SPECIAL SALE

**4 NEW STUDIO APARTMENTS**  
In Rawai, close to main road,  
with **SWIMMING POOL**

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Freehold / Leasehold

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# Property Gazette

## NEW 2 BEDROOM APARTMENT IN KATA CENTRAL

140sqm., luxury furniture on 6th floor.  
Use of swimming pool, parking & restaurant.  
**Only 9.7 million baht.**  
Tel: 084-0639223 or 081-7888280

## RAWAI BEACH POOL VILLA



Sale, lease. 1, 2, 3 or 4 bedrooms, furnished, ADSL, 1.9 million baht ono. Contact. Tel: 086-940 8914. Email: rawai1@yahoo.com

## NEW CONDO GOOD VIEW FROM 1.5 MB

Rawai. 40sqm, 1 bedroom, 1 bathroom, big pool, 24hrs security. Price: 1.5 million baht. And 60sqm, 2 bedroom, 1 bathroom, seaview. Price: 2.8 million baht. Please call Kuno. Tel: 081-968 5963. Fax: 076-381303. Email: kuno@bayproject.com Website: http://www.bayproject.com

## LAND PLOTS FOR SALE, LAYAN

2 land plots for sale in an exclusive villa development, 900sqm and 856sqm. Ready to build at only 5,000 baht per sqm. Tel: 081-891 1826. Fax: 076-238940. Email: kevinq@loxinfo.co.th Website: www.baanboosa.com

## 1 RAI LOTS

in gated community. Ocean view. East coast, Pa Khlok. Starting at 3.5 million per rai. Royal Coast Company Ltd. Tel: 076-353926, 081-6932 791. Email: eam1008@mac.com

## 50 RAI OF LAND W/CHANOTE TITLE

Phang Nga, 8kms from town center. 30 rai of powered licensed factory for meat + fish. Walk-in fridge + freezer. 8,000 hardwood trees planted on 20 rai. Genuine sale. Tel: 087-269 4083.

## HILL HOUSE AT KATA

for sale. Sea view, 600sqm for total area. Two-story house with 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, 2 kitchens, parking, pool. Nice location, 5 minutes to Kata Beach. Can adapt for 2 apartments for rent. Please take a look and ask for price ono. Tel: 087-689 9679.

## 8 BEACHFRONT LOTS

for sale. Now only 4 left! Coconut Island (Maphrao), half rai for 2.75 to 4.4 million baht. 8% fee to brokers Royal Coast Company. Contact K. Apple. Tel: 076-353926 or 081-693 2791. Or simply email to: ang paos@mac.com

## KHAO LAK BEAUTIFUL



beach land for sale, 25-40rai, all title deeds, 150m-wide beach front. 10 mins drive from Le Meridien KhaoLak. 1km down Soi Baan Nam Khem. Ideal for resort development. Contact Maneerat. Tel: 081-812 0388. Email: mgrueneberger@yahoo.de

## DOUBLE VILLA IN KATA



Panoramic sea views - 5 bedrooms, 466sqm living space, 36sqm pool with Jacuzzi, 4 minutes from Kata Beach. Ready to move into. Only 24 million baht. Email: allservices29@gmail.com

## MISSION HILLS LAND FOR SALE

Two adjoining 1.5 rai plots of land for sale in the heart of Mission Hills Golf Club. Only 3 million baht per rai. Tel: 081-891 1826. Fax: 076-238940. Email: kevinq@loxinfo.co.th



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Tel: (66) 076 342 696 Website: www.thebaycliff.com Email: sales@thebaycliff.com

## NEW 1 BEDROOM APARTMENT IN KATA CENTRAL

60sqm. furnished. Use of swimming pool, parking & restaurant.  
**Only 2.9 million baht.**  
Tel: 084-0639223 or 081-7888280

## BUNGALOW IN CHALONG



Newly refurbished 3 bedroom, bungalow on 65sq wah. Brand new modern kitchen and bathroom. Covered parking and landscaped garden. Price: 4.2 million baht. Tel: 089-922 2800. Pls email: meen443\_40@hotmail.com

## NEW WAREHOUSE



900sqm new warehouse and 8 new houses on nice square plot of 6,000sqm. Land 7km from airport. Asking for 38.5 million baht. Tel: 081-536 9252. Email: sppcnx@gmail.com

## 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: 087-689 9679. Email: tasuwan@hotmail.com

## BEAUTIFUL NAI YANG LAND



9.5 rai, beachfront. 5 minutes to Phuket airport. Asking price: 120 million baht. Chanote. Must see. No agents. Please contact via by email: allservices29@gmail.com

## CONDO SUPER SALES

- 1 bedroom, pool view, Kamala, 2.3 million baht
- 2 bedrooms, sea view, penthouse, Rawai, 4.95 million baht
- 1 bedroom, Patong Tower, mountain view: 5 million baht
- 1 bedroom Allamanda Laguna condo: 6.5 million baht
- 2 bedrooms at Bang Tao Beach: 7.5 million baht
- 2 bedrooms w/ sea view at Kalim Beach: 10 million baht

All serviced units with rental return direct from owner. For more information see www.phuket-villa-property.com or call Marc at 087-272 0303. We've got it...

## 22 RAI @ 500,000 BT/RAI

Beautiful plot of land suitable for either development or agricultural use. Nice mountain views. Has paved road access and electricity. Located 5 km south of Tablamu golf course and 10 km north of Khao Lak. Call or email for more info. Price: 11 million baht. Tel: 081-892 1097. Email: info@swethair-realestate.com

## 2 RAI (3,200 SQM)

Sea view land plots available at the prestigious Yamu Hills near Cape Yamu. Full infrastructure from only 5 million baht per rai. Financing available. Tel: 086-6865998 or 081-7871108. Email: info@tropical-homes.net

## FREEHOLD IN PATONG

for sale. New condo with pool in Patong. 45sqm. 2.95 million baht. Great deal! Tel: 089-728 4005. Email: antoniocpala@yahoo.it

## PATONG BEVERLY HILLS

Luxurious villa for sale, Nanai Rd, close to Patong Beach hillside. Big pool, fantastic sea view, 2km from the beach, 5 bedrooms, 650 sqm living space, huge private garden, very large spa house, walled property, fully furnished. No agents. Only 65 million baht. Email: allservices29@gmail.com

## SEA VIEW LAND, PATONG

Sea view land in Patong. 132 sq wah, Nor Sor 3 Gor, road access and electricity. 14 million baht. Tel: 086-982 2888. Fax: 086-982 2888. Email: prim\_purdue@yahoo.com

## VILLA + 2 HOUSES IN PATONG



Villa, 4 bedroom, private pool and good views. 2 houses with 8 small apartments, 700sqm. Freehold land. 40 million baht. Tel: 089-290 9567. Email: lars.micksater@comhem.se For further details, please see our website at www.brommathaihouse.com

## NEW BUILDING FOR SALE

in busy area, Soi Sai Nam Yen, Patong Beach.  
\* 4-storey  
\* 8 apartments on floors 2, 3 and 4  
\* Chanote title  
\* Electricity, water  
\* 2 minutes to the beach  
Asking price: 52 million baht. Tel: 087-270 9093, 081-868 7676.

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To ensure clarity, please email. Do not Fax!



# Property Gazette

## Properties For Rent

### RAWAI POOL GUESTHOUSE



Private aircon room, fridge. Cable TV, Wi-Fi. 10,000 baht per month. Contact for more information. Tel: 086-940-8914. Email: rawai1@yahoo.com

### NEW 3 BED POOL VILLA

at Mission Hills golf course. Luxury finishing. Buy it at 9.5 million baht, or rent it long term for 40,000 baht a month. Tel: 087-893 4636. Email: info@phuketbedandbreakfast.com

### CHRISTMAS @ THE BEACH

Magnificent new teak Thai-style apartment with terrace on Phuket's most beautiful beach. Available all dates, even Christmas! Nai Yang Beach is just 5 minutes south of Phuket airport. Tel: 087-267 5376.

### BRAND NEW VILLA

for rent. 2-bedroom villa located in Kamala. Spectacular ocean views from every room. Japanese erotica style with 2 enclosed gardens, sala, infinity-edge swimming pool, European open kitchen, flat screen in every room. Minimum rental 3 months, rental rate 125,000 baht per month. Contact Katherine. Tel: 080-699 2436. Email: info@kingdomvillarentals.com

### APARTMENT AT KATA BEACH

for rent. Furnished, cable TV, Internet. Tel: 086-595 8512. Email: nalumana2000@yahoo.com

### RAWAI BEACHFRONT



house for rent. 3 bedrooms, aircon. True TV. ADSL, furnished. Contact Gina. Tel: 089-6499939.

### B.L. APARTMENT

New in Kathu. Big rooms, 1 bedroom, 1 living room, aircon, cable TV, ADSL, hot shower, garden, car park. 8,000 baht per month. Tel: 081-692 3163.

### THAI VILLA AND POOL

in Nai Harn, 1km to beach, very quiet location, stunning view, 2 bedrooms, en-suite Jacuzzi, open-plan lounge, diner, European kitchen, private garden with parking. Rent long term for 40,000 baht per month. Tel: 081-270 5126.

### PATONG TOWER

Deluxe condo on beach road. Tel: 084-847 3304. For further details, please see our website at [www.selectphuket.com](http://www.selectphuket.com)

### NEW HOUSE

for rent. Fully furnished. Villa 3, Soi 8/1, 70/76. Good price, private area, 65sq wah. Tel: 081-537 6045.

### HOUSE IN CHALONG

for rent near Palai Beach. 3 bedrooms, aircon, fully furnished, kitchen, ADSL, car park. Tel: 089-728 8311.

### RAWAI BEACH POOL VILLA



1, 2, 3 or 4 bedrooms, bathroom, aircon, ADSL, cable TV. 24,000 baht per month. Tel: 086-940 8914. Email: rawai1@yahoo.com

### RENT THALANG - PA KHLOK

3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, fully furnished, 1km from Heroines' Monument. 16,000 baht per month. Tel: 087-283 9181.

### MAI KHAO HOUSE

for rent. In quiet and safe area, long or short term. Fully furnished, 2 bedrooms, 3 aircon, TV, DVD, telephone line, 10 mins to airport, big garden. Tel: 081-719 7015 or 089-470 8926. Email: eantievat@voila.fr

### HOUSE FOR RENT OR SALE



Phanason Kathu, furnished. Single house, 2 bedrooms. Ready to move in. Tel: 089-662 8733.

### KATA LUXURY APARTMENTS

New, fully furnished, 1 or 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, full aircon. Large Western teak kitchen and bath, 130sqm, large seaview terrace, pool, parking. Weekly, monthly and long-term rates available, serviced also available. Tel: 089-592 6890. Email: north8west98@yahoo.com

### SPACIOUS 2 BED SEAVIEW CONDO

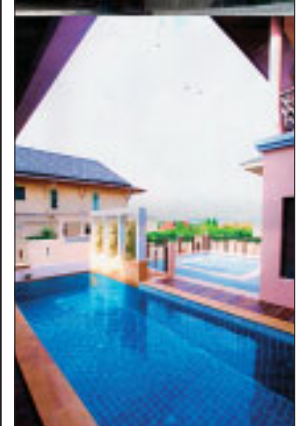
Come stay in a spacious 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo overlooking Patong Beach. Still available over New Year. Tel: +85-2-2813 6093, +85-2-610 04034. Fax: +85-2-2813 6083. Email: eddy.amaro@rbs.com For further details, please see our website at [www.phuket-patong-condo.com](http://www.phuket-patong-condo.com)

### 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: 087-383 0936.

### NEW HOUSE IN NAI HARN-RAWAI



for rent. 3-story villa, sea view, hill view, garden, pool, 4 bedrooms with 2 en-suite bathrooms, 6 bathrooms, ADSL. Jacuzzi. Big living room, kitchen/dining, laundry room. 5 aircons. 8m x 3.5m private pool. 2 parking spaces. Tel: 081-677 9837, 089-646 4786. Email: sync\_koji@hotmail.com

### VILLAS IN BANG TAO

for rent near Laguna. 2 or 3 bedrooms, pool, fully furnished. 50,000/65,000 baht/month, short- or long-term. Tel: 081-897 6984 (English); 089-699 5136 (Thai).

### NICE VILLA FOR RENT

4 bedrooms, fully furnished. Email for photos, then call or mail for further details. Tel: 076-273 466, 081-968 9046. Fax: 076-238948. Email: pen@phuketpropertytrip.com

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### RAWAI BEACH POOL HOME STAY



Private bedroom, bathroom, aircon, ADSL, Wi-Fi, cable TV. 3,500 baht weekly. Tel: 086-940 8914. Email: rawai1@yahoo.com

### PATONG DELUXE CONDO

Beautiful, modern, fully furnished, stunning views, Quiet. Can walk to everything. For rent long term at 23,000 baht per month. Tel: 080-797 5263. Email: caltirol@hotmail.com

### CHALONG NEW HOME

2 bedroom furnished home for rent with telephone, UBC and aircon. Tel: 089-652 1473. Email: anandaestates@yahoo.com

### KAMALA BEACHFRONT VILLAS

Fully furnished to a high standard. Western kitchen. 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, lounge and dining areas. Large balcony overlooking swimming pool and landscaped garden. Stunning sea views, only meters from the beach. Privately gated, parking and storage. UBC and ADSL. Includes daily cleaning and washing, pool & gardening service. Daily rental 8,000 baht. Contact Khun Suchada. Tel: 084-8436 837. Email: suchada\_villas@hotmail.com For further details, please see our website at <http://www.phuket-island-homes.com>

### HOLIDAY VILLAS

Selection of beautiful pool villas, studios and beach rooms in Rawai. Tel: 081-970-1716. For further details, please see our website at <http://www.coconut-paradise.com>

### THE GREENHOUSE BUNGALOWS

Chalong new 2-bedroom bungalows. Fully furnished, cool, quiet, close to all facilities. 12,000 baht per month. Contact K. John. Tel: 081-979 1976.

### NEW HOUSE (BANDON)



for sale/rent near Laguna. 2 bedrooms, fully furnished, just bring your bag. Price negotiable, 1-year contract. Tel: 089-874 2960. Email: pwarunee@hotmail.com For further details, please see: [www.phuket-on-tour.blogspot.com](http://www.phuket-on-tour.blogspot.com)

### HOUSE IN KATHU



2 bedrooms, fully furnished, aircon, cable TV and TV set. Just bring your bag. 13,000 baht per month. Contact Khun Wannee. Tel: 089-288 9936. Email: wan\_nee123@hotmail.com

### 3 BEDROOMS HOUSE

for rent. 3 bedrooms + bathroom, pool, ADSL. Tel: 081-606 7410. Email: info@siam-business.com

### RESORT VILLA POOL

2,000 baht daily, Laguna, furnished, Jacuzzi, BBQ, security. Has everything. Tel: 089-594 4067.

### RAWAI FLAT

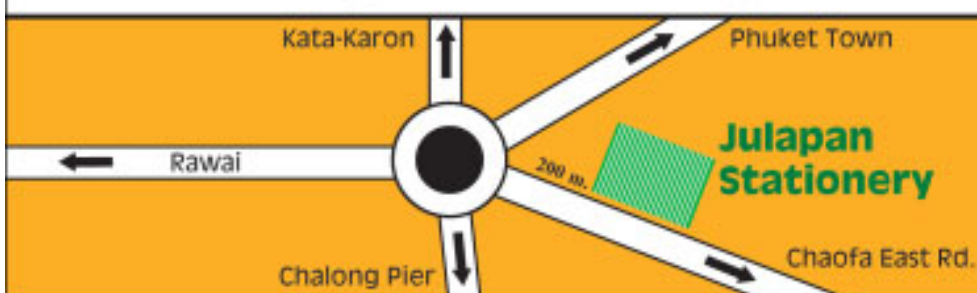
for rent. Fully furnished, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, living room, kitchen, swimming pool, balcony, cable, ADSL. Tel: 081-606 7410.

### FOR RENT

Rawai beach road. Nicely furnished unit with aircon and terrace (100% sea view). Perfect location for coffee shop, ice cream, salon or cocktail bar. Rent: 25,000 baht per month. Tel: 087-270 6297.

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## BOAT TRAILER

Excellent condition. New winch, 6.4 meters. Only 26,000 baht. Contact Dorn. Tel: 089-474 1520.

## DINGHY

4m Chommark built, 1 year old, 40hp Yamaha, optional center console, 8-person life raft (needs inspection), kayaks, BCDs, regs, etc. Tel: 086-952 0772.

## TWO MILLION BAHT

Fiberglass speedboat, pair of 250hp Suzuki 4-stroke outboards. Used 150 hours. Tel: 076-203010.

## BRAND-NEW BOAT

Brand-new flybridge boat. Fiberglass. Offers. Email: jgkg24@hotmail.com

## SPEEDBOAT 85 HP FOR SALE

Fiberglass speedboat, 85hp, with trailer. 330,000 baht. Telephone: 087-975 7672 or send email to eric.jehannin@neuf.fr

## 12 FOOT SEARAY JET BOAT

Very fast 90 hp jet boat. Lots of fun. Low hours. Comes with trailer. Call Joseph for details Tel: 089-874 4635. Email: kirkasia@hotmail.com

## BAYLINER 225 BOWRIDER

2006 Mercruiser 5.0l mpi v8 petrol & alpha 1 stern drive. Thai registered, many extras. 1,350,000 baht. Tel: 081-271 3447. Email: abannock@gmail.com

## 5.5-M CATAMARAN

Huge dinghy, sailing equipment available. 80,000 baht. Contact for more details. Tel: 087-461 8089.

## TOUR CRUISER FOR SALE

38-ft tour cruiser for sale. All fiberglass. Excellent fuel economy. Mercruiser in-board diesel engine, cruises comfortably at 27 knots. Very low hours on the engine. Toilet & freshwater shower, large sun roof, s/s ladder at bow and stern for beach access. Commercial Thai registration. 1.65 million baht. Tel: 081-979-0525. Email: bosch.michael@gmail.com

## WOODWORK, REPAINT & REPAIR

Specialized in woodwork for boat and house. New office and workshop in Boat Lagoon now open. Our services include: boat maintenance, full hull repairs, internal works, teak woodwork, teak accessories, fiberglass repairs, spray painting, boat building, home furniture, kitchens, built-in or moveable bars, counters, work desks and much more. Tel: 076-243089, 081-968-3118 or Fax: 076-242-742. Email: info@procarpentering.com For more information, please visit our website at [www.procarpentering.com](http://www.procarpentering.com)

## GLADIATOR 38S



New 2008 model coming soon for PIMEX 2008. Full options, many upgrades, high speed, free test drive available. Tel: 087-030-6688, 081-821 4060. Email: sales@sunnava.com

## SPEED BOAT, 33FT

Wooden hull, equipped for diving. Yamaha 2x200hp. Tel: 080-080 9912.



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Oceanis 523

This boat has been commissioned in April 2008 in Australia for its EU owner. It includes full options - owner wants to purchase a bigger sailing vessel.

Please enquire for more information



Hanse 400

Fast and sleek HANSE 400. 3 cabins - 1 bathroom. 1x40 hp YANMAR sail drive engines, self tacking jib, 7/8 rig. Thai flag commercial. Ready to sail - based in Yacht Haven Marina.

For Sale at 6,900,000 baht ex VAT



Catana Power 45'

This boat is a perfect motor yacht for coastal and blue water cruising in style and comfort. A catamaran needs no hydraulic stabilizers like most trawlers or power yachts and doesn't roll underway or at the anchorage. Besides, the two hulls allow for privacy of the owners and their guests or children.

Asking Price: 625,000 USD



PRINCESS 65'

This boat is in new condition. She has always been crewed and kept in pristine condition.

Asking Price: 1,800,000 USD

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Email: [broker@asia-marine.net](mailto:broker@asia-marine.net)  
[www.asia-marine.net](http://www.asia-marine.net)

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*International Marine Brokerage*

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Available for inspection at PIMEX 2008  
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tel: 076 238 803  
fax: 076 273 319  
email: [info@leemarine.com](mailto:info@leemarine.com)

Brokerage Office  
The Boat Lagoon Marina Phuket  
Contact: Andrew de Bruin / Marcus Özerman  
Mobile: 081 894 1530 / 01 908 1437  
tel/fax: 076 238 729  
email: [brokerage@leemarine.com](mailto:brokerage@leemarine.com)

Yacht Haven Marina Office  
The Yacht Haven Marina Phuket  
Contact: Jim Poulsen  
Mobile: 081 891 3237  
tel/fax: 076 206 260  
email: [yacht@leemarine.com](mailto:yacht@leemarine.com)

Pattaya Office  
Ocean Marina Jomtien Beach  
Contact: Mark Heath  
Mobile: 0817879408  
tel: 038 235 061 fax: 038 235 062  
Email: [mark@leemarine.com](mailto:mark@leemarine.com)

## Dedicated Service Department



Randall 41 (1982)

## Features:

- CAT 3208 engines
- Fully airconditioned
- Major refit 2003
- Raymarine electronics
- Fishing gear and dive compressor
- RIB tender and Yamaha OB

**6,000,000 THB**



S&S 48 (1998)

\$185,000 USD



Hans Christian 48 (2004)

\$475,000 USD



Seahorse 52 (1998)

\$285,000 USD



Sunseeker Superhawk 48

8,500,000 THB



Find more classified ads

# "Boats & Marine"

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



# Island Job Mart

## Phuket Gazette

**The Phuket Gazette seeks to fill the following positions:**

### I. DESK EDITOR

- ▶ Fluent in English
- ▶ Able to work to strict deadlines
- ▶ A team player
- ▶ Naturally curious about the world, especially Phuket and what affects its residents
- ▶ Some page layout skills, experience with PageMaker preferred

### II. REPORTER

The successful candidate will be a Thai national with initiative, an outgoing personality and plenty of experience about the world and how it works. Also essential are the ability to communicate in English, both spoken and written, and a car. Good salary for the right candidate.

Qualified candidates are invited to send a CV and writing sample by email to [editor@phuketgazette.net](mailto:editor@phuketgazette.net)

**The Phuket Gazette Co Ltd**

367/2 Yaowarat Rd, T. Taladyai, A. Muang, Phuket 83000

Tel: 076-236555 Fax: 076-213971

Email: [editor@phuketgazette.net](mailto:editor@phuketgazette.net)



*Career opportunities, join and grow with us.*

**Kasemkij Co., Ltd.** owns and operates The Cape Hotel Group / Kantary Group / Kameo Group, distinctive first class hotels and serviced apartments in Thailand; Bangkok, Chonburi, Rayong, Phuket, Chiangmai, Ayudhya and others. We would like to invite all applicants to apply for the following positions:

1. Director of Sales (Hotel)
2. Resident Manager (Expat)
3. F&B Manager (Expat)
4. Pastry Chef
5. Guest Relations (Expat)

Positions 1-4 require at least 1 year work experience  
Positions 5 experience is not essential

Interested candidates, please submit your application letter, photograph, together with detailed resume and other documents to:

Human Resource Development Department  
(Silom) 11<sup>th</sup> Floor, Kasemkij Building,  
120 Silom Rd, Bangkok 10500. Tel: 02-2338989-98, 02-8614572  
E-mail: [job@kasemkij.com](mailto:job@kasemkij.com) [www.kasemkij.com](http://www.kasemkij.com)



**A growing travel club is seeking for more staff to join our Phuket and Samui branch.**

### HR/Admin Assistant

- Thai nationality, male
- strong command of English, written and spoken
- good computer literacy
- Minimum 1 year experience in HR field
- knowledge visa and work permit application, plus tax and sss
- no military service obligation
- flexible working hours
- previous work in holiday ownership business/ office secretarial work is a plus

### Reservation Officer

- Thai nationality, male or female
- fluent command of English, written and spoken
- good computer literacy
- flexible working hours
- previous work in holiday ownership business/ office secretarial work is a plus

### Senior Accountant

- Thai national, male or female
- Bachelor's degree
- At least 5 years experience in general accounting, knowledge of taxes in property business
- Good computer literacy

Good salary package awaits the right candidates.  
Please submit your resume to the given e-mail address or call for more information

HR Dpt. +66(76) 341427 Fax: +66(76) 341425

Email: [hr@ClubAbsolute.com](mailto:hr@ClubAbsolute.com)

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

## British International School, Phuket

### Teaching Vacancies

The British International School, Phuket is a leading international day and boarding school (18 months - 18 years) offering a quality education to the international community of the Asia/Pacific region. Applications are now invited for the following posts:

### PRIMARY SCHOOL

KS 2 Class Teacher  
(Temporary Position for maternity cover from February - May 2009)

Reception Class Teacher  
(Temporary Position for maternity cover from May - June 2009)

The vacancies will run consecutively, so single applications for both posts are encouraged.

Applicants must have a minimum of a Bachelor's Degree and teaching certificate or Education Degree. Knowledge and experience of the English National Curriculum will be advantageous.

Please e-mail a completed application form (available from the School Website) to: [Headmaster@bcis.ac.th](mailto:Headmaster@bcis.ac.th)

The closing date is Wednesday 3rd December.

Further information about the posts may be obtained from the Vacant Positions section of our website: [www.bcis.ac.th](http://www.bcis.ac.th)



59 Moo 2, Thepkasattri Road, Koh Kaew, Muang, Phuket 83200  
Tel: 076 238711-20 # 2103, 2206, 1111 Fax: 076 238711-20 # 1130  
E-mail: [patcharakornt@bcis.ac.th](mailto:patcharakornt@bcis.ac.th) or [sirirats@bcis.ac.th](mailto:sirirats@bcis.ac.th)

### EXPERIENCED HOUSEKEEPER

British family in Singapore requires Thai housekeeper. Must take care of house, laundry, pets, cooking and some childcare. Must have Mor Sam education or above and speak, read and write some English. References required. Tel: +65-9643 2084. Email: [singaporefamily@yahoo.com.sg](mailto:singaporefamily@yahoo.com.sg)

### THAI EURO FOOD

Chef needed for Thai-Euro food restaurant in Patong. 9,000 baht per month. Tel: 081-827 8442. Email: [wojid.kowbengt@hotmail.com](mailto:wojid.kowbengt@hotmail.com)

### SALES / MARKETING

Wanted: Experienced Salesperson for Cruise Operation. Fluent English and other languages. Tel: 076-381334. Email: [neil@spaboat.com](mailto:neil@spaboat.com)

### CONDO MANAGER REQUIRED

Will be responsible for maintenance of common areas; supervision of Thai staff; liaison with owners & management board; and control, budgeting and accounting functions. Email: [kalin.residence@gmail.com](mailto:kalin.residence@gmail.com)

### SALES DIRECTOR / MANAGER

wanted for new e-commerce company. We require a hard-working and ambitious Thai national with a minimum 3 years of top-level sales experience to help build and manage our sales team. Generous salary plus share options and monthly cash bonuses for the right candidate. Good English and computer skills a must. Please send your photo, resume and present and expected salary by email at: [asia.house@mac.com](mailto:asia.house@mac.com)

### CHEF WANTED

Chef needed for new restaurant in Karon. Must have experience cooking Farang food. Call or mail for further details. Tel: 089-590 3923. Email: [logbass@hotmail.com](mailto:logbass@hotmail.com)

### PHUKET WITTAYALAI SCHOOL

Requires one full-time English teacher. Friendly work environment and assistance with work permit. Please send your CV with details by email to [boonthong30@yahoo.com](mailto:boonthong30@yahoo.com) or call 081-415 1698 or 081-537 2886.

### POOLMAN WANTED

for maintenance. Full-time. Experience with saltwater system pool. Flexible. Tel: 081-537 6866.

## PROFESSIONAL STAFF REQUIRED FOR BANGTAO BEACH RESTAURANT

Front of House & Floor positions available

Please call 089-590 2589 for interview

- ♣ Professional staff only need apply
- ♣ Must speak good/excellent English
- ♣ Training in a 4/5 star restaurant/hotel a must
- ♣ Pleasant and hard working attitude
- ♣ Attractive salary for the right candidate

### SELL LUXURY TECHNOLOGY

for our special luxury products. We need a marketing/sales person to expand our team. Experience in sales an asset. Salary + commissions over 60,000 baht/month. Or Send CV to: Email: [pascal@taillard-electricity.com](mailto:pascal@taillard-electricity.com)

### ENGLISH SPEAKING TOUR GUIDE

Needed for busy speedboat charter company. Thai nationals only. Good salary and bonuses. Tel: 076-354074. Or Email: [info@coralseekers.com](mailto:info@coralseekers.com)

### FAMOUS SPA IN SINGAPORE

- We need 4 therapists (female).
  - Salary + accommodation + food. \$1,100 (Singapore dollars).
  - Minimum 3 years' experience with certificate for massage.
- Please contact K. Boom Tel: 076-342951, 076-340608, ext 8825. Email: [aspara@phuket.ksc.co.th](mailto:aspara@phuket.ksc.co.th)

### PADI INSTRUCTORS

wanted to join our experienced team. Must have valid work permit and good personality. Please send your CV with details by email to [tony@thailand-divers.com](mailto:tony@thailand-divers.com)

**Looking for a job?**  
**Looking for a better candidate?**  
**Find more Recruitment Classifieds at [www.PhuketGazette.Net/](http://www.PhuketGazette.Net/)**



# Island Job Mart

www.royalphuketmarina.com ROYAL PHUKET MARINA

## PAUL ROPP

**A multinational clothing brand located at Royal Phuket Marina is seeking a Full Time Manager & Shop Assistant. English speaking and love of dressing is a must.**

Please send photo and CV to Khun Khemchart at [khemchartc@royalphuketmarina.com](mailto:khemchartc@royalphuketmarina.com)  
Tel: 076 360 833-38 # 16 Mobile: 081 893 5564

You can visit us @ [www.paulropp.com](http://www.paulropp.com)

**CII NAIHARN CO., LTD** is a development company located in Boat Lagoon. We are now looking for an enthusiastic and experienced Sales & Marketing Executive.

### SALES & MARKETING EXECUTIVE

- Male/Female, 25-35 years.
- Bachelor's degree or higher in marketing or related field.
- Any nationality with an excellent command of written and spoken in English. (Be able to speak French is an advantage)
- At least 2 years sales and marketing experience in property field.
- Be able to work upcountry occasionally.
- Detail oriented, highly organized, multitasking capacity.
- Proficiency in MS Office Suite (Outlook, Word, Excel, Power Point etc.)
- Requires an energetic strategically focused and creative sales achiever who enjoys the latitude of working independently and effectively using their time management skills.
- Highly motivated and well presented.
- Having own car and valid driving license.

Our compensation package includes a generous base salary plus attractive commission opportunities. Join our team today!

**CII NAIHARN CO., LTD**  
Boat Lagoon 23/114 Moo 2 Thepkasatri Rd., Kohkaew, Muang, Phuket 83000  
E-mail: [kate200234@yahoo.com](mailto:kate200234@yahoo.com) Tel/Fax: 076-273464 Mobile: 086-2686047

## Bio Latex Co Ltd

(Phuket branch)

**We are currently seeking**

### Salesperson

- \* Russian nationality only (female/male, 3 persons)
- \* Japanese nationality only (female, 2 persons)

- Accommodation
- Salary commensurate with experience (first 3 months 70% + accommodation) (after 3 months 100% + accommodation + commission)
- Working time - 9am to 5pm

Please send CV, recent photo and references to:  
Email: [ellezza-phuket@hotmail.com](mailto:ellezza-phuket@hotmail.com)  
[kennyyasumoto@gmail.com](mailto:kennyyasumoto@gmail.com)

Tel: 076-352013, 081-8937162 Fax: 076-352133

**SIX SENSES HIDEAWAY**  
YAO NOI

**We are looking for motivated hosts**

- Human Resources Manager
- AP Supervisor
- Reservation Agent
- Sous Chef
- Chef De Partie
- Commis de cuisine
- Waiter
- Waitress

Six Senses Hideaway Yao Noi is located on the island of Yao Noi, situated midway between Phuket and Krabi, among the awe-inspiring limestone pinnacles of Phang Nga. For these positions you will live and work on Koh Yao Noi, 45 minutes away from Phuket.

Attractive remuneration, fringe benefits including a guaranteed minimum service charge of Baht 10,000, five working days per week and career opportunities are offered to the successful candidates.

Please send your resume with a recent photo to: [huma-yao noi@sixsenses.com](mailto:huma-yao noi@sixsenses.com)  
Only short-listed candidates will be contacted

**Six Senses Hideaway Yao Noi**  
56 Moo 5, Tambol Koh Yao Noi, Amphur Koh Yao, Phang Nga 82160  
Tel: 66 (076) 418500-29 Ext.1702  
Fax: 66 (076) 418522

## Cape Panwa Hotel & SPA

Phuket, Thailand

The Cape Panwa Hotel and Spa embodies tropical luxury in one of the world's most desirable destinations. Tucked away in a quiet corner of southeast Phuket, the hotel is renowned for its excellent service, stylish rooms and exclusive beach.

**We are inviting applicants for the following positions:**

### FOOD & BEVERAGE MANAGER

The candidates should possess the following qualifications:

- At least 3 years' experience in similar position
- Team leader
- Service-minded
- Dynamic and outgoing personality
- Good command of English

Please send your resume with a recent photo or apply in person to Personnel Department,  
27 Moo 8, Sakdidej Road, Phuket 83000  
Tel: 076-391123 Fax: 076-391177  
E-mail: [gm@capepanwa.com](mailto:gm@capepanwa.com) [www.capepanwa.com](http://www.capepanwa.com)  
Only short listed candidates will be contacted

**Marketing Company** seeks Thai nationals, male or female, for the following positions:

### Sales Staff

- Strong command of spoken English
- Previous sales experience
- Personality and smart presence

### Receptionist & Office Administrator

- Good command of spoken and written English
- Pleasant personality and people skills

Good salary package for the right candidates.  
Please send your resume and photo to:  
[enquiry@thai-infocenter.com](mailto:enquiry@thai-infocenter.com)

### BANGTAO TROPICAL RESIDENCE

We are seeking 3 Sales Executives, male or female, with at least 2 years' experience within the property sector. Candidates may be Thai or foreign and must be highly organized. Good communication skills are required. Interested parties should contact us at [cilcon@hotmail.com](mailto:cilcon@hotmail.com) or Tel: 076-261772. Fax: 076-261773. For further details, please see our website at <http://www.phuketdeluxebase.com>

### RESTAURANT CASA D'ORASA

We need one professional waiter/waitress, English speaking. We also need one cook's assistant for Italian cuisine. For more information please contact Khun Orasa. Tel: 087-518 8837. Email: [peterwiniker@hotmail.com](mailto:peterwiniker@hotmail.com)

### RECEPTIONIST KATA

Hotel requires a female Thai receptionist. Must be reliable and speak English. Please contact for more information at Tel: 081-892 1621.

### RESTAURANT STAFF NEEDED

European/Thai restaurant looking for cook, cook's helper, bartender, waiter, waitress. Telephone: 085-336-0231.

### DRIVER NEEDED

Eden Divers needs Thai male to drive company truck and take care of diving equipment. Call Andy at 085-765 4677.

### RECEPTIONIST

Full time job. Must be service minded, responsible, good in English & able to handle computer, Internet. Apply at: Email: [freddi@diversinn.com](mailto:freddi@diversinn.com) <http://www.diversinn.com/contact.htm>

### WAITER & BAR STAFF WANTED

Spice Island, a new and exciting restaurant, is looking for experienced waiters, waitresses and bar staff. Please send your CV to us for consideration. Tel: 081-8937028. Fax: 076-254827. Email: [spice.island.phuket@gmail.com](mailto:spice.island.phuket@gmail.com)

### INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL ADVISORS WANTED

Mature and motivated individuals with finance and/or strong sales skills for Phuket and Thailand businesses. Please send resume to Marine: [careers@pp-intl.com](mailto:careers@pp-intl.com)

### RESERVATIONS STAFF

Eden Divers needs Thai female reservations staff. Contact Andy at 085-765 4677.

### ASSISTANT MANAGER

Real Estate Field

- Thai National
- Excellent command of written and spoken English
- Computer literacy
- Experience in profession herein

We provide good working conditions for employees.  
Tel: 083-5035153, 084-1909491. Please apply to Thairus Development Co Ltd 17/21 Phraphuketkaew Rd, Kathu, Phuket 83120

## Employment Wanted

### SPECIALIST DESIGN

kitchens. Dutchman, specialized in design kitchens and bathrooms, with a lot of experience in renovation and general interior building, is looking for opportunities. I have excellent communication skills, live in Phuket, and speak fluent English, Dutch, and French - and fairly good German. Tel: 085-156 9084. Email: [richard19@hotmail.fr](mailto:richard19@hotmail.fr)

### PAINTER/ECORATOR

30 years' experience in England. Seeking work in the Phuket area. No job too small - give me a call! Tel: 085-4608487. Email: [bobhammond@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:bobhammond@hotmail.co.uk)

### EXPERIENCED BAR MANAGER

English nationality, experienced in stock taking, sales etc. Looking for relief/part time work within Phuket. All offers considered. Tel: 085-460 8487. Or send email to: [bobhammond@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:bobhammond@hotmail.co.uk)

### HOTEL RECEPTIONIST

We are seeking to hire a male receptionist, 22-35 years old. Good spoken and written English. Internet and email skills. Smart appearance. Minotel hotel, Savadira Road, Patong Beach  
Tel: 076-296654.  
Email: [minotel@fastmail.fm](mailto:minotel@fastmail.fm)

### RESTAURANT & BAR MANAGER

We need an experienced manager to run a team of 10 in a creative F&B venture. Reporting to the shareholders, the successful candidate will need to understand all aspects of the business and be involved in its development. Tel: 081-8937028. Email: [potter.ian@gmail.com](mailto:potter.ian@gmail.com)



# Tout, Trader & Trumpet

## Articles For Sale

### 35 SUN CHAIRS

for sale. Adjustable teak chairs, 1-2 years old, need a varnish. New: 12,000 baht; now: 1,500 baht each. Contact Khun Poo. Tel: 081-091 3724.

### BIKE JACKET AND FULL FACE

- Leather road bike jacket with body armor: 5,000 baht.  
- Nolan full face Syncrotech helmet: 5,000 baht.  
Second hand but good condition. Tel: 081-895 4480. E-mail for pic: mat@pcphuket.com

### FOR SALE

New aircon: 35,000 BTU, 3 massage beds, all furniture and equipment for massage/salon. Contact Khun Zai. Tel: 083-635 6239.

### GOLD & SILVER

9CT gold watch: 6,000 baht. Lady's dress ring, emerald style: 3,000 baht. My ring: 7,000 baht. 9 CT, solid silver rose bowl: 6,000 baht. Tel: 087-922 3242. Email: patong man123@hotmail.com

### BABY / TODDLER STUFF

Imported quality Quinny Speedi SX, three-wheel baby/toddler stroller with Maxi-Cosi car seat (fits together). 10,000 baht. Good quality traditional dark wood crib with pads and mattress. 7,500 baht. Or everything for 15,000 baht. Tel: 076-282795, 081-787 9454. Fax: 076-246180. Email: andersp@loxinfo.co.th

### MOVING SALE

Never used sofa, bed, mattress, cooker, 3 fridges, coffee machine, 2,000 DVDs in Italian/French, Pioneer DVD recorder, computer scanner-laser, Acer laptop, Samsung TV 21". Tel: 081-294 5441.

### I POD, VIDEO

Ipod, video version, 30 GB, with charger. One year old, but good as new as never really used. Open to offers. Tel: 086-953 8616. Email: jenchalisa@gmail.com

### CHILD CAR SEAT

Used child's car seat in very good condition. European safety standards. Suits child 9-18kg. 2,000 baht. Email: supanova999@yahoo.com

### LG 42" PLASMA TV

Excellent condition, complete with wall brackets. Price: 24,950 baht. Tel: 086-943-3056.

### EXPAT LEAVING SALE

Quality teakwood furniture. Display/Book case, Desk, Side/display table, Sun-lounger with fabric cushion, pair bedside tables w/ drawers, 6 drawer chest, telephone cabinet. Tel: 087-274 7648. Email: deb spatterson@gmail.com

### NINTENDO WII

Almost brand new Nintendo Wii, with extra remotes. Also Guitar Hero III. Both still in boxes. For sale due to country relocation. Email: yantyhong@yahoo.com

### ARTICLES FOR SALE

1. Crafted wood antique vase.  
2. Glass food display cabinet. Brand new: 7,000 baht.  
3. Painting of Louisiana street scene. Best for restaurant, pub, bar.  
Tel: 081-294 5441.

### FURNITURE ELECTRONIC SALE

Moving sale. All beautiful and contemporary. For info call after October 20. Contact Ben. Tel: 087-897 5175.

### GAS GRIDDLE

Cost 20,000 baht, will accept 13,000 baht. Double 3-liter french fries machine. Will accept 10,000 baht. Both new. Located in Rawai. Telephone: 089-473 1351.

### PHIL & TED'S SPORT STROLLER

Phil & Ted's Sport Stroller with Doubles Kit & Travel Bag. Bought while on a 2 week holiday in the UK, not used since. Will post anywhere in Thailand. As new. 27,500 baht. Tel: 042-347499, 085-459 6003. Email: mark\_leathersich@hotmail.com

### 450 BAHT EACH

Large fans: 1,500 baht. 2 lazy boy beige chairs: 8,000 baht. Large fan: 1,500 baht. Painting: 3,000 baht. Plus garden art, tools, drill, lamp: 1,000 baht. Contact Pat (12pm - 8 pm). Please contact for more information. Tel: 084-846 4256. Email: funfairy2000@yahoo.com

### SIZE 41 WOMENS' SHOES, HOT!

I bought these on Ebay and they are too big for me. Turquoise leather, open-toe cork wedges, from the UK. Very unique and great condition. Price 650 baht. Email: sylvie@andamanavenue.com

## Articles Wanted

### PLAYSTATION 3 WANTED

Phuket resident wants to buy Playstation 3. Please contact me if you have one available. Tel: 084-855 7803. Email: shellycider@yahoo.com

### RECUMBENT EXERCISE BIKE

Want to buy a recumbent exercise bike in good condition. Can collect if the right bike found. Tel: 081-892 7948. Email: jypenman@phuket.ksc.co.th

## Bar & Restaurant Equipment

### ICECREAM DISPLAY FREEZER

near new, 10 tubs, sliding glass tops, Baht 15,000. Tel: 089-062 0932, 086-031 1884. Email: handsomemr@hotmail.com

## Bulletins

### PUBLIC NOTICE

Bungy Thrills Int'l Co Ltd wants to add 1 Director, Khun Unruean Kaeobun. Terrence Andrew Pearce and 2 Thai directors to have power to sign all company papers and stamp.

### TO ALL FILIPINOS

Need help? Please contact to K.Emelda. Tel: 084-305 0963.

### ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

Is holding meetings in English at the following places in Phuket:  
Mission Hospital Phuket City  
On Wed and Sun 7 pm  
Bangkok Hospital Phuket City  
On Fri 7 pm  
Patong Hospital Patong  
On Mon, Tue, Wed, Sat, Sun at 7 pm and Fri at 8 pm  
Chalong Health Clinic  
near Chalong Circle Tues 1 PM  
For Phuket info (English) call 081-8564031, 081-8912895 or email: phuketaa@yahoo.com  
Scandinavian speaking Group  
Wat Karon School Karon  
On Tue 7 pm and (Sat Nov-April only) 7 pm  
Tel: 086-9448463 Sive, 082-2755958 Nor  
Krabi Group Calls 084-4463133 for details  
For info on other Thailand AA meetings require @ 02-2318300 (for Thai language press 3)  
www.aathailand.org or e-mail info@aathailand.org

### RALPH BLENKISOP

Hello again, Ralph. I have another letter for you. You can get it Mon to Fri at my office. John. Tel: 076-330 967, 081-892 0474. Fax: 076-330990. Email: John@siamdivers.com

### LOOKING FOR BOAT PARTNER

I am looking for someone in Phuket who is interested in buying a small speed boat, such as "Crownline", as a half owner. I live in Rawai. Please contact me, Gary, as above if you might be interested. Tel: 089-090 6969. Email: tropical breeze\_1@hotmail.com

### LADIES SOCIAL TENNIS

Anyone interested in getting a group of Ladies, 40+, together to enjoy social Tennis? Tel: 089-469 8100. Email: didee51@yahoo.com.au

### BRIDGE

Play Wednesday afternoons at Royal Phuket Marina. Tapas + drinks included. Tel: 084-065 7590.

### YOGA / PILATES WORKSHOP



4 transformational classes in 4 days.... Take part in a fun workshop that will teach you moves & postures to lengthen, strengthen & sculpt your body while bringing fluidity & focus to your practice. December 8, 9, 10, 11 - choose from either a 10am or 6pm time slot. Registration for 4-class series is 3,000 baht. Classes are 75 minutes. Space is limited. Please contact for more information.

Tel: 089-027 6970.

Email: angel@asiapacificleisure.com

### SPONSOR

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: 087-417 8860) or Sue (Tel: 087-277 6948). Or email: info@phuketiwcc.com

### TO MISS SUPALAK YAKLINOM

Eddie post, David in Patong, please call Thamapol in USA because he misses you very much. Cannot sleep until I hear your voice. Tel: 562 310 3492.

## Business Opportunities

### CHIANGMAI 1ST LOC RENT/SALE

4 floors: 1: Pizza Restaurant; 2: kitchen; 3 & 4 living area. Comes equipped and with staff. 60,000 baht per month OR 2.2 million baht for sale of the business. Tel: 081-367 3534. Email: lorenzo.matis@gmail.com

### PATONG GUESTHOUSE

18 rooms, bar, restaurant, great location, Thai limited co, 2 work permits. 4.8 million baht. Tel: 080-697 1744.

### BECOME RICH! SPONSOR

Kenika. Make 400,000 baht every 90 days, or 1.6 million baht a year. Telephone: 081-415 1894.

### 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: 081-891 5602.

## Agents for Classified Advertising

### PHUKET

#### Julapan Stationery

Chao Fa East Rd (next to Siam Commercial Bank)

Tel: 076-282254

#### Khun Woody's Sandwich Shoppe

Fisherman's Way Business Center, Chao Fa East Rd

Tel: 076-282403

#### K.L. Mart

Patak Rd, Chalong

Tel: 076-280400/3

Fax: 076-280403

#### Earth Language School

Phang Nga Rd, Phuket City

Tel: 076-232398/9

Fax: 076-232398

#### Sin & Lee

Thalang Rd, Phuket City

Tel: 076-258369

Fax: 076-211230

#### Taurus Travel

Aroonsom Plaza Rat-U-Thit 200 Pi Rd, Patong

Tel: 076-344521/2

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# Tout, Trader & Trumpet

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