

# Phuket Gazette

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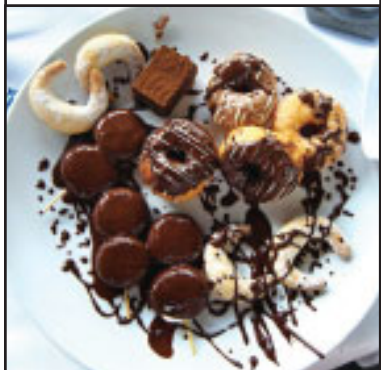
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**INSIDE**



## THE MOTHER OF BRUNCHES

The *Phuket Gazette's* Dan Ogunshakin loses sight of his feet at Indigo Pearl's Sunday Brunch. Page 16.

**NEWS:** Box jellyfish seminar; Apirak named top cop; US Consular outreach.

Pages 2 & 3

**FEATURE:** Actor and AIDS activist Nicholas Snow talks to the *Phuket Gazette*.

Page 12

**LIFESTYLE:** Hip-hop band Thaitanium wows Phukana and tells all to the *Gazette*.

Pages 16 & 17

**INSIDE STORY 4; AROUND THE NATION 6; AROUND THE SOUTH 7; AROUND THE ISLAND 8; GOOD LIVING 10; MOTORING 13; PEOPLE 12; HAPPENINGS 14; INSPIRATIONS 15; LIFESTYLE 16; WHAT'S ON 19; BUSINESS AND MONEY 20; TAKE A BREAK 21 & 22; HOROSCOPES 23; EDITORIAL, LETTERS 24; FIRST PERSON 25; BOOKS 26; SPORTS 28; PROPERTY 30-34; CLASSIFIED Ads 35-48.**

## Ukrainian arrested on US child porn charges

PHUKET: Police on Saturday January 24 announced the arrest of a Ukrainian man allegedly involved in the international distribution of child pornography over the Internet.

The suspect, 31-year-old Maxsim Shynkarenko, was arrested by Tourist Police on January 23 at a luxury rented house on Saiyaun Road in Chalong. He has denied the charges.

Announcing the arrest were Tourist Police Commander Attakrit Thaneechat, Phuket Provincial Police Commander Apirak Hongtong and other officers.

The arrest followed co-operation between the Tourist Police and two US government agencies, the US Immigration and Customs Enforcement Agency and the US Department of Homeland Security.

Mr Shynkarenko was apprehended following the swoop on the suspect's hideout in Chalong.

The arresting officers pre-

sented him with a warrant issued by the Criminal Court less than a week before, on January 21.

Lt Col Ekachai Pram-anakul, an inspector with the Region 5 Tourist Police, said Mr Shynkarenko was with two other men, both Caucasian foreigners, at the time of the arrest.

He did not attempt to resist arrest or flee, Lt Col Ekachai said.

Mr Shynkarenko is now in custody at the Bangkok Criminal Court, where prosecutors will arrange for his extradition.

There are no charges pending against Mr Shynkarenko for criminal offenses in Thailand, Lt Col Ekachai added.

Mr Shynkarenko, wanted on a warrant issued by the US District Court of New Jersey, will face five charges, including distribution of child pornography and money laundering.

He fled the US after the warrant was issued.

Presented as evidence was electronic equipment including



Mr Shynkarenko (seated) at a press conference last Saturday.

three laptop computers, cell phones, hard disks, DVDs and related equipment.

Mr Shynkarenko allegedly made millions of dollars from his activities and had some 300 clients in many different countries.

Some of the images he distributed allegedly involved the sexual abuse of children as young as a year old. Mr Shynkarenko could face life imprisonment if found guilty by the New Jersey court.

## More Rohingyas arrive in Thailand

BANGKOK / PHUKET: A boat with 78 Rohingyas arrived in Ranong on the southern Andaman coast yesterday amid mounting pressure on the government over ill-treatment of the ethnic minority from Burma.

The latest boat people are aged 14 to 55. Some of those found in a rickety boat with a broken engine off the coast of Ranong near the Surin Islands, about 120 kilometers north of Phuket, were injured, navy commander Lieutenant Kwanchai Ketphan said.

They were later handed to police after being given food and water, he said.

Marud Hussen, 50, spoke to reporters in broken Thai. He said he and his colleagues collected 10 million Kyat (about 350,000 baht) to hire the boat to leave Arakan state in Burma on December 30.

The group wanted to obtain work in Ranong before extending their journey to Malaysia, he said.

The stateless Rohingyas are mostly Muslims who have

fled Burma or Bangladesh to seek a better life in Southeast Asia. Thailand has about 20,000 of them in port cities working in the fishing industry.

The Rohingyas have been in the spotlight since Hong Kong's South China Morning Post broke the story of their plight several weeks ago, saying the Thai Navy had allegedly towed about 1,000 of them back out to sea. Hundreds are said to have died.

Survivors rescued by India's Coast Guard said they were abandoned at sea with little

food and water in December.

The military has denied acting in an inhumane way but pictures have emerged recently of a boat full of Rohingyas being towed out to sea.

Despite some rather dramatic "reports" and opinions offered in local blogs and chat rooms, most resort managers and tourism officials contacted by the *Phuket Gazette* say they are not expecting the arrival of the Rohingyas on Phuket's beaches any time soon.

— *Nation/Gazette reporters*



## US Consular Outreach service to visit Phuket

PHUKET, KARON: The Consular Section of the American Embassy in Bangkok will hold a last-minute consular outreach visit to Phuket on February 2.

The following services will be available from 8 am to 12 noon on February 2 at the Hilton Phuket Arcadia Resort and Spa, at 333 Patak Road in Karon:

1. Passport renewal applications (US\$75.00 or 2,550 baht for adult passports, and US\$85 or 2,890 baht for children's passports);
2. Notarial services and certified copies, including income affidavits for retirees (US\$30.00 or 1,020 baht);
3. Limited information about social security, VA and other federal benefits.

Please bring exact change for the required services. Consular Reports of Birth cannot be processed during consular outreach trips, nor can visa pages be added to passports.

However, applications for more visa pages can be accepted, but the passports must be picked up the following day in Bangkok by the applicant or an authorized representative.

For more information email: [acsbk@state.gov](mailto:acsbk@state.gov) or call the American Citizen Services Unit at: 02-2054049.

## Box jellyfish training planned

PHUKET: Following the sightings of box jellyfish in waters off Phuket in October last year, plans are afoot to offer specialist training and advice to local authorities and officials on the varieties of jellyfish and how to treat jellyfish-sting victims.

Phuket Governor Preecha Ruangjan chaired a meeting with provincial authorities and staff from the Phuket Marine Biological Center (PMBC) at Phuket Public Health Offices on January 20 to discuss plans for introducing first aid stations at Phuket's beaches and to announce an upcoming jellyfish education seminar.

Australian jellyfish specialist Dr Lisa-ann Gershwin will be in Phuket to head the seminar at the public health offices on April 3, which is expected to be attended by representatives of provincial and municipal organizations.

Governor Preecha said during the meeting that even though there have been relatively few box jellyfish encounters, it is important to learn more about them and other species of jellyfish that may be found in the region, and to reassure tourists that Phuket's authorities are taking the matter seriously.

"If we learn more about the different species of jellyfish, we will be better equipped to deal with them and they will not seem so scary," Governor Preecha said.

PMBC head Dr Somchai Bussarwit said that there are at least 10 species of Irukandjis – jellyfish with stings that can be fatal – known in Australia, so the

training given by Dr Gershwin will be highly beneficial in understanding the variety of jellyfish species that may be encountered here.

Dr Somchai pointed out that a sting from a box jellyfish can be fatal because it causes the victim's heart to seize up. However, he added that performing cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) on box jellyfish sting victims was worth trying as it could help restart the heart and would be more effective than washing stings with vinegar. "Numerous jellyfish sting victims have been successfully resuscitated in this way," he said.

Governor Preecha said that there were no concrete plans yet for first aid stations at Phuket's beaches but that he was currently considering how best to introduce them in the near future.

## Phuket OTOP fair set for February

PHUKET CITY: The 4th Phuket One Tambon One Product (OTOP) Fair is set to take place at Saphan Hin in Phuket City from February 3 to 12 with booths selling a wide range of hand made products and traditional arts and crafts around a main stage area.

The announcement was made by Phuket Vice-Governor Smith Palawatwichai, Mr Somsak Songnui, chief of the Phuket Provincial Community Development Office (CDO) and Mrs Supalak Suhiranyawaanich, Phuket OTOP board member.

The organizers expect the fair, which will exhibit OTOP products from different regions of Thailand, to draw about 1,000 visitors daily and result in total sales of 8 million baht.

Mr Somsak said that of the total OTOP budget of 1.5 million baht, 863,000 baht would be spent on organizing the Phuket OTOP festival and the remainder on an OTOP "roadshow" and a large OTOP fair that will take place in Ubon Ratchathani province from February 25 to April 2.

## Jet ski lifesaver training



Patong lifeguards display their beach rescue training certificates.

PHUKET: Phuket Vice Governor Vorapot Rattasima was joined by Pol Maj Gen Attagrit Tharechat, Commander of the Tourist Police Division, and Oran Hangjalaun, Chief Transportation Officer, at Loma Public Park, Patong Beach, to officially launch jet ski training for Patong's Beach Rescue Team on January 21.

The dedicated lifesaving machines were donated by Yamaha and Wachira Marine Co Ltd.

Vice Governor Vorapot has been appointed president of the

project, which is designed to help the lifeguard team save lives and is also aimed at reducing the number of jet ski-related incidents.

In addition to teaching lifesavers correct operating procedures for the machines, two days were dedicated to training those who rent water craft at Patong Beach, in a bid to increase safety.

The objective of the program is to improve safety standards for Patong's many water craft rental outlets and to improve the water rescue capabilities of lifeguards at Patong Beach.

**Abbyssan YOGA Opens its 2nd studio in Boat Lagoon**

On November 15th, 2008 - Abbyssan YOGA & Wellness Center, established in September 2007 in Bang Tao, opened a new studio at Boat Lagoon. The new Yoga studio will also embody the concept of "Wellness", the ultimate combination of exercise, meditation and a variety of yoga styles. Many group exercise classes will be offered each week along with New Body, Mat Pilates and Yoga Core! We also teach Kids yoga and Teens yoga.

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# Maj Gen Apirak voted one of Thailand's top ten cops



Pol Maj Gen Apirak Hongtong of the Phuket Provincial Police.

PHUKET CITY: Phuket Provincial Police Commander Apirak Hongtong has been named as one of Thailand's 10 most outstanding police officers, National Police Chief Pol Gen Patcharawat Wongsuwan recently announced.

The list was drawn up by a 12-member committee which included members of the judiciary, international businessmen and other respected figures – but no members of the Royal Thai Police.

Maj Gen Apirak has been an almost omnipresent figure since taking over as Phuket's top cop in June last year, holding almost daily press conferences to announce arrests and constantly encouraging the 1,000 officers under his command to be vigilant in the battle against crime.

He was transferred to Phuket following his previous posting as Provincial Police Commander of Ranong, a position he held when 54 illegal Burmese workers suffocated in the back of a cold storage van while being smuggled into Phuket. His resume also includes a stint as Superintendent of Phuket Immigration.

In 2004, he took a leave of absence in an unsuccessful bid to win a seat on the Phuket Provincial Administration Organization under the banner of the now-defunct Thai Rak Thai party.

After hearing the news, Maj Gen Apirak told reporters that with just 1,000 officers the provincial force needs more high-tech equipment including more closed-circuit television cameras, X-ray machines and electric bi-

cycles like the ones deployed to patrol beaches in Karon at the start of this high season.

Keeping Phuket safe and crime-free will ensure that visitors come to Phuket in droves, spending money that will help the national economy, he added.

To this effect, he said he hopes to reduce crime on the island to such an extent that he will soon be able to erect a sign declaring the island a crime-free zone.

## Three Chiang Rai men under arrest for murder, assault

PHUKET CITY: Police on January 28 held a press conference to announce the arrest of three young men charged with the bludgeoning murder of a teenage boy in tambon Wichit last night.

The press conference was conducted by Phuket Provincial Police Commander Apirak Hongtong, Phuket City Police Superintendent Wanchai Ekporpit and Deputy Superintendent Chaiwat Auykham.

They identified the victim as 16-year-old Surapol Boonpa, who died at 3 am on January 28 at Vachira Phuket Hospital from injuries sustained in a beating by three men.

The suspects, all building workers from Chiang Rai, were identified as: Ekachai "Ek" Khamfu, 21; Kittikun "Keng" Funkiaw, 22; and Traisit "Boy" Sriyodtanyachai, 30.

According to eyewitnesses, the three men met with a group of teenage boys and girls at the entrance to Panyamon Soi 3, off Pattanatongtin Road in Wichit Village 1, at about 8:30 pm on January 27.

A fight inspired by jealousy over one of the girls present resulted in the three men beating the victim and two of his friends with wooden clubs and metal bars.

Mr Surapol and his friend Mr Nattawut were sent to Vachira Phuket, where Mr Nattawut is still being treated.

The third victim, 18-year-old Satit Klinkham, did not require hospitalization.

All three men confessed to their involvement in the beating murder and were sent to Phuket Provincial Prison pending assault and murder charges.



A man enjoys free dental services at the monthly "Municipality Meets the People" event, held at Chalermprakiat Park in Phuket City on January 24. The event, which takes place on the last Saturday of every month, is run by Phuket City Municipality and features a whole host of free services such as health checks, family planning, drug advice, Thai massage, a mobile library, fitness testing, free hair cuts, free organic fertilizer, pest control, pet vaccination and recycling, to name just a few. The next event will take place on February 28.

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# Americans on Obama

By Dan Waites

On January 20, Barack Hussein Obama became the 44<sup>th</sup> president of the USA. The inauguration of the nation's first mixed-race president was a historic moment, watched by millions around the globe. For many Americans, Obama's election represents a turning point for the US – a rejection of George W Bush's controversial policies and "The Change We Need". Others are less hopeful, seeing the election of a young and relatively inexperienced politician to the highest office in the land as dangerous in such unsettled times.

There is no doubt President Obama faces formidable challenges – global recession, climate change and ongoing wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, to name just a few. But how do things look from this tropical island, half a world away from the White House and President Obama's daunting in-tray? The *Gazette* asked a number of long-time American Phuket residents for their views on the man, the moment and the prospects for his presidency.

## Marque Rome, writer

Barack Obama – maybe I should say Elvis Obama – is certainly one of the greatest conundrums in American politics. Born in Hawaii to an upper-crust white family, he is black. After studying at Hawaii's most prestigious private academy, attending Columbia and becoming president of the Harvard Law Review and a constitutional lawyer – the ticket into the top echelons of power – he adopted a

ghetto accent and started doing pro bono cases for indigents in Chicago, a city in which he has no roots. He was elected president after four years in national politics – two years of which he spent running for office.

He has wrapped himself in the mantles of hope and change, yet his voting record on Iraq and on the Patriot Act, two of the most controversial acts mounted during the Bush administration, is the same as John McCain's. As

near as I can tell, he has never worked with anyone in his cabinet except David Axelrod, a media expert who directed his campaign.

I have high hopes for Obama, but his life is an entire puzzle.

## Woody Leonhard, IT expert

I think it's wonderful that the US has (finally!) elected an intelligent, erudite and capable individual who has significant exposure to the



world outside the Lower 48. Obama's inheriting a presidency that's more challenging than any since, oh, Roosevelt or even Hoover. So far, I'm very hopeful. But I sure wouldn't want to be walking in his shoes.

Even if the economy falls to pieces, and the international political landscape crumbles, we Americans can take solace in one indisputable fact: it would've been worse under Dubya.

## Richard Watson, financial planning consultant

President Obama is in a unique position to improve the lives of millions of people in Africa. Already his popularity in sub-Saharan Africa is at an all-time high for any US president; his encouragement of democracy, human rights and sensible economic policies can be of great benefit.

The statement by the new administration's treasury secretary, Timothy Geithner, that President Obama believes that China is manipulating its currency, is very negative. America is going to probably need to issue trillions of dollars in Treasury Bonds to finance all these stimulus packages. As China is the biggest buyer of US Treasury Bonds, it seems a poor start alienating that country. China is also starting to feel the cold winds of this global financial crisis. This is a time for co-operation, not confrontation.

## Philip Lawson, IT professional

Most of my American friends think that Obama is some sort of messiah – a real rainmaker with an ideology not terribly up for debate. I just don't see it. He is probably an exceedingly intelligent man, but his "solutions" to many US and international problems are a product of politics and votes as opposed to pragmatism and reality.

Take free trade. Obama

made it to the White House on a substantial trade union vote. During the campaign, he was on many occasions downright protectionist. In troubled times such as these and with a democratic majority in both chambers of congress, it is particularly likely that he will go down the path of protectionism, which would be a terrible thing for the US and the world. Free trade is good.

And then there is the \$700 billion bailout and the \$825 billion stimulus. The 2009 budget deficit is projected to be an absolutely breathtaking \$1 trillion. This is starting to add up to real money. And where in the world is this money going to come from? The US government must go out and borrow every penny (either that or print more money). Put a fork in the US dollar – it's probably done.

And tax cuts? C'mon now Mr. President – you're looking at being in the hole "a tril" next year. How can you talk about tax cuts? How can that possibly work? A lot of it really doesn't add up.

## Bill Barnett, property development consultant

The big day has come and gone and in the words of one of the inauguration commentators, now is the time "the rubber hits the road". For us here in Thailand we are living in a parallel world to those in the US, with all eyes turned to Abhisit and his fledgling government. The looming question here and abroad is whether one man make a difference given a new era of economic crises, domestic affairs and looming big ticket items like terrorism. Democracy is intended to be for and by the people, not one person. While consensus works in theory, in actual fact we ride the fortunes of both of these gentlemen for better or for worse. One thing for sure is its going to be the ride of our lives.

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## Scorpion Queen breaks own record



PATTAYA: Thailand's Scorpion Queen, Kanchana Ketkaew, set a world record by spending 33 days and nights covered with 5,000 scorpions, it was announced on January 24.

Ms Kanchana, whose latest stunt at Ripley's Believe It Or Not Museum in Pattaya, made it into the *Guinness Book of World Records*, had previously set a record for having a scorpion in her mouth for two minutes and three seconds.

Ms Kanchana told a press conference at the museum that she was very happy with her latest record. She revealed that she had been stung 13 times during her time in the glass room. Living with scorpions for 10 years had enabled her body to tolerate the venom, she explained. She vowed to reclaim her record if any person surpassed her feat of staying with scorpions or holding a venomous scorpion in the mouth. She also expressed hope that her record would promote Thailand to the world and boost tourism, while urging the public not to follow her example in attempting such stunts as they could be fatal.

Museum manager Somporn Nakseutrong said that Kanchana's current record was a huge improvement over her previous one, when she lived with 3,000 scorpions for 32 days.

## Beware of impostors in saffron robes

BANGKOK: In the face of a worsening economy, more and more men are using the saffron robes worn by monks as a guise to get money from others.

"We have found an increasing number of monk impostors since last year, when the economy started to turn sour," said Phra Rattana-methee, who heads the Buddhist clergy's patrol and monitoring division in Bangkok.

The latest case of a monk impostor was found behind the Samiannaree Temple in Don Mueang district, he confirmed.

"He pleaded guilty," Mr Phra said. "He said that by acting like a monk he could get free food from religious people and share it with his daughter. And in the evening, he could still live a normal life." The impostor was reported to the police.

Mr Phra said impostors generally do not fear legal action because their offense carries a light punishment.

"Some impostors say they welcome the arrests because they always get free clothes from police as a replacement for the saffron robes that must be removed," the senior monk said.

## MoPH to shuffle staff to ease worker shortage

BANGKOK: The Public Health Ministry plans to move over 16,000 temporarily employed health workers into civil service positions in a bid to resolve the shortage of medical workers, Minister Wittaya Keawparadai has announced.

The move comes after the Cabinet learned that there are 25,000 vacancies available for official government positions. Under the plan, Mr Wittaya said PM Abhisit Vejjajiva had assigned him to work with the Office of the Civil Service Commission (OCSC) to resolve the shortage of medical workers by pushing 16,000 temporarily employed healthcare workers into becoming government officials.

Mr Wittaya said he ordered MoPH permanent secretary Dr Prat Boonyawongevit to consult with the OCSC on placing the largest group of temporary employees in the public health ministry – 7,000 nurses – into civil service positions. He has also set up a task force to find out how to increase fixed allowances for all health workers within the ministry. Previously, the government approved the fixed allowance for rural doctors, dentists, pharmacists and nurses only, which led to ill-feeling among other healthcare workers. To reduce tension, the MoPH will hold discussions with 13 ministry health professionals over increasing fixed allowances for all healthcare professionals.

Community Nurses Club chairperson Janyawat Tabchan said the ministry should put over 7,000 temporary nurses into an official government position as a first priority, then increase fixed allowances for community nurses, to maintain community nursing with the health ministry in the long term. "The minister promised to work on these issues for a month but we think that the process was slow. We want him to know we are watching and waiting," she said.

## Consumer body backs efforts to pass new law

BANGKOK: The Dangerous Products Bill should be amended, in terms of responsibility for damages, as it threatens healthcare services and medical workers across the country, the Medical Council said on January 21.

Dr Itthaporn Kanchareon, the council's Assistant Secretary General, said that the law will hurt consumers as medical workers will be afraid to prescribe drugs for patients.

"The government should hold a public hearing before pressing ahead to impose the law," he said.

The junta-installed government drafted the law aimed at protecting people from unsafe goods and helping them sue the manufacturers for compensation. It is to be enforced next month.

The law includes drugs,

pharmaceutical products and medical equipment as unsafe products, as patients would be at risk from side-effects.

Drug makers, importers, hospitals, clinics, medical workers such as doctors and nurses who prepare and prescribe drugs; pharmacists, drug stores, dentists who fit artificial teeth and traditional Thai medicine practitioners might also have to take responsibility for unsafe products, Dr Itthaporn said.

"We want the government to urgently find a resolution as the law will be implemented next month. This move is not only to prevent possible adverse impacts on medical workers from law enforcement but also to protect the interests of consumers," he said.

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

## FDA warns of lead poisoning from lip gel

BANGKOK: The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has warned against the dangers of using a popular "Tint" colored make-up gel as it is contaminated with lead and could lead to severe health complications.

"We found that over 100 people who used this tint required hospital treatment last year," said the FDA chief Dr Pipat Yingseri.

The latest fashion trend among teenage girls is to spread colored gel on their lips and cheeks to make them look bright pink and orange. The cheap tints are mostly found in local markets and department stores.


"It makes them feel that they have healthy lips and cheeks," Dr Pipat said.

Tint is applied differently

than regular lipstick, which is usually put on only the lips. The tint is applied to the inside of the lips, causing the poison to be quickly absorbed into the body.


The FDA has randomly collected 693 samples of lipstick sold in border markets across the country during the past three years and found that 164 of them contained banned cosmetic coloring. Laboratory tests showed that the tainted substances in Tint could cause cancer in animals.

"Make sure that they're safe for your health and don't buy them if they don't have any label," Dr Pipat added.



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# PULO welcomes government policy for deep South

PATANI: A long-standing Malay-Muslim separatist group said that it welcomes the new government's policy for the Muslim-majority south, saying it "represents a genuine step towards reform and change in the region," on January 24.

In a statement sent to *The Nation* newspaper, Kasturi Mahkota, foreign affairs chief of the Patani United Liberation Organisation (PULO), said the policy could lay the foundations for a political settlement of the conflict. Moreover, according to the statement, representatives of the Patani Malay Movement, a loose coalition of separatist leaders, have agreed to form a special body to engage in dialogue with Thai government representatives.

"It is our hope that after long years of struggle, which has cost the lives of many innocent people in the region, that at long last there can be a sustained process of dialogue based on principles of democracy, openness and sincerity," the statement read.

Mr Kasturi did not go into details as to which organizations are included in the Patani Malay Movement, but described the movement as "a new front still in the process of forming".

Sources familiar with the separatist leaders in exile said the coalition will consist of long-standing separatists groups who have been holding secret dialogues with Thai officials and mediators over the past three years.

Other observers familiar with the separatist movements said they were not optimistic with the idea of a new front being formed.

Commentators said that many of these groups had tried for two decades to come together under the banner Bersatu, but failed to make much headway as member organisations were reluctant to make serious concessions for the sake of unity.

Many also doubt the level of influence older leaders have on the new generation of insurgents.

## Museum plan given green light

KRABI: Krabi Provincial Administration Organization (KPAO) has approved a budget of more than 38 million baht to convert a retired battleship into a floating naval museum. The 90-meter *Luang Lanta* battleship, which was retired from service at the end of 2007, will be moored at the mouth of the Krabi River. The 38-million-baht budget for the project was passed by a meeting of the KPAO council on January 21.

The plan to convert the *Luang Lanta* into a floating museum was first announced in 2007 while the ship was still in service.

At the time, it was reported that the KPAO was to finance the project by commissioning a Jatukham Ramathep edition to sell to the public, though that plan seems to have been abandoned since the amulet bubble burst. The expected completion date of the project was not announced.

## Body found on the tracks

NAKHON SRI THAMMARAT: A badly injured man was found lying on a railway track in Ron Phibun district in the early hours of January 22. The man, identified by police as 20-year-old Ahnon Tola from Narathiwat's Yi Ngor district, later died in hospital.

Mr Ahnon was found by a rubber tapper and taken to Ron Phibun Hospital, but doctors were unable to save him.

Police believe Mr Ahnon is likely to have fallen from a train and are now trying to establish which train he was travelling on.



Thai-Muslims burn the US national flag during a protest outside central mosque in Pattani on January 20. Hundreds of Thai-Muslims have held demonstrations against Israel's military campaign in Gaza.

## Arrests made in pangolin trader killing

SURAT THANI: Region 8 Police arrested two youths for the murder of a pangolin trader who was shot dead in Kanchanadit district in December.

The arrests of Praphan "Pad" Thitchalad, 21, and Thirawuth "Por" Seera, 18, were announced by Region 8 Deputy Commissioner Lt Gen Bunsong Phanitara at Region 8 Police Headquarters in Surat Thani on January 24. Police are still hunting for a third suspect, 21-year-

old Surasak "Boy" Suthin.

The arrests stemmed from the killing of 38-year-old Wiphat Sutham, who was killed on December 17. Mr Wiphat's killers burned his body and stole his money and mobile phone. Mr Wiphat worked trading pangolins, an arboreal, insect-eating mammal also known as the "scaly anteater". Pangolins are highly sought after in China for the alleged medical attributes of their meat. Praphan admitted that he, Thirawuth and

Surasak killed Mr Wiphat after luring him to the spot by claiming they had a pangolin to sell. When Mr Wiphat arrived, Surasak beat him with a length of wood. When Mr Wiphat fought back, Surasak shot him dead, Praphan said.

The three then dragged Mr Wiphat's body into the woods and set it on fire to try and destroy the evidence, police quoted Praphan as saying. Thirawuth, however, denies any involvement in the crime, police said.

## Protected species saved from the pot

TRANG: Police arrested two women for selling protected animals at a fresh market in Trang on January 20. Wipha Nakrach, 39, and Praphai Lakphetch, 51, were arrested at their stall at Trang Town Municipal Market. Police seized the carcasses of 12 White-breasted Waterhens and two

Crested Serpent-Eagles as well as five Snail-eating Turtles and 10 tortoises of an undetermined species.

The pair have been charged with possession of protected animals without a license under the 1992 Wild Animals Protection Act.

Mrs Wipha confessed that she had bought the tortoises and

turtles from traders in Nakhon Sri Thammarat for between 70 and 100 baht each, and that she sold them at her stall for between 300 and 500 baht, police said. Most people who bought the reptiles would release them, though some were probably destined for the cooking pot, police quoted her as saying.

## Bridge builders shot by suspected militants

YALA: Four bridge-builders, including the contractor and foreman, were shot dead by suspected Muslim militants in Bannang Sata district on January 24. Police rushed to the site and found the four bodies with bullet wounds under the bridge. They retrieved spent .357 and 9mm bullet cas-

ings as evidence. One of the victims was project contractor Jatupol Ratt-anasit, who had come with a foreman and driver to inspect progress.

The police investigation found that a group of four young men on two motorcycles had approached the victims at the site

where some 10 people were working. The suspected militants shot the four men at close range before fleeing the scene with three guns belonging to the victims. A day earlier, three people were killed in Yala in separate incidents believed to be connected to the insurgency.



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# Kathu Mining Museum

By Tipwarintron Tanaakarachod



The entrance to the museum displays the sino-Portuguese architecture and its stucco design windows.

Phuket: the so called Pearl of the Andaman is rightly lauded as a travelers' paradise, with its clear blue sea, white sandy beaches and breathtaking countryside. Less well known, perhaps, is the island's rich tradition in local art, culture and community history, particularly concerning tales of the mining industry. The fascinating history of Kathu's mining industry, one which has survived generations, remains one of Phuket's most enduring legacies.

The Kathu Mining Museum in Kathu district 5 is built on the site of an old tin mine called Torsung, located on Phanturat hill. Looking north from the museum you can also see the Get-Ni hills, while the lush fairways of Loch Palm Golf Club extend to the east.

The idea for the Kathu Min-

ing Museum was first conceived by the mayor of Kathu, Prasert Khoakitpaisan, who first mooted the idea for a museum to commemorate the community's proud tin mining heritage back in 1999. It wasn't until 2006, however, that Mr Prasert's dream gained traction, finally becoming a reality with its completion in 2008.

The museum building was designed by local architect Punjaphat Churaj in a Sino-Portuguese style, with a large courtyard located in the middle of the structure. The museum's windows feature a stucco design and old style window arches.

The Kathu Mining Museum is divided into two main sections. The first section features an outdoor display exhibiting a range of artifacts including a set of old rail-

tracks originally used for ore transportation, images of mining cliffs and abandoned mines, including the old Queen mine. The second section is comprised of indoor displays, tracing the history of the tin mining process and chronicling the lives of the mining community of the time.

The first hallway of the museum is where the historical journey begins. The Pothongbus Arcade displays a mine-owners treasure chest, including many valuable possessions, namely *Ba-yae* rings, hair pins, precious stones and jewelry.

The "Mineral of life" room demonstrates the various types of tin mine that operated on the island, while "The Creation of Alchemy" details the workings of a smeltery and displays some of the many products made from tin ore. Visitors are invited to try their hand at manufacturing their own products out of tin ore.

The room named "The journey of Chinese merchants" chronicles the history of Chinese



immigrants, arriving on Phuket, from across the sea, in search of their fortune.

Moving on to the next room, visitors are transported back to an age when tin mining flourished on the island and the Chinese way of life, introduced by the immigrants from across the sea, infused the Phuket culture. Bang Niao Nai Thu market, old style Chinese coffee shops, Chinese opera, opium dens and Chinese pharmacies dispensing traditional Chinese herbal remedies were just some of the many examples of Chinese influence on the local way of life.

A fascinating insight into the customs of the Ba-Ba civilization is provided in a room containing a statue of a wedding couple, photographed with the head of

the household against the backdrop of an old shopfront.

Other important artifacts from the period include photos, letters and a host of documents related to the mining process, such as maps, drawings, an old mining concession and a license issued for the prospecting of minerals.

"The kingdom of knowledge" is a mining library that houses documents concerned with the mining business, and others that shed light on the local culture and way of life of the people at the time.

Mining library services are also available online through a virtual "E-Museum", which provides an information resource for students, researchers, travelers and local people.

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# La vie en Rosé

By Dan Ogunshakin

**B**efore arriving in Phuket, I thought I had a pretty good idea of what brunch was all about. It was a filler in that ravenous window between breakfast and lunch; what friends did when they could meet for neither. It was not quite breakfast; not quite lunch but you got fed.

Phuketians, on the other hand, have an entirely different concept of brunch, and one that, after a recent sampling, draws me to the inevitable conclusion that their way is far superior to mine.

Indigo Pearl, located in Nai Yang, is an iconically designed resort, drawing inspiration from Phuket's tin mining past and combining it with a chic contemporary design to create an elegant setting, ideal for a soothing vacation or, as on this occasion, a memorable brunch.

Each Sunday, Indigo Pearl hosts the brunch "En Rosé". Friends in-the-know had assured me that this particular brunch was unlike any eating experience they had ever known: four hours

of utter decadence, negotiating an array of food seemingly capable of appeasing even the most insatiable appetite. Given their virtual tour of every dish, I had the feeling that I had gorged at Indigo Pearl's 'tables of plenty' and was bracing myself for disappointment.

Surely it couldn't be as good as everybody said...could it?

Arriving at the brunch, a tinge of apprehension mingled with a sense of childlike excitement.

Set inside and out, the *En Rosé* brunch offers diners the opportunity to sit surrounded by tropical flora or within the cool confines of the air conditioned dining room, designed after Indigo Pearl's inimitable fashion.

Bracing myself for the epicurean onslaught, I took a moment to peruse the wine menu, choosing a sparkling rosé to accompany my first selection. The *En Rosé* brunch was, as the name suggests, complemented by a selection of free flowing rosé wines; one Spanish, one Argentinean, one French and one sparkling. Alternatively, a red and white option can be chosen to

accompany the food.

The moment had arrived. Heading outside, the sight that greeted my eyes had me salivating like a pack of Pavlovian dogs. All the superlatives in my lexicon would fail to adequately describe what I beheld. Fresh seafood, tantalizing *hors d'oeuvres*, a Tandoori curry station, Thai dining, BBQ area, mouth-watering meat roasting on a spit, fresh salads and vegetables, cold cuts and cheeses and a seemingly endless selection of sweets and desserts.

Feeling like the proverbial "kid in a candy store", I skipped up to the seafood station and selected fresh oysters, mussels and smoked salmon, accompanied by a delicious spicy chilli dressing.

Sipping on my Spanish rosé, I reasoned that the only way to appease the gluttonous monster within was to sample everything and resist becoming fixated on a single station – notwithstanding the fact that the seafood in particular was quite spectacular. It required more than a modicum of control, believe you me.

Everything tasted as divine and as fresh as you could imagine. The *hors d'oeuvres* were



Just some of the smorgasbord of delights on offer at the Indigo Pearl *En Rosé* brunch. PHOTOS: Sharon Ryan.

as varied as they were delicious, preparing the palate to feast on the fabulous Tandoori chicken and duck, which came with fluffy naan bread and mango chutney.

Time acts strangely when enjoying a brunch that spans four hours. At the beginning, it seems almost to stand still. Having sampled a smorgasbord of assorted dishes and several glasses of wine, a cursory glance at the watch revealed that only an hour and a half had gone by. Taking but the briefest of moments to digest, over a nice glass of Chilean red, it was suddenly pointed out that a further hour had inexorably ticked by.

The barbecue and spit-roasted meat section was a highlight. Tender steaks, juicy lamb chops and melt-in-the-mouth pork, courtesy of a couple of suckling pigs, roasted aromatically over a spit and cooked to perfection, were the perfect way to satisfy any carnivore's cravings.

With just an hour to go, time accelerates. The next 30 minutes heralds the opportunity to indulge in some exquisite cheeses, as you sip your remaining wine, which continues to flow, but not nearly so freely after 3pm.

The final 30 minutes incites a blind panic as you know time is fast running out and soon all this fabulous food will be beyond reach. The desire to attack the desserts with the fury of a velociraptor takes hold. Having feasted without respite for three and a half hours, nobody needs dessert, and yet, like everything else, they are just too delicious to refuse. As four o'clock came and went, I was left feeling like a cow fattened for slaughter, more than a little merry and delirious with delight.

The architect of this pantheon of pleasure is Indigo Pearl's Executive Sous Chef Appadoo Pravesh. Born in

Mauritius, Chef Pravesh has resided at Indigo Pearl for the past two years, helping to fashion the concept of brunch into an art form.

Trained in the country of his birth, Appadoo graced the hotel kitchens of France, the Seychelles and Dubai before arriving in Thailand. A keen traveler, he has used his wanderlust to hone his skills in the kitchen, "I like to study different cultures and different cooking techniques. It's really interesting to have a fusion of styles from different parts of the world," he said.

Indigo Pearl's idiosyncratic design also exerts an influence over the presentation of the brunch, "We always try to design the buffet with the concept of the resort in mind. Our grill is a prime example, it reflects the hotel's design," explained Chef Pravesh. For Appadoo, the key to the perfect brunch is variety, "We always try to make it different every week, but there are certain things you have to include. You need a good roast, for instance, as well as nice oysters and fresh seafood."

"We launch new concepts fairly regularly, offering different menus and different wines. This allows us to keep the brunch fresh and develop new ideas," he added.

My only gripe was that the wine was curtailed an hour before the buffet ended and the final 60 minutes suffers somewhat without the combination of the two. When paying 1,755 baht nett, it ought to be served up until the end.

With a heavy heart – and a rather heavier stomach, it was time to roll back home. My friends were indeed wrong. It wasn't as good as they said; it was better. Believe me when I tell you that Indigo Pearl is the jewel of the Andaman. Oh, I know what you're thinking; you're thinking, "It can't be that good...can it?"

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# HIV positive and on a mission for the truth

By James Goyder

**B**angkok-based entertainment writer and actor Nicholas Snow tested positive for HIV in early 2008. Since then he has taken it upon himself to become an ambassador for HIV/AIDS awareness and has launched [www.actionequalslife.com](http://www.actionequalslife.com), a social networking website created to promote the issue.

Nicholas recently spent three weeks in Phuket filming *The Marine 2*, playing an ambassador taken hostage by terrorists at a resort in a fictitious Asian country.

In his spare time he visited several of the island's nightclubs wearing a T-shirt emblazoned with the message, "You now know you know someone who is HIV positive. The absolute latest fashion is to know your HIV status. Get Tested. LIVE LONGER."

According to Nicholas, "In Phuket, I wore the T-shirt on my days off everywhere, to Jungceylon, to the gay clubs in the Paradise complex, to the movie set before changing into my wardrobe; basically everywhere."

Nicholas is making such a dramatic public statement because he feels there is a lack of openly HIV positive people in Asia. He feels it is important that people are aware that they know people who have the virus.

Nicholas's message is particularly pertinent in Phuket, which has the second-highest HIV infection rate in all of Thailand. He says, "I wear the T-shirt to challenge the attitudes of others about themselves, their sex lives, and about people living with HIV/AIDS, and to give at least one face, name and story to HIV

in Thailand where there are practically no HIV positive people who are "out" about their status at a public level."

According to Nicholas it is crucial that people who might be at risk get HIV tested because, "unfortunately the majority of people with HIV first learn they have HIV because they become ill with an opportunistic infection and seek medical treatment as a result."

HIV is primarily transmitted through unprotected sexual intercourse, contaminated needles or from a mother to her baby, either through birth or breastfeeding.

HIV normally leads to acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS), a condition in which the immune system begins to fail after being compromised by HIV, leading to life-threatening opportunistic infections.

However, treatment with antiretroviral drugs dramatically increases the life expectancy of people infected with HIV and can even prevent the transition into AIDS. Even after HIV has progressed to diagnosable AIDS, the average survival time with antiretroviral therapy is estimated to be more than five years. Without antiretroviral therapy, death normally occurs within a year.

According to Nicholas, "If someone learns they are HIV positive as the result of voluntary testing early after exposure, then they can monitor their CD4 or T-cell count (the cells which the virus attacks) with their doctor and take medicine when appropriate. This medicine can keep the positive person healthy for as long as possible, and there are people who are living decades with HIV. I am told that a normal lifespan is possible."

Being aware of your HIV status also means you can modify



"Why and how did I become HIV positive in the third decade of an epidemic in which we all have the knowledge with which to protect ourselves? The bottom line is, I didn't use a condom, but it could happen to anyone in a moment of passion."

your behavior accordingly to ensure that you do not risk passing the virus onto others.

The World Health Organization (WHO) estimates that AIDS has killed more than 25 million people since it was first identified on December 1, 1981. It is estimated that about 0.6% of the world's population and 1.4% of the population of Thailand is infected with the virus, with 80% of new infections in the country occurring through heterosexual sex.

Nicholas first became infected with the virus through an unsafe sexual encounter with another man in Bangkok in late 2007. By his own admission, had he known then that, of men who have sex with men in Bangkok, approximately one in three is HIV positive, he would probably not have taken that risk.

"Why and how did I become HIV positive in the third decade of an epidemic in which we all have the knowledge with which to protect ourselves? The bottom line is I didn't use a condom, but it could happen to anyone in a moment of passion."

Over a year has passed since, as a new year's resolution, Nicholas sought out an anonymous, free HIV test at the Silom Community Clinic in Bangkok.

In that time he has become one of the most visibly open HIV positive people in Asia and has written about this journey in a book that he is gradually publishing on-line at [www.ActionEqualsLife.com](http://www.ActionEqualsLife.com), entitled *Life Positive: "A Journey From The Center of my Heart"*.

While he may regret some of the decisions which led him to become infected with the HIV,

Nicholas clearly has no regrets over his decision to go public with his positive status. "Since early October, I have reached tens of thousands of people with my messages (of HIV awareness). I would like to encourage increased vigilance over safer sex practices for anyone, negative or positive. I want to continue to bring attention to this issue for the rest of what I hope will be a very long life."

HIV testing is available from most hospitals and some doctors' surgeries in Phuket. A test normally costs around 500 baht, with some hospitals offering instant results.

*The Marine 2 will be released on DVD worldwide later this year. For further information, please visit [www.actionequalslife.com](http://www.actionequalslife.com).*

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**BEST TABLE MANNERS:** Associates and students from the Prince of Songkla University's Phuket Faculty of Hospitality and Tourism hosted a dinner for Her Royal Highness Princess Sirinthorn at the PSU International Convention Center in Hat Yai on January 5. Her Royal Highness visited the campus as part of an inspection tour.



**GETTING VOCAL:** Students of the British International School's art program received some pro pointers from renowned British vocal coach Joshua Alamu on January 22. Joshua has worked on several major television projects including the BBC celebrity duet series 'Just The Two of Us' and T4's reality show Musicool. He has also worked with Brit pop artists Daniel Bedingfield, All Saints and Take That.



On the occasion of the first anniversary of the Gazette's sponsorship of computer guru Woody Leonhard's "PC Group Therapy" computer clinics, the guru himself showed up at the newspaper's offices with a giant cake from... well, Khun Woody's Bakery. Seen here with him are (from left): the Gazette's Managing Editor Nick Davies; General Manager Niladaa ('Jib') Mastanawattanakul; and Managing Director Oranee ('Ann') Hildebrand. Khun Woody's regular Sunday morning PC therapy sessions, held at his Sandwich Shoppes around the island, have grown from a handful of die-hard geeks to standing-room-only groups of local computer users at all levels.



**MEAL MONEY:** About 600 Thai youngsters are to receive professional English-language education with 300,000 baht raised through a 10,000-baht-per-head charity dinner prepared by leading French chef Jerome Nutile (right) of the Michelin-star restaurant Le Castellans en Provence. Also pictured are (from left): Luc Baudet, wine maker from the Mas Neuf Vineyard in France, sponsor of the wines that evening; Alfredo Fernandino, General Manager of Hung Fat's; Peter Hamilton, Board Member of the 'Phuket Has Been Good to Us' foundation and Director of The Yamu, which underwrote the evening; and Chairat Sukaban, Deputy Mayor of Patong.



**HAPPY DAYS:** Mike Turner (back), owner of Mike's Bar in Phuket Town, his wife Nipa (left), and staff (left to right) Joy, Nicky and Mel recently celebrated the restaurant and bar's 10th anniversary. The venue serves traditional pub snacks and dishes and was renovated three years ago.



**GOLDEN GUESTS:** Special guests from the Netherlands Mr and Mrs Gijsbert van Manen (seated) were recently treated to a surprise dinner at the Hilton Phuket Arcadia Resort & Spa in celebration of the couple's 50th wedding anniversary. Mr and Mrs van Manen have been visiting the resort regularly for 20 years. The couple also received a three-day, two-night complimentary stay at the Hilton Kuala Lumpur as a wedding anniversary gift.



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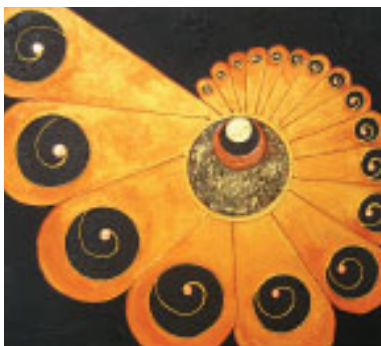
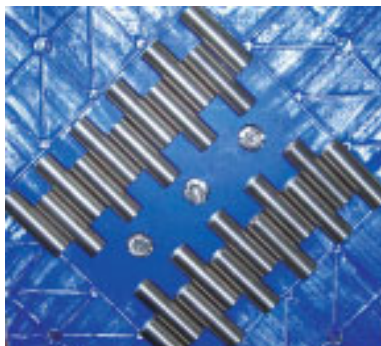


The Phuket Gazette Tel: 076-236555 (K. Su) Mobile@PhuketGazette.Net



# Rendez Vous with Botanica

By Bruce Stanley



When Barbara Stobel was a young girl living outside Hanover in Germany, her creative impulses pushed her to redesign the world around her, to the frequent exasperation of her parents. She would paint designs on the wallpaper, cut patterns with scissors in the curtains and rearrange the plants in the garden. Upon finishing school, she discovered that silk would be the medium for her art. For the next ten years, she painted on silk, creating everything from clothes to wall hangings. She sold her creations at weekend art markets while working professionally as a nurse and a trained podiatrist.

By 1997, she had met and married her husband, George. Together they resolved to begin a new life; a life in a place full of sunshine, away from the dark winters of northern Europe. They settled upon Dubai. Barbara was soon accepted into a Master Class at the International Art Center where she completed a two-year training program, working primarily with oils. She then began showing her work in group exhibitions and selling her creations on the Internet.

She adopted an artist's name, "Botanica", and by 2001, she and George had discovered Phuket. They decided to buy land in Rawai and build a home and a studio.

Botanica has spent the past four years in her Rawai studio painting and working with mixed media. The same instinct to improvise with original materials

that characterized her art from childhood has matured into distinctive, individual paintings and mixed media constructions that are unique, show versatility and defy classification. She is fascinated with the female form and creates womanly images from acrylic, oils and even objects she finds. Her work is full of surprise. Botanica has a playful sense with materials that results in art that is beautiful and decorative. Though she has been classically trained and can recreate paintings from the Old Masters, she seems more interested in working with her own ideas and using materials that capture her imagination.

Her show at the Rendez Vous Gallery, near the intersection of Yaowarat and Thalang Roads in Phuket Town, is filled with work that incorporates metal pipes, beading, oils and constructions that will leave the viewer both intrigued and surprised.

"I am a very peaceful, private person," said Botanica. "I seldom leave my studio. I often work on five paintings at a time, each with a different use of materials and intent. Lately, I have been creating more abstract paintings using Asian images with gold leaf," she added.

This is Botanica's first gallery show on Phuket as she has a devoted following of collectors who buy her work from her Internet site, [www.botanica-art.com](http://www.botanica-art.com)

Her work is available for viewing and purchase at Rendez Vous Gallery until February 13.

# Year of Ox heralds year of honest endeavor



ers themselves.

In a bid to sate the *Nian's* hunger, villagers would place food outside their door at the beginning of each year, hoping that if it ate the food it wouldn't eat them.

One time villagers noticed the *Nian* was scared away by a small child dressed in red. From then on, residents hung red lanterns outside their doors for protection.

The *Nian* never returned to the village and from that point onwards red became a lucky color in China. The new year period extends for fifteen days, during which a number of traditions are observed by the Chinese in homage to their ancestors.

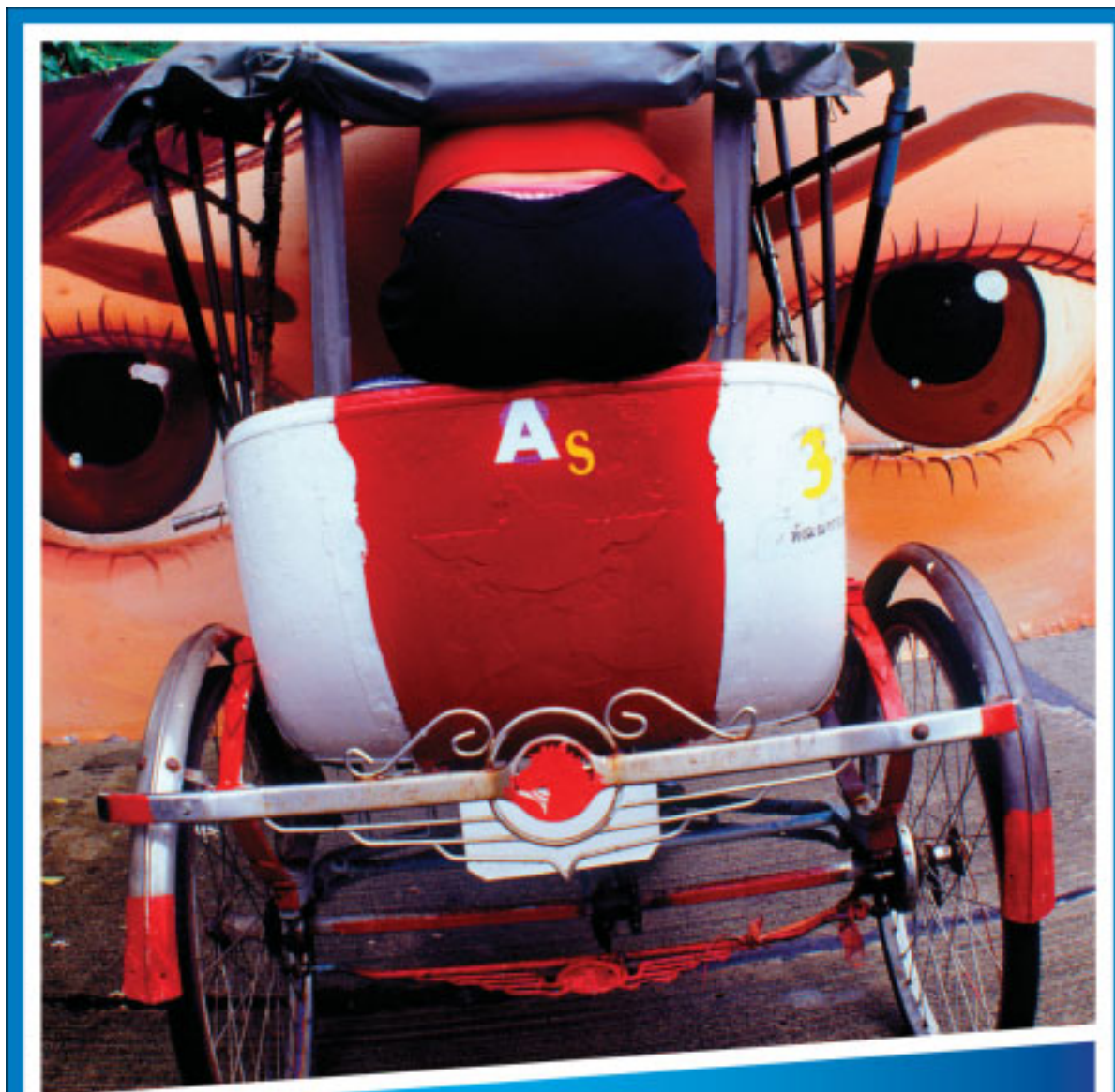
In the days leading up to the holiday, Chinese families give their homes a thorough cleaning, symbolic of washing away the bad luck from the past year and preparing for good luck in the

year to come. Other traditions include visiting senior members of the family as a sign of respect, the preparation of traditional foods and married couples or elderly relatives presenting money in red envelopes to younger family members.

2009 is the year of the Ox, the second sign of the Chinese zodiac. The Ox symbolizes good fortune achieved through hard work and determination. It is a powerful sign and those born under its influence are considered born leaders, highly dependable with the ability to achieve great things – but also stubborn and individualistic.

The year 2009 is also an "earth year" which has a tumultuous relationship with Ox's element of water, yet this is not a negative combination by any means. The main characteristic of the combination is durability, suggesting a pragmatic environment for the year ahead.

Given the state of the global economy, this may be what is required in 2009.



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# Thaitanium steels the show

By Damir Khamzin

Thailand's leading hip-hop artists, Thaitanium, were in Phuket on January 19 to give a select audience at Phukana Bar in Phuket City a real taste of the Thai hip-hop scene.

Rappers Prinya "Way" Intachai, Khanngoen "Kan" Nuanual, and Nay Myo "Day" Thant put on a memorable show and soon had three hundred adoring fans screaming their names. The group certainly knows how to inspire a crowd.

Rap and hip-hop were not very prominent in the Thai music scene until the emergence of Thaitanium. What they brought was a mix of culturally inspired lyrics that speak of issues relevant to young Thais, combined with a Western style and rhythm. Singing in both Thai and English, Thaitanium appeal to a broad audience, not only in Thailand, but also throughout Asia and the young English-speaking Thai communities in Europe, North America, and Australia. Thai beliefs and cultural nuances are woven together with New York street-style lyrics, making them a huge hit around the world.

Blending the sounds of two very different worlds is no easy feat. Thaitanium have been successful because they are unique. Prinya "Way" Intachai, born in

metropolitan New York City, believes that many American Thais are out of touch with their roots, and part of his goal is to appeal to them. "We lived for a long time in the States, and met a lot of Thais who inspired us to connect more with our roots. When we came back to Thailand we tried to mix it up a bit in the music industry. We thought that we could bring the New York style to energize the scene here, and we think it's working," said Way.

Way came from New York looking to boost the hip-hop scene in Thailand, and that's when he met the other two members. Kan and Day started out as a DJ/MC duo in San Francisco's underground house-party scene.

Natives of Bangkok, they had emigrated from Thailand in pursuit of an education and to kick-start their music careers.

Following their return, Thaitanium got together in Bangkok in 2000 and relocated to New York City to produce records. "We really thought we made the right choice going to America. We met a lot of musicians there and learned a lot about the industry," said Kan.

Since then the band have become a huge success. They have opened for the likes of 50 Cent and Fort Minor and have played at the MTV Asia Awards, where they performed with Simon Webbe, and were nomi-

nated for the "Favorite Artist Thailand" award.

When asked about their favorite artists, Thaitanium were quick to reply. "Tupac would have to be one of the main ones. Dr Dre, Biggie; all those guys were a great inspiration. Their music really pushed us to where we are today," said Way. He was quick to thank his idols. "All of the artists from America have really inspired us to get this far. We learned a lot from them, and now we are trying hard to bring that kind of style to Thailand, and so far so good."

Apart from performing and making their own albums, Thaitanium have started their own record company, Thaitanium Inc, and are looking for fresh faces to add to the growing Thai hip-hop community.

Among such artists are the up-and-coming Phuket-native South Side Crew. "You know, it's not just about us. We are quite successful, but we want to share it with everyone else, you know? That's why we opened up our own label, Thaitanium Inc, and are trying to give other young Thai musicians a start," said Kan.

One of the group's main objectives was to add flavor to the Thai music industry.

Having worked with American companies in New York and LA, Thaitanium are now trying to establish Western-style habits within the Thai music scene.



**HANGING WITH FANS:** Singing in both Thai and English, Thaitanium appeal to a broad audience. Far left, Khanngoen "Kan" Nuanual; second left, Nay Myo "Day" Thant; far right, Prinya "Way" Intachai.

They believe the state of the industry is not up to scratch compared to the rest of the world, and say they are trying to fix it, making the Thai music scene prominent on an international level.

Along with recording albums, introducing new artists, and promoting hip-hop in Thailand, they also have other interests. Kan started his own clothing line called 9face, and Way is pursuing an acting career.

Having worked their way to the top, Thaitanium have become an inspiration to many young Thais around the world, and they show no signs of stopping.

They are currently working hard on their new album, saying that it is sure to set a good example for the community.

Having toured in North America, Australia and all around Asia, the group has performed in front of many crowds in many different scenes.

"I definitely enjoy being in the States, and performing in Australia is always fun, but I think I like Thailand the best. It's great when you go on stage in Bangkok or Phuket, cause you feel more connected to the people," said Way.

When asked what they think about the island, Thaitanium have only good things to say. "Paradise that's just an hour from Bangkok," was Way's verdict.

The group's three members say they can't wait for the next time they can come to unwind here after some hectic touring.



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## EVENTS CALENDAR

## Upcoming events on the island



## Kamala Mountain Bike Race February 1

**The first race in Kamala and hopefully not the last!**  
A 7.5-km track with a tough uphill climb for ages 13 years and over. Entry fee of 350 baht includes a free T-shirt. Drinks and food available on the day. Registration at 9:00am in the coconut grove opposite Soi Fantasea. For further information contact Mr Lincoln. T: 085-6197492 E: Imarrable@hotmail.com.

### February 1. Free Computer Clinic - Patong.

From 10am to noon at Sandwich Shoppe Patong (Aroonsom Plaza, near Andaman Beach Suites). Is your computer driving you NUTS? Looking for a decent Internet connection? Need to get a new computer, or fix the one you have now? Join "For Dummies" author Woody Leonhard at his weekly Computer Clinic: help, news, tips, explanations and more, all in plain English, and absolutely free. Computer novices most welcome. Bring your questions. Bring your computer. Bring your lucky rabbit's foot. Sponsored by the *Phuket Gazette* and Khun Woody's Sandwich Shoppes. For further information contact Woody Leonhard. T: 089-1960940 E: woody@KhunWoody.com W: www.KhunWoody.com.

### February 3. Finance / Credit Crunch Planning Seminar.

An evening of financial planning talks to guide you through the global economic 'meltdown' at the Dusit Thani Hotel, Laguna.  
- Richard Colburn (Managing Director, Sterling Assets): Expat Financial Planning - The Professional Option.  
- Alex Traub (Castlestone Management): The Real Commodity Story.  
- Steve Noon (Standard Bank, Isle of Man): Safe Banking in

Turbulent Times.

- Kert Stavorn (Siam Legal): Legal Services for the Expat Community.  
PLUS: A special guest speaker from a Phuket charity. To express an interest in this event or to ask questions, please contact Sterling Assets. Many thanks. For further information contact Sterling Assets T: 076-326301 E: phuket@sterling-assets.com W: www.sterling-assets.com.

### February 8. Free Computer Clinic - Laguna.

From 10am to noon at Sandwich Shoppe Laguna. For further information contact Woody Leonhard. T: 089-1960940 E: woody@KhunWoody.com W: www.KhunWoody.com.

### February 9. Makha Bucha Day.

Makha Bucha Day, which falls on the full moon of the third lunar month, commemorates the Buddha's ordaining of 1,250 monks who had arrived unannounced from afar only seven months after the Buddha began his teachings. It is also the date the Buddha delivered his Fundamental Teachings - just months before his death.

### February 10-16. Mom Tri's Boathouse presents photographs by Stephen Tohill.

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photographs, art and sculptures by award-winning art director Stephen Tohill. "When you lie in bed and think of a place, what is it you remember? The sound of the sea, the warmth of the sun, the peace, the quiet? For me these photographs combine all of these elements and emotions. The setting sun, the rustling trees, the chugging boat, the lapping sea, a Dreamscape in motion, evoking the senses, placing you there, letting you imagine..."

The exhibition runs until March 4 and is open daily from 9am - 9pm. See more at W: www.studioofwow.com For further information contact Lisa Sol at Mom Tri's Boathouse T: 076-330015 E: pr@boathousephuket.com W: www.boathousephuket.com.

### Feb 14 Love at Puccini - Valentine's Day.

Celebrate this special evening with the one you love at Puccini, Phuket's finest Italian restaurant, at Sheraton Grande Laguna from 6pm-10:30pm. Enjoy an extravagant five course set dinner menu at a stunning poolside location under a canopy of stars. 3,000 baht ++ per couple. Includes a glass of sparkling wine per person, a beautiful rose for the ladies and chocolates for the gentlemen. For reservations and further information contact FB Reservation. T: 076-324101 E: fbreservation@sheratonphuket.com W: www.luxurycollection.com/phuket.

### February 15. Free Computer Clinic - Chalong.

From 10am to noon at Sandwich Shoppe Chalong. For further information contact Woody Leonhard. T: 089-196 0940 E: woody@KhunWoody.com W: www.KhunWoody.com.

### February 18. Flowering Body - Art Exhibition.

"Flowering Body" will feature a collage of dyed fabric on canvas by top female Thai artist Nitaya Ueareeworakul. This series is imbued with the touch of a woman's story that subtly con-

veys a sense of the role as a wife and mother. She has appeared not only at eight solo exhibitions in Thailand but also participated in international group exhibitions abroad. She is one of the founding organizers of the annual 'Womanifesto' event. Her exhibition at D-Gallery runs from February 18 through March 18, 2009. Hours: Tues-Sat - 11am till 7pm; Sundays: noon till 6pm. For further information contact D Gallery at Royal Phuket Marina. T: 076-360867. E: info@dgallery.co.th W: www.dgallery.co.th.

### February 20-21. 2009 Phuket International Blues Rock Festival.

The fourth annual top music event in Phuket in 2009 features international star Eric Bibb - one of the greatest contemporary blues artists. Eric has performed at the world's largest festivals, including Glastonbury and tours the world constantly. We are extremely lucky and very excited to have him! Next on the big newcomer list is California's Mitch Woods and his Rocket 88s. Mitch is a world class New Orleans style boogie-woogie piano man and has set crowds abuzz around the world for 30+ years. From Europe comes Bert Deivert & Janne Zander; a top rated blues duo from Sweden, and representing Australia this year is KNIKI, a soulful lady with a seductive voice, fresh from releasing her second album, "JUST". The 2009 festival welcomes a tribute act for the first time. "Chasing Jimi", featuring Jimmy Fame of the USA, is in homage to the legendary guitarist Jimi Hendrix.

By popular demand, Rich Harper (USA) will return along with The Blues Machine and Bangkok's Cannonball. Our very own Groove Doctors fronted by Tony 'Hacksaw' Wilson will also be back for some on-stage surgery. Check www.phuketbluesfestival.com for complete line-up. We will also have a festival warm-up show February 19 as well as post-event jam session February 22. For further information contact Andy Andersen T: 086-6822639 E: info@phuketbluesfestival.com W: www.phuketbluesfestival.com

### February 22. FREE Computer Clinic - Chalong.

From 10:00 to noon, at Sandwich Shoppe Chalong For further information contact Woody Leonhard T: 089-196 0940 E: woody@KhunWoody.com W: www.KhunWoody.com.

### March 10. Punchline Comedy - Live International Stand-Up Comedy.

Punchline Comedy is part of the same comedy circuit that produced comedy greats such as Eddie Izzard, Mike Myers, Lee Evans, Steve Coogan, Jack Dee, and Bill Bailey, to name but six. Punchline, in association with the London Comedy Store and the *Phuket Gazette*, brings the best talent of the UK comedy circuit to Thailand as part of their Asia Tour. This March there's comedy from Britain, America, Australia and Vietnam at the Holiday Inn Resort Phuket, Patong from 8pm to 11pm. For more information contact K.Boom T: 083-6464671 E: info@phuketcomedy.com W: www.phuketcomedy.com.

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## MONEY TALKS

By Richard G. Watson

There were very few people who foresaw just how bad a year 2008 was going to be. And how many people could have predicted that by January 19, 2009, the UK government would have announced a second bank bailout and that prime minister Gordon Brown would have publicly said he was "angry" with the Royal Bank of Scotland.

The only constant in our world is change; therefore it makes sense that when investing we employ an investment vehicle that is itself constantly changing. 'Managed futures' are such a vehicle.

A very interesting book was published some thirty years ago:

*Future Shock* by Alvin Toffler. The book was about change and its complexities, and it made the claim that change would become ever more complex and rapid. Change, eventually, is inescapable.

When it comes to investment – an area that affects most of us – we have been taught to view investment choices from a fixed perspective.

For example, "buy and hold". This refers to the technique of buying an investment portfolio

and expecting it to perform by virtue of time alone.

If this "buy and hold" strategy is employed with a unit trust/mutual fund or local bank, for example, it can result in a large loss on the investment. 'It is our policy to remain fully invested at all times', might be the explanation, but this is like saying, 'we saw a train moving towards us but were too stupid to move off the track'.

An advanced alternative to this (used by equity managers) is, 'We reversed 30% into cash. This is our maximum. After all, the client is paying us to manage a portfolio; the client can move completely into cash on their own'.

Where has money actually been made in significant amounts in recent years? Three such examples come from the investment house, AMT Futures. Some of

the following information has been published in *Money Talks* before, but the important point is that these examples have seen many changes since, but keep making money.

The corporate structure is simple. The

parent company is Amalgamated Metal Corp PLC London, formed in the 1870s and a founder member of the LME – the London Metals Exchange. One of its subsidiaries, and the one of interest to investors, is AMT Futures London. To compress this further,



**ROYAL BANK OF SCOTLAND:** How many people could have predicted that by January 19, 2009, the UK government would have announced a second bank bailout and that prime minister, Gordon Brown, would have publicly said he was "angry" with the Royal Bank of Scotland?

AMT Futures, via its investment division, manages the different funds.

The following details are of interest in light of several scandals, e.g. Madoff. AMT have as administrators Custom House Group, Dublin, a major firm that administers funds for many groups. The custodian bank is the Northern Trust Company, Chicago. This bank is not that well known as it specializes in custodian work (and therefore does not have the losses of commercial and, particularly, investment banks). Northern Trust has assets of over four trillion dollars, or around 30% of annual US GDP. The auditors are one of the "big four": KPMG, Cayman Islands.

When examining any fund management group only a few basic questions have to be asked; for example, who are the auditors?

This may seem simplistic but it makes the difference between being caught in a Ponzi scheme (fraudulent investment scheme) by the likes of Bernard Madoff and retaining your capital.

The Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) in America investigated Madoff's operations several times from 1999 onwards; if they had asked

that simple question, tens of billions of dollars would have been saved.

The answer, in retrospect, was that Madoff used an accounting firm that only employed three people – totally inadequate and an obvious indicator that something was wrong.

In the offshore world, there's another question that should always be asked. Is the investment house accepted by the offshore insurers?

In the case of AMT, the answer is yes, as it should be.

The AMT fund that will be detailed here is the CFL Fund (I will return to the other two in subsequent articles).

This is rated by AMT as the most conservative of their fund range; they rate it as "cautious".

However, it is seldom that any fund, especially one with 10 years' track record, can average a return of 17% a year. Last year was a more difficult year than average; the fund made a net return, after charges, of 11% in US dollars.

CFL is made up of a number of funds that AMT's management changes from time to time. These changes are made when a fund manager disappoints in performance and also when it is

perceived that the economic circumstances prevailing require the use of a fund with a different bias. The funds currently held by CFL are the following:

**QUANTAM** (high-frequency trading): 24%

**WINTON** (diversified/systematic/trend follower): 21%

**ALTIS** (long-term trend follower, commodities bias): 20%

**QIM** (systematic short-term 1200 pattern, recognition models, 27 markets): 16%

**BANYAN** (systematic very short term and fast reacting, 10 markets): 16%

**NODE LANGLOIS** (specialist sugar trader): 3%

There are around 450 Funds in the "universe" accessible to AMT, and selection of the winning funds is undertaken by very experienced staff who are only interested in the 'best of the best'.

CFL could be described as a 'fund of funds' and its track record is very successful in easy economic conditions, during recessions and in the current global financial crisis.

One of the biggest advantages managed futures funds have over most other asset classes is the fact that managed futures can and do make money through rising and falling markets.

More on the even higher performing funds in the AMT range next week.

Richard G. Watson runs Global Portfolios Co Ltd, a Phuket-based personal financial-planning service and has over 25 years experience in this field. He can be reached at Tel: 076-381997, Mobile: 081-0814611. Email: [imm@loxinfo.co.th](mailto:imm@loxinfo.co.th) Website: [www.global-portfolios.com](http://www.global-portfolios.com)

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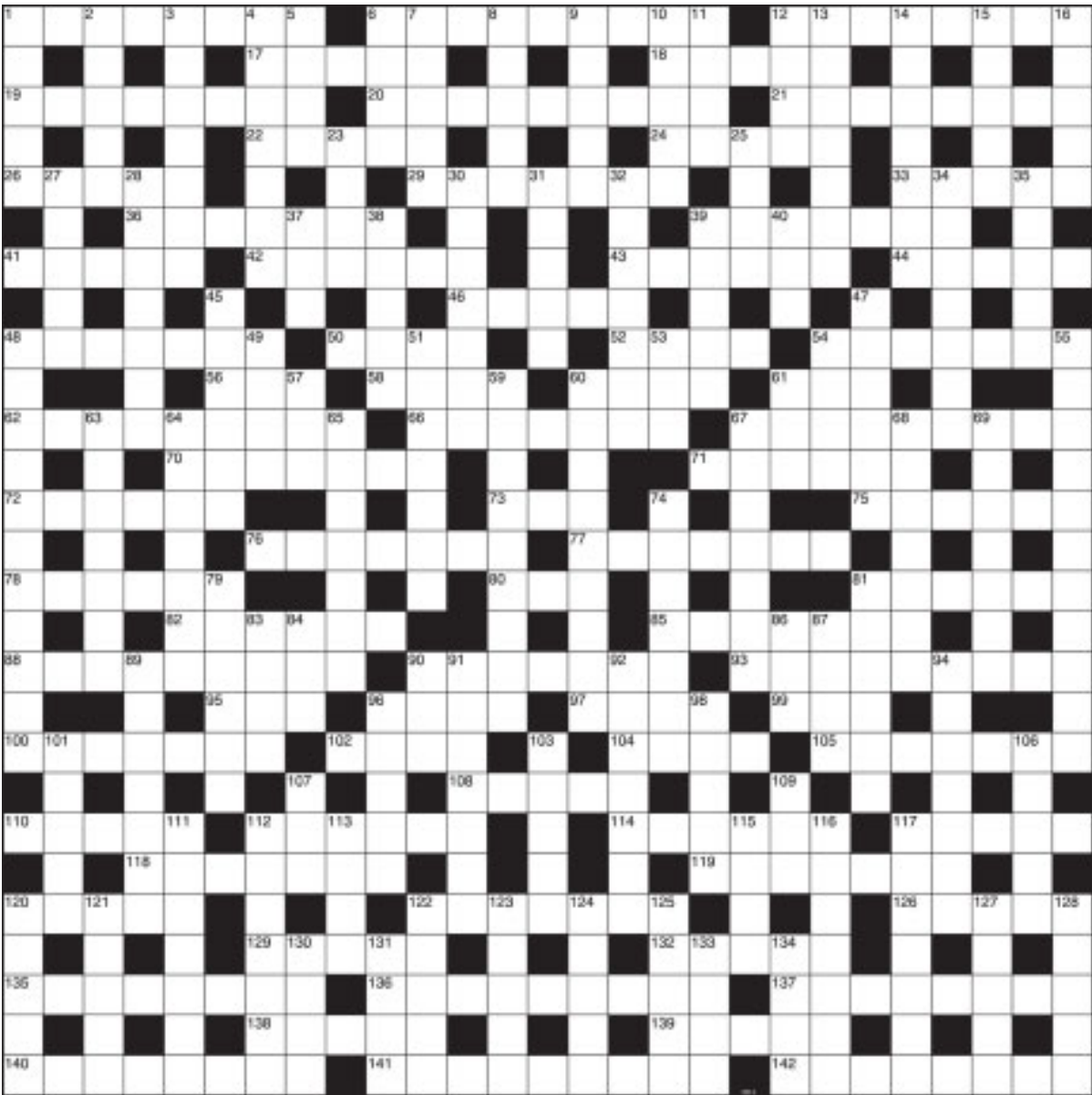




# Hidden Words

Hidden in the grid are lots of words that are drinks. 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.

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



# The BIG Crossword

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- Across
1. Restaurant employee

6. Marketing strategies

12. Unseemly

17. Polite form of address

18. Crisp fruit

19. Cosmetic restyle

20. Conversely (4,5)

21. Veneer

22. Enjoys

24. Lock of hair

26. Teamed (with)

29. Meet (requirements)

33. Quotes

36. Old soldier

39. Weasel-like animal

41. Hostility

42. Fled (3,3)

43. Charters

44. Indian prince

46. Very swift

48. Welcomed

50. Filled tortilla

52. Frosted (cake)

54. Special anniversary

56. Bark shrilly

58. Carried out

60. Concludes

61. Haul with effort

62. Wrecked

66. Orchestra section

67. Fertilise by bees

70. Scrutinise

71. Barrister

72. Souped-up car (3,3)

73. Flower, sweet...

75. Most uncommon

76. Old

77. Distinguished musician

78. Sang rhythmically

80. Mischievous kid

81. Medical practitioner

82. Scraping (leaves)

85. Peevish

88. Defiant

90. Collided with (3,4)

93. Off the peg (5-4)

95. Belonging to that

96. Car race city, Le...

97. Dress

99. State further

100. Uranus & Saturn's neighbour

102. Settee

104. June 6, 1944 (1-3)

105. Slim

108. Summarise

110. Hobo

112. Outdoor meal

114. Murky

117. ... & senora

118. Loan sharks

119. Bumpier

120. Untidy

122. Prepare for publishing

126. Small islands

129. Poisonous tree-snake

132. ... & feet

135. Carton of firefighters

136. Ponders

137. Alpine singer

138. From US oil state

139. Performed slalom

140. Subtracted

141. Headlong rushes

142. Held in contempt

4. Iron extraction plant

5. Hindu garment

6. Underground hollow

7. Wrong

8. Sewn fabric fold

9. Creative thoughts

10. Beastly

11. Box lightly

12. Troubles

13. Rubella, German...

14. Train coach

15. Braid

16. Smells foul

23. Ruler, Genghis...

25. Greek love god

27. Interior

28. Tallest mountain

30. Deliberate insult

31. Unsuitable

32. Collapsing (of business)

34. European language

35. Sidestep

37. Uncooked

38. Drifter

39. Peels

40. Journey stage

45. Farther than

47. Army horn-player

48. Godparents' charges

49. Nights &...

51. Actor, Kevin...

53. Music discs (1,2)

54. Seventh month

55. Vote canvasser

57. Vim

59. Sudden outbreaks

60. Pitching tents

61. Close to the ground

63. Resolves (conflict)

64. Unruly demonstrators

65. Downward climb

67. Co-owner

68. Very crossly

69. USA

74. Actor, Robert...

79. Estimating age of

81. Addle

83. Actress,... Winslet

84. ... & outs

86. Hot beverage

87. Passing fashions

89. Piece of connecting land

90. British military force (1,1,1)

91. Political disorder

92. Immature frog

94. Bodyguards

96. Lunar objects

98. Trite

101. Eagle's nest

103. Result of game

106. Inspire

107. Pastry dish

109. Fe, fie, fo,...

111. Clairvoyant

112. Publicise

113. Compress

115. Multiple birth child

116. Part of a serial

117. Become jammed (5,2)

120. Acted wordlessly

121. Overfilled

122. Gibe

123. Light-splitting crystal

124. Cobra or boa

125. Neither... nor those

127. Loafs

128. Tear into strips

130. Chopped

131. Lingerie items

133. Invites

134. Altered colour of
- Solution on next page

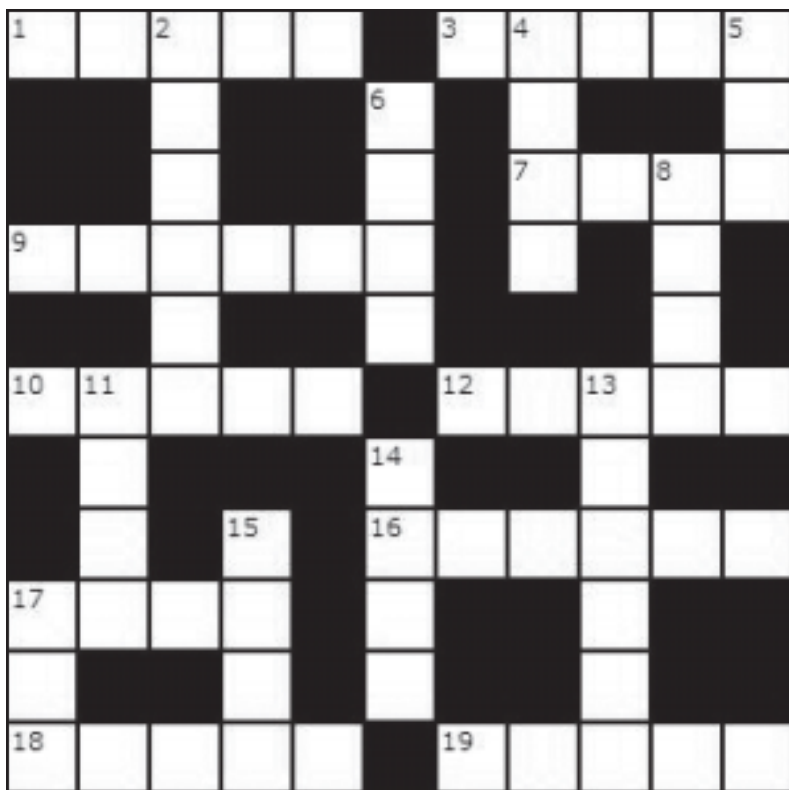
su|do|ku  
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Solution, tips and computer program at [www.sudoku.com](http://www.sudoku.com)

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

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





## Quick Crossword

### Across

1. Songs
3. Makes bread
7. Flesh
9. Without parents
10. Inexpensive
12. Fruit
16. A score
17. Male deer
18. Loud
19. Thief

### Down

2. Basic
4. Armed forces
5. Rodent
6. Pistols
8. Ammunition
11. Injure
13. Nuisance
14. In the night sky
15. Sunny side up
17. Ball of fire

*Solution below*

## Get your brain in gear with the

# MONSTER QUIZ

1. What is the world's largest desert?
2. What is the name of the principal train operator in the U.S.A.?
3. Which of these is closest to mainland Spain: Majorca, Ibiza or Minorca?
4. Which Scandinavian capital city's name begins and ends with the same letter?
5. In which country does Benfica FC play their home matches?
6. Who in 1997 becoming the youngest ever US Masters Golf Champion?
7. What was the name of the hurricane that devastated New Orleans in 2005?
8. In what year did the 1st man walk on the of the Moon?
9. Which family features in the novel Little Women?
10. Who painted Irises and Sunflowers?
11. Which series starred Gary Burghoff and Alan Alda?
12. Who was the Blue Peter presenter who was sacked for snorting cocaine?
13. Which word goes after piece and before times to make two new words?
14. What song put Fun Lovin' Criminals in the UK chart in 1996?
15. Who played Lord Melchett in Blackadder II?
16. Who played 006 in the film Goldeneye?
17. Who presented Crimewatch UK with Nick Ross prior to Jill Dando?
18. Which stick and ball game uses the largest pitch?
19. Who was mainly responsible for the pioneer garden City of Bournville?
20. What did Edward I remove from Scotland in 1296 and place in Westminster Abbey?

*Answers below*



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# Puzzle Solutions

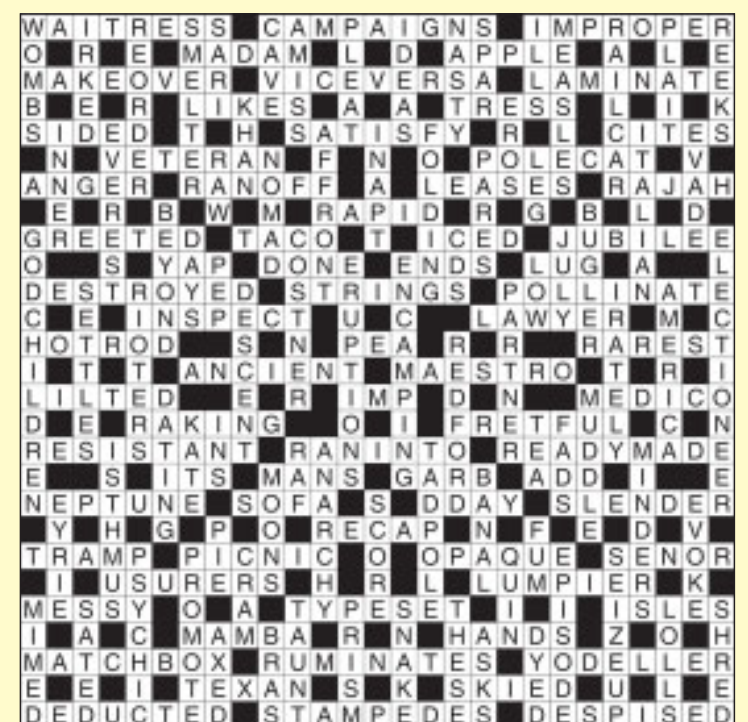
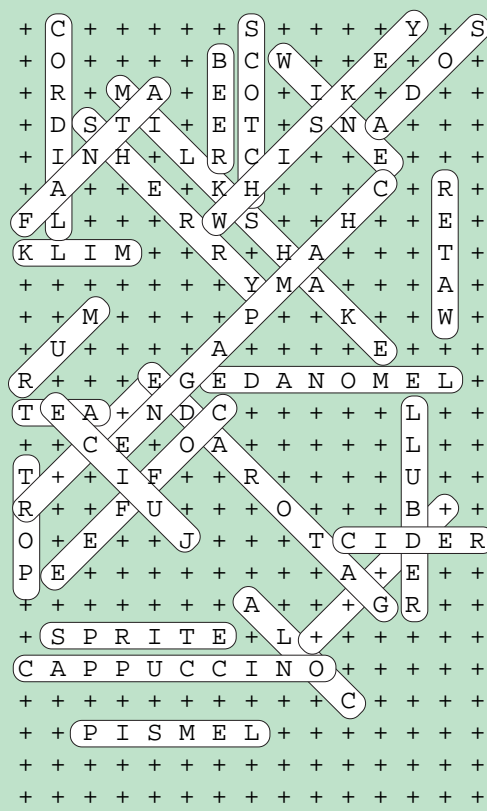
### Solution to this week's Quick Crossword



### Monster Quiz Answers

1. Antarctica (The Sahara is the world's largest HOT desert!);
2. AMTRAK;
3. Ibiza;
4. Oslo;
5. Portugal;
6. Tiger Woods;
7. Katrina;
8. 1969;
9. The March Family;
10. Vincent Van Gogh;
11. MASH;
12. Richard Bacon;
13. Meal;
14. Scooby Snacks;
15. Stephen Fry;
16. Sean Bean;
17. Sue Cook;
18. Polo;
19. George Cadbury;
20. Stone of Scone (Stone of Destiny).

## Hidden Words SOLUTION



### Solution to this week's BIG Crossword

### Solution to this week's Sudoku puzzle

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



## Horoscopes

by Isla Star

# Birthday Aquarians will be on less shakey ground in the year ahead



*In Greek mythology, Aquarius is the cup-bearer to the gods and is the 11<sup>th</sup> sign in the Zodiac.*

## AQUARIUS (January 21-February 19):

Only your stubborn attitude is keeping progress at bay. Those Aquarians who are able to swallow some humble pie will see the light this week. Monetary matters are forecast to improve as the month of February begins, but discretion is advised where loans are concerned. If your birthday falls during the coming days, look forward to a steadier year than the one just passed. Wear the color lavender to encourage peace of mind.

## PISCES (February 20-March 20):

Although work should have got off to a good start this year, the stars suggest that many Pisceans who are less than satisfied with their present employment will receive an interesting offer this week. Your luck in romance is also about to take a turn for the better – those already in a committed relationship that has been faltering recently will benefit most from this astral support. If you're single and seeking, Leo could bring romantic relief.

## ARIES (March 21-April 20):

Clarity is resumed during February for Arians whose vision has been clouded. Tuesday is the best day to ask a close friend why their behavior has been uncharacteristic lately, but you could be opening a can of worms. Where business is concerned, the only sensible approach at present is to cross bridges when you come to them; a series of surprising developments is forecast to take place later this month.

## TAURUS (April 21-May 21):

Taureans are advised to remember that the future doesn't have to be defined by the past. During the month of February you will be offered some chances to move on in new directions, but confidence will be required to ensure success. Romance is one area of your life that can become more fulfilling if you are prepared to put mistakes behind you. The number five can bring some good luck this weekend.

## GEMINI (May 22-June 21):

Sharpening skills is vital to enable progress for those born under the sign of Gemini. While you were able to enjoy more success than many others last year, there is now strong focus on the need to be innovative. Those who are tiring of flirtatious fun could soon consider putting down romantic roots. Capricorn would provide an earthy balance for your airy dreams. Wear the color sage green to encourage a wiser attitude.

## CANCER (June 22-July 23):

Romance is strongly highlighted this week. Still waters run deep where Cancerians are concerned and someone born under a fire sign is about to cause ripples in your personal life. At work there are signs that an important business agreement could be put on hold. This delay needn't be a source of stress as the outcome should prove more positive than anticipated. The number eight can bring good fortune this weekend.

## LEO (July 24-August 22):

Finding your feet in a new job is probably taking longer than anticipated. Those born under the sign of Leo who are unsure of new colleagues' acceptance, are advised to organize a relaxed social event to break the ice. Where recent romance is concerned, you learn that still waters run far deeper than suspected – if a new partner is already showing signs of expecting control, it may be time to move on.

## VIRGO (August 23-September 23):

A smooth passage at work so far this year could be disrupted by someone's unreliability during the first part of February. Those Virgos who don't know how to approach this situation are advised to consult an experienced Arian friend for advice. Money matters are subject to adverse astral conditions this week, so you should refrain from splashing out on luxury items. The number nine can bring some modest luck this weekend.

## LIBRA (September 24-October 23):

The missing piece of a puzzle comes to light this week and this should enable many Librans to make financial gain during the month of February. In the world of work, your efforts late last year are about to be rewarded in the form of more responsibility. A salary increase will need to be negotiated and Wednesday is the best day for such discussions. Love is in the air this Sunday.

## SCORPIO (October 24-November 22):

Your tried and trusted methods of doing business could need bringing up to date. Those born under the sign of Scorpio who have not been enjoying much success since the start of the year, would benefit from listening to Virgo this week. Learning new skills will be a good focus for February. Where love is concerned, someone's half-hearted approach to a relationship begins to grate on your nerves.

## SAGITTARIUS (November 23-December 21):

Sagittarians should test the temperature of the water before diving into new career opportunities. An offer that came your way in January could prove too good to be true. Someone born under a water sign can give you trustworthy information regarding this matter. Romance is about to take on a new lease of life when a casual relationship becomes more important. The number two can bring good fortune this weekend.

## CAPRICORN (December 22-January 20):

A relaxing week sets the scene for February, and many of those born under the sign of Capricorn will enjoy discovering new leisure time activities. Your attitude towards work finally becomes more laid back, but certain family members may not appreciate living on a tighter budget. Those who are single could be swept off their feet when they meet an artistic Aquarian this weekend. Wear the color coral pink to encourage a more open mind.



In this regular column, the *Gazette's* agony aunt Madame Mali helps shed light on cross cultural issues by answering readers' questions about the right (and the wrong) things to do in relationships, especially those between Thais and foreigners.

Send your questions to:  
[askmali@phuketgazette.net](mailto:askmali@phuketgazette.net)

## What is the right age for children to sleep alone?

Dear Mali,

I am a Thai married to an English man. We have a daughter who is now 18 months old. My husband wants us to put her into a separate bedroom from us, but I feel that she is too young to be left alone at night.

At the moment our daughter sleeps in our bed and because of this, my husband often sleeps in another bedroom. I worry that my husband is beginning to think that I am rejecting him in favor of our daughter. What's your advice on how to reach a happy compromise with my husband?

Khun Kaew  
Chalong.

**Mali replies:** Thank you for bringing up an interesting cultural situation. In Thailand it is common for children to sleep with their parents – sometimes for up to 10 years – whereas in the West children are often given their own rooms in order to make them more independant.

I would suggest you talk to your husband and find a compromise, such as having the child's bed in your room or a triple bed. Explain to him that this will not be indefinite and set a cut-off age when your daughter will have her own room.

## Where do all those scars come from?

Dear Mali,

Why do so many Thai people have big scars on their arms or shoulders?

I understand about scars on the legs which are often from falling off a motorcycle or motorcycle exhaust pipe burn wounds, but how about the arms or shoulders?

Tom Parkhurst  
Patong

**Mali replies:** Many scars are indeed from falling off a motorcycle, as this is one of the most common forms of transport in Thailand.

However, I believe the scars you are referring to are probably related to the tuberculosis vaccines that Thais receive in school when they are young. Some people have strong reactions to the vaccine, which ends up leaving a scar.

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## Excessive signage is a dangerous blight

Long-term expatriate residents of Phuket will no doubt be familiar with the marketing terms used to “brand” Phuket as a tourist destination over the years. Long known as the “Pearl of the Andaman,” the island has long prided itself on sun, sea and sand.

But with the number of hotel rooms on the island now pushing 40,000, the time has long since passed when Phuket’s tourism economy could rest on its image as a mere beach paradise. Thus, there has often been talk of transforming Phuket into an information and communications technology (ICT) city, medical hub and home to a world-class convention and exhibition center and sports complex.

Of course all of these schemes fall under the umbrella of developing Phuket into an “international city”, generally conceived as a Thai version of Singapore – but friendlier, more fun and much less restrictive.

Unfortunately, the relative lack of order here tends to work against Phuket’s chances of ever really emerging as a truly “international-standard” destination. One area where the island is sadly lacking is the almost complete lack of regulations on advertising signs, especially along roadsides.

A string of provincial governors, cabinet members and even prime ministers have all decried the effect these have on the island’s once-gorgeous landscape, yet no local government body has been able to effectively regulate or otherwise convince the private sector to advertise in a more attractive, environmentally-friendly way.

In fact the situation has continued to worsen – to the point of absurdity along most major roadways. A good example is evident at commercial buildings in the Sino-Portuguese style shophouses, the entire frontages of which have been covered with enormous aluminum signs – each trying to outdo the other to catch the attention of passing motorists, all of whom would be well-advised to keep their eyes on the road.

Given the preponderance of this new style, maybe future shop-house projects should incorporate these billboards into the original design and simply bill them “Sign-o-Portuguese” works of art.

Joking aside, all this visual pollution only serves to obscure important road signs and other markings, namely what remains of the painted center lines in dangerous and hilly stretches of road like the one over Patong Hill.

Many years ago, the highways department set up a number of blue road signs in English that read: *Please remember to drive on the left*.

This is an example of the type of important information road signs should contain, though in this case the *Gazette* recommends the few that remain be translated into Thai.

– The Editor

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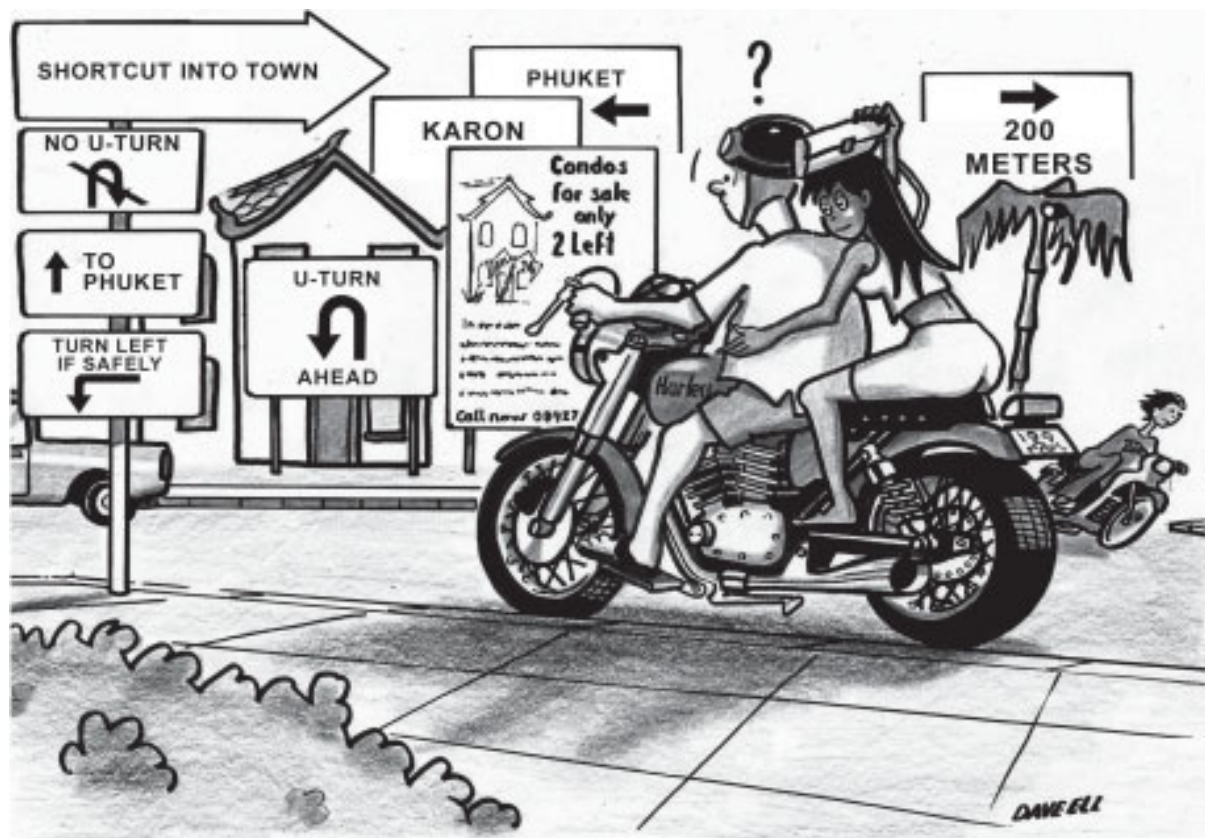
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## Letters

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 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.

### I have a solution to beach clutter

I believe there is a simple solution to the problem of excessive chairs and umbrellas on the beaches.

It won't decrease revenues, and should actually save a bit of labor.

Currently, the chairs and umbrellas are stacked each evening, and then all set out in the morning. Even in high season, I rarely see more than half of the chairs in use.

The best solution would be to allow the operators to put chairs out only when there are customers for them and then have the operators re-stack them as soon as their guests leave.

Instead of roughly two hours fairly hard work, concentrated into the beginning and end of each day, the work of moving the chairs and umbrellas out onto the beach and then re-stacking them would be spread over the entire day.

This will keep the beaches much less cluttered and unsightly as there would be fewer of them out than there are now.

This would be especially nice for those of us who enjoy walking on the beach in the mornings and evenings; at both those times there would be far less chaos than there is now.

I wouldn't think it would be too hard to enforce such an arrangement, and as I said, if every operator works in the same way, revenues should be exactly the same as they are now.

They can still harangue all comers with their usual, “You want a chair?”, putting one out if

the person does, but not adding to the mess if they don't.

Perhaps, someone at the *Gazette* could pass this along to the working groups responsible for the beach clean-up.

Martin Gregory  
Patong

### Wine crime

As someone who enjoys a glass of wine on a regular basis, it really gripes me to have to pay the extortionate fees that are being charged across Thailand for even the cheapest bottle of plonk.

I understand that the majority of wine must be imported and subsequently that is going to bump up the price, but to charge a 400% luxury goods tax is insane.

I also understand that Thailand has its own wine developers to support, but it is a fledgling industry compared to others around the globe, and simply doesn't cut the mustard.

My friends and I have formed our own wine appreciation club and don't view wine as a luxury but rather as a necessity and a way of life. Some of the bottles we are buying are costing at least twice as much as they would in our home countries and to me it is unfair to punish people for wanting to enjoy something they love. We are calling upon those who impose this tax to significantly reduce it and allow those who enjoy wine right here in Phuket to do so at a reasonable price, particularly now there's a recession.

Gary Strang  
Kathu

### Bus signs

As a newly arrived resident with a job that pays slightly less than

begging, I am keen to take advantage of the island's public transport system.

However, I notice that a number of the buses that ply routes around Phuket don't appear to have any English signs on them, making it a matter of blind guesswork when deciding on which one to board.

While this makes the whole process quite a jolly romp, my boss finds my constant tardiness rather bothersome and is threatening to fire me.

Could anything be done to facilitate my selection process when choosing which bus to take?

Alternatively, I would be happy to hear from anyone who likes their employees arriving after lunch, if at all.

Rick Marsden  
Kamala

### Good job

I am the news editor of a newspaper in the South East of Sweden. The paper is called Östra Småland.

My family and I visit Phuket at least once a year, especially when our girls have their winter holidays.

When we are at home in Sweden, we follow what is happening in Phuket by reading the *Phuket Gazette* on line.

I must say that I am very impressed and you have got a splendid paper and website.

Just wanted to let you know that you are doing a good job.

We will be back in Phuket on February 11, so until then we shall continue to read the *Gazette* online every day.

Ulf Carlsson  
Kalmar, Sweden

Letters conveying views and suggestions are published here. Those seeking comment from government officials and/or business owners are published in *Issues & Answers* at [www.phuketgazette.net](http://www.phuketgazette.net).



# FIRST PERSON

# In search of total wellness



Ana Maria Tavares, a veteran of the hospitality industry, joined Six Senses in 2006 to create the Six Senses Destination Spa Phuket. After her spell with InterContinental Hotels & Resorts, she continued her achievements with Hyatt International in Bangkok, where she successfully opened the Grand Hyatt Erawan. More success followed at the renowned Chiva-Som International Health Resort, where Ana Maria was the founding general manager and deputy managing director. Under her direction, Chiva-Som was voted the world's premier destination health resort by the readers of *Condé Nast Traveler* magazine. Ana Maria later joined Shun Tak Holding Limited in Hong Kong as the owner's representative for three international 5-star properties before taking on the leading role for the global development of Six Senses Destination Spas. Here, she helps define the meaning of the word wellness and explains how the wellness industry has grown over the years.

Six Senses Destination Spa Phuket is located on the pristine private island of Naka Yai to Phuket's north-east, in Phang Nga Bay.

The retreat integrates four themed spas in which guests can enjoy Asian-influenced treatments and ready-made programs. 'Healthy Escapes' offer a wellness retreat for a single day while 'Life Passages', which include three-day to three-week structured programs, provide support and guidance through life's challenges and transition towards a healthier and more enriched lifestyle.

All guests on a Life Passage or a general multi-day stay receive a personalized, structured program based on an individual wellness consultation upon arrival.

These programs all revolve around spa treatments and fitness activities, lectures and classes, as well as consultations which include nutritional and naturopathic advice. Supporting the wellness experience are two wellness-oriented cuisines: organic 'Fish-etarian Spa' and 'Raw Foods'.

At Six Senses Destination Spa Phuket the aim is to immerse guests into 'total wellness', which encapsulates seven aspects of wellbeing: Physical, Stress Management, Educational, Nutritional, Social, Emotional and Spiritual. These aspects clearly indicate that wellness is not merely related to

physical well-being as one might mistakenly believe, but that total wellness actually encompasses all aspects of human existence.

In order to lead and sustain a happy, healthy and fulfilled life, we must cater to all seven needs. This can be achieved through an amalgamation of holistic fitness, integrated health and spa therapies, healthy eating and relaxation, as well as the social and environmental consciousness we all need to develop.

There are various views on when the wellness industry began. One driving force behind its early development was the quest to "get more from a spa experience". As early as the 1940s in the United States, spas in upscale hotels began to develop into what we now know as 'destination spas'.

With increasing education and awareness of the fact that wellbeing is our personal responsibility, expectations among spa goers and the fitness-oriented increased. Food producers recognized and acted upon the need for healthy food choices, and the organic food and beverage industry developed an increasing number of markets from the Americas to Asia.

Disease prevention became a new focus among scientists and medical practitioners. Eventually, holistic medicine started to become increasingly popular. Australia, as the driving force, started



"With the ever increasing pace of life comes an increasing need for stress and tension release. Without this, our physical, educational, nutritional, social, emotional and spiritual needs are neglected."

with the implementation of new standards in 2003 to establish quality and credibility in the industry.

At the beginning of the 21<sup>st</sup> century, the wellness revolution took off and the wellness industry became established. Services and product providers that had been working towards the same goal – but had been largely disparate up to this point – were united.

What had been emerging over decades is now blooming into a multi-billion dollar industry, with ever greater entrepreneurial opportunities reaching a continuously increasing number of wellness advocates.

With the ever increasing

pace of life comes an increasing need for stress and tension release. Without this, our physical, educational, nutritional, social, emotional and spiritual needs are neglected; we are no longer able to manage stress and consequently feel unwell, uneasy, burned out, unhappy, lonely, choked-up, sluggish and drained – in a nutshell, out of balance.

Hence the need for retreats – opportunities to recharge and refocus – has grown and continues to grow.

The quest for guidance and support to re-establish a balance accompanies this need and the answer is in destination spas, which have developed into oases where guests are immersed in

total wellness, soaking up inspiration and knowledge.

Wellness is by no means exclusive to the wealthy. All one needs to strive for is to be well, to become aware what wellness entails and how to implement changes in your life.

These changes can be big or small. You can start by switching from escalators and elevators to using the staircase regularly or by cutting out certain unhealthy foods and beverages and making more conscious choices on future restaurant visits. You can start prioritizing differently for the sake of emotional, social and spiritual balance.

The choices are plentiful and the steps towards total wellness and wellbeing are manifold.

Reflecting on the introduction of Six Senses Destination Spa Phuket, even the uninitiated will notice that it is not merely a resort but a total wellness retreat.

A team of wellness specialists is there to guide and support guests on their way to total wellness. Guests experience what healthy and wholesome living means and learn how to take it away with them. The steps that are implemented back home may be big or small. It is important that each guest leaves inspired, understanding that long-term wellbeing is in their own hands and goes far beyond mere physical fitness and a slim body.

## Can my Thai wife bequeath our home to my daughters?

Our home and land with Chanote title are registered in my Thai wife's name. We have twin daughters aged seven who were born in Australia and also have Thai citizenship. I reside here on a retirement visa. If my wife passed away, could her property be transferred to our daughters with me as their guardian until they reach the legal age? And would a will stating my wife's wishes be legal?

Ted Woodward  
Phuket

**Friedrich Sam Fauma, Senior Partner, Director, and Advisor of International Law Office, Patong Beach Co Ltd replies:**

Yes, this would be possible and fully legal.

In a last will, your wife should appoint you not only as legal guardian for the children but also as Executor of your Estate.

In that will, she could also bequeath her property directly to you.

It would also be possible to give the property to the children whilst they are still minors.

## Bus price changes are driving me mad

I have been living in Phuket for several weeks now and have more or less come to terms with the true cost of various taxis.

However, as I use the local songtaew bus quite often I am still having difficulty knowing what the fares are. I have a list of prices on a leaflet called "Transportation in Phuket", but bus drivers angrily proclaim that the prices there are incorrect.

To try and settle the matter I have been to the TAT office to get confirmation that the prices are right, only to be informed that they are not current and that all

prices on the leaflet should be 10 baht more.

My problem is that this does not accord with what bus drivers charge either. So now I have three possible bus prices: leaflet prices, bus driver prices and TAT prices. Can somebody please tell me the proper cost of the local bus around Phuket to save any more frustration between Thai and farang?

David Banfield  
Phuket

**Settaphan Buddhani, Director of Tourism Authority of Thailand, Phuket Office replies:**

Bus fares may change depending on the price of gasoline. The prices on January 13, 2008 were as follows:

**Songtaew from Phuket City bus station to:**  
Kathu – 20 Baht.  
Bangtao, Karon, Patong, Ao Makham, Ao Chalong – 25 Baht  
Surin, Kamala, Kata, Rawai

Beach, Sarasin Bridge – 30 Baht  
Bangrong Port, Ao Por – 35 Baht  
Naiarn – 40 baht.

### Tuktuk:

The price starts at 250 baht and increases depending on how far you go.

### Airport shuttle bus:

85 baht from Phuket International Airport to Phuket City.

## Issues &

## ANSWERS

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

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# The miraculous story of Abu Dhabi



## Off the SHELF

By James Eckardt

I confess that a history of Abu Dhabi, capital of the United Arab Emirates, wouldn't have interested me in the past. But now that I've been living in Abu Dhabi for the past two months, working on the editorial desk of *The National*, a new English-language newspaper, I find the history of my new home fascinating.

Mohammed Al Fahim's *From Rags to Riches: A Story of Abu Dhabi* is aptly titled. Born in 1948, Al Fahim grew up in a desperately poor collection of palm-frond huts on the beach of the Gulf of Aden.

A couple of thousand people eked out a miserable living by fishing or pearl-diving. There were no roads, no schools, no hospitals, no electricity and only brackish well water to drink. People went shoeless with only one new change of clothing each year on the Muslim holiday of Eid.

Today Abu Dhabi, along with its neighbor Dubai, is world famous for its dazzling ar-

chitecture and a burgeoning population of 860,000. The miracle is how far it has come so fast.

"The vast majority of the people could not read or write," Al Fahim writes. "Illiteracy was probably about 98 per cent. The handful who learned to read did so using the Quran, the only book available to us at the time."

Children had no schooling besides reading the Quran in the religious school. As soon as the young boys were twelve or thirteen they would join their fathers, either fishing, pearl diving or tending to the animals to contribute to the family income."

*From Rags to Riches* is both a family history and the history of the nascent nation that only came together in 1971 after the withdrawal of the British, east of Suez. Before then, the seven emirates, known as the Trucial States, had signed treaties with Great Britain as a protectorate.

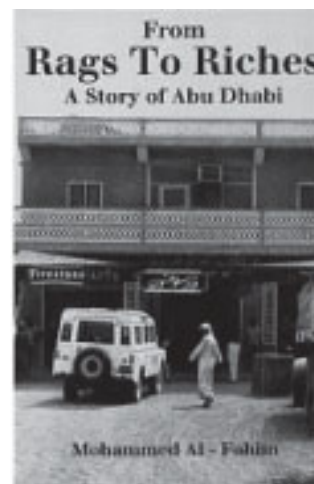
The Gulf was also known as the Pirate's Coast, where hardy seamen preyed upon traffic in the Gulf until British gunboats arrived in the 19th century to blow all the dhows out of the water.

There had been extensive trade with the coast of Iran, formerly occupied by Arabs until the Iranians drove them out and even occupied a good many islands in the Gulf. This spawned the pearl fishing industry, which was to collapse after

World War I when the Japanese introduced cultured pearls.

In the 1950s came the discovery of oil but the long-reigning Sheik Shakhbul hoarded the revenues, distrustful of both the British and his Saudi Arabian neighbors. Meanwhile, his brother Sheik Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan, the youngest of four, was bidding his time in the eastern oasis of Al Ain, where his growing reputation cemented the loyalty of the desert tribes. Sheik Zayed was very much the beau ideal of the Arabian man: strong, handsome, wise, a master horseman, falconer, marksman and camel rider. He was renowned for his tolerance, generosity and hospitality. It was Sheik Zayed who welcomed explorer Wilfrid Thesiger in 1948 when he emerged from his epic journey across the Empty Quarter. Here is his description of Sheik Sayed:

"He was a powerfully built man of about thirty with a brown beard. He had a strong, intelligent face, with steady, obser-



"Children had no schooling besides reading the Quran. Young boys would join their fathers, either fishing, pearl diving or tending to the animals"

vant eyes, and his manner was quiet but masterful. He was dressed simply in a beige-colored shirt of Omani cloth, and a waistcoat that he wore unbuttoned. He wore a dagger and a cartridge belt; his rifle lay on the sand beside him. I had been looking forward to meeting him, for he had a great reputation among the Bedu. They liked him for his informal ways and his friendliness, and they respected his force of character, his shrewdness, and physical strength."

In 1966, Sheik Sayed organized the family coup that sent Sheik Shakhbul into exile.

Sayed rapidly began distributing the oil revenue to his subjects and constructing a modern economy. Five years later, he brought together the

United Arab Emirates as its first president. He became the George Washington of the UAE, someone venerated by everyone here in Abu Dhabi. Al-Fahim's book is clumsily written but the tale is nevertheless irresistible.



By S. TSOW

I briefly went home to the United States last autumn. Maybe I have been in Thailand too long; I got a few surprises:

### Hide Those Trees

Much of the US is still an unspoiled wilderness, with vast expanses of forested hills and evergreen trees often stretch to the horizon on both sides of the highway. What's wrong with this picture? Plenty. I drove across a good part of the country and didn't see a single billboard.

This misdemeanor must be rectified. I call upon Thai billboard entrepreneurs to get cracking on the billboardization of

# America the Beautiful

America. I want to see them advertising skin whiteners, cellphones, sports cars and condominiums. I want them lining the highways of America from coast to coast. Let's hide those boring trees and make every American highway look just like the road to Patong.

### Two Meals in One

American restaurants serve huge portions that could easily feed two people. If you finish everything on your plate, they have to roll you out the door. If you ever visit the US, take a doggy bag or risk coming back twice your original size.

### Live Free, But Buckle Up

The motto of the State of New Hampshire is "Live Free or Die". Lest you forget it, this feisty exhortation is emblazoned on the license plates of every automobile. But a rest stop just inside the New Hampshire border features a cluster of stern signs: "Disorderly conduct, loitering, indecent behavior and consuming alcohol prohibited." "Illegal dump-

ing - \$250 Fine". "No Dogs Beyond This Point". "Disposal of Household Garbage or Refuse PROHIBITED by Law". "No Smoking, Bare Feet, or Pets". In addition, on the highways you often see signs reading "Buckle Up! Under Age 18, NH Law". Live free or die indeed, but in the meantime make sure you obey all the little rules and regulations.

### Tricky Pricing, Hidden Tax

Most price tags in shopping malls and department stores end in 99 cents. This is a brazen attempt to fool you into thinking that you're paying \$3.00 for a \$3.99 flashlight when you are actually paying a penny short of \$4.00. It is this sort of shameless trickery that has enabled the US to achieve world-wide economic hegemony.

But it gets worse. To add to the chicanery, the price tag never includes the sales tax, so your \$3.99 flashlight will typically cost you \$4.15! You'll dig four dollars out of your wallet expecting to get a penny in change, when lo, you're hit with a bill for \$4.15 at the checkout and have to dig out another 15 cents.

The good news is that most products are much cheaper than they used to be, because nowadays everything is manufactured in China and Bangla-desh. God bless globalization.

### Enthralling TV

One of the unique features of American TV is televangelism. Sleek, well-fed preachers in sharkskin suits and diamond pinkie rings proclaim the gospel of a God of Abundance; a deity

who freely pours his largesse into the pockets of his worshipers. He will bless you even more, they add, if you'll just send in \$32 to keep their program going.

The thinking mind is compelled to inquire, if God is such a money tree, why bother his believers with such importunities? Why not go to him directly? And why insult his generosity by asking for a mere \$32? Why not \$32,000?

Do the televangelists place more trust in human gullibility than in divine prodigality?

Best of all are the TV commercials. American law requires advertisements for medical products to include disclaimers warning of side effects. Take, for instance, the pill for erectile dysfunction that we shall call Arise.

Romantic music plays as we see an elderly couple strolling by a sylvan pond. The man confesses sheepishly that he was having problems performing his husbandly duty before he discovered Arise. His wife gazes adoringly into his eyes, overwhelmed by the return of his manly prowess.

A voice-over ruins the mood by intoning: "Arise may be injurious to the health if you suffer from heart problems, high blood pressure or diabetes. In some cases, it can cause blindness, liver damage, paralysis or death. If an erection persists for six hours, please consult your physician."

By this time, nobody with a functioning brain would go near the stuff, although with other parts of the anatomy failing the idea of a six-hour erection would pique the imagination.

*S. Tsow can usually be scolded at s.tsow@gmail.com, except when he's dreaming about the possibility of a six-hour erection.*

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# Audi's true off-roader



By Jeff Heselwood

**A**udi has, for the first time in its history, recorded annual sales exceeding one million units. Considering the general downturn in car sales towards the end of 2008, that is no mean feat.

In part it is consistent with Audi's global expansion plans, but it is also down to the fact that the Ingolstadt automaker builds cars people actually want to buy; unlike the US 'Big Three' that continued to produce mammoth trucks, with gas-guzzling propensities, long after the public decided they were not for them. One such example of Audi's success is the new Q5 off-roader.

Audi introduced its new mid-sized off-roader at the Los Angeles Motor Show late last year. Whereas the existing Audi Q7 is a vast seven-seater of extremely large proportions, the Q5 has more manageable dimensions. The new vehicle is not quite what is termed a 'cross-over', but is infinitely more sporting than its larger cousin.

With a choice of three engines – one gasoline and two diesel – many observers predict that the Q5 2.0 TDi will become the best seller in the range. Equipped with direct fuel injection, this unit also has twin counter-rotating balancer shafts to reduce vibration. Producing a massive amount of torque, which peaks at 350 Nm, it also has a decent power output at 170 bhp (125 kW).

The other motors available with the Q5 are a turbocharged, gasoline direct injection, two liter version, developing 211 bhp and 350 Nm of torque; and a three liter TDi V6 producing 240 bhp and 500 Nm, which kicks in between 1,500 and 3,000 rpm. The latter engine is ca-

pable of getting the Q5 from a standstill to the benchmark 100 km/h in just 6.5 seconds. Pretty good for a diesel.

The driveline of the Q5 sees its differential mounted ahead of the clutch, immediately behind the engine. This repositions the front axle well forward, resulting in a long wheelbase and ideal load distribution. All versions of the new SUV are fitted with permanent quattro all-wheel drive. The gasoline engine model and the larger diesel are both mated to a seven-speed auto transmission, while the 2.0 TDi is fitted with a six-speed manual gearbox.

A unique feature, unmatched by the competition, is a sophisticated electronic stability program (ESP) that can detect when a roof rack is fitted and calculates the increase in center of gravity. In this instance the ESP cuts in slightly earlier as the handling limits are approached.

Although this is a luxury SUV, it is a true off-roader, capable of scaling a gradient of 31 degrees, with angles of approach and departure of 25 degrees. The ground clearance is a substantial 20 centimeters and a wading depth of 50 centimeters is permitted when driving through water. Standard equipment also includes a hill descent assist system, which makes driving down steep slopes safer by restricting the speed to below 30 km/h. Furthermore, the ESP and ABS have special mapping for off-road driving.

Optional is electronic control for the dampers and dynamic steering, which varies the steering ratio and power assistance, from a direct ratio at low speed to a more indirect one at higher speeds. When the Q5 reaches its handling outer limits, the dynamic steering, in tandem with the ESP, makes slight adjustments to the steering angle automatically.

The interior is equally comprehensively equipped, with three-zone automatic air-conditioning and a quality audio system with eight speakers. Optional features include a parking aid with rear view camera,



A tire pressure monitoring system is standard, as is a panoramic glass sunroof and adaptive lighting that turns the headlight beams to follow the road.

and a lane assist system that alerts the driver to potential hazards when changing lanes. A tire pressure monitoring system is standard, as is a panoramic glass sun roof and adaptive

lighting which turns the headlight beams to follow the road.

No prices for south-east Asia have been quoted just yet, but in Europe the top model sells for around 38,000 euros. First

deliveries are expected early this year.

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



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PHOTO: www.siamsport.co.th

By James Goyder

Last week I bore witness to one of the most remarkable footballing spectacles of my entire life. As a lifelong football fan who has attended countless games, including four FA Cup finals, this, I have to tell you, is no small claim.

I was present at the Surakul Stadium to watch Thailand play Lebanon in the semi final of the 39th annual King's Cup. A lackluster first half was noteworthy only for some inept refereeing and the fact that one of the nets appeared on the verge of collapse.

Thailand scored twice, largely due to the Lebanese side being slightly worse than awful. The home crowd, by contrast, was highly entertaining. Still reveling in the excitement of having international football on its doorstep, it got rather carried away at one

point when a successful yet sublimely bog-standard cross-field pass by a Thai player was greeted with a standing ovation.

The start of the second half was marred by serious head injuries to two Lebanese players, both accidental. The Lebanon team, clearly frustrated, perhaps suspected – wrongly I might add – that the injuries had been deliberately inflicted. The referee then proceeded to give a sequence of decisions which, at best, could be described as contentious.

To the ire of the Lebanese side, the majority of these went in favor of the home side. At one point, Thailand manager Peter Reid could be seen visibly sympathizing with an irate Lebanese player after Thailand had been awarded a throw-in, which should have gone to the away side.

The Thai team possesses

## King's Cup brawl

many qualities, including skill, pace and creativity. However, a propensity for turning the other cheek is clearly *not* one of them. It was, therefore, of little surprise that when two opposing players squared up to each other following a poor challenge. It was only a matter of time before they all went 'steaming in'.

It was difficult to see exactly what happened in the ensuing melee although, even from the stands, I could clearly see the Lebanese number nine throw a punch.

The referee evidently saw even less, because despite the mass brawl that erupted before his very eyes, he failed to brandish a single yellow card, let alone a red. Once the scuffling players had been separated and becalmed by a combination of security guards and coaching staff, the Thailand team waited patiently in their half for the game to restart.

The Lebanese team had other ideas and promptly went on strike, or more accurately a sulk, refusing to return to the pitch. In a mass show of sympathy for the reluctant Lebanon players, the Thai supporters started to throw them their bottles of water. Some of the more generous spectators even tossed in the odd beer. Somehow, it is hard to imagine this happening at Anfield. Eventually, after extensive negotiations, diplomatic relations were restored and the Lebanese team consented to finish the game. It was soon apparent that considerable ill feeling remained be-

tween the two sets of players when a series of industrial strength challenges started flying in. A strong referee just might have been able to contain the situation: this one clearly could not.

The Lebanese number nine got involved once again, only this time he utterly lost the plot. He proceeded to launch a fearsome attack, in a manner reminiscent of an enraged windmill, his two arms spinning wildly.

Fortunately his attack was launched in such a spectacularly unco-ordinated manner that, comically, not a single punch came close to connecting. This time, the referee was standing a meter away staring straight at him as he made his concerted, if wildly unsuccessful, attempt to inflict grievous bodily harm on the opposition. Did he send him off? Not a chance; he didn't even show him a yellow card.

All of which begs the question; what would the Lebanese number nine, Zakaria Charara, have needed to do for the referee to have taken punitive measures?

At this stage, Lebanon, having somehow found time between scrapping and sulking to actually contemplate playing a bit of football, were searching for an unexpected equalizer. The referee though, clearly had other ideas and despite there still being 15 minutes to play decided to blow for full time.

It was also revealed that both teams were staying in the same hotel. Whether hostilities were renewed remains open to conjecture.

## Phuket FC rue woeful finishing



**FOOTBALL:** Phuket Academicals and Phuket FC faced off recently at the British International School. Phuket Academicals emerged 3-2 winners and, if negotiations for an 11-a-side league in Phuket are successful, matches like this could become a regular fixture in the Phuket sporting calendar.

Phuket FC dominated the opening 45 minutes, squandering a host of chances, including a penalty from captain Andrew Higgingsbottom before finally taking a deserved lead through Josh Isitemiz. Phuket Academicals equalized almost immediately when a long range free-kick from Matt Hayes eluded everyone including the Phuket FC keeper.

Phuket FC were left to rue their missed chances when Manon gave Phuket Academicals an unlikely half time lead, finishing smartly after a quickly taken throw-in. In the second half Phuket FC pressed forward in search of an equalizer but were frustrated by a combination of the woodwork and some sharp goalkeeping. With the visitors committing numbers upfield Academicals were able to exploit space at the back and Mark Lightfoot added a third to put the game beyond doubt. Karl Ward scored a late consolation goal for Phuket FC but it was too little too late for the Phuket Town based outfit.

-James Goyder

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## PEGS players negotiate Canyon Course

**GOLF:** The Phuket Expat Golf Society (PEGS) recently held its Club Championships at the Blue Canyon Country Club.

The event was split in to three separate tiers to suit golfers of all abilities and prizes were awarded for both gross and net scores in each group.

Players tackled the world-renowned Canyon Course and the Lakes Course on consecutive days. Facing blustery conditions during both rounds, with winds approaching gale-force, it is hard

to imagine a tougher test of golf.

Over sixty golfers took part in the event and it was a testament to the dedication and die-hard competitive spirit of the PEGS members, that almost all turned up for more torture on day two, undeterred by their score of the previous day.

There were a number of fantastic single-round scores posted over the course of the two-day competition, but Scott Davidson's 80 gross from the black championship tees on the

Canyon Course on day two was the stellar performance of the championships.

Playing off the black tees, Ken Abday emerged victorious, posting a combined net total of 153 to beat Scott Davidson by three strokes.

Liam Stewart reigned supreme off the blue tees, coming home two shots clear of Bob Simpson, while a count-back was required to declare Chris Cleet the winner off the white tees after he and Albert Luth had both registered aggregate net scores of 152.

The winner of the society's match play event also went down to the wire, with Jimmy Nixon eking out a narrow victory over John Connelly (of two holes-in-one fame) on the final hole, following an epic final round at Blue Canyon Country Club.

The dinner and prize giving ceremony was held at Skippers at the Royal Phuket Marina, where the celebrations went on well into the wee small hours.

The next tournament will be at Mission Hills on January 29. For further information about PEGS visit www.expatgolf.com.

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# Advice on tap



**T**his week, we'll repair a kitchen faucet by means of a little custom fabrication. In the first photo, one can see that the broken part is a type of small 'nut' piece, fitted over the upright faucet tube. Made of cheap 'cast' metal and weakened by internal corrosion, an accidental knock with a pan caused a portion to break off. The damage meant that the nut no longer hold the tube tightly and leaking occurred.

The second photo shows the broken nut above the white plastic retaining clip, on which it presses down to hold the tube in place within the faucet base. It also shows the two rubber o-rings below, which provide the water-tight seal. Individual parts for these types of faucets are not available. It was either replace the whole assembly, at 350-400 baht, or, alternatively, find or fabricate a replacement. My belief in the value of money comes from my blue-collar roots and it galled me to replace an entire assembly due to the failure of one little piece.

I tried various types of nuts, even parts from a garden hose and washing machine fittings, but to no avail. Then I thought of using a PVC plumbing fitting. Plumbing parts, both metal and

PVC, are made in several standard sizes, including thread sizes, to allow compatibility of parts from different manufacturers. I realized that if I drilled a hole into a threaded 'end cap' (used for blocking off unused pipes) I would have a functional replacement for the rotten nut. I took the broken nut with me to my corner hardware store, found the correct size end cap with the same internal diameter and matching threads, and bought two of them (always allow for error) for 30 baht. (photo #3)

First, loosen the broken nut and then extract the tube. Remove the o-rings and retaining clip, and then finally the nut.

Drill your hole in the PVC end cap *from the inside*, because drilling on a concave surface makes it easier to center the bit. The size of the hole is very important; too large and it will slip over the retaining ring. Use a bit smaller than the tube's diameter and, *making sure it is centered*, drill your hole. Enlarge it until the tube barely fits through. Use a cone-shaped grinding stone in your drill (as I did), a slender circular file (called a 'rat tail' file) or create a sanding tool by wrapping some sandpaper around the shaft of the drill bit.

The advantage of the grinding stone method is that it's easier to keep the hole centered as you enlarge it. If you sand or file by hand, be careful to either roll the PVC piece as you work or hold the piece steady and slide your file/sanding tool around the inside rim of the hole with each stroke. Either way, try to do about a quarter of the circumference of the hole on each stroke. *Don't* stroke straight in and out, as this will cause the hole to lose its round shape and could ruin the piece. Again, stop



1. The nut on the tube, broken section forward.

2. The lower section of the faucet tube, the retaining clip and the rubber o-rings.

3. The PVC threaded end cap piece used to replace the nut.

4. The PVC piece with the hole drilled and enlarged.

5 is the PVC replacement piece installed after a coating of silver paint.



when the tube just barely fits into the hole. (photo #4)

Paint the end cap if desired. Silver looks good – there's even 'chrome' spray paint available – but it's your call. (Why not hotrod red or electric plum?) After the paint dries, slip the nut onto the tube, wet the tube end and *carefully* re-install the retaining clip and rubber o-rings (Water lubricates and helps avoid tearing the tight-fitting o-rings). Insert the tube into the base, tighten the nut and that's it! Problem solved for a tenth of the cost of replacing the whole assembly. (photo #5)

Beautiful? No. Acceptable? Yes. Cost-effective? You bet!



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## Decor

## Acrylics

# Acrylic Inspirations



**Beam me up Scotty:** Star Trek-style chairs and chic coffee tables are just some of the pieces available at Phuket Inzpire.

Design company Inzpire, along with its branch in Phuket, Phuket Inzpire, was the brain-child of a group of like-minded individuals with a passion for design, who developed their creative vision with transparent acrylic to produce chic, cutting-edge pieces of furniture.

What started as a labor of love has metamorphosed into a successful business that oversees

the design, manufacture and sale of each item. Although many households around Phuket have yet to embrace this innovative style, the unique designs are starting to pique the interest of Phuketians, both homeowners and businesses.

Staff at Phuket Inzpire maintain they can create any style to match the ideas of their customers, and they believe their monolithic products will soon be

at the forefront of the contemporary furnishings market for houses, condominiums, resorts and offices. The initial perception of the furniture is futuristic, but according to Chanyapatr Kaewsopa, manager of Phuket Inzpire, that was never their intention.

"We were actually focusing on the material, in terms of how we could mold it and its subsequent function as an item of furniture, rather than a spe-



cific style," she said.

In addition to creating pieces for retail, those behind Inzpire use the experience and expertise they have gained in the field by acting as consultants for interior designers and architects. Many designers branching away from traditional materials and designs and wishing to create a new look have sought their advice. Notably, designers from Japan, England and France have contacted Inzpire and taken a keen interest in their products.

With the environment high on the list of priorities in the 21<sup>st</sup> century, and eco-friendly becoming a byword of contemporary culture, Chanyapatr was quick to point out that their product was not detrimental to the environment. "Our furniture is sustainable and can be used for a long time and is 100% recyclable. It can be used to create alternative pieces and help save the world," she said.

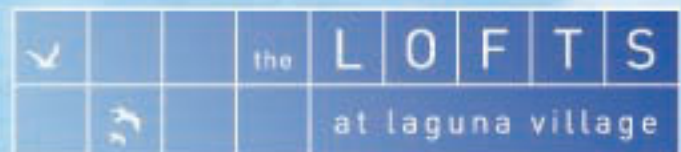
"What's more, there are no health risks involved with our furniture. The material we use is pure acrylic and, unlike plastic, contains no other chemicals," she added. Phuket Inzpire has more than 100 products available for retail, but the designers think particularly highly of a select number of their creations, namely their take on contemporary chairs and tables and home and office furnishings, as well as their outdoor and vintage bar collections.

For the future, Chanyapatr believes that a blend of materials will be at the forefront of interior design. "Mixing and matching will be a key feature in interior design. The combination of wood, leather and acrylic can produce products of great beauty," she said.

Phuket Inzpire is located at 100/400 Chalermprakiet Road 9 (bypass), Tambon Rassada, Muang, Phuket 83000. T: 076 376169-70.



## Launching Phase 2!



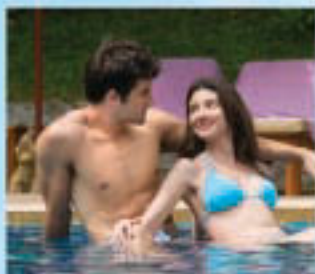
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## Design

## Kamala

# Teakwood luxury on the lakeside

Viewed from the road, the facade of this simple Thai contemporary house looks much like many others of its type. It is only on entering the property and passing beneath the elegant two-meter gable that you begin to get a sense of the uniqueness of this ingeniously conceived home.

The teak-wood residence nestles in six rai of lush real estate, on the shore of a lake and shaded by the surrounding hills.

Adjoining the house is a glass conservatory, or greenhouse, as it is more popularly known to Thai people. Designed predominantly for horticulture, greenhouses are more often seen in colder countries and are generally less suited to tropical climates, since they have a tendency to trap excess heat.

Faced with this challenge, designer and architect Pakhin Aunggulasant of Able Architects turned to the latest technology, utilizing special glass panels similar in design to those used in modern airports. The extra thickness of the panels prevents the air inside the structure from overheating, maintaining an equitable "cool zone" without the need for air conditioning, thus increasing energy conservation.

The conservatory features a high ceiling and a corridor filled with natural light, which streams in through the side walls and the roof. Part of the interior has been decorated with classic Thai and modern-style furniture, lamps, drawings and paintings as well as a range of unique ornamental objects, particularly animal figures.

Potted ferns and other small plants hug the perimeter, harmoniously linking the living space to the natural world outside.

The owner's passion for nature is evident in every detail of the grounds that surround the house and which make up around 70% of the total plot.

The site is essentially divided into two distinct zones. The first zone is the "private" zone which includes the energy-saving "smart" house. The second zone incorporates more open space, suitable for hosting gath-



Looking into the house at night, hidden beneath the canopy and drenched in the reflection from the lake, the mood is unmistakably wistful and romantic.

erings or events.

The garden hosts a rich miscellany of tropical plants, of every type and size. Beneath the high canopy of coconut palms the eye-level *Heliconia* give way to small ferns and the lush grass carpet under your feet.

The boundary of the garden is demarcated by a stone wall, over which water flows, creating a beautiful cascading effect around the edges of the property.

A stroll through the narrow walkways throws up a kaleidoscope of colors, created by the swathes of variegated flowers that catch your eye and lead you along the green pathway, dotted with slate stones laid out on pebbles. Walking through this "jungle", you come across a Thai sala, a place to relax and soak up the beauty of the natural environment, before setting off again to enjoy the next experience in this sumptuous garden.

Perched on the lake shore, the house is bathed in the ever-changing reflections of the water. At sunset, as the sky turns dark blue and a gentle orange light shines down upon the lake, awaiting the blackness of night, you really begin to appreciate how



The conservatory has been decorated with classic Thai and modern furniture, lamps, drawings and paintings as well as a range of unique ornamental objects, particularly animal figures. PHOTOS: Torsak Jaichuen / Narawut Sawatdiwet / Katayut Werapornkan.

lighting showcases the true architectural beauty of this house and its surroundings.

The unique lighting characteristics of the house are made possible by "smart" lighting, which involves the installation of special lights that are activated and regulated according to human body

heat. Looking into the house at night, hidden beneath the canopy and drenched in the reflection from the lake, the mood is unmistakably wistful and romantic.

Back in the garden, the lines of coconut trees planted alongside the vast lawn fashion a graceful avenue that leads di-

rectly to a swimming pool. At the side of the pool there is a function hall building with a wooden deck. Powerful lighting has been installed in the trees, lighting up the pool area and lending it a lively and dynamic feel against the magnificent backdrop of the Kamala hills.

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## Construction Update

# New Thai-Balinese villa development underway

By Khunakorn Terdkiatkhachorn

**KAMALA:** Construction of Kamala Nathonghouse Phase Two began in August 2008 and is expected to be completed by January 2010.

The residential project of Thai-Balinese-style villas designed and developed by Kamala Sinsap Co Ltd is being built on 12 rai in Kamala. Construction is being carried out by Attnop Engineering.

Kamala Nathonghouse Phase One developed 42 units, all of which were sold within a year and a half of the project's launch.

Phase Two will comprise a total of 16 villas, eight of which, the developers say, have already been sold. The villas are being marketed as holiday homes in a resort-style environment.

Buyers can choose from four villa types. Type A, the deluxe classic villa, has 300 square meters of floor space and includes four bedrooms, five bath-

rooms, a maid's room, living area, pantry kitchen, private swimming pool, parking space for two cars and comes fully furnished.

Type B units have 160 sqm of floor space with three bedrooms, four bathrooms, a living area, kitchen pantry, parking space for two cars and private swimming pool.

Types, C and D, both contain three bedrooms and two bathrooms, as well as a living area, pantry kitchen, terrace and parking space for two cars. Type C is slightly larger and includes a private swimming pool.

In addition, phase two of Kamala Nathonghouse will be serviced by the resort's clubhouse, which owners will have full access to.

The clubhouse facilities including a spa, fitness center, communal swimming pool, sauna, WiFi and pool table

The units are available freehold or leasehold and cost upwards of 10 million baht.



An artist's impression of how a 'Type B' villa will look following completion of the project.

## Developer looks ahead with low-cost housing alternative

By Nick Davies

**PHUKET:** Entering the Phuket housing market in the third quarter of 2008 with a range of low-cost, prefabricated luxury homes, Prize of Wood Industry's area manager Christoph von Burg (inset) is looking forward to a prosperous year ahead despite growing concerns about the state of the global economy and its subsequent impact on the housing market, he told the *Gazette*.

"After entering the Phuket housing market and setting up our single-story prefabricated show home on Chao Fah West Road, we sold four homes last year.

However, we aim to sell about 100 units in the next 12 months," he said.

Christoph explained that because of the global economic downturn, his company now pays less for raw materials and commodities, allowing him to offer clients a reduction of about 10% on prefabricated homes.

The homes are designed in accordance with US building codes and offer a range of long- and short-term savings for buyers, said Christoph.

"The cost-saving advantages to buyers of our prefabricated homes include a short construction period of just three



Prefabricated homes such as this single-story unit by Prize of Wood Industry offer a range of cost savings for home buyers.

months and that materials are delivered to the site by container all at once, making it possible to build relatively cheaply, even in remote areas," he said.

"Long-term cost savings

come in the form of the energy-saving features of the construction materials used, such as insulation with viva board, fiberglass membranes and solar controlled low-emission windows.

"Also, all the materials used to build our homes are specially treated with organic-based compounds to ensure that they will not be affected by mold or termites for many decades, and once in place, the homes can be treated over and over again to guarantee continuous protection," he added.

Prize of Wood Industry was established in 2001 as an importer and exporter of premium quality wood flooring and interior decorating materials, offering pre-finished solid and laminated flooring, and solid door plywood.

"With the recent addition of prefabricated wood roof trusses from Geno Truss among the building products that we provide, we can now offer a complete house-building service directly to the customer – with no third-party suppliers involved – from our factory in Pathumthani," said Christoph.

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with stunning ocean views. 3 bedrooms, main house and 2 pool-side villas, truly an impressive house with every amenity, 60 million baht for appointment. Wide choice of other villas for sale also. Contact Kingdom Realtys. Tel: 080-699 2436. Email: info@kingdomvillarentals.com

### FREEHOLD, RAWAI



27sqm, studio, furnished, 200 meters from the beach. Asking 580,000 baht. Tel: 086-940 8914. Email: rawai1@yahoo.com

### CONTEMPORARY VILLA

4 bedrooms with terraces, 6 bathrooms (master w/double Jacuzzi), 4m x 12m pool w/ Jacuzzi, living room, dining room, Western kitchen, maid's room, solar hot water, sala, built-in BBQ, parking for 3 cars, electric gate, alarm system and nice tropical garden on a 1,606sqm plot with over 400sqm of living area. Good price. Email: nisaya19@yahoo.com

### NICE PLOT

near Layan Hills Estate and pool villas project. Chanote title and road access on 4 sides of the plot. 4.5 million baht. Tel: 081-539 9269.

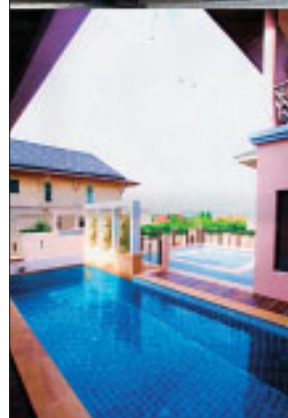
### FREEHOLD PATONG

New condo, private road, security, 2 pools, fitness quality and good potential for profit. Tel: 083-391 8720.

### SURIN BEACH

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

### 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

### MUST SELL MOVING 14 MTB



5 mins to Kamala Beach, 4 bed, 5 bath plus 2 car garage. Studio apt above large pool. Western kitchen, furnished, UBC, WiFi. 370 m<sup>2</sup> home on 700 m<sup>2</sup> of land. Quality build inside-out. Tel: 084-850 0568.

### 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

### 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

### APARTMENT IN PATONG

House also available in Benjamas Housing Complex. Tel: 076-344922, 081-892 6829. Email: jctailor@loxinfo.co.th

### NEAR LAYAN HILLS ESTATE

Half rai to 2 rais. 4 million baht per rai for quick sale! Chanote title, road and utilities. Ready to build house. Tel: 081-539 9269. Email: talayjan@yahoo.com

[www.Phuket-villa-property.com](http://www.Phuket-villa-property.com)

We've got it... 08 72 72 03 03

### BEAUTIFUL 5 BEDROOMS



ensuite home, in tranquil Rawai setting. Luxury pool with Jacuzzi, three sun terraces, sala. Multi-room audio sound system. Full Western kitchen. TV / Entertainment room. Full remote security system / CCTV plus security lighting. Viewing confirms extensive luxury. Tel: 084-778 5652. Email: davek26@hotmail.co.uk

### PARICHART VILLAGE, CHALONG



35/20 Soi 1. 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 aircons, some furniture, 50sq wah, garden. For sale or for long-term rent. Must see. Contact Nina. Tel: 087-689 9679. Email: tasuwan@hotmail.com

### SEA VIEW 3.2 RAI

at north end of Bang Sak Beach. Take Thap Tawan beach road to Bang Sak Beach Resort, 6km south of Takuapa. Tel: 081-894 7644.

### POOLVILLA ONLY 4.9 M BAHT

The small, beautiful villa is located in Ban Sayoarn, a quiet area close to Mangosteen Resort. 2.5km to Rawai, 3km to Nai Harn Beach. 70 sqm house. 2 bedrooms, 1 living room with kitchen, and 1 bathroom with hot water. Fully furnished, cable TV, DVD player, Internet, telephone. Land of 400 sqm, tropical garden, 21 sqm pool, outdoor shower. Chanote title, ready to move in. For sale at only 4.9 million baht. A bargain! Tel: 081-958 0621. Email: bergman.brittmarie@telia.com Video and more pictures at <http://phuketthus.blog.spot.com/> The text is in Swedish, but pictures are universal!

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# Property Gazette

## KAMALA APARTMENT BLOCK SALE



6 x 60 sqm apartments in attractive Thai-style block. Price: 17 million baht. Half rai plot with Chanote title. Located in the popular Bann Hua Kwang estate, built in 2006. Swimming pool, bar area, maid's accommodation, wireless internet, aircon, own electric meter, own water well, freehold business, motorcycles included. Tel: 087-894-8379. Email: adrianheritage@yahoo.co.uk For further details, please see our web site at: [www.kamalathai-styleapartments.com](http://www.kamalathai-styleapartments.com)

## BARGAIN RAWAI HOME

3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, western kitchen and aircon. Price reduced to 3.5 million baht. Tel: 076-288047, 081-894 1660. Email: cottrell@ttmaxnet.com

## 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

## CHANOTE, 29 RAI

at 1.6 million baht per rai. Nice and cheap land 12 minutes from Phuket airport. Located 200m from main road, electricity/ water well/ road access to the land. Good for housing project. Tel: 081-539 9269. Email: talayjan@yahoo.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](mailto:allservices29@gmail.com)

## 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 on. Tel: 087-689 9679.

## 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: 087-2709093, 081-8687676.

## RAWAI: BRAND NEW HOUSE

2 storey, 4 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, aircon, car park, landscaped garden and swimming pool. Very good location in Rawai Bangkontee. Available now. Asking price: 15.5 million baht. Tel: 084-851 1961. Email: [rainier.vigneau@gmail.com](mailto:rainier.vigneau@gmail.com)

## SINGLE HOUSE RAWAI

300m from the beach and close to Nai Harn beach, new house 200 sqm + 50 sqm guesthouse in 2 private. Large gardens, wonderful hills view, 3-4 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, kitchen, big living room and terraces, furnished, aircon, Cable TV, quick sale, reduced to only 5.5 million baht. Call Davide at 083-181 4418.

## 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, 081-693 2791. Email: [eam1008@mac.com](mailto:eam1008@mac.com)

## 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.

## KHAO LAK VILLA

Newly built villa in pristine location 20 km north of Khao Lak. 2 Bedroom, 2 bathroom. Big community swimming pool shared by 9 houses. 600 meters to a true paradise beach. 4.25 million baht. Tel: 081-892 1097. Email: [info@swethai-realestate.com](mailto:info@swethai-realestate.com)

## LAND AT PA KHLOK



49 rai, nice flat land. Chanote, 2.5km from Heroines' Monument. 1.7 million baht per rai. Tel: 083-180 2143.

## 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.

## TWIN HOUSE, VERY CENTRAL, NEW

Twin house 59.6 sqw. Just completed on new development Chaofa Gardens near Brit Int School. 2 bed, 2 bath corner unit. Spacious garden. Priced over 200,000 baht below project price. Tel: 089-216 6909. Email: [julianburgess@myway.com](mailto:julianburgess@myway.com) [www.julianburgess.co.uk/chaofagarden](http://www.julianburgess.co.uk/chaofagarden) for slide show

## KOH KHO KHAO LAND

for sale. Bargain price 2 3/4 rai only 6 million baht. Have full Chanote, only 2 minutes to beach. Perfect for resort or luxury home in an unspoilt environment. Tel: 085-655 4409.

## KATA BEACH HOUSE

2 mins to beach. Great location, 3 levels, quiet street. 3.5 million baht. Tel: 084-840 5834.

## PHUKET COUNTRY CLUB

home for sale or lease includes golf membership. Contact Jim. Tel: 089-648 4911.

## LAND AT THE HILL TOP

2.5 rai and 50 sq wah. Price 5.9 million baht. In Thalang. Nice view with road access. Email: [varaponn@gmail.com](mailto:varaponn@gmail.com)

## LAND FOR SALE/ EXCHANGE

3 rai with Chanote. Price 5.8 million baht. Tonsai area for freehold, West Coast Condo. Tel: 081-273 4212.

## 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.

## KHOK KLOI HOUSE

2.9 million baht, 4 years old, 118sqm house on 904sqm plot. Quiet area, 3 bedroom, 1 bathroom, big kitchen, aircon, phone line, 2 car covered parking. Chanote. Tel: 081-728 4821 or 081-693 2759.

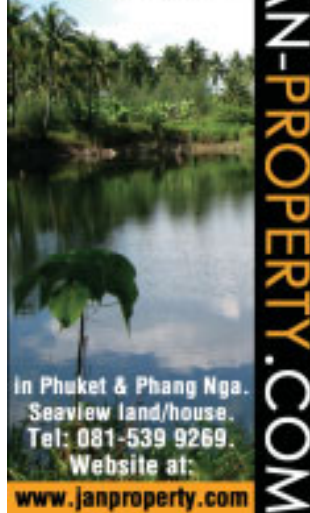
## LAND IN RAWAI

Nai Harn and Chalong. Big and small plots. Special plot with wall. 1 rai 43sq wah. 5.3 million baht per rai. Tel: 085-795 5383. For further details, please see our website at [www.warmwaterland.com](http://www.warmwaterland.com)

## HOUSE FOR SALE

74 square wah, garden, connected to main road. 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, furnished, 2 telephone lines, ADSL, cable TV and True Visions. Only 7 km to airport and Naiyang Beach. 4.8 million baht. Tel: 076-621021, 081-820 5266. Fax: 076-206220. Email: [umavadee@cscoms.com](mailto:umavadee@cscoms.com) For further details, please see our website at [www.phuketgifts.com](http://www.phuketgifts.com)

## LOOKING FOR AN INVESTMENT



in Phuket & Phang Nga. Seaview land/house. Tel: 081-539 9269. Website at: [www.janproperty.com](http://www.janproperty.com)

## MISSION HILLS LAND FOR SALE

Located close to Mission Hills Golf Course. Two 1.5 rai plots for sale only 2 million baht each. Tel: 081-891 1826. Fax: 076-238940. Email: [kevinq@loxinfo.co.th](mailto:kevinq@loxinfo.co.th)

## SALES AND RENTALS

in South Phuket. We have it, find it, or make it! Pool villa for 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)

## HOUSE IN KAMALA

Price reduced to 3.9 million. 2 bedroom, 2 bathroom, next to Print Resort and Kamala Beach. Tel: 086-277 3381.

## PATONG BUILDING

Bangla Rd, area 330sqm, 4 floors, Chanote, finance available. Cheap 16 million baht. Tel: 087-881 7600.

## 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.

## FREEHOLD PATONG

for sale. New studio with pool. 46sqm fully furnished, price: 3 million baht. Great deal. Tel: 089-728 4005. Email: [antoniocpala@yahoo.it](mailto:antoniocpala@yahoo.it)

## HOUSES, BANGTAO

for sale. 2-3 bedrooms, from 3 million baht to 14 million baht. Tel: 087-268 8752. For further details and photos, please visit our website at [www.phukethome.ws](http://www.phukethome.ws)

## VILLA 4 BEDROOMS

5 mins to Yacht Haven. 2 rai, Bali style, swimming pool. European standard furniture. Tel: 081-719 7015. Email: [eanfievat@voila.fr](mailto:eanfievat@voila.fr)

## INEXPENSIVE HOUSE LOTS

Chanote titles. East side, electricity, 1/3 to 1 rai, price from 850,000 baht. Tel: 086-942 1930.

Would you like to keep up on what's happening in Phuket - the good, the bad and the bizarre? Let us share it with you - every week!

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To ensure clarity, please airmail. Do not Fax!



# Property Gazette

## HOUSE IN PHUKET TOWN



for sale. 4.5 storey building in the center of Phuket Town. Ideal for living or for business. Contact Bob. Tel: 083-528 4293. Email: onkar@live.com

## KARON SEAVIEW



Located on the west coast of Phuket island. 10.5 rai with Chanote. Perfect location for business (hotel & resort). Price 300 million baht. No Agents!! Tel: 087-270 9093.

## COMMERCIAL BUILDING

for sale. 5th floor at Jungceylon Nanai Rd. 13.5 million baht includes the rental contract per year of 541,200 baht. Tel: 083-522 1992.

## CHAOFA GARDEN HOME

Koh Kaew. Bargain, 2 bedroom, 85sqm. List price: 4.9 million baht, now 2.8 million baht. Tel: 087-272 0303.

## 4 RAI, NAI HARN BEACH

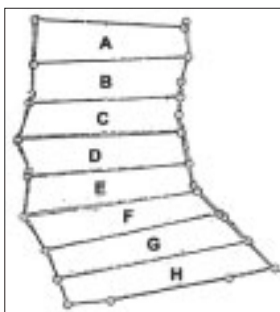
for sale by owner. Located on Soi Naya, Nai Harn Beach. 4 rai (6,400 sqm). Main road access, Chanote title deed. Perfect for housing project. Price: 10 million baht per rai. Tel: 081-979 2008. Email: thitaya.saetun@gmail.com

**PATONG GUESTHOUSE**  
Freehold guesthouse, Patong Beach. For sale at best offer. Call or mail for details. Tel: 086-588 8383. Email: sumalee1955@yahoo.com

## BEAUTIFUL HALF RAI AVAILABLE

Very nice flat land with pond view. Large concrete road, electricity, ready to build. Chanote title. Located behind the Shell Museum. Email for photos. Price: 4.2 million baht. Tel: 089-589 0085, 081-091 1097. Email: micsta75@hotmail.com

## VERY NICE SEAVIEW LAND



same as Soi Villas Solitude, Na-Kok, Chalong. 8 rai land for sale, Chanote title. Can buy separate. Price 7 million baht per rai. Contact to see. Tel: 087-689 9679.

## LAND IN RAWAI

between Chalong and Rawai. 2,788 sqm with Chanote title. Call or mail for further details. Tel: 089-885 4517, 081-908 8580. Email: ruedi.kaufmann@gmx.ch

## DIRECT FROM OWNER

The valley 2 new homes. No agency fees, new house, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, salon, covered garage for 2 cars, nice garden. Land 240sqm, house 130sqm. Close to Heroine's Monument, Surin Beach. All facilities in proximity to airport, British International School, hospitals. In a beautiful and peaceful green valley. 2,900,000 baht for sale by owner contact 086-2734 149.

**CAPE PANWA CONDO**  
2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 116 sqm, luxury quality finishing. Freehold 5 million baht. Tel: 087-279 6700.

## URGENT SALE

House in Kathu. Good price townhouse. 2-story, 2 bedroom, 2 bathroom. Tel: 089-288 8519.

## CONDO FOR SALE/RENT



at Phuket Asialand, Surin Beach. Sale: 7.9 million baht. Rent: 30,000 baht per month with 100,000 baht deposit. Tel: 081-477 2152. Email: info@methaya.com

## 3 BEDROOM POOL VILLA RAWAI

Full aircon, fully equipped, kitchen, 24-hours security, great location. For sale. Tel: 085-783 1890.

**KARON BEACH LAND**  
for sale or trade. Land perfect to build, 4 guesthouse with a seaview condo on top. Price 6.9 million baht. Beach 1 block. Tel: 081-303 2202.

## SALE/RENT NEW CONDO

Studio room, fully furnished. Near university & Phuket town. Rent: 8,000 baht per month or sale 1.3 million baht. Tel: 083-103 6578.

## CHALONG TOWN HOME

This immaculate 3 Bedroom home on a new estate is priced to sell. Tel: 089-652 1473. Email: anandaestates@yahoo.com

**2.5 MILLION BAHT**  
2 bedroom house in managed estate, near BIS. Ready to move in. (Quick sale). Tel: 087-272 0303.

## PERFECT LAND FOR INVESTMENT



2 rai in Khao Lak. 10 min walk to the beach, direct access to the road. Electric, water and cable. Perfect choice for hotel or villa investment. Must see. Please contact K. Noon for info. Tel: 076-340318, 081-894 6353. Email: noonno@hotmail.com

## HOUSE FOR SALE/RENT



Pa Khlok, fully furnished, aircon, 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms. 262sqm, big garden. Sale: 9.5 million baht or rent 40,000 baht per month. Tel: 081-693 1617.

## MAIN ROAD, COMMERCIAL LAND

1,200sqm land on main road to airport, 1 km south Heroine's Monument. 80 m deep, 15 m wide. Lots of drive by traffic for advertising. Priced to sell 7.5 m baht. Tel: 081-649 3557. Email: ken@phuketlifestyle.com

## BEST PRICED BEACHFRONT LAND

in Thailand. Prices from as low as 1.3 million baht per rai. Email: admin@thaisunshine developments.com For further details, please see our website at [www.thaisunshine developments.com/land\\_for\\_sale.php](http://www.thaisunshine developments.com/land_for_sale.php)

## BEACH LAND KOH YAO YAI

8rai direct beach front land, 80m to the beach. Public road and water at the back. White sand, no rocks, beautiful view, with road side house on it. Priced to sell. Tel: 081-649 3557. Email: ken@phuketlifestyle.com

**REAL ESTATE INVESTOR WANTED**  
Invest from 10 million baht and get a FREE beachfront villa! Email: admin@thaisunshine developments.com

## TOWNHOUSE - BAAN BAI MAI

2 storey w/ 2 bed & 2 baths. 37sqm. Two Villas project near Bkk hospital. Price 2.9 million baht. Tel: 081-979 3369. Email: phudtheera@phuketrealty.net

## RAWAI/NAI HARN LAND

2x80 wah. Flat walled land for sale. Below cost. All amenities. Views. Chanote title. Price 2.1 million baht. Tel: 085-782 7551.

## EXCLUSIVE POOL VILLAS

near Boat Lagoon marina. Tel: 089-873-1019. More details and pictures at: [www.phuketexclusiveholiday.com](http://www.phuketexclusiveholiday.com)

## LOCH PALM POOL VILLA



600sqm land, 230sqm living space, garden, 4 bedrooms, golf course view, on main road. Ready in 3 months. Partly custom made, fully furnished. Price all in, only 14 million baht. Email: allservices29@gmail.com

## LAKEFRONT LAND IN GOLF CLUB

Directly on the lake. 1 rai at Loch Palm Golf Club. Pricey but worth it. Beautiful! Build your home, full security, great location & views. Tel: 081-649 3557. Email: ken@phuketlifestyle.com

## NEW STUDIO CONDO

Opposite Tesco lotus, 4th floor. Fully furnished, 35sqm. Price 1.95 million baht. Finish in April 2009. Tel: 081-979 3369. Email: phudtheera@phuketrealty.net

## VILLA IN NAI HARN

3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, western kitchen, aircon, room for pool. 3.9 million baht. Tel: 076-288047, 081-894 1660. Email: cottrell@tttmaxnet.com

## KOH YAO YAI



The Phang Nga Bay, Andaman's big opportunity island. Be one of the first developers. Prime beach front real estate and stunning seaview. Crying out for investment. Prices start at 1.5 million baht. Tel: 087-267 0714. Email: charles araines@hotmail.com

## 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

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# Property Gazette

## Properties For Rent

### HOUSE FOR RENT IN CHALONG



2 bedrooms, kitchen, living room, dining room, laundry room, fully-furnished. Aircon in every room, car park, swimming pool (shared), tropical garden. High-speed Internet and True/UBC satellite TV included. 25,000 baht per month, minimum 6 months. Tel: 081-9682855. Email: stefan@phuketit.co.th For further details, please see our website at <http://chalongparadise.com>

### LUXURY

houses & villas with a private pool is in Chalong/Rawai. From 3,000 baht per day (inclusive of maid/pool and gardening service). Move in today call 076-281084 daytime or call Tel: 083-1073022 evening.

### RAWAI HOUSE

for rent. Long or short term, fully furnished, pool.

For further details, please see our website at [www.ferienthailand.com](http://www.ferienthailand.com)

### NAI HARN BEACH



House for rent, 2 bedroom, 2 bathroom, 800sqm land, private pool, full furnished, ADSL, Tel, garden. Available from February. Price: 35,000 baht per month. Contact Paew. Tel: 089-972 5378.

### JAPONICA

Stunning, 2 bedrooms, villa. Sea view from every room, overlooking Kamala bay, exotic Zen style, fully furnished with 3 flat screen TV, infinity pool. Japanese gardens with sala, other villas for rent in all price ranges. Contact Kingdom Realtys. Tel: 080-699 2436.

### NEW SINGLE HOUSE

for rent. Yoo Charoen Village, 3km from Laguna Phuket, 2 telephone lines, ADSL, 3 bedroom, 2 bathrooms, warm water, aircon. Price 14,000-18,000 per month. (Eng) Tel: 087-4172757, (Thai) 087-4172756.

### CHALONG HOUSE



for longterm rent. Fully furnished, living room, kitchen, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, aircon, TV, ADSL, Tel line. 3 mins from Chalong Bay. Tel: 081-176 8404.

### PATONG RENTALS

We have number of apartments & houses for rent from 20,000 baht per month through to luxury high-end rentals. Tel: 089-649 8703. For further details, please see our website at [www.gardenislandphuket.com](http://www.gardenislandphuket.com)

### 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

### BOAT LAGOON POOL VILLA

68,000 baht per calendar month, long term. 3 double bedrooms, own pool, modern and fully-furnished on small compound near Boat Lagoon. Free Wi-Fi, cable TV, 4 flat screen TVs, DVD, security, outdoor maintenance, linen & kitchenware, shared gym. Available mid-February. Tel: 084-783 9054. Email: oggyowen@yahoo.com

### NEW HOUSE NEAR LAGUNA

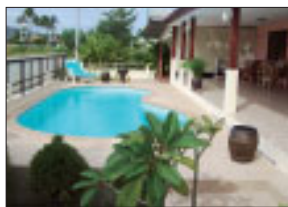
for rent. Full furnished, 2 bedroom, 2 bathroom, 3 aircons, hot water, washing machine, ADSL, Tel, garden. 10 mins to Bang Tao beach. Price 15,000 baht per month. Tel: 089-795 6363. Email: sara\_supertik@yahoo.co.th

### PATONG SEA VIEW



See the ships come in from this 3 bdrm, 3bthrm, 2 kitchen house with private pool overlooking Patong bay. ADSL, cable and True Vision. Priced right for long term lease. Available Feb 09. Call for showing. Tel: 087-882 1963. Email: benlee53@hotmail.com

### RAWAI POOL GUESTHOUSE



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

### 5 BEDROOM HOUSE WITH POOL

House & bungalow in large private gardens. 10 mins to airport; 10 mins to beach; 10 mins to 2 golf courses. Tel: 089-226 2612. Email: jim@jimmarsh.net

### SERVICED OFFICES FOR RENT

starting from 15 sqm up to 400 sqm in central Patong Beach. 500 meters from the beach and Bangla Road. No key money. Fully furnished with phone line/internet. Ready to move in. Tel: 076-293061, 087-015 9206. Email: david@freedomleisuregroup.com

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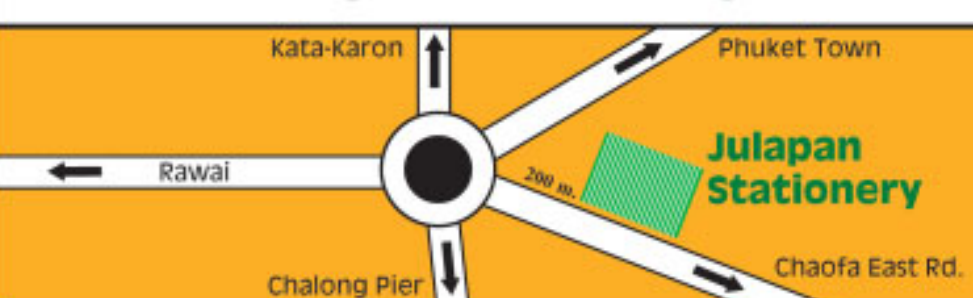
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# Island Job Mart

## G4S Security Services (Thailand) Ltd



G4S the world's leading security solutions provider, with a long standing trade history in Thailand is set for rapid expansion across southern Thailand. To support our plans we wish to recruit a number of high caliber personnel for the following positions

### Branch Managers

A number of positions are being created to support our rapid expansion in Phuket, Krabi, Surat Thani and Hatyai. Branch managers must have 3 years experience in the security industry.

### Service Manager

Based in Phuket, you will be responsible for Facility Service Solutions Operations in The southern Region. Service manager must have 3 years experience in facility service industry (cleaning and outsourcing staff)

### Technical Sales Engineer

Based in Phuket, reporting to the Operations Manager Electronic Services, you need a technical sales background in IT, electronic systems or security systems. The ideal candidate will be a self starter, able to work with minimal supervision and possess good English skills. The candidate must be able to demonstrate a proven track record of success in the sales field.

### Sales Executives

Based in Krabi, Hatyai and Koh Samui, you will be responsible for securing new sales for manned guarding, electronic security and facilities as part of our Integrated Sales. You must have at least 3 years experience in this role.

### Recruiters/Supervisors/Guards

We are seeking English speaking recruiters, supervisors and guards due to new projects awarded to G4S.

For all positions we require excellent communications skills, a high level of personal integrity, and a good command of both written and oral English/Thai.

Whilst we have a preference for Thai nationals, we would welcome applications from other nationalities that feel they meet the above criteria and are fluent Thai speakers.

Please send your CV to Mr. Prasert Kaewyongphang.

### G4S Security Services (Thailand) Ltd

2019 New Petchburi Road, Bangkok, Huaykwang, Bangkok 10310  
E-Mail: [prasert.kaewyongphang@th.g4s.com](mailto:prasert.kaewyongphang@th.g4s.com) Tel: +6627138718  
Only shortlisted applicants will be contacted for an interview.

## Job Openings at Mövenpick Resort & Spa Karon Beach Phuket

### Director of Sales – Europe (Phuket Based)

#### Qualifications:

- 7 years' experience in sales, preferably with a 5 star international hotel in Thailand, with at least the past 2 years in the role of a Assistant DOS or Director of Sales overseeing the European tour wholesalers.
- Must have personal contacts with major European tour wholesalers, participated in regional/international tradeshow and is able to effectively manage key accounts in order to build relations and drive financial objectives for this segment.

### Mövenpick Resort & Spa Karon Beach Phuket

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Must have good English, some typing and computer skills. Chalong area, 40 hour/week. Please call. Tel: 080-624 7060.

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is looking for a new challenge! I am Swiss, 44 years old, multi-lingual (German, French, English) experienced in advertising and hotel business, Sincere, open minded and team oriented. If you are seeking a highly motivated personality I would be very glad to hear from you soon. Kind regards, Stefan. Tel: 087-268-4981. Email: stefanhalden@hotmaill.com

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Thai national, full time, experienced. Please call for more information. Tel: 076-388-593.

**CLEANING LADY WANTED**

Thai national, full time, area Cape Panwa. Please call for more information. Tel: 076-388593.

**QUALITY / COST SUPERVISOR**

Experienced building professional required to assist Developer with residential construction part time, quality control and costs. Email: kbayproperty@gmail.com

**HOTEL MANAGER**

Owner will be changing management of 18 room Kata Hotel during March. I seek an individual with experience as Hotel Manager or Ass't Hotel Manager in Thailand. I also require that the candidate be fluent in English and Thai. For further information, please contact me. If telephoning from Thailand, please dial: 001-1-202-319-8354. Email: edward.utyro@verizon.net

**RESTAURANT STAFF**

Family run hotel with a large number of repeat guests is currently looking for: waiter/waitress. Enthusiastic, friendly, good command of English. Chef wanted: Thai and international food, minimum 2 years experience. Thai nationals only. Tel: 076-280650. Email: office@palm-garden-resort.com

**BOAT YARD MANAGER**

Yacht Haven Marina is presently planning a new haul out facility with travel lift able to handle 20 to 25 boats. We are looking for a yard manager with the following: marine engineering qualifications/or strong technical experience in this field, previous boat yard experience, strong communication skills & good command of written & spoken English. Computer literate, proven managerial skills with ability to create & implement systems and a sound all-round knowledge of boats & the industry. This is a full time position. Tel: 076-206704. Fax: 076-206706. Email: zara@yacht-haven-phuket.com Website: http://www.yacht-haven-phuket.com

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# Tout, Trader & Trumpet

## Articles For Sale

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2.5 metre diameter; timber frames with pulley-system operation; fabric is woven high density polyethylene shade cloth (94% shade factor) - here's the best part: 5 year new-for-old replacement warranty on fabric & stitching!! Night cover included. Also available with ceramic pot stands.

Tel: 076-204120, 084-6938644  
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www.shadesasia.com

### FIBREGLASS SWIMMING POOL

Clifton fibreglass swimming pool, size 3.4m x 2m x 1.4m deep. Includes pump/filter, pool light and chlorine feeder. 200,000 baht. Tel: 076-613264, 084-850 1387. Email: dominic@hitemp.co.za

### SWIMMING POOLS

Pool equipment & saunas all types & sizes. Salt generators from 29,500 baht. Contact K.Nathan or K. Wan. Tel: 086-970 1541. Email: sales@samui pools.com Website: www.turbopools saunas.asia

### ESPRESSO COFFEE FOR SALE

Top quality espresso roast, whole bean, 100% Pure Highland Arabica Coffee from Chiang Mai. Only 400 baht per kilo. Only 75 kilos available at this price. Hurry, call now! Tel: 081-091 4335. Email: ray\_vaillancourt@yahoo.com

### CERAMIC POT SALE

All styles at huge discounts to clear existing stock. Tel: 081-895 3215.

### CHEST FREEZER

very good condition. Trainer exercise new 20,000 baht, sell 9,000 baht. HP computer, Laptop and desktop. 1,000 DVX French movies. Tel: 081-294 5441.

### SUUNTO DIVER'S COMPUTER

Suunto Mosquito dive computer, just serviced, new battery. 2 years old, good condition. Price new was 16,000 baht. I need 6,000 baht. jenchana@gmail.com

### CITIZEN DIVER'S WATCH

Citizen diver's watch. Depth gauge, dive log and stop watch. Comes with extra stainless steel strap. Two years old. New: 15,000 baht. I need 6,000 baht. Email: jenchana@gmail.com

### AQUA SCOOTER

150W underwater AQUA scooter. Includes charger. Ideal for snorkeling. MAX depth: 20m. Excellent condition. Tel: 084-850 1387. Email: dominic@hitemp.co.za

### 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.

### CHEST FREEZER

Medium sized, good condition. Price: 6,000 baht. Trainer exercise machine cost 20,000 baht new, sell: 6,000 baht. Tel: 087-271 1280.

### BEDROOM SALE

Locally hand crafted. Two side tables, bed and sealy posturpedic mattress, 2 years old, excellent condition. Must be seen, bargain price 60,000 baht includes bedding. Tel: 084-840 4300.

### 3 PIECE SUITE

3 seater sofa, 2 arm chairs, Italian suede leather, removable cushions. Aquamarine color. Original cost: 280,000 baht. Will sell for 20,000. Tel: 076-279346, 081-597 9744. Fax: 076-279 346. Email: peterb@jinet.com

### MOVING SATELLITE DISH

Moving Satellite dish for Sale (7 foot), including Dynasat receiver. 10,000 baht. Pick up in Khao Lak. Tel: 086-281 1945. Email: thedivezone@hotmail.com

### 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.

### 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. Email for pic: mat@pcphuket.com

### NEW POOL SALT CHLORINATOR

Self cleaning, fully electronic, never use chlorine again! 30,000 baht installed. GUARANTEED. Tel: 084-850 1387. Email: dominic@hitemp.co.za

### HOME MULTIGYM

2 months old. Cost 8,500 baht; will accept 7,000. Lat pull, butterfly, bicep curl, leg curl, chest press, and more. One Carabina clip is bent but works fine. Selling due to relocation. 45kg. Tel: 085-724 0796. Email: danm\_uk@yahoo.co.uk

### MOVING SALE

For sale at low prices:

- Bravia 26" LCD TV  
- Kitchen Furniture  
- Philips DVD Micro Theater  
- Sony Micro Hi-Fi System  
Email: bretonne\_ expat@yahoo.com Website: http://www.flickr.com/photos/33827300@N05

### TRAILER FOR INFLATABLE BOAT

Suitable for 4m inflatable boat. Large wheels for easy launching. Strong steel structure. 28,000 baht. Tel: 084-850 1387. Email: dominic@hitemp.co.za

### 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

### 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: 076-282-795, 081-787 9454. Fax: 076-246180. Email: andersp@loxinfo.co.th

### GLASS FRONTED DISPLAY

fridge: 6,000 baht. X trainer exercise machine: 6,000 baht. Callaway Golf Clubs and bag, used once: 12,000 baht. Tel: 087-271 1280.

### GYM KATA

for sale. equipment only. New paint and chromium. Tel: 086-120 3660. Email: chilligarden@hotmail.com

### ELECTRONICS SALE

DVD Players, Recorders, Titles, Home Theatre sets, etc. Email for details. Tel: 089-908 7350. Or email: wagner\_fin@hotmail.com

### 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: patongman123@hotmail.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

### FISHTANKS / AQUARIUM

2 fishtanks for sale: 300 liter with lights, pump, fish, plants. 150 liters with pumps, fish and plants. Very beautiful! Will sell cheap to good hands! Call to make an offer! Tel: 089-867 0424. Email: alikedive@hotmail.com

### Bar & Restaurant Equipment

### SALE SPEAKER BINS

smoke machine, spot lights, lasers, bar butler. Price 25,000 baht ono. Tel: 082-280 7576 (English).

### WALK-IN FREEZER WANTED

Wanted: walk-in freezer with 3 x 4 meter footprint or a refrigeration unit for a 24 cubic meter walk-in freezer. Tel: 081-091 4335. Email: ray\_vaillancourt@yahoo.com

## Bulletins

### ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

For Phuket info (English) call 081-6964031, 081-8912895 or email: phuketaa@yahoo.com

**English Speaking Meetings**  
Mission Hospital - Phuket City  
Wed and Sun 7 PM  
Bangkok Hospital - Phuket City  
Fri 7 PM  
Patong Hospital - Patong  
Mon, Tue, Wed, Fri, Sat, Sun at 7 PM  
Chalong Health Clinic - near Chalong Circle  
Tues 1 PM  
Surin Beach - Surin  
Thurs 9:30 AM (Nov-Apr only)  
Krabi Hospital - Krabi  
Wed 1 PM  
(additional Krabi meetings on request by contacting 084-4463103)  
**Scandinavian Speaking Meetings**  
Wat Kanon School - Kanon  
Tue 7 PM and (Sat Nov-April only 7 PM)  
Tel: 086-8440482 Sive, 082-2755998 Nor

For info on other Thailand AA meetings require @02-23118300 (for Thai language press 3) www.aathailand.org or email: info@aathailand.org

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**Sin & Lee** Tel: 076-258369  
Thalang Rd, Phuket City Fax: 076-211230

**Taurus Travel** Tel: 076-344521/2  
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# Tout, Trader & Trumpet

## Business Opportunities

### PATONG GUESTHOUSE

18 rooms, bar and restaurant for long lease. Excellent location. Thai company, 2 work permits and website. Price 4.7 million baht. Tel: 080-697 1744.

### PATONG RESTAURANT

fully equip, stocked, staff attached. Furnished apartment. Bargain price. Quick sale. Tel: 082-280 7576. Email: closejon@yahoo.com.au

### HOSTESS BAR SALE

near Patong City Hotel. 255sqm, 16 seats, 2 years lease low rent all included. Open now 170,000 baht. Tel: 084-843 6400.

### THAI KARAOKE BAR

Fully equipped, open 2 years, very popular, best location, established clientele. Will help in transfer. Evening viewings. Price 750,000 baht. Tel: 084-843 6400.

### FACTORY FROZEN STORAGE

for sale. On 3 rai including staff rooms, 3 phase electric city provided. 4.2 million baht. Tel: 087-269 4083.

### BUSINESS FOR SALE

Live & work all under 1 building in Phuket Town. Fully operational restaurant with bakery, ice cream & coffee shop, seats over 30 people. Good lease, low rent. Huge building. All offers welcome. Must sell! Call Nick. Tel: 084-664 0401.

### BAR SALE, PATONG OTOP

Welcome Bar at Patong OTOP. 550,000 baht o.n.o. Call Craig at the number . Tel: 089-507 1311. Email: johncamel927@hotmail.com

### GUESTHOUSE NANAI RD

Location at junction of Nanai Rd - Bangzaan Rd, next to Seven/Eleven. 6-rooms and Today Beauty Salon at bottom, separate entrance to room. Selling due to getting bigger family. Asking price 899, 000 baht, 3.5 year lease left. Price reduced for quick deal. Tel: 081-787 2573.

### COCKTAIL BAR AND NAIL SALON

in Sai Yuan area. 165,000 baht. Rent 8,000 baht/month. Please contact Tel: 087-795 9553. Email: panyalak\_k13@msn.com

### BEST PRICED BEACHFRONT LAND

in Thailand. Prices from as low as 1.3 million baht per rai. Email: admin@thaisunshine developments.com Website: [http://www.thaisunshine developments.com/land\\_for\\_sale.php](http://www.thaisunshine developments.com/land_for_sale.php)

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### GUESTHOUSE KATA

Invest safely in property. Close to Kata beach. One of the most popular guesthouses in Phuket. Good also in low season. Company with Chanote ownership. Can also discuss renting. For details call 081-8948446.

### BANGLA ROAD

bar for sale, Soi Crocodile. Good price. Tel: 089-290 7841.

### EST BEAUTY SALON

on main road, Cherng Talay. Good year-round business from local & tourist marketing. 6 work stations + customer area. Everything under one year old & incl in price 195, 000 baht. Rent only 6, 000 baht/month. For details contact Ken. Tel: 087-279 0280.

### MASSAGE PATONG

Central location for lease until August 2011. No key money, can easily convert to bar or other business. Realistic price. Tel: 085-473 7847. Email: simon@worrall.info

### MOTORBIKE RENTAL AND TOURS

Price includes 14x big bikes. Fully equipped office/shop, website, excellent return. 2.4 million baht. Tel: 081-539 1380.

### TURNKEY BUSINESS

Travel agency in Phuket City with TAT license and website. Great location with huge potential. Includes 100 sqm bar/rest, at present sub let. Also extra 3 floors over 4 buildings for commercial or residential use Tel: 089-618 6894.

### GREAT OPPORTUNITY

Guesthouse 18 rooms + large office/residents, long lease, great location, central Patong. Price: 3.75 million baht. Vendors terms available. Please contact for more information. Tel: 087-383 6505. Email: property.thai@hotmail.com

### PHUKETREALESTATE DOT COM

Phuket Real Estate dot com is for sale. Please send expressions of interest / offers via email. Tel: 087-888 1921. Email: admin@idevelop.tv For further details, please see our website at: <http://phuket realestate.com>

### SKILLFULL EUROPEAN WELDER

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### RESTAURANT & GUESTHOUSE

in Rawai 6 rooms, aircon, fridge, TV, DVD, company + 1 work permit. 1.9 million baht. Please contact Lars. Tel: 087-095 7597. Email: petter@oslogryta.net

### BAKERY & COFFEE SHOP

in Phuket town. 2-level shophouse, fully operational with staff, client base, cheap rent, good profit. Must sell. Tel: 084-664 0401.

### GREAT BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY

Small exclusive development on Samui with great panoramic sea views of Koh Phangan, and the Gulf of Thailand. This development is 40% completed and it comprises 23 apartments with 153-204sqm living space, and 9 exclusive apartments starting from 153-170sqm with private living space, and double communal pool with water features and spacious outside living area. The total land size is 3 rai. Price 75 million baht. Tel: 086-272 6508. Email: henkideainvest@yahoo.com

### ELITE CREDITCARD!

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### ITALIAN RESTAURANT

and Hotel with 10 rooms next to Kamala beach for sale. Fully furnished and operational, good opportunity. Tel: 087-270 5806.

### STOP BAR

for sale, newly set up in Soi Sea Dragon. Probably the most beautiful bar in Patong - 2 Units  
- Top Location near Soi Bangla  
- 12 small rooms  
- Top Audio/ video equipment (Bose, Behringer, Sony etc.)  
- Fully equipped  
- Rent 50, 000 baht/month  
- Contract until Feb 20/10  
- Extension possible  
- Price 2.6 Million baht  
Information: STOP-Bar, Soi Sea Dragon, after 9.30pm ask for OSI.

### KOH PHI PHI GUEST ROOMS

4 twin and fully equipped guest rooms in modern building with long lease. Close to the beach, entertainment and shops. Valued at 4 million baht, but will offer a substantial reduction for quick sale. Tel: 087-461 3121. Email: sgiandubh69@hotmail.com

### NIGHT CLUB

situated in a well known area. 3 year contract, fully equipped. Price 2 million baht. Tel: 081-489 6158. Email: max\_w1@hotmail.com

### BUSINESS IN PHUKET TOWN

Business & company for sale in Phuket Town, 100m from Robinson. 3 story building w/ 100 sqm per floor. Shop (1st) and apartment (3rd). Rental agreement: 3/6/9 years. 2.9 million baht. Tel: 081-088-7640, 084-054 8137. Email: le.french.hype.bazar.phuket@gmail.com

### GAME FISHING BUSINESS

Game fishing business, boat and company for sale. Tel: 086-124 7528. Email: buchwa@yahoo.com.au Website: <http://www.phuket-fishing.com>

### 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.

### QUIET GUESTHOUSE

near Carrefour. Rooms, pool, fitness equipment & sauna. Small and beautiful. Tel: 081-084 3415.

### HOME BUSINESS

that really works. Phuket resident shows novel new concept - not MLM. Website: [www.wealthwithlifestyle.com](http://www.wealthwithlifestyle.com)

### STEAL MY GUESTHOUSE

2.2 million baht for 9 year lease. Includes 12 remodeled rooms and fully equipped restaurant/bar; company w/ work permit, website, etc. Next to Jungceylon and rated #1 on TripAdvisor. Email: garyteets@yahoo.com

### BAR & RESTAURANT

for lease. On Nai Harn/Rawai Road. Well established venue. 30 covers, 8 years lease. 12,000 baht per month. Built 2 years ago. All fixtures & fittings. All stock. Tel: 087-275-4867. Email: thaichips@yahoo.co.uk

## Business Products & Services

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