

# Phuket Gazette

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## More fires at Jintana Plaza

PATONG: Phuket was rocked last week by two major fires that hit the Jintana Plaza shopping arcade in the space of just four days, causing an estimated 15 million baht in damages. Police strongly suspect the blazes – the fifth and sixth at the arcade since it opened – to be the work of arsonists.

The first fire was reported at about 4 am on Friday February 14. Eight fire engines, including four from Patong Municipality, converged on the center, located on the beach road near Loma Park.

The first blaze, which officials believe was started at different parts of the building, quickly spread through more than 200 stalls. The center was full of clothes, decorations and other tourist-related items that quickly fueled the fast-growing blaze. It took firefighters two hours to quell the inferno. Damage was estimated at about 10 million baht.

The fire also left the stretch of the beach road wrecked and without power, causing some local residents to recall conditions along the road following the tsunami disaster in 2004.

Duty Officer Jongsamee Preecha of Kathu Police said after the first fire this week that it was the fifth suspected case of arson at the Jintana Center.

"Last year alone there



In both blazes, live power lines that run along the beach road sidewalk obstructed firefighters. PHOTO: Christian Mouchet.

were three cases of arson at the center and Miss Komkai was shot dead," he said, in reference to the mafia-style murder of center heiress Komkai Kositoon in July last year.

The land that the center stands on is highly valuable, with stall rental costs ranging between 20,000 and 30,000 baht per month.

Suspicions of arson were heightened when a second fire broke out just two days later at a different part of the sprawling arcade. The second fire, which broke out at around the same time of day as the first,

took firefighters about an hour to put out. About 100 more stalls were destroyed. Damage was estimated at about 5 million baht. No injuries were reported in either blaze.

Police believe the fires could be related to a dispute over the inheritance of center owner Jintana Buringoht's multi-billion baht estate, as she is ill following a stroke.

However, Kathu Police Superintendent Grissak Songmoonark on February 17 said police were not ruling out other possible motives.

In a possibly related development, Phuket City Police on Tuesday February 17 took into custody a village headman from Pattalung province, who is a suspect in the Komkai killing.

The fugitive suspect, 47-year-old Wiroj "Plop" Issara, surrendered himself to Police Region 8 Commander Santarn Chayanon on February 17.

One man has already been arrested for the Komkai killing. The hired gunman, 39-year-old Arun Channa, was arrested in Krabi in December last year, and confessed to carrying out the assassination along with two other men, who also remain at large.

Shortly after Mr Arun's arrest, arrest warrants on charges of conspiracy to commit murder were issued for Mr Wiroj and five other men, all of whom remain at large.

Police urged the press not to jump to conclusions that the murder case and the suspected arson attacks were necessarily directly linked.

Speaking on the state-run MCOT network, Kathu Police Superintendent Grissak Songmoonark on February 17 said the investigation was still ongoing and police were considering all potential motives – including the possibility of an inheritance dispute among family members related to Mrs Jintana.

## Karon Beach cables going underground

KARON: The Phuket Office of the Provincial Electricity Authority (PEA) has announced plans to lay a new underground electric power cable from Karon Circle to Kata Beach.

Work is scheduled to begin in July and to be completed by the end of the year.

At a joint press conference held on February 12, the PEA and Karon Municipality announced that the 1.9-kilometer conduit will cost around 43.6 million baht.

The project will be jointly funded, with the PEA paying 24.2 million baht and Karon Municipality the remainder.

The work contract is divided into two parts. The construction engineer will sign an agreement with Karon Municipality, while the PEA will enter into a separate contract for provision of new power lines.

The PEA has already researched and designed Phase Two of the project, which will

extend the conduit 600 meters to Kata Noi. Phase Two work is slated to begin in 2010.

The announcement is the second of its type on the island in recent months, following the December 22 signing of a memorandum of understanding between Phuket City and the PEA to bury power lines along a 300-meter stretch of Thalung Road in Old Phuket Town, at a cost of 11 million baht.

-Khunakorn Terdkiatkhachorn





## Immigration law updated



PHUKET CITY: Phuket Immigration Superintendent Police Colonel Chanatpol Yongbunjerd has confirmed the introduction of a new law requiring foreigners holding Non-Immigrant visas to undertake their 90-day registrations at the Immigration offices in the area that they are registered as living.

The new law came into effect nationwide on February 15. However, Col. Chanatpol said that as many foreigners may not yet be aware of the rule change, Immigration officials would initially forward 90-day registrations to the correct offices for processing, if the visa holder applied at an Immigration office other than the one where he or she is registered as living.

"He or she will still need to return to their district of residence to complete their 90-day registration," he said.

## Phuket facing dengue threat

PHUKET CITY: This year could see a severe outbreak of dengue fever in Phuket if action is not taken to eradicate mosquito breeding grounds, the Phuket Provincial Public Health Office has warned.

Comparing the local infection rate in early 2009 with those of the five preceding years shows a higher rate than normal, health office chief Dr Pongsawas Ratanasang said.

Random inspections in every district in January found mosquito larvae in over 10% of residences, more than had been expected. The larvae were also present in schools, nurseries, temples, mosques and workplaces, he said.

Mosquito larvae were most commonly found in water containers in toilets, saucers under

flowerpots, vases and general water storage receptacles.

So far in 2009 there have been 15 dengue cases in the province, with no deaths. But comparing this infection rate with those of the previous five years (2004-2008), this is higher than the norm.

In 2008, there were 769 cases of dengue fever, with two deaths from the disease, or 0.26% of those infected.

Comparing this rate with other provinces, Phuket has the 12th highest infection rate in the country. People in the 10- to 14-year-old bracket had the most infections, followed by 15- to 24-year-olds. The areas with the highest infection rates were, in descending order: Karon, Kamala, Patong, Koh Kaew and Wichit.

## Entertainment venues ordered to conform to new safety standards

PHUKET CITY: Entertainment venues in 14 provinces around the south of Thailand have been put on notice to ensure they measure up to new government safety regulations or face the consequences. Addressing a press conference at the Phuket Merlin Hotel on February 13, Deputy Minister of the Interior Thavorn Senniam announced deadlines for entertainment venues around the region to fall into compliance with the new ministerial regulations.

The new measures were not designed to deter investors, he said, but rather to regain people's confidence and trust in the safety of the venues in question.

A dedicated inspection team will be set up to monitor compliance with the regulations, while the ministry will publish an "Entertainment venue inspection manual", advising owners and operators of entertainment venues on how to meet the new requirements. The inspection team will pay specific attention to fire safety measures, including the deployment and location of fire extinguishers, fire exits, fire alarms, entrances and exits, and so on. The team will report its findings directly to the Minister of the Interior.

Deputy Minister Thavorn said the ministry will offer advice and guidelines to the entertainment venues. This will help them to make the necessary improvements and upgrades on time. Entertainment venues need to work in cooperation with the government to ensure that an accident like the one that occurred at the Santika pub in Bangkok will never happen again, he said. Once they had regained the trust of the people, their businesses would benefit, he added.

Following an inspection, the owners of entertainment venues would have seven days to carry out the necessary upgrades and improvements demanded by the inspection team. In the event that the changes were not completed within the stipulated seven-day period, the venue would risk having its operating licence revoked.

It is not the government's intention to close down entertainment buildings but simply to check that all venues adhere to the highest standards of safety and security, said the Deputy Minister. The government wants to send a clear message to tourists that they can trust the safety standards of

the places they visit. It should not be about inspecting and forcing operators to meet these standards, but instead about advising them, step by step, how to act in their own and everyone's best interests, he added.

The South of Thailand currently has 974 licensed entertainment venues. Within the region, Phuket tops the list with 345. Designated entertainment zones have been set up to group all the venues in one area, ensuring peace and quiet in cultural and residential areas. Additionally, entertainment zones may not be located near schools, universities or temples.

### New Ministry of the Interior regulations for entertainment venues, as from February 13 2009

1. Entertaining venue to have same name as that specified on license card
2. Boundaries of the entertainment venue to be clear.
3. Employees present to check ID cards and age of customers on entry.
4. License card to be clearly displayed.
5. Staff to be registered and copy sent to district/sub-district.
6. Staff to be 18 years old and over.
7. Customers to be 20 years old and over.
8. No sex shows.
9. No weapons in the venue other than those of government officers in uniform.
10. Venue to open and close according to specified times.
11. Enough light to see other people from a distance of 1.5 meters.
12. Enough toilets, divided into male and female.
13. Venue to be clean.
14. Special rooms within the venue to have room numbers. If the door is not see-through, door to have rectangular window, 5 x 20 cm.
15. No forced or child prostitution.
16. Venue to have fire extinguishers, no fewer than one per 1000 square meters of floor space.
17. Venue to have suitable fire alarm system.
18. Venue to have appropriate fire escapes.
19. Venue to have appropriate ventilation.
20. Venue to control customer entry to prevent overcrowding
21. Venue to display map showing positions of fire extinguishers, fire escapes, entrances, exits and fire doors.
22. Venue to include signs showing fire escapes, entrances, exits and warning signs.
23. Venues are advised to have accident insurance for customers.
24. Venues larger than 200 square meters must arrange inspections to ensure compliance with the law.

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## PAD deployed

PHUKET: Approximately 20 of Phuket's People's Alliance for Democracy (PAD) supporters traveled to Udon Thani to attend a PAD meeting on February 14.

Udon Thani is a stronghold of the People's Power Party (PPP). The Phuket PAD supporters used Bangkok registered license plates to avoid possible confrontations and returned to Phuket the next day. There were no reported disruptions. However, there was resistance from the local police, many of whom served under Thaksin Shinawatra's regime, said a PAD spokesperson, adding that there had been no PAD meetings in Phuket since protesters disbanded after over running Bangkok and Phuket's airports in 2008.

-Atchaa Khamlo

## Death by dog leash

PATONG, PHUKET: Kathu Police are treating the death of a 36-year-old British man whose body was discovered in a Patong guesthouse as suicide.

Kathu Police reported finding Robert William Hilton hanged by the neck with a red dog leash suspended from the bathroom doorknob in a third-floor room of Baan Siam Guesthouse, Soi Banzan, on the morning of February 12.

According to Kathu Police, asphyxiation was the cause of Mr Hilton's death and he had been dead for about three hours before police arrived at the scene.

Mr Hilton's death was reported to police at about 4am by 30-year-old Sisaket native Sommai Deejai. Police said there were no signs of foul play. Mr Hilton's body was sent to Patong Hospital by rescue workers.

Ms Sommai told police that she, Mr Hilton and a group of friends had been out enjoying the nightlife on Soi Bangla earlier that evening when Mr Hilton left the group. Ms Sommai told police that she and Mr Hilton's had argued earlier that night, but not violently.

# Historic wall demolished by developer

PHUKET CITY: A 105-year-old Sino-Portuguese wall in Phuket's old town was demolished by construction workers on February 3 to make way for commercial buildings.

The wall, on Krabi Road, had formed the perimeter of Prapitak Chinpracha estate, built in 1904.

On February 3, Capt Bunyarit Chaisuan, an archaeologist at the Fine Arts Region 15 Office in Phuket, received a report that a section of the wall had already been demolished.

He called project owner Wisit Ittiwarapornkul and tried to persuade him to halt the destruction, saying the wall was of historic interest and was protected by law.

Despite this, the wall was completely demolished later that day. Capt Bunyarit reported the incident at Phuket City Police Station, where it was recorded in the daily log.

Mr Wisit had purchased the land on which the wall stood from a senior member of the Tantawanit family at a cost of 28 million baht. Other members of that family were unsuccessful in buying back the land from Mr Wisit at a higher price.



LEFT: The ornate 105-year-old wall, which stood in front of Prapitak Chinpracha estate in Old Phuket Town before its destruction on February 3. RIGHT: A row of new shophouses has replaced the ancient wall.

Work on the project, begun last October, is expected to be completed by mid 2009.

Old Phuket Town Foundation President Dr Prasit Koysiripong said the developer had made some concessions to make the appearance of the buildings attractive, such as by reducing them from four stories to just three.

The Foundation will cite the incident in urging the municipality to establish new building

regulations for the old quarter, he said. Mr Wisit told the *Gazette* that he did not think it necessary to respond to concerns about the fate of the wall as he had bought the land legally and, once in possession, it was up to him how to develop it. Parts of the wall were damaged before construction began, he said.

"I don't understand why people are only now saying I'm a destroyer of archaeological finds when the issue should have

been raised when plans for the new building were first announced over a year ago. If it was going to be a problem, I should have been given some kind of official notice," he said.

Mr Wisit added that the municipality had long been aware of the plans to redevelop the site, which were detailed in the design plans posted at the construction site more than a year ago. The plan shows the two commercial buildings – and no wall.



## Brit could face life for drug possession charges



Mr Griffin at a press conference to announce his arrest on drug dealing charges.

KAMALA, PHUKET: A British man is still being held by police and could face life in jail after being arrested at a police checkpoint in Kamala on February 4 for possession of a variety of illegal drugs.

David Kevin Griffin, 49, was driving toward Patong when he was stopped by Kamala Police officers at around 1:45 am at a checkpoint in Nanok Village.

According to police, Mr Griffin was in possession of a total of 16.48 grams of cocaine di-

vided into 11 sealable plastic bags, 10 bags of *yah ice* (crystal meth), weighing 16.3 grams, and three grams of marijuana.

Police said they also discovered drug-taking paraphernalia in a hip bag in the car and 22,470 baht in cash.

Police later searched Mr Griffin's house in Tambon Thepkraassatri and said they found 8.25 grams of dried marijuana and 29.96 grams of marijuana resin.

Mr Griffin confessed to

charges of possession of a Class 5 drug (marijuana). However, he has denied the much more serious charge of possession of two Class 1 drugs (cocaine and *yah ice*) with intent to supply.

If eventually found guilty, Mr Griffin could be sentenced from between five years to life in prison and fined 50,000 baht.

A report in the Manchester Evening News stated that Mr Griffin was a resident of Greater Manchester and had been living in Phuket for four years.

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# Cockfighting tradition's uncertain future

By Atchaa Khamlo

The bloodsport of cockfighting dates back over 4,000 years: the concept of pitting two gamecocks against one another was a popular pastime of the Indus Valley Civilization in 2,000 BC. Since its inception, rearing cocks for fighting has become a tradition that has spread across every continent and attracted large crowds, keen to view the spectacle and gamble on its bloody outcome.

Asia has long been a hotbed for the sport, particularly in the Asian subcontinent and Southeast Asia, with Thailand no exception. While a number of countries, particularly in Europe and the US, have banned cockfighting because of animal cruelty, it remains popular in the "Land of Smiles", which reportedly has approximately 500 cockfighting dens.

In general, gambling is prohibited by law in the Kingdom. Cockfighting, however, remains an exception, as decreed in the Gambling Act (*Praratchabanyat Garmpanan*) of 1935, provided it takes place in a sanctioned and licensed venue. The Act stated that governors have the right to legalize cockfighting dens within



Two fighting cocks square off against one another. PHOTO: Sakhorn Saengtongsamarnsin.

their province. The dens must be registered with the state and adhere to strict legislation regarding gambling.

Somkid Kalasuwan, a law assistant in the Investigation and Legal Affairs Bureau of the Department of Provincial Administration under the Ministry of Interior, told the *Gazette*, "Cockfighting gambling dens can obtain permission to operate from the district chief. The decision whether or not to allow people access to cockfighting and gam-

bling ultimately rests with the governor."

Cockfighting (*tee kai* or *chon kai*) is illegal in Phuket and has been for the past six years. Former Governor Udomsak Usarangkura outlawed the practice on the basis that he didn't want the bloodsport tarnishing the image of a tourist-reliant area like Phuket.

It would be naive, however, to think Phuket does not possess its fair share of underground dens. Villagers communicate in secret to



Cock keepers try to reduce swelling around the bird's eye to prevent blindness. PHOTO: Sakhorn Saengtongsamarnsin.

set up clandestine cockfights, risking arrest and prosecution in the pursuit of their beloved pastime.

Although the sport itself is outlawed in Phuket, the rearing and training of gamecocks is not. Banpot "Ko Nguan" Tourrob, 51, runs a gamecock training camp in Kathu that is home to 40 birds. As well as the camp, he owns legal fighting dens in Krabi and Phang Nga, two areas synonymous with cockfighting in Thailand.

He told the *Gazette* that, in addition to buying gamecocks for fighting, he also breeds them. At the camp in Kathu the gamecocks are nurtured until they reach an age of 10 months, at which point they are sent to the dens in Krabi and Phang Nga.

The prime age for a fighting cock is between 10 months and three years old. Once a gamecock is past its prime, it is retained to help train the younger fighters by providing a target for the new cocks to chase. The cocks are fed a diet of cactus pulp soaked in honey and bran to increase their strength and size.

Ko Nguan revealed the motivation behind training the

cocks to fight. "If a cock fights well and is successful, up to 200,000 baht can be wagered on it in a single fight," he said.

He doesn't subscribe to the belief that the sport is cruel. "Cocks are by nature fighting animals, so we allow them to fight. If we don't do what we do, they will be used as food anyway. We are giving the cocks a longer life," he revealed.

In Thailand, cockfighting can be split into two categories: cocks that are armed with fake spurs made from horns – replacing the ones that occur naturally at the backs of their legs – and cocks that fight au naturel.

Ko Nguan believes that the way his cocks fight – with the spurs – is far more humane. "It may appear more brutal because they're wearing spurs. Bouts where the cocks have no spurs last longer and the cocks sustain many injuries, none of which is fatal, meaning it will suffer more," he said.

"With spurs, the fights are much quicker and the loser generally dies so it doesn't suffer for a long time," he added.

Cockfighting forms an inte-

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**Thai Tradition: an elderly Thai man inspects a gamecock.** PHOTO: Sakhorn Saengtongsamarnsin.

gral part of Thai culture and has done so for many years, but as we move into a more enlightened age, many people are beginning to question the sport's cruelty.

A typical cockfight can last up to two hours; three 20 minute rounds with 20 minutes rest in between or four 15 minute rounds with 15 minutes rest in between. The gamecocks are dressed in colorful garments, making them more visible to their opponents. Often during the course of fights, the cocks are blinded, suffer bru-

tal injuries and fight until their owner concedes the contest or until they die.

A letter issued by the Ministry of the Interior decreed that cockfighting must do more to reduce the cruelty of the sport. This is a belief that is echoed by a number of animal welfare projects in the Kingdom, namely the Thai Animal Guardians Association (Thai AGA), which is based in Bangkok.

Roger Lohanan, Chairman of the Thai AGA, told the *Ga-*

*zette*, "Thailand does not have a set of nationwide laws to govern cockfighting. The cockfighting dens are allowed to regulate themselves, which frequently results in inconsistency in animal protection."

Thai AGA have been working alongside the Department of Livestock Development, as well as organizations from abroad, notably from the USA and England, to introduce legislation that will impact upon all animals in the Kingdom, not

just cockfighting birds.

"This legislation is aimed at anybody who keeps animals – be they pets, animals for farming, for sport and so on – to ensure that they adhere to the law with regard to animal welfare. To give an example, this statute will insist that an animal's living space and living conditions are adequate," Lohanan said.

Although drafted to cover all animals, the bill is especially targeted at cockfighting. It regulates the duration of fights and introduces rules to determine when fights should be stopped to reduce blindness, wounding and bleeding.

It is hoped that these regulations will halt the spread of cockfighting dens across the Kingdom, if not reduce their numbers.

The problem facing the animal welfare campaigners is that this legislation has languished in the system for the past eight years, with Thaksin's populist government unwilling to act on the issue and political turbulence preventing further action since the 2006 coup. Despite numerous setbacks, the two organizations are hopeful that under the new Abhisit government the statute will become a reality.

Also impeding Thai AGA's progress is the influence of powerful cockfighting enthusiasts. There are many Thai politicians and celebrities who love the sport and are eager to see it flourish. A major concern is that interest in

the sport will pass onto a new generation, resulting in an increase in the number of new cockfighting dens.

Another worry for Thai AGA is the potential for the spread of disease, particularly bird flu, which was a cause for much concern in Thailand in 2003/2004. Some 60 million chickens died during the epidemic that cost eight people their lives. Cockfighting was seen as a major reason behind the spread of avian influenza.

"We struggled to stop bird flu from spreading because of the number of fighting cocks that were taken to different parts of the country transmitting the disease to each other," Roger Lohanan said.

To counter the disease, the Thaksin government ordered the closure of all cockfighting dens. Ko Nguan, however, believes that closing the dens had an adverse effect. "We had to stop the dens for a year. Meanwhile, illegal dens began to spring up across the south, in places such as Surat Thani, Krabi and Phang Nga, which exacerbated the spread of the disease. The abolition of cockfighting was designed to prevent the spread of avian flu but, on the contrary, it actually made things worse," he said.

For the time being, this centuries old tradition will remain part of Thai culture, but if animal rights campaigners get their way, this brutal bloodsport may soon be consigned to history.

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Anti-alcohol protesters rally in front of the Public Health Ministry on February 16 to demand a ban on alcohol sales during Buddhist holidays, Songkran and the New Year period.

## Protesters gather to call for “dry Songkran”

BANGKOK: Some 200 members of the Alcohol Watch Network and its allies rallied outside the Public Health Ministry on February 16, demanding that Health Minister Wittaya Kaewparadai ban alcohol sales on Buddhist holidays and major festivals such as Songkran and the New Year celebration.

Protest leader Kamron Chudecha said the group wanted Mr Wittaya to forward the group's petition to Prime Minister Abhisit Vejjajiva, who chairs the national alcohol control policy committee.

Mr Kamron said the government should pressure the national alcohol control committee and the control policy committee so that tight restrictions on alcohol sales and consumption can be enforced.

The protesters agree with a health ministry proposal to put warning pictures and messages on alcohol bottles similar to those on tobacco products, he said.

Mr Wittaya said he would present the group's demands to ban alcohol on Buddhist Days to the national alcohol control policy next month.

## Plea to revoke ‘hazardous’ herbal plant regulation

BANGKOK: The Development of Thai Traditional and Alternative Medicine Department will propose that the public health minister ask the Industry and Agriculture ministries to revoke a regulation that lists 13 plants – including chili – as “hazardous substances type 1” under the Hazardous Substances Act of 1992.

Department director general Dr Nara Nakwattananukul said that since the regulation took effect on February 3, people had been panicking over the use of the 13 herbs, common ingredients in traditional medicines and many common food dishes. Moreover, farmers and herbal experts have expressed concern over the regulation's impact on growers and manufacturers, who can no longer freely grow, trade or use these plants to make pesticides.

The regulation was imposed by the Industry and Agriculture ministries in a bid to control pesticide production.

The plants are: neem, cit-

ronella grass, turmeric, ginger, Chinese ginger, African marigold, Siam weed or bitter bush, tea seed cake, chili, Chinese celery, ringworm bush, glory lily and stemona.

They are widely used by farmers as alternatives to expensive and toxic farm chemicals, pesticides and herbicides.

Under the regulation, growers, manufacturers, importers and exporters of pesticides made from the 13 herbal plants are required to conform to Agriculture Department procedures and follow safety and quality control regulations. Violators are liable to six months in jail and/or a fine of 50,000 baht.

Industry Minister Charnchai Chairungrueng said his ministry would revoke the regulation if the Agriculture Ministry requested it to do so. Meanwhile, a group of organic farmers and alternative agriculture activists plan to submit a petition to the Senate to investigate the members of the hazardous substances committee.

## Firms to discount products bought with 2,000 baht stimulus money

BANGKOK: Prime Minister Abhisit Vejjajiva said during his weekly program on the state-run NBT network on February 15 that some private firms offered discounts if workers used their 2,000 baht cheque from the government to buy their products. The discounts would give the cheques added value, he said.

The offer prompted the government to reconsider whether to distribute the money to workers

by issuing cheques or by crediting their accounts.

Government officials will receive the 2,000 baht gift money along with their monthly salary, PM Abhisit said. The government will also consider widening the criteria for handing out the gift money.

Currently, state officials and members of the Social Security Fund are eligible for the 2,000 baht stimulus money.

Mr Abhisit did not mention

if foreign workers contributing to the fund would be included.

He also expressed confidence that the supplementary mid-year budget would be ready to revive the sluggish economy next month and thanked MPs for passing the mid-year budget bill in the final reading last week.

The bill still needs Senate approval before it can be signed into law and the stimulus funding becomes available.

## Distance strains parent-child ties: survey

BANGKOK: Nearly a quarter of Thais believe their family ties have worsened during the past two years, according to a recent survey among youths and parents.

About one fifth also describe their parent-children relationships as “rather bad”.

“Children often disagree with their parents or guardians on their money spending, their outings, their choice of friends and their study,” National Institute for Child and Family Development deputy director Sivaporn Pokpong said at an academic seminar on February 12.

Conducted last month, the

survey covered 5,100 respondents. Half of them were youths aged between 11 and 22 years old while the other half were adults who have youths in this age group under their charge.

Of the young respondents, 16% openly remained friends with persons whom their parents disapproved of, while 21% said they did so secretly.

About 30% of the young respondents said their parents make decisions for them, whereas 41% of the parents believe their children have made decisions on their own, regardless of the parental advice.

Only 20% of those polled

said parents and children jointly made decisions.

“To improve family ties, everyone in the family should talk with each other more. Don't just stay in your personal space,” Sivaporn said.

Youths and parents together in towns reported better relationships than those with parents in rural areas had.

“Perhaps this is because many youths have come to study and stay in town, while their parents are still working in their home provinces.

The distance has reduced their time together, which in turn hurt their ties,” she said.

## Over 40 policemen on pirated CD blacklist

BANGKOK: Forty-one policemen, including two major generals, are included on a blacklist of

copyright-violation suspects recently leaked to the press.

“I have yet to see the list, but I've got a confirmed report that two police major generals' names appear on it,” Royal Thai Police spokesman Lt Gen Watcharapol Prasarnratchakij said on February 12.

Fact-finding committees would be established to see how the accused policemen were involved in the copyright violations, he said.

If there is evidence against them, they will face disciplinary as well as legal action, Lt Gen Watcharapol said.

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# Uproar over transfer of top cop

NAKHON SRI THAMMARAT: Residents of Nakhon Sri Thammarat have reacted in anger to news that Provincial Police Commander Sarawuth Phiranon is scheduled to be transferred to an administrative position at Police Region 8 Headquarters.

Since taking command of the province's police force last year, Maj Gen Sarawuth has launched investigations into the involvement of "influential figures", including local politicians, in major crimes, including the slaying of *Matichon* journalist Athiwat Chainurat.

Nakhon Sri Thammarat MPs led by Public Health Minister Witthaya Kaewpharadai discussed the issue at a meeting held at the Twin Lotus Hotel on February 9.

Mr Witthaya said that he had received petitions from citizens' groups and the local press claiming that the transfer of Maj Gen Sarawuth would have a large impact on a number of ongoing cases, and could cause them to collapse.

The public worries stem from reports that Maj Gen Sarawuth is soon to be transferred to be Commander of General Staff at Police Region 8 Headquarters in the upcoming

round of transfers of police generals.

It was reported that Phuket Provincial Police Commander Apirak Hongtong is rumoured to replace him, though Maj Gen Apirak said he could not confirm this when contacted by the *Gazette*.

A high-level source in the police department said that in the little over four months that Maj Gen Sarawuth has been in charge, there has been a fall in all categories of crime in Nakhon Sri Thammarat.

The public have been particularly impressed by his willingness to investigate influential local politicians. Late last year he subjected leaders of the Provincial Administration Organization to house searches, in which a large cache of weapons was seized.

One of the politicians in question is currently bringing defamation charges against Maj Gen Sarawuth over the investigations.

Maj Gen Sarawuth oversaw the removal of a number of both commissioned and non-commissioned officers from Cha-uat and Ron Phibun districts, including the Superintendent of Cha-uat District Police, when investiga-

tions into major cases did not progress as swiftly as expected. He also launched a complaint after authorities in Ron Phibun decided to drop a case against influential figures in the district.

He said he was not worried by the news of his transfer and that he had always carried out his duty directly and according to the rules, with the aim of bringing peace to Nakhon Sri Thammarat. He added that residents of the province had long suffered from the activities of influential people and that police must confront these figures.

"I'm a government officer and my salary is paid for by the taxpayers. I have to work to repay them. I carried out my duties for the common good, not for personal gain. If I was working for myself, wouldn't it have been better to sit back and do nothing?" Maj Gen Sarawuth asked.

He added that he was prepared to work wherever he was transferred, but he had been in Nakhon Sri Thammarat only a little over four months and the work was going very well.

He said that Nakhon Sri Thammarat is no ordinary province and is very difficult to control, every day falling deeper into the grip of influential figures.

A source in Police Region 8 Headquarters said that a 300-page report on the cases Maj Gen Sarawuth was working on has been sent up to the Office of the National Corruption Commission in Bangkok for investigation.

Nakhon Sri Thammarat Democrat Party MP and government chief whip Chinnaworn Boonyakiat said that the prov-

ince's MPs were all very concerned about the proposed transfer of Maj Gen Sarawuth.

He added that he believed the transfer still has to be approved by another selection committee and that he would co-ordinate with Deputy Prime Minister Suthep Theuksuban to try and ensure that Maj Gen Sarawuth could stay in his position.



Two men walk through a fire as part of a Makha Bucha Day ceremony at Limkorniew Temple in Pattani on February 9.

## Bloody Valentine

NAKHON SRI THAMMARAT: A woman and her two young children were found shot in their bedroom in the early hours of February 14 in what police believe may have been an attempted murder/suicide, though some doubts remain.

The two children survived the shooting, but are both in comas. In an unrelated incident a day earlier in the province, a woman was hacked to death by her daughter following an argument.

Police found Sirorat Namdokmai, 40, her daughter Paphatson Namdokmai, 9, and son Aphichai Namdokmai, 3, lying in her bedroom in her father's house in Muang district after being called to the scene by the victims' relatives at around 12:30am.

Mrs Sirorat was dead, but her two children were still alive and were rushed to Maharaj Hospital by rescue volunteers. Sawian Wannawas, 68, Mrs Sirorat's father, told police that his daughter came home from work at around 8 pm on the evening of February 13.

When she entered the house, her children were fighting over a new toy their father had sent them from Bangkok. Mrs Sirorat took the children to her bedroom, but they kept on fighting, Mr Wannawas said. Later, Mrs Sirorat's brother, Phithakphong Wannawas, 35, returned home. After he left his bedroom

to take a shower, Mrs Sirorat must have sneaked into his bedroom and taken his gun which he left on his bed, Mr Sawian said.

Two shots then rang out and he and Mr Phithakphong ran up to see what had happened. When they got there the door was locked. They tried to persuade Mrs Sirorat to open the door, but she shouted out "My children and I are going to go and live at the temple," before another shot was fired, Mr Sawian said.

They then broke down the door and found the three lying there, he added.

Mr Sawian and Mr Phithakphong told police that Mrs Sirorat had moved back to live in the house about three years ago after her husband, the son of an

army general, was left disabled following surgery. She had been under a lot of pressure trying to work and bring up the children alone and often complained about her fate.

Nakhon Sri Thammarat City Police Superintendent Phudis Narasing said that from their initial assessment of the scene and witness statements it seems likely that Mrs Sirorat shot her two children and then killed herself in a moment of insanity caused by the pressure she was under, which had been intensified lately by the poor state of the economy.

However, a source in the investigating team said that there were some inconsistencies with the physical evidence that needed to be cleared up before police

could draw any firm conclusions. The source said that the .38 pistol used in the shooting was found lying next to Mrs Sirorat's left hand, despite the fact that Mrs Sirorat was right handed, while the entry wound from the bullet that killed her was on the right side of her head.

The source said that it seemed fairly unlikely that Mrs Sirorat would have used her left hand to shoot herself in the right temple. Police have now called in forensics officers to assist in the investigation.

A day earlier on February 13, in neighboring Pak Phanang district, an elderly woman was hacked to death by her daughter, who police caught leaving the scene clutching a machete cov-

ered in blood.

Inside the house in Village 3 Tambon Pak Panang West, police found the body of Tan Kliangklaio, 82.

She had been stabbed multiple times and her body was covered with a sheet.

Police said that Mrs Tan's daughter, Somkhane Kliangklaio, 47, confessed to killing her mother. Neighbours told police that the pair often argued and the evening before Mrs Tan's body was found, they heard a violent argument between the mother and daughter.

Mrs Somkhane had a history of mental illness, but police said that she was fully aware of what she had done and felt very sorry about it.

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## FROM THE GULF OF THAILAND

By Max Rogers

# Earth Day featured in Phangan film fest



The 2009 Phangan Film Festival is set to take place from February 20-22. The second annual event is being organized by Swiss independent film maker Julien L. Balmer and sponsored by a number of businesses from Koh Phangan and Koh Samui.

The festival will feature screenings of six high-quality independent films from a variety of nationalities around the globe.

The program will include live music sessions in between each viewing on Friday and Sat-

urday evenings.

Organizers are hoping that the festival will help raise awareness of a variety of issues that affect the world and its inhabitants.

As in 2008, profits from the festival will be used to sponsor a collective beach cleanup, scheduled for April 22, which will mark Earth Day.

Donations are being invited beyond ticket sales with all proceeds going to benefit Green Phangan, a non-profit organization dedicated to preserving the

natural environment of the island.

Festival tickets are on sale at the door for 300 baht per person for one evening or 700 baht for entry to all three days of the festival. Thai nationals are offered a reduced entrance fee of 50%. Tickets go on sale at 6pm for the first screening at 7:30pm.

The Phangan Film Festival is being held at the Holiday Beach Resort near Thong Sala.

For ticket prices, listings and directions to the event visit: [www.phanganfilmfestival.com/festival](http://www.phanganfilmfestival.com/festival).



## Kids clean up

KOH SAMUI: Efforts to clean up Koh Samui went into action as members of the community came together on Maenam Beach on Friday, January 30.

The group, which was organized by Simon Lowcock of Bluewater International School, brought together 30 students aged 11 to 16, from a local school and Bluewater school, as well as the staff of Samui International Hospital and volunteers from the Green Island project, to clean a large stretch of beach along the North coast of the island.

The joint effort was an all-day event that began at the Lomprayah ferry port and culminated in an afternoon of beach activities on the newly cleaned area near Moon Hut Bungalows. Kayaking and beach volleyball facilities were donated by local businesses, who were said to have appreciated the endeavor that saw over 100 large rubbish bags of waste collected from the popular tourist beach.

"We were looking for a project that would help preserve the environment and would coexist with what is being taught in the school. We want to show the children and the community the importance of the "reduce, reuse, recycle" principle. What washes up on our beaches is also killing off the vital marine life around the island. We need to be setting an example," commented Mr Lowcock on the reasons behind the cleanup.

The large amount of rubbish, including a lot of glass and polystyrene along with plastic bottles, was loaded onto a vehicle donated by Samui International Hospital and taken to a recycling plant.

Bluewater's students issued the invitation to the Green Island Project to take part and are hoping to work further with the organization on future projects to preserve Koh Samui's natural beauty. Green Island is a non-profit group that has spearheaded a number of green initiatives around the island, playing a big part in the island's Global Mala festival as well as organizing educational awareness programs for the local schools.

"We definitely have plans in the pipeline for future events that will educate and benefit the community in some way. There is so much natural beauty here, we all need to be aware that it is up to us to make sure that it remains. It was a great day and we would all like to do it again," Mr Lowcock concluded.

## Two Teens injured in fall from hotel balcony

KOH SAMUI: Two brothers were seriously injured when a balcony railing gave way at the hotel they were staying in on Chaweng Beach. The two boys, Jeremy Webster, 18, and his brother Guy, 14, were taken to the hospital after falling some five meters from the balcony. One of the boys suffered a head injury from the fall while the other broke his leg.

The two were rushed to Bangkok Samui Hospital before being airlifted to Bumrungrad Hospital in Bangkok, where they are being treated for their injuries.

They are reported to be recovering well and will be returning to their home country as soon as they are given the all-clear from the medical team.

The family, on holiday from Australia, were said to be all together when the accident occurred.

A representative from the resort has made a formal apology for the terrible accident and has assumed full responsibility, claiming that they would do everything possible to prevent something like this happening again.

The resort was the 13-year-old Baan Samui resort that is located on the popular tourist beach of Chaweng. The three-story hotel is made in part from wood that is suspected to have been damaged by the sun and termites. Following the incident, all of the rooms at the resort were closed and a thorough safety inspection was carried out to ensure safety.

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# Two islands, one culture, 'Baba' style



PHOTOS by Sakhorn Saengtongsamarnsin



Love was certainly in the air this Valentine's Day as nine couples – eight from Taiwan and one from Phuket – came together in holy matrimony in a traditional

Phuket *Peranakan* or 'Baba' style ceremony.

Led by Phuket Governor Preecha Ruangjan and his wife Piyatida, who gave their blessing to the couples, the day began as

the grooms and families paid respect to God in the belief that he might bless their special day and bestow good fortune upon them.

A procession of rickshaws carrying the grooms and their

families then traveled to the brides' residence – the Hongsyok family's colonial mansion.

The grooms were welcomed and the families sat down for a tea ceremony during which

the couples were presented with *Ang Pao* (red envelopes given during Chinese New Year) containing gifts that could be used during their stay in Phuket.

Following the tea ceremony, the brides and grooms left to pay respect to Guinam, the Buddhist Goddess of Mercy.

Later that evening, the couples and their families were entertained by traditional dance displays from both Taiwanese and Thai artists as well as a performance by a group of students from the British International School. The Taiwanese couples traveled to Phuket after accepting the Tourism Authority of Thailand's invitation to tie the knot in a traditional Thai manner under the banner "Two islands, one culture".

-Tipwarintron Tanaakarachod

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# Getting to know Phuket's new Honorary British Consul

Martin Carpenter MBE

**D**evon born Martin carpenter recently celebrated 25 years of working abroad, from Qatar to Hong Kong, but it is in Thailand, and more specifically Phuket, that he has decided to put down roots. For 7 years he was the GM at The Blue Canyon Club, and later the Evason resort, before founding his own hospitality service business 'Phuket Concierge'. His courage and organizational skills during and after the 2004 tsunami were recognized with the award of an MBE. Never one to rest idle, he has recently taken on the role of British Honorary Consul for Phuket. The *Gazette's* Bruce Stanley caught up with the busy man himself.

It is not that easy to get an appointment with Martin Carpenter these days. He was recently appointed as the Honorary British Consul for Phuket and his new duties are keeping him pretty busy.

"Basically I'm responsible to help reduce the stress for British citizens who may have a problem while living in or visiting the Phuket area and to help them organize their personal affairs," he explains. "These problems can include everything from lost passports to assisting if there's a theft, health emergency or liaising with the local authorities such as the Tourist Police and Thai Immigration. And I now have the authority to notarize letters of income for those wanting a one year retirement visa".

Martin is indeed well qualified for his new job. He came to Phuket in December 1992, as General Manager at the then recently opened Blue Canyon Country Club. During his years on the island he has acted as a valuable community leader, providing his volunteer services for many charitable causes. When the tsunami of 2004 devastated much of the western regions of Phuket, Martin was serving as Chairman of the British Business Association of Phuket and he immediately gathered over a hundred volunteers to work in the relief efforts during that tragedy. He coordinated efforts to provide transport to hospitals, handled communication with relatives of victims, made hospital visits and provided counseling for bereaved families. This generosity of spirit was recognized when he was later awarded the prestigious MBE from the Queen of England.

"I applied to become the Honorary Consul when Alan Cooke retired as I felt my character fits the responsibility of the job," Martin continues. "I tend to be very task oriented and don't mind taking on challenges and

solving problems, which is the essential task of the Consul."

Martin was born in Devon, England and completed a course in hospitality at South Devon Technical College. From an early age, he was interested in travel and believed the hospitality industry would provide him with the opportunity to see the world.

He also developed a keen interest in golf. One of his first jobs was at the St. Pierre Golf and Country Club in South Wales, which started his career in golf course management.

"I started golfing at 11 years of age and though I was talented, I realized I would never reach a professional level even though I have kept a single figure handicap."

Martin recently celebrated 25 years working abroad. He began his overseas career in 1984 as the manager of a private sports club in Qatar. After assignments at sports clubs on Jersey in the Channel Islands and in Papua New Guinea, he settled at the Royal Hong Kong Golf Club for five years where he was Club Manager at Deep Water Bay.

His experience and talent at providing his clients with a quality experience made him the successful candidate for Phuket's Blue Canyon Country Club's top position. He remained at the helm of the Blue Canyon for two stints which totaled seven years and was part of the team that brought the prestigious Johnnie Walker Golf Classic to Phuket in 1994.

While Martin was GM at the Blue Canyon, he co-founded the Childwatch Charity Golf Tournament which has raised in excess of 8 million baht over the past ten years; money that has provided shelter and care for many of Phuket's children with great financial need.

Though he has had many offers to manage golf properties around the world, Martin has decided that he wants to stay on Phuket as he values being part



Martin, wife Lillian and son Leon. His parents recently retired to Phuket making him one of the few three-generation expat families living on the island. Photo by Dan Miles.

of this island community. After serving as Opening GM at the Evason Resort and working with Phuket Land for several years, he decided to open his own hospitality service, Phuket Concierge, which provides 'lifestyle' advisory services for the luxury market. He has the experience and local knowledge to recommend the best villa rentals, yacht charters and tour options for high-

end visitors. He also works with corporate clients on market surveys for future developments and is Phuket's most sought after Master of Ceremonies for gala events.

His private life is made complete by wife Lillian Woon-Carpenter, who is presently Resort Manager at the recently opened Dewa Resort, and their son, Leon. His parents recently retired to Phuket making him one

of the few three-generation expat families living on the island.

The new Honorary British Consul is a very busy man but he still tries to get in a game of golf as often as possible.

"When I moved to Thailand, I realized I had found my home. I have been happy here primarily because I have had some valuable Thai mentors such as Khun Prachuab Subchareon, past president of the Phuket Golf Association. My Thai mentors have taught me a lot.

I have learned that rather than pushing things to make them happen, changes should be allowed to evolve slowly according to local culture.

Patience is a tremendous virtue. There is always a way to successfully resolve a problem if one allows for sufficient time. It's important not to be overwhelmed by frustrations," he concluded.

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## EXPAT GALLERY

## Bill O'Leary

Most people will know Bill O'Leary as the Manager of Amancruises, a job he's had for twenty years. But I know Bill as an artist, a writer of screenplays, a sometime actor and musician, and as an all around good guy.

He first arrived in Phuket in 1987 as Captain of the famous *Stormvogel*, a 76 ft ketch which had won the Sydney to Hobart race as well as the Transpac and Whitbread races. He had just finished a movie shoot for 'Dead Calm', with a young Nicole Kidman aboard the boat, when he was asked to deliver *Stormvogel* to the then recently opened Amanpuri resort.

"I was asked to manage the yachts for the owners of the Amanpuri villas. We started with two boats in 1988 and today we have the largest hotel boat operation in Asia," he says.

"Basically, we crew, operate and maintain the yachts, vessels such as the *Maid Marion*, a 115 ft Gentlemen's Fantail Motor Yacht built in 1931, and *Maha Bhetra*, a 90 ft Ed Tuttle designed motor cruiser built in 1993 with three rooms designed like those at the Amanpuri."

Much of the success of Amancruises has been the result of Bill's talent for satisfying some of the world's wealthiest and most demanding celebrities, who insist

on a level of service sometimes difficult to provide so far away from the facilities and amenities of the Mediterranean.

"I would say that of the world's top 100 celebrities, most have been sailing with Amancruises. These are guests who appreciate privacy, security and attention to detail."

Bill is a committed family man, with wife Carolyn and four children born in Thailand. His commitment to life in Phuket has prompted him and his son Timothy to become Thai citizens, a process that could stretch the patience of a saint, but he maintains hope that his second passport will become a reality in his lifetime.

He was born in the outback of Queensland, Australia, the son of a flying doctor. After graduating with a diploma in Recreation at the North Brisbane College of Advanced Education, he worked driving catamarans to the Great Barrier Reef. He became a qualified sea captain under the USL Code and began his tenure on the *Stormvogel* in 1981.

Bill is a talented writer. He worked on four editions of *Sail Thailand*, a nautical guide to sailing in local waters, and the *Andaman Sea Pilot*, the local Bible for yachting. He expanded his knowledge and wrote the

*Southeast Asia Pilot*, a guide to the waters around Brunei, Indonesia and the Philippines.

But he writes not only about the sea. In 2005, he published *Tsunami Stories*, a compendium of personal experiences drawn from many whose lives were impacted by that tragedy. Proceeds from sales of the book went to assist 13 orphans who lost parents in the disaster at Khao Lak in Phang Nga province.

"I've been writing my whole life. It comes in cycles. I would say I'm creative, but I'm not sure I'm talented," he laughs.

He's appeared in local film productions including the Thai entry to the American Academy Award for Best Foreign Film competition, and during the past two years he's written two screenplays which he's looking to produce in Australia.

He maintains a keen interest in writing about his father's interesting life.

"My latest interest is painting. I'm working with pastels and watercolors. I call what I'm doing 'Outsider Art'. I'm drawn to the use of strong colors and large central images. I'm using both canvas and watercolor paper and enjoying exploring with both mediums. If you'd like to check out what I'm doing, please have a look at [www.billolearyphuket.com](http://www.billolearyphuket.com)."

Bill loves his life in Thailand. "Every day I witness paradox, irony and the unexpected. The Thai mode of existence gives me joy."

— Bruce Stanley



BY PETER CHILD FOR THE PHUKET GAZETTE

## ABOUT EXPAT GALLERY

The individuals profiled in the *Gazette*'s 'Expat Gallery' series have been chosen on the basis of their contributions to Phuket, and, as foreigners, for having made those contributions in successful partnerships with Thais. For many, the contributions have entailed significant investment, often at a time (mid-80s to mid-90s) when the rules of business were, ah, not entirely clear. Some of our subjects are not business people at all, but have added real value to Phuket as English teachers, journalists, artists, engineers, fund raisers, etc. But all have one thing in common: if there were a *Who's Who in Phuket*, they'd be in it.

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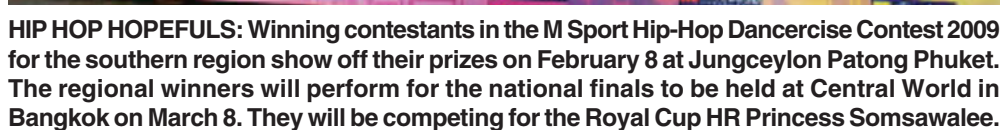
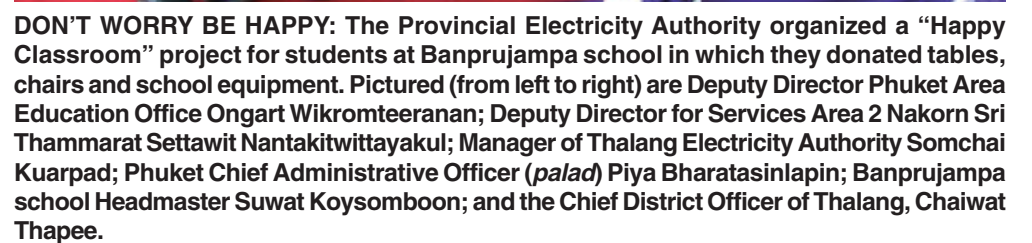
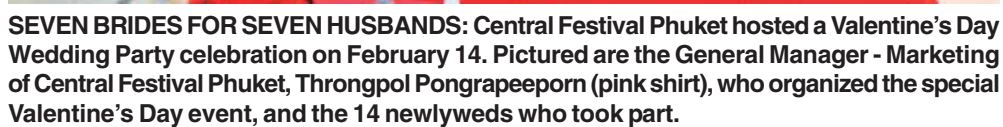
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# A master at work

**L**uis Fernando Vager – aka “Little” Louie Vega – is an internationally renowned DJ who started out on the streets of 1970s New York City, and who has since taken his unique brand of US House to a global audience. In addition to DJing at clubs around the world, Louie forms one half of the legendary remixing duo Masters at Work, alongside Kenny “Dope” Gonzales. Together, the pair have produced countless tracks and remixed some of music’s biggest names, including Michael Jackson and Madonna. Away from remixing with Masters at Work, Louie is a prolific producer, having released tracks under both his own name and an assortment of aliases, as well as for other musicians.

Born into a musical family – his father Luis Vager was a jazz saxophonist, while his uncle was legendary salsa singer Hector LaVoe – it was little surprise that little Louie would go on to forge a career in the music industry, especially as he grew up in an era and area where music was so prevalent – 1970s New York.

In anticipation of his forthcoming appearance at Seduction Discotheque in Patong on Wednesday February 25, Louie

took a moment to talk to the *Phuket Gazette* about what helped shape his career.

Cosmopolitan 1970s New York was an exciting place to grow up. Assuming the mantle from Philadelphia, New York emerged as the graffiti capital of the US; break-dancing took its first tentative, groundbreaking steps before becoming a pop culture phenomenon, and different styles of music were being played all over the city. What was it like for a young Louie growing up in such a melting pot of contemporary culture?

“The best music of all time came through in the 70s. There was a lot of experimentation with sounds and styles from many artists. There was a huge range of music going on and you loved lots of it. From folk music, to rock, to disco, to R&B, and jazz,” Louie said.

“I hung out at the block parties in my neighborhood, where I’d check out Afrika Bambaataa, Jazzy Jay, Red Alert, Afrika Islam and many other DJs jammin’ the best in street music. Break-dancers were rocking the floors and all the crews were battling through the art of dance. I also was a very good roller-skater and dance skating was *the* thing to do,

I picked up lots of my R&B influence while skating,” he added.

In a career spent DJing alongside legendary contemporaries such as David Morales and Tony Humphries, what influenced Louie’s US House style – a genre that was a world leader in the 1980s?

“New York definitely had the biggest influence on my style of music. I grew up at a time when hip-hop was born, street salsa was huge, disco was ‘poppin’ all over and music was at its all time high. You could find it all in New York,” Louie said.

“My uncle was also the greatest salsa singer of all time – Hector LaVoe – so as a kid I grew up watching him perform, creating many of his hits that are classics today. You could go to a jazz club, a disco, a street event, watch all kinds of very talented artists performing; this was my schooling. All this happened in New York City, and is what has made me become who I am today, as a DJ and producer,” he added.

Having spent his career playing some of the world’s biggest club venues, including the infamous Studio 54 in Manhattan, what brings Louie to Phuket to play at Seduction?



“Little” Louie Vega will be performing at Seduction Discotheque in Patong on Wednesday, February 25 from 10pm until the early hours. Photo by Dan Miles.

“I’m DJing at Seduction because of Tom Travers. He has a passion for this music and I know he will do his best to make sure I’m DJing at the right places. I’m trusting he will have me in the right space that will comple-

ment my sound. “I’m really looking forward to my second time in Phuket. See ya soon,” he said.

Louie Vega will be making a one-night-only appearance at Seduction Discotheque, Patong on Feb 25 from 10pm onwards.



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Location Map



# Moonlight Chi Gung

With Rick Attix

**W**elcome to the fourth column in the series of Tai Chi Timeouts. Each timeout takes you through a single, easy-to-follow *Tai Chi-Chi Gung* exercise.

One of the aims of Tai Chi is to develop the intrinsic energy (*Chi*) within the body through slow, rhythmical breathing exercises known as *Chi Gung*. This ancient martial art exercises the body and natu-

rally relieves tension from stress as well as aches and pains from stiff limbs.

In this particular exercise, we use the traditional Chinese medicinal concept that universal Chi can be absorbed into the body's energy channels (meridians) through focused intent and breathing.

Specifically, we focus on the soft, healing moonlight available during a full moon and bringing it into the body through

the forehead (3rd Eye Center) allowing the Chi to flow down through the body, removing toxins through the soles of the feet into the earth.

To begin, look up at the full moon in the dead of night and with your right foot step forward into a comfortable stance (70%-30% weight distribution).

Connect with the moon's Chi by raising your hands towards the moon. Slowly inhale

as you imagine scooping the moonlight into the 3rd eye center. Shift your weight into a backward stance (30%-70% weight distribution) and, with a straight back, slowly exhale while bringing your hands down alongside the body.

Feel the moonlight Chi gently energize your meridians and soothe the nervous system.

Allow the Chi to flow through your body to your feet, flushing any negative toxins through the soles of your feet into the ground.

Repeat the cycle by reaching up towards the moon again, shifting into a forward

stance, slowly inhaling and bring the moonlight into your 3rd eye center once more.

From a wellness point of view, the soft moonlight will calm the muscular tension in the face, neck and shoulders giving a more relaxed appearance.

The gentle effect on the body's glandular and nervous systems can only assist in the healing process.

Indeed, the knowledge that you were standing in the garden at 4 am bathing in the moonlight can only bring a smile to your face.

Shine on!

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

**Step 2:** Step forward with your right foot into a forward stance, release any tension in your hands and arms, and slowly raise your hands toward your forehead.

**Step 3:** Raise your hands until you are looking directly at the full moon between your hands. Begin slowly to inhale while you feel the sensation of scooping the moonlight Chi into your forehead 3rd eye center.

**Step 4:** Once you have filled your 3rd eye center with the moonlight Chi, shift your weight into a backward stance.

**Step 5:** Slowly begin to exhale through the nose allowing the moonlight Chi to begin flowing into the body and down the spine.

**Step 6:** Continue to exhale as you slowly bring your hands down alongside your body allowing the Chi to flow through your body.

**Step 7:** Bring your hands down alongside your legs, enabling the Chi to carry negative toxins out through the soles of your feet into the ground. Repeat the exercise by shifting into a forward stance again. Inhale as you raise your hands and scoop another handful of moonlight Chi. Continue the exercise for ten minutes with your right foot forward, then change stance and continue for a further ten minutes with your left foot forward. At all times focus your intent on absorbing the full benefits of the Chi.

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



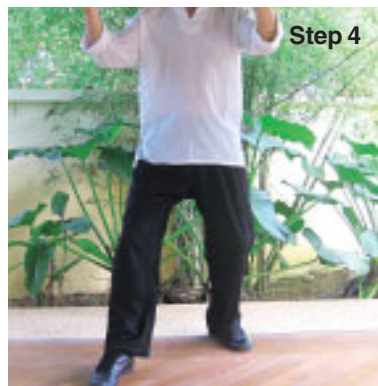
Step 1



Step 2



Step 3



Step 4



Step 5



Step 6



Step 7



Step 8

Rick Attix has been practicing Tai Chi Chuan for over twenty years with masters from China, Malaysia and the U.S. Rick holds regular Tai Chi classes in Kamala on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays starting at 9 am. All levels are welcome. Tel: 081-728-9980. Email: serenethai@yahoo.com. Website: www.taichiphuket.com.

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# Diving without the fear factor

In the last Beneath the Waves feature, I talked about some things to consider before learning to dive. The final point discussed in the column was concerns people may have before learning to dive. In that article I wrote that the best solution was to speak to your instructor, confiding in them any misgivings that you may have. That is absolutely the best course of action that I or indeed any dive professional would recommend because it's true that a problem shared is a problem halved. In this article I'm going to look at some common concerns people have and see if I can put some minds at ease.



## BENEATH THE WAVES

By Diver Dan

### Drowning:

Learning to dive takes you away from your natural habitat and places you in an environment where you are unable to breathe without a SCUBA system. Being underwater naturally raises concerns about drowning, particularly when breathing from a limited air supply. A good base for learning to dive is being a competent swimmer – common sense right? You'd be amazed at the number of people who want to learn to dive without being able to swim!

When starting out, the equipment seems particularly heavy, especially when you are given a belt full of lead weights. The first thing that goes through your mind is, "There's no way I'm going to float with all this stuff on," but you'll be surprised. With a fully inflated Buoyancy Control Device (BCD) there is no chance of ever descending below the surface.

Once you deflate your BCD you will slowly begin to sink below the surface and start breathing through your regulator. The mouthpieces are designed to fit snugly in the mouth and to never let water in unless removed. When you learn to dive your in-

structor will teach you about buoyancy control, which enables you to float mid-water and prevents you from sinking towards the bottom, eliminating concerns of not being able to reach the surface.

As an open water diver, your maximum depth limit is 18 meters. As part of your training course you are taught five different ascent techniques should you find yourself in a low-on-air/out-of-air situation. In the unlikely event of this happening – assuming you have stayed within your limits – you should be able to make it to the surface without much difficulty.

It will be drummed into you to constantly check your air supply so you are aware of how much you have. If you remain vigilant, the chances of you running out of air are almost non-existent. If you adhere to the buddy system – which you should at all times – should the unlikely happen your buddy will be on hand to supply you with an alternate air source. Dive right, be safe.

### Aquatic Life:

Many people are afraid of things that live in the sea. Jellyfish are a source of concern but number one on the list are sharks. Sharks, in my opinion, are the best things to witness underwater. Graceful, agile and beautiful, their movement is mesmeric. To witness them underwater is something few forget.

Sharks are not like they are portrayed in Jaws. They are not mindless killing machines; Steven Spielberg has a lot to answer for. In reality, sharks are afraid of divers. They have no idea what

we are, have no interest in us whatsoever and are likely to vanish if we ever go anywhere near them. Rob Stewart, writer, director and star of the brilliant documentary 'Sharkwater' summed it up perfectly when he said, "A six-foot fish could do whatever it wanted to a human, yet it chooses not to." The more you dive with sharks, the more you understand their nature and appreciate how incredible they are and how there is little to be afraid of. Respect them but don't fear them. In Australia, a country with some of the most shark-infested waters, there have been 193 recorded shark-related deaths – few of whom are divers – in 200 years. Every year, somewhere in the region of 100 million sharks are killed by humans. In the time it takes you to read this article, almost 200 sharks will have been killed.

### Peer Pressure:

Personally, there are few things more enjoyable than donning your kit and going diving with friends. Equally, learning to dive with friends can be just as much fun, if not more so. However, training with close friends or loved ones can occasionally promote anxiety. What often occurs is that one of the group is less eager to learn and won't admit it to their mates for fear of losing face, or you find that a partner is pressuring their significant other into learning.

Should this be the case it's important to stand up for yourself. Never allow yourself to be bullied into doing something you don't feel entirely comfortable with. Although incredibly safe,



PHOTO by Lia Barrett (Wicked diving) www.liabarrett.com

Good buoyancy control enables you to float mid water and prevents you from sinking towards the bottom.



PHOTO by NOAA

Sharks are not like they are portrayed in Jaws. Graceful, agile and beautiful, their movement is mesmeric. In reality, sharks are afraid of divers.

SCUBA diving has the potential to be dangerous, especially if you're not confident. Speak to your instructor about your true feelings and, if still keen to learn, perhaps suggest starting with a basic Discover Scuba Dive to build confidence and allow your friends or partner to continue the full course.

People also worry about holding back a group. With ev-

everything in life, some people take to diving faster than others. If you feel this is the case, consult your instructor and the dive shop should be happy to spend more time with you, possibly on a one-on-one basis, to help you pass the course. Hopefully this will help put a few minds at ease, but should you have any concerns, drop me a line at [diverdan@phuketgazette.net](mailto:diverdan@phuketgazette.net).

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# Sugar and spice and all things nice...

**C**rêpes Village is a recent and colorful addition to the restaurants serving international fare that line the winding roads toward Nai Harn Beach.

The cozy open-air concept of the Crêpes Village dining experience is immediately inviting and designed to make guests quickly feel familiar and at ease in the down-to-earth-with-a-touch-of-class surroundings.

The dining is partaken in comfortable, Thai-style salas, which are dotted around the open-air restaurant at discrete distances from each other.

The sweet and savory variety of crêpe combinations is a pleasant surprise for first-timers. There seems to be something to please everyone, whatever the mood. For those who like it simple, there's a slightly sweet 'Lime and Sugar' affair but for those who dare, or simply just don't care, there's the terribly naughty but exceedingly nice, Crêpe Suzette, which arrives bathing in a sweet, rich sauce accompanied by slices of orange.

But it's not all sweetness at this pancake emporium. Another surprise is the variety of crêpes with savory fillings on offer. There are egg, ham, cheese and mushroom combinations and a Mexican filling on the menu, too. Vegetarians can choose the spinach-filled 'Popeye' crêpe and there's even a 'Larp Moo' (Thai-style minced pork) crêpe for those wanting the fusion of east and west styles.

With the variety of sweet and savory crêpe fillings and garnishes to be tried – believe me, you'll want to try them all – it's feasible to have a three- or four-course meal; starting with something lightly sweet, such as the 'Banana Chocolate' combo and then on to one or two of the savory crêpes before finishing with something fruity and exotic, such as Strawberry, Pineapple or Apple and Ice Cream, perhaps accompanied by an espresso.

A recent non-crêpe addition



Sweet and savory pancakes can be taken away or delivered from Crêpes Village in Nai Harn. Or you can enjoy the cosy ambience of open-air dining in Thai-style salas in the garden.

to the menu is home-made pâte served in a basket with crispy French bread. It's a classic accompaniment to the crêpes.

The sunny yellow painted restaurant with windmill sails was originally planned as a beach venue, but it would actually be a bit out of place on the beach. It's more like a reasonably-priced and casual fine-dining concept, and sits snugly and easily accessible on the road toward Nai Harn Beach, a few hundred meters from the Saiyuan and Naya Road intersection.

Frenchman Frédéric Lavorel, the man behind the eatery's casual dining concept, set up the restaurant late last year having run a similar outlet in

France for several years – and he has received a warm welcome from Nai Harn residents who crave a different dining experience.

"Our guests are made up of both tourists and locals. Many tourists who find us end up eating here every day of their holiday," said Frédéric. "Some come for breakfast, which doesn't have to be crêpes – there

are also continental breakfasts without crêpes – and some drop in after the beach or for their evening meal," he added.

Frédéric explained that his recipe for success has been to maintain uniform standards with tried and tested recipes and quality equipment, while making the

crêpes experience accessible to most. "This is not a high-end crêperie but we have high standards" he said, adding that crêpes should be affordable.

That's not to say that Crêpes Village is a low-class establishment. It's somewhere in between the high and low end but it certainly has a touch of class. The French cider, for example, is served in flute glasses. The Wine Corner carries a simple – easy to choose from – yet carefully selected range of international wines, including Malbec, the grapes of which hail from Argentina and are renowned for their dark color and robust tannins. Sangria is a popular choice of beverage for groups and families and can be drunk by the glass (99 baht), by the half jug (360 baht) and full jug (710 baht).

The crêpes range in price from 55 baht for a simple sug-

ared crêpe to 150 baht for the more extravagant concoctions.

A visit to the village is an ideal family affair. Kids will love the colorful crepes but when the alcohol begins to take effect on mum and dad and the little ones have had their fill, they can work off excess energy in the restaurant's playground.

The crêpes are also a relatively healthy eating option, according to Frédéric, who explained that the crepe mixtures are low- and non-fat blends and that no oil is used to make the crêpes on the specially imported, top-of-the-range crêpière (crêpe hotplate).

Crêpes Village is open from 8am to 12pm and also provides take-away and home delivery services. For more information visit [www.crepesvillage.com](http://www.crepesvillage.com).



The terribly naughty but exceedingly nice, Crêpe Suzette.



The spinach-filled "Popeye" crêpe.

## On the menu

With  
Nick Davies  
Crêpes Village



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## EVENTS CALENDAR

## Upcoming events on the island

**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 new-comer 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 over 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 'Chainsaw' Wilson will also be back for some on-stage surgery. Check [www.phuketbluesfestival.com](http://www.phuketbluesfestival.com) for complete line-up. We will also have a festival warm-up show February 19 as well as a post-event jam session on February 22.

For further information contact Andy Andersen, Hilton Phuket Arcadia Resort and Spa. T: 086-6822639 E: [info@phuket-bluesfestival.com](mailto:info@phuket-bluesfestival.com) W: [www.phuketbluesfestival.com](http://www.phuketbluesfestival.com)

**February 21-22, Phuket Spicy Soccer 7s**

Phuket Spicy Soccer 7s - the hottest thing in Phuket during February. We are conducting a 7s tournament at the beginning of each year in Phuket as well as the November tournaments. As many teams were affected by the events at Bangkok airport this second edition will give them an opportunity to get their football fix. The event is held between 10am and 3pm each day. Games are 7 minute halves, no offside, 3/4 size

pitch (70m x 45m), full-size goals and interchange/rolling substitution. Please register your interest now! For further information contact Alain & Tim T: 02-990 6881 E: [info@Thai7s.com](mailto:info@Thai7s.com) W: [www.Thai-7s.com](http://www.Thai-7s.com)

**February 22, FREE Computer Clinic - Chalong**

From 10:00 to noon, at Sandwich Shoppe Chalong. 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: 089-196 0940. E: [woody@KhunWoody.com](mailto:woody@KhunWoody.com) W: [www.KhunWoody.com](http://www.KhunWoody.com)

**February 25, Pan Food & Fine Wines from Harvest Thailand**

Dinner with international flavors from "Pan Food" and fine wines from "Harvest" Thailand on Wednesday February 25 from 7pm to 10pm at Casuarina Beach Restaurant at the Dusit Thani Laguna Phuket. Pan Food exclusively imports world-class brands of beef, lamb, salmon and seafood from New Zealand, Australia, the USA and Norway. For further information contact Khun Sand. T: 02-6727982. Ext. 14. E: [kawissara@panfood.co.th](mailto:kawissara@panfood.co.th) W: [www.panfood.co.th](http://www.panfood.co.th)

**February 25, Louie Vega Asia Tour**

Seduction Discotheque presents the Louie Vega Asia Tour. Wednesday, February 25, from 10pm until 3am. VIP tickets are 6,000 baht per table and include a private table with service for four guests plus two bottles of alcohol and mixers. Tickets at the door are 600 baht each. Hours: 10pm - 3am at Seduction Discotheque. For further information Contact Khun Tan. T: 076-271614. E: [tararat@indigoRE.com](mailto:tararat@indigoRE.com) W: [www.seductiondiscotheque.com/phuket](http://www.seductiondiscotheque.com/phuket)

**March 1, FREE Computer Clinic - Patong**

From 10:00 to noon, at Sandwich Shoppe Patong. For further information contact Woody Leonhard T: 089-196 0940. E: [woody@KhunWoody.com](mailto:woody@KhunWoody.com) W: [www.KhunWoody.com](http://www.KhunWoody.com)

**March 5-8, Singha Thailand Open 2009**

The Thailand Open makes an emphatic return to the Asian golfing calendar next month. The Singha Corporation has signed as title sponsor while the Laguna Phuket Golf Club will be the host venue.

The Singha Thailand Open will be played from March 5 to 8 at Laguna Phuket Golf Club from 7:30am until 5:30pm and boasting prize money of US\$500,000. For further information contact Khun Manachai. T: 02-5134996 E: [manachai@tropicofcancer.info](mailto:manachai@tropicofcancer.info) W: [www.singhathailandopen.com](http://www.singhathailandopen.com)

**March 8, FREE Computer Clinic - Laguna**

From 10:00 to noon, at Sandwich Shoppe Laguna. For further information contact Woody Leonhard. T: 089-196 0940 E: [woody@KhunWoody.com](mailto:woody@KhunWoody.com) W: [www.KhunWoody.com](http://www.KhunWoody.com)

**March 10, Punchline Comedy - Live Int'l 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, and Australia/Vietnam at the Holiday Inn Resort Phuket, Patong at 8pm - 11pm. For further information contact K Boom. T: 083-6464671 E: [info@phuketcomedy.com](mailto:info@phuketcomedy.com) W: [www.phuketcomedy.com](http://www.phuketcomedy.com)

**March 14, Annual Mulligan Reunion Golf, Blue Canyon**

The Annual Mulligan Reunion golf competition is open to all. Entry will be restricted to 72 players. 18 holes Stableford on the Lakes course, prizes and buffet dinner in the Canyon Terrace



**Royal Phuket Marina in association with the Phuket International Blues Rock Festival presents  
FREE Blues & Rock Concert  
February 22**

For one night only, a blues and rock concert at The Town Square at Royal Phuket Marina, Sunday February 22 from 6:30 to 8:30pm. The concert will feature The Rich Harper Blues Band (USA), KNIKI (Australia), The Blues Machine (Bangkok) and Li'l Wille (UK & Koh Samui). After the event, enjoy dining at five waterfront restaurants: Les Anges, Skippers, Limoncello, Kampai and Mom Tri's Boathouse Regatta. For more info contact Esra Unlu.

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restaurant. Sponsorship is currently available with company banners at 3,000 baht per tee, green or fairway. Playing times are from 10am to 9pm at the Blue

Canyon Lakes Course. For further information contact Mr Vic Curran. T: 087-263 6885 E: [viccurran@aol.com](mailto:viccurran@aol.com), [leebrock@access.inet.com](mailto:leebrock@access.inet.com)

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## MONEY TALKS

By Richard Watson

**T**he current financial climate is one in which many people would simply prefer to keep their money in a bank deposit.

Unfortunately, there is a trend which has assumed the expression: "The race to zero", meaning that interest rates worldwide are heading to nil. In reality, it is not likely to be as widespread as that, but most major currencies are certainly close to zero. The base lending rate in sterling is now 1% which is a 300 year low. US Dollars have a base lending rate of 0.0 to 0.25% and the Yen 0.10%. The euro currently has a base lending rate of 2% but most currency analysts expect a 0.5% reduction in March with more to follow.

An increasing number of expats are telling me that exchange rates are now the main topic of conversation at many expat "watering holes" and one professional adviser said that his ambition was to be able to offer a deposit account paying 6%. Obviously, no bank will be that generous with a deposit account; however, 6% is attainable via a registered non-bank financial institution.

One area that has not been hurt by the credit crisis is Student Accommodation. "Money Talks" has covered the Brandeaux Student Accommodation several times over the years and that fund continues to perform well. However, there is a caveat with

Brandeaux; they have suspended all dealing with their various funds and they intend to "unlock" their student accommodation fund first. Student Accommodation, as an investment theme, is very much alive and well.

To recap, Student Accommodation is an investment in accommodation at university level. It has become a substantial industry with an ever growing student population. Student numbers might be expected to fall during a recession but the opposite happens for two major reasons: jobs and jobs.

For school leavers, the prospect of any reasonable future on the employment front is dismal without a university qualification. For existing students there is a realization that again the job market is not exactly attractive and this becomes a time to take an advanced degree.

Obviously, retrenchments cause people to think deeply about their future career prospects and again universities gain from this scenario.

Overseas students from a number of countries are now noting that a "cheaper" pound sterling makes study in the UK significantly more affordable than was the case even one year ago.

There are around twenty different companies involved in the supply of student accommodation; this is generally of a high standard with blocks of accommodation on average varying from 200 to 600 beds. The most common form is in ensuite bedrooms with communal study and dining facilities, although often buildings have 3, 4 and even 5 bedroomed apartments included.

One new entrant to the market is Coral Student Portfolio which has based its investment fund in Luxembourg, automatically making it subject to European Union laws. Three of Coral's directors are in fact former directors of Brandeaux, which means they are highly ex-

# Profiting from academia



The future never looked very bright for these four undergraduate flatmates in the 1980s BBC sitcom "The Young Ones", featuring violent punk rocker Vyvyan (Adrian Edmondson), pompous anarchist Rick (Rik Mayall), down-and-out hippie Neil (Nigel Planer), mysterious wheeler and dealer Mike (Christopher Ryan), and their landlord Jerzei Balowski (Alexei Sayle).

perienced in the industry.

The current recession is not having an adverse effect on the industry as demand continues to outstrip supply. Occupancy rates are very high, normally in the region of 95-100%. Students pay in advance and rents increase every year.

Coral predicts a net return of 8%-10% which, when compared to other groups in the industry, is not overly ambitious.

Looking to the future, there is considerable interest in expanding into Western Europe; many believe that student accommodation is the largest untapped sector in the real estate market in this region. At present, it is being compared to the UK of several years ago in development terms.

One of the great attractions of student accommodation as a separate asset class and investment area is its basic predictability. Even in the midst of what is proving to be a very difficult recession with virtually all classes

of commercial and residential property severely impacted, student accommodation continues to thrive.

Coral has as its investment adviser Strutt & Parker Real Estate Financial services - London; the custodian Bank is Deutsche Bank Luxembourg; the auditors are Ernst & Young, Luxembourg.

Investors pay no up-front fees - 100% of funds are invested and the annual management charge is 1.5%.

An income facility exists, where required; otherwise gains simply compound in the fund. In times of great uncertainty, student accommodation is even more attractive; it is one of the few areas that is recession proof.

Real Estate Group Knight Frank is just one of the major groups that has taken an active interest in Student Accommodation and offers dedicated student accommodation consultancy service covering the UK and mainland Europe. This is targeted at corporate groups wishing to be-

come established or to expand in this area.

Knight Frank states that London alone requires at least another 100,000 student bedrooms, and currently there are 200,000 students unable to access purpose-built accommodation. They also report that Higher Education is of vital importance as it accounts for around 4% of London's GDP (Gross Domestic Product). The Financial Times reports that student numbers in the UK and Western Europe have risen by 31% in the past decade.

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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# Sakhoo revenue to drop

THALANG: The administrative body of Tambon Sakhoo, Thalang district, expects revenue in the 2009 fiscal year to fall below the target of 59 million baht.

"Last year, we collected 40 million baht and targeted to achieve 59 million baht this year.

However, we expect a shortfall, due to the economic crisis as well as the cut in land transactions tax," said Surapong Panyawai, chief of the body.

Most of the revenue comes from household taxes as well as taxes on banners. The tambon

hosts five large hotels and two medium-sized hotels, aside from several small resort and hotels. The economic crisis and low confidence following the airports closure has resulted in a sharp drop in tourists to the tambon, he said.

In the fiscal year, the tambon expects to spend 59 million baht including 7 million baht for the construction of a new kindergarten school and another 8 million for educational materials and staff salary.

-The Nation

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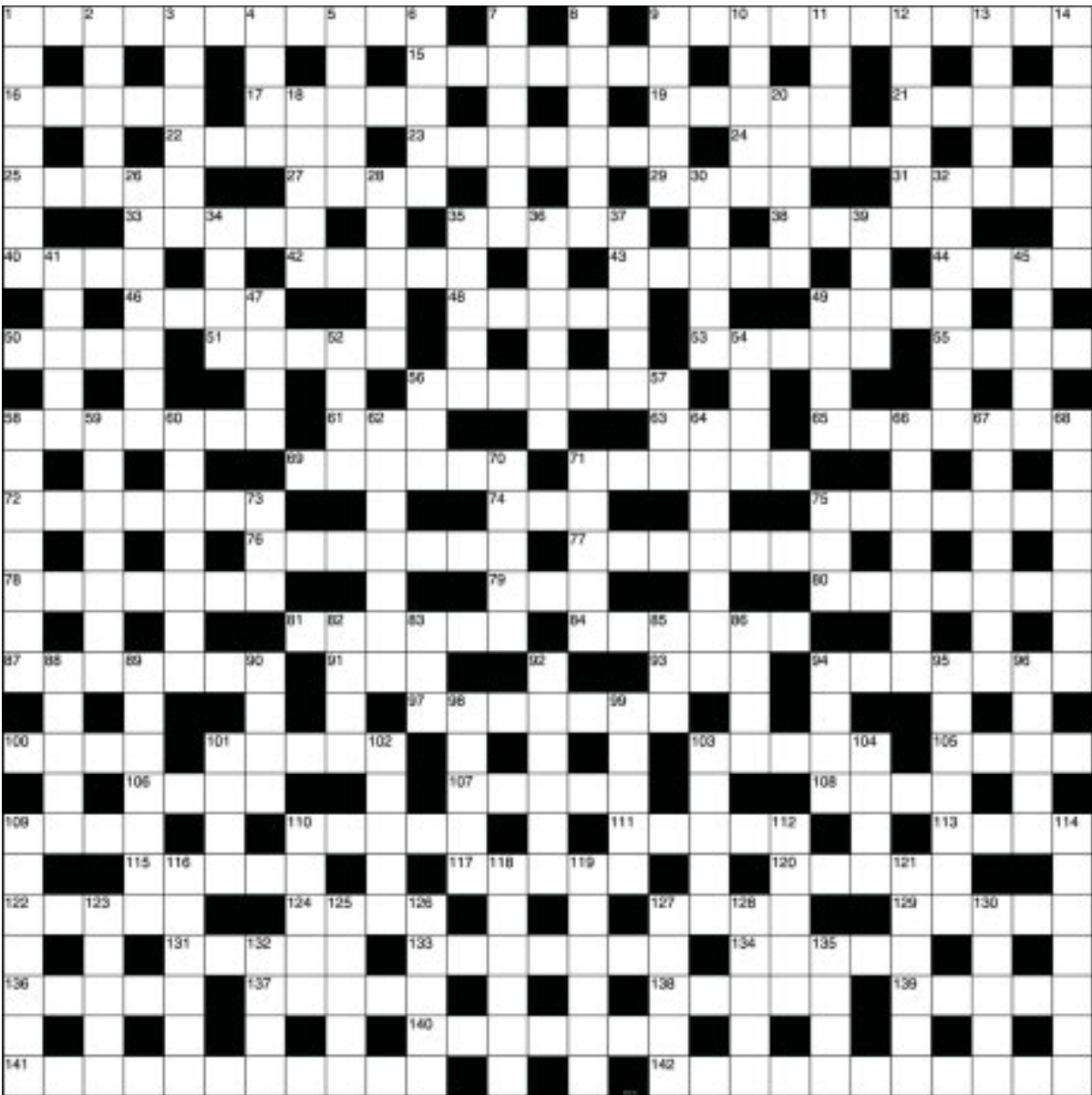
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PUZZLES

Spot the Difference

Can you find the ten differences between the two cartoons below? And can you find them faster than the rest of the family?



The BIG Crossword

© Lovatts Publications Pty Ltd

Across

1. Ship warning towers

9. Duties

15. Simmered (eggs)

16. Beijing is there

17. Din

19. Sheikhdом, Abu...

21. Spanish mister

22. Stoneworker

23. Mocking whistle

24. Sheets of glass

25. Gentle prod

27. Unassuming

29. Abominable snowman

31. Turn over

33. Make sense (3,2)

35. Leopard's markings

38. Revolt (against)

40. Actor, James... Jones

42. Tom Hanks film, Turner &...

43. Lament

44. Milky gem

46. Raise

48. Delete

49. Defensive ditch

50. Famous volcano

51. Charade

53. Candle

55. Rupture

56. Flexible

58. Easily cracked

61. Boxer, Muhammad...

63. Mother sheep

65. Closest

69. Reflections

71. Tell

72. Wood joint slot

74. Pod vegetable

75. Flight attendant

Down

76. Blue-backed Pacific salmon

77. Caller

78. Abandon at rendez-vous (5,2)

79. Hymn,... Maria

80. European language

81. Like better

84. Rope loops

87. Go down

91. Before (poetic)

93. See next page (1,1,1)

94. On the other hand

97. Wackiest

100. Balanced

101. Former US president, George... (1,4)

103. From the largest continent

105. Extended family

106. Foot digits

107. Peeled

108.... Ness Monster

109. Variety

110. Roost

111. Praise highly

113. Make... meet

115. Mexican dip

117. Ethiopia's... Ababa

120. Cures

122. Greasy (of meat)

124. Police informer

127. Sneering laugh

129. River mammal

131. Receded

133. Capital of Cyprus

134. Islam holy city

136. Auxiliary

137. My Fair Lady heroine,... Doolittle

138. More arid

139. Signalling flame

140. Decorative mattress cover

Across

141. Garden shade building

142. Defiant

Down

1. Authorise for use

2. Reduce to powder

3. Joined forces,... up

4. Possesses

5. French river

6. Dot

7. Portable computer

8. Prevent

9. Curiously

10. Jumped

11. Enter (2,2)

12. Paper hanky

13. Weight unit

14. German pastry

18. Enthusiasm

20. Scottish infant

26. Daring

28. Summon up

30. Eject lava

32. Schemer

34. Take off (hat)

35. Cowrie or conch

36. Equal (2,1,3)

37. Stink

39. Rude person

41. Church table

45. Saudi natives

47. Account

49. Miserly

52. Large mollusc

54. Assist illegally

56. Glutton

57. Slippery fish

58. Befuddled

59. Progress, make...

60. Adjust (knobs)

62. Scrawnier

64. Most cautious

Across

66. Typical

67. Hard to pin down

68. News

70. Harpoon

71. Glossy bird

73. Clairvoyance (1,1,1)

75. Country,... Lanka

82. Clarets

83. Turkish headgear

85. Leave the rat race,... out

86. Great ages

88. Embassy aide

89. Challenge (will)

90. Pats

92. Layered

94. Welt

95. Wealthiest

96. Medal

98. Third brightest star,... Centauri

99. Facets

101. Flow up (of tears)

102. Renter

103. Astir

104. The N of NB

109. Treacle sweets

110. Door section

112. The... Tenors

114. Over-abundance

116. Nautical yes (3,3)

118. Stick-on symbols

119. Of unsound mind

121. Lounged

123. Tribal emblem

125. Farewell

126. Jack (playing card)

127. World-weary

128. Kuwaiti rulers

130. Equatorial breeze,... wind

132. Little Women sister

135. Small bed

Solution on next page

su | do | ku

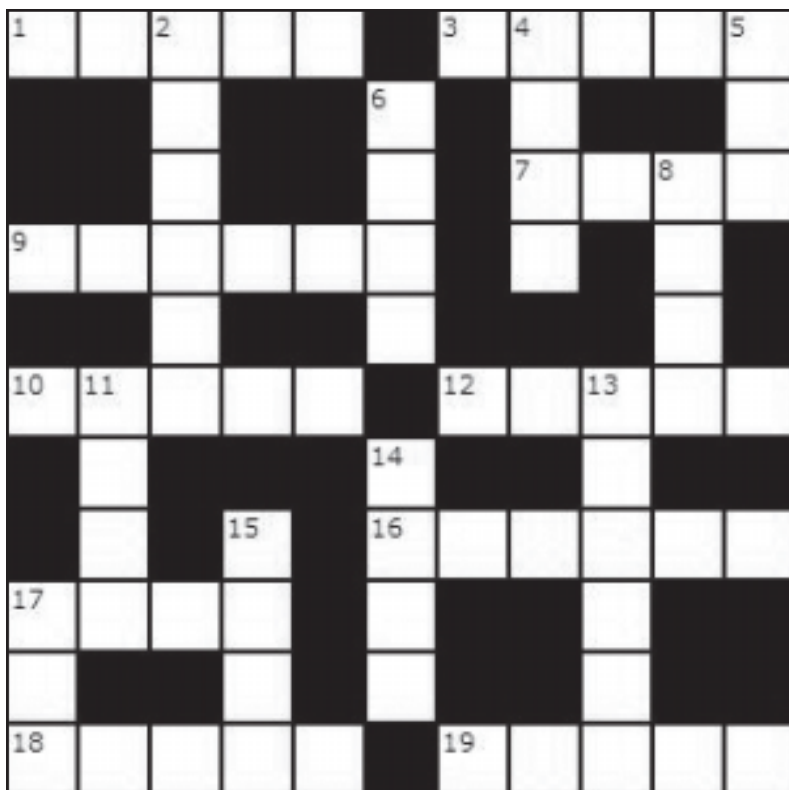
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Solution, tips and computer program at [www.sudoku.com](http://www.sudoku.com)

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

The principle of 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. Guess if you will, but each Sudoku puzzle can be solved using logic alone. Beware: this puzzle has only one solution, which is on the next page.





## Quick Crossword

### Across

1. Old language
3. Strange
7. Metal
9. Machines
10. Game
12. Internet device
16. Pleased
17. Test
18. Have fun
19. Drum

### Down

2. Fall down
4. Leave
5. Hideaway
6. Be quiet
8. Monster
11. Fake
13. Create
14. Music
15. Bullets
17. Used for seeing

*Solution below*

## Get your brain in gear with the

# MONSTER QUIZ

1. What are the most easterly & westerly states in America?
2. What is the highest possible hand in Texas Hold'em?
3. Who wrote *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*?
4. Which F1 driver died in the 1994 San Marino GP?
5. Garry Kasparov was first beaten by which computer?
6. Where will the 2012 Olympics be held?
7. Which island was sold to Scotland in 1266?
8. Which of the world's capital cities is listed last in a gazetteer?
9. What substance is Superman's weakness?
10. In which Canadian river valley was gold discovered in 1896?
11. Which Asian country has a Bill of Rights for cows?
12. How many of Henry the VIII's wives lost their heads?
13. What was the name of the diluted rum that was given to sailors?
14. Who had hits with *Paint it Black* and *Love is Strong*?
15. What's the name of Beethoven's only opera?
16. In which film does Count Basie's Orchestra appear in the middle of a desert?
17. Which British actor plays the lead role in the series "House"?
18. In which dance does the male represent a bullfighter and the female his cloak?
19. What country did King Gustav V reign from 1907 to 1950?
20. In pop, who was the "King of the wild frontier"?

*Answers below*



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# Puzzle Solutions

### Solution to this week's Quick crossword



## Monster Quiz Answers

1. Alaska & Alaska;
2. Royal flush;
3. Mark Twain;
4. Ayrton Senna;
5. Deep Blue;
6. London, England;
7. Isle of Man;
8. Zagreb;
9. Green Kryptonite;
10. The Klondike;
11. India;
12. 2;
13. Grog;
14. The Rolling Stones;
15. Fidelio;
16. Blazing Saddles;
17. Hugh Laurie;
18. Paso Doble;
19. Sweden;
20. Adam Ant.

### Solution to this week's Sudoku puzzle

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

### Solution to this week's BIG Crossword

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| L | I | G | H | T | H | O | U | S | E | S | L | T | O | B | L | I | G | A | T | I | O | N | S |
| I | R | E | W | E | P | O | A | C | H | E | D | E | O | I | U | T |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| C | H | I | N | A | N | O | I | S | E | P | W | D | H | A | B | I | S | E | N | O | R |   |   |
| E | N | M | A | S | O | N | C | A | T | C | A | L | P | A | N | E | S | C | U |   |   |   |   |
| N | U | D | G | E | M | E | E | K | O | R | Y | E | T | I | U | P | E | N | D |   |   |   |   |
| S |   | A | D | D | U | P | V | S | P | O | T | S | R | R | E | B | E | L |   |   |   |   |   |
| E | A | R | L | O | H | O | O | C | H | N | M | O | U | R | N | O | O | P | A | L |   |   |   |
| L | L | I | F | T | K | E | R | A | S | E | P | M | O | A | T | R |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| E | T | N | A | F | A | R | C | E | L | P | L | T | A | P | E | R | T | E | A | R |   |   |   |
| B | A | N | L | L | P | L | I | A | B | L | E | B | A | E | B |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| B | R | I | T | T | L | A | L | I | R | E | W | E | N | E | A | R | E | S | T |   |   |   |   |
| E | N | W |   |   | I | M | A | G | E | S | R | E | L | A | T | E | V | V | I |   |   |   |   |
| M | O | R | T | I | S | E | N | P | E | A | R | S | T | E | W | A | R | D |   |   |   |   |   |
| U | O | D | S | O | C | K | E | Y | E | V | I | S | I | T | O | R | R | S | I |   |   |   |   |
| S | T | A | N | D | U | P | I | A | V | E | E | I | T | A | L | I | A | N |   |   |   |   |   |
| E | D | L | P | R | E | F | E | R | N | O | O | S | E | S | G | V | G |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| D | E | S | C | E | N | D | E | R | E | T | P | T | O | W | H | E | R | E | A | S |   |   |   |
| N | O | A | D | Z | A | N | I | E | S | T | N | E | I | W |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| E | V | E | N | W | B | U | S | H | L | E | I | A | S | I | A | N | C | L | A | N |   |   |   |
| O | T | O | E | S | I | P | A | R | E | D | W | L | O | C | H | R |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| T | Y | P | E | L | P | E | R | C | H | E | E | X | A | L | T | E | N | D | S |   |   |   |   |
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### Solution to this week's Cartoon Puzzle







## Off the SHELF

By James Eckardt

*A History of the Arab Peoples* (Faber and Faber, London, 1991, 566pp) is the masterwork of renowned Arab scholar Albert Hourani, completed two years before his death in 1993.

Born in Manchester, England of Lebanese parents, Hourani was educated at Oxford and went on to enjoy a long and distinguished teaching career at Oxford, Harvard, Princeton and other universities. His history of the Arabs runs from the time of the Prophet Muhammad until 1990. An afterword by historian Malise Ruthven takes the reader up to 2004.

The Arab conquest after the death of Muhammad in 622 was one of the swiftest in history. The reign of the Caliphs stretched from Spain to Iran. "The absorp-

tion of such a large area into a single empire had in due course created an economic unit important not only for its size but because it linked together two great sea basins of the civilized world, those of the Mediterranean and the Indian Ocean," Hourani writes. "The movement of armies, merchants, craftsmen, scholars and pilgrims between them became easier and also that of ideas, styles and techniques. Within this vast sphere of interaction it was possible for there to grow up strong governments, large cities, international trade and a flourishing countryside, maintaining the conditions for each other's existence."

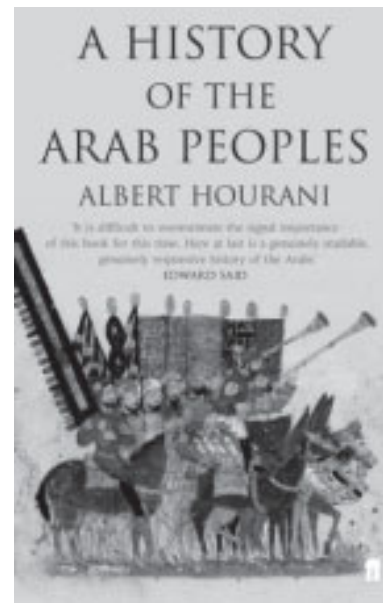
While all this was taking place, Europe was in the deep sleep of its Dark Ages. "By the tenth and eleventh centuries, the great cities of the Islamic countries were the largest in the western half of the world," Hourani observes. Cairo, Baghdad and Cordoba each had a population of over one million. Paris, Venice and Florence had a mere 100,000.

Hourani's book is much

more than a political history. He ranges widely throughout Arab philosophy, history, literature and religious thought. As Thomas Aquinas sought to reconcile faith and reason in his *Summa Theologica*, Arab philosophers were working along the same lines and many, like Avicenna and Averroes, came to be strong influences on Thomas.

The wealth of intellectual detail, eventually, becomes too much, at least for this reader, and I yearned for him to get on with the history of the Arabs.

They were largely subdued by the Ottoman Turkish Empire which led in turn to the domination of the western powers. A turning point was reached with Napoleon's invasion of Egypt in 1798. The Arabs were impressed with the retinue of scholars and scientists he brought with them. As the Islamic historian al-Jabarti observed: "If any of the Muslims came to them in order to look around they did not prevent him entering their most cherished places...and if they found in him any appetite or desire for knowl-



edge, they showed their friendship and love for him, and they would bring out all kinds of pictures and maps, and animals and birds and plants and histories of the ancients and of nations and tales of the prophets. I went to them often, and they showed me all that."

After the Napoleonic wars, European power and influence spread even further: trade in

manufactured goods, steamships and railways. And it wasn't long, in 1830, before France just decided to grab Algeria for itself, seizing its best land for their own colonists and savagely repressing revolt. Morocco and Tunisia later became protectorates and Italy conquered Libya in 1911. The collapse of the Ottoman Empire brought the Middle East under English and French control.

Only World War II would spell the end for colonialism and a new era of Arab nationalism. In 1964, Egyptian scholar Sayyid Qutb published *Ma'alim fi'l-tariq* (*Signposts on the Path*) which advocated a return to pure Islam: "The leadership of western man in the human world is coming to an end, not because western civilization is materially bankrupt, or has lost its economic or military strength, but because the western order has played its part and no longer possesses that stock of 'values' which gave it its predominance. The turn of Islam has come."

This book is the intellectual foundation of Al Qad.



Barbara Wallraff is a weekly syndicated columnist for *King Features* and a contributing editor and words columnist at *The Atlantic Monthly*, where she has worked since 1983.

**Q:** A story in today's paper included the phrase 'salaries are cut in half.' It is, of course, a logical impossibility to cut anything 'in half,' since you are necessarily turning something singular into a plural - 'halves.' No other sub-

Welcome to Word Court, where **Barbara Wallraff** unravels some of the mystery that shrouds the English language, debunking confusing usage and clearing away the clutter that prevents clear understanding - all by answering readers' questions.

divisions are subjected to this grammatical mistreatment. One never sees or hears that, for instance, something has been 'cut in quarter.' Is this misconstruction now considered acceptable?"

Tim O'Brien  
Allen Park, Michigan

**Barbara replies:** Surely you've realized that English is full of expressions that are considered correct even though they don't quite make sense. "In half" is one of them. To be honest, I'd never noticed how illogical it is until you pointed it out.

The word "half" is more than a thousand years old, and anything that has been around that long is bound to have developed some quirks. For instance, the original meaning of "half" was "side," and although that meaning has long been obsolete, the phrase "on behalf of," which

grew out of "half," still does mean something like "on the side of" or "on the part of." As for the quirk you don't like, "in half" meaning "into halves" is very well established. It's been with us at least since 1820, when the poet Percy Bysshe Shelley used it in *Prometheus Unbound*: "Each by lightning riven in half."

As I thought all of this over, I wondered (on your behalf!) whether the fact that "half" has no etymological relationship to "two" - unlike, say, "one-third" and "three" - might help explain the odd phrase. Then I realized that we say, similarly, "cut it in two" - but not "cut it in three." Evidently, what's special about "half" isn't the word itself but its connection to the very common, basic idea of two.

**Q:** Kindly explain the difference between the words 'rein

and 'reign.' In newspapers I continually see phrases such as 'rein in' and 'give him free reign.' I believe those should be 'rein in' and 'free rein.' Am I correct?"

Ted Young,  
Saratoga Springs, NY

**Barbara replies:** Yes, you are. "Reining in" and "free rein" are metaphors that have to do with riding horses.

To "rein in" a horse literally is to assert control by pulling on the reins, and to "give it free rein" is to do the opposite.

To "reign" is what God and kings and queens do. And, of course, to "rain" is what cats and dogs do. (Joke!)

However, I've actually seen "free rain" written: "I would hate to give free rain to executors and administrators ..." That mistake is bizarre. I mean, as far as I know, rain is free to everyone.

**Q:** Years ago, I heard a very interesting lecture in which the professor cited the roots of English, French and German surnames. I have made several unsuccessful attempts to locate the book that he probably used for his information. Do you know of a book that explains the origins of surnames?"

Clyde MacDonald  
Hampden, Maine

**Barbara replies:** Most books about surnames treat one country or ethnicity's worth; I would suppose your professor used a number of books in his research. These days, websites can be equally helpful.

Take a look at [www.genealogytoday.com/names/origins](http://www.genealogytoday.com/names/origins) and the pages it links to for specific countries, and you'll be on your way to learning what you want to know.

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**The Phuket Gazette**

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## A new convention center? Twenty years and counting...

With the locally dominant Democrat Party coming to power after eight years leading the opposition, it was perhaps inevitable that there would be a renewed push to build a world-class international conference and exhibition center in Phuket.

For almost two decades, numerous sites and funding schemes for the project have been proposed, studied and reviewed.

From the outset, the Phuket Chamber of Commerce proposed reclaiming more land off Saphan Hin to site the project and has stuck to this preference over the years, with the support of the Tourism Authority of Thailand during the Thaksin years.

Including a convention center in a larger Ao Phuket development project off Saphan Hin has been a feature of a number of proposals, some of them truly futuristic.

Building a megaproject on reclaimed land would seem to have little to do with "sustainable tourism" development, but the project was nevertheless picked and pushed ahead by the Designated Areas for Sustainable Tourism Administration (DASTA) last year under the government of Samak Sundaravej – which essentially dusted off a previous design put forward by the Interior Ministry's Town and Country Planning Department and gave it a much higher price tag.

Earlier, under the caretaker government of Surayud Chulanont, then Phuket Governor Niran Kalayanamit secured the right to use Treasury Department land in Mai Khao as a site for a center – and also found a willing private sector investor in ING Funds (Thailand) Co Ltd. But once again, a change in Thailand's top management intervened.

In the latest development, Phuket MP Tossaporn Thepabutra is once again pushing to get a 10,000-seat center built at the Mai Khao site.

But despite being on state land and boasting a nice sea view and proximity to the airport, the Mai Khao location otherwise seems a poor choice: it is simply too remote from the island's main population centers.

Most successful convention centers are located in major metropolitan areas, within easy driving distance of tens of millions of people. That is hardly the case anywhere in Phuket – least of all in Mai Khao. The little-used Welcome Gate facility in Mai Khao should serve as a lesson in this regard.

Several resorts on the island already have excellent conference facilities and the professional staff and experience to host meetings for several thousands of people.

Phuket would benefit from having something larger, but it should be in a more central location – such as the perfectly-placed Anupas and Sons extensive landholdings in Wichit.

– The Editor

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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.

### Reply to Mr Visakay

In response to Frank Visakay's letter (see *Gazette* letters, February 14, Reply to Plus-plus), I am aware that all restaurants and businesses must pay taxes. I am simply asking for them to add it to the price quoted in the menu – that's all I want and I feel it would be less confusing for visiting tourists.

More importantly, I was pointing out that it's quite cheeky to add a service charge simply for allowing me the privilege of sitting down. But I guess that's just the way things are here.

I must add, however, that I agree with you that it is unfair to share tips at the end of the month, given that some members of staff are better than others.

Coming from the UK, you're correct we don't have the tipping culture that exists in the US. This is likely borne out of the fact that waiting staff in the UK are paid a decent wage.

I have noticed that staff in the States are tipped even if they serve badly. This would never happen in the UK – why reward bad service – but we will happily tip if the service warrants it.

As for being on vacation, I live here six months of the year.

Andrew McInnes  
Bang Tao

### Sad tale of old wall

It's unfortunate that the developer doesn't have respect for Phuket's heritage (see *Gazette* online, February 12 and page 3, this issue – Historic wall demolished in Old Phuket Town). He could have moved the wall to a central place in his new development, and it would have attracted tourists such as myself, who travel to Phuket often. I did not know

the history of this wall until now.

I will not shop in his mall because his attitude seems to revolve around making money, and not preserving the historical significance of Phuket City.

I am truly sorry to see this happen. Maybe industry can be a bit more sensitive in the future instead of thinking only about profit all the time.

Kreg Asplund  
Los Angeles

### Phuket in Top Ten

Phuket a top-10 tourist destination? I think not.

How can Phuket be ranked as one the world's top 10 holiday destinations? We don't even have decent public transportation for tourists. Tourists either have to risk their lives on rented motorbikes, or be harassed by the tuk-tuk mafia, taxis and motorbike taxi drivers.

Take Patong, where they charge 150-400 baht for a mere 1-1.5 km ride from the beach and 1,000 baht to Phuket Town depending on the driver's mood and the hour of the day.

Patong tax revenues from tourists are huge, so the authorities should give something back to the public.

*Songtaew* buses that charge reasonable prices to travel around Patong should be operated, to prevent tourists from harassment encountered every time they want to go somewhere.

There's also the immoral practice by airport taxi drivers of taking 'bathroom breaks' at many travel agencies on the way to their commission-friendly hotel after they have picked up tourists. The common practice is to tell travelers they made a wrong choice on the booked hotel, or that it's full, or that they plain don't

know where it is, or couldn't find it and so on.

Imagine how those jet-lagged tourists must feel in those situations, exhausted from traveling and in a strange place with the taxi driver telling them they cannot find the place. Most visitors will just get lost.

This subtle form of stealing should be stopped. Let the tourists be free to make their own choice. An alert tourist should be conscious enough to reason, "Why on earth am I being hassled on my way to the destination of my choice by this taxi driver when I merely asked him to drive, not to stop, and fleece me at every agency?"

Every time I read about Phuket being one of the world's top 10 holiday destinations, I can't help feeling ashamed by the way the authorities are running this once beautiful island with a gangster-like transportation system.

Jane  
Patong

### Let's get shirty

Having lived in Thailand for a number of years, it has distressed me of late to see the increasing number of people who dress inappropriately.

When one visits a place, one should respect the culture and ways of the local people. I find it an important part of traveling to endear oneself to the locals and it generally results in a more enjoyable trip. I understand that people do not want to cover up entirely for the beach, but I find it unacceptable to see guys walking into shops and restaurants with no shirts on. It is not something that one would do at home, so why do it in Thailand?

Joanne Garwood  
Kathu

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).



# Cultivating a professional PR network



## FIRST PERSON

Natasha Eldred boasts, without doubt, one of the more interesting resumés on the island. Trained as a professional actor, Natasha honed her PR and marketing skills working as the development manager for the Actor's Center, the only on-going training facility in the UK that caters to professional performers. Ten years spent working in London's cut-throat media industry was accompanied by stints as a casting director, television production manager and marketing research analyst. Now firmly ensconced as Laguna Phuket's Assistant Director of Marketing Communications, Natasha talks to the *Phuket Gazette* about the newly founded Phuket PR Network and the challenges it faces as it seeks to promote the island as a world-class tourist destination.

**T**he tourism industry always has to respond and reinvent itself here in Phuket. We have experienced natural disasters, political upheavals, which recently resulted in airport closures, and now we face a grim global economy.

Phuket has emerged from each crisis stronger than before, but now we face a real challenge.

The island has long enjoyed its status as a popular international tourist destination. Now its image needs work. Collectively we have to rebuild Thailand's image, spearheaded by Phuket's brand image overseas.

Now is the time that Phuket's strategy should focus on rebuilding its image and the only way we can accomplish this is through unity in brand building.

By working together and developing distinctive partnerships we can market the destination in a way that rival destinations can't. Phuket is unique in so many ways, but one facet we

have here is that, although many of us are competitors, we have formed a strong alliance.

We know each other, we socialize with each other, we share the highs and the lows and most importantly, we share best practices.

The newly founded Phuket PR Network reinforces this notion and recognizes that we must continue to press forward with our efforts to establish Phuket on the world map as a leading tourist destination, even in these troubled times.

It is our vision that, working in line with the Tourism Authority of Thailand's marketing strategies and other leading organizations, we can blossom into the region's PR leaders and help shape the Phuket brand.

Our principle aims are to build capacity, share best practice and ideas, and market Phuket as a destination internationally.

Currently our mission is to work towards what happens next. As the world is scrambling

around for pocket change, where does this leave our tourist destination? If we don't move intelligently, not only will our hotels suffer, but our whole local economy will feel the pinch.

Our inaugural PR Network event took place in October with a seminar by Barbara Gibson. Barbara is the 2008-09 chair of the International Association of Business Communicators, otherwise known as IABC.

IABC is an international public relations organization based in San Francisco, USA. It is dedicated to furthering the education and skills of its members worldwide.

We welcomed almost seventy Phuket communications professionals from a myriad of industry segments, including hotels, property, media, online marketers and small business owners, demonstrating that Phuket people really do want to get involved.

The seminar was informative and at times inspirational. Barbara put a number of Phuket

businesses' marketing and PR plans in order. As one of the main subjects she discussed was how significant 'strategy' is for a successful communications plan.

We all know it, but we seldom stick to it. Such is the current nature of Thailand's hospitality industry. More often than not, we marketers or communications people have no choice but to work tactically, reacting to the current economic climate or political predicament of the day.

With this in mind, we are excited and eager to push ahead and it is our intention to continue to invite high-level speakers to Phuket at least four times a year. We are delighted to announce our next event, which will be hosted by the Chedi Hotel on March 17. Adrian Copley, the IABC regional representative for Australia and New Zealand, will aptly speak on the subject of 'Change Communications and Solutions'—solely relating to Phuket.

Phuketians should feel proud that such high-profile speakers

wish to come here. They believe in us and the talent that we have already demonstrated by putting Phuket on the map.

The network already encompasses a diverse range of professionals—from public relations, marketing, design, hotels, property sales, food and beverage outlets, journalism and the internet.

It already serves as a rich source of expertise and is not exclusive to PR people. If you feel you have something to give and something to learn, please join our events.

For more information on the Phuket PR Network and to join our next event, please email: [phuketprnetwork@gmail.com](mailto:phuketprnetwork@gmail.com). You can also find us on Facebook.

The next event is at The Chedi on March 17, starting at 4pm. Admission to the seminar is free; there will be a networking buffet at The Chedi's beachfront restaurant from 6 - 9pm at 600 baht per seminar attendee. More details to be announced shortly.

## Issues & ANSWERS

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

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

## Six-storey complaint

I have seen the construction plans for the building that is being developed right outside my window. The plans have been stamped by the Tambon Administration Organization (TAO) and state that the building will be only four storeys high. But now I have discovered that they plan to make it six storeys and that is against regulations as it is just 200 meters from the beachfront.

This project is being developed behind house number 17/11 Viset Road, Village 4, 83130 Rawai and the five-storey condominium where I live. Although this violates the regulations, don't be shocked when you see this "I don't care about anybody, I am big, I can do what I want" project completed.

Udo Hansen  
Rawai

### A spokesperson for the Public Works Department replies:

You need to start by making a complaint to the TAO. It is best if this is done in writing, then you can keep a copy as part of your own records. Also make a copy of all the information you have regarding this development and submit this information with your letter of complaint. For more information contact the Public Works Department. Tel: 076-216927.

## What are the regulations for private boat ownership?

I'm a European who is considering purchasing a boat in Phuket. I was wondering what the regulations are regarding ownership and use in Thailand.

Aaron Flanagan  
Phuket

### Mr Sakron Pudum of the Boat Registration Authority, Phuket replies:

If you buy the boat in Thailand, you can have it registered in your district in Phuket. Take all the boat's documents to the Boat Registration Office (address below) to register it in your name.

However, if you purchase the boat overseas, you will also have to take the Bill of Sale and documents proving ownership.

Once you have all these documents, you can register your boat with the Boat Registration Authority in Thailand.

**Department of Boat Transport address:** 88/5 Moo 7, Sakdidee Road, T. Wichit, Muang Phuket 83000. Tel: 076-391174, 076-393572, 087-9581089.



# Horoscopes

Isla Star

**PISCES** (February 20-March 20): The final week of February promises to bring steadier energy for those born under the sign of Pisces. You will know exactly how and when to make your move, both at work and regarding personal relationships. Wednesday is the best day to apply for a new job. If your birthday falls during the coming days, the year ahead is forecast to offer good chances of promotion at work. The number seven can be lucky late next week.

**ARIES** (March 21-April 20): Someone's erratic behavior at work this week could see Arians scratching their heads in bewilderment. The stars suggest that gossip has gone too far, and the only way to nip this problem in the bud is direct confrontation. Tuesday is the best day to instigate honest talks. A monetary bonus allows your hopes of an overseas trip to become a reality next month. Wearing the color periwinkle blue can encourage harmony.

**TAURUS** (April 21-May 21): A sudden visit from someone with whom you have much in common means that February ends on a high note. Getting away from your

usual everyday routine is forecast to motivate Taureans who have become stuck in a rut since January. Where love is concerned, your tactic of playing it cool will have the right effect on Leo, but Scorpio is running out of patience. The number three is lucky next Thursday.

**GEMINI** (May 22-June 21): Geminis' growing interest in a new leisure pastime could jeopardize romance this week. Your tendency to assume that everyone is content to do everything your way is forecast to be questioned this weekend. You could be dismayed when an important business agreement is delayed until next month, but there will be a more positive astral atmosphere in March. Tuesday is the best day to ask a family member for a favor.

**CANCER** (June 22-July 23): Business and work-related projects are forecast to go swimmingly this week, but personal affairs will be affected by adverse astral conditions. Someone born under a fire sign is forecast to disappoint you, but there are signs that you have invested too much trust in this person and a wake-up call is in order. Incorporate more earth tones in your

home décor to encourage a more practical outlook on life.

**LEO** (July 24-August 22): Someone born under the sign of Capricorn has a bone to pick with you this weekend. Those Leos who have already forgotten about this situation could be surprised that the other person was so affected by it. Your natural grace should ensure that apologizing comes easily. Work becomes more stimulating when you accept more responsibilities, but a larger pay packet should be negotiated. Wear a piece of dark jade to encourage wisdom.

**VIRGO** (August 23-September 23): Words said in the heat of the moment this weekend will give Virgoans reason for regret. Another earth sign has become frustrated by your inability to keep up the pace and it may be time to have an honest discussion. Tuesday is the best day to air your feelings coherently. A financial discrepancy midweek may not be as clear cut as you first believe. The number eight can be moderately lucky on Thursday.

**LIBRA** (September 24-October 23): Business negotiations are subject to misunderstandings un-

til the end of next week. Librans are advised not to schedule appointments before Thursday to ensure a smoother passage. Your love life starts to look more exciting when someone born under the sign of Cancer shows that still waters run deeper than you imagined. Secrets are set to be revealed at a family gathering this weekend. Wear the color scarlet to perk up your mood.

**SCORPIO** (October 24-November 22): Scorpions shouldn't make too many allowances for a friend's behavior this week. Someone born under an air sign would like to take advantage of your generosity and this situation could get out of hand unless you put your foot down firmly. Romance continues to boost your spirits and an intimate date this weekend helps you see how much you are appreciated. The number five can bring good fortune at the month's end.

**SAGITTARIUS** (November 23-December 21): Selling yourself short is a Sagittarian trait and this could be your downfall when approaching the employment market. The stars suggest that a new job could prove to be a goldmine as the year progresses,

but confidence is a vital factor. An Arian friend has some useful tips regarding interview techniques, but Capricorn's ideas are not going to help. You should have something to celebrate by the end of the month.

**CAPRICORN** (December 22-January 20): Your energy becomes stronger as February draws to a close. Many Capricorns will be pleasantly surprised by a financial windfall this week and new investments are also well-starred until the middle of next month. Your decision to take a new romance slowly could be compromised by someone's determination to move the relationship onto a more committed level. The only answer is to stay true to your own feelings.

**AQUARIUS** (January 21-February 19): Romance settles down to a more comfortable pace and Aquarians will start thinking about how to expand their working lives. This week, you prove that the early bird gets the worm and there are signs that this success will lead to much more. Beware of spreading gossip as Pisces has a story to tell this weekend, but not all the facts add up. The number four can be lucky late next week.

# Welcome to Old Trafford

Welcome to Old Trafford for this mouth-watering clash between two giants of the beautiful game, as top-of-the-table Manchester United play host to perennial over-achievers Accrington Stanley. United are today playing in a changed strip: same colours but now exquisitely laundered and much cleaner than the one that finished the game at Hull.

And so, it is Manchester United who get the first half underway, playing from left to right. Accrington, struggling to replicate

the sparkling form they showed towards the end of the 19th century, also appear to be playing from left to right. However, in keeping with their manager's controversial rotation policy, we can soon expect to see them playing from top to bottom.

Today's match referee, smartly attired in his lucky red shirt and white shorts, is Wendell Woolleyback, hailing from the Greater Manchester area and who, by coincidence, lives just three doors away from his father-in-law, the United Manager.

In the wake of last week's embarrassing debacle in which it was discovered that Accrington had fifteen players on the pitch, the Accrington manager had read the riot act to his players, calling on them to stand up and be

counted. Mindful of the 'gaffer's' call to action, the Accrington players, who had been sun-bathing near the half-way line before kick-off, all stood up and were duly counted by the fourth official, who reached 'thirteen' before remembering he had said 'four' three times.

United have set up with three across midfield with Mr. Woolleyback orchestrating the plays in the middle of park. Accrington are playing with a flat back four, no doubt still a little down after their shock drubbing at the hands of Yeovil Ladies in last week's Inter-Toto cup qualifier. In a cautious opening, United build patiently, content to keep possession in the middle of the park, waiting to unlock the Accrington defence. Accrington,

sticking to a well devised game plan, are plodding aimlessly around the pitch, waiting no doubt to hit United on the break, when all the United players will be in the changing room.

United swarm forward in droves, laying siege to the opposition goal. Accrington are forced to drop deeper and deeper, forming a human pyramid on the goal-line. The referee takes up an advanced

position inside the Accrington penalty area, perfectly positioned to spot the Accrington infringement that will surely ensue. It is Accrington who get the second half underway, still smarting from having had thirteen goals disallowed during the half-time interval.

The visitors have been controversially awarded a goal kick right on edge of their six-yard box. You have the feeling that if

Accrington are going to score today, it will probably come from a set-play.

The kick is taken. United throw bodies in front of the ball. The kick is retaken. United throw bodies ten yards in front of the ball.

Just as the game seemed to be drifting towards a lifeless eighteen-nil stalemate, United

have moved into another gear, this time absolutely spotless. They really are looking very smart now.

Some of the United fans have had enough and are making their way to the exits. Some of the Accrington fans have had more than enough and are making their way to the toilets.

Mr. Woolley-back is deservedly named man-of-the-match and few could argue with what has been another virtuoso performance. The man-in-the-middle was everywhere, having a hand in all twenty-three goals.

For the crestfallen Accrington players it was yet another case what might have been, if only it were not how it is. They will surely have to find another gear before the clothes season.

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# Shopping for cool stuff in Phuket

By Damir Khamzin

**T**hose of us who hail from large sprawling Western metropolises tend to rather enjoy the quiet luxury, the beautiful beaches and natural scenery afforded us in Phuket. However, when it comes to shopping, you might just be starting to miss those great monolithic shopping malls and department stores of home. But, despair not my friends! There is still plenty of cool stuff to be had in this paradise that is Phuket.

## Bowers & Wilkins Zeppelin iPod Speakers

If luxury were a selling point for a set of speakers, then the Bowers & Wilkins Zeppelin iPod Speaker fits the bill splendidly. Sumptuously sleek, sporting a unique torpedo-like design, the Zeppelin will suit just about any decor; truly the best-looking set of speakers developed for quite some time. This British designed three-way stereo system is what the iPod has been waiting for. Testing it at the store, the sound stood out with amazing clarity, even above the cacophony and commotion of the hoards of shuffling shoppers. The bass is excellent and the speakers can be connected to a variety of other devices, including your computer or television. An expensive but stunning piece of equipment. Available at iStudio in Central Festival or Jungceylon, priced at 29,800 baht.



## Philips Digital Photoframe

In these modern Facebook times, the idea of a photo frame with a single picture of friends or loved ones is becoming obsolete; everything has become digital. Accordingly, it is now possible to own a frame that can display not one, but many of your beautiful photos in a high resolution quality slide show. Plug the photo frame in and insert a memory card or connect a device through the USB port and upload the pictures onto the frame. Essentially mimicking a computer, the frame can display pictures at a resolution of 800 x 480, and can store 50 to 150 photos at a time, depending on which model you buy. The frames measure either seven or nine inches are available in a wood finish or as a white modern frame. The one advertised at Abix Cyber City in Central Festival featured the wooden seven inch display and was priced at 4,290 baht.



## DZ7086 OLED Diesel Watch

The Diesel brand is often at the forefront of contemporary fashion and the DZ706 OLED watch is no exception. The OLED (Organic Light-emitting Diode) module uses the same display as a cell phone which makes this watch something of a throwback to the 1970s LED watches. It can display a few images and you can alter settings and colors to suit your mood. The watch will even display the time in a word format, for example "four twenty pm". The watch itself doesn't have many additional features, unlike popular sports watches and the increasingly common dive computers, but in today's consumer society, looks are nonetheless important. For a watch, the DZ7086 is unique in appearance and style, and will suit just about any outfit. It's also waterproof, so there's no need to worry if you get caught in a sudden monsoon while on your motorbike. This watch is priced at 8,500 baht at City Chain Watches on the second floor of Central Festival.



## M4A1 Carbine BB gun

The sport of BB gun combat is popular in Phuket – in Kathu alone there are several fields where games take place. It is an adrenaline sport that offers just as much fun as Paintball, with rather less mess. At 29.8 inches long and weighing 6 pounds, the Golden Eagle M4A1 Carbine is the the best BB gun you can buy in Phuket. Like its military counterpart, it is convenient, easy to load, easy to fire and, unlike most other BB guns on the market, it is made entirely from metal. This brings the reassurance that it will last much longer in Phuket's unforgiving climate. It has safety, semi-automatic and automatic modes, and can fire 500 to 1000 shots per minute, depending on the setting. With this piece of sporting apparel, you can be sure your opponents in the BB gun jungle will be waving the white flag as soon as you enter the combat zone. The M4A1 Carbine BB gun is available at 6,500 baht exclusively at Hunter Phuket on the second floor of Central Festival.



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# Kids' Muay Thai



Tired-but-happy kids pose with their trainers after a session at the Nai Harn Boxing Gym.

What to do with young children when school has finished is an issue for many parents in Phuket, but the newly opened Nai Harn Boxing Gym may provide some of the answers, with a Muay Thai class for young children.

While most parents familiar with the sight of five- or six year-olds slugging it out like adults in professional Muay Thai bouts at various stadiums in Phuket might be horrified at the idea of letting their children even enter a ring, they can rest assured this is not what the kids' Muay Thai class at Nai Harn Boxing Gym is all about.

For a start, this is not your average gym. It has a bar where parents can relax and enjoy a drink while watching the class, or play table tennis or table football. The gym's head instructor, Thanachon "Chon" Ying, is not your average Muay Thai trainer either.

He holds a degree in Busi-

ness and Accountancy, has worked in Dubai and Hong Kong, and speaks fluent English.

Under Chon's careful supervision all the children seem to thoroughly enjoy the class, and remarkably, no tears are shed. The group, comprising mainly foreign children, begin by kicking a ball around to warm up. Then, under the supervision of Chon and a couple of colleagues, they are taken through a thorough warm up routine consisting of stretching exercises.

The children then take it in turns to practise different techniques with the instructors, who remain extremely understanding when the children inevitably decide that punching the instructor is decidedly more fun than punching the pads they are holding.

Meanwhile, the parents are able to share a drink at the bar, something which Diane Stoffel is particularly grateful for, "This place is great, there's a bar here so I can chat to the other par-

ents. It's not like I have to sit on my own and wait for an hour."

Diane's daughter Paula, 7, attends the British International School and has been attending the kids Muay Thai classes for three weeks. According to Diane, she loves it. "I was looking for activities and I saw they had Thai boxing for kids here in an advert in a magazine.

The first day she just wanted to watch and then one of the trainers, who are great, started teaching her and after that she said, 'Mum I want to come back.' She normally has a lot of energy but after the class she's really relaxed. I think it's good for a girl to learn self-defense and it's great for her to have something to do besides school."

Paula is equally enthusiastic about the class. "I don't mind being the only girl and I never get beaten up by the boys," she said.

The club's owner, Anthony Spaethe, believes there is much more to the Nai Harn Boxing Club than just Muay Thai, "It's got more of a club atmosphere. People can come here to play chess, backgammon, ping-pong, table football or they can just have a drink at the bar. It's comfortable, spacious and everything is brand new.

"We hold yoga classes here and we are about to start judo classes for both adults and kids. I have kids myself and there is never anything for them to do in Phuket," he said. So if the phrase "Mummy I'm bored" is a familiar refrain in your household, a trip to the Nai Harn boxing gym might be in order.

The kids Muay Thai class takes place on Wednesdays and Saturdays at 6pm. For more information about the Nai Harn Boxing Club visit [www.phuket-boxing.com](http://www.phuket-boxing.com) or phone 085-787 7435.

-James Goyder

## PEGS end of month tournament details

About 60 members of the Phuket Expat Golf Society gathered at the Jack Nicklaus-designed course at Mission Hills on January 29. Blair Spears marked his return to form with his first trophy in more than three years.

John Marinko mastered the very difficult greens to record a 75, the day's low gross score. In the stableford competition, Albert Luth continued his excellent run of form, following up his win at the club championships with a

day's best 38 points. The full results of the day's competition were as follows:

### Stroke Play

Low Gross: John Marinko (75)  
Low Net: Blair Spears (72)  
Runner up Low Net Lee Brock 74

### Stableford

Division A: Philip Evans 34 Points;  
Runner up: Richard Freiwald (32 Points)  
Division B: Albert Luth 38 Points;  
Runner Up Howard Gross (33 Points)

*The next tournament will held at Tablamu on February 26. For more information about PEGS visit their website at [www.expa-tgolf.com](http://www.expa-tgolf.com)*

-Liam Stewart

# Bridge club hands out awards



The Phuket Holiday Bridge Club members proudly display their trophies following the season's conclusion.

The Phuket Holiday Bridge Club season reached its conclusion last week after eight weeks of competition. The players had been meeting twice a week at the 2Gusti Restaurant in Central Festival and Skippers in the Royal Phuket Marina. An array of awards were handed out, with Derek Priest and Adrianne Barber taking the prize for the highest-scoring pair.

Derek, from the UK, is a five-star bridge master and the driving force behind the bridge club in Phuket. He says, "Although there is luck involved, bridge is a game of skill, a bit like chess. The Holiday Bridge Club started out with five or six people playing and now we have 30 people."

For the uninitiated, bridge is a trick-taking card game of skill and chance, normally played by four players. The players form two partnerships with the partners sitting opposite each other at a table. The goal for each pair is to make as high a score as they possibly can.

Bridge tends to appeal mainly to the older generation and Phuket is no exception in this regard. According to Derek, "A lot of people learn how to play when they are young but then won't play the game for 20 years or so. Then, when they're 50, they will start playing again. You can keep play-

ing bridge until you die and it's very good for keeping the mind active and has been shown to help stop Alzheimer's."

Bridge games take place all year round in Phuket, on Mondays at the 2Gusti Restaurant and on Wednesdays at Skippers, always at 1.30pm. As well as the game of bridge there are snacks and drinks provided for the 200-baht fee. According to Derek, "There's very much a social side and we do have get-togethers when there is no bridge involved."

"The Holiday Bridge Club is a summer competition. A lot of these people have second homes here and only come here for two or three months and are starting to go home now. We do play all year round though, and the season starts from April 1 and runs until the end of March," says Derek.

Derek is a qualified bridge teacher and beginners are more than welcome. "I teach bridge here and I have taught a number of people to play in Phuket. Most of our members are British but we have members from all over the world and there are two or three Thai players who come along every so often," he said.

-James Goyder

*For more information about playing bridge in Phuket contact Derek Priest. T: 089-7231209. E: [priest\\_derek@hotmail.com](mailto:priest_derek@hotmail.com)*

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# It'll be all light on the night

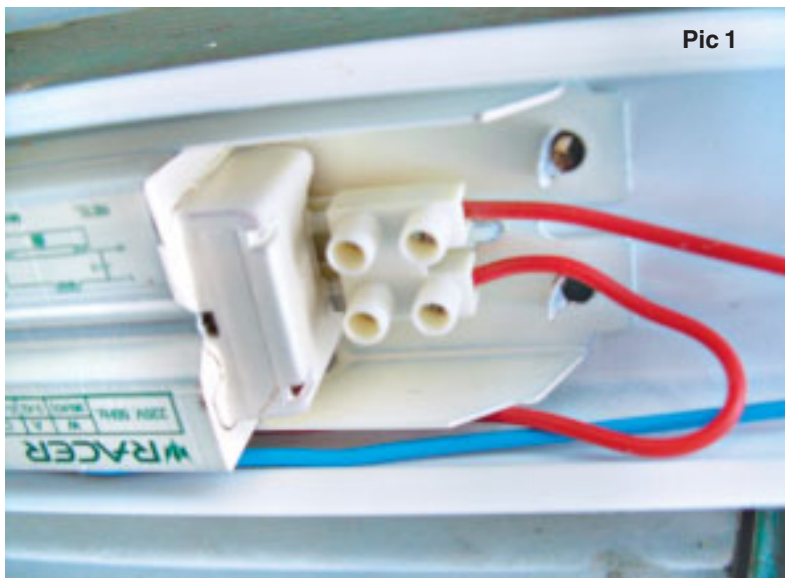
## Installing outdoor fluorescent lights

**T**his week, we'll install an outdoor fluorescent light. I recently put one above my house's parking-space; it illuminates my truck and the front patio-area of the house (detering thieves) and helps to light the street as well. Some pointers here will help ensure a successful installation.

Before beginning, turn off your whole house's AC power at the fusebox! Don't take a chance and just turn off the line or area you're working on, because the circuit-breaker switches here are sometimes poorly (or not even) labeled. Be safe! Shut down the whole house! I've been zapped with both 110 and 220 before. 220 really does hurt twice as bad!

Check all the fixture's connectors before installation, as I've seen some new fixtures' wires connected with the insulation still on the ends! These connectors require a very small screwdriver. If you don't have a set of jeweler's screwdrivers, buy a cheap little one and file or grind down the sides to fit, and keep it for just these types of jobs – see how tool collections grow? Avoid over-tightening these little screws, as they strip easily, ruining the connector.

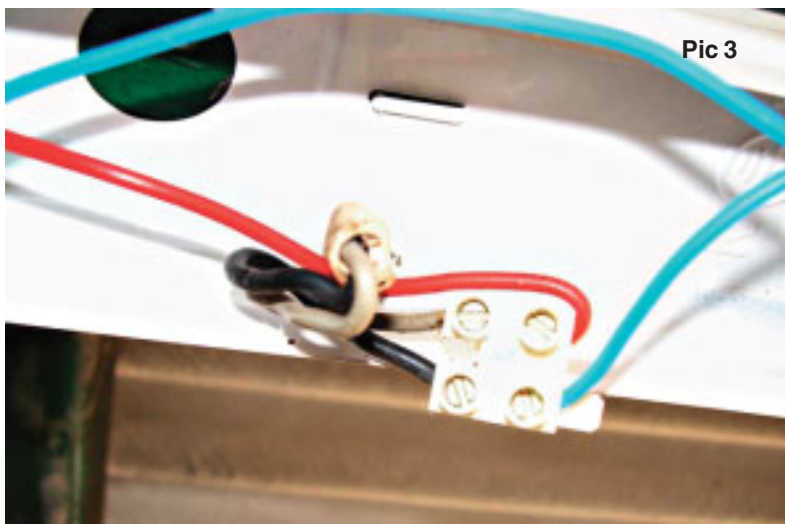
About stripping wires: if you have a light touch, (and sharp tools) you can use a wire cutter. Wrap the wire around the left index finger, grip the wire cutter in the right, close the jaws just enough to score the insulation, then twist in half-circles around the wire.



Pic 1



Pic 2



Pic 3



Pic 4

Next, pressing the knuckles of your hands together, roll and lever your hands apart, gripping the wire just tightly enough to break the insulation and pull it off. This takes practice, and with thin wires, especially twisted-strand ones, (or old, dull wire cutters), it's difficult to avoid breaking them. If using a cutter knife, hold the wire's end against the pad of your thumb, (or, better, a small piece of wood), press *gently* and cut the insulation while rolling the wire with your fingers. It then can

be pulled off with a thumbnail. A third way is to use a cigarette lighter to slightly melt an area about half-inch from the end, quickly grip the melted area with a rag and gently pull off. Clean the ends before installing into the connectors.

First, remove the fixture's flat cover-plate from the base by twisting the two plastic knobs one-quarter turn, and lifting off. You'll see the ballast, the plastic holder for the starter, and a central connector for joining the AC-power line to the fixture's wires. (photos 1,2,3)

The back of the starter's cup-shaped holder lifts up to reveal the attachment points. Insert the starter before attaching the

wires, as this stabilizes the holder in its hole.

Make sure the wires' ends are bare and secure, then check for the same at the ballast and central connectors. Now to hang the fixture. Trace the outline of the two elongated screw holes in the base onto the mounting area. To select the right size bit, hold a bit and a screw together, bit closest to you, up to the light.

The bit should be as thick as the shaft of the screw, not the threads. This is especially important if installing the fixture on a metal surface. Use a hammer and punch or sharp nail to make a dimple in the center of the circles you've traced, then drill carefully. If drilling into metal,

work the drill slightly around in a circle after the hole is completed, as this will bevel the holes' edges and help the screws install a little easier, as will a drop of oil on the threads.

Install washers on the screws, (photo 4) to prevent the fixture from ever falling down over the screw's head, as it will flex over time from cleaning, and replacing bulbs. Tighten securely.

Bring the AC-line into the base through the hole provided, and attach to the central connector. (photo 3) Tuck all the wires up out of the way and reinstall the base's cover-plate. Install the bulb and check for operation.

That's it! Have a beer! See you next time!



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## Home of the Week

## Rawai

# Two Villas tropical treat

A rare opportunity to purchase a finished home in the small, exclusive Two Villas development in Rawai. A fresh take on the Balinese courtyard villa with private pool, this home features a number of upgrades specified by the owner, including a larger swimming pool, measuring 9m x 3.3m.

Situated on a well-landscaped plot measuring 450 sqm, this attractive home has a lot to offer. The 'L' shaped design means living areas and bedrooms have direct access to the sparkling infinity edge swimming pool.

The kitchen features timber upper and lower cupboards, exhaust fan, stove, double bowl sink, dishwasher and plenty of bench space. The floors are gloss ceramic tiles and the color scheme throughout is mainly cool, crisp charcoal-gray marble and gray-white ceramic tiles. Both bedrooms are spacious with ensuite bathrooms and built-in wardrobes. These rooms are also air conditioned. The two bathrooms have high quality, modern-style sanitary fittings and are light and airy. The master bathroom has

both a Jacuzzi hot tub and a spacious shower with rainwater shower head.

The third bedroom is a separate pavilion from the main house and is an ideal guest bedroom, also enjoying garden and pool views. All furniture is included and is from the original package offered by the developer, suiting the theme and style of the house perfectly.

Facilities include telephone, mains water and covered carport attached to the home. The construction materials used in this lovely home are high quality. It also features three-phase electricity with earth wiring to all outlets, a central boiler that supplies hot water to all points, while all lights have dimmers. The garden is landscaped around the pool, which is lined with deep blue tiles and complements the tropical surroundings. Additionally, to maximize outdoor living space and add a Thai feeling is the garden sala, a great place to relax by the pool or enjoy *al fresco* dining. A timber deck surrounds the pool on two sides and the external eaves feature quality timber. The pool area is well decorated and in-



The pool is watched over by a small elephant fountain and is surrounded on two sides by a timber deck.

cludes a small elephant fountain.

The roof is tiled in shingle-style tiles and the property is accessed through a delightful stone and timber Balinese style entry gate. The developer of this house is one of the leading development companies on the island, with many of its projects selling out as they come off the drafting table. It is known for high-quality construction, achieved through close supervision by an experienced team. Located in the Rawai area,

you will be living in one of Phuket's quieter residential areas, with a large expatriate community. Within a few minutes walk there is the beach, and it is but a few minutes drive to great restaurants, a Western market, local art galleries, chic coffee shops, saunas, gyms, local Thai-style eateries on the beach, and just enough nightlife, including live music. Additionally there is an equestrian center, a few international nursery schools and a

Montessori primary school.

This house is priced at 13,000,000 baht and is in the name of a Thai company which can also be sold, allowing for easy transfer of the property.

For more info contact Patrick Lusted at Siam Real Estate, quote reference number: HSIL2214. Tel: 076-288908. Email Patrick@siamrealestate.com, website: www.siamrealestate.com



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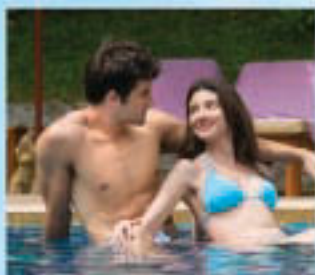
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# Gardening in Eden part II

## Looking at the bigger picture

When you create a garden from scratch, climate and soil are, to all intents and purposes, beyond one's control. But plants, granted the vagaries of the weather, allow you to reveal your individuality, to give expression to your aesthetic sense.

In Thailand I knew the range of shrubs and flowers was excitingly varied and oh so different from so-called 'temperate' England. So I gave away my old gardening books, and bought some new ones, making sure that the illustrations carried Thai descriptions alongside the English and Latin ones. Why? Pictures clearly helped to identify flowers and foliage, but I wanted to be able to talk to local nurserymen - most of them women in fact - using Thai names. I also vowed to put this information on tags attached to plants in the hope that I would remember. Some hope! And I have given up for the purposes of this article.

My primary need was for big shrubs and for trees that would grow rapidly, creating oases of green shade for their less hardy brethren. Palms clearly fitted the bill. My first and obvious choice was the areca or golden cane palm (*dypsis lutescens*) which I placed at intervals around the pool and inside the white boundary walls. Arecas are clumpy and fast-growing, easy to obtain, relatively inexpensive and can withstand direct sun, in which conditions the fronds assume a golden color.

I also bought three travelers palms (ravenala) - their huge, banana-like leaves combine to create a symmetrical fan-shape - and planted them inside the front wall. Already, one year on, they are four meters tall. I also acquired dwarf coconuts (*cocos nucifera*) and a couple of kerriodoxias or bismarck palms. These ornamental trees, possessed of strikingly

glaucous leaves, are not rapid growers, but given favorable conditions, will develop into magnificent specimens. In a neighboring garden are two such palms with fronds fully two meters across. I hope for more of the same.

I also bought a mature lipstick palm (*cryptostachys renda*), having fallen for its sexy red stems. Other rapidly maturing plants were sought. My Thai friends, somewhat scandalized by the thought that I should have to pay for everything, suggested elephant ears (*xanthosoma*), which could be purloined from the rain forest. They arrived in

the back of a pick-up - no questions asked - and were set between the yellow cane palms around the pool. Frankly it is too hot and dry most of the time for succulents used to dank, jungle conditions. But they struggle on, practising an exercise in conservation during the dry season by reducing to four or five leaves and then expanding to eight or nine in the monsoon.

Other large shrubs were strategically placed to afford more shade. Among the successes have been yellow (*teca stans*) and pink bignonias, three thevetia



Allamandas

peruviana, in both apricot and yellow varieties, and some red-flowering hybrids of their relative, the common oleander (*nerium*). All these easy-going shrubs had done well in my Spanish garden, resistant even to the depredations of goats. But best of all have been the allamandas. Planted against the walls, the single and double yellow varieties as well as the deep lilac-colored species (*violacea*), have flourished. To me the single allamanda (*cathartica*) is the quintessential tropical shrub - lush, glossy-green foliage and exotic trumpet-shaped flowers of an incandescent yellow. Moreover it will bloom and bloom, apparently impervious to all that a midday sun can throw at it. If allamandas have a downside it is that, being vines, they sprawl: ideally they need a trellis for support.

The other vinous candidate for stardom is, I suppose, the bougainvillea. If it is, par excellence, the shrub of the Mediterranean, it is just as much at home in Thailand. Now, in the dry season, my bougainvilleas are coming into their own, producing brilliant clusters of bracts in shades of coral, pink, scarlet and white. Soon, suitably supported, they will be providing shade for other plants.

Other vines sited near the walls include a rangoon creeper (*quissqualis indica*), a heavy but erratic bloomer and beloved of leaf-eating insects, the delicate white-flowering climber known as the nepal trumpet vine (*beaumontia murtonii*), a chinese desmos and some jasmines including the star variety (*jasminum multiflorum*).

Dear reader, you may complain that I have not so far mentioned the hibiscus. Fair comment. No Thai garden would be



Bignonia



Rangoon Creeper

complete without a shrub sufficiently at home here to be used routinely as a hedge. Moreover, it comes in an eye-catching range of colours and varieties. My garden boasts a number of the popular rosa chinensis, mostly set in borders between the larger shrubs. But this commonest of hibiscus has been surprisingly slow to establish; ideally it thrives on a combination of full sun and moist soil. More successful have been the quick-growing cotton roses (*hibiscus mutabilis*) whose flowers intriguingly change color - from morning white to evening red; and the coral hibiscus (*schizopetalus*) whose long-stamened, scarlet flowers hang from pendulous stalks. The other signature shrub of Thailand is the frangipani (*plumeria rubra*), a shrub that, in the Muslim burial grounds of Phuket for instance, has become a sizable

tree. The frangipani is not much of a shade-giver - its form is too open for that - and it is liable to shed its leaves. But it flowers profusely, especially the modern hybrids, it will not crowd out smaller plants, and is possessed of a fragrance that has inspired poetry. Enough said....

This week 'smaller plants' have been crowded out by considerations of space. They will have their day another time.

Dr Patrick Campbell taught English Literature at a London University, and as Visiting Professor at the Universities of British Colombia and Colorado. He led the first MA in Performing Arts in the UK. Author of five academic books and numerous published articles, he recently completed a novel. He lives in Saiyuan, Phuket.

### Nature & Nurture



By Patrick Campbell



Travelers Palm

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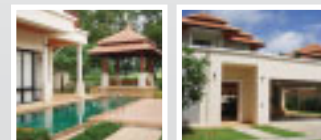


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**laguna**  
PROPERTY RESALE

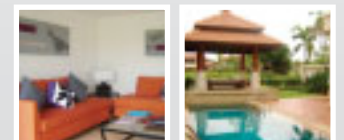
Properties for sale within Laguna Phuket

**1 Laguna Townhome II THB 23 M**



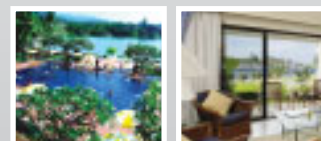
- 2-storey 3 beds Townhome
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- on golf course

**2 Laguna Village Townhome I THB 24.5 M**



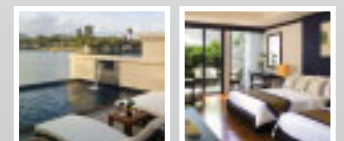
- 2-storey Townhome
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## PROPERTY WATCH

By Bill Barnett

Managing Director of Phuket-based hotel & residential property consulting firm C9 Hotelworks. Bill has more than 20 years' experience in the region and has played an active role in some of the island's biggest developments.  
www.c9hotelworks.com

As the financial crisis overseas continues to deepen, the effects of it are heading toward Phuket in rapid ripples and waves. With tourism and related service industries being a key economic indicator for the province, the importance of a healthy hotel market cannot be underestimated.

The recent labor disruptions at Laguna Phuket have once again reinforced concerns over the apparent take-for-granted tourism dollar attitude toward what is for many, their own personal rice bowl.

For more than 48 hours earlier this month, the island's welcome mat was once again rolled up, in scenes reminiscent of last year's airport takeover by the People's Alliance for Democracy (PAD) supporters. Tourists were again wheeling their suitcases through blockades and many long-planned holidays were marred by uncertainty and an inhospitable environment.

Having spent much of my career in the hospitality industry

# Labor Pains



For over 48 hours Thailand's welcome mat was once again rolled up. What on earth is happening in the Land of Smiles when we turn our backs on those who provide so many of us with a living?

in many countries, one of the universal messages I've heard passed on to new staff over and over again is to always treat each and every guest the same as you would a guest in your own home.

It's hard to imagine asking visitors to your home to scale fences the same way they had to during the airport shut down, or asking those who own property within Laguna to walk instead of drive because they were barred access to public roads.

What on earth is happening in the Land of Smiles to make us turn our backs on those who provide so many of us with a living?

Needless to say, there are two sides to the labor issue, just as there were during the PAD protests, but it is well beyond my knowledge or expertise to comment or report on these. I'd prefer to look at investment in human capital, which is every bit as

important as investment in bricks and mortar, technology and aesthetics in hotels. While tourists can choose to go anywhere in the world, it's not always the flash and hardware that brings them back year after year.

For many visitors, the attraction is those small acts of kindness, like a staff member going out of his or her way to help, and other nuances of caring that only humans can provide. It's these kinds of positive experiences with locals and hospitality staff that make visitors want to return.

Unfortunately, in a recession or economic downturn, one of the quickest fixes is to downsize the workforce or reduce staffing levels. It's pure economics, and it is relatively easy to re-engineer profit levels on paper to retain bottom-line results.

In hotels, staff and related benefits are the most significant recurring operating cost. In Phuket, tourism is well established with a substantial portion of the workforce now entering longer-term service. In many instances, employees have worked with the

same employer for more than ten years. Many of those employees were born here, come from lower-income families and were forced to enter the workplace at a young age, unable to pursue higher education. While retaining employment over the years, they have missed education opportunities that have limited their career growth and kept them in lower-service and less-demanding positions.

In recent years, Thailand has become a world-class destination and as Asia has developed and prospered – growing for much of the 90s and into this decade – an urban-hospitality workforce armed with hospitality qualifications has emerged.

During the economic boom, supply of new hotels flourished and demand continued unabated. On the back of that boom, consumer credit reached every layer of the population and debt was taken on in the form of new cars, homes and consumer goods.

At many of the island's poshest hotels, service charge income for staff was often equal

to or even higher than basic salaries. Shopping malls, car dealers, mobile phone shops and other businesses have subsequently grown at a terrific rate.

As we now enter the most challenging economic time of our lives, the crush of job losses, lower benefits and declining income streams is hitting those at the lowest level the hardest. An uncontrolled free market has sold them dreams in print ads, on TV and in movies. But now the carpet has been pulled out from under their feet.

As cuts come, the newer and younger staff working at hotels and resorts are going back to Bangkok or upcountry to look for work. Those left behind are often struggling.

They may have children on the cusp of requiring higher education in order to compete in an increasingly competitive environment. It's a vicious cycle, and no doubt a good amount of the passion fueling the current labor pains on the island is a result of these factors.

And so we come full circle to the point where we started: understanding and appreciating the importance of our tourists, who at the end of the day, are just the same as the people we invite into our own homes.

Clearly, the provincial government and tourism authorities, along with those in the industry who can make a difference, need to address greater education for hospitality staff.

More internationally affiliated hotel schools are required and large-scale investment is required; not in capital projects, but in our very own human capital.

Laguna Phuket has been a quality employer over the years, with its pioneering projects, such as air-conditioned staff transportation, daycare facilities and employee benefits that go far above and beyond those required by labor law.

There are two sides to the coin, however, and while employers and employees work out their respective differences, I sincerely hope that there is a return to treating our own tourists with the same respect, and a return to an *unconditional* welcome to Phuket.



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# Property Gazette

## Properties For Sale

### BEST BARGAIN IN PHUKET



Luxury, 5 bed villa with 10m x 5m pool and 5 separate bungalows all in 1 rai, tropical gardens. Thai company so buyer must purchase villa and bungalow. Only 14.9 million baht. Tel: 086-279 0837, 081-080 2930. Email: bricothailand@hotmail.com

### NICE 1/2 RAI LAND IN RAWAI

Flat and quiet location behind the Phuket Shell Museum in Rawai. Pond view, large concrete road, electricity, Chanote title. Ready to build on. 3.9 million baht. Tel: 089-589 0085, 081-091 1097. Email: micsta75@hotmail.com

### HERITAGE SUITES

2 bedroom condo. 160sqm, 4th floor, best view on project. Price: 7.6 million baht. Contact Sujit. Tel: 089-119 1155.

### 4 RAI SEAVIEW PLOT AO POR

Gently sloping hillside plot behind Ao Por Beach Road, East coast. Tel: 076-528014, 087-270 5959. Email: gdblanko@gmail.com For further details, please see our website at www.aoporphuket.com

### 200 SQM PENTHOUSE

Full seaview in Patong. Two-floor penthouse with 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, and 2 Jacuzzi. 200 square meters. Construction will be completed in April. 15 million baht. Call, fax or mail for further details. Tel: 084-667 9778, 085-055 0259. Fax: 076-512411. Email: frankcyberr@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.

### FREEHOLD, RAWAI



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

### CHALONG TOWN HOME

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

### SHOPHOUSE AND GUESTHOUSE

for sale. Karon beach. For more information, please contact at Tel: 084-670 4308. Email: amorn9999@yahoo.com

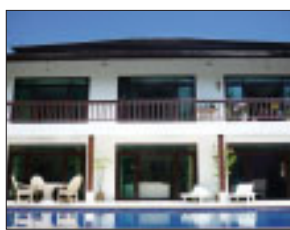
### BARGAIN BUILDING

Patong, Bangla Rd area. Huge, 4 storey, 320sqm. Excellent rentals. Offers welcome. No agents. Tel: 087-881 7600.

### SEA VIEW APARTMENT

Simply the best value sea view in Phuket. 2 bed, 2 bath, 140 sqm apartment neighboring the new Ao Po Grand Marina. A very up and coming area and a great investment at 8.5m baht. Tel: 086-943 1601. Email: combe007@yahoo.com

### AMAZING HOUSE, BIG POOL



near Nai Harn, Rawai. 4 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms. House 350sqm. Land 800sqm. Pool 12.5m x 4.5m, 1.7m deep. Beautifully decorated. Landscaped garden. Price 15.9 million baht. Tel: 085-212 1794. Email: Ian@evocation.net

### FREEHOLD PATONG

New condo, private road, security, pools, fitness. Good prices. Tel: 083-391 8720.

### LAND IN PHANG NGA

for sale. 9.8 rai working fruit farm. 300+ trees, 5 fish ponds, 2 farm houses suitable for fishing park, 5 kms from Phang Nga, 45 mins to Phuket airport. Chanote title. Deed 5,800,000 baht Tel: 086-274 0056 English or 085-151 0823 Thai.

### HOUSE & FURNITURE FOR SALE

Single house, 60sqm. 2 floors, 3 bedrooms and 3 toilets. In Chaiyapruke Village at Land & House, Chalong. Good location and entrance from By-Pass road. Built 2 years ago. Tel: 084-627 7001.

### PANORAMIC SEA VIEW



Karon land for sale. 15 rai. Chanote title. Hillside, panoramic sea view, quiet area. Very good location for business. 15 million baht per rai. No agents. Please contact by email: allservices29@gmail.com

### HOUSE FOR SALE/RENT

3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, little garden and 1 car park. Near Tesco Lotus in Srisuchart Grandville 3. Tel: 087-277 0978.

### 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: 081-538 7050.

### 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

### DOUBLE VILLA IN KATA



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

### 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: 081-538 7050. Email: talayjan@yahoo.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: 081-538 7050. Email: talayjan@yahoo.com

### SUPERIOR OFFER

2km from BIS. New, 3 bedrooms pool villa and garden. Only 8 million baht. Tel: 087-272 0303.

### HASIP PEE ROAD

Popular bar/restaurant, 40 covers, owner's 2-bedroom apartment + 3 ensuite bedrooms, and roof terrace - 483sqm in total. Views over Patong Bay and jungle. Chanote title. 13.5 million baht. No agents. Tel: 084-842 1434. Email: colin.turpin@btinternet.com

### NAKA ISLAND



3 bedroom, 2 bathroom with en suite facilities, fine beach location. Price: 7.5 million baht. Call Khun Sopit for further information. Tel: 081-344 4473.

### GUESTHOUSE BUSINESS

with 5 luxurious apartments directly on the beach. Swimming pool, office, pool bar and pond. Fully furnished. For sale or for long term rent as a business. Tel: 081-892 0761. Email: baannorbert@hotmail.com Please visit our website at the link below, then call or mail for further details. www.phuket-apartments.de

### BANGTONG HILLSIDE KATHU

3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, swimming pool, 73 sq wah. Price: 4.6 million baht. Tel: 089-908 4873.

### PATONG TOWER 63 SQM

Renovated, freehold, 2 rooms, terrace, nice view, pool, 200 meters to beach. Furnished, TV, WiFi, 2 aircons. 4.6 million baht. Tel: 02-392 9327, 086-976 0809.

### SURIN BEACH

Land on Soi Haad Surin 2 for sale. 2.2 Rai, 5 min walk to Surin Beach. Tel: 082-087-88306112.

### TOWNHOUSE IN THE PROJECT 'THE INDY'



at the entrance to BIS. Townhouse is at the corner of 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.

### GREAT BARGAIN, KATA HOME

4 months old. 4 bedrooms, maid's room, home theatre room. Cathedral ceilings, quality finishings throughout. Furniture and appliances included. 12m pool, roof terrace, elevator. Original price 28.9 million baht. New price below construction cost 16.9 million baht ono. 60% financing available at 5.5% interest for 7 years. Contact Kay. Tel: 081-737 0552. Email: kay@phuketandamanrealestate.com

### 2 RAWAI POOL VILLA



sale/lease. Land, company, pool villa with 7 bedrooms. 350 meter from beach, finance available. Tel: 086-940 8914. Email: rawai1@yahoo.com

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# Property Gazette

## URGENT SALE 3.15 MTB



120sqw. at Chaing Mai. Fully furnished. For more picture and details on request. Tel: 083-104 9301. Email: ferdinanddepk@hotmail.com

## HOUSE IN ANUPHAS FOR SALE



46sqm, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, kitchen. 3.7 million baht. Tel: 081-691 2526.

## CONDO FOR SALE/RENT



at Phuket Asia Land, Surin Beach. Sale: 6.5 million baht. Rent: 30,000 baht per month with 100,000 baht deposit. Tel: 089-474 0461. Email: info@methaya.com

## 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

## VILLA + LAND



for sale. Quick sale near Heroines monument, 12.9 million baht + clear land 2.5 million baht. Tel: 084-690 7057.

## 15 MILLION BAHT



Patong, sea view, 60sqw 2-storey house. 2 bedrooms with balconies, 2 bathroom, air-con, fully furnished. Chanote. Price 15 million baht ono. Tel: 087-270 9093.

## HILL HOUSE AT KATA

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

## 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 086-273 4149.

## HOUSE IN KAMALA

2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, furnished, next to beach. Price 3.9 million baht or rent 20,000 baht per month. Tel: 076-288908.

## CHERNG TALAY LAND

900sqm, great location, Chanote title. Price 3.4 million baht. Tel: 086-047 2463. Email: jimi\_chance@hotmail.co.uk

## LAUNCHING NEW PROJECT

The only brand new houses (4) coming up soon in Rawai. Best location for living or vacation home. 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, carpark for 2, swimming pool. Land size: 400 sqm. Financing available over 10 to 20 years for Thai and foreigner 70% down, 3% interest preapproved don't need to show anything. Call for more information. Tel: 084-626 8105.

## SMALL LAND/CHEAP PRICE!

Chanote Land, 280-396 sqm. Starting prices at 1.9-2.5 million baht. Tel: 081-537 7137. Email: khunapp@hotmail.com

## BEAUTIFUL NAI YANG LAND



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

## NEW HOME, LAST CORNER PLOT

at Phuket Thane Village. Direct from owner no agency fees. Ready to move, house 150sqm, land 230sqm, 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, big salon, aircon, kitchen, nice garden, covered garage for 2 cars, green public garden at side, corner plot, in a security village close to any facilities at Heroine's Monument, airport, schools, Boat Lagoon, hospitals, beaches. Quick sale by owner: 3,300,000 baht or rent 22,000 baht/month for sale by owner contact 086-2734149.

## 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.

## OWN YOUR OWN RESORT

Airport beach Nai Yang. 9 bungalow style cottages. Only 8 million baht. Tel: 086-076 0141.

## APARTMENT IN PATONG

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

## APARTMENT

3rd floor apartment located at Karon Plaza. Comes fully furnished w/ telephone lines, ADSL, and cable TV. For further details, contact: John or Thanittha Johannesen at Tel: 076-396694, 081-691 4561. Fax: 076-396694. Email: gymworld@loxinfo.co.th

## BEACH LAND KOH YAO YAI

8 rai 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

## SPECTACULAR VILLA

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

## PARICART 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

## 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.

## POOL VILLA

for sale. Bang tao, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, big pool, 2 level, auto gate, sat TV, ADSL, 2 car park, 2 living rooms. Tel: 085-674 6786. For further details, please see our website at www.phukethome.ws

## SMALL LAND/CHEAP PRICE!

Chanote Land, 280-396 sqm. Starting prices at 1.9-2.5 million baht. Tel: 081-537 7137. Email: khunapp@hotmail.com

## HOUSE & BIG GARDEN

located in Thalung, 15 mins to town. Close to Phuket International Academy and the airport. Open for offers. Call 089-196 4567 or mail for further details. Email: toonandwate@yahoo.com

## BANG TAO NEW HOUSE

for sale, 2 bedrooms. Price 3.5 million baht. Tel: 085-674 6786. For further details, please see our website at www.phukethome.ws

## CHAO FA GARDEN HOME

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

## 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

## HOUSE FOR SALE/RENT

3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, 1 maid room. Fully furnished with Chanote title, 340sqm. Located near International Hospital, shopping and schools. Must see! Tel: 089-873 0498.

## BEST PRICED BEACHFRONT LAND

in Thailand. Prices from as low as 1.3 million baht per rai. Email: admin@thaisunshinedevelopments.com For further details, please see our website at www.thaisunshinedevelopments.com/land\_for\_sale.php

## 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.

## 3 BEDROOM POOL VILLARAWAI

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

## PERFECT LAND FOR SALE

on the main road to Chermg-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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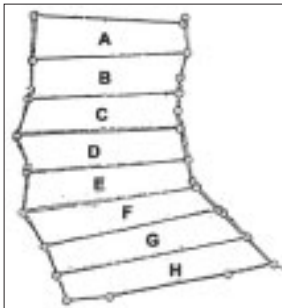
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# Property Gazette

## 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.

## NICE 2-STOREY HOUSE

Perfect house for a family, ready to move in. Five bedrooms and bathrooms, close to Central Festival and Rawai Beach. Tel: 081-891 5296. Email: hkthome sale18@yahoo.com For further details, please see our website at www.jikkycar.com

## FOREIGN FREEHOLD CONDOMINIUM

1 bedroom, ground floor, poolside balcony and car-parking space. Located in the heart of Patong. Price negotiable at 5.9 million baht. Tel: 087-887 9070. Email: ianscondo@yahoo.com

## PATONG 2 STOREY HOUSE

Soi Sainamyen, near Montes restaurant. 2 bedrooms, office, shop, and living room. Price only 5.9 million baht. Tel: 087-272 0303.

## FREEHOLD CONDO RAWAI



27sqm or 54sqm. 2 studio apartments, 200 meters from the pier. Price 480, 000 baht. Tel: 086-640 8914. Email: rawai1@yahoo.com

## PATONG CONDOTE

100% freehold for foreigners, own name Chanote title. 28sqm, fifth floor condo. Bathroom, kitchenette. Air con, fan, hot water. Furnished European style with Concept furniture. Fridge, TV, DVD surround system. Swimming pool. Security and parking maintenance fee 500 baht per month. Price 1.95 million baht. Contact Kay. Tel: 081-737 0552. Email: kay@phuketandamanrealestate.com

## 1 RAI FOR SALE

Located in Pasak, Cherno Talay. Sale or long term rent. Email: jgkg24@hotmail.com

## AO POR LAND FOR SALE



150 rai. Nor Sor 3 Gor, sea view. Priced from 2.5 million baht per rai. No agents. Please contact by email: allservices29@gmail.com

## VERY BEAUTIFUL LAND

2.4 rai. Very picturesque, near Mission Hills and waterfall, between river and tarmac road. 4 Chanote titles. Reduced price 5.5 million baht, can sell in smaller pieces. Contact Kay. Tel: 081-737 0552. Email: kay@phuketandamanrealestate.com

## SALE OR RENT VILLA

Below market price ( THB ). Normally the villa can lease 300000 to 350000 monthly. But Sacrifice due to poor global economy. It is the most expensive and most beautiful villa next to Loch Palm golf course. We would like to lease minimum 3 years as following conditions. First year annualy 1.5m exclude management, utilities, any extra costs garden, swimming pool and repair costs, 2nd year 2m and last 3rd year 2.5m. Must pay in advance each year. No other deposit required. Or sale 45m. For details, please email me your interests at queen marines@hotmail.com or call 081-376 7395.

## BRAND NEW HOUSE, KATA

Semi-detached, 100sqm land. 3 bedrooms, 24 hour security. Peaceful area, 2 mins to beach. Quick sale 5.2 million baht. Contact Kay. Tel: 081-737 0552. Email: kay@phuket andamanrealestate.com

## PANORAMIC SEAVIEW

Patong pool villa, brand new, 2 bedrooms. Close to center. Only 12 million baht. Tel: 087-2720303.

## VERY SPECIAL VILLA

Must see. 5 star Marriott Hotel style. 3 bedrooms. Finest location Patong, breathtaking views from all levels. Excellent track record for rental return. Previous price 28 million baht. Quick sale to best offer. Contact Kay. Tel: 081-737 0552. Email: kay@phuketandamanrealestate.com

## CHEAP LAND SALE

7 Rai Maikhao Beach. Chanote, public street, 1.9 million baht. Tel: 080-719 3785.

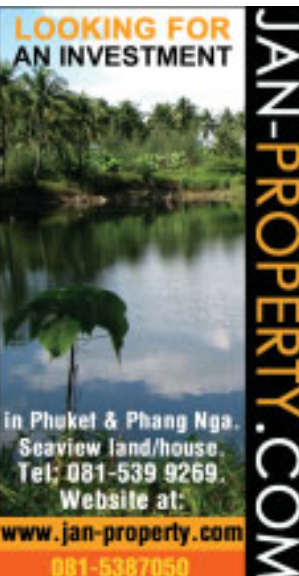
## BARGAIN HOUSE

in Land and Houses, 5 years old. Land 200sqm, house 180sqm. 3 bedrooms, 1 bathroom. Clubhouse and security. 5 mins to Chalong Pier. Price 3.2 million baht. Contact Kay. Tel: 081-737 0552. Email: kay@phuket andamanrealestate.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.



## 100% FREEHOLD CONDO, RAWAI

Third floor of five, 160sqm. 2 bedrooms, wireless internet, UBC. Seaview, large terrace, communal swimming pool. Excellent condition. Price only 5.9 million baht. Contact Kay. Tel: 081-737 0552. Email: kay@phuketandamanrealestate.com

## 80 RAI FOR SALE, CHANOTE

Located at Natai Beach. 15 minutes drive from Sarasin Bridge. Price 1.6 million baht per rai. Tel: 081-538 7050. Email: talayjan@yahoo.com

## 3 BEDROOM POOL VILLA RAWAI

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

## LAND IN LAND AND HOUSES

for sale. 80sqm in Land and Houses. Good price. Tel: 086-332 0864.

## BARGAIN OFFER, QUICK SALE

Semi-detached house. 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, air con, car park, nice garden. 5 mins to Laguna. Price 1.7 million baht. Contact Kay. Tel: 081-737 0552. Email: kay@phuket andamanrealestate.com

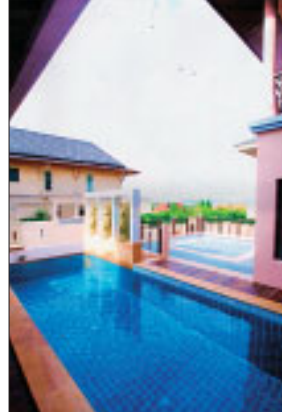
## BARGAIN - GOLF VIEW

117sqm. Freehold 3 bedroom, 3 bathroom, 3 balconies. Price 3.6 million baht (negotiable). Call Niclas. Tel: 089-873 0498.

## 65 SQ WAH APT IN RAWAI

1 bedroom. Only 1.5 million baht with Chanote title. Photos on request. Mail for details. Email: mlandi@free.fr

## NEW HOUSE IN NAI HARN-RAWAI



for sale or 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

## SINGLE HOUSE RAWAI

300m from the beach. New 200sqm, 2-storey house and guesthouse on 460sqm land with wonderful view. 3-4 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, kitchen, big living room and terraces. Easy to convert into two apartments. Furnished. Quick sale, reduced to only 5.5 million baht. Call David on 083-1814418.

## 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

## HOUSE WITH LARGE GARDEN

3 bedroom, 2 bathroom, house on small development with 24hr security and swimming pool. Only 5 mins from Heroines' Monument. Fully furnished with solid teak furniture throughout and with all appliances, curtains and blinds. Full security and fly screens, 3 aircons, 5 ceiling fans. True TV/ cable TV, phone, ADSL. Walk-in condition with great potential for extension and/or private pool. Now 3.6 million baht ono. Tel: 085-782 3273.

## TOWN HOUSE NEAR BIS

Sale or rent. 3 bedroom, 2 bathroom, 2-story. Sale: 1.8 million baht or rent: 12,000 baht per month. Opposite Boat Lagoon. Tel: 081-979 3369.

## NAI HARN POOL VILLA SALE!



5-year-old pool villa on 850sqm of land. 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, European kitchen, living room. 2 terraces, big garage, carport, tropical garden. Quiet area. 6.5 million baht. NO BROKER!! Tel: +66-86-682 9709. Email: weidner@loxinfo.co.th

## PRIME LAND, CHANOTE

4,844sqm. Good location in valley surrounded by rubber trees. Few mins to new international school, 10 mins Thalung fresh market. Total price 5.9 million baht, can sell in smaller pieces. Contact Kay. Tel: 081-737 0552. Email: kay@phuket andamanrealestate.com

## WHITE HOUSE, GREAT LOCATION

Please contact for viewing. Tel: 076-273466. Fax: 076-273-466. Email: pen@phuket propertytrip.com For further details, please see our website at www.phuketpropertytrip.com

## GREAT OFFER

New modern house, 280sqm. 5 bedrooms, 5 bathrooms, maid's room with private bathroom. 2 car park spaces. Price only 5.7 million baht. Contact Kay. Tel: 081-737 0552. Email: kay@phuket andamanrealestate.com

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

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# Property Gazette

## Properties For Rent

### RAWAI BEACH POOL VILLA



1, 2, 3 or 4 bedrooms, bathroom, aircon, ADSL, cable TV. 15,000 baht per month. Tel: 086-940 8914. Email: rawai1@yahoo.com

### KATHU HOUSE

for rent. 2 bedrooms, 1 bathroom, 1 living room, kitchen, 3 aircons, 14,000 baht, only long term rent. Tel: 083-395 7658, 083-395 7659.

### THAI VILLA AND POOL

In Nai Harn, 1km to beach, very quiet location, stunning view, 2 bedrooms, en suite, Jacuzzi, open-plan lounge, diner, European kitchen, private garden with parking. Long term: 37,500 baht per month. Tel: 081-270 5126. Email: mervyn.crocker@yahoo.com

### KATA LUXURY APARTMENTS

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

### SINGLE HOUSE

for rent. Thalung monument, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. Tel: 081-537 0033.

**HOUSE IN RAWAI**  
for rent. Fully furnished, private pool, ADSL, 3 bedroom, 3 bathroom. Tel: 081-606 7410.

### RAWAI BEACHFRONT



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

### SEA VIEW APARTMENT



in Patong Sky Inn. Room with full equipment for long term, 9th floor (minimum 1 month) electricity and charges not included. TV, DVD, aircon, hot water, toilets, shower, fridge, microwave, and safe. 13,000 / month, 800/day. Tel: 080-040 8622. Email: mavieen.thailande@hotmail.fr Website: www.christianes-blue.com

### STUDIO APARTMENT

Phuket town. 35sqm, furnished. Swimming pool. 5 minutes to town centre, quiet area. Price 7,000 baht per month. Tel: 081-719 7015.

### PATONG APARTMENT

300 meters to the beach, clean, modern, aircon, TV, fridge, double bed, pool, parking. Tel: 081-082 5707. For further details, please see our website at <http://www.phuket-accommodation.info>

### HOUSE NEAR SUANLUANG



for rent. 1.5 km from Central festival 86 sq wah, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 1 bathtub, fully furnished, 5 aircons, European kitchen, resthouse, garden, Call Mr Mongkon. Tel: 084-062 8040.

### VACANT ROOMS OR HOUSES

360 degree, panoramic sea view in Cape Panwa. 1,800sqm villa with 2,200 sqm garden. The room is monthly US\$1,500 or the house monthly, US\$ 25,000. Golf Course view in Loch Palm. The new house is 850sqm with 1,500sqm garden. The room monthly is US\$500/month or house monthly, US\$5,500/month. Include satellite, water, electric bill and management fees. Please call for details. Tel: 082-418 2188. Email: travelman.more@gmail.com

### 13,000 BAHT PER MONTH

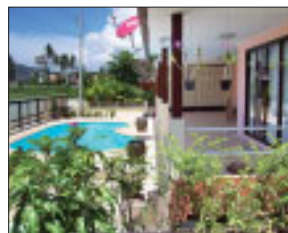
New house, fully furnished, 65sqwah. Private area, 50 meters from Lotus (Chaofa), ADSL. 70/76 Phuket Villa 3, Soi 8/1. Tel: 081-537 6045.

### HOUSE FOR RENT/ SALE, RUNGRAVEE



Near Phuket Airport. Twinhome with 2 bedrooms. Ready to stay. Tel: 089-133 4447.

### RAWAI POOL GUESTHOUSE



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

### 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: 087-417 2757, (Thai) 087-417 2756.

### FLAT IN RAWAI

for rent. Fully furnished, private garden, pool, ADSL, Honda Jazz. Long-term. Only 28,000 baht a month with car. If rent only flat, pay 20,000 baht a month. Tel: 081-606 7410.

### 30 RAI IN TOWN

Near Dowrung School. Long lease. Tel: 081-691 2526.

### HOUSE WITH SPLASH POOL

13,500 baht per month, 3 bedroom, 2 bathroom. Available 17 Mar - 1 Dec 09. Broadband internet, cable TV, 2 kitchens, washing machine. Min rent 3 month. Water and electric not included. Tel: 086-0550698 (Swe, Eng), 081-5693768 (Thai).

**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)

### FOR RENT APT KATA

Fully furnished, nice kitchen. 2 apartments: 15,000 & 12,000 baht. Tel: 086-595 8512, 081-970 4638.

### LAGUNA TOWNHOME

Golf course view, long-term only (min. 12 months). 75,000 baht per month. Tel: 076-305595. 089-873 6151. Fax: 076-362324. Email: stuartr@laguna-phuket.com

### NEW HOUSE FOR RENT, THALANG



Close to Laguna. Fully furnished, 2 bed, 2 bath, hot water, washing machine, ADSL. 10 mins to Bang Tao Beach and Layan Beach. Mountain view. 15,000 baht per month. Tel: 089-874 2960. Email: wawa.phuket@gmail.com

### PROPERTY OWNERS

Tel: 076-288654, 081-396 3941. Email: maydayphuket@gmail.com If you have a property or room for rent, please see our website at the link [www.maydayphuket.com](http://www.maydayphuket.com)

### HOUSE IN KATHU

50 sqm single house. 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. Comes with furniture. One year contract at 18,000 baht per month. Tel: 076-203487, 084-708 6456. Fax: 076-203426. Email: wnammata-petersen@hotmail.com

### RAWAI 4 BEDROOM MANSION

for rent or sale. Rawai, private pool, big garden, full aircon, western and separate Thai kitchen, completely furnished. Tel: 085-783 1890.

### STUDIO APARTMENT KATA

brand new, elevator, restaurant, swimming pool. walking distance to the beach, shopping and nightlife. For rent or sale. Tel: 085-783 1890.

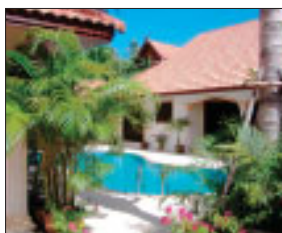
### B.L. APARTMENT

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

### CHALONG NEW HOME

2 Bedroom home with telephone, cable TV and air-con. Tel: 089-652 1473. Email: anandaestates@yahoo.com

### VILLA IN PARADISE



Stunning new villa near Rawai beach, 3 bedroom, 2 bathroom. Guest villa, 1 bedroom, 1 bathroom, pool table room, full aircon, ADSL, sat TV, furnished, private pool, tropical gardens. Min 6 months, price 80,000 baht per month. Tel: 089-073 1180.

**Baan Suan Pana CHALONG PHUKET**

Phase I houses for long-term rent. Very private with mountain view, 2 bedrooms, living room, bathroom, kitchen, fully furnished, Sat TV, ADSL, UBC.

Contact: 089-7243669  
Email: [info@baansuanpana.com](mailto:info@baansuanpana.com) [www.baansuanpana.com](http://www.baansuanpana.com)

### KAMALA BEACHFRONT VILLAS



Fully furnished to a high standard. Western kitchen, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, lounge and dining areas. Large balcony overlooking swimming pool and landscaped garden. Stunning sea views, only meters from the beach. Privately gated, parking and storage. UBC and ADSL. Includes daily cleaning and washing, pool & gardening service. Daily rental 8,000 baht, monthly rental 120,000 baht. Contact Khun Suchada. Tel: 084-843 6837. Email: suchada\_villas@hotmail.com

### UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY



for a beautiful house, Nai Harn. 1 bathroom, hot shower, electrical shaving sockets. Small storeroom. Furniture included: 2 king-size beds, 2 wardrobes, 2 dressing tables with mirrors, sofa set, wall cabinet, 29 inch TV. Equipped kitchen: 5 piece wooden dining set, microwave, toaster. Veranda with 2 antique style sitters, glass table. Cable TV, phone line. Price 1.2 million baht for 15 year lease. Contact Kay. Tel: 081-737 0552. Email: kay@phuketandamanrealestate.com

### LUXURY VILLA

for rent. Mai Kao, 4 bedrooms. Land 2 rai, Balinese style, swimming pool, beautiful view. Tel: 081-719 7015. For further details, please see our website at <http://eanfievetspaces.live.com>

### HOUSE FOR RENT

3 bedrooms, 2 toilets, living room, kitchen, garden, car park, wireless ADSL, fully furnished. 5 mins to Laguna. Tel: 084-051 1955, 080-521 9888. Email: somnir\_s@yahoo.com

### 50% OFF FROM THE LEASE

In the past the villa could lease US\$39000 monthly. The villa is located in Panwa Cape with 360 degree sea view. 100m high on hill not far from Sri Panwa. The house has several bedrooms with antique furniture, marble and teakwood floors. One of the best in Phuket. 2,500sqm with 2,800 sqm of garden. Part of car park and swimming pool is being renovated. Due to economy, we would like to lease the villa at very very low price. But must meet minimum of 5 years of following conditions. The lease excludes maids service, management fees, electric and water bills. The excluded expenses cost 70,000(BTH) monthly. The lease must be paid annually in advance. First year 8.4m, 2nd year 9.5m 3rd year 11m 4th year 13m and 5th year 15m. Or sale for US\$10 million. Anyone interested in the above, please call Pensri at 081-535 5910 or email to vanich@phuket.ksc.co.th We will email you photos and etc.

### OVERLOOKING SURIN BEACH

Apartment for rent, fully furnished. Long term. 22,000 baht per month. Tel: 087-8891717.

### PHUKET TOWN HOTEL

20 years let. 270 rooms. Fully furnished rooftop restaurant, second-floor discotheque (with licence). Market area, good nightlife. Business still active. Email: a.pueng@gmail.com

### PATAK VILLA, SOI 8

House for rent or sale. 3 bedroom, 2 bathroom, 2 aircon. 250sqm with garden near Chalung pier. Price for sale 4.2 million baht or for rent 18,000 baht per month. Tel: 083-389 5080.

### NICE AND COZY HOUSE FOR RENT



Furnished and excellent location, 5 mins from Rawai and Nai Harn beaches. 162sqm. 2 bed rooms with private bathrooms. 1 guest toilet. 3 aircons. Large living-dining room. Telephone line with ADSL. Free water supply and garbage collection service. Please contact K. Nui. Tel: 087-383 0936.



# Property Gazette

## Property Wanted

### BUY CONDO CASH

Looking for apartment. 1 or 2 beds, sea view Patong-Kata. Payment from offshore account. Please send to email: jeanp22002@yahoo.com

### GUESTHOUSE FOR RENT

German couple is looking for a guesthouse to rent in Phuket. We will arrive at the beginning of September, but will also be there in March for holidays. Email: haygen@gmx.de

### APARTMENT SWAP

I am looking to swap rental of my Sydney 2 bedroom apartment for a Patong apartment from December 15 to March 27, 2009 – or part thereof. My apartment has aircon, cable TV, and Internet. Five mins to city and beaches. Tel: +61-2-9904 2073, +61-430-218110. Email: mbohlsen@gmail.com

### SHOPHOUSE WANTED FOR RENT

Shophouse wanted near Surin, Bangtao or Chermatalay! Office space and workshop needed. Tel: 080-075 0700. Email: contex.phuket@hotmail.com

### FLAT OR HOUSE

from October 8 until March 2009. Could be in Phuket or Krabi, including Koh Lanta. The important things are seaside (or at least sea view) and a swimming pool. Two bedrooms, for a couple. No pets and no parties. Can be a quiet location. Email: office@neubrasilien.at

### CHEAP HOUSE / CONDO WANTED

Max rental charge: 13,000 baht per month for long term (6-12 months). Must have separate bedroom (1 will do); be clean and furnished; and allow our small, well-behaved dog to be with us. Tel: 085-724 0796. Email: danm\_uk@yahoo.co.uk

## Property Services

### SALES/RENTALS

Are you looking to buy or rent a property? We can help you! For a professional service. Tel: 087-8173019 (French, Eng), 083-1036578 (Thai). For further details, please see our website at <http://www.oriental-realestate.com>

### I HAVE BUYERS

for low-priced condos. Please send pics + information to email: info@phuket-villa-property.com

### VILLA MANAGEMENT

by self-employed person. I have 7 years' experience with real estate and property management in Australia.

Have worked with hotel management in Phuket resorts for 3 years.

I provide high-quality service and villa management at fair prices.

Can carry out professional duties set out in the management agreement, including housekeeping & maintenance of property.

Can organize flight tickets and activities as well as other requests.

Please contact for more information at Tel: 087-100 6111.

Email: luckypam@gmail.com

### HOLIDAY HOME

looking for your holiday home. Want to rent/own properties in Phuket? The Network Property, your trusted agency in Phuket, can provide the best quality available for rentals and sales. Please call 084-626 8105, 086-478 0201 or visit our website at [www.thenetworkproperty.com](http://www.thenetworkproperty.com)

## Accommodation Available

### LUXURY HOLIDAY RENTALS

Pool, internet, quality furnishings. Near Laguna. Price 2,000-3,000 baht per day. Tel: 089-594 4067.

### SURIN/BANGTAO APT

Two bedroom apartment at Club Lersuang. Fantastic facilities for short / long term rent. Tel: 076-271870, 087-079 0650. Email: martinandlizele@yahoo.com

### APARTMENT IN PATONG

House also available in Benjamas Housing Complex. Tel: 076-344922, 081-719 7092. Email: info@bluewaterphuket.com For more details please see <http://www.bluewaterphuket.com>

### APARTMENT & ROOM IN PATONG

Apartment for long term rent. 12,000-20,000 baht per month. Rooms from 800-1,500 baht per night. Tel: 076-512151 or 089-290 9567. Or send email: info@brommathaihouse.com For pics, see our website at: [www.brommathaihouse.com](http://www.brommathaihouse.com)

### 2 BED APARTMENT PATONG

ADSL, pool, aircon, True Vision, quiet location. Price 20,000 baht per month. Please contact for more details. Tel: 086-279 0837.

### APARTMENT IN PATONG

Fully furnished, aircon, hot water, internet, big pool. Short and long-term rent. Tel: 076-341562. Email: corner@royalparadise.com

### NICE KATHU LOFT APARTMENT

Only 10 minutes to Patong. Price 12,000 baht per month. Please contact for more info. Tel: 081-968 2855.

### 2 BEDROOMS APARTMENT

85sqm. Fully furnished, aircon, cable TV, new condo in Patong with pool and security. Long term. Please contact for more information. Tel: 081-891 5602. Email: Jankie@bali-kitesurfing.org

### LAKE VIEW APARTMENT



rooms and bungalows for rent in Kathu (nice view). Standard rooms and Studio rooms with fully furnished, air-con, CCTV, motorbike parking and car parking. Bungalows: 2 bedrooms, kitchen, living room, 3 aircons, bathroom with bathtub and shower, hot and cold water. Overlooking the lake. \*\* Quiet, clean, natural surroundings \*\* 28/69 Moo 2, Vichitsongkram Rd, Kathu, Phuket 83120 Thailand. Call: 076-202585 or 089-1968449. Fax: 076-202911. Email: lakeviewapartment\_phuket@hotmail.com

### CCR ROOM FOR RENT

Room available at Nanai, Patong. Free Wi-Fi, pool, hot water, car park, quiet area. Nice for living. 17,000 baht per month. For further details, Tel: 089-874 2960. please see our website at <http://www.clubcoconutresort.com>

### THE POINT CONDO FOR RENT

Fully furnished studio: 14,000 baht per month. Tel: 081-677 9447. Email: benjapornkk@yahoo.com For further details, please see our website at: <http://thepointphuket.com>

### ROOM FOR RENT

in Naka townhouse, Living room, kitchen, washing machine, telephone. 3 minutes to Central. Nice for living or home work. Price 8,000 baht per month. Please contact for additional details. Tel: 089-874 2960.

### HOUSE SHARE - FEMALE ONLY

Chalong. Private bedroom with air-con and fan. Shared living room, bathroom and kitchen. Free internet. Sharing with one female and one child. 6,000 baht per month. Tel: 089-9816 8441, 089-816 8441. Email: per-erik.friden@jbt.com

## Accommodation Wanted

### URGENT NEED, KATA AREA

Room, bungalow or apt wanted in or around Kata, Chalong or Rawai area. Max rent: 15,000 baht per month. URGENT - I need it NOW. But if you are outside the area mentioned, please don't reply to this ad. Email: micke22c@telia.com

### NEED ROOM NOW

I need a room or condo in Patong from February until middle or end of June. My budget is 12,000 baht per month - maximum. Can pay in advance. Mail me and I can call you back. Tel: +46-22-654304, +46-70-363 3175. Email: roeltgen@hotmail.com

### WANTED IN PATONG

I will be in Patong from 23 Febuary until 17 May. I am looking for a room to rent. Must be clean; be located in Patong; and have aircon and hot water. I can pay approx 10,000 baht per month. Kindly email details, pics and prices. Email: userjn34@tiscali.co.uk

### 1 WEEK VILLA RENTAL

Our family of five will be visiting Mar 21-28 and are looking for a villa with a pool near a beach. Please provide price, photos and references. Tel: +81-80-3315 3921. Email: ksa3ch@yahoo.com

### NEED HOUSE, LONG TERM

Need house for up to 10 years. Require 4 bedrooms, access to pool (not necessarily private), internet access, acceptance of pets, and no through-traffic. It should be in Phuket Town or north of it. Tel: 089-648 4340. Email: robert@mrlob.com

## Building Products & Services

### CONSTRUCTION SURVEY

Protect your investment! Construction monitoring, site reporting, supervision for all kinds of construction. European Site engineer. For more information and details please send to email: contex.phuket@hotmail.com

### QUALITY BUILDING SERVICES

Renovations, construction, carpentry, real wood, parquet, painting. Contact K. Pueng for additional details. Tel: 087-270 9093 or K. Ne at Tel: 087-689 9679 (English/Thai). Email: allservices29@gmail.com

## Household Items

### CHEAP FURNITURE

6 piece u-shaped lounge set, price 5,000 baht. Old-style timber sideboard, price 1,500 baht. 24 inch TV, price 2,500 baht. Contact John. Tel: 083-967 2213.

### SOFAS FOR SALE

Brand new excess to our requirements. 6 styles from 18,000 baht upwards. Call for details or email. Tel: 081-958 5949. Email: maple\_winter@yahoo.com

### QUEEN SIZE MATTRESS

Interior sprung queen size mattress. Very good condition. Only 1,500 baht. Tel: 076-383280, 086-281 7605. Fax 076-383280. Email: nigelnpixie@yahoo.com.au

### TV: 14 INCH

Good condition, with remote. Little used, ideal for bedroom. 1,000 baht. Sorry, no offers. Please telephone after 2 pm. Tel: 086-694 5196. Email: th246810@hotmail.com

### GARDEN ITEMS AND PLANTS

Garden tools, lawn mower, large potted palms and other plants, stone table and seats, large silver water pot. Bargain prices – I need to clear it out. Tel: 076-388348, 085-08578 6675. Email: ntovey@loxinfo.co.th

## Household Services

### PHUKET HOME MAINTENANCE

Construction, renovation, electricians, plumbers, carpenters, painters, tilers, gardeners, keycard setting, sand wash and gutter. Contact K. Rin. Tel: 084-193 5124. Email: phukethomemaintenance@yahoo.com

### ENGLISH PLUMBER

Professional service, including electrics, water, sealing, home refurbishment. Damage free quote. Call Richard. Tel: 083-175 0485. Email: williamsrichy@gmail.com

design furniture maker

## WOODWORK

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bespoke fitted furniture

call > 089 668 3639

[zhu@junksellon.com](mailto:zhu@junksellon.com)

association + zhu naumann interior design

[www.zhunaumann.com](http://www.zhunaumann.com)

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## Looking for land to buy?

See more classified ads at [www.phuketgazette.net](http://www.phuketgazette.net)



**Deadline for all other ads: Saturday 12 noon.**



# Island Job Mart



## Anantara Phuket Resort & Spa, Mai Khao Beach



If you enjoy being the best, demanding the highest of standards and being a technical expert in your field then you may want to come and be part of the Anantara Story.....We are now looking for the following management positions to lead, inspire and develop our team in to delivering the highest level of service and product to our customers.

### Executive Chef

Executive chef required to lead an award winning team of culinary experts. The successful candidate must possess trade certificate preferably European exposure and possess solid business unit management skills. He or she would have a passion for achieving creative a la carte and buffet cuisine and have guest interaction ability, whilst managing a diverse operation within an Asian culture environment!

### Group Director Human Resources

Based at Anantara Phuket, this role will oversee the day to day HR and training function of the property and, in addition, will lead the other Thailand based Anantas in HR policy and procedures, and best practice. This role will suit a confident progressive HR professional who has experience working in Phuket.

To find out more about Anantara Phuket please visit our website [www.anantara.com](http://www.anantara.com)

Submit your CV with covering letter stating the position you are applying to email address [recruit\\_phuket@anantara.com](mailto:recruit_phuket@anantara.com)

Good luck with your application!

## SALES MANAGER & SALES EXECUTIVE

- \* 25-40 yrs. University graduate
- \* Active & pleasant personality
- \* Speak, read & write English advantage
- \* Experience in Sales or Marketing

Interested in working with leading tourist magazine, attractive salary, commission & bonus

Asean Journals Co., Ltd. Email to [ajapply@yahoo.com](mailto:ajapply@yahoo.com)  
Tel 076-203 365 or 02 332 4600

## ISLAND CURTAINS & JUST SOFAS

Manufactures of custom made curtains/blinds & sofas require a VERSATILE SECRETARY

- ▶ Thai female age 24-36
- ▶ Fluent English - spoken written & comprehension
- ▶ Computer literate
- ▶ Pleasant personality & ability to communicate with foreign clients
- ▶ Able to organise work schedules for staff and negotiate with suppliers
- ▶ Salary start 18,000 baht + bonus and benefit

### Also Junior Accountant

- ▶ Preferably command of English and computer skills
- ▶ Recent graduate encouraged to apply
- ▶ Attractive salary to right person

Apply with resume to [jmicchia@yahoo.com](mailto:jmicchia@yahoo.com)  
or call Khun John 087-2760529



**PHUKET PAVILIONS**, 30 private pool villas on a hilltop overlooking the Andaman Sea and Layan Beach, now expanding and offering excellent benefits to motivated and active professionals to join our team in the positions of:

**Front of House (excellent English required):**

- Front Office Manager
- Food & Beverage Manager
- Bartender & Bartender
- Spa Therapist
- Guest Service Executive
- Assistant F/B Manager
- Waiter & Waitress

**Heart of House:**

- Demi Chef Thai & European
- Engineering Technician
- Room Maid
- Commis Cook
- Carpenter
- Cleaner

Candidates fitting above requirements are invited to send their resume with a recent photograph to:

**HUMAN RESOURCES DEPARTMENT  
PHUKET PAVILIONS**  
LS Pavilion Development Co., Ltd.  
31/1 Moo 6, Kaktanod-Layan Road, Chermg Talay, Thalang, Phuket 83110, Thailand.  
Tel. +66 (0) 76 317660 / Fax. +66 (0) 76 317601  
E-mail: [hrm@phuketpavilions.com](mailto:hrm@phuketpavilions.com)  
[www.phuketpavilions.com](http://www.phuketpavilions.com)

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TV's, Projectors, Brackets, Surround Sound Systems  
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Due to global expansion and the opening of our new Bangkok office, 1staudiovisual is currently recruiting for the following positions:

- Country Managers - For Thailand, Australia and new markets
- Sales and Marketing - B2B sales, advertising, product sourcing
- Accounts - quickbooks, payroll and accounting experience
- IT - SEO specialists, web designers, programmers
- Sales Processors

Please email your CV, current salary and covering letter to [careers@1staudiovisual.co.th](mailto:careers@1staudiovisual.co.th) Tel: 077430037

### NATIVE ENGLISH TEACHER

Kindergarten needs native English teacher for 5 and 6 year olds. Chaleng, 40 hour per week. Please contact for more info. Tel: 080-624 7060.

### SALES ASSOCIATE

needed for fast growing property developer. Must have own transport. Good English, salary plus commission. Tel: 087-264 9900. Email: [kanya@andamanstyle.com](mailto:kanya@andamanstyle.com)

### LOOKING FOR ENGLISH TEACHER

for Italian lady. Please contact Anna for more information. Tel: 081-432 6587.

### OFFICE ASSISTANT

Following skills required: some English, basic computer, MS Office, internet, basic accounting, knowledge. Female, single, age 22-30. Reliable, healthy, hard working own vehicle. Tel: 076-273379. Email: [info@octopusasia.com](mailto:info@octopusasia.com)

## Professional Property Management Solutions



Phuket's premier property management company is looking for suitable, qualified candidates for the following positions:

### The Estate Manager

#### Qualifications:

- Excellent spoken and written English.
- 1 Year experience in property management and operations.
- Ability to manage and lead a team.
- Computer Literate.
- Ability to demonstrate initiative and a high level of independence.

Please send your application with a recent photo to Human Resource Dept.  
Phuket Island Property Services Co., Ltd. (PIPS)  
393/2 Moo 1, Srioonthorn Road, Chermg Talay, Phuket Thailand 83110

Tel: 076 270 750, Fax: 076 270 751, Email: [hr@pipsphuket.com](mailto:hr@pipsphuket.com)

### SWEDISH TRAVEL CONSULTANT

We are looking for a Swedish travel consultant, at least 25 years old. Computer/ Internet knowledge is essential, as is a past in the travel industry. Pedantic organizational skills and a really good knowledge of Thailand are desired. Please apply by email. Tel: 076-246427, 081-787 9454. Fax: 076-246 180. Email: [andersp@loxinfo.co.th](mailto:andersp@loxinfo.co.th)

### AUTOMATION SALE

Salary range: 40,000 to 75,000 baht. Experience an asset. Must have technical knowledge, and be skilled and able to read electrical drawings. Thai national, own car. Please send CV to: [info@elec-pro.com](mailto:info@elec-pro.com)

### BAR MANAGER

Soi Gonzo, to take care of evening duties, expert etc. English speaking. Interested? Call Khun Simon. Tel: 085-7965767, 081-5806707.



Invites dynamic driven individuals with the will to succeed to join their sales team in Phuket. We are now recruiting for the following positions at our new state of the art holiday exhibition centre in Patong.

## Sales Consultants

(English, Scandi, Finnish)

## OPC Marketing Staff

(English, Thai Speaking)

Work permits included with package.  
5 day working week

If you would like to be part of a winning team and enjoy a fantastic lifestyle here in Thailand, come and work with us!

To find out more about the available positions and to arrange an immediate interview please call **Pinrada Sukkraikiti** on 0898719905 Today! or email your CV to [pinradasukkraikiti@gmail.com](mailto:pinradasukkraikiti@gmail.com)

**Global Vacation International Co., Ltd.**  
223 Rat-U-Thit 200 Pee Rd., Patong, Kathu, Phuket 83150  
Tel: +66 76 343 048  
Fax: +66 76 343 049

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

### A TROPICAL DREAM

We are looking for an energetic, English speaking expatriate to service existing homeowners and assist sales of remaining villas. Base salary+commission and benefits. Please call Howard at 076-396139.

**Mövenpick Resort & Spa Karon Beach Phuket**  
509 Patak Road, Karon Beach, Phuket, Thailand 83100  
Tel: 076-396139, Fax: 076-396119  
e-mail: [howardslowe.chai@moevenpick.com](mailto:howardslowe.chai@moevenpick.com)  
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# Island Job Mart

## ADVERTISING COMPANY

seeks Thai national female for office assistant position. Requirements: excellent knowledge of spoken and written English, advanced computer skills. Please send your CV. Tel: 084-844-1469. Email: thairusmedia@gmail.com

## PHUKET MARBELLA VILLA MGMT

Manager and assistant required for all aspects of property care and supervision. Excellent salary and conditions.

Tel: 076-527594,  
089-195 6722.

Fax: 076527593.

Email:  
jziment@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

## STAFF WANTED

Italian restaurant Surin beach. Hiring expert cooks especially for pizza. Contact Stefano. Tel: 085-2458180.

## 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

## BAR AND RESTAURANT MANAGER



required for upmarket restaurant and sports bar. Good salary and working conditions. Must be enthusiastic, motivated and willing to join our great team of workers. A good knowledge of sporting events and the ability to organize various functions is prerequisite, as are good communication skills. Contact Crystal for interview. Tel: 086-282 0567.

## ENGLISH SPEAKING LADY

Afternoon help wanted. Must have own car or motorbike. Tel: 083-102 8922. Email: gregmackay67@hotmail.com

## ON-SITE CUSTOMER SERVICE

We need a Thai female who has good communication skills and a good command of English. She must also be reliable and able to drive a car. Tel: 076-283192, 087-387 0833. Email: info@phuketgolfcourse.com

## RESTAURANT STAFF

in Patong. Marketing / waiter. English speaking. Tel: 080-125 8454.

## CLEANING LADY WANTED

Thai national, full time, area Cape Panwa. Please contact for additional details. Tel: 076-388593.

## SPORTS WEAR BUSINESS

Assistant with excellent English and computer skills for shop in Rawai. Mainly international orders. Full or part time. Design skills useful. Needed immediately. Tel: 087-907 8528. Email: boxergirl@boxergirl.net For further details, please see our website at: http://www.boXXerworld.com

## DIVE INSTRUCTOR NEEDED

Looking for an experienced, motivated instructor for immediate start. SSI, female, native English speaker preferred. Please contact for more info. Tel: 076-381765. Email: info@sea-bees.com

We are seeking qualified & energetic people



CHIEF ENGINEER ( 1 Position )

EXECUTIVE HOUSEKEEPER ( 1 Position )

FINANCE CONTROLLER ( 1 Position )

IT & E-MARKETING MANAGER ( 1 Position )

SALES COORDINATOR ( 2 Positions )

All positions must the following qualifications:

- Positive attitude, self-motivated, strong leadership, proactive interpersonal & communication skills, well organized & able to deal with internal and external customers.
- Applicants must be able to communicate well in English.
- Applicants must have an excellent understanding of the service industry with solid values.
- Applicants must be enthusiastic and self-starters with HR in their heart.
- Applicants must be computer literate.
- Applicants must be able to work in Phuket.

Interested candidates, please send full resumé, expected salary & a recent photo by fax or e-mail to: e:hr-arv@paradisephuket.com and copy gm@andaraphuket.com

ANDARA RESORT AND VILLAS CO.LTD. - Human Resources Department  
The Plaza Surin 5/50 M.3, Chermthalay, Thalang, Phuket 83110  
T:66 76-386010-2 F:66-76-386014

## THE PERFECT CHOICE FOR YOUR NEXT CAREER MOVE

The Radisson Plaza Resort Phuket Panwa Beach is located 15 minutes from Phuket town.

A resort property comprising of 211 stylish accommodations including: 15 Pool Villas and 14 Ocean Villas together with a spa complex, meeting facilities, a Mediterranean restaurant, lobby bar, a swim-up pool bar, secluded beach, three swimming pools, a separate kids club, fitness centre and a children's pool.

### Chief Engineer

Qualifications:-

- Male
- Bachelor's Degree in Civil Engineering or related field
- Experience with contractors, on-site activities and management systems
- Hotel/Resort pre-opening experience is a distinct advantage
- Familiar with the QA/QC system under the relevant ISO standard
- Familiar with property handover procedures from contractor and a proven ability to manage a detailed snagging programme
- Good knowledge of English verbal & written
- Familiar with Thai laws concerning fire systems and licensing
- Computer literate

### Executive Secretary

Qualifications:-

- Female
- 5-7 years experience in executive secretarial functions
- Positive thinking, self-motivated and highly responsible
- Excellent in spoken and written English and interpersonal skills
- Computer literate
- Excellent telephone listening skills
- Able to translate all necessary communicate
- Energetic, enthusiastic and maintain a professional management profile at all times
- Natural ability to serve others with uncompromising devotion

Interested candidates are invited to send a resume, stating present and expected salaries as well as a recent photograph to the address to: ssuthasiri@radisson.com



## PRIMARY SCHOOL TEACHER

Teaching vacancies. Bachelor's degree and teaching certificate or Education degree required. Email: headstartpkt@gmail.com

## DIVE INSTRUCTORS

required to work on Koh Lanta. From Aug 2009, 2009/2010 season. Tel: 086-283 2426.

## SALES FOR A RETAIL SHOP

wanted Pakistani or Indian female. Age 20-40. Email: kornkamonat21@yahoo.com

## HANDYMAN WANTED

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

## RECEPTIONIST (THAI)

for beautiful guesthouse in Karon. Please contact for more information. Tel: 084-694 9907. Email: ninapartments@hotmail.com

## SALES FOR A RETAIL SHOP

wanted Pakistani or Indian female. Age 20-40. Email: kornkamonat21@yahoo.com

## WANTED URGENTLY

Native English speaker for full time work in an international child care center in Rawai. Tel: 076-289784, 084-714 4104.

## SENIOR SALES MANAGER

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. Please contact for more info. Tel: 087-268 4981. Email: stefanhaldenstein@hotmail.com

## RUSSIAN/ENGLISH SPEAKER

TEFL qualified English teacher with computer skills, English tutor for hire. Please contact for more information Tel: 087-282 8046 Email: swell\_015@bk.ru

## RECEPTIONIST KATA

Female, Thai national. Must be reliable and speak good English. Tel: 081-892 1621.

## "SALES OPPORTUNITY"

COMPUTER SOFTWARE.  
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EXPENSES PAID.  
PLUS EXCELLENT  
COMMISSION.  
PLEASE SEND RESUME TO:  
Email: thailandmls@gmail.com

## Employment Wanted

## PROGRAMMER LOOKING FOR JOB

Experienced Danish programmer located in Phuket is looking for work on short/long term projects. Keywords: PHP, Zend Framework, Java (+JSP/servlets), mySQL, JavaScript, (D)HTML, AJAX, MVC, Linux server administration and object orientation. Tel: 085-073 9994. Email: jan.faroe@gmail.com

## NANNY TO WORK ABROAD

Thai lady, 34 years old do house work. 10 years now in Australia till February 2009. Prefer go Europe, Canada, USA or Phuket. Available from March. Email: cindy\_siam@hotmail.com

## CHILDRENSITTER 23

Nice girl, German + English speaking. Full or part time Patong. Tel: 083-639 9137.

## EXPERIENCED TEACHER

New kindergarten looking for Thai teachers. English necessary. Tel: 076-385795, 085-470 4800. Email: jgearyreilly@hotmail.com



# Tout, Trader & Trumpet

## Articles For Sale

### OUT OF BUSINESS SALE!

2ea 9,000 BTU A/Cs. Swim pool pump filter, 22 boxes of stone decor, black granite, cushions, glow sticks, ice bins, glass sinks, urinals. Security cameras, fire ext, Yamaha 18ch mixer, lighted signs, and more! Tel: 083-590 7871. Email: info@thaijob seeker.com

### GOLF CLUBS PING

9 irons, 2 woods & bag, price 12,000 baht. Surfboard Mini Malibu, 7" x 4", classic, as new plus bag, price 15,000 baht. Tel: 087-881 7600.

### CERAMIC POT SALE

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

### MOVING SALE

Display cabinet glass front, 4 sides, buffet cabinet, hanging mirror with light, dining room table with 6 chairs glass top. Cost 300,000 baht. Make offer need make room, call 087-276 0529 all in anthice crean.

### 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.

### WINE COOLER SANDEN BRAND

As new. 45 bottle capacity, black. Quick sale 13,000 baht. Tel: 082-280 7576. Email: closejon@yahoo.com.au

### ECOSAVE POWER SAVERS

for sale: Reduce your Electric Bills by 10%-15%. Plug in and Save. CE registered use in Thailand or your own country. Please note: these are not the cheap rubbish sold on Thai market stalls! Tel: 086-905 1529. Email: maitland998@hotmail.com

### GAS BARBEQUE AUSSIE

stainless steel, 3 burner. Cost 45,000 baht, quick sale 25,000 baht. Tel: 082-280 7576. Email: closejon@yahoo.com.au

### CHILDREN'S BED

like new. 3,800 baht. Before 7,000 baht at Super Cheap. Airport area. Tel: 085-795 9160.

### 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\_vallancourt@yahoo.com

### SAMSUNG SYSTEM

Home cinema, entertainment 5.1 sound, Blue Ray DVD, Subwoofer, HDMI, USB, 5x surround speaker. Price negotiable. Tel: 082-274 9860.

### 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

### SUUNTO DIVER'S COMPUTER

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

### 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@ji-net.com

### 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.

### 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

### 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. Contact. Email: jenchanisa@gmail.com

### 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

### 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

### MOVING SALE

For sale at low prices:

- Bravia 26" LCD TV
- Kitchen Furniture
- Philips DVD Micro Theater
- Sony Micro Hi-Fi System

Email: bretonne\_expert@yahoo.com Website: http://www.flickr.com/photos/33827300@N05

### 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

### SOFA SET ONLY 30,000 BAHT



from Index. New 39,000 baht, 4 seats, 1 bed with coffee table, leather. Call for more details. Tel: 084-843 3251.

### 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.

### 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

### BABY COT

'Brown Bear' Baby Cot and mattress. Excellent condition, only 18 months old. Complies to European regulations. Bought at Central for 11,000Baht, will sell for 5,500Baht. Tel: 083-106 6855. Email: lyndon.ellis@luxurycollection.com

### ELECTRONICS SALE

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

### 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

### GYM KATA

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

### 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

### GAS BBQ W/5 BURNERS

Heavy duty, 2nd hand gas BBQ in good condition. 40,000 baht new; want 15,000 baht o.n.o. Tel: 081-271 0496. Email: rlusted@hotmail.com

### SAMSUNG SYSTEM

Home cinema, entertainment 5.1 sound, Blue Ray DVD, Subwoofer, HDMI, USB, 5x surround speaker. Price negotiable. Tel: 082-274 9860.

### FISHTANKS/AQUARIUM

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### KITCHEN EQUIPMENT WANTED

Restaurant/bar inventory. Call Rupi. Tel: 084-442 4143.

## Bulletins

### ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

For Phuket info (English) call 081-8554031, 061-8912895 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 8:30 AM (Nov-Apr only)  
Krabi Hospital - Krabi  
Wed 1 PM  
(Additional Krabi meetings on request by contacting 084-4463103)  
Scandinavian Speaking Meetings  
Wat Karan School - Karan  
Tue 7 PM and (Sat Nov-April only 7 PM)  
Tel: 086-9440462 Sues, 082-2765938 Nor

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

### CROSS CULTURAL RELATIONSHIP

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**K.L. Mart** Tel: 076-280400/3  
Patak Rd, Chalong Fax: 076-280403

**Earth Language School** Tel: 076-232398/9  
Phang Nga Rd, Phuket City Fax: 076-232398

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

**Taurus Travel** Tel: 076-344521/2  
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near Patong Beach. Very clean and quiet. Everything recently upgraded. 2.4 million baht o.b.o. Tel: 089-588 3184. Email: pjsguesthouse@hotmail.com For further details, please see our website at: <http://www.patongphuketguesthouse.com>

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to have your own restaurant or beer bar at Kamala. Tel: 081-737 4655, 081-367 3100. Email: nez\_cool9@yahoo.com

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## Motorbikes

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27,000 km. This is a clean motorbike with a new seat and tires. 23,000 baht. Tel: 081-271 9340. Email: brandyblackcherry@gmail.com

### HONDA PHANTOM

12,200km. Excellent condition, many extras. Price 40,000 baht ono. Tel: 084-847 6207.

### SUZUKI KATANA 750



Good condition all parts original, green book. Price 105,000 baht. Tel: 081-970 0569.

### HONDA PHANTOM SHOPPER

9 years old, 22,000km. Very good condition. Price 50,000 baht. And also Honda Wave, Honda Click for sales. Tel: 081-294 5441.

### HONDA CB 750

For sale. 1998, 60,000km, red wine colour, very good condition, with green book - Phuket plate - motorbike is in Patong for test ride. Price to sell: 155,000 baht. Tel: 086-834 7630.

### 2 HONDA CLICK FOR SALE !!!

2 years old, good condition. 24,900 baht each !!! Tel: 081-691 2881. Email: condotel@web.de

### HONDA CLICK

1 year old, 7,000km. Price 32,000 baht. Tel: 081-294 5441.

### HONDA WAVE

4,000km. Price 22,000 baht. Contact Tel: 081-294 5441.

### CHEAP YAMAHA

Big bike for sale. 750cc, benzine, year 2001. Price 60,000 baht. Tel: 083-180 2143.

## CUSTOM BIKE



Honda (Bros) 650cc, green book. Moving back, only 150,000 baht. Tel: 087-263 0810.

### HONDA STEED

600ccm. Original condition, 2 pipes with great sound. A real beauty for sale! Just 155,000 baht. Includes number plate 333! Tel: +66-81-894 5061. Or send to email: info@eden golfersphuket.com

### HONDA STEED 95'

400cc, very good condition, customised. Carefully maintained. Sale 115,000 baht. Tel: 083-396 4994.

### CBR 400RR

Beautiful silver CBR for sale with Green Book. 3 previous owners. 95,000 baht o.n.o. Call or email for details. Tel: 087-086 9821. Or email: essentialtrader@btinternet.com

### 2006 SUZUKI DRZ 400

Excellent condition, 9,400 km. 285,000 baht. Tel: 085-472 5352. Or email: allona7@hotmail.com

### YAMAHA MIO MX MOTORBIKE

Yellow motorbike with 5,500 km, black alloys, and green book. 32,000 baht. Tel: 084-455 6743. Contact email: andythailand@hotmail.co.uk

### CBR 150 / 29,900 BAHT

repsol, new tyres, chain. Good condition, original. Airport area. Tel: 085-795 9160.

### YAMAHA XV750 CC

Looks good and runs well. Green book and photos avail. 110,000 baht ono. Tel: 087-077 9816. Or sent email: williet98248@hotmail.com

## Rentals

### THEEMON TOURIST CO LTD

Motorbikes and cars rent. - Brand new Honda Air Blade and Honda Click motorbikes. - Small cars and Isuzu pick-up truck, diesel. Toyota Fortuner, diesel.

Long and short-term rentals, very good rates. Tel: 076-296316, 080-625 7212. Email: t-m-tourist.co@hotmail.com

### TOYATA YARIS FOR RENT

Automatic. 800 baht per day and 15,000 baht per month. Tel: 083-180 2143.

### NEW VIOS

car for rent. Automatic, 1,000 baht per day, 15,000 baht per month, maximum 1 month. Tel: 083-180 2143. Email: pookie.lovely@gmail.com

### MINIBUS AND CAR FOR RENT



Minibus, Vios, Jazz, City for rent. We're offering low-season prices. Tel: 081-538 8567. Contact more details. Email: suksavat@hotmail.com

### NEW VIOS

car for rent. Automatic, 1,000 baht per day, 15,000 baht per month, maximum 1 month. Tel: 083-189 2143. Email: pookie.lovely@gmail.com

### TOYATA YARIS FOR RENT

Automatic. 800 baht per day and 15,000 baht per month. Contact more details. Tel: 083-180 2143.

## NEW 2009 BLACK YARIS 4 RENT

1,200 baht a day, 7,500 baht a week, 18,000 baht a month. Plus 16,000 baht long-term full insurance. Tel: 076-282182, 084-307 4469. Fax 076-282182. Email: nat@phuket-festival.com

## TOYOTA AVANZA 1,500CC AUTO

for rent. 18,000 baht per month; 5,500 baht per week. Tel: 089-700 4094. Email: catayacht@csloxinfo.com

## CAR RENTAL

Toyota Vios long term rent. Price 14,000 baht per month. Suzuki Jeep, powersteering, air con. Price 10,000 baht per month. Tel: 084-441 3633.

## Bicycles

### '06 TREK MADONE 5.2

Frame: OCLV 120 Carbon Aero

- Fork: Bontrager Race X Lite, carbon

- Wheels: Bontrager Race Lite

- Shifters: Shimano Ultegra STI, 10 speed

- Front & Rear Derailleur: Shimano Ultegra

- Pedals: Shimano Dura Ace 7800 Pedals.

Tel: 086-945 0370. Or mail: harald20@hotmail.com

## Wanted

### M/BIKE HONDA WAVE OR SIM.

Looking for 1-2 year old M/bike 120cc Honda Wave automatic or similar. Green book etc in order. B. Gray, Kathu Tel: 081-895 5022. Email: kingsleygray@hotmail.com

### LOOKING FOR MOTORCYCLE?

Yamaha SR400 second hand, very good condition with green book and all legal papers, year 1998 up to 2004. Tel: 076-200440, 085-574 9528. Email: danielcelebes@hotmail.com

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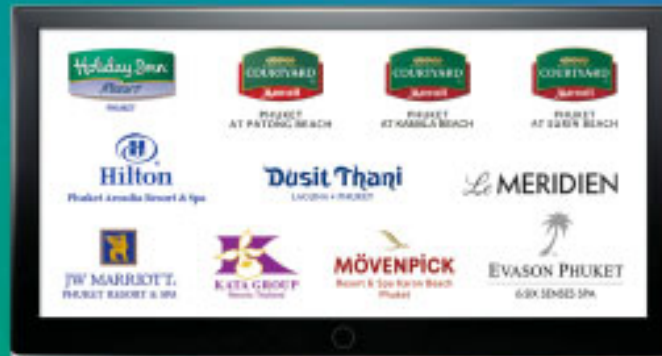
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